Bower Hill Community Church



Sanctuary Flowers/Donation Dedications

If you are interested in purchasing flowers or making a donation to the charity of your choice as a dedication in memory/honor of a loved one, please contact the church office to request a form or information.





Lighting the Steeple

The opportunity to light the steeple of Bower Hill Community Church continues. Many have sponsored a night in honor of a person or a special occasion. It has also been lit as a way to memorialize a special person who has passed away. Notice of the lighting and the person, event, or date that it commemorates, will appear in the weekly bulletin. The cost of this is \$10 a day and can be sent directly to the church.

(You will not be billed for this.)

Requests should include: the date(s) you would like to sponsor, the reason you want to sponsor (in honor, in memory, etc.), the name of the person(s) or the event as you want it to appear in the bulletin, and your name. Email your request to: Amy Leasure at amlea97@hotmail.com. MULTIPLE sponsors can share the SAME DATE.

Get Outdoors | August 6

More details on this hike will be sent by E-Blast once the details have been finalized.

Senior Men's Breakfast | July 12 and August 2

This month's get together has been rescheduled from July 5 to July 12 due to proximity to July 4. Join us at 8:00 a.m. at the Denny's restaurant located at 2180 Greentree Rd, near Swallow Hill Rd. All men are welcome. Contact Glenn Child at gstchild@yahoo.com with any questions.

Hooks and Needles | July 2 & 16, August 6 & 20

Hooks and Needles will continue meeting on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month. We will meet in Room 110 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

New Members and needle workers of all skills welcome! Hope to see you there!

Bookworms | Join us via Zoom at 1:30 p.m.

July 26 - Lab Girl, by Hope Jahren

August 23 - Lady Clementine, by Marie Benedict

Unity Food Pantry | July 10 & August 14

Unity Food Pantry's greatest needs include boxed cereal, canned pineapple and mandarin oranges, and canned soups.

Pastoral Ponderings

We live in a world of reminders. The alarm clock reminds us it is time to get out of bed. Our microwave sends out a tone to let us know our food is done. Alexa or some other smart electronic device sets a timer to remind us to do something with supper, or to tell the little ones it is time for bed. The old- fashioned paper calendar or the electronic one on our phone reminds us when to send a birthday or anniversary card. Even at church we are reminded to stand when we hear the opening notes of the hymn.

We may remember things without the prompting of all these gadgets. However, it does make life easier to know that we can depend on being reminded. So, who or what reminds us, God is always present. Throughout the Bible there are numerous times that God provides a reminder he is still around and cares. Sometimes it is very dramatic like a flood or a plague of locust. Other moments it is a still small voice or a gust of wind. What reminds you of God's presence?

This summer when we are out on the patio there are so many things. The beauty of flowers in bloom and the chirping of birds are unmistakable reminders. Yet, the most beautiful is the breeze that causes our wind chime to send out its soothing melody. It is not only a reminder of His presence, but also an affirmation of the peace that he seeks for all of us. Keep thinking and keep being reminded.

~Rev. Dr. Fred Leasure, Parish Associate

Upcoming Youth Events

All events are for youth 3rd - 12th grade unless otherwise specified.



ReNew: The Green VBS 2022

Kids from preschool through completed 2nd grade are invited to ReNew: The Green VBS. ReNew VBS will run daily the week of August 1-5, from 9:30 a.m.—noon. During the week, kids will explore God's Word through Jesus' Parable of the Sower, learn about God's Creation and what we can do to care for it, meet members of our community who are stewards of the environment, make new friends and have a great

time. See the flier included in the newsletter for full details on how to register, or click on this link to register.

Your Help is needed to make VBS a success

When children are asked what they remember most about their VBS experiences, the responses always include memories of the connections made and time spent with older youth and adults. The volunteers are what make a child's experience memorable. Simply put, VBS isn't VBS without you! We need adults and older youth volunteers (mature tweens and up) to staff this summer's VBS which takes place August 1-5th from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Even if you can only help one or two days. Please significantly approximately account to the property of the pro



takes place August 1-5th from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Even if you can only help one or two days. <u>Please sign up to volunteer using this link</u>. Thank you for joining us as we prepare a memorable experience for our young children this year!

ReNew: The Green VBS 2022 - NEW OPTION FOR 3rd-8th GRADERS

Bower Hill youth in 3rd-12th grade who volunteer at ReNew VBS are invited to stay and play afterward each day from 12 -2 p.m. Each youth will BYO lunch (which can be refrigerated). We will eat together, recap the VBS day, and then do group games afterward. On Friday, to celebrate the week, we will provide a walking taco lunch to all volunteers and head to Mingo Creek Park for an afternoon of fun. Be on the lookout for registration for the Friday lunch/Mingo trip to ensure we have the right amount of food and transportation for all. Please use this link to register your older youth to help with VBS.

Summer Sunday School and Nursery Coverage

Children from preschool through 8th grade are invited to meet directly downstairs in room 110 before worship begins at 9:30 a.m. Kids will hear a short children's sermon/biblical-based lesson and then have time to socialize and enjoy our playground. Older youth (5th-8th grade) are invited to join and help lead activities like chalk, crafting, or games for the younger kids. Slots are still available in August for adult volunteers to help with Summer Sunday School. Please use this link to sign up. Childcare for infants and toddlers will be available in the nursery during the worship service as usual, but there will be no second hour coverage.

Youth Group Updates

Mission Trip Recap July 17

A team of 9 people, 6 youth and 3 adults, traveled to Philadelphia for a mission trip in June. Join this team on Sunday, July 17, immediately following coffee hour, when they will share their insights and experiences in a short presentation. We will meet in the sanctuary.

Volunteer to help at the Hot Metal Bridge meal in July

Bower Hill Youth will host dinner at The Table ministry at Hot Metal Bridge on Tuesday, July 19. We will meet on Sunday, July 17, from 12 -2 p.m. to make the meal. We need a few adults to help the youth prepare the meal at Bower Hill on Sunday, July 17. We also need folks to help serve the meal on Tuesday, July 19, at the Hot Metal Bridge church on the South Side. <u>Use this link to sign up to help.</u>

Senior High Youth Group Mini Golf Kick-off Event

Save the date! Join us on Sunday, August 21, at noon for a picnic lunch and miniature golfing at Forsythe Golf in Carnegie. Details to follow, but save the date



2022 ReNew VBS Mon, August 1 – Fri, August 5

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WHEN: August 1-5

WHO: Completed pre-school (must be potty trained) – 2nd grade

TIME: 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

COST: \$25 per child

WHERE: Bower Hill Community Church

70 Moffett St, Pittsburgh, 15243

How to reserve your spot

- 1. Register on-line here: https://forms.gle/sxhrjipsp4uiz3B28 and send payment via PayPal using the QR code below, or log into PayPal and send payment to office@bhccml.com. Or,
 - a. Fill in the attached registration form.
 - b. Attach check made out to Bower Hill Community Church, "Re-New VBS" in the memo line.
 - c. Return form and payment to the church office.
- 2. Detailed info will be emailed in mid-July.

Registration closes after July 15.





RENEW REGISTRATION FORM

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| Camper's Name | Age | Last Grade Completed |
|------------------------|-------------|----------------------|
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| | er camper = | \$Total amount due |
| Parent's signature | | |
| Parent's Printed Name: | | |
| Cell Phone Number: | | |
| Email: | | |

Please make check payable to Bower Hill Community Church

Mail check and registration form to: 70 Moffett Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15243

Please write "ReNew VBS" in memo line.

NEWS FROM

MISSION MATTERS

Why do White Americans have on average 13 times more wealth than African Americans? There have been government policies following the Civil War that have led to this disparity. Bread for the World has documented some of these policies. Here is their Policy # 2 that has contributed to the gap.

Minding the Gap: Land Seizures

From 1865 on, blacks could have their land seized to pay sharecropping debts—or simply because white landowners declared that black farmers or businesses were in debt. Blacks could not fight these charges because they were legally prohibited from suing whites in court. In addition, from 1949-1970, one million people lost their land to abuses of the power of eminent domain, which allows local governments to seize private property. About 70 percent of these families were African American.

How has land seizure added to the racial hunger, income, and wealth gaps?

Seizure of the land they owned deprived African Americans of their main source of wealth, making it far more difficult to pass assets along to their children and grandchildren. Today, African American parents as a group are not able to give their children nearly as much financial support as white parents are—whether this means investing in a costly asset such as a college education or a home purchase, leaving behind an estate with resources, or both.

The African American community continues to suffer economically from unconscionable actions that targeted earlier generations. Just one example is a report that 406 black landowners lost more than 24,000 acres to seizure by force or threats. Today, this land and the wealth it generates belong to corporations or white communities.

Mending the Gap: Where can I get more information?

"Land Taken From Blacks Through Trickery, Violence and Murder." Investigative Report. Associated Press. 2006.

Torn from the Land | The Authentic Voice

Eminent Domain and Race | The Federalist Society (fedsoc.org)

"The Civil Rights Implications of Eminent Domain Abuse." U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. Briefing Report June 2014. http://www.usccr.gov/pubs/FINAL FY14 Eminent-Domain-Report.pdf

Coates, Ta-Nehisi. The Case for Reparations. June 2014. https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2014/06/the-case-for-reparations/361631/

MORE NEWS FROM

MISSION MATTERS

Update on our relationship with the Hashemi family:

Since February of this year, Bower Hill members have been assisting an Afghani refugee family that recently resettled in Green Tree. Tafseera Hashemi is the head of this household and she fled Afghanistan with her son Ahmad and her mother. They were relocated to Pittsburgh because Tafseera has some relatives in the area. They are working with AJAPO on their resettlement. Ahmad was attending College studying geology and Tafseera was a biology professor at the University of Kabul and Director of the *Human Rights Commission for High Council of National Reconciliation, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan*, when they were forced to flee the country.

Over the last few months, Bower Hill has helped in the following ways:

- Darenda Lease went shopping, using Mission Facilitation funds, for stuff to outfit 2 kitchens.
- Betsy Hohlfelder and Jean Miewald delivered the kitchen items to Carriage Park Apartments. They were invited up to Tafseera's apartment for tea and thus, the relationship began.
- Betsy found someone who helped get some much needed furnishings for their apartment.
- The Hashemi family was able to shop at the flea market and select a number of household items at no cost (but they paid for them).
- Betsy H. has helped them with English as a Second Language (ESL) and continues tutoring
- Tafseera.
- Sara and Phil Neusius have helped Tafseera prepare her resume and Curriculum Vitae (CV) and are assisting with her job search.
- Alan Hohlfelder and Chris Robbins have assisted with giving driving lessons to Tafseera so that she can obtain her driver's license.
- The Mission Committee has used some Mission Facilitation funds to secure additional professional driving instruction.

While it is only one family, it is making an impact for their transition into a very new life in the United States and has been a blessing for us at Bower Hill to be in relationship with them.

NEWS FROM

ECO-JUSTICE TEAM

Our "Crafty Sunday" in May provided a chance for us to showcase the Center for Creative Reuse as well as a lot of fun for those who attended! If you should notice any fruit-studded headbands around, you'll see some of that creativity on display. We greatly appreciate the hard work Amy Grella performed! We also want to say a special "thank you" to Judy Delestienne's granddaughter, Sophia, and to Abigail Boisvert for their yeoman work in cleaning up.

Kudos to the Christian Ed. Committee for choosing a green theme for this year's VBS! ReNew: The Green VBS will take place August 1-5.

Thinking about updating your yard? The sustainability website Earth911 (https://earth911.com) has some tips for planting a bee-friendly garden:

- 1. Go native with your flowers. Aside from hardiness, they have the added bonus of generally being well-suited to the climate.
- 2. Choose a variety of plants that will provide blooms year round.
- 3. Use only natural fertilizers and herbicides. This actually goes for anything you plant. It will protect all those, human and otherwise, who use your yard.
- 4. Skip pesticides and avoid plants that have been treated with Neocotinoids. This may be an issue with big box stores.

Finally, we appreciate the efforts of our "mother" committee, Mission, in their new effort to help us Mind the Gap and Mend the Gap:

Minding the Gap- The New York Times climate desk reports on a growing body of evidence showing that climate change is tied to pregnancy risks, affecting black mothers most. "Not only are minority communities in the United States far more likely to be hotter than the surrounding areas, a phenomenon known as the 'heat island' effect, but they are also more likely to be located near polluting industries." Research published in the Journal of the American Medical Assn. presents some of the most compelling evidence so far linking climate change with harm to newborn children. Low birth rates are more common as temperatures rise, and heat waves are associated with more premature births. The closer a mother lives to a power plant, the greater the risk of preterm birth. Minorities may be less able to afford to live in leafy communities which keep temperatures down, and to have access to medical help. All of this, and more, adds up to a significant difference in outcomes.

Mending the Gap- Communities of faith are increasingly involved is standing up for cleaner air and water. BHCC belongs to the Pa Chapter of Interfaith Power and Light (https://paipl.us), which is a good source of information. Closer to home, the Environmental Health Project (https://www.environmentalhealthproject.org) serves Southwestern Pennsylvania. Pediatrician Dr. Ned Katyher has been a speaker at Adult Ed.

WELCOME

OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

In May 2022, at worship we received our latest class of new members. Below, we have included the pictures they supplied. These pictures are in the most recent photo directory. Please look for and welcome them at worship and other events.

- Ashley and Dave Dickey and their children Maddox and Zoey
- Andy and Colleen Marsteller and their children Emma and Poppy
- Carol Martin (No picture available)



Dave & Ashley Dickey Zoey & Maddox



Colleen & Andy Marsteller Emma & Poppy



Rev. Dr. Brian Snyder, Pastor brian.snyder@bowerhillchurch.org

Parish Associate

Rev. Dr. Fred Leasure fred.leasure@bowerhillchurch.org

Company of Pastors

Rev. Dr. Fred Leasure Rev. Dr. Betty Sykes

Amy Grella
Director of Education Ministries
amy.grella@bowerhillchurch.org

Anne Smith
Director of Music Ministries
anne.smith@bowerhillchurch.org

Philip Engel, Financial Secretary phil.engel@bowerhillchurch.org

Kim Digman, Office Administrator office@bowerhillchurch.org

THE CHURCH OFFICE

70 Moffett St., Pittsburgh. PA 15243 (412) 561-4114 office@bhccml.com
Tuesday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

www.BowerHillChurch.org

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR CARE LIST

Bower Hill Church Members

Joan Bridges, Joan McAnulty Jeff Carper, Jean Dunfee, Georgia Gallo, Mary Laufer Dottie Post



July 1: DJ Geis, Jr.
Katie Krol
Mary Laufer
Benjamin Robosky

July 2: Craig Frock

July 4: Glenn Child Jennifer Gardner

July 5: Henry Carter

July 7: Alison Sehgal

July 11: Travis Simpson-Hunt

July 12: Scott Bruce Holly Smith

July 13: Debbie Seifert Carolyn Westerhoff

July 16: Alison & Andrew Shwallon Ella Siefken July 18: Ray Henney, III

July 19: Adaline Gray Ruby Siefken

July 20: Linda Johnson Kristoffer Lansbery

July 22: Mandy Belardi

July 24: Wyatt Gray Dave May Phyllis Yohe

July 29: Karen Cooper Matthew Dunfee Jennifer Foster Dawn Kane Elaine Mackey Ruth Robbins

July 30: Jim Burke

Aug. 3: Emmalyn Gray

Aug. 4: JoAnn Goode Mary Beth Waine

Aug. 7: Peter Smith Maya Williams Art Thomas

Aug. 10: Amanda Gray

Aug 11: Jeffrey Carper Olivia Weeks

Aug. 13: Amber Grier Sophia Lansbery

Aug. 14: Nancy Green Craig Grella Sage Williams \mathbf{A}

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Aug. 15: Noelle Grella

Aug. 16: Monette Shuttleworth

Aug. 18: Emma Hicks

Aug. 21: Bill Cadwell

Aug. 23: Ella Belardi Joan Bridges Bob Ferrero

Aug. 28: Michela Robbins

Aug. 30: Andrew Smith

Aug. 31: Jean Miewald Catherine Morgan

THE BIRTHDAY BLESSING:

Please take a moment to read through the names, pray for them, and offer them your best wishes! Have we missed YOUR birthday? If your name is not listed, it is because the church office does not have your information. Please call the office administrator at 412-561-4114 with updated information.

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| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
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| 9.30am Summer Sunday School (Prek-5th grade) - Rm 110 9.30am Worship 10.30am Worship 11:00am First Baptist Worship 1:00pm Compassionate Friends (110,105,101) | 77.7:00pm Session Mtg. (ZOOM) | 28 1:30pm Bookworms - Zoom 7:30pm BS Troop 28 (FH) | 29 7:00pm Mayfair on Moffett (110,105) | 30 12:00pm Senior High Youth Group Mini Golf Kick-off Event | - | Set Outdoors - See the weekly church announcements for details 10:00am Hooks & Needles (RM 110) |
| 3 9:30am Summer Sunday School (PreK-5th grade) - Rm 110 9:30am Worship 10:30am First Baptist Worship | 4 Holiday - Office Closed Independence Day 7:00pm A & P Comm. via Zoom | 5 7:00pm Worship & Music (Zoom) 7:30pm BS Troop 28 (FH) | 6 7:00pm Mayfair on Moffett (110,105) | 7 | 8 | 6 |
| 10 Unity Food Pantry 9:30am Summer Sunday School (Prek-5th grade) - Rm 110 9:30am Worship 10:30am First Baptist Worship | 7.0pm Building & Grounds (101) (2.30pm Mission Comm. (200M) | 112 8:00am Men's Breakfast Group 10:00am Adult Ed Committee - Zoom 7:00pm Communication Committee - (Rm 101 & Zoom) 7:30pm BS Troop 28 (FH) | 13 7:00pm Mayfair on Moffett (110,105) | 14 8:00pm Eco-Justice Team (Conf. Rm. 101) | 15 | 16 10:00am Hooks & Needles (RM 110) |
| 17 9:30am Summer Sunday School (PreK-5th grade) - Rm 110 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship (Coffee) 11:00am First Baptist Worship Mission Trip Recap 12:00pm Youth - Hot Metal Bridge prep | 7:00pm Deacons (Lounge 101) | 19 5:00pm TABLE at Hot Metal Bridge Faith Community 7:30pm BS Troop 28 (FH) | 20 7:00pm Mayfair on Moffett (110,105) | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 9:30am Summer Sunday School (PreK-5th grade) - Rm 110 9:30am Worship 10:30am First Baptist Worship | 25 6:00pm Baptist church Adult Bible School - FR 7:00pm Session Mtg. (HYBRID, Rm 201) | 26 1:30pm Bookworms - Zoom 6:00pm Baptist church Adult Bible School - FR 7:30pm BS Troop 28 (FH) | 27 6:00pm Baptist church Adult Bible School - FR 7:00pm Mayfair on Moffett (110, 105) | 6:00pm Baptist church Adult 6:00pm Bible School - FR | 29 6:00pm Baptist church Adult Bible School - FR | 30 |
| 31 9:30am Summer Sunday School (Prek-5th grade) - Rm 110 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship (Coffee) 11:00am First Baptist Worship 1:00pm Compassionate Friends (110,105,101) | 1 9:30am 2022 ReNew Vacation Bible School 7:00pm A & P Comm. via Zoom | 8:00am Men's Breakfast Group - Denny's 9:30am 2022 ReNew Vacation Bible School 7:30pm Worship & Music (Zoom) 7:30pm BS Troop 28 (FH) | 3 9:30am 2022 ReNew Vacation Bible School 7:00pm Mayfair on Moffett (110,105) | 4 9:30am 2022 ReNew Vacation 6 Bible School | 5 9:30am 2022 ReNew Vacation Bible School | Get Outdoors - See the weekly church announcements for details 10:00am Hooks & Needles (RM 110) |

| | | | August 2022 | 022 | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| 9:30am Summer Sunday School (PreK-5th grade) - 9:70 Rm 110 Sum Worship (Coffee) 7:10:30am Worship (Coffee) 7:1:00am First Baptist Worship 1:00pm Compassionate Friends (110,105,101) | 30am 2022 ReNew Vacation ble School 00pm A & P Comm. via oom | | 39:30am 2022 ReNew Vacation Bible School 7:00pm Mayfair on Moffett (110,105) | 4 59:30am 2022 ReNew Vacation 9:30am 2022 ReNew Vacation Bible School Bible School | 5 9:30am 2022 ReNew Vacation Bible School | Get Outdoors - See the weekly church announcements for details 10:00am Hooks & Needles (RM 110) |
| 7 9:30am Summer Sunday School (PreK-5th grade) - 7 Rm 110 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship (Coffee) 11:00am First Baptist Worship | 87:00pm Building & Grounds (101) 7:30pm Mission Comm. (200M) | 1000am Adult Ed Committee - 7:00pm Mayfair on Moffett Zoom 7:00pm Communication Committee - (110,105) 7:30pm BS Troop 28 (FH) | 10 7:00pm Mayfair on Moffett (110,105) | 11 8:00pm Eco-Justice Team (Conf. Rm. 101) | 12 | 13 |
| 14 Unity Food Pantry Unity Food Pantry 9:30am Summer Sunday School (PreK-5th grade) - ERM 110 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship (Coffee) 11:00am First Baptist Worship | 16 Newsletter and Session Report 7:30pm Deadline 7:30pm Deacons (Lounge 101) Zoom | 16 7:30pm BS Troop 28 (FH) 7:30pm Finance Meeting - Zoom | 17 7:00pm Mayfair on Moffett (110,105) | | 19 | 20 10:00am Hooks & Needles (RM 110) |
| 9:30am Summer Sunday School (PreK-5th grade) - 7 Rm 110 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship (Coffee) 11:00am First Baptist Worship | 7:00pm Session Mtg. (ZOOM) | 23 1:30pm Bookworms - Zoom 7:30pm BS Troop 28 (FH) | 24 7:00pm Mayfair on Moffett (110,105) | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 9.30am Summer Sunday School (PreK-5th grade) - 8 Rm 110 9.30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship (Coffee) 11:00am First Baptist Worship 12:00pm Butterfly Release - Compassionate Friends - Sanctuary, Kitchen, FH, Front Lawn | 29 8:00am Montessori School | 30 8:00am Montessori School 7:30pm BS Troop 28 (FH) | 31 8:00am Montessori School 7:00pm Mayfair on Moffett (110,105) | 8:00am Montessori School 7:00pm Choir (Rm 110) | 2 8:00am Montessori School | 3 Get Outdoors - See the weekly church announcements for details 10:00am Hooks & Needles (RM 110) |