

# Bon Air Presbyterian Church



## **Mission**

*Seeking and Serving Christ, Sharing God's Love for All Creation*

## **Vision**

*BAPC will be a diverse congregation – open, affirming, supportive of each other, and demonstrating faithfulness through worship, education, fellowship, and service that is valued by the community.*

## **Core Values**

*Caring Community, Spiritual Growth, Diversity, Social Justice, Welcoming*

**SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY**  
**September 25, 2022**

16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

11:00 AM

**GATHERING AS THE PEOPLE OF GOD**

Prelude

Prelude on O WALY WALY – David Allen Miller

Beverley Edwards

Words of Welcome

Rev. Alex Creager

\*Call to Worship \*(based on Isaiah 43)

Rev. Alex Creager

When we pass through the waters,  
**GOD IS THERE WITH US.**  
When we are sick or suffering,  
**GOD IS THERE WITH US.**  
When we are joyful and celebratory,  
**GOD IS THERE WITH US.**  
Whether we feel triumphant or defeated,  
**GOD IS THERE WITH US.**  
Come, let us worship together,  
**FOR GOD IS HERE, WITH US TODAY.**

-by Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell at [rev-o-lution.org](http://rev-o-lution.org)

\*Hymn

*How Firm a Foundation*

Number 463

**How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!  
What more can be said than to you God hath said,  
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?**

**"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,  
for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.**

**"When through the deep waters I call thee to go,  
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;  
for I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,  
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.**

**"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,  
my grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;  
the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design  
thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.**

**"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;  
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."**

Prayer of Confession \*

Connor Ferreri

(based on Romans 12, by Gord Waldie at *Worship Offerings*)

God, you have given each of us many gifts,  
**but sometimes we cannot recognize  
what gift we have to share,  
so, we hide it under a bushel.**

God, you remind us that all gifts are needed,  
**but sometimes we let ourselves be convinced  
that some gifts are less valued than others.**

God, you call us to work, to live, to love together as parts of one body,  
**but sometimes we decide that membership in the body  
is limited by our understandings.**

God, for the times we have ignored or mislabeled your gifts,  
for those times we have cut another off from the body,  
**We offer words of repentance,  
we ask for forgiveness and grace.**

*...time of silent prayer...*

Assurance of Pardon

One: There is far more grace in God than there will ever be sin in us.

**All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, Thanks Be to God.**

\*Hymn

*When Hands Reach Out and Fingers Trace*

Number 302

**When hands reach out and fingers trace  
the beauty of a loved one's face,  
we thank you, God, that love relies  
on gifts of grace not seen with eyes.**

**When fingers spell and signs express  
our prayer and praise and thankfulness,  
we thank you, God, that hands can sing;  
you bless the silent songs we bring.**

**When broken bodies will not mend,  
we thank you, God, for Christ our friend.  
In him, our healing can begin:  
he welcomes all the wounded in.**

**And when the ways we learn and grow  
are not the ways that others know,  
we thank you, God, that we have learned  
your love's a gift, and never earned.**

**Your Spirit gives us differing ways  
to serve you well and offer praise.  
When all are joined as one, we'll be  
your able, strong community.**

Time for Young Disciples

Connor Ferreri

Children dismissed to Little Lights (children through grade five)

### **ATTENDING TO THE WORD OF GOD**

Prayer for Illumination

Elaine Ogburn

First Reading

Isaiah 43: 1-7

Elaine Ogburn

But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. <sup>2</sup>When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. <sup>3</sup>For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. <sup>4</sup>Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. <sup>5</sup>Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; <sup>6</sup>I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth— <sup>7</sup>everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

Second Reading

Romans 12: 1, 6-13

Rev. Alex Creager

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. <sup>6</sup>We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; <sup>7</sup>ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; <sup>8</sup>the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness. <sup>9</sup>Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; <sup>10</sup>love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup>Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. <sup>13</sup>Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

**RESPONDING TO GOD'S LOVE**

Offering of Our Gifts and Ourselves

Offertory *God of Mercy God of Grace* – Jerry Davidson

Chancel Choir

Prayer of Thanksgiving (ushers bring plates forward for prayer)

Doxology *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

Number 607

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
 praise Christ, all people here below;  
 praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
 praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

Blessing of Prayer Shawls

In the past year, members of Bon Air Presbyterian Church have used their gifts to knit and crochet shawls. As they make them, the members pray for these shawls to be instruments of love, care, and healing. These shawls go out to members and friends of the congregation who are sick, grieving, or are experiencing life changes. We also send some of the shawls to the Hunter Holmes Maguire VA Medical Center. We share them as a witness of God's continuing presence, love, and strength in all of life's journeys. Today, we invite you to join us in praying over and blessing them. Please come forward, place your hand on a shawl, and offer your own words of blessing. Or if you would like, repeat these words:

*"Loving God, allow these shawls to bring your warmth, your love, your light to each person who receives and touches this gift. Amen."*

Unison Prayer

**May these shawls be signs of your loving, healing presence.  
 May they warm those who are weary.  
 May they surround with encouragement those who are discouraged.  
 May they assure their recipients of your care and comfort  
 when they and their loved ones are in pain.  
 May they be reminders that you love us  
 and that their recipients are surrounded by the prayers of others.**

*(Adopted from "Praying with a Prayer Shawl", used by Brooklyn United Methodist Church)*

Lord's Prayer

Rev. Alex Creager

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
 Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
 Give us this day our daily bread;  
 and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors;  
 and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
 For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

\*Closing Hymn

*The Servant Song*

Number 727

**Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?  
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.**

**We are pilgrims on a journey; we're together on the road.  
We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.**

**I will hold the Christ-light for you in the nighttime of your fear.  
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.**

**I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh I'll laugh with you.  
I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.**

**When we sing to God in heaven, we shall find such harmony,  
born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.**

**Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?  
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.**

\*Sending and Blessing

Postlude

*Postlude on FOUNDATION* – Robert Hobby

Beverley Edwards

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Rev. Alex Creager, *Pastor/Head of Staff*  
Connor Ferreri, *Director of Children & Youth*  
Beverley Edwards, *Director of Music*  
Meredith Himmelman, *Section & Woods Music Leader*  
Barbara Gregory, *Preschool Director*  
Kim Negaard, *Bookkeeper*  
Brenda Norton, *Office Manager*  
Dwayne L. Williams, *Sexton*



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**WELCOME!** We are so grateful to worship with you today. We pray that you will experience the love of God and the presence of Christ in our midst.

If this is your first time worshipping with us, please let us know in the fellowship pad. Pastor Alex Creager would also love the chance to connect with you more. You can find him greeting people after worship by the main doors or contact him at [alex@bonairpc.org](mailto:alex@bonairpc.org).

## **WORSHIP INFORMATION**

We worship together every Sunday at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary. The 11:00 a.m. service is livestreamed to Zoom and Facebook each week. To worship with us over Zoom, please contact Brenda Norton, Monday-Friday, at [office@bonairpc.org](mailto:office@bonairpc.org)

### **Children in Worship**

It is our great joy to welcome and worship with children of all ages here at Bon Air Presbyterian Church. The sound of children is a joy for us, and children are always welcome to remain in worship with their families. As you enter, there is a **Children's Cart** full of books and activities for children to take into the sanctuary with them. In both services, professionally staffed **Childcare is available in our Nursery** just down the hall. An usher will be glad to direct you. And at the 11 a.m. service we offer a **Time for Young Disciples** followed by **Little Lights** in the elementary classroom, led by Director of Children and Youth Ministries Connor Ferreri. For more information, [connor@bonairpc.org](mailto:connor@bonairpc.org)

### **Hearing Assistance**

The Sanctuary is equipped with a hearing loop system. Those with a hearing aid or a cochlear implant, please turn it to the t-coil setting. Wireless hearing aids are available in the sound cabinet. Please see an usher for help in obtaining one.

### **Prayer Requests**

As you enter the sanctuary doors, we have prayer request cards. If you have a specific prayer request for the week, please share it on the card, and hand it either to an usher or into the offering basket. We will be praying for you and your concern this week.

### **Online Giving, <https://bonairpc.org/wp/giving-to-the-church/>**

The Stewardship Division is pleased to offer a method of online giving through the Presbyterian Foundation. The Foundation is partnered with Vanco Payment Solutions, an industry leader offering secure, simple, and specialized electronic payment solutions. If you have any questions, please contact Ted McCormack at [tcmccormack@verizon.net](mailto:tcmccormack@verizon.net).

### **Our Worship Services Are Recorded!**

Did you miss a worship service? Was there something in a service that you would like to share with others? Our worship services are recorded and posted to the BAPC YouTube Channel. We do not identify children by any means. They are easily accessed from our website, [bonairpc.org/wp/video-worships/](https://bonairpc.org/wp/video-worships/).

## **THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF BON AIR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**Shalom Farms Volunteer Day** – If you are looking for a unique volunteer opportunity join BAPC on **Wednesday, September 28: 8:45-11:45 a.m.** We have slots for six adults, but more can be added. Shalom Farms is a nonprofit working together to build healthy communities by growing and sharing healthy food. The food they grow is distributed through a network of programs and partnerships in communities where access to healthy food is limited. Interested in joining us? Please sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E49A4A72DA6FAC25-volunteering>

**The Stewardship Ministry Team invites you** to share your stories of beginnings at BAPC. We are excited and thankful for things that are new, but also would like to reflect on the beginnings of things that we cherish as traditions. Stories may be submitted on forms to the church office (found in the narthex and welcome corridor) or by using the link: <https://forms.gle/6nmBtxwsmJEAJbfU6>. Please share by Sunday, October 2!

**Presbyterian Peacemaker here - Wednesday, October 5 – after Wednesday Night Dinner at 6:15 p.m.**, Join us for a presentation from the Presbyterian Peacemaker from El Salvador, Carmen Elena Diaz Anzora and her interpreter, Joseph Russ. By sharing stories of their work and witness, the peacemakers help us understand peace and justice concerns around the world and provide insights that can inspire us to greater faithfulness. Their visits broaden our sense of God's inclusive family and help equip us to build a culture of peace and nonviolence for all God's children. Carmen and Joseph will also meet with the youth of our Presbytery at Salisbury Presbyterian at 6 p.m. on **Sunday, October 9**. All of our middle and high school youth are invited. If you are unable to attend on Wednesday, you can also participate in the program being held the following evening (Thursday, October 6) at **7 p.m. on Zoom**:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85238488014?pwd=eHJPdXNGa1RZdFlyclJ2aXZsVDZpZz09>

**Share your faith by reading scripture in worship.** Questions? Contact Kathy Sestak at 804-272-7631 or sign-up at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C4CADA72AA0F58-sunday>

**THIS WEEK AT BON AIR PRESBYTERIAN: September 25 – October 2**

Sunday	8:30 a.m.	Worship (Sanctuary)
	9:30 a.m.	Christian Education for all ages (various rooms)
	11:00 a.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary/Zoom)
	12:10 p.m.	Home Communion Training (Parlor)
Monday	8:30 a.m.	Friendship Café (Beck Room)
	9:30 a.m.	Yoga (Room 101-103)
	6:30 p.m.	Cub Scouts (101,103,104, Beck, Fel. Hall, Sun. School Classrooms)
Tuesday	10:30 a.m.	Staff Meeting (Garden Room)
	10:30 a.m.	SSSJ Committee (Library)
	6:30 p.m.	AA (Fellowship Hall/Room 101-103)
Wednesday	4:30 p.m.	RISC House Mtg. (Garden Room)
	5:30 p.m.	Cantus Choir (Children's Music Room)
	6:15 p.m.	Dinner (Fellowship Hall)
	6:45 p.m.	Handbells (Sanctuary)
	7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir (Choir Room)
Thursday	8:30 a.m.	Friendship Café (Beck Room)
	6:00 p.m.	Yoga (Room 101-103)
	7:00 p.m.	Pickleball or Basketball (Fellowship Hall)
Friday	6:30 p.m.	AA (Fellowship Hall/Room 104)
Saturday	9:30 a.m.	Open Trunk Food Drive (Parking Lot)
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	Worship (Sanctuary)
	9:30 a.m.	Christian Education for all ages (various rooms)
	11:00 a.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary/Zoom)
	12:15 p.m.	RISC House Mtg. (Garden Room)