

Bethel Focus

Bethel Presbyterian Church, Organized 1764

When God Made Mothers by Erma Bombeck

When the Good Lord was creating mothers, He was into His sixth day of "overtime" when the angel appeared and said, "You're doing a lot of fiddling around on this one."

And God said, "Have you read the specs on this order? She has to be completely washable, but not plastic. Have 180 moveable parts...all replaceable. Run on black coffee and leftovers. Have a lap that disappears when she stands up. A kiss that can cure anything from a broken leg to a disappointed love affair. And six pairs of hands."

The angel shook her head slowly and said, "Six pairs of hands.... no way."

It's not the hands that are causing me problems," God remarked,



"it's the three pairs of eyes that mothers have to have."

"That's on the standard model?" asked the angel. God nodded.

"One pair that sees through closed doors when she asks, 'What are you kids doing in there?' when she already knows. Another here in the back of her head that sees what she shouldn't but what she has to know, and of course the ones here in front that can look at a child when he goofs up and say, 'I understand and I love you' without

so much as uttering a word."

"God," said the angel touching his sleeve gently, "Get some rest tomorrow...."

"I can't," said God, "I'm so close to creating something so close to myself. Already I have one who heals herself when she is sick...can feed a family of six on one pound of hamburger...and can get a nine year old to stand under a shower."

The angel circled the model of a mother very continued on p. 2

May 2014

Sermon Schedule:

- 5/4 "Best Offer Ever" Matthew 11:20-30
- 5/11 "Behold Your Mother" John 19:25-29
- 5/18 "Resisting the Holy Spirit" Matthew 12:22
- 5/25 "Parable of the Sower" Matthew 13:1-23

Men of the Covenant:

- The Men of the Covenant will meet Monday, May 5, at 6:30 pm at Bobby Boyd's home, located at 265 Blue Heron Dr., Rock Hill. All Bethel men are encouraged to attend and enjoy a delicious meal and fellowship together.

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May 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	01	02	03 Janice Currence
04 Choir Practice Deacon's Fund Collection Joint Session & Diaconate...	05 Staff Meeting FLC Reserved - MOC	06 Anna Drechsler Women's Bible Study Circle #1 Diaconate Meeting	07 Basketball	08	09 Cullie Mounts	10
11 Mother's Day Choir Practice	12 Staff Meeting Circle #3	13 Women's Bible Study Circle #2	14 Tommy Dixon Coleen Riddle Circle Basketball	15 Ella Riddle Forrest	16	17
18 Choir Practice FLC Reserved WIC Council Meeting	19 Staff Meeting	20 Michelle Stowe	21 Dennis McGinn Basketball	22	23 Harry Compton Peggy Long William Flanagan	24
25 Choir Practice	26 Staff Meeting	27 Duree Love	28 Senior Citizens Luncheon Basketball	29	30 FLC, Sanctuary Reserved Marcia Trevino Virginia Johnson	31 Colonial Days FLC, Sanctuary Reserved...

When God Made Mothers, continued from p. 1

slowly. "It's too soft," she sighed.

"But tough!" said God excitedly. "You can imagine what this mother can do or endure."

"Can it think?"

"Not only can it think, but it can reason and compromise," said the Creator.

"Finally, the angel bent over and ran her finger across the cheek.

"There's a leak," she pronounced. "I told You that You were trying to put too much into this model."

"It's not a leak," said the Lord, "It's a tear."

"What's it for?"

"It's for joy, sadness, disappointment, pain, loneliness, and pride."

"You are a genius," said the angel.

Somberly, God said, "I didn't put it there." #####



April Session Minutes

The Session of Bethel Presbyterian Church met Sunday, April 6, 2014 at 2:00 PM in the Conference Room of the Family Life Center with Moderator, Rev. John Gess, for the regular scheduled monthly meeting.

The meeting was called to order and opened with the reading of the Scriptures from Luke 24:1-12 and prayer by the Moderator.

A quorum was present. Elders present: Neil D. Allen, Christopher L. Wallace, Robert N. Boyd, Frank C. Falls, Robert C. Love, Jr., Steven H. Linder, D. Ross Love, W. Hampton Stowe, III, Timothy G. Marsh, and Robert B. Meek, Jr. Also present were Assistant Pastor, Rev. Mark Ashbaugh, Pastoral Intern, Will Milks, and Diaconate Chairman, Steve Britt.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2014 Session meeting, as written and mailed to each Session member.

Steve Britt gave the Deacons report and financial report, and reviewed the minutes of the March 4, 2014 and April 1, 2014 Deacons meetings, a copy each of which is appended to these minutes. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to approve the Deacons report, Deacons minutes, the financial report, and actions taken. Ste-

ve was thanked for the report and was dismissed from the meeting.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to approve a letter of recommendation (copy attached) to Fellowship Presbytery, for Will Milks to come under the care of Presbytery.

Fellowship Presbytery will be held April 26, 2014 at Christ Ridge PCA, Fort Mill, SC. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to approve Tim Marsh as the Session Representative from Bethel.

General Assembly will be held June 17–19, 2014 in Houston, TX.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to send a letter of delinquency to inactive members.

A record of pastoral activity, for Rev. Gess for the month of March, was provided to the Session.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to approve a request for the October 24th and 25th, 2014 use of Bethel's sanctuary and educational building, for the wedding of Olivia Faith Broome and Cody Lane Barker, assuming availability of the facilities.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to approve Floyd Neal as a member of the Bethel Cemetery Association Board of

Directors.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to ask the Diaconate to get a cost estimate from Nu Day Productions (Benny), to install video/TV capability in the sanctuary and educational building, so that nursery workers can view worship services. Cary Grant is the Bethel contact to discuss with Nu Day Productions, as the Diaconate so directs.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to reclassify \$4,000 of 2014 budgeted minister's compensation, from salary to health insurance.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to approve changes to the January 6, 2013 and April 7, 2013 Session minutes, concerning stated purpose of called meetings, as required by the Fellowship Presbytery Records Review Committee.

A recessed Congregational meeting will be held May 4, 2014 following morning worship for the purpose of electing elders to the Class of 2018.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to adjourn. The meeting was closed with prayer by Neil Allen.

Robert C. Love, Jr.
Clerk of Session

Bethel Presbyterian Church

Presbyterian Church in America
Organized 1764

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Prayer Requests:

Pastor John Gess, Assistant Pastor Mark Ashbaugh, and Intern Will Milks, as they preach and minister to the Bethel congregation, and for their families.

Pray for Michael Lee as he preaches at Hopewell PCA in Rock Hill May 4. Pray for the Lees as we seek to implement the Member Care ministry for MTW Latin America. Pray that the Lord will enable us to minister to the MTW missionaries of Latin America with compassion and humility. Pray for the us as we travel to Nicaragua at the end of May and participate in the Central America/ Caribbean Team Leader Retreat. Pray that the Team Leaders will acknowledge the great need for spiritual care for their missionaries and assist us in this endeavor. Please continue to pray for Justin Marshburn, Amber's boyfriend and Tegan's father;

pray that the Lord will draw Justin to Himself. Our upcoming Missions Conference and all the events of the 250th Anniversary Celebration, that God would be glorified, the gospel would be clear, and His kingdom would be advanced.

Session and Diaconate members, WIC officers, Sunday School teachers, Bible Study leaders, Youth leaders/teachers, giving thanks for their faithfulness and willingness to serve.

Missionaries throughout the world, as well as local ministries such as Habitat for Humanity, God's Kitchen, Clover Area Assistance Center and Biblical Studies Released Time. Please pray fervently for the work in Northern Mexico, for "great boldness to keep preaching the gospel....." (Acts 4:29) because we all know that the gospel is the only hope we can have in the midst of fear and violence around our cities. Yes, we need courage and valor, but to bring hope that transforms our cities in Northern Mexico." (Quote from a letter from

Andres Garza.)

Our college students, and expectant mothers and their unborn babies within the church family.

Our soldiers serving in Afghanistan, Europe & Iraq: James Pittman, III (nephew of Victoria & Steve Linder), John Rice (grandson of Joe & Phyllis Wysor) recovering from injuries from a roadside bomb explosion, Greg Sandifer, and Ted Trevino.

Charlotte Barnett, Monnie Blackman (C. Robinson's sister, lupus), Loma Burton, Abe Craddock (friend of J. LeMoyne, emphysema), Susan Heffner (undergoing chemo), Elaine Honeycutt (P. Brannock's sister-in-law, cancer), Sherer Gordon Hopkins, Bob Kenley, Herb LeMoyne (J. LeMoyne's brother, Parkinson's disease), Harold McCarter, Randy McCarter (son of Duke & Maxie, cancer), Jesse Patino (B. Love's brother-in-law, lymphoma), Jim Pittman (V. Linder's brother, prostate cancer, has spread to his spine), Bobby Wallace.