

From: **Bedford Presbyterian Church** news@bedfordpresbyterian.org
Subject: Weekly Hilltop Crier
Date: May 12, 2017 at 1:37 PM
To: paula@baileydonovan.com

BC

Bedford Presbyterian Church

Hilltop Crier for May 12



What do you call the Mother's Day right before someone becomes a mother?

This isn't a setup for a joke, and no, I'm not asking for a friend. As I write this, it is not quite Mother's Day yet. The baby that Amy and I are expecting is enjoying his last days in the womb. He is doing a lot of wiggling - moving and kicking - all while hanging upside down inside Amy's belly. The whole process so far has been miraculous to watch and feel, even though I - as the expectant father - will never know what it is like when a baby's fingers tickle you from inside your body. For the record, Amy says it's a little bit of weird.

We have heard all the stories about how we won't get much sleep and how hard newborn babies are. [Thanks for your horror stories? :] But we have also heard many stories of how wonderful it is to have a baby. [Thank you, truly, for these stories.]

So, into these last days, Amy and I have been praying prayers of thanksgiving and awe as we wait. This last non-baby Mother's Day in our household will be one in which our hearts and spirits are filled with gratitude and hopeful expectation. All we can say is "Wow!" and "Thanks!" We are so grateful for the love and support you continue to show for us and are looking forward to introducing "Baby Sawyer" soon.

See you in church (unless we're in labor at the hospital)!

Grace and Peace,

John

Prepare for Worship -
This Week: "It's All Part of the Pilgrimage"

- Read John 14:1-14
- Read or sing Hymn # 311 - "Here, O Lord, Your Servants Gather" - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gb1-by0vl-4>
- Remember that all of the women of the church are invited to join the special Mother's Day Choir. Rehearsal starts at 9 AM on Sunday in the Sanctuary!

Click on the link below for a copy of this week's 10:00 a.m. Bulletin:

https://bedfordpresbyterian.org/files/8314/9451/0763/2017_May_14_Bulletin.pdf

**PLEASE NOTE: SUMMER WORSHIP HOURS BEGIN
SUNDAY, MAY 28 AT 9:00 A.M.**



Thank you to all our
Coffee Hour Family

(Coffee Hour is like our "Third" sacrament)

The time after our church service is an informal gathering of our church family and I believe it is one of BPC's foundations. Coffee Hour is a place for teenagers to know the elderly, new parents to struggle to connect, and where we transcend our differences to get along warmly on a personal level. The social hall can be the sanctuary of the church ~

Thank you for hosting and/or providing baked treats for our fellowship time.

Tom Green - Dawn Zimmerman - Nancy & Andy Wickwire - The Deacons - Alicia Woodruff - Stewardship & Finance committee - Cindy & Jean Chagnon - Marilyn & Paul Brock - Susan Judy & Scott Crandall - Charlene Isham & The Enos - The Boy Scouts - Many Baretto - Carolyn Swift - Barb & Charlie Pendleton - Linda Phelps - Jim & Deb Blake - Penny Torbick - Beth Evarts - Kate Kilgus - Althea Ansah - Barb Flocco - Lynn & Bill Plants - Caring Close

Are you free to host Coffee Hour? We need brewers for the dates: 5/21, 6/18 (need a ladies group for Father's Day), and 6/25. Thanks for considering!

Coffee Hour will be on summer break during the months of July and August. We will be back to coffee at Ingathering.



Harold G. Williams Jr. Scholarship Fund

For students planning on continuing their education after high school, finding the funds to make it possible is a daunting, wearying and - ultimately - necessary gauntlet that almost all will have to go through. Students will apply for a wide variety of scholarships in the hopes of defraying some of the cost of this investment in their future.

Happily, the Bedford Presbyterian Church has for many years been awarding money from the Harold G. Williams Scholarship Fund to one or more applicants planning on continuing their education at a trade school or graduate degree program in the fall of the year in which the scholarship is awarded. Overseen by the Deacons, this year two applicants will be awarded scholarships, in the amount of \$1,000 each.

The application can be found on the church website:

https://bedfordpresbyterian.org/files/9614/9390/4826/BPC_Williams_Scholarship_Letterapp_Mar2017.pdf

Completed applications must be returned to Mike Eno by May 28th at mikeeno@gmail.com or mailed to Bedford Presbyterian Church, 4 Church Road, Bedford NH, no later than May 28th.

Time is short so please take note of the dates above. Scholarship winners will be notified by June 1st and the scholarship awarded at Graduation Sunday, June 11th, 2017.

Godspeed!



Darkness to Light Training at Bedford Presbyterian Church

A child abuse prevention workshop that promotes the safety of our children and youth in churches

Tuesday 6/27 from 5:30-8:00PM

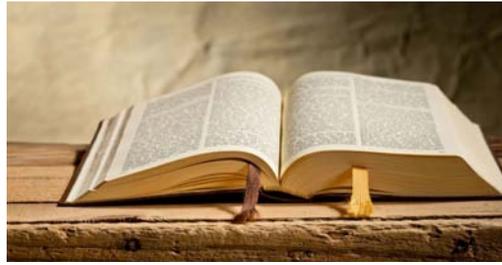
4 Church Road, Bedford, New Hampshire

www.bedfordpresbyterian.org

The Children's Ministry Committee of Bedford Presbyterian Church invites you to join us in an enlightening and thought provoking group session that emphasizes important issues in child abuse prevention with a community of faith that partners with children and youth.

You will receive dinner and a workbook that reinforces key prevention concepts and serves as a personal and personal action plan for preventing abuse. A fee of \$10.00 is suggested and covers the cost of the workbook and meal. Please let us know you are coming by emailing Co-Pastor Karen Hagy at khagy@bedfordpresbyterian.org or calling 603-472-5841 to rsvp. We hope you will join us in bringing light to darkness.

stewards of the children of God.



Potluck and Old Testament Discussion

Join us as we enjoy a potluck dinner and discussion on “Going Deeper in the Old Testament”. Concludes 5/17 - T King Solomon to Preclassical Prophecy.



Sunday, May 21, 2017 10AM Service

Come and meet our New Mission Parters in the mission field in Southeast Asia, the Dawsons. Barry & Shelly will help lead worship, offer a moment for mission in the service and during the coffee hour. They will share the story of hope revealed in Jesus Christ in Southeast Asia through various mission projects. Our projects focus on "the critical global issues that address the root causes of poverty, joyfully share the gospel and offer reconciliation in cultures of violence."

This is our chance to welcome our new missionaries, to get to know them, and for them to get to know us. We will learn about the work Presbyterians are doing in countries like Thailand, Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, and the Philippines. Join us for a wonderful morning of mission.

Dinner With the Dawsons - You're invited to join Barry & Shelly Dawson for a casual dinner at Marcia M on Saturday, May 20 to learn more about their missionary work based in Southeast Asia. Please RSVP to khagy@bedfordpresbyterian.org. Details will be provided upon RSVP. Seating is limited to 16 people.



New Building Bridges Team at BPC

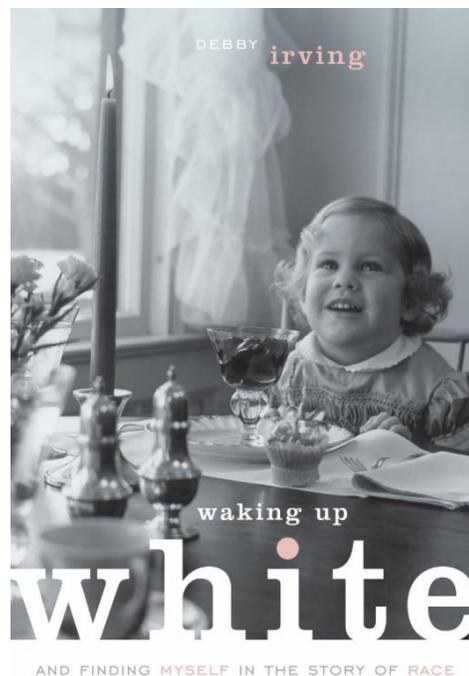
Bedford Presbyterian Church is a place where all are welcome, and a new group at the church is what that "welcome" can look like in a country and community that are becoming more multicultural. "Building Bridges Team" is part of the Mission Committee and has been formed to promote multi-cultural awareness, openness, and diversity within the congregation and promote cross-cultural relationships with sisters and brothers beyond the walls of our church. In doing this, the Building Bridges Team is seeking to live out the words of Jesus: ". . . I was a stranger and you welcomed me," (Matthew 25:35) and what it means to provide welcome, hospitality, openness, and love to all through education and care. This is also part of our church's ministry goals for Academy, Parish Life, and Mission Outpost.

There are two events in the works from the Building Bridges Team:

Vacation Church School - June 25-28 - 5:30-8:00 PM - A class for adults and youth called "Bridges" that will include guest speakers on a variety of multi-cultural issues.

"One Church, One Book" Summer Reading Group - *Waking Up White* by Debby Irving. Join our summer book club as we read a book that is being recommended to every PCUSA congregation across the country by the current Co-Moderators of the General Assembly. We will have three gatherings - June 25, July 30, and August 27 - after the morning worship service to discuss the book. For more information, see the following link: <https://www.pcusa.org/news/2017/1/23/one-book-aims-jumpstart-discussions-abo/>.

More information about both these educational opportunities will be coming to you soon. If you want to know more about the Building Bridges Team, contact the convener of the group, Don Kilgus at dbtkilgus@gmail.com.



**BPC's
"One Church, One Book"
Summer Book Club**

***Waking Up White*
by
Debby Irving**

The Co-Moderators of the Presbyterian Church(USA) are encouraging the entire denomination to discuss this book - a book about race in America and our place in it.

Waking Up White is a memoir by Debby Irving, a native New Englander, who shares her struggle and realizations about race.

The Summer Book Club is being sponsored by BPC's new "Building Bridges Team," who invites you to read the book and join the discussion Sunday, June 25, July 30 and August 27 after the 9 AM worship.

Sign up outside the church office if you would like a copy of the book and more information. The sign-up starts on June 4. Be part of the conversation!



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS JUST FOR YOU! GREAT SUMMER STUFF IS HAPPENING AT BPC!

Hello Everyone! We have lots happening in the early months of summer here at BPC. Check out the ways children can plug into their faith and have fun this summer!

Music Sunday June 12 -9AM Worship

Join us for a fun, music filled service where we will thank our Sunday School Teachers and celebrate our Cherub Choir Director, Heidi Caswell, who is retiring after leading our little ones in song for over 20 years. Our high school graduates will be honored too! See you Sunday 6/12!

Children Help Lead Worship in July and August

All children and youth, this is your chance to lead worship with the pastors. Just sign-up on the sign-up sheet outside the office. Put your name next to the date of your choice and one of the pastors will be in the sanctuary and are worship leaders too!

Tuesday, 6/27 from 5:30-8PM, CMC will also offer "Darkness to Light Training" that seeks to educate adults through awareness and education to prevent childhood sexual abuse. The fee for class is \$15 which covers the cost of the workbook.

VCS nights will start with a light supper at 5:30 for all, followed by our programming for all ages starting at 6pm. Please register on our website www.befordpresbyterian.org. The form will be up soon! A donation for VCS is \$15 a person or \$45 max for a family, and \$10.00 for the Darkness to Light Training.

We will be faithful stewards supporting a mission offering of school and playground supplies for Elmwood Elementary School in Manchester and a TRB project with our mission workers in Southeast Asia.

Elementary School in Manchester and a TBD project with our mission workers in Southeast Asia Dawson's. Stay tuned!

We look forward to seeing all of you at BPC this summer! The Children's Ministry Comm



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**2017 Vacation Church School for All Ages
Sunday, June 25-Wednesday, June 28 starts at 5:30-8PM
"God Call Us to Mission Around the World in Four Days"**

Children, Youth, and Adults you are invited to join us for four fun faith-filled evenings as we explore the world of mission!

Adults and youth (6th grade on up) have the opportunity to experience conversations in multiculturalism different perspectives, with 4 different outside speakers featured each evening.

Our children (4 years old through 5th graders) will learn through story, song, music, games, and crafts means to bear witness to God's love for the world through the mission of the greater church and BPC.

Together at VCS, the generations will increase our awareness and love of people around the world so to know our very large diverse family of God.

The evening will start with dinners at 5:30 and we will finish by 8PM every night. We will also have group projects that we be working on that will benefit a local and global mission endeavor.

The website will soon feature a registration VCS form so please be watching for it! You can also RSVP at the church office. We suggest a contribution of \$15 person for the week or \$45 for a family. Wednesday we will conclude with a fun celebration event too! Please call the pastors with any questions 472-5841 or 2017 directors Cheryl Barlow at cherylbarlow@me.com or Eliza Michalski at eliza.michalski@gmail.com

Hope to see everybody at VCS on opening night, June 25th!



CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

Are you (or someone you know) caring for, or overseeing care of an elderly loved one? Did you hear about our Caregiver Support Group? Did you know it is open to anyone in the community, not just the BPC community?

Caregiver Support Group meets the first and third Wednesdays of the month, from 7-8pm. While our group is open to any caregivers, our group currently consists predominantly of adult children. If you wonder if this group might be for you, please contact the group facilitator, Lisa Lavoie, 603-289-6688, Lisa@EldestDaughterNH.com for more information. You do not need to attend every meeting, but it is helpful if you RSVP whether you plan to attend (Or miss a week) for planning purposes. Please help ensure the success of the group by spreading the word to anyone who could benefit from joining us.



Giving at BPC

Per Capita for 2017 -

BPC is committed to being connected to the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the Presbytery of New England. One of the ways we are proud to be connected is through the "Per Capita," which is a member fee that supports regional, national, and global mission and programs. All Presbyterian members are obligated to pay a Per Capita. The 2017 Per Capita amount is \$46 per member. We invite you to stay current with your Per Capita obligation by using one of the blue envelopes found in a basket at the Sanctuary. You may drop your check, notated with "Per Capita" either in the offering plate or envelope located on the table outside the church office. Thank you!

BPC is now a beneficiary of Amazon Smile! [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) Smile will donate 0.5% of each purchase if BPC is selected as the charitable organization. So for every \$100 of purchases 50 cents is received. For more information, access [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) and benefit BPC using the following link (bit.ly/smilebpc).

The 1749 Society of Bedford Presbyterian Church

Have you considered remembering Bedford Presbyterian Church as part of your estate planning? The *1749 Society* - a group of people who are committed to giving to BPC in perpetuity. For more information, contact Keith Stahl at 603-493-3947 or keithstahl@icloud.com.

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