

Bethlehem Baptist Church

1841 N. Rocky River Rd. Lancaster, SC 29720



Breakfast will be served on Sunday, May 14th beginning at 8:00 am in the FLC. Everyone is invited to join us as we celebrate the Ladies of BBC.

Pastor: Patrick Blackmon

Youth Pastor: Zach Byrd

Worship Director: April Branham

Children's Director: Yancey Dingler

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FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

"Without faith it is impossible to please God, since the one who draws near to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him." Hebrews 11:6

This is one of our memory verses on Sunday nights. This verse spurs the question, "What do we believe about God?" This year we have experienced the blessings and promises of God because of our faith. However, God's not finished with us yet. At this moment we have a decision we must make. Henry Blackaby calls it a crisis of belief. It is at this moment that we must decide whether we will get involved in what only God can do or continue to go our own way. This not only applies to the life of the church but also to our personal lives as well. This decision takes faith to fulfill the God sized budget, it takes faith to fulfill the 1st phase of God's vision for our church, and it takes faith to effectively reach this community for the sake of the gospel. It takes faith to accomplish the God-sized vision of fulfilling Acts 1:8. There are times that our faith may waver when we get the news from the doctor, when our circumstances change, or when things just look impossible. Blackaby said, "The way you live your life is a testimony to what you believe about God." I choose to believe God can. When it seems impossible, when it seems out of reach, or when it seems too much, I believe God can. What does your life testify about your belief in God?

Starting this month we have several opportunities to demonstrate our faith in our Savior.

First of all, on May 3rd and May 10th, we have an opportunity to love on the teachers in our community. We need your help starting at 9am on both days. We also need your help in making homemade desserts for this outreach. If you would be willing to help in that area, please contact the church office.

Secondly, we have our children's choir program this coming Sunday. You might say what does that have to do with faith. These children have lines to learn, and songs to remember. This may seem like a small matter, but I know God will be honored and glorified as we worship this coming Sunday morning.

Thirdly, on May 14th we have our baby dedication service. It takes faith to raise, teach, and parent our children. If you are wanting to participate, please contact the church office.

Fourthly, I want to encourage you to mark your calendar for Sunday, May 28th at 5 pm. We will be hosting our first Family Fun Night here at the church. This will be a time of fellowship, food, and bouncy houses for our children. This summer we have several Family Fun Nights planned. Finally, I want to encourage you to continue praying as we move to start phase 1 of God's vision He has given us as a church. Our goal is to have \$60,000 by the end of June. This is only something that God can do. Will you pray about how God wants you to be a part of this ingathering on June 25th? Thus far we have collected nearly \$29,000. Praise the Lord.

May we continue to walk by faith and not by sight.

Love you all

From Your Youth Pastor: Zach Byrd

BBC students began a journey through the book of 1 Samuel in December of 2022. As I write this May newsletter, we are now in the 15th chapter. During the last several months we have compared and contrasted two main characters: Samuel and Saul. Samuel was a man whom God chose to judge and lead Israel. He is what we would call the spiritual leader of God's people. He was a man of conviction and zeal for God's law.



On the other hand was Saul, Israel's political and military leader. Saul was chosen by the people of Israel after they rejected God and Samuel. The book of 1 Samuel describes the tale of a man who chose to do things his own way. He was spontaneous, proud, lacked good judgment, he sought to appear spiritual, but never trusted in the supernatural. Saul, although he was a great military strategist and although he was loved by the people of Israel, was a complete and utter failure. Why?

Saul wanted the approval of men more than the approval of God. Saul could never step out on faith because he didn't have any. He only did the things that would make him look better to those around him. Saul may have been worthy of praise in man's eyes, but in God's eyes he was utterly rebellious.

Why do I bring this up? Church family we can all be guilty of being a Saul. Look around us; God is doing an incredible work right before our eyes. It would be so easy for us to begin looking to ourselves instead of God. It would be easy for us to begin seeking man's approval above God's approval. After trusting God to do a work in our church it would be so easy to replace steps of faith with our own human understanding.

The fact that Israel approved of Saul's leadership and rejected Samuel's was very telling of their spiritual state. What about ours? Have we moved on past the elementary steps of our Christian faith? Are we past the point of caring about what others think of us? Do we seek to honor God above all else? I hope you will search your heart like the book of 1 Samuel has caused me to search mine. I love you, I am thankful for you and I look forward to what this new month has in store.

Zach

Bible Study:

Wednesday night at 6:30 pm

Sunday night at 6:00 pm

SummerSalt - June 26-30



Psalm 100 says, "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness; come before His presence with singing." It's my prayer that our worship makes a sweet sound in His ear. If you would like to serve in the Music Ministry of BBC, there is still room for you. Come and talk with me if you would like to be apart.

Love in Christ, April



Hello Church Family! I can't believe it is May already; Summer is quickly approaching! I am so excited for this time of year, and I am thankful for all that God is doing within our church. I am looking forward to our children's play next week, and I pray that you will keep all the children in your prayers as they step out of their comfort zones during this performance. As Summer is quickly approaching, please be on the lookout for all the fun activities and our monthly service projects that we have planned.

Mark your Calendars for VBS, June 11th-15th, and Victory Sports, July 10th-14th.

Please continue to pray for our Children as they finish school and continue to pray that the Lord will move and work within their lives. Also, if anyone is interested in helping with JAM or Children's Church, please don't hesitate to reach out to me, Charity, Susan or Jessica. I cannot wait to see where the Summer will take us!

Yancey Dingler

May 3 - BARF (Bring A Real Friend)

May 10 - OCC: Coloring Books

May 17 - Store Night

May 24 - End of Year



May 28th at 9:00 am in
Room 103



VBS June 11-15 Please let Tiffany know if you would be willing to serve during this week. There is a place for you!

SERVING for the month of May

Sunday, May 7
Sound
 Jake Workman
Video
 Halie Workman
FB Live
 Melissa Wallace
Nursery
 Janet Segee, Sandy Cauthen
Children's Worship (PS)
 Cheryl Morgan,
 Allana Morgan
Children's Worship (K-3rd Gr)
 Brittany Short, Lisa Smith,
 Peyton Deese
Security
 Todd Wallace, Ab Wright

Sunday, May 14
Sound
 Adam Nguyen
Video
 Susan Montgomery
FB Live
 Adam Nguyen
Nursery
 Jaime & Anthony Marshall
Children's Worship (PS)
 Jessica Williams,
 Karen Whitaker
Children's Worship (K-3rd Gr)
 Susan Montgomery, Ronnie
 Bailey, Ashley Lee
Security
 Jeff Funderburk,
 Wayne Boone

Sunday, May 21
Sound
 Jake Workman
Video
 Staci Holden
FB Live
 Joni Catoe
Nursery
 Joe & Melissa Wright
Children's Worship (PS)
 Tiffany Nguyen, Nancy
 Nguyen, Teresa Moseley
Children's Worship (K-3rd Gr)
 Megan & Bryan Jenkins,
 Youth
Security
 Barry Faile, Joseph Wright

Sunday, May 28
Sound
 Adam Nguyen
Video
 Joni Catoe
FB Live
 Faye Zaugg
Nursery
 Annette Deese,
 Morgan Deese
Children's Worship (PS)
 Becky Sanders, Melissa
 Wallace, April Wright
Children's Worship (K-3rd Gr)
 Joining Corporate Worship
Security
 Ronnie Williams, Monty Craig

Wed Night Sound/FB Live
 May 3 - Susan Montgomery
 May 10 - Melissa Wallace
 May 17 - Adam Nguyen
 May 24 - Joni Catoe
 May 31 - Faye Zaugg

Puerto Rico Mission Trip Fundraiser
 Sunday, May 7th immediately following AM
 Worship. Plates will include chicken quarter, green
 beans, potato salad, rolls, dessert and drink.
 Cost is \$12 for adults and \$8 for children.
 You may eat in the Parquet Room or take out.

July 17-21 here at BBC
 from 9:00 am until
 12:30 pm each day.
 Register online at
artslancaster.com or call 803-285-7451
 for more information.



Gary & Theresa Horton
 Lou Ann Gardner
 Mike & Cindy Carnes



May collections for
 Operation Christmas Child
 include fishing hooks &
 weights and sewing kits.

Victory Sports Outreach Camp
 July 10-14 here at BBC. You must have completed 1st through 6th grades.
 Cost is \$25. Registration begins at 8:45 am on Monday, July 10th or you
 may visit their FB page (Victory Sports Outreach Camp) to register online.
 Pickup is 4:00 pm each day. Activities include baseball/softball, football, soccer, basketball,
 cheerleading and volleyball. Lunch is provided for all campers with bible study and games
 as well.



Congratulations to Blake
 Bailey and Megan Schar
 on their upcoming
 marriage. We will host a
 gift card shower during
 the month of May.

They are registered at Amazon and Target.
 Please give your gifts to Ronnie Bailey or Nancy Nguyen.

Teacher Appreciation Week - We need volunteers to help
 prepare and pack lunches for staff at BES, BMS and BHS on
 Wednesday, May 3rd and Wednesday, May 10th
 beginning at 9:00 am each day.



- 5 - Renee Coppedge
- 6 - Katelyn Wright
- 7 - Mason Morris
- 11 - Julie Craig
- 12 - Skyler West, Morgan Williams
- 15 - Ronnie Bailey, Melissa Wright
- 16 - Teresa Eudy, Melinda Knight
- 18 - Anita Robinson
- 19 - Oakley Small
- 20 - Elijah Hough
- 24 - Gene Starnes, Tonda Wallace
- 26 - Anne Briggs
- 28 - Mike Carnes
- 31 - Richard Deese, Sr., Dylan Montgomery

- 2 - Greg & Karen Whitaker
- 19 - Dan & Erica Morris
- 22 - Reece & Sandy Cauthen
- 24 - Eric & Susan Montgomery, Ray & Sandra Plyler
- 25 - Jerry & Pat Sistare, Joe & Melissa Wright
- 28 - Joseph & Katelyn Wright



Month of April

	<u>Tithes</u>	<u>CIF</u>
April 2	\$15,639.29	\$20.00
April 9	\$11,828.25	\$100.00
April 16	\$7,284.00	\$0.00
April 23	\$8,123.00	\$0.00
April 30	\$9,663.09	\$0.00
Totals	\$52,537.63	\$120.00



Philippians 2:1-2, "If, then, there is any encouragement in Christ, if any consolation of love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, make my joy complete by thinking the same way, having the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose."

Our goal 3,000

BBC Collected \$6,708



Graduate Recognition will be Sunday, May 21st. If you have a child or grandchild that will be graduating from high school or college, please provide the full name, the name of the school from which they are graduating and what their future plans will be to the church office. We will also need one baby photo and one current photo for a slide show.



Child dedication will be Sunday, May 14th. Please let Pastor Patrick know if you are interested in dedicating your child.

The Sewing Ladies will meet Tuesday, May 2nd at 9:00 am in the FLC.



MEN'S MINISTRY

Thursday, May 18th at 7:00 pm in the FLC.



Monday, May 15 - Judy Whitaker, Don White
 Tuesday, May 16 - Judy Whitaker, Don White
 Thursday, May 18 - Judy Whitaker, Don White



Quilters will meet Saturday, May 20th at 9:00 am in the FLC.

Crochet group will meet Thursday, May 25th at 6:30 pm in the home of Janice Mathis.



Sunday, May 28
 Kickoff to FFN
 Cookout/Block Party for VBS



Deacon Ministry

Will meet Sunday, May 7th at 3:30 pm.



2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 The Sewing Ladies 9:00 am FLC	3 Teacher Lunch JAM & Youth 6:30 pm Adult Bible Study 7:00 pm	4	5	6
7 Children's Play 10:00 am Puerto Rico Mission Trip Fundraiser after AM Worship	8 Softball Field 2 6:30 pm	9	10 Teacher Lunch JAM & Youth 6:30 pm Adult Bible Study 7:00 pm	11 Softball Field 2 7:30 pm	12	13
14 Mother's Day Breakfast 8:00 am Child Dedication No Evening Svc	15 Meals on Wheels	16 Meals on Wheels Softball Field 2 6:30 pm	17 JAM & Youth 6:30 pm Adult Bible Study 7:00 pm	18 Meals on Wheels Softball Field 1 6:30 pm Men's Ministry 7:00 pm	19	20 Quilters 9:00 am FLC
21 Discover BBC 9:00 am Graduate Recognition	22 Softball Field 2 6:30 pm	23 Softball Field 1 7:30 pm	24 JAM & Youth 6:30 pm Adult Bible Study 7:00 pm	25 Crochet Group 6:30 pm	26	27
28 FFN/Block Party for VBS 5:00 pm	29 	30	31 Children, Youth & Adult Bible Study 7:00 pm			