

May

May Events

- 5th 8:30 AM UMW Breakfast
- 12:00 PM Church Conference
- 12:30 PM Nurture Committee
- 12th Mother's Day
- 15th 6:00 PM Finance Committee
- 19th 12:15 PM Church Council
- 25th 3:00 PM Maness/Stiles Wedding
- 26th 8:00 AM UMM Breakfast
- 8:30 AM River of Life

Anniversaries:

- 3rd Roland & Jan McGregor
- 10th Tim & Sue Cooper
- 16th Kevin & Mikki Phillips
- 22nd Peter & Carol Shell
- 26th Paul & Jeanette Beaudry

Weekly Events

Sundays:

- River of Life 8:30 AM
- Sunday School 9:45 AM
- Worship Service 10:55 AM
- Stone Soup 4:30 PM

Wednesdays:

- Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM

Church Office Hours

Monday – Friday
9 AM – 12 NOON

Birthdays:

- 9th Shirley Waters
- 14th Sue Cooper
- 15th Larry Callicutt
- 19th Caroline Blanton
- 23rd Ron Smith Jr
- 25th Carole Maennle
- 26th David Pedersen
- 27th Glenda Callicutt
- 28th Kathy Collins
- 29th Pat Game
- 31st Jonathan Woodard

THE UPPER ROOM
DAILY DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

Thoughts about Love:

If I truly love Christ, my actions will show it. – May 4

Love looks beyond human frailty to see the image of God in each person. – May 28

Don't forget to pick-up your free copy of The Upper Room in the narthex or back hall.

Bryson City United Methodist Church
PO Box 817
76 Main Street
Bryson City, NC 28713
Phone: (828) 488-2680
Fax: (828) 488-9062
E-Mail: bcumc@brysoncityumc.org
Web Site: www.brysoncityumc.org

May 2013

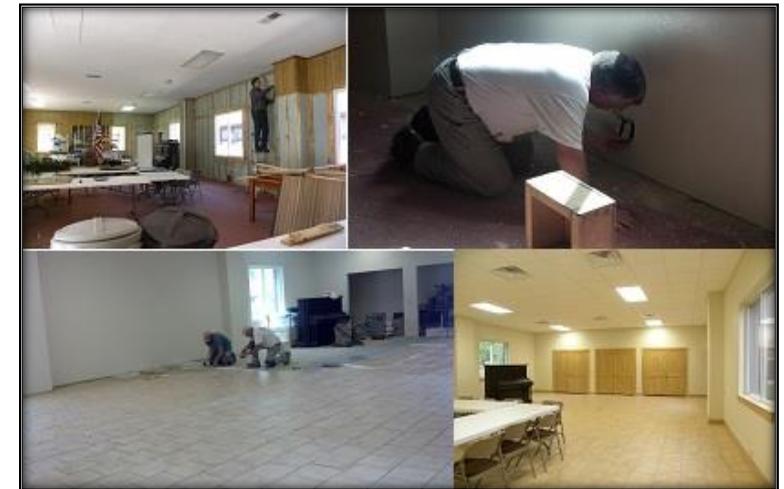


Newsletter



Looking forward to seeing you this summer!

Enjoy a few of our favorite photos from **April**
Want more photos? [See More](#) online.



Memo from the Midbar



Let the Islands Celebrate!

As we continue our monthly theme of sacred space, Psalm 97:1 really resonates with me.

*The LORD rules!
Let the earth rejoice!
Let all the islands celebrate!*

Maybe it's because I have just returned from a remote island with beautiful scenery. It was wonderful to experience the glory of God as revealed in nature's beauty, rest and seeing creation in new and exciting ways. It was a place to "Be still, and know that I am God!" (Ps 46:10 NRS).

Or perhaps the psalm offers an opportunity to celebrate the renovation of a sacred space we call the Fellowship Hall.

Either way, it seems that we have many reasons to

celebrate ways that the LORD rules in our spaces and lives.

It is noteworthy that in the Old Testament days, the islands were for outcasts in far removed areas. Some scholars indicate this attribute in their translation of the original Hebrew: "let the distant shores rejoice" (NIV) "Let the farthest coastlands be glad" (NLT).

The people of these areas were far from where most people experience God in the Temple in Jerusalem. By using the example of the "faraway places" the writer is indicating that God offers consolation to people outside of the mainstream.

This is good news for those of us who have felt like we weren't a part of God's plan.

When have you felt isolated from God?

Cont. at top of far right page.

Church News

Church Council

The next church council meeting will be on Sunday, May 19 after the service.

Nurture Committee

We are in the process of gathering photos for our pictorial directory. Call Mikki in the office, 488-2680, to schedule an appointment to have your picture at church or at home. If you have a current picture you would like to use (hard copy or digital) please bring it to the office. Please have picture to the office by June 16. There will be someone available at the Sunday services to take your picture starting May 12.

Finance Committee

The finance committee will be meeting at 6pm on April 17.

UM Men

The next UMM breakfast will be Sunday, May 26 at 8am in the Fellowship Hall.

UM Women

The UMW will be meeting on Sunday, May 5.

Church Picnic

Our annual Casual Sunday and Church Picnic will be on Sunday, June 2. It will also be the "grand opening" of our newly renovated Fellowship Hall. Don't forget to bring your favorite dish to share at the picnic and join us for food, fun and fellowship.



River of Life

Join us Sunday May 26th at 8:30 am for the first *River of Life* worship service of the season.

Located at the corner of the Nantahala River and Appalachian Trail, the River of Life is a unique place to worship God in a "faraway place."

As a ministry of BCUMC the *River of Life* has a unique focus of giving water resources, and giving life, to others around the world including five wells and water filtration buckets for Haiti in 2012.

[See More online.](#)

Celebrate! *Cont.*

Know that wherever you are, you are on sacred ground.

Have you felt left out of God's plans? Know that whoever you are, you are loved by God.

The LORD says, "I will save the lame and gather the outcast" (Zep 3:19 ESV).

This is good news for all of us. Let's celebrate what God has done!



Meet our Ministry Intern Andrew Hammond

Andrew is our summer Duke Divinity School Intern and will be arriving on Saturday, May 11.

From Andrew's call to ministry:

"I grew up in The Woodlands United Methodist Church in the suburbs of Houston. It was there I heard God's calling for my life.

Growing up in high school I always thought the summer youth interns we had were the coolest. My dream of finally becoming one of those interns I looked up to happened the summer after my sophomore year of college.

That summer I learned a tremendous amount. It by no means was the easiest summer I had, but that is what made it great.

I first realized that the smiles and energy my youth pastors had at the end of the day could only come from Christ because of how exhausting all the programs, and mentoring can be.

I learned how the difficulties became joys when knowing it was kingdom work. I invested in students, and they in turn opened up their hearts and accepted the many challenges I gave them.

The last night during worship I completely surrendered. I started bawling and journaling about how much I wanted to do this the rest of my life. Then it hit me, I could do this the rest of my life! There was no reason not to. I became elated, and humbled that Christ would choose to do this with my life."