

SUMMER MINISTRY INTERN'S BOOK STUDY

Katie Smith, our Summer Ministry Intern, will continue her book discussion on *Faithelst: How an Atheist Found Common Ground with the Religious* by Chris Stedman (2012).

Faithelst is the story of Chris Stedman, a former Evangelical Christian turned openly gay atheist who now works to bridge the divide between atheists and the religious. Stedman draws on his work organizing interfaith and secular communities, his academic study of religion, and his own experiences to argue for the necessity of bridging the growing chasm between atheists and the religious. As someone who has stood on both sides of the divide, Stedman is uniquely positioned to present a way for atheists and the religious to find common ground and work together to make this world—the one world we can all agree on—a better place.

We will discuss chapters 5-8 and the Afterword on August 9, from 3-4 p.m. (note time change)

INTERESTED IN LEADING WORSHIP?

Would you be interested in helping to lead congregational worship one or more Sundays during the upcoming year? Opportunities exist for those looking to do as little as reading scripture or as much as working with the pastors to shape an entire worship service. Assistance and coaching are available as needed or desired. If interested, please contact Pastor Chris to schedule or inquire.



PICTORIAL DIRECTORY STATUS

Thank you to everyone who signed up to be photographed for the pictorial directory! Lisa Houff will be continuing with the post-processing of the photos through July and into August, so if you haven't yet heard from her to review your proofs, don't worry – your proofs are coming. You'll have the opportunity to review your images and tell her which one you'd like for the directory, as well as request prints if that is your wish. Once all the photos have been processed, chosen, and formatted for the directory layout, the directory will be submitted to the printer. We hope to have new directories available by early fall.

GIFTS DISCERNMENT INVITATION

The Gifts Discernment Committee is currently in the process of filling positions of leadership in our church congregation. In the July 30th and August 6th Sunday bulletins there will be an opportunity for you to submit your name for positions for which you would like to be considered by the GDC. The members of the GDC are grateful to you for your time and willingness to serve.

SUMMER FAITH FORMATION EXPERIENCES FOR OUR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Many of our children and youth have experienced one or more weeks at Brethren Woods, Workcamps, etc. These experiences are all intensive opportunities for spiritual growth and faith formation. Please join us in our continuing prayer support for these individual and group experiences this month:

Interfaith Peace Camp

Eastern Mennonite University, August 7-11

Gabe Carr, Chloe Kiracofe, Mikah Overman, Shylah Zepp

2017 BC HOMECOMING ALUMNI ENSEMBLE CONCERT

The Bridgewater College Music Department is creating an alumni choir and alumni jazz ensemble to perform at the 2017 Homecoming Concert on Saturday, October 28th. The concert is at 7:30 pm in the Carter Center for Worship and Music. If you are interested in joining the alumni choir, contact Dr. John McCarty at jmccarty@bridgewater.edu. Include your name, graduation year, and voice part, and Dr. McCarty will send you more information and music. If you are interested in joining the alumni jazz ensemble, contact Dr. Christine Carrillo at ccarrill@bridgewater.edu. Include your name, graduation year, and instrument so Dr. Carrillo can send you the music once she determines the instrumentation.

SIGNIFICANT SUMMER FOR LOWELL & PEGGY MILLER

On June 8, Lowell and Peggy celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary and on July 28, Lowell turned 100 years old. Anyone wishing to congratulate Lowell and Peggy may send cards to them at the Bridgewater Retirement Community, 302 N. Second Street, Bridgewater.

FAMILY CAMP WEEKEND AT BRETHERN WOODS: August 25-27

Bring your family to Brethren Woods for a weekend of fun activities, meaningful worship, and a chance to enjoy the beauty of God's creation! Enjoy family-friendly activities led by camp staff and unstructured time to relax around camp. For more information, contact Brethren Woods at 540-269-2741 or www.brethrenwoods.org.

POOL PARTY

The Fellowship & Recreation Commission invites you to join your church friends for a pool party on Saturday, August 26, 6:30-9 p.m., at Ashby Recreation Association Pool. Feel free to bring snacks and games to share. The Commission will supply drinks and paper products. It's a good time to say goodbye to summer with a pool party. Hope to see everyone there!



WORSHIP SERVICES

8:30 & 11:00 a.m. on Sundays

August 6—9th Sunday after Pentecost

Preaching: *Pastor Jeff Carr*

Scripture Readings: Matthew 14:13-21 & 19:13-15

Sermon: "*Men, Women, and Children*"

August 13—10th Sunday after Pentecost

Preaching: *Summer Ministry Intern Katie Smith*

Sermon: "*World of Wonders*"

August 20—11th Sunday after Pentecost

Preaching: *Pastor Jeff Carr*

Scripture Reading: Psalm 133

Sermon: "*Anointing*"

August 27—12th Sunday after Pentecost

Preaching: *Pastor Jeff Carr*

Scripture Readings: Matthew 16:13-20; Romans 12:1-8

Sermon: "*Building a Living Church*"

BRIDGEWATER HOME AUXILIARY LUNCHEON

When: Wednesday, August 2, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Where: Social Hall

Cost: \$6 (carry-outs available)

Menu: Gourmet Hamburgers, Macaroni Salad, Potato Chips, Ice Cream Sundaes, Iced Tea, Lemonade

Prepared and served by the Bridgewater Office of Edward Jones. Proceeds will benefit BHA Pledge to Resident Care Endowment Fund.

WANTED: CREATIVE MINDS TO SHARE YOUR TALENT

Creative persons wanted to paint a watering can or galvanized planter for the 2017 Bridgewater Retirement Community Fall Festival Auction. Watering cans and buckets will be provided. If interested, please contact Cheryl Richards, Fall Festival Art Chair at 246-6008 or csrcheryl@gmail.com or Laura Ipock, Director of Volunteer Services at 828-2682 or lipock@brliving.org.

ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S VACATION SCHEDULE

Pastor Chris will be on vacation July 29-August 5.

NOTES OF THANKS

Thank you so much for your contribution for the programs for Donna's service. They were perfect. ~ Margaret Horn

*The family of Dorris Wampler would like to thank the church family for their flowers, visits, and many, many cards upon the hospice care and death of their loved one. Notable were the many visits and assistance of Pastor Jeff Carr. Again, your support has been and will be much appreciated.
~ Fred Wampler,
Rick & Steve Wampler and their families*

*Thanks for all that was done to plan and prepare for Hazel Heisey's Memorial Service. We would like to thank the women's group for providing the cookies and punch...It is very reassuring that we can travel from so far and have things go smoothly and carefully. We especially appreciated visits with old friends and remembrances of mother.
~ Maylee, Galen, Loren, Curtis*



New Children's Hallway Mural



*"I want to take this opportunity to thank you for the experience of painting the children's hallway mural. With this being my first attempt at such a project I was full of self doubt. I could not have completed the mural without the faith, encouragement and gentle recommendations from the congregation. I hope the images will encourage the imaginations of the young and young-at-heart.
Gratefully yours, Lisa"*

No... Lisa... WE THANK YOU!!!!

Since April, Lisa Flory has been working to transform the Children's Hallway with an outstanding mural. In addition to new carpeting and wall repair (Thank You Properties Commission), and the incredible, beautiful, and personalized work, Lisa has brought a joyful creation to one of our most used and active parts of the building. If you have not watched the progress it would be well worth your time to appreciate the gift that has been shared. Lisa, your work is a blessing to us all. THANK YOU!!!

BWCOB AUGUST EVENTS PROGRAM CALENDAR

This is a church-related program calendar and does not include all building use. Please be sure to schedule ALL EVENTS and building use through the church office. All events are at BWCOB unless otherwise indicated.

- 2 Christian Education Commission – 7 p.m.
- Fellowship & Recreation Commission – 7 p.m.
- Ministerial Services Commission – 7 p.m.
- Mission & Service Commission – 7 p.m.
- Properties Commission – 7 p.m.
- Worship & Music Commission – 7 p.m.
- 3 Sanctus Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.
- 6 Youth Lunch – Noon (Menu: Taco Bar)
- Council – 1 p.m.
- 9 Office Staff Meeting – 10:30 a.m.
- Summer Ministry Intern's Book Study – 3 p.m.
- 10 Sanctus Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.
- 17 Sanctus Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.
- 20 Blood Pressure Clinic – 9:30 & 10:30 a.m.
- 23 Witness & Renewal Commission – 6:30 p.m.
- Executive Committee – 7 p.m.
- 24 Sanctus Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.
- 26 Pool Party – 6:30-9 p.m. – Ashby Pool

OTHER COMMUNITY EVENTS

- 1 Bridgewater Interchurch Food Pantry – 7 p.m.
- 2 BRC Auxiliary Luncheon – 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
- 7 BC Alumni Choir Rehearsal – 7 p.m.
- 7-11 Interfaith Peace Camp – EMU
- 9 Bridgewater Ministers – 8 a.m. – Maple Terrace
- 14 Ret. Ministers & Spouses – 5 p.m. – Maple Terrace
- BC Alumni Choir Rehearsal – 7 p.m.
- 15 Bridgewater Interchurch Food Pantry – 7 p.m.
- 20 BC Alumni Choir Concert – 3 p.m.





*Are you looking for a
meaningful way to help
children and families after
disasters?*

*Do you have a warm heart,
patience, team spirit, a
sense of adventure, and
time to give?*

Children's Disaster Services Volunteer Workshop

September 22—23, 2017

Friday 5:00 PM—7:30 PM Saturday

at the
Bridgewater Church of the Brethren

**420 College View Drive
Bridgewater, VA 22812**

A \$45 registration fee covers materials and trainer costs.
Meals and overnight accommodations are provided by the host organization.
Late registration (after September 1, 2017) is \$55.

Visit www.childrensdisasterservices.org for registration information.



**Children's
Disaster Services**

Questions? Contact:
Gladys Remnant: 540-810-4999 or
gremnant@aol.com
or the
CDS office: (800) 451-4407, option 5
[cgs@brethren.org](mailto:cds@brethren.org)

For Our Prayers during the Month of August 2017

Each month a prayer list with opportunities for directed prayer is included with our newsletter. In addition to highlighting specific prayer requests, we are invited to pray with particular mindfulness of the persons connected with our congregation and community. Additionally, focusing thoughts and prayers around the following may be helpful as a guide:

Our Congregation and its Ministries, Vision and Mission

Those who are...

- Starting or restarting school and academic schedules
- Facing financial hardships
- Living with illnesses, both chronic and acute
- Seeking spiritual renewal
- Carrying heavy burdens at work, home, or within
- Struggling with depression or suicidal thoughts
- Finding peace and contentment
- In difficult relationships or experiencing the loss of relationship
- Criticized, belittled and demeaned because of their beliefs and understandings
- Seeking a new church home
- Advocating for justice and righteousness
- Wrestling with their faith

We also lift up in prayer and mindfulness specifically...

...Our Nation and World amid transitions of power and leadership

...those in Nigeria... facing violence, kidnappings, and deep unrest...and for those committing these atrocities
We continue to pray specifically for **Hauwa Abdu**, one of over 200 girls and young women kidnapped in April 2014.
We give thanks for the release of 82 of these girls in May of this year.

...our congregation, district, and denomination

...victims of hate crimes, violence and intolerance

...those who recently welcomed a child into their lives, especially

Beth and David Michael on the birth of *Lincoln Reed* on July 6

Becca and Kevin Hughes on the birth of *Juniper Ann* on June 28

Marianne Houff and Erin West on the adoptions of *Liam Houff* and *Tobin Houff* on June 13

...those who grieve, especially the families and friends of...

Dolores Polng, sister of **Margaret Garner**, who died June 25

Dorris Wampler, wife of **Fred Wampler** and mother of **Rick Wampler**, who died June 19; **Alton Hipps**, father of **John Hipps** who died June 13; **Donna Skrobala**, daughter of **Margaret Horn** who died May 26; **Glen Naff**, brother of **Betty Caricofe**, who died May 25; **Shirley Wilkerson**, wife of **Edgar "Wilkie"** who died May 22; **Edgar Wilkerson**, husband of **Shirley**, who died May 18; **Becky Hadji-Maleki**, daughter of **Charlotte McKay**, who died May 11; **Clinton White**, father of **Jan Flora**, who died May 9; **Sarah Bowman**, wife of **Paul Bowman**, who died April 30; **Hazel Heisey** who died April 27

...those who have had surgery, been hospitalized, receiving treatments, recovering from illness or are in rehabilitation... **Wayne Judd**, **Pat Compton**, **Chester Bowman**, **Anna Mae Will**, **Denny Eye**, **Kitty Carr**, **Margaret Garner**

...those requiring long-term healthcare, specifically... in **Bridgewater Home**

...those in Military Service, specifically... **Seth Flory**, **Tyler Hopkins**, **Kent Hutchinson**

...those who are requesting prayer specifically or have been on the prayer chain recently... **Jessie Valdez**, friend of **Fonda Erdman**, and **Samuel Sheffer**, nephew of **Patty Figgs**

For these and all God's Children we pray...