

The Messenger

Blue Ridge Boulevard Christian Church

August 2017

SUNSHINE

SISTERS

July 10th – 14th

The girls had a great week at camp!



SUMMER CAMPS

Please be praying for our kids going to Tall Oaks camp in August.

July 30th – August 5th: Lauren Smith

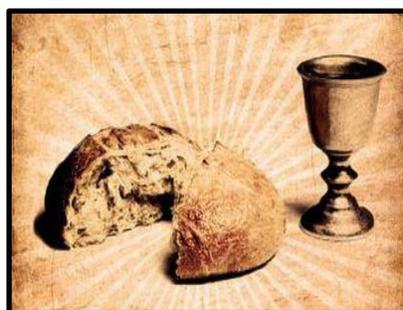
August 8th – 10th: Ava Maggio

VALERIE'S ORDINATION

Sunday, August 6th at 3 PM

Everyone is invited to come show your support for Valerie during this special and sacred service.

Reception will follow.



LEADERSHIP TEAM: Time of Prayer

Sunday, August 13th from 11:45 – Noon

All members of the congregation are invited to attend. Please continue to lift up our church body and leadership in prayer.

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Our newsletter is also available online and by email. If you would like to receive an electronic copy, please email Jaime at jaimebrbcc@att.net.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Monthly Budget: \$3,600
July Gifts To Date: \$2,255
YTD Budget: \$25,200
YTD Gifts: \$18,791

LEADERSHIP TEAM MEMBERS

Stephen Gentry, Chair
Bill Adkinson
Valerie Austin
Cindy Conley
Joni Gentry
Debbie Goddard
Sherry McGlaughlin
Anne Marie Smith
Mary Margaret Smith



Dear friends,

Blue Ridge Blvd Christian Church, a church that many of you have loved for years, is at a critical juncture in its 92nd year of ministry. As is true for many churches in our country, it becomes harder each year to support a building (property insurance, utilities, etc). The question becomes – should we sell our building because we can no longer afford it?

The Leadership Team is wrestling with this question. So far, our hope and deep desire is to be able to keep our building, but that will require the willingness to begin to think in new ways. We are in active discernment about sharing our building. Valerie is researching and making calls to real estate agents, other churches that are renting space, and nonprofit agencies. We are praying that God will draw us into conversations with other ministries groups that could benefit from the space we have available and share the cost of maintaining our beautiful building with us. Can you envision our building as a lively, energized space, with people coming and going and ministry happening every day of the week?! Because of the leadership of Stephen Gentry for the past 10 years and the generous gifts from several estates, we believe we have a space that is worth sharing!!

I believe that congregations still matter. We may be few in number when we gather for worship on Sunday mornings, but we have the potential to be a center of ministry in our community if we are willing to think outside the box!

What can you do to support this process?

1. Join us for dedicated times of prayer after worship on Sundays from 11:45 – NOON: August 13, September 10, October 8
2. In your personal prayer time: Pray that God will draw us into conversations with ministry partners that can benefit by sharing our space.
3. Offer your ideas about ministry partnerships to a member of our Leadership Team and reach out to others you may know that can help us make connections. (a commercial real estate agent, for example, that you know or have personal contact with)
4. Be committed to worship in community on Sunday mornings.
5. Give financially as you are able to support the monthly needs of our ministry.
6. Plan to attend our Church Conversation on Sunday, October 22. No votes or decisions will be made at this meeting, but it will be an important Conversation about where the Leadership Team believes God is leading us.

Join me in this prayer:

New every day is your love, Great God of Light, and all day long You are working for good in the world. Stir up in us the desire to serve you, to love our neighbors and all your creation, and to live in rhythm with your heartbeat of love here on earth.

May God grant us grace, determination, and courage for the journey ahead.

Pastor Sherry