

The Messenger

Blue Ridge Boulevard Christian Church

September 2016



As we continue our Sunday worship journey through the gospel of Mark, we pause to reflect on a question that Jesus asked his disciples. A crowd of thousands had come to hear Jesus preach. Hungry for the word that Jesus proclaimed, they had trekked out to a deserted

place and had stayed for hours listening to Jesus. Now it was late and the disciples became concerned that the people wouldn't be able to make it back to the nearest town in time to buy food for supper. They wanted Jesus to quit talking and send the people away. Instead Jesus told the disciples to feed the people. The disciples were flabbergasted (I love using that word!) and basically gave Jesus a lecture about how irresponsible it would be to spend that much money (even if they had it!) on feeding all those people. And Jesus' response was this: How many loaves do you have? Go and see.

Go and see.

During the month of September, I invite you to focus on 3 practices that allow us to "Go and see." These practices provide space for God to be at work in our lives:

1. Prayer – set your clock/watch/cell phone to remind you to pray every day at 10 – either 10AM or 10PM whichever works best for you.
2. Read – What are you reading that stirs your soul?
3. Reflect – Consider this question: What do I have to offer to Jesus that Jesus can take, bless, break and multiply for the sake of the world?

If it doesn't seem like much, that's OK. Jesus took 5 loaves and 2 fishes and fed a hungry crowd. The first step is to just be open to God. Let's start here: How many loaves do you have? Go and see.

Pastor Sherry

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Please email newsletter submissions to Jaime at jaimebrbcc@att.net.

Office Hours		
Jaime	Tues, Wed, Thurs	9:00-2:00
Heather	Wed, Thurs	9:00-1:00
Valerie	Thurs	10:00-4:00
	Sunday Mornings	
Sherry	Tues, Wed, Thurs	8:30-3:00
	Sunday Mornings	

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Monthly Budget: \$3,600
July Gifts: \$3,444.45
August Gifts: \$3,541
YTD Budget: \$28,800
YTD Gifts: \$27,428.70



Sunday, September 4th
after worship

There will be no main dish provided. Please bring something to share.

LEGACY GIFT

We are excited and thankful to celebrate a legacy gift of \$5,000 from the estate of Edna Sutton! Edna was an integral part of the life of this congregation for many years. Her musical gifts in the choir and at the piano brought life and energy to our worship. Her warm and loving presence as a greeter at VBS was a wonderful part of the VBS experience. She was dedicated to our Christian Women's Fellowship and many other aspects of our church life. Edna loved her church and we are humbled to receive this gift and eager to dedicate it in ways that honor her memory. ~Pastor Sherry



VALERIE'S ORDINATION

Over 20 years ago Doris Soderstadt endowed this church with a gift which has allowed us to hire interns/associate pastors to support our mission and ministry. Over the 6 years I have been here, I have been blessed to work with Cynthia, Karon, Rahim, Jeff, Austin, and Valerie. Each one of these persons has impacted us in some way, as I hope we have encouraged and supported them in their journey.

Valerie Austin has served with us since Fall 2015. She is in her final year as a student at Saint Paul School of Theology. As she looks toward completion of her degree she has made an important decision about her ordination process by asking our Leadership Team to recommend her for ordination in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ.) The Leadership Team has approved this request. I am so excited to be able to walk with Valerie through this stage of preparation for full time ministry and pleased that our church will be supporting her in this process. ~Pastor Sherry



SUNDAY SCHOOL

The New Youth Group/Sunday School will be starting September 11th. Every student from 6th grade on up will be joining Valerie's Sunday School Class.

YOUTH TO MAIN EVENT

Youth will be joining other area Disciples Youth Groups (DYG) on September 18th at Main Event for fun and games!

DISCIPLES WOMEN

Thursday, September 15th at 10 AM

Please invite a friend to come and join us for this time of fellowship. Lunch will follow. You can park in the side parking lot and enter through the side door.



INVITATION FOR LADIES

The Disciples Women of First Christian Church have invited us to attend their Harvest Luncheon on Wednesday, October 12th at 10 AM. Their service project and program for October will be PAWS for Autism. The cost is \$5.00 per person. Please RSVP to Jeri Watts by Sunday, September 25th.