



Bridgeton Methodist Church



THE ANCHOR



Volume 5; Issue 01

Summer 2023



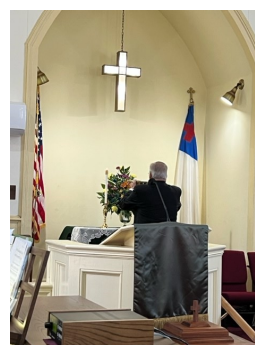
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Articles may be delivered directly to the editor at the church or sent via email to the editor. This newsletter is currently being published quarterly, but the schedule may change as necessary.

Bridgeton Methodist Church *extends an invitation* to you and your family to join us for Sunday worship. Our goal is to provide an atmosphere of loving acceptance, where people grow spiritually through earnest worship, honest friendships, caring fellowship and compassionate concern for the world. So if you are a spiritual seeker just beginning your walk toward God, or a committed believer continuing your journey with Him, you can find a home at Bridgeton Methodist Church. The common thread is we are all committed to growing in Christ.

Though our size is small our roots are deep. Our calendar is located on our church website: [www.BridgetonMC.net](http://www.BridgetonMC.net)



### AU REVOIR BUT NOT GOOD-BYE

We have had quite a journey together for the past, almost four years. As in many journeys there have been ups and downs, but I believe that on balance things have been good. I have enjoyed getting to know the congregation as a whole and so many of you individually. We have had fun together, shared each other's sorrows and fears, and became joined together as family as we adopted each other.

A lot has happened during our time together. Dealing with the loss of beloved Pastor Diane was difficult for all of us. Almost immediately, the onset of Covid presented a variety of problems that we refused to let interfere with our worship and ministries through determination and flexibility. Then the process of disaffiliation presented very different challenges as we addressed it individually and as a congregation without tearing ourselves apart. Some of us made a decision different from the majority, but we all stayed true to our focus on loving God and our neighbor; even as we followed different paths to accomplish that focus.

Now we are going to move forward in new ways confident that what will develop will be filling and God driven. Barbara and I wish all of you well. We have been blessed to have had a part of all that has occurred during this time together. We will continue to bless the Bridgeton Methodist church; its members and its ministries. The area is better because of what you have done and will always continue to do as you answer God's call to disciple wherever you are led.

In loving thanks,  
Pastor David

## BRIDGETON METHODIST CHURCH PRAYER LIST

Contact Nancy Robinson to add/delete person(s), sibbys@hotmail.com

- ◆ Lindsey and Bryan Alexander, passing of Mother, ex-wife of Randy Alexander
- ◆ Pastor David and Barbara Brosnan, *health issues*
- ◆ Mary Curl, *cancer*
- ◆ Todd Gerard, *health issues*, & wife Janet for healing & peace
- ◆ Hiram Cuthrell, *health issues*
- ◆ Steve Dauerbach's family as they *journey without him*
- ◆ Terry Dugan, *health issues*, please write her at: 1960 Blue Fox Way, Apartment 3307, Trinity FL 34655
- ◆ Joel Easter (and wife Sheila) — Cousin of Kim Alexander, *cancer*
- ◆ Lisa Easter (& husband Jarrod), cousin of Kim Alexander, *cancer*
- ◆ Maher Family, *as they journey with Ambra in Heaven*
- ◆ Jim and Barbara Richardson— *health issues*
- ◆ Tony Gerard, husband of Doris, *health issues*, Doris' Son— *Cancer*
- ◆ Rebecca Wheeler, *lung cancer*
- ◆ Ray and Boots Parker, *health issues*
- ◆ Betsy Hall and Family, passing of sister Peggy and journey
- ◆ Janet and Don Hickman— *health issues*
- ◆ Lorraine Honeywell & Residents of Wesley Village, Ted Wampole's mother
- ◆ Russell Johnson, husband of Katie—*recovery from dog attack*
- ◆ Rita Morello, *health issues*
- ◆ Mike, 7 years, *cancer—physical and mental therapy at St. Jude*
- ◆ Elinore Newhall—*surgery and challenges from it*
- ◆ Betsy Hall—*unknown diagnosis*
- ◆ Andrea Ostar, *death of husband Bob* and recovery from surgery
- ◆ Eve Sharp's family as they *journey after her passing*
- ◆ Bev Phenes, *recovering from knee surgery*
- ◆ Glenn Terrill—*health issues*
- ◆ Phyllis and John Wiltrout— *health issues*
- ◆ Prayers for Mia, lives in Philadelphia, *learning difficulties*
- ◆ Shirley Wheeler's son A.J. French, *recovery from surgery*
- ◆ Neighbor of Corrine & Steve Burton who has *critical health*

### BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

#### July Birthdays

- 6 - Haram Cuthrell
- 9 - Julia Maher
- 17 - Barbara Richardson
- 23 - Bridgette Maher
- 23 - Melissa Maher
- 25 - Gordie Phenes
- 29 - Patti Mason
- 31 - Glen Terrill



#### Anniversaries

- 6 - Don & Janet Hickman
- 10 - Tom & Laura Mullinix

#### August Birthdays

- 2 - Elinor Newhall
- 11 - Deb Cidboy
- 15 - Rebecca Wheeler
- 18 - Jim Robinson
- 22 - David Brosnan
- 23 - Jim Richardson
- 23 - Bev Phenes

#### August Anniversaries

- 5 - Bob & Deb Cidboy
- 8 - Gerry & Patti Muenchmeyer
- 29 - Glenn & Ruth Terrill



#### September Birthdays

- 7 - Josh Johnson
- 16 - Tim Mason
- 20 - Rich Maher
- 21 - Doris Gerard
- 25 - Joy Pikor



#### September Anniversaries

- 6—Tim and Patti Mason
- 9 - Bill & Joy Pikor
- 24 - Steve & Betsy Hall

### BY TONY MORELLO PPRC CHAIR

You (Pastor Dave) came to us at a dark time when God called home our beloved pastor and friend Rev. Diane. God guided you as you stepped in to ease our loss.

Today, we gather to bid farewell and extend our heartfelt gratitude to our beloved pastor who is embarking on a new chapter in his life. It is with mixed emotions that we say goodbye, as we will miss his unwavering guidance and profound impact on our lives.

Throughout his time with us, our departing pastor has demonstrated remarkable dedication, compassion, and wisdom. He has tirelessly devoted himself to shepherding this congregation, nurturing our faith, and providing comfort during times of sorrow and joy. Sermons have enlightened and inspired us, challenging us to grow in our spiritual walk and live out our beliefs in practical ways.

As we reflect on the many lives touched by our pastor's ministry, we are reminded of the countless moments of solace, encouragement, and guidance he has provided. His commitment to fostering a loving and inclusive community has been a beacon of light, bringing together people from all walks of life.

Beyond the pulpit, our pastor has been a friend, a confidant, and a source of strength for many of us. He has offered a listening ear, a shoulder to lean on, and words of wisdom in times of personal struggle. His humility, kindness, and genuine care for others have left an indelible mark on our hearts.

And Barbara, his wife, is also very much appreciated. While we did not get to see her as often as we'd like because of circumstances, we so appreciated the times she shared her husband at all hours with visitation and phone calls. It takes two to support what he did, and we want to say a special thank you to Barbara as well.

Now, as our pastor embarks on a new journey, we extend our sincere well wishes. May this next chapter be filled with new opportunities for growth, fulfillment, and abundant blessings. As they step into unfamiliar territory, may their faith be their compass, guiding them every step of the way.

Though we will miss his presence among us, we take solace in knowing that the seeds he has planted will continue to bear fruit. Their legacy of love, faith, and service will endure, shaping the future of this congregation and inspiring generations to come.

We pray that you will continue to be a member of our men's Bible study

Dear pastor Dave as you embark on this new adventure, please remember that our support and prayers go with you. Your impact on our lives is immeasurable, and we are eternally grateful for your guidance, love, and dedication. May God's grace continue to guide and bless you abundantly in all your endeavors.

Farewell Dave, Your legacy will forever remain in our hearts.



## BRIDGETON WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

### CORRINE BURTON

Although the Women's Fellowship does not meet in June and July, that doesn't mean they have idle hands. On



June 18, Father's Day, the men were presented with gifts made by the ladies group. Our next venture will be preparing for the yard/bake sale on Sept 16 from 9am to 2pm. Donations to the yard sale can be dropped off in the nursery room in the church. The Bridgeton Women's Fellowship Group is dedicated to meeting the needs of our local community. Proceeds from all our fundraisers go directly to Coastal Women's Shelter, EPIC Center, Merci Clinic, Methodist Transitional Home, Religious Community Services (RCS) and other organizations as the need arises. Our next meeting is at 2pm on Thursday August 24 in the Fellowship Hall. All are encouraged to join us.

## WORSHIP TEAM—JOY PIKOR



Summer is here. July and August worship service hours will be 10 a.m.

IF anyone would like to volunteer as an usher please see Steve Burton.

Membership information please see Corrine Burton.

Check with Doris Gerard for information on Altar flowers.

Bulletins are finalized by Dawn Freeman

Acolyte duties are done by Alan Wood. When he is not available Jim Robinson takes over. If anyone has a child interested in learning about this position, please contact me.

Communion will be served on 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday which is July 2<sup>nd</sup>, and also July 30<sup>th</sup>, the last Sunday that Pastor David will be with us.

Choir sang at the Blueberry Festival and was well received and applauded. Betsy Hall keeps us busy throughout the summer with special music of different sorts each Sunday.

The worship team works very well together and we help each other take up the slack when needed.

JOY'S



BLOG

Scripture tells us we are children of God, brothers and sisters of Jesus Christ, and heirs to the Kingdom of heaven. Wow! And all at the same time. So how are we to behave as each of these.

As children of God - Are we respectful, listen closely, follow His Word? Or, are we belligerent little brats. Sassing back. Wanting to do it our way. Wanting control over our days. Like babes wanting instant gratification.

As brothers and sisters of Christ. Do we play nice, share with others as they are also siblings of Jesus, look to Him for guidance as one who has done this before. Or, are we selfish, do we want all the toys, hoard them, resent being told a better way. Think we can do it by ourselves.

As the heir to the Kingdom - Are we pompous, act as if we have an edge, assume as Christians we deserve this. Or, do we humble ourselves before the throne. Do we acknowledge our Lord, our Savior, appreciate that we have been given the Holy Spirit to help us with this awesome job of being an heir. Do we help others to be Christlike so we all can be a huge family, with God our Father, God the Son and live in the Kingdom of Heaven.

The basis of all this seems to be love. So as children of God, siblings to Christ, heirs to the Kingdom, do we love each other enough, strong enough to do good so one day we put on a white robe and dance with our families.

On the Lite Side: Children at a Christian elementary school lined up for lunch. At the head of the table was a large tray of apples, on which was posted this note: "Take only one - God is watching." At the end of the table was a large tray of cookies on which one of the children posted this note: Take all you want - God is watching the apples."

## SECOND SUNDAY LUNCHEON

— CORRINE BURTON

After our summer hiatus, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday lunch will resume immediately after church on Sept. 10. All are invited in the sharing of food, conversation, and good fellowship.





### MUSIC NOTES: BETSY HALL, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Our church has been extremely busy. We have been meeting on Tuesday afternoon and many Saturdays getting ready to finish out our choir season. Wow, some of our endeavors have been more than expected, and, as usual, the choir arose to the occasion.

First, we presented some inspirational numbers, at Sunday service, such as My Jesus, Sweet Chariot Medley, Old Irish Blessing, One Candle and more. Several members assisted by playing tambourines and snares with blocks. Patti Mason joined us with her guitar for My Jesus and then we went on to a special Memorial Day presentation.

For Memorial Day, Aiden Azar, my 17 year old grandson, from Virginia Beach, VA, joined us with his drumming skills to add the emotional service drum to our presentation of The Battle Hymn of The Republic. To conclude the number and, also at the benediction, Bob Dumon, from Fairfield Harbour, played an inspiring and soulful TAPS. Remembrance of our service and first responders was beautifully done by our choir.

This year we sang at the Bridgeton Blueberry Festival. We sang 7 songs and had positive reviews. The crowd sang with us, the crowd felt uplifted and the crowd saw the spirit and joy of singing that our choir possesses. Kudos to our choir.

We have selected our name to be The Bridgeton Methodist Church SANCTUARY CHOIR and have also formed a quartet, duet teams and soloist to cover during the Summer break. The Choir will begin singing again after Labor Day.

We continue to look for musical talent of any kind. Do you play an instrument, do you just enjoy singing, do you dance? Let us know, as we are growing our musical program. Do you know of children who want to sing? We are hoping to start a children's chorus group and, of course, need the children. Please contact me if you would like to perform during the summer, we still have slots open for Special Music Presentation and Offertory numbers.

We are having an Old Fashioned GOSPEL HYMN FEST in August.. How fun would it be to join your fellow church members and just sing our favorite hymns? Now we need to know what Hymns are your favorites. We are having the Hymfest during our regular service ...so please let me know your favorites.

Music is heard by God. The Angels respond with song. Lift up your voices in praise. The Bridgeton Methodist Church is so blessed to have such a dedicated choir. Come join us and help us Make A Joyful Noise Unto The Lord.



### COUNTERS—PATTI MASON

Do you have a talent at counting?  
 Counters of the gifts is performed every Service and more hands/minds are always welcomed!



### CHILDREN'S CHURCH—CORRINE BURTON

Calling all children! Join us in the exploration of Genesis and learn about the God's creation of the world. Children's Church will resume on Sept, 10 right after the children's message at the 11:00 service. If anyone is interested in joining the teaching team, please see Corrine.

## MOVING FORWARD IN CHRIST—DISAFFILIATION CHAIR

It is with a sense of anticipation that we inform you that our request for disaffiliation has been officially approved by the United Methodist Conference.

As we embark on this new chapter, we want to assure you that our commitment to the teachings of Jesus Christ and the gospel remains unwavering. We are still a loving community of believers, united by our shared faith, and dedicated to serving and glorifying God in all that we do. Although we may no longer be officially affiliated with the United Methodist Conference, we continue to embrace the core principles of Methodism, focusing on personal holiness, social justice, spreading God's love, and respect Scripture as GOD meant it.

We are actively working to ensure a smooth transition, and we are grateful for your patience and understanding during this process.

While we embark on this new journey, we must remember that the body of Christ is diverse, and we should respect and love one another despite our differences. Our church will remain a place where all are welcome, regardless of background or theological perspectives. We are committed to fostering an atmosphere of inclusion, understanding, and unity as we navigate these changes together.

We encourage you to engage in open dialogue and express any concerns or questions you may have. O Let us remember that even in times of transition, God remains our constant source of strength and guidance.

As we move forward, we invite you to join us in prayer for our church, its leadership, and all our members. May God's grace guide us, His love bind us, and His wisdom inspire us to continue fulfilling His mission.

We will communicate further details and updates regarding the transition process in the coming weeks. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to reach out to us if you have any immediate concerns or require additional information.

Thank you for your faithfulness, your love for Christ, and your commitment to our church family. Together, let us embrace this new chapter with hope, courage, and a steadfast devotion to our shared journey of faith.

May God bless you abundantly.

In Christ's love always

### RCS MONTHLY MEAL—KIM ALEXANDER

We provide a dinner to RCS every Tuesday. We have two teams so it is only a responsibility every other month. There is always room for more people to share preparing a dish and serving. The Bridgeton Women's Fellowship provides the paper supplies each month. We have our servers first say a prayer, then serve the food, and then eat with the guests at RCS. The feedback is amazing and the people participating feel they are blessed more than they give each and every time. Please contact Kim Alexander if you would like to participate in some way.



***Twelve Extraordinary Women***, by John MacArthur, offers a poignant and personal look into the lives of some of the Bible's most faithful women, teaching modern believers that true faith can leave a legacy. Recommended by Janice Matthews

***The Mothers and Daughters of the Bible Speak***, by Shannon Bream, provides nine lessons on faith from nine biblical families. Recommended by Kim Alexander

***The Awe of God***, by John Bevere, demonstrates the astounding way a healthy fear of the Lord transforms your life. Recommended by Rebecca Wheeler