

# The Herald



Join us on-site for a 9:00 a.m. Outdoor Service on our grounds! We're using the reading "The Stones of Passion" by Ron Motley. The worship time will be followed by an Easter Egg Hunt for children (12 & under). Those who are not participating in the hunt, will have the opportunity to "flower the cross".

After those activities, there are options:

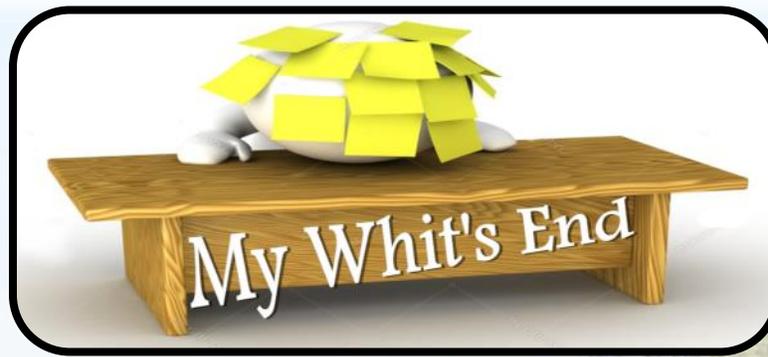
Join us as we socially distance in the gathering room to watch our prerecorded Easter Service on our big screen  
OR

Head home to watch on-line with everyone at 11:00 a.m.

After a L-O-N-G year, it is spring once again. Let us come together in songs of praise & thanksgiving to celebrate -- He is risen; He is risen, indeed!



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# A Time for Everything

**For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven. A time to be born and a time to die. A time to plant and a time to harvest. A time to kill and a time to heal. A time to tear down and a time to build up.**

— Ecclesiastes 3:1-3 (NLT)

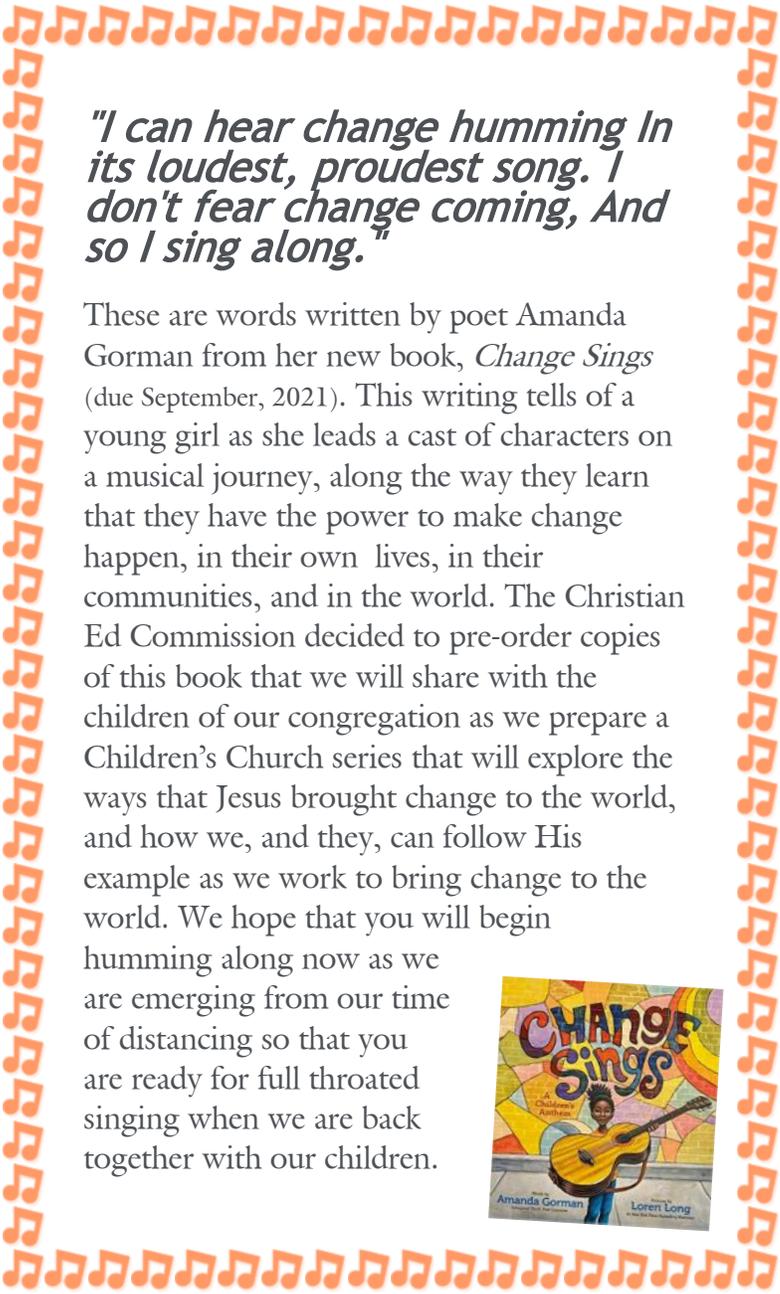
**T**hough it is not a typical text for Easter, considering all that has happened in the last twelve months, it is apropos for the Easter Season. With a total of 535,000 deaths, daily averages reaching a high of 2,000 death per day, one in three individuals knowing someone who has died from COVID-19, the time to die is everywhere. It finally looks like we are moving beyond the season of death. The infection and death rates are sharply lower than they once were. As more and more people get vaccinated, we move into the seasons of being born, planting, healing, and building up. We appear to be entering into a Season of Hope.

**I** find it interesting that we are moving out of this season of death into life, along side of two other important seasons, spring and Easter. Spring is always a time for hope. Hope for warmer weather, longer days, spring plantings, the resurgence of the color GREEN! There are signs of new life all around. And then we have Easter. Easter is THE Season of Hope. Resurrection, Jesus rising from the tomb, the entrance to eternal life, has got to be the epitome of Hope. Death does not have the final say! Now that's Hope.

**A**s I look at the months unfolding before us in this year 2021, I am filled with hope. I am hopeful, as more and more people get vaccinated, restrictions will continue to lift and movement will be freer. I am hopeful that we will have the luxurious freedom to give and receive hugs and handshakes we sorely missed these past twelve months. I am hopeful that I can once again visit people in hospital and nursing homes, in small groups of fellowship. I am hopeful Sunday morning in-person worship services will grow in attendance. I am hopeful that the church's hard work of virtually reaching out will prove beneficial. I hope that the hard work of fighting antiracism will prove victorious. I hope, ultimately, that this Season of Easter, this hope, this season of planting, healing, and building up can move us, even if ever so slightly, towards more of what God envisioned when God spoke from above the formless void that began this crazy ride. May it be so.

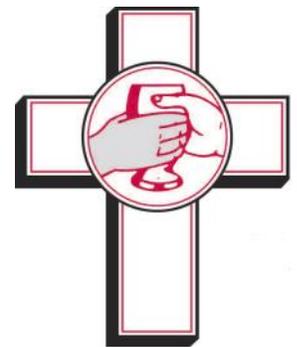
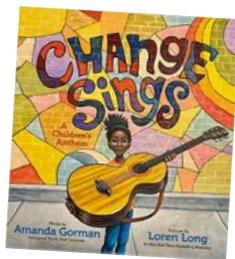
*Pastor Dave*

# In Our Congregation



*"I can hear change humming in its loudest, proudest song. I don't fear change coming, And so I sing along."*

These are words written by poet Amanda Gorman from her new book, *Change Sings* (due September, 2021). This writing tells of a young girl as she leads a cast of characters on a musical journey, along the way they learn that they have the power to make change happen, in their own lives, in their communities, and in the world. The Christian Ed Commission decided to pre-order copies of this book that we will share with the children of our congregation as we prepare a Children's Church series that will explore the ways that Jesus brought change to the world, and how we, and they, can follow His example as we work to bring change to the world. We hope that you will begin humming along now as we are emerging from our time of distancing so that you are ready for full throated singing when we are back together with our children.



"Despite COVID and everything else there are people that are still recovering from disasters and need help. Repair work needs to continue but we need money and volunteers to make sure that folks who have been living in less than ideal conditions can recover from events that occurred 2 1/2 years ago."

— Kim Gingrich, Long Term Leader, Brethren Disaster Ministries

My days in Bayboro were pretty typical, cooking and cleaning, greeting new and old friends fulfilling our volunteer needs. I had a very good kitchen helper, Helen Wolf from the Southern Ohio district. Helen is originally from Manassas. I asked her about the church there and told her we had a tie to it in Anna and Travis. She knew them! And Owen too!! Her sister and mother taught him in Sunday school! Not only that, she is a cousin to Kathy Kline Miller via her father Harley. Both families were neighboring dairy farmers. That small Brethren network is alive and well. — Sandi Davis

**West Richmond Church of the Brethren**  
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Pastor ..... Dave Whitten (319-610-2274)  
 Administrative Assistant ..... Barbara Beers (804-338-3482)  
 Sunday Worship (On site & Online) ..... 11:00 a.m.  
 Office (M-F) ..... 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

If no one is in the office or the line is busy, voice mail will pick up so **PLEASE** leave us a message. Items for the bulletin's weekly newsheet **MUST** be submitted by **noon each Thursday** to the church office. All articles for the **May** edition of *The Herald* are due in the office by **Thursday, April 15, 2021**.



# Church Board Notes

Our church board had its most recent virtual meeting on Tuesday, March 9, 2021. Here are some highlights of recent happenings:

- ◆ Christian Ed will be delivering Easter gifts to each of our church children.
- ◆ Nurture has begun their “thinking of you/spreading the love” card challenge.
- ◆ Plans are underway for an Easter early service and egg hunt as well as a virtual 11:00 a.m. service. The egg hunt will be for any children 12 and under.
- ◆ Witness is exploring projects for outreach that got put on hold during the pandemic and is also looking into doing Church World Service kits.
- ◆ Stewards has found people to fill the two trustee positions: Joel Guyer and Sandy Faw
- ◆ Hilltop Preschool now has 32 students and has reached the break-even point with monthly income and expenses.
- ◆ The Board has accepted the gift of a free book library box to be donated by Bob Kirby and maintained by the Girl Scouts. It will be located somewhere near the gravel lot and provide free books to any children.
- ◆ The Board approved a motion to sign a one-year contract at \$75 per month with B & F Enterprises LLC (Kevin Beers and Shaun Finchum) for the church's website development and maintenance making the church the owner of the website with the ability to make changes and updates easily. This contract will also be less expensive than our current contract with maWeb.
- ◆ The Board also voted to move forward with discussion about the White Building using the team Janet Brunk assembled to consider the questions of who we are as a church now and what values we hold.

-Sandy Faw, Church Clerk



## February 7

### Attendance

Virtual Book Study ..... 14  
 Worship (total)..... 46  
     In-person..... 4  
     Live stream..... 42  
*On-line views as of 02/12 . 57*

## February 14

### Attendance

Virtual Book Study ..... 13  
 Worship (total)..... 38  
     In-person..... 0  
     Live stream..... 38  
*On-line views as of 02/19 . 57*

## February 21

### Attendance

Virtual Book Study ..... 16  
 Worship (total)..... 57  
     In-person..... 19  
     Live stream..... 38  
*On-line views as of 02/26 .....*

## February 28

### Attendance

Virtual Book Study ..... 15  
 Worship (total)..... 30  
     In-person..... 0  
     Live stream..... 30  
*On-line views as of 03/05 . 72*

## February Offering

February 7 .....\$ 9,938.78  
 February 14 .....\$ 1,440.00  
 February 21 .....\$ 3,175.00  
 February 28 .....\$ 600.00  
 Offering Y-T-D.....\$ 60,201.67  
 Needed Y-T-D.....\$ 27,341.65

# April

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				<b>1</b> 5:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal 	<b>2</b> 9:00 am Good Friday Pilgrimage 	<b>3</b> 10:00 am JanPro
<b>4</b>  9:00 am Outdoor Service 9:30 a.m. Egg Hunt for Children 11:00 am Online Virtual Worship	<b>5</b> 	<b>6</b> 10:45 am Ladies Circle 5:15 p.m. Hull Street Ministry	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 	<b>10</b> 10:00 am JanPro
Henrico County Public School's Spring Break (includes Hilltop Preschool)						
Church Office Closed – Administrative Assistant on Vacation						
<b>11</b> 9:00 am Virtual Book Study 11:00 am On Site & Online Worship	<b>12</b> 	<b>13</b> 10:45 am Ladies Circle 7:00 pm Virtual Church Board Mtg 	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Newsletter DEADLINE 5:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal 	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 10:00 am JanPro
<b>18</b> 9:00 am Virtual Book Study 11:00 am On Site & Online Worship	<b>19</b> 	<b>20</b> 10:45 am Ladies Circle	<b>21</b> Administrative Professionals Day	<b>22</b> 5:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal 	<b>23</b> 	<b>24</b> 10:00 am JanPro
<b>25</b> 9:00 am Virtual Book Study 11:00 am On Site & Online Worship LAMBs Basket	<b>26</b> 	<b>27</b> 10:45 am Ladies Circle	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 5:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal 	<b>30</b>	

# Who's celebrating and who's doing what in...

# April

04/02 ... Don Ziegler

04/05 ... Taylor Holsinger

04/06 ... Chris & Katie Heatwole

04/08 ... Jennifer <sup>(Altic)</sup> Harris

04/11 ... Ryan Sabel

04/12 ... Jack Martin

04/13 ... Susan Diamond  
Donna Sabel

04/14 ... Alex Arthur

04/15 ... John & Jennifer Fleming

04/16 ... Renae Aigner  
Ryan Felder

04/18 ... Dolly Guyer

04/19 ... Missie <sup>(Pendleton)</sup> Hurst  
Larry McCann

04/20 ... Konrad Wampler  
Brendan & Sloan <sup>(Lynch)</sup> Waters

04/22 ... Josslyne Harding

04/23 ... Cameron McCloud

04/23 ... Karen Reynolds

04/26 ... Mike & Ann Andrus

04/27 ... Braeden Evenson

Sandra Lynch

Carly Ziegler-Crawford

04/28 ... Sarah Beers

Isaiah Lipato

Have we missed your  
birthday or anniversary?  
Please let the church office  
know of the omission.

April	4	11	18	25	
Greeter	Barbara Beers	Barbara Beers	Barbara Beers	Barbara Beers	
Worship Leader	Terrie Glass				
Song Leader					
Tellers	Joel Guyer & Larry McCann	Bob & Pat Gangwer	Nancy Martin & Ann Andrus	Jeff Goss & Alyce Newman	

Want to be included in any of these activities? Please contact the church office.

As seen in  
E-Headliner

## SOUNDS OF THE MOUNTAINS ONLINE

Our big 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Sounds of the Mountains Story Festival will be online on Saturday, April 17! Donald Davis returns to our amazing "all-headliners" festival including Dolores Hydock, Kevin Kling, Bil Lepp, Barbara McBride-Smith, and Donna Washington. Enjoy this fun, FREE, and truly unique online storytelling event to encourage donations to Camp Bethel.

For information online please go to the Sounds website at [www.SoundsoftheMountains.org](http://www.SoundsoftheMountains.org).

## Throughout Our Denomination



Bethany Theological Seminary has announced its 2021 Peace Essay Contest, made possible by the Jennie Calhoun Baker Endowment and sponsored by Bethany's Peace Studies program. This year's topic is "Civil Resistance and Nonviolent Social Change in an Increasingly Virtual World." Said an announcement: "More than five decades after civil resistance movements worldwide, communities local and global continue to be threatened by state-sanctioned violence. From movements in opposition to police brutality in Nigeria led by #ENDSARS and in the United States organized by #BlackLivesMatter, to the farmer protests in India and the pro-Navalny movement in Russia, people are joining in solidarity to rise up and demand a better world. How can we create and participate in nonviolent social change in an increasingly violent—and virtual—world?" Prizes of \$2,000, \$1,000, and \$500 will be awarded for the top three essays. The contest is open to full- and part-time students in high school, college, seminary, and graduate school who are en-route to a degree. International, ecumenical, and interfaith students are encouraged to participate. Essay submissions must be received by May 15. Find the contest rules and submission guidelines at <https://bethanyseminary.edu/events-resources/2017-peace-essay-contest>. For more information, contact Susu Lassa at [lassasu@bethanyseminary.edu](mailto:lassasu@bethanyseminary.edu).

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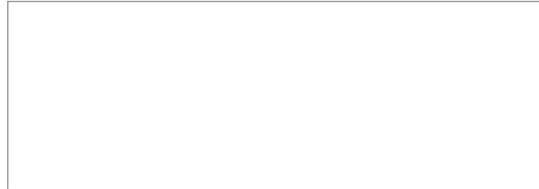
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Visit our facebook page.



*Continuing the work of Jesus. Peacefully. Simply. Together.*



This has been a year of changes. We opted to produce our own bulletin covers until socially-distanced attendance is relaxed. We have been blessed with this wonderful water color from one of our members that we will use it as our bulletin cover beginning the Sunday after Easter.

We cannot say thank you near enough. Thank you!