

PO Box 156 Arapahoe NC 28510-0156

At the Crossroads 8126 NC Hwy 306 S Arapahoe, NC 28510

October 2025

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION U.S. FEES AND POSTAGE PAID ARAPAHOE NC 28510 PERMIT NO. 1



Serving in

October

November

Elders

Chris Watson Randy Beeman

Preparing Communion

Christy B & Renee M Christine B & Pam H

Audio Visual

Christine Beeman Nurserv

1st Sun Phyllis Efland 3rd Sun Kelli Bailey 2nd Sun Renee Midyette 4th Sun Sandra Holton

Bethany Christian Church Treasurer's Report

Income	September 2025	YTD Sept. 2025
General	\$9,168.00	\$81,936.29
Sunday School	\$225.00	\$475.00
Designated Funds Income		
Fishes & Loaves	\$260.00	\$1175.00
DiscMissn/WkofComp/Recon	\$45.00	\$710.00
Scholarship Interest	\$201.95	\$931.89
Youth Fund		\$40.00
Poinsettia/Lily		\$448.00
Total Income	\$9,899.95	\$85,716.18
Expenses		
Administrative	\$8,497.41	\$45,876.41
Missions & Benevolence	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Christian Education		\$2,100.00
Property (utility, insur, repairs ,etc)	\$5,986.30	\$34,528.15
Activities		\$50.00
Designated Funds Expenses		
Fishes & Loaves	\$260.00	\$1,175.00
DiscMissn/WkofComp/Recon		\$665.00
Scholarship	\$500.00	\$500.00
CMF		\$590.00
Poinsettia/Lily		\$499.06
Total Expenses	\$16,743.71	\$87,484.25
Grand Total = Income less Expenses	(\$6,843.76)	(\$1,768.07)

October Birthdays

- Amanda Moore Linda Jones
- Kelli Bailey Amanda Bailey
- Sarah Midvette 12 Johnna Cahoon
- Rex Horne
- 17 Ed Koffenberger Sandra Holton
- Kanon Jones Lydia Jones
- Will Harris
- Juanita Arrington Lee Jones



Samantha Cowell Christine Sides

November Birthdays

- Rav D'Angelo Diana Harper Larry Holton
- Sandra Faulkner Riley Minnich Mac Harris Kim Lassiter
- Lydia Moore Bud Aldridge Dan Bennett Chris Watson
- Lydia Bailey Chad Banks
- **Emilie Metts** Fred Hardison 24
- Pam Hardison 27 Herb Purser

GET READY FOR HOMECOMING

The church will provide plates, napkin-wrapped eating utensils and water, tea and lemonade. Bring your own favorite soda

The picnic-style meal, will be under the pavilion (weather permitting) or in the Fellowship Hall.

Place your own food dishes on the long tables.

f your food needs to be neated before the meal, the arge oven in the kitchen will be available for you to monitor

Extra tongs and serving utensils will be available or you may bring your own.

Please Remember in Your Prayers: Steven Eric

Prayer Concerns 10/5

BETHANY

Annette & Bud Aldridge Frank & Juanita Arrington Jim Bright Paul Hardison Sandra Hardison Mac Harris Jack Lee Linda & Merritt Watson

Christie Arrington

FAMILY

Iim Banks Verle Beach Alex Cardona Colt Cowell Finley Cowell Amy Crook Sylvia Heath Britton Jones Judy Hardison Jones osh Kali Mr. & Mrs. Moy Susan Parrott Charles Pittman, Jr. Charles Powell Eddie & Donna Swain Sarah Eve Walden

FRIENDS

Ash Adams Charles Alexander Kaz Brodowicz Bill Chandler Sara Delamar Frances Eder

Deborah P. Hardee Carolyn Hollenbeck Charles Lane Larry Langston Ray Marks Diana Midyette Sylvia Norman Keith Parsons Birdie Potter Carroll Potter Noah Sadler Janice Shorey Janet & Ted Spak Martha Stilley Linda Tomczak Johnny Warren Dylan Whitfield Carly Wiegart Ronnie & Christin York

Bring serving dish cover ings for the ever-present Homecoming flies.

As always, the desserts will be on the last tables furthest away from the Fellowship Hall. Many go there first.

If you're just visiting and unable to bring a dish.. don't worry. There is always plenty to share. Y'all just come

The Bethany Beacon



REGULARLY SCHEDULED **ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS**

Weekly

Chancel Choir

Monthly 1st Sunday: Elders, FH, 8:00 am:

Official Board, FH, 6:00 pm.

5th Sunday: Covered Dish Dinner, FH.

*Any changes to regularly scheduled active

ities and events will be noted in the

calendar below.

BH=Bethany Hall; FH=Fellowship Hall;

PL=Parking Lot: S=Sanctuary

In the Life of the Church

Craft Days—Tuesdays—10:00

Choir practice—Wednesdays 6:00

Bell practice—Wednesdays 7:00

October

Heavy Snacks & Bible Study 7:00

Gideons Roger Stewart visits

Heavy Snacks & Bible Study

18 Heritage Day at History Museum 10:00

25 Fall Festival at Charter School 10:00

Turkey Stuffing is the

Fishes & Loaves food item

for October's donation.

Elders meeting

Board meeting

CWF meeting

Assemble Beacon

12 Stewardship meeting

19 Homecoming Sunday

Fishes & Loaves offering

28 Worship Committee meets

16 Game Night in FH

Date Night for Parents

following worship service.

1st Monday: CWF, FH, 6:00 pm.

Wednesday Jericho Ringers 7:00

Sunday Worship

11:00 am

6:00

8:00

6:00

6:00

9:30

7:00

2:00

6:00

5:00-9:00

'That evening quail came and covered the camp, and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the dew was gone, thin flakes like frost on the ground appeared on the desert floor. When the Israelites saw it, they said to each other, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread the LORD has given you to eat" Exodus 16:11-15

Bethany Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Arapahoe, North Carolina 28510 Bethanychristianarapahoe.com

October 2025

"Finding the Way of Christ at the Crossroads."

A Little Moore

Rev. Amanda Hatfield-Moore

Dear Church Family,

By the time you receive this newsletter, it will be almost time for Homecoming Sunday. October 19th is the big day when we will gather in worship and fellowship to celebrate our life together at Bethany Christian Church. Preparations are well underway: the fall decorations popping up around the buildings are beautiful, the new pine straw looks great, and our power-washing team has done great work.

In Hillsville Christian Church, up on the Blue Ridge Plateau of Virginia, Homecoming is always the first Sunday of October. I remember the weeks of anticipating, all of us pitching in to clean and decorate. Then a special worship service, followed by a potluck table that stretched all the way across the fellowship hall, local pumpkins and apples and all of us enjoying that golden-fall mountain season.

I remember special years as well: I preached the first year I was in Hillsville, that was in 2012. In 2016 Lyddie was a baby in my arms and we all stood on the church steps to take our 75th anniversary portrait. I remember the year so many beloved saints of the congregation had died that Justin had to preside over the memorial part of the service, because none of our long-time members thought they could get through it without crying.

Another thing I remember is that on the Sunday after Homecoming, when we were all still a little tired, and mostly finished putting things back in their usual places, one of our frequent worship leaders would start worship and say, 'Well, it's good to be just us again.'

The first couple times I heard this, I thought it was an odd thing to say. Weren't we supposed to want all our family and friends and out-of-town quests here all the time? Weren't we supposed to want the sanctuary full all the time? Weren't we supposed to wish we could have that energy and joy all the time? Were we allowed to be glad that things were back to normal, thirty or forty-some people sitting in the same places they've sat for dec-

As the years went by, I started to appreciate that point of view more, and maybe understand it better. Homecoming was always a happy day, it was always a day we looked forward to and got excited about. But Homecoming also helped us see how good those quiet, ordinary Sundays could be, with the church at peace and all of us just glad to be in worship together.

So what I'm saying is, I'm looking forward to celebrating Homecoming at Bethany for the very first time, I know it will be a joyful, energy-filled day. But I'm also looking forward to all the quiet, ordinary Sundays that will come after that, when we can enjoy God and enjoy each other, and grow together in all those smaller, day-by-day kinds of ways.

Wishing you all a Happy Homecoming, and lots of other happy Sundays too.

Peace, Amanda

Bethany Book Study - Parables by Josh Scott Come and Learn with us. No book is needed. Rev. Amanda provides a paper copy.

7:00 October 16 Chapter 5 The Wedding Party

7:00 October 23 Chapter 6 The Workers in the Vineyard Arapahoe Methodist Church Revival 45 Bennett Ct.

Arapahoe, NC 28510 Sun. 7:00 October 12 Rev. Greg Meadows

Mon. 7:00 October 13 Rev. Betty Jo Rogers

Tues. 7:00 October 14 Rev. Scott Fitzgerald

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Bethany Board Minutes

In Attendance: Jennie Adams - Chairperson, Christine Beeman, Randy Beeman, Doug Brinson, Janci Cahoon, Gloria Cowell, Keith Cowell, Cherry D'Angelo, Melissa Watson, Chris Watson and Rev. Aman-

The meeting was called to order by Jennie Adams at 6:04pm. The Christ candle was lit, and the opening prayer was offered. The minutes for the last board meeting, held September 6, 2025, were read by Cherry D'Angelo. There were two corrections. On August 31st there were 77 people in attendance, not 177 And Reverand Amanda's bible study featured the book, "Parables: Putting Jesus' Stories in Their Place". Not Jesus' Stones. Doug Brinson made the motion and Christine Beeman seconded to accept the minutes after the corrections were made.

Treasurer's Report - Randy Beeman

Randy read the treasurer's report. There were no corrections or additions. The report was accepted as read. Janci Cahoon gave the Financial Secretary's Ancillary Report for the month of September.

Elders Report - Doug Brinson

The Elders met this morning. All prayer list names were discussed. Two names were removed due to improved health. Again, security for the church was discussed. Attendance is increasing and the church is growing.

<u>Diaconate</u> - Melissa Watson

The Diaconate met with good attendance on Sunday, October 5th. The following topics were discussed. Baskets for cup disposal: white baskets have been removed from the pews except from the front pews where there is not a cup holder easily accessible. New way of serving communion: On a trial basis two diaconate members have prepared and served communion at the back of the sanctuary since our June 2025 meeting. Melissa Watson, diaconate chair, asked every member present how it has been working. Generally speaking, the group likes the current way of providing communion to the congregation. The group would like to continue with two deacons providing the communion but with one serving deacon having the flexibility to act as greeter if diaconate member chooses to do so. New Business: Nominating Committee, Shirley Ensley and Margaret Harrell have agreed to be the nominating committee for the next two year's officers. They will make their recommendations at the November 2nd meeting. Upcoming dates of importance: October 19th, homecoming, parament is red. November 2nd @ 5pm, next diaconate meeting - new officers announced. November 29th, hanging of the greens. November 30th, paraments are violet, First Sunday in Advent. December 24th, paraments are white, Christmas Eve.

Group Reports

<u>CWF</u> - Margaret Harrell (NP)

The next meeting for the CWF will be on Monday, October 6th at 6:00 pm. Upcoming events will include: CWF craft booth to be set up at the October 18th Heritage Day at the History Museum from 10am to 3pm and the Fall Festival at the Charter School on Saturday, October 25th, from 10am to 2pm. CWF is sponsoring "Date Night" on Saturday, October 11, from 5-9:00 with planned activities for the children while the parents 'get away' for a few hours. CWF is having a Fall fundraising meal for the church on Saturday, November 8th. We are planning for additional nursery supervision on Homecoming.

CMF – Merritt Watson (NP)

Merritt is planning a barbeque/men's gathering to discuss the future of the CMF.

Standing Committee Reports

Worship Committee - Gloria Cowell

October 5, 2025

In attendance: Chairperson Gloria Cowell, Jennie Adams, Doug Brinson, Janci Cahoon, Shirley Ensley, Terry McCotter and Rev. Amanda Moore. The Worship Committee met September 30, 2025 at 6:30 in the Bethany Library with 7 members present. Old business discussed updates on Bible Study of the Parables, Homecoming Service, All Saints Sunday, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day Service, Hanging of the Greens and Advent. In addition, our committee continues to be in prayer for our church, specifically the needs of the Bethany family and the growth of Bethany. A good discussion was held on the importance of our conscious commitment to communicate with Rev. Amanda any concerns of our Bethany Family that we may be aware of. Rev. Amanda depends on all of us as she is getting to know members and their families. If someone is sick, or experiencing a hardship, please give her a call, or text, and she will follow up. Together we can do much more. The next Worship meeting is 10/28/2025 at 5:30.

Budget/Stewardship Committee – Buck Jones

The Budget/Stewardship Committee is tasked with having a 2026 budget ready for Board approval at the December 7th meeting.

Christian Education Committee Report

Chairperson Jennie and Rev. Amanda met last week to create plans for implementing a functioning committee and potential personnel to help with responsibilities.

Property Committee - John Beeman (NP)

John sent his report stating that the boards under the pavilion will be removed on the 19th, before Homecoming Sunday. He and Randy will be responsible for setting up the tables under the pavilion. He hopes to meet with two roofers this week for the repairs to the pavilion and will get estimates. He wanted to thank Keith for getting his folks to power wash the walks and buildings. Mr. Mark will continue to clean the cement on the pavilion. He hopes to get the lights fixed this weekend.

Communications – Melissa Watson

There were four Facebook posts plus update to page, two blog posts plus updates to the website, OneCall, and an update to the directory. I created a spreadsheet for tracking communization tasks, filmed four worship services and experimented with different mics to improve the quality of sound in the videos. There is continual encouragement of the congregation to acquire and use the UCD app which is a very useful tool that includes a church directory, an e-bible, church email shortcut. Facebook access and a link to the website. Communication also produced the church's monthly newsletter, The Beacon.

Missions/Outreach - Susan Bissette (NP)

Susan reported that she sent 10 cards from Bethany's Card Ministry in September. The Fishes and Loaves collection in the narthex consisted mostly of this month's requested turkey gravy in addition to other food stuffs. She thanked all who brought in their donations and delivered 31.7 pounds of to the Fishes and Loaves center. October's food is turkey stuffing.

Bethany office phone number 252-249-0266

Office hours for Rev. Amanda

Mon.-Thurs 8:00-3:00 w/ flexible times

The Bethany Beacon

Published on the first Thursday after the first Sunday of each month by Bethany Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Post Office Box 156, Arapahoe, NC 28510

Unofficial until approved at November 7, 2025 meeting

Ad Hoc Committee Reports:

Board Officer Nomination Committee. Chairperson Jennie Adams received "vesses" from Torrie Osgood and Shirely Ensley when they were asked to serve as the nomination committee for 2026-2027 BCC board officers (Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Financial Secretary and Assistant Financial Secretary.) They will bring their report to the November 9th meeting and BCC Board members shall vote on the slate at that time. The upcoming Board Chair shall solicit chairpersons' commitments for Standing Committees during November and present his/her selections at the December meeting. An annual congregational meeting in December will be held to approve the slate of 2026-2027 officers and the 2028 budget. New officers will begin their duties in January 2026.

Activities – Janci Cahoon

Eight people met last month and played Chicken Foot. The next scheduled gathering is October 16th at 6pm.

Audio-Visual – Christine Beeman

Tim, from Integrated Visual Solutions, came on September 24th and fixed what was going on with the Kramer Control/Brain. There was also something wrong with the HDBT extender getting the PC Camera to recognize the projectors.

Unfinished Business

The Paul family had fifty family members present at their family reunion. Gloria and Keith Cowell facilitated having Mark and Brandon clean the outdoor hard surfaces at church for two days of full work. We thank them all. The guys were meticulous, thorough and cheerful.

New Business

Just a reminder that October 19th will be Homecoming Sunday. Tasks that are involved with the event: general clean up in and around the church, setting up for the meal, getting the information out to members and guests, cleaning up, beverages (water, lemonade and tea) provided. No soft drinks this year.

Good News for the Church



Bethany Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) www.bethanychristianarapahoe.com

Pastor

Rev. Amanda Hatfield

Bell Choir Director Rev. Roger Bennett

Choral Director

Church Secretary Christine Beeman

Board Chair Jennie Adams

Pianist Carol Flood

Organist

Communications Chair Melissa Watson

Editor Jennie Kennel Adams

ienniekadams@gmail.com Rev. Amanda's cell

276-266-7804

Church email address churchoffice156@gmail.com

Vision and Mission Statement

Our highest aspiration is to love God with our whole being and to love our neighbors as our-

Our mission is to enable people to know Christ and to strengthen their personal relationships



Bethany News and Views

The music this Sunday was very lovely.

Minister's Report

words of love and encouragement

On September 7th I began preaching according to the Narrative Lectionary, moving chronologically through the Biblical story. This has been well-received by the congregation. I attended a webinar on Hurricane preparedness given by Week of Compassion and specifically geared toward coastal congregations. We received practical guidance on how to care for church members, church property, and the wider community in the event of a hurricane. I have detailed notes from that webinar if anyone would like to see

Fall Bible Study began on Thursday, Sept 28th and will continue through Thursday October 23rd. Our book is Parables: Putting Jesus' Stories in Their Place by Josh Scott. We have had good participation and good discussion. Thanks to everyone who is helping with the refreshments, and thanks to Janci Cahoon for agreeing to shorten Game Night in September and October.

On September 27th I attended the Pamlico District Union Meeting at FCC Morehead City. There was no special presented on the 'Vibrant Vision' plans for the future of the Region. She announced that the 2027 Regional Assembly will be at Camp Caroline and local congregations will be needed to host additional events. The next District Union Meeting will be February 7th at Reelsboro CC.

I am continuing to make progress with my project of contacting every family in the church directory. I'm going to stop reporting on the numbers from now on, because as the numbers grow smaller it will be harder to protect confidentiality. Looking Ahead: Clergy and Lay Leader Retreat October 17-18 at Camp Caroline. Rex Home will deliver a keynote address on 'leading in divisive times'. The cost for those who don't need lodging is \$20. Homecoming is October 19th. Craft fair at Charter School is October 25th Fall Holidays and Advent Season are fast approaching. Respectfully Submitted Rev. Amanda Moore

Motion to adjourn was made by Janci with a second by Gloria. The meeting was adjourned at 7:10.

Respectfully submitted: Cherry D'Angelo: Recording secretary Jennie Adams—Board Chairperson

Members of Bethany,

Our Kennel's Beach Sunday School is immensely grateful for the support from your church in

providing us with teachers who help us fulfill our mission each summer. Please accept the enclosed donation as a contribution from us to assist you in your ministry and as a token of our appreciation. Sincere thanks for the good you do in spreading God's love and grace in our part of the county. Blessings from KB Sunday School



Hello Fall! Your Presence Makes Every Day Brighter

Thanks to everyone for the good wishes for my and Justin's Summer was my favorite season when I was a young person. No more! Mostly it's because I am birthdays and wedding anniversary. We appreciate all the no longer young and cannot tolerate the thick, cloying heat of our North Carolina summers. (How did we stand the humidity and heat back then with no AC?) Now I look forward to the changes that

fall brings; rich colors, mild and cooler temperatures, clear-eyed skies with full clouds, butterflies all over the lantana bush, lush soybean fields, scuppernong grapes, open doors with screens in the nighttime. "To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven." Ecclesiastes 3:1

At Bethany we celebrate the Fall as we anticipate our Homecoming on the third Sunday of October. We remind our relatives who live in other parts of the state Sunday of October. We remind our relatives who live in other parts of the state that it's getting near. "And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another" ... Hebrews 10:24-25

Thanks to the Bethany Blossoms, a group funded by the Christian Women's Fellowship, our sanctuary, outside areas and the Fellowship Hall are transformed by the rich, warm colors of Fall flowers, gourds, pumpkins and bales of hay. Terry McCotter, Juanita Arrington and Renee Midyette provide the creative inspirations, and John McCotter is the loyal water bearer.

The next time you're at Bethany please notice that results of other hands at work. Luke Bailey revived and replenished the long leaf pine straw around the building. Mark Howell and Brandon Lee spent 3 or 4 days power washing the exterior, the program due to a medical emergency. Bishop Melvin pavilion and under the portico. (Thank you to Keith and Gloria Cowell for making that happen.) John Beeman trimmed the shrubs and trees in front of the church office and replaced that aggravating flickering lights in the office workroom

Thank them for all their energies and efforts. And please enjoy our Bethany family in October "The grass withers and the flowers fall. but the word of our God endures forever." Isaiah 40:8

Good Morning, Susan Mac Harris sent this letter to our friend, Susan Bissette. He had a stroke a few years ago and is living in the VA care facility in Kinston. Mac is a Bethany Elder, a UNC-CH alum, an Air Force vet, a former Bethany Board Chair, and father to Will and Nora Beth. I think you'll agree that his thoughts, reflections and admonitions of faith will inspire you.

When I was in the hospital after the stroke, I thought my life was over, not physically, but practically, and that everything had, or was going to, change. I could not sleep for fear of missing something and because I was afraid. I might not wake up.

The worst thing was, I realized that the damage to my arm and my leg was not going away. I worried that there was other damage that I might experience later. I knew that my speech was affected, and that was the first thing I worked on. Because the stroke was on the left side of my brain, it had affected the right side of my body – my right leg and my right arm and hand.

If I sign a check now, the bank rejects it as a bogus, because it's not my signature any longer! I can't raise my right arm over my head, nor salute. I can't easily bend my right knee. But I have made progress! I can walk now, with the aid of a hemiwalker, I can speak fairly legibly, although I'll never be able to deliver a speech of which William Shakespeare would approve.

But I have found that my memory and intellect were not affected by the stroke. I cannot write physically but I can write mentally and type well enough with my left hand. All that has given me hope, and I am determined to improve beyond what I have done so far.

I have prayed to God to help me overcome the effects of the stroke, and he has given me the tools of determination and good and caring therapists. I may not get back one-hundred percent to where I was, and I may never be able to do the same things I did physically, but with God's help, and with the tools he has given me. I know I can develop alternatives that will more than compensate for the damage of the stroke.

And although they do not have to care about me, I have friends who do continue to care about me and who visit me when they can. I care for them and pray for them, for if at the end of life, one has friends, then life has been worth living.

It's that time of year. Yep, crafting time!

Several ladies have met the last two years to make crafts to sell at Arapahoe Charter School's fall festival. Last year was a blast, and the ladies earned for the church over \$500.00. This year they hope to do even more and will sell crafts at both ACS on October 25 and the History Museum during Heritage Day on October 18.The money will go to the Christian Women's Fellowship which will distribute it as needed. Last year, the ladies sent over \$5,000,00 to Western North Carolina after the devastation of Hurricane Helene.

There were many involved with this project. Our minister, Rev. Amanda Moore, crocheted the most beautiful little Christmas trees for us. Suellen Manning, Janci Cahoon, Jennie Adams, Cherry D'Angelo and of course the ladies in charge, Janice Woodard and Juanita Arrington., plus, Margaret Harrell volunteered to provide several meals for this busy group of ladies.



Please be sure to support the CWF by going to Heritage Day on the 18th and ACS' fall festival or October 25 and by buying some crafts! Thank you everyone!