



Life@Benevola

*"Together we are called to worship
and witness, grow and give, love and
live for the glory of God."*



NOVEMBER 2020

Sunday Worship: 9am Sunday School 10:30am 301-791-3576

FROM THE PASTOR DESK ---Pastor Suzanne Jones

"Look! I'm creating a new heaven and a new earth: past events won't be remembered; they won't come to mind. Be glad and rejoice forever in what I'm creating, because I'm creating Jerusalem as a joy and her people as a source of gladness. I will rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad about my people. No one will ever hear the sound of weeping or crying in it again. No more will babies live only a few days, or the old fail to live out their days. The one who dies at a hundred will be like a young person, and the one falling short of a hundred will seem cursed."

-Isaiah 65:17-20

Greetings All!

We are entering into the season of thanks and giving. Surely, our traditions, gatherings, and celebrations this year are not going to be the same as they were in years past. 2020 has drastically changed how we do life together, and frankly, it has been jarring.

You know what I love about this passage from Isaiah? Isaiah reassures God's faithfulness to a devastated people. Israel have experienced the traumatic terror of a Babylonian invasion. They witnessed the destruction of the Jerusalem temple, and were exiled. They were on the brink of extinction. But Isaiah reminds the people that God was creating something.

I love that God is ING-ing. God doesn't say, "I'll create a new heaven and a new earth... someday... maybe... if I can find time." God says, "I'm creatING." Right now. God is doing it right now. Of course, the critic in me wants to say, "Hey, God. Hurry up! What's taking so long? You started this whole earth thing waaaaaaaay before Isaiah's day and you are *still* not done yet?!"

But then I remember, it is a great thing that God is not done yet. Because that means we are all being invited into the *continued* work of creatING. Right now. We are invited to join with God in *continuing* to dream new words into being. New ways of worshipping. New ways of celebrating. New ways to be God's hands and feet in the world. We are invited to open our eyes and hearts and minds and spirits to see the new things God is doING right here and now. That's pretty great!

When we make space for newness, God does not disappoint. When we take time to reflect on the ways God is showing up in our lives, our cups are filled to overflowing with new life, new hope, new love. God is doING a new thing in our midst!

The Holy One dreamed new dreams into Isaiah's time, and continues to dream in us this day. May the Lord open our eyes to see the new Jerusalem that is bursting into being now and every moment. This season, let us open our spirits to allow space for all the creatING that God is still doing. Right here. Right now.

With hope, *Pastor Suzanne*



Worship for November:

November 1- All Saints Sunday
Matthew 5:1-12

November 8
Matthew 25:1-13

November 15
Matthew 25:14-30

November 22- Reign of Christ Sunday
Matthew 25:31-46

November 29- First Sunday of Advent
Company's Coming Sermon Series
"This Place is a Mess!"
Mark 13:24-37

Church Conference

Our annual Church Conference will be held on November 22, 2020. The conference will not meet in person, instead, this year will be virtual meetings via the Zoom application.

Have you moved? Please help us to keep the information provided in our Church Directory up to date. Please contact Teri with your current information, if you have any changes. The Church email is benevolachurch@myactv.net.

OUTREACH UPDATE –

Despite COVID, the Outreach Committee was able to “reach out” to several organizations as well as help several families in our community.

From our meager budget we have financially supported our missionary, Nan McCurty, our local ambulance and fire departments, REACH shelter, Valor Ministries, the Community Action Council, Habitat for Humanity, Katie’s Cupboard and others. We also supported two local families who had house fires as well as several families in need who requested immediate assistance for provisions of food and other supplies.

In May, we provided a meal for the Hope Center in Hagerstown, whose mission is to provide shelter, food, summer camp, bible studies and other programs for those in need.

We have unfortunately had to cancel many activities this year. The Salvation Army bell ringing has been canceled; however, we will be having a fund drive for the SA in November. Please consider giving to this worthy cause. See additional information in this newsletter.

Katie’s Cupboard – In addition to congregational donations, we were blessed with a small grant from the Baltimore-Washington Conference as well as a donation from the Boonsboro Lions Club. Thanks to Becky & Klaus Hein and Cathy Collins, we have been able to carry on with the distribution of food and household items on the 4th Tuesday of each month since March of this year. They have also agreed to continue to coordinate the purchase, packing up and distribution throughout the winter months. In November and December, we will be distributing the food on the 2nd Tuesday of the month in order to get Thanksgiving and Christmas items to the families in a timely manner. After the first of the year, we’ll go back to the 4th Tuesday.

Keep your eyes on the “Friday blasts” as well as your Sunday bulletins and newsletters for future events sponsored by Outreach.

We could not have done any of these things without the support of our beloved Benevola. Please continue to pray for us as we go forth in an effort to reach out on behalf of God and His love for us. On behalf of the committee, Amy Jones, Becky Hein, Cathy Collins, Teri Baker, Dotty LaBrush, Judy Green, Carol Rowland, Caren Babst, Dawn Baker, Pastor Suzanne and Kathy Witman.

THANK YOU! AND GOD BLESS YOU ALL!





Salvation
Army Bell
Ringing

SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING –

The decision was recently made that Benevola will not be participating in the Salvation Army (SA) bell ringing this year. I have contacted the SA to let them know and will reserve a spot for us next year in hopes that things will be different and we will be able to participate.

During the month of November, please consider putting a little something extra in your Sunday offering for the Salvation Army. Please note how much you would like to donate and specify that it is for the Salvation Army. At the end of the month, we will consolidate all of the donations and send a check to the SA.

You can also go onto the internet at Registertoring.com to donate or to set up an on-line donation drive.

Individuals can still physically ring the bells if you want to. Call Heather at the SA, 301-733-2440, X4. She can find a place and time that is convenient for you. This is also a great opportunity for high-schoolers to get volunteer hours in.

If you should choose to send a donation directly to the SA, ring as an individual or donate on line, please be sure to indicate that you are a part of Benevola UM Church.

Thanks
Outreach Committee



Thanksgiving Baskets

Katie's Cupboard to give out Thanksgiving Turkeys and Christmas hams before the last Thursday of November and December, respectively for the convenience of our clients.

Since most of our clients are families of 1 - 3 people, we will be giving either small turkeys or turkey breasts for Thanksgiving and small to medium hams for Christmas.

Rather than ask for donations of turkeys or hams, Katie's Cupboard would like to ask for monetary donations toward their purchase. That way we can get exactly what we need for our clients. Please either include your donation with your Sunday tithes (mark the envelope for the amount you wish to donate) or give cash donations to Kathy Witman. All will be appreciated.

We will be moving the November and December food drops back two weeks to the 2nd Tuesday in each month, and then start the New Year by going back to the 4th Tuesday.

FEARLESSTM DIALOGUES

see. hear. change.

The Laity Session of Annual Conference will be held online Saturday, Nov. 14, from 9 a.m. to noon. **This year's session is open to everyone -- all clergy and lay people.** However, attendance will be limited to the first 1,000 people to [register](#).

A special feature of the event will be an immersive experience by [Fear+less Dialogues](#), a grassroots organization committed to creating unique spaces for unlikely partners to engage in hard heartfelt conversations that see gifts in others, hear value in stories, and work for change and positive transformation in self and others. Participants will leave the session with renewed energy to value the strength and solidarity of an inclusive society that embraces all individuals.

In addition to the time of equipping, the gathering will include:

- A time of worship and welcome from BWC Lay Leader **Delores Martin**;
- An address to leaders of the Baltimore-Washington Conference by **Bishop LaTrelle Easterling**;
- Honoring the BWC's 11 new Certified Lay Ministers;
- Presentations of five awards to churches and individuals that honor outstanding discipleship.

Young People's Voices Needed for the Laity Session: It is critical for the future of our churches to have young people engaged. Encourage your youth and young adults to lift their voices as participants in this year's virtual Laity Session. Young people have three opportunities to participate by recording themselves either reading scripture, singing "[This Little Light of Mine](#)," or finishing the prompt, "The church can keep the dream alive by..." Contact Cheryl Cook at ccook@bwcumc.org for more details. Register at the Baltimore/Washington Conference web page.

Crop Walk

A fundraiser walk was held for Church World Service on Sunday, October 11, 2020. Due to the pandemic and a rainy day, there were not many walkers, but we did raise almost \$6,000. Many thanks to the people at Benevola who contributed to the walk.

Samaritan's Purse Christmas Shoeboxes – due by Nov. 15. 2020

During this CRAZY year, there are many people around the world looking for comfort and peace. A simple yet powerful way to share hope in the Lord is to pack a shoebox for a child to be sent to places that even missionaries can't go. A story about one of the recipients is about a Philippine young lady named Analyn. She was raised in poverty and never got a Christmas gift until she got an Operation Christmas Child shoebox from her church. She opened it to find brightly colored crayons, a notebook, and a stuffed animal. She said, "My heart was jumping for joy!" She could hardly believe that it was real? She felt loved and later gave her heart to the Lord and began teaching others about Him.

When you pack shoeboxes with school supplies, toys, and other gifts, you help prepare the way for the people with Samaritan's Purse tell the children about God's greatest gift, Jesus Christ. Over 178 million shoebox gifts have been delivered in 170 countries and territories.

If you are uncomfortable shopping for gift items right now, you may want to build personalized shoeboxes online at **[Samaritanspurse.org/occ](https://www.samaritanspurse.org/occ)**. Guidelines for filling the boxes are listed here below.

Items to include in a Shoebox Empty shoeboxes are at church or use one you have.

A WOW item: Doll, doll clothes or a small doll bed. Soccer ball (Make sure to include a manual air pump so that the ball can be inflated.) Stuffed animal, An outfit of clothing to wear, Small musical instrument (such as a harmonica or woodwind recorder), Backpack

Personal Care items; Comb, Hairbrush, Toothbrush (but not toothpaste), Washcloth, Bar soap (packaged or in a container), Adhesive bandages, cup, water bottle filled with such as hair bows, bracelets, sunglasses, or washcloths. Non-liquid lip balm, Flashlight (solar-powered or hand-crank), Compact mirror

School Supplies: Pencils, Small manual pencil sharpener, Colored pencils, Pencil case, Pens, Crayons, Markers, Notebooks, Blank index cards, Solar-powered calculator, Scissors, Ruler, Protractor, Glue stick (do not include liquid glue), Small adhesive tape.

Clothing and Accessories: Shirts and pants, Pillowcase dress (loose-fitting sundress), Underwear, Shoes and socks, Flip-flops, Hat/scarf/mittens, Sunglasses, Tote bag/purse, Hair bows, bracelets.

Crafts and Activities: Coloring books, Watercolor set (non-liquid containers), paint brushes & paper, Puzzles, Playdough (plastic cookie cutters as non-sharp utensils to use with the playdough.) Stickers, Chalkboard and chalk, Binoculars, Skipping rope/Jump rope, Make-it-yourself craft items or kit.

Toys: Foam ball, Kickball, Costume items to play dress-up, such as crowns and costume jewelry, Plastic toys and toy figures, Yo-yo, Small Frisbee, Small kite, Etch A Sketch, Tennis ball, Finger puppets, Slinky, Play cars/trucks/boats, Plastic tools, Plastic dinosaurs. No candy is allowed.

A Personal Note: You may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself or your family. If you include your name and an address, the child may be able to write back. **Be sure to pray for the child receiving the box as you pack it.**

\$ 9.00 Per box: For shipping and handling. To track your box(es), you can go to "Follow my box" at <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/follow-your-box/> to donate the \$9.00 and print a label for your box. Standard labels are at church for the box. **Do not wrap the box.**

Please return filled boxes to church by Sunday, Nov. 15, 2020.

If you have questions, talk to Becky Hein (301) 988-8003.

Roof Appeal Update

A Huge "THANK YOU", we are almost there! As of October 25th your contributions for the reshingling of the Church and storage building have totaled \$29, 710. This along with the \$20,000 match money provides for all but \$2,000. of the invoice amount. We have not received the invoice for the masonry work on the chimney.

If you have not yet contributed or would like to contribute additional funds it would greatly help the operational side of the Church finances.



- 2 Chuck Weaver, Mary Ellen Waltemire
- 3 Mark Leadingham
- 4 Phillip Green, Brooke Angle
- 6 Michael Miller, Angela Michael, Baylee Peperak
- 8 Sally Barnhart
- 9 Sophie Haupt
- 10 Bryan Reeder, Jeff Jones
- 11 Ian Hutchinson
- 13 Patricia Young, Isaac Wescott, David Lewis, Jodie Weddle, John Lloyd
- 14 Evelyn Shank
- 15 Joe Hamilton, Sr.
- 17 John Burtner
- 19 Lydia Shank, Mackenzie Peperak
- 21 Bill Flook
- 22 Hannah Moats
- 23 Ruth Ridenour
- 26 Amy Campbell
- 27 Ashley DeLuca
- 29 Cindi Hawfield
- 30 Tammy Arnold



- 9 Adna & Janet Fulton
- 22 Dustin & Susan Simonson
- 24 Ronald & Joyce Rowe
- 25 James & Laura Mills
- 27 Kevin & Shawn Chesnutwood

NOVEMBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 6:30 Ad Council mtg	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 6:30 SPPRC meeting 2:00 Katie's Cupboard	11	12	13	14 9 calendar planning
15	16	17	18 12 Moving On	19	20	21
22 3 Church Conference	23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving Day	27	28
29	30					

BENEVOLA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
19925 Benevola Church Road
Boonsboro, Maryland 21713
301-791-3576

Change Service Requested

Benevola's staff and leadership:

Pastor: Suzanne Jones
Administrative Assistant: Teri Baker
Organist: Ruann George
Lay Leader: Becky Hein
Treasurer: Dawn Baker
Financial Secretary: Jack & Faye Slye
Ad Council Chair: Klaus Hein
Trustee Chair: Jack Slye
Outreach Chair: Kathy Witman
SPPRC Chair: Morgan Boyd
Worship/Music Chair: Cindy Stevens
Finance Committee Chair: Nelson Baker
Fellowship & Ministries: Brenda
Embly/Gena Norwood
Education Chair: Linda Stump
Youth Ministry:
Family Ministry: Heidi Boyd
Newsletter Editor: Teri Baker

