



Life@Benevola

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



MAY 2023

Sunday Worship: 9am Sunday School 10:00am 301-791-3576

FROM THE PASTOR DESK ---Pastor Suzanne Jones

Greetings beloved siblings in Christ,

I wanted to take a minute to tell you how much you matter. How much you matter to children, youth, and young families. If you're saying, "Nope, not me - I'm not in children's ministry" - I'm speaking to you most of all. Because you don't realize your impact.

Since January, I have spent most of my Sundays with a group of fantastic teenagers talking about what it means to have faith and what it means to make a decision to follow Jesus. I cannot help but think of all the people at Benevola UMC who have laid the groundwork for this group of confirmation students. In their lifetime, so many people have prayed for them, taught them lessons in Sunday School, included them in activities and showed them what faith and following Jesus looks like.

Every single one of us has influence we are largely unaware of. We think we're not affecting others, yet in reality, our mood, our beliefs, and our values speak loudly - through a glance, an action, or an inaction.

I truly believe if every Jesus-follower truly LOVED our children and youth - even if we have zero programming - it would affect not only our churches but our entire communities. Jesus said, *"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."* (Matthew 19:14)

Young people are smart. They are intuitive. They know if someone thinks they are a friend. They know if someone sees them as a nuisance. They know if someone disapproves of them.

Can you imagine if every child who walked into church felt surrounded by unconditional love? Like they KNEW going to church meant they would feel LOVED?

I think this is our call. Every one of us. Not just the Sunday School teachers or the youth leaders. But every one of us.... greeters, ushers, worship leaders, pastors, helpers, tech team members, coffee makers, snack bringers, prayer team, bulletin passers, small group leaders, teachers, everyone ... even the ones who sit quietly in the pew or watch online on Sunday morning. Everyone.

So, what can YOU do to help each young person feel surrounded by unconditional love? As a congregation, we will be celebrating our youth in worship as we recognize big milestones in their lives. Come celebrate the youth who will be confirming their faith on Sunday, May 7th. Come celebrate and pray for the graduating class of 2023 on Sunday, May 21. Come celebrate new members who will be joining Benevola UMC on that same Sunday, May 21. God called us to love and that is what we do when we come together and speak into our young people's lives.

In celebration and love, Pastor Suzanne

SURVEY 360 -- We need your input!

Benevola UMC is working with the Baltimore Washington Conference to look at ways to grow our ministry and gain a better understanding of the demographics in our community. We are requesting your input by way of a personal survey. Readiness 360, (R360), is an online survey tool for mobilizing congregations to multiply in ministry and missional impact. R360 measures a congregation's spiritual intensity, missional alignment, dynamic relationships and cultural openness. If you do not have internet access and want to take the survey, please call the church office at 301-791-3576 and leave a message with our administrative assistant. We will provide a way for you to take the survey. The responses are confidential.

Access the survey at the following link, <https://app.readiness360.org/survey/login> , using access code: 4363154926.

This code is unique to Benevola UMC and will allow you to complete the survey. This survey takes about 45 minutes to complete. We ask that all surveys be submitted by May 21.

Please contact Gale Barnes, Bruce Burley, or Becky Hein if you have any questions.

Thank you in advance for your thoughtful input.

Gale Barnes
Administrative Council Chairperson



Congratulations to the 2023 Benevola UMC Confirmation Class! The following students will be confirmed on Sunday, May 7 during the 9am worship service:

Logan Atkinson
Sam Atkinson
Liam Boyd
Logan Weddle
Taylor Weddle
Isaac Wescott



The 239th session of the Baltimore-Washington Conference will be held May 31 - June 1 at the Hilton Hotel in Baltimore, MD. This time of holy conferencing will feature opportunities for worship, learning, fellowship and serving in mission. Pastor Suzanne and our Lay Member, Becky Hein will be attending the in-person gathering. For more information and to see a list of the resolutions coming before the session, visit <https://www.bwcumc.org/events/2023-annual-conference>



	FaceBook/Tech	Acolyte	Lay Reader	Head Usher	Pew Acolyte
5/7	Kevin Chesnutwood	Isaac Wescott	Ruth Ridenour	Bill Flook	Liam Boyd
5/14	Michael Wescott	Porter Stipanovic	Kathy Witman	Kevin Fox	June Stipanovic
5/21	Jason Weddle	Will Fox	Kevin Fox	Nelson Baker	-----
5/28	Morgan Boyd	Katelynnn	Klaus Hein	Joe Reed	-----

ATTENTION LADIES!
BENEVOLA WOMEN'S BANQUET
SATURDAY MAY 13, 2023 5:00PM

Please join us as we honor our Benevola Ladies with a delicious meal and some wonderful entertainment on Saturday, May 13, 2023 at 5:00 PM in the Spiritual Life Center. The cost is \$5.00 per person and children 6 and under are free. The men will be preparing and serving the meal. Jamie Weddle Derr will be sharing a floral demonstration as our entertainment for the evening. Please come for an evening of relaxation and feel free to invite family and friends. Tickets will be available from Gale Barnes, John Burtner, Bruce Burley, and Charlie Stump. RSVP is appreciated by May 1 so we can have an idea of how many ladies to prepare for. We look forward to seeing you!



2023 High School & College Graduates

If you are a 2023 Graduate, please let the Church office know. Please submit your information; including your name, high school or college attended. Please let me know your major or what college you will be attending or your future plans. Please include your senior picture (or other current photo). You can e-mail the information to benevolachurch@myactv.net. Please have all information to the Church office no later than May 7.

Pictorial Directory to be Updated

When: Sundays May 7th & 21st

Times: 10 AM – 12 noon at the church

Who: Hagerstown Photographer, Heidi Feight



This September, Benevola Church will celebrate its 165 Anniversary in this building. As a part of the celebration we want to update our pictorial directory. By using a private photographer, we will eliminate any sales pressure! These photos will be added to our data base, Servant Keeper, and will also be used to print out our own directory. We can make as many copies as we want and by doing it in this manner, we can update the information yearly.

This directory is for our congregation's use. In order to make the process easy, the Ad Council voted to have the photographer available to take informal individual and family photographs on two separate Sundays, May 7 and 21. Photos will be taken immediately following Worship (around 10 AM) and run until 12 noon. At that same time, individual and family information needed in the office will be updated in an effort to keep our data base current.

If you cannot make either of these dates/times, please just send a jpeg photo to our Church Secretary, Teri Baker at benevolachurch@myactv.net by May 28th. If you have a member of your family that is not able to come to be photographed in person, again, please take a picture and email it to Teri at the office.

We're looking forward to a fun Anniversary with all of YOU! Help us, by being a part of our Pictorial Directory.

Cindy Reeder
Anniversary Committee, chair

Katie's Cupboard

Katie's Cupboard is an outreach of Benevola UMC that gives not just food to hungry people, but also other household items such as paper towels, toilet paper, toothbrushes, soap, laundry detergent, and other cleaning supplies. There is a line item in our budget so we can purchase supplies, however donations of items are always appreciated. Some of the things needed besides what is listed above include:

cereal, oatmeal
canned fruit
canned vegetables

meat – chicken, tuna, spam
pasta noodles, macaroni
soup, ravioli, spaghettios

mashed potatoes, gravy
spaghetti sauce, noodles

These items can be dropped off on the cart in the church office or in the shopping cart in the coat closet. Many thanks for your help in reaching out to our community

Body & Soul Fitness Classes

If you'd like to be more active, and maintain or improve your fitness, we have program choices for you! All classes have upbeat current Christian music and include a devotional moment at the end. It's where faith and fitness meet!

- **Longevity Fit** classes are being held on Monday and Wednesday at 4:15 pm. Designed for seniors, many options for movement are offered: dancing, walking, standing, and seated in a chair. Light weights and bands are available for resistance training, too. Exercises will be selected for the needs of those in the class, and will last 30-45 minutes. Come give it a try!
- **Cardio Strength** classes have been ongoing at Benevola since the gym was built! The cardio exercises are for mobile folks and also include strength/flexibility work with weights and on floor mats too! (available to borrow or bring your own) This is a great time to try the class free, as new music and moves will be introduced. CardioStrength meets every Monday and Wednesday, 5:30-6:30 pm.





MAY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Morgan Boyd
 - 4 Teri Baker, Desiree Peperak, Chad Duffey, Kyler Schultheis
 - 5 Margaret Campbell, Maggie Loudenslager
 - 6 Dylan Coulter, Ella Rowland
 - 7 Pam Lego, Madden Haupt, Corinne Haupt
 - 8 Megan Burtner
 - 9 Sadie Baker
 - 10 Heather Hutchinson
 - 12 Keira Burtner
 - 14 Bob Barnhart
 - 15 Eric Phipps, Janelle Weddle
 - 16 Kimberly Angle
 - 17 Brett Rowland, Patti Powers
 - 19 Lorne Ridenour, Matt Barnes
 - 20 Doug Stotemyer, Eileen Stipanovic, Karen Brightwell, Jeremy Angle
 - 21 Nathan Williams
 - 22 Cayden Hawkins, Nicholas Baker, Drew Atkinson
 - 24 Cindy Burtner, James Mills
 - 25 Lisa Hawkins
 - 27 Matthew Wolfensberger
 - 29 Bonnie Reese Miller, Luke Angle
-
- 5 Donald & Patsy Campbell, Kim & Dee Horner
 - 6 Chuck & Mary Ellen Waltemire, Craig & Christina Williams
 - 7 Danny & Tammy Poffenberger
 - 12 Zach & Eileen Stipanovic
 - 15 Robert & Cindi Hawfield
 - 25 Murle & Patti Powers
 - 29 Bob & Margie Moats
 - 30 Mike & Amy Wescott, Tom & Dorothy Fath
 - 31 Jason & Laura Weddle



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 4:15 B&S Longevity 5:30 B & S Fitness	2 9:00 Quilting	3 12 Lunch Bunch @ Keystone 4:15 B&S Longevity 5:30 B & S Fitness 7:30 Men's BB	4 6:30 choir practice	5	6 8:00 Men's Breakfast 2-7 Green Pavilion (private)
7 Confirmation Sunday	8 4:15 B&S Longevity 5:30 B & S Fitness 6:30 Outreach	9 9:00 Quilting 1:00 Katie's Cupboard 6:00 Anniversary Committee Meeting	10 4:15 B&S Longevity 5:30 B & S Fitness 7:30 Men's BB	11	12	13 5:00 Mother's Day Banquet
14	15 4:15 B&S Longevity 5:30 B & S Fitness	16 9:00 Quilting	17 12 Moving On Group @ Zac's Fireside 4:15 B&S Longevity 5:30 B & S Fitness	18 12:00-9 SLC (private) Women's Emmaus walk	19 12:00 Book Club Women's Emmaus walk	20 Women's Emmaus walk
21 Graduation Sunday Women's Emmaus walk	22 4:15 NO B&S Longevity 5:30 NO B & S Fitness	23 9:00 Quilting 1:00 Katie's Cupboard	24 4:15 B&S Longevity 5:30 B & S Fitness 7:30 Men's BB	25 6:30 choir practice	26	27 Outreach meal @ Hope Center
28	29 4:15 B&S Longevity 5:30 B & S Fitness	30 9:00 Quilting	31 4:15 B&S Longevity 5:30 B & S Fitness 7:30 Men's BB			

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

Change Service Requested

