

The Beacon July 2026

Hopewell Methodist Church

Rev. Dr. Bob Moseley

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The Beacon
July 2026

Message from the Pastor

“We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done” (Psalm 78:4).

As our nation celebrates the 250th anniversary of its founding, Hopewell Church has a unique reason to give thanks. For more than 215 years, this congregation has stood as a witness to the faithfulness of God in Chesterfield County. Long before automobiles traveled Courthouse Road, before electricity reached the Five Forks community, and before many of the neighborhoods surrounding us existed, faithful believers gathered here to worship Jesus Christ, proclaim the gospel, and pass their faith to the next generation.

Hopewell’s history is a testimony to those words. Organized as a Methodist Episcopal congregation in 1813, generations of believers sacrificed, served, prayed, and gave so that the ministry of this church would continue. When membership outgrew the original sanctuary in the late nineteenth century, a larger building was constructed. Through two World Wars, economic hardships, denominational changes, and countless shifts in society, God’s people at Hopewell remained committed to worship, discipleship, missions, and evangelism.

The story of Hopewell is not merely the story of buildings and dates. It is the story of people who understood that the Christian faith is always one generation away from extinction unless it is intentionally shared. That conviction can be seen throughout our history. In 1922, Hopewell organized what was said to be the first Epworth League in the Virginia Conference, investing in the spiritual formation of young people. In 1936, Vacation Bible School began, creating opportunities for children to learn God’s Word. Sunday School classrooms, educational wings, fellowship spaces, and ministries were established because previous generations believed the gospel must be passed on to those who would come after them.

Psalm 145:4 declares,

“One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.”

That is exactly what has happened at Hopewell Church for more than two centuries. Children became parents, parents became grandparents, and grandparents became part of the great cloud of witnesses who have gone before us. Yet each generation received the same responsibility: to declare the mighty acts of God and point others to Jesus Christ.

As we reflect on our heritage, we should do so with gratitude—but not merely with nostalgia. The purpose of remembering is not simply to celebrate the past. Psalm 78 reminds us that God’s people are to teach the next generation “that they should set their hope in God” (Psalm 78:7). The faithfulness of those who came before us should inspire faithfulness in us today.

The question before Hopewell Church is not simply, “What has God done?” The question is, “What are we doing to ensure that future generations know what God has done?” The church of 1813 entrusted the gospel to those who followed. The church of 2026 must do the same.

As America marks 250 years of history and Hopewell reflects on more than 215 years of ministry, may we thank God for His sustaining grace. May we honor the sacrifices of those who came before us. Most importantly, may we recommit ourselves to the biblical calling that has guided God’s people in every generation: to proclaim His mighty works, to teach His truth, and to ensure that our children and grandchildren know where to place their hope.

For 215 years, God has been faithful.

May the generations that follow be able to say the same.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Bob



Music Minute

Happy Summer to you, and Happy Semiquincentennial to the United States of America! This month will bring a huge celebration for our great country ~ 250 years of the inalienable rights granted by God and our Constitution, the greatest among them being the right to freedom of religion and to worship as we please. It's often difficult for me to find the right inspiration for these newsletter articles, but this one was as self-evident as the privileges we enjoy as Americans.

This anniversary isn't just about dates and documents. It's about people, places, and stories—millions of them. It's about how a group of colonies came together in 1776 to declare independence and how that moment set the course for the country we live in now. Reaching 250 years is a significant event for any nation. It offers a chance to learn more about how the United States began, how it grew, and how it has changed over time. Every era of American history has shaped the present in some way, I feel compelled to repeat these words that I shared in last year's July message, because they remain true today: Millions of Americans, regardless of political opinions or parties, bemoan the state of mainstream culture. Mental health is at an all-time low, and self-harming behaviors are rampant. People send themselves into spirals of anxiety in search of contentment and peace. How sad it is that the key to turning it around is easily found, but largely ignored.

In 2 Chronicles 7:14, God tells us that "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves, and pray and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." God responds to repentance, and prayer, and people seeking His face. He responds with mercy, and forgiveness, and healing. It is good to humble ourselves before God, to pray, to seek his face, and to turn from wicked ways. It's always good for an individual to do that, it's always good for a family to do that, for A church to do that, for THE church to do that, for any people to do that, for the nations to do that. And so, it's entirely right for us to pray exactly this over our lives, and our families, and our churches, over the nations where we live and the nations of the world.

While this verse was specifically made to the nation of Israel as a covenant promise to Solomon and ancient Israel (and maybe even modern-day Israel), its principles can apply to any nation that renounces and rejects sin, repents of those sins, and seeks God's face. How does this happen? It starts with each of us, each of us turning to God in prayer, seeking His face, and repenting of our sins by turning away from them. Then we encourage others to do so as well, reaching out to share the hope of this promise, until the ripples of this message spread throughout our land.

Music Ministry will host our 4th annual "Christmas in July" on Thursday, July 23rd at 7:00 p.m. We will preview this year's Christmas Cantata, *Glorious Night.....When Christ Was Born*, go over the season's rehearsal schedule, and even share a few Christmas cookies! We invite ANYONE who would like to know more and possibly join this year's Community Choir to come and celebrate with us and learn more.

We wish you all the best as God blesses us with a new month, an historic celebration for our nation, and as God provides new opportunities for us to share His love and serve His people. Let us never forget that rights and privileges come with responsibility - the responsibility we have to help make heaven crowded by leading others to Christ!

JOYfully Serving,

Ellen Stephenson

Director of Music Ministries



Reflections from the 49th General Conference of the Congregational Methodist Church



On June 9–11, Pastor Bob Moseley, Tyler Craddock, and George Riggins had the privilege of representing Hopewell Church at the 49th General Conference of the Congregational Methodist Church in Laurel, Mississippi. It was a meaningful and encouraging gathering of pastors, lay leaders, and churches from across the denomination as we worshiped together, learned together, and conducted the important business of the Church.

One of the greatest blessings of the conference was the spirit of worship that permeated every session. The services were Christ-centered, Scripture-saturated, and marked by a sincere desire to glorify God. Through heartfelt singing, prayer, preaching, and fellowship, attendees were reminded that our ultimate mission is not simply to maintain an organization, but to make disciples of Jesus Christ and advance His Kingdom.

Several speakers challenged the conference with timely and powerful messages. George Barna reminded us that America's deepest problems are not primarily political, economic, or social—they are spiritual. He noted that while many Americans identify as Christians, very few possess a truly biblical worldview. His challenge to the church was clear: disciple-making must once again become the central mission of every congregation, with particular attention given to shaping the worldview of children and equipping parents to disciple their families. Churches must measure success not merely by attendance or budgets, but by transformed lives and faithful disciples.

Pastor Benny Tate delivered a stirring message from the life of the Apostle John, emphasizing that spiritual effectiveness flows from intimacy with Christ. He challenged pastors and church leaders to prioritize their relationship with Jesus above every ministry task. His memorable statement, "God does not have favorites, but God does have intimates," reminded listeners that lasting ministry is sustained by time spent in the presence of God. He encouraged leaders not to spend their lives succeeding at things that ultimately do not matter, but to invest themselves fully in serving God's purposes for their generation.

Another powerful message focused on Isaiah's vision of God's holiness in Isaiah 6. The speaker reminded us that true ministry begins with an encounter with the holiness and sovereignty of Christ. Isaiah's journey—from seeing God's glory, to recognizing his own sinfulness, to receiving cleansing, and finally answering God's call—serves as a model for every believer. The challenge was clear: surrender fully to Christ's authority and commit ourselves anew to making disciples who live according to a biblical worldview.

Additional sessions encouraged leaders to lead through a filter of faith rather than fear, remembering God's faithfulness in every generation. Like Caleb, who trusted God despite overwhelming obstacles, churches today are called to move forward with confidence that the gospel remains powerful and that God is still at work. Other speakers emphasized the importance of listening to the voice of the Holy Spirit, living from our identity in Christ, and seeking transformation before strategy.

While the worship and teaching were significant, one of the most historic moments of the conference occurred during the business sessions. After more than seventy years, delegates approved revisions to the Congregational Methodist Church's Doctrinal Statements. These revisions were not intended to change our beliefs, but rather to clarify and strengthen them for a new generation.

In particular, the updated statements provide greater clarity regarding biblical teachings that have come under increasing cultural pressure. The revisions reaffirm the historic Christian understanding of marriage as the covenant union of one man and one woman and clearly articulate the denomination's biblical convictions regarding gender and human identity. In an age marked by confusion and competing worldviews, the Conference acted to ensure that our doctrinal standards continue to reflect the truth of Scripture with both conviction and clarity.

Reflections continued from previous page

This work was undertaken carefully, prayerfully, and respectfully. Delegates spent considerable time reviewing language, discussing implications, and seeking unity around biblical truth. The result is a stronger doctrinal foundation that will help guide pastors, churches, and future generations of Congregational Methodists in faithfulness to God's Word.

As we look ahead to the 175th anniversary of Congregational Methodism in America next year, the conference served as a reminder that we are stewards of a rich spiritual heritage. Yet our calling is not merely to preserve the past. We are called to proclaim Christ faithfully in the present and to commend His works to the next generation.

We returned from Laurel encouraged by the fellowship, inspired by the worship, challenged by the teaching, and grateful for the important work accomplished. Please continue to pray for our denomination, its leaders, and its churches as we seek to make disciples, uphold biblical truth, and advance the gospel of Jesus Christ for generations to come.



Men's Alliance is Waiting for You!

Men's Alliance is Waiting for You!

Looking for a way to connect to the men of the church that is not your typical men's ministry or Bible study? Not sure where to find a community or a group of brothers to tackle the challenges of life together? Then maybe Men's Alliance is what you are looking for.

What is Men's Alliance? It is a Discipleship Ministry for Christian Men who want more. It is designed to challenge you both spiritually and physically. It is a ministry with a mission to sharpen men to become the husbands, fathers, and leaders that God designed us to be.

The Tribe is open to all men starting at age thirteen and all physical levels. The only limitations are the ones you put on yourself. Therefore, we invite all the men of Hopewell to come out and experience Men's Alliance for yourself. Redeemer Tribe meets each Saturday at 7 am, regardless of the weather, to continue sharpening, encouraging, and praying for one another. Visit [Redeemer Tribe Men's Group in Chesterfield, VA | Men's Alliance](#) for more information, to join the tribe, or reach out to any tribe member. We look forward to seeing you around the fire!



Sunday Morning Prayer

One of the greatest privileges of the church is the opportunity to gather before the Lord in prayer. Throughout Scripture, God's people prepared their hearts through prayer before worship, seeking His presence, guidance, and blessing. As Jesus taught, His house is to be called a house of prayer.

Beginning Sunday, July 12, we invite everyone who is able to join us each Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. for a special time of congregational prayer before our worship service.

Pastor Bob will open our time together with prayer, and those who wish will have the opportunity to offer prayers for our worship service, our church family, our community, and the hearts of those who will be attending that morning. Together, we will seek God's presence, ask for His blessing upon our worship, and pray that lives will be touched by the power of the Gospel.

Prayer is not simply a preliminary activity before worship—it is an essential part of worship. As we begin this new emphasis, we encourage everyone to come with expectant hearts, believing that God hears the prayers of His people and delights to work through them.

Join us as we prepare our hearts and seek the Lord together each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. beginning July 12.

As many of you know, last month Pastor Bob, George Riggins, and I attended the 49th Annual General Conference of the Congregational Methodist Church in Laurel, Mississippi. We were blessed to hear from wonderful speakers and enjoy rich fellowship with CMC clergy and laypersons from around the country, and each of us came home touched in different ways.

Pastor Bob was particularly struck by researcher George Barna's sobering finding that only about 4% of Americans hold a genuine biblical worldview — a number that has given us all plenty to think and pray about. This column is not meant to be a full recap of everything we heard, but if you'd like one, I submitted a written report to our Administrative Council and would be happy to share it. Just email me at layleader@hopewellcmc.org.

What I want to focus on here is one speaker who had a particularly deep impact on me personally: Pastor Nathan Sanders of LifePoint Church. What Nathan offered wasn't a program or a strategy — it was something more fundamental. It was a word about how we listen to God.

When most of us think about prayer, we think about talking to God. And that is right and good. But Nathan challenged us to consider what is happening on the other end of that conversation. He shared how his own prayer life had shifted in recent years — from asking "God, what do you want me to do?" to asking "God, what do you want me to know?"

That difference matters more than it might first appear. When we ask what God wants us to do, prayer can become transactional: He gives us an assignment, we complete it, and we move on. But when we ask what He wants us to know, we open ourselves to something deeper — conversation, relationship, transformation.

He also pointed out something most of us will recognize in ourselves: we often pray, but we don't pause to listen. It's a little like talking to someone you love for two hours and then rolling over to sleep without ever giving them a chance to respond.

But God wants to respond. Jesus makes this plain in John 10, describing the Good Shepherd and His flock: *"The sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out... and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice."* (John 10:3–4, NKJV). *If we are the sheep — and we are — then following the Shepherd depends on learning to hear Him. You cannot follow a voice you have never learned to recognize.*

The Lord confirms this invitation through the prophet Jeremiah: *"Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know."* (Jeremiah 33:3, NKJV). *He is not a silent God. He wants to show us things. The question is whether we are listening.*

And here is what makes this personal: God has wired each of us differently, which means He speaks to each of us differently. Sometimes it is through Scripture. Sometimes through a dream or a vision. Sometimes through a still, small voice. Read through your Bible and you will see God reaching people in all kinds of ways — through angels, through prophecy, even through a donkey. To get Paul's attention on the road to Damascus, He had to blind him. God knows how to reach each one of us. Our job is to stay open to however He chooses.

Some of you may remember my March column, where I wrote about following a quiet nudge at our annual conference — stepping away from the service project I had planned and toward a food distribution where God had someone waiting. That nudge was God speaking. I nearly missed it because I had already made up my mind about what I was going to do. That is exactly what Nathan was talking about.

What I brought home from Mississippi is this: learning to hear God is not only a personal spiritual discipline — though it certainly is that. It also makes us better servants to one another. When I grow in my ability to listen to Him, I grow in my walk with God, and I become better equipped to serve the people He has placed around me. Both things happen at once, and both matter.

My encouragement this month is simple: the next time you pray, leave some silence. Ask God not just what He wants you to do, but what He wants you to know. Then listen. You may be surprised at what He has to say.

In service and surrender,

Tyler



*Listening When
God
Speaks*

The Beacon July 2026



The Hopewell Women's Ministry gathered on June 20 for a joyful celebration of new life as they hosted a special "Grandma Shower" for Anne Moseley in honor of her and Pastor Bob's new grandson, Noah. The ladies showered Anne (and Pastor Bob) with thoughtful gifts to keep at Grandma and Grandpa's house for Noah's visits, including books, toys, clothes, and other special items. Anne had asked for children's books to begin building a library for Noah, and the women responded with incredible generosity, gifting her more than 40 books to start a collection he can enjoy for years to come. The shower was filled with love, laughter, and excitement as everyone celebrated the new addition to their family.

Ladies, if you've been thinking about joining the Hopewell Women's Ministry, we'd love to welcome you! Our next meeting will be on **Saturday, July 18, from 10:00 a.m. to noon**. If you'd like, please wear favorite Hawaiian outfit. We'll enjoy a delicious Luau Lunch, a brief business meeting, and a special guest speaker. Diann from **The Village – Be Kind** will share about the ministry of this wonderful nonprofit and will lead us in a hands-on project during the meeting. Diann has been a blessing to so many, and through The Village – Be Kind, she has touched countless lives by offering hope and practical support to people during difficult times. We hope you'll come and join us for a morning of fellowship, encouragement, and service!

And, ladies, don't forget your Secret Sisters!



A heartfelt thank you to the Hopewell Women's Ministry for the love, time, and care poured into the recent "Grandma Shower" celebration. I am so grateful for each woman who helped plan, set up, and participate in such a meaningful and joy-filled event. Your kindness and generosity were truly overwhelming, and I feel deeply blessed to be part of such a thoughtful and supportive church family. A special thank you as well to everyone who brought gifts and helped make the day so memorable for our family. Your love for others shines so beautifully through everything you do, and it does not go unnoticed.

In Christian love and gratitude,

Anne

A 6-WEEK CHURCH-WIDE STUDY

THINKING BIBLICALLY

Renewing the Mind. Restoring the Image. Living for Christ.

Let the Word of God transform the way we think, so we can live faithfully in every area of life.

ROMANS 12:2

DATES:
JULY 19 – AUGUST 23, 2026

TIME: 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

WHO: Everyone is welcome!
Open to all adults and teens.

IN THIS 6-WEEK STUDY WE WILL EXPLORE:

- 1 What Is a Biblical Worldview?
- 2 Truth: What Can We Know?
- 3 Identity: Who Am I?
- 4 The Gospel: What Is Wrong with the World?
- 5 How Then Shall We Live?
- 6 Living as Ambassadors of Christ

SIGN UP BY JULY 12! Don't miss this opportunity to grow in faith and live for Christ!

the difference maker

Using Your Everyday Life for Eternal Impact

Free Seminar!

Saturday, August 22
10 am - noon

Call the office to register by August 15th.



Thinking Biblically: A Church-Wide Study

What shapes the way you think?

Every day we are influenced by voices from culture, media, family, friends, and social media. As followers of Jesus Christ, we are called to view life through the truth of God's Word rather than the ever-changing values of the world.

Beginning July 19, we invite you to join us for **Thinking Biblically: Renewing the Mind, Restoring the Image, Living for Christ**, a six-week church-wide study designed to help us develop a biblical worldview and apply our faith to everyday life.

Together we will explore questions such as:

- What is a biblical worldview?
- Can we really know truth?
- Who am I in Christ?
- What is wrong with the world?
- How should Christians live?
- What does it mean to be an ambassador for Christ?

This study will include biblical teaching, discussion, and practical application as we seek to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Sundays, July 19 – August 23
9:00–10:00 AM

Please sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/whatsaworldview> by **July 12** so we can prepare materials for everyone.

Join us as we seek to renew our minds and learn to live faithfully for Christ in every area of life.

"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind..." Rom. 12:2

Become a Difference Maker

Have you ever wondered how God can use your ordinary, everyday life to make an extraordinary impact for His kingdom? Join us for a special seminar based on *The Difference Maker* by Nelson Searcy and discover practical ways to influence others for Christ through your relationships, work, and daily interactions.

Make plans to attend this free seminar which will be held on **Saturday, August 22, from 10:00 a.m. to noon**. Whether you are new to sharing your faith or looking for fresh encouragement, you'll gain simple, biblical tools to help you live with greater purpose and eternal impact. Space is limited. Go to <https://tinyurl.com/HMCdifferencemaker> or call the church office to register by August 15.



The Emmaus experience has had a profound impact on those who have attended, including me, leading to a deeper love for God and others. Several members of your church family have experienced the Walk to Emmaus and would be happy to share their experience with you and answer any questions you may have. The next Men's Weekend is scheduled for **October 15 - 18, 2026**, and we would love for you to experience it for yourself. Just contact a member of the Hopewell Emmaus Community or me for an application.



Meals for Missions: More Than a Meal—A Ministry Opportunity

Beginning in September (date to be determined), Hopewell Church will launch Meals for Missions, a new Wednesday evening ministry designed to bring our church family together while supporting local mission efforts.

Each Wednesday at 6:00 p.m., a delicious meal will be available for just \$10 per person, with options to dine in or take out before our 7:00 p.m. worship service. Every dollar raised will help support local mission projects and outreach opportunities in our community.

But this ministry needs more than diners—it needs servants!

We are looking for volunteers to become part of a rotating team that will help with meal preparation, serving, setup, and cleanup. Whether you can help once a month or more frequently, your involvement can make a meaningful difference. By serving together, we not only provide meals but also create opportunities for fellowship, hospitality, and ministry.

If you enjoy cooking, organizing, serving others, or simply lending a helping hand, we invite you to prayerfully consider joining the Meals for Missions team.

Together, we can share good food, build stronger relationships, and support the mission of Christ in our community—one meal at a time.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Pastor Bob or the church office.



Can You See Our Church Through First-Time Eyes?

One of the greatest challenges for any church is that we become so familiar with our surroundings that we stop seeing them the way guests do. What is obvious to us may be confusing to a first-time visitor. What feels welcoming to longtime members may feel intimidating to someone walking through our doors for the very first time.

To help us become an even more welcoming church, we are seeking volunteers to serve as Church Facilities Auditors. Using principles from Thom Rainer's book *How to Be a Welcoming Church* and a detailed facility audit checklist, volunteers will evaluate our church campus, signage, website, parking areas, children's spaces, restrooms, sanctuary, and overall appearance from the perspective of a first-time guest.

The goal is not criticism—it is hospitality. By viewing our church through fresh eyes, we can identify opportunities to remove barriers, improve communication, and create an environment where guests can focus on encountering Christ rather than navigating confusion.

Auditors will complete the assessment individually and then share their observations with church leadership. Together, we can discover simple improvements that make a lasting impact on every person who visits our church.

If you would be willing to help with this important ministry, please contact Pastor Bob. Your perspective may help us become a more welcoming church for the people God is sending our way.

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submissions is **Monday, July 20th**. If you have an article, valuable information, or exciting ideas to share, we want to hear from you. Send your contributions to Carolyn Bohannon at secretary@hopewellcmc.org by the deadline, and help us make this newsletter a great resource for everyone!

Opportunities this Month

Exciting
NEWS!

NEW WORSHIP TIME

10:30 AM

beginning
SUNDAY, JULY 12



SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:00 AM

SAME MISSION. *New time.* GROWING TOGETHER IN *faith.* ♥

Christmas in July - 7p.m.
Thursday July 23rd

**Come preview this year's
Christmas cantata, consider
joining the Community Choir,
and share a Christmas cookie
or two!**

Gospel Music Night

Join us Every Third
Friday for Great Gospel
Music Night
Admission is Free

The Beacon July 2026

We invite you to explore scripture with us and help strengthen our faith community.

Together, we can engage meaningfully and enrich our spiritual lives.

July Bible Reading Challenge

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1) Obadiah: Psalm 82-83 | 12) Amos 6-9 | 23) Isaiah 31-34 |
| 2) 2 Kings 1-4 | 13) 2 Chronicles 27 & Isaiah 9-12 | 24) Isaiah 35-36 |
| 3) 2 Kings 5-8 | 14) Micah 1-7 | 25) Isaiah 37-39 & Psalm 76 |
| 4) 2 Kings 9-11 | 15) 2 Chronicles 28 & 2 Kings 16-17 | 26) Isaiah 40-43 |
| 5) 2 Kings 12-13, 2 Chronicles 24 | 16) Isaiah 13-17 | 27) Isaiah 44-48 |
| 6) 2 Kings 14; 2 Chronicles 25 | 17) Isaiah 18-22 | 28) 2 Kings 19 & Psalm 46, 80, 135 |
| 7) Jonah 1-4 | 18) Isaiah 23-27 | 29) Isaiah 49-53 |
| 8) 2 Kings 15; 2 Chronicles 26 | 19) 2 Kings 18 | 30) Isaiah 54-58 |
| 9) Isaiah 1-4 | 20) Hosea 1-7 | 31) Isaiah 59-63 |
| 10) Isaiah 5-8 | 21) Hosea 8-14 | |
| 11) Amos 1-5 | 22) Isaiah 28-30 | |

July Birthdays

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1 - Tyler Craddock | 13 - Buz Walters |
| 1 - Linda Powers | 17 - Doris Dean |
| 1 - Janet Rapalee | 19 - Michael Rapalee |
| 5 - Roger Gross | 21 - Rob Young |
| 12 - Erin Wilson | 24 - Dana Elliott |

July Anniversary

- | |
|-------------------------------|
| 3 - Frankie & Linda Morris |
| 7 - Pastor Bob & Anne Moseley |
| 7 - Kathy & Elton Gardner |
| 15 - Ed & Diane Patton |

Women's Bible Study

Join us Mondays at 6:30 as we study the Bible through it's stories. Learn how God weaves, why He created us and His plan to restore us back to Him. You may see the Bible as God's love letter to us for the first time.



PRAYER

*Let us approach the throne of grace
with confidence...*

HEBREWS 4:16

| | | | | |
|-----------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Alitzer Family | Tim Davey | Rachel Heckendorn | Tekisha McWms- Roy | Mary Sharpe |
| Wayne Anderson | Sue Davey | Hance Hofler | Miller Family | Mike Sharpe |
| Rebecca Bane | Elizabeth Davis | Ashley Holt | Ann Moseley | Shepperson Family |
| Troy Barnette | Denise Dubrulle | Norma Huband | Kate Mulreny | Dylan Smith |
| Katie Beattie | Kathy Duke | Carlton Hudson | David Nebenzhi | Marion Smith |
| Maury Beck | Maurice Duke | Rose Hudson | George Ngui | Andi Taylor |
| Carolyn Berry | Tom Dunkim | Ricky Jackson | Odhwani Family | Preston Taylor |
| Kim Brown | Carol Sue Durfee | Howard Johnston | Ed & Diane Patton | Thomas Family |
| Karen Burke | Jarad Earley | Jordan Family | Erin Pierce | David Tyree |
| Robin Brinkley | Eubank Family | Bobby Little | Christine Price | Watkins Family |
| Wanda Caisse | Sara Frattone | Jeannie Lutz | Purdy Family | Eric White |
| Peggy Camp | Kathleen Frick | Markey Family | Stacey Rideout | Sarah White |
| Dale Condrey | Kevin Frick | Elizabeth Melancon | Jen Ridout | Garry Williams |
| Croctic Family | Gentile Family | Mark Melancon | Ricky Robertson | Brenda Young |
| Sandy Cullather | John Heckendorn | Rebecca McClelland | Jessica Schmidt | Youth Ministry |
| | | | | Empty Pew |

Congregational Care Members

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Marie Barnett | Roger Gross |
| Phyllis Boyd | John Reynolds |
| Doris Dean | Debbie Reynolds |
| Peggy Dinelli | Jean Sharpe |
| Jeannette Gross | Buz Walters |

Our Military

Daniel Brown
Jason Helhm
Ryan Helhm
C.J. Kovas
Devin Lewerenz
Sam Power
Tyler Smith

Always be in Prayer For

Teachers
Our Children
All 1st Responders
All Government Leaders
Our President, Our Country,
Our Military
Virginia
Israel

Do you have a prayer request? Let us pray for you!

We've created two ways for you to submit your request at any time. First, if you download the app, you'll have an opportunity to submit a prayer request and to commit to praying for the request located on the "Prayer Wall." In addition, we've created a QR Code that you can scan and enter your prayer request. Upon receipt, the person's name will be added to our list in the bulletin. All names on our prayer list will remain for four weeks. If someone needs to remain on the prayer list, please let us know. To submit that request, scan the QR Code.



The Beacon July 2026

Giving Gladly

General Fund Stewardship for the last 4 weeks :

HMC Income Statement 05/31/2026

May Income \$ 24,314.10

May Expenses \$ 21,498.55

Over /(short) \$ 2,815.55

Income YTD 05/31/2026 \$ 154,116.88

Expenses YTD 05/31/2026 \$ 155,662.11

Over/ (Short) \$ (1,545.23)

Mortgage Loan Balance 05/31/2026 \$ 103,125.60

Additional Principle Applied YTD 2026 \$ 6800.00

Last 4 Weeks Worship

Attendance Average

Wednesday Night Prayer: 13

11:00 Worship: 81

Online: 323

WORSHIP ONLINE

Watch the live stream on our website!

<https://hopewellcmc.org>

Let us know you're with us by saying "Hi!" in the comments.

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Visit <https://hopewellcmc.org>

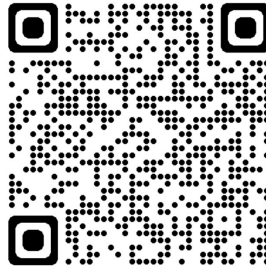
Click the button

to give your tithes & offerings easily online.

We also have other giving options:

<https://hopewellcmc.org/give>

Text "GIVE" to: (804)485-1593



Wednesday Night Prayer Service

Join us weekly on Wednesday nights at 6:30 pm for an evening of praise, prayer, and communion.



Joyfully Serving for July 2026

| Roles | Jul 5 | Jul 12 | Jul 19 | Jul 26 |
|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Lay Reader | Jacobs, Carolyn | Craddock, Tyler | Eubank, Kathy | Miller, Gayle |
| Ushers | McNinch, Owens | Noxon, Billy | Scheivert, Robin | Smith, Lewis |
| | McNinch, Ann | Hatfield, Ricky | Scheivert, Mike | Koertge, Tom |
| | Koertge, Tom | Hatfield, Laura | Rapalee, Mike | Koertge, Linda |
| | Koertge, Linda | Hague, Steve | Rapalee, Janet | Frick, Kevin |
| Greeters | Koertge, Tom | Smith, Gayle | Sharpe, Mike | Stokes, Lisa |
| | Koertge, Linda | Lewerenz, Betsy | Johnston, Howard | Reid, Judy |
| Children's Church | Scheivert, Mike | Shand, Gil | Schmidt, Jennifer | Sharpe, Mike |
| | Hamby, Beth | Hamby, Beth | Carlson, Mary Ann | Craddock, Tracy |
| AV Sound | Hague, Steve | Kweeder, Jim | Hague, Steve | Dedmon, Cody |
| AV Camera | Kweeder, Jim | Sharpe, Mike | Craddock, Tyler | Kweeder, Jim |
| AV Computer | Purdy, Irene | Eubank, Kathy | Smith, Gayle | Purdy, Irene |

Graceful Generosity

Published to help you grow as a steward of God's grace.

Understanding Stewardship

- ✠ The motive for Christian stewardship is love and gratitude.
- ✠ The purpose is to glorify God.
- ✠ The guide is the revealed will of God.
- ✠ The efficiency is the power of God's grace.

Testing your Knowledge of Scripture

Can you identify who the following person may represent in Scripture?



If you said the Good Samaritan, you were right. In the story of the Good Samaritan found in the tenth chapter of Luke, the Good Samaritan not only helped an injured person, he took him to an inn where he paid for his room and care. The Samaritan sacrificed money, time, and possessions for the wounded person, and he risked his own health and safety. He fulfilled the Golden Rule. By putting no limits on how far he was willing to go to help this stranger, the Samaritan demonstrated the love we should have for our neighbors. He followed Jesus' command to "Go and do likewise." Helping others may mean more than calling 911.

We may need to get involved, get our hands dirty, and go the extra mile.

A Stewardship Thought

The God-pleasing steward is motivated by God's love to "surrender" his stubborn, independent, vain, selfish will and begin to conform to God's will. Living for self becomes secondary because Christ who died for him and rose again is now in control. *"Do not conform any longer to the pattern of the world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing, and perfect will"* (Romans 12:2). The Lord's will becomes our will.

On the Lighter Side

The day the church treasurer resigned, the church asked the local grain elevator manager to take the position. He agreed under two conditions:

- ✠ That no treasurer's report would be given for the first year.
- ✠ That no questions be asked about finances during that year.

The people were surprised but finally agreed, since most of them did business with him and he was a trusted man. At the end of the year he gave his report:

- ✠ The church indebtedness of \$228,000 has been paid.
- ✠ The minister's salary has been increased by 8%.
- ✠ The Cooperative Program gifts (\$200) have been paid.
- ✠ There are no outstanding bills.
- ✠ There is a cash balance of \$11,252!

Immediately the shocked congregation asked, "How did you do it? Where did the money come from?"

He quietly answered, "Most of you bring your grain to my elevator. Throughout the year, I simply withheld ten percent on your behalf and gave it to the church in your name. You didn't even miss it!"

"Do you see what we could do for the Lord if we were all willing to give at least the tithe to God, who really owns it?" he asked. And so the new treasurer had made his point.

Giving an Opportunity or Obligation

As the Apostle Paul traveled to churches, he collected offerings for the Christians in Jerusalem who were experiencing hard economic times. When Paul was speaking to the Corinthians, he used the Macedonian believers as an example of people who, in spite of their own economic troubles, gave joyfully to the people in Jerusalem. The Macedonians' love for Christ and their concern for their fellow believers moved them to give beyond their ability. The Macedonians gave themselves first to the Lord, and then, Paul said, they *"urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the saints"* (2 Corinthians 8:4). In Christ, they saw their giving as an opportunity



to help other believers in need.

Does someone who views giving as an obligation plead for the opportunity to give? Probably not. When giving is an obligation, we will give, but giving as an obligation will not give us the joy or the attitude of pleading for the privilege to give that the Macedonians had. As God's people, we have both an obligation and an opportunity. Scripture is clear that we are called to give. Paul said:

"On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made" (1 Corinthians 16:2).

Giving is an obligation, but, just as God changed the hearts and minds of the Macedonian people, he changes us so our attitude toward giving can change from being an obligation to an opportunity. As renewed and changed people, our attitude toward giving changes from a "got to" to a "get to" attitude. We stop giving grudgingly, and we start giving willingly and cheerfully. We want to give, because giving is an expression of our love and gratitude to God for who he is and what he does for us.

The more we give of ourselves and our gifts, the closer our relationship with Christ becomes, and the more we want to give, and the more God blesses us which enables our continued giving. *"You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God"* (2 Corinthians 9:11). We thank God that he fills us daily with his love so that we as members of his Church here on earth see giving as a privilege and an opportunity to praise and thank him.

Blessings on Your Stewardship Journey!

The Beacon July 2026

July 2026

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| <p>Monthly Reoccurring Meetings - Outside Events</p> <p>AA Meetings - Monday @ 5:45 pm; Wednesday @ 12:00 pm & 5:45 pm; & Saturday @ 10:00 am & 8:00 pm</p> <p>Knitting Gals – Second Thursdays and Fourth Wednesdays @ 11:00 am</p> <p>Richmond Emmaus Board Meeting - RM2 – Second Saturdays @ 4:00 pm</p> | | | <p>1</p> <p>10am - Village Sandwich Crew</p> <p>11am - Kingdom Seekers - Rm.2</p> <p>6:30 pm - Prayer Service</p> | <p>2</p> | <p>3</p> | <p>4</p> <p>7am - Men's Alliance</p>  |
| <p>5</p> <p>9:45am - Sunday School</p> <p>11am - Sunday Worship</p> <p>5 pm - Men's Bible Study</p> | <p>6</p> <p>6:30 pm - Women's bible Study</p> | <p>7</p> | <p>8</p> <p>11am - Kingdom Seekers - Rm.2</p> <p>6:30 pm - Prayer Service</p> <p>7:30 pm - Praise Team Practice</p> | <p>9</p> <p>6:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>7:30 pm - Handbell</p> | <p>10</p> | <p>11</p> <p>7am - Men's Alliance</p> |
| <p>12</p> <p>9:00 am - Sunday School</p> <p>10:30 am - Sunday Worship</p> <p>12 pm - VBS Taco fundraiser</p> <p>1 pm - Youth Kick off</p> <p>5 pm - Men's Bible</p> | <p>13</p> <p>6:30 pm - Women's bible Study</p> | <p>14</p> <p>6:30 pm - Deacon's Meeting</p> | <p>15</p> <p>11am - Kingdom Seekers - Rm.2</p> <p>6:30pm - Prayer Service</p> | <p>16</p> | <p>17</p> <p>7pm - Gospel Music Night - Bill & Linda Lewis</p> | <p>18</p> <p>7am - Men's Alliance</p> <p>10am - Women's Ministry Lunch</p> |
| <p>19</p> <p>9:00 am- Sunday School</p> <p>10:30 am - Sunday Worship</p> <p>12:30 - Youth Group</p> <p>5 pm - Men's Bible Study</p> | <p>20</p> <p>"Newsletter Deadline"</p> <p>6:30 pm - Women's bible Study</p> | <p>21</p> <p>7 pm - Administrative Council</p> | <p>22</p> <p>11am - Kingdom Seekers - Rm 2</p> <p>6:30pm Prayer Service</p> | <p>23</p> <p>6:15 pm - Handbell Rehearsal</p> <p>7 pm - Christmas in July (Community Choir)</p> | <p>24</p> <p>6:30 pm - Shabbat with Aliyah</p> | <p>25</p> <p>7am - Men's Alliance</p> |
| <p>26</p> <p>9:00 am - Sunday School</p> <p>10:30 am - Sunday Worship-</p> <p>5 pm - Men's Bible Study</p> | <p>27</p> <p>6:30 pm - Women's bible Study</p> | <p>28</p>  | | <p>29</p> <p>11am - Kingdom Seekers - Rm 2</p> | <p>30</p> | <p>31</p> |