

# THE WINDOW

*The Baptist Church of Beaufort Monthly Newsletter*

## What Exactly Is This Stephen Ministry We've Been Hearing About?



Stephen Ministry is lay caring ministry. Stephen Ministers are not counselors or therapists; rather, they are caring Christian friends who can offer a listening ear to help others through the tough times in life. Stephen Ministers are trained and supervised in their ministry.

What happens when you ask for help from a Stephen Minister? When you ask for help from a Stephen Minister, a Stephen Leader will contact you to talk more about Stephen Ministry and what it can mean to you. If your needs can be best served by a Stephen Minister, you will be matched with someone who will support you through a tough time.

Confidentiality is a top priority for Stephen Ministers. You do not need to be concerned that other people will discover what you talk about with your Stephen Minister. In addition, this is a free service.

When do we need God's love most? Of course we need that love every second of our lives. But at times God's love is especially precious to us... times when we lose a loved one, or when life becomes so confusing that we do not know where to turn, or when life just becomes meaningless.

**At times like these, it is very important to have someone who cares. Our congregation is committed to providing care to those who need it. Simply call our church office (843-524-3197) to inquire about receiving a Stephen Minister's care!**

# Deacon Confirmation

## Deacon Slate Confirmation Vote: Donald Gruel, Church Moderator

On Sunday, July 19, church members will have the opportunity to vote for the deacon slate for the upcoming year. This slate includes Huett Bishop, Rebecca Cooper (one year term), Katie Howell, John Lesesne, Doug Moss, and Mary Rich. Discussions have taken place as to how best to vote, and it has been determined that since there is a slate of 6 to fill 6 vacancies that the vote will take place by acclamation and not a paper ballot. At the end of both the 9:00 am and 11:00 am worship service, a special called business meeting will take place in which eligible voting members (age 18 and over) will cast a yes vote or no vote by the uplifted hand. We do not want to exclude those members that are unable to attend or feel more comfortable worshipping from home from voting. Therefore, we will waive the requirement that a member must be in attendance to cast a vote. Members unable to attend the service on Sunday, July 19 will have until 5:00 PM on Tuesday, July 21 to call the church office (843-524-3197) to register a yes or no vote. Please note that you will need to give your name so that we can confirm that you are eligible to vote. Thank you for your understanding as we continue to navigate this season.

## Thank You For Giving!

Thank you for continuing to support the work of Christ's Church by giving your tithes and offerings each week. If you are not gathering for in-person worship each week, remember you can continue to drop your tithes and offerings off at the church office or mail your offerings to the church. Online giving at BCOB is also secure and easy to do! If you have questions or need assistance, please contact La Vone Cording in the church office (843-524-3197). Thank you for continuing to support the work and ministry of BCOB.

Give online at [bcob.org/give](https://bcob.org/give).



## Keep the Family Connected

Church members are encouraged to continue reaching out to one another by phone and through email during this season of social distancing. Reach out to individuals in your Sunday School class. Call team and or committee members you serve with to see how they are doing. Pay special attention to our senior adults by calling on the phone just to chat and check-in on them. Contact the church office and let us know how we can best minister to you and your family during this time.



## Help Wanted!



BCOB is searching for a permanent part-time receptionist who is a non-member of BCOB. If you know someone seeking employment who might be a good fit for the position then please ask them to contact Mary Rich, Personnel Chair, at 704-562-0551 for more information. Resumes can be sent to [marymacrich@gmail.com](mailto:marymacrich@gmail.com)

## Online Devotions

Visit [www.d365.org](http://www.d365.org) for an online devotional each day. Passport Youth Camps provide this online devotional.



## Prayer Requests

Please let us know how to pray for you during this season. If you want your request (name only) included on the public BCOB Prayer List, then please state in the email to add the name (with permission) to the public Prayer List.

Please email prayer concerns to [pray@bcob.org](mailto:pray@bcob.org).



## July Birthday List

- July 1st** Lin McDougall, Kimberly Yawn
- July 2nd** Deborah Larsen, Melissa Beere
- July 4th** Geraldine Brewton
- July 5th** Frances Rabon
- July 7th** Kay Fugate
- July 8th** Peggy Gay, Linda Canaday, Luke Newton
- July 11th** Henry Jackson, Glenda Norris
- July 15th** Shirley Mixson
- July 17th** James Quandahl
- July 18th** Tony Bush, John Barton
- July 19th** Amber Bryson
- July 20th** David Duggar, Steve Curless
- July 21st** Herman Smith, Judy Hennen
- July 22nd** Thomas Woods
- July 23rd** Sandy Click, Landon Collins
- July 24th** Michael Moody, Miranda Moss
- July 26th** Maxine Greco, Paul Infinger
- July 27th** Jennie Ihly, Lowell Keene
- July 28th** Pam Baxley
- July 29th** Charley Rucker, Mary Smith, Beth Haverfield, Joseph Matalik
- July 30th** Jeffrey Kolb
- July 31st** Grady Thames

# Jasmine, Honeysuckle, and Gardenias Smelling Sweeter

Church fellowships, dinners, summer camps, and gathering for messy/water Youth games are non-existent right now. However, an increased focus on our relationship with God has occurred as we discover the gift of less rushing around. Individuals have more time to spend opening and reading their Bibles rather than driving 20 minutes to church and 20 minutes home from a Bible study. Perhaps our spiritual lives are being strengthened as we shifted to online worship and new platforms to meet from home. BCOB's Facebook "views" of online worship show an uptick in attendance. New faces are joining Zoom gatherings to learn and grow. Old faces are reappearing, which brings a sense of joy.

There are things we are missing due to the coronavirus, yet the experience of really having some "alone" moments has been healthy. Getting back in our regular pews will come. In the meantime, our current reaction of phoning the lonely, delivering meals, shopping for senior adult groceries, writing letters/cards, and assisting others with technology feels just as holy as our Sanctuary.

The BCOB congregation's creativity has improved as we support our community. We are recognizing in new ways how much ALL people matter. The changes and shutdowns due to coronavirus have helped us realize with a clearer lens to be courageous and try something new.

Certainly, music is such an essential and traditional part of worship for many of us. The suspension of choir practice and congregational singing is almost like God has provided a timeout for us to go outdoors and sing in our yards and as we walk. Inhale. Exhale without your mask. Allow your voice, heart, and soul to pray and sing. Didn't you notice the jasmine, honeysuckle, and gardenias smelled a bit sweeter this Spring? What a blessed fragrance!

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The Window published on July 1, 2020 by The Baptist Church of Beaufort  
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Rev. Landon Collins, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Jeff Pethel, Associate Pastor in Family Ministries  
Allison Sherwood, Minister of Music & Worship Arts  
Josh Wall, Organist  
Kelly Zytynski, Director of Children's Ministry  
Yvonne Vicuna, Director of The Child Enrichment Center

If you or another family member is in or going to the hospital then please let us know in the church office by calling 843-524-3197. You can also share this information with the "Minister on Call" for the week. The name and phone number for the "Minister on Call" is published in the weekly edition of "The Happening" newsletter each week. Thank you for sharing this information with the church staff.