

BEULAH & MONTEREY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

e-Newsletter

OCTOBER 2026

Welcome Rev. Olivia Haney!



Beulah and Monterey Presbyterian Churches will welcome Rev. Olivia Haney as our pastor beginning November 1. Rev. Haney has signed a contract to serve a three-year term with our churches. As a contract position, the offer was voted on by the joint sessions of Monterey and Beulah (as opposed to a call to our churches which would have been voted on by the congregations).

Rev. Margaret Olivia Kincaid Haney known as Rev. Olivia Kincaid Haney or just Olivia, is a native Virginian who was raised outside the small town of Mt. Jackson where her parents ran a dairy farm. She was the youngest of 5 children, and grew up in Woodstock Presbyterian Church. She graduated from Mary Baldwin College and Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary and in 1985 was ordained as the minister of the Craigsville Presbyterian Church here in Shenandoah Presbytery. In 1986, she married John Hoover Haney (Hoover), who is also a minister in the PCUSA and currently serves at Fincastle Presbyterian Church. Together they have 4 children, all of whom live in Virginia.

Rev. Haney served in Craigsville until 2003, when she stepped back to raise her children and do part time ministry. In 2013, she was called as a Stated Supply Pastor to Mt. Carmel Presbyterian Church in Steeles Tavern, VA. In 2019, both Rev. Haney and her husband accepted the call of Transitional Co-Presbyters of Providence Presbytery in Rock Hill South Carolina and in 2023 transitioned to Co-Executive Interim Presbyters of Central Florida Presbytery. That call ended in April, 2026 and the couple moved back to Goshen, VA where they own a house.

Rev. Haney is looking forward to serving as the Pastor of Beulah and Monterey. She says “In speaking with the Pastoral Nominating Committee, you all have a great deal going on in Highland County and I look forward to walking with you all and seeing how we can serve God here and beyond our church doors and homes. As November 1 is a Sunday, we will all get to meet on my first day! Please remember to "Fall Back" as that is the weekend of time change!”

October Celebrations

Birthdays

October 2 – Mary Angela Moomaw
October 7 – Thomas Moore
October 8 – Angie Selmon
October 9 – Emma Herold
October 10 – Mike Bedwell
- Karl Sax
October 13 – Tomi Herold
October 15 – Sally Humphries
October 16 – Beverly Bradley
October 20 – Tim Allen
October 23 – Brit Chambers
October 24 - Tucker Mason

Anniversaries

October 6 – Donna Hooke and Roger Straub
October 7 – Claire and Erik Sax
October 22 – Fred and Linda Frye



Prayer List

Karen Hartman, Jo (Ann) Jennings, Gallan Malcolm, Mike and Lisa Jamison, Judy Skeen, Miles Johnston, Cary Johnston, Casey Ralston, Joe and Ruby Simmons, Miriam Helman, Carol Furr, Becky Magee, Ramona Arbogast, Marlene Reynolds, Ray Mueller, Bill and Mary Lou Cox.

We pray for healing, peace, love and a spirit of unity for our country and the world.

From October 4 - 25, Beulah Presbyterian will collect paper products (toilet paper, paper towels, Kleenex) for the Highland Food Pantry.



Monterey Presbyterian is collecting donations for the Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands. Monetary donations by check need to be made out to MPC with PCHH on the memo line. There is a list of needs and literature on the larger table at the back of the sanctuary.



On October 31, Protestant churches across the world recognize Reformation Day which marks the day in the year 1517 when Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses to the door of the Wittenberg Castle church in Germany launching the Protestant Reformation.

Reformation Day highlights foundational Protestant principles—such as salvation by grace through faith alone and the authority of scripture.

Leading Our Worship in October

October 4: Rev. David Hindman

October 11: Rev. Chris Scott

October 18: Will Cox, Lay Leader

October 25: Will Cox, Lay Leader



Take Note:

Saturday, October 3: A fundraising dinner to support Weekday Religious Education in Highland County will be held at the rear entrance to the Highland County School Kitchen. Serving time is 4:30-6:30pm.

Sunday, October 4: Beulah and Monterey will both celebrate Communion during worship. Beulah will also collect The World Communion offering.

Tuesday, October 6: Beulah Session will meet at 6:00pm in Beulah's fellowship hall.

Wednesday, October 7: McDowell Presbyterian continues to offer free community meals on a monthly basis. Join them from 12-2 pm on October 7 for felllowship and a meal. Eat in or take it to go if you are in a hurry. The church also appreciates volunteers to help cook, serve and clean up.

Gracious God of Creation,

Thank you for the gentle turning of the seasons and the quiet comfort of autumn.

As the air grows crisp and the days draw shorter, wrap us in your steady and loving presence.

Thank you for the simple gifts of this season: the warmth of a quiet room, the steam of a hot cup in our hands, and the beauty of a world resting under your care.

Remind us to slow down, to breathe deeply of your life-giving Spirit, and to find rest for our souls.

When the world around us changes, let us feel your unchanging love holding us close.

In your holy name, we pray.

Amen.



Thursday, October 8: Beulah Presbyterian Women will meet at 1:00pm in Beulah's fellowship hall.

Wednesday, October 21: Monterey Session will meet at 4:45pm in the Monterey Presbyterian fellowship hall.

Sunday, October 25: Monterey Presbyterian will host a covered dish luncheon immediately following worship service in the fellowship hall.

Saturday, October 31: McDowell Presbyterian will hold a Trunk or Treat event on October 31. Setup starts at 5pm. Children will arrive from 5:30 - 7:00pm. Participants are invited to decorate their car, dress up, and hand out treats.

Sunday, November 1: Daylight Savings Time ends -- don't forget to move your clocks back 1 hour!

Sunday, November 15: Mission Packing Party at Monterey Prebyterian - see page 5 for details!







"JOY IS CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS
AND EASTER EVERY DAY!"

Have you ever walked into a store and cringed when you saw the shelves filled with Christmas decorations and fall hasn't even officially started? Believe it or not, Beulah Presbyterian Women are already thinking about Christmas!

On Saturday morning, September 12th , a group of women from the Mill Gap area gathered to make Nativity figures. Using cones, wire, glue, tape, wallpaper paste, toothpicks, needles & thread, paper towels, fabric strips, a variety of decorative trim, yarn, string, sequins, beads, gold spray paint, and their imaginations, the women created beautiful angels, Mary with baby Jesus, and Joseph. Yes, we might be hurrying the season but our theme for the evening, "Joy is Celebrating Christmas and Easter Every Day!" makes us think a little differently about how we treat these special occasions.

Christmas and Easter are special times of the year, seasons set apart to celebrate Jesus' birth, death, and resurrection. Isn't it wonderful that we don't have to wait until Christmas Day and Easter Sunday to celebrate?! As Christians, we should be filled with the joy of the Lord each and every day and be celebrating the joy that He brings to our lives. Real, true joy comes from Jesus who was born in a lowly manger and later died on the cross to take away our sins so that we might have eternal life with Him. That is worth celebrating every single day!

Let our Lord and Savior be your focus every day. Be filled with the love, grace, mercy, peace, and joy that Jesus freely gives us. As the seasons of Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter approach remember that God wants to give order to our chaos, meaning to our activities, and calm to our heart. Wishing each and every one God's many blessings!

Monterey Presbyterian Church is giving back this holiday season with two mission opportunities on the same day!





Before Thanksgiving and Christmas, you are invited to provide supplies to help others, culminating in a Mission Packing Party with a provided lunch after church on Sunday, November 15, 2026!

We will provide materials and fill bags for Valley Program for Aging Services, as well as other friends and college students. We will also supply materials and pack shoeboxes as part of Operation Christmas Child to deliver great joy and the Good News of Jesus Christ to children in need around the world.

Here's how you can help!

1. Donate the following supplies as you can to Monterey Presbyterian Church:

For VPAS:

- Word search, crossword, and other like books
- Candy – peppermint, lifesavers, and chocolate are favorites
- Hand lotion
- Chapstick
- Granola bars
- Tea bags that are individually wrapped

For Operation Christmas Child – looking to fill a minimum of 40 boxes:

- Personal care items like combs, toothbrushes, washcloths, bandages, etc. (no toothpaste, soap, or liquids)
- School supplies like pencils, erasers, notebooks, index cards, calculators, markers, rulers, glue sticks, etc.
- Clothing like clothes, hair accessories, hats, sunglasses, flip flops or shoes, etc.
- Toys like stuffed animals, soccer ball and pumps, dolls, musical instruments, jump ropes, puzzles, coloring books, slinky, magnets, yo-yos, building blocks, etc.
- See a complete list here

You can also make a monetary donation to be used for the purchase of these items by the church.

2. Attend the Mission Packing Party immediately after Monterey Presbyterian's worship service on Sunday, November 15th (approximately 12:15pm) to fill the bags and shoeboxes with supplies, pray over them, and enjoy fellowship with a provided lunch.

For any questions, please contact Chris Swecker at chrissweck@gmail.com or 540-830-2016.



Church members enjoyed music, fellowship, and lunch at the 5th Sunday Hymn Sing on August 30.









Hannah & Samantha Meyerhoeffer have recently settled into college! Both would love to get mail from our community!

Hannah Meyerhoeffer (Averett University)
420 West Main Street
PO Box 246
Danville, VA 24541

Samantha Meyerhoeffer (Wright State Univ.)
1251 Springwood Lane 205B
Fairborn, Ohio 45324



Church members celebrated the 75th Highland County fair and the many opportunities to volunteer, serve, compete, and have fun together.



Levi Warner in the cornhole tournament.





Parade entries driven by Jack Herold and Fred Frye.



Cappie Hull & Linda Frye show that they've still got moves!



Chris Swecker poses with the barn quilt he designed, painted, and entered in the fair.



On September 13, we celebrated and gave thanks for Rev. Adam White as he preached from our pulpits for the final time. We are grateful for the gifts, wisdom, and fellowship he has shared with our congregations, and we are certain this will not be the last time we worship together.





Jack Herold looks on as Levi Warner is inducted into the National Honor Society on September 16.



Despite the rain, Karl Sax enjoyed his first football game as a member of the Bath County High School marching band. The band recently won three prizes in the Blast in the Draft performance competition.