

THE BEACON

October ~ December 2022

Benson Global Methodist

*Our Mission: Serving as a beacon for Jesus
Christ by believing and sharing His Love.*



MINISTRY STAFF

Billy A. Olsen, Pastor
Marsha Turner, Children's Ministry Director
Karen Hicks, Youth's Ministry Director
Melanie Leslie, Director of Music
Dianne Butler, Treasurer
Judy Johnson, Secretary
Lindsey McIsaac, Nursery Coordinator

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Office: 206 E. Church St.

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Benson, NC 275

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NEW Website: bensonglobalmethodist.org

NEW Facebook: Benson Global Methodist Church



BENSON GLOBAL
METHODIST CHURCH

January 1, 2023

Benson Global Methodist Church
P.O. Box 72
Benson, NC 27504

Keeping in Prayer

Nancy Allen, Scott Barnes, Bill Berryhill, Richard Braxton, Marguerite Clifton, Paula Daniel, Billy & Jan Johnson, George Joseph, Martha McLamb, Bobby & Evelyn Smith, Jaylen Stanley, College Students, all who serve in our armed forces. Those in the Medical Profession; those in the Educational System; our Stay-at-home Saints & those who do not know the Lord.

The finish line is the starting line is a short article that I wrote in the fall of 2022 that detailed the many layers involved in our leaving the United Methodist Church for the Global Methodist Church. Four months later, we are perched on the edge of making this denominational shift. What happens now?

We keep going.

Back in 1906 a Methodist named Barnabas Gaston Cashwell made history when he traveled from North Carolina to California in search of spiritual revival. Born in Sampson County, near Dunn, NC, Cashwell learned about the Azusa Street Revival taking place in a Los Angeles, CA, – considered by some to be the birthplace of the Pentecostal Holiness Church in America. Cashwell was determined to see if the Lord was behind this movement. What he found was a free mix of worshippers, black and white, filling the tent meetings to hear the preaching of the Azusa Mission preacher, William J. Seymour. Cashwell was convicted by the Spirit of God regarding his own bigotry and would kneel before Pastor Seymour for prayer while surrounded by other Christians, all of whom happened to be black.

As they laid their hands upon him, Cashwell, a lifelong racist, was delivered from his sin and found himself transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit's baptism. Cashwell returned home, and on December 31, 1906, he delivered a call to repentance in eastern NC that led to the founding of, among others, the Pentecostal Free Will Baptist Church. Until the time of his death in 1916, Barnabas Cashwell was a leading figure in the east coast's, early 20th Century revival movement. [Source: Dictionary of Pentecostal and Charismatic Movements, pg. 109-110 Zondervan, 1988]

What changed Barnabas Cashwell was his longing for the things of God and a willingness to submit his life to Jesus Christ. In Cashwell's case, *the finish line* – Azusa Street – was the *starting line* for a decade-long, Spirit-led, kingdom-expansion ministry that changed the spiritual landscape of eastern NC and beyond.

One hundred and seventeen years later, in 2023, the Holy Spirit who was alive on Azusa Street in California, is still making his advance on Church Street in Benson, North Carolina. In many ways, January 1, 2023, is a both a *finishing* and a *starting* line for us as a faith community. As a new congregation of the Global Methodist Church, we cannot look into the future and measure our highlights, but we can consider how God would have us to live faith-forward—the substance of things not yet seen but deeply believed on the front side of pilgrimage. Our church will begin our 125th year like it did its first year – with faith and hope for the days ahead.

We will meet. We will worship. We will serve and give and do the things the people of God have been doing for 2,000+ years. What matters most about 2023 will be the choices that we make both as individuals and as a congregation; our faith doesn't live in isolation from one another..

As your pastor, my hope for you is not unlike the hope that Brother Cashwell carried back to North Carolina from California over a hundred years ago. May the strength and certainty of the Holy Spirit, who kindled the hearts on Azusa Street a century ago, be pleased to light His flame within our hearts as well. He who has begun this good work in us will, indeed, be faithful to carry it on to completion.

I look forward to running the race alongside you.

Love always,

Billy A. Olsen

Executive Summary related to end of year Financials for the BUMC.

Contributions for 2022 were in line with the 2022 Budget

Contributions for 2022 were positive vs. Actual Spending

Due to number 2 – Excess Cash increased

The key drivers for the positive results were:

The Capital Campaign which supported the cost for 2022 Apportionments, and

The fact that Actual Spending was low vs. Budget.

It is important to note that Item “a” (Capital Campaign) will not happen in 2023 and Actual Spending in 2023 is a “To Be Determined” figure

So – we had a good year – but caution should be taken until we have a few months of actuals for 2023 - while realizing that there is no Capital Campaign in 2023 and spending is more likely to trend towards Budget than in 2022. This is opinion vs. Fact and as such is “To Be Determined” – but worthy of note given some concerns that were present in Q1, 2022 - which likely affected actual spending (Disaffiliation and Cash Flow)

Complimentary to above is the fact that the money secured through the Capital Campaign for Disaffiliation yielded approximately \$10,000 in excess of the final costs to complete the Disaffiliation process. A more factual number will be reviewed at the January 12th meeting.

A new checking account has been opened for the BGMC. It was populated with approximately \$50,000 from the BUMC checking account. Following the processing of all checks/payments made under the umbrella of the BUMC in December – then the BUMC account will be closed and all remaining assets will be moved into the BGMC account.

Complimentary to above is the fact that Dianne Butler has been working to establish correct reporting and management of accounts/dollars in an Operating System dedicated to the BGMC

BIRTHDAYS

JANUARY

1/2- Robert Ryals
 1/7- Stewart Gregory
 1/7- Mary Beth Raynor Massengill
 1/7- Cynthia Dunn
 1/7- Tom Sawicki
 1/22- Peggy Blackman Winbourne
 1/22- Jack Raynor
 1/22- Judy Johnson
 1/25- Matthew McLamb
 1/27- Jim Jackson
 1/28- Wendy Collins
 1/28- Ann Parrish
 1/28- Melody Irving
 1/30- Glenn Sutton
 1/31- Selena Hipolito

FEBRUARY

2/1- Tyler McDaniel
 2/3- Marsha Turner
 2/5- Casey Nunnery
 2/10- Joey Nunnery
 2/14- Martha McLamb
 2/16- Gracie Gregory
 2/22- Johnny Allen
 2/26- Mary Helen Sills
 2/26- Justin McDaniel
 2/26- Tyler Harrison
 2/26- Anne Graham
 2/29- Savannah Creed

BIRTHDAYS

MARCH

3/1- Anna Raynor
 3/13- Betty Aiken
 3/17- Teresa Raynor
 3/19- Eric Raynor
 3/21- McKinley Sills
 3/22- Chris Stephenson
 3/30- Lloyd Turnage

ANNIVERSARIES

JANUARY

1/4- Colon & Donna Davis
 1/17- Erasmo & Nancy Santamaria

FEBRUARY

2/11- Steve & Melissa Smith
 2/14- Glenn & Mary Ann Lee
 2/16- Tony & Cindy Barefoot

OUR NEW CHURCH LOGO



OUR NEW FACEBOOK COVER



OUR NEW CHURCH SIGN



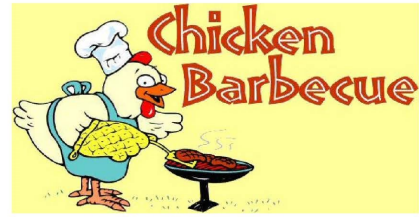
Filed with the Johnston County Register of
 Deeds Office on 12/28/2022
 and is now Public Record

NORTH CAROLINA QUITCLAIM DEED

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
 COUNTY OF JOHNSTON

THIS DEED is made as of the *13th* day of *December*, 20*22*, by THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE, SOUTHEASTERN JURISDICTION, OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, INC. ("Grantor"), with a mailing address of 700 Waterfield Ridge Place, Garner, NC 27529, to **BENSON GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH**, a North Carolina non-profit corporation ("Grantee"), with a mailing address of 206 East Church Street, Benson, NC 27504.

Benson UMC's Annual "Fall Festival"



Charcoal Pit Cooked Chicken

{Drive through / Take out ONLY}

Mark Your Calendar!

Saturday, November 5th, 2022



Hubb's Corn Maze dd not disappoint!



FLOWERS

FLOWERS FOR JANUARY

1/1-

1/8- Johnny & Susie Allen

1/15- Anita Aiken

1/22- Wendy Collins

1/29- Karen & Terry Hicks

FLOWERS FOR FEBRUARY

2/5- Jean & Mike Hale

2/12- Tracie & Jim Johnson

2/19- Nancy Santamaria

2/26- Suzanne & Steve Cook

FLOWERS FOR MARCH

3/5- Ricky Harrison

3/12- Sharon Stephenson

3/19- Jenna & David Collins

3/26- Tiffany & Jesse Fife

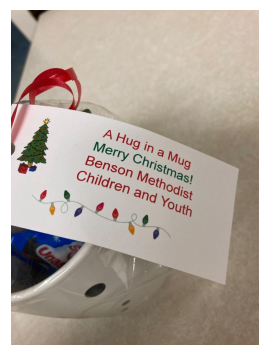
MORE CHURCH ACTIVITIES



Wonderful Worship Service today, 10/16/22, led by our young people!



11/6/22- Beautiful Memorial to all the Saints who have gone before us.



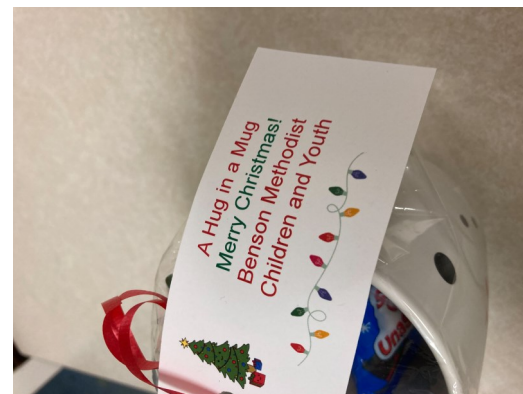
What an extraordinary privilege it has been to link arms with these daughters of the King over these past 8 weeks!

"Brothers and sisters, we are sent people because Jesus won! After all the suffering is over, after all the battles have been fought, after all the dust has settled, Jesus, who was sent by God, is still with us, still in the lead, still sending us out to welcome and advance the kingdom of God. And Jesus will not stop sending people like us until the kingdom comes and God's will is done on earth as it is in heaven."
Carolyn Moore, *Supernatural*, p. 152



Deliveries and Caroling

We love our seniors!!! Our youth and children love making and delivering goodies for our very special members of our church. In the fall, Russian tea was made and delivered to warm their hearts. During caroling in December, we delivered mugs with cocoa, marshmallows, and a peppermint stick to let them know how much we love them.



This week, the Nurture and Outreach Committee was able to show some support to teachers at Benson Elementary School and Benson Middle School by providing donuts, coffee & cocoa, and ice cream from Sisters II Ice Cream. We are grateful for every small and large way our teachers invest their time and energies into the lives of our children.



Parsonage Open House



The youth have been busy studying the word of God in the Old Testament in the months of October and November. We have seen how faithful Ruth is to her mother-in-law Naomi. Naomi was in a bad way with her husband and sons dead and history shows that widows were often ignored and poor. Naomi had no male relatives to take care of her but despite this she insisted her daughter-in laws return to live with their families. Ruth refused to leave Naomi and we watch the story unfold as God takes care of them. It's a story of friendship and loyalty and demonstrates true love during a time of desperation.

We continued to study Saul and David. The subject of friendship was covered in depth with David and Jonathan.

As we moved into the month of December, we looked at prophecy from the Old Testament and how it came true in the New Testament.

Karen



Hanging of the Greens Fun!

We had a beautiful time of worship this morning followed by awesome food and fellowship! Thank you to everyone who joined us and all the participants who gave of their time to make today's message in song and delicious meal true gifts of grace. A special thank you to Melanie Leslie, our choir director, who faithfully led our choral offering. We are grateful.

