

POLLOCKSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Sunday, July 30, 2023

***Leader in Worship: The Reverend Barbara Hager
Music Accompanist: Jennifer Miller***

311 Main Street / P O Box 205 / Pollocksville, NC 28573

www.PollocksvillePresbyterian.org

(252) 224-8181



The Session & Committee Chairs for 2023

Clerk of Session: Jay Bender	(252-224-6201)	jaybender@ec.rr.com	
Treasurer: Ron Pound	(252-638-8397)	ronnclbs@gmail.com	
Sheron Bender, <i>Child Care</i>	(252-270-9967)	sbww@ec.rr.com	[Class of 2025]
Shirley Bryan, <i>Evangelism/Memorial</i>	(910-581-6141)	vsb218@icloud.com	[Class of 2025]
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Jean Bender, <i>Christian Ed</i>	(252-229-6545)	jbbender2@embarqmail.com	[Class of 2024]
John Bender, <i>Worship</i>	(252-675-8431)	jmbender1991@gmail.com	[Class of 2024]
Eileen Griswold, <i>Stewardship</i>	(252-671-0391)	eegriswold@aol.com	[Class of 2024]
Ed Jekel, <i>Facilities</i>	(315-723-4422)	edjekel@quadlink.net	[Class of 2023]
Margaret Ross, <i>Fellowship/Cong. Care</i>	(252-670-8254)	adamandmargaretross@gmail.com	[Class of 2023]
Ed Valentine, <i>Missions</i>	(252-617-8278)	W2YPM@earthlink.net	[Class of 2023]
Presbyterian Men Moderator -	Jeremy LeRay	(252-474-7678)	jdleray@gmail.com

Pollocksville Presbyterian Church
9th Sunday after Pentecost

11:00 a.m.

Order of Worship

July 30, 2023

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (*Responsive*)

Leader: God has searched us and knows us.
God knows when we sit down and when we rise up.

People: **God searches out our path and our lying down.
God is acquainted with all our ways.**

Leader: Before a word is on our tongues, God knows it.
God's hand is ever available to guide us.

People: **Such knowledge is a wonder to us.
It is beyond anything we can attain.**

Leader: We cannot escape from God's spirit.
There is nowhere to flee from God's presence.

People: **Darkness is as light to our God.
God illuminates the way before us.**

Prayer of Invocation

~ Liturgist

*The Peace of Christ

Leader: ...The peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

*Opening Hymn

"God of Our Life"

#275

The Presbyterian Hymnal

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Forgiveness

Search us and test us, that all wickedness may be purged from us, O Creator. Save us from futile striving after our own advantage. Reshape our will to conform with your intentions for us. We confess that we have allowed weeds to grow in our lives. Our focus has drifted from the harvest you intend to the fears and greed that hold us hostage. Release us from bondage to decay that we may grow in likeness to Jesus Christ. We want to bear fruit for you. Turn us to the brightness of a new day. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of God's Pardon

~ Rev. Hager

If by the Spirit we put to death the misuse of our bodies, we will live. We are set free from bondage to death to claim the freedom of the glory of the children of God. Live in the hope God offers, waiting with patience for all that God will yet reveal. You will shine like the sun in the realm of God, who leads us in the way everlasting. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Anthem

Hymn Medley

~ Choral Ensemble

Prayer for Illumination

~ Rev. Hager

Scriptures *(See Insert)*

Psalm 86:11-17 (NRSV)

Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43 (NRSV)

Sermon

"Show Me A Sign!"

~ Rev. Barbara Hager

*Hymn of Response

"This Is My Father's World"
The Presbyterian Hymnal

#293

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. AMEN.

*The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. AMEN.

*Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

Offering of our Tithes and Gifts

Offertory

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

~ Rev. Hager

Thank you, O God, for the rich heritage of faith we have received from our ancestors. We are grateful that your Spirit is ever with us, assuring us of your acceptance and love. May our offerings share this good news with other children of God who have not yet discovered their identity. May all of us grow in righteousness that we might together experience the reality of your realm in our daily lives, here and now, and for all eternity. Amen.

*Closing Hymn

“Great is Thy Faithfulness”

#276

The Presbyterian Hymnal

*Charge and Benediction

*Postlude

Please rise in body or spirit / **Bold: Congregation Speaks*

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Welcome!

to everyone who is worshiping with us today.

Thank You!

Rev. Barbara Hager for filling the pulpit this morning!

Next Sunday, August 6th ~ Ken Yearick will fill PPC's pulpit



Communion, Sunday, August 6th ~ Morning Worship Service

Welcome back to the Reverend Barbara Hager

Rev. Hager was ordained to ministry in the PCUSA in 1982 after graduating from Princeton Theological Seminary (M. Div.) and Allegheny College (B.A.). She has served as solo pastor, head of staff and interim pastor in churches in Minnesota, Pennsylvania, Connecticut and North Carolina. She was also a practicing attorney in Connecticut for many years. She has substantive experience on presbytery Permanent Judicial Commission and Nominating Committee. She currently serves on the Bills and Overtures Committee of the Coastal Carolina Presbytery. She lives in the Myrtle Grove area of Wilmington North Carolina with her cat, Max. She enjoys reading, art galleries, and travel.



Prayer List Additions since 7-23-2023

Prayers for Ed Jekel - hip replacement surgery on Thursday, 7-27-23 (Eileen Griswold);
Lump on thyroid found on Jennifer and need prayers (Paul Miller);
Prayers for Travis & Kathy Adams, Rev. Collin's mother & father- car accident (Bob Mattocks);
Please keep Ed and Thelma Edmondson in your prayers; Prayers for Ms. Penny Bender;
Prayers for Our Nation; Our Military; Our Church; PPC Childcare.

Our complete prayer list is available in the PollyPress.



For Congregational Use: Lectionary Readings:

1 Kings 3:5-12 and Psalm 119:129-136; Romans 8:26-39; Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Daily Readings for July 30 – August 5 use the following web link:

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/worship/lectionary/>

USHERS & GREETERS

July – Rebecca Long and Diane McCaffity

Ushers needed for August and September – Contact John Bender if you can help.

Cell: 252-675-8431 or email: jmbender1991@gmail.com

2023 Guest Speakers for Pollocksville Presbyterian Church

August 6	(Communion)	Kenneth Yearick
August 13		Jay Bender
August 20		Dr. James Purvis
August 27		Rev. Dr. Thomas Murray
September 3		Rev. Dr. David Vanderbilt
September 10		Rev. Barbara Hager
September 17		Kenneth Yearick
September 24		Rev. Cynthia Williams



Announcements & Reminders

Sunday Mornings: 11:00 am – Worship in the Church Sanctuary & Streaming Live on Facebook & on PPC Website

Sundays at 9:45 am

Adult Sunday School – *Remember your Bibles!*

Children’s Sunday School at 11 am 6 pm Choir Practice



Wednesdays in August

NO Choir Practice

Sunday, August 6

Communion during Morning Worship

5 pm Session Meeting

Thursday, August 10

4:30 pm Childcare Meeting

Monday, August 14

7 pm Presbyterian Women’s Circle Meeting

Hostess Penny Bender – *meeting will be at Ms. Penny’s home*

Conclusion of this year's study on the Sabbath and the introduction of the upcoming study

Sunday, August 20

Hot Dog and Sundae Social - *see announcement below*

Sunday, August 27

8 am Men’s Breakfast – Team 1 – cook

Building Fund Sunday

5 pm Finance Committee Meeting

Monday, September 4

Labor Day – Church Office & Childcare Closed

Wednesday, September 6

6 pm Choir Practice to resume

Sunday, September 10

Congregational Meeting

1) to elect the at-large members of the 2023-2024 Congregational Nominating Committee

2) to receive suggestions from the Congregation for the office of Ruling Elder

5 pm Session Meeting



Sunday, August 20th



It’s almost time for our summer celebration!

AUGUST 20 - following the service

HOTDOG AND ICE CREAM SUNDAE...SUNDAY!

Put it on your calendar!

Hotdogs with all the fixings, and ice cream sundaes with all the trimmings!

Gather with your church family for fun and good food!

Sponsored by your Congregation Care Team!

Scripture Readings

Psalm 86:11-17 (NRSV)

¹¹ Teach me your way, O LORD, that I may walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart to revere your name. ¹² I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify your name forever. ¹³ For great is your steadfast love toward me; you have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol. ¹⁴ O God, the insolent rise up against me; a band of ruffians seeks my life, and they do not set you before them. ¹⁵ But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness. ¹⁶ Turn to me and be gracious to me; give your strength to your servant; save the child of your maidservant. ¹⁷ Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame, because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43 (NRSV)

²⁴ He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field, ²⁵ but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' ²⁸ He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹ But he replied, 'No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.' "

³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷ He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!