

## ***Bath Church Mouse***

**Bath Presbyterian Church  
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April 2018

### **From the Pastor's Desk**

Easter blessings Bath Church family,

We are an Easter people! This means we believe in rebirth, new beginnings, forgiveness and Christian community. A goal Session set at our retreat last summer was to have more opportunities for fellowship and community outside of worship gatherings. Spring is a great time to blossom these events.

There are two things we'll be trying coming soon. First, an online book discussion. We'll be using the book "A Bigger Table (building messy, authentic and hopeful spiritual community)" by John Pavlovitz. Each week, participants will read 2 chapters and respond online with their thoughts, feedback and questions. I will begin the conversation each week and we'll create a conversation chain from there. How will it work? Will it work? I don't know! Risk-taking and adventuring together is a cornerstone of authentic community. After Easter, there will be a sign up sheet for the book. And we'll make sure instructions are easy to follow. Let's try it, together!

Second, we will be having a Bath family game night this Spring. Bring your favorite board games and snacks! I'm arranging a Bible and pop culture trivia game to be created for us. If you're not a game person, just come for the fellowship! The date will be announced after Easter.

We are a small church community. Rather than fight that and try to be what we are not. Let's embrace our small church culture and be

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connected, caring authentic community who enjoy one another and form bonds that will see us through tough discussions and unsure futures. The Spirit is alive and well at Bath Church, let's celebrate that!

Christ's Peace to you all,  
Pastor Emily

### **Scripture Focus**

April 2018  
Easter

I am the Resurrection and the Life  
John 11:25-27

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

Questions:

1. Jesus came into the world to give us life here and now, not just beyond death. What does resurrection living look like?
2. We see death all around us. How does resurrection life counter that death?

## Serving the Lord in & Through Bath Church

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Mission and Outreach•Finance/Admin

### **Clerk's Corner**

Session realizes a good way to live out being one flock is to strive for better communication. There will be a bulletin insert on the Sunday following a session meeting showing the action items from decisions made at session. Members are always welcome to attend the beginning of a session meeting to voice any concerns or ask questions. Members can also talk to a session member at any time, although it cannot be done anonymously. Session will continue to focus on ways to be one flock.

A new Bible Study will begin sometime after Easter using the book "A Bigger Table" which is about community building. Emily will lead six sessions which will be three chapters at a time. Emily has tried to find days and times that fit for the most participants to be involved with a Bible Study. Session suggested she try an email discussion group. Emily will email out information for discussion, participants response using "reply all." There will be a sign-up sheet with name and email address to purchase the book and participate.

The session minutes for February 2017 – January 2018 were reviewed at the Presbytery office on Saturday, March 3rd and found to have "no exceptions."

There will be a Called Presbytery meeting on March 27th at Memorial PC; Verna Drake will serve as our commissioner.

A letter was received from Barbara Williams asking for her membership to be removed from the roll of Bath Church effective March 1st. The

clerk called Barbara upon receipt of the letter. Barbara is happy at her new church, and her decision to leave has been years in the making. With heavy hearts session went along with the request to remove Barbara Williams from the church membership.

Becky and Steve Mast (who is an elder) requested their membership be transferred from First PC in Bellefontaine to Bath Church. They recently moved into our area and have already become involved in the life of Bath. The clerk has sent a letter to the clerk at First in Bellefontaine requesting transfer of their membership to Bath Church. We are blessed to have them both among us. Becky and Steve also donated a wheel chair for use at Bath. We appreciate their kindness.

The gift for the new EP, Reverend Terry Kukuk, was given to her when she began in March. A \$50 gift certificate to Olive Garden and a box of Esther Price candy was given along with a few other small items. We received a very nice thank you note from her which is on the bulletin board in the annex, and verbally she has continued to give her thanks at our welcome gift.

The clerk will be attending a seminar dealing with armed intruders on April 17th in Columbus. It is sponsored by our insurance company and ALICE. She will also be attending representation training given by the Synod on April 28th for the Presbytery.

Bank balances as of February 28th:  
Checking account - \$32,993.41; CDs - \$70,203.11; Money Market - \$15,342.29;

Vanguard Wellington - \$100,880.39; Total monies - \$219,419.20

Thank you to Sharon Cottrill for picking up two copies of the deeds to the church property which includes the large parking lot, church and area around it, and cemetery. They will be kept in the fire proof safe. It was not widely known that Bath Church also owns the cemetery next to us. The insurance company said they had never been notified of that and it had not been covered previously. It is now covered on our policy.

The following dates for communion were approved by session: May 20th (Pentecost Sunday), June 10th (Bath Church Birthday), July 15th, August 19th, September 16th, and October 7th (Worldwide Communion Sunday). The order of service has been changed to the Reformed Order of Worship.

Session now has a policy for electronic meetings. Although it is expected everyone will make session meetings and committee meetings, in emergencies this policy can be used. We believe the Holy Spirit moves among us when we are face to face in meetings.

Our insurance policy is up for renewal the first part of May. The clerk has been in contact with our account manager who sent some suggestions to us. Information about what is covered and what is not covered was shared with session. Session decided to raise our deductible from \$500 to \$1000 which will save us \$228 on the cost of our insurance. They also increased the medical expense limit up to \$15,000 per person for an additional cost of just \$6 per year. Furthermore, session increased our sexual

misconduct coverage limit from \$50,000 to \$100,000 which will cost approximately \$16 per year. Session was able to pick three dates where our coverage for theft of money would be doubled. The coverage would be for one week prior to the date and continue one week after the date. The dates will be Christmas Eve, Easter Sunday, and the first Saturday of November which is our Harvest Breakfast and bazaar.

Gidget Collins  
Clerk of Session

## **Mission**

Thank you to all that gave to the One Great Hour of Sharing. I don't have a total yet.

Thank you to all that prayed for the Kairos weekend or helped to bake the cookies that went in to DCI. The women were very moved by the paper prayer chain that represents all the people & when they are praying. They have trouble understanding why anyone would give up their time to pray for someone they don't even know. It makes a great impression for a loving Christian community & how they can make a change for the prison simply by praying for each other.

There will be a Mission Committee meeting April 8 after worship. Discussion items include Operation Christmas Child, money Ella raised for missions and Rescue Me.

This year, Catch the Building Spirit's Habitat house will be in Huber Heights on Shull Road. Southminster is sponsoring a panel build for the house April 28 and 29. The on-site build will begin May 26 and run through Labor Day. No experience necessary if you want to help.

Verna Drake  
Mission Session Elder

## Property

There will be a Spring Cleaning Day on May 5.



Sharon Cottrill  
Property Session Elder



## Women's Gathering

### APRIL WOMEN'S GATHERING NEWS

#### Monday March 12<sup>th</sup>

We baked 51 dozen cookies for the Kairos prison ministry.

#### Sunday March 11<sup>th</sup> + 18<sup>th</sup> - Spring Bazaar

All sale proceeds from the Spring Bazaar plus donations were given to *Heifer, Inc.* A check for \$400.00 was sent to provide flocks of chickens.

#### Monday April 2<sup>nd</sup> - Activities, 10am-3pm

We will enjoy a potluck lunch and work on crafts and missions.  
At 2pm we will study Lesson #7 of our Bible study.

# Bath Presbyterian Church

◀ Mar 2018		<b>April 2018</b>					May 2018 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
<b>1</b> Easter  Holy Communion  Valerie and Keith Q.	<b>2</b> W.G. 10 – 3 pm	<b>3</b>  Finance Meeting 4:45 pm	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>  Verna D.	<b>7</b>	
<b>8</b>  CE Meeting after worship Mission meeting after CE meets	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>  5:00 pm worship committee meet  Mabel G.	<b>13</b>  Ella	<b>14</b> Installation of Jeri Baker at Monroe PC 11:00 am	
<b>15</b> Session Meeting	<b>16</b> Pam Byrd craft group	<b>17</b> Clerk attending Armed Intruder Seminar in Columbus 9-1:30	<b>18</b> Sweet Communion Book Club at Faith PC	<b>19</b> Tom Hay from Louisville presentation of what to expect at General Assembly in June. Meeting begins at 4:00 pm.  Cupcake bake for Rescue Me.org	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	
<b>22</b> Earth Day  Youth Group	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Gidget at Synod training 10-2:00p	
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>						