

Bath Church Mouse

Bath Presbyterian Church
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From the Pastor's Desk

Greetings Bath Church Family!

Many of you have asked me to explain communion by intinction lately, so I wanted to start this discussion with all of you:

Intinction literally means to color. It was originally used in the Roman Catholic church to reduce spill and wasting of the Elements. It was also thought to be a more hygienic alternative to all the congregation drinking from the common cup at communion. Many Reformed churches currently use intinction because it encourages interaction during the communion celebration. Parishioners literally put their faith in motion by journeying with their faith communion from their seats, up to receive the elements. There is meant to be eye contact between those offering and those receiving communion to emphasize "Christ's body broken-Christ's blood shed, for YOU!!" It is intended to be more intimate and personalized than passing plates within the pews.

It is new, it is awkward...so, Worship committee will provide various alternatives to choose from in the future, such as individual cups and pre-sliced bread for those who are more comfortable with these options.

You are invited to step out of the comfort zone and be led by the Spirit into new unfamiliar territory with this practice. You are encouraged to modify the practice for your needs. You are invited to continue in dialogue with the Pastor and worship committee (Jeff, Gidget, J.O., Monica, Brad, Barbara W., Pam

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B., Sharon and Donna) as we explore Spirit-filled worship that honors our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

As a reminder and welcome...Please join us each second and fourth Sunday 12:15-1:45 in Bible Study/Book discussion. In April, we will be looking for the next book study; so if this topic didn't interest you, come be a part of choosing the next step!!

Grace and Peace!
Pastor Emily



Maundy Thursday April 13
7:00 pm

Easter Sunday April 16
Breakfast 9:00 am
Service 10:45 am

Serving the Lord in & Through Bath Church

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Clerk's Corner

Reverend Linda Niece, our Committee on Ministry liaison, attended church and also the March session meeting. We were pleased to share thoughts of how well we believe things are going with Pastor Emily leading the way. Pastor Emily brings fresher ways to spice up worship; we appreciate her knowledge and experience that she uses in our church; she is adaptive to connect with people and gets to know everyone.

When asked what there is to celebrate at Bath answers were: We are a close family church; great spirit for a small church; spirit-filled; mission work constantly happening, music program that is rejuvenated; enjoying the time, talent, and faithfulness of musicians; surge of visitors; there is a lot going on spiritually; good changes in worship, loving family atmosphere; members serving at Presbytery level, and good communication. There are so many positive things happening at Bath.

Larry Hollar, our Presbytery Stated Clerk, has asked Emily to be on a task force that would, when needed, address sexual misconduct issues. Emily is considering the opportunity. Since this is Presbytery work the time used on the task force would come out of her Bath Church time.

Pastor Emily will be on Study Leave June 7 – 14th. She will be attending a conference on "The Anatomy of Change." She will also be on Study Leave June 21-28 as she attends a Lutheran Conference in Wisconsin.

Bath Church received a "No Exceptions" rating once again for the 9th consecutive year during

the Presbytery session records review on March 11th.

Presbytery statistics for 2016 are as follows: Prior year number of members: 8971, losses for 2016: 890 (which include two churches and 172 deaths); there were 242 gains with a total active number in December 2016 of 8323. There are 4570 female members, and not surprisingly most of the members are over 65. Those involved in some sort of Christian Education are 2693.

Bank balances as of February 28th: Checking account – \$22,222.82; CD's - \$70,000; Money Market - \$15,331.96; Vanguard Wellington - \$91,772.27; Total monies - \$199,327.05.

Janet Miller will be setting up a Dayton Dragons day for Bath Church on May 26th at 7:00 pm.

The Worship Committee and Emily continue to try new changes in Sunday Worship. Bulletins have been slimmed down to be more environmentally conscience. Communion by Intinction, as is done in so many other Presbyterian churches, is being tried and receiving good feedback. Musicians and choir are planning new music all the time for Sunday services.

On Palm Sunday Sharon Cottrill will present a Lenten drama with the children. Maundy Thursday Service will be on April 13th in the Friendship Hall. There will be one Easter Service this year at 10:45am. Breakfast will be served 9 – 10 am. We are teaming with Central Presbyterian Church on our purchase of 60 palms for Palm Sunday, and 24 lilies for Easter Sunday.

Jeff Whitaker will serve as the commissioner for the called Presbytery meeting on March 28th. The meeting is to elect the Executive Presbyter Search Team.

There will be a Presbytery meeting held at Bath Church on May 9th. This is the first time Bath has hosted the Presbytery. Many folks are working diligently to prepare for this event.

Gidget Collins
Clerk of Session

Fellowship

Spring is here and hopefully warmer weather will be staying around for longer periods. Enjoy the beauty of God's creation as the grass greens and the trees and flowers bloom!

Several fellowship activities are coming up. Cookies and punch will be served after worship this Sunday to celebrate the baptism of Emmaline.

In April, Maundy Thursday is on the 13th and we will have a light supper in Friendship Hall before we celebrate the Lord's Supper. Easter breakfast will be served on the 16th from 9-10. Easter gift bags will be handed out to the kids after worship.

Looking forward, see Janet Miller to join the group going to see the Dayton Dragons game on the 26th. Play ball!

Susan Lockwood
Fellowship Elder

Mission

Let me "Thank You" for being the community that went into the Dayton Correction Institution with me. I appreciate everyone who prayed, bought meals, helped bake cookies and wrote notes to the women. This is all a way to show Christ's unconditional love for these ladies.

There were 19 hygiene kits delivered to Samaritan's Homeless Clinic. Clothes, shoes and purses were also delivered to Clothes That Work by the Women's Group.

The One Great Hour of Sharing will start April 1st & run through Easter.

Bless every one of you for your spirit-filled mission hearts.

Verna Drake
Mission Session Elder

Dayton was in the news recently. 27 people were arrested in Dayton during the First Four basketball games for **human trafficking**. The police say it is just as common on line as ordering a pizza. Go to WDTN for more details.

Worship

As in the past years, the Worship Committee continues to work at bringing meaningful worship experiences to Sunday morning. Along with the Sunday Worship Presbyterian bulletin liturgy, Pastor Emily is adding her own new liturgy, confessions, and special music to our worship.

The Musicians and Choir have introduced some wonderful special music songs, and continue to look for special music that enhances the biblical theme of the Sunday.

Sharon has a Lenten Drama that is part of worship on Palm Sunday. She researches in depth to find the right drama that is meaningful to the season. So be sure to attend.

On Easter Sunday, our worship service will be at 10:45am. Pastor Emily, the Musicians and

Choir are preparing a wonderful Easter celebration service for us all.

We have ordered 24 Easter Lilies to adorn the Worship space on Easter Sunday. After service, they are available to decorate your space; or better yet why not take 1 to a church member or friend.

A special "Thanks" goes out to our committee members that use their time, talents, and faithfulness to enhance our worship experience!

Jeff Whitaker
Worship Committee Elder



WOMEN'S GATHERING NEWS

Delivery to the *Samaritan Homeless Clinic*

We donated 19 hygiene kits, 2 new caps, 2 new pairs of jeans, backpacks, totes and used clothing. Many thanks to the person who made bags for future kits!

Delivery to the *Clothes That Work*

Clothes, shoes and purses were given.

Monday March 13th - Kairos cookie baking

We baked 48 dozen cookies for the prison ministry.

Sunday March 26th

A table is available if you wish to make a donation to the *Heifer Project* to honor someone and/or your *Secret Sister in Christ*. Cards will be provided.

Sunday April 2nd - Spring Bazaar

The Bazaar will feature Easter candy, Easter items and other bazaar items. All sale proceeds will be donated to *The Heifer Project* to provide

flocks of chickens. Cards will be provided if you wish to make a donation to honor someone and/or your *Secret Sister in Christ*.

Monday April 3rd - Meeting from 10am-3pm

We will study Lesson #7 of our Bible study from the *Horizons* magazine titled "Who Is Jesus?" We will learn how the four Gospel writers portray Jesus, plus how other faith traditions view Jesus. We also will enjoy a potluck lunch and pack the Bazaar items and work on our new mission - *Days for Girls*.

Kroger Reward Program

Many of us shop at Kroger and use the Kroger Plus Card to save money in the store and at the gas station. It can also be used to earn dollars for Bath Church – just for using the card. Some members have already signed up for the Kroger Community Rewards program. It will only take a few moments of your time, but will bring in mission dollars for Bath. Remember, you don't pay anything for this service.

For those who are already members of the Kroger Community Rewards program there is good news. As of April 1, 2017, we will no longer have to re-enroll our Kroger Plus Card each year to earn dollars for Bath Church. This makes supporting our church even easier. Members enrolled in the Community Rewards program can look up their most recent quarter donation earned by going online at: www.kroger.com/communityrewards.

Dayton Dragons Game Anyone?



May 26 7pm Game

Tickets - \$10 Contact Janet Miller

BATH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH April 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Val and Keith Q.
2 Coffee and Donuts Session prayer time WG spring bazaar	3 W.G. 10 – 3:00 pm Pam using F.H. 6 – 9:30 pm	4	5 Bill and Jo W.	6 Verna D.	7	8
9 Palm Sunday Book Study 12:15 pm	10	11	12 Mabel G. Jack K.	13 Maundy Thursday 7pm Holy Communion Ella becomes a teenager!	14 Good Friday Barbara W.	15
16 EASTER – Communion Service 9:00 breakfast	17	18 Donna and Brian S.	19	20	21	22
23 Session Meeting	24	25	26 Mouse Input due - Noon	27	28 Private use of kitchen during the day.	29
30 Book Study 12:15 pm	Notes:					