

## ***Bath Church Mouse***

**Bath Presbyterian Church  
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News Input to: Janetoptimist@aol.com**

December 2018

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

**Wishing all who read this newsletter a joyous Advent!**

Advent is a time of waiting and the building of expectation for the arrival of our infant savior. There are jokes among clergy of bitter battles between pastors and their congregations over when it is appropriate to start singing Christmas carols in Sunday morning worship. As soon as Thanksgiving is over, our decorations go up at home and the Christmas music begins on the radio stations. Yet, at church, it's a big tease for a few weeks! The sanctuary is decorated and we talk a lot about Christmas coming, yet we're very stingy with singing beloved carols until Christmas eve.

Fortunately, here at Bath, we have 2 solutions to all those needing a Christmas fix and a little extra holiday spirit at church!

#1- Adult Sunday School during Advent is discussing the origins of Christmas songs we're all nostalgic for. We are also sharing Christmas treats that are traditions in our families and sharing the memories these songs hold for each of us.

#2- All Thursdays through Advent (Dec 6, 13 and 20) at noon the sanctuary will be open and warm and I invite you to come join me in a time of guided contemplative prayer (quiet, reflective time) with an Advent scripture and prayer theme.

Adult Sunday School participants might even stumble across some traditional carols, that

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aren't actually ABOUT Christ's birth, and these will be used in worship during Advent, as we keep the season of mystery and excitement and anticipation alive. Delayed gratification is a deep spiritual practice that I would like to invite us all to explore together, especially in those frustrating times when we just wish we would start singing those joyous Carols!

Season's Blessings,  
Pastor Emily

### **Annual Bath Church Christmas Luncheon**



**Sunday, December 16  
Immediately following Worship**

**Invite your family, friends and neighbors!  
RSVP to Susan Lockwood  
Sign-up sheets are on the table in the  
narthex.**

**Serving the Lord in & Through Bath Church**

**•Clerk's Corner•Property •Worship •Fellowship •Christian Ed/Media •  
Mission and Outreach•Finance/Admin**

**Fellowship**

The Christmas luncheon is coming up on December 16th and will start at noon, after the worship service. You will all have received an invitation and the sign-up sheets will be out this Sunday. Your family and friends are invited, just indicate the number coming on the sheet, so we can plan accordingly.

Thank you to Dan and his crew for the terrific breakfast they served up at the Harvest Breakfast. And thank you to all of you who donated the supplies and baked goods. Between 80 and 85 people were served.

A final thank you goes to everyone who has helped with the fellowship events this year. Your time and talents are truly appreciated. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas!

Susan Lockwood  
Fellowship Session Elder



**Women's Gathering**

Many thanks for the support from the congregation this year.

The Women's Gathering has many mission areas and we appreciate all your help!



*You are invited to the  
Women's Christmas Party  
December 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm  
Bath Friendship Hall  
Potluck Dinner*

*We will have a Blessing Tree  
You can help us decorate the tree by  
bringing hats, gloves, scarves or  
socks for the Samaritan Homeless  
Clinic  
Share the warmth of God's love!*



*Advent: A season of waiting*

## Looking at a Year for Women's Gathering

If you take some time to peruse a year's worth of Bath Church Mouse, you'll begin to notice what a dynamo Bath's Women's Gathering is. Looking over 2018's accomplishments, they supported the Samaritan Homeless Clinic by contributing almost 200 hygiene kits, 150 winter items and miscellaneous other needed items; helped Clothes That Work by gathering and donating a plethora of ready-to-wear outfits; raised over a thousand dollars for contributions to Healthy Women, Healthy Families and Breast Cancer Research; made and gathered items to contribute to the Presbytery of the Miami Valley Stitches of Love Network, and baked tens of dozens of cookies for Kairos.....and I probably missed something and this doesn't include any of December's efforts.

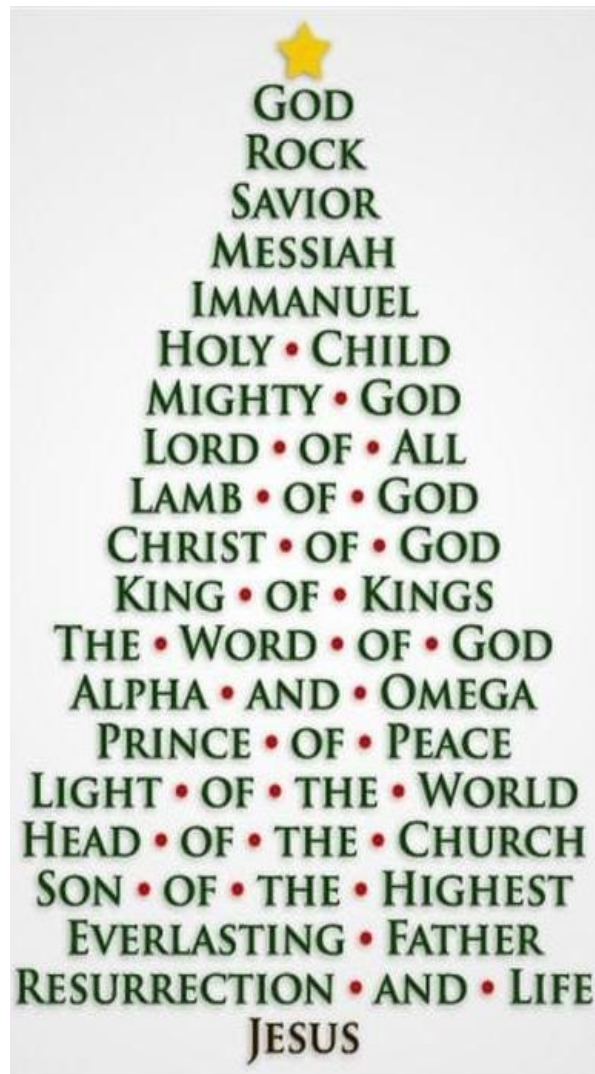
Think of all the lives this small group has touched in so many gracious, loving ways! Thanks be to God.



### Easy Christmas Greetings!

There are two convenient ways to share a Christmas greeting with your Bath Church family if you would like:

- 1) Bring your card and post on the bulletin board in the annex.
- 2) Use the card quilt near the water fountain.



# Bath Presbyterian Church

<span style="float: left;">◀ Nov 2018</span> <span style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold;">December 2018</span> <span style="float: right;">Jan 2019 ▶</span>						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b> WG @ craft show Tecumseh School  <u>Hanging of the Greens</u> 10:30am
<b>2</b> Coffee and donuts	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>  Sharon and Tim	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>  Norma	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> Session Meeting after worship	<b>10</b> W.G. Christmas party	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>  Worship Committee Meeting 5:00  Chris	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> Church dinner after worship WG raffle drawing	<b>17</b>  Hazel	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Military wives cooking in FH 12-3	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>  Barbara and Clyde
<b>23</b> Holy Communion	<b>24</b> 7:00 pm Candlelight Service  Aven	<b>25 Christmas</b> Emily on vacation	<b>26</b> Emily on vacation	<b>27</b> Emily on vacation	<b>28</b> Emily on vacation	<b>29</b> Emily on vacation
<b>30</b> Gidget pulpit supply  Emily on vacation	<b>31</b> Emily on vacation					