

Bath Church Mouse

**Bath Presbyterian Church
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February 2019

From the Pastor's Desk

Winter has surely set into Ohio now! For myself and many of my pastor colleagues, this is the first year we have ever cancelled Sunday worship services, not to mention two weeks in a row! However, the positives that have come out of this situation have been numerous. Many of us have spoken about being together as community even when the weather or our health or life situations keep us physically apart. We will use this opportunity to continue to explore what it means to be community together no matter where we find ourselves. We're experimenting with recording the sermon or parts of the worship service and distributing it to shut-ins and making it available to all of us who were not able to be in corporate worship for one reason or another. First Corinthians chapter 12 tells us that there is One Body but it has many parts and all of the parts make up the One Body through the Holy Spirit. This is our faith and we are working to find new and creative ways to live out our faith.

I also really want to encourage as many of you as possible to join us Sunday mornings in Adult Sunday School. Deb Hitchcock, along with Becky and Steve Mast led us in a fascinating conversation about anger, forgiveness and sermons this past week. Coming up, we are planning to have a Lenten focused study. Also, the first weeks of the month Janet Miller leads us in a class on faith and prayer across the lifespan. The community formed in this class has been inspiring and brought new life to Sunday school time!

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I pray you all are staying warm as we experience this frozen and exhilarating time of year! If the weather keeps us apart, we will still be One in The Spirit together.

In Christ's Peace
Pastor Emily



**Have you noticed our new sign by
the parking lot?
"Hate Has No Home Here"**

**By this everyone will know that you
are my disciples, if you love one
another. John 13:35**

Serving the Lord in & Through Bath Church

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Clerk's Corner

C.S. Lewis said, "You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream." I sit here writing this last article as clerk knowing that I am on a journey toward another dream, yet being clerk at Bath Church was certainly a special one for many years. Next month in this spot Ethan Johns will be writing to you as the new Clerk of Session. He agreed to do it with provisions that he only does the bookkeeping parts of the job. Other clerk jobs will be taken over by the pastor or other elders. I sincerely wish the best of experiences for Ethan as he begins his era as clerk.

The next Presbytery meeting is scheduled for Saturday, February 9th at Southminster PC. Ethan was elected to serve as the commissioner for the meeting; however all are invited to attend.

What does it look like to reach out to others in unique ways? One way is when session agreed to order ten extra Lenten devotionals this year and donate the ten to Rushsylvania PC. The church did not ask for them, but in conversation it came up that they have little money to purchase these things with only nine members. Session is modeling kindness and covenant to other churches.

Ruling Elder Rob Storm is the new COM liaison for Bath. His home church is Springfield Covenant. He and his wife, Lisa, have a 15-month-old little girl named Sara. He is COM for Bath, Faith, and Honey Creek.

Bank balances as of December 31st: Checking account - \$47,686.15; CDs - \$70,319.88; Money Market - \$35,358.38; Vanguard Wellington - \$98,277.09; Total monies -

\$251,641.50. Session agreed to change the terms of Certificates of Deposit from 12 months to 13 months for an increased interest rate. Thank you to Steve Mast for noticing this.

The internet service and phone service will be switched over to Spectrum soon. The bill will be cheaper than what we are paying now and the service will be better with unlimited internet and no overage charges. There will also be a digital information screen in the church annex soon. It will be located where the white board calendar is now. The TV will be used to show the month calendar, announcements, and any other information as needed. Photos and videos can also be shown on the TV as events happen. The church calendar will be moved to online Google Calendar. All will be able to view the calendar online, but only the clerk and pastor will input information on it.

Session decided to have Custom Home Elevator and Lift replace the old lift before it fails. The money has been earmarked for a new lift for a number of years. To be safe it will be replaced now at the quoted written cost of \$17,982 plus \$754 to remove and take away the old lift.

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Ephesians 4:32 Since I started serving on the pulpit supply list for our Presbytery it has been difficult to get back to Bath for session meetings from far away areas in the Presbytery. Susan Lockwood has consistently been kind enough to take the notes for me until I got to church. She has filled in as clerk pro tem for the congregation meetings as well. Sincere thanks to Susan for stepping up

and taking care of things time and time again, very graciously without any complaints.

Ella and I still maintain our membership at Bath. Pastor Emily has asked me to serve as pulpit supply while she is on vacation and study leave this year. Even though I am not at Bath all the time, I will be able to serve with you through the year. In many different ways each of you is responsible for the road I am walking right now. I do not know what the future holds, but I do know who holds the future (Ralph Abernathy).

Dear friends, may you be strengthened and encouraged always through the Word of God! May God bless you as you continue to live a life worthy of being called Disciples of Christ. Each one of you is a precious, unrepeatable miracle. As C.S. Lewis said, "I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen – not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else."

Gidget Collins
Clerk of Session

Mission

Sunday, Feb. 3rd is Super Bowl but at Bath Church it will be Souper Bowl because we are collecting soup & food items for F.I.S.H., Huber Heights Food Pantry. Come and enjoy soup instead of coffee & donuts after worship. We will be collecting the whole month since we were closed due to weather when we should have been asking people to bring donations. Food is always welcome at FISH but especially during the winter season when donations fall off. Come & enjoy the fun before the game and remember those less fortunate.

We are so BLESSED!

Verna Drake
Mission Session Elder

Finance/Admin

COMING SOON: New Digital Screen in the Lobby Session has approved the purchase of

equipment for a digital screen in the lobby! This equipment will ultimately replace the dry-erase calendar and allow for the display of church photos, announcements, and a new digital calendar. Additionally, moving the official church calendar online will allow for easier viewing and potentially integration with the church website.

Switch to Spectrum Internet and Phone

Session has approved a switch to Spectrum internet and phone service. Spectrum offers lower rates than currently paid with increased speeds and features. Internet through Spectrum will allow for greater usage and phone service should be clearer and more reliable. Installation is scheduled for early February with the church keeping its current phone number.

Ethan Johns
Finance/Admin Session Elder

Property

The lift that was installed when we remodeled the annex has served us well for many years. It has carried members and visitors to and from a multitude of activities and events. It is time now to say "Good-by".

While it has worked well for many years, it has become antiquated and new parts are nearly impossible to find for repairs.

Session has decided to act on a bid that will improve this situation. We are concerned for everyone's welfare and wish to replace the lift. Breaking down would present a situation of accepting higher costs, considerable inconvenience and the possibility of someone being hurt.

Instead, it was decided to replace the lift at this time. A specific date has not been set, but keep a watch for new developments.

Judy Morin
Property Session Elder



Women’s Gathering February News

Monday February 4th Meeting from 10am-3pm We will study Lesson #5 of our Bible study and study the strength of Esther. We also will enjoy a potluck lunch, decorate for the party and work on crafts and missions.

Sunday February 10th Ladies Valentine Party after Worship We will have a potluck lunch, reveal 2018 Secret Sisters in Christ and draw names for the 2019 Secret Sisters in Christ. **ALL** ladies are invited!

Clothes That Work delivery
In December, the WG delivered new and used clothing.

Goodwill delivery
In December the WG delivered used clothing and household goods.



Women’s Gathering Glove/Scarf Tree

December Samaritan Homeless Clinic delivery In December the WG delivered to the clinic: 26 hygiene kits, 31 hats, 27 pairs of gloves, 15 pairs of socks, 4 scarves, 3 new clothing items, 2 new blankets, plus used clothing and bedding.

January Samaritan Homeless Clinic delivery
In January the WG delivered to the clinic: 12 hygiene kits, 70 scarves made by the ladies in January, 3 pairs of gloves, 15 health items and used clothing.

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Prayer in Motion

Make me to know your ways, O Lord, teach me your paths. Psalm 25:4

The route you take on a daily walk or run provides a myriad of prayer opportunities. A spontaneous litany of gratitude is certainly appropriate, for a body that can walk, a place that is free of the threat of violence, companions in body or spirit, nourishing food.....

Just as God’s goodness overflows into our lives, share your spirit of thanksgiving with the world around you as you move from one place to the next.

Look into the faces of people you pass, greeting them with a smile or eye contact while saying silently to yourself “Behold the lamb of God.”

As you pass a school, lift up the students, teachers and staff.

Make each home a recipient of prayer, lifting up families and individuals, those in conflict or alone.

Extracted from Lord, Teach Us to Pray”
Produced by the Office of Spiritual Formation,
PC(USA)

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Way to Go!!

Congratulations to Aaron Sumpter (5th grade) and Aaden Sumpter (4th grade) for coming in 2nd Place in the Science Fair at Charles Huber Elementary School.

Bath Presbyterian Church

February 2019						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Records Review at Presbytery for the Clerk.
3 Coffee and Donuts SOUPER BOWL!!	4 W.G. 10 – 3 pm	5	6	7	8	9 Presbytery Meeting 9:00 am at Southminster PC
10 Women's Gathering Valentine Party after worship	11	12	13	14	15	16 Kairos
17 Session Meeting Roberta P.	18 Pam Byrd craft group 6 – 9 Duane F.	19	20 Sweet Communion Book Club at Faith Presby 6pm	21 Worship Committee Meeting 5:00 pm Caelan F.	22	23
24 Joint committee meeting for CE and mission after worship.	25	26	27	28		