

Bath Church Mouse

**Bath Presbyterian Church
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March 2019

From the Pastor's Desk

Greetings Bath Church Family!

The Lenten Season will start with an Ash Wednesday service on March 6th at 7pm. Come for your disposition of ashes. This will be a quiet service with time for personal reflection and conversation with God to discern if taking on/giving up something that keeps you from right relationship with God will be a faith step in your Lenten journey this year.

Please note that beginning in March, my office day will switch from Thursday to **Wednesday**. Office hours will be 9:30-4:30.

Many thanks to Clerk Ethan for taking the initiative and putting in the work of purchasing and installing the screen, DakBoard and Raspberry Pi that now allow us to digitize our church calendar! Please check out the new screen on the way in to worship. The screen will be constantly updated to reflect the vital life of the church and also to display the current Missions and liturgical focus at Bath.

The committees of the church are as follows:

Worship - Sharon, chair
Finance/Admin - Ethan, chair
CE/Media - Deb, chair
Property - Judy, chair
Fellowship- Susan, chair
Mission - Verna, chair

All committees are in a period of reboot and revitalization with the recent Elder chair shuffle. We invite you to bring your voice to the table by

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joining a committee. Give your input and your vision for Bath Church!

Christ's Peace be with you all,
Pastor Emily



April 5, 2019

6:30pm-8:30pm

**A fun night of skill, challenge,
laughter and fellowship!
Bring a game and a snack to share.
Drinks will be provided.
All ages are welcome.
Bring a friend or two.**

Serving the Lord in & Through Bath Church

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Mission and Outreach•Finance/Admin

Clerk's Corner

I want to begin my first Clerk's Corner by thanking you for the opportunity to serve as Clerk of Session. Without everyone's assistance and patience, I would not be able to accomplish this responsibility. Appreciation is extended to Gidget Collins for her years of service and help during this transition.

The official church calendar has been successfully moved over to Google Calendar. This new format will offer ease of access and sharing among Session and others. Additionally, the calendar can now be integrated in services such as DAKboard for our new digital display. Through DAKboard, the layout of the display can be customized and offers the potential for displaying videos, announcements, calendars, and more. Please feel free to speak with me regarding any suggestions you may have. Appreciation to the entire Haddox family for their assistance in installing the display!

Pastor Emily and Gidget Collins attended the February Presbytery meeting. During the meeting, the Presbytery voted on several proposed amendments to the PC(USA) Constitution. Additionally, a checklist was completed to examine the various ways Presbytery serves our church. I would invite everyone to examine this checklist and reflect on the various ways Bath has benefited from the Presbytery. You can view the checklist online at <http://www.miamipresbytery.org/pdf/clerk/2019/How-has-your-Presbytery-served-your-church-02-19.pdf>.

In the interest of safety, Session has approved a modification to our building rental/use policy. This revised policy calls for all groups utilizing

the church, outside of regular Sunday worship and ministry offerings, to secure the main entrance at all times. Groups are more than welcome to station someone at the entrance to let individuals in; however, this policy ensures no one is entering the church building without being welcomed.

Finally, throughout this month, Pastor Emily met with a potential new member! Session will be meeting with this individual on March 3rd and plans to welcome them during worship as a new member of Bath.

Cheerfully Submitted,
Ethan Johns
Clerk of Session

Mission

Thank you to all who shared soup both to the February coffee & donuts and to F.I.S.H.. We collected 193 cans or soup mixes. Becky has agreed to take over the card ministry: both by sending cards out to our congregation and recycling and selling cards to raise money for mission work. Hazel blessed us by leaving her collection of tools and displays for the cards. Kairos will be our next mission. The W.G. will be baking the cookies and there will be opportunities to support the weekend by buying meal tickets or covering the weekend in prayer. God is alive and working at Bath Church.

Verna Drake
Mission Session Elder

Finance/Admin

Bank balances as of January 31st were: checking account - \$41,241.81; CDs - \$70,331.83; money market - \$35,361.38; Vanguard Wellington - \$102,631.34; and, total monies - \$249,566.36. Upon recommendation

of the Treasurer and Admin & Finance Committee, our CDs will be moved to Wright-Patt Credit Union upon their maturity. Wright-Patt offers significantly higher interest rates than PNC and allows us to diversify our monies to an additional financial institution.

Ethan Johns
Finance/Admin Session Elder

CE/Media

Sermons 4 Kids is being used by Verna Drake for a lectionary-based lesson for the Children's Sunday School.

Adult Sunday School is using a variety of resources to create a lesson plan to encourage ethics-based discussions. Becky and Steve Mast have been providing leadership for the discussions.

"Were You There" by Luke Powery used for Lent in Adult Sunday School will start the first Sunday in Lent, March 10 through the season. Deb Hitchcock to lead these discussions.

Once a month Janet Miller is teaching a class about learning to pray from material from PCUSA called Spiritual Formation - "Teach Me to Pray". She has brought visuals, worksheets and interesting ideas for an interactive learning experience. We even had an opportunity to walk a labyrinth.

Danny Geis is leading a media (video) class and providing material from various sources for members who prefer a media-based class with some discussion.

Donna Swingley has done a great job keeping the website updated. The website will be having a few changes this month.

Pam Byrd continues to find and post thought provoking messages that we all look forward to

seeing each week. Feedback from other members is that there are people in the community that use Bath Road that look forward to seeing them also.

Janet Miller is doing a great job getting the newsletter out each month, again a communication we look forward to getting and can refer to for dates, etc. during the month.

Also - VBS will be June 10-13th at Faith Presbyterian church. We will be collaborating with Faith members to provide crafts, games and lessons for the Bible School. Please see Deb Hitchcock or Emily Haddox if you are interested in participating or more information about VBS.

Respectfully submitted,
Deb Hitchcock
CE/Media Session Elder

Fellowship

Something to add to your calendar: We are having a **Game Night** on Friday, April 5, from 6:30-8:30 in the Friendship Hall. Bring a game and a snack to share; drinks will be provided. All ages are welcome. Bring a friend or two and join in an evening of fun.

Susan Lockwood
Fellowship Session Elder

Worship

With Lent beginning on 10 Mar 2019, the Worship committee has selected to do readings again this year. With permission from Christian Publishers, the Bath Church Players will be performing "AT THE CROSS" by Bradley N. Hill. There will be readings each week of Lent including Maundy/Thursday and Easter services. The characters will walk from the pages of Scripture into the sanctuary to express how their lives overlapped and intertwined with

Jesus in the wake of his impending crucifixion. Each will tell of their feelings, skepticism, grief and how he affected each their lives. Please join us for these memorable moments.

For anyone interested in joining the Worship Committee, our next meeting will be on 20 Mar 2019 at 6 pm.

Respectfully
Sharon Cottrill
Worship Session Elder



Women's Gathering March News

Monday March 4th Meeting from 10am-3pm

We will study Lesson #6 of our Bible study and we will reflect on the story of the "Lost Coin" and that God is with us through our trials. We also will enjoy a potluck lunch and work on crafts and missions.

Monday March 11th- Cookie baking, 10am-3pm We will bake cookies for the Kairos prison ministry.

Sunday March 31st + April 7th - Spring Bazaar
All sales proceeds will be donated to The *Heifer Project* to provide flocks of chickens. A flock of chickens is \$20.00. Cards will be provided if you wish to make a donation to honor someone and/or your *Secret Sister in Christ*.

Have You Thought About Fasting?

With Lent starting, many consider fasting as a spiritual practice that affects our entire being, heart, soul, mind and might. Like any discipline of the spirit, it should be entered into prayerfully. This is a time of entering into deeper relationship with God, being changed by that

relationship, and then being sent out into the world.

It is important to recognize that there are no biblical laws regarding regular fasting. At the same time, Jesus seems to operate under the assumption that this practice is part of life; in Matt 6:17, he says "When you fast ..," not "if". Most common fasts might be considered partial fasts, in which there is a restriction of diet but not total abstention. How might you fast during Lent to strengthen your relationship with God? Choosing to not eat a particular food, such as chocolate? During daylight hours as Muslims do? A once a week liquid fast? Give up one meal a day and spend that time in prayer?

Prayerfully consider if fasting can be part of this year's Lenten practice for you.

Extract from "Lord, Teach Us to Pray"
PC (USA)



March Birthdays

Barbara Sumpter - 1st
Pam Bowen - 30th



March Anniversaries

Roberta & Bob Powell - 24th
Happy Birthday and Anniversary
and many more!!!!

Bath Presbyterian Church

March 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Kairos Meeting
3 9:00 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Called Session Meeting 10:45 am Worship - Communion 12:15 pm Coffee and Donuts	4 10:00 am Women's Gathering	5	6 9:30 am Pastor Emily's Office Day 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service	7	8	9 Kairos Meeting
10 9:00 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship	11 10:00 am Women's Gathering	12	13 9:30 am Pastor Emily's Office Day 7:00 pm Choir Practice	14	15	16 Kairos Meeting
17 9:00 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship 12:15 pm Session Meeting	18 6:30 pm Pam Byrd Craft Group	19	20 9:30 am Pastor Emily's Office Day 6:00 pm Worship Committee 7:00 pm Choir Practice	21	22	23
24 9:00 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship	25	26	27 9:30 am Pastor Emily's Office Day 7:00 pm Choir Practice	28	29	30 8:00 am My Brother's Keeper Mission Group
31 9:00 am Breakfast 9:00 am Women's Gathering Spring Bazaar 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship						