

## *Bath Church Mouse*

Bath Presbyterian Church  
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### **From the Pastor's Desk**

#### **Greetings, Members and Friends of Bath Presbyterian Church!**

Since I will not be with you all on All Saints Remembrance Sunday, November 4, I wanted to take this opportunity to express my appreciation and honor all of the Saints past and present that contribute to the mission and ministry at Bath Presbyterian Church.

*"I sing a song of the saints of God, patient and brave and true, who toiled and fought and lived and died for the Lord they loved and knew. And one was a doctor, and one was a queen, and one was a shepherdess on the green; they were all of them saints of God, and I mean, God helping, to be one too"*

I am so grateful for all the saints of the past who built Bath Presbyterian church: for those whose hands built the building, for those whose dreams inspired others; for those who remained faithful even when finances and logistics were discouraging; for those whose prayers uplifted and encouraged the physical building into being. I am grateful for the church nurturers, for those who caretake and make our congregation feel like family. I am grateful for the leaders within the church, those who serve on Session and help shepherd the flock. I am grateful to the saints who lead by example. I am grateful to the brave saints who step outside of their comfort zone and are open to the Spirit's guidance to bring the Word in worship and fill the pulpit with their unique gifts and viewpoints.

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*"They loved their Lord so dear, so dear, and God's love made them strong; and they followed the right, for Jesus' sake, the whole of their good lives long. And one was a soldier, and one was a priest, and one was slain by a fierce wild beast: and there's not any reason, no, not the least, why I shouldn't be one too."*

I am grateful for all the saints who work behind the scene at our church, who take care of the physical building, who come after hours to garden and care for the property, to those who clean and lock up. I am grateful to those who host gatherings, set up and clean up and cook food so that we might break bread together. I am grateful to the saints who care for the sanctuary in ordinary times and special seasons of the church, for those who bring flowers and set up communion and decorate for holy times. I am grateful for the saints who fellowship with one another to use their hands, hearts and creativity to keep others warm and comforted.

*"They lived not only in ages past; there are hundreds of thousands still; the world is bright with the joyous saints who love to do Jesus' will. You can meet them in school, or in lanes, or at sea, in church, or in trains, or in shops, or at tea; for the saints of God are just folk like me, and I mean to be one too."*

I am grateful to our saints who are musicians, who volunteer their time to lead us in worship

and sing in the choir. I am grateful to the saints who manage our church finances. I am grateful for the detail people who manage our calendar and coordinate our communications and our outreach. I am grateful to our saints who document our life and history through photography and record-keeping. I am grateful to the saints who teach Sunday School and fulfill our baptismal vow to nurture others in the faith. I am grateful for the saints who pray without ceasing for our church to thrive and be relevant in its ministry.

As we enter this season of gratitude, I am grateful for these three years I have been called to work alongside you beautiful saints.

Peace,  
Pastor Emily



## **Annual Harvest Breakfast, Bazaar, Bake Sale, Raffle and Flea Market**



**When: Saturday, Nov 3  
Harvest Breakfast 9 - 12  
Bazaar etc. 9 - 3  
Where: Bath Church**

**Invite your family, friends and  
neighbors!**

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

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

#### **Clerk's Corner**

Hear the words of thanksgiving and prayer from Paul in Philippians 1: 2-6. Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

The covenant contract with Pastor Emily for 2019 was signed by the clerk and pastor and will be turned in to the Committee on Ministry (COM) chair.

The session patiently worked through the 2018 Clerk's Annual Questionnaire (CAQ) and the results have been entered online. The Clerk's Questionnaire and Statistical reports are approved by session. Each year they graciously sit and answer many questions – some even asked twice!

Verna Drake will serve as the commissioner to the November Presbytery meeting which will be held at Central PC on November 10th at 9:00 am. Although there is only one commissioner from a church of our size, at any time anyone can attend a meeting (without voice or vote).

The annual congregational meeting will be held Sunday, January 27th following worship. Annual reports will be handed out at least a week prior to the meeting.

It is with a grateful heart that I am announcing my retirement as Clerk of Session at Bath Church. I will continue until February 2019, as I was elected to serve, and will attend to the Records Review in March. I'm currently putting a packet together to explain the role and responsibilities of being Clerk since I will be limited on my time for training. I've served on session since 2003, and Clerk since 2007, and both have been wonderful opportunities for growth, knowledge, and serving God. I've served through eight pastors, at least 19 elders, five financial secretaries, and four treasurers. That is practically the full membership roster. As you all know I am being called to serve in other areas of the church. I thought I would be able to continue my work as Clerk of Session, but now that I am on Committee on Ministry that will take up a full amount of time, along with my work on Leadership Council, CRE classes, pulpit supplying, and the team to form a Committee on Representation. All of this highly rewarding work and service began with my saying yes to serving on session at Bath.

At the August session meeting it was approved that Bath Church would pay for a third of the Midwest Ministry Development Services which is a requirement for me in my CRE training. The check has been sent, and the assessment has been scheduled. I sincerely appreciate the church support.

May your Thanksgiving celebration bring you joy and remembrance with your family and extended family in Christ.

Gidget Collins  
Clerk of Session

## **Fellowship**

Bring family and friends this Saturday, November 3rd, and enjoy a wonderful breakfast in the Friendship Hall with pancakes, sausage and ice cream! Then check out all the holiday crafts and flea market items the Women's Gathering will have for sale.

Don't forget to reset your clocks Saturday night as we 'Fall Back' and gain an hour of sleep. Coffee and donuts will be served after worship Sunday morning.

Sunday the 11th is Veteran's Day and you are invited to bring in photos of family members who have served in the armed forces and display them on the back table.

Brad Hitchcock is planning a Coffee House on Friday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of November. Bring a snack and beverage-if you don't care for coffee- and come and enjoy the great music.

Susan Lockwood  
Fellowship Session Elder

## **Worship**

We are in need of greeters to fill in a couple of slots in November and for the month of December. If you feel you would like to be a greeter and hand out the bulletins, add your name to one of the empty weeks. There is such pleasure in greeting folks on a Sunday morning. There are also some dates empty for flowers in November. Add your name to that if you wish to honor someone or in memory of a loved one, or

just because there is an empty date and you enjoy seeing fresh flowers.

Holy Communion will be served during the worship service on November 25<sup>th</sup> and on December 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Advent begins the first Sunday in December and we will be hanging the greens that weekend. Volunteers are always welcome.

Hazel Pomfret  
Worship Session Elder

## Finance

### 2019 Pledges

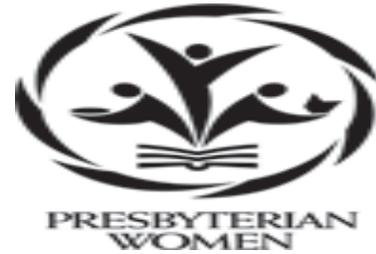
A special thanks to all those who have pledged towards Bath's operating budget and/or Building & Major Maintenance Fund for 2019. Pledges greatly assist Session in planning each year's budget. If you are still interested in pledging, please contact the Treasurer, Steve Mast.

Ethan Johns  
Finance Session Elder

## Mission

Our donations to the Huber Heights School District were received and appreciated. For a full list of the 860 items donated, see the list on the bulletin board with the "Thank You" note. Our November missions are Michael's House and the Giving Tree. More will be said about the snacks we will donate to Michael's House. The Giving Tree will go up about mid-November. Stay tuned.... The Spirit of giving is still alive and well at Bath Church.

Verna Drake  
Mission Session Elder



## Women's Gathering

### Sunday October 21<sup>st</sup> Breast Cancer Awareness Sunday at Bath

The Women's Gathering received \$269.25 in sales and donations for the *Breast Cancer Research Foundation*. *Secret Sisters in Christ* Mabel, Bella and Madeline were honored. Our prayer for our young ladies is that this disease will be eradicated in their lifetime! Becky and Pam were also honored. Memorials were given for Sharon's sister, Melanie Fella, and Verna's Mom and mother-in-law, Nellie Rogers and Ruby Drake.

### **Samaritan Homeless Clinic Donations**

18 hygiene kits, 152 new items for winter (hats, gloves, etc.) and two bags of used clothing were delivered. THANK YOU! We participate in this project throughout the year and donations are accepted at any time.

### **Other Clothing Donations**

Used and new clothing was delivered to *Clothes That Work* and *Goodwill*.

### **Saturday November 3<sup>rd</sup> Harvest Bazaar, Bake Sale, Raffle and Flea Market 9-3pm**

The WG has been busy this year making crafts to fund our MANY charity activities. We appreciate your support!

### **Monday November 5<sup>th</sup> - Activities from 10am-3pm**

We will enjoy a potluck lunch and pack bazaar and flea market items. At 2pm we will study

Lesson #3 of our Bible study God's Promise: I Am with You, the 2018-2019 *Horizons* Bible study. The study for November is "God is with Us in Our Discouragement." We will reflect on the celebrations of Miriam. COME CELEBRATE WITH US!

**Saturday December 1<sup>st</sup> Christmas Bazaar at Tecumseh School**

We have two booths to sell our crafts.



**Presbyterian Older Adult Ministries Network (POAMN)  
Regional Conference Summary**

A beautiful autumn day, a beautiful church, a beautiful group of people! Those words wonderfully sum up the POAMN Regional Conference in Columbus, October 12, 2019.

**Keynote:** The Reverend Ray Jones, Associate Director of Evangelism, PC(USA), stressed that the Christian mission is the gospel mission of Jesus which requires that we truly be one body in Christ. We need to acknowledge and strive to share the message that God loves everyone. This requires action including fixing what's broken and righting wrongs, such as poverty and structural racism, through justice. Our theology and daily life should absolutely line up.  
**Our goal: Be a church for all.**

**Workshops:** There were twelve workshops offered including Chris Pomfret's "Making Your Third Thirty a Great Thirty." Summaries of two that I attended:

"Digging Wells vs Building Fences Leads to Bearing Fruit," Rev. Ray Jones: ***The church is not commissioned to get bigger but to spread the good news.*** When the emphasis is on the mission of Jesus, a well is dug so that

God can gently lead people to his living water. If fences are built to delineate factions or choose the type of people wanted at a church, separation and division follow. We are to care for the least of these not just those like ourselves.

Ray also introduced PC(USA)'s "Vital Congregations Revitalization Initiative." The purpose of the Revitalization Initiative is to work alongside leaders of existing congregations continually assessing, discerning and living into faithful actions that increase vitality through intentional spiritual practices that take them deeper into following Jesus Christ, so that their own lives are changed, congregations are transformed and the mission of God spreads throughout particular communities and the world. Excellent stuff!

"Social Justice & Older Adults: Holy Moley! Or rather – Why I should Care about Poverty, Structural Racism and other Issues of Life!" The round-table led by Rev Rebecca Tollefson focused on methods and resources of addressing social justice. Social justice and spiritual formation are two sides of the same coin from the PC(USA) viewpoint. We need to learn how to live with differing opinions in a loving Christ-like way so that we are authentic in our Christianity which will foster love for all. One such resource discussed is the PC(USA) Office of Public Witness, Washington, D. C. The office advocates, and helps the churches to advocate, the social witness perspectives and policies of the Presbyterian General Assembly. The church has a long history of applying these biblically and theologically-based insights to issues that affect the public — maintaining a public policy ministry in the nation's capital since 1946. I didn't know!

Janet Miller  
POAMN Member

## Bath Address Book

It will soon be time to have a new Bath address book printed. If you have any changes to your address, phone number, or email address please let Gidget Collins know as soon as possible.

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Congratulations to Ella on being elected to Freshman Cabinet (Student Senate) at Wayne High School.

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## Sweet Communion Book News

Readers from Faith and Bath Presbyterian Churches have been meeting at Faith to discuss good books at 6:00 PM on the third Wednesdays of the month for about a year now. With the holiday season beginning and the time of Advent preparation near, the Sweet Communion Book Group will be taking a break during November and December. This break will allow us a time of renewal in which to regroup for the year ahead. Never fear! We will be back in the new year - January 16, 2019 to be precise - and invite everyone to join us to share good books, good food, good conversation and . . . sweet communion.

Linda Niece  
Reading Group Leader  
Faith Presbyterian Church

## Prayerfully Thankful, Thankfully Prayerful

As the holidays are rushed to us earlier and earlier every year, finding time to slow down and appreciate each occasion provides a challenge. Packed between the candy shower of Halloween and the pop of champagne bottles on New Year's, Thanksgiving affords a time to breathe deeply and reflect on all of the blessings which were given from God throughout the year. Showing gratitude to those around us is good and necessary, but giving thanks directly to God, our provider, in prayer remains critical to Christian life and helps us remember who He is and who we are. Creator, created. Parent, child. Shepherd, sheep.

### James 1:17 (NIV)

<sup>17</sup> Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

We are blessed to be able to commune with God directly, voicing our thoughts, listening with our hearts, and meditating on His responses. Prayer allows us to participate in His works, keeps us humble before God and helps us follow Jesus' example.

Help us, Lord God, to never lose our sense of awe of You or undervalue our special relationship with You whereby we can approach You in prayer.



# Bath Presbyterian Church

November 2018						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Emily Study Leave	<b>3</b> Emily Study Leave  Harvest Breakfast and Bazaar
<b>4</b> Emily Study Leave  Gidget pulpit supply  Coffee and donuts	<b>5</b> W.G. 10 – 3 pm	<b>6</b>   Dianna and Marc	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Presbytery Meeting at Central PC 9:00 am
<b>11</b> Veteran's Day	<b>12</b> Emily vacation	<b>13</b> Emily vacation	<b>14</b> Emily vacation	<b>15</b> Emily vacation  Military wives cooking in FH 12-3	<b>16</b> Emily vacation	<b>17</b> Emily vacation
<b>18</b> Emily vacation  Gidget pulpit supply	<b>19</b> Pam craft group in F.H.  Ann	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> THANKSGIVING DAY  Brad	<b>23</b> Coffee House	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> Holy Communion	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	