



*Growing in Faith • Sharing God's Love*

# What's Happening at Bluffton Presbyterian Church

## FEBRUARY 2023

### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

#### **Sunday, February 5 – Communion**

Pulpit Supply: Pastor Dave Good  
Liturgist: Chris Hochstetler  
Special Music: Don Brauen  
Sound: Mike Rhonemus / Camera: Tenna Rhonemus  
Slides: Julia Szabo  
Acolytes: Owen and Clara

#### **Sunday, February 12 – Cents-Ability Offering**

Pulpit Supply: Pastor Dave Good  
Liturgist: Carole Enneking  
Special Music: Choir  
Sound: Rob McGarrity / Camera: TBD  
Slides: Diane Winebar  
Acolyte: Bowen

#### **Sunday, February 19**

Pulpit Supply: Pastor Dave Good  
Liturgist: Lynda Best  
Special Music: Kerry Fremont  
Sound: Ryan Brauen / Camera: Clair Winebar  
Slides: Talavinias  
Acolyte: Avery

#### **Wednesday, February 22 – Ash Wednesday**

Bluffton Presbyterian Church  
Pulpit Supply: Pastor Dave Good



#### **Sunday, February 26 – 1st Sunday in Lent**

Pulpit Supply: Pastor Dave Good  
Liturgist: Julia Szabo  
Special Music: Choir  
Sound: Jeff Gillen/ Camera: Julia Szabo  
Slides: Cathy Carroll  
Acolytes: Paige and Morgan

### Mark Your Calendars!

#### **Sundays:**

Faith Formation 9:00 AM – Fellowship Hall

Worship 10:15 AM – Sanctuary

**Tuesdays:** Claralice Circle 6:30 PM – Fellowship Hall

**Wednesdays:** Choir Rehearsal 6:30 PM – Sanctuary

Feb 1 – Mission Committee Meeting 7:30 PM

Feb 9 – Deacons Meeting 7:00 PM

Feb 10 – Session Meeting 7:00 PM

Feb 11 – Lima Rescue Mission 4:30 PM

Feb 22 – Ash Wednesday Service – 7:00 PM

**Feb 26 – Newsletter Items Deadline to Cindy by end of day**

Weekly livestream worship is available on our [Facebook page](#) and later posted to our [website](#).



### Bluffton Presbyterian Church Bells

Have you ever been curious about ringing our beautiful church bells, but don't have a clue where to start? A 'Bells 101' workshop is being planned to introduce basic bell ringing, to be taught by Kerry Fremont. NO music background is needed and there is no commitment. If you can count, you can play bells! Look for more information coming soon.

### Annual Congregational/Corporation Meeting

The Annual Congregational/Corporation Meeting will be Sunday, Jan. 29 following morning worship. The Nominating Committee will be presenting names for the election of a Pastor Nominating Committee at this meeting. Copies of 2022 Annual Reports are available on the back table in the sanctuary.

## SESSION

### January Meeting Highlights

- Dortha Radabaugh passed away on December 29 – Pastor Dave Good officiated at services on January 7. Deacons served a dinner at the church following services. Kay Ziessler passed away on January 9 – no visitation/services at this time. Family very appreciative of everything church family has done for Kay/Owen.
- Approved moving forward to form a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) – Nominating Committee is asked to secure names of those willing to serve on a PNC with the congregation voting to give approval.
- Approved to modify Dave Good's Services Agreement with the following changes: 1) Extend the services agreement through Easter in order to provide continuity. 2) He will conduct 15 individual interviews as a debriefing on any congregation/pastor tensions - cost will be plus mileage (for 3 trips). 3) He will conduct 5-8 congregation visioning/listening sessions with small groups - (includes mileage). Both the debriefing interviews and small group visioning/listening sessions are tasks which a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) would need completed to be able to do its work.
- If the Transition Task Force is not successful in securing a Transition Minister to begin after Easter, then propose forming a group of 3-4 who would provide pulpit supply on a rotating basis – both Dave Good and Tenna Rhonemus are willing to be part of the rotating group. It is also possible that pastoral support services would be provided through an additional service agreement.
- Reorganizational items approved: elected Lori Schmidt as Clerk, elected Julia Szabo as Treasurer, elected Lori Schmidt as Presbytery Commissioner, elected Sarah Brauen and Tom Edwards as co-chairs for Nominating Committee.



## DEACONS

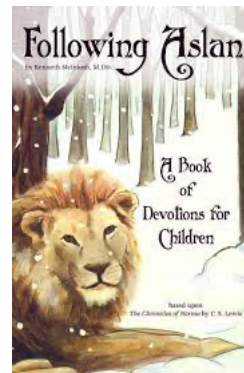
### January Highlights

- Reviewed Active Membership List
- Distributed Big Birthday Cards to appropriate Deacon
- Community Meal – February 02, 2023 – ham, green beans, coleslaw, rolls, pie. Tenna to get signup sheet for pies and volunteers.
- Update of members of Care Lists

### Community Meal – February 2

We are hosting the community meal on February 2 at the Senior Citizen Center. We are in need of 8 volunteers to help serve and clean up. We are also seeking donations of 12-14 pies. Our pies have quite a following! There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the sanctuary, or contact Tenna Rhonemus, if you are willing to help. Thank you!

## FAITH FORMATION



### "Following Aslan"

The Faith Formation Class that meets in the basement began an eight-week series on January 8. We are using "The Lion, the Witch and The Wardrobe" by C.S. Lewis and "Following Aslan Devotions for Children" by Ken McIntosh during our time together. To paraphrase, Mr. McIntosh, we hope to interact with God via the creative ideas and images in C.S. Lewis's wonderful book.

Please join us for readings, movie clips, discussions, and other activities. A light breakfast will be served. It might even have a Narnia theme! If you are interested in being one of our readers, please see Sarah or Tenna.

### Released Time Walkers Save the Date

Remaining dates for "Released Time" Christian Education walkers this academic year are Feb 17, March 28, and May 2. Please contact Dick McGarrity if available to fill a shift.

## MISSION

### Fighting Hunger with Cents-Ability

The second Sunday of the month is the Cents-ability collection. The youth will be participating in the collection and making it a “noisy Sunday”. Youth of the church will be walking around the sanctuary with cans, shaking them and collecting from the congregation! Make sure to bring your spare change to help make this as noisy as possible!!



### Presbyterian Grave and Gratitude Offering

For 3 weeks in February, donations will be collected for the Presbyterian Grace and Gratitude offering. Our goal this year is to collect \$500 with plans to purchase resources. A community garden, emergency assistance grants, and winter heating fuel for refugees are planned to be purchased. The community garden supplies nutritious produce where it’s most needed, while providing employment and educational opportunities that nurture communities. The emergency assistance grant is for unexpected financial challenges that church workers may face such as bills after an illness or the expense of flood damage to a home. Winter Heating fuel is being used for refugees in Syria during harsh winters that last 3-4 months when fuel is scarce and extremely costly. 65 cents a day provides the fuel necessary to keep a refugee family warm for an entire winter.

### Little Free Pantry

- Jan 30-Feb 5 – Sarah Brauen
- Feb 6-12 – Carole Enneking
- Feb 13-19 – Jayne McGarrity
- Feb 20-26 – Diane Winebar
- Feb 27-March 5 – Sarah Noland

Please remember to donate boxed or packaged foods during the winter months! Thank you so much!

## LIMA RESCUE MISSION

Thanks to Don and Ryan Brauen for helping to cover January Pizza Night, and thanks for the donations from our church members. We were able to serve pizza, pop, chips, candy bars, and water to ~25 men.

The next Pizza Nights are February 11 and March 11. Anyone interested in helping or donating drinks, snacks, and supplies, please call or text Bob Hursh. If you donate money, please submit a check (memo: LRM) to the church office or give online ([www.blufftonpc.org/give](http://www.blufftonpc.org/give)). Thanks!

### Thank you!

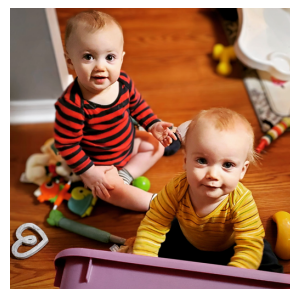
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To each of you at Bluffton Presbyterian Church who helped to honor Dortha Radabaugh:

We want to thank you so much for all of the ways you helped our family remember and honor mom. She really enjoyed her time at BPC.

The Radabaugh Family

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Thank you for the prayers and birthday card.  
Donnie Middleton

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Dear BPC Friends,  
We just wanted to let you know we are getting settled into our new home in Bloomington, IL and have begun our new call at First Presbyterian Church of Normal. It's hard to believe Anderson and Carson will turn one year old on February 1! We also want to thank everyone who contributed to the generous love offering we received upon our departure. We are so grateful for our time among you, and we wish you all the best in your continuing ministry.  
In Christ,  
Karol & Chris Schilling



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Thank you to all those in our church family that donated food, helped set up, served, and helped clean up for Dortha Radabaugh’s funeral dinner.

Thank you to all those in our church family that donated food, helped set up, served, and helped clean up for Gayle Marshall’s funeral dinner.

Deacon Cindy Gillen

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**Prayers of Joy**

For Mike and Tenna Rhonemus on the arrival of new granddaughter Elloise to Danielle and Cody Rowland.

**Prayers of Sympathy**

For the family and friends of Dortha Radabaugh who passed away on December 29, 2022.

For the family and friends of Kay Ziessler who passed away on January 9, 2023.

For the family and friends of Cheryl Martin who passed away on January 13, 2023.

For the family and friends of Gayle Marshall who passed away on January 19, 2023,

**Continued Prayers for:**

Those who live alone or in care facilities and are less able to engage in meaningful connections with others, including Jane Benroth, Sheila Hurlburt, Peggy Hursey, Ralph & Donnie Middleton, Ben Miracle, Hazel Rodabaugh, and Owen Ziessler.

Members and friends serving in the armed forces.

**We Pray for God’s Healing for:**

Dwight Nichols  
David Abell (Mariah Pneuman’s former son-in-law)  
Pete Amstutz (Gayle Marshall’s friend)  
Joel and Kelly Barnett (McGarrity’s nephew)  
Jeannine Basinger (Jodi Brauen’s mother)  
Shelby & Ryan and infant sons, James and Russ (Bev Begg’s granddaughter and family)  
Irene Cooper (wife of Jim Cooper, Presbytery liaison in Lima)

Jim and Judy Dowling (Tanya Best’s brother and sister-in-law)

Abigail Gwin (communications coordinator) and baby Aria Mae

Alva Hunt (Jerry Szabo’s friend)

Kira (family friend of Helen Hawk)

Rob Krupp (Don Brauen’s friend)

Maria Macias (Diane Winebar’s mother)

Bobbi Mueller (Darlene Hey’s daughter)

Brenda McCoy (Betsey Angus’s friend)

John McDonald (Gayle Marshall’s friend’s dad)

Michael Roberts (Jeremy Szabo’s friend)

Anessa Samsal (Mariah Pneuman’s granddaughter-in-law)

Jessie Spencer (Darlene’s great niece)

Joyce Suter (Nurse at Bluffton School)

Kelly Winger (Cindy Gillen’s cousin)

**BPC Prayer Chain**

If you have a prayer request, please contact Mike Rhonemus. PLEASE leave a message if no answer. Or call the church office with your prayer request, and we will pass along the information. If you would like to add someone else to the prayer chain, please be sure to get their permission first. Names and circumstances can be kept confidential, if desired. God knows for whom we pray. If you would like to be part of the chain or would like more information, please contact Mike or another deacon.

**Birthdays**

Feb	1	Dortha Radabaugh
	5	John Marshall
	7	Cooper Hochstetler
	8	Michelle Talavinia
	9	Owen Ziessler
	11	Ralph Middleton
	12	Samantha Rhonemus
	18	Jane Sycks
	24	Louis Best Clair Winebar
	22	Libby McVetta
	28	Jodi Brauen
Mar	1	Greg Culbertson
	2	Jane Benroth Emily Sycks
	3	Jacob Szabo

## FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP



### December 2022 - General Fund Summary

Balance January 1, 2022	\$
Release of Paycheck Protection Plan Proceeds into the general fund	
Receipt of employee retention credit Covid relief funds	
Offerings for 2022 received in 2021	
YTD offerings to the general fund	
YTD general fund expenses	( )
December 31, 2022 balance	\$

Thank you for financially supporting the church's budget!

### Updates on BPC Rebate Programs



Amazon has announced that it is winding down the Smile rebate program ☹️. The final date that your Amazon purchases will be eligible for BPC rebates is February 23. *Thank you to everyone who participated in the Smile program over the past year!*



Unlike Amazon, the popular local Community Markets rebate program continues to be a super easy way to support both BPC and our local grocery store! Simply drop your Community Markets receipts in the basket attached to the bulletin board by the church office or mail them to the church. BPC then receives a 1% rebate. Even small receipts are worth turning in; the combined total adds up. During 2022, Community Markets provided \$ of rebates to support BPC ministries!

*Many thanks and appreciation to Darlene Hey* who handles the Community Markets program for us!

### Estate Planning Reminder

Regardless of the dollar value of our assets, it is the responsibility of each of us to have an estate plan for the sake of our families and loved ones. Fortunately, this responsibility also represents a great opportunity to ensure our resources are used consistently with our values and passions - our family and loved ones, church, and other causes that move us.

The Presbyterian Foundation provides resources that explain the estate planning process in non-technical language. The resources provide guidance to ensure your plans reflect your values and the best interests of your family and loved ones, regardless of whether that includes a current or future gift to the church. The following link is to a brochure that is also available in paper form in the church office: [Composing a Legacy](#). Please contact a member of the Stewardship & Finance Committee if you have any questions. Members include Craig Bowman, Barb Fett, Dick McGarrity, Julia Szabo, and Clair Winebar.

During 2022, Marilyn Bullock and Sally Reeder joined other past members of the BPC family who expressed their values by providing bequests from their estates to support BPC's ministries. BPC cherishes the legacies of Marilyn and Sally, and we thank their families for supporting their decisions to provide a bequest.

### 2023 Per Capita

You are invited to help cover the per capita cost of your membership (General Assembly, Synod, Maumee Valley Presbytery) by making a special donation through our congregation as part of your stewardship practice. The 2023 per capita amount is per active member. Thank you!

### Volunteer Opportunity – Passing Offering Plates



We have a need for three volunteers most Sunday worship services to serve as offering plate ushers. If you would be able to assist, please sign up for a Sunday on the usher volunteer calendar on the back table in the sanctuary, or email, call, or text Clair Winebar. Thank you for your willingness to serve!

**BLUFFTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**112 N. MAIN ST., P.O. BOX 149**  
**BLUFFTON, OH 45817**

Sundays: Faith Formation: 9:00 AM  
Worship: 10:15 AM

**OFFICE HOURS**

Administrative Assistant: Cathy Carroll  
Email: [bpcbluff@wcoil.com](mailto:bpcbluff@wcoil.com)  
Office Hours: Tues & Thurs 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM  
Treasurer: Julia Szabo  
Email: [treasurer@blufftonpc.org](mailto:treasurer@blufftonpc.org)  
Communications Coordinator: Abigail Gwin  
Email: [abigailgwin.design@gmail.com](mailto:abigailgwin.design@gmail.com)  
Faith Formation Intern: Laura Irwin  
Email: [irwlga@bluffton.edu](mailto:irwlga@bluffton.edu)  
Organists: Jayne McGarrity and Sue Van Eman  
Choir Director: Linda Sycks  
Children's Church Leaders: Laura Irwin and  
Brooklyn Phillips  
Email: [pbrooklyn266@icloud.com](mailto:pbrooklyn266@icloud.com)  
Custodians: Chris and John Hochstetler

**2022 Church Officers**

*Elders on Session*

Clerk of Session – Lori Schmidt  
Buildings & Grounds – Dave Sycks  
Faith Formation – Dick McGarrity  
Fellowship – Tom Edwards  
Mission – Jade Hochstetler  
Nominating – Sarah Brauen and Tom Edwards  
Personnel – Lori Schmidt  
Stewardship & Finance – Clair Winebar  
Worship – Lynda Best  
Elders at Large – Sarah Brauen and Phill Talavinia  
Presbytery Commissioner – Lori Schmidt

*Board of Deacons*

Moderator: Chris Hochstetler  
Members: Cindy Gillen, Rob McGarrity,  
Jana McVetta, Tenna Rhonemus, Mike Rhonemus