

# What's Happening at Bluffton Presbyterian Church

Growing in Faith • Sharing God's Love

#### **DECEMBER 2021**

#### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, Dec  $5 - 2^{nd}$  Sunday of Advent, Communion, 3 Cents a Meal Offering

Liturgist: Lori Schmidt Special Music: Julia Szabo

Sound: Mike Rhonemus / Camera: Tenna Rhonemus

Slides: Julia Szabo Acolyte: Owen and Clara

Greeters: Helen Hawk and Chris Hochstetler

Sunday, Dec  $12 - 3^{rd}$  Sunday of Advent, Youth Service, Little Free Pantry Offering

Liturgist: Carole Enneking

Special Music: Don Brauen, Youth Skit and Music Sound: Bob Hursh / Camera: Tammie Hursh

Slides: Diane Winebar

Acolytes: Morgan and Bowen

Greeters: Lynda Best and Cindy Gillen

Sunday, Dec 19 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent, Ordination/Installation of 2022 Officers

Liturgist: Diane Winebar Special Music: Lori Schmidt

Sound: Bob Hursh / Camera: Clair Winebar

Slides: Talavinias

Acolytes: Avery and Aubrea

Greeters: Lori Schmidt and Dave Van Eman

Friday, Dec 24 – Christmas Eve

Liturgist: Sarah Brauen

Sound: Ryan Brauen / Camera: Clair Winebar

Slides: Diane Winebar Acolytes: Owen and Clara Greeters: BPC Young Adults

Sunday, Dec 26 - 1st Sunday of Christmas, Guest Preacher Tanya Best

Liturgist: Tammie Hursh

Special Music: Tanya Best & Lori Schmidt - Bell Duet

Sound: Jeff Gillen / Camera: Julia Szabo

Slides: Cathy Carroll

Acolytes: Morgan and Paige Greeters: McVetta Family

#### Mark Your Calendars!

Sundays: Worship 10:15 AM\*; Faith Formation for

All Ages: 9:00 to 10:00 AM

Tuesdays: Claralice Circle 6:30 to 8:00 PM

Dec 1 – Mission Committee 7:30 PM

Dec 5 – Baby Shower for Karol & Chris Schilling

following worship

Dec 5 – Blue Christmas Service, St. John's UCC

4:00 PM

Dec 6 – Faith Formation Committee 6:30 PM

Dec 7 – Pastor Karol leads worship at MMH 6:30 PM

Dec 9 – Joint Session/Deacons Meeting 7:00 PM

Dec 11 – Lima Rescue Mission 4:30 PM

Dec 12 – Congregational Meeting following worship

Dec 12 – Adopt-a-Family Donations Deadline

Dec 19 – January Newsletter Items Deadline to Cindy

Dec 24 – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 7:00 PM

Note: Pastor Karol will be away December 25-27 for holiday/vacation.

Livestream worship is available online on our Facebook page and later posted to our website.

\*Worship Protocols as of 8/16/21: Due to local spread of the Delta variant of COVID-19 and in accordance with CDC recommendations, the church is requiring that masks be worn for indoor worship services and other indoor gatherings, regardless of vaccination status. Please feel free to share any questions or concerns with any elder on session or Pastor Karol. We thank you for your cooperation in caring for one another in this way.



#### **PASTOR'S LETTER:**

The Advent...of what? And when?

Advent is this season of four weeks of preparation for the celebration of the incarnation, also known as Christmas, when God becomes enfleshed, as one of us, in the newborn baby named Jesus of Nazareth. But the first Sunday of Advent always reminds us that Christmas is not the only coming of Christ for which we wait. Our scriptures point us not only to the past birth of Jesus in Bethlehem, but to the second coming of Jesus – who calls himself here the Son of Man – at an unknown future time.

It's easy to get wrapped up in problems and arguments that leave us spinning in circles and accomplishing nothing, other than raising our blood pressure and increasing the polarizing divides that plague us these days. But Jesus warns us to keep our perspective on the long-term goal of redemption, over and above the day-to-day concerns of this world. He says, "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life...Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

Rev. Kathy Beach shares this on the meaning of the Advent season: "The good news of Advent is not simply that Christ is coming, but that his coming means we can hope, despite all that is falling apart in our lives, our communities, and the world around us. Just as the leaves on the fig tree offer hope in late winter that summer is coming again, so God's word, in Jesus, promises us new life. Advent offers us expectation and hope for something new. May we enter this season of Advent with a commitment to prepare for God's kingdom breaking forth, as we await the radical, earth-shattering welcome of the Prince of Peace—the little baby, and the risen Lord."

Look for the fig tree; look for signs of new life. Look for the hope of Jesus' presence that has already come, that will come again, and that is among us now, in the in-between.

In Christ,

Partor Karol

Lisa is a retired immunocytochemist and now Executive Presbyter of Cincinnati Presbytery. The following is her November 15 Love Note to her presbytery, which is applicable for our context too. "Now therefore, our God, we thank You and praise Your glorious name." ~ 1 Chronicles 29:13

Note from Lisa Allgood, Presbytery of Cincinnati

COVID cases in the greater Cincinnati area are again surging – last week Hamilton County alone recorded a higher number of reported COVID cases than most of the entirety of 2021.

Across the US, cases have risen 14% and 12% over the past two weeks, respectively. Some parts of the country, most notably the Midwest, are seeing increases as high as 60%, and the virus is surging even amongst the most widely vaccinated areas of the country.

ICU and hospital admissions are also increasing -85% of hospital admissions are the unvaccinated; 95% of ICU admission are unvaccinated. A rise in death rates is following.

Thanksgiving is next week, we are back to crowds in malls and gatherings indoors with the onset of cold weather – which also means we are back to unventilated dry hot air. Which means particulates travel farther.

While vaccination rates continue to increase, and the CDC will likely recommend a booster shot for all adults this week, we're still not near wide-spread immunity.

Globally we are at more than 255 million cases of COVID reported – and that's a huge undercount, since it's only what's been reported. The death rate globally is also undercounted: 5.1 million souls lost. In the US, we're at more than 48 million reported cases and close to 800,000 deaths.

PLEASE use common sense – masks should be required in all indoor gatherings, distance as much as you can, minimize unmasked singing (I know, Advent is coming).

Let's hold each other in the light...

Be blessed. lisa

# Season of Advent: "Living In Between" November 28 - December 24



#### Blue Christmas Service at St. John's UCC

St. John's United Church of Christ (223 W. College Ave.) will hold a Blue Christmas Service on Sunday, December 5 at 4:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend. The holidays can be a difficult time for many of us, especially those who have experienced loss or hurt. Many seek a way to acknowledge those experiences recognizing the depth of this season. This is a service of comfort which allows space to process any negative feelings that we might hold within ourselves during this time. When we do this, we can celebrate the season more fully, knowing we have acknowledged those who are no longer with us or what we might have left behind.

#### **MHCO Fall Newsletter**

The Fall 2021 Vine Newsletter from Mennonite Home Communities of Ohio (<u>www.mhcoliving.org</u>) has been published and is now available! <u>Click here to read the full newsletter</u>.

Highlights include:

- Reflections of Resilience and Hope
- A Word from Daren
- Donor Honor Roll
- Charitable Giving 2021
- MHCO Volunteer Request
- Financial Position
- Words of Encouragement and Thanksgiving Printed copies are available in the back of the sanctuary.

#### **Congregational Meeting**

A Congregational Meeting called for the purpose of electing a Deacon and approving Pastor's Terms of Call for 2022 will be held Sunday, December 12 following morning worship. Members may attend in person or via Zoom.

#### **Zoom Instructions for All Church Calls**

*To join on a computer, tablet, or smartphone:* Click this link: https://zoom.us/j/2693770575.

To call in on a landline phone or cell phone:

Call:. When it asks for a meeting ID enter: and then press #. When it asks for a participant ID, just press #. Note: You will be in the "waiting room" for just a moment before you're in!

#### **FAITH FORMATION**

#### **Presbyterian Youth Triennium**

Presbyterian Youth Triennium will take place next summer, July 24-27, in Indianapolis (for students entering 9th grade in 2022 through 2022 high school graduates). For more information, please contact Dick McGarrity.

#### Youth Group - G.I.F.T

Sunday, December 12 will be youth Sunday during the service featuring skits, songs, and readings performed by the youth! There will be no Faithline for December.

#### **Younger Youth Sunday School**

"Giving is Better" Sunday School Series for kids up to 6th grade. It will be held at the church at 9:00 AM and run until Christmas break. We will provide breakfast while exploring ways we can give to others during this holiday season. Contact Sarah Brauen for detailed information and carpooling to the church.

Activities include but are not limited to:

- Making hope rocks
- Holiday card crafting
- Used toy collection
- DIY Christmas gift
- Care package for someone overseas

#### **BPC Personnel Positions Available**

Bluffton Presbyterian Church is looking for a part-time Custodian (approximately 4 hours per week). Position would begin January 1. Please contact Pastor Karol or Personnel Chair Lori Schmidt by December 5 if you are interested.

After many years of faithful service, Kori Phillips and Shawna Anderson have decided to resign as Children's Church teachers at the end of this year for personal reasons. These are paid positions, and we are seeking to fill them as soon as possible. If you think you may be interested, or know of anyone who may be, please contact Dick McGarrity.

#### 2021 Advent Devotionals



Come to Bethlehem and Be Nourished: Advent's Hunger Gives Way to Christmas Fulfillment.

As we approach the 2-year mark of living in a COVID world, many of us have grown weary and are worn down. It's easy to relate to our biblical ancestors who experienced similar despondency and spoke of "walking in darkness." But we also remember Isaiah's prophecy that "those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them a light has shined." Yes, God promises us hope, blessing and grace.

Advent is a holy season to prepare ourselves for the coming of the Savior and the ushering in of this new world that God promises. It is also a time to recommit ourselves to building a community that cares for the unloved, the unseen and the unheard in our midst.

Building on these themes of hope and service, this year's devotional is a powerful and joyful tool for congregations, families, and individuals. We journey with the poet Howard Thurman through the many "acts" of Advent: faith, joy, strength, trust, and love. You'll find heartwarming stories, Scriptures, reflections and prayers for every day of Advent, the 12 Days of Christmas and Epiphany. If you delight in being prayerfully hands-on, we think you'll enjoy the recipes included each week. Readers are encouraged to serve others by baking and sharing loaves of bread.

You can <u>read the devotional online</u> or download a version that's formatted for printing: <a href="https://www.presbyterianmission.org/wp-content/uploads/pt-advent-2021.pdf">https://www.presbyterianmission.org/wp-content/uploads/pt-advent-2021.pdf</a>.

If you would like us to print a copy for you, please contact the church office.

We also have limited hard copies of these devotionals available in the back of the sanctuary:



For teens & young adults: Insightful, deep, gutwrenching (and sometimes silly) questions encourage you to journal your way toward the manger. Daily Bible readings are included, as are suggestions for journaling that include writing, drawing, doodling, dialoging, letter writing, crafting and getting out in the world and making a difference. Don't let the abundance of white space confuse you – it's meant to be filled...by YOU!



For families: A Circle of Love provides weekly Advent prayers and daily devotions to guide family prayer. The concepts and structure are simple enough to appeal to all ages, yet provide opportunities for families to discuss and explore God's messages of faith, hope, joy, peace, and love. Each devotion revolves around a seasonal item. The simple analogies help children explore the deeper meaning of these objects and reinforce the Gospel message every time they see that image. Also includes instructions to make your own Advent wreath.

To help sort out the jumble, stress and even pain that many experience around the Christmas holiday, these Advent devotions tie our daily concerns to the astounding promise that holds everything together: the Lord is coming! Touching the traditional bases in Advent – Isaiah, John the Baptist, Mary, the second coming—Hereth brings home the truth that our loving God was behind it all, just as he is present in our lives today.



Why Nouwen's reflections would be well-received in Advent is obvious: what frequently emerge from him are soul-searching expressions of longing for God – an apt theme indeed for the weeks when we renew our hope in Christ and strive to deepen our appreciation of the redemption of Christ in reconciling us to God.

# HIGHLIGHTS OF NOVEMBER SESSION MEETING



Month of October

Pastoral Care: 14 visits/in-person conversations, 17 phone calls, 20 greeting cards sent, and numerous texts and emails. On November 7 served Home Communion with Deacon Rob McGarrity to one.

Congregational Activities: Worship, Sunday Faith Formation, Who are the Presbyterians?, Claralice Circle, announcements email in conjunction with Communications Coordinator, GIFT Youth Group, Congregational Meeting, and committee meetings. Community Engagement Activities: Bluffton Community Preschool Board Meeting, Bluffton Area Ministerial Association Meeting, and Bluffton University Fall Play.

Presbytery/Greater Church Activities: Hosted MVP Elder Communion Training by Rev. Bob Butcher, Rekindle Youth Retreat Planning Meeting Zoom, Discipleship Commission Meeting Zoom, Louisville Seminary Alum Board Meeting & Reunion Zoom (Service to Greater Church) and Coordinating BAMA Community Thanksgiving Service.

- Approved electronically, Temporary Clergy
  Coverage Job Description and Temporary Clergy
  Coverage Services Agreement with Rev. Chris
  Schilling. Both have been forwarded to Maumee
  Valley Presbytery Leadership Commission which
  meets in late November.
- Approved calling Congregational Meeting on Sunday, December 12 following worship (in person/Zoom) for the purpose of electing a Deacon and approving Pastor's Terms of Call for 2022.
- Approved Personnel's recommendation that paid Medical Leave be granted to Custodian Roger Brodman for remainder of 2021. Gas/grocery gift cards were purchased for Lynda Best who has covered Roger's position since mid-September. Employee annual reviews have been completed.

- Lynda will recontact the owner. Permission given for Chris and Karol to paint the nursery at manse. Some blinds at the manse need to be replaced as they are broken church will cover this expense. Door handle on main side entrance has a broken spring Keith Sommers will be fixing it. Lynda plans to fix the ceiling tile in Pastor's office and repaint spot on basement ceiling. Person who removed our snow last year is no longer removing snow. Lynda is trying to secure estimates. Bushes trimmed at church and flowers pulled. One of the remotes for garage door opener is no longer working will be ordering a new one.
- Presently have received 29 Intentions to Give for 2022 totaling – increase from 2021 which had 26 pledges totaling. After reviewing proposals – decided to renew insurance (property and liability) with Church Mutual effective November 1.
- New camera has been installed in the sanctuary and training session for the video/audio technicians was held. Grace and patience as technicians learn new system. Previous camera will be kept and could be used for outdoor services, youth group, Sunday School, etc.

#### WORSHIP COMMITTEE

The church's new livestreaming computer program and camera are installed and being used. Online viewers, we ask for grace and patience as our camera and sound techs continue to learn this new system.

Thanks to all who helped decorate the sanctuary for the Advent and Christmas seasons!

#### **DEACONS**

- Communion set up and served for 60 people on November 7
- December communion date December 5
- December 7 Pastor Karol to lead a Worship Service at Mennonite Home. Serving Communion preparing for 35.
- Two gas cards given to person in need. Check given to help with unexpected expenses of another person.
- Discussion on additional calling/visiting while Pastor Karol is away on new parent leave.

#### **MISSION**



#### **Christmas Joy Offering**

This annual Denominational Offering supports church leaders – past and future! God has blessed the Church with incredible leadership in every time and place, but those leaders often need to be supported by their communities as well. The Christmas Joy Offering has been a cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s. The Offering distributes gifts equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. The Assistance Program provides critical financial support to church workers and their families. Presbyterian-related schools and colleges provide education and leadership development while nurturing racial and ethnic heritage.

Donations to the Christmas Joy Offering will be accepted through the year — either in the offering plate, through the church's giving page

https://blufftonpc.org/give.html, or directly through the PC(USA) website

https://specialofferings.pcusa.org/make-a-gift/gift-info/christmas-joy/ (if you donate through the denomination, please remember to include our congregation's name so the donation will be included in our total). Thank you for your support – if we all do a little, it adds up to a lot!

#### Join the Mission Committee!

Monthly meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month at 7:30 PM in the basement fellowship hall or contact Carole Enneking, Lynda Best, or Sue Van Eman for more information.





Thanks to Dan Noland and Clair Winebar for helping to cover November Pizza Night!

Next Pizza Night is December 11. Anyone interested in participating, please call Bob Hursh or the Mission Committee to volunteer as a server or to donate supplies (water, candy bars, snacks, and paper supplies). Water and snack donations are due in the church kitchen by the Friday before each meal. If you donate money, please submit a check (memo: LRM) to the church office or give online

 $(\underline{www.blufftonpc.org/give}).$ 

Thank you for your continued support of this important agency.

#### **Little Free Pantry**

At this point, the pantry is in need of canned fruit (peaches, pears, fruit cocktail, mandarin oranges), and plastic containers of applesauce and peanut butter. Thanks for your continued support!

#### December Pantry Stocker Schedule

Nov 29-Dec 5 Diane Winebar

Dec 6-12 Sarah Brauen

Dec 13-19 Pastor Karol

Dec 20-26 Jodi Brauen

Dec 27-Jan 2 Carole Enneking

#### Care for our Neighbors during the Holidays

- Adopt a Family a few items remain on the wish lists for our 2 families. Gifts are to be returned to the church by Sunday, December 12 please wrap presents and include a post-it with the item. Choose a gift off the Mission bulletin board in the back hallway of the church or contact Carole Enneking with questions.
- Fleece Blanket Tying kits are available in the Narthex for anyone interested in this annual "no sew" project. Blankets will be included as an adopta-family gift and others will be donated to Family Promise (homeless support program in Lima). Please return blankets no later than December 17.



#### **Prayers of Sympathy for:**

The family and friends of Lin Rumer who passed away on November 23.

#### **Prayers of Healing for:**

Gayle Marshall

Yuji (Greg and Laura Elwood's son)

Sue Mathewson

Roger Brodman

Maranda Bailey (friends in congregation)

Megan, Geoff, and RJ Thompson (local family)

Elkin (great nephew of Lynda Best)

Linda Francies (Bev Begg's daughter)

Donnas Stone

Owen Ziessler

Dwight "Nick" Nichols

Brecken (Shawna Anderson's son)

Kelly (friend of Annessa Samsal & Mariah Pneuman)

Diane Stultz (George's sister)

Shelby and babies (Bev Begg's granddaughter)

Sue Frost (Cindy Gillen's friend)

Tiffany Jones (Robbie's mother)

Vanessa Miracle (Ben's daughter)

Bob Thompson (Elaine's son)

Alva Hunt (Jerry Szabo's friend)

#### **Prayers for:**

Those who live alone or in care facilities and are less able to engage in meaningful connections with others, including Jane Benroth, Marilyn Bullock, Sheila Hurlburt, Peggy Hursey, Ralph and Donnie Middleton, Sally Reeder, Hazel Rodabaugh, Dortha Radabaugh, Jeanette Warren, and Owen and Kay Ziessler.

Members and friends serving in the armed forces.

The people of Afghanistan during a tense time of transition and unrest.

Victims of violence in our country and around the world, including the 17 missionaries abducted in Haiti.

All who continue to lose loved ones to COVID-19, as well as all those with long-term effects from the virus.

All those who have been affected by breast cancer.

#### **BPC Prayer Chain**

If you have a prayer request, please contact Craig Bowman. 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 Craig or another deacon.



## Birthdays

|     |    | ^,, _           |
|-----|----|-----------------|
| Dec | 4  | Marilyn Edwards |
|     |    | Jim Enneking    |
|     | 5  | Ariana Zuehlke  |
|     | 9  | Jack Henry Neff |
|     |    | Tenna Rhonemus  |
|     | 11 | Cheryl DeWitt   |
|     |    | Jeanie Nichols  |
|     | 15 | Sarah Gillen    |
|     | 16 | John Nelson     |
|     | 17 | Ben Miracle     |
|     | 21 | Linda Sycks     |
|     | 22 | Samuel Neff     |
|     | 29 | Billy Marshall  |
|     | 31 | Darlene Hey     |
| Jan | 3  | Chad Carroll    |
|     |    | Dave Sycks      |

#### Thank You

Pastor Karol thanks those who led worship while she was away the past two Sundays.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Bluffton Presbyterian Church,

Thank you so much for your ongoing support of the Bluffton Community Assistance Corporation. Your generous gifts allow us to assist many area residents. God bless you!

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*



### Linking Our Past and Our Future

Preparing for a future not our own

#### **Dear Friends of Bluffton Presbyterian Church:**

The Stewardship and Finance Committee thanks you for providing your 2022 intentions to give. As of November 28, we have received **29 intentions to give** for the 2022 general operating fund. The comparable 2021 figures were 26 intentions to give. If you would like to provide a 2022 intention to give, but have not yet had a chance, please provide one to Treasurer Julia Szabo prior to the end of the year.

Your gifts of time, talents, and financial resources create Bluffton Presbyterian Church's living legacies – lively legacies of worship, meaningful legacies of supportive care and Christian faith formation, and deep legacies of community outreach and missions. Gifts to the general operating fund are used to fund payroll for our dedicated staff, pay for maintenance, utilities, supplies, and fund denominational and local missions outside of special collections. Your willingness to provide an intention to give is very much appreciated; the information helps guide Session's development of the general operating fund budget.

If you have any questions on intentions to give or the general operating fund, please do not hesitate to ask Pastor Karol or any other member of the Stewardship and Finance Committee (Craig Bowman, Barb Fett, Dick McGarrity, George Stultz, Clair Winebar).

#### 2022 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 2022 per capita amount is \$37.23 per active member, unchanged from last year! Thank you!



#### OCTOBER 2021 FINANCIAL REPORT

#### **General Fund Budgeted Items**

Balance January 1, 2021 \$
Receipts thru Oct 31
Transfer of special receipts received
in 2020 to 2021 budgeted items
Expenses thru Oct 31
Balance October 31 2021 \$

Thank you for financially supporting the church's budget.

#### 2021 Tax Reminders

As we approach year-end, the Stewardship and Finance Committee would like to remind you of a few income tax benefits:

- Applicable to 2021, taxpayers that do not itemize deductions can take a deduction of up to \$300 for church and other charitable gifts (\$600 for couples filing jointly).
- Applicable to 2021, taxpayers that itemize deductions can deduct up to 100% of their adjusted gross income for church and other charitable gifts.
- Stocks or securities that have gains can be gifted directly to Bluffton Presbyterian Church to avoid capital gains tax.
- If you are subject to taking a required minimum distribution from an IRA, you can have it sent directly to Bluffton Presbyterian church tax-free.

Any questions? Please do not hesitate to contact Treasurer Julia Szabo.





### Linking Our Past and Our Future

preparing for a future not our own

## 2022 Intention to Give

| First Name                 |                     |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Last Name                  |                     |
| Email                      |                     |
| Phone                      |                     |
| I/we prayerfully choose    | the following       |
| intention to give financia | al resources to the |
| church operating fund a    | s follows in 2022:  |
| \$ weekly, \$              | monthly,            |
| \$quarterly, \$            | annually.           |

Thanks to your gifts of money, we can continue the BPC legacy: worshiping God through word, sacrament, and song, growing through faith formation, connecting through fellowship, and serving through community outreach and mission!

Growing in Faith, Sharing God's Love

**Bluffton Presbyterian Church** 

# BLUFFTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 2022 Ways To Give

- By check or cash in the offering plate or by check through the mail - P.O. Box 149, Bluffton OH 45817. Please contact the church office or our Treasurer, Julia Szabo (treasurer@blufftonpc.org), for a free supply of giving envelopes.
- Online at blufftonpc.org/give. You can make a one-time gift, set up a recurring donation, or make a gift to a current mission project.
- By using your online banking account to instruct your bank to mail a one-time or recurring check to the church office.

# Thank you!



**BPC Little Free Pantry** 



# Decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas!

If you wish to help beautify the sanctuary for the Christmas season, please use the form below to make a monetary donation. Your gift will be used to buy poinsettias and other items. Please return your completed form and gift by December 19 so that your dedication is included in the Christmas Eve bulletin. Dedications will also be printed in the January 2022 newsletter. Poinsettias may be picked up following the Christmas Eve service.

Please make checks payable to Bluffton Presbyterian Church, with "poinsettias" on the memo line. Place forms and gifts in a collection plate, drop in the Treasurer's box in the office, or mail to the church (PO Box 149, Bluffton OH 45817). Website donations: Go to blufftonpc.org, click on GIVE. Then email the office (bpcbluff@wcoil.com) with your dedication wording.

| The Worship Committee thanks you!                          |
|--|
| ******************************                             |
| I/We wish to donate \$                                     |
| I/We would like this gift to be given in <b>MEMORY OF:</b> |
|  |
| I/We would like this gift to be given in <b>HONOR OF:</b>  |
|  |
| Your Name(s):  |



On <u>Sunday</u>, <u>December 5</u> all are invited to stay after worship service to celebrate the pending arrival of Karol and Chris Schilling's twins!! If you wish to purchase a gift you may do so on your own, or monetary donations may be given to the church (designated for Baby Shower) which will allow us to pool money for more expensive items. Karol is registered on "Amazon Registry" using name Karol Schilling. Refreshments will be in "goodie bags" and picked up when leaving. Hope you are able to share our excitement and love with them! Questions, see Chris Hochstetler, Lori Schmidt, or Diane Winebar.



Musicians: Jane McGarrity, Dan Noland, Marilyn Edwards, Adam Shanaman, and Dave and Linda Sycks

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

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

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

Pastor: Rev. Karol Farris Schilling

Phone: Email:

Primary Workdays: Monday – Thursday (off Friday)

Office Hours: Mon 3:00-5:00 PM

Tues & Wed 10:00 AM - Noon

Administrative Assistant: Cathy Carroll

Email:

Office Hours: Tues & Thurs 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Treasurer: Julia Szabo

Email:

Communications Coordinator: Abigail Gwin

Email:

Faith Formation Intern: Adam Shanaman

Email:

Organists: Jayne McGarrity and Sue Van Eman

Choir Director: Linda Sycks

Children's Church Teachers: Kori Phipps and

Shawna Anderson

Custodian: Roger Brodman

#### 2021 Church Officers

Session

Clerk of Session - Lori Schmidt

Buildings & Grounds – Lynda Best

Faith Formation – Dick McGarrity

Fellowship – Tom Edwards

Finance & Stewardship – Clair Winebar

Mission – Carole Enneking

Nominating – Sarah Brauen and Tom Edwards

Personnel – Lori Schmidt

Worship – Diane Winebar

Presbytery Commissioner – Lori Schmidt

Members at Large – Sarah Brauen and Phill Talavinia

Board of Deacons

Moderator: Chris Hochstetler Assistant Moderator: Jana McVetta Members: Tanya Best, Craig Bowman,

Rob McGarrity, Libby McVetta