



# What's Happening at Bluffton Presbyterian Church

February 2013

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Sunday, February 3**

**Communion Sunday**

**3 Cents a Meal Offering**

Julia Szabo – Special Music

Greeters: Gene and Sue Mathewson

Acolytes: Wyatt Marshall and Jacob Szabo

**Sunday, February 10**

**Food Pantry**

Choir

Greeters: Gayle and John Marshall

Acolytes: Julianna and Erin Hotmire

**Wednesday, February 13**

**Ash Wednesday Service**

Choir

Greeters: Carole Enneking and Cindy Gillen

Acolytes: Sarah Gillen and Megan Sycks

**Sunday, February 17**

Praise Team

Greeters: Don and Cathy Carroll

Acolytes: Skyler Scoles and Tayler Nowak-Valentine

**Sunday, February 24**

Choir

Greeters: The Gillen Family

Acolytes: Sarah Gillen and Patrick Rhonemus

**Sunday, March 3**

**Communion Sunday**

**3 Cents a Meal Offering**

Greeters: Kay and Owen Ziessler

Acolytes: Will and Tucker Neff



## Mark Your Calendars!

- February 2 – Youth Group Meeting – 3:00 to 5:00 PM
- February 3 – Pastor Matthew's Sunday School Class – "Presbyterians, A Quick Overview and Refresher" – 9:00 AM
- February 3 – Annual Congregational/Corporation Meeting
- February 3 – BPC Bistro – Following Worship
- February 13 – Ash Wednesday Service
- February 13 – Praise Team Practice – Following Ash Wednesday Service
- February 17 – Fellowship Lunch – China Wok – Following Worship
- February 20 – Deacon's Meeting – 7:30 PM
- February 24 – Newsletter Deadline – [CEGillen@MarathonPetroleum.com](mailto:CEGillen@MarathonPetroleum.com)
- February 25 – Prayer Luncheon – 11:00 AM – Church Basement
- March 3 – Potluck Lunch Sponsored by Deacons – Following Worship
- March 24 – Palm Sunday
- March 31 – Easter Sunday



## Announcement Procedure

If you have an announcement to present in church during the month of February, get it to the church office and it will be announced by our Worship Leader for the month.

February Worship Leader – To be announced

## Pastor's Letter

At the beginning of Act 3:1-10, we find an interesting little story of a man, crippled since birth, coming up to Peter and John in order to beg for money. It's something that the man had likely done time and time again, as there was little way for a handicapped individual to support themselves. Begging was about all he could do in that society. It was what he *needed* to do in that society! That's the only way he could survive!

I'm sure that he was ready for one of two responses: either someone took pity on him and dropped a few coins or they ignored him and walked on. Either way, when he looked at Peter and John, he knew that they would fit into either of the two categories. Something was different this time. Peter drew attention to himself. So much that the crippled man started to get his hopes up, as Scripture says: "*the man gave them his attention, expecting to get something from them.*" (Acts 3:5) I'm fairly certain that he wasn't ready for what he did receive – to be healed.

Up to this point in time, the man had been asking for what was important to him, but not what he really needed. Money would tide him over, but he needed to be well (so he could take care of himself). More of the same wasn't the best answer!

We too can want things that, however important at the time, are not what we truly need. Certainly this is easy to see in our physical desires for house, possessions, and wealth. Yet this system can develop in other, more basic ways, than just wealth. For example, we can seek desire greater love and understanding from others without realizing that we need a greater ability to love and accept. Once our true needs are met, what we wanted before may still be significant, but it has quickly become second best.

Peter said to the beggar, "*I can't give you what you want, but I will give you what I do have. In the name of Jesus, get up and walk.*" (Acts 3:6) That's what God says to us. There's nothing necessarily wrong with what we want but it's often not what really matters. So instead, what God gives is what

really matters. We can expect a lot more than we prayed for—like a life more full of hope and promise that lets us walk again, a lot taller than before, and sometimes even leap for joy.

Let us ask God to supply what we need, trusting that God will care for His children. Then, let us strive to understand how God doesn't always give us what we ask for, but always gives us what we need. And with that, work to trust that in God's grace our needs will be met beyond anything we could ask for.

In Peace, Pastor Matthew



## Ash Wednesday Services

Ash Wednesday services will be held on Wednesday, February 13 at 7:00 PM.

This day marks the beginning of Lent, the season of forty days before Easter. The Ash Wednesday service is a long standing tradition that allows Christians the space to prepare themselves to journey with Christ to the cross. The putting on of ashes is a traditional feature of this service. It is a physical experience that reminds us of our mortality and our need for forgiveness. Yet it also contains notes of hope, as the service acknowledges our coming renewal at Easter and the supreme nature of God's grace. We will also be sharing together in the Blessing of the Lord's Supper to remind us of our forgiveness and inclusion to the family of God.

We hope that you are able to join us for this special occasion to worship. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.



## Finance Update

### December Financial Report

Beginning Balance	\$ 19,800.54
Receipts	19,553.25
Expenses	(26,245.92)
Balance	\$13,087.87
To be paid back	\$ 1,000.00
Christmas Joy offering	\$ 1,210.00



### Per Capita

You are invited, if you are able, to help cover the per capita cost of your membership by making a special donation through our congregation as part of your discipline of stewardship. The per capita amount is \$27.95 (sorry was posted wrong in previous newsletter) per member in 2013. Thank You!

### Deacon News

Join us for a potluck lunch after worship service on Sunday, March 3. Please bring a dish to share and your own table service.

The next Deacon's meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 20 at 7:30 PM.

The deacons will offer to arrange transportation to church for our elderly members during inclement weather. We want you to be safe in the ice and snow, so call a deacon the night before or early the morning of to arrange transportation.



### BPC Prayer Chain

If you have a prayer request, please contact Diane Winebar (419-957-4046 or [dwinebar711@gmail.com](mailto:dwinebar711@gmail.com)), and she will begin circulating the request. You may also call the church office (419-358-5806) with your prayer request, and they will pass along the information.

*Do you feel drawn to this ministry?* If you would like to be part of the chain or would like more information, please contact Diane or another deacon.



### Prayer Luncheon

*"Are you hurting? Pray. Do you feel great? Sing. Are you sick? Call the church leaders together to pray and anoint you with oil in the name of the Master. Believing prayer will heal you, and Jesus will put you on your feet."* (James 5:13-15)

Pastor Matthew will be hosting a Prayer Luncheon in the church basement. Come for a simple meal, followed by a time of guided prayer for our church family, community, and world concerns. We will be having a similar Prayer Luncheon on the last Monday of each month at 11:00 AM. This is a wonderful time for those in the prayer chain, in caring ministries, and those who just feel that they would like to join to come together in support.

The next Prayer Lunch will be February 25, at 11:00 AM. Mariah Pneuman and Darlene Hey will be cooking for us. Everyone welcome!



**Prayers of Sympathy** for Rhonda Moor and family on the recent death of her father.

**Prayers of Sympathy** for the family of Doris Calley.

**Prayers of Sympathy** for the family of Tom Tomlin.

**Prayers** for our members and friends serving in the armed forces: especially Lucas Woodward, and Andrew Warner.

**Prayers of Healing** for Karen Long, Dusty Klingler, Tyler and Laura From, Katrina Riepenhoff, Robert Braden, Donna Joyce, Gordan Diller, Michael Lee Bucher, Kathryn Wade, Larry Battle, Toni Gossard, Stella Tomlin, Ron Moor, John Sprague and Family, Maggie Giordano, Carl Wolf, Katherine Wade, Robert Winebar, Molly McCracken, Dorothy Rodabaugh and Peggy.

## **Called Out to Get REAL**

Any girls 6th- 12th Grade and women of all ages are invited to this event held at Winebrenner Theological Seminary in Findlay. The event will be March 2 from 6-10 PM and encourages girls/women to be who God created them to be.

There will be personal stories from Kylie Bisutti (a former Victoria Secret Model) and Brianna Caprice (Recording Artist), Live Worship Music, a Concert by Shuree (one of her hits is "One Girl (Can Change the World)"), food, merchandise and a whole lot of good fun.

The event is sponsored by Get REAL in Christ (Respected, Educated, Able, Loyal). Tickets are \$10.00 in advance and \$15.00 at the door. Please let Tenna know by February 17, if you would like to attend, so we have time to order tickets. You can find out more at [www.getrealfindlay.com/called-out-event](http://www.getrealfindlay.com/called-out-event)

## **New Sunday School – Reformed Refresher Course**

Do you ever find yourself wondering “Why do Presbyterians (we) do it like this?” Or perhaps you can't quite remember confirmation class and what the Confessions are.

Or maybe you've recently (in the last ten or so years) been installed as an elder or deacon, and you've been asked to “uphold the tenants of the Reformed Faith” – and you're not quite sure what that means.

If you feel that any of the above statements describe your life, there's a new class for you, starting February 3 Pastor Matthew will hold: “Presbyterians, A Quick Overview and Refresher” during Sunday School (9:00 to 10:00 AM).

This would be an excellent chance to brush up on your knowledge of the unique qualities of Presbyterian worship, thought, and theology. This is also a time to bring your questions and pondering as we work out together what it means to be Reformed. This class will run until March 17.



## **Fellowship Lunch**

The next fellowship lunch will be held on February 17 at China Wok. No reservations necessary. Join us in the back of the sanctuary following worship and we will walk down the street.

Can't make this one....don't worry, the church office will be organizing a lunch the third Sunday of each month. We will explore the various restaurants of Bluffton together while enjoying each other's company.

## Youth Group

The youth group will have our monthly meeting on Saturday, February 2 from 3:00 to 5:00 PM. The date and time was changed so we could prepare for the Souper Bowl of Caring BPS Bistro.



## Mission Committee

Keep the cans coming! One full "load" of cans provides a week's worth of bus passes for a Samaritan House tenant to go to work!

## Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen

Bluffton Presbyterian Church will assist with serving lunches at Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen in Lima on February 7. We plan to meet in the church parking lot at 9:40 AM. Please contact Shirley Kisor (call: 419-358-0085 or email [skisor@embarqmail.com](mailto:skisor@embarqmail.com)) if you plan to come.



## Relay for Life Team

Looking to see if there is anyone interested in starting a Presbyterian Relay for Life team. The relay is June 21 at Bluffton College Stadium. Anyone interested can contact Lynda Best 419-358-5858 or [lbest43@embarqmail.com](mailto:lbest43@embarqmail.com)

## Small Groups

Tuesday – Church Library at 6:30 PM  
Thursday – Maple Crest at 1:30 PM  
Saturday – Maple Crest at 9:30 AM

Contact Beth Buist, George Stultz, Jeanette Warren, Jayne McGarrity or Roy Pneuman for more information.

## Happy Birthday!!



February	2	Jodie Parker
	5	John Marshall
	9	Owen Ziessler
	11	Katie McCracken
	12	Samantha Rhonemus
	14	Geraldine Sullivan Clark
	16	Carl Wolf
	18	Jane Sycks Jeanette Warren
	22	Lin Rumer
	24	Louis Best Clair Winebar
	25	Libby McVetta
	28	Jodi Brauen
March	2	Emily Sycks
	3	Jacob Szabo
	4	Claralice Wolf



\*\*\*\*\*  
Thank you for the warm wishes and cards we received for our wedding anniversary. It was a joy to celebrate with our family members and worship with our church family.

Bob & Mary Barnett

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Dear Friends,  
Thank you very much for your recent donation to our shelter. We truly appreciate your kindness.

Samaritan House

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## Highlights of January Session Meeting

- Closed the year with \$13,000 in general fund and \$150,000 total for all accounts (general, building, memorial, Bixel/Magee, and Vanguard). With the special December pay-back from the general fund, the pay-back balance is down to \$1,000 – note the balance was \$20,600 at the beginning of the year. We ended every month in 2012 in the black.
- All Elders/Deacons were ordained/installed on January 13. Following reports were submitted to MVP – Necrology, Local Church Information Form, and Mission Pledge Form. We have received our 2013 Per Capita Statement from MVP - \$27.95 per member (127 members) for a total of \$3,549.65. Members are being asked to pay their per capita if possible. Approved the 2012 statistical report (membership/financial data) for GA.
- Following Reorganizational items were addressed: Approved electing Lori Schmidt as Clerk. Approved electing Cathy Carroll as Treasurer. Approved electing Darlene Hey as Presbytery Commissioner. Approved electing Tom Edwards and Mariah Pneuman as co-chairs of the Nominating Committee for 2013. Approved the following composition of session statement – Session for 2013 consists of four males and five females which is representative of our congregation in terms of gender and age.

- Approved meeting on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 PM – no stated meeting in July. Approved to nominate the following as officers of the corporation – President – Clair Winebar, Treasurer – Kay Ziessler, and Secretary – Donnas Stone.
- Informed that a person in the community fell and broke her wrist on our property - where blacktop path meets sidewalk on Cherry Street, an area where snow had melted and refroze as ice. We will be getting a copy of the police report and notify our insurance carrier. Approved removing the blacktop path in the spring and reseeded that area – until that time, both ends of that path will be blocked off with a cable.
- Approved that the remaining money (approx. \$700) in Virginia Edward's Memorial, be used to purchase a data projector which would allow digital media to be projected on the walls in the sanctuary.



Bluffton Presbyterian Church  
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Pastor: Rev. Dr. Matthew Zuehlke  
Email: [revdrmz@gmail.com](mailto:revdrmz@gmail.com)  
Cell Phone: 567-825-3973  
Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9:30-1:00

Secretary: Cathy Carroll  
Email: [bpebluff@wcoil.com](mailto:bpebluff@wcoil.com)  
Office Hours: Tues & Wed 9:00-12:30  
Website: [blufftonpc.org](http://blufftonpc.org)

**Sunday School Programs: 9:00 AM**  
**Sunday Worship Service: 10:15 AM**

## **2013 Church Officers**

### *Session*

Clerk of Session – Lori Schmidt  
Buildings & Grounds – Owen Ziessler  
Christian Education – Jay McCracken  
Finance – Clair Winebar  
Mission – Beth Buist  
Nominating – Mariah Pneuman and Tom Edwards  
Personnel – Kay Ziessler  
Presbytery Commissioner – Darlene Hey  
Worship – Rhonda Moor  
Members at Large – Tom Edwards, Mariah Pneuman, and Donnas Stone

### *Board of Deacons*

Moderator: Shirley Kisor  
Members: Don Carroll, Laura From, Darlene Hey, Lin Rumer, and Diane Winebar.