



Growing in Faith • Sharing God's Love

What's Happening at Bluffton Presbyterian Church

FEBRUARY 2022

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, February 6 – Communion, 3 Cents a Meal Offering

Liturgist: Darlene Hey
Special Music: Don Brauen
Sound: Mike Rhonemus / Camera: Tenna Rhonemus
Slides: Julia Szabo
Acolytes: Owen and Clara
Greeters: Ryan and Sarah Brauen

Sunday, February 13 – Little Free Pantry Offering

Liturgist: Clair Winebar
Special Music: Julia Szabo
Sound: Bob Hursh / Camera: Tammie Hursh
Slides: Diane Winebar
Acolytes: Paige and Morgan
Greeters: Diane and Clair Winebar

Sunday, February 20

Liturgist: Diane Winebar
Special Music: Linda and Dave Sycks
Sound: Ryan Brauen / Camera: Clair Winebar
Slides: Talavinias
Acolytes: Avery and Aubrea
Greeters: Dan and Sarah Noland

Sunday, February 27

Liturgist: George Stultz
Special Music: Lori Schmidt
Sound: Jeff Gillen / Camera: Julia Szabo
Slides: Cathy Carroll
Acolytes: Avery and Bowen
Greeters: Tom and Marilyn Edwards

Sunday, March 6

Sound: Mike Rhonemus / Camera: Tenna Rhonemus
Slides: Julia Szabo

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

Feb 2 – Mission Committee Meeting 7:30 PM

Feb 6 – Faithline 6:30 PM (meet at BPC at 6:15 PM)

Feb 9 – Deacons Meeting 7:00 PM

Feb 10 – Session Meeting 7:00 PM

Feb 12 – Lima Rescue Mission 4:30 PM

**Feb 27 – March Newsletter Items Deadline to
Cindy**

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

*Worship Protocols as of 8/16/21: Due to local spread 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.

Zoom Instructions for All Church Calls

To join on a computer, tablet, or smartphone:

Click this link

To call in on a landline phone or cell phone:

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!



Pastor's Letter:

Pastor's Annual Report 2021

If there were one word to describe this past year, it would be "adaptation." The lingering pandemic has required us to make not just one, but multiple pivots in how we approach the various aspects of our shared ministries. When it comes to the pandemic, we are learning to expect the unexpected. Perhaps that's the very way we should think about God's involvement in the world – the God who created a wild variety of creatures to roam this earth, who called leaders for Israel as diverse as Moses, David, and Esther, who came among us as a baby named Jesus who would save others through sacrificial love. To paraphrase Augustine: if we think we have understood God, what we have understood is not God! And yet, the Spirit calls us to continue our journey through unknown mountains and valleys – walking by faith, not by sight.

In our mutual journey, we had many comings and goings in 2021. We experienced the departure of several persons for various reasons; we especially feel the loss of Lin Rumer, even as we celebrate her resurrection to new life in Christ. We said goodbye to 3 staff members who concluded their time with us: Children's Church Teachers Kori Phipps and Shawna Anderson, and Custodian Roger Brodman. We are grateful for officers who have completed their terms of service: Lynda Best, Tanya Best, Craig Bowman, and Libby McVetta. On an encouraging note, we were blessed to receive 3 new active members, many visitors in person and online, and a qualified candidate to fill our new staff position, Communications Coordinator Abigail Gwin.

Many particulars characterize our ministry in 2021:

- Began the year with worship via livestream only, resuming an in-person option in March, with masks required most months, mirroring local rates of COVID-19.
- Partnered with BAMA to provide gifts of encouragement to local frontline workers.
- Held four monthly outdoor worship services from the beautiful new gazebo.
- Coordinated donations to stock our Little Free Pantry for local individuals and families.
- Began using our new electronic sign to display church and community news to passersby.

- Engaged the breadth of scripture through several unique sermon series: Again & Again (Lent – Easter), The Lord's Prayer, The Fruit of the Spirit, Feasting with God (the sacrament of Communion), Legacy (Stewardship), and Living In-Between (Advent).
- Dove deeper into topics of interest through short-term study groups: "Exploring Bible Basics" and "Who Are the Presbyterians?".
- Held special services: Blessing of the Animals, Reformation Day Lessons & Carols, two youth-led services, and Candlelight Christmas Eve (gratefully, with an in-person option).
- Celebrated a baby shower in anticipation of the double miracle of new life due in 2022!
- Continued to tweak our livestream capabilities to better serve our remote worshippers.

Beyond the numbers, the lists, and the reports, we recognize that we have persevered, stayed the course through faith, and continued to look beyond ourselves, wrestling with how to live more fully into our commitment to being a PC(USA) Matthew 25 Congregation. Let us enter a new year inspired by Hebrews 12:1-2: "Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, ...let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus...."

In Christ,

Pastor Karol

Temporary Clergy Coverage

Session has approved a Temporary Clergy Coverage Services Agreement with Rev. Chris Schilling – Pastor Karol's husband, an ordained Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) minister! Excluding the first two weeks after delivery (so that he can enjoy an unofficial paternity leave), Chris will be working approximately 12 hours a week for the remainder of Pastor Karol's maternity leave.

In this arrangement, Chris will be responsible for:

- Worship Leadership (preparing and delivering sermons and coordinating service liturgy with other worship participants) and
- Emergency Pastoral Care (hospital/hospice visits/calls and funerals).

Thus, while you will see him regularly in the pulpit, his time during the week will be limited. (See more details in the January newsletter).

HIGHLIGHTS OF JANUARY SESSION MEETING



- **Pastor:** Continuing Education – Finding Light in The Dark Places: Training on Depression (½ day - Cornerstone of Hope, Lima). Anticipate New Parent Leave beginning on or before February 7.

Pastoral Care: December: 13 visits/in-person conversations, 20 phone calls, 21 greeting cards sent (not counting baby shower thank you notes!), numerous texts and emails. Home Communion January 2: 1 served with Deacon Tenna Rhonemus.

Congregational Activities: Worship (planning, coordinating, leading), announcements information to Communication Coordinator, Sunday Faith Formation, Claralice Circle, moderate Congregational Meeting, Faith Formation Intern semester review with Faith Formation Chair, Ordination/Installation of 2022 Officers, Children’s Church Leaders exit interview with Faith Formation Chair, Women’s Ensemble Rehearsal, Christmas Eve Service, met with camera tech to review new Facebook login for livestream, and committee meetings.

Community Engagement Activities: BAMA Meeting.

Presbytery/Greater Church Activities: MVP Lectionary Study Zoom, MVP Discipleship Commission Zoom, MVP New Pastors Group Zoom.

- Deacons Reorganized: Moderator – Chris Hochstetler, Vice-Moderator/Finances – Jana McVetta, Funeral Dinners – Cindy Gillen, Prayer Chain – Mike Rhonemus, Nominating Committee – Rob McGarrity, Community Meals – Tenna Rhonemus and Chris Hochstetler. Making plans for the Community Meal on Thursday, January 20. Because of high Covid-19 counts, Deacons have decided to make this a drive-thru meal versus in person.

- Session previously approved contract with SW Concrete and Construction for snow removal. Basically, anything over an inch will be removed from the walkways and steps around the church and anything over 3 inches at the Manse. Salt substitute used as needed. Elders agreed that if an inch of snow on Sundays/church meetings then first arrivals will sweep snow off sidewalk and salt as needed. Open bag of salt kept in church office. Five new cordless roller shades were approved, purchased, and installed at the manse. Mice at the manse (hearing in multiple walls): Orkin came December 20 to seal (found 3 possible places of entry on exterior of house) and set multi-traps in attic and furnace room. They returned January 4 - no mice caught yet - single traps added in attic; sprayed for pests along interior of house. Arrangements made for First Klass Lawn Care to fertilize both church and manse at same rate as last year. Manse kitchen faucet “howls” every time it is turned on over about 40%. Clock in the church office needs a new battery. Fire extinguishers at church - company came week of January 3 for annual inspection to check/replace 5 units as needed. January - committee to check smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors. Furnace filters at church will be replaced. Church door handle has been repaired by Kevin Sommers – noted that better than when broken, but not as good as originally.
- Approved Personnel Committee for 2022 consist of Lori Schmidt, Phill Talavinia, and Sue Van Eman.
- Approved Worship Committee’s request to purchase 12 sturdy wreath storage containers for approximately \$232.98, using funds from the Lin Rumer Memorial Fund. With proper care, our indoor Christmas wreaths, the Christmas wreaths Lin created, and others she made, can be used for years to come. Desktop computer and monitor were ordered from House of Hindenach and installed December 17. New computer will be used solely for livestreaming. Still experiencing occasional cutting out during special music, though a brand-new mic and cord were in place January 9. Sound techs are troubleshooting. Suggested that wireless mics might be needed if problems still exist. Approved Worship Committee’s request to purchase a third wireless lapel mic using Memorial money.

- Electronically approved to install and test a dedicated desktop from Justin Byers to resolve livestreaming/video issues at a cost of \$970 from the Triplett fund. Elders/Deacons were ordained/installed on December 19. Approved General Assembly Statistical report (membership/finances).
- Following reorganizational items were 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, agreed to continue meeting on second Thursday at 7:00 p.m. (no meeting in July), Composition of 2022 Session includes five males and four females which is not representative of our congregation in terms of gender. Confirmed that our Child & Youth Protection Policy & Procedures and Sexual Misconduct Policy are included in Manual of Operations. Approved for home communion to be served by Pastor and Deacon/Elder or two Deacons/Elders.
- Session spent time reviewing our current Covid-19 protocols. Agreed with counts higher now than before in Allen and Hancock counties, we need to continue masking, social distancing, and may need to consider going to live-stream only if numbers increase. Plan to revisit our Covid-19 protocols quarterly.

FAITH FORMATION

Younger Youth Sunday School

Movies in Action: 8-week Sunday School Series

- At 9:00 a.m. for kids up to 6th grade.
- Watching movie clips each week, we will connect the messages behind the clips to Bible stories.
- Planned movies: Balto, Fox and the Hound, Home Alone, Finding Nemo, Jungle Book 2, 101 Dalmations, Beauty & the Beast, and Homeward Bound
- We will provide breakfast and will continue carpooling!

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.

Vacation Bible School

The BAMA Vacation Bible School Committee is meeting in the Bluffton Presbyterian Church basement on February 17, March 17, and April 21 at 7:00 p.m.

Youth Group – G.I.F.T

Faithline will be February 6 at 6:30 p.m. We will meet at BPC at 6:15 p.m. and head over to the Methodist church together. Any questions ask Adam Shanaman.

Worship Committee Report

With the church's new livestreaming software and equipment in place, video was greatly enhanced, but audio difficulties continued. Justin Byers (House of Hindenach Audio Visual Systems) strongly recommended that the church purchase a dedicated desktop computer to run the software and resolve our issues. In December 2021, Session approved this purchase, with funds coming from a memorial fund. The new computer, with monitor, has been installed. Technical adjustments are on-going.

Plans are in place for pulpit coverage while Pastor Karol is on New Parent Leave. Dates dependent upon babies' arrival. First two Sundays after delivery: Tenna Rhonemus and Adam Shanaman, third Sunday after delivery: Chris Schilling will start his time as preacher/worship leader during Pastor Karol's absence.

If Pastor Karol must begin her leave early for medical reasons: Chris Schilling (unless a hospitalization is required, then Diane Winebar or another.)

Give, Act, Pray

As night fell on December 10, a horrific line of tornadoes ripped across several states, ending the lives of more than 100 people and wreaking devastation across many communities by the time morning had broken. One of these tornadoes was on the ground for a terrifying and unprecedented 250 miles, more than 200 of those miles in Kentucky alone, where the town of Mayfield saw the catastrophic destruction of much of the downtown area, including the Presbyterian, Methodist, and Baptist churches. The needs for the response will be great, God's people are once again called on to stand in the "GAP" – Give. Act. Pray. Gifts can be made to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance online at pcusa.org/DT21, by phone at (800) 872-3283, or by check (PDA on memo). You can also text PDA to 41444 to donate.

Highlights from Deacons January Meeting

- Decided communion schedule for 2022.
- Set up and served communion and home communion for one person on January 2.
- February communion date is February 6.
- Next Home Communion tentatively set for first Sunday in March.
- Brief review of how to lead the Extending Home Communion Service as two elders/deacons without the pastor.
- Deacons continue to send out cards to those on Care Lists.
- Asked Session for clarity on funeral dinners (follow up: as per Session's COVID-19 protocols from June 2021 session minutes, we are still refraining from indoor refreshments/food.)
- Presbyterian Church hosted Community Meal – January 20.
- Big Birthday Cards completed and given to appropriate Deacon for delivery.
- All current Deacons have a key to the church.



DECEMBER 2021

General Fund Budgeted Items

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

Thank you for financially supporting the church's budget.

2022 Per Capita

You are invited to help cover the per capita cost of your membership (General Assembly, Synod, Maumee Valley Presbytery) by providing a special donation. Please note "per capita" on your check or select the "per capita" box on BPC's online donation page (<https://blufftonpc.org/give.html>). The 2022 per capita amount is \$37.23 per active member, unchanged from last year! Thank you!

Stewardship Moment: Special Giving Opportunities

It's the time of year when our attention tends toward income taxes and how we can legitimately minimize our tax liabilities. The government has provided those of us who are in our senior years just such an opportunity. We know that the government requires that we take a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) each year from our IRA retirement accounts. We saved to fund our retirement with pre-tax contributions, thus we have a tax liability when we withdraw those funds. It is currently possible to make a Qualified Charitable Deduction of our annual RMD by directing the account holder to make the annual distribution directly to the church or another charitable organization thus avoiding any tax liability for the distribution even if you do not itemize deductions when you file. If you need more information about taking advantage of this benefit, check with your tax advisor or with our church treasurer, Julia Szabo.

Our faith calls us to be responsible stewards of all of creation. I believe that includes the responsibility to make well thought-out plans for the distribution of that which we've accumulated over our lifetimes. Tax time is an ideal time to review your estate plans. Everyone should have a will directing your survivors how you want your earthly goods and assets to be distributed. Without a will, the impersonal laws of the State of Ohio will determine that distribution.

Your Stewardship and Finance Committee encourages our members to remember the church and direct some portion of your estate to the church. Such an estate gift will help assure that the ministries of the church can continue for our survivors and future generations (You can be sure that the State's plan will make no such provision!). Your plan can be a real, tangible gift to your family as they deal with the complications of settling your estate. And it can be a powerful message to your survivors about the priority the church has played in your life.

George Stultz for the Stewardship Committee

BPC Personnel Position Available

After many years of faithful service, Kori Phillips and Shawna Anderson resigned as Children's Church teachers at the end of 2021. These are paid positions, and we are seeking to fill them as soon as possible. If you may be interested, or know of anyone who may be, please contact Dick McGarrity.

MISSION

LIMA RESCUE MISSION

Thanks to Kerry and Jeff Fremont for helping Tammie and Bob Hursh to cover January 8 Pizza Night! Also, thanks to Cindy and Jeff Gillen and Cathy and Don Carroll for covering the next Pizza Night on February 12, and to Lori Schmidt for helping with supplies!

Upcoming Pizza Nights are scheduled for the second Saturday (4:30-6:00 p.m.) March 12, April 9, and May 14. Anyone interested in helping please contact 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 (www.blufftonpc.org/give). If you wish to support this local mission, visit their website www.limamission.org or order needed items through Amazon. Thank you for your continued support of this important agency.

Join the Mission Committee!

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

Little Free Pantry

Donations of cake and brownie mixes would be helpful this month. Thanks for your continued support!

February 7-13 – Carole Enneking

February 14-20 – Sarah Brauen

February 21-27 – Jodi Brauen

February 28-March 6 – Jayne McGarrity

PRESBYTERIAN GIVING CATALOG

2022 Goal: \$500

For many years, Bluffton Presbyterian Church has held a wintertime campaign, called Grace & Gratitude, to support the self-development of people. Gifts that address some of the most important issues people face at home and around the world, such as clean water, aid for refugees, widespread hunger, and women's empowerment, are supported through the Presbyterian Giving Catalog.

While the Mission Committee has chosen to focus on water projects for the past two years, this year, the campaign challenges us to purchase livestock – a living and renewable resource. The goal of \$500 will include:

5 Families of Chickens (\$25/each) – Eggs for food, feathers for pillows, and fertilizer for crops. By giving a family of chickens, you can help improve the food security and livelihoods of farmers and families around the world.

2 Piglets (\$40/each) – Piglets can serve as a valuable safety net – a source of income for a family in need. When sold at market, a pig can be the very thing that helps a family through times of struggle.

2 shares of a Cow (\$50/share) – A dairy cow can provide a family in need with a reliable source of income and nourishment. Your gift also supports training in caretaking and sustainable breeding of livestock, improving food and income security for families and villages for years to come.

1 pair of Goats (\$178) – Goats enhance food security through milk, cheese, butter, and yogurt. These valuable foods offer nutrition to those who need it most. The gift of a pair of goats is one that will keep providing.

Please consider a donation by check or online through the church (www.blufftonpc.org) or through the denomination (<https://presbyteriangifts.pcusa.org>) by February 20, 2022.



IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

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 and Donnie Middleton, Sally Reeder, Hazel Rodabaugh, Dortha Radabaugh, 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.

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

Victims of the violent storms and tornadoes that went through the Midwest and the victims of the devastating wildfires in Colorado.

Wyatt Marshall (John & Gayle's grandson) who left for Marine basic training on January 23.

Prayers of Healing for:

Gayle Marshall
 Yuji (Greg and Laura Elwood's son)
 Marilyn Bullock
 Lois Goodman (friend of Carroll's)
 Roger Brodman
 Elkin (great nephew of Lynda Best)
 Linda Francies (Bev Begg's daughter)
 Kay and Owen Ziessler
 Brecken (Shawna Anderson's son)
 Diane Stultz (George Stultz's sister-in-law)
 Sue Frost (Cindy Gillen's friend)
 Vanessa Miracle (Ben's daughter)
 Alva Hunt (Jerry Szabo's friend)
 Christopher and Duane Wright (Gayle Marshall's godson and father)
 Andy (Paige's friend)
 Tom Heimann (Lori Schmidt's friend)
 Belinda King (Maumee Valley Presbytery)
 Jim Basinger (Jodi Brauen's brother)
 Tom Emery (Pastor in Venedocia)
 Lou Dunn (Ben Miracle's sister)
 Keith Brauen (Chris and Don's dad)

Thank You

A big thank you goes out to the following people for their assistance with the community meal: Lori Schmidt, Cindy Gillen, Don and Cathy Carroll, Betsey Angus, Helen Hawk, and Mike Rhonemus. We served a total of 61 people in our drive thru event!

Birthdays

- | | | |
|-----|----|-----------------------------|
| Feb | 1 | Dortha Radabaugh |
| | 2 | Jodie Parker |
| | 5 | John Marshall |
| | 7 | Darin Leugers |
| | 8 | Michelle Talavinia |
| | 9 | Owen Ziessler |
| | 11 | Katie McCracken Blaskay |
| | 12 | Samantha Rhonemus |
| | 14 | Geraldine Sullivan |
| | 18 | Jane Sycks |
| | 24 | Louis Best
Clair Winebar |
| | 25 | Libby McVetta |
| | 28 | Jodi Brauen |
| Mar | 1 | Greg Culbertson |
| | 2 | Emily Sycks
Jane Benroth |
| | 3 | Jacob Szabo |

Invitation to Church Membership

If you have recently found a home here at Bluffton Presbyterian Church, you are invited to consider joining our congregation. Talk to Pastor Karol or any member of session (see back page) to find out more. Educational opportunities can be offered for you to become more familiar with our church's history, mission, and more. The primary profession of faith for members is this: to proclaim Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. We are eager to welcome you as a vital and active member of our Christian fellowship.

Prayers of Sympathy for:

The family of Marilyn Bullock who passed away on January 21.

The family of Jeanette Warren who passed away on January 22.

Prayers of Celebration for:

Becky Winebar who ran the Houston Marathon on January 16.

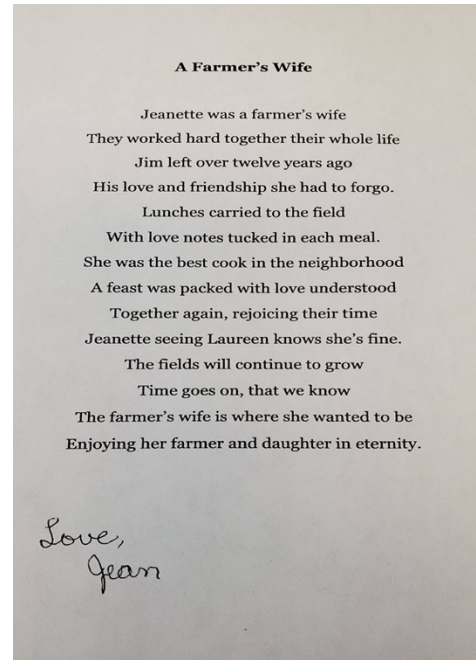
Expressions of Appreciation

- Jayne McGarrity for organizing and scheduling special music each Sunday.
- Variety of musicians who enthusiastically participate in worship services.
- Clair Winebar, Stewardship & Finance chair, for his professionalism and competent accounting/reporting of the church's finances.
- Julia Szabo for her responsive confident leadership as Treasurer.
- Team effort for making Sunday worship services a full experience – Cathy creating slides, Pastor Karol organizing and leading service, youth as acolytes, lay readers, special music, audio and visual technicians, and person running slides.
- Pastor Karol and leaders for being able to adapt, make difficult decisions, and share creativity to keep church family connected during a pandemic.
- Diane Winebar and audio/visual technicians for purchasing, learning, fine tuning new software and audio/visual equipment to allow us to have better quality live streams.

Habitat for Humanity

Have you decided 2022 is the year to get more involved? Habitat for Humanity Lima has a unique way to volunteer. By joining one of our committees, you can help to shape, promote, and expand the ministry of Habitat and the ReStore as we help families to become empowered, secure, and self-reliant through housing. Please email Caleb@habitatlima.org or call (419) 222-4937 to hear about how you could play a pivotal role in our organization's future.

Poem written by a friend of Jeanette's and read at her service.



Community Markets Rebates – Save Your Receipts!

Thank you to Darlene Hey for coordinating our Community Markets rebates program! Darlene recently received a \$591.80 check from Community Markets for our participation! The receipt will be put to good use in our 2022 general fund.

Participating in the rebates program is super-easy – simply drop your Bluffton Community Markets receipts in the little basket attached to the bulletin board by the church office or mail them to the church. The church then gets a 1% cash rebate! It works best if you keep your receipts loose when you put them in the basket or mail them – please no staples or rubber bands.

The rebates program is a great and easy way to support our church and local grocery store! Best of all, there's no user account, loyalty card, or app required ☺! Even when your receipts are from quick stops for only a couple items, they are worth turning in because the total adds up when Darlene adds everyone's purchases together. Please let Darlene know if you have any questions regarding the receipts rebate program. And thank you for your support!

Per Capita

SUNDAY

January 23, 2022



The Presbyterian Church (USA) has designated January 23, 2022, as Per Capita Sunday to reflect on the benefits provided by per capita. At the beginning of each year, we invite all members to consider making a special donation to the extent able to help cover the cost of per capita, but we don't often explain how the per capita funds are used.

To make a per capita donation, please note "per capita" on your check or select the "per capita" box on BPC's online donation page (<https://blufftonpc.org/give.html>). The 2022 per capita amount is \$37.23 per active member, unchanged from last year! Thank you!

What is per capita?

Like all Presbyterian (USA) churches, BPC pays an annual per capita bill based on the number of active members. Here's a breakdown of the 2022 per capita charge:

Maumee Valley Presbytery	\$25.00 per member
Synod of the Covenant	\$3.25
General Assembly	\$8.98
Total	\$37.23 per member

Per Capita Benefits

Per capita funding helps cover the administrative and direct costs of many services provided to all members and clergy by the Presbyterian Church (USA) governing bodies, including services used by BPC on a regular basis. Per capita has been described as glue that holds Presbyterians together.

- Support for youth events such as Triennium and Rekindle Fall Retreat
- Support for Camp Kirkmont
- Support for congregations in transition; supporting the call processes of churches
- College ministry support; engaging with those studying and preparing for ministry
- Pastoral training, guidance, and support
- Matthew 25 mission grants
- Programs that help us discern God's will together as a denomination
- Helping cover expenses for commissioners and delegates to General Assemblies
- Training for local church leaders
- Preserving and maintaining our denominational history through the Presbyterian Historical Society
- Editing and publishing of the Book of Order every two years
- Supporting Korean-speaking councils
- Helping church workers from abroad obtain appropriate visas
- Funding certain administrative expenses of the Presbyterian Mission Agency
- Etc., etc.

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

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 Leaders: OPEN

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 – Carole Enneking

Nominating – Sarah Brauen and Tom Edwards

Personnel – Lori Schmidt

Stewardship & Finance – Clair Winebar

Worship – Diane Winebar

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