



What's Happening at Bluffton Presbyterian Church

July 2016

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, July 3 – Communion

3 Cents a Meal Offering

Special Music: Don Brauen

Lay Reader: Lori Schmidt

Greeters: The Gillen Family

Acolyte: Jacob Szabo

Sunday, July 10

Food Pantry

Special Music: Sarah Gillen and Megan Sycks

Lay Reader: Leslie Freed

Greeters: Brauen Family

Acolytes: McVetta Girls

Sunday, July 17

Special Music: Julia Szabo

Organist – Sue Van Eman

Lay Reader: Tonya Best

Greeters: Leslie and Dusty Freed

Acolyte: Avery Talavinia

Sunday, July 24

Special Music: Pastor Dave

Lay Reader: Helen Hawk

Greeters: Talavinia Family

Acolyte: Avery Talavinia

Sunday, July 31

Community Worship Service

9:00 AM – Presbyterian Church Lawn

Sunday, August 7 – Communion

3 Cents a Meal Offering

Lay Reader: Carole Enneking

Mark Your Calendars!

- July 7 – Community Meal – Hosted by Bluffton Presbyterian Church
- July 24-28 – Vacation Bible School – Emmanuel UCC – 6:00 to 8:00 PM
- July 31 – Community Worship Service – 9:00 AM – BPC Lawn
- July 31 – Newsletter Deadline
CEGillen@MarathonPetroleum.com
- August 7 – Ignite Pool Party, Fellowship, and Meal – At the home of the Gillen's – 3:00 to 7:00 PM



Announcement Procedure

If you have an announcement to present in church during the month, get it to the church office by Wednesday morning so it will be announced by our Lay Reader.

Coffee Talk – Note Change

Wednesday Morning Coffee Talk will not meet during the summer. The group will resume September 7.



What time is it?

Well its 4:58 (p.m.) (June 22, 2016)

That is not what I was asking. You can count time, but Seasons change. And Life is driven by changes in relationship and challenges at hand.

We count time by the hour, day, month, year. But **life is not bound** by the clock, or the calendar. Life rises and falls by **seasons** of vitality and rest, times when fruit is born, or not, and seasons when the crops end, and the earth rests. There are interruptions by disaster. Although the metaphor is crops, human life is the same. Rises, falls, fruit born, end of season, interruptions.

But as much as seasons of growth fill our time; **Relationships** mark our time, as much or more. What is childhood? Friendships recalled. What is high school? Best friends brought to mind. What is college? Friends, adventures, romantic possibilities. What is marriage, different seasons. Growth, maturity, trial, productivity, responsibility. Through it all, there is family, whether as support or as impedance.

In the midst of season and relationships – there are choices we make, and events which confront. We make choices, and the consequences, great and small, follow through the years. And at the same time “Life is what happens while we have other plans”. Life, **as it is**, constantly interrupts and disrupts our **plans**, our choices.



So, this is the **multilevel framework** to behold summer. The fields are rich with life, responding to rain and sun. Farmers plan and respond. Fields are harvested in turn and in season. At the same time, youth are leaving, on their way to college, and children are changing in the blink of an eye. Families present concerns which are born across decades. Friendships which span decades are refreshed by summer visits.



If this is the framework, then the journey of the summer is to **mind our choices**, to **note and assess** the interruptions, the **changes** of life, and to **tend** the relationships. That sounds dry, try it this way:

Choose wisely! (choices)

Wake up (to changes!)
(and)

Live Love (tend relationships)

Time: 9:02 (a.m.) June23

Oh. And next time we talk – we will talk about the meaning of a million years. Think about that one!

Oddly, I can tell you what car I was driving in Tiffin, but I can't place the year. But I can remember the conversation about cars that I had with my father. It was the last conversation we had. Then I can tell you what year it was, because of the date on the death certificate.

The reality is that the relationships, define the time. The questions which focus our efforts, the concerns which drive us. The faith which sustains us. The doubts which haunt us. The opponents which daunt us.

Life is defined by relationships which sustain us or confront us as life changes. There are questions which focus our efforts, concerns which drive us, faith which sustains us, doubts which haunt us, opponents which daunt us.

That is life. Seasons which rise and fall. Periods when fruit is born, or not, seasons which crops end, and the earth rests.

And in each season some activities are more important than others. Some questions are helpful, others are a waste of thought and spirit.

Pastor Dave

Personal Information

Don't forget to let Cathy Carroll know when you have a change in address, phone number, and/or email address.



Thank you to all who donated food, drinks, and money; helped set up and tear down; and to all those who helped serve. This year's Wheels Festival made \$860.25. Thank You!!

Cathy

Dear Pastor Dave and the Church:
Thank you so much for the graduation card and gift! As I'm sure you know, it will help a lot when I move to Bloomington in the fall. I can't wait to start reading the book! Thanks again and see you soon.

Jane Sycks

Thank you to Lynda Best, Sarah Brauen, Jayne McGarrity, Lori Schmidt, and the Sycks Family for their assistance with serving dinner to the Family Promise guests. The family appreciated our hospitality and playing with the Brauen's scooters very much!! As a first experience volunteering with Family Promise it was very positive all around. Watch for more opportunities to connect to our neighbors through this wonderful organization!

Thank you for the devotional book and gift card. Thanks also for being there for me throughout the years.

Patrick Rhonemus



Fellowship/Action/Service

The *Ignite* group has been busy:

May: Forty-six gift bags were delivered to Bluffton Community Assistance for distribution on June 18. Thank you to *Ignite* members (and children) who decorated the bags at our May meeting and to the entire congregation for filling the bags! Recipients were very thankful and enjoyed the art work on the bags!

June: *Ignite* members and BPC members joined together for the June 24 Relay for Hope, cancer fundraiser. A total of 17 BPC members gathered to walk the track, remember cancer victims and survivors, and raise money for the American Cancer Society. Lynda Best, Chair of Relay for Hope, reports that it was a great event and over \$21,000 should be donated to ACS.

Upcoming Projects/Events:

August: Fellowship Gathering at the Gillen's, Sunday, August 7 from 3:00 to 7:00 PM. The entire congregation is welcome for an afternoon of swimming and visiting! The Gillen's will provide the meat, *Ignite* members will help with sides and desserts. Please RSVP to cegillen@marathonpetroleum.com or call them at 419-358-5331.

Bookbags for Children: Mission Committee and *Ignite* are joining together to provide backpacks for children in need. Watch for more information and help "pack the bags" on August 7.

Ignite is a gathering of individuals for active fellowship, we are family-friendly and inter-generational; we strive to build a stronger community. Join for all or just some of our projects. Contact Sarah Brauen or Carole Enneking for more information.



Not pictured: Bev Begg, Andrea Best, Sarah Gillen, and Clair Winebar,.

It's Community Meal Time!

Bluffton Presbyterian's turn to host the Community Meal is Thursday, July 7, at the Senior Center. The deacons are organizing a great picnic-themed meal and will be there to prepare the meal, meet, greet, and serve, but more help is needed!



How can you participate in this all-church effort?

- 1. BAKE A PIE** - This is our biggest need right now. Ten are needed to feed the estimated 80 guests.
- 2. ADD YOUR NAME** to the list of cheerful workers. People are needed to help serve the meal, act as "runners," clean up, and take care of any number of small tasks.
- 3. DONATE FUNDS** to help cover the cost of food and all necessary supplies. A basket for monetary donations is on the table in the narthex. Or you may donate by check. (Please write 7/7 Community Meal on the memo line.)

THANK YOU for your support of this worthwhile Bluffton ministry!

Mission

Mission helped the Ignite group and filled the remaining bags to hand out through the food pantry.

We helped with a meal at the Catholic church and got our feet wet with the Family Promise and will be helping again in October.

We just finished the Bluffton Relay for Life/Hope and had a Presbyterian team and a good time supporting the fight against cancer.

Coming soon, Ignite/Mission will be filling book bags for school children in need so watch the bulletin board and Sunday inverts if you would like to help with this project.

We are slowing down now for the summer but are excited to do God's word through mission.



Community Vacation Bible School July 24-28 (6:00 to 8:00 PM)

Registration is open for children age 4 through grade 5 for the community VBS program. This year's theme is "Deep Sea Discovery" and will be held at Emmanuel United Church of Christ. Contact Carole Enneking or Tenna Rhonemus OR visit the Facebook Page: Bluffton VBS. VBS is open to any youth in the area so invite friends and neighbors. The nightly mission project will support Family Promise.

BPC will be in charge of games for VBS, as well as providing 3 volunteer group leaders. Group leaders need to attend each night of VBS and will lead one group of children through the stations. Each station will have helpers to lead the activity. Being a leader is a great way to see what VBS is all about without any planning! If you cannot attend every night, you may assist with games or fill in with groups. Contact Carole Enneking to volunteer.

Caring Host Families Needed

OPEN YOUR HEART AND HOME to a Christian exchange student from Spain or Germany for the coming 2016-2017 school year. Volunteer host families (with or without children), as well as single parents are needed to provide food, a bed, and a loving home for the coming school year, one or two semesters, starting in August.

For more information on EMF students, please call Marie-Claude Dijoud now at 1-800-467-8363 or visit our web site at www.emfusa.org.

Thank you very much for your help! They are eager to learn that a home has been found for them. Your contribution to this cause is most appreciated.

BPC Presbytery Commissioner

Bluffton Presbyterian Church is looking for a Presbytery Commissioner (a current or past elder) to represent our church at Maumee Valley Presbytery Meetings. They meet approximately 4-5 times throughout the year at various churches in our presbytery. If you are interested or would like more information contact Pastor Dave or Lori Schmidt.

Aluminum Can Recycling

Remember to save your aluminum cans. The Mission Committee sells recyclable cans and uses the proceeds to support mission causes in our area, most recently for a shelter and feeding ministry in Lima. Bring the cans to the church basement and contribute them to a worthy cause.

Spirituality of Wine Retreat

You are invited to participate in a retreat on the Spirituality of Wine to be held from 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM on Thursday, July 7 at the Chateau Tebeau Winery, 525 State Route 635, Helena Ohio.

We will gather and begin the day with a meditation on the Biblical passages involving wine. Bob Butcher and the members of the Spiritual Formation Team will be leading. There will be time to wander the outdoor spaces and stroll through the vineyard and koi pond. For those who desire, there will be a wine tasting prior to lunch. The wine tasting itself costs \$5 per person. Those who do not wish to imbibe do not have to pay the \$5, but will be invited to listen and observe.

Lunch is available for your purchase. We will need pre-reservations. Please indicate your choice of meal from the menu on the reverse side of the flyer (on the bulletin board) when you register. Registrations may be made by emailing bking@maumeevp.org before July 6.

The event is open to any members or friends of Maumee Valley Presbytery (Teaching and Ruling Elders, Congregational Members, and Honorably retired.)

Happy Birthday!!

July	1	Brandie Carroll
	5	Dave Van Eman
	6	Lisa Culbertson
	8	Kim Best
		Stephanie Scoles
	9	Jillian Hough
	10	Bill Gable
	11	Kathleen Edelbrock
	14	Jason Fifer
	16	Diane Winebar
	19	Ryan Brauen
	23	Bob Angus
		Bill Culbertson
	24	Betsey Angus
	28	Dave Engelhardt
	29	Brennan Leugers
	30	Mike Rhonemus
		Teresa Rhoads
August	1	Dale Dickey
	2	Haley Bloom
	4	Judy Miracle

Bluffton Area Food Pantry

The Bluffton Area Food Pantry thanks you for your continued support. Listed below are some items to consider for the pantry:

Lotions and Creams
Cereals
Soups and Crackers
Spaghetti and Sauces
Macaroni and Cheese
Paper products: TP, Paper Towels, Kleenex
Canned Fruits
Canned Vegetables (No corn or green beans needed at this time)
Personal Hygiene Products: Deodorant, Shampoo, Hair Care Items (No bath soaps or toothpaste needed at this time)
Spaghetios and similar canned foods
Canned Meats
Hamburger Helper
Tuna and Tuna Helper

Thank you for your interest in Bluffton Area Food Pantry.

Bluffton Presbyterian Church
112 N. Main St.
P.O. Box 149
Bluffton, OH 45817
419-358-5806

Pastor: Rev. David Good
Phone: 765-993-7791
Email: mangendave@frontier.com
Office Hours: Wed. 11:00-1:00 and
Thurs.-Sat. 9:00-1:00

Secretary: Cathy Carroll
Email: bpcbluff@wcoil.com
Office Hours: Tues. and Wed. 9:00-12:30
Website: blufftonpc.org

Treasurer: Darin Leugers
Email: dleugers8319@yahoo.com

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

2016 Church Officers

Session

Clerk of Session – Lori Schmidt
Buildings & Grounds – Tom Hursey
Christian Education – Tenna Rhonemus and
Carole Enneking
Finance & Stewardship – Dick McGarrity
Mission – Lynda Best
Nominating – Tom Edwards and Cindy Gillen
Personnel – Bob Angus
Presbytery Commissioner
Worship – Cindy Gillen
Members at Large – Tom Edwards, Lori
Schmidt, and Phil Weisenbarger

Board of Deacons

Moderator: Diane Winebar
Members: Marilyn Edwards, Barb Fett, Laura
From, Gayle Marshall, and Mike Rhonemus.

