



Growing in Faith • Sharing God's Love

What's Happening at Bluffton Presbyterian Church

JULY 2022

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, July 3 – Communion

3 Cents a Meal Offering

Liturgist: Clair Winebar

Special Music: Quartet (Kerry, Darlene, Dan, George)

Sound: Mike Rhonemus / Camera: Tenna Rhonemus

Slides: Julia Szabo

Acolytes: Paige and Morgan

Greeters: Tanya Best and Chris Hochstetler

Sunday, July 10 – Outdoor Service

Little Free Pantry Offering

Liturgist: Tanya Best

Special Music: Two Trumpets (Dave & Dan)

Sound: Bob Hursh / Camera: Tammie Hursh

Slides: Diane Winebar

Acolyte: Bowen

Greeters: Tanya Best and Helen Hawk

Sunday, July 17

Liturgist: Dave Van Eman

Special Music: Bells Ensemble

Sound: Mike Rhonemus / Camera: Clair Winebar

Slides: Talavinias

Acolytes: Owen and Clara

Greeters: Talavinias

Sunday, July 24

Liturgist: Dave Sycks

Special Music: Don Brauen

Sound: Jeff Gillen / Camera: Julia Szabo

Slides: Cathy Carroll

Acolyte: Avery

Greeters: Carole Enneking and Cindy Gillen

Sunday, July 31

Liturgist: Lynda Best

Special Music: Szabos

Sound: Jeff Gillen / Camera: Clair Winebar

Slides: Diane Winebar

Acolyte: Bowen

Greeters: Lynda Best and Cindy Gillen

Mark Your Calendars!

Sundays: Worship 10:15 AM

July 4 – Independence Day

July 7 – Bluffton Area Ministerial Association – 9:00 AM at BPC

July 7 – Community Meal – 6:00 PM

July 9 – Lima Rescue Mission 4:30 PM

June 10 – Outdoor Worship from Gazebo

July 17-21 – Community Vacation Bible School – 6:00-8:00 PM at BPC for preschool – 5th grade

July 24 – Stewardship & Finance Committee meeting after the worship service

July 24 – August Newsletter Items Deadline to Cindy

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



Pastor's Letter

The Supreme Court's overturning of *Roe v. Wade* on June 24, 2022, will have a significant impact on church and society. I'm sure there are some in our church family who have rejoiced over this decision, truly believing it to be a movement towards justice and wholeness; and that there are also some in our church family who have wept, truly believing it to be a movement away from justice and wholeness. Furthermore, I can almost guarantee you that there are people in our church family for whom the issue of abortion is not merely a political or theoretical one, but an extremely personal one, an experience they and/or their loved ones have been through.

The members of our denomination are theologically diverse on this topic. A special committee report from 1992 finds:

"There are no biblical texts that speak expressly to the topic of abortion, but that taken in their totality the Holy Scriptures are filled with messages that advocate respect for the woman and child before and after birth. Therefore, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) encourages an atmosphere of open debate and mutual respect for a variety of opinions concerning the issues related to problem pregnancies and abortion."

"Part of the task of the church is to wrestle clearly and faithfully with the difficult issues that face human beings in the midst of a fallen creation. But this does not mean that answers are obvious, or that Scripture addresses clearly and directly all our contemporary concerns. The church is the body in which Christians can come together to seek guidance through the Holy Spirit. Such help may well come through the voices of other Christians who see things differently. When we have faithfully engaged in such discussion, even though we do not agree on all matters and significant differences remain, we may be able to speak with one voice on what we do see. We can also proclaim with great confidence that the God who created a good world continues, through Word and Spirit, to love and work with a fallen one."

Here is a link to the 1992 paper referenced above: https://www.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/oga/pdf/problem-pregnancies.pdf. It is not part of our constitution or something that prescribes beliefs; it is a document that describes the range of views on this complex issue across our denomination.

Further, the PC(USA) General Assembly (<https://ga-pcusa.org/>) that is currently in session (June 18 – July 9, 2022) is addressing similar issues as part of their extensive docket.

In our prayers and our conversations over the coming days and weeks, I invite us to bring our whole selves – whether content or confused, hopeful or fearful, resolved or uncertain – to the God who knows us intimately and desires wholeness and abundant life for us all. I also invite anyone who may desire to talk through thoughts, feelings, concerns, positions, etc. to find a time to meet with me.

In Christ,

Pastor Karol



July Worship Series: "Action Required"

God's claim on our lives calls on us to engage in a radically different way of loving, seeing, and doing in the world. You're invited to join us for "Action Required," our worship series for July that will challenge us to discover the importance of acting on what we believe.

New Board Members Needed for Preschool

Bluffton Community Preschool, which is housed in our building, is looking for new board members. The next term of service begins in August. The board meets about 8 times a year on Monday evenings. Please talk to Pastor Karol or Tenna Rhonemus, who have both previously served on the board, if you would like to learn more.

Children's Church/Nursery Volunteers

7/3 – Tammie & Bob Hursh

7/10 – Tenna & Mike Rhonemus

7/17 – Sarah & Jodi Brauen

7/24 – Linda & John Nelson

7/31 – Sarah & Dan Noland

Please let Dick McGarrity know if you have any questions.

HIGHLIGHTS OF JUNE SESSION MEETING



Highlights of June's Session Meeting

- Approved purchasing used Konica Minolta 360e (has 30,000 copies) from Approved Images. We would have a quarterly fee just like we do now for repair and maintenance based on number of copies.
- Pastor Karol shared that Sally Reeder's Memorial Service will be Saturday, September 17 at the church in the morning.

Congregational Activities: Deacons, Worship, and Faith Formation Intern Exit Interview (by email).

Community Engagement Activity: Bluffton Community Preschool Board Meeting.

Presbytery/Greater Church Activity: MVP Findlay Area Region Church Meeting.

Approved Vacation request for Thursday, July 28 and 4th week of August to include one Sunday (either 21 or 28).

- Thermal Gard Windows has been out to measure manse windows. Have paid half as down payment. Presently planning for installation in January 2023 – anticipate 2 days. Volunteers have been working on the landscaping of the church lawn – spent a couple of days re-edging the gardens, spraying weeds, trimming bushes, and spreading mulch.
- National Night Out Tuesday, August 2 – volunteers needed; donating \$100 from local mission budget line to support event.
- Having consulted with Anne McCracken, Session approved offering Min Lindsey's wooden animals/other items to congregation first, then consider selling any remaining items.

- Approved locking the outside door (by office) on Sundays at 10:15 during worship as safety measure to protect children in basement. Looking into new lock – perhaps one that can be programmed remotely. Volunteer will lock/unlock the outside door (by office) until a different lock is installed. Discussed Et Cetera Shop, Inc invitation to be a church sponsor – Dick McGarrity presently serves on the board. Responsibilities include – nominating 1-2 people to serve terms on board, publish annual report to congregation, and encouraging volunteers/shoppers/contributions. Session approved becoming a church sponsor and asked that other churches be invited to participate as well.

Highlights from Deacons June Meeting

- Communion June 5 – Set up 75 and served 46 – Mike Rhonemus.
- MMH worship scheduled for June 14 was cancelled due to village-wide power outage.
- Community Meal July 7 – menu includes ham sandwiches, pasta salad, veggies, pie, lemonade/coffee – everything has been organized.
- No Deacon meeting in July.
- Next Deacon meeting August 10.
- Sally Reeder memorial will be held September 17 at Bluffton Presbyterian Church.

Community Meal

If you have volunteered to help serve at the Community Meal on July 7, please arrive at the Senior Citizen Center between 5:00 and 5:30 PM. We will begin serving at 6:00 PM.

If you have volunteered to bake pie(s) please deliver them on July 7. If it is before 4:00 PM they may be brought to the church, after 4:00 PM please bring them to the Senior Citizen Center.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered for this outreach ministry!





Community Vacation Bible School

Community Vacation Bible School takes place at Bluffton Presbyterian Church this year – July 17-21, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. for kids 3-1/2 years through 5th grade. The theme is Sports Camp. Registration forms are available in the sanctuary, on the Bluffton VBS Facebook page, and on the Bluffton Icon: <https://www.blufftonicon.com/sites/default/files/uploads/vacation-bible-school-2022-form-49837.pdf>.

If you have kids who may be interested in attending, please fill out a registration form. Sometimes people are hesitant to register in advance because they think a conflict may arise requiring cancellation; however, registration is a big help in deciding how many to prepare for. If you have questions or wish to volunteer, please check with Dick McGarrity.

Sound Techs for Vacation Bible School

- Sunday, July 17 – Jeff Gillen
- Monday, July 18 – Ryan Brauen
- Tuesday, July 19 – Bob Hursh
- Wednesday, July 20 – Clair Winebar
- Thursday, July 21 – Mike Rhonemus

FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP



May 2022 - General Fund Summary

Balance January 1, 2022	\$
YTD transfers into the general fund	
YTD receipts into the general fund	
YTD general fund expenses	
May 31, 2022 balance	\$

General fund collections received during January through May totaled \$ compared to expenditures of \$.

Thank you for your financial support of the church!



Would you please be willing to help pass the offering plates? We need three volunteers for each Sunday worship service to serve as offering plate ushers during the introduction to the Closing Hymn: one usher on each outer aisle and one in the middle aisle. If you can help, please sign up for a Sunday (or two ☺) on the usher volunteer calendar on the back table. Or email or call or text Clair Winebar. Thank you very much for your willingness to serve!

Putting Memorial and Bequest Funds to work!

The Elders recently approved the use of memorial and bequest funds to help BPC continue to serve our mission. During May, the remaining \$ of the *Avis Marshall* memorial fund was used to purchase a twin bassinet for the nursery. During June, \$ of funds from the *Richard Evans* bequest was used to purchase audio equipment primarily for gazebo events. The equipment was first used for June 12 outdoor worship, and it sounded great! Finally, the Elders have approved the expenditure of approximately \$ from the *Ropp and Mary Emma Triplett* bequest for badly needed replacement windows for the manse, with an expected install date sometime this next winter.

Birthdays

July 1	Judy Evans
	Brandie Wagner
3	Greg Elwood
5	Dave Van Eman
6	Lisa Culbertson
8	Kim Best
10	Bill Gable
11	Peggy Hursey
16	Diane Winebar
19	Ryan Brauen
23	William Culbertson
24	Betsey Angus
30	Mike Rhonemus

Anniversaries

July 3	Jim and Carole Enneking
July 11	Tom and Rebecca Hursey
July 14	John and Chris Hochstetler
July 15	Dave and Linda Sycks
July 22	Mike and Tenna Rhonemus

MISSION

Pentecost Offering

Thank you to those who supported this year's Pentecost Offering! Your gifts provided close to \$150 for scholarships to support local youth participation at Bluffton Family Recreation (BFR), as well as denominational support for youth-focused programming.

If you did not have a chance to support this offering, you might be interested in one of the education-focused efforts of the PCUSA. The National "Educate a Child, Change the World" Initiative supports education for children. The 221st General Assembly (2014) affirmed this initiative to uphold the highest tradition of our Reformed heritage: education.

Many of our children, God's children, are relegated to small futures by virtue of their race, their zip code or whether they are girls or boys. Powerful cultural and political structures conspire to relegate many children to substandard education – and then decry a high dropout rate that would perhaps be more accurately classified as a high “push out” rate. The urgency of this work is told in the cradle to prison pipeline, the rates of teenage suicide, in the lives doomed from their outset to despair and desperation and in the squandering of God's gracious gift of intelligence and imagination. Your gift will support efforts throughout our denomination including advocacy and public policy efforts.

Visit <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/donate/E052178/> to support.

Bluffton/Pandora National Night Out Volunteers Needed

Members and friends are invited to help with the 8th Bluffton/Pandora National Night Out planned for Tuesday, August 2. In the past, our church has assisted with distributing snacks and running the bounce houses. No experience necessary. ☺

If you are available to assist during the 7:00-9:15 PM shift, please contact Carole Enneking or sign up on the hallway bulletin board. This is a wonderful community event held at the Bluffton Community Swimming Pool; please join us in supporting it!

Summer Donation Drives

Plans are underway for a donation drive to support Lima Rescue Mission and area elementary schools. Please watch the weekly email and church announcements for details.

Little Free Pantry

June 27-July 3 – Sue Van Eman

July 4-10 – Sarah Noland

July 11-17 – Jodi Brauen

July 18-24 – Sarah Brauen

July 25-31 – Jayne McGarrity

The Little Free Pantry account is getting low, so cash donations are welcome. Mac & Cheese, Hamburger Helper, and Ramen noodles would be great food donations. (No canned soup or vegetables at this time please.)



Thanks to Jeff and Kerry Fremont for helping Tammie and Bob Hursh cover June Pizza Night!

Upcoming Pizza Night dates include July 9, August 13, and September 10. 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). Thanks!



Please feel
free
to sit
in the gazebo!

To reserve for an event, call BPC.



Bluffton and Pandora Mobile Meals

Mobile Meals for area seniors
 Meal is delivered at lunch time
 Available Monday through Friday
 Delivered to your home!
 Only \$5 per meal

Register in Bluffton:
 Call 419-358-1015, x218

Register in Pandora:
 Call 419-384-3218

Thank you to the volunteer delivery drivers that allow us to offer this program. If you would like to volunteer, call 419-358-1015 x263

COUPON



5 FREE MOBILE MEALS

To Redeem:
 Call the registration number above.

Mobil Meals are delivered in the Bluffton Village Limits and within 5 miles of Pandora.

Thank You

 We would like to “thank you” for the prayers, cards, visits, flowers at special times. With friends and church members it’s a warm feeling to know you care. God is so good.
 Donnas and Stoney



Available – Min Lindsey Carved Animals

The church has Noah’s Ark wooden animals made by artist Min Lindsey, a member who passed away in 2016.

With the blessing of Min’s daughter Anne McCracken, these animals are being offered to members of the congregation. They will be displayed in the sanctuary during July. Please feel free to take one or more home with you.

IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

Prayers of Sympathy for:

Jim Oberhaus and family on recent loss of son (friend of Tanya).

Family and friends of Deanna Creeger who passed away June 9 (friend of Dortha Radabaugh at MMH).

Ben Miracle and family on the death of his sister Lou Dunn.

Family and friends of Charlie and Rachel Collins who were killed in a house explosion near Bluffton on June 8.

The families of the 2 police officers killed in El Monte, CA.

Prayers of Joy: (from Cathy Carroll)

That millions of yet unborn children will now get to live out their God-ordained lives.

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, Hazel Rodabaugh, Dortha Radabaugh, and Owen and Kay Ziessler.

The people of Afghanistan as more the 1,000 have died from an earthquake on June 22.

Diplomacy, peace, and hope in the world.

Members and friends serving in the armed forces.

We Prayer for God's Healing for:

Jeremy Szabo
Sharon Wildermuth (friend of Van Emans)
Kaylee Halko (Helen Hawk's supervisor's daughter)
Ron Bauman (father of Bluffton teacher)
Rich Miller (Gayle and John Marshall's friend)
Jimmy Kinn (Lynda Best's friend)
Richard Sycks (Dave Sycks's dad)
Julie Rhodes (Jodi Brauen's friend)
Brenda McCoy (Betsey Angus's friend)

Lisa Culbertson (Tom and Rebecca Hursey's daughter)

Pete Amstutz (Gayle Marshall's friend)
Gayle Marshall

Yuji (Greg and Laura Elwood's son)

Roger Brodman

Elkin (great nephew of Lynda Best)

Kay and Owen Ziessler

Brecken (Shawna Anderson's son)

Alva Hunt (Jerry Szabo's friend)

Lou Dunn (Ben Miracle's sister)

Dwight Nichols

Mustaq Ahmed (Jeremy Szabo's friend)

Miranda Samsal (Mariah Pneuman's granddaughter)

Jane Benroth

Howard (husband of Karol's friend)

Marty Benroth (Szabo's friend)

Carla Wyant's daughter (Tanya Best's friend)

Tiffany Huffman (Gayle Marshall's niece)

Jeanen and Emerson Basinger (Jodi Brauen's parents)

Janice Wright (Gayle's friend)

Kathy, Beth, and George (Daughters and grandson of George Stultz)

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.



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

Sunday Worship: 10:15 AM

OFFICE HOURS

Pastor: Rev. Karol Farris Schilling

Tuesday and Wednesday 9:30 - 11:30 AM

Phone:

Email:

Administrative Assistant: Cathy Carroll

Email:

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

Treasurer: Julia Szabo

Email:

Communications Coordinator: Abigail Gwin

Email:

Organists: Jayne McGarrity and Sue Van Eman

Choir Director: Linda Sycks

Children's Church Leader: Brooklyn Phillips

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