



What's Happening at Bluffton Presbyterian Church

May 2013

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, May 5

Rev. Susan Meier – Interim General Presbyter
3 Cents a Meal Offering

Lay Reader: Tammie Hursh

Greeters: Dick McGarrity and Donnas Stone

Acolytes: Sarah Gillen and Molly McCracken

Sunday, May 12 – Communion

Mother's Day

Choir

Lay Reader: Cheryl DeWitt

Greeters: Gene and Sue Mathewson

Acolytes: Vanessa Compton and Tayler Nowak-Valentine

Sunday, May 19 – Pentecost

Praise Team

Lay Reader: George Stultz

Greeters: Barb Fett and Lin Rumer

Acolytes: Avery Talavinia and Wyatt Marshall

Sunday, May 26 – Trinity Sunday

Memorial Day

Choir

Lay Reader: Sarah Gillen

Greeters: The Gillen Family

Acolytes: Tayler Nowak-Valentine and Jacob Szabo

Sunday, June 2

Lay Reader: Tammie Hursh

Greeters: The Hursh Family

Acolytes: Libby and Paige McVetta

The last day for Sunday school will be May 19.
There will be no Sunday school during the
summer months, classes will resume on
September 8.

Mark Your Calendars!

- May 4 – Richland Manor Visit – 1:00 PM
- May 5 – Youth Group Meeting – 5:00 – 7:00 PM
- May 11 – Arts and Craft Show/Luncheon
- May 12 – Communion will be served
- May 12 – Alternative Devotions – 5:00 PM
- May 12 – Mother's Day
- May 15 – Praise Team – 7:30 PM
- May 16 – Community Meal – Senior Citizens Center – 6:00 PM
- May 19 – Pancake Breakfast/Combined Sunday School – 9:00 AM
- May 19 – Potluck Lunch/Assemble Kits – Following Worship
- May 19 – Alternative Devotions – 5:00 PM
- May 22 – Newsletter Deadline – CEGillen@MarathonPetroleum.com
- May 26 – Alternative Devotions – 5:00 PM
- May 27 – Prayer Luncheon – 11:00 AM
- June 2 – Graduate Recognition
- June 2 – Alternative Devotions – 5:00 PM
- June 6 – Daily Bread Soup Kitchen – Meet Church Parking Lot – 9:40 AM



Announcement Procedure

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

May Worship Leader – Diane Winebar

Pastor's Letter

“Observe the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Work six days and do everything you need to do. But the seventh day is a Sabbath to GOD, your God. Don't do any work—not you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your servant, nor your maid, nor your animals, not even the foreign guest visiting in your town. For in six days GOD made Heaven, Earth, and sea, and everything in them; he rested on the seventh day. Therefore GOD blessed the Sabbath day; he set it apart as a holy day.”

~ Exodus 20:8-11, the Message

There is a story where one man challenged another to an all-day wood chopping contest. The challenger worked very hard, stopping only for a brief lunch break. The other man had a leisurely lunch and took several breaks during the day. At the end of the day, the challenger was surprised and annoyed to find that the other fellow had chopped substantially more wood than he had.

"I don't get it," he said. "Every time I checked, you were taking a rest, yet you chopped more wood than I did." "But you didn't notice," said the winning woodsman, "that I was sharpening my ax when I sat down to rest."

There are so many times, in our rush to be useful, to have an impact, to be useful; we take on so many tasks that we become discharged. We are so drained that, even when we try to do good, we do good badly. That is because there is no rest when we put our hand to the task there is no quietness within our mind when we try to listen to another. As one ancient text puts it, do we have the patience to wait until the mud settles out of your water.

There are times in my life when I realize that it was a time for a break. Not because of the reoccurring illnesses (like my recent throat infections!). Not because of 60+ hour work weeks. Not when I “cook” more at Taco Bell than at home. I realize that it is time for a break because of what is now being called “phantom cell phone”. It means that you think you hear your cell phone ring and then when you go to answer it, no one is there. And it's not just ringing cell phones,

but even cell phone vibrations! Can you imagine - when we are so ready for the next call, text, or email that our imagination (or nerves) calls one into existence? Some recent studies are pointing to this as a very common experience of cell phone users.

It's a sign that we need to unplug for a while. Close the laptops. Turn off the cell phones. (*gasp!*) Don't check email.

But that is hard to do. Our culture pre-supposes that action and business is somehow better than rest. That doing something, anything, is better than doing nothing. Doing nothing has a very negative implication for Americans. Thomas Merton once noted that: “*there is a pervasive form of contemporary violence [and that is] over activism and over work. The rush and the pressure of modern life are a form, perhaps the most common form, of its innate violence.*” It has become our standard greeting: "I'm so busy." As a culture, we are constantly striving for more: more work hours, more projects, and more signs of success. Is it any surprise then, when we feel exhausted and deprived in the midst of great abundance, longing for time with friends and family, longing for a moment to ourselves. A millennia ago, the tradition of Sabbath created an oasis of sacred time within a life of unceasing labor. But even today a time of rest is needed.

The modern hassle and hustle of life – we've lost the rhythm between work and rest. All life requires some rhythm of rest. There is a rhythm in waking and in sleeping – just as there is in day and in night. There is a rhythm in the seasons and cycles of life. Farmers know that you can over use a soil – and when you do nothing will grow there. Why do we forget these simple lessons? Even, as Wayne Muller makes note: “our heart knows that it needs to rest after each, life-giving beat – and the lungs rest after their work” - why do we try to push ourselves and others so far? Rest time is time off the wheel; time when we take our hand from the plow and allow the essential goodness of creation to nourish our souls. In rest, we are given a revolutionary tool for cultivating those necessary human qualities that grow only with time: wisdom, courage, honesty, generosity, healing, and love.

"Every now and then go away, have a little relaxation, for when you come back to your work your judgment will be surer, since to remain constantly at work will cause you to lose power of judgment... Go some distance away because then the work appears smaller, and more of it can be taken in at a glance, and lack of harmony or proportion is more readily seen." These are the words of Leonardo da Vinci, and he was certainly no slacker. He excelled as a painter, sculptor, poet, architect, engineer, city planner, scientist, inventor, anatomist, military genius, and philosopher.

So, let's be sure that we take time to unplug, as our God commanded us to (yes, rest is in the Ten Commandments) for our own well being. Let us find the right cycle of rest and work in our lives.

In the Peace of Christ,
Rev. Dr. Matthew Zuehlke

Highlights of April Session Meeting

- Information on the proposed basement renovation project was shared and discussed. Approved project will include removing existing carpeting/ linoleum, stripping wallpaper, painting walls, installing additional shelving in closets, installing commercial grade carpet/linoleum (matching CE wing), replacing existing lighting, and refurbishing kitchen countertops. Total cost is estimated at approximately \$9,000. Should be noted that approximately \$5,000 has been received as a gift designated for this purpose. Approved that the basement renovation project be funded by gifts designated for this purpose with the balance to come from the Building Fund.
- Mission Committee reported that Alternative Gifts campaign for 2012 received \$150. Preliminary total for One Great Hour of Sharing – is \$895.35. Making plans for participating in 2013 Mobile Health Fair by asking members to donate either complete dental/hygiene kits or donating loose items for them. Planning for lunch on Pentecost – May 19 and assembling kits afterwards. They will be taken to the MVP meeting on May 21.
- Approved request to move Communion from May 5 to May 12 because Pastor Matthew will be on vacation.
- Englehardt Landscaping proposed a landscaping design for 30 bushes on the Cherry Street side of church. The total price of the proposal is \$3,500 and they are willing to donate 75%. Approved accepting the proposed landscaping design with the remaining balance of the project to come from a gift of \$921.50 designated for grounds improvement. Discussion was held concerning creating an exterior handicap ramp leading to basement. Still waiting to get plans/price back from a contractor.
- Approved the following guidelines being requested from Guide One – our insurance company. All volunteers must be involved with the organization for at least six months before they are allowed in any position involving contact with minors. No minor should be alone with only one adult on church premises or in any church sponsored activity. These items will be added to the Christian Education section of our Manual of Operations.
- Christian Education committee recommended having Alternative Devotions on Sunday evenings for those unable to attend morning worship service. Pastor Matthew will be leading the service using parts of the morning service. No choir/ organist will be needed – plan to have guitar accompaniment. Approved having Alternative Devotions on Sunday evenings at 5:00 PM beginning May 12 for a trial basis in May/June.
- Approved Lori Schmidt's request to borrow the portable large projection screen for April 8.
- Students from Ohio Northern University are conducting the 2012 Financial Audit.





Let's Fill Pastor Matthew's Van

Fill it with what? Well, not surplus chocolate Easter bunnies or jelly beans (although I'm sure Pastor wouldn't object to that!) Plans are now underway for the 2013 Mobile Health Fairs in Maumee Valley Presbytery, which will be held this year from June 25 – July 3. As in the past, the Presbytery would like to have hygiene and/or dental kits to give to those coming to the Fairs, and the Mission Committee would like to challenge the congregation to fill the aforementioned van with kits that Pastor Matthew can take with him to the Presbytery meeting on May 21.

There are a couple ways to participate. If you would like to donate a preassembled hygiene kit, please bring a bag with a washcloth, soap, comb, shampoo, and possibly a nail brush. Dental kits would include a toothbrush and toothpaste. Please bring the bags to the church on or before Pentecost Sunday, May 19, and leave them in the designated boxes in the back of the sanctuary. (If anyone has any medium-sized to fairly large cardboard boxes they would like to donate, they would also be greatly appreciated!)

Loose items are also welcome. We will hold a "packaging" party on Pentecost, after the potluck lunch to be held that day (more on that to come next month), and then load everything into Pastor Matthew's van for the trip to Tecumseh, Michigan, where the Presbytery meeting will be held.

I'm sure I don't have to tell you this, but please be reminded that all items should be NEW, not "gently used"!!)

And as we also have done in the past two years, financial donations will be accepted and given to the Presbytery to be used for follow-up medical or dental care, if you don't care to donate a kit. Please designate "Mobile Health Fairs" in the memo line of your check, and make it payable to Bluffton Presbyterian Church.

It would be great to fill that van absolutely to the brim! Please join the Mission Committee in this outreach project.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Pastor Matthew, Beth Buist, Shirley Kisor, or George Stultz. Thanks!

Community Meal, Thursday May 16

The Bluffton Presbyterian Church Deacons will be hosting the Community Meal at the Senior Citizens Center on May 16 at 6:00 PM. The meal will include ham balls, potatoes, green beans, and pie! The Deacons are asking for help with donations of pies. If you are able to help, please contact a deacon. Join us that day for food and fellowship!



Food Pantry Meal Sunday

Reminder: Our church continues to support the Bluffton Community Assistance Program. With the reorganization of the food pantry, our congregation is encouraged to continue to emphasize the 3Cs: cereal, crackers, and cookies. There is also a current need for canned fruit. If you would like to continue to support this mission, please bring donations the second Sunday of each month. Our church has also been placed on the program coordinator's list – so stay tuned for opportunities to help organize donations during local events promoting our local food pantry.

Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen

The next date for serving lunches at Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen will be June 6. Anyone interested in volunteering, please contact Shirley Kisor. Volunteers meet at the church parking lot at 9:40 AM and typically return by 12:30 PM.



March Financial Report

Beginning Balance	\$ 9,300.80
Receipts	13,478.00
Expenses	(8,929.94)
Balance	\$ 13,848.86
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$1,081.48

Per Capita

It's not too late 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 per member in 2013. Thank You!



Remodeling Fund Drive

Session is now accepting funds for the remodel of the church basement / kitchen area. Please note on check "building fund". We are also in need of volunteers to strip wallpaper and tear up carpet. Please see Owen Ziessler or Pastor Matthew if you can help.



BPC Prayer Chain

If you have a prayer request, please contact Diane Winebar (419-957-4046 or dwinebar711@gmail.com), or call the church office (419-358-5806) with your prayer request, and they will pass along the information.

If you would like to be part of the chain or would like more information, please contact Diane or another deacon.

Prayers of Celebration with Judy Bloom and Ben Miracle on their wedding.

Prayers of Sympathy with Clair, Diane, and Becky Winebar on the recent loss of Clair's father Robert Winebar.

Prayers of Sympathy with the family of Bertha Scoles.

Prayers of Sympathy with Jim, Carole, Jeremy and Kory Enneking on the recent loss of Jim's mother Edna Enneking.

Prayers of Sympathy with the Vorhees family.

Prayers for those affected by the bombing in Boston, the explosion in West Texas, and the earthquake in China.

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, Gordan Diller, Stella Tomlin, Darlene Hey, Michael Lee Bucher, Peg McKinney, Rebecca Hursey, Bill Gable Sr., Judy Bloom, and Michelle Johnson.

Community Cash Receipts

Community Cash receipts have totaled \$270.21 for 2013. Thanks, and keep saving those receipts!!

Graduates

The Christian Education Committee is making plans to acknowledge our graduates on June 2. If you know of a graduate, please get their name to either Jay McCracken or Tenna Rhonemus. We want to honor those students graduating from high school and anyone graduating from college during this academic year.

Youth Group

The youth group will have their final meeting of the academic year on May. We will meet at 5:00 PM for our lesson, and then walk to Tu Pueblo a little before 6:00 PM for our meal. You will need to bring about \$10 to cover your meal. Depending on how long it takes to serve our group, we will end our meeting around 7:00 PM. If you have any questions please see Tenna.

Sunday School

On May 19, the last day of Sunday school before summer break, we will be having a pancake breakfast from 9:00 – 9:30 AM, followed by a combined class on Pentecost (taught by Pastor Matthew). Please join us if you have ever taught or attended Sunday school.

Alternative Devotions

On May 12, we are starting a new casual/ interactive church service, Church A.D. (Alternative Devotions). This is an outgrowth of One Family Fun Night which will provide an additional weekly opportunity for fellowship and worship. Please join us each week at 5:00 PM

Volunteering with Minors

To comply with our insurance company requirements, the following changes have been adopted by the Christian Education Committee and incorporated into the BPC Manual of Operations:

- All volunteers must be involved with BPC for at least six (6) months before they are allowed in any position involving contact with minors.
- No minor should be alone with only one adult on church premises or in any church-sponsored activity.



Nursery Volunteers

Want to get to know the younger youth better? Volunteer for the nursery. A sign-up sheet for the months of May – August is in the back of the church.

Small Groups

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

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



Arts and Crafts Show

Thank you to those who have volunteered to donate items or help at the lunch to be served by the church during the annual Arts and Craft Show, which will be held Saturday, May 11. Our greatest remaining need is for at least seven more pies, so if you can possibly provide a pie or two, we would greatly appreciate it. We also still have needs for 12 packs of brand-name pop and for additional help on the following shifts: lawn set up (8:00-9:00), serving and restocking (11:00-1:30) and clean-up and tear-down (1:30-2:30).

If you are able to help by donating items or working, please complete a bulletin insert or contact Jodi Brauen, Lori Schmidt, or Clair Winebar. Due to the ongoing basement remodeling project, please deliver donated items to the upstairs meeting room (the former "green room").

Proceeds from this meal are designated for our general budget. Again, thank you for your generous help! Prayers for good weather would also be appreciated!



I was overwhelmed by the show of love, concern, prayers, flowers, visits, phone calls, and food delivery that was given to me during my recent stroke.

I am getting stronger every day and hope to get back to my old self soon. I'm doing out-patient therapy now so another thank you goes to anyone who gives me a ride since I'm not allowed to drive yet.

I feel this is what God wants us to do – take care of our own and your certainly get an A+ for all you've done.

Special thanks also to Betsey for taking such good care of my dog Molly.

I love you all,
Darlene

Thank you to everyone who supported the youth group's 30 Hour Famine this year! The 10 participants raised \$370 dollars, donated over 40 pounds of food, and completed a service project at the Bluffton Child Development Center all while going without food for 30 hours. We also appreciated your support as we led worship as a conclusion to our event and we LOVED all the wonderful food that was shared at the breaking of our fast.

A special thank you goes to Pastor Matthew, Michelle and Ariana for welcoming us into their home for part of the event!

Knitting Group

The Knitting Group is in need of yarn. Any odds and ends of yarn you would like to donate would be greatly appreciated.

Happy Birthday!!



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|------|----|--------------------|
| May | 1 | Louise Reichenbach |
| | 2 | Patrick Rhonemus |
| | 3 | Paige McVetta |
| | 9 | George Stultz |
| | 11 | Bill Begg |
| | 14 | Teresa Edelbrock |
| | 20 | Tucker Neff |
| | 21 | Brandon Best |
| | | Becky Winebar |
| | 23 | Avis Marshall |
| | 24 | Carole Enneking |
| | | Kevin McVetta |
| | 26 | Rebecca Hursey |
| | | Kory Enneking |
| | 29 | Heidi Hotmire |
| June | 1 | Michelle Zuehlke |
| | 6 | Sheila Hurlburt |
| | | Donnas Stone |



College Graduate Amanda Rhonemus

Amanda Rhonemus will be graduating from Capital University with a Bachelor's of Music degree in Vocal Music Education. During her time at Capital she was privileged to sing with the Women's Chorus, Chapel Choir and Philomel. As a member of the Chapel Choir, Amanda served as President, Treasurer, and section leader, as well as secretary for Philomel. Her participation in these ensembles has taken her around the world to places such as Florida, Colorado, South Africa, and Oman.

While at Capital, Amanda was also active in the Ohio Music Educators Association, the American Choral Director's Association, Ohio Association of Kodaly Educators, and has gained membership into Alpha Chi and Pi Kappa Lambda, both of which are national honors societies. Amanda was also very active in the international music fraternity, Sigma Alpha Iota, where she served as recording secretary and the chapter's music director.

Upon graduation, Amanda hopes to attain a position teaching choir and general music in the state of Ohio. She cannot wait to bring her love of music to her future students!

College Graduate Chad Carroll



I would like to thank everyone who has helped me over the years. During the past four years while attending Ohio Northern University, I received a BS in Environmental Science. I have grown both mentally and spiritually and I know it would not have been possible without the backing of the church community.

I would especially like to thank Dave and Myrna Englehardt, who without them allowing me to work for them for the past several years, none of this would have been possible. Plus, now Myrna is not afraid to talk to me (She might say it's the other way around).

Last summer, I had an internship at Alloway Environmental Testing in Lima which turned into part-time employment during the school year. Over spring break they offered me a full time job and I took them up on it. So starting a week after graduation I will be staying in the area (even though she won't admit it, I know my mom is happy) and working there.

Sometime in the future I would like to continue on to graduate school so I can work for an agency working with habitat restoration. Once again, I would like to thank everyone and to let you know that all the help was greatly appreciated.

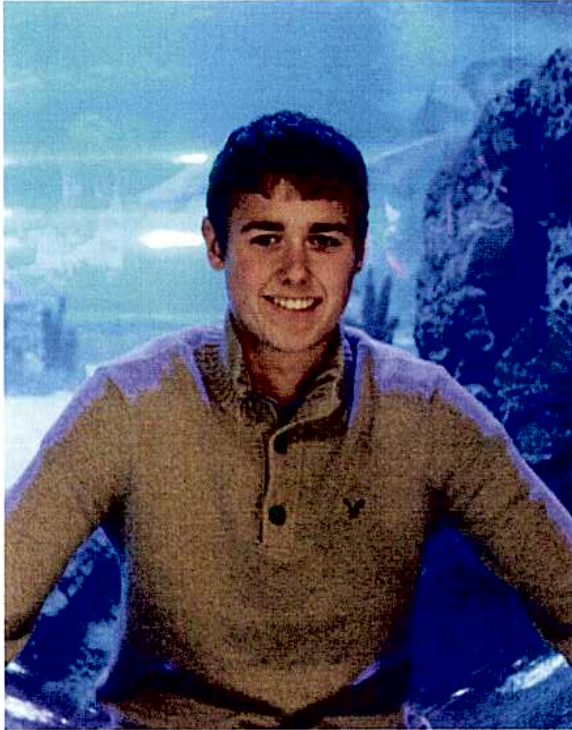
College Graduate Katie McCracken



Katie McCracken graduated from Bowling Green State University in May 2013 with a Bachelors degree in Event Planning. Katie was part of the Delta Sigma Pi Business Fraternity where she served on the event planning committee for 2 years. She was a member of the Equestrian Team for 3 years, competing in both English and Western. During her college career, she worked for several nonprofits including the Toledo Zoo, Project H.O.P.E. Equine Assisted Therapies, and the Seagate Foodbank.

She is completing an internship this summer and will be enrolling in an MBA program in the fall.

Kory Matthew Enneking



Kory, son of Jim and Carole Enneking, will graduate with honors from Bluffton High School. His college plan is to attend the University of North Carolina – Wilmington to study Marine Biology.

During his high school career, Kory has been active in several sports, as well as advanced academics. For all four years, Kory has played soccer and tennis, as well as participated in the bowling league (Southgate Lanes). His junior and senior years, he served as a co-captain for the tennis team. He plays regularly as a varsity doubles player, but has played several singles matches as well. Kory was a goalkeeper for the BHS soccer team



and was chosen as co-captain his senior year. In the off season, Kory has kept physically active at BFR playing indoor soccer and taking tennis lessons. While he will not be playing any sports at the collegiate level, Kory plans to continue recreational soccer and tennis while in North Carolina. Kory has worked part-time at the Bluffton McDonalds for four years and assisted with BFR tennis lessons.



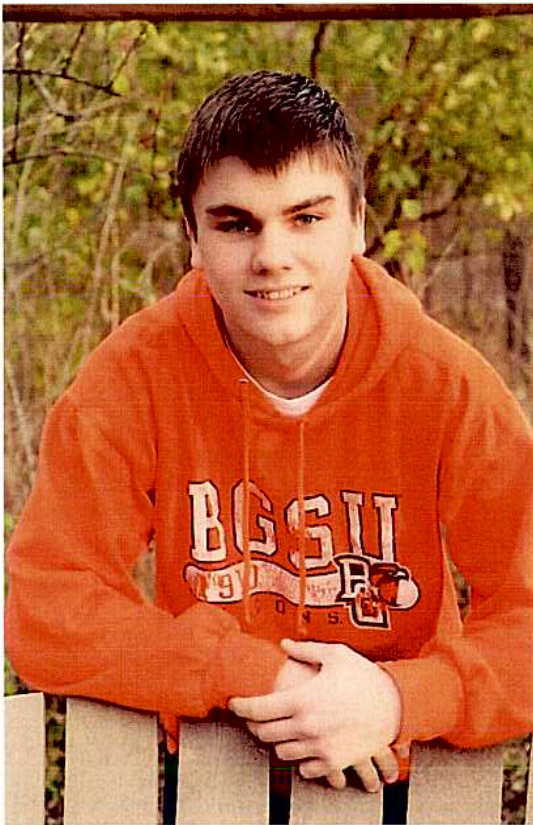
Kory's love for Marine Life began in the summer of 2011 after being selected for the Ocean Focus science program through the High School. Kory created his first saltwater fish tank project that summer and now has four tanks with corals and ornamental fish. Last summer, he spent nine days (along with Nathan Hursh and other BHS students) in the Florida Keys with the Ocean Focus trip. They snorkeled, gathered samples, wrote research journals, and visited a turtle hospital, as well as enjoyed the sunshine. His passion for marine life was so clear that Kory was invited to serve as a teaching assistant with this year's program and he will travel with the group this June. In addition to the Ocean Focus program, Kory has completed Advanced

Chemistry, Physics, and Anatomy & Physiology at the high school and Calculus at Bluffton University.

An open house to celebrate Kory's graduation is planned for Sunday, May 26 from 4-6pm at our home, 303 Campus Dr., Bluffton. Everyone is welcome to stop by!



NATHANIEL AARON HURSH



Nathan is a 2013 graduate of Bluffton High School and plans to attend Bowling Green State University studying Visual Communication Technology in the fall, being a recipient of the freshman scholarship. During High School Nathan was a member of the marching, concert, jazz, and pep bands. He also played soccer for three years and completed the Ocean Focus Program in the summer of 2012. During



the summer months Nathan has been employed as a lifeguard at the Bluffton Pool and served as a head guard in the summer of 2012.

Nathan has enjoyed his experience with the Bluffton Presbyterian Church having attended since 2000, being baptized and confirmed in the church. Nathan has been an active member of the youth group, participating regularly in youth services, Souper Bowl of Caring, and the 30 hour famine. He also serves as the volunteer webmaster for the church's website and posts photographs of the congregation and podcasts of the services.

In addition to school, church, and work Nathan enjoys photography and videography which will be part of his studies in college. He has had photographs published by Hometown Stations and the Bluffton News and an article re-printed in the Bluffton Icon. One of his works was displayed at the Kewpee High School Art Invitational and entered into the Governor's Youth Art Exhibition.



He will be celebrating his graduation with two other graduates, who have been his friends and neighbors for many years (Nathan Bunch and Tyler Carroll), on Sunday, May 26, 2012 from 1:00 PM until 3:00 PM at 505 Greeding Street. Anyone from the congregation who wishes to attend will be welcomed. No RSVP necessary.

Blessing of the Animals



Blessing of the Animals

The Scriptures tell us that we are stewards of God's Creation. And, as God made it, it was good! It is helpful for us to take time, look around, and see the wonderful world that God has made and acknowledge our place in God's wider Creation.



Bluffton Presbyterian Church
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Email: revdrmz@gmail.com
Cell Phone: 567-825-3973
Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9:30-1:00

Secretary: Cathy Carroll
Email: bpcbluff@wcoil.com
Office Hours: Tues & Wed 9:00-12:30
Website: 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 – Kay Ziessler and Tom Edwards
Personnel – Kay Ziessler
Presbytery Commissioner – Darlene Hey
Worship – Jeanette Warren
Members at Large – Tom Edwards, Rhonda Moor, and Donnas Stone

Board of Deacons

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