



What's Happening at Bluffton Presbyterian Church

October 2017

Growing in Faith • Sharing God's Love

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, October 1 – World Communion

Special Music: Julia Szabo
Sound: Bob Hursh
Lay Reader: Jay McCracken
Greeters: Clair and Diane Winebar
Acolyte: McVetta Girls

Sunday, October 8

Choir
Sound: Jay McCracken
Lay Reader: Tanya Best
Greeters: John and Gayle Marshall
Acolyte: McVetta Girls

Sunday, October 15

Youth Choir and Praise Team
Sound: Mike Rhonemus
Lay Reader: Carole Enneking
Greeters: Talavinia Family
Acolyte: Avery Talavinia

Sunday, October 22

Choir
Sound: Jeff Gillen
Lay Reader: Diane Winebar
Greeters: Gillen Family
Acolyte: Sarah Gillen

Sunday, October 29

Special Music: TBD
Sound: TBD
Lay Reader: Helen Hawk
Greeters: Brauen Family
Acolyte: Owen Brauen

Sunday, November 5 - Communion

Lay Reader: Marilyn Edwards

Mark Your Calendars!

- October 1 – 3 Cents a Meal Offering
- October 1 – Fellowship Sponsored by Session – Following Worship
- October 1 – Youth Group – 5:00-8:00 PM – 5:00 PM Meal/Meeting – 6:00 PM Leave for Suters Corn Maze
- October 4 – New Beginnings – 7:30 PM
- October 8 – Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Bucket Items Due
- October 8 – Open House at Manse – 4:00 to 6:00 PM
- October 8 – Stewardship Committee Meeting – Following Worship
- October 11 – Praise Team – 7:30 PM
- October 12 – Session Meeting – 7:00 PM
- October 15 – Ignite Group – Pack Clean-Up Buckets – 4:00 PM – Luke's Bar and Grill for Dinner Following
- October 22 – Celebrating the Reformation – MVP Service – Collingwood Presbyterian Church – Toledo, OH – 4:00 PM
- October 25 – Deacons Meeting – 7:30 PM
- October 26 – Trick or Treat – 6:00 to 7:30 PM at Bluffton Presbyterian Church
- October 29 – Newsletter Items Deadline CEGillen@MarathonPetroleum.com
- **November 4 – Remember to move clocks back one hour before you go to bed Saturday night.**
- November 5 – Share The Spirit Fellowship – Following Worship
- November 5 – Service of Worship and Installation – 4:00 PM at Bluffton Presbyterian Church – Reception Following Service

Small Groups

Claralice Circle will meet every Tuesday evening 6:30-8:30 PM in the church.

Sister Min Circle will meet the 2nd and 4th Friday afternoons from 2:00-3:00 PM at Maple Crest.

Note from the pastor:

October is here and the congregation is buzzing with activity after the travels and transitions of summer! Church leadership, committees, choirs, small groups, youth group, and Sunday school classes are all meeting to coordinate various aspects of our church life, creating both existing and new opportunities for involvement. We love to gather together each Sunday morning for worship. However, it is good to spend time together in other ways, too. How else would you like to be involved with your brothers and sisters in Christ? Are you seeking an opportunity for group Bible study? Ways to be a volunteer with local service groups? Preparing and sharing meals together? As we think about how to support current programs and offer new ones, please talk with me, or any of our elders and deacons, about what our church can do to serve our members and others, and how you might like to be involved. Give it a shot – your idea may be just what others need too!

In preparation for Sunday worship, I encourage you to read the book of Ephesians. Throughout the month of October, we will be studying Ephesians chapters 4, 3, and 2. At the end of the month, we will celebrate Reformation Day in our worship, in recognition of the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther and other reformers standing up for their beliefs and opening the way for church reform within the Church universal. We will honor our Christian heritage and be reminded of the grace that is central to our faith. “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God – not the result of works, so that no one may boast.” Ephesians 2:8-9. How sweet the sound of this grace, amazing indeed!

In Christ,

Pastor Karol



World Communion Sunday: October 1, 2017

The first Sunday in October is designated as World Communion Sunday, which celebrates our oneness in Christ with all our brothers and sisters around the world. Paul tells us that we are to “discern the body” when we partake of Holy Communion, mindful that we note our relationship to all our brothers and sisters in Christ in the celebration. It is appropriate that World Communion Sunday is also a time when we receive the annual Peace and Global Witness Offering as a way of continuing the ancient Christian practice of sharing what we have with brothers and sisters in need.

World Communion Sunday (originally called World Wide Communion Sunday) is a gift of the Presbyterian Church to the larger ecumenical church. The first celebration occurred at Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, PA, in 1933. Celebration of World Wide Communion Sunday was adopted as a denominational practice in the Presbyterian Church (US) in 1936. Churches in other denominations were invited to celebrate with us from the beginning, but it wasn't until 1940 when the Department of Evangelism of the Federal Council of Churches (a predecessor body of the National Council of Churches) promoted extending the celebration to a number of churches around the world that the practice became widespread. Today, World Communion Sunday is celebrated around the world, demonstrating that the church founded on Jesus Christ peacefully shares God-given goods in a world increasingly destabilized by globalization and global market economies based on greed. Here at Bluffton Presbyterian Church, our table is the table of Christ, open to Christians from all denominations and from all around the world. We are one in Christ.

Proclaim the Peace of Christ

“So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near.”
Ephesians 2:14-17

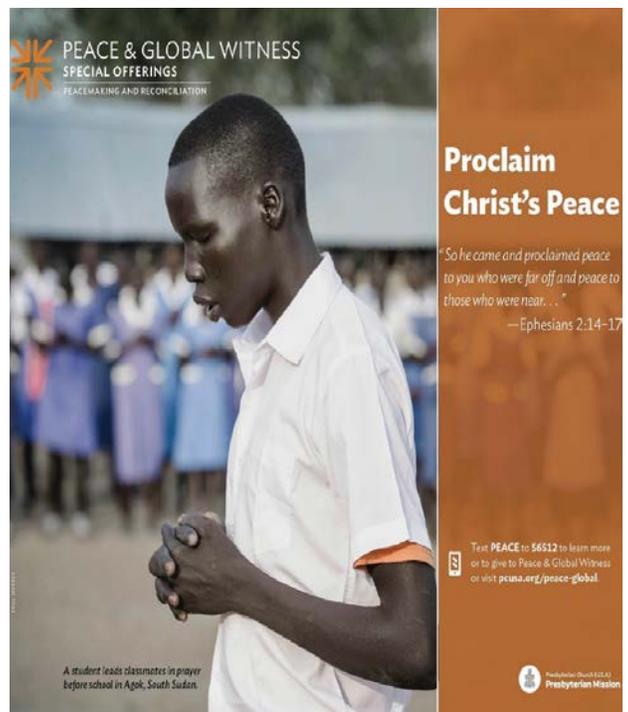
The letter to the Ephesians tells us that Jesus came to proclaim a peace that is universal. While the earthly ministry of Jesus was in a specific age and place, the peace he shared is limited by neither time nor geography. As followers of Christ, our call to witness and work for peace begins in our own neighborhoods and extends to the ends of the earth. It is a demanding call, but it is one that Presbyterians at all levels of the church are seeking to follow. The Peace & Global Witness Offering exists to support the holistic and wide-ranging witness of the whole church.

At the national level, this witness is done in direct support of those working to heal the divisions in violent contexts like South Sudan. It means creating educational materials that equip congregations to deal with important issues, from disagreements between members of session to bullying to gun violence. It means bringing leaders together who have made a profound witness for peace around the world and deploying them as a resource to congregations like yours and leaders like you. And it means speaking up for the vulnerable around the world through a seat at the United Nations table. The Offering strengthens the collaboration of the Peacemaking Program and the Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations with the reconciliation work of global partners through World Mission.

Yet the Offering is as much about our local congregation’s living out a commitment to peacemaking, proclaiming Christ’s peace. Twenty-five percent of the Offering stays in our local congregation (the mission committee and session will decide how to use these funds) and another 25 percent goes to Presbytery and Synod. The ways congregations engage this work speak to the strengths of each congregation and the context

where they see the need. It has meant supporting the work of a mission co-worker in finding reconciliation in difficult international contexts. It has meant two pastors in Texas starting an organization that seeks civility in political discourse. It has meant scholarships for students recognized as peacemakers, resettlement of refugees, and support for shelters where those who are abused may find refuge.

The Peace & Global Witness Offering sustains a witness in many forms and at every level of the PC (USA), but all are bound together in Christ. Together we are a living proclamation of the peace we know in Christ, who puts an end to hostilities and speaks peace to those near and far.



Manse Open House

Pastor Karol and members of the Pastor Nominating Committee will host an open house at the manse on Sunday October 8 from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. You are invited to come see the results of all the renovations that were completed this summer and over the past couple of years. The investment of time and resources has created a wonderful space for our new pastor to call home. Feel free to stop by between 4:00 and 6:00 PM on October 8 at the manse on Sunset Drive. Light refreshments will be served.

Service of Worship and Installation for Pastor Karol

The installation service for our new pastor, Rev. Karol Farris, will be held here in the sanctuary of Bluffton Presbyterian Church on Sunday, November 5 at 4:00 PM. The entire congregation is invited to be present for this service of worship, along with members of Maumee Valley Presbytery and other guests. Following the afternoon worship (with special music from our church choir), a reception will be held for all in attendance to congratulate Pastor Karol and greet one another, including Presbytery representatives and out-of-town guests. Mark your calendars for this special occasion!



Deacons Report

- Discussed with Pastor Karol about providing communion to members who may be unable to attend Church.
- A heart-felt *thank you* to everyone who chose the name of a homebound member on September 10. Those whom you chose will be blessed to receive your card, note, or visit in the coming month. Our next Share the Spirit event will be held on November 5.

Special Donation for Church Family

Donations being accepted for a special need in congregation. A special need in the congregation has come to the attention of the session, who have approved a giving opportunity. Tyler and Laura From are in need of a new wheelchair for Tyler, as his current one no longer meets his need. Their share of the cost is over \$6,000 which is about 20% of the total cost. You may make contributions of any amount toward this cause by writing a check to Bluffton Presbyterian Church and designating Tyler & Laura From in the memo. Thank you for considering your ability to assist them in paying for this much needed expense.

Pastor Appreciation Month

October is Pastor Appreciation Month. If you wish to send Pastor Karol a card, please send to the church:

Bluffton Presbyterian Church
112 N. Main St.
P.O. Box 149
Bluffton, OH 45817



Thanks for your 3 cents-a-meal gift and for helping us feed the hungry in the Bluffton area. Your kindness is much appreciated.

Bluffton Community Assistance

Thank you for the cards and visits while I was in Mennonite Home Rehab. A special thanks to Pastor Karol for her visits.

Colletta Mullenhour

A **BIG** thank you to everyone who worked on the Manse Project. Those who were able to provide their time and talents saved our church money, as well as provide our pastor with a beautifully updated new home.

Buildings and Grounds

A huge thank you to Don and Cathy Carroll, Lori Schmidt, Cindy Gillen, Sarah Brauen, Sue Van Eman, and Diane Winebar who helped host the Family Promise Meal in September! We were able to serve 3 families, including 6 adults, 2 children and 2 newborns who are working to overcome homelessness. Additional opportunities to participate in this mission outreach will be announced in the future.

Highlights of Sept.'s Session Meeting

- Bluffton Preschool started classes on September 6 – things going well except that AC in that area not working. M+R has been contacted. Internet Wi-Fi problems at times, equipment locked in pastor's office. Suggested that Pastor Karol contact Spectrum to get a combined modem/router. Little Free Food Pantry is going well – well stocked and good turnover.
- Moving company delivered items at manse on August 24. Dave Sycks, Ryan Brauen, and Dave Van Eman helped with additional furniture/books to church on August 28. Pastor Karol started September 1 with first Sunday, September 10. Plans to have Pastor Relations Committee, small group of members of the congregation. Formal review and evaluation would be completed by Personnel Committee.
- Permission given to Marilyn Edwards and Linda Sycks to borrow tables/chairs. Thank you letters sent to 4 pastors who provided emergency pastoral coverage in July/August. Approved electronically - to collect monetary/cleaning bucket supplies for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance in their hurricane relief efforts.
- Pastor Karol shared email address, phone numbers, and office hours – Friday will be day off. Attended Bluffton University's greeting students meeting with Lin Rumer. Attended BAMA's meeting and is working on plans for Community Festival Praise and Worship Service. She and Sue Van Eman have volunteered to play for special music. Approved spending up to \$1000 to purchase computer equipment for the pastor's office with money coming from Evans Bequest. Approved spending up to \$150 for chair for pastor's office with money coming from Evans Bequest. Working on having Installation on a Sunday in November. Planning to have Open House at the manse in October for church members to see renovation work. Tom Hursey will work to get blinds installed in Pastor's Office.
- Manse renovations are now finished. Since much of the work was done by church members, expense was lower than if outside contractor hired to all parts. To date, renovation expenses are \$12,319.69 with additional \$1,643 for appliances (dishwasher, washer, dryer). Earlier in the year, \$5,000 was allotted for this purpose. Approved spending an additional \$10,000 from building fund to cover manse renovation expenses. Lynda has been able to sell many items from the manse on the Bluffton Online Garage Sale – shutters, chair, slide, stove hood, ceiling fan, washing machine - so far over \$300. First Class Lawn Care has treated lawns at manse and church for a total of about \$300. M+R has been contacted to look at the drinking fountain which doesn't drain well and the sink in the women's bathroom which backs up. Harold Schuck is creating cover for rusted out window well grate on handicap ramp. He also created brushed metal plate to go around ovens in the church kitchen.
- Planning to participate in Bluffton's Trick or Treat night by distributing candy in front of the church. Session asked New Beginnings to look into proposal for making visual display boards permanent and new location for projector.
- Approved request from Lions to hold Chicken BBQ at the church on Blaze lighting night – November 25. Mayor will be contacted so they know they would need to request to use church lawn for Blaze display and provide proof of insurance. Approved allowing church family to make donations to church designated towards Tyler From's new wheelchair as their share of cost is over \$6,000.



Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

We will be collecting items starting now through October 8 for disaster relief through the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance program. Please pick up a "Gift of the Heart Kits" flier in the back of the church with items being requested. Items can be dropped off in the back of the church or in the office. Any questions contact Lynda Best 419-296-2790.

Give today to help Presbyterian Disaster Assistance bring hope and healing to Texas families impacted by Hurricane Harvey and to families in Florida after Hurricane Irma. Your gifts are urgently needed now to support the communities devastated by these historic storms and those throughout the Gulf region. For those who wish to support PDA's emergency response and recovery efforts, designate Harvey/Irma on memo of check and put in offering plate.

American Red Cross

Every nine minutes, volunteers help the American Red Cross bring help and hope to people in need. Be a hero and make a difference in your community by volunteering today! Contact us today at westcentralohio@redcross.org or by phone at 419-905-8302.



Youth Group

The Youth Group will meet on October 1 from 5:00 to 8:00 PM for a combined meeting and event! We will meet at the church at 5:00 PM for our meal and we will begin our "Faith Questions" study "Being Presbyterian". At 6:00 we will head to Suter's to enjoy the "Walking with Dinosaurs II" Corn Maze. The cost of the maze is \$4.50 for students and \$6.00 for adults. We will return to the church by 8:00 PM. As always friends are invited to participate!

Depending on the number of participants we may need additional adult drivers. If you are willing to help please let Tenna know.

Little Free Pantry



A Little Free Pantry is now open in downtown Bluffton. It is located on the grounds of the Bluffton Presbyterian Church near the Family Dollar parking lot. The community is invited to donate food or personal products. Anyone needing these products is welcome to take them at any time. No registration is necessary.

The pantry contains canned vegetables and proteins, pasta, powdered milk, personal care products, and other shelf stable items. Selection will vary.

Bluffton Area Food Pantry

The Bluffton Area Food Pantry thanks you for your continued support. Listed below is a revised list of some items to consider for the pantry:

- Canned Meats
- Hamburger Helper and similar meals
- Tuna and Tuna Helper
- Breakfast Cereals and Instant Oatmeal
- Chunky Soups and Crackers
- Spaghetti and Spaghetti Sauce
- Tomato Sauce
- Macaroni and Cheese
- Mexican Food Products: Tortillas, Sauces
- Canned Fruits
- Chili Beans and Baked Beans
- Peanut Butter
- Noodles and Beef Ramen Noodles
- Baking Items: Brownies, Cookies, Cakes
- Rice and Riceroni Items
- Condiments: Catsup, Mustard, Mayo
- Paper products: Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Tissues, Napkins, Paper Plates
- Personal Hygiene Products: Deodorant, Shampoo and Hair Care Items, Lotions, Soft Soaps, Toothbrushes, Combs and Brushes



Ignite - merging fellowship, families, and service

Ignite is a gathering of individuals for active fellowship, we are family-friendly and inter-generational; we strive to build a stronger community. Everyone is welcome to join us for some or for all of our projects!! Contact Sarah Brauen snbrauen@gmail.com or Carole Enneking jcenne@gmail.com for more information.

- Ignite will meet on Sunday, October 15 at 4:00 PM to pack the Clean-up Buckets. We will meet in the back of church. For those interested, we will join together for dinner at Luke's Bar & Grill. Sign up in church or contact Carole Enneking (419-348-7691, jcenne@gmail.com).

Bon Fire at Don and Cathy Carroll's Home



Weekday Christian Education Dates

Tuesday, October 10
8:00-9:30 AM
1:40-2:50 PM

Friday, November 3
8:50-9:55 AM
10:35-11:05 AM
11:50 AM-12:55 PM
1:00-2:10 PM
2:25-2:55 PM

Thursday, November 30
8:50-9:55 AM
1:45-2:55 PM

Contact Carole Enneking (419-348-7691 or jcenne@gmail.com) for more information.

Prayer Requests

Prayers for our members and friends serving in the armed forces: especially Kyle Begg, Austin Begg, Dave Souders, Andrew Warner, and Lucas Woodward.

Prayers of Healing for Michael Lee Bucher, Carl Wolf, Tyler and Laura From, Autumn Sprunger, Emerson Basinger, Grace Cassidy, Bob and Jean Braden, Barb Fett, Jenny Bogart, Katie Swank, Alice Schmidt, and Rebecca Dray-Smith.

Prayers for Rev. Matthew Zuehlke who is taking early retirement due to health issues. He is unable to work and is seriously ill. Cards would be appreciated and may be mailed to:

Matthew and Michelle Zuehlke
2506 Aqua Marine Blvd.
Avon Lake, OH 44012

We Lift Our Prayers



Put a prayer request in – take a prayer request out. Look for prayer request slips in the pews and near the prayer box. Or use your own paper. Requests can be as simple as “I’m having back pain,” or “My son is looking for a job.” The slips can be placed in the box or in the offering plates. Prayer requests can be submitted anonymously. Allow someone in your church family to support you in private prayer.

BPC Prayer Chain

If you have a prayer request, please contact Mike Rhonemus (419-358-8148 / rhonstar@juno.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 add someone to the prayer chain other than yourself, 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.



October	1	Owen Scoles
	4	Olivia Sneary
	5	Jennifer Hough Robbie McGarrity
	7	Anne McCracken
	8	Phil Weisenbarger
	9	James Freidenberg
	10	Mariah Pneuman
	15	Terry Mullenhour
	18	Amanda Rhonemus
	20	Don Carroll
	23	Ingo Montgomery
	30	Tonya Best Tayler Nowak-Valentine Phill Talavinia
November	2	Molly McCracken Julia Szabo

“Be willing to help and care for each other because of Christ. By doing this, you honor Christ.” Ephesians 5:21



The Deacons are searching for volunteers to help transport members to church who are unable to drive themselves. They may need some assistance when entering certain vehicles.

Your participation in this program will continue to allow us all to worship the Lord together as a family. If you're interested in helping, please contact Pastor Karol or any Deacon.



Personal Information

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

If your birthday or you know of a birthday that does not show up in our newsletter, please let Cindy Gillen know.

Goblins and spooks and avengers, oh my



Bring a lawn chair and join members of our congregation to greet Bluffton children as they go trick or treat on October 26 at 6:00 PM. Anyone who would like to donate a bag of candy to hand out to the kids can bring it with them or if you can't make it that night, leave it in the office.

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. As you gather the leftover cans from your graduation party or summer barbeque, bring the cans to the church basement and contribute them to a worthy cause.



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.

Free Christian Concert – Findlay, Ohio

On October 29 the local band “**Activ8**” will be hosting a night of praise and worship at Winebrenner Theological Seminary in Findlay, Ohio, free of charge. This concert is for everyone regardless of church denomination and age. Please invite friends and family as we worship our Lord together. Feel free to forward to anyone who might be interested.



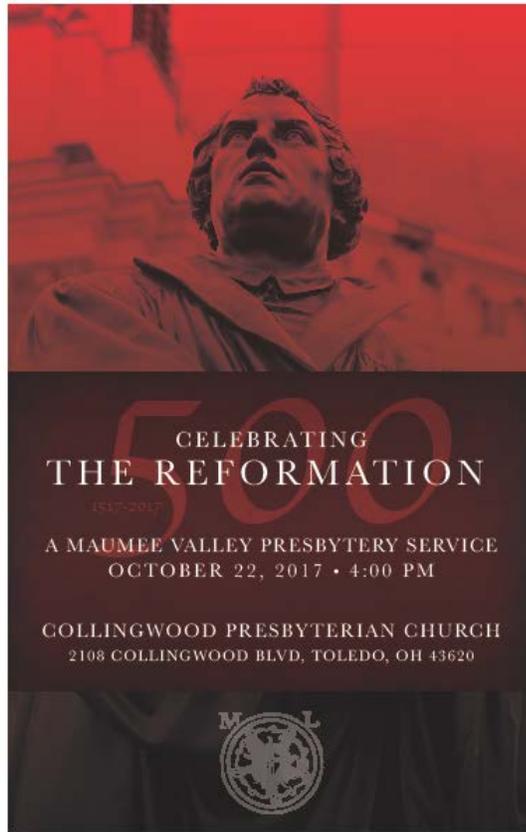
Who is Activ8

Activ8 is a local youth/young adult band. These young people have been called of God to impact the youth of this area through praise and worship and also to bring the body of Christ together as one. The band members attend different churches and promote Jesus Christ alone. The Activ8 band has answered God's call to establish a worship culture in this area that repels the drug epidemic in Hancock county. We want to see our youth free from drug addiction, saved and serving Christ our Lord. Please contact Dodji Sossou 419-306-3975 if you have any questions about this band.

St. John's UCC Beef & Noodle Dinner

There will be a Beef & Noodle Dinner at St. John's UCC on Friday, October 6 from 4:30 to 6:30 PM. See Church bulletin board for more information.





CELEBRATING THE REFORMATION

A MAUMEE VALLEY PRESBYTERY SERVICE

ADDITIONAL EVENTS

1:00 pm Crop Walk sponsored by Toledo Campus Ministry.

4:00 pm Worship Celebration, with Rev. Gradye Parsons, preaching.
Rev. Parsons is the Former Stated Clerk of the PCUSA, and is now doing consulting with congregations regarding the changes happening in the church of Jesus Christ. Combined choirs.

5:30 pm Dinner at Collingwood –A catered meal with reservations requested to belinda@maumeevp.org prior to October 16th.

7:00 pm Beer and Hymns – Come to sing the “old time hymns” in the Fellowship Hall of Collingwood Presbyterian Church.

COLLINGWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
2108 COLLINGWOOD BLVD, TOLEDO, OH 43620

Bluffton Presbyterian Church

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

Pastor: Rev. Karol Farris
419-581-9232
pastor@blufftonpc.org

Office Hours:
Tues. and Wed. 10-4, Thurs. 9-12

Secretary: Cathy Carroll
bpcbluff@wcoil.com
Office Hours: Tues. and Wed. 9-12:30

Treasurer: Darin Leugers
dleugers8319@yahoo.com

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

2017 Church Officers*Session*

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

Board of Deacons

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