



Growing in Faith • Sharing God's Love

What's Happening at Bluffton Presbyterian Church

September 2023

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, September 3 – Communion

Pulpit Supply: Rev. Dave Good
Liturgist: Dick McGarrity
Special Music: Don Brauen
Sound: Rob McGarrity/Camera: Clair Winebar
Slides: Pastor Dave
Acolyte: Bowen
Greeters: David and Barbara McClurg

Sunday, September 10 – Outdoor Worship, Cents-Ability Offering

Pulpit Supply: Jeremy Basinger
Liturgist: Marilyn Edwards
Special Music: Kerry Fremont
Sound: Rob McGarrity/Camera: Clair Winebar
Slides: Diane Winebar
Acolyte: Robbie
Greeters: Gene and Sue Mathewson

Sunday, September 17

Pulpit Supply: Jim Boroff
Liturgist: Kerry Fremont
Special Music: Lori Schmidt
Sound: Ryan Brauen/Camera: Betsey Angus
Slides: Michele Talavinia
Acolyte: Avery
Greeters: Tom and Marilyn Edwards

Sunday, September 24

Pulpit Supply: Jim Boroff
Liturgist: Carole Enneking
Special Music: Choir
Sound: Jeff Gillen/Camera: Clair Winebar
Slides: Cathy Carroll
Acolytes: Owen and Clara
Greeters: Jeff and Kerry Fremont

Mark Your Calendars!

Sundays:

Sunday School 9:00 AM – Pre-K-6th Grade –
Fellowship Hall starting September 10
Worship 10:15 AM – Sanctuary – Outdoor Sept. 10
Children's Church – Fellowship Hall starting
September 10

Tuesdays: Claralice Circle 6:30 PM – Fellowship
Hall starting September 12

Wednesdays: Choir Rehearsal 6:30 PM – Sanctuary
starting September 6

September 7 – First Choir Practice 6:30 PM

September 9 – Lima Rescue Mission 4:30 PM

September 10 – Outdoor Worship from Gazebo

September 23 – Bluffton Fall Festival – BPC 9:00 –
Noon on Church Lawn and Gazebo

September 24 – BPC Fall Celebration before
Worship 9:45 AM Coffee and Donuts – Church
Potluck following Worship

**September 26 – Newsletter Items Deadline to
Cindy by end of day**

September 30 – Church Party 5:00 PM at Don and
Jodi Brauen's

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

Church Picnic

Don and Jodi Brauen will be hosting a church
picnic on Saturday, September 30, at 5:00 p.m.,
7140 Tom Fett Rd, Bluffton. Meat and drinks will
be provided. Please bring a dish to share. RSVP to
Don or Jodi.



MISSION

Peace and Global offering in the month of September.

Participating in the Bluffton Fall Festival, September 23. Will be out on the sidewalk/lawn with cider and donuts. Entertainment in the gazebo 9:00 a.m. to Noon.



Thanks to Don and Cathy Carroll and Helen Hawk for covering August Pizza Night at LRM. Also, thanks to everyone who helped with donations.

We currently are covered for September and October. The next couple of Pizza Nights are November 11 and December 9. 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!

Little Free Pantry

Aug 28-Sept 3 – Diane Winebar
Sept 4-Sept 10 – Jodi Brauen
Sept 11-Sept 17 – Sue Van Eman
Sept 18-Sept 24 – Jayne McGarrity
Sept 25-Oct 1 – Carole Enneking

Donations needed at this point are canned fruit (peaches, pears, mandarin oranges, and fruit cocktail) and canned meats (chicken, tuna, and beef stew).



Continued Prayers for:

Those who live alone or in care facilities and are less able to engage in meaningful connections with others, including Jane Benroth, Ralph Middleton, Ben Miracle, Hazel Rodabaugh, and Owen Ziessler.

Members and friends serving in the armed forces.

Prayers of Sympathy for:

Lynda and Kim Best and family on the recent passing of Lynda's mother, Peggy Hursey.

We Pray for God's Healing for:

Jane Benroth
Alaina (friend of LeAnn Carr)
Makayla, Skyler, and Rhett (friends of Tyler and Jade Hochstetler)
Sylvia (Diane Winebar's sister)
Kim Best (Lynda Best's husband)
Dr. Sharon Cole (Darlene Hey's doctor)
Carolyn Dahms (Marilyn Edward's sister)
Linda Francies (Bev Begg's daughter)
Bobbi Mueller (Darlene Hey's daughter)
Larry and Eileen Rhonemus (Mike's parents)
Jessie Spencer (Darlene Hey's great niece)
Sandi Waibel (Donnas Stone's sister)
Taylor Zsiros (Jeff and Kerry Fremont's son's fiancé)

BPC Prayer Chain

If you have a prayer request, 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.

Thank You

Dear friends of Bluffton Presbyterian Church,
Thank you very much for all the items you collected and brought in from our needs list. And thank you for bringing in supper each month for the men here at the mission. We appreciate your care and concern for the needs of others.

Sincerely,

Chuck and Colleen Ferguson

We are so thankful for the prayers that have been lifted up for my sister Sandy. We have moved her and she is now living at Birchhaven in Findlay in independent living and doing much better. She says thank you to the church for your prayers.
Donnas and Stoney

Thank you to Dave Sycks and Kerry Fremont for all the work on the manse!

Thanks to those who helped with National Night Out!!

Thanks to those who donated to Christmas in July for the Lima Rescue Mission! Huge success!!

Jade Hochstetler - Mission

Small Group Resumes September 12

In Christian community we meet, sing, pray, study, and mutually encourage each other's faith. We listen, care, provide support and strength to each other, and talk about important things -- no judgement.

During fall session, the small group ladies will discuss the book "When Bad Things Happen to Good People" by Harold S. Kushner. Those attending may purchase their own book. The church will also have extra copies.

Please join us every Tuesday from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the church basement for a shared spiritual life. If you have any questions, please contact Jayne McGarrity or Diane Winebar.

Attention Members

BPC Fall Celebration

A Fall Celebration for the Bluffton Presbyterian Church is scheduled for Sunday, September 24. This is the day following the Fall Festival for the village of Bluffton. Mark your calendars!

Our Fall Celebration will begin with coffee and donuts at 9:45 a.m., 30 minutes before the church service. The choir will be providing special music. A church potluck will immediately follow the morning service. Please plan to attend. During the potluck, there will stations set up with handouts describing new interest groups beginning, as well as the current groups.

This is an opportunity to find your place of interest in the church community, outside of Sunday mornings. Come and renew old friendships and make new ones.

Bluffton Fall Festival

Please help us promote our church during the Fall Festival for Bluffton on Saturday, September 23. There will be activities on the church lawn and in the gazebo from 9:00 a.m. to noon. We can use members, nonmembers, children, and adults to pass out literature about our church and our Sunday Fall Celebration. We will also be passing out snacks, beverages, and balloons. Please contact Linda Nelson, Kerry Fremont, Dick or Jayne McGarrity, or Marilyn Edwards if you can help us promote our church during the Fall Festival.

Faith Formation

Sunday School will resume on September 10, 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. for pre-k through 5th grade. Brooklyn Phillips will be teacher, and the curriculum will be "Won't You Be My Neighbor?" based on Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood. Children's Church will resume on September 10 during the service. Youth Group for 6th through 12th grade will also resume at a date to be announced.

We will participate in the Student Engagement Preview Party at Bluffton University on September 20 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., in order to introduce students to opportunities available at our church; including choir, liturgist, and drama.

Choir Resuming in September

If you love music and like to sing, take note: Choir will resume its Wednesday night practices on September 6 at 6:30 p.m. All previous members and new interested persons are welcome!! The choir will sing the second and fourth Sundays of each month.



There's nothing that compares to the peace, hope, and love that comes from knowing Jesus.

DEACONS

No Deacon meeting was held in August.

SESSION

- Church Leadership Connection portal (connects PNC with candidates) has been redesigned using new forms with new names. Approved the Ministry Discernment Profile (MDP) submitted by Pastor Nominating Committee and this form has been submitted to Maumee Valley Presbytery for approval. Approved Pastor Nominating Committee budget amount of \$10,000 (covers travel expenses – mileage/airfare, hotel, meals of candidates).
- In June, flowers planted at the church and re-mulched both the church and manse. General maintenance at the manse – reversed the basement bedroom door to make light switches easily accessible, tightened several loose-fitting light switches, re-attached the front screen door pneumatic closer, replaced the toilet flusher, replaced the screen in the back sliding door, and replumbed the back downspout so water does not run down the house. In July, Kerry Fremont and Dave Sycks cleaned the manse (kitchen and bathroom cleaned, carpets cleaned, floors mopped, and curtains washed) so it is ready for a future pastor. Dave continues to keep up with the yard, weeding, and the windows at the manse. Approved for Buildings & Grounds to remove the tree behind the preschool room (surrounded by bushes) since it is half dead.
- “Christmas in July” campaign for Lima Rescue Mission – wonderful support with donations. National Night Out – Bluffton Community had a great community turnout – we had 5 volunteers help at the Bounce Houses. Bluffton Fall Festival is Saturday, September 23 – Plan to have cider/donuts for visitors watching the entertainment in Gazebo/lawn. Peace and Global Witness Offering – donating our local portion to group at Trinity Methodist Church (Lima) that focuses on social injustice in the local area.

- Approved request for Bluffton Fall Festival to use the Gazebo/church lawn (for entertainment) on Saturday, September 23. Dave Sycks will coordinate those wishing to provide entertainment.



FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP

July 2023 – General Fund Summary

Balance January 1, 2023	\$
YTD offerings to the general fund and other receipts	
YTD general fund expenses	
July 31, 2023 balance	\$

Thank you for your financial gifts to the general operating fund to support BPC’s ministries!



Fighting Hunger with Cents-Ability

The second Sunday of the month is the Cents-ability collection. The youth will be participating in the collection and making it a “noisy Sunday”. Youth of the church will be walking around the sanctuary with cans, shaking them and collecting from the congregation! Make sure to bring your spare change to help make this as noisy as possible!!

A Noisy Success!

Thank you to BPC’s youth who collected **\$53** for Cents-Ability during the August 13 outdoor service. The cans were clanging all around the church yard! Great job fighting hunger!!



Birthdays

Sept.	2	June Strahm
	4	Jeremy Szabo
	7	Marshall Wagner
	11	Craig Bowman
	13	Julianna Hotmire
	14	Sue Dorsey
	23	David McClurg
	24	Jayne McGarrity
	26	Sue Mathewson
	29	Cindy Gillen
	30	Andrea Best
		Wyatt Marshall
Oct.	5	Robert McGarrity
	8	Phil Weisenbarger
	10	Mariah Pneuman

Anniversaries

Sept.	1	Jeff and Cindy Gillen
	14	Don and Cathy Carroll
	29	Phil and Pam Weisenbarger

Communication Coordinator

Abigail Gwin has resigned due to family needs. At the present time, Cathy Carroll will be handling the weekly email and Jayne McGarrity is covering the digital sign. Please send any information for the weekly email to Cathy and digital sign requests to Jayne.



PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

Upcoming PDA Mission Trip

Dates: Saturday 10/7 - Saturday 10/14

The team will drive to Madisonville, KY on Saturday, arriving in time to settle in and have a team dinner on Saturday night. We'll worship at the Madisonville Presbyterian Church Sunday morning. Work will begin Monday 10/9.

Spots: 15 have been reserved, more are available if there is more interest.

Participant Cost: \$200 (includes all meals, lodging, and gas) MVP is providing \$1000 to offset our costs and make a donation to Habitat for Humanity and the host church.

Host Church: First Presbyterian Church in Madisonville, KY (centrally located for work in Barnsley and Dawson Springs, KY)
www.newfpc.com.

Type of Work: Home Repair from tornado damage in Hopkins County: Replacing siding, flooring, windows, doors, decks, hanging and finishing drywall, painting, or anything that can be repaired or replaced. A month before the trip, the Long-Term Recovery Associate will send out a skills survey to help us match skills with needed work.

How do I register? Click on the link below:

[Register Now](#)

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

Sundays: Faith Formation: 9:00 AM
Worship: 10:15 AM

OFFICE HOURS

Administrative Assistant: Cathy Carroll

Email:

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

Treasurer: Julia Szabo

Email:

Organists: Jayne McGarrity and Sue Van Eman

Choir Director: Linda Sycks

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 – Jade Hochstetler

Nominating – Sarah Brauen and Tom Edwards

Personnel – Lori Schmidt

Stewardship & Finance – Clair Winebar

Worship – Lynda Best

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