



*Growing in Faith • Sharing God's Love*

# What's Happening at Bluffton Presbyterian Church

## APRIL 2023

### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

#### **Sunday, April 2 – Palm Sunday**

Pulpit Supply: Pastor Dave Good  
Liturgist: Sarah Brauen  
Special Music: Don Brauen  
Sound: Mike Rhonemus / Camera: Tenna Rhonemus  
Slides: Julia Szabo  
Acolytes: Owen and Clara

#### **Thursday, April 6 – Maundy Thursday, Communion**

Pulpit Supply: Pastor Dave Good  
Sound: Mike Rhonemus / Camera: Clair Winebar  
Slides: Cathy Carroll

#### **Sunday, April 9 – Easter, Cents-Ability Offering**

Pulpit Supply: Pastor Dave Good  
Liturgist: Phill Talavinia  
Special Music: Choir  
Sound: Rob McGarrity / Camera: Tenna Rhonemus  
Slides: Talavinias  
Acolytes: Paige and Morgan

#### **Sunday, April 16**

Pulpit Supply: Pastor Dave Good  
Liturgist: Craig Bowman  
Special Music: Daphne Johnston and Dan Noland  
Sound: Ryan Brauen / Camera: Julia Szabo  
Slides: Talavinias  
Acolyte: Avery

#### **Sunday, April 23**

Pulpit Supply: Jim Boroff  
Liturgist: Tenna Rhonemus  
Special Music: Choir  
Sound: Ryan Brauen / Camera: Clair Winebar  
Slides: Cathy Carroll  
Acolyte: Bowen

### Mark Your Calendars!

#### **Sundays:**

Faith Formation 9:00 AM – Fellowship Hall

**There will be no Church School on Easter**

Worship 10:15 AM – Sanctuary

**Tuesdays:** Claralice Circle 6:30 PM – Fellowship Hall

**Wednesdays:** Choir Rehearsal 6:30 PM – Sanctuary

Apr 2 – Palm Sunday Car Parade after Worship

Apr 6 – Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 PM

Apr 7 – Good Friday Community Cross Walk

11:30 AM – Starts at St. Mary's Catholic Church

Apr 8 – Lima Rescue Mission 4:30 PM

Apr 9 – Easter Breakfast 9:00 to 10:00 AM

Apr 9 – Easter Egg Hunt 9:45 AM

Apr 12 – Deacons Meeting 7:00 PM

Apr 13 – Session Meeting 7:00 PM

**Apr 23 – Newsletter Items Deadline to Cindy by end of day**

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



#### **Sunday, April 30**

Pulpit Supply: Bob Butcher  
Liturgist: Jeff Fremont  
Special Music: Kerry Fremont  
Levin Essinger, oboe  
Sound: Mike Rhonemus / Camera: Tenna Rhonemus  
Slides: Diane Winebar  
Acolyte: Robbie



HOLY WEEK			
Bluffton Presbyterian Church			
Palm Sunday	Maundy Thursday	Good Friday	Easter Sunday
April 2 10:15am Worship  11:30am Car Parade thru Bluffton	April 6 7:00pm  Communion	April 7 11:30am Community Cross Walk Starts @ St. Mary's Church	April 9 9:00am Breakfast  9:45am Egg Hunt 10:15am Joyful Worship!

## SESSION

### March Meeting Highlights

- After Easter, planning a three-person pulpit supply rotation – Dave Good, Tenna Rhonemus, and Jim Boroff. Approved Mission Study written by Pastor Nominating Committee.
- Approved that the church pay for three-year renewal for webpage (\$473) and domain registration in future years (\$76 for two years, was renewed last year). Julia Szabo volunteered to be the Webmaster.
- Replaced a ballast in one of the light fixtures in the church office. Replaced a stopper in one of the toilets in the women's restroom.
- Maumee Valley Presbytery approved to dissolve Glendale Presbyterian Church (Toledo) with members, assets, and liabilities transferred to Waterville Presbyterian Church. Mission Committee is planning a Presbytery Mission Trip to Kentucky October 8 through 14 – hoping for 15 adults to work with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and Habitat for Humanity – will be expenses for gas/food with lodging provided. Welcomed Rev. Jan Desterhaft (Montpelier) and said good-bye to Rev. Karen VanderPloeg (Waterville).

## FAITH FORMATION

### Released Time Walkers Save the Date

We still have some remaining shifts to fill for "Released Time" Christian Education walkers this academic year on May 2. Please contact Dick McGarrity if available to fill a shift.

### Scavenger Hunt Faith Formation Series

The Youth Faith Formation Class that meets on Sunday mornings in the church basement will begin a six-week series on April 2.

We will learn about God while experiencing challenging hunts and escape rooms. We will begin each week with a light breakfast at 9:00 a.m.

Meeting Dates: April 2, 16, 23, 30, May 7 and 21.

No class on Easter and Mother's Day.

Please reach out to Sarah Brauen with any questions.

### 2023 Graduates

We are planning to honor Paige McVetta and Laura Irwin, our Bluffton University Intern, on a Sunday in May. If you know of any other graduates, please contact Dick McGarrity.

## MISSION

### Upcoming PDA Mission Trip

Interested in joining the presbytery-wide mission trip to Kentucky in the Fall? Maumee Valley Presbytery is putting together a trip through Presbyterian Disaster Services. There will be an informational meeting for all who are interested in attending the MVP PDA Mission trip during mealtime of the next MVP meeting on May 16, at FPC Bowling Green.

Here are the present details of the trip:

**When:** October 8-15, 2023

**Where:** First Presbyterian Church Madisonville for overnight lodging – has metal beds, showers, restroom, kitchen facilities. Expenses would be for gas and food – Presbytery Mission Committee will help with some expenses.

**What:** Home rebuilding for residents of Barnsley and Dawson Springs, KY.

Currently, we have reservations for 15 adults and can add to this number if there are more who would like to go.



### One Great Hour of Sharing

During Lent, we celebrate that God connects with us through Jesus' resurrection, and connects us with "those who have least." One Great Hour of Sharing is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together to work for a better world by advancing the causes of justice, resilience, and sustainability.

Typically received during the season of Lent, each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing supports efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assist in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

**LIMA**  
**RESCUE**  
**MISSION**

Thanks to Don and Cathy Carroll, Jeff and Cindy Gillen, and Sarah Gillen and Matthew Passerell for covering March Pizza Night at Lima Rescue Mission, and thanks to everyone who helped with donations.

If you are interested in serving, we are looking for 1 to 2 people to help on April 8, and 3 to 4 people on May 13. 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](http://www.blufftonpc.org/give)). Thanks!

### Grace and Gratitude Offering

Grace and Gratitude offering collected \$220. A community garden and 2 farming tools were purchased from the giving catalog. Thank you to all who helped in giving these gifts.

### Little Free Pantry

April 3-9 – Sue Van Eman

April 10-16 – Diane Winebar

April 17-23 – Jodi Brauen

April 24-30 – Jayne McGarrity

Items to donate this month are boxed cereal, spaghetti, tuna, and cake mixes. (No canned goods right now, we have plenty). Thank you!



### Crossroads Crisis Center of Allen County

Did you know that one reason people don't leave their abusers is not wanting to leave their pet behind? Crossroads Crisis Center of Allen County currently needs Pet Fosters for domestic violence survivors living in their shelter. Animals are screened and updated with their shots. Food and care items are provided. The duration of pet fostering can be a week to months. To explore this volunteer opportunity and its application process, contact Olivia, a hard-working graduate of Bluffton University's Sociology program! Text/chat/call 24/7: 419-228-4357 or email

[odepalma@crossroadscrisiscenter.com](mailto:odepalma@crossroadscrisiscenter.com).



### Prayers of Sympathy for:

Gene and Sue Mathewson and Jana and Kevin McVetta and family on the recent loss of Gene's sister Ilene Hubbard.

Family and friends of Dave Abell who passed away recently (Mariah Pneuman's former son in law).

### 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, Peggy Hursey, Ralph and Donnie Middleton, Ben Miracle, Hazel Rodabaugh, and Owen Ziessler.

Members and friends serving in the armed forces.

All who use our Little Free Pantry.

Ukraine – for peace and hope amid the ongoing war with Russia.

Prayers for victims of violence across the country and around the world.

### We Pray for God's Healing for:

Linda Best  
Laura Elwood  
Chris Hochstetler  
Hazel Rodabaugh  
Kathy and Mark (George Stultz's daughter and partner)  
Sylvia (Diane Winebar's sister)  
Dr. Sharon Cole (Darlene Hey's doctor)  
Kira (family friend of Helen Hawk)  
Bobbi Mueller (Darlene Hey's daughter)  
Rich Russell (Cindy Gillen's brother's father-in-law)  
Anessa Samsal (Mariah Pneuman's granddaughter-in-law)  
Jessie Spencer (Darlene Hey's great niece)  
Sandi Waibel (Donnas Stone's sister)  
Dave Vrooman (Jeff and Cindy Gillen's brother-in-law)  
Kelly Winger (Cindy Gillen's cousin)  
Taylor Zsiros (Jeff and Kerry Fremont's son's fiancé)

### 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 at 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.

### Birthdays

Apr	1	John Hochstetler
		Megan Sycks
	4	Beth Buist
	5	Helen Hawk
	8	Ashlin Freimark
	13	Avery Talavinia
	19	Larkin Hochstetler
	23	Lynn Nowak
		Pam Weisenbarger
	26	Cathy Carroll
May	2	Patrick Rhonemus
	3	Paige McVetta

### DEACONS

No meeting held in March.

### FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP

#### February 2023 – General Fund Summary

Balance January 1, 2023	\$
YTD offerings to the general fund and other receipts	
YTD general fund expenses	( )
February 28, 2023 balance	\$

Thank you for your monetary offerings that 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!

A joy for BPC's mighty band of youth who collected \$58 during the monthly Cents-Ability collection on March 12. The cans were clanging! Great job fighting hunger!!





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

[blufftonpc.org](http://blufftonpc.org)

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:

Communications Coordinator: Abigail Gwin

Email:

Faith Formation Intern: Laura Irwin

Email:

Organists: Jayne McGarrity and Sue Van Eman

Choir Director: Linda Sycks

Children's Church Leaders: Laura Irwin and  
Brooklyn Phillips

Email:

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