



*Growing in Faith • Sharing God's Love*

# What's Happening at Bluffton Presbyterian Church

**April 2024**

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### **Sunday, April 7 – Communion,**

Pulpit Supply: Rev. Dave Good  
Liturgist: Jeremy Szabo  
Special Music: Rev. Dave Good  
Sound: Rob McGarrity/Camera: Betsey Angus  
Slides: Rev. Dave Good  
Acolyte: Avery

### **Sunday, April 14 – Cents-Ability Offering**

Pulpit Supply: Rev. Dave Good  
Liturgist: Lori Schmidt  
Special Music: Choir  
Sound: Rob McGarrity/Camera: Clair Winebar  
Slides: Diane Winebar  
Acolytes: Owen and Clara

### **Sunday, April 21**

Pulpit: Jim Boroff  
Liturgist: Dan Noland  
Special Music: Lori Schmidt  
Sound: Ryan Brauen/Camera: Owen  
Slides: Michele Talavinia  
Acolyte: Robbie

### **Sunday, April 28**

Pulpit Supply: Diane Winebar  
Liturgist: Brooklyn Phillips  
Special Music: Choir  
Sound: Mike Rhonemus/Camera: Tenna Rhonemus  
Slides: Cathy Carroll  
Acolyte: Bowen



## Mark Your Calendars!

### **Sundays:**

Sunday School 9:00 AM – Pre-K-6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Worship 10:15 AM – Sanctuary

Children's Church – Fellowship Hall

**Tuesdays:** Claralice Circle 6:30 PM

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

Apr 7 – Deacon Meeting at 9:15 AM

Apr 11 – Session Meeting at 7:00 PM

Apr 13 – Lima Rescue Mission 4:30 PM

April 28 – Potluck Following Worship

**Apr 28 – Newsletter Items Deadline to Cindy**

### **Pastoral Nominating Committee**

After assessing 132 candidates over a period of 14 months, the PNC nominated the Rev. Dr. Matthew Zuehlke to be our pastor. Following a meet and greet on March 16 and after leading worship on March 17, he was elected at a congregational meeting.

He has children in elementary and middle schools and will continue his current ministry until the end of the academic year. Pastor Zuehlke will begin his work at Bluffton Presbyterian on May 19. After the election, the Pastoral Nominating Committee, comprising Craig Bowman, Ryan Brauen, Marilyn Edwards, Dick McGarrity, and Linda Nelson, was dissolved by vote of the congregation.

## DEACONS

### **Highlights of Deacon's March Meeting**

- Flowers for Care List.
- Discussion on several members who are elderly.

## SESSION

### Highlights of March's Session Meeting

- Furnace filters changed at the church, clocks set ahead, fixed one of the sanctuary chairs (with a wobbly back leg) and checked/replaced batteries in one of the smoke detectors. Pleased to see that the fan installed by the projector in the sanctuary (when set on high) seems to keep the unit from overheating while it is running on Sunday mornings.
- Maumee Valley Presbytery met February 20. Approved supporting actions of the following churches: First Presbyterian (Erie, MI) to sell church property and close as a congregation; First Presbyterian (Palmyra, MI) to sell church property and close as a congregation; Eastminster Presbyterian (Toledo, OH) to sell church property – note that the congregation is moving to a new location. Recipients of Matthew 25 Mission Grants shared their projects. Group of 16 from Bryan/Defiance Presbyterian Churches will travel to Mexico this summer to lead Vacation Bible School. Toledo Collingwood Presbyterian repaved their church parking lot and included half basketball court for community use (also purchased bike rack, benches, trash cans for that area). Recognized the retirement of Rev. Jeanne Gay (Toledo Collingwood).
- Synod of the Covenant (includes Ohio/Michigan) has a new program “Cultivating the Gift of Preaching.” Of 650 churches in our Synod, nearly 200 are without a pastor. Program hopes to recruit elders/church leaders (within our churches) who have gift of preaching. Hope to have 35 participants each of the five years and these people would help to fill some of the open positions in our Synod. Each cycle is 18 months in length. Synod of the Covenant received a Lilly grant - \$1.25 million over five-year period – to cover the expenses with this program.



## MISSION



Thanks to Kerry and Jeff Fremont for volunteering to help cover March Pizza Night at Lima Rescue Mission. We saw another month with ~35 men. They continue to express their appreciation for the pizza. Thanks as well, to everyone who continues to help with donations.

We have coverage for April and May, and are looking for servers for June 8. Anyone interested in helping or donating soda, water, variety pack chips, candy bars, 10” plates, or gallon ziplock bags, 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!



## FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP

### February 2024 – General Fund Summary

Balance January 1, 2024	\$
February offerings and receipts	
February expenses	( )
February 29, 2024 balance	\$

Thank you for supporting BPC's ministries!

### Cents-Ability for Hunger Relief!

Thank you to the young BPC members who passed the clanging cans, and to everyone who contributed their change to the March 10 Cents-Ability collection. The youth collected **\$60** – great job fighting hunger!! **Did you know?** Your gifts to Cents-Ability fight hunger in three good ways: one-third goes to Maumee Valley Presbytery for hunger mission projects, one-third goes to Bluffton Community Assistance for local hunger relief, and one-third is used to buy food for our own Little Free Pantry!



### **Little Free Pantry**

April 1-7 – Carole Enneking

April 8-14 – Sarah Brauen

April 15-21 – Sarah Noland

April 22-28 – Diane Winebar

April 29-May 5 – Jodi Brauen

Items to donate this month would be canned fruit, chicken and beef ramen noodles, cake mixes, and hamburger helper. Thanks for your support!

## **FAITH FORMATION**

### **The Chosen**

The Faith Formation Committee has decided to postpone the showing of the Netflix series The Chosen, until fall. We will work with Rev Zuehlke in setting this up and the discussion following each episode.

### **Per Capita Thank You!**

Thank you to everyone who has provided a 2024 per capita offering! If you have not had a chance and would like to, you are invited to do so anytime this year. The cost to our church was \$39.10 per member.



### **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 for the victims of the recent tornado in Russell's Point.

### **Prayers of Sympathy for:**

The family and friends of Bill Garner (Cindy Gillen's uncle) who passed away March 6.

The family and friends of Shirley Swerlein (Cindy Gillen's friend) who passed away March 9.

Prayers for the family and friends of Katrina Riepenhoff who recently passed.

### **Prayers of Joy for:**

Welcoming our new pastor Rev. Dr. Matthew Zuehlke starting May 19.

Lois (Dave & Jane Good's friend) who is now living close to family in Wisconsin and doing well.

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

Kim Best

Jodi Diller

Sue Mathewson

Jeanie Nichols

Sarah Noland

Mariah Pneuman

LeAnn Carr's mother and brother Brian

Sylvia (Diane Winebar's sister)

Dr. Sharon Cole (Darlene Hey's doctor)

Cara Davies (Marilyn Edward's friend)

Ethan Fedde (Bev Begg's great granddaughter's husband)

Linda Francies (Bev Begg's daughter)

Nancy and Larry Frost (Cindy Gillen's cousins)

Bobbi Mueller (Darlene Hey's daughter)

Elfrieda Ramseyer (Marilyn Edward's friend)

Eileen Rhonemus (Mike's mother)

Paul Siefker (Helen Hawk's friend)

Joel, Shelby Sycks, and baby Andrew (Dave Syck's family)

### **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.

## Fellowship.

The Fellowship Committee has planned a Beef and Noodle dinner including mashed potatoes and green beans, for Sunday, April 28, after church. Please plan to stay for this special event. There will be a sign-up sheet at the back of the church beginning April 7 for salads and desserts. All are welcome and we look forward to seeing you there.



## 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



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Thank you for the prayers, cards, texts, and phone calls after my recent surgery. They were greatly appreciated.

Sarah Noland

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Thank you to the PNC for all their hard work in finding a new pastor: Craig Bowman, Ryan Brauen, Marilyn Edwards, Dick McGarrity, and Linda Nelson.

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## Bluffton Presbyterian's Church Family Directory

Bluffton Presbyterian's Church Family Directory (contact information) has been updated. Printed copies of the 2024 Church Family Directory are available on the table in the back of the sanctuary. Please contact the church office if your address, phone numbers, or email changes.



Community Markets is a super easy way of supporting both BPC and our local grocery store! Simply drop your Community Markets receipts in the basket attached to the bulletin board by the church office or mail them to the church – no user account, loyalty card, or app required! We receive a 1% rebate. Even small receipts are worth turning in; the combined total adds up. Darlene Hey handles this ministry for us, and reminds us to please hand in whole receipts. Please do not cut off the bottoms of your receipts because only whole receipts qualify.





**BLUFFTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**112 N. MAIN ST., P.O. BOX 149**  
**BLUFFTON, OH 45817**  
**(419) 358-5806**

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: Clair Winebar

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 – Linda Nelson

Fellowship – Kerry Fremont

Mission – Jade Hochstetler

Nominating – LeAnn Carr and Tom Edwards

Personnel – Lori Schmidt

Stewardship & Finance – Clair Winebar

Worship – Lynda Best

Elders at Large – Sarah Brauen and LeAnne Carr,  
Tom Edwards

Presbytery Commissioner – Lori Schmidt

*Board of Deacons*

Moderator: Chris Hochstetler

Members: Jodi Brauen, Cindy Gillen, Rob McGarrity,  
Tenna Rhonemus, Mike Rhonemus