



*Growing in Faith • Sharing God's Love*

# What's Happening at Bluffton Presbyterian Church

**June 2023**

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### **Sunday, June 4 – Trinity Sunday – Communion**

Pulpit Supply: Rev. Dave Good

Liturgist: Lori Schmidt

Special Music: Lori Schmidt

Sound: Mike Rhonemus/Camera: Tenna Rhonemus

Slides: Michelle Talavinia

Acolyte: Avery

Greeters: Tanya and Lou Best

### **Sunday, June 11 – Outdoor Worship, Cents-Ability Offering**

Pulpit Supply: Tenna Rhonemus

Liturgist: Paige McVetta

Special Music: Rhonemus Family Quartet

Sound: Rob McGarrity/Camera: Clair Winebar

Slides: Diane Winebar

Acolyte: Robbie

Greeters: Tanya Best and Darlene Hey

### **Sunday, June 18**

Pulpit Supply: Jim Boroff

Liturgist: Linda Sycks

Special Music: Kerry Fremont /Don Brauen Duet

Sound: Ryan Brauen/Camera: Betsey Angus

Slides: Linda Nelson

Acolyte: Bowen

Greeters: Tanya Best and Bev Begg

### **Sunday, June 25**

Pulpit Supply: James Caleb Hackworth

Liturgist: Julia Szabo

Special Music: Julia Szabo

Sound: Jeff Gillen/Camera: Levin

Slides: Cathy Carroll

Acolytes: Owen and Clara

Greeters: Tanya Best and Lori Schmidt

## Mark Your Calendars!

### **Sundays:**

Worship 10:15 AM – Sanctuary

Second Sunday of the month 10:30 AM – Outdoors

Claralice Circle will not be meeting over the summer months. Meetings will resume in September.

June 8 – Session Meeting 7:00 PM

June 10 – Lima Rescue Mission 4:30 PM

June 11 – Outdoor Worship from Gazebo

June 14 – Deacons Meeting 7:00 PM

June 18 – Father's Day

**June 25 – Newsletter Items Deadline to Cindy by  
end of day at [jcgillen99@gmail.com](mailto:jcgillen99@gmail.com)**

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

## Outdoor Services

On the second Sunday of the month from June through September, worship services will be held in the gazebo at 10:30 a.m. Please bring your own chair, although there will be some chairs available. Two popup tents will provide some shade. In case of inclement weather, the outdoor services will be held in the sanctuary.



## Pastoral Nominating Committee

The PNC team continues to read resumes and listen to sermon videos of candidates.

## SESSION

### May Meeting Highlights

- Approved request from Bluffton Lions Club to have a registration and communication station under a small awning in the church lawn facing Main Street during the afternoon and evening of Friday, June 16 for the Festival of Wheels.
- Looking for replacement for Laura Irwin (Youth Group and Children's Church) who is graduating this year. Brooklyn Phillips (Children's Church) will return in September – she will be a junior at Bluffton University. English Lutheran Church is hosting community Vacation Bible School July 16-20. We are responsible for refreshments – recruiting volunteers. Looking for someone to lead Young Youth Formation Class and Adult Faith Formation – a monthly rotation is a possibility. The Young Youth Faith Formation class and Children's Church started summer break at the end of May.
- Annual church review/audit for 2022 was completed by Ohio Northern University accounting students (Auditing class). Final report indicated that “processes for cash receipts, cash disbursements, and checking account reconciliations appeared adequate and were conducted with sufficient consideration of sound internal control practices”.
- Approved purchasing digital piano – keyboard/case from Sweetwater (\$2,200 for keyboard with case additional – both to come from Memorial Funds) to be used for outside worship/church activities in gazebo. Keyboard which was used previously belonged to Karol Schilling.

## FAITH FORMATION

Sunday School and Church School/Nursery will be on break June through August.

Volunteers are needed to help provide snacks for Vacation Bible School July 16-20 at English Lutheran Church. If you can participate one or more evenings, please contact Dick McGarrity.

Two paid opportunities are available to work with young people – Youth Group Intern and Church School/Nursery leader. Please contact Dick McGarrity.

## DEACONS

- Outside service discussed regarding Communion
- Home Communion served
- Member requesting quarterly Home Communion

## MISSION



Thanks to Don and Cathy Carroll, and Betsy Angus and her friend for covering May Pizza Night at LRM, and thanks to everyone who helped with donations. We are looking for volunteers for June 10 and July 8. Anyone interested in helping or donating drinks, snacks, and supplies, please call or text Bob Hursh at (419) 302-6065.

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!

### Pentecost Offering

A gift to the Pentecost Offering helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people, and address the needs of at-risk children. 40% of the Pentecost offering will be used locally to make an impact in the lives of young people; this year's portion will go to Campus Life in Bluffton. The remaining 60% is used to support children-at-risk, youth, and young adults through ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

To support this work, send a check to the church office or give online:

<https://www.blufftonpc.org/give.html>.

For more information about this denominational offering visit:

<https://specialofferings.pcusa.org/make-a-gift/gift-info/pentecost/>



### **Little Free Pantry**

May 29-June 4 – Sarah Noland

June 5-11 – Jodi Brauen

June 12-18 – Jayne McGarrity

June 19-25 – Carole Enneking

June 26-July 2 – Sarah Brauen

Welcome items this month are peanut butter, chicken or beef ramen noodles, and canned chicken or tuna. Thanks for your support!

### **Elder Victim Ministry**

Since the beginning of the year, Elder Victim Ministry has worked with 70 victims of violence (elder abuse, assault, domestic violence, violation of a protection order, menacing, threats). Surveys reflect that in one year's time, one in 10 older adults become victims of elder abuse. Experts estimate that elder abuse is significantly underreported. So, who is at risk? Women, people who are divorced or separated, people of color and those in poor health. Also, people living with a low income are more likely to be physically or psychologically abused. Elders with a higher income are more likely to be financially exploited.

How can we be protected from elder abuse? Social support! Crime Victim Services believes communities thrive when all members prevail over trauma and support one another. Be more intentional with your acquaintances and relationships. Commit to participating in more ongoing social networks. Connecting regularly helps us all not only show care for our older neighbors but also to monitor their well-being.

Elder Victim Ministry, a program of Crime Victim Services, offers confidential and free services. We advocate for crime survivors throughout their healing journey. Contact Elysia Bush for concerns or if you are interested in volunteering: 877-867-7273 or text 419-302-2857.

### **World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, June 15**

On Thursday, June 15, we're asked to 'Build Strong Support for Elders' on World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. Experts estimate that elder abuse is significantly underreported by victims and community members alike. Is elder abuse an "invisible problem?" Ageism in our society factors in here.

Already feeling marginalized and undervalued due to ageism, elders sometimes become reluctant to report abuse. Hesitancy to share abuse incidents can also be due to embarrassment, shame, or fear of retaliation. If the abuser is a family member, the elder often doesn't want them getting in trouble.

What is elder abuse? It's mistreatment of a person aged 60 and older including: isolation, intentional harm, neglect, self-neglect, intimidation, sexual violence, threats, under or over medicating, ridicule, financial exploitation, and fraud. One sign it's elder abuse: fear of a family member or care provider.

Who can report elder abuse? Anyone at any age can report their concerns to Adult Protective Services through their Sheriff's Office. This can be anonymous. Who is obligated by law to report elder abuse? Here's a partial list: financial institution, legal, medical, and mental health practitioners and their employees, EMTs, fire fighters, social workers, psychologists, clergy, humane society workers, publicly owned building employees, real estate agents, notaries, and senior services workers.

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

Tanya and Lou Best and family on the recent loss of Tanya's cousin, Martha Agee.

Tanya and Lou Best and family on the recent loss of Tanya's sister-in-law Judy.

Tenna and Mike Rhonemus and family on the recent loss of Tenna's cousin Franklin Laney.

Darlene Hey and family on the recent loss of her niece Leslie.

Sue and Dave Van Eman and family on the recent loss of Sue's sister-in-law LaDonna.

### 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 Middleton, Ben Miracle, Hazel Rodabaugh, and Owen Ziessler.

Members and friends serving in the armed forces.

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

Hazel Rodabaugh  
Dr. Sharon Cole (Darlene Hey's doctor)  
Alaina (friend of LeAnn Carr)  
Cody (Kim Best's brother)  
Jeff (Jeremy Szabo's brother)  
Isaiah (great-grandson of Dan and Sarah Noland's neighbor)  
Sylvia (Diane Winebar's sister)  
Dave McClurg  
Bobbi Mueller (Darlene Hey's daughter)  
Larry and Eileen Rhonemus (Mike Rhonemus's parents)  
Anessa Samsal (Mariah Pneuman's granddaughter-in-law)  
Jessie Spencer (Darlene Hey's great niece)  
Sandi Waibel (Donnas Stone's sister)  
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, contact Mike Rhonemus (Home 419-358-8148, Cell 419-812-6280). PLEASE leave a message if no answer. Or call the church office at (419) 358-5806 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

May	6	Donnas Stone
	11	LeAnn Carr
	12	Lori Schmidt
	14	Rowan Culbertson
	19	Don Brauen
		Chris Hochstetler
	21	Linda Nelson
	22	Sue Van Eman

### Anniversaries

June	4	Ryan and Sarah Brauen
	10	Jeremy and Julia Szabo
	17	John and Linda Nelson
	18	Dave and Sue Van Eman
	19	Tom and Marilyn Edwards
	20	Lou and Tanya Best
	22	Clair and Diane Winebar
	23	Dick and Jayne McGarrity
	29	Dwight and Jeannie Nichols

### Thank You

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Thank you for the gift card and flowers for Administrative Assistant Day.

Cathy

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Thank you so much for your generous gift, but more importantly thank you for inviting and welcoming me into your community for the past year and a half. I really appreciate everything you have done for me! Last week I accepted an elementary music teacher position at Lynchburg Clay Elementary in Lynchburg, OH. This is where my sister, Anna, student-taught last semester and is near Wilmington college. I will be moving down there upon driving back from Colorado. I'm excited, but nervous, for this new chapter. I'll be praying for you! And occasionally come to a worship service. Who knows, maybe my twin sister will find a teaching job nearby ☺.

Laura

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### FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP

#### April 2023 – General Fund Summary

Balance January 1, 2023	\$ 47,553
YTD offerings to the general fund	
and other receipts	40,900
YTD general fund expenses	(32,492)
April 30, 2023 balance	\$ 55,961

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



## Scholarship News from Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Thanks to the recent receipt of a \$20 million bequest, Austin College is providing scholarships which cover full tuition for any student on the membership roll of a Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) congregation. Austin College was founded in 1849, currently has 1,228 students, and is located on a 100-acre campus in the small city of Sherman, Texas (not too far from Dallas). Austin College's mascot is the Kangaroo! For additional information, visit [AustinCollege.edu](http://AustinCollege.edu)



### 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!!

## WORSHIP COMMITTEE



### *Volunteers needed to help pass the offering plates.*

We need three volunteers for each Sunday worship service to serve as offering plate ushers during the introduction to the Closing Hymn: one usher on each outer aisle and one in the middle aisle. If you can help, please see Lynda Best

### *Volunteers needed to help with PowerPoint slides*

We are looking for someone to help one Sunday a month with clicking through PowerPoint slides during the Worship Service. Please see Lynda Best if you are interested.



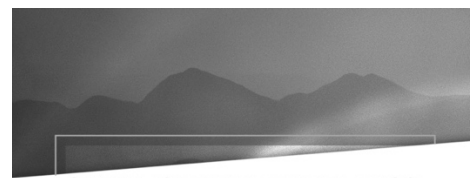
Please feel  
free  
to sit  
in the gazebo!

To reserve for an event, call BPC.



Our most popular program is Community Markets rebates, which 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.

*Many thanks and appreciation to Darlene Hey* who handles this ministry for us! Darlene reminds us to please hand in whole receipts. Please do not cut off the bottoms of your receipts because only whole receipts qualify.



GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS,  
*Great is thy faithfulness*  
Morning by morning  
NEW MERCIES I SEE.  
*All I have needed*  
Thy hand hath provided.  
GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS,  
*Lord, unto me!*



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

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

Sundays: Faith Formation: 9:00 AM

Worship: 10:15 AM

**OFFICE HOURS**

Administrative Assistant: Cathy Carroll

Email: [bpcbluff@wcoil.com](mailto:bpcbluff@wcoil.com)

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

Treasurer: Julia Szabo

Email: [treasurer@blufftonpc.org](mailto:treasurer@blufftonpc.org)

Communications Coordinator: Abigail Gwin

Email: [abigailgwin.design@gmail.com](mailto:abigailgwin.design@gmail.com)

Faith Formation Intern: Laura Irwin

Email: [irwlga@bluffton.edu](mailto:irwlga@bluffton.edu)

Organists: Jayne McGarrity and Sue Van Eman

Choir Director: Linda Sycks

Children's Church Leaders: Laura Irwin and

Brooklyn Phillips

Email: [pbrooklyn266@icloud.com](mailto:pbrooklyn266@icloud.com)

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