



What's Happening at Bluffton Presbyterian Church

August 2014

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, August 3 – Communion

3 Cents a Meal Offering

Special Music – Lori Schmidt

Lay Reader: Lori Schmidt

Greeters: The Gillen Family

Acolytes: Libby and Morgan McVetta

Sunday, August 10

Food Pantry

Guest Organist – Sue Van Eman

Special Music – Sarah Gillen and Karis Wilson

Lay Reader: Jay McCracken

Greeters: The Marshall Family

Acolyte: Megan Sycks

Sunday, August 17

Special Music – Don Brauen

Lay Reader: Dick McGarrity

Greeters: The Talavinia Family

Acolyte: Tayler Nowak-Valentine

Sunday, August 24

Lay Reader: Carla Montgomery

Greeters: The Szabo Family

Acolytes: Paige and Morgan McVetta

Sunday, August 31

Special Music – Julia and Jeremy Szabo

Lay Reader: Darlene Hey

Greeters: Don and Jodi Brauen

Acolyte: James Freidenberg

Sunday, September 7 – Communion

3 Cents a Meal Offering

Lay Reader: Lin Rumer

Acolyte: Sarah Gillen

Greeters: Clair and Diane Winebar

Mark Your Calendars!

- August 6 – Picnic on the Lawn – 6:00 PM
- August 7 – Daily Bread Soup Kitchen – 9:40 AM Church Parking Lot
- August 7 – Session Meeting – 7:00 PM
- August 20 – Deacon's Meeting – 7:30 PM
- August 31 – Newsletter Deadline – CEGillen@MarathonPetroleum.com
- September 7 – Sunday School – 9:00 AM



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 Worship Leader for the month.

August Worship Leader – Phill Talavinia

Coffee Talk

Wednesday – McDonalds at 8:30 AM

Small Groups

Tuesday – Church Library at 6:30 PM

Picnic on the Lawn

You are invited to a picnic on the lawn Wednesday, August 6 at 6:00 PM. Please bring a dish to share, table service, and your lawn chairs. Drinks will be provided. Courtesy of the Wednesday morning breakfast group with Pastor Dave.

Sunday School

Sunday school resumes at 9:00 AM on Sunday, September 7.

Summer Refreshment

I am enjoying the cool summer. (Although, thanks to the rain, it means I am still mowing the lawn – because the lawn is still growing.) The drive home is currently blessed with miles of rich green tousled corn stalks and vibrant fields of soy. The abundance of God's creation is vital and present.

It has been a nourishing summer. I have had the chance and the challenge of doing reading. I have returned to Phillip Gulley's controversial, "If grace is true?". I have been reading Pennington's "Reading the Gospels wisely", Child's "The struggle to understand Isaiah as Christian Scripture", and I have spent time working on the Greek text of the Great Commission. Together, they pose challenging reflections on scripture and interpretation.

And New Beginnings

All of this study has led to sermons for New Beginnings, as well as dealing with theological problems. The hazard which I believe we face is twofold: our secular culture no longer supports the life of the church, and at the same time, the church is internally challenged by misguided and immature attempts at faith. How do we make a "new beginning" in the face of that?

All of this background leads to our New Beginnings work this fall. The New Beginnings team has been hard at work preparing for our discussions this fall. What is at stake is our future. *What is at issue is the future that God wants for us, in us, through us.* Where is our passion for ministry? What ministries has God placed on our doorstep (who really is our neighbor)? What resources do we have for God's future?

I am looking forward to the fall. There is much to do, and exciting clarity about our future ahead. But for the next 30 days, I will finish the summer with its cicadas and refreshment.

Rev. David Good



June Financial Report

Beginning Balance	\$ 57,539.93
Receipts	16,825.53
Expenses	(10,333.03)
*Balance 5/31	\$ 64,032.43
*Restoration Fund Balance	\$39,406.04
*General Fund Balance	\$20,274.89

Treasurer Position Filled

Darin Leugers will take over the Treasurer position effective August 1. All financial questions should now be directed to him and not Cathy. The best way to get in touch with Darin, if there are any questions, is via cell phone 419-233-4981 or by email dleugers8319@yahoo.com.

Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen

The next date for serving lunches at Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen will be August 7. Anyone interested in volunteering, please contact Shirley Kisor. Volunteers meet at the church parking lot at 9:40 AM and typically return by 12:30 PM.



Prayers of Sympathy with Bill, Chris, Drew and Ashlin Gable on the recent loss of Bill's father.

Prayers for Peace in our lives and in our World.

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

Prayers of Healing for Karen Long; Dusty Klingler; Brenda Anderson; Michael Lee Bucher; Curt Bell; Ann Bunn; Owen Ziessler; Family of Ralph Russo; Stella Tomlin; Sharon Essinger; Claralice Wolf; George Stultz; and Ava, Lauren, and Sammie.

BPC Prayer Chain

If you have a prayer request, please contact Diane Winebar (419-957-4046 or dwinebar711@gmail.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 Diane or another deacon.

Happy Birthday!!

August	1	Dave Dickey
	2	Haley Bloom
	4	Judy Miracle
	11	Bev Begg
	12	Tom Edwards
	18	Gene Mathewson
	19	Kay Ziessler
	20	Bob Hursh
	22	Ruth Wildermuth
	24	Emily Parker
	26	Jenna Kisor
		Caleb Fifer
August	4	Jeremy Szabo
	5	Jay McCracken

Knitting Donations

Min Lindsey is accepting donations of yarn so that she can knit winter hats for those in need.

Journey to Jerusalem

Bluffton University's religion professor, Rev. Randy Keeler, is leading a "Journey to Jerusalem" from December 26 and returning January 7. Cost is \$4,486 all-inclusive. Our group is 13 so far and there is room for more. You don't have to be a Bluffton alumnus to sign up! Contact Julia Szabo for more details.

Homes needed for 29 Christian students from Germany, Belgium, and Spain

We are a small non-profit, foreign-exchange student organization looking for caring host families in your community, and we need your help! **We still have 29 Christian students from Germany, Belgium, and Spain that would like to come for the 2014-2015 school year and are waiting for their match with a volunteer host family.**

The state of the economy makes it difficult to locate volunteer families for our students. We are also looking for welcoming families willing to host for six weeks and allowing students to start school until a permanent family is found. I do believe that sharing the life of an American host family and going to school contributes to a better world understanding and is an unforgettable experience for both the student and the host family. American students benefit from meeting foreign students.

OPEN YOUR HEART AND HOME to a Christian exchange student from Germany, Belgium, and Spain for the coming 2014-2015 school year.

Volunteer host families (with or without children), as well as single people, are needed to provide food, a bed, and a loving home for the coming school year, one or two semesters, starting in August. EMF students have medical insurance, spending money for their personal expenses, and expect to share their host family's daily life including household responsibilities. They speak English, are well-screened, and eager to experience life in America. Their stay here is sponsored and supervised by EMF (Educational Merit Foundation), a non-profit, educational exchange program. It is not too late to apply. For more information on EMF students, please call Marie-Claude Dijoud now at 1-800-467-8363 or visit our web site at www.emfusa.org.

Thank you very much for your help! These students are anxious to learn that a home has been found for them. Your contribution to this cause is most appreciated. Please help us make their dream come true!



Creative Expressions Sewing Group

Thursday, August 28

5:30 p. m.—6:30 p. m.

*This is the planning session.

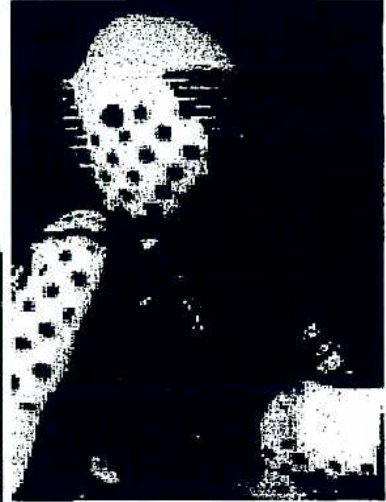
Birchaven HUB

Saturday, September 6

9:00 a. m.—4:00 p. m.

*This is the sewing session.

Birchaven Chapel



Bridge Bereavement Services will be hosting a Creative Expressions

Grief Support Program in September.

Parting with clothing that belonged to our deceased loved one can often be an emotional decision to make. This program, which is open to any child, adult, or family who has recently experienced the death of a loved one, will offer participants the opportunity to turn their loved one's clothing into a keepsake. No sewing experience is necessary.

Volunteers will be on hand to help. Supplies will be provided at no cost to participants.

Lunch will be provided.

Registration is required by August 22. Registrants must attend both dates in order to participate. The first night participants will be reviewing options and planning what items they would like to sew.

To RSVP and learn more, please contact Bridge Bereavement Services by calling 419-423-5351 or emailing at bridge@bvhealthsystem.org.

Bluffton Presbyterian Church
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419-358-5806

Pastor: Rev. David Good
Phone: 765-993-7791
Email: mangendave@frontier.com
Office Hours: Wed. 11:00-1:00 and
Thurs.-Sat. 9:00-1:00

Secretary: Cathy Carroll
Email: bpcbluff@wcoil.com
Office Hours: Tues. and Wed. 9:00-12:30
Website: blufftonpc.org

Sunday Worship Service: 10:15 AM

2014 Church Officers

Session

Clerk of Session – Lori Schmidt
Buildings & Grounds – Tom Hursey
Christian Education – Jay McCracken
Finance & Stewardship – Cindy Gillen
Mission – Beth Buist
Nominating – Dave Kisor and Cindy Gillen
Personnel – Lori Schmidt
Presbytery Commissioner
Worship – Jeanette Warren
Members at Large – Dave Kisor, Rhonda Moor, and Donnas Stone

Board of Deacons

Moderator: Diane Winebar
Members: Don Carroll, Tom Edwards, Laura From, Lin Rumer, and Kay Ziessler.