

Bath Church Mouse

**Bath Presbyterian Church
4624 Bath Road, Dayton, Ohio 45424
937.233.6925 BathChurch.org
News Input to: Janetoptimist@aol.com**

November 2017

From the Pastor's Desk

Hello, Bath Church family!

I've had a phrase going round and round in my mind since this summer when I went to several continuing education events on change in the church. "We are not called to be successful, we are called to be faithful." This quote by Mother Teresa speaks well to the season of life in our church. With dwindling member numbers and an alarming budget, it is tempting to begin to panic that our church is no longer worthy of our time or money. Mother Teresa's quote reminds us that these values of popularity and financial stability are successes measured by our culture, but not by the church of Jesus Christ.

We may struggle to have a thriving kid's Christian education program, but we have several missions that we support that go directly to empowering children and their families. We may have fewer numbers in the pew than we did 20 years ago, but 90% of our church family are an active part of some ministry of the church or community outside of Sunday morning worship. When our church family are sick, injured, hospitalized or homebound they are prayed for regularly and visited often. Our missions go to clothe the "naked", feed the poor, visit the imprisoned, care for the "orphaned and widowed" and give voice to the voiceless.

Bath church, I fully believe that we are faithful. Individually, and as the body of Christ. This perspective is fleeting, and it is difficult to stay focused on this alternative way of measuring our purpose and relevance as church. I strongly feel the way to keep this focus is through community-building. We need one another to

INSIDE:

From the Pastor's Desk p. 1
Serving in & Through Bath p.2-3
Women's Gathering p.3
Scripture Focus p. 4
Calendar p. 5

remind and rely on one another. Building up our reconciled community will be the focus of the next few months as new activities and community-building is introduced and reinforced. Stay tuned for ways to be involved in group learning, sharing and fun! Faithful-together!

In Christ's peace,
Pastor Emily

Annual Harvest Breakfast, Bazaar, Bake Sale, Raffle and Flea Market!



**When: Saturday, Nov 4
Harvest Breakfast 9 - 12
Bazaar etc 9 - 3
Where: Bath Church**

**Invite your family, friends and
neighbors!**

Serving the Lord in & Through Bath Church

•Clerk's Corner•Property •Worship •Fellowship •Christian Ed • Mission and Outreach•Media

Clerk's Corner

Session is gearing up for the busiest part of our church year. We welcome the month of Thanksgiving and look forward to sharing all the coming events together.

Our Executive Presbyter, Dennis Piermont, is retiring after ten years of service to our Presbytery. He led the Presbytery through some difficult times when churches left our denomination. What many of you may not realize is that it was done with the best interests of all people involved, and in caring and loving ways which the Lord expects of us all. While other presbyteries are also losing churches in our denomination, it is not being accomplished in the same gentle way that our presbytery enabled the process to be conducted.

Dennis was also with Bath Church the Sunday following the untimely passing of our beloved Pastor Doris. He led our worship, praying with us at a difficult time when our hearts were broken. Dennis was also instrumental in Bath's search for a pastor when we were blessed with Pastor Tom, Pastor Kelley, Pastor Doris, and Pastor Emily. We all have many reasons to be thankful for his service in our Presbytery.

At this time the Executive Presbyter Search Committee is hard at work interviewing prospective candidates for the position of our next E.P. The work is progressing well and they are still looking at a time line of making a choice in the next few weeks. Once that choice has been made the candidate will be interviewed by the Committee on Ministry. Following that a Called Presbytery Meeting will be held at the end of November to vote on the new person. It

is expected that the new E.P. will begin the work at the end of January or beginning of February.

Meanwhile our Presbytery will be in good hands with our Stated Clerk, Larry Hollar as he continues the excellent work he does so well. Reverend Bob Wade, chair of Staff Support will also be available when needed. At the November meeting, the Presbytery will also be voting on a person to fill in as Executive Presbyter for a few weeks, doing the important work that Dennis has done. Above all, God guides the journey of all the churches and congregations in the Presbytery.

Bank balances as of September 30th: Checking account - \$31,026.34;
CDs - \$70,123.51; Money Market - \$15,337.82;
Vanguard Wellington - \$97,256.45;
Total monies - \$213,744.12

Susan Lockwood will serve as commissioner to the November Presbytery meeting.

If anyone is interested in getting one of the new Bath Church polo shirts or t-shirts be sure to call your order in to the clerk as soon as possible.

There will not be a Thanksgiving Eve service this year. There has been low attendance the last few years and Pastor Emily is less than half time pastor. This was a decision that was made in the worship committee meeting and session approved unanimously.

Gidget Collins
Clerk of Session

Fellowship

Many thanks to Clyde and his crew- Paul and Verna, Dan, Larry, and Val- for putting out a

wonderful meal for the fish fry, and to all of you who donated side dishes and desserts.

Don't forget the Harvest Breakfast/Bazaar is the first Saturday of November. Bring your friends and family for a free hearty breakfast and then do some shopping upstairs.

Our Christmas Dinner is on December 10th this year, and we have decided to have it right after the worship service. This will save us all an extra drive to church, possibly in bad weather, and a trip home in the dark. We can make merry at noon!

Susan Lockwood
Fellowship Elder

Christian Ed

It's hard to believe but it is less than a month until Thanksgiving & two until Christmas! Have you started your shopping? Well, in November Sunday School will be preparing for Advent by creating Chrismon ornaments for the sanctuary tree. As time goes on Pastor Emily will be explaining the significance of each one to enhance our enjoyment of the season.

Come enjoy the fun & creativity of each ornament as we prepare them for the Christmas season.

Be looking for you!

Judy Morin
Christian Education Elder

Worship

On Sunday November 5, we are excited to be celebrating "All Saints Sunday". Pastor Emily has a special service planned with scripture, music, and celebration time for those "Saints" that impacted our personal lives over the years.

"Christ the King" Sunday is November 26. A pre-Advent season drama, special music, communion, and hanging of the greens are all planned. Don't miss these worship services.

The committee along with session voted to suspend the Thanksgiving eve service.

"Thanks" to Brad Hitchcock for specifying and installing the new pulpit microphone.

We hope you have a "Happy Thanksgiving" with family and friends!

See you Sunday!

Jeff Whitaker
Worship Session Elder
And the Worship Committee Members



WOMEN'S GATHERING NEWS

Stitches of Love Baby Shower

At our baby shower we received 596 baby items: 431 pieces of clothing, 35 diapers and wipes, the 4 blankets and 12 toys our ladies made, etc. These gifts were delivered to the *Stitches of Love* Baby Shower at Memorial PC on October 7th.

Saturday November 4th Harvest Bazaar, Bake Sale, Raffle and Flea Market 9-3pm

Start gathering your flea market donations. We will begin selling raffle tickets. The WG has been busy this year making crafts to fund our MANY charities. We appreciate your support!

Monday November 6th - Activities from 10am-3pm

We will enjoy a potluck lunch and make crafts. At **2pm** we will study Lesson #3 of our Bible study.

Scripture Focus

NOVEMBER 2017

Christ the King/Advent

O Rex Gentium "O King of the Nations"

Isaiah 60:1-3

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

1. Jesus reigns over all of creation and is King over all the peoples. In what ways has darkness covered our nations?

2. How can we live as the people of the beloved King?

BATH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH November 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 Harvest Breakfast
5 ALL SAINTS DAY Session Prayer Time Coffee and Donuts Bible Study 12 – 1:00 pm	6 W.G. 10:00 – 3:00 pm Pam Byrd using F.H. 6 – 9:30 pm Dianna and Marc W.	7 Cathy Y.	8	9 Bible Study 12- 1:00 pm	10 Farewell Dinner for E.P. Dennis Piermont.	11 Presbytery Meeting 9:00 am Fairmont PC Veteran's Day
12 Session Meeting	13	14	15 Book Club at Faith PC	16	17	18
19 Bible Study 12 – 1:00 pm Ann D.	20	21	22 Mouse Input Due - Noon Brad H.	23	24	25
26 Holy Communion Bible Study 12 – 1:00 pm	27	28	29	30 Bible Study 12 – 1:00 pm	Notes:	