



## The Good News of Bath Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

The Mission Statement of the Bath Christian Church is:

*“To serve the living God, to nurture our personal faith,  
& to witness the good news of God’s love to others.”*

### *~Pastor Jim’s Thoughts for April~*

At the time many will be reading this article, we will be less than two weeks from our celebration of Easter. Easter is the word whose origin is not found in the Bible yet most of us take it to mean the celebration of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus. The dates vary each year because those events occurred at the time of the Passover. The Passover is observed based on a lunar calendar.

The significance of this day (Resurrection Day) has left an indelible mark on the pages of history. The life, death, and resurrection of Jesus is undeniable testimony to the love of God for us. The mention of God’s love will often bring the popular verse John 3:16 to mind. We know it by heart: **“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. (John 3:16 NASB)** These words of Jesus spoken to Nicodemus are a part of the same conversation where Jesus predicted that He would be lifted up like the bronze serpent that Moses lifted up to bring healing to the children of Israel. Jesus is pointing toward His own death.

For most of us, we stop when we see **God so loved the world.** Love is so much more pleasant to think about than death. Paul makes it crystal clear in the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter of Romans.

**But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. (Romans 5:8-9 NASB)**

Paul clearly tells us that God’s love is demonstrated in the simple fact **Christ died for us.** He died for us even though we were not worthy of such love. Paul had presented the sinful state of humanity in the preceding pages of this letter to the church in Rome. The Gentiles had left any acknowledgement of God in exchange for their reasoned approach to a life focused on self-gratification. The Jewish people had drifted away from the covenant relationship with God that they were basically in the same situation as the Gentiles. So, the death of Jesus on the cross is a demonstration of the depth of God’s love.

Again, in his letter to the Ephesians, Paul speaks of our death to God because of our sins. Then he tells us that God’s love, indeed **His great love,** brings us His mercy and blesses us with every spiritual blessing in heavenly places.

**And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience. Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest. But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus. (Ephesians 2:1-6 NASB)**

On April 12<sup>th</sup>, when we make our obligatory trip to church, maybe we should look up at the cross and remember: **God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.**

## ~Devotion~

### **The Angelic Perspective on Easter**

by Fred Alberti

*He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him.*

[Colossians 1:15-16](#)

During this time of remembrance of Christ's sacrifice I am prone to wonder about the angels. I see them standing at attention internally grieving over the suffering of their creator. Jesus was not merely the creator of just mankind. The [Bible](#) says that it was by Him that all things were created. This was their creator in the flesh suffering a brutal death.

I imagine more than a few wishing to dispense with the humans who were causing this atrocity.

Matthew records Jesus stating, "Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and he will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels?"

([Matthew 26:53](#)). What incredible self-control!

What awesome love to bear the punishment of the cross when it could have all ended so easily.

In talking about the prophets, Peter reveals that the angels long to look into this whole business about redemption and the good news of the Gospel ([1 Peter 1:12](#)).

They didn't understand why all this was happening. All they knew was their King was being murdered. Then I hear amongst the mass chaos of the darkness and the rumbling of the earthquake as the Roman Centurion and the witnesses to Jesus death beat their chests proclaiming, "Surely this man was the Son of God!" (Read [Luke 23:47-48](#) and [Matthew 27:54](#)).

It was over. Jesus was dead. Now it was time to bury Him in a borrowed tomb.

Three days later I imagine the angels clamoring to be on the special detail that was posted. Who would get to roll back the stone? Who would get to wait in the empty tomb to deliver the wonderful news?

"He is not here, He has risen" ([Matthew 28:6](#)).

Oh, what a glorious pronouncement. I wonder just how the angels rejoiced. Were they slapping each other on the back? Were they shouting in victory? Were they beaming with joy over the news that their King was no longer in the grave?

How will we celebrate that day?

How will we honor the death and resurrection of the creator of the universe?

**Intersecting Faith & Life:** When you make your Easter eggs this year do one with angel wings on it to remember the angel's words, "He is not here, He has risen."

*For flowers that bloom about  
Our feet;  
For tender grass, so fresh, so sweet;  
For song of bird, and hum of bee;  
For all things fair we hear or see,  
Father in heaven, we  
Thank Thee!*

*Ralph Waldo Emerson*

When you feel  
like you're  
drowning in life,  
don't worry –  
your Lifeguard  
walks on water.

themasterstable.wordpress.com

## ~Board Minutes~

The Board of the BCC met February 9, 2020 with Chairman Starley Stell presiding. Claude Dupree opened the meeting with prayer. Minutes of the previous meeting and the treasurer's report were approved. Jamie distributed copies of the 2019 fourth quarter annual report.

### OLD BUSINESS

1. Chairman Stell and Leon Wingate have met with the newly elected board members for orientation.
2. The installation of the shower in the parsonage will be completed tomorrow.
3. Leon, Starley and Reeves have made some of the repairs as discussed at the January meeting. The weather has delayed a few of the needed repairs which will be completed as the weather permits.
4. Security Team: Billy reported that the team has conferred with Pair Electronics who has evaluated the premises and made suggestions. He estimated the cost at approximately \$4000. The Sheriff's Department will be asked to evaluate the property to determine if additional recommendations should be implemented.
5. Flock Program – Considerations are still in progress.

### NEW BUSINESS

1. CM and Mark have investigated the purchase of new and improved mikes for the sound system. The new mikes will cost around \$2300. CM, Mark and Gerald were appointed to further evaluate the need and get bids to complete the project.
2. Jamie emphasized that he should be notified of purchases made for church materials other than those on standing orders. The Sunday School Committee should do all of the ordering for Sunday School program.

### 3. Communion

1. Adjustments were made in the serving of communion to Kids of God's World. Two Deacons who are serving will take communion over as soon as the children leave the sanctuary.
4. The Youth Director, Alex, gave a summary of the Youth activities. Gerald made a motion to pay the gas mileage to Wilson for a planned activity. Claude suggested that she keep a mileage form of church related travel and to submit it to the treasurer to be reimbursed. Approved.
5. Minister's remarks: 41 visits made in hospitals, homes, and nursing homes.
6. Three delegates are needed for the annual District Meeting at Camp Caroline.

Barry dismissed the meeting with prayer.

June Wallace, Secretary

**Worrying is  
like a Rocking  
Chair.  
It gives you  
something to  
do, but it gets you  
nowhere.**

[gemmaetc.com](http://gemmaetc.com)

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~CMF~

The CMF of Bath Christian Church met Wednesday March 4, 2020 with Leon Wingate presiding and 18 in attendance. Present were L. Schmitt, J. Barnhill, S. Stell, R. Smith, L. Wingate, C. Cartwright, J. Burgess, H. Robertson, B. Hill, M. Aydlett, C. Dupree, R. Winstead, J. Cullen, G. Morris, G. Heath, P. McRoy, D. Adams and B. Norman.

Cooks for the evening meal were Dupree, Norman and Adams. A great meal was prepared and thanks were given to the cooks.

Leon called the meeting to order. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The financial report was given and approved.

Business Meeting

--Received a letter from the Blind Center, donation made

--Discussed putting up wall in building behind the parsonage. CMF will handle construction. Church will pay for materials. Mark to present a materials list.

--Financial assistance given to recent Church member that has recently moved.

--Cooks for April will be Barnhill, Morris and McRoy

Prayer concerns were discussed. Dr. Robertson prayed for each name mentioned.

Doc then presented the devotion talking about patience and suffering. James 5: 7-11 is reference material. Be patient until the coming of the Lord. Being patient is not easy. Many things that need to be resolved will not be resolved until the coming of Christ. Endurance is developed thru situations and conditions, trials and troubles we have to get through. Blessed is the one who keeps working. Impatience leads to grumbling, whether waiting on friends or God. The Prophets were doing the will of God but still had trials. Why do those who speak in the name of the Lord have to endure so much? These Prophets are patient and trust in God. Suffering is not wasted. It is used to build you up and give you patience.

The meeting was closed with prayer.

Billy Hill Recorder

~CWF~

The Bath Christian Church CWF met in the Choir Room February 26, 2020. There were twenty-one ladies present: Alice Wingate, Sarah Stone, Gale Walton, Nancy Hill, Betty Schmitt, Jessie Brooks, Diane Adams, Linda Heath, Rachel Jordan, Joyce Aydlett, Alex Shreve, Debbie Smith, June Wallace, Becky Tuten, Claudia Alligood, Jean Winstead, Sandra Dupree, Jane Wright, Nelda Ormond, Barbara Morris and Cynthia Stell.

Barbara presided and called the meeting to order. Claudia gave an opening prayer and prayer for our offerings.

Rachel Jordan presented the program using Max Lucado's book *The Gospel of John*. This lesson title was *A Guilty Woman* and was the sixth in this series of study. The scripture reference was John 8:1-11. She closed with prayer.

The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed and approved. Nelda gave the treasurer's report. She read thank you notes from Athens Manna Ministry, St. Thomas Backpack Ministry, Zion Church Shelter and Kitchen and the Tyer family. Blessing Boxes were collected.

Business:

Claudia gave a report on the Bazaar, Rachel presented the new Budget Proposal. Claudia moved to accept the Budget. Jessie seconded. Carried.

Joyce moved to review Budget mid-year for any adjustment required. Rachel seconded. Carried. We closed with our benediction.

March 25, 2020 meeting will be presented by Barbara Morris from Max Lucado's book *The Gospel of John* Lesson Seven (7).

Respectfully submitted,  
Cynthia Stell

## ~April Schedules~

### Greeter Schedule:

April 5      Becky McRoy  
 April 12     Alice Wingate  
 April 19     Gerald Morris  
 April 26     Joyce Aydlett



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### Flower Schedule:

April 5      Palms  
 April 12     Easter Lilies  
 April 19     Marcia & Barry Norman  
 April 26     Barbara & Gerald Morris



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### Nursery Schedule:

April 5      Kathy & Tori Dupree  
 April 12     Lesley Woolard & Lexi Clark  
 April 19     Darlene Ormond & Debbie Smith  
 April 26     Sandra & Claude Dupree



Reminder: At least 1 person should be in nursery by 9:45 AM and remain for late arrivals.

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### Children's Moment Schedule:

April 5      Terry Everett  
 April 12     Kids of God's World  
 April 19     Alice Wingate  
 April 26     Howard Robertson



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**Blessed are they  
 who see beautiful  
 things  
 in humble places  
 where other people  
 see nothing.**

Camille Pissarro

### Serving Schedule:

April 5  
 Elders: C. Dupree & G. Morris  
 Deacon of Wk: C. Dupree & D. Adams  
 Deacons: D. Adams & C. Cartwright  
 P. Chrismon & B. Dean

April 12  
 Elders: G. Morris & H. Robertson  
 Deacon of Wk: G. Morris & E. Gurganus  
 Deacons: E. Gurganus, L. Gurganus  
 B. McRoy, B. Norman

April 19  
 Elders: H. Robertson & S. Stell  
 Deacon of Wk: H. Robertson & L. Schmitt  
 Deacons: L. Schmitt, R. Smith,  
 B. Tuten & D. Woolard

April 26  
 Elders: S. Stell & L. Wingate  
 Deacon of Wk: S. Stell & L. Woolard  
 Deacons: L. Woolard, D. Adams  
 C. Cartwright & P. Chrismon

## ~Announcements~

All activities of the church are postponed until further notice due to the coronavirus outbreak. If you need to meet with Pastor Jim Cullen he currently is in the church office annex Monday-Thursday 8:00am-12Noon or by phone 252-939-5937. Feel free to reach out to him for any needs you may have.

The Bath Community Easter Sunrise service is schedule on Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 AM. at Bonner Point. There will be no coffee or donuts provided in an effort to avoid any contamination. We will have microphones set up so those attending can spread out but still be able to hear the message.

The church calendar for April, 2020 is not attached since all activities are cancelled. We will print the calendar again when normal activities resume.

**April Birthdays:** (3<sup>rd</sup>) Aeryalle Williams Coward; (4<sup>th</sup>) Matthew Godley; (7<sup>th</sup>) Beau Norman; (8<sup>th</sup>) Carol Richardson; (11<sup>th</sup>) Shannon Blackstone, Linda Shivley, Bill Tankard; (15<sup>th</sup>) Emer Dean, Audree Gurganus; (16<sup>th</sup>) Emily Gurganus; (18<sup>th</sup>) Bobby Drake; (21<sup>st</sup>) Jessica McRoy Ambrose, Joyce Aydlett; (26<sup>th</sup>) Courtney Cartwright; (27<sup>th</sup>) Aiden Stell Davis, Marshall Myers; (28<sup>th</sup>) Starley Stell.

Please make the church secretary aware of church directory changes.

## ***Eagles Wings***

Thank you for continuing to support the Eagles Wings food pantry. During these times of the coronavirus outbreak many people are without work and will greatly benefit from your nonperishable donations. There are labeled baskets in the Fellowship Hall and both vestibules. There is still a need for plastic grocery bags. Bags can be placed in Eagles Wings boxes along with other items.



### **Prayer Requests: Church Family Prayer Concerns:**

Bill Bertram; Charlie Clark; Ella Mae Smith & Michael Corless; Bill Cutler; Kandice Dean; Bobby Drake;

Neal Duncan; Marian Everett; Pete Fell; Beverly & John Holt; Jackie Mullen; Marcia Norman, Carol Richardson; Gary Sheppard; Beverly & Ron Tincher, caregivers &

### **Unspoken Requests.**

**Friends & Community Prayer Concerns:** Olivia Armstrong & her mother Lee; Jane Bass; Pastor Bob Bauman (Josh Swindell's minister); Rickie Bause; Mark & Mary Scott Baver, Frankie Black; Vera Boseman; Judy Boyd; Susan Boyd; Barbara Britt; Roy Buck; Tilman Carter; Virginia Chrismon, John Conway; Ella Mae Copeland; Evan Cornelius; Colt Cowell; Anthony Cutler; Glenda Douglas; Sylvester Eberson; George Elliott; Deborah Everette, Esther Flowers; Dianne Floyd; Chris Gibbs; Gail Gibbs; Danny Gonzalez sister; Larry Green; Pauline Gurganus; Jon Hadel; Amy Adams Hardee; Don Hardison; Chris Harris; Hunter Hasty; Mike Isbell; Billy Ivey; Vickie Jessen; Sheila Cox Jones; John Kelly; Sue Kemmer; Linwood Lewis; Ronnie Martin; Carol McRoy; Allison Mills; Josh Moye; Alvin Norman; Gladys Owens; Emily Page; Mike Painter; Wilson Paul; Brian Peele; Cynthia Pendleton; Ray Pippin; Joyce Pitt; Larry Poore; Brandi Robbins; Wendy Rouse; Larry Rowe (CT's friend);

*Stephanie Sabbra; Dean Sheppard; Tim Shreve; Betty Slade; Michael Spencer; Raymond Spencer; Don Steffa; Leonard Sullivan; Susie Swinson; Sonya & Roger Tuning; Heather Van Staalduinen; Becky Sheppard Waters; Faye Waters; Ronnie Watson; Betty Wilson; Inda Wingate; Miranda Woolard; Wendy Woolard; Jim Worthington; teenagers throughout the world; students, teachers & families; those affected by the flu & coronavirus & Unspoken Requests.*

*The families of Frances Marie Alligood Boyd, Barbara Swain Clark, Doug Mercer, Robbie Rouse, Terry Thompson, Barney Waters, William Wilson, Garfield (Billy) Woolard.*

### **Military Prayer List:**

*Jim Bass, Blane Boyd, Chase Brooks, Zack Cook, Timm Cox, Will Cutler, Zack Davis, Grant Fath, Kerry Mills, Hayden Tankard, Grayce Woolard, Lucy Wallace.*

***In Nursing Homes:*** Bonnie Kelly, Dorothy Mathews, Bob Miller.

**Please submit news to me  
for the May newsletter by  
9:00 am Thursday, April 23rd. Thank you!  
You can contact Jessie Brooks at 252-945-6362  
or via email: [jessiebrooks5@yahoo.com](mailto:jessiebrooks5@yahoo.com). OR  
[secretary@bathchristianchurch.com](mailto:secretary@bathchristianchurch.com)**