



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 September

Another summer draws to an end and students are returning to their classes. This year is unique in many ways. The Corona Virus has cast an uncertain shadow over every aspect of our life including the beginning of another school year. The effects of this pandemic have touched every area of our lives. Many churches have shuttered their buildings and moved to an “on-line” presence. Others, like ours, have modified their “normal” worship to take in to consideration a new term “social distancing.”

Many people see the future of the church changed radically as a result of this pandemic. Some are predicting the usual attendance levels will never be regained. Unfortunately, this may well be true. However, we are disciples of Jesus the Christ and we have a mandate. The final commandment given by Jesus just prior to His ascension is found in Matthew the 28th chapter.

And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:18-20 NASB)

For many of us, we feel this is done in a church building on Sunday morning. This has been the mode for so long that we may not realize that there is another way. The Covid-19 pandemic has opened up some new concepts that may become how we reach out to others. That is the crucial point. We must reach out. We can no longer remain focused on “doing church” as we have for so many years. We must look outwardly to reach those within this community that have never and will never walk into our church building.

Paul, in his first letter to the church at Corinth, opened up the idea of doing whatever is necessary to reach those around us and share the gospel message of Jesus.

For though I am free from all *men*, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I may win more. To the Jews I became as a Jew, so that I might win Jews; to those who are under the Law, as under the Law though not being myself under the Law, so that I might win those who are under the Law; to those who are without law, as without law, though not being without the law of God but under the law of Christ, so that I might win those who are without law. To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak; I have become all things to all men, so that I may by all means save some. I do all things for the sake of the gospel, so that I may become a fellow partaker of it. (1 Corinthians 9:19-23 NASB)

For us, at Bath Christian Church, we began posting sermons and devotions on-line soon after the pandemic forced us to make changes. As we look ahead to the future, the board has seen the need to continue this effort and make it more user friendly in many ways. They have approved for us to move forward with the necessary equipment and technology to begin “live-streaming” our Sunday morning worship services and have opportunity to have Bible studies that will reach out to those who may not be able to come to our facility.

Getting all of the equipment and systems in place will take a few months and we will keep you posted on our progress. These are exciting times as we face change and embrace the tools to help us continue to share the good news of a loving God who cares for each of us.

Please be in prayer and we move forward into this new endeavor. We thank God for all of His blessings and ask for His guidance so that we may bring more souls to Christ.

~Devotion~

T-Bone Steaks

I walked into the grocery store not particularly interested in buying groceries. I wasn't hungry. The pain of losing my husband of 7 years was still too raw. And this grocery store held so many sweet memories.

He often came with me and almost every time he'd pretend to go off and look for something special. I knew what he was up to. I'd always spot him walking down the aisle with the three yellow roses in his hands.

He knew I loved yellow roses. With a heart filled with grief, I only wanted to buy my few items and leave, but even grocery shopping was different since he had passed on.

Shopping for one took time, a little more thought than it had for two.

Standing by the meat, I searched for the perfect small steak and remembered how he had loved his steak.

Suddenly a woman came beside me. She was blonde, slim and lovely in a soft green pantsuit. I watched as she picked up a large package of T-bones, dropped them in her basket.. Hesitated, and then put them back. She turned to go and once again reached for the pack of steaks.

She saw me watching her and she smiled. "My husband loves T-bones, but honestly, at these prices, I don't know."

I swallowed the emotion down my throat and met her pale blue eyes.

"My husband passed away eight days ago," I told her. Glancing at the package in her hands, I fought to control the tremble in my voice. "Buy him the steaks. And cherish every moment you have together."

She shook her head and I saw the emotion in her eyes as she placed the package in her basket and wheeled away.

I turned and pushed my cart across the length of the store to the dairy products. There I stood, trying to decide which size milk I should buy. A Quart, I finally decided and moved on to the ice cream. If nothing else, I could always fix myself an ice cream cone.

I placed the ice cream in my cart and looked down the aisle toward the front. I saw first the green suit, then recognized the pretty lady coming towards me. In her arms, she carried a package. On her face was the brightest smile I had ever seen. I would swear a soft halo encircled her blonde hair as she kept walking toward me, her eyes holding mine.

As she came closer, I saw what she held and tears began misting in my eyes. "These are for you," she said and placed three beautiful long stemmed yellow roses in my arms. "When you go through the line, they will know these are paid for." She leaned over and placed a gentle kiss on my cheek, then smiled again. I wanted to tell her what she'd done, what the roses meant, but still unable to speak, I watched as she walked away as tears clouded my vision.

I looked down at the beautiful roses nestled in the green tissue wrapping and found it almost unreal. How did she know? Suddenly the answer seemed so clear. I wasn't alone.

Oh, you haven't forgotten me, have you? I whispered, with tears in my eyes. He was still with me, and she was his angel.

- Author Unknown

September Schedules~

The Greeter, Nursery, and Children's Moment Schedules will not be printed again until we can enjoy worshipping together without the fear of spreading the coronavirus.



Flower Schedule:

September 6 Connie & Rick Tee
September 13 Alex & Don Shreve
September 20 Alice & Leon Wingate
September 27 Sandra & Claude Dupree

September Birthdays

September 2 Sarah Burgess
September 3 Frankie Jordan
Howard Robertson
Daniel Woolard
September 4 Ann Bertram
September 5 Phil McRoy
Grayce Woolard
September 6 Terry Woolard
September 7 Rodney Bowen, Sr.
September 8 Billy Dean
September 9 June Wallace
September 11 Alexia Clark
Cynthia York
September 17 Amanda Godley
Gerald Morris
September 22 Pete Fell
September 23 Brandi Robbins

~Announcements~

Church Opening

We opened our sanctuary for Sunday morning services at 10:00am on June 7, 2020. We have practiced social distancing in entering, seating, interacting with one another and leaving.

Vulnerable populations have been encouraged to stay home for their own safety.

At the present time we are offering only the 10:00am service, NO Sunday school. We'll plan to phase in other church functions as the coronavirus levels down (or out) and following state and national guidelines.

Church Website

A reminder to check the church's website bathchristianchurch.com for our pastor's midweek messages and Sunday sermons. Also, our Youth Director, Alex Shreve, is posting weekly bible messages including up to date information about youth activities beneficial to our youth and their families.

Church Calendar

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

Church Fall Bazaar

Plans are underway to conduct our annual church bazaar November 21, 2020. All ideas, suggestions, are welcome. More information will follow.

Eagles Wings

Mark Aydlett is continuing to place the Eagles Wings basket outside the Fellowship Hall daily. Thanks for continuing to support this worthy and needy cause. We have recently seen a decline in contributions. Your nonperishable items are greatly needed as Eagles Wings is experiencing a spike in new clients during the coronavirus outbreak and a lot of families are without income. Monetary gifts are also needed but do not leave cash in the basket. Checks are accepted made payable to Eagles Wings. There is still a need for plastic grocery bags. Bags can be placed in the basket along with other items.

Washington Women's Bible Study

The next WWBS (Washington Women's Bible Study) will begin October 7 and end November 18. This fall's study is on 1 and 2 Thessalonians. Registration instructions will come later. If you have questions contact Jane Stokes 923-7111.

Please make the church secretary aware of church directory additions/changes including birthdate (month/day).

*The more we
Let God take
Us over,
The more truly
Ourselves
We become*

C. S. Lewis

HAPPINESS cannot be
traveled to, owned, earned, worn
or consumed.

HAPPINESS is the spiritual
experience of living every minute
with
Love
Grace
and
Gratitude.

Denis Waitley

You
can't
give
your
life
more
time
so
give
the
time
you
have
left
more
Life.

Vsco.com



Prayer Requests : Church Family Prayer Concerns:

Sarah Burgess; Charlie Clark; Ella Mae Smith & Michael Corless; Ann Cullen; Bill Cutler; Peggy Davis; Neil Duncan; C. T. Dupree; Marian Everett; Liz & Pete Fell; Beverly & John Holt; Jackie Mullen; Harold Ormond; Carol Richardson; Larry Schmitt; Gary Sheppard; Beverly & Ron Tincher, caregivers &

Unspoken Requests.

Friends & Community Prayer Concerns: Jane Bass; Judy Boyd; Susan Boyd; Tilman Carter; Virginia Chrismon; John Conway; Anthony Cutler; Sylvester Ebersson; Cleve Edwards; Esther Flowers; Dianne Floyd; Chris Gibbs; Gail Gibbs; Larry Green; Pauline Gurganus; Chris Harris; Hunter Hasty; Mike Isbell; Billy Jefferson; Sue Kemmer; Linwood Lewis; Gladys Owens; Mavis Owens; Mike Painter; Wilson Paul; Brian Peele; Cynthia Pendleton; Stephanie Sabbra; Dean Sheppard; Alice Smith; Raymond Spencer; Don Steffa; Bonnie Swain; Susie Swinson; Roger Tuning; Faye Waters; Deanna Woolard; Margaret Ann Woolard; Wendy Woolard; teenagers throughout the world, those affected by the coronavirus, Hurricane Isaias &

Unspoken Requests.

The families of: Reginal Bishop, Jr.; Frankie Black; Carrie Blue; David Boarts; Jeremy Boyer; Ricky Brann; Geraldine Perry Carawan; Steve Douglas; Margaret Dudley; James Paul Dunning; Rupert Godley; Mac Hodges; Tom Hodges; Margaret Dudley; Marie Grant Hill; Jerome Jamison; Cindy Jones; James Doyle Jones; Kenneth Jones; Mary Koumaris; Patricia Langley; Bruce Linnen; Frank Lepper; Helen McDonald; Robert Rogers; Ellis Ross, Jr.; Frank Rowe; Jack Rowe; Erma Sawyer; Glenda Scott; Warren Smith; Frederick Sutliff; Sonja Tuning; Betty Varni; Charlotte Waters; Timothy Wiggins; Frank Winstead, Jr.

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: Dorothy Mathews, Bob Miller.

**Please submit news to me
for the October newsletter by
9:00 am Monday, September 21st. Thank you!
You can contact Jessie Brooks at 252-945-6362
or via email: jessiebrooks5@yahoo.com. OR
secretary@bathchristianchurch.com**