



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 February~

For the American Heart Association, the month of February is American Heart Month. It seems that the celebration of February 14th and all of the heart shaped memorabilia may help us to remember to care for our hearts.

We often associate February with hearts and valentines. However, February may be known for something else. February is known for being the shortest month. Typically, there are only 28 days allocated to this month except on certain years when the accumulation of left-over hours is given into an extra day during leap year. As we know, our year is based on the time it takes the earth to complete one orbit around the sun. This time is not precisely 365 days. There are a few hours accumulated each year and every four years we include an extra day. This year is a leap year so we have 29 days in this February.

This oddity of February 29th has created at least two phenomena that causes us some amusement. One thing some of us remember was introduced via the comic strip Lil Abner. Yes, the role reversal of Sadie Hawkins where the women chase the men to catch a husband. As I remember, every four years we had Sadie Hawkins dances at schools. The girls asked the boys to the dance rather than the socially accepted norm of the boy asking the girl.

The other oddity is people born on that strange day that only appears once in four years. How old are they? Are they really 4 years old when they get their driving privilege? Are they 17 or 18 years old when they retire? Maybe the worst part is that they only receive ¼ the birthday presents that most of us receive.

Beyond these considerations, have you ever thought about this extra day? What, if anything, does it mean that we have stayed attached to this planet and endured the accumulated extra day? Some may tell me that it is a day made by God and we should be glad. (This is a paraphrasing of scripture.) Let’s look at the Psalm we just alluded.

**The stone which the builders rejected
Has become the chief corner stone.**

This is the LORD’S doing (Lit from the Lord);

It is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day which the LORD has made;

Let us rejoice and be glad in it. (Psalm 118:22-24 NASB)

We are very familiar with the 24th verse. We have heard it often and maybe we have recited it on those days where we feel like God has blessed us.

The 22nd verse is quoted by Stephen in Acts 4:11 and is applied to Jesus. This is certainly an appropriate analogy of this verse. However, think with me for a moment. An ordinary day is not often considered as special. We can easily toss an ordinary day into the heap of ordinary days. Days are not ordinary. The 29th day of February is not ordinary. It is special. It is a gift from God. This gift changes a year from 365 days to 366 days. Just as verse 23 tells us, it is **the LORD’S doing**. Literally, it is a day from the Lord.

Solomon tells us: **There is an appointed time for everything. And there is a time for every event under heaven— (Ecclesiastes 3:1 NASB)**

This means that even superfluous day in February is an appointed time and as we read in Psalm 118, it is given and appointed by God. The days that make up our life are numbered and perhaps we should understand the significance of each day.

Job was musing about the life span of people as we find recorded in the first few verses of the 14th chapter.

Man, who is born of woman, is short-lived (Lit. short of days) and full of turmoil. Like a flower he comes forth and withers. He also flees like a shadow and does not remain. You also open Your eyes on him and bring him into judgment with Yourself.

Who can make the clean out of the unclean? No one!

Since his days are determined, the number of his months is with You; and his limits You have set so that he cannot pass. (Job 14:1-5 NASB)

The psalmist also directs us to be aware of the days that God has given us. In the 90th chapter of Psalm. We find three verses that suggest that regardless of our age, we should always live each day purposely.

As for the days of our life, they contain seventy years, or if due to strength, eighty years, yet their pride is but labor and sorrow; for soon it is gone and we fly away.

Who understands the power of Your anger and Your fury, according to the fear that is due You?

So teach us to number our days, that we may present to You a heart of wisdom. (Psalm 90:10-12 NASB)

For me, that phrase **number our days**, means that each day should be treated as a special day. A day that is given by God and it is expected (by God) that we will use that day to, in some way, bring glory to Him.

Paul writes to the church in Ephesus to remind them of the power and glory of God revealed through Jesus. In the 5th chapter, he calls for us to be imitators of God (Ephesians 5:1). Paul calls for us to leave behind the evil deeds that we once did and live a life that reflects Jesus. He then uses a term that may seem strange. He calls for us to buy back the time or redeem the time.

Therefore, be careful (Lit. look carefully) how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of your time (Lit. redeeming the time), because the days are evil. So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. (Ephesians 5:15-17 NASB)

We are to make every day special. So, as we reflect on the extra day that we find in February, we find that that day is an extra day in the year. We should truly remember that this day, like all days **is the day which the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

~Devotion~

Do you remember when phones were for phone calls?

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. Galatians 5:22-23

When I was growing up in the 1980's we had a rotary dial phone. You put your finger in a numbered spot on a circular dialer which clicked as it returned to its place and registered the 7 or 10 numbers you selected. It took a full 10 to 20 seconds to complete a call and was really annoying if the number had a lot of 8s or 9s! Then came touch-tone phones. You pushed a button, it beeped, and you could make a call in two and a half to three seconds. Back in those days, a phone was simply an instrument to talk with someone voice to voice.

Nowadays, phones are "smarter"; they are "smart" phones; and they do everything but make coffee for you in the morning, although soon I think you can program them to start your coffee maker before you wake up. You can send or receive emails, text, Facebook, "Skype", play games, study French, listen to music, record love letters, pay your bills, watch movies...your phone can be the interface for your life, and it is, for many people!

...there's **God** apps... throughout the Scriptures, and they're FREE -- thousands of them, everyone "GUARANTEED" to be a top-level "interface" for your life! Check out the love app! [Matthew 22:37-39] Or the Spiritual Fruit App! [Galatians 5:22-23] Or the Unity App! [Ephesians 4:2-6] The Scriptures are just filled with apps to apply to the interface of your life!

Spend some time in God's free "App Store" today, it's just an opened Bible away! Apply God's apps to your life -- you'll be dialing into His will, purposes, power, and His infinitely interesting universe.

Worthydevotions.com

~Board Minutes~

The Board of the Bath Christian Church met December 1, 2019. Howard Robertson, Chairman presided. Gerald Morris opened the meeting with prayer. The treasurer's report and corrected minutes were approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Beginning in January the new youth director, Alex Shreve will assume her role. She has asked for an increase in the amount paid toward her insurance. The discussion was postponed until the January meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. The Thanksgiving offering collection was \$125. The church will add funds to equal \$500. Gerald Morris made the motion which was seconded by Leon Wingate. Motion was approved.
2. Installing security measures for the church has been investigated. Suggestions were discussed. Because there were still questions the Chairman appointed a committee to conduct a further study of the situation and present recommendations. Appointed were Reeves Smith, Jessie Brooks, Billy Dean, Jamie Barnhill, James Cullen.
3. The minister requested that a walk-in shower be installed in one of the parsonage bathrooms. The maintenance committee will work on this issue.
4. Howard thanked the existing board for serving on the board during the last year and welcomed the new members. He also requested a discussion on the positives and negatives of a Family Ministry Program.
5. **MINISTERS REMARKS:**
Thanked Howard for his services as Chairman of the Board. Requested a discussion on the positives and negatives of a Family Ministry Program: 45 visits were made during the month: February 3, 2020 – Bible Study sessions on Monday Nights will begin. Eighteen persons have registered for the class.
6. Barry stated that several of the doors need repair attention. There is also a roof leak. Leon Wingate will contact a roofer.
7. The first item of the next meeting will be the election of officers.
The meeting was adjourned with prayer.

June Wallace, Secretary

~CWF~

The Bath Christian Church CWF met in the Fellowship Hall on December 18, 2019.

There were eighteen ladies present: Sarah Stone, Alice Wingate, Liz Fell, Nancy Hill, Gale Walton, Betty Schmitt, Linda Heath, Nancy Robertson, Barbara Oliver, Rachel Jordan, Debbie Smith, Joyce Aydlett, Claudia Alligood, Becky Tuten, June Wallace, Alex Shreve, Barbara Morris and Cynthia Stell.

Barbara presided and opened with prayer. The offering was collected and a prayer was given by Nancy H.

Linda began the program talking and asking questions about Christmas memories. We played a Christmas theme guessing game. Prizes were awarded for correct answers. She then read the Christmas Story of the birth of Jesus from Luke 2. She closed with prayer.

Business:

Claudia thanked the group on behalf of the Kids of God's World for their pizza party. This changed to an ice cream and cookies party for the winning House of the Bath Elementary School Food Drive. She also thanked everyone who participated in this effort.

Claudia thanked everyone for their work which made the Bazaar a huge success. The extra Saturday the Bazaar was open was also a success. It takes everyone working together to make this event successful.

Claudia moved that a \$1000.00 donation be given to the CMF for all of their work towards the Bazaar.

Debbie seconded. Carried.

Debbie thanked the group for their support of the Gift Baskets for Shut-Ins for Christmas. The Shut-Ins enjoyed the Gift Baskets, but they especially enjoyed the visit as did those who were delivering them.

The meeting was closed with our benediction.

We enjoyed the variety of finger foods and visiting with each other.

January 22, 2020 meeting will be presented by Nancy Hill from Max Lucado's book *The Gospel of John* Lesson Five (5).

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia Stell

~CWF~

The Bath Christian Church CWF met in the Choir Room on January 22, 2020. There were nineteen ladies present: Sarah Stone, Barbara Oliver, Alice Wingate, Nancy Hill, Betty Schmitt, Jessie Brooks, Diane Adams, June Wallace, Linda Heath, Helen Brooks, Nancy Robertson, Rachel Jordan, Joyce Aydlett, Alex Shreve, Debbie Smith, Nelda Ormond, Barbara Morris and Cynthia Stell. Barbara presided and Sarah opened with prayer. Alice gave a prayer for our offerings.

Nancy Hill presented the program using Max Lucado's book *The Gospel of John*. This lesson title was *A Hungry Crowd* and was the fifth in this series of study. The scripture reference was John 6:1-15. She closed with prayer.

The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed and approved. Nelda gave the treasurer's report. She read several thank you notes from Shut-Ins for their Christian Baskets. She also read thank you notes from Eagles Wings, Ruth's House, Athens Manna Ministry, Zion Shelter and St. Thomas' Backpack Program.

Business:

Joyce moved that a donation be given to a family that had suffered a loss. Motion was amended by Alice. June seconded amended motion. Carried. Budget Committee was appointed by Barbara Morris. Committee members are Rachel Jordan, Nelda Ormond, Alice Wingate, Debbie Smith and Diane Adams.

Alice will continue with project for Bathrooms and Fellowship Hall.

We closed with our benediction.

February 26, 2020 meeting will be presented by Rachel Jordan from Max Lucado's book *The Gospel of John* Lesson Six (6).

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia Stell

~CMF~

The CMF of Bath Christian Church met Wednesday January 6, 2020 with Leon Wingate presiding and 18 in attendance. Present were C. Dupree, G. Morris, D. Adams, S. Stell, L. Wingate, J. Cullen, J. Burgess, L. Schmitt, B. Hill, B. Norman, C. Cartwright, G. Heath, D. Shreve, J. Barnhill, L. Gurganus, R. Cutler, J. Walton and J. Caton.

Cooks for the evening were Stell and Wingate. Steamed oysters and sides were enjoyed by all. Thanks to the cooks.

Business Meeting

- Minutes of last meeting read and approved
- Financial report given and approved
- Thank you note received from Methodist

Hatteras Men for contribution

--Remove and store curtains on Moe Shack after next breakfast

--District Meeting Jan. 28th will now be in

Plymouth

--Next CMF meeting will be Feb. 5th, 2020

--Cooks for next meeting will be Wingate,

Schmitt and Hill

--Prayer concerns listed

G. Morris closed the meeting with prayer.

CMF Breakfast Meeting 1/16/20

J. Barnhill read note about Southern Bank setting up a fund to assist the families of the shrimp boat victims in Hyde County. Motioned and approved to send contribution to this fund.

Billy Hill Recorder

~February Schedules~

Greeter Schedule:



- February 2 Phil McRoy
- February 9 Barbara Morris
- February 16 Marcia Norman
- February 23 Terry Woolard



Flower Schedule:

- February 2 Lela Spriggs
- February 9 Jessie Brooks
- February 16 Marie & Danny Gonzalez
- February 23 Marshall Myers

Nursery Schedule:



- February 2 Cynthia Stell & Linda Heath
- February 9 Connie & Roger Winstead
- February 16 Ellen Heck & Julie Crawford
- February 23 Cassandra & Ronnie Gilbertson

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

Children's Moment Schedule:



- February 2 Darlene Ormond
- February 9 Nancy Hill
- February 16 Kids of God's World
- February 23 Marcia Norman

Serving Schedule:

February 2

Elders: S. Stell & L. Wingate
Deacon of Wk: S. Stell & B. Dean
Deacons: B. Dean, D. Adams,
L. Gurganus & B. McRoy

February 9

Elders: L. Wingate & J. Barnhill
Deacon of Wk: L. Wingate & B. Norman
Deacons: B. Norman, L. Schmitt,
R. Smith & B. Tuten

February 16

Elders: J. Barnhill & C. Dupree
Deacon of Wk: J. Barnhill & D. Woolard
Deacons: D. Woolard, L. Woolard,
D. Adams & C. Cartwright.

February 23

Elders: C. Dupree & G. Morris
Deacon of Wk: C. Dupree & P. Chrismon
Deacons: P. Chrismon, B. Dean,
E. Gurganus & L. Gurganus

~Announcements~

We extend a welcome to Alexandra (Alex) Shreve as she begins her duties as Youth Director. Her contact information is Alex Shreve, Youth Director, Bath Christian Church, PO Box 300, Bath, NC 27808. 252-725-2019. ashreveocc1960@gmail.com.

Reminder: When sending mail to the church please use our PO Box 300 instead of 107 S. Harding St. We have experienced mail being returned that does not have our PO # on it. Thanks for your attention to this.

The bible study "What Are You Afraid Of?" by Dr. David Jeremiah will begin February 3-March 9 at 7pm.

Please make the church secretary aware of church directory changes.

Eagles Wings

Eagles Wings food pantry is still accepting nonperishable donations. Supplies were depleted during the holiday season. There are labeled baskets in the Fellowship Hall and both vestibules. Thank you for your help. P.S. They desperately need plastic grocery bags. Empty bags can be placed in Eagles Wings boxes along with other items.

*Your most
Powerful
Testimony is
How you treat
Others after the
Church service
Is over.*

Truths

PROCRASTINATION
*Is the arrogant assumption
that God
owes you another chance to
do
tomorrow what he gave you
the
chance to do today.*

Bishop Rosie O'Neal



Prayer Requests : Church Family Prayer Concerns:

Bill Bertram; Charlie Clark; Ella Mae Smith & Michael Corless; Ann Cullen; Bill Cutler; Bobby Drake;

Marian Everett; Pete Fell; Marie Gonzalez; Beverly & John Holt; Jackie Mullen; Marcia Norman, Gary Sheppard; Beverly & Ron Tincher, caregivers, & Unspoken Requests.

Friends & Community Prayer Concerns: Olivia Armstrong & her mother Lee; Rickie Bause; Mark & Mary Scott Baver; Frankie Black; Vera Boseman; Judy Boyd; Susan Boyd; Barbara Britt; Roy Buck; Dottie Bunch, Virginia Chrismon, John Conway; Ella Mae Copeland; Evan Cornelius; Colt Cowell; Anthony Cutler; Rex Deffenbaugh; Glenda Douglas; Sylvester Ebersson; George Elliott; Deborah Everette, Esther Flowers; Dianne Floyd; Joanne Gaylord, Chris Gibbs; Gail Gibbs; Danny Gonzalez sister; Pauline Gurganus; Jon Hadel; Amy Adams Hardee; Don Hardison; Chris Harris; Wade Hosey; Mike Isbell; Allie Faye Ivey; Vickie Jessen; Sheila Cox Jones; John Kelly; Sue Kemmer; Linwood Lewis; Ronnie Martin; Barbara Mason; Carol McRoy; Allison Mills; Josh Moye; Alvin Norman; Gladys Owens; Emily Page; Mike Painter; Wilson Paul; Brian Peele; Ray Pippin; Joyce Pitt; Larry Poore; Brandi Robbins; Beth Rodgers; Wendy Rouse; Dean Sheppard; Tim Shreve; Betty Slade; Jackie Smith; Jo Smith; Michael Spencer; Raymond Spencer; Don Steffa; Leonard Sullivan; Susie Swinson; Hope Blatch Tafair; Sonya & Roger Tuning; Annette Tuten; Becky Sheppard Waters; Faye Waters; Ronnie Watson; Miranda Woolard; Wendy Woolard; Jim Worthington; teenagers throughout the world; students, teachers & families; & Unspoken Requests.

The families of Bobby Everett, Hyde Co. Fishermen, Thurman Jackson, Gary Tyer.

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 March newsletter by
9:00 am Friday, February 21st. Thank you!
You can contact Jessie Brooks at 252-945-6362
or via email: jessiebrooks5@yahoo.com. OR
secretary@bathchristianchurch.com