



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 July

Here we are more than halfway through this year. We are well into the “hurricane-season” and already have three named storms marked off our list and we are just getting started. This year has been one marked by many trials and hardships. We have had a new strain of viral infection that has proven to tax our ability to maintain a normal life-style. We have experienced civil unrest that continues to remind us that we have not adequately addressed the issues of racial and social equity. Now, we are in the stormy season when we might expect tropical storms to dump heavy rain and push storm surges back up our rivers and creeks. How much more may we expect and how much more can we endure?

We may feel hopeless. With all of the multiple issues, it can be overwhelming. We are in situations over which we have no control. We are overcome with the magnitude and speed of the events that we face. We did not start any of the events and we are powerless to stop them or deflect them. Imagine being in a small boat on a large sea and enduring a storm that threatens to capsize our boat.

That is the situation we find recorded in Mark the 4th chapter.

On that day, when evening came, He said to them, “Let us go over to the other side.” Leaving the crowd, they took Him along with them in the boat, just as He was; and other boats were with Him. And there arose a fierce gale of wind, and the waves were breaking over the boat so much that the boat was already filling up. Jesus Himself was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke Him and said to Him, “Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?” And He got up and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, “Hush, be still.” And the wind died down and it became perfectly calm. And He said to them, “Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?” They became very much afraid and said to one another, “Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey Him?” (Mark 4:35-41 NASB)

Here the disciples are in a boat on the Sea of Galilee at night and a fierce storm tosses them about. Storms at sea are frightening enough during the daytime. At night, the darkness only adds to the fright. In this situation, only one person is calm enough to sleep.

Each of the disciples who were with Jesus on this trip had enough knowledge about who He was to leave their jobs and family to follow Him. Yet, as the storm threatened their safety, they woke up Jesus. Notice that they were not asking Jesus to save them. They were certain that they would perish and could not understand how Jesus could sleep through the storm that brought such peril. Jesus rebukes the storm and it becomes calm. The disciples were left with one question: **“Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey Him?”**

Jesus not only rebuked the storm; He rebuked the disciples for their lack of faith.

“Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?”

We do face many storms in our daily life. Does Jesus ask us the same question? Many of us have sat through many years of Sunday school classes, countless sermons, and (hopefully) many years of Bible study and meditation. Do we still not know this Jesus who calms storms?

Maybe we need to really dig for that faith that will allow us to understand and accept the promises of Jesus.

He Himself has said, “I WILL NEVER DESERT YOU, NOR WILL I EVER FORSAKE YOU,” so that we confidently say, “THE LORD IS MY HELPER; I WILL NOT BE AFRAID.

WHAT WILL MAN DO TO ME?” (Hebrews 13:5-6 NASB)

I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:20 NASB)

I will not leave you as orphans. (John 14:18 NASB)

So, as we face all of the storms that we mentioned in the first few lines of this article, we need to remember who spoke to the storm and made it cease. We need to remember who has promised us that He will never leave us.

We need to find the faith to hold to the promises and assurances Paul offers in Romans 8:38-39 when he says” **For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:38-39 NASB)**

~Devotion~

A Letter From God

Good Morning,

As you got up I watched and hoped you would talk to me. Just a few words, such as thanking me for something good in your life yesterday or last week would do.

But I noticed you were busy selecting the right clothes for work. I waited again to hear from you. When you ran around the house collecting papers, I knew there would be a few minutes to stop and say hello, but you never slowed down.

I wanted to tell you that I could help you accomplish more than you ever dreamed possible if you would just spend some of each day with me. At one point, you waited fifteen minutes in a chair with nothing to do. I waited to hear from you.

Then I saw you spring to your feet; I thought you wanted to talk to me, but you ran to the phone and called a friend. I watched as off to work you went and waited patiently all day long to hear from you. With all your activities you were too busy to talk with me.

I noticed at lunch you looked around; maybe you just felt embarrassed to talk to me. You glanced three tables over and noticed some of your friends talking to me before they ate, but you wouldn't.

There was still more time left, and I hoped that we would talk. You went home and had many things to do. After they were done, you turned on the TV; just about anything goes there and you spend many hours watching. I waited as you continued watching TV and ate your meal but again you wouldn't talk to me.

At bedtime you were totally tired. After you said good night to your family you plopped into bed and fell asleep. I had so much wanted to be part of your day. We could have had so much fun and accomplished so much together.

I love you so much that I wait every day for a thought, prayer or thanks. Well, maybe tomorrow! I'll be waiting.

Your Friend,
God

..... author unknown

To be kind, honest and have positive thoughts; to forgive those who harm us and treat everyone as a friend; to help those who are suffering and never to consider ourselves superior to anyone else; even if this advice seems rather simplistic, make the effort of seeing whether by following it you can find greater happiness.

.....Dalai Lama

July Schedules~

Greeter Schedule:

July 5 Beau Norman
 July 12 Brenda Godley
 July 19 Becky McRoy
 July 26 Alice Wingate



Flower Schedule:



July 5 Claudia Alligood
 July 12 Becky & Phil McRoy
 July 19 Nancy Bunch
 July 26 Ann & Jim Cullen

Nursery Schedule:



July 5 Lesley Woolard & Lexi Clark
 July 12 Darlene Ormond & Debbie Smith
 July 19 Sandra & Claude Dupree
 July 26 Cynthia Stell & Linda Heath

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

Children's Moment Schedule:



July 5 Marcia Norman
 July 12 John LaCava
 July 19 Kids of God's World
 July 26 Barbara Morris

Serving Schedule:

July 5

Elders: G. Morris & H. Robertson
 Deacon of Wk: G. Morris & D. Adams
 Deacons: D. Adams, C. Cartwright
 P. Chrismon & B. Dean

July 12

Elders: H. Robertson & S. Stell
 Deacon of Wk: H. Robertson & E. Gurganus
 Deacons: E. Gurganus, L. Gurganus
 B. McRoy & B. Norman

July 19

Elders: S. Stell & L. Wingate
 Deacon of Wk: S. Stell & R. Smith
 Deacons: R. Smith, B. Tuten
 D. Woolard & L. Woolard

July 26

Elders: L. Wingate & J. Barnhill
 Deacon of Wk: L. Wingate & D. Adams
 Deacons: D. Adams, C. Cartwright
 P. Chrismon & B. Dean

July Birthdays

July 1 John Holt
 July 3 Donna Drake
 July 4 Alex Woolard
 July 5 Ella Gilbertson
 July 8 Carolyn Fisher
 July 12 Ann Cullen
 July 16 Diane Adams
 Nancy Bunch
 July 19 Helen Brooks
 John Everett, Jr.
 July 24 Rachel Jordan
 July 27 Gary Sheppard
 July 29 Don Shreve

~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 July, 2020 is not attached since all activities are currently cancelled. We will print the calendar again when normal activities resume.

Bath Farmer's Market

The Farmer's Market will operate this summer on Saturday mornings beginning June 27th through August 29th in the Old High School Gym. Hours of operation will be 8:00am – 11:00am. Be sure to support our Church Youth Group by purchasing fresh vegetables, flowers and other goodies.

Since Bath High School Preservation was unable to have their yard sale this year, they will be adding yard sale items each week along with their usual fresh vegetables, baked goods, preserves, etc.

Bath CC Youth Activities

(Refer to Youth Calendar and Information from Youth Director for details - attached)

- *Veggie Picking Tuesday and Fridays
- *Farmers Market Booth Saturdays 8-11am
- *VBS previously scheduled August 3-6 cancelled.
- *BCC Community Backyard Bible Club July 29th, 30th and 31st.

Church Fall Bazaar

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

Albemarle District Meeting

Plans are underway for Bath Christian Church to host the Albemarle District Meeting originally scheduled July 28th and rescheduled to Tuesday, August 11th at 6:30pm. More information will be provided.

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 but recently we have 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.

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



Prayer Requests : Church Family Prayer Concerns:
Charlie Clark; Ella Mae Smith
& Michael Corless; Bill Cutler; Neal
Duncan; Peggy Davis; Marian Everett;
Liz & Pete Fell; Beverly & John Holt; Jackie Mullen;
Carol Richardson; Gary Sheppard; Beverly & Ron
Tincher, caregivers & Unspoken Requests.

Friends & Community Prayer Concerns: Jane Bass;
Mark & Mary Scott Baver; Frankie Black; Vera Boseman;
Judy Boyd; Susan Boyd; Barbara Britt; Roy Buck;
Tilman Carter; Virginia Chrismon, John Conway; Evan
Cornelius; Anthony Cutler; Glenda Douglas; Sylvester
Eberson; Deborah Everette, Esther Flowers; Dianne
Floyd; Chris Gibbs; Gail Gibbs; Danny Gonzalez sister;
Larry Green; Pauline Gurganus; Jon Hadel; Amy Adams
Hardee; Chris Harris; Hunter Hasty; Mike Isbell; Vickie
Jessen; Sheila Cox Jones; John Kelly; Sue Kemmer;
Linwood Lewis; Carol McRoy; Allison Mills; Josh Moye;
Alvin Norman; Gladys Owens; Mavis Owens; Emily
Page; Mike Painter; Wilson Paul; Brian Peele; Cynthia
Pendleton; Joyce Pitt; Brandi Robbins; Wendy Rouse;
Stephanie Sabbra; Dean Sheppard; Michael Spencer;
Raymond Spencer; Don Steffa; Susie Swinson; Melisa
Thompson; Sonya & Roger Tuning; Becky Sheppard
Waters; Faye Waters; Ronnie Watson; Margaret Ann
Woolard; Miranda Woolard; Wendy Woolard; teenagers
throughout the world; students/teachers/families; those
affected by the coronavirus & Unspoken Requests.

The families of: Betsy Wallace Beamon, Zack Blake; Ted
Burbage; Thelma Cooper; Kay Currie; Bobby Drake;
Faye Midgette Edwards; Dot Elliott; Helen Gautier;
Cecelia Chrismon Hudson; Edmund Lee, Sr.; Patsy Lowe;
Jane McRoy; William Leroy Nichols; Edna O'Carroll;
Jeff Rieg, Sr.; Sandy Sparks; Juanita Spencer; Bill
Tankard; Lucy Wallace; Rita Wilkerson, Steven 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: Dorothy Mathews, Bob Miller.

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