



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 March

Many of us are familiar with the term “scapegoat.” A scapegoat is the person on whom the blame will be placed and the appropriate punishment assigned. Some of us may realize that the idea of a scapegoat is found in the Bible. It is found in Leviticus where Moses instructs Aaron on the sacrifice for atonement.

The LORD said to Moses:

“Tell your brother Aaron that he shall not enter at any time into the holy place inside the veil, before the mercy seat which is on the ark, or he will die; for I will appear in the cloud over the mercy seat. Aaron shall enter the holy place with this: with a bull for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering. He shall put on the holy linen tunic, and the linen undergarments shall be next to his body, and he shall be girded with the linen sash and attired with the linen turban (these are holy garments). Then he shall bathe his body in water and put them on. He shall take from the congregation of the sons of Israel two male goats for a sin offering and one ram for a burnt offering. Then Aaron shall offer the bull for the sin offering which is for himself, that he may make atonement for himself and for his household. He shall take the two goats and present them before the LORD at the doorway of the tent of meeting. Aaron shall cast lots for the two goats, one lot for the LORD and the other lot for the scapegoat (Lit *goat of removal*). Then Aaron shall offer the goat on which the lot for the LORD fell, and make it a sin offering. But the goat on which the lot for the scapegoat fell shall be presented alive before the LORD, to make atonement upon it, to send it into the wilderness as the scapegoat. (Leviticus 16:2-10 NASB)

In this passage, we find the word “scapegoat.” The literal translation is “goat of removal.” Each time we read scapegoat; we may say goat of removal. This goat of removal would symbolically take the sins of the children of Israel and the goat would be driven into the wilderness. Thus, the sins were removed from the assembly.

We find that this is an on going sacrifice that was to be repeated each year. This is explained in the last few verses of the same chapter.

“This shall be a permanent statute for you: in the seventh month, on the tenth day of the month, you shall humble your souls and not do any work, whether the native, or the alien who sojourns among you; for it is on this day that atonement shall be made for you to cleanse you; you will be clean from all your sins before the LORD. It is to be a sabbath of solemn rest for you, that you may humble your souls; it is a permanent statute. So, the priest who is anointed and ordained to serve as priest in his father’s place shall make atonement: he shall thus put on the linen garments, the holy garments, and make atonement for the holy sanctuary, and he shall make atonement for the tent of meeting and for the altar. He shall also make atonement for the priests and for all the people of the assembly. Now you shall have this as a permanent statute, to make atonement for the sons of Israel for all their sins once every year.” And just as the LORD had commanded Moses, so he did. (Leviticus 16:29-34 NASB)

Under the Law of Moses, sin was never fully cleansed. It was symbolically put on a goat and driven from camp. The process was repeated each year.

The writer of Hebrews reminds us of the limitations of this law that required continual sacrifices and then points us to Jesus. Jesus became that perfect sacrifice to atone for our sins once and completely.

Now when these things have been so prepared, the priests are continually entering the outer tabernacle performing the divine worship, but into the second, only the high priest *enters* once a year, not without *taking* blood, which he offers for himself and for the sins of the people committed in ignorance. The Holy Spirit *is* signifying this, that the way into the holy place has not yet been disclosed while the outer tabernacle is still standing, which *is* a symbol for the present time.

(cont’d next page)

Accordingly, both gifts and sacrifices are offered which cannot make the worshiper perfect in conscience, since they *relate* only to food and drink and various washings, regulations for the body imposed until a time of reformation.

But when Christ appeared *as* a high priest of the good things to come, *He entered* through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation; and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling those who have been defiled sanctify for the cleansing of the flesh, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? (Hebrews 9:6-14 NASB)

Basically, God made Jesus into that scapegoat to take away our sins. This is mentioned in Isaiah the 53rd chapter. **Surely our griefs He Himself bore, and our sorrows He carried; yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.**

All of us like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; but the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all to fall on Him. (Isaiah 53:4 & 6 NASB)

As we approach Easter, we should remember that Jesus became our scapegoat to bear our sins. This is the purpose of Jesus coming to earth. His death and resurrection demonstrate God's plan coming to fruition.

He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. (2 Corinthians 5:21 NASB)

Ann and I wish each and everyone a Happy Easter that is filled with joy and thanksgiving for the love of God as revealed in Jesus.

The Right Spice

Scripture Reading — [John 10:7-10](#)

“I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.” [John 10:10](#) —

Every chef knows that the key to succeeding with many dishes is finding the right combination of spices. You might take the best ingredients and cook them perfectly, but your meal can be bland without a particular kind of pepper or herbs. No wonder that in medieval Europe spices were among the most prized and expensive products. Explorers such as Christopher Columbus and Vasco da Gama were more interested in finding new spices than gold.

Human life can be compared to an elaborate dish. We might have the very best ingredients. We can be healthy, young, intelligent, wealthy, and beautiful. Yet all those wonderful things don't guarantee a happy life. We need the right “spice” to make our life a success.

Today's verses provide valuable information about that special “spice.” Christ came into this world to make our life complete. He is our only way to eternal happiness and fulfillment. He gives us purpose and meaning for every day, and he brings out the best taste in our life.

The best part is that we don't need perfect ingredients to enjoy the life that Jesus describes. Even if our health is poor or we live in poverty, our loving Christ is able to bring out the best flavor and taste in the dish of our life.

Prayer - Father, thank you for bringing out the very best taste in our life through your Son, Jesus Christ. Give us wisdom to always listen to his voice. In Christ name we pray. Amen.

Sergei Sosedkin – todaydevotional.com

The Bath Christian Church CWF met on January 26, 2021 with the following members present: Barbara Morris, Rachel Jordan, Claudia Alligood, Debbie Smith, Joyce Aydlett, Betty Schmitt, Jessie Brooks and Gale Walton. Claudia called the meeting to order and Barbara opened with prayer.

Claudia pointed out that sign-up sheets for various committees were placed on the tables and encouraged everyone to sign up.

Rachel gave a very good devotion on keeping small groups from disintegrating.

Prayer concerns announced were Liz Fell, Marsha Norman, Carol Richardson, Dick Adams, John LaCava and Delores Oakley, a friend of Barbara's.

The minutes were read and approved.

Discussion followed on altering the schedule of the meetings. Debbie made a motion to meet the fourth Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. The exception will be a quarterly meeting held at 7:30 in the evening. Joyce seconded and the motion passed. The first quarterly meeting will be in March. The dates for the meetings will be included in the newsletters and in the bulletins.

Everyone was encouraged to invite others who may not know about the group.

Discussion was held on the type of devotion to be presented each month. Rather than going with a prepared program it was suggested that a timely devotion be delivered. Joyce made a motion that a short devotion possibly with scripture be delivered. Betty seconded and the motion passed.

The recommendation was made that the hostess be responsible for the devotion and snack except for the quarterly meeting. Jessie made a motion, Rachel seconded and the motion passed. During COVID-19 restrictions refreshments should be pre-packaged.

The shower for Annie Riddick was put on hold as she does not know what she needs at this time. The possibility of a drive-through shower at a later date was presented. Notices could be sent to area churches and posters put in local businesses.

The meeting ended with a fun game designed to raise some money for the cards that Joyce sends out each month. The winner received a small gift.

Jessie won the prize so she will be responsible for the gift for the next meeting.

The next meeting will be February 23 at 10:00 a.m.

Respectively Submitted, Gale Walton, Secretary

~Board Minutes~

The Board of Bath Christian Church met on January 3, 2021. Chairman Starley Stell presided. The meeting was opened with silent prayer in honor of Rodney Bowen, followed by an opening prayer by Louis Gurganus. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved on the motion made by Reeves Smith and seconded by Beau Norman. Jamie Barnhill reported that financial gifts were sent to Eagle's Wings, Social Services, Bath Elementary School, Ruth's House, and Salvation Army. Jamie distributed copies of the quarterly report.

Starley welcomed new and returning board members.

OLD BUSINESS:

A thank you note from Alex Shreve was read in appreciation for a Christmas gift.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Starley drew attention to the serving list for board members. He asked that the Deacon and Elder of the week be responsible for communion duties. The Elder will say the communion prayer in the worship service in the sanctuary, and the Deacon will serve communion to the people in children's church and in the nursery. He reminded members that when anyone cannot attend, he/she should be sure to get somebody as a replacement.
2. Starley will be calling in order to complete Committees for 2021 and reminded members that everyone should be willing to serve.
3. Jamie has received the insurance bill for this quarter and rates have increased. He will be looking at bids from other insurance companies or an adjustment on the bill received.
4. Claude Dupree referred the disaster involving Annie Ruth Riddick to the board for a suggestion as to a gift for her. The board agreed to a \$1000 donation on a motion by Jamie Barnhill and a second by Gerald Heath.

5. Jim Cullen reported that the CD player on the sound system has quit. A combination CD player, Bluetooth and thumb drive will be installed. This was approved on a motion by Beau Norman and a second by Louis Gurganus.
6. Gerald Heath reported concern about in bowed window in the sanctuary, but the window company had assured us that the window is okay.
7. Jim Cullen reported three home visits, 98 phone visits and a graveside service for Rodney Bowen. He also said that he has postponed ordering materials for a bible study until we can return to some form of normalcy.
8. Starley has had the Sunday School literature cut back until we reopen for Sunday School.
9. Alex Shreve reported on the zoom meeting for the youth in December and the program, which they performed on December 30. Some 500 viewers have seen the video. The youth will schedule a zoom meeting shortly to review 2020 and to make plans for 2021.
10. Starley reminded us that Covid shows no signs of going away with increases of cases and deaths in our area. We need to protect ourselves and others by following all safety protocols.

Beau Norman closed the meeting with a benediction.

June Wallace, Secretary

~March Schedules~

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



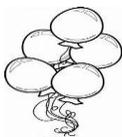
Flower Schedule:

March 7 Kandice & Billy Dean
March 14 Sallie & John LaCava
March 21 Jeannie, Dale & Terry Woolard
March 28 Brenda & Vernon Godley



Nursery (Little Lion's Class) Schedule:

March 7 Lexi Clark – Teacher
 Ronnie Gilbertson – Assistant
March 14 Lexi Clark – Teacher
 Rachel Jordan – Assistant
March 21 Lexi Clark – Teacher
 Kandice Dean – Assistant
March 28 Lexi Clark – Teacher
 Jessie Brooks – Assistant



March Birthdays

March 7 Beverly Holt
March 8 Mary Lynn Edwards
March 12 Jessie Brooks
March 14 Claudia Alligood
March 17 Hannah Bowen Peele
March 24 Claude Dupree
March 28 Billy Hill
March 31 Kandice Dean

~Announcements~

CWF

Reminder: In a recent meeting of the Christian Women's Fellowship a discussion was held concerning altering the schedule of the meetings. It was decided we would meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The exception will be a quarterly meeting held at 7:30 in the evening beginning with the March, 2021 meeting. We encourage all women of the church to join in this time of fellowship and worship. Masks are required and all safety precautions will be observed.

Church Services Expanded

The Church Board has voted to resume congregational singing on Palm Sunday, March 28th. As the Covid 19 virus declines we will gradually add in other church activities.

Church Website

A reminder to check the church's website bathchristianchurch.com for our pastor's midweek messages and Sunday sermons. **Our 10:00 AM Sunday Morning Services are currently being live-streamed.** Our Youth Director, Alex Shreve, has a Bath Christian Church Youth Facebook Page.

Church Calendar

The church calendar for March, 2021 is not attached since all activities are currently cancelled. We will print the calendar again when normal activities resume.

Easter Services Update

Easter Sunrise Services at Bonner Point have been cancelled this year. Our pastor, Jim, is responsible for giving the message and plans are to make this available on the church website and to the other churches for their websites.

Eagles Wings

The Eagles Wings basket is located outside the Fellowship Hall daily. Thanks for continuing to support this worthy and needy cause.

They need to replenish their supply of nonperishable items. 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 which can be placed in the basket along with other items.

Please make the church secretary aware of church directory additions/changes. We would like to recognize folks with birthdays if you will contact the church office with that information.

Directory Updates:

Barbara Oliver, 160 Washington Harbour, Washington, NC. Telephone (same) Cell: 252-945-7590. oliverba174@gmail.com.

*People who fly into a
rage always make a
bad landing.*

Will Rogers

**Even the strongest hands can
lose their grip,
the greatest of minds can
become cloudy,
and the biggest of
hearts can break.**

**So
Be Kind
Just always be kind.**

Pinterest

If you can't
EXPLAIN it
to a
six year old,
you don't
UNDERSTAND it
yourself.

Albert Einstein



Prayer Requests : Church Family Prayer Concerns:
Dick Adams, Carolyn Ambrose; Bill
Bertram; Sarah Burgess;
Charlie Clark; Ella Mae Smith &
Michael Corless; Ann Cullen; Bill Cutler;
Peggy Davis; Donald Everett; Liz & Pete Fell;
Carolyn Fisher; Beverly & John Holt; Jackie Mullen;
Marcia Norman; Harold Ormond;
Carol Richardson; Beverly & Ron Tincher,
caregivers & **Unspoken Requests.**

Friends & Community Prayer Concerns: Jane Bass;
Susan Boyd; Tilman Carter; Donald Cartwright; Jim
Caton; John Conway; Anthony Cutler, Esther Flowers;
Dianne Floyd; Chris Gibbs; Gail Gibbs; Kathy Godwin;
Larry Green; Phyllis Guill; Pauline Gurganus; Chris
Harris; Hunter Hasty; Dwight Humphrey; Mike Isbell;
Sue Kemmer; Tony Krantz; Linwood Lewis; Jamie
Locklear; Mavis Owens; Mike Painter; Wilson Paul;
Linda Poore; Tom Rule; Stephanie Sabbra; Dean
Sheppard; Harry Smith; Patricia Smith; Raymond
Spencer; Don Steffa; Bonnie Swain; Susie Swinson;
Roger Tuning; Faye Waters; Oscar Webster; Ann
Winfield; Deanna Woolard; Margaret Ann Woolard;
Wendy Woolard; teenagers throughout the world, those
affected by the coronavirus, & **Unspoken Requests.**

The families of: Lynne Asby, Weedy Bonner, Vera Boseman,
C. G. Boyd, Tony Boyd, Jimmy Chandler, Audrey Cherry,
Clifton Cherry, Gene Conner, Robert Cooper, Richard Craig,
Louise Daniels, Margie Davenport, Sylvester Ebersson, Richard
Gaskins, Retha Gorham, Roger Gray, Annie Mae Greer, Andy
Harrison, Donnie Laverne Hill, Philip Hodnett, Maxine
Kinnion, Ellen Koehler, Teresa Liverman, Brandon Marshall,
Warren Morrisette, Sr., Buddy Price, Artie Rawls, Inocente
Reyes, Christine Runyon, Edward Russ, Sr., Gary Sheppard,
Johnny "Marvin" Smith, Gary Thompson, Jr., Billy Williams,
Richard Wilson, Stephen Vore.

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: Pete Fell, Bob Miller.

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