



## 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 school year begins and we have adjusted to the vaccines allowing some return to more normal situations. Now, we see the Delta Variant and other variants driving the Covid infections back up. An over-whelming number of those infections are in the unvaccinated population. This upswing in new cases of the infection demonstrate the uncertainty of our world today.

In addition to the virus and infections, we have instability in many areas of the world. The chaos seen in Afghanistan, the persecution of Christians everywhere and many other items that we could name have many thinking that the end of time is drawing near. Predictions of the end of time have been around for nearly two thousand years. In fact, Paul wrote to the young preacher Timothy words that we often hear repeated today: **But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good. Treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these. (2 Timothy 3:1-5 NASB)**

This was written around 64 or 65 AD. So, nearly two thousand years ago Paul was warning about the same things we see today. Many of us think that the issues are more pronounced now than we may remember from several years ago. Indeed, our society seems to be moved by salacious motivators now more than twenty or thirty years ago. Is the end near? Yes. Does this mean that the end will be during our lifetime? We cannot be sure. The words of Jesus tell us that He does not know when the final day will be and He calls for us to be ready regardless of when it occurs.

**But of that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but the Father *alone*. Mark 13:32 NASB)**

**What I say to you I say to all, ‘Be on the alert!’” (Mark 13:37 NASB)**

In the parable of the ten virgins, we remember that five were not prepared while five were ready by having sufficient oil for their lamps. Jesus ends that parable with these words: **Be on the alert then, for you do not know the day nor the hour. (Matthew 25:13 NASB)**

When we think on the end of time, we may become anxious and worried. We are often afraid of the unknown. When we suffer because of our belief, we soon learn the strength of our faith. We will endure many trials and tribulations as we live a life dedicated to Jesus. We will be outcast in society. The world does not live a life that is led by God’s Spirit. It lives to satisfy the lust and appetites of the flesh. Christians are the subject of Jesus’ prayer found in the 17<sup>th</sup> chapter of John. Jesus prayed to God: **I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I do not ask You to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil *one*. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. (John 17:14-16 NASB)**

The times are changing and evil seems to be winning many battles each day. We may be looking for an immediate return of Jesus. We may be looking for signs that are pointing toward that time. According to the Bible, we cannot know the time. Our charge is to be ready. Part of being ready is to avoid being like the world with its evil desires and actions.

We live in this world but we are called to be transformed into a people of God rather than letting the world transform us into the fashion of worldliness. Paul wrote to the church in Rome:

(continued next page)

**Therefore, I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is* your spiritual service of worship. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect. (Romans 12:1-2 NASB)**

As we begin another school year, let us reflect on how we will live when we realize that the life to which we have been called is one renewal in the image of God. Then we will not have cause to worry about all of the changes and chaos we see in this world. We will view this world from a perspective of a visitor who is headed home.

## ~Devotion~

### THE GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE

In the early 1900s when the Golden Gate Bridge was being constructed, bridge construction was very dangerous. You can only imagine the high winds, churning currents, and towering heights. All of it challenging as you tried not to fall off and plummet to your death. In the early 1900s, they did not have the same equipment or safety precautions in place as they do today. At that time, there was an average of 1 fatality per million dollars spent on a construction project.

The Chief Engineer over the construction of the Golden Gate Bridge was Joseph Strauss. He insisted on a rigid safety code that included all of the latest safety innovations. For instance, the Golden Gate construction had all their workers wear hard hats and safety lines. They were not the first to supply hard hats and safety lines to their workers, but they were the first to enforce their use with the threat of being fired if they didn't. They also provided things such as glare-free goggles to protect their eyes from the glare of the sun reflecting off the water. They also had an on-site hospital staffed by doctors. But the most interesting safety feature that they had was a safety net.

Strauss put a safety net under the bridge that suspended along the entire length of the bridge and extended out ten feet on both sides. It was above the water so if a worker fell, they wouldn't die.

This net cost \$130,000, but because of the net, work progressed much faster than anticipated and they were able to finish the bridge ahead of schedule. They finished the bridge in record time because the workers were no longer afraid that they were going to die. It saved back all the money they spent on the net and more because the work was completed so quickly.

The net did save 19 men and they were referred to as the "Halfway-to-Hell Club." Which is fitting if you think of the analogy we can make here.

Jesus Christ's atonement and resurrection are symbolic to the net that was placed under the bridge.

The bridge is like life. We all spend time on the bridge and we all spend time working on the bridge. At times the bridge can be very scary and at some point and time, we all fall. We all fall because of the Fall of Adam and Eve. But thankfully, because of Christ's atoning sacrifice and resurrection, we have a safety net to catch us when we fall. There is never a need to worry.

As [Elder Holland](#) once said: "Because we were then born into that fallen world and because we too would transgress the laws of God, we also were sentenced to the same penalties that Adam and Eve faced.

What a plight! The entire human race in free fall—every man, woman, and child in it physically tumbling toward permanent death, spiritually plunging toward eternal anguish. Is that what life was meant to be? Is this the grand finale of the human experience?... The answer to those questions is an unequivocal and eternal no!"

The human race is no longer in free fall because a safety net has been bought and paid for and is in place to catch us when we fall. Rescuing us from that awful fate of never being reunited with our bodies and our spirits being subject to Satan had Christ not done what He did. But because of Christ's love for each and every one of us, because of His selfless act on our behalf, we never have to fear death.

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## ~Church Board~

The Board of the BCC met June 6, 2021 with sixteen members present. Starley Stell, chairman, presided. The meeting was opened with prayer. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved on a motion by Gerald Morris, seconded by Becky Tuten. Jamie Barnhill gave the financial report which was approved on the motion made by Howard Robertson, seconded by Leon Wingate.

### OLD BUSINESS:

1. The wearing of masks will be discussed at a called-meeting after church next Sunday.
2. Claudia reported that all of Sunday School classes have fluctuating attendance.

### NEW BUSINESS:

1. **LAWN MAINTENANCE** – Marshall Myers has agreed to continue the mowing. The men will meet on Wednesday morning to trim the greenery around the building.
2. **SCHOLARSHIP** – Howard announced that the Tyer Scholarship will be awarded to Caleb Alligood, grandson of Claudia Alligood. C.M. Cartwright made the motion to accept the nomination. Mark Aydlett seconded the motion. Motion approved.

### 3. WORSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

1. The church will sponsor a fish fry for the church family on June 30 at 6:00 if approved by the board. Mark Aydlett made the motion and Claude seconded to proceed with the plan. Approved.

2. Reinstating Family Night – It was noted that Family Night Committees need altering as the number of people on some committees has decreased. Leon Wingate made the motion to begin meeting for Family Night in August allowing time for committees to be reformed, making sure that each committee has enough members. Mark Aydlett seconded the motion. Approved.

3. The Board will not meet in July.

4. Memorial Service for Gary Sheppard will be June 29.

5. The minister reported that during the month he had visited or talked to seventy four people, made two hospital visits and visited the nursing homes.

4. Alex gave the Youth Report. Attached.

5. A donation of \$250 was approved to Polly Gurganus in her dedication to raise funds for charity: Revival minister will receive \$500; singers - \$100.

6. Jamie Barnhill suggested the possibility of providing the opportunity for donations from viewers of the televised services. A committee was appointed to study the issue and report to the board. Barnhill, Gilbertson and Minister appointed.

7. CMF will meet July 7 at 6:30 PM to discuss issues and make plans for restarting their meetings and breakfast. No dinner will be served at this meeting.

The meeting was closed with prayer.

June Wallace, Secretary

### Symbol of the Hummingbird

The Hummingbird symbolizes love, joy, and beauty. Its unique ability to fly backwards teaches us that we can look back at our past without dwelling there but continuing forward. The hummingbird's aptitude to hover while drinking nectar reminds us to savor each moment, appreciating its sweetness.

callisters Christmas (Pinterest)

~CWF~



The Bath Christian Church CWF met in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, July 28, 2021. There were sixteen ladies present: Alice Wingate, Nancy Hill, Jessie Brooks, Diane Adams, Rachel Jordan, Debbie Smith, Sandra Dupree, Joyce Aydlett, Helen Brooks, Barbara Morris, Becky Tuten, June Wallace, Mary Lynn Edwards, Jane Allgood, Nelda Ormond and Cynthia Stell.

Nancy called the meeting to order and opened with prayer. Joyce gave the devotion "Reflections on 2020". She talked about how the Corona Virus and Delta Variant has impacted our lives each day during the last two years. She closed with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved. Nelda gave the Treasurer's report and read thank you notes for gifts received.

**Business:**

Becky moved that the Craft House open beginning Monday morning, August 23, 2021 at 9:00 am. Everyone is invited to attend, bring craft ideas and work on projects for the Bazaar. The Bazaar is scheduled for Saturday, November 20, 2021. Barbara seconded. Motion carried.

Alice gave an update on resuming Family Night. After Board approval, there will be only ONE Family Night per month. If approved, Family Night will resume on August 25, 2021 at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. CWF meeting will now be immediately following Family Night. The meeting will be at 7:30 pm in the Choir Room.

Revival will begin on Sunday, September 26, 2021 at 7:00 pm and run through Wednesday, September 29<sup>th</sup>. Guest speaker will be Rick Vernon.

Nancy gave a prayer for the sick and the offering

The winner of the grab bag was Debbie.

Nancy Robertson and Claudia Allgood are responsible for the next CWF meeting on August 25, 2021.

The meeting was closed with the CWF Benediction.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cynthia Stell

**Flower Schedule:**

- September 5 Carolyn Fisher
- September 12 Sarah Stone
- September 19 Marcia & Beau Norman
- September 26 Sandra & Claude Dupree

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**Nursery (Little Lion's Class) Schedule:**

- September 5 Sandra & Claude Dupree
- September 12 Cynthia Stell & Linda Heath
- September 19 Debbie Smith & Claudia Allgood
- September 26 Rachel & Cliff Jordan

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**Greeter Schedule:**

- September 5 Don Shreve
- September 12 Gerald Morris
- September 19 Claudia Allgood
- September 26 Beau Norman

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Wake up every morning with the thought that something wonderful is about to happen.

[Lifehack.org](http://Lifehack.org)

## Serving Schedule:

September 5

Elders: H. Robertson & S. Stell  
Deacon of Wk: Robertson & C. Woolard  
Deacons: C. Woolard, L. Woolard,  
L. Gurganus, P. Chrismon

September 12

Elders: S. Stell & L. Wingate  
Deacon of Wk: Stell & Gurganus  
Deacons: L. Gurganus, G. Heath,  
J. Jordan, B. McRoy

September 19

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

September 26

Elders: J. Barnhill & C. Cartwright  
Deacon of Wk: Barnhill & L. Woolard  
Deacons: L. Woolard, G. Heath,  
P. Chrismon, L. Gurganus



## 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 8 Billy Dean  
September 9 June Wallace  
September 11 Alexia Clark  
Cynthia York  
September 17 Amanda Godley  
Gerald Morris  
September 22 Pete Fell  
September 28 Vernon Godley  
September 29 Nancy Brickhouse

## ~Announcements~

### September Events

September 1 – 6:30pm	CMF
September 5 – 7:30pm	Board Meeting
September 6 -----Labor Day	Holiday
September 8 - 7:30pm	Choir Practice
September 15 – 7:30pm	Choir Practice
September 22 – 6:30pm	Family Night Team 2
7:30pm	CWF
September 26 – September 29 <sup>th</sup>	REVIVAL- 7:00 pm

### Volunteers Needed

If you are not already on a rotating schedule for Greeter, Nursery, Children's Moment, live streaming, or other church functions, please consider signing up. The more volunteers we have, the rotation will be less.

### Eagle Wings

Bath Christian Church has been very supportive of Eagle Wings food program. Baskets are now located in the vestibules and Fellowship Hall. Nonperishable foods, paper products and cleaning supplies are always in demand. Monetary gifts are also needed but do not leave cash in the basket. Checks are accepted made payable to Eagle Wings. They currently have an ample supply of plastic grocery bags. Thanks for continuing to support this worthy and needy cause.

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



**Prayer Requests : Church Family Prayer Concerns:**  
Dick Adams; Claudia Alligood; Bill Bertram; Charlie Clark; Ella Mae Smith & Michael Corless; Ann Cullen; Bill Cutler; Liz & Pete Fell; Vernon Godley; Beverly & John Holt; Carol Richardson; Linda Shively; Beverly & Ron Tincher, caregivers & **Unspoken Requests.**

**Friends & Community Prayer Concerns:** Marty Alligood; Jane Bass; Susan Boyd; Patsy Browning's nephew; Amber Bullock; Tilman Carter; Eddie Coltrain; John Conway; Tracy Cordon; Anthony Cutler; Esther Flowers; Dianne Floyd; Chris Gibbs; Gail Gibbs; Kathy Godwin; Gracie Greer's great grandfather Steve Jones, Pauline Gurganus; Chris Harris; Hunter Hasty; Betty Hill; Bobbie Jean Hobgood; Herman Holiday; Jay Holt; Jo Ann & Mike Isbell; Laney Jordan; Gerry Klaas; Linwood Lewis; Steve Mann; Carol McRoy (Phil's sister in law); Cassidy McRoy; Patricia Moore; Diana Overton; Susan Overton; Mavis Owens; Mike Painter; Wilson Paul; Stephanie Sabbra; Patricia Smith; Raymond Spencer; Susie Swinson; Roger Tuning; Ann Winfield; Wendy Woolard; & **Unspoken Requests.**

**The families of:** Ralph Askew, Grace Baker, Jackie Bowen, Tilman Boyd, Owen Bunch, Edward Byrd, Jesse Carmon, Thomas Collier, Doug Currin, William Davenport, "Duck" Davidson, Jack Dunbar, Bill Dunn, Lloyd Edwards, O'Brien Edwards, Tommy Everett, Gertrud Glass, Bryant Hardison, Ginny Hassell, Albert Irwin, Jr., Buddy Kirkman, Jr., Mickey McBride, Hilda Merritt, Renee Mitchell, Ralph Moore, Leo Myers, Sr., Marcia & Beau Norman, Al O'Carroll, Calvin O'Neal, Ted Overton, Durwood Perry, Sylvia Pollard, Eric Ritter, William Sanderson, Rhonda Sawyer, Roger Seltz, Verlie Singleton, Sam Snow, Carmella Valenti, Faye Waters, Frances P. Waters, Evelyn West, Patricia Weston, Gene Whitaker, Cecil Williams, Preston 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.

**In Nursing Homes:** Pete Fell, Bob Miller.

Please submit news to me  
for the October newsletter by  
9:00 am Thursday, September 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)