

The SPOTLIGHT

Bridgewater Presbyterian Church

February
2024

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 Bridgewater Presbyterian Church



Sunday, February 11 — The Teams are Set & the Game Hype has Begun

You know the drill; here at BPC we celebrate by sharing our abundance with those in need and enjoying a meal together!

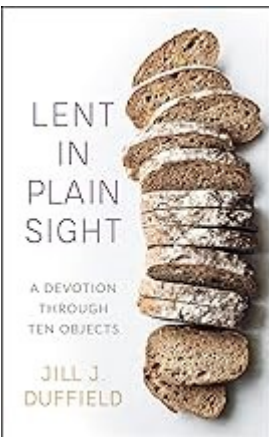
- 🏈 **1st Down: Stay for Lunch** — find a sign-up on the kiosk if you can bring something to share; soup, sandwich, side or sweet. Drink provided.
- 🏈 **2nd Down: Bring \$1** (or more) and/or a can of food or non-perishable item.
- 🏈 **3rd Down: Place donations in the Souper Bowl of Caring Pot and/or the 2¢ Bucket** on the table in the Fellowship Hall.
- 🏈 **4th Down: Souper Bowl of Caring donations will be sent to the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank** in Verona. As always, anything designated 2¢-a-Meal will go to the *Bridgewater Area Inter-Church Food Pantry & Presbytery's Hunger Efforts*.
- 🏈 **SCORE!!** You've just helped feed and meet the needs of folks in the local area!



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To Know Christ and to Make Him Known



Lent In Plain Sight

Lent is a season of repentance, reflection, and rediscovery. This year, the Spiritual Life Team is encouraging us to engage in intentional spiritual exploration. A pilgrimage is often thought of as a big journey - to Jerusalem, or the Camino, for example - which can be life-changing, but is unattainable for most. We will stay closer to home, exploring our own community and the extraordinary little things "hiding" in plain sight. We encourage individuals to use one or both of the devotional materials provided:

- **Local Pilgrim**, a daily devotional that is available in print and in digital format. The link will be emailed. Look for print copies in the Fellowship Hall or contact the church office; and

- the book **Lent in Plain Sight** by Jill Duffield. A few extra copies are available, but it is also digital on Amazon & Kindle).

The Adult Sunday School class will be using the Duffield book to guide their discussion beginning February 18th. Everyone is welcome. They meet at 9:30 a.m. in the partitioned area of the Fellowship Hall.

Stay tuned, keep your eyes, ears and hearts open for creative elements in worship and invitations to interact with our neighbors as we explore **what God is doing in plain sight...**



Pastor Kate and an elder take and serve Communion elements to our friends and church family members who are unable to attend worship. If you would like to receive a visit, contact Pastor Kate. The next homebound Communion visits will be the week of Feb. 12—15.

Ash
WEDNESDAY

Lent begins on
 Ash Wednesday,
February 14th.
 Please come to a
 special worship
 service at 7:00 in
 the sanctuary.

~DUST~

✠
 Next Session
 meeting is
 Thursday,
 February 15th
 at 6:30,
 ✠

*Transitional
 Pastor:*

Rev.
**Kate
 Rascoe**



Member Care

We express our sympathy to Mike Heatwole and his family on the death of his mother, Twyla. He and Emily write, “We want to thank our church family for the cards, notes, and prayers we received during Mike’s mom’s time at Bridgewater Home and recent passing. We are often reminded how blessed we are to be part of such a caring church community. Your kind acts & words were certainly a comfort to us during this time.”

Spiritual Life

- Feb. 4, Rev. Erin Skinner, Bridgewater College’s Chaplain, will share God’s Word with us.
- Feb. 11, we will observe “Transfiguration of the Lord” Sunday with Communion.
- Feb. 14, the holy season of LENT begins with an Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00 in the sanctuary.

We hope you are able to worship, either in-person or virtually, each week; that you will employ the *Local Pilgram* devotional each day; and that you will consider attending Sunday School or read *Lent in Plain Sight*.



Christian Education

Where do you learn to make a banana split?

Dear Church Family,

Thank you all for supporting our Diaper Drive in January to help the Harrisonburg Emmanuel Episcopal Church Food Pantry. We counted all the diapers and wipes and will deliver...

1623 Diapers & 1540 Wipes PLUS some late arrivals!

Emory won the *best guess* contest of what our numbers would be. The donations we received from you definitely honored Jesus' Christmas birthday and will bless the families and babies who need them.

-Young Christians Sunday School Class



To Know Christ and to Make Him Known

ADULTS	
Date	Leader
4	MJ Chewning
11	TBD
18	“Lent in Plain Sight”
25	“Lent in Plain Sight”

Sunday School Schedules:

- ~ *Adults* meet in the partitioned area of the Fellowship Hall;
- ~ *Young Christians* gather in the Fellowship Hall and **Teachers are needed**. Sign up on the kiosk.

ANSWER: Sundae School!

CHILDREN	
Date	Leader
4	Emily Heatwole
11	Emily Heatwole
18	Needed
25	Needed



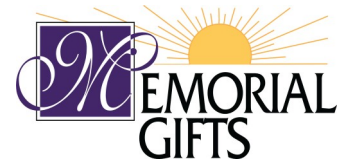
Finance Reports: prepared by Bev Carver, Disbursement Treasurer

<i>Account Balances</i> as of December 31, 2023	<i>Operating</i>	<i>Money Market</i>	<i>Payroll</i>	<i>Tax</i>	<i>Ed. Jones</i> (for stock gifts)
	\$43,762.39	\$49,556.30	\$2,159.41	\$357.09	\$ 0.00

<i>Totals as of 12/31/2023</i>		<i>Fund Balances as of , 2023</i>	
Income	\$ 131,616.24	■ Youth Event Fund:	\$5,291.93 (monies reside in Money Market)
Expense	\$ 136,000.03	■ Backpack Ministry Fund:	\$817.83 (monies reside in Operating)
Difference	\$ 4,383.79	■ Memorial Fund:	39,865.67 (monies reside in Money Market)
		■ Raise the Roof Fund:	\$4,398.70 (monies reside in Money Market)

In 2023, these persons were remembered by loved ones through donations to Bridgewater Presbyterian Church. We are honored to celebrate these saints, and thank the donors for sharing in our missions and ministries:

Sam Dagen and Janet Sonifrank



*A Note from
Pastor Kate*

This winter, three of our youth and I will be embarking on a **confirmation journey**. We will meet on a few Sunday afternoons, attend a conference at Massanetta Springs with other congregations, and participate in the leadership of worship during Lent and Holy Week.

In my lifetime, and perhaps yours as well, confirmation of the Presbyterian ilk has been a process to prepare adolescents to make a profession of faith, publicly “confirming” what was promised for them as children, and to intentionally become an active member of the congregation. Of course, our faith professed is in Jesus Christ, the Head of the Church, who has always been at work in ways bigger than our church. We see, now, a slight shift in the understanding of “confirmation” - a widening from the work of this congregation or denomination alone, to affirming a following of Christ in mission in the world. The process explores *who we are and what we do more intensely than what we say we believe*. Our primary curriculum for this exploration is published by the Presbyterian Outlook, written by Mark Hinds:

“Missional confirmation inspires a missional identity and commissions young people to a missional way of life. It is not about joining the church; it’s about joining the missional project initiated by Jesus and entrusted to the church. The missional community affirms each young person as a Spirit-gifted disciple and strengthens them as partners in God’s mission to transform the world. Following Jesus’ practice, missional confirmation models faith formation as an embodied task — a shared practice within a relationship of trust. Extensive personal interactions between confirmands and mentors provide the context in which the missional imperative is caught more than taught.

Young people want to be inspired to do great things. Missional confirmation inspires teenagers to change the world, in big and small ways, in service to Jesus Christ.” - Mark Hinds

I invite you to pray for Evie , James , and Phoenix as they learn and confirm their missional identity. We are still in need of conversation partners and mentors - please contact me for more information.

+Rev. Kate Rascoe

To Know Christ and to Make Him Known

Use this link or QR code to feed the group one Sunday! We thank you in advance.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0E49A4AF2DA4FB6-47194039-confirmation#/>



To Know Christ and to Make Him Known

Birthdays

Alison McElroy
Ruth Rascoe
Ben Gardner
Arayia Jordan
Bill Gardner
LeeAnn Gardner
Darlene Newman
Linda West



Anniversaries



23 Tom & Suzanne Mizell
celebrating 56 years ('68)

Our Building as a Blessing



A reminder that TOPS uses our building every Tuesday from 4:30-6:00 p.m. For everyone's safety and privacy, whenever possible do not come to the building during their designated times.

INDOOR YARD SALE

IS HAPPENING!
Start saving stuff to share;
If you need pickup,
contact Brett Johnson.

NO TV's

Book Group's Next Read

"The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store" by James McBride.
Everyone is invited to discussion
Monday, March 4th, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon, in the meeting room at **North River Library**.



Ice Cream!



Meet at **SMILEY'S** on **Thursday, Feb. 15 at 4:00**

Backpacks



THANK YOU for your continuing and generous support of this special mission!

The Connectional Church

Shenandoah Presbytery meets (via Zoom) on February 27th. Carroll Chewning is serving as your Elder Commissioner.



What If It Snows? A reminder that, if Rockingham County Schools have a weather-related closing, the church office is closed as well. If it is Sunday, watch WHSV-tv3 or listen to WSAV 550AM/92.1FM.



Men Meet for Breakfast

All males are invited to breakfast at **The Galley** in Harrisonburg on the **3rd Saturday** of each month at 8:30 a.m.

All ages and guests are welcome. Our next date is: **Saturday, February 17th at 8:30 a.m.**

If you need a ride, or can provide one, contact **Carroll Chewning**

VPAS Café in Bridgewater



Anyone age 60+ is welcome. Programs happen on the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of each month in Blue Ridge Room of the Houff Community Center at BRC.

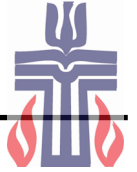
Registration is required:

Call VPAS at 540-615-5341 and check online at www.vpas.info/calendar



	Ushering and Greeting share duties with one at each door	Acolyte/ Bell Ringer	Lay Leader	Highlight /Flowers
4	David & Judy Rees	?	Judy Rees	Guest: Rev. Erin Skinner
11	Bev Carver & Gracie Florence	Emory J	Emily Heatwole	Communion / 2¢ / Souper Bowl Lunch
18	David & Charlette McQuilkin	Phoenix J	Charlette McQuilkin	Lent #1 / Nancy Dagen
25	Tommy & Betsy Glendye	Emory J	Carroll Chewning	Lent #2

REMINDER: Providing flower arrangements for worship is a perfect way to honor or remember a loved one and enhance our worship experience at the same time! The calendar for 2024 is on the kiosk. Simply sign up or contact Sally in the church office. Bring a houseplant for one Sunday, or cut blooms from your yard!



At the Congregational meeting on January 14, 2024, **Judy Rees was elected** to serve as an Elder on the Session. She was installed on January 21st and her term will run through 2026. Please take time to thank retiring Elders Gretchen Collins and Merrill Simon for their years of faithful leadership.

We also express our appreciation to the 2023 Nominating Committee — **Gretchen Collins, Dana Eichlin, and Mary DeVier-Scott** — for their diligence in securing nominations for both Session and their own replacements. The 2024 Nominating Committee will be: **Brett Johnson** (active elder), **Betsy Glendye** and **MJ Chewning**.

Committee Leadership for 2024 and Elder Contact Information

To Know Christ and to Make Him Known

-Building & Grounds seeks to preserve and maintain the physical structure and property of Bridgewater Presbyterian Church.

Carroll Chewning –

-Christian Education aims to guide — through education — the men, women, and children of BPC in the journey to know Christ.

Joe Crockett –

-Mission seeks to provide leadership for the congregation to make contributions of its time, talents, and money to be shared with others in our community and around the world who need physical and spiritual nourishment; *and*

-Outreach (presently combined with Mission) reaches out to members and others with the goal of increasing attendance and gaining new members.

Brett Johnson -

-Member Care strives to foster fellowship among the Church family and supports those members throughout life's changing needs.

Pam Bailey -

-Resource ensures that the financial and personnel requirements of the church are met, using time and talents of the congregation as well as staff. The Committee maintains job descriptions and the operations manual.

Judy Rees -

-Spiritual Life is committed to providing meaningful worship opportunities where, through music, scripture and examining God's word, spiritual growth is fostered and a message of hope and grace is shared, focusing on our relationship with God and others.

Linda West -

-Clerk: Bev Carver -

-Moderator: Rev. Kate Rascoe, Transitional Pastor -

Music Director: **Lacey Johnson** - 5

Disbursing Treasurer: **Bev Carver** -


Receiving Treasurer: **Dana Eichlin** — 5

Church Secretary/Recording Treasurer/Custodian: **Sally Smith**

bridgewaterpresbychurch@gmail.com



FEBRUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Church Office Hours are 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Monday thru Thursday. The office is closed on Fridays </div>				1	2 Office Closed	3 Confirmation Class retreat -Massanetta
<i>Guest: BC Chaplain</i> 4 <i>Rev. Erin Skinner</i> 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	5	6 4:30 TOPS	7 7:00 Choir	8 6:30 Spiritual Life	9 Office Closed	10
<i>Transfiguration</i> 11 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Communion Souper Bowl of Caring Soup /Sandwich Lunch 2¢ Offering	12 No School in Rockingham	13 No School in Rockingham 4:30 TOPS	14 7:00 <i>Ash</i> <i>Wednesday</i> <i>Service: DUST</i> 7:00 Choir	 15 4:00 <i>Smiley's</i> 6:30 Session	16 Office Closed	17 8:30 AM Men eat at The Galley
<i>1st Sunday in Lent</i> 18 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship— <i>BREAD</i>	19	20 4:30 TOPS	21 7:00 Choir	22	23 Office Closed	24
<i>2nd Sunday in Lent</i> 25 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship— <i>CROSS</i>	26 Newsletter Deadline	27 Presbytery meeting 4:30 TOPS	28 7:00 Choir	29	MARCH 1 Office Closed	2
<i>3rd Sunday in Lent</i> 3 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship— <i>COINS</i> <i>Men: meet after worship to organize Spring breakfast</i>	10 AM 4 Book Group at North River Library	5 4:30 TOPS	6 FH Reserved 9—Noon 7:00 Choir	7	8 Office Closed	9 Turn Clocks FORWARD 1 hour at bedtime
<i>4th Sunday in Lent</i> 10 9:00 Spring Forward Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School ?? 10:30 Worship— <i>SHOES</i>	11	12 4:30 TOPS	13 7:00 Choir	14 Feed the Homeless at Open Doors	15 Office Closed	16 8:30 AM Men eat at The Galley

Save the Dates for these Mission/Outreach & Fellowship Events!

SPRING AHEAD



Sunday, March 10 — the Spring Forward Breakfast prepared by the Men!
 They start serving at 9:00 a.m. (Guys, we'll meet briefly after worship on March 3 to organize).

Thursday, March 14— a meal for the guests of Open Doors.
 Bridgewater Church of the Brethren is hosting that week.
 Watch bulletins and emails for details.
 We will need food prep/donations and folks to serve that evening.

