



ROOM TO WORSHIP, SERVE AND GROW

AT

THE BATH CHURCH *THE LINK*



...BETWEEN CHURCH + HOME...JANUARY 2010

MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE BATH CHURCH—BATH, OHIO

“A caring congregation nurturing spiritual growth and demonstrating the love of Jesus Christ.”

11th Annual Festival of the Arts

at

The Bath Church

January 14—February 14, 2010

In celebration of God’s light in the season of Epiphany,
The Bath Church presents the artists among us,
in the Congregation and from the Summit County artistic community.
Starting with the Magi, all are called to share their gifts.

Opening Reception

Thursday, January 14 5—7:30 p.m.

Show Hours:

Sundays, 12—3:00 p.m. Saturdays, 10—3:00 p.m. Thursdays, 7—9:00 p.m.

Come and Enjoy!

WEATHER ALERT!

Please call or check our church website for cancelations or changes in church programs:

330-666-3520 www.bathucc.org

COMING EVENTS: Please mark your calendar!

Sunday, Jan. 10	Congregational Meeting 10:10 a.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 13	Wonderful Wednesdays resume
Thursday, Jan. 14	Epiphany Arts Opening Reception 5-7:00 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 12	Community Dinner 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, Feb. 14	Epiphany Concert 3:00 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 16	Flap-Jack Feast 5:00-7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 27	Ash Wednesday

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VOLUNTEER NEEDED!

Board Rep for Miller Ave Mission

We need a person to represent Bath Church on the Miller Ave Mission Board. Meetings are monthly, the 3rd Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. at Miller Ave Church, 1095 Edison Ave., Akron, OH 44301. This is a working Board that asks for participation in the ministry. The person should not be afraid to share in this downtown neighborhood. Dick Young is completing his term and can share details (330-836-8036) or contact Rev. Frey. Person is needed immediately!



RECYCLE YOUR CHRISTMAS CARDS!!!

Now that Christmas is over, instead of throwing away the Christmas Cards you received, please bring them to church and place them in the marked box in the Narthex.

We will recycle them by sending them to St. Jude's Ranch where they will be cut and used again for sale to help mistreated children.

We will collect them through the month of January. If you have any questions, call Connie Claes (330-666-5369) or Sandy Roeger (330-688-2331).

Family Album

To God's Eternal Care

Richard "Dick" Winland

February 2, 1930—November 19, 2009

Stephanie Kuentz

December 28, 1920—November 24, 2009

Ann Hoff

July 25, 1918—December 9, 2009



Baptisms

Charles Roy Rogers

December 20, 2009

Infant son of David & Heather Rogers

REV. MARK'S REMARKS: THE SEARCH IS ON!

Margee & I leave with 11 others on Wednesday afternoon December 30 for 11 days in the Holy Lands. This will be my second trip to Israel and I'm very much looking forward to seeing the places that I spend every week studying and talking about. I look forward to telling you about it when we return on January 9.

Adam Marquette is going too. It will be his first visit. His going and Jim Cunningham's retirement leaves the church without pastoral clergy available during the trip. (We try to plan away time so that one of us is always here.) However, the church is in very caring hands during Adam's and my absence. Karen Lordan, our

Parish Nurse, and Martha Salem, chair of the Samaritan Group, are available to provide care. The Rev. Tom Kerns has agreed to be available as needed. Tom is a retired pastor, member of the church, and good friend to many of us. He worked with me during the interim before Jim Cunningham came to us. If you have need of a pastor or care ministry, please call the church office.

The Search Committee is busy interviewing candidates for the Pastoral Care Minister. So, the search is on!!! We have generated several new candidates in the last few weeks, so I anticipate that it will be February before a candidate is identified. The position is 24 hours/week, so it

requires someone who needs part-time work. Therefore, persons on early retirement or with a part-time job are the most likely candidates. We are also looking for an ordained person and experience in pastoral care. The good news is that there are good candidates available.

Please pray for the Search Committee and their work. And I ask for your prayers on our Holy Land trip for a safe and meaningful time. The Rev. Kate Huey will preach on January 3, and I plan to see you on January 10 in the new year!

Blessings!

~ Rev. Mark Frey

Offering envelopes for 2010 are in the Narthex for your pick up.

These envelopes are personalized for those who made the request with their pledge.

For anyone who would who did not previously request envelopes but would like to use them, please contact Diane Hurley, our Bookkeeper, at 330-666-3520 ext. 25.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE / EPIPHANY

The Season of Epiphany begins January 6 and runs to Ash Wednesday which is February 17 this year. It is a season to celebrate the manifestation of gifts, and ends with the coming of Lent.

Date	Service Features & Liturgical Day	Pastor/Coordinator
Jan. 3	Second Sunday after Christmas / Communion Guest Preacher: Rev. Kate Huey	Guest Preacher
Jan. 10	Voices of Witness: voices of our own congregation tell of their faith. Congregational Meeting between services.	Lay Speakers
Jan. 17	Baptism of Jesus—Luke 3:15-22 Anointing for Healing	Rev. Frey
Jan. 24	Third Sunday in Epiphany—Luke 4:14-30	Rev. Frey
Jan. 31	Fourth Sunday in Epiphany	Pastor Marquette

INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK

“A consolidation of faith congregations caring for families in need of shelter, meals, and compassionate assistance that leads them to secure a stable home environment.”

“IHNSC IS IN A FINANCIAL CRISIS” - UPDATE

Since we shared the news that IHNSC is in financial trouble we have received many inquiries and contributions. We wish to sincerely thank everybody that has stepped up and made contributions to IHNSC. In response to a \$1,000 Matching Funds Challenge several members of Bath Church have sent direct contributions to IHNSC to meet the Matching Funds Challenge. You can still send in checks directly to IHNSC. The Mission Board has sent IHNSC \$2,237.00 in donations. Some of the money was already targeted for IHNSC and some was an additional contribution. The Mission Board has also agreed to review how much money they can send IHNSC in the 2010 Budget and to send it in the first quarter. The congregation has donated \$464.00 to the Change Jar so far and this money has been sent to IHNSC. The Change Jar is still in the Narthex and will be there through January. The Cascade Quilters Guild made a donation to IHNSC of \$450.00 in the name of Bath Church as a thank you to Bath Church for allowing them to use the church facilities for their meetings. Bath Church has raised and sent IHNSC \$3,154.00 since 11/09/2009. Once again thank you for your heartfelt support of IHNSC.

“Walk a Mile in My Shoes” Charity Walkathon on February 28, 2010

The fifth annual “Walk a Mile in My Shoes” Charity Walkathon will be held on February 28, 2010. This fund raising event is more important than ever during the IHNSC Financial Crisis. The 2009 Walkathon raised \$7,587 for IHNSC. The Bath Church congregation was a major supporter of this event in 2009. We need to raise more money in 2010. All the funds raised by the Walkathon go directly into the IHNSC Operating Budget. Please share an hour of your time to help raise much needed funds for IHNSC. Here is a chance to share a 1-mile walk with others from the 30 IHNSC Churches who share this mission to help families secure housing during times of financial crisis. In 2009 alone IHNSC reached out to help 21 families. Please help us kick-off a new year of supporting families in crisis. The walk will take place at the park around Fairlawn West UCC Church, 2095 W. Market St., Akron, Ohio 44313. You can either walk or sponsor walkers. We need 15-20 walkers to represent Bath Church and as many more sponsors as possible. Family participation is encouraged. You can commit to walk or sponsor walkers by calling Dorothy Wiseman at 330-670-0540. Look for “Walk a Mile in My Shoes” Charity Walkathon posters, sign-up sheets, and event announcements in the Narthex.

Upcoming IHN Dates:

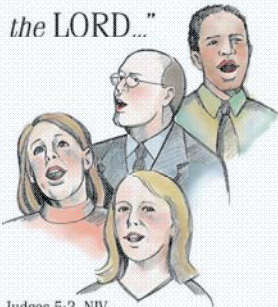
Next Bath Church Host Week—Sunday, February 7 through Sunday, February 14

“Walk a Mile in My Shoes” Charity Walkathon—February 28, 2010

~ John Banasiak

MUSIC MINISTRY: I SING BECAUSE...

“I will sing to the LORD, I will sing; I will make music to the LORD...”



Judges 5:3, NIV

“I have sung in choirs since I was in kindergarten. My Mother made me do this because I believe she knew that she had passed a gift of music appreciation to both me and my younger sister Teresa. My Mother has been the church organist for many years in the church where I grew up. My Father, Mother, and Sister all sang in our church choir. My Sister is now the chancel choir and bell choir director at her church in Columbus, Ohio. Ms. Debbie says that we all should use our gifts to serve God. I am simply fulfilling that obligation.”

~ James E. Hodsdon

CUNNINGHAM CARE NOTES:

BIG THANK YOU!

In the November Link I shared a litany of thanksgiving to you for the last eight and a half years of ministry at Bath Church. I want to thank you in this note for all of your kind words and best wishes expressed in person and in writing. I am also humbled and most grateful for the generosity of your "love offering" gifts. I will miss you. I wish each of you and the church the very best. I continue to praise God for you and to pray for you (something the pastoral ethics of leaving and staying away does not prohibit!).

May God's blessing and peace abide with you always.

~ Jim Cunningham

Missed a sermon or would like to hear one again? You CAN on the new church website!

Need to check the church calendar for upcoming events? You CAN on the new church website!

Wish you could find your copy of the LINK or re-read the Splash? You CAN on the new church website!

Check out the NEW Bath Church website! www.bathucc.org

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY CLASSES:

Join a class in January!!! Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex!

Wednesday Bible Study (choice of 2 sessions)—Rev. Frey; 1:30 p.m. or 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room:

“From The Ground Down” - Learn about Biblical Archaeology in the video series from Biblical Archaeology Review. As a bonus, Rev. Frey will share highlights from his recent trip to the Holy Lands. No cost. 5 weeks: Jan. 13- Feb. 10

Book Study—Barry Lamkin: Harold Kushner’s *“Living a Life That Matters”* - “a valuable companion...a set of guideposts for living a useful and fulfilled life, no matter what the future holds.” The book is \$13; maybe less if purchased online.

Card Ministry—Cecilia Marquette

Make attractive greeting cards for the Samaritan Group and to sell at the church. The group gathers at 4:30 p.m. and works until dinner at 6:00 p.m.

Junior Youth Group & Middle School Youth Group

Projection Booth—George Brandt

Learn how we project in the Sanctuary and develop the plan for sermons and photo presentation. 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary; and help with projection at our 11:00 a.m. worship service!

Homework Helpers

Jeff Buchman & Emma Weihe are available to help youth with homework! Get the job done before going home!!! 7:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.



Christ Caring for People through People

“Truly, I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.”
~ Matthew 25:40

At one time or another, we all find ourselves struggling when facing stressful situations. Stephen Ministry is a way for the church to fully *be* the body of Christ. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to listen, care and comfort in a confidential way. Contact a Stephen Leader for more information about either having a Stephen Minister or becoming one.

Active Stephen Ministers

Linda Banasiak	Janie Bechtel	Karen Brandt
M.J. Fisher	Jeanie Kerns	Tom Kerns
Meg Lamb	Barry Lamkin	Jerry McFadden
Chris Parker	Shom Tambyraja	

Stephen Leaders

Carolyn Chapman	Bob Roeger	Sandy Roeger
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ACME COMMUNITY CASH BACK PROGRAM:

Once again we are collecting Acme cash register receipt tapes dated September 27, 2009 through February 20, 2010. We earned over \$400 last year! Your support is appreciated. The collection box is in the Narthex beside the coat rack and on the counter outside the church office.

Altar Flowers

There are still a lot of dates open on the 2010 Altar Flower Chart for anyone interested in placing flowers on the altar during the year. The chart is located in the Sacristy or contact Nancy Blind (330-668-276) with your dates. Flowers can be given in memory of loved ones, in honor of someone or an event, in celebration of special days such as birthdays or anniversaries, or as thanks for our church and all the blessings God has given to us. If there is a date you are interested in but has already been taken, you have the option of having flowers placed in front of the pulpit.

Gospel Meets Symphony 2010

Once again we will be joining forces with our friends at Mt. Zion Baptist and attending *Gospel Meets Symphony* at EJ Thomas Hall on **Saturday January 30 at 7:30 p.m.** This annual concert receives critical acclaim and praise both locally and throughout the nation. It was also the subject of a recent PBS Documentary program. This high energy concert combines an expanded version of the full Akron Symphony Orchestra with an all volunteer *Gospel Chorus* from local churches. This years Chorus is the largest ever with 222 voices (up from 151 last year) from over 55 churches. We have 50 tickets available (center of the lower balcony rows F -G -H). These are a few rows closer than last year - and we have them at a better price - \$20 per ticket. Tom Clark will be selling them in the Narthex between services on January 10th, 17th and 24th. You may pay by cash or check (payable to Bath Church). You can also order tickets from the Church Office throughout January. These tickets are available to all Mt. Zion and Bath Church members, friends and families. Join us for an exciting evening!

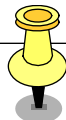


Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Worship Service

Sunday, January 17 5:00 p.m.

New Hope Baptist Church 1706 South Hawkins Ave., Akron

ENDOWMENT BOARD:



You may ask, “Why does Bath Church need an Endowment Fund?” When monies are placed in endowments and properly managed, endowments can be a blessing to the sponsoring organization. An endowed congregation can avoid having a “survival mentality” and be enlivened to engage in its called mission. Further, The Bath Church Endowment Fund can serve to encourage giving by present members to perpetuate the spiritual health and well-being of Bath Church for future generations. The Church, through teaching, preaching and fellowship, enables its members to become better stewards of their assets for the sake of themselves and their families. For example, the drawing up of a will and an estate plan can be considered acts of personal stewardship. When we perform estate planning we are actually undertaking financial stewardship on an individual (or familial) basis. From time to time, your church leaders discuss and engage in strategic planning. Endowment monies are vital to implement these forward reaching plans and endowment income provides for carrying out Bath Church’s mission for years to come. Consider formally including the Bath Church Endowment Fund in your written financial estate plan or simply make a comment now to your heirs stating “I support The Bath Church Endowment Fund”. These actions will go a long way to keep God’s message alive here at Bath Church.

~ Greg Dunham

MISSION BOARD REPORT:

The Mission Board appreciates your support of the Christmas Appeal that was split between Willard United Church of Christ Food Pantry and the Christmas Fund for Veterans of the Cross & the Emergency Fund of the UCC. In addition, we are grateful for your contributions to the Giving Tree and IHN.

At the November meeting, the funds were allocated as follows:

Our Churches Wider Mission	\$ 882.00
Interfaith Hospitality Network- Summit	737.00
Open M	500.00
Lighthouse of Hope	870.00
Salvation Army	500.00
Haven of Rest	500.00
Mobile Meals	500.00
Hattie Larlham	500.00
Total	\$4,989.00

The next regular meeting of the Mission Board will be Monday, January 25 at 7:00 p.m.

At this meeting, the Board will develop its budget. If you have a project that you feel merits funding, please either email Sally Phillips at sphillips2054@sbcglobal.net or put your request in the Mission mail slot in the church office.

~ Sally Phillips

HEALTH MINISTRY: 10 TIPS TO A HEALTHIER 2010

The following is nothing new and I imagine you probably know most all of these, but the challenge I offer is to **practice all 10 in '10**. Ready?

1. **WATER** - Drinking this inexpensive product truly works small miracles.
2. **EATING** - In general, keep it colorful, keep proportions smaller and keep in mind any recommendations for a vitamin supplement.
3. **HANDS** - Keep them clean with soap and water and hand sanitizer in between.
4. **DOCTOR / DENTIST APPOINTMENTS** - Keep your regularly scheduled appointments and carry with you a list of all of your medications, including amount and frequency of each, including over-the-counter products and supplements.
5. **KNOW YOUR NUMBERS** - Blood pressure, cholesterol, BMI , and blood sugar to name a few. Then make it a goal to bring them into your normal level as advised by your health care professional.
6. **REST and EXERCISE** - Get a good night's sleep and during your waking hours, find something you like to do and make time to just "do it" routinely!
7. **BE PREPARED** - From learning CPR and the Heimlich maneuver to creating a safe evacuation plan from your home in the event of emergency, being prepared gives you the edge. Go online and search "life documents" and create one to meet your family's needs. Emergencies and the unexpected never give you much warning but being prepared helps to keep you at least nearer the driver's seat. Have an emergency plan in place.
8. **PLAY, LAUGH, LOVE** - These are not only self-explanatory but by remembering to do all three every day, odds are, you'll live longer!
9. **TAKE TIME** to "hear the quiet" every day in whatever way clears your mind and allows special connections and new thoughts to flow in. Keep your spiritual battery energized.
10. **TACKLE A PERSONAL "TO DO"** - Have you "been meaning to get around to something" for a long time? Then 2010 is the time to begin!

Happy 10 in 2010!

- Karen Lordan 330-725-5371 klordan@bathucc.org

...A WORD FROM OUR MODERATOR:

Special Congregation Meeting Sunday, January 10 at 10:10 a.m.

A special congregational meeting is scheduled for Sunday morning, January 10, 2010. Please mark your calendars and plan to be there at 10:10 a.m. The meeting will be held between the two worship services that morning. The agenda will include a brief financial summary of 2009 and then an overview and vote of the proposed \$670,000 budget for 2010. The proposed budget needs formal approval from the congregation to move forward with our general operating budget through 2010.

Highlights of the 2010 Budget include:

- ◆ Increasing Mission fund giving by 15%
- ◆ Restoring the 5% staff salary cut made in 2009
- ◆ Allowing for a part-time replacement for Jim Cunningham
- ◆ Increasing Trustees funding by 10%
- ◆ Increasing all other Board funding by at least 5%
- ◆ Continuing part-time positions of Bookkeeper and CE Assistant
- ◆ Allocating \$12,000 for capital reserves versus \$0 in 2009

Much thanks to you, the congregation membership, for your pledges to support of this budget. Also thanks to the Stewardship Board for all of their personal commitment, time and energy in making the stewardship drive a success. The Finance Board and Executive Council support moving into 2010 with the \$670,000 budget and ask your support in attendance that day and your approval. Again, thanks for your financial support to our church; see you Sunday!

~ George Brandt, Moderator

TREASURER'S NOTES:

November was another excellent month in our effort to finish 2009 with a positive cash flow. From an operating deficit of \$42,000 in April we have reduced it to \$3,212. The prospects of eliminating the deficit in December are very good.

Period	Income	Expenses	Deficit / Surplus
Jan-Oct	\$520,313	\$530,423	-\$10,110
November	\$60,653	\$53,755	\$6,898
YTD	\$580,966	\$584,178	-\$3,212

As this report is being prepared on December 14, we are still trying to finish our Stewardship Campaign for the 2010 fiscal year. We are close to meeting our target budget of \$670,000 for 2010, but not there yet. Pledges have been slow to come in this year. We expect to have a final status in time for our congregational meeting on January 10.

The church Building Fund received contributions of \$19,176 in November. Our cash on-hand at month-end was \$143,000, and our outstanding building loan balance is \$922,201. We have authorized an additional \$25,000 to be applied against the loan in December, and may make a second principal payment in December if contributions warrant. At this time we have \$334,000 in outstanding pledges towards the 2007 Capital Campaign, with the payment period ending December 2010.

You are welcome to contact me with any questions.

~ Gerry Flinn, Treasurer
330-666-5146 or jgflinn@msn.com



FOCUS ON THE WORD: LUKE 2:39-40

“The child (Jesus) grew and became strong, filled with wisdom;”

These verses end the “Birth Narrative” and almost get lost in the story. Luke lets us know that Jesus grew-up like any child in a caring home. That’s all we know about Jesus’ childhood. We have one story of Jesus at age 12 and that’s it! He grew up to be strong, filled with wisdom and with God’s favor.

Growth: We plant a garden or flower bed and hope for growth (and that the deer don’t eat the growth). We anticipate our children growing to become adults. We hope the economy will grow, to move us out of this recession. We grow old and hopefully wiser and not wider. Growth is the pattern of life.

How will you grow this year? Now, during this time of winter rest, is a good time to plan for growth. Will you learn a new skill? Practice an old one? Take a class? Adopt an exercise plan? Find a place to volunteer? Come to Bible Study or other class at church? Read the Bible through? The possibilities are endless.

When we launch out to increase our wisdom and understanding, God will give us the growth to become better disciples in living and loving. A good plan for the new decade.

~ Rev. Mark Frey

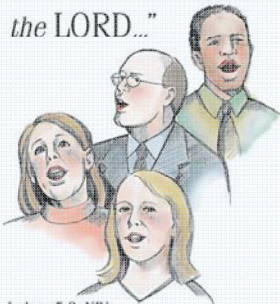
EUCHRE NIGHT IN JANUARY...

EUCHRE NIGHT WILL BE HELD FRIDAY, JANUARY 15 STARTING AT 6:30 P.M. IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM. THIS IS ONE WEEK LATER THAN USUAL, BUT WE HAVE A NUMBER OF PEOPLE TRAVELING AND WE DON’T WANT TO PLAY WITHOUT THEM! SO, COME JANUARY 15 AND BRING A SNACK AND A FRIEND!

SAVE YOUR CAMPBELL SOUP LABELS!!! Kelly Wiseman is helping the Reach Out Center for Youth and Family of Akron collect Campbell soup labels. This ministry helps serve meals and provides outreach to kids of downtown Akron. Campbell's has agreed to donate a new van to the non-profit ministry when 1,000,000 UPC labels have been collected. She would love your help. A box will be in the Narthex or give your labels to Adam Marquette.

MUSIC MINISTRY: I SING BECAUSE...

*“I will sing to the
LORD, I will sing;
I will make music to
the LORD...”*



Judges 5:3, NIV

“I love singing because it brings me great joy! Being part of the Sanguines is fun; we laugh and tease, yet the result of our practices is a beautiful blend of basses, tenors, altos and sopranos. Words can often carry much more emotion and meaning when combined with memorable melodies. A ninth grade vocal music director in Iowa appropriately calls this combination ‘text-painting’. Please join us between services on Sunday. You won’t regret it!”

~ Linda Corman

THE GIVING TREE:



THANK YOU FROM THE GIVING TREE COMMITTEE

What a generous and caring congregation Bath Church is! It was truly heartwarming to see your eagerness in taking tags from the Giving Tree and later your joy in returning the beautifully wrapped gifts filled with extra goodies. We were able to provide gifts for 307 adults and children.

Thank you to all the volunteers who wrote and passed out the tags, and to those who collected and sorted the gifts. Also thanks to Nancy Blind for scheduling the volunteers and writing announcements. And a huge thank you goes to George and Kim Myers for ALWAYS being there when we needed them.

Thank you Bath Church!! You have made Christmas a blessing for so many.

~ Candace Boelter and Jeanie Kerns

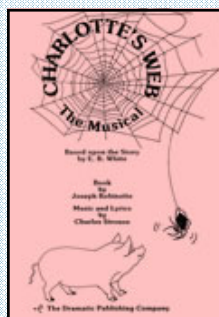
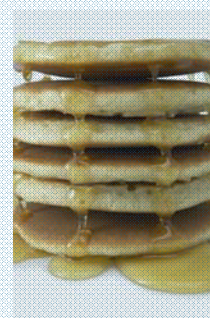
MUSIC MINISTRY:

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



EPIPHANY CONCERT—FEBRUARY 14 3:00 P.M.

FLAP-JACK FEAST—FEBRUARY 16 5:00-7:00 P.M.



CHARLOTTE'S WEB—APRIL 18 4:00 P.M.

~Debbie Heubeck
Director of Music Ministries

Youth & Family Life

Youth Outing to Brandywine!

Our regularly scheduled Sunday Night Youth Fellowship will be cancelled for Sunday, January 17. Instead, we will be heading over to Brandywine Ski Resort for an afternoon of hanging out on the slopes. Come anytime during the afternoon and search for Adam and Cindy and the rest of the leaders. We will meet at the Lodge to warm up and a break from the action around 5:00 p.m. This is a pay your own way event, but if you need some assistance, please let Adam know. We want everyone to come out and have fun!

Youth Fellowship Schedule...

January 3 6:30–8:00 p.m. SNYF
January 10 4:30–6:30 p.m. Play Practice
 6:30–8:00 p.m. SNYF
January 17 Ski Outing!!!
January 24 4:30–6:30 p.m. Play Practice
 6:30–8:00 p.m. SNYF
January 31 4:30–6:30 p.m. Play Practice
 6:30–8:00 p.m. SNYF

Christian Education Mission for January

We will be teaming up with Heifer International's mission to work with communities to end hunger and poverty and care for the earth. In January, the students will be sent home with Heifer International Banks to fill with loose change. The banks can be brought back at the end of the month. Heifer has a number of projects that we will be able to help support.

Youth Mission and Outreach

Because of the church's support, we raised just over \$1000 on our Christmas Cookie Walk. This money will be going toward sending our work camp team to Wilmington, NC next summer. Speaking of Work Camp...money and commitment forms are due!!! Contact Adam for more information. amarquette@bathucc.org

Marriage Event...Expectations

If you missed the Marriage Event in November, never fear. We are offering the sessions covered in that event on separate occasions starting with *Expectations*. Adam Marquette will be facilitating the discussion about how expectations are at the root of many of our joys and struggles with marriage. If you would like to hear more, please join us Sunday January 17 during 2nd service (11:00 a.m.) in Room 208.

Jr. Youth Group is a group of 4th-6th grade students who meet once a month. The past two months, the Jr. YG has been active in supporting local and global mission opportunities. This month (January) it's time to kick back and have fun! **Friday, January 8 from 7-9 p.m.**, the Jr. YG will be meeting over at Riviera Lanes! For more information, please contact Becky Weihe.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 9:00 Traditional Worship 10:05 Sunday School 11:00 Traditional Worship w/projection 4:30 Youth Play Practice 6:30 Youth Group					1 Holy Lands Trip! <i>Happy New Year!</i>	2 Holy Lands Trip!
3 Holy Lands Trip! 9:00 Traditional Worship 10:05 Sunday School 11:00 Traditional Worship w/projection 6:30 Youth Group-FH	4 Holy Lands Trip! 9:00 Knitting Ministry 3:30 Tai Chi 4:30 Tone & Sculpt	5 Holy Lands Trip! 6:30 Men's Bible Study 9:00 Crafty Ladies 1:00 Bath Belles treble 1:30 Bath Belles bass 7:00 Prime Time Chimes 7:00 WCF Board	6 Holy Lands Trip! 9:30 Moms & Tots Playtime FH 5:00 Children's Choir 5:00 Musical Reh. 6:00 Joy Bellz	7 Holy Lands Trip! 7:30 Chancel Choir	8 Holy Lands Trip! 7:00 Jr. Youth Grp.	9 Arrive Home from Holy Lands! 12:00 TLC Lunch
10 9:00 Traditional Worship 10:05 Sunday School 10:05 Congregational Meeting 11:00 Traditional Worship w/projection 4:30 Youth Play Practice 6:30 Youth Group-FH	11 9:00 Staff Meeting 3:30 Tai Chi 4:30 Tone & Sculpt 6:00 Finance Comm. 7:00 Exec. Council	12 9:00 Crafty Ladies 1:00 Bath Belles treble 1:30 Bath Belles bass 7:00 Prime Time Chimes	13 9:30 Moms & Tots Playtime FH WONDERFUL WED. 1:30 Bible Study 4:30 Small Groups 5:00 Children's Choir 5:00 Musical Reh. 6:00 Joy Bellz 6:00 Dinner 6:30 Educ for Ministry 7:00 Classes for all ages	14 12:30 Breadwinners 5:00 Epiphany Art Opening Reception 7:30 Chancel Choir	15 6:30 Euchre Night	16
17 9:00 Traditional Worship 10:05 Sunday School 10:15 Blood Pressure 11:00 Traditional Worship w/projection 11:00 Marriage Event- "Expectations" 5:00 MLK Service 6:30 Micah Movie Youth Group Ski Outing!	18 9:00 Staff Meeting 3:30 Tai Chi 4:30 Tone & Sculpt 7:00 Stephen Ministry	19 6:30 Men's Bible Study 9:00 Crafty Ladies 1:00 Bath Belles treble 1:30 Bath Belles bass 7:00 Prime Time Chimes	20 LINK ARTICLES DUE! 9:30 Moms & Tots Playtime FH WONDERFUL WED. 1:30 Bible Study 4:30 Small Groups 5:00 Children's Choir 5:00 Musical Reh. 6:00 Joy Bellz 6:00 Dinner 6:30 Educ for Ministry 7:00 Classes for all ages	21 7:30 Chancel Choir	22 7:00 Confirmation Retreat-CR	23 Confirmation Retreat
24 Confirmation Retreat ends at Noon 9:00 Traditional Worship 10:05 Sunday School 10:05 Chronic Illness Forum-CR 11:00 Traditional Worship w/projection 4:30 Youth Play Practice 6:30 Youth Group	25 9:00 Staff Meeting 3:30 Tai Chi 4:30 Tone & Sculpt 7:00 Church Boards	26 9:00 Crafty Ladies 1:00 Bath Belles treble 1:30 Bath Belles bass 7:00 Prime Time Chimes	27 9:30 Moms & Tots Playtime FH WONDERFUL WED. 1:30 Bible Study 4:30 Small Groups 5:00 Children's Choir 5:00 Musical Reh. 6:00 Joy Bellz 6:00 Dinner 6:30 Educ for Ministry 7:00 Classes for all ages	28 9:30 Fidelis Guild 7:30 Chancel Choir	29	30 7:30 Gospel Meets Symphony

BL=Bridal Lounge (106); CR=Community Room (120); CF=Conference Room (202); FH=Fellowship Hall; FHC=Fellowship Hall Classroom; HR=Hospitality Room (103); L=Library (102); MP=Music Practice (203); N=Narthex; SR=Staff Room (230); UR=Upper Room (201); Y1=Youth Lower (108/113); Y2=Youth Upper (208/213)

OUR CHURCH STAFF:

Sr. Pastor: Mark Frey (mkfrey@bathucc.org)
 Youth & Family Life: Adam Marquette
 (amarquette@bathucc.org)
 Music Ministries: Debbie Heubeck (dheubeck@bathucc.org)
 Organist: Jeff Sonoda
 Brass Choir: George Rosin
 Parish Nurse: Karen Lordan (klordan@bathucc.org)
 Bookkeeper: Diane Hurley (dhurley@bathucc.org)

Office Administrator: Barb Moore (bathucc@bathucc.org)
 Office Assistant: Sue Hopkins (shopkins@bathucc.org)
 Custodian: George Myers
 Mission Developer/Miller Ave. UCC:
 Rev. Tom Gerstenlauer
 Independent Counseling Services:
 Amy Kathe, Professional Clinical Counselor 330-703-1144

MICAH 6:8 MOVIE NIGHT: January 17 6:30 p.m. in the Hospitality Room

“Pray the Devil Back to Hell” is the riveting, true story of the unsung heroines of Liberia, who, armed only with white t-shirts and courage, brought down a dictator and ended a long, brutal war.

BIRTHDAYS

Jan. 1:	Martha Willman Caroline Parry Eric Olsen	Jan. 11:	Heather Alexander	Jan. 24:	June Rhoad Rebecca Jones Linda Broughton
Jan. 2:	Mary Jane McGrew Laura Schrader	Jan. 12:	Dennis Boelter Mary Johnson David Schoen	Jan. 25:	Gwen Everhard Harrison Meek
Jan. 4:	Connie Claes Ben Jones Larry Knopf	Jan. 13:	Helen Fifer Debra Lemke	Jan. 26:	Michael Koroly Dawn Hubbard Chelsea Toneff Kelsey Ufholz
Jan. 5:	John Banasiak Kevin Houser	Jan. 14:	Christina Roberts	Jan. 27:	Marilyn Woodling Jim Martin
Jan. 6:	Kate Mileti	Jan. 15:	Tom Jackson Ryan Cadnum Adam Fenton	Jan. 28:	Hannah Nerlich Meredith Mozik
Jan. 7:	Cam Elliott Joey Mockbee	Jan. 16:	Noah Nerlich	Jan. 29:	Kathryn Allen
Jan. 8:	Sandi Keefer	Jan. 17:	Courtney Kendle	Jan. 30:	Jim Weckbacher Eric Schott Laura Kish Amy Bowers
Jan. 9:	Jim Neusser Nancy Norris Charolotte Marquette	Jan. 18:	John Bresnahan Liz Banasiak	Jan. 31:	Carter Saiben Daniel Steinkerchner Lauren Steinkerchner
Jan. 10:	Marian Patterson (98) Jim Bernard Chris Swigert Enid Wolfe Cathy Cole	Jan. 20:	David Grantier Benjamin Boyd		
		Jan. 21:	Taylor Reed		
		Jan. 22:	Preston Parry		
		Jan. 23:	Hugh West Suzanne Peters John Martin		
		Jan. 24:	Barbara Bernard		

ANNIVERSARIES

Jan. 3:	Jane & Ron Bechtel
Jan. 4:	Mandy & Terry Ufholz
Jan. 7:	Linda & Jerry Carter Judith & Denny Sanzone
Jan. 19:	Susan & Mark Whitmore
Jan. 24:	Marian & Russ Moore
Jan. 28:	Donna & Bob Robinson
Jan. 30:	Casey & Mike Hughes





The Bath Church,

Thank you so very much for all your prayers and concerns during my recent knee replacements. The flowers were beautiful and I want to thank all who sent cards and called. Especially a thanks to Jim Cunningham for all his visits. I am blessed to be in such good hands.

Dick Rudgers

To Bath Church,

Thank you so much for the delicious bread and for all the prayers. I really appreciate all of the care you have extended to me. May God bless you all.

Mary Nilsen

Dear Bath Church Members,

I was overwhelmed with the prayers, cards, caring and support I received during my illness. I felt nurtured wearing the prayer shawl and by consuming the bread and meals. Special thanks to Pastor Jim, Karen Lordan and Martha Salem for their efforts. May God continue to shower his blessings on Bath Church.

Sincerely, Sally Phillips

Dear Bath Church,

Bill and I were so pleased to receive the bags with many gifts from the Women's Christian Fellowship. We enjoyed our visit with Ingrid Fuller and Ann Watson.

Thank you for all your prayers and thoughtfulness.

Sara & Bill Schwager

To Bath Church Knitting Ministry,

Many thanks for the beautiful shawls that I gave to my mother who is in a nursing home in Ontario, and to a 4-year-old patient who has cancer. I received a note from the young girl's mom saying that she would wrap herself in the shawl while with her daughter who was in the hospital receiving chemotherapy.

It is such a meaningful gift for those who are going through difficult times and illness.

Sincerely, Susan Alexander

Dear Bath Church Friends,

During Andy's recent surgery we were blessed with calls, cards and food from our Bath Church friends. Mark, Martha, and Karen's visits and Jim's calls were wonderful support for us. Phyllis was right there when I needed her. Thank you all so very much.

I feel very blessed to be a member of a church demonstrating the love of Jesus Christ.

In God's Love, Jackie & Andy Bettick

Dear Samaritans and Breadwinners,

Nothing warms the heart and soul as much as bread and soup on cold winter days. Thank you for all your prayers and cards. The recovery is coming along fine.

Dick Rudgers

Dear Bath Church Members,

I can't thank you enough for all your prayers that saw me through a troubled time. Thanks also to Jim, Martha, The Breadwinners, and the prayer shawl ministry.

It certainly proves Bath Church is a caring church.

My sincere thanks,

Sophie Young

Dear Breadwinners,

As a new member I already feel right at home. Christ's Spirit is alive and well here. The bread was excellent as well as to remind us that Christ is also the Bread of Life. He is alive and vibrant at Bath Church. Merry Christmas! Love and God Bless.

Roy Gearhart

Dear Bath Church,

Thank you for the beautiful flowers while I was in the hospital. The cards, phone calls, visits, and love poured out to us is really overwhelming!

We are so lucky to have such a caring church!

God Bless, Mary Jones

Dear Breadwinners,

You guys are awesome! The bread delicious, the visit great! You really are winners! Thank you so much!

God Bless, Mary Jones

Dear Breadwinners,

Thank you once again for the delicious loaf of homemade bread you brought by last week. We are so grateful to be welcomed as official members of Bath Church in such a special way.

God Bless, The McKinney Family

THE BATH CHURCH
United Church of Christ

P.O. Box 496
Bath OH 44210
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Dated material – Please deliver immediately

This newsletter was mailed on Monday, December 28, 2009

Address Service Requested



MEN:

MEN'S BREAKFAST:

There will NOT be a Men's Breakfast in January 2010. We will resume our regular "first Saturday" breakfasts on Saturday February 6th. The coffee will be ready at 8:00, breakfast will be served at 8:30, and we will adjourn by 9:30.

MEN'S MORNING BIBLE STUDY meets the 1st, 3rd, and 5th **Tuesday** of each month in the Community Room from 6:30-7:30 a.m. If you can't stay for the entire meeting that's OK, please come anyway. Here's a look at what's coming up as we make our way through the book of James...

- Jan. 5 The Dangers of Pride James 4:11-17
- Jan. 12 Warnings to the Rich James 5:1-6
- Jan. 19 The Rewards of perseverance James 5:7-11
- Jan. 26 Prayers of Faith James 5:12-20

WOMEN:

FIDELIS GUILD will meet on Thursday, January 28 at 9:30 a.m. in the Community Room. Come join us for fellowship, an interesting program, and a hearty lunch! For information, call Carol Button (867-0717).

DORCAS GUILD will NOT meet in January. We will resume our "first Thursday" meetings on February 4 in the Community Room at 10:00 a.m. Contact Jane Hatch with any questions 330-836-5810.