



*Holy Week* **SCHEDULE**

Palm Sunday	March 24	9:30 AM WORSHIP
Maundy Thursday	March 28	7:00 PM WORSHIP
Good Friday	March 29	7:00 PM WORSHIP
Easter Sunday	March 31	9:30 AM WORSHIP

### Classes, Coffee, and Conversations

March 3

A Peaceful Neighbor,  
Mr. Rogers

March 10

Pastor Brian

March 17

TED talk on Justice

March 24

Coffee & Conversations

March 31

*Happy Easter!*

*Free*  
**Community  
Breakfast**



March 9, 2024  
8:30-10:00am  
at  
Buffalo  
Presbyterian  
Church



*Lenten Soup  
Suppers*

WEDNESDAYS  
FEBRUARY 21-MARCH 20  
6:00PM-7:30PM

We hope you enjoy our monthly newsletter,  
**The New Times.**

For comments and suggestions, please  
contact the BPC Office

#### Inside this issue:

Missions	3
Calendar	4
Volunteers	6
Session	7



*“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.”  
-Matthew 5:9*

*“Let us then pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding.”  
-Romans 14:19*

We are bombarded with news of war and violence in our world. The war between Ukraine and Russia has been going on for 2 years now. It's been about 5 months since the brutal conflict in Gaza between Hamas and Israel began in its current iteration. There is also conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo. In Yemen the conflict has lessened over the last year, but is not over. In the US we continue to experience gun violence in communities large and small. The political division and conflict here is also on the increase and will likely continue throughout this election year.

The need for peace between countries, between groups of people, and between individuals is glaring and the task of peacemaking is no small order. So where do we start? The command from God to be peacemakers is explicitly and implicitly throughout scripture. Guiding tools and teachings for peacemaking are also found in scripture, particularly in Jesus' Sermon on the Mount.

In Matthew 5 Jesus gives the command about not retaliating or seeking revenge, he says instead to turn the other cheek, give your coat and your cloak, and to walk the extra mile. In other words when others interact with us in violence we are to respond with nonviolence, with an example

of how God wants the world to be. In other words, love. Love is exactly what Jesus follows his command about not seeking retaliation with when he commands us to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us. The command to love enemies is a difficult one. It asks us to care about the wellbeing of those who would harm us and have ill will towards us. I believe the only way we can learn to practice enemy love is one person, one moment, at a time. If we immediately try to think how this applies to multinational wars we'll likely be at a loss. If you start with the neighbor who keeps blowing their leaves in your yard, the coworker who seems to be sabotaging all your hard work, or the person who gets combative with you when you disagree on politics then enemy love starts to seem possible.

Peacemaking has to start with our hearts and our hands, it has to start with individuals. We may not always get it right, but as long as we humbly keep pursuing peace we are on the right path.

If you are interested in larger peacemaking efforts here are a couple groups to get connected with.

-Presbyterian Peace Fellowship: <https://www.presbypeacefellowship.org/>

-Presbyterian Peacemaking Program: <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/peacemaking/>

-RAW Tools: <https://rawtools.org/>

Until the day when the vision of Isaiah is made real.

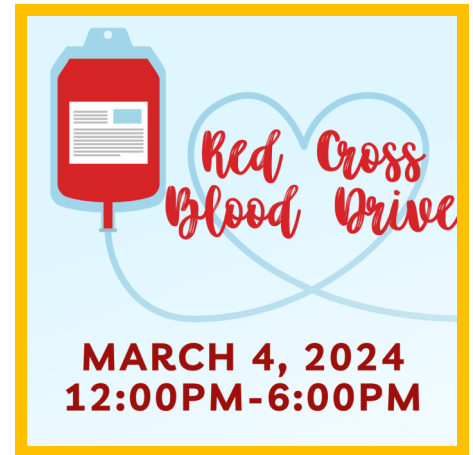
*“He shall judge between the nations,  
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;  
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,  
and their spears into pruning hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war any more.” -  
Isaiah 2:4*

-Pastor Brian



## FREE COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

There will be a free community breakfast at Buffalo Presbyterian Church on Saturday, March 9, 2024 from 7am to 11am. We will need help with setting up, serving, and cleaning up. If you are interested in helping, please sign up outside the office.



## ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING: FEBRUARY 14-MARCH 31

One Great Hour of Sharing supports programs in over 100 countries. These gifts help improve the lives of the suffering and vulnerable through 3 life saving programs: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of people. If you would like to help provide relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed please consider giving during this Lenten season. Please put your offering in the envelopes provided in the Easter (March 31st) bulletin or you can give online at [pcusa.org/give-oghs](http://pcusa.org/give-oghs) or text OGHS to 91999.

## Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign

### Food Shelf News

Food insecurity continues to grow in our town, our state and our country. In January, 2023 the Buffalo Food Shelf served 347 families. In December, 2023 it served 1,130 families. That's a 31% increase throughout the year. A total of 3,307 people were served in December alone. The Buffalo Food Shelf serves Buffalo and Montrose, with a combined population of approximately 20,300. 16% of our community experienced food insecurity by the end of 2023.

The Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign is one way our local food shelves are able to provide for the families in need. This year's campaign runs February 26<sup>th</sup> through April 6<sup>th</sup>. Here is how we can help...

- Fill a bag of food. There are bags in the Narthex with lists of "Most needed items". Simply fill a bag and place it in the grocery cart.
- Mail a check made out to the **Buffalo Food Shelf** to PO Box 222, Buffalo, MN 55313
- Donate online via PayPal or credit card: go to [Buffalofoodshelf.com](http://Buffalofoodshelf.com) and click on the "Donate" button



# March 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2 10:00a SPOT: Pilgrimage Through Holy Week
3 9:30a Worship with Communion  10:30a Coffee & Conversations—A Peaceful Neighbor, Mr. Rogers	4 12:00p Red Cross Blood Drive  6:30p Girl Scout Troop  6:30p Prayer Shawl Group  7:00p AA Meeting	5 9:00a Crafty Ladies 9:00a Men's Breakfast  6:30p Faith Formation Committee Meeting	6 6:00p Lenten Soup Supper 7:30p Adult Choir	7 7:30a People of Faith 10:00a Women of Faith  5:30p Racial Justice Reading Group  7:00p Communications Committee Meeting	8	9 7:00a Free Community Breakfast at BPC
10 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS 9:30a Worship 10:30a Classes, Coffee & Conversations-Pastor Brian	11 5:30p Fellowship Committee Meeting  6:30p PEO  7:00p AA Meeting	12 9:00a Crafty Ladies 9:00a Men's Breakfast  5:00p Missions Committee Meeting  6:30p Finance Committee Meeting	13 6:00p Lenten Soup Supper 7:30p Adult Choir	14 7:30a People of Faith 10:00a Women of Faith  5:30p Racial Justice Reading Group	15	16
17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY 8:30a 150th Planning Meeting  9:30a Worship  10:30a Classes, Coffee, & Conversations-TED Talk on Justice	18 4:30p Deacons Meeting  6:30p Girl Scout Troop  7:00p AA Meeting	19 9:00a Crafty Ladies 9:00a Men's Breakfast  6:30p Session	20 6:00p Lenten Soup Supper 7:30p Adult Choir	21 7:30a People of Faith 10:00a Women of Faith  5:30p Racial Justice Reading Group	22	23
24 PALM SUNDAY 9:30a Worship— "Followers of the Lamb" Choral Cantata  10:30a Coffee and Conversations	25 7:00p AA Meeting	26 9:00a Crafty Ladies 9:00a Men's Breakfast	27 7:00p Adult Choir	28 7:30a People of Faith 10:00a Women of Faith  5:30p Racial Justice Reading Group  7:00p Maundy Thursday Worship	29 7:00p Good Friday Worship	30
31 EASTER SUNDAY 9:30a Worship						

# SPOT

Spiritual  
Practices of  
Today

Saturday  
March 2  
10:00 am

SPOT:  
Pilgrimage  
through



Holy Week

Spiritual Practices Of Today is a monthly Faith Formation offering that focuses on various spiritual practices we can use to grow deeper in our faith and relationship with God.

**Pilgrimage Through Holy Week:** Have you ever wanted to go on a pilgrimage but weren't able to get away? Come journey with us as we travel through Holy Week in Buffalo, MN. We will explore the basic parts of pilgrimage and use the events of Palm Sunday through Easter as a backdrop for our time together. Join Lisa Ellwoods on **Saturday March 2, 2024 at 10am** in the Fellowship Hall for our virtual pilgrimage.

On Palm Sunday, March 24, the BPC Choir will present Followers of the Lamb during regular worship at 9:30am. The text was written by Lee and Susan Naus Dengler and will feature a variety of music.

Lee and Susan say, "For the followers of Jesus Christ, the spotless Lamb of God, Holy Week is a week like no other in the church year. From the high praise of Palm Sunday, we move through the anguish of the Last Supper, the Garden of Gethsemane, and the cross of Calvary, until we reach the 'Alleluias' of Easter morning. Like those followers of Jesus' day, the disciples and other friends of our Lord, we seek, in this, our own day, to trace the footsteps that led our Savior to the culmination of God's eternal plan of salvation. As we experience, through music and the spoken word, the words of Jesus, and the testimony of some of His followers, may our hearts be kindled to join in following the Lamb."

The choir will be joined by a group of instrumentalists. Please come and hear the story of Jesus' love for us.

## FOLLOWERS OF THE LAMB



BUFFALO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
CHORAL CANTATA  
MARCH 24TH AT 9:30AM

# March Volunteer Schedule

Service Date	Building Cleaning	Coffee Time	Greeters	Lay Leader	Sound Board	Ushers
3/3	Becky & Don Eddy	Marlene Aldrich/ Linda Shebiel	Kathy Quady/ Larry Janski	Mary Markve -Patch	Mike Quady	Kellie Johnson & Kevin Spike
3/10	Becky & Don Eddy	Lois Lindstrom/ Elaine Thole	Liz Klaassen/ Elaine Thole	Chuck Klaassen	Eric Ellwoods	Kellie Johnson & Kevin Spike
3/17	Liz & Chuck Klaassen	Michele Lawlor/ Mary Markve-Patch	Charlie Wilkins/ Mike Quady	Steve Grittman	Chuck Klaassen	Kellie Johnson & Kevin Spike
3/24	Liz & Chuck Klaassen	Marlene Aldrich/ Linda Shebiel	Al DeBellis/ Larry Pattee	NA	Mike Quady	Kellie Johnson & Kevin Spike
3/28	NA	NA				
3/29	NA	NA		NA		
3/31	Deb Anderson/ Kathy Quady	Dave & Jean Johnson	Kathy Quady/ Elaine Thole	Larry Janski	Eric Ellwoods	Kellie Johnson & Kevin Spike

*We are looking for volunteers to help with the Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services. Please let Christy know if you are interested in helping. Thanks!*



# Session Summary

Highlights of the February 20 Stated Meeting

## Scholarships for Synod School are available

The Session approved \$100 scholarships for anyone from BPC who would like to attend Synod School in July. Synod School, sponsored by the Synod of Lakes and Prairies, will be July 21-26 (Sunday through Friday) at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa. The synod also provides scholarships for the event. The catalog will come out any day now and registration begins April 1. For more information you can talk to Pastor Brian, or Mike and Kathy Quady.

## Clerk submits annual statistical report to PC(USA)

Each year the church submits an annual statistical report to the denomination. Clerk of Session Michael Quady shared this year's report with the Session before they approved it. The active church membership on December 31, 2023, was 90. Sixty percent of the members are female and 40 percent are male. The membership breaks down according to age groups as follows: 17 and under- 4%, 18 to 25- 18%, 26 to 40-7%, 41 to 55-10%, 56 to 70-30%, over 70- 31%. Average Sunday worship attendance was 43.

## Nominating Committee will be looking for new church officers

The church's nominating committee will begin meeting soon to seek two Deacons and three Elders for three-year terms beginning in June. The committee is Kathy Quady (Elder), Diane Ellis (Deacon); and three at-large members Nancy Grittman, Julie Long, and Larry Pattee. Please prayerfully consider whether this is a way you might serve the church.

## Session approves congregational meeting minutes

Elders have approved the Annual Congregational Meeting minutes. Members may review the minutes by contacting the church office.



### Session

*Meets monthly on the third  
Tuesday at 6:30 pm*

Theresa Bevilacqua	Finance Committee
Don Eddy	Building & Grounds Committee
Jill Gatzke	Missions Committee
Larry Janski	Communications Committee
Ralph Johansen	Worship & Music Committee
Chuck Klaassen	Fellowship Committee
Mary Markve-Patch	Faith Formation Committee
Kathy Quady	Personnel Committee
Mike Quady	Clerk of Session
Pastor Brian Entz	Moderator

### Board of Deacons

*Meets monthly on the third  
Monday at 6:00 pm*

Diane Ellis*	Deacon Treasurer*
Barb Janski*	
Liz Klaassen	
Michele Lawlor	
Joan Lowe	

To give online, please scan the QR code.





Buffalo Presbyterian Church is a congregation in which the Word, the Spirit, and the Love of God enrich and strengthen us as individuals and families in Christ.

The purpose of this Church is to fully equip us to become disciples of Jesus Christ, obeying His commandments to love and worship God, love and care for our neighbors, and make new disciples in our community and the world.



### Buffalo Presbyterian Church



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