

ASH WEDNESDAY

Join us as we worship with our friends from Spirit of Joy
 February 14th, 6:30 PM @ BPC



Join us on Wednesdays (Feb. 21-March 20) from 6-7:30pm in the Fellowship Hall as we observe the season of Lent together with the folks from Spirit of Joy Lutheran Church. We'll begin with a soup supper each evening and then have a time of intergenerational prayer and creativity. At the end of lent we'll not only have prayed and fellowshiped together, but we'll have co-created a community art project. For the art project, we are looking for newspapers and magazines, please put in the bin in the narthex.

To keep with the Lenten theme of simplicity and fasting we ask that folks sign up to bring a soup to share. All other food/beverages will be provided. A sign up sheet will be outside the office for folks to bring soup and for clean up volunteers. We hope you'll join us as we gather for food, fellowship, spiritual practice during Lent.

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

For comments and suggestions, please contact the BPC Office

Classes, Coffee, and Conversations

February 4

Food Related Devotion

February 11

Pastor Brian

February 18

"Leaning into Lent"

February 25

TBD



Lenten Soup Suppers

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

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Collaboration and the Body of Christ

Christ is just like the human body—a body is a unit and has many parts; and all the parts of the body are one body, even though there are many. We were all baptized by one Spirit into one body, whether Jew or Greek, or slave or free, and we all were given one Spirit to drink. Certainly the body isn't one part but many.- 1 Cor. 12:12-14

We often hear this passage used as a way to remind folks that every individual in the church is a unique and valued member and that all have gifts and talents to share. While this is a good and needed use of this passage it's not the only way we can understand it. This passage can also enlighten and encourage our cooperation with other congregations, Presbyterian and otherwise, as they and BPC as a whole are a part of the body of Christ. Just as individual members of BPC have unique and special gifts to offer, so does each congregation in the Buffalo Community, our Presbytery, and beyond.

Cooperation with other congregations is not a new idea at BPC, indeed we have worked with other churches over the years to send people on mission trips, worship together, and more. In continuation of this spirit and the recognition that we aren't the body of Christ without our sister congregations we have several collaborative ministries in the works in 2024 and hopefully beyond.

This Lent we'll be joining once again with our neighbors from Spirit of Joy Lutheran Church for Soup Suppers. We'll have a great time fellowshiping with one another as well as studying

scripture and engaging in a creative endeavor. The folks from SOJ will also be joining us for Ash Wednesday worship as we together mark the beginning of Lent and our dependance on God.

This summer we are partnering with United Presbyterian Church in Rockford and Clearwater Forest Camp to provide VBS in a Van. We co-wrote a grant to the presbytery, which we received, allowing us to bring the camp staff to Wright County for a week in June, where they will lead our churches (one in the morning, the other in the evening) in offering VBS to the kids in our communities. While this will help take some of the planning and leadership burden off our churches by utilizing the expertise of the camp staff it will still give us plenty of opportunities to volunteer and reach out to our communities.

Our third collaborative effort is to begin a youth group with the Presbyterian Churches in Long Lake, Plymouth, and Maple Plain. While each of our congregations has a hard time maintaining individual youth groups at the moment we are hopeful that together we can provide opportunities to help our teens grow in their faith and relationships with each other. This effort is still in the very early planning stages, but we hope to have an event by the spring.

Together we are the body of Christ and individually members of it. Please hold all of these opportunities and our congregational partners in prayer. If you are interested in helping out with any of these collaborative efforts, please let me know.

God's Blessings,
Pastor Brian

**Holy Week
Worship Schedule**

- Palm Sunday 9:30am
- Maundy Thursday 7:00pm
- Good Friday 7:00pm
- Easter Sunday 9:30am

This Lent we'll be following Peter's story in the Sermon Series *Wandering Heart*. Each week during worship we'll focus on Peter's faith and explore what his story has to say about our own.





RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

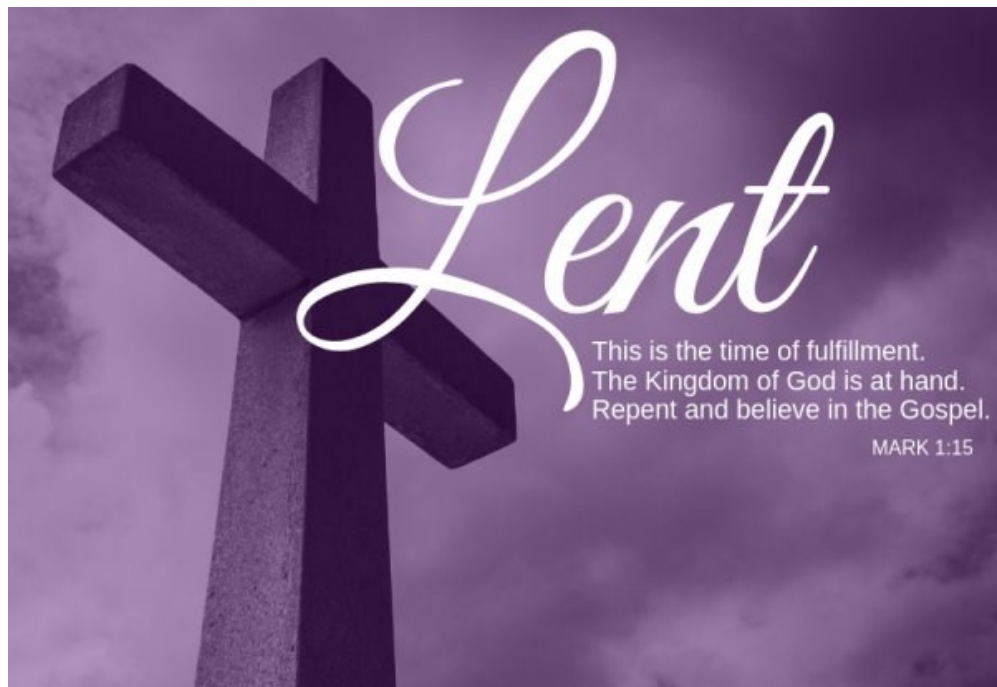
The Red Cross Blood Drive will be on Monday, March 4, 2024 from noon to 6pm. We are looking for volunteers to help with the canteen and registration. Please sign up outside the office if you are interested in helping.

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 or text OGHS to 91999.



February 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 7:30a People of Faith 10:00a Women of Faith 5:30p Racial Justice Reading Group 7:00p Communications Committee Meeting	2	3
4 9:30a Worship with Communion 10:30a Coffee & Conversations—	5 6:30p Girl Scout Troop 6:30p Prayer Shawl Group 7:00p AA Meeting	6 9:00a Crafty Ladies 9:00a Men's Breakfast 6:30p Faith Formation Committee Meeting	7 6:00p Worship & Music Committee Meeting 7:00p Adult Choir	8 7:30a People of Faith 10:00a Women of Faith 5:30p Racial Justice Reading Group	9	10
11 9:30a Worship 10:30a Classes, Coffee & Conversations—	12 5:30p Fellowship Committee Meeting 6:30p PEO 7:00p AA Meeting	13 9:00a Crafty Ladies 9:00a Men's Breakfast 5:00p Missions Committee Meeting 6:30p Finance Committee Meeting	14 ASH WEDNESDAY VALENTINE'S DAY 6:30p Ash Wednesday Service 7:30p Adult Choir	15 7:30a People of Faith 10:00a Women of Faith 5:30p Racial Justice Reading Group	16	17
18 8:30a 150th Planning Meeting 9:30a Worship 10:30a Classes, Coffee, & Conversations	19 PRESIDENT'S DAY 4:30p Deacons Meeting 6:30p Girl Scout Troop	20 9:00a Crafty Ladies 9:00a Men's Breakfast 6:30p Session	21 6:00p Lenten Soup Supper 7:30p Adult Choir	22 7:30a People of Faith 10:00a Women of Faith 5:30p Racial Justice Reading Group	23 8:00a Life Line Screening	24
25 9:30a Worship 10:30a Classes, Coffee, and Conversations	26 7:00p AA Meeting	27 9:00a Crafty Ladies 9:00a Men's Breakfast	28 6:00p Lenten Soup Supper 7:30p Adult Choir	29 7:30a People of Faith 10:00a Women of Faith 5:30p Racial Justice Reading Group		



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.

Please watch for more information about the upcoming SPOT!

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 26th through April 6th. 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 [Buffalo-foodshelf.com](https://buffalo-foodshelf.com) and click on the "Donate" button

February Volunteer Schedule

Service Date	Building Cleaning	Coffee Time	Greeters	Lay Leader	Sound Board	Ushers
2/4	Deb Anderson/ Kathy Quady	Dave & Jean Johnson	Al DeBellis/ Elaine Thole	Kellie Johnson	Mike Quady	Kathy Quady & Kevin Spike
2/11	Deb Anderson/ Kathy Quady	Marlene Aldrich/ Linda Shebiel	Charlie Wilkens/ Mike Quady	Barb Janski	Eric Ellwoods	Kathy Quady & Kevin Spike
2/18	Diane Ellis	Lois Lindstrom/ Elaine Thole	Kellie Johnson/ Al DeBellis	Theresa Bevilacqua	Mike Quady	Kathy Quady & Kevin Spike
2/25	Diane Ellis	Michele Lawlor/ Mary Markve-Patch	Al DeBellis/ Larry Pattee	Lisa Ellwoods	Eric Ellwoods	Kathy Quady & Kevin Spike
3/3	Becky & Don Eddy	Marlene Aldrich/ Linda Shebiel	Kathy Quady/ Larry Janski	Mary Markve- Patch	Mike Quady	Kellie Johnson & Kevin Spike



**Red Cross
Blood Drive**

**MARCH 4, 2024
12:00PM-6:00PM**

FPC Men's Retreat

February 16th at 6pm through February 18th at noon. Pastor TJ Shirley From Calvin Presbyterian will be leading a study and reflection based on the movie "Secondhand Lions". There will be time for rest, fellowship, service, and play. To register contact Dave Tillman at tillman6010@gmail.com or 952-215-6657. Please see Pastor Brian for more information.

Session Summary

Highlights of the January Stated Meeting
and the Annual Congregational Meeting

Buffalo Presbyterian Church welcomes Kellie Johnson

The Session approved adding Kellie Johnson to the church's active member roll by a Letter of Transfer from Zion Lutheran Church in Buffalo. Johnson has been worshipping at BPC for some time and looks forward to helping out with worship on Sunday mornings. She met briefly with the Session and was introduced to the congregation at worship on January 21. If you haven't done so already, please introduce yourself and welcome our newest member.

Session will explore sale of parcel of church land

Based on feedback at the annual meeting on January 28 the Session will explore selling a portion of land on the southwest corner of the current church property. The land is along the north side of 6th Street NE and is approximately 250 ft. by 125 ft.--the equivalent of three housing lots. At the annual meeting members suggested that the sale be considered as part of a long-term plan for the church's property and that the land might possibly be used for the betterment of our community. The congregation will be involved as the Session explores how the property might be developed. The project will be part of CCC (Coffee, Classes and Conversations) discussions this spring. The final project will have to be approved by both the congregation and the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Board of Trustees.

BPC retires roof loan

The Session received congratulations from the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program for paying off a \$48,000 loan to replace the church roof 15 years ago. Payments on the loan amounted to over \$4,000 a year during the period.

Spirit of Joy Lutheran Church will join us for Lenten soup suppers

The Lenten soup suppers will begin in a few weeks and, as we did two years ago, we will be hosting them with Spirit of Joy Lutheran Church. Watch the calendar for supper time and plans for after-supper discussion.



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	

*Please note that our Church Treasurer is Mandy Harkess.

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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