

THE NEW TIMES

August 2023



BUFFALO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE NEW TIMES



August

*We hope you enjoy our monthly newsletter, **The New Times**.
For comments and suggestions, please contact the BPC Office*

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Mission has been an integral part of the Church's life in one way or another for the whole history of Christianity and as with anything that is really familiar it is easy to just keep going as we have been without much reflection on how and why we do what we do. While our mission work is for the benefit of our neighbors and the whole of creation it is not a task that we do by ourselves, but rather a cooperative effort between God and us. The story of the feeding of the 5,000+ in Matthew's Gospel illustrates this collaboration well.

13 When Jesus heard about John, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. When the crowds learned this, they followed him on foot from the cities. **14** When Jesus arrived and saw a large crowd, he had compassion for them and healed those who were sick. **15** That evening his disciples came and said to him, "This is an isolated place and it's getting late. Send the crowds away so they can go into the villages and buy food for themselves."

16 But Jesus said to them, "There's no need to send them away. You give them something to eat."

17 They replied, "We have nothing here except five loaves of bread and two fish."

18 He said, "Bring them here to me." **19** He ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. He took the five loaves of bread and the two fish, looked up to heaven, blessed them and broke the loaves apart and gave them to his disciples. Then the disciples gave them to the crowds. **20** Everyone ate until they were full, and they filled twelve baskets with the leftovers. **21** About five thousand men plus women and children had eaten.

The initial instruction to feed the people comes from Jesus after his disciples suggest sending the crowd away. Similarly our call to serve our neighbors, to advocate for their needs, and care for them comes from Jesus. The work of mission involves intentional listening to the needs of others and the voice of God, it's not something we decide to do just because we want to or we think it makes sense to.

The collaboration between Jesus and the disciples begins when they bring forward the five loaves and two fish. They gather what they have and Jesus turns it into more than enough for the task at hand. After which Jesus gives the food to his disciples to distribute. The feeding could not have happened without both Jesus and the disciples' efforts. This is how all church mission works, we use what we have and trust God to lead us in making it enough for the task at hand. In mission we are called to cooperative work with God and one another. We are called to faithful creativity in how we might use our resources, even and especially when they seem like they are not enough. As the disciples trusted Jesus, let us do likewise, that he might use our hands and our resources to serve those around us in ways expected and unexpected.

"There's no need to send them away. You give them something to eat."

-Pastor Brian





RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE, AUGUST 16

The Red Cross Blood Drive will be on Wednesday, August 16th from 12pm to 6pm. There will be a sign up sheet for volunteers outside of the office.

LOVE INC BIG WOODS THRIFT STORE HAS MOVED

They are now located in the strip mall behind Culver's and near Artistic Me and Modern Roots. The address is 205 5th St NE Buffalo, MN.

Save the Date! September is our month to deliver Meals on Wheels, watch for the sign up!

Advocacy and the Church!

Often when we think of church mission we likely think of charity or maybe evangelism, but there is a 3rd leg to the stool that is mission and that is advocacy.

Acts 6:1-7 tells us the story of how the first deacons were chosen and its those deacons who often get the focus. The deacons would never have been selected without the advocacy of the people in the church who brought the needs of some of the widows to the apostles in the first place.

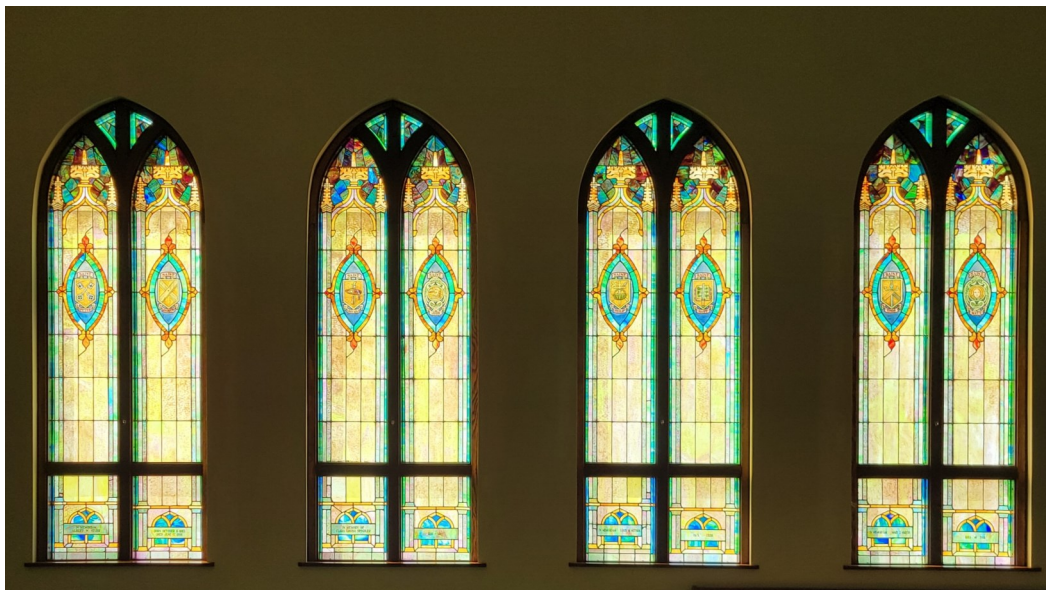
Advocacy is an important part of the Christian witness and because of this the Presbyterian Church (USA) has two offices that do a lot of advocacy work on behalf of the church.

In Washington D.C. there is the Office of Public Witness and in New York City there is the Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations. Both of these offices are led by the Rev. Jimmy Hawkins.

You can find more information about the advocacy work at

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/compassion-peace-justice/washington/>

You can also find various social witness statements of the church at <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/compassion-peace-justice/acswp/topics/>



August 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 9:00a Crafty Ladies 9:00a Men's Breakfast 6:00p Building & Grounds Committee Meeting 7:00p Faith Formation Committee Meeting	2	3 7:30a Women of Faith 10:00a Women of Faith 5:30p Racial Justice Reading Group 7:00p Communications Committee Meeting	4	5 9:30a Faith Formation Planning Meeting
6 9:30a Worship with Communion 10:30a Coffee & Conversations	7 5:00p Missions Committee Meeting 6:30p Finance Committee Meeting 6:30p Prayer Shawl Group 7:00p AA Meeting	8 9:00a Crafty Ladies 9:00a Men's Breakfast 4:00p Session Retreat	9	10 7:30a Women of Faith 10:00a Women of Faith 5:30p Racial Justice Reading Group	11	12
13 9:30a Worship 10:30a Coffee & Conversations	14 6:30p PEO 7:00p AA Meeting	15 9:00a Crafty Ladies 9:00a Men's Breakfast	16 12:00p Red Cross Blood Drive	17 7:30a Women of Faith 10:00a Women of Faith 5:30p Racial Justice Reading Group	18	19
20 9:30a Worship 10:30a Coffee & Conversations	21 4:00p Deacons Meeting 7:00p AA Meeting	22 9:00a Crafty Ladies 9:00a Men's Breakfast	23	24 7:30a Women of Faith 10:00a Women of Faith 5:30p Racial Justice Reading Group	25	26
27 9:30a Worship 10:30a Coffee & Conversations	28 7:00p AA Meeting	29 9:00a Crafty Ladies 9:00a Men's Breakfast	30	31 7:30a Women of Faith 10:00a Women of Faith 5:30p Racial Justice Reading Group		

Upcoming Events



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.

SPOT will be on hiatus for the months of July and August. They will start back up again in September. Watch for more information.



**American
Red Cross**

Blood Drive

Wednesday, August 16, 2023

12:00pm to 6:00pm

Please call 1-800-RED Cross (1-800-733-2767) or visit
RedCrossBlood.org enter Sponsor Code: Buffalo MN

**We are still looking for volunteers! Please sign up in
the narthex if you are interested. Thank you!**

**Session Retreat is on
Tuesday, August 8th at 4:00pm**

August Volunteer Schedule

Service Date	Building Cleaning	Coffee Time	Greeters	Lay Leader	Sound Board	Ushers
8/6	Deb Anderson/ Kathy Quady	Larry & Lavina Pattee	Larry Janski/ Liz Klaassen	Lisa Ellwoods	Chuck Klaassen	Kathy Quady & Kevin Spike
8/13	Deb Anderson/ Kathy Quady	Marlene Aldrich/ Linda Shebiel	Mike Quady/ Al DeBellis	Mary Markve- Patch	Mike Quady	Kathy Quady & Kevin Spike
8/20	Vanderheiden Family	Larry & Lavina Pattee	Larry Janski/ Liz Klaassen	Steve Grittmann	Eric Ellwoods	Kathy Quady & Kevin Spike
8/27	Vanderheiden Family	Lois Lindstrom/ Elaine Thole	Larry Pattee/ Kathy Quady	Eric Ellwoods	Chuck Klaassen	Kathy Quady & Kevin Spike
9/3	Diane Ellis	Dave & Jean Johnson	Elaine Thole/ Charlie Wilkens	Ashton Olsen	Mike Quady	Larry Janski & Kevin Spike



DIRECTORY UPDATE

In the summer months we will be updating the Member Directory. Please watch for more information.

Love Inc Big Woods Thrift Store has moved

They are now located in the strip mall behind Culver's and near Artistic Me and Modern Roots. The address is 205 5th St NE Buffalo, MN.



Session Summary

In lieu of their stated July and August Meetings the Session will be having a retreat the evening of August 8th at the church. The Session hopes that this will be a time of fellowship, reflection, discernment, and prayer.

Please remember that if you ever have a question, concern, comment, or gratitude to express that you are welcome to be in contact with any of our elders or Pastor Brian.

A big thank you to all the elders on Session for their dedication, time, and energy given in service to God and BPC.



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	
Louise Markve	

*Please note that our Church Treasurer is Mandy Harkess.



Service of Communion

Communion will be
served on
September 10th

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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