

*** APRIL 2024 ***



Debbie and I are so excited to begin this journey with you here at the historic Buffalo Presbyterian Church. I don't believe God is finished with this body of believers, and I am so thankful for the trust you have placed in me by inviting me to serve as your pastor. I practice and believe in servant leadership, and I am here as your servant.

As I have thought about the future, it is important for Buffalo to have a statement of who we desire to be for those outside of the

Church. In today's world, people are searching for something "real" and a true "connection" which is ironic because we have never in human history been more connected through advances in technology.

Therefore, I offer to you what I believe God has laid on my heart.

Buffalo Presbyterian Church - "A Place for YOU - a place for people who don't feel like they have a place."

I hope and pray you feel like you have a place *here at Buffalo!* And I especially hope and pray you will be welcoming and open to those who are searching for THEIR place, too!

I believe exciting days are ahead for us, and I'm thankful to be going on this journey with you!

Here are my phone number and email in case you need to contact me: 919.708.8906 eric.buffalopc@gmail.com In Christ's Love.

Eric

NEW SUPPLY PASTOR

You may have noticed a change in the Pastor's message to Buffalo in the newsletter. We did send out emails and letters to the members of the church to announce our new stated supply pastor. Reverend Eric Davidson has preached at Buffalo numerous times and was well received by the congregation. Following many discussions, meetings and prayers, the Session decided to move forward with a new Stated Supply Pastor. Eric met with the

Presbytery's Commission on Ministry on March 12th and was approved by that committee. He is officially starting on April 1st. He will be preaching 3 Sundays per month in addition to visitation and working with the Session to enhance the spiritual life of the church. Please welcome Eric and Debbie to Buffalo.

Reverend George Walton will continue to preach one Sunday per month, moderate the Session and perform Communion and Baptisms.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Oh, how I praise God for the

abundant blessings he gives to us. We awaken in His world for a fresh new day with renewed energy. He provides us with all the blessings of a sunrise; the music of songbirds chirping their happy songs and some days lots of rain to spring forth the beautiful colors of Spring.

I am honored and blessed to be such a vital part of our Buffalo Church. To provide a ministry to the people that blesses all who hear and to bring honor to our Lord.

I have read that if we have food in our refrigerator, clothes on our back, and a place to lay our head, that we are wealthier than 75% of the world. Imagine that!! In touching someone, holding their hand or a hug, you can bless them with Gods healing touch.

May God shower you with his Blessings of Love, now and forever more.

Jan Renwick, Secretary Buffalo PW

PRESBYTERIAN MEN

Save the Date. If you check your church calendar, you will see a listing on the 17th of April that has not been there for a while. The Presbyterian Men have decided to start meeting on a monthly basis. They will be meeting at 6 pm and will have a meal to share. Please plan on joining us for food and fellowship.

"WEEKLY OUTLOOK"

I was browsing my emails and looking for something to include in the April newsletter. I found this letter in an email from "Presbyterian Outlook", a Presbyterian publication that connects disciples of Jesus Christ through compelling and committed conversation for the proclamation of the Gospel. Here is what I found for April. Hope you find it as inspiring as I did.

Dear Readers,

When I was 24, I went through what I call my "mid20s crisis." I was working a good job and lived in a fun city but I felt unsettled, like a dog that keeps getting up to turn in circles as they try to sleep.

Ultimately, I quit my job, moved home, and worked at a bakery for a year before the Holy Spirit directed me towards seminary. That year at my parents' house was a prolonged threshold, a lonely time of waiting and growing. Perhaps for that reason, I remember being floored by Henri Nouwen's interpretation of the passion in *Finding* My Way Home.

In his book, Nouwen tells the story of a sick friend who felt adrift. His whole sense of worth was built around doing things. But now, he couldn't do anything. He had no control. And so, he asked, "Who am I?"

In response, Nouwen and his friend look at Jesus' passion. When Christ was betrayed, the Greek says he was "handed over" (from the verb

paradidomi). And it was in this handing over that God's glory was revealed.

My friends, this is the hope I offer you today. When we allow ourselves to fully feel our lack of control, we can learn something of God's glory and come in touch with new life. We know that God will ultimately destroy oppressive forces like illness, death, greed and violence. We will acknowledge that on Sunday. But for now, we take comfort that God is with us in the grief, pain and anger of feeling powerless.

There is glory in acting to bring about the kingdom of God-Jesus demonstrates this for the first part of his life. But there is glory to be found in being handed over too.

In Christ.

Rose Schrott Taylor Outlook digital content Editor

Remember with love and

prayer:



Manuel Bailey, Dr. David Ciliberto, Joe Daniel, Justin Hear Our Dunigan, Barbara Jo Glass, Miriam Gunter, Geri Hales,

Jimmy Holt, George & Brenda Honeycutt, Danny James, Evelyn Johnson, Tammy Johnson, Sandie Lemons, Ingred Luton, Brandon Maness, Rev. Gilbert McDowell, Jeff Renwick, Jeanette Siess, Julie Siess, Peggy Sineath, Karen Smith

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

March 03, 2024 – \$ 1652.00 March 10, 2024 – \$ 1327.00 March 17, 2024 – \$ 482.00 March 24, 2024 - \$ 1220.00





FLOWERS WILL BE PLACED IN THE SANCTUARY THIS MONTH BY THE FOLLOWING:

We currently have no one listed to provide flowers for the sanctuary in the month of April.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

April 3rd – Rev. Gilbert McDowell April 17th – Bob Kelly April 10th – Mattie Kelly April 19th – Raymond Bradley April 11th – Sandie Lemons April 27th – Pat Johnson April 28th- Rev. Eric Davidson



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES April 05th Bob & Ann Christian Barraza April 14th Raymond & Susan Bradley



hank GIFTS TO THE CHURCH In Memory of the Abernathy family

By Pat Johnson

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord. Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." -Jeremiah 29:11