



BUFFALO
Presbyterian
CHURCH



Loving all People,
Living our Faith,
and Following Jesus

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Ash Wednesday Service

Join us as we open the season of Lent in worship with our friends at Spirit of Joy on March 5th at 6:30pm.



Classes, Coffee, & Conversations

February 2

Love Jeopardy Led By Mike Quady

February 9

East African Ministry Led By Heidi Vardeman

February 16

Pastor Brian

February 23

Pancake Breakfast

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Breakfast

The Fellowship Committee will be hosting a pancake breakfast on Sunday, February 23rd during CCC. followed by a little history lesson about what Shrove Tuesday is and how it marks the beginning of Lent.



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

For comments and suggestions, please contact the BPC office.



Our sibling denomination, the United Church of Christ (UCC), has for years if not decades, been using the slogan God is still speaking. Not being a part of the UCC I can't comment on the ways that they have used the phrase, but I do believe it to be true. I believe this because God has spoken to me and I know others to whom God has spoken. In all likelihood God has spoken to you too.

In the scriptures God speaks to people in a multitude of ways. Sometimes God speaks directly, as God did to Moses at the burning bush and then on Mt. Sinai. People often hear from God through angels (divine messengers), including Abraham, Hagar, Zachariah, and Mary. Dreams and visions are another way in which God communicates to

people, including Jacob, Joseph (the son of Jacob), and Joseph (Mary's husband and the adoptive father of Jesus). A frequent method of divine communication, especially to groups of people is

through prophets. The prophet will have a vision from God and then serve as the messenger to kings, tribes, and nations. God's communication with people in the Bible is regular and varied, even among the methods mentioned there is variation in how God speaks.

God's communication with people didn't stop after Bible times, as the UCC slogan says, God is still speaking. I have "heard" God speak to me throughout my life in a variety of ways, though not audibly. God has spoken to me through scripture, through a voice heard, not by my ears, but by my spirit, and through other people. One of the most powerful ways I've had God speak to me was through a sense of God's loving presence. No words spoken or written

were needed, in that moment I felt the presence of God and with it came the knowledge that I was abundantly loved by my Creator. It was a powerful message and one that I needed at that time. I know of others who have had God speak to them through ways similar to my experience or that of people in the scriptures.

God is still speaking, perhaps you can tell of a time when you have had God speak to you. Communication from God is not something reserved for the pious, holy, or worthy, but is rather something that happens anytime God wishes. It can't be forced and it doesn't happen on our time table or in a way of our choosing. The reality that God is still speaking begs the question of us, are we still listening?

Our openness to God's communication with us is a key component of prayer. Being open to how God may speak to us is just as important a part of our prayer life as how we speak to God. Through our worship, prayer,

scripture reading, service to others, as well as our rest and recreation we place ourselves in a space to receive the word God has for us in a given moment. Sometimes the word God speaks to us is for us and sometimes it is a message to be shared with a specific person or group or everyone.

Ultimately, to be open to God's speaking to us is to take a posture of humble and faithful openness to God, however and whenever God may speak. As we worship and proclaim a living God, so to do we worship and proclaim a God who is still speaking.

So what is God saying to you, through you, to us?

Blessed be our God and blessed be God's people, now and forever.

-Pastor Brian

God is Still Speaking

Missions

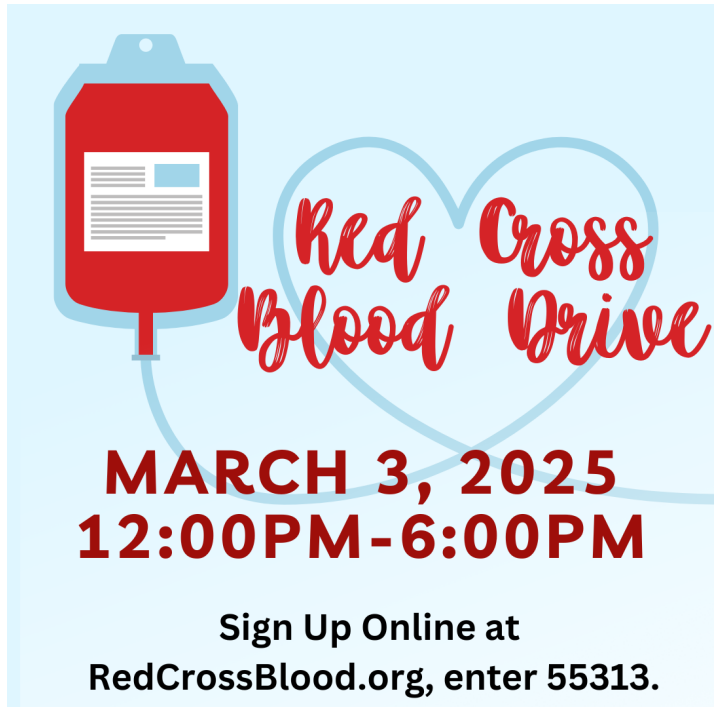
Thank You!

Thank you to all that helped with the Spaghetti Supper in January! We served around 100 people.

Red Cross Blood Drive

Our next Blood Drive will be March 3rd from noon to 6pm. Sign up online at RedCrossBlood.org, enter 55313.

Watch for a sign up sheet outside the office for volunteer opportunities!



MARCH 3, 2025
12:00PM-6:00PM

Sign Up Online at
RedCrossBlood.org, enter 55313.

Buffalo Food Shelf

Here are the end of year results from the food shelf. The new food shelf director is Lauren Bodin.

DONORS:

21% individuals, 31% business, 12% clubs, 10% fundraising, 16% United Way/third party.

TOTAL DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD

16,310 pounds – an increase of roughly 6,000 pounds compared to 2023

There was an increase of food donated – 294,142 pounds total, as compared to the same period in 2023.

Rescue food accounts for 65-68% of total food distribution. Rescue food is that food received from stores such as Cub, Coborn's, Walmart, and Target.

KIDS' CHOICE – This program is for children specifically who come with their parents and held during school breaks at Christmas and in summer. In July there was a record number of 50+ children per night in the first week and 40+ children per night the second week. Over the summer, 664 children were given 15,048 pounds of food.

There are deliveries to seniors at Woodmere and Lakeside as well as Friday distributions rotating from Grace Place, Buffalo Community Center, and Buffalo Food Shelf.

Community Breakfasts – Community Center. There was an average of 150 people served per month at the Community Center. The Community Center breakfasts are no longer going to be available at the Center.

Holiday Baskets – Holiday food vouchers from Cub for turkey (Thanksgiving) and ham (Easter) are given as well as pies. A total of 600 baskets, split between two months, are packed and distributed.

February 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	29	30	31	01
02 9:30AM WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION 10:30AM CCC: LOVE JEOPARDY	03 6:30PM PRAYER SHAWL GROUP	04 9AM CRAFTY LADIES 9AM MEN'S BREAKFAST 6:30PM FAITH FORMATION COMMITTEE MTG	05 7PM ADULT CHOIR	06 7:30AM PEOPLE OF FAITH 10AM WOMEN OF FAITH 5:30PM RACIAL JUSTICE READING GROUP	07	08
09 9:30AM WORSHIP 10:30AM CCC: EAST AFRICAN MIISTRY LED BY HEIDI VARDEMAN	10 5PM FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE MTG	11 9AM CRAFTY LADIES 9AM MEN'S BREAKFAST 5PM MISSIONS COMMITTEE MTG 6:30PM FINANCE COMMITTEE MTG	12 7PM ADULT CHOIR	13 7:30AM PEOPLE OF FAITH 10AM WOMEN OF FAITH 5:30PM RACIAL JUSTICE READING GROUP	14	15
16 8:30AM 150TH PLANNING MEETING 9:30AM WORSHIP 10:30AM CCC: PASTOR BRIAN	17 <i>PRESIDENTS' DAY</i> 4PM DEACONS MTG	18 9AM CRAFTY LADIES 9AM MEN'S BREAKFAST 6:30PM SESSION	19 7PM ADULT CHOIR	20 7:30AM PEOPLE OF FAITH 10AM WOMEN OF FAITH 5:30PM RACIAL JUSTICE READING GROUP 7PM COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING	21	22
23 9:30AM WORSHIP 10:30AM CCC: PANCAKE BREAKFAST	24	25 9AM CRAFTY LADIES 9AM MEN'S BREAKFAST	26 7PM ADULT CHOIR	27 7:30AM PEOPLE OF FAITH 10AM WOMEN OF FAITH 5:30PM RACIAL JUSTICE READING GROUP	28	01

Calvin Presbyterian is Hosting “Preparing for the Later Part of Life”

PREPARING FOR THE LATER PART OF LIFE

WHEN: Classes will be held on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

WHERE: Calvin Presbyterian Church
177 Glendale Drive Long Lake




2/5 NAVIGATING MEDICARE AND ITS EVERCHANGING NATURE
Led by Amy Dahlquist: Medicare Specialist with almost 30 years in the Life and Health insurance industry.



2/12 WILLS, TESTAMENTS, AND TRUSTS
Led by Minnesota Estate Law Expert, Attorney John Waldron



2/19 PLANNING YOUR CELEBRATION OF LIFE
Led by Rev. TJ Shirley, Pastor of Calvin Presbyterian Church




2/26 FINANCIAL PLANNING BEFORE AND DURING RETIREMENT
Led by Joe Yeado, Financial Advisor from Edward Jones



Be Closed On These Holidays

- January 1, 2025
- January 20, 2025
- May 26, 2025
- July 4, 2025
- September 1, 2025
- November 27, 2025
- December 25, 2025



Lenten Soup Suppers

Lenten Soup Suppers will be starting up in March on Wednesdays!! We will be sharing this fellowship time together with our friends at Spirit of Joy. Please watch for sign up sheets outside the office.




Lenten Soup Suppers

WEDNESDAYS
MARCH 12-APRIL 9
6:00PM-7:30PM

February Volunteer Schedule

Service Date	Coffee Time	Greeters	Lay Leader	Sound Board	Ushers
2/2	Faith Formation Committee	Kellie Johnson & Larry Janski	Mike Quady	Eric Ellwoods	Dave Johnson & Kevin Spike
2/9	People of Faith Bible Study	Larry Pattee & Kathy Quady	Eric Ellwoods	Mike Quady	Dave Johnson & Kevin Spike
2/16	Women of Faith Bible Study	Mike Quady & Charlie Wilkens	Theresa Bevilacqua	Eric Ellwoods	Dave Johnson & Kevin Spike
2/23	Racial Justice Reading Group	Kellie Johnson & Larry Pattee	Kathy Quady	Mike Quady	Dave Johnson & Kevin Spike
3/2	Communications Committee	Mike Quady & Elaine Thole	Barb Janski	Eric Ellwoods	Kathy Quady & Kevin Spike

SPOT~Bread Baking

Please watch the bulletins and the March newsletter for the details about the next SPOT. More information to come!

Spiritual Practices Of Today (SPOT) 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.





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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