



## February 2018 A VIEW FROM THE PULPIT

Tim was a restaurant manager. Part of his job was to explain the company's benefit package to his new employees. One time, Tim hired a young man who didn't speak English very well because he had recently immigrated to the United States. Tim explained the vacation policy, sick leave, and health insurance, all without incident. Then he came to the life insurance. He said that if the employee died, his family would get \$25,000.

At this point the employee had a shocked look on his face, and said, "No, no, Tim!" Tim wasn't sure he had been clear, so he explained, once again, "Look, if you die, your family will get \$25,000." Again, the employee was unhappy. "No, I don't want it," he said urgently. "Why not?" Tim asked. "If you die, this will be good for your family." "But Tim," the employee cried, "I don't want to die!"

Death – The bully on the block of life. He catches you in the alley. He taunts you in the playground. He badgers you on the way home: "You, too, will die someday."

Oh, we try to prove him wrong. We jog. We diet. We pump iron. We play golf. We try to escape it, knowing all along that we will only, at best, postpone it.

"Everyone has a number," he reminds. And every number will be called.

Ash Wednesday is a day to stare death in the face, to acknowledge our mortality. All of us will die. Christians who observe this holiday get ashes "imposed" on their foreheads, while a minister or lay church worker says, "You have come from dust, and to dust you will return." In other words, "You are going to die. And here are some ashes to remind you, just in case you've forgotten."



What gives us such freedom to think about death? Are we Christians morose? Do we have some peculiar fascination with dying? I don't think so. Rather, what allows us to stare death in the face is the assurance of life, real life, eternal life.

In a real sense Ash Wednesday ushers us into the season of Lent when we begin to prepare to remember the sacrificial death of our Lord Jesus Christ and to celebrate His Resurrection. It starts our celebration of our salvation and the possibility of eternal life.

This year for the first time since 1945 Ash Wednesday and Valentine's day occur at the same time. When we know our lives are safe in the hands of God, and that this physical life is just the beginning of eternity, then we're free to be honest about what lies ahead for us. We can face death without fear or pretending, because we know the One who defeated death, the One who is God's Valentine to us.

Valentines are a sign of Love; the ashes of Ash Wednesday are a sign of Love, God's Love for us in Jesus Christ.

**God so Loved the World that He gave His only Begotten Son so whoever believes in Him should not perish but have Eternal Life.**

Rev. George Walton, Stated Supply Pastor  
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## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Adult Sunday School Class meets from 9:45 – 10:45 a.m. For the month of February, we will study the following lessons:

Feb. 04th	<b>Faith Without Works Is Dead</b>	<i>James 2: 14-26</i>
Feb. 11th	<b>A Disciplined Faith</b>	<i>James 3: 1-12</i>
Feb. 18th	<b>Faithful Disciples</b>	<i>Acts 9: 36-43</i>
Feb. 25th	<b>The Good Fight of Faith</b>	<i>1 Timothy 6: 11-21</i>

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## Session Corner

### Highlights from Stated Meeting held Jan. 14, 2018

Rev. Walton has been busy these last two months making 12 in home visits and 2 hospital visits. He also practiced with the choir and sang in the Cantata as did his wife, Karyn, son, Mark, and daughter, Holly. He also sang at our Christmas Eve service as did Holly. We are blessed by this musical family.

The Session has elected Lee Setzer as Clerk of Session and Jean Wilberg as Assistant to the Clerk. In addition Receiving Treasurers, Nelson Burke and Lee Setzer and Disbursing Treasurers, Kathy Jolly and Ken Frie were re-elected. Ken Frie and Buddy McNeill have been re-elected to the Audit Committee.

The Sweethearts Banquet is scheduled for February 11th at 6:00 p.m. The wonderful menu has been confirmed and the Fellowship Hall has been set aside for the decorating team to create a fun environment. Please set the date aside and join in the great food, the wonderful fellowship and all the fun. EVERYONE IS INVITED.

Buddy announced the dates for communion as: February 11th (Transfiguration of the Lord), April 1st (Easter), July 8th, October 7th (World Communion Sunday), and December 24th (Christmas Eve). Rev. Walton is asking the Fellowship, Evangelism and Outreach Committee to find Elders to accompany him following communion Sunday to bring communion to our shut-ins.

Next Stated Session Meeting will be February 11th following church service.

Jean Wilberg  
Assistant to the Clerk

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### Remember with love and prayer:



**CHURCH MEMBERS:** Lynda Bowers, Sheila Brewer, Nellie Cox, Greg Deck, Barbara Jo Glass, Bobby Johnson, Sandie Lemons, Lois Martin, and Pat Moerke

### FAMILY OF CHURCH MEMBERS:

Mac Britts, Vernell Cersosimo, Linda Crompton, MacKenzie Deck, Lynn Godwin, Robert Hardee, Inez Holt, Michael Holt, Stanley Jones, Taylor Jones, David Key, Elaine McBryde, Sam McClearn, Carson Setzer, Barbara Suggs, Doug Ury, Allison Williams, and Chuck Zander

### FRIENDS OF CHURCH MEMBERS:

William Anderson, Ruth Berryman, Jarrett Blackwell, Billy Boaz, Susan Bristow, Noah Clifton, Wendy Cole, Michelle Daurity, Roy Dinkins, Henry & Nancy Douglas, Billy Edwards, Jim Griggs, Dr. Earlie Hill, Richard Holt, Leroy Hughes, Eva Jones, Will Kirkland, Kasyn Kolacinski, Judy Lloyd, Pat Maguire, Rebecca Mansfield, Wendy McBryde, Chris McRae, Mary Quinn, Sue Roney, Stella Smith, Frank Tibbett, Averie Turner, Sandra Ward, and Emily H. Wright

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### WEEKLY OFFERING TOTALS



January 07, 2018 No Church due to Snow  
January 14, 2018 – \$2565.00  
January 21, 2018 – \$ 897.50  
January 28, 2018 – \$1152.00  
5 Cents A Meal Offering – \$49.88  
BackPack Kids Offering – \$53.85

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Deadline for articles to be included in the next issue of the newsletter will be Tues., February 20th by 9:00 a.m.

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A NEW FLOWER CHART FOR 2018 HAS BEEN PLACED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD FOR MEMBERS TO SIGN-UP FOR PLACING FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY.

FLOWERS WILL BE PLACED IN THE SANCTUARY DURING FEBRUARY BY THE FOLLOWING:

02/04/18 – OPEN  
02/11/18 – OPEN  
02/18/18 – OPEN  
02/25/18 – OPEN

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### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Feb. 02nd – Randy Seymore      Feb. 21st – Marie Macko  
Feb. 05th – Allison Goodwin      Feb. 22nd – Geri Hales  
Feb. 10th – Linda Cummings      Feb. 22nd – Pat Kelly  
Feb. 11th – Kristian Johns      Feb. 22nd – Shannon Lemons  
Feb. 13th – Jeff Cashion      Feb. 22nd – Pat Moerke  
Feb. 16th – Angela Deck      Feb. 23rd – Debbie Thomas  
Feb. 16th – Charlotte Johns      Feb. 25th – Chase Setzer  
Feb. 16th – Wayne Martindale      Feb. 26th – Jason Kelly  
Feb. 17th – Andy Holder      Feb. 28th – Shawn McNeill

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### WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

February 16th Nelson & Kathy Jolly Burke

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### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING/GREETER

Feb. 04th Karen Johnson  
Feb. 11th COMMUNION – Geri Hales  
Feb. 18th Kathy Jolly  
Feb. 25th Buddy McNeill

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EMAIL: [buffalochurch@windstream.net](mailto:buffalochurch@windstream.net)

SEE THE NEWSLETTER IN COLOR AT: [www.buffalopres.org](http://www.buffalopres.org)

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To My Buffalo Church Family,



Thank you so much for the generous Christmas Gift. You are all so good to me. I love each and every one of you!

Pat Kelly  
Organist

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To My Buffalo Church Family,



I want to thank the church for the Christmas Gift. You mean a lot to me - for this is home.

Debbie Thomas

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### VALENTINE'S DAY BANQUET



We hope everyone will attend the Men's Valentine's Day Banquet on Sunday, February 11th, at 6:00 p.m. A delicious

meal will be provided by our men. Fellowship and a good time available to all and all are welcome! The men will arrange transportation for any who desire it, just call the church office.



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**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE**  
**Pocket Presbyterian Church**  
**February 14th**

Refreshments and Fellowship in the Fellowship Hall from 6:15 until 6:45 p.m. At 6:45 p.m. we will head to the sanctuary. **Worship Service will begin at 7:00 p.m.**

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# PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Buffalo Women are looking forward to being treated to a delicious meal and celebration by the Men of the Church. On Sunday, February 11th at 6:00 p.m. we will enjoy our annual Valentine's Day Banquet, in honor of Valentine's Day. I recently read that Valentine's Day originated as a church holiday on February 14th to honor martyrs of the faith – saints whose names were Valentine or Valentinus.

While the meaning and celebrations of Valentine's Day has changed through the years, it remains a day to shower love and happiness on our friends and family.

As we celebrate this joyful occasion with our church family at the Valentine's Day Banquet, let us remember and rejoice in the unconditional and indescribable love God showers on us, not just on Valentine's Day, but every day.

Jackie Frie  
Buffalo Women

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## God's Valentine Gift

God's Valentine gift of love to us  
Was not a bunch of flowers;  
It wasn't candy, or a book  
To while away the hours.



His gift was to become a man,  
So He could freely give  
His sacrificial love for us,  
So you and I could live.



He gave us sweet salvation, and  
Instruction, good and true --  
To love our friends and enemies  
And love our Savior, too.



So as we give our Valentines,  
Let's thank our Lord and King;  
The reason we have love to give  
Is that He gave everything.



~ Joanna Fuchs ~



## GOD'S WINTER WONDERLAND

Across the old red bridge we go  
And onward tracking through the snow  
O'er wintry, winding country lanes,  
Past cottages with frosted panes.

Along the way a deer appears,  
Standing erect, with pointed ears.  
Upon a hill, ice-laden trees  
Lean forward as on bended knees.



A-down the hill the children ride  
On sleighs . . . it's such a joyous sight!  
On country pond the skaters band;  
How great God's Winter wonderland!



~ Loise Pinkerton Fritz ~

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## BIT OF HEAVEN

Listen to the rhythmic sound  
The rain makes falling down,  
Look at the snowflakes dancing  
When there is no one around.  
Watch the different seasons  
As they quietly come and go,  
Each one knows exactly when  
To present their vivid show.  
See the birds who seem to know  
By their hidden clocks within  
Just when to burst into song  
And proclaim that it is Spring.  
Enjoy the laughing children  
And pets who amuse them so,  
Earth is that bit of heaven  
God has given us here below.



~ Eva Marie Ippolito ~

# Church Directory

BUFFALO CHURCH OFFICE.....776-7313

Email: [buffalochurch@windstream.net](mailto:buffalochurch@windstream.net)

SUPPLY PASTOR, Rev. George Walton.....498-1467

GUEST PASTOR, Rev. Gilbert McDowell.....776-2292

SECRETARY, Janet Warner.....353-3568

DISBURSING TREASURERS, Kathy Jolly.....774-1997

Ken Frie.....75-5097

RECEIVING TREASURERS, Nelson Burke.....774-1997

Lee Setzer.....775-7881

CHOIR DIRECTOR, Jim Monson.....774-7263

ORGANIST, Pat Kelly.....258-3908



## THE SESSION

### 2018

J. W. Bailes	Cong. Care & Fellowship	352-2017
Larry Collins	Worship/Christian Ed.	776-5592
Buddy McNeill	Worship/Christian Ed.	776-4844

### 2019

Karen Johnson	Worship/Christian Ed.	770-1709
Kathy Jolly	Administration Committee	774-1997
Lee Setzer	Clerk of Session, Admin. Com.	775-7881
Jean Wilberg	(Assistant Clerk of Session)	718-6009

TRUSTEES, Frances Foushee, Chair.....775-7619

Bobby Johnson.....776-4083

Buddy McNeill.....776-4844

PM PRESIDENT, Lee Setzer.....775-7881

PM TREASURER, J. W. Bailes.....352-2017

PW MODERATOR,

CO-MODERATOR,

PW SECRETARY, Jan Renwick.....776-7914

PW TREASURER, Jean Wilberg.....718-6009

HISTORIAN, Sheila Brewer.....776-8091

MARY LOU CAMPBELL, Marie Macko.....774-1657

SUNSHINE CIRCLE, Anne Collins.....776-5592

FLOWER CHAIR, Geri Hales.....775-3770

BUFFALO WEBSITE.....[www.buffalopres.org](http://www.buffalopres.org)