



## "PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE"

**October 2024**

In last month's newsletter, I began to share insights from my recent time as a student at Union Presbyterian Seminary. I talked about the organization of worship and drew your attention to the "divisions" (or sections) of worship listed in our weekly bulletin (worship guide). Buffalo designates the fourfold pattern as 1) Gathering Around the Word, 2) Proclaiming the Word, 3) Responding to the Word, and 4) Sending the Word.

Let's go back and look at the purpose of worship. Robert Webber says it this way: "we must understand that when we are worshiping, we are not part of the audience. At best, we are stagehands, and it is Jesus who is the primary actor. The Holy Ghost has already written the script, and God is in the audience. We must understand that at best our job is to make sure that Jesus has the right light upon him so that others may see and connect with him." (Preach! pg. 115)

What are some of our worship practices as Presbyterians? Wherever we see the Word of God purely preached and heard, and the sacraments administered according to Christ's institution, there, it is not to be doubted, a church of God exists [cf. Eph 2:20]' (Calvin's Institutes 4.1.9). While our Jewish ancestors worshipped God on the Sabbath (sundown Friday until sundown Saturday) our Christian tradition marks the Sabbath by worshipping God on Sunday, the day

on which Christ was resurrected. The location of a worship service can be held anywhere a governing body determines. It may include a font, a communion table or alter, or a cross – but these things are not absolutely necessary week in and week out for worship. The two things that are absolutely necessary for worship each and every time it occurs. The Bible and the community of faith. It is best if the Lord's Table and the Baptismal Font are present even when the sacraments are not celebrated as these witness to God's tangible, enacted grace in Communion and Baptism.

Still, more to come in the following months; we are just getting started.

### SEE YOU IN CHURCH!

Grace and Peace,  
Eric  
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**Buffalo Church: "A Place For YOU!"**  
*(A place for people who don't feel like they have a place.)*

### PRAISE TEAM

The Praise Team will be hosting a special event for Christmas. Please consider joining us to share the joy of Christ's birth through music. If you are interested in being a member of this group, talk with Debbie Davidson or be on the lookout for upcoming notices about practices.



**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN**

**FALL**

*in love with the Season*

How does one define Fall? The end of the hot Summer months, Rain, Brightly colored leaves falling to the ground. Blue Jays Squawking and the cooler crispier days. The buzz is that Buffalo's Bazaar is upon us the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in October. Always an exhilarating day. The smells of the kitchen spill outside the open doors drawing in eager buyers wanting to be the early bird. They head for Pat Kelly's table in the back for all the canned goods and extra goodies she and Brooks bring every year. Baked goods line the tables that Debbie Thomas and her girls lined with the checkered table cloths. The smell of biscuits and pulled pork sandwiches draw everyone over to the kitchen since they just cannot resist. Its the end of a lazy Summer and the beginning of a busy Fall Season.

We will be welcoming a brand new baby boy into our family. Eric and Debbie are now grandparents to Easton and we are all eager to see this precious new one at Buffalo.

We plan to celebrate 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr Birthdays in October and the upcoming Thank meal the Sunday before Thanksgiving. That carries us into December and the hanging of the greens. The Ladies also sponsor the Salvation Army with a family that needs Christmas with our JOY Program.

Debbie Davidson has spearheaded our Praise and Worship team and has put together our

Christmas Program. We need you to join us in bringing the love of the season into Buffalo in this special way. It will be a treat. Surprises await you.

God inspires us in so many ways. We encourage you to join us on Sundays and feel the love and warmth of the Buffalo Church Family. Buffalo will shine in all her splendor once we put on her beauty for the Christmas Season.

*May the Lord Bless you and keep you safe during this Season and always.*

Peace to you.  
Jan Renwick,  
Buffalo Women Secretary

**Remember with love and prayer:**

Manuel Bailey, Beverly Bayer, Dr. David Ciliberto, Davis Eskridge, Chase Goodwin, Miriam Gunter, Geri Hales, Jimmy Holt, George & Brenda Honeycutt, Danny James, Evelyn Johnson, Tammy Johnson, Mark Lovick, Ingrid Luton, Marie Macko, Rev. Gilbert McDowell, Peggy Oldham, Jeff Renwick, Pat Setzer, Jeanette Siess, Julie Siess, Peggy Sineath, Doug Skillman, Karen Smith, Rev. George Walton, Jean Wilberg, Western NC and all those affected by Hurricane Helene.



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**GIFTS TO THE CHURCH**

*Donations in memory of J. L. Thomas*

- Jan Renwick
- Ken & Jackie Frie
- Lee & Pat Setzer
- Jean Wilberg
- Bob & Mattie Kelly
- Larry & Anne Collins
- Robert Thomas
- Hazel Wicker Family
- Mike & Teresa Thomas
- Gary Potts
- Brooks & Pat Kelly
- Leslie & Doug Skillman



*Donations in memory of JB & Rosa Lee*

- Abernathy
- Pat Johnson

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**WEEKLY OFFERINGS**

- Sept 01, 2024 - \$ 1357
- Sept 8, 2024 - \$ 817
- Sept 15, 2024 - \$ 752
- Sept 22, 2024 - \$ 2392
- Sept 29, 2024- \$ 3374



includes a donation to Presbyterian Disaster Relief

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*Never stop praying for people  
Never stop having a good heart.  
If God places someone on your mind,  
pray for them.  
A prayer can change someone's life.  
Remember that.*

**FLOWERS WILL BE PLACED IN THE SANCTUARY THIS MONTH**



10/06/24- by Brooks & Pat Kelly, J.L. & Debbie Thomas & families in memory of Malcolm & Inez' birthdays & in memory of J. L. Thomas

10/13/24 " " " " "

10/20/24- by Bob & Mattie Kelly in memory of Michelle McDaniels Carver

10/27/24 " " " " "

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**



- 02nd Kenna Carpenter
- 05th Ken Frie
- 11th Ann Christian
- 15th Sam Bradley
- 19th Lisa Cashion
- 21st Roy Cashion



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**WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**



- 17 Doug and Leslie Skillman
- 24 Greg and Wendy Hales
- 26 Eddie and Valerie Godfrey

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God accepted us simply because of our faith in Christ, through whom our sins are forgiven. May he help us to continue to sow seeds of peace to those who are near and far. Amen.