



**April-May, 2024**

Bascom Community Church  
"Reaching People with the Love of Christ"  
Worship on Sunday morning at 10:30  
Adult Sunday School 9:30

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## **"Don't Hurry, Be Happy"**

Many of us remember Bobby McFerrin's hit "Don't Worry, Be Happy" that taught us that "in every life we have some trouble; but when you worry you make it double." While doing a singalong the other day (don't judge me lol), I thought about how hurry allows as many issues into our lives as worry. Despite so many of us being retired, it seems that we are often busier now than when we were held jobs. The philosopher Dallas Willard once called hurry "the great enemy of spiritual life in our day," and urged followers of Jesus to "ruthlessly eliminate hurry from your life."

If we were to ask, what are the greatest challenges to your spiritual life, would you even consider "hurry" to be on the list? Corrie ten Boom once said that "if the devil can't make you sin, he'll make you busy." Her logic is sound: both sin and busyness have the exact same effect - they cut off our connection to God, to other people, and even to our own soul.

Many of us are just too busy to live emotionally healthy and spiritually rich and vibrant lives. Granted, there is a healthy kind of busyness where your life is full with things that matter, not wasted on empty leisure or trivial pursuits. By that definition, Jesus himself was busy. The problem isn't when you have a lot to do; it's when you have too much to do, and the only way to keep the quota up is to hurry. Hurry is incompatible with life in Jesus' kingdom. We simply cannot live with Jesus in his kingdom, and live a life of speed.

Jesus set love as the highest value in his kingdom's economy. When asked what the greatest commandment in all of Scripture was, he responded with "Love the LORD your God with all your heart, soul, and strength," but he refused to stop at one command; he added another, "Love your neighbor as yourself." But love is painfully time consuming. On a recent trip to see my brother and sister, I was listening to Family Talk on Sirius radio (I do not remember which preacher said it) and heard this: "Love is spelled T-I-M-E." Love and hurry are oil and water: they simply do not mix.

Love is the highest value in the kingdom economy, but it's not the only value. The triumvirate of love, joy and peace show up again and again in Jesus' teachings, and the writings of Paul. They are the core reality we aim at in our spiritual journey with Jesus. And joy, like love, is incompatible with hurry. If there's a secret to happiness, it's simple - presence in the moment. The more present we are to the now, the more grateful we are for what is, the more we tap into joy. The more moments we slowly and gratefully turn over to God, the more we tap into his joy.

We now come to the final third of the kingdom triumvirate of love, joy, and peace. It's fairly obvious that peace is incompatible with hurry. If you don't believe me, next time you're running late to "catch" a flight, or ten minutes late for an appointment, or overdue on an assignment, take an interior inventory and see if you feel the deep shalom of God in your soul. Do you sense a grounded, present sense of calm? Or something else? And yet: we continue to cram more and more in to our already overfull lives, forcing us to speed up to a frenetic pace, and rarely slow down long enough to experience God's peace.

In our culture, slow is bad and fast is good. But in the upside-down kingdom, our value system is turned on its head: hurry is of the devil; slow is of Jesus, because Jesus is what love, joy and peace look like in flesh and blood. Jesus' open invite is to a life of rest, not just for our bodies - we can get that from a doctor or a pill - but at a far deeper level, for our souls.

*"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28)*

*God Bless.....Pastor Dean*



Our hearts are saddened to share that our beloved in-church centenarian, Mary Belle Heiserman, passed away on March 26<sup>th</sup> at the age of 101. There is no other way to say it other than she was an amazing woman whose presence here made this world a much better place for 101 years and is now undoubtedly doing the same in heaven. She was a woman of great faith and determination. She meant so much to our church and to those of us at this church, and she will be dearly missed. "Well done, good and faithful servant!" Matthew 25: 23

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### Adult Sunday School

Currently, the Adult Sunday School Class is studying Growing Older and Wiser. The study tells us that wisdom does not automatically come with age. However, we can get wiser as we get older, if we tap into the eternal wisdom of God.

Please join us!!!!



### **” You Will Simply Call Her Mom.....”**

*A baby asked God, “They tell me you are sending me to earth tomorrow, but how am I going to live there being so small and helpless?”*

*“Your angel will be waiting for you and will take care of you.”*

*The child further inquired, “But tell me, here in heaven I don’t have to do anything but sing and smile to be happy.”*

*God said, “Your angel will sing for you and will also smile for you. And you will feel your angel’s love and be very happy.”*

*Again, the child asked, “And how am I going to be able to understand when people talk to me if I don’t know the language?”*

God said, "Your angel will tell you the most beautiful and sweet words you will ever hear, and with much patience and care, your angel will teach you how to speak."

"And what am I going to do when I want to talk to you?"

God said, "Your angel will place your hands together and will teach you how to pray."

"Who will protect me?"

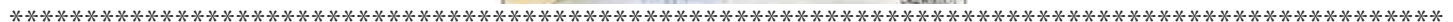
God said, "Your angel will defend you even if it means risking it's life."

"But I will always be sad because I will not see you anymore."

God said, "Your angel will always talk to you about Me and will teach you the way to come back to Me, even though I will always be next to you."

At that moment there was much peace in Heaven, but voices from Earth could be heard and the child hurriedly asked, "God, if I am to leave now, please tell me my angel's name."

You will simply call her, 'Mom.'"



## Super Bowl Subs

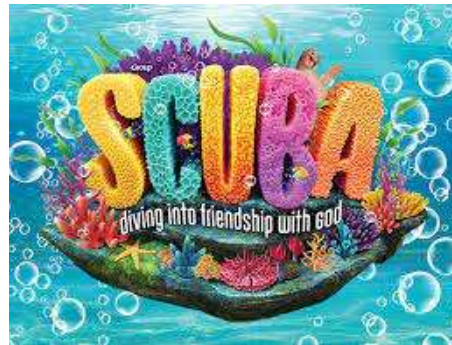
This is a late report, due to the timing of our church newsletter and the annual Super Bowl Sub sale – but thanks again for everyone's help with the sub sale this year. If you happen to stop in Whistle Deli or Rock Run, please tell them thanks for their support of our church. We sold 252 sandwiches and realized a profit of \$1,080.25.



### April-May, 2024 Events

April 1	April Fool's Day	
April 6	Kid's Club	2:00-4:00 p.m.
April 7	Communion Sunday	
April 8	Total Solar Eclipse	
April 9	Admin. Board Meeting	6:00 p.m.
April 13	Men's Breakfast at Paulette's	9:00 a.m.
April 14	Church meeting after worship regarding denomination choice & subsequent church vote	
April 15	Last Day to turn in your taxes	
April 26-27	Garage Sales Food Lunch Stand fundraiser	9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
May 4	Men's breakfast TBA	9:00 a.m.
May 4	Kids Club	2:00-4:00 p.m.
May 5	Communion Sunday	
May 12	Mother's Day	
May 26	Graduation Sunday	
May 27	Memorial Day	

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Bascom Ecumenical Vacation Bible School is coming! Don't forget to mark it on your calendars! This year's dates are June 10<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 a.m.-Noon. 2024 theme is "SCUBA: Diving Into Friendship with God." It's an amazing undersea adventure where kids will experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God. Throughout the week, kids will be immersed in the Word and discover what living water is really all about! Pre-registration for kids and volunteers will be available sometime in the coming weeks online.

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Following are the Scriptures that go along with the pastor's sermons for the months of April-May, 2024:

<b>Monday</b> <b>1 Apr 2024</b> EASTER Acts 4:32-35 Psalm 133 1 John 1:1-2:2 John 20:19-31	<b>Tuesday</b> <b>2 Apr 2024</b> EASTER Acts 4:32-37 <i>(Psalm 32)</i>	<b>Wednesday</b> <b>3 Apr 2024</b> EASTER Psalm 133 <i>(Psalm 33)</i>	<b>Thursday</b> <b>4 Apr 2024</b> EASTER 1 John 1 & 2	<b>Friday</b> <b>5 Apr 2024</b> EASTER John 20:19-31 <i>(Psalm 34)</i>	<b>Saturday</b> <b>6 Apr 2024</b> EASTER Acts 4:32-35 Psalm 133 1 John 1:1-2:2 John 20:19-31	<b>Sunday</b> <b>7 Apr 2024</b> B 2 EASTER Acts 4:32-35 Psalm 133 1 John 1:1-2:2 John 20:19-31
<b>Monday</b> <b>8 Apr 2024</b> EASTER Acts 3:12-19 Psalm 4 1 John 3:1-7 Luke 24:36-48	<b>Tuesday</b> <b>9 Apr 2024</b> EASTER Acts 3:11-26 <i>(Psalm 35)</i>	<b>Wednesday</b> <b>10 Apr 2024</b> EASTER Psalm 4 <i>(Psalm 36)</i>	<b>Thursday</b> <b>11 Apr 2024</b> EASTER 1 John 3:1-10 John 5	<b>Friday</b> <b>12 Apr 2024</b> EASTER Luke 24:36-49 John 6	<b>Saturday</b> <b>13 Apr 2024</b> EASTER Acts 3:12-19 Psalm 4 1 John 3:1-7 Luke 24:36-48	<b>Sunday</b> <b>14 Apr 2024</b> B 3 EASTER Acts 3:12-19 Psalm 4 1 John 3:1-7 Luke 24:36b-48
<b>Monday</b> <b>15 Apr 2024</b> EASTER Acts 4:5-12 Psalm 23 1 John 3:16-24 John 10:11-18	<b>Tuesday</b> <b>16 Apr 2024</b> EASTER Acts 4:1-21 John 7	<b>Wednesday</b> <b>17 Apr 2024</b> EASTER Psalm 23 John 8	<b>Thursday</b> <b>18 Apr 2024</b> EASTER 1 John 3:11-24 John 9	<b>Friday</b> <b>19 Apr 2024</b> EASTER John 10 & 11	<b>Saturday</b> <b>20 Apr 2024</b> EASTER Acts 4:5-12 Psalm 23 1 John 3:16-24 John 10:11-18	<b>Sunday</b> <b>21 Apr 2024</b> B 4 EASTER Acts 4:5-12 Psalm 23 1 John 3:16-24 John 10:11-18
<b>Monday</b> <b>22 Apr 2024</b> EASTER Acts 8:26-40 Psalm 22:25-31 1 John 4:7-21 John 15:1-8	<b>Tuesday</b> <b>23 Apr 2024</b> EASTER Acts 8:26-40 John 12	<b>Wednesday</b> <b>24 Apr 2024</b> EASTER Psalm 22 John 13	<b>Thursday</b> <b>25 Apr 2024</b> EASTER 1 John 4 John 14	<b>Friday</b> <b>26 Apr 2024</b> EASTER John 15:1-8 <i>(Psalm 37)</i>	<b>Saturday</b> <b>27 Apr 2024</b> EASTER Acts 8:26-40 Psalm 22:25-31 1 John 4:7-21 John 15:1-8	<b>Sunday</b> <b>28 Apr 2024</b> B 5 EASTER Acts 8:26-40 Psalm 22:25-31 1 John 4:7-21 John 15:1-8
<b>Monday</b> <b>29 Apr 2024</b> EASTER Acts 10:44-48 Psalm 98 1 John 5:1-6 John 15:9-17	<b>Tuesday</b> <b>30 Apr 2024</b> EASTER Acts 10:23-48 <i>(Psalm 38)</i>	<b>Wednesday</b> <b>1 May 2024</b> EASTER Psalm 98 <i>(Psalm 39)</i>	<b>Thursday</b> <b>2 May 2024</b> EASTER 1 John 5:1-8 <i>(Psalm 40)</i>	<b>Friday</b> <b>3 May 2024</b> EASTER John 15:9-16:33	<b>Saturday</b> <b>4 May 2024</b> EASTER Acts 10:44-48 Psalm 98 1 John 5:1-6 John 15:9-17	<b>Sunday</b> <b>5 May 2024</b> B 6 EASTER Acts 10:44-48 Psalm 98 1 John 5:1-6 John 15:9-17
<b>Monday</b> <b>6 May 2024</b> EASTER Psalm 1 1 John 5:9-13 John 17:6-19 Acts 1:1-26 Psalm 47 Psalm 93 Ephesians 1:15-23 Luke 24:44-53	<b>Tuesday</b> <b>7 May 2024</b> EASTER Psalm 47 Psalm 93	<b>Wednesday</b> <b>8 May 2024</b> EASTER Ephesians 1:15-23 Luke 24:36-53	<b>Thursday</b> <b>9 May 2024</b> B ASCENSION Acts 1:1-11 <i>Either Psalm 47            or Psalm 93</i> Ephesians 1:15-23 Luke 24:44-53	<b>Friday</b> <b>10 May 2024</b> EASTER Acts 1:1-26 Psalm 1	<b>Saturday</b> <b>11 May 2024</b> EASTER 1 John 5:9-21 John 17	<b>Sunday</b> <b>12 May 2024</b> B 7 EASTER Acts 1:15-17,21-26 Psalm 1 1 John 5:9-13 John 17:6-19 <i>(or ASCENSION)</i>
<b>Monday</b> <b>13 May 2024</b> EASTER Acts 2:1-21 Ezekiel 37:1-14 Psalm 104:24-35 Romans 8:22-27 John 15:26-27; 16:4-15	<b>Tuesday</b> <b>14 May 2024</b> EASTER Acts 2:1-41 <i>(Psalm 41)</i>	<b>Wednesday</b> <b>15 May 2024</b> EASTER Ezekiel 37:1-14 <i>(Psalm 42)</i>	<b>Thursday</b> <b>16 May 2024</b> EASTER Psalm 104 <i>(Psalm 43)</i>	<b>Friday</b> <b>17 May 2024</b> EASTER Romans 8:18-27 <i>(Psalm 44)</i>	<b>Saturday</b> <b>18 May 2024</b> EASTER John 15:18-16:16	<b>Sunday</b> <b>19 May 2024</b> B PENTECOST { Acts 2:1-21 Psalm 104:24-34,35b Romans 8:22-27 <i>or</i> Ezekiel 37:1-14 Psalm 104:24-34,35b Acts 2:1-21 } John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

<i>Monday</i> <b>20 May 2024</b> ORDINARY Isaiah 6:1-8 Psalm 29 Romans 8:12-17 John 3:1-17	<i>Tuesday</i> <b>21 May 2024</b> ORDINARY Isaiah 6:1-13 2 Corinthians 1	<i>Wednesday</i> <b>22 May 2024</b> ORDINARY Psalm 29 2 Corinthians 2	<i>Thursday</i> <b>23 May 2024</b> ORDINARY Romans 8:1-17 1 Samuel 1	<i>Friday</i> <b>24 May 2024</b> ORDINARY John 3:1-21 1 Samuel 2	<i>Saturday</i> <b>25 May 2024</b> ORDINARY Isaiah 6:1-8 Psalm 29 Romans 8:12-17 John 3:1-17	<i>Sunday</i> <b>26 May 2024</b> B TRINITY Isaiah 6:1-8 Psalm 29 Romans 8:12-17 John 3:1-17 <i>(PM, see next Sunday)</i>
<i>Monday</i> <b>27 May 2024</b> ORDINARY 1 Samuel 3 2 Corinthians 3	<i>Tuesday</i> <b>28 May 2024</b> ORDINARY Psalm 139 1 Samuel 4	<i>Wednesday</i> <b>29 May 2024</b> ORDINARY Deuteronomy 5 1 Samuel 5	<i>Thursday</i> <b>30 May 2024</b> ORDINARY Psalm 81 1 Samuel 6	<i>Friday</i> <b>31 May 2024</b> ORDINARY 2 Corinthians 4:1-12 1 Samuel 7		



## February, 2024 Administrative Board Meeting Minutes

February 13, 2024 6:00 p.m.  
 Minutes taken by Lori Clay

Pastor Dean opened with prayer. Regarding the church building, there is possible leakage in Narthex pipe. Chuck Popenberg is getting with Bishop Plumbing about scheduling a call. We haven't heard back from them yet. Chuck Popenberg and Pastor Dean have been researching the water testing process and will be taking the first test sample next week. We are required to do the water testing because we have at least 60 times when we have 25 or more people here with access to the water. It costs \$50.00 each time, and they require pre-payment.

Nothing to report about the parsonage other than Danene and Pastor are grateful for such a great home.

Regarding disaffiliation, Attorney David Bacon received the completed and notarized transfer of deed paperwork on 1/26/24. Carolyn Thallman is checking if it has been filed (note: online check of Seneca County Auditor shows still under Bascom United Methodist Church). The attorney stated it was sent one week ago to get recorded.

Tonight, we will be discussing the pros and cons of remaining independent or joining the Global Methodist Church. Our goal is to reach a consensus agreement and scheduling a presentation to the church for a final vote. Included in tonight's process is a motion and vote on said recommendation as well as who has the right to vote.

If the decision of the Board is to remain independent and the church vote confirms the decision, we will need a Steering Committee to develop our bylaws.

Discussion ensued regarding the facts surrounding each choice. Global Methodist, if they stay with what their current belief is, will not do LGBTQ weddings and no gay clergy allowed unless not in an active, sexual relationship. Independent, we would make our own decision on that subject when making up our church bylaws.

Also, process for selection of what the pastor believes needs to be in the bylaws.

The Board will recommend their decision, and then the church vote would be the deciding factor.

Ed Smith made a motion for the Board to take a vote to recommend staying independent. Deb Lutz seconded the motion, and all were in favor. It was a unanimous decision.

The presentation will be made at worship (abbreviated service) on April 14<sup>th</sup>. Vote will be taken that day. Paperwork will be made available on Easter Sunday. Board members' names will be included. It will be made clear why we are doing this. Karen Popenberg may give the presentation. Anyone that attends can vote. April 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. is next board meeting. Bylaws committee volunteers will be addressed later.

Regarding Outreach, Right Now Media is to be available first week of March. Pastor Dean needs more emails through to get to the 25 minimum.

Our Kid's Club is getting an average of 6 attendees, plus we will be taking flyers to Hopewell Loudon School to make available for students. Pastor Amy Kinney at St. John's UCC has a person leading a teenage youth group and has committed to actively promoting our attempt to share the good news of Jesus Christ with those younger.

Last meeting's minutes were accepted as read. Helen Emerine voted to accept them, Carolyn Thallman seconded the motion, all were in favor. The motion carried. The Board read the minutes prior to the meeting.

It was mentioned a directory of addresses would be helpful for Outreach purposes. It was Pastor Dean's and Lori's understanding that Nick Reinhard and Betty Park were working on this. We will check where they are with this.

There has been some concern that the library door is open and it appears messy. We will try to straighten it up. Helen Emerine will also contact Ray Lopez about the drum set.

We are attempting to get the service time corrected in the newspaper as we are aware it is showing incorrect.

Lori Clay gave the treasurer's report and current checkbook balance of \$14,153.53. Ed Smith motioned to approve the report, Carolyn Thallman seconded the motion, all were in favor and the motion carried. She also shared Ken Thallman's memorial total was \$3587.00. Sub sale profit was \$1080.25.

Do we want to do something for the eclipse? Should we close off the parking lot so campers and spectators don't park there as other churches have reported they couldn't access their parking lot for Sunday worship when this has occurred in other areas? Discussion ensued. It was decided we would not have an event, and Pastor Dean will check with other churches to see what they are doing.

We will need lawn mowing volunteers soon. We really need more help that we had last year. Sign-up will be posted.

Lori Clay asked what amount the Board wanted her to give to the VBS Ecumenical fund for our annual donation, as she did not give one yet and needs to cut a check to the Fund for the returned items from last year's VBS. In the past, we have given \$800. The board discussed and Carol Reisner made a motion to donate \$400 from our church, Helen Emerine seconded the motion, and all were in favor. The motion carried.

We will once again host the garage sale luncheon. Marcia Abbott volunteered to lead it with Danene's help but expressed concern about future years due to age. Lori Clay volunteered to lead it whenever Marcia no longer feels comfortable doing it.

Thanks was expressed to Marcia Abbott, Carolyn Thallman and Karen Popenberg for joining the Board/attending the meeting.

Next meeting is April 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

