



Bath Christian Church, Inc.
July 2026 Newsletter



Dear Church Family,

As I think about the month ahead, I'm reminded of how quickly the seasons of life seem to pass. Summer is here, and with it comes vacations, family gatherings, cookouts, and longer days. I hope you take time to enjoy these blessings, but I also hope you'll make room each day to spend a few quiet moments with the One who makes every season meaningful.

One of my greatest joys is watching our church family care for one another. Whether it's a phone call, a prayer, a meal, or simply sitting beside someone who needs encouragement, you continue to be the hands and feet of Christ. Thank you for loving each other so well.

As we celebrate Independence Day, I'm grateful for the freedoms we enjoy as Americans, but I'm even more thankful for the freedom we have in Jesus Christ. No matter what challenges we face, our hope remains secure because He is faithful.

If you've been away, we look forward to seeing you again soon. If you've been carrying a heavy burden, know that you're not alone. God walks beside us every step of the journey, and your church family is here to walk with you as well.

Thank you for allowing me the privilege of serving as your pastor. It is an honor to worship, pray, laugh, and grow in faith alongside each of you. My prayer is that this July brings you rest, renewed strength, and a deeper awareness of God's presence in your life.

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Harry & Jennifer

July 2026

BCC

****SERVING SCHEDULE JULY & AUGUST ON BACK PAGE**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 No CMF July/Aug	2 No Scotty's Men's Bfast	3	4 Bday Alex Woolard
5 No Board Meeting YM J.Alligood Flowers: C. Alligood	6	7 6:00 PM AA 7:00PM Dockside	8 Bday Carolyn Fisher	9 8 AM Scotty's Men's Bfast	10	11
12 YM Rachel Jordan Flowers: Jean Winstead	13	14 6:00 PM AA 7PM Dockside Devotions	15	16 Bday Diane Adams & Bday Nancy Bunch 8AM Mens Bfast	17	18
19 Bday Helen Brooks & Bday John Everett,Jr. YM Heath Flowers N.Bunch	20	21 2 PM Movie 6PM AA 7PM Dockside Devotion	22 6:00 Family Night Team 2 No CWF July	23 8 AM Scotty's Men's Bfast	24 Bday Rachel Jordan	25
26 YM Wingate Flowers: E.Robbins	27	28 6PM AA 7PM Dockside	29	30 8 AM Scotty's Men's Bfast	31	

SERVING SCHEDULE

JULY

Becky Tuten will not be serving in July & August

Jul 5 – Elders: Starley Stell, Leon Wingate | Deacons: Claudia Alligood, Jane Alligood, Louis Gurganus, Billy Hill

Jul 12 – Elders: Gerald Morris, Gerald Morris | Deacons: Jane Alligood, Billy Hill, Barry Norman, Mark Aydlott

Jul 19 – Elders: Howard Robertson, Leon Wingate | Deacons: Claudia Alligood, Louis Gurganus, Billy Hill, Barry Norman

Jul 26 – Elders: Starley Stell, Gerald Morris | Deacons: Claudia Alligood, Jane Alligood, Barry Norman, Mark Aydlott

AUGUST

Aug 2– Elders: Howard Robertson , Leon Wingate | Deacons: Claudia Alligood, Jane Alligood, Louis Gurganus, Billy Hill

Aug 9 – Elders: Starley Stell, Gerald Morris | Deacons: Jane Alligood, Louis Gurganus, Billy Hill, Mark Aydlott

Aug 16– Elders: Howard Robertson, Leon Wingate : Deacons: Claudia Alligood, Louis Gurganus, Billy Hill, Barry Norman

Aug 23 – Elders: Leon Wingate, Starley Stell | Deacons: Claudia Alligood, Jane Alligood, Barry Norman, Mark Aydlott

Aug 30 –Howard Robertson, Gerald Morris : Deacons: C. Alligood, J. Alligood, Gurganus, Hill



Join us for Sunday School at BCC

Sunday School Message for July

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God” (Matthew 5:8). God has provided ways for us to live purely; we are unable to live a single holy moment without the Lord’s guidance and power. ***Proverbs 20:9 “Who can say, ‘I have cleansed my heart, I am pure from my sin’?”*** The obvious answer is, “No one.” Cleansing begins with recognition of weakness, which in turn reaches out for the strength of God.

We can begin to pursue the right ways to develop holiness in our lives by staying in God’s Word. It is impossible to stay in *God’s will apart from His Word*. Jesus said, ***John 15:3, “You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you”***.

Everyone is invited to join us for Sunday School every Sunday morning at 9:00 in the Fellowship Hall where we get together to worship God by feeding on His infallible Word. Each week, we examine Scripture to illuminate the majestic truth presented in the Word of God.

Topics of Study for July:

July 5: The Believing Centurion; Matthew 8:5-13

July 12: Simon Peter: the Restored Disciple; Mark 8:27-29;
Luke 22:31-34; John 18:25-27; John 21:15-17

July 19: Zacchaeus, the Repentant Tax Collector; Luke 19:1-10

July 26: Mary, the Loyal Mother; Luke 2:15-19; John 2:1-5;
John 19:25-27



A Burst of Hope on the Fourth of July

I could see the excitement on my 7-year-old's face in the rearview mirror. We were driving home from church, and our pastor had talked about the town's Fourth of July celebration, next week at the ball field. The church would be sponsoring a hot dog stand, a moon bounce and face painting. There'd also be a baseball game. "It'll be awesome, Dad," Angus said. "Will you go with us this year? We can watch the fireworks!" I had to suppress a shudder. My wife, April, shot me a worried look. "Angus," she said, "remember, Daddy needs to leave before the fireworks." Angus's face fell. "Oh yeah." It might seem strange that a thing that brings so much joy to a 7-year-old would strike fear into the heart of a grown man—especially an ex-soldier. But I hadn't attended a Fourth of July celebration in six years. Not after what happened my first Independence Day back from active duty in Iraq. We were living in El Paso at the time, in army housing at Ft. Bliss. April and I brought baby Angus with us to a friend's barbecue. We stood in the backyard chatting while Angus napped in the house. Then I heard it. *Pop! Pop! Pop! Pop!* Small ammunition—machine-gun fire. "Incoming!" I yelled, and dove to the ground. I lay on my stomach, my hands covering my head, my heart pounding as I waited for the all clear. "Patrick, man, you all right?" I looked up to see my friend and April crouched beside me. What were they doing there?

Then I started to get my bearings back. I wasn't with my battalion in Iraq. I was home. Across the street I could see the neighbors, lighting strings of firecrackers. Not gunfire. Just firecrackers. I stood up, as embarrassed as I'd ever been. "Sorry," I muttered. I knew I wasn't in a combat zone, but my pulse raced like I was. My stomach was in knots, every hair on the back of my neck stood on end. Everyone was sympathetic, but I couldn't enjoy the rest of the party. I kept feeling that something or someone was waiting to attack from out of nowhere.

When the city fireworks started, I retreated inside the house and April followed, missing the show on my account. No more fireworks for me. Never again. I pulled the car into our driveway, my son's request hanging in the air. All these years later I still couldn't face the Fourth. I had my own tradition—shutting myself in my bedroom, turning down the lights, cranking up the volume on the TV and playing College Football on PlayStation till the booming and crackling was over. We went inside. Angus's disappointment really got to me. I revered my father—he was an Army veteran, the main reason I enlisted. My son looked up to me the same way, and now he was old enough to draw his own conclusions about why I hid out every Fourth. Would he learn that the best way to deal with fear is to shrink from it? *Lord, is that what I'm teaching him?* I'd been through a lot of changes in the past year. Last summer, I'd lost my job at an oil company. Our family's finances got stretched to the limit. It took me a few months to find another job, driving a truck for a soft drink company—at a third of my former salary. I was grateful, but for a while we weren't sure how we could afford to buy Angus new shoes for the upcoming school year. Then we heard about a community outreach sponsored by a church. They were buying shoes for kids. We went to the shoe store, and Angus picked out a pair he liked. I felt a little ashamed accepting charity, but the minister was friendly. "I can't thank you enough," I said when he paid at the register. The next morning was a Sunday and I was planning to sleep in, as usual. But at 7 a.m. Angus marched into our room. "We need to go to church," he said, "to thank them for the shoes." "We already thanked the minister," I said.

"Remember?" Angus wouldn't budge. "The people at the church gave their money to pay for the shoes. They're the ones I want to thank." That Sunday service was the first I'd been to in a long while. Everyone was welcoming. What the pastor said really moved me. "We often feel alone with the challenges we face," he said, "but God is always with you." My eyes filled with tears. Yes, my family faced challenges, but we weren't alone. I stood up, walked forward and accepted God into my life. April, Angus and I became regulars. The youth pastor talked me into helping with the youth group. April volunteered for community outreach projects, like the shoe drive. Getting to know God had enriched my life. Could he help me overcome something that felt so deep and so impossible to conquer? All day I couldn't forget that disappointed look on Angus's face. I wanted to see him excited! After we put him to bed that night, I told April what was on my mind. I said, "for Angus."

I just don't know if I can." "I believe you can this year," April said. "You're different now. I've seen it." At our church's parenting class that week, I told everyone about the fireworks, about Iraq, about my terror. About how sometimes, wars are never over. They gathered close to me. April put me on the prayer chain and posted about my struggle on the church's Face-book page. I was stunned by the messages I received. "We're all praying for you." "You are loved and being looked after." "May God bless you and your family." It was like having a whole new band of brothers I could count on. With their encouragement, I signed up to take a shift at the hot dog stand. I called my dad, knowing he'd have good advice. "Position yourself so you can see the fireworks being lit," he told me. "That way, you won't be caught off guard. And, son, most important... "Yes, Dad?" "Surround yourself with people you know and trust." Finally it was the Fourth of July. On the drive to the baseball field, Angus couldn't sit still in the backseat, pressing his face against the window. The field came into view, and then the parking lot, jammed with tents and booths. We pulled in. Some families were already spreading blankets out on the grass, saving the best spots for the fireworks. Angus made a beeline for the moon bounce. I headed to the hot dog stand to hand out franks. Then April, Angus and I sat in the stands and watched the ball game—our boys from Liberal versus archrival Dodge City. Liberal beat them by two runs! I cheered as wildly as Angus. At dusk, I got antsy. Band music blared. Last year I would have hurried home to that dark room and those video games. April took my hand and held it tight. We watched the sunset. I remembered what my dad said. Where were the fireworks being lit? Would I be able to get a view? "We've got your back, Patrick," I heard someone say, and turned to see two of our friends from church. Another couple we knew was next to them. "We're praying for you," they said. I noticed a lot of our church friends gathering around. I thought about the prayer chains, the Face-book messages. So many people asking God to watch over me. Of all those I could surround myself with, was there anyone more powerful than God? Or anything weaker than my fear? The pyrotechnics team took their place in the outfield. I hoisted Angus onto the dugout and stood beside him. The team lit the fuses. *Lord, I know you're here and you'll be with me.* The first firework whistled into the air and popped. I took a deep breath, and kept watching. Then came another explosion and splash of color. Silver streaked the sky, pom-poms of red, white and blue. "Look, Dad!" Angus shouted, pointing skyward, his eyes lighting up. I wrapped my arms around him. "I'm looking," I whispered, gazing high into the Technicolor sky, celebrating, for the first time in years, my Independence Day. It was beautiful.



Christian Men's Fellowship

CMF met June 3, 2026 with 14 members attending.

Present were L. Wingate, R. Winstead, G. Heath, H. Flowers, H. Smith, L. Gurganus,

John P., B. Hill, C. Dupree, R. Smith, J. Hill, M. Alligood, G. Morris and L. Schmitt.

Leon called the meeting to order and Harry offered prayer for the meal. The meal was prepared and served by John P., R. Smith and C. Dupree and was quite enjoyable.

The devotion by John P. was from PSA 121:3, He who keeps you will not slumber. Wear God's shoes. He will provide the necessary support. We need peace, God's peace and we must cling to Christ.

Business Meeting

Minutes of the last meeting read and approved.

Finance report given and approved.

No meetings July and August.

Cooks for September are G. Heath, R. Winstead and G. Morris.

Prayer concerns discussed and G. Morris closed the meeting with prayer

**"When Men gather with purpose,
pray with conviction, and serve with
humility, God does extraordinary
things."**



Christian Women's Fellowship

No Meeting in July

Christian Men's Fellowship

No Meetings in July & August



Family Night

July 22

6:00 PM

Team 2



BINGO

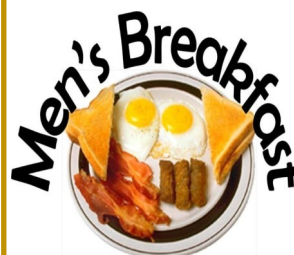
No Bingo June, July and August

See You in September!



Movie July 21 2:00

***Reminder! Items for
Eagles Wings &
Purpose of God***



Every Wednesday

8:00 AM

No breakfast July 2

Bath Christian Church Board Meeting

May 3, 2026

Starley Stell called the meeting to order, and Beau Norman gave the opening prayer.

The minutes were reviewed and approved for the newsletter (motion, Leon Wingate; second, Beau Norman).

The financial report was given by Jerry Walton. We are operating in the black, attendance is up, and he shared the current balance. Jerry asked about converting funds to a CD; he will have a CD created. The report was approved (motion, Howard Robertson; second, Mark Aydlett).

Old Business

501(c)(3) – There is nothing new to report concerning the 501(c)(3) status.

Futsal Table – The futsal table has been moved.

Electronics – Gerald Heath has sold everything (the leftover electronics) except a camera.

WDN – The Washington Daily News has successfully corrected the name of our denomination in the paper's listing.

Water Cooler – The water cooler has been moved from the Fellowship Hall.

Youth – Anyone who would like to assist with lunches for the youth, see Brenda Godley, the coordinator.

New Business

AED – Rachel Jordan will train members on the use of the AED at a family night. We have two units. The new unit will be placed near the sanctuary as per a suggestion from Fred Hill and Billy Hill. Billy moved that we purchase the box and brackets; Leon Wingate seconded. It will be placed in the overflow room near the piano. Billy Hill will take care of mounting it.

Israel Relief – Howard Robertson motioned and Becky Tuten seconded that we match our previous donation. The motion passed.

Board Minutes May 3 –continued

Letters have been received from Salvation Army and Samaritan's Purse concerning ongoing financial needs. The group decided to hold off on donations until a specific need arises.

Minister – There was no minister's report.

5th Sunday – Robert Payne will deliver our musical message on the 5th Sunday in May.

There being no other business, Billy Hill dismissed the group with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Claudia Alligood

Christian Women's Fellowship

Bath Christian Church CWF met June 24 with the following ladies present:

Claudia Alligood, Alice Wingate, Darlene Ormond, Debbie Smith, Nancy Robertson, Jane Alligood, Polly Gurganus, Gale Walton, Mary Lynn Edwards, Rachel Jordan, Barbara Morris, and Nancy Hill.

Claudia welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. She shared that the recent rains have been so helpful and such a blessing to many. Nancy H gave the devotion. She focused on sandcastles and mazes on the beach, noting that each one shows us a direction in life. The devotion she shared noted that keeping life simple is a choice we make, just like making a simple sandcastle with water, sand, and a bucket. No unnecessary or fancy tools are required. Keep life simple and avoid the unnecessary.

Prayer concerns were shared and Barbara prayed for them and the offering.

Minutes of the April meeting were read and approved. Gale gave the treasurer's report for May and June. The only expense was the celebration of women banquet.

Monetary biannual donations to community outreach items in the budget will be mailed in July.

Business:

1. Celebration of women : The banquet was well attended, enjoyable, and the committee worked well together.

2. Bazaar: Claudia asked anyone (all ladies of the church) who had jobs at the bazaar/yard sale in the past to please let her know if you are willing to continue with that job for this year's bazaar.

3. Nominating committee: Debbie reported that all the current officers have agreed to continue to serve if the group chooses. Jane moved to accept Debbie's recommendation and Mary Lynn seconded. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

There was follow-up discussion about a community need which will be addressed before our next meeting.

As a follow-up to her devotion at family night, Claudia's question of the night was "what is one tremendous blessing in our life that stands out above all others?" Many blessings were shared among the group. We adjourned with the CWF benediction.

THERE IS NO CWF MEETING IN JULY.

Nancy Hill, reporter

7 Fun Facts You Didn't Know About the 4th of July

Here are seven surprising tidbits about America's Independence Day that most people don't know:

1. Independence Day Wasn't Always July 4

The Continental Congress voted for independence on July 2, 1776, two days before the date we celebrate. The Declaration of Independence was adopted on July 4, which is why that date became the official anniversary

2. Only Two Signed on July 4, 1776

On the 4th, only John Hancock and Charles Thomson signed the Declaration. The rest signed about a month later on August 2, 1776

3. John Adams Predicted July 2 Would Be the Big Day

Adams, a key Founding Father, wrote to his wife Abigail in July 1776 that July 2 would be "the most memorable Epocha" and would be celebrated as the great anniversary festival

4. Early Celebrations Were Small and Local

The first Independence Day in 1777 in Philadelphia featured a 13-gun salute and fireworks, but it was modest compared to today's parades and fireworks

5. The Liberty Bell Didn't Ring on July 4, 1776

The famous story that the Liberty Bell rang to announce independence is a myth — it was cracked and couldn't be rung at the time

6. Three Founding Fathers Died on July 4

John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, and James Monroe all died on the 4th of July — Adams and Jefferson, in fact, passed away within hours of each other in 1826, exactly 50 years after the Declaration's adoption

7. Benjamin Franklin Wanted the Turkey as the National Bird

During debates over national symbols, Franklin argued the bald eagle was "a bird of bad moral character" and preferred the turkey



Please Pray for Our Church

Church Family Prayer Concerns:

Michael Alligood, Jamie Barnhill (*Shoulder Surgery July 6*), Cam Brooks, Dana Brooks, Connie Tee (*Arm Surgery July 1*) & unspoken requests.

Friends & Family Prayer Concerns

Gail Alligood
Dempsey Ange
Dianne Ashby
Dean Baker
George B. Bowen

Halston Boyd
(Sandra
Dupree's Brother)
Maddie Canady
Lisa Clarke (Trevor
Crawford's Daughter)
Brandi Cooke-
Robbins
Michael Cutler
Glenda Douglass
Mike Godley

Linwood Heath
Molly Hopkins
Sue Horton
Joann Isbell
Gary Jackson
Kevin Jordan
Ann Jones
Tammy Godley Kinsey
Donnell McLawhorne
Linda Minnick
April Mizell
Britt Mooring (Jerry & Gale Walton's
Grandson)
Sherry Latham Neal

Kathy Siemon

Leigh Shanks
Kristen Skalak
Gwen & Harry Slade
Mike Slade
Paige Stafford
US Military & Government

& Unspoken Requests

The Families of: *Wade Allen, James Best, Athalia Cooper, Wilbert Garnett, Sr., Sharon Housley, Arlene Johnson, Melesa Knight, Morris Knight, Dwayne Lanier, Deloris Latham, Sally McGahey, James Moore, Jo Lou Pate (Pastor Harry's Aunt) Florence Sondys, Mary Waters, Richard Woolard*

Military:

Chase Brooks, Will Cutler, Hunter Williams, Ryan Cornelius

In Nursing Homes: John Everett, Bobbie Jean Hobgood, Clarence Cook, Betty Gurganus

Ridgewood Nursing Home

1624 Highland Dr.

Washington, NC 27889

-Glenda Boyd Room 312 Sandra Dupree Sister-in-law

-Nelda Ormond Room 202

-Cam Brooks Room 100

Brookdale Nursing

Carolyn Fisher Mother of Lesley Woolard

Rm 303 2715 Dickinson Ave.

Greenville, NC 27834

Sunrise of Cary

Carol Richardson

1206 W. Chatham Street, Room 105, Cary, NC 27513