

**Bath
Christian
Church,
Inc.
September 2026
Newsletter**





Pastor

Harry's

Thoughts

September 2026

The Courage to Be Teachable

September has always had a certain feel to it. Children head back to school, teachers return to their classrooms, backpacks and notebooks come out again, and families begin settling into a new routine. Even if it has been a long time since most of us sat behind a school desk, there is something about this month that still brings learning to mind. Maybe that makes September a good time for the rest of us to ask a question we probably do not ask ourselves very often: **Am I still teachable?**

When we are young, learning is simply part of life. We ask questions, make mistakes, change our minds, and slowly discover that some of the things we were once certain about were not quite right after all. As the years go by, though, experience gives us confidence. We begin to recognize patterns, we learn what works and what does not, we form convictions, and we gain wisdom that can only come through living. There is nothing wrong with that. In fact, much of it is a gift. The danger comes when experience quietly hardens into certainty, and we begin to assume there is not much left for anyone to teach us.

That is why remaining teachable takes a certain kind of courage. It means being willing to look at something again, even when we have held the same opinion for years. It means listening carefully when someone younger than us sees something we may have missed. It means opening Scripture with enough humility to let the Word of God challenge not only what other people believe, but what we believe too. And sometimes it means being comfortable enough with ourselves to simply say, **"I don't know."**

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Proverbs 9:9 says, **“Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser.”** I have always liked the way that verse turns our usual idea of wisdom around. We tend to think wisdom means finally reaching the place where we have most things figured out, but Scripture seems to suggest that one of the clearest marks of wisdom is still being able to receive instruction. A wise person does not know everything. A wise person simply understands that there is always more to learn. There is a beautiful example of that in Acts 18 with a man named Apollos. Scripture describes him as eloquent, knowledgeable, and “mighty in the scriptures.” He was already teaching others and speaking boldly about the things of God, so this was not a man who lacked ability or understanding. Still, there were things he did not yet fully know.

When Aquila and Priscilla heard him speaking in the synagogue, they recognized that his understanding needed to be expanded, so Acts 18:26 says they took him aside and **“expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly.”** What stands out to me in that story is not simply that they taught him, but that Apollos was willing to listen. He could have been embarrassed. He could have been defensive. He could have decided that, because he was already gifted and respected, there was nothing this couple could add. Instead, he allowed himself to be taught, and Scripture goes on to show that he became an even greater help to the believers afterward. There is something important in that for all of us. Being teachable does not diminish us; it deepens us.

The same thing happens in our walk with God. After years in church, familiar passages can almost become part of the furniture of our faith. We have heard the stories, listened to sermons, attended Sunday School classes, read devotionals, and walked through many of the same Scriptures again and again. Yet every so often, a passage we thought we knew suddenly meets us in a completely different way. A verse that meant one thing to us at thirty can speak with much greater depth at sixty because life has changed us. The words are the same, but we are not. That is one of the beautiful things about Scripture and about walking with God. There is always more depth, more truth, more correction, more comfort, and more wisdom than we saw the first time. We never really outgrow the need to listen.

David understood that. In Psalm 25:4–5 he prayed, **“Shew me thy ways, O LORD; teach me thy paths. Lead me in thy truth, and teach me.”** By the time David could pray words like that, he had lived through victories and failures, courage and fear, success and regret. He had experienced more than most people ever would, yet his posture before God was still, **“Teach me.”**

Maybe that is a prayer worth carrying into September.

The very word **disciple** carries the idea of being a learner. Following Jesus means we never really graduate from being His students. Sometimes He teaches us through Scripture, sometimes through another person, sometimes through a mistake, and sometimes through a season we never would have chosen for ourselves. The lesson may come through someone older than us, someone younger, a friend, a spouse, a child, or even someone with whom we disagree. God has never been limited to teaching us through the people or circumstances we would have chosen.

Of course, being teachable does not mean believing everything we hear or laying aside every conviction we hold. Scripture tells us to **“prove all things; hold fast that which is good” (1 Thessalonians 5:21)**. We are meant to think carefully, pray, discern, and measure what we hear against the Word of God. There is a great difference between being teachable and being easily persuaded. But there is also a great difference between having convictions and having a closed heart.

Some of the strongest people I know are able to say, “I had never thought about it that way before,” or even, “I was wrong about that.” That kind of humility does not make a person weak. It shows that they are still growing.

So while children are heading back to classrooms this September, perhaps the rest of us can go back to school in a different way. Maybe God wants to show us something new about patience, forgiveness, grace, or the way we speak to others. Maybe there is a familiar passage of Scripture He wants us to see with fresh eyes. Maybe there is someone in our life we need to listen to more carefully.

Whatever the lesson may be, perhaps our prayer this month can simply be this: Lord, keep me teachable. Keep my heart soft enough to listen, humble enough to admit when I am wrong, and willing enough to change when You show me something that needs to change. No matter how many years I have lived, how many sermons I have heard, or how long I have walked with You, never let me reach the place where I think I have nothing left to learn. Because the question this September is not whether there is still something for us to learn. There is. The question is whether we still have the courage to be taught.

Grace and Peace to you,

Pastor Harry & Jennifer

"Falling Into Grace"

September is nature's gentle reminder that change can be beautiful... and a little messy. Just like leaves, some of our old habits need to fall so new growth can come in spring.

The other day, I raked for two hours, only to have the wind undo my work in five minutes. It made me laugh—and realize God's grace works the same way, but in reverse. We can make a mess in minutes, and He can sweep it clean in an instant.

Scripture Thought:

"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning." — Lamentations 3:22-23



"Life is like autumn—sometimes you just have to let things go... preferably into someone else's yard."

Join us for Sunday School at BCC

Sunday School Message for September

Psalm 119: V9, “How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word”, V105, “Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path”, V130, “The unfolding of your words gives light; it imparts understanding to the simple.” V169, “Let my cry come before you, O Lord; give me understanding according to your word!”

Scripture is God’s Word; the light and truth that brings us close to Him. Scripture is God’s gift to us. Through Scripture, God reveals Himself to us and illuminates the path to understanding His love, His mercy, and His grace. It is the revelation of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. The study and understanding of His word, applying it to our lives, is our purest form of worship.

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 studying His infallible Word. Each week, we examine Scripture to illuminate the majestic truth presented in the Word of God.

Topics For September:

September 6: Joshua Leads Courageously, Joshua 1:1-11

September 13: Israel Remembers God’s Deeds, Joshua 4:14-24

September 20: Joshua Fights for God, Joshua 11:6-9, 16-23

September 27: Rahab Welcomes Spies, Joshua 2:8-13; Joshua 6:16-17





**Bath
Christian
Church**

**Join us for four special nights of worship,
fellowship, and renewal!**

Guest Speaker David Sawyer

Sunday Sept 27– Wednesday Sept 30 7:00 PM

Sunday 27th Music by Rebecca Adams

Monday 28th Music by Gwen Slade & Friends

Tuesday 29th Terra Ceia Christian Church Men's Quartet

Wednesday 30th Music TBD

Come Expecting a Blessing — and bring a Friend!

Gracious God, As we prepare for our upcoming revival, open our hearts to Your presence. Renew our faith, refresh our spirits, and draw us closer to You. Bless each message, each song, and every person who walks through our doors. May lives be encouraged, hearts be changed, and our church be strengthened.

Prepare us not only to attend revival, but to be revived—to serve You with greater joy, love, and faithfulness.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Bath Christian Church



Annual
Fall Bazaar
& Yard Sale

Saturday, November 21, 2026



6:30 AM – Breakfast Biscuits



7:00–11:00 AM – Yard Sale



7:00 AM – Bazaar Items:

Canned Goods, Baked Goods,
Soup & Sandwiches, Crafts,
Christmas Items, Knives,
Raffle Drawing



Everyone is welcome — bring a friend!

Fall Bazaar Raffle

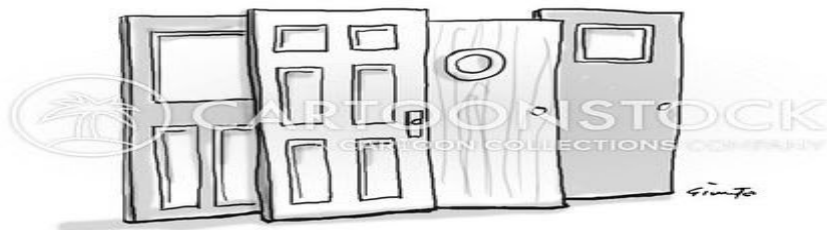
Donations Needed!

Our Bazaar is just around the corner, and we are looking for items to make this year's raffle extra special! If you would like to donate a raffle item, please contact Alice at 252-945-5965. She'll be happy to offer suggestions or answer any questions.

Please have raffle donations turned in by October 1 so we have plenty of time to prepare and print the tickets.

Thank you for helping make our Bazaar a success!

CS607343



CMF— No minutes

CMF did not meet in August

Next meeting September 2!



It's All About Jesus!

Interested in being this year's
Project Leader for Samaritan's
Purse Operation Christmas
Child?

For information, Contact Connie
Lyon, Church Office

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Christian Women's Fellowship

September 23 7:00PM

Christian Men's Fellowship

Next Meeting Sept. 2, 6:00 PM



Family Night

September 23

6:00 PM

Team 4



BINGO

September 14 Monday 12 Noon

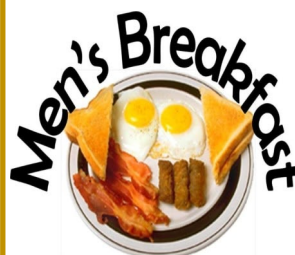
*Delayed by one week, first Monday is
Labor Day!*



Movie Sept. 15. Tues

2:00PM Reminder!

*Items for Eagles Wings
& Purpose of God*



Every

Thursday

8:00 AM

June 7, 2026

Bath Christian Church Board Minutes

Starley Stell called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Gerald Morris gave the opening prayer.

The minutes were reviewed and approved (motion, Beau Norman; second, Howard Robertson).

Jerry Walton gave the financial report. The report was approved (motion, Leon Wingate; second Mark Aydlett).

Old Business

501(c)(3) – Jane Alligood has called every week to find out the status of our 501(c)(3) non-profit application. She will call the advocate from the IRS.

AED – We have batteries and brackets. Billy Hill and Starley Stell will put them up in the coming week.

New Business

Revival – The Worship Committee has requested suggestions for ministers who could possibly conduct our revival.

Scholarship – The Scholarship Committee announced that Alex Jordan and Alex Woolard have been selected to receive the Harold Tyer Scholarships. Alex Jordan plans to attend Beaufort Community College. Alex Woolard plans to attend UNC Asheville. The motion to accept the report of the Scholarship Committee was made by Claudia Alligood and seconded by Becky Tuten. The motion passed.

Youth – Gerald Morris made a motion that the church pay for lunch for the youth, Brenda Godley and the minister and his wife once a month at an amount not to exceed \$300. The money will be taken from the Youth Fund. The motion was seconded by Jane Alligood and approved.

Maintenance – Beau Norman reported that the front doors of the Annex need to be replaced. It was mentioned that we already have doors that are stored in the Moc Shed. Beau will find a door man to install these doors.

TV's – The televisions that were purchased for the security team to be used in the overflow rooms have not been installed because of a heavy workload and family sickness. Claudia suggested that we remove the burden of installing TV's by hiring someone else. Leon will contact the parties involved.

Minister's Report – Harry reported that we have lots of people in our church who need attention. He named several people who are having health difficulties. It was mentioned that we need to revisit our flock lists. Starley will talk to Becky.

Howard Robertson offered the final prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Claudia Alligood



Music Ministry Update

The choir will resume practices after our summer break on **Wednesday, September 9 at 4:00 p.m.** It has been quite an active summer for all of us. Children and grandchildren have graduated and are heading off to college or beginning new adventures. Some have had opportunities to travel, whether for pleasure, to care for loved ones, or simply to enjoy time at the beach with family and friends. Others have faced surgeries and hospital stays, while some are joyfully anticipating upcoming family weddings.

It truly has been a summer of blessings, family, and taking care of personal needs. And that gives us even more reason to gather together on Sunday—to worship, pray, encourage one another, and enjoy Christian fellowship. The next several months will give us many opportunities to do just that.

The craft house is already beginning to buzz with activity as preparations get underway for our **Annual Bazaar on November 21. Revival Week begins September 27**, and once again we will be blessed with a wonderful variety of music. **Homecoming Sunday is October 4**, which also marks the beginning of our **cantata rehearsals**. Our annual Christmas cantata will be presented on **December 13 and 20**, so mark your calendars!

With revival, the bazaar, Homecoming, and our Christmas cantata ahead, it promises to be a busy but joyful season as we praise God through worship, fellowship, and song.

Nancy & Lela

Christian Women's Fellowship

Bath Christian Church CWF met August 26 with the following ladies present:

Claudia Alligood, Alice Wingate, Darlene Ormond, Jessie Brooks, Debbie Smith, Jane Alligood, Gale Walton, Mary Lynn Edwards, Yvonne Waters, Rachel Jordan, Barbara Morris, and Nancy Hill.

Claudia welcomed everyone, sharing a reading, Sometimes It's Too Late to Make Things Right; then called the meeting to order. A brief devotion time was spent sharing some of our favorite hymns and why they "speak" to us. This discussion was inspired by Barbara's family night devotion about hymns, their backgrounds, and why they inspire us to worship and praise the Lord.

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

Minutes of the June meeting were read and approved. Gale gave the treasurer's report; one expense for a local community need.

Business:

1. Church exterior: Nancy shared the need for painting outside doors and frames before revival and homecoming. Pressure washing to be done before painting. Rachel asked that the painting of columbarium fence and front step railings be included in this project. Claudia will present to the board at September meeting.
2. Homecoming: Barbara and Mary Lynn will cook ham. Claudia will follow up with Claude about chicken. Volunteers to feed the revival speaker each night. Let Claudia know if you can help. All sanctuary pews and fellowship hall windows should be cleaned before revival. There is a list posted at the church.
3. Bazaar: Claudia had asked at our June meeting for anyone (all ladies of the church) who had jobs at the bazaar/yard sale last year to let her know if you are willing to continue with that this year. (This was posted in CWF minutes in June newsletter.) She has received no response from anyone so she has assigned "jobs" as needed. Due to health issues and other circumstances, some of our ladies are not available to help this year. Please see Claudia to help on bazaar day, November 21 st. Anyone new to the church is welcome and encouraged to participate.

***If you are donating an item for the raffle, you need to talk to Alice Wingate by

CWF Minutes continued

October 1 st to have it listed on the raffle tickets. Only 10 items will be raffled and no items accepted after the October 1st deadline.

4. Samaritan's Purse Shoe Boxes A volunteer is needed to head up this project.

Claudia's question of the night: "what first comes to mind this time of year when talking about the bazaar?" Though aging and health concerns were mentioned, the positives were overwhelming: fun, fellowship, good daily lunch prepared by Claudia, beauty of the fellowship hall, anticipation of Saturday shoppers, working together for a great cause, thankfulness for everyone working so hard, and a week of special time spent with church family. We adjourned with the CWF benediction.

Nancy Hill, Reporter



Please Pray for Our Church

Church Family Prayer Concerns:

Michael Alligood, Jamie Barnhill (shoulder surgery Sept. 14), Chase Brooks (heart procedure Oct.1), Dana Brooks, Marcia Norman, Becky Tuten, Eunice Robbins, Larry Schmitt, June Wallace (home) Jerry Walton, Roger Winstead & unspoken requests.

Friends & Family Prayer Concerns

Dianne Ashby 6/14
Cam Brooks 8/1
Robin Boyd 8/26
Lisa Clarke (Trevor
Crawford's Daughter)
Kenya Clements 8/9
Glenda Douglass
Lee Drake 8/2

Mike Godley 6/21
Kevin Jordan 6/21
Gene Kuhn -7/12
Olga Lee 7/26
Linda Minnick 6/24
Winnie Moss 8/30
Sherry Neal-6/21

Brandi Cooke-Robbins
Leigh Shanks-6/24
Gwen & Harry Slade
Mike Slade
Paige Stafford-3/29
Barbara Woolard 8/9
Twila Woolard 8/9
US Military & Govern-
ment & Unspoken Re-
quests

The Families of: *Edwina Barrera, Maggie Credle, Lorraine Jepson, LeAndrea Ruffin, Kathy Siemon, Sylvia Singleton, Melvin Solona, Bobbie Turner, Kathy Murphy, Lola Nobles, James Williams, Michael Williams*

Military:

Chase Brooks, Will Cutler, Hunter Williams, Ryan Cornelius

In Nursing Homes:

John Everett, Bobbie Jean Hobgood, Clarence Cook

Ridgewood Nursing Home

1624 Highland Dr.

Washington, NC 27889

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

-Nelda Ormond Room 202

River Trace Nursing & Rehabilitation

Carolyn Fisher Mother of Lesley Woolaad

Rm 318

250 Lover's Lane

Washington NC 27889

Sunrise of Cary

Carol Richardson

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