

~The Good News~

Bath Christian Church, Inc.

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Bath, NC 27808

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September 2025



Pastor's Corner



September 2025



When we step outside this time of year, we see the signs of change everywhere. The days grow shorter, the air grows cooler, and the leaves begin their slow descent to the ground. Autumn is beautiful, but it is also a reminder: nothing stays the same. Everything has a season.

That truth runs through the book of Ruth. Ruth entered the fields at harvest time with empty hands, gathering the leftovers others left behind. But God had a plan that was far greater than what she could see. Those “leftovers” became the doorway to her redemption story. Her faithfulness in a season of loss and change opened the door to a future she never imagined—a future that would eventually lead to the lineage of Christ Himself.

Church, here’s what that tells me: God does His greatest work in seasons of change. The harvest field may look like it’s being emptied, but in God’s hands, even the scraps can be the beginning of something new.

I believe with all my heart that we are living in such a season. Seasons of change can be uncomfortable. They ask us to let go of what has always been, much like the trees must let go of their leaves. If they refused, they would die. But by releasing what was, they make room for what will be.

The message of Christ never changes. The cross never loses its power. The gospel never needs updating. But the way we live it out, share it, and carry it forward into the next generation often does. If we cling too tightly to yesterday, we risk missing what God is trying to do today.

Fall is not the end of life—it is the preparation for new life. What looks like death in one season is simply the soil of the next. But only if we are willing to release, to trust, and to follow where God leads.

Our church has a choice in this season. We can hold on to the past until it withers in our hands. Or we can, like Ruth, step into the field—even if it feels unfamiliar—and trust that God is writing a bigger story than what we can see right now.

My prayer is that this fall, we would be willing to let go of what needs to fall, so that God can bring forth what needs to grow. Change may be difficult, but it is in the letting go that life is renewed.

“Let me go to the fields and pick up the leftover grain...” (Ruth 2:2)

What Ruth found in the fields was more than grain—it was a future. And I believe if we walk faithfully into this season of change, God has a future waiting for us too.

Scripture of the Month

“Let me go to the fields and pick up the leftover grain behind anyone in whose eyes I find favor.”

Ruth 2:2

Prayer Focus for September

- ☐ Pray that we would have the courage to release what God is calling us to let go of.
- ☐ Pray for new growth in our church—that God would raise up a new generation of faith.
- ☐ Pray for those walking through personal seasons of change, that they would find hope and strength in Christ.
- ☐ Pray that our community would see the life of Christ through us, even in times of transition.

Closing Thought

Fall reminds us that change isn't something to fear—it's part of God's design. The trees don't mourn their leaves; they release them. And in that letting go, they prepare for the life that is to come. May we have the same courage to trust God in this season, believing that in His field, nothing is wasted.

Grace and Peace to you all!

Pastor Harry & Jennifer



**We all fall short — but
grace covers us all.**

Devotion

It's easy to notice the shortcomings of others. We sometimes find ourselves talking about someone else's mistakes, as though their sins are greater than our own. But Scripture reminds us:

“Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?” — Matthew 7:3

The truth is, we all fall short. None of us can stand as though we are without fault. The good news is that Christ came *for all of us* — not to condemn, but to redeem.

When we are tempted to point out the failings of another, may we pause and remember the mercy God has shown us. Instead of gossip, let us offer prayer. Instead of judgment, let us extend grace. Instead of talking about people's sins, let us share about God's forgiveness.

In doing so, we not only honor Christ's words, but we also build one another up in love.

Prayer:

Lord, remind me that I, too, am a sinner in need of grace. Keep my tongue from speaking harm, and turn my words into encouragement. Help me see others as You see them — beloved and redeemable. Amen.



1. Great migration led by Moses
4. Old Testament ruler who spared King Agag
6. Old Testament leader in charge of city reconstruction
7. One of the four major prophets of the Old Testament
10. He struck a rock to provide water for his people
11. Founder of the twelve tribes
12. A regal figure featured in ancient Hebrew scripture
13. He established a covenant with God after the flood
15. Ancient city dweller who saved spies
16. Biblical servants of God
17. A biblical series of disasters that befell Egypt under Pharaoh's rule
19. Biblical figure whose family was saved from the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah
20. Divine verdict
21. Biblical act of liberation, as told in the Old Testament
26. Spokespersons for God

ACROSS

2. Ancestor of King David
3. Old Testament character who saw a vision of four creatures
5. The quality of being wise or knowledgeable
8. Portable sanctuary
9. Genesis chapter 4 tells his story
10. Biblical leader who championed social justice
14. Ancient entities tasked with divine protection
17. Warriors of Gaza
18. Old Testament sacred bond
22. Philistine woman who betrayed a judge
23. The man who tested God with a fleece and dew
24. A biblical leader who was taken up by a whirlwind
25. Ancestor of King David
27. The act of seeking God's mercy
28. He wrote about a locust invasion as a divine judgment

Bath Christian Church Board Minutes July 6, 2025

Leon Wingate called the meeting to order, and Louis Gurganus offered the opening prayer.

The minutes were approved with one correction (motion, Billy Hill; second, Louis Gurganus).

Jerry Walton presented the financial report. New information for the month included attendance, income, expenses and bank balance. The report was approved (motion, Pearson Chrismon; second, John Jordan).

Old Business

5th Sunday - The Worship Committee will continue plans for 5th Sunday musical worship. The committee will have suggestions for revival speakers at next month's meeting.

New Business

Maintenance - Air conditioning in part of the new building was disabled due to a fried zoning board. Little's came and repaired the problem.

The Sound System board was also fried; lightning is suspected. The amount of \$2,744.50 was approved to repair the system (motion, John Jordan; second, Becky Tuten).

The copier went down at the same time as the other problems. That is where the idea of lighting came from.

Polly Gurganus - A request was made to support Polly Gurganus in her charitable ride at the same amount as last year (motion, Starley Stell; second, Howard Robertson). The request was approved.

Craig Richardson (son of Carol Richardson) and his family lost their home in a fire. People have suggested a love offering to support this family. A motion was made and passed to have a love offering from the congregation and to match up to \$2,500 from the Foley Fund (motion, Claudia Alligood; second, Howard Robertson).

Youth - The Youth want to make a trip to a Water Park and asked for permission to draw \$1,000 from their account to pay their expenses. The request was approved (motion, John Jordan; second, Claudia Alligood).

Pantego Rest Home - Becky Tuten reported on the trip to the Pantego Rest Home on July 3. Jamie Barnhill had made three freezers of homemade ice cream, and Becky had made cupcakes. Fourth of July hats, visors and headbands were given to the clients. Everyone enjoyed a "sweet" time.

Minister's Remarks

The Smiths are pretty much settled in their new home.

Harry has had good conversations with former attendees, trying to reconnect.

He hopes that a year from now he will have his Pastoral Counseling credentials.

In another year he hopes to complete his Doctorate in Theology.

Howard Robertson closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted, Claudia Alligood

CWF Meeting

August 27, 2025

Bath Christian Church CWF met August 27, 2025 with the following ladies present: Claudia Alligood, Rachel Jordan, Gale Walton, Alice Wingate, Barbara Morris, Polly Gurganus, Mary Lynn Edwards, Sarah Stone, Jane Alligood, Debbie Smith, Darlene Ormond, Yvonne Waters, June Wallace, Becky Tuten, Sandra Dupree, Cynthia Stell, and Nancy Hill.

Claudia welcomed everyone and shared a few sayings regarding the end of summer. Debbie opened the meeting with prayer.

Mary Lynn read a devotion about listening. When we listen to the sounds we hear, we can become overwhelmed by loud noises or interruptions. The Lord implores us to listen to Him. We are strong women because we have His power in us. Listen to Jesus' voice. He is talking to us if we just stop and listen. She closed with a prayer that had been shared with her by Hilda McLawhorn.

Prayer concerns were listed. Yvonne prayed for them and for the offering. Minutes of the July meeting were read and approved. Gale gave the treasurer's report.

Business:

Meals for ones in need: There was a brief open discussion of how best to handle "getting the word out" and having a contact person when we are wanting to prepare meals for someone who has a need i.e. sickness, surgery, etc.

Pantego Rest Home: Our next church visit will be in September. Light snacks and fruit will be served. Becky will determine the day and time.

Bazaar: First workday for bazaar crafts is Tuesday, September 2nd at 9:00 in the fellowship hall. The rest of the workdays will be on Mondays. Bazaar workdays will be in the fellowship hall through the month of September and in the craft house beginning in October. Claudia had a plumber come to the craft house and give an estimate for repairs in the bathroom. This will not be explored any further due to cost. Claudia asked everyone to bring a Christmas ornament or décor from our own personal collections that could be used as a model to copy and make for the bazaar. There is a need for small solid color Christmas balls and artificial greenery. Becky will confirm use of the old gym for the yard sale. It is believed that we are already approved for that. Bazaar day is Saturday, November 15.

Christmas baskets for shut-ins: Debbie added suggested names to her list. Contact Debbie if you know of someone who should receive one.

Claudia's question of the night was asking everyone to share an exciting or special memory of starting school.

We adjourned with the CWF benediction.



Bath Chrisitan Church, Inc.

Join us for Fall Revival

September 28— October 1, 2025

7:00 PM With Pastor Bill Creech

**Three Evenings of Powerful Preaching, Inspiring Music,
and Spirit-Filled Fellowship**

Singers: September 28, Nikki Selby & Margie Tankard

September 29, Bobbie Jo Ricks

September 30, Robert Payne

October 1, Pastor Harry Smith

Come expecting a fresh move of God!

Bring your family, invite your friends — Revival starts here!

Save the Date!

September 28– October 1 Revival

November 15–Fall Bazaar & Yard Sale

October 5 Homecoming

October 19 Baby Shower for Pastor Harry & Jennifer's daughter,

Kaitlyn

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Bath Christian Church Bazaar & Yard Sale

Saturday, November 15, 2025

6:30 AM Breakfast Biscuits

7:00–11:00 AM Yard Sale

7:00 Am Bazaar Items;

Canned Goods, Baked Goods,

Soup & Sandwich, Crafts, Christmas Items,

Knives, Raffle Drawing

Everyone is welcome – bring a friend!



Sept. 24 7:30 PM

WOMEN'S *Fellowship*



MOVIE MATINEE

2:00 PM

September 16

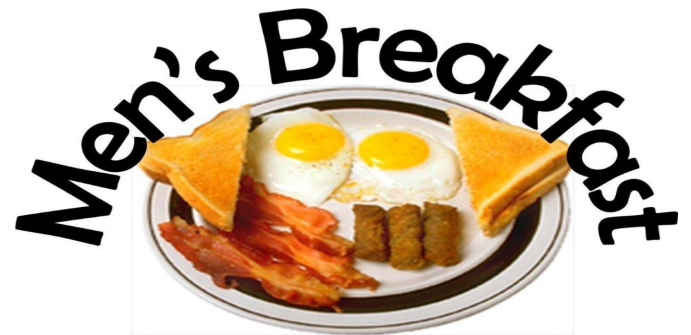
Remember

Eagle's Wing Item

Scotty's Men's Breakfast

Faith, Food, & Fellowship

Every Thursday 8:00 am



6:30 PM September 24

Team 4

BINGO

September 8 12:00 Noon

Pizza for Lunch!

**(Date change this month due to Sept 1
Labor Day)**

EVERY

TUESDAY

6:00PM

AA MEETINGS



Christian Men's Fellowship

***Meetings Return in
September***

Please Pray for Our Church

Church Family Prayer Concerns: Jamie & Sylvia

Barnhill, Dana Brooks, Helen Brooks, Jessie Brooks, Sarah Burgess, Marcia Norman, Carol Richardson, Howard Robertson, Patty Selby, Sarah Stone, Wanda White, Jean Winstead, **& unspoken requests.**

Friends & Prayer Concerns: Marie Adams, Sharon Askew, Robin Ayers, Jane Baker, Louise Bierne, Glenda Boyd, Halston Boyd (Sandra Dupree's Brother), Susan Boyd, Elizabeth Brooks, Stacy Brooks, Angela Brown, Larry Brown, Baby Annalynn Bullock, Stephen Butler, Jimmy Capps, Joe Capps, Austin Cherry, Tina Clark, Julie Crawford, Giles Cutler (Harold Cutler Brother), Walt Davis, Karen Eddings (Brandi Fields), Maverick Granger, Betty & Anna Laroux, Johnnie Martin, Linda Minnick, Drema Moore, John Moore, Hunter Moore, Tucker Mooring, Elizabeth Moye, Holden Newman, David Phillips, Philip Price, Amanda Puett, Johnny Ramey, Criag & Jennifer Richardson, Tony Rodman, Phyliss Rose, Daniel Rouse, Jon Sadler, Wayne Schmitt, Bob Seilski, Gary Selleck, Kathy Siemon, JoJo Cox Singleton, Bill Slade, Cathy Slade, Dottie Lou Smith, Matthew Stewart, Dan & Coleen Stiggy, Javon Styons, Robbie Swain, John Taylor, Bill Thomas, John Thomas, Octavus Wallace, Jenny Hollowell Watkins, Doris Wilson, Shelly Wilson, Janet Windley, mJa Annelle West, Phyllis Woolard, Twilla Woolard, Carl Wiggins, Jim Wood, Dave & Karen Woodall, Jim Youngblood,

US Military & Government & Unspoken Requests

The Families of: *Betty Hooks, David Kramer, Margaret Lee, Kenneth Mace, Howard Maultsby, Brenda Minns, Jack O'Neal, the children killed in Minnesota*

Military Prayer List:

Chase Brooks, Will Cutler, Hunter Williams

In Nursing Homes:

John Everett, Carolyn Fisher (Mother of Lesley Woolard), Bobbie Jean Hobgood (Sister of Linda Heath)

*When we lift each other up in prayer, we carry one another's
burdens and invite God's healing presence into every need.*