

Our Legacy



Lives of Abundant Generosity

Bedford Presbyterian Church
2018 Season of Stewardship



Because of BPC.....
I have been blessed by
the pastors' preaching, which
is a continual balm of
healing.

I have been blessed
with a space to express
my love for God through
MUSIC 🎵

For the past two years, we have been praying “Lord, what would you do through me?” As we enter this season of stewardship and the third year of our Capital Campaign, we reflect on the ways God has blessed us and answered our prayers as we pursue our ministry goals.

Worship & Music

O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For he is our God and we are the people of his pasture. PSALM 95:6-7A

We worshipped the Lord with gladness.

- Experienced uplifting and inspirational worship and music, all to the glory of God
- Shared the Lord's Supper each month.
- Joyfully celebrated the sacrament of baptism with many children, youth, and adults.
- Welcomed more than 500 people at the Living Nativity, 700 at our three Christmas Eve services and 500 at our Easter services.
- Celebrated monthly worship services at Birch Hill Terrace with ringers, singers, guest musicians, and soloists.
- Completed work on the Music Suite.
- Purchased new wireless microphones for the sanctuary.
- Offered 72 worship services throughout the year with average attendance of 200 on Sundays.

Academy

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect. ROMANS 12:2

We nurtured and equipped disciples.

- 42 members of BPC planned and led our Children and Youth Ministries.
- Selected a new-to-BPC, multi-generational curriculum called “Whole People of God” based on the PCUSA lectionary.
- Completed and dedicated the new Youth Lounge, painted a classroom, and updated our nursery.
- Welcomed 16 Confirmands into membership.
- Started a special new children’s program at Christmas.
- Presented a joyful Children’s Christmas Musical.
- Continued our partnership with the Bakersville School in Manchester.
- Supported 17 youth on the Mission Trip to Maine.
- Offered adult Vacation Church School to learn about people from other cultures.
- Held Wonderful Wednesdays where youth and adults gathered to dine and discuss the Old Testament.



“If anybody asks you who you are...tell them you’re a child of God!”



This year I have received blessings at BPC by having sponsored and supported new confirmed members of the church.

My family has been BLESSED by the Church School program at BPC



Mission & Outreach

Whoever wants to be first must be last and servant of all. MARK 9:35B

We served others in God's name.

- Built a partnership with the Bedford Town Schools to provide weekend lunches for 30 children and youth who are food-insecure.
- Celebrated and supported the new venture of the Bedford Community Food Pantry – a program of the Bedford Lions Club.
- Served meals at New Horizons in Manchester and delivered meals through Caregivers.
- Sent a Youth Mission Team to Mission at the Eastward to help people paint their homes.
- Sent an inter-generational Mission Team to West Virginia to help victims of flooding.
- Supported the work of our missionaries, the Dawsons, in Southeast Asia.
- Packed and delivered more than 275 Thanksgiving Baskets and provided Christmas gifts to 100 people through our Adopt-a-Family ministry.
- Partnered with Bakersville Elementary to provide school supplies and playground equipment.
- Started the Building Bridges Team to create partnerships with people of other cultures.
- Embarked on a partnership with Dismas House – providing meals and repairs performed by Helping Hands team.
- Through the Caring Closet, provided clothes for several dozen women newly released from prison.

I HAVE SEEN
KINDNESS AND
GENEROSITY EXTENDED
IN THE WORST AND
BEST OF TIMES

I hear God's word
spoken, feel God's word
singing in my heart, AND
put God's words into
action.

Parish Life, Congregational Care and Hospitality

Whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith. GALATIANS 6:10

We welcomed and cared for one another.

- Welcomed many new members into the life of BPC.
- Provided home visits, meals, rides to church, memorial services, and receptions for the bereaved through our Deacons, pastors and others.
- Lifted up people in need of prayer through our Prayer Chain Ministry.
- Served as host for Presbytery committee meetings and provided space for the Presbytery Office.
- Offered pastoral counseling through our pastors and through Dr. David Reynolds in our partnership with Pastoral Counseling Services.
- Hosted a welcoming place for our church and community by providing meeting space for Lyme Support Group, Quilters, Caregivers Group, Narcotics Anonymous, Bedford Women's Club and Boy Scouts.
- Hosted 44 Coffee Hours and offered all-church fellowship events like the Progressive Dinner and MEET Group gatherings to build friendships and community.



Because of BPC...
I have been blessed
by wonderful pastoral
support.

A
Caring
Community!

Stewardship & Infrastructure

God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. 2 CORINTHIANS 9:8

We are building a legacy and leading lives of abundant generosity through our stewardship.

- Session continues to serve as stewards of the church's finances by living within the budget set for 2017.
- Raised more than \$22,000 at the Mission Auction in February.
- Supported PCUSA Offerings – One Great Hour of Sharing and Christmas Joy.
- Sent support to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for Hurricane Relief.
- Contributed \$20,000 to the Deacons Fund.
- Through the Capital Campaign and generous gifts from the saints, made structural repairs to the bell tower, replaced and/or repainted the sanctuary shutters, and reduced the church's line of credit to a zero balance.
- Received 70% of the pledged amount for the Capital Campaign (32 people have fulfilled their pledges.)
- Created a Capital Reserve fund for building repairs and technology upgrades.
- Contracted with a cleaning service and handyman.

Through your generosity, we accomplished far more than we could ask for or imagine in 2017 – to the Glory of God! Thank you!



Capital Campaign Progress

\$570,475 Pledged

\$418,000 Received

In our third year of the Capital Campaign, the following projects are planned.

- Replace gutters - \$7,000
- Paint sanctuary ceiling - \$8,000 to \$10,000
- Fellowship Hall and hallway carpeting - \$21,000
- Replace downstairs furnace, insulate walls and replace windows in old Parish Hall, replace flooring and ceiling tiles - \$69,000
- Install fire alarm in old Parish House - \$9,000 to \$12,000
- Renovate the Music Suite bathrooms below the sanctuary - \$5,000
- Improve signage around church - \$1,500

In addition, several projects were not originally scoped out that need to be funded.

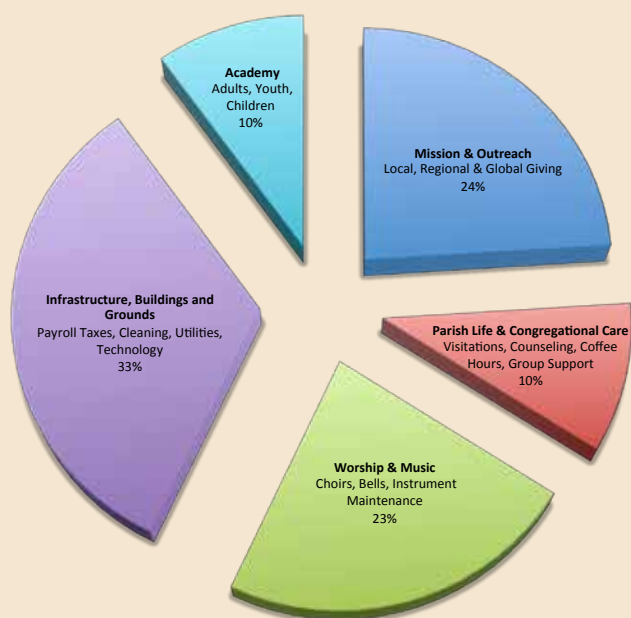
- Parking lot drainage. Requires fixing the French drain and repointing the granite. Cost: To be determined.
- Sanctuary carpet replacement and wood flooring replacement at the communion table level. Estimated cost: \$40,000. \$12,000 already pledged.

The Call to Generous Giving

Everything we have comes from God and is a blessing entrusted to us. We give our time, talent, and treasure to leave a legacy of abundant generosity for generations to come. With increased giving we can grow our ministry in a variety of ways.

Here are some of our hopes and dreams for 2018:

- Repainting Fellowship Hall and major hallways.
- Audio-visual technology upgrades for our worship services.
- Offer a week-long all-day VCS Camp for children in the summer.
- A paid, year-round, nursery worker.
- Offer retirement benefits to our long-term employees.
- Develop community outreach programs.
- Work with a grant-writer to support outreach ministries.
- Offer a youth-led event serving those experiencing hunger.
- Host more all-church fellowship events.



Note: The above budget diagram does not include gifts to the Deacons Fund or Mission fundraising events.

I CAN SEE
GOD AT WORK

As you pray the prayer, "Lord, what would you do through me?" consider your commitment to BPC. In the spirit of abundant generosity, can you increase your commitment to BPC for 2018? If you have never pledged before, would you make your very first commitment to giving?

A commitment card will be mailed to you the week of November 6.

Bring your card to worship on November 19 and please join us for a Thanks-for-giving lunch!



A New Era of Stewardship Begins...

Beyond the Offering Plate



This past year, in addition to thousands of volunteer hours given by BPC's members to our myriad ministries, we experienced a dramatic shift in the ways our congregation gives monetarily.

Of note:

- 39 members are now giving online through MyBPC, our member portal found at the top of the BPC web site.
- 16 members are using the mobile phone app for giving (Bedford Presbyterian Church by Aware3 in the iOS App Store and Google Play Store).
- Seven members gave gifts of appreciated stock. Interest in this method of giving is growing due to the increase in stock values.
- 11 members are now giving through automatic deduction credit card and bank account transactions, which improves BPC's cash flow.
- Two designated gifts helped fund significant unmet needs at BPC.
- Several members have included BPC in their estate planning.

We encourage you to talk to your tax advisor and financial planner to discuss the possible tax benefits of various charitable contribution vehicles. Questions about giving beyond the offering plate can be directed to BPC's Treasurer, Michael Sampson, treasurer@bedfordpresbyterian.org. Questions about current or planned pledges can be directed to Nicolle Small, pledges@bedfordpresbyterian.org.

You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us. II CORINTHIANS 9:11 NRSV

Bedford Presbyterian Church

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