

imagine

Dear friends,

I'd like to share a brief story.

In high school, we always loved it when our teachers rolled the TV stands with the attached VCR (remember VCR's?) into the classroom. It would always take ten minutes to set up and by the time whatever video we were watching had ended it was time to move on to our next class. No homework!

There is one video that will always stand out to me. Our history teacher, Mr. Pecknold, showed us an interview with Martin Luther King, Jr. MLK seemed to be in a hurry. He was answering the questions of reporters very quickly. Then a car backfired somewhere behind him. He quickly ducked down. He thought that the death threats had finally come true. He thought someone was shooting at him. It was a humbling sight to witness a person so admired for his bravery to be caught on camera in such a moment of fear. We didn't understand that when all that we had previously seen was the "I Have a Dream" speech. Of course we know how his story ended. We knew the fear was justified. But it was so humbling a sight that

I remember it now twenty years later.

Bravery is often said to be a Christian virtue and the case for this is pretty clear. God has a plan for all of us. This is in the Psalms, the words of the prophets, and the good news of the gospels. There's no greater security in our lives than that. Of course in order to be brave we have to be frightened or anxious or uncertain. We might leave a comfortable job to follow a new passion. We might move from a place where we've lived for years to be closer to family. We might decide to undergo surgery. Or we might need to speak up or stand up or shout out for people in need even if silence is much more comfortable. We might need to take a bit of a turn from what church has always been to what church can now be in this different time and place of priorities.

As Christians, we trust that the Holy Spirit will sustain us even in uncertainty and that Christ will be present to us in fear. Being brave is never easy. But we are also

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never alone in our journeys, the easy roads and the uncertain paths alike. Faith in times of comfort is admirable. Faith in times of anxiety is sacred.

I continue to encourage you to think about the questions of our regional minister, Rev. Bill Spangler-Dunning. I encourage you to find joy in his enthusiasm and hope. And I encourage you to take on his challenge.

How can our church thrive in new, creative ways?

These are hard questions. But be brave! God has a plan and the Spirit will guide us forward.

Peace, Rev. Jonah Smith-Bartlett



Monday and Thursday 10am – 2pm: Office is open for all members to drop by and see Pastor Jonah

Please check out our Calendar on the next page as we start allowing events to return to BPCC

Do you have a meeting or event happening at BPCC or Virtually for BPCCC? Please send this to Lisa for the church calendar (bpcc.office@Verizon.net)

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BPOC Jul 2021 (Eastern Time - New York)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 9:30am - Lent Bible 11am - Worship	28 10am - Firehouse	29 10am - Firehouse 6pm - Tai Chi	30 6pm - Firehouse	1 6pm - Firehouse	2 6pm - Firehouse	3 11am - Firehouse
4 9:30am - Lent Bible 11am - Worship	5 10am - Firehouse	6 10am - Firehouse 6pm - Tai Chi	7 6pm - Firehouse	8 6pm - Firehouse	9 6pm - Firehouse	10 11am - Firehouse
11 9:30am - Lent Bible 11am - Worship	12 10am - Firehouse	13 10am - Firehouse 6pm - Tai Chi	14 6pm - Firehouse	15 6pm - Firehouse	16 6pm - Firehouse	17 11am - Firehouse
18 9:30am - Lent Bible 11am - Worship	19 11am - CarePortal 6pm - Tai Chi	20 6:30pm - Elders 7pm - Board	21 6:30pm - Elders 7pm - Board	22 6pm - Firehouse	23 6pm - Firehouse	24 11am - Firehouse
25 9:30am - Lent Bible 11am - Worship	26 6pm - Tai Chi	27 6pm - Tai Chi	28 6pm - Firehouse	29 6pm - Firehouse	30 6pm - Firehouse	31 11am - Firehouse

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The church office is open physically twice per week and virtually anytime!

Church Office: Monday & Thursday 8am – 1pm

-Emails, Voicemails, Paper mail, and in house admin (bills, facility maintenance etc)

Virtually: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday

- Emails, Website, Tech Support, Prepping mailings and other duties as needed.

Income and Expenses, Jan 1 - May 31, 2021

Income	
Offering	27,870
Building use	13,375
Other	1,887
Total Income	43,132
Expenses	
Personnel	38,219
Utilities and Maintenance	19,100
Unexpected Major Expenses	0
Other	2,713
Total expenses	60,032
Net loss (taken from reserves)	(16,900)

July and August Birthdays

Cynthia Butler	7/4
Oliva Adams	7/5
Scot Patterson	7/11
Seth Williams	7/11
Tom Carr	7/17
Harold Englert	7/20
Betty Huth	7/28
Billy Garthright Jr	7/30
Robin Marsh	8/3
Ralph Echols	8/5
Katya Jeffries	8/8
John Taylor	8/8
Louise Kegley	8/14
Alexander Seiler	8/15
Jeanette Daniel	8/16
Eric Seiler	8/22
Frank Kegley	8/25
Betty Land	8/26
AT Scruggs III	8/28

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