



# The BCC Connection

March  
2025

Bancroft Congregational Church  
Pastor Todd Evans

217 S. Shiawassee St., P.O. Box 98, Bancroft, MI 48414 989-634-5724

## Sunday Worship Hours

Christian Education Hour 9:45 am

Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

*There are Nursery and Jr. church programs available for children during our worship service.*

Saint Patrick used Shamrock (a young sprig of clover) to teach the pagans about the Holy Trinity. The shamrock is now the official flower of Ireland. It is associated with St Patrick.





***From your favorite Pastor!***

Here we are with the season of Lent kicking in, and all that it leads up to. Millions of people use this time to “give something up,” usually involving some sort of food or drink that they really like. Many years ago I gave up pop for Lent and haven’t really turned back to it since, but that time also got me truly thinking about what Lent is and why we do it. Many use Lent to give something up for a health or diet plan and not really anything about their walk with Christ. So being Americans, we use the day before Lent to binge on all those things that we are going to be going without over the next several weeks and we totally miss the point. But have YOU ever really thought about what Lent really is and why it may be something to do?

Lent isn’t actually a Biblical thing, in that we don’t see it written as something we are to observe. It developed over the years of the early church into what Catholics and many mainline Protestant churches observe today. I found this good description of what it is to accomplish for us if we decide to observe it. *“Although its format has varied throughout the centuries and throughout different cultures, the basic concept remains the same: to open our hearts to God's refining grace through prayer, confession, fasting, and almsgiving as we anticipate Holy Week. Lent traditionally lasts forty days, modeled after Christ's forty day fast in the desert, and ends on Good Friday. In the Western Church, Lent officially begins with a reminder of our mortality on Ash Wednesday.”*

Even though it isn’t something specifically mentioned in Scriptures, it has many components that are. I highly recommend to people to observe it, but to do it by tying Scriptures to it and prayer that involves asking God to work in us to bring us closer to Him as we prepare to celebrate the great sacrifice and victory that is Easter. Here are some Scriptures you can incorporate into your daily studies during the next 40 days; Joel 2:12-14, Matthew 6:16-18, Philippians 3:10-11, I Peter 5:6, Mark 1:12-15, Isaiah 58:6-7, Mark 9:2-10, Luke 13:3, Ezekiel 18:21, John 17:17, John 12, Psalm 91.

May God use the next few weeks to bring you closer to Him each and every day. That you will know the grace that we get through what He did on that hill and cross, and the victory we receive because that stone rolled away. *“For this is how God loved the world: He gave His one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life.”* (John 3:16, NLT)

In Christ’s Love,

PT





# Twisted Scripture

**John 9:2**

***"His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"***

*Pg 1132 Apologetics Bible*

*The Eastern idea of reincarnation teaches that after we die, we are destined to return as someone else in another life. Followers of Hinduism and Buddhism believe that how you live now (called "karma," which can be made of either good or bad things) determines whether your next life will be pleasant or miserable. Taken out of context, one might use John 9:2 to argue that the disciples believed in reincarnation, yet Jesus answered their question in a way that proves the impossibility of someone sinning before birth, and hence the impossibility of karma and reincarnation. He said the man was born with an affliction not because he sinned in a past life, but "so that God's works might be displayed in him" (vs. 3). Hebrews 9:27 further supports the impossibility of karma and reincarnation when it says, "it is appointed for people to die once" before the judgment comes. That is why 'now is the day of salvation' (2 Corinthians 6:2). Resurrection, not reincarnation, is what awaits us after death.*

**John 3:5**

***'Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit."***

*Pg. 1122 Apologetics Bible*

*This verse is often used to justify the mistaken belief that water baptism is required for salvation. There are several problems with this interpretation. First, Jesus elsewhere said that He came to 'seek and to save the lost' (Luke 19:10). Since the New Testament never says Jesus baptized anyone, it seems obvious that baptism is unnecessary for salvation. Second, rather than baptizing, Jesus went around teaching everyone who He was and telling them that it was necessary to believe in Him. In His own words, "God loved the world in this way: He gave His one and Only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16). Furthermore, He made it clear that condemnation is based not on failure to be baptized, but on failure to believe in Him (John 3:16). Finally, if baptism is a requirement for justification before God, it would conflict with the biblical teaching that salvation comes by faith alone (Galatians 2:16; Ephesians 2:8-9)*

**Luke 23:44-46**

***It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last.'***

*Pg. 1113 Apologetics Bible*

*Some critics claim that Jesus merely fainted during His crucifixion, and was mistaken for dead, and was then hauled down and buried alive. Further, they say that He escaped the tomb and appeared to His disciples, who mistakenly believed that He was resurrected. However, there are sure signs that Jesus actually died. The Roman soldiers usually broke the legs of the crucifixion victims to speed up their deaths. When they set out to break Jesus' legs, they discovered that He was already dead (John 19:33). To prove this to themselves, the soldiers pierced Jesus' heart through His side (John 19:34). This would have killed Him if He wasn't already dead. In addition, blood loss due to His flogging and the piercing of His hands and feet (which would have severed arteries and nerves) made death inevitable. Also, the skeptic must explain how it's possible that a badly wounded Jesus could escape a closed tomb, sneak past Roman guards, and go on to convince His followers that He had conquered death.*



## Increasing My Faith

**Day 1:** Luke 17:5

**Day 2:** Romans 10:17

**Day 3:** Galatians 5:6

**Day 4:** Hebrews 11:1

**Day 5:** James 2:17

**Day 6:** 1 John 5:4-5

**Day 7:** John 6:29

**Day 8:** Hebrews 11:6

**Day 9:** James 1:6

**Day 10:** Psalm 37:5

**Day 11:** Proverbs 3:5

**Day 12:** Matthew 6:30

**Day 13:** Matthew 17:20

**Day 14:** 2 Corinthians 5:7

**Day 15:** Acts 26:18

**Day 16:** Ephesians 6:16

**Day 17:** 2 Timothy 4:7

**Day 18:** Matthew 14:29-31

**Day 19:** John 20:29

**Day 20:** 1 John 5:13

**Day 21:** Galatians 3:22

**Day 22:** John 1:12

**Day 23:** Mark 10:52

**Day 24:** Romans 1:17

**Day 25:** 1 Peter 1:21

**Day 26:** Titus 1:2

**Day 27:** 1 Corinthians 16:13

**Day 28:** Mark 11:24

**Day 29:** 1 Timothy 6:11

**Day 30:** 1 Thessalonians 1:3

**Day 31:** 1 Peter 1:7

*Pastor's suggested readings over the next 40 days:*

Joel 2:12-14, Matthew 6:16-18, Philippians 3:10-11, 1 Peter 5:6, Mark 1:12-15, Isaiah 58:6-7, Mark 9:2-10, Luke 13:3, Ezekiel 18:21, John 17:17, John 12, Psalm 91.



[www.TheScribesPortion.com](http://www.TheScribesPortion.com)

## Weekly Service Schedule for March 2025

Service	2nd	9th	16th	23rd	30th
<b>Greeter</b>	Walt Reed	Tom Wahl	Lee Habermehl	Brian Reed	Tom Wahl
<b>Greeter</b>	Marion Reed	Volunteer	Cyndy Habermehl	Karla Reed	Volunteer
<b>Nursery</b>	Brian Reed	Cathy Taber	Jenny Habermehl	Patty Hewitt	Brian Reed
<b>Nursery</b>	Karla Reed	Laurie Valade	Paula Wahl	Shana Post	Karla Reed
<b>Sound</b>	Sarah Bias	Maddie Bias	Wyatt Kreeger	Sarah Bias	Maddie Bias
<b>Computer</b>	Aaron Zander	Vaeh Cooke	Katie Kreeger	Aaron Zander	Vaeh Cooke
<b>Call to Worship &amp; Prayer</b>	Matt Post	James Huguelet	Layne Valade	Brian Reed	Carl Cooke
<b>Prayer Elder</b>	Lee Habermehl	Brian Reed	James Huguelet	Matt Post	Layne Valade
<b>Jr. Church Teacher</b>	Diane Lepior	Amber Bias	Becky Durling	Paula Wahl	Amber Bias
<b>Jr. Church Helper</b>	Volunteer	Shana Post	Cathy Taber	Jenny Habermehl	Shana Post
<b>Scripture Reader Message Prayer</b>	Sharon Lewis Exodus 1:8-9	Dan Bryant Exodus 18:13-14	Maddie Bias Exodus 19:9-11	Carl Cooke Exodus 20:19	Laurie Valade Exodus 21:12-14
<b>Benediction</b>	Pastor	Matt Post	James Huguelet	Brian Reed	Layne Valade
<b>Financial Team</b>	James Huguelet	Layne Valade	Tom Wahl	Lee Habermehl	James Huguelet
<b>Financial Team</b>	Dan Bryant	Matt Post	Carl Cooke	Dan Bryant	Matt Post
<b>Communion</b>	Brian Reed				

Please remember if for any reason you are unable to meet your scheduled obligation, *please contact someone from your team to take your place as soon as you know you are unable to fulfill your obligation.* The changes however, will not be printed in the bulletin.

*Thank you for your service to our church!*



## WHICH IS IT? ELISHA, ELIJAH, OR BOTH?

*Determine whether Elisha, Elijah, or both are being described.*

A. ELISHA

B. ELIJAH

C. BOTH

- \_\_\_ 1. Comes first in the Bible story.
- \_\_\_ 2. Part of the "school of prophets."
- \_\_\_ 3. Left a letter of warning for King Jehoram.
- \_\_\_ 4. Confronted the gods on Mount Carmel.
- \_\_\_ 5. Was fed by ravens at the Brook Kerith.
- \_\_\_ 6. Turned bad water into clean water.
- \_\_\_ 7. Raised a boy from the dead.
- \_\_\_ 8. Called down fire from heaven to kill fifty soldiers.
- \_\_\_ 9. Fled from Queen Jezebel in fear.
- \_\_\_ 10. Filled a widow's jars with oil.
- \_\_\_ 11. Picked up the other's mantle and used it miraculously.
- \_\_\_ 12. Crossed the Jordan on dry land.

*Answers on page 11*



# This Month's Cause for Celebration!



BRAID,  
LOVE,  
MCDONALD,  
HABERMEHL,  
COON  
SIDDENS  
COOKE

TOM  
JUNIOR  
JACKIE  
JENNY  
KATHY  
KAYLEE  
CARL

**1-Mar**  
**9-Mar**  
**14-Mar**  
**18-Mar**  
**19-Mar**  
**19-Mar**  
**23-Mar**

Psalms 33:22

Let thy mercy, O LORD, be  
upon us, according as we  
hope in thee.



12  
14  
26  
28

Mike & Patty  
Sean & Kattie  
Walt & Marion  
Ken & Sally

Hewitt  
Zander  
Reed  
Mahar

# Kids Corner

**Hey Kids! It is important to tell others about Jesus. But it is also important to help them KNOW they are saved and will go to Heaven when Jesus says it's time. Here is a way to help your friends know they are saved.**

## How Can I Know...



<sup>2</sup>  
**John 1:12 says "Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God."**

1. Ask yourself—have I asked Jesus to be my Savior from sin? When?
2. Do I truly believe Jesus died and rose again?

If you know that you believe Jesus died and rose again and you have asked Him to be your Savior, John 1:12 says that you have the right to be called a child of God!



## I Believe It!

**Acts 16:31 says: "Believe in the Lord, Jesus and you will be saved..."**

This verse also reminds us that if we believe in what the Lord Jesus has done for us, we are saved.

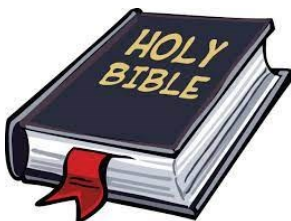
## I'll go to Heaven!

<sup>4</sup>  
Here is another great verse to help you understand your salvation:

**"Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."**

**Romans 10:13**

Are you part of everyone? YES, you are! So, if you have 'called' on Jesus, [prayed and asked Him to be your Savior], then you are saved!



## But I Still Sin...

<sup>5</sup>  
**EVERYBODY** sins everyday! But God knew that we would. The Bible, God's perfect Word shows us what we must do about our daily sin.

1 John 1:9 says: ***If we confess*** [tell on ourself] ***our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness*** [all the 'un-right' things we do].

Isn't our God wonderful to show us how to have our sins forgiven?



<sup>6</sup>  
Now that you are sure you are going to Heaven, you need

Go to church and Sunday school so you can learn more about Jesus.



Read your Bible, a little every day.

And pray to Him every day too!

**OBEY!**

Obey what God's Word says.



Witness [tell others] about what God did for you!

to grow in the Lord!

And....what about YOU? Are you sure you are saved? Review these steps again for yourself.

# Mission News!



Matthew & Jennifer Johnson

Executive Director of Church Partnerships



## 2024 Ministry Report

*For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God. Ps 86:10*

God has blessed our efforts together with you for the sake of the Gospel over this past year. Here is a look back and a look forward at how God is using our partnership to declare His glory among the nations and build His church.

2024 HIGHLIGHTS	2025 OUTLOOK
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Helped lead LG Global Ministry Summit in FL and launched LG Impact Teams</li><li>Hosted LG Business As Mission meetings at ABWE Headquarters</li><li>Led 28 Pastors and Ministry Leaders on 2 Vision Trips to the Dominican Republic</li><li>Made 2 trips to Romania to visit national partners, plan for 2025 Vision Trip, train LG missionaries, and to host a US church group</li><li>Helped lead 3 orientations as we welcomed 9 new missionaries to LG</li><li>Led 3 Partnership Ministry Summits (110 US ministry leaders attended)</li><li>Shared our ministry at 2 mission conferences</li><li>Hosted LG Sports Ministry meetings in MI</li><li>Visited Afghan Initiative ministry leaders in southern US</li><li>Oldest son, Micah, engaged and 3rd son, Noah, moved to Lancaster Bible College</li><li>Hosted partners from Argentina (2 months), Guyana, and 3 from India (one staying with us for 6 weeks)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Plan and lead 8+ Partnership Ministry Summits in MI, OH, PA, TX, and IN</li><li>Lead 2 Vision Trips to Romania for US pastors and ministry leaders</li><li>Help with pastoral training in the Dominican Republic and Cuba</li><li>Host monthly LG prayer gatherings for US ministry leaders</li><li>Continue to lead and develop LG Church Engagement Team</li><li>Develop Church Partnership curriculum</li><li>Assist in the mobilization of 20+ LG short-term teams</li><li>Trips to Belize and Honduras to develop new partnership opportunities</li><li>Visit supporters in CA</li><li>Continue working on development of the LG platform - a digital engagement community</li><li>Help launch 3 new LG Impact Teams</li><li>Micah's marriage to Hannah in Oct</li><li>Continue raising remaining 15% of support</li></ul>

# Grandma's Kitchen

## March Madness Watch party recipes



### Buffalo Bites

#### Ingredients:

1 ¼ pound ground (95% to 97% lean) chicken or turkey  
2 oz cream cheese, softened  
4 egg whites  
2 TBL chopped celery  
(You can easily double this recipe if you have a bigger crowd than 3)

#### Instructions:

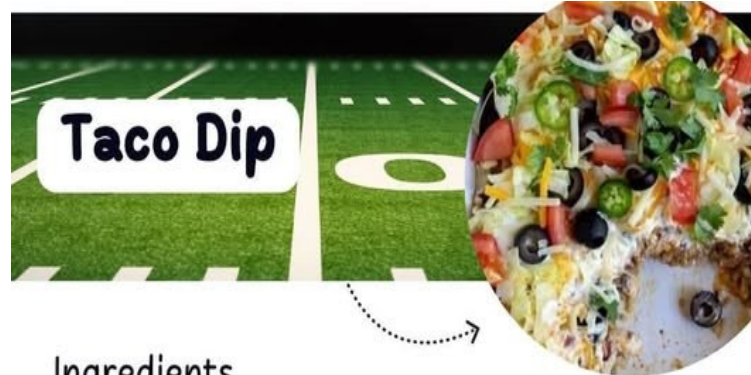
Combine all of the meatball ingredients in a medium bowl. Form into about 1-inch balls. (I use a 1-inch cookie scooper~ this makes perfect uniform bites and keeps your hands mess-free)

Place them on a greased cookie sheet (with sides) and bake at 350 degrees (F) for 10 minutes.

After 10 minutes, remove the meatballs from the oven and pour 1 TBL Franks wing sauce (or your favorite sugar-free sauce) on each one. Put them back in the oven and bake for another 12 minutes.

Serve with celery.

Makes 3 servings (about 8 meatballs per serving if using 1 inch scoop) Enjoy!



### Ingredients

into a

deg

sauce

8 oz light cream cheese, softened  
1 c fat free Greek yogurt  
8 oz cooked, lean ground turkey  
1 c of favorite salsa  
1 Tbs taco seasoning  
1 c shredded lettuce  
1 c shredded cheddar cheese  
1 c tomato, diced  
1 small avocado, diced  
½ c onions, sliced  
1 Tbs sliced olives  
1 lbs mini bell peppers, sliced in half lengthwise, stems and seeds removed, for serving instead of chips

### Directions

1. Combine softened cream cheese, Greek yogurt, ground turkey, salsa and taco seasoning until smooth and well combined.
2. Spread into a rectangle baking dish or pie plate (I used an 11"x7" baking pan)
3. Refrigerate for an hour to let flavors combine (optional). Top with remaining ingredients.

12 servings with each:

¼ leaner, 1 green, 2 condiments, 1 healthy fat



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Bancroft Church Phone Number:  
 989-634-5724  
 Secretary: Diane Lepior  
 Office Hours: 9-2 daily  
*Call ahead please,  
 most days the office works offsite*  
**Tuesdays by appointment**  
*Please use the church phone or Facebook*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2  Eve Service 7pm	3	4	5	6	7	8 Men's Breakfast 8am 
9  DAYLIGHT SAVINGS	10 Missions 10 am  CE 6 PM	11	12 Ladies Fellowship 10 am  Elders 7pm	13	14  Saturday GAME NIGHT	15  Food Pantry 10 to Noon  5:15pm
16  Awana & YG 6 pm	17	18	19	20 	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	<b>WHICH IS IT? ELISHA, ELIJAH, OR BOTH?</b>  <div> <div>1. Elijah</div> <div>2. Both</div> <div>3. Elijah</div> <div>4. Elijah</div> <div>5. Elijah</div> </div> <div> <div>6. Elisha</div> <div>7. Elisha</div> <div>8. Elijah</div> <div>9. Elijah</div> <div>10. Elisha</div> </div> <div> <div>11. Elisha</div> <div>12. Both</div> </div>				

**Weekly activities:** Wednesdays: 10am Adult Bible Study  
 Thursdays: 6:30pm Adult Small Group  
 Thursdays: Karate



Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love Him and keep His commandments, to a thousand generations.



***Deuteronomy 7:9***



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