

*A Celebration of Thanksgiving  
for the Ministry of*

*Marie L. Buffaloe  
Minister of Word & Sacrament*



3 pm Sunday, March 27, 2022

Derry Presbyterian Church  
Hershey, Pennsylvania

**Please silence cell phones** before the program begins.

**Bold print** indicates congregational reading or response.

**An asterisk \*** indicates when to stand if able.

**Following the program**, the celebration continues with a reception in Fellowship Hall. Please take time to write a note in the guest book and sign your name. Cards can be placed in the basket provided.

**Flowers** on the chancel have been given in honor of Rev. Marie Buffaloe by her friends from Suite 1 at St. Andrews College.

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A Celebration in Honor of  
**Rev. Dr. Marie Buffaloe**  
Parish Associate, Derry Presbyterian Church  
1997-2022

VOLUNTARY

*Sweet Caroline*  
Derry Brass

Neil Diamond

WELCOME

Dr. Stephen McKinney-Whitaker

HYMN 837

*Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*

PUPPET PRESENTATION

God's Hidden Hands

SHARING STORIES AND MEMORIES

Dr. Richard Houtz  
Debbie Hough  
Dr. McKinney-Whitaker

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

Sandy Morales  
Jill Peckelun  
Gregg Robertson

DEDICATION OF THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW WINDOW

In the name of our Loving God, made known to us in Jesus Christ: we bless, dedicate, and set apart this Gospel of Matthew window to the glory of God in honor of Rev. Marie Buffaloe and her 25 years of ministry at Derry Presbyterian Church.

**We are thankful for the good news of Matthew's Gospel and for all the ways and years in which Rev. Buffaloe shared, proclaimed, and lived the good news of the Gospel.**

Through this window, and the years of Rev. Buffaloe's ministry, may your grace illuminate our worship and our lives; for once we were in darkness, but now in you we are light.

**Lord, accept this window which we offer in thanksgiving and gratitude for Rev. Buffaloe and your Gospel of Grace; as the light which shines through it is transformed into still greater splendor, so may our lives show the beauty of your manifold gifts of grace.**

SONG

*Carolina in my Mind*  
Ryan Yingst

James Taylor

## LITANY OF THANKSGIVING AND FAREWELL

Kathy Yingst: Rev. Marie Buffaloe was ordained to the ministry of word and sacrament in 1982 by the Blue Ridge Presbytery in Virginia. Previous to her call to Derry, Pastor Marie served Rustburg Presbyterian Church in Rustburg, Virginia and Trinity Presbyterian Church in Shady Spring, West Virginia. For the last 25 years, Rev. Dr. Marie Buffaloe has served as a pastor of Derry Church. She has offered her gifts and has worked diligently to proclaim God's word, share God's love, and practice God's justice. By the grace of God, she has served us well.

**Thanks be to God.**

Pastor Stephen: In the book of Ecclesiastes, the Preacher writes the following verses:

"For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to seek, and a time to lose ..."

Kathy: Today is your last Sunday as our pastor. As your retirement begins, it is a time to mark the ending of your ministry here at Derry Church; a time to look back and a time to look forward; a time for joy and a time for sadness. It is a time to give thanks and praise to Almighty God for what Pastor Marie has given us in our lives together.

Pastor Stephen: Blessed be God.

**And blessed be God's holy name.**

The Lord makes everything beautiful in its time.

**Whatever God does endures forever.**

Bless the Lord, O my soul.

**And forget not all God's benefits.**

Rev. Tom Folts: At this pulpit and others like it, you have proclaimed God's Word and interpreted the scriptures with us. You have challenged God's us to love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength and love our neighbor as our self.

**We thank you for your preaching ministry.**

James Gorman: At this font and fonts in other congregations, you have baptized infants, teens, and adults into new life in Christ. You have assured us of God's grace in our lives and reminded us to remember our own baptisms.

**We thank you for your ministry of baptism and your reminder that in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

Bobble Atkinson (on video): In this chapel you led us in worship through song, prayer, and scripture on Sundays and Tuesday evenings. At this table and others like it, you served us the Lord's Supper, bread and juice in remembrance of Christ. You proclaimed God's love for us and reminded us that there is always a place for each of us at God's Table.

**We thank you for welcoming and serving us at the Lord's Table.**

Ann Kroh: Standing in front of sanctuaries you have presided at services where we gave thanks for the lives of loved ones whose baptisms had been made complete in death. You walked with us in the midst of grief. You proclaimed the good news of the resurrection and led us in prayers for comfort and strength.

**We thank you for being with us in the time of loss and preaching the promise of resurrection.**

You have also presided over services of marriage. You were present at the beginning of something wonderful and encouraged couples to include the love of God in their marriage. You led prayers asking God's presence and blessing for their lives together.

**We thank you for sharing those and other times of great joy.**

*Litany continues on the next page*

Harold Nightwine: When you came here you received the keys to this building. You have had an office here to do your work of reading, preparing for worship and study, administering the life of the congregation, and meeting people for small talk and big conversations. You have taught in this building and given leadership to programs and activities for people of all ages. You listened to our good news and bad and gave us a warm hug when it was needed. As you return your key, we thank you for your prayers, your diligent preparation, your careful listening, and your nurture. **We thank you for all you have done in this building for us and the mission of the church.**

Ruth Holp: You have greeted us every Sunday at these doors and sent us out of this sanctuary with your words, but most importantly with your love. As you stand at these doors one last time as our pastor, we thank you for your leadership, your service, and your love. Know that we send you out of this sanctuary with our words of thanks, but most importantly with our love. **We thank you for loving us, hear our love for you now.**

Pastor Stephen: With joy and sorrow, thanksgiving and gratitude, filled with memories and moments of meaning, let us pray together:

**Gracious God you have called us in our baptisms to be your servants. You have enabled us to respond to your call as a community of believers. Thank you for the partnership in the gospel we have enjoyed with Pastor Marie. Now we send her forth to enjoy a Pastor's retirement and continue her ministry in a new way. May she go from here knowing our love and eternal gratitude. We pray In Jesus' name. Amen.**

BLESSING AND SENDING FOR REV. MARIE BUFFALOE AND REV. BRAD BRADBURN

Bless them that they may continue to be a blessing.  
as they have been to us and Derry for 25 years.  
And so together we say .....

**The Lord bless you and keep you;  
The Lord make his face to shine upon you  
And be gracious to you;  
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you  
And give you peace this day, this week, and in all the years to come. Amen**

\*SONG OF SENDING 548

*May God Support You All Your Days*

RECESSIONAL

*Theme from "Water Music"*  
Grant Wareham, Organ

G.F. Handel

# Quick Facts on the Ministry of Pastor Marie Buffaloe

## **BAPTIZED, CONFIRMED, NURTURED**

ERNEST MYATT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
RALEIGH, NC

Both parents were elders and generations of Marie's family have been members.

## **SUMMER YOUTH DIRECTOR**

LAURINBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
LAURINBURG, NC 1976

Marie's first non-farm summer job! Continued as junior high youth advisor while in college.

## **SUMMER INTERNSHIP**

MOOREFIELD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
(AND TANNERY AND OAK RIDGE CHAPELS)  
MOOREFIELD, WV 1979

Learned to lead three services on a Sunday and then take a nap.

## **CHAPLAIN (CPE PROGRAM)**

BAPTIST EAST HOSPITAL, LOUISVILLE, KY 1980  
Observed first and only autopsy.

## **SEMINARY INTERN**

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (AND WESTMINSTER CHAPEL), PULASKI, VA 1980-81

Learned to preach every Sunday

## **SUMMER STAFF**

TASTE OF MINISTRY SYNOD PROGRAM FOR  
NEW PASTORS 1988

Where Marie met Brad Bradburn.

## **EDUCATION**

BACHELOR OF ARTS in Religion, St. Andrews  
Presbyterian College, (now St. Andrews  
University), Laurinburg, NC 1978

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY, Union Theological  
Seminary, (now Union Presbyterian Seminary)  
Richmond, VA 1982

AUDITED DOCTOR OF MINISTRY PROGRAM  
McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago, IL  
1985-87

## **ORDAINED**

MINISTER OF THE WORD AND SACRAMENT  
Presbyterian Church (USA), Blue Ridge Presbytery,  
VA 9/12/82



## **SERVICE TO CHURCH**

PASTOR, RUSTBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
RUSTBURG, VA 1982-1990

PASTOR, TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
SHADY SPRING, WV 1990-96  
Special Presbyter on staff, Presbytery of WV.

PARISH ASSOCIATE PASTOR, DERRY  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, HERSHEY, PA 1997-2022

SEMINARY PAGE (Assistant) to Joint General Assemblies of PCUS and UPCUSA 1981, Houston as they tested out the merger of the two denominations.

MODERATOR of Blue Ridge Presbytery  
(now Presbytery of the Peaks) VA 1985

COMMISSIONER to General Assembly of the  
PCUSA, Biloxi, MS 1987

PREACHED & TAUGHT COURSES at Wee Kirk  
Conferences (for leaders of small churches).

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN CONFERENCE & Synod of  
the Trinity meeting and Synod school.

## **MISSION TRIPS**

HAITI 1983 & 1986: Blue Ridge Presbytery work  
camp to explore presbytery partnerships.

ZAMBIA 1988: Work camp through Medical  
Benevolence Fund.

KENYA 1995: Travel study trip with Presbyterian  
leaders.

HONDURAS 2005: Work camp with Heifer Project  
International & Presbyterian Church (USA).