

BON AIR CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

DECEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER



Bon Air Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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VISIT US:

<http://www.baccdoc.org>



Bon Air Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

WORSHIP WITH US:

Sunday Morning Worship
8:45 and 11:00 a.m.

Saturday Casual Worship
5:00 p.m.

Sunday School
10:00 a.m.

All are welcome!

The Lord has anointed me to bring good tidings to the afflicted; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and the opening of the prison to those who are bound. – Isaiah 61:1b

After going out on his own and becoming quite the sensation, Jesus comes home. When he walks into the synagogue everyone wants to hear from the young man who has “made it big.”

This scripture from the prophet Isaiah is what he reads. He reads it and boldly says that this scripture has been fulfilled. The home folks think that’s a might presumptuous to be saying he’s the fulfillment of the great prophecy. They think this boy has gotten a little too big for his britches.

For Jesus, this is it. This is the truth. This is who he is. This describes his mission. He has taken these words to heart.

Let us take his words to heart. As followers of the Long Awaited One, we come to worship this baby child by bringing the good news to those who are afflicted. We come to bring hope where there has been despair. We come to bind up the brokenhearted. Have you seen any brokenhearted people today? Have you seen anyone who needs to be set free from their prison of grief, addiction, loneliness, lostness?

Here is how we welcome this child by making our lives his birthday present. We celebrate his coming by doing his work. We celebrate the power of one small child who grows into the Savior of the world. This is our purpose to live out our mission of bringing the good tidings, binding up the wounds of those who hurt and helping all who feel oppressed. Through our wonderful church we have many opportunities to worship and serve the King of Kings, the Lord of Lords. Won’t you come and kneel by the cradle of Christ that rests in the shadow of the cross? Won’t you come to give yourself to the one who has given all for us?

Shalom, Cindy



Youth Group



Youth Group **noun**

: a group of youths or young persons forming a part or a unit of an organized social, or religious institution the church sponsors that has a **BLAST!**

: a group of people who love one another.

We are off to a great start with the youth this Fall and we have been having a lot of fun, as the pictures show. We are gearing up for a busy Advent season. Thanks to everyone who supports this amazing group of kids! The future looks bright with these young disciples leading the way!



'Tis the Season - schedule of upcoming events:

Cooking & Decorating for Hanging of the Greens –Saturday, 11/30 from 4:00 – 6:00p.m.

Hanging of the Greens Dinner –Sunday, 12/1 dinner at 5:00p.m.; Service starts promptly at 6:00p.m.

Christmas Pageant –Sunday, 12/8, Early & Late services. We will also have YOUTH GROUP after late service that day with lunch & cookie decorating!

YMC ZOOM planning meeting – Monday, 12/9 at 7:30p.m.

Christmas Caroling -Sunday, 12 /15 leaving church at 4:00p.m., with a party at Cindy's house afterwards. Wear your best Christmas sweater and Santa hat and let's go spread some cheer to our homebound friends!



Youth Group Christmas Party @ The Ver Beek's home –

Sunday, 12/22 from 6:00p.m. – 8:00p.m. We will have dinner & dessert, do a fun Christmas craft or project and a White Elephant gift exchange.



The youth had a "Friday Fun Night" at Westchester Commons. They ate at Chick-Fil-A, did a fun scavenger hunt at Target & Petco, and then ended the night with fro-yo at Sweet Frog!

Advent Happenings



Hanging of the Greens

Sunday, December 1st
5:00 p.m. Dinner
6:00 p.m. Worship Service



Hope to see you there!



It's time to haul out the holly! Join your BACC friends to make our already lovely sanctuary look just right to celebrate the season of Advent. We'll meet at **9:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 30.**

Christmas Caroling

Join us as we bring Christmas cheer to friends. We will be visiting some of our homebound members and also some of our friends in independent living centers. You don't need to be able to sing - just bring a smile and some love to share. After caroling we will gather at Cindy's for a Christmas party.



"Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!"
2 Corinthians 9:15

Reaching Out with Christ's Love



CHRISTMAS FAMILIES

The Angel Trees with gift requests for our Christmas families are up outside the fellowship hall. We are providing gifts for eight local families this year. We have two families from Redd Elementary, two from Crestwood Elementary, two from Bon Air Elementary, one Thomas Jefferson Elementary family and a former CARITAS family.

All gifts must be submitted by December 15th.

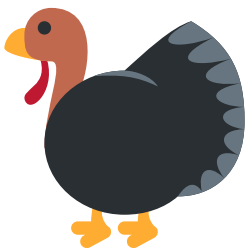
Instructions for choosing a gift:

- Take both tags and write your last name on them.
- Leave the white tag on the tree at church.
- Take the colored tag with you.
- Return your gift, unwrapped, with the colored tag attached.



Thank you for sharing with our neighbors during the holiday season!

THANKSGIVING REPORT



We supported eight local families for Thanksgiving and were able to provide food and grocery store gift cards to each. Deliveries have already been made since Chesterfield County schools will be closed the week of Thanksgiving. All of the families were very appreciative and overwhelmed with the kindness.

Thank you to all who brought food and/or donated money.

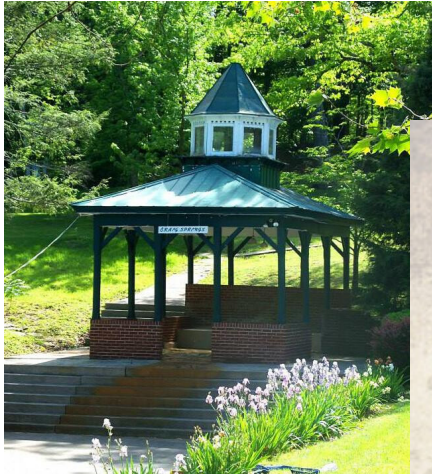
God uses His people to help those in need

BAINBRIDGE FOOD BANK

With the holidays now upon us, we should also consider the folks who depend on Bainbridge Community Ministry for part of their food sources. These folks are thankful for the assistance they receive from Bainbridge. Let's help keep their shelves filled. Current needs are canned fish, canned ham, and canned fruit and fruit cups, cereal, and spaghetti sauce and pasta.

With Christmas in the air, we may have things to do on Sunday mornings other than come to church. If you can't get here on Sundays, there is a viable alternative - our Saturday Evening Casual Service. Starting at 5:00 p.m., it lasts just under one hour, and includes hymns, scriptures, communion, prayers, and a sermon by Cindy. Come and pay us a visit on Saturday.

Christmas Special Offering



Many of our members have been richly blessed by Craig Springs Camp and Conference Center. This is one of our wonderful ministries supported by our Christmas Special Offering. There are many others. Hear our new Regional Minister speak about our ministry through the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) by clicking on **this link**.

Our finest gifts support the work of regional ministries this Christmas.

Your regional ministry works to:

- *Connect congregations to each other
- *Gather Disciples in camps, conferences, and assemblies
- *Nurture the development of a new generation of pastors
 - *Assist churches in calling new ministers
 - *Interpret the global mission of the Church
 - *Represent the Church in ecumenical gatherings
- *Counsel and pray with those who are troubled of spirit
 - *Lead the Church to address racism
 - *Inspire leaders to experiment and create
- *Witness to the power of God to make things new

The Christmas Special Day offering supports all of these and many other ministries of our regions.

Thanks for your support!

Reaching Out with Christ's Love



JOY GROUP

Our JOY Group (Just Older Youth!) will be gathering for a Christmas lunch at the new Candela's location on **Tuesday, December 17th at noon**. Join us at 14235 Midlothian Turnpike for some holiday fun with friends!

You can RSVP to the church office at 804-272-6228.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS BRUNCH

All Sunday School classes will have a Christmas Brunch and Fellowship on **Sunday, December 22nd in the Fellowship Hall from 9:30-10:30 a.m.** All classes are welcome. Adults are asked to bring a brunch dish to share.

Set-up will be at 9:00 a.m. & clean-up 10:30 a.m. if you can help.



BLUE CHRISTMAS

If you're struggling with pain or loss and find the holiday season challenging, you may benefit from our Blue Christmas Service, which will be held on **Saturday, December 7th at 5:00 p.m.** This is a more contemplative time of quiet reflection.



Reaching Out with Christ's Love

A golden silhouette illustration of a nativity scene, including Mary, Joseph, baby Jesus in a manger, and animals, set against a blue background with a bright star and rays of light.

Reverend Jennifer Collins, MDiv, MS, BCC is a friend of ours at Bon Air Christian Church and a Pastoral Counselor at Shepherd's Staff Ministry.

How to Manage the Holidays when Grieving

Since October 31st, we have been hearing, "It's the most wonderful time of the year," sung by Andy Williams as we walk through department stores and shopping malls. Yet, as you listen to the Christmas songs, you feel anything but joy to the world. You are grieving and your emotions are completely normal. Since we cannot simply cancel Thanksgiving and Christmas, how can we better manage our emotions this season?

Here are some Hints for the Holidays:

For Yourself --

- Pay attention to yourself: The holidays are an especially busy time of year, so listen when your body or emotions tell you that you are tired and need a break from holiday preparations. Be sure to let your friends and family members know what you are up for and what they can do to support you.
- Remember "You don't have to": If you find certain traditions painful this year, do not do them. Be careful not to throw out all your traditions, but do not be afraid to let go of some either. You can always pick them up again later with new meaning or start a new tradition.
- Tears: Be prepared that the holiday may be an especially emotional time and give yourself permission to continue grieving. Each family member has their own unique grief journey and may have different needs related to celebrating the holidays. No one way is right or wrong. Do not be surprised by tears or sadness and do not fight them off. Instead, carry tissues.
- Be Flexible: Give yourself permission to not participate in all the usual festivities if necessary.
- Healthy Expectations: Set realistic ones. Remind yourself that this year is different. Decide if you want to claim all the "usual" responsibilities from previous years and be willing to receive help when others offer.

For Others

- Honesty: Let others know that you enjoy hearing your loved one's name.
- Togetherness or Not: Recognize your need for community; however, if you are feeling pressured to participate in more than you are comfortable with, simply say, "No, thank you."
- Give of Yourself: Volunteer to help others through your church or a charity. Invite someone who is alone during the holiday to join you and your family for a meal or a concert. Make a donation to a favorite cause in memory of your loved one.

Other Suggestions

- Start a new family ritual. Go for a walk to look at holiday lights, light a special candle in memory of your loved one, set a place at the table for your loved one and share memories.
- Try to avoid "cancelling" the holidays despite the temptation. It is okay to avoid some circumstances that you do not feel ready to handle, but total isolation is unhealthy. Allow yourself some time for solitude, remembering, and grieving, but balance it with planned activities with others.
- Create a memory box. You can fill it with photos of your loved one or written memory notes from family members and friends. Children can include drawings in the box.
- Make a decorative quilt.
- Put a bouquet of flowers on your holiday table in memory of your loved one.
- Honor your loved one in a way that feels comfortable to you. It is usually better to acknowledge your loss than to pretend that nothing has changed. Learn to be conscious of the moment. Practice being fully present where joy resides. Savor moments of delight even amidst grief.

What's Happening



ADULT YOGA CLASSES — *NEW TO BACC*

Join us the **1st & 3rd Mondays at 9:30 a.m.** for our regular hour-long Hatha style beginner yoga. No need to register, just come as often as you can. This is donation-based, so pay what you can when you can. **PRE-SCHOOL / KIDS Yoga** will be on the same days starting at 9:00 a.m. Twenty minute class with free play on playground afterwards!



Email Samantha at sburns7184@gmail.com with questions or suggestions!

CABINET RETREAT / ELDERS RETREAT

Committee Chairs and Elders will both gather at Richmond Hill on **January 3rd & 4th** for retreats. This is a time of renewal and preparation for the leaders of the church.

We hope to be nourished and refreshed to serve Christ and his church.

Please remember to RSVP to Cindy and the church office so we can make reservations.



POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

If you would like to honor or remember a loved one during the Advent season and help adorn the sanctuary with beautiful poinsettias, please remember to fill out your flower order form. If you don't have a form, just call the church office between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. to place your order.

All orders are needed by **December 1st.**

A Christmas Poinsettia Order Form with a decorative floral border. The form includes fields for color selection (Red, White, Pink), quantity, and recipient information (In Memory Of, In Honor Of, Given By). It also contains instructions about payment and a deadline.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ORDER FORM
Poinsettia - \$10.00/each
(6" pot with foil, 4-6 blooms)

Red
 White (please specify quantity)
 Pink

In Memory Of:

In Honor Of:

Given By:

*Please make checks payable to BACC (Note: Poinsettias)
All orders need to be placed by December 1st.*
PLACE ORDER FORM IN OFFERING TRAY OR RETURN TO OFFICE.

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

Isaiah 7:14

Women and Men's Fellowship Groups



CMF

BACC Men's Fellowship Renewed in 2019. Throughout 2019, the men gathered, feasted, played golf, fished, watched a local car race, and provided service to the BACC mission by helping to feed VBS & CARITAS.

In October, we started a fun evening event to learn a new card game during the winter months. With the many December worship and social events in the schedule, the BACC Men will not schedule a Men's Gathering at a local restaurant in December. We will formally gather again in January 2020.

The monthly card game will continue in December so we can practice our bidding skills. Watch for the announcement in your email.

--Tom Snodgrass

CWF

It's the holiday season. November meetings went very well. All three groups have been working on the upcoming Chili Cook-Off, and we had a great turn-out! Traci Eagle's chili won first place, and Vickie Brooks' was second, with Arlene Westveld in third place, and Ruth Ann Bates in fourth. Samantha Seemiller won the Quilt Raffle. Not all of the money has been tabulated, but we made close to \$2,000.00. This will go to Nature Camp and the CWF Spring Projects. We thank everyone who made this event such a success!

The Thursday evening group enjoyed dinner at Candela's. We had our meeting at Kitten Whitlow's home. We talked about upcoming events and sent get well, thinking of you, and sympathy cards. Feedback tells us that the cards are very appreciated and we enjoy sending them. We collected gift cards for the battered women's shelter. The lesson came from John 15:1-17. The next meeting is scheduled on **December 5th** at 7:00 at Sara Reese's home. Dinner will be at El Patron at 5:00 p.m. December's lesson will come from Matt. 28:16-20 and 1 Thes. 5:12-23. Please join us.

The Salad CWF met in the multi-purpose room. We had salads for dinner. We continue to collect personal items and cleaning supplies for Safe Harbor. This group also sends cards. We want people to know we are thinking about them. Cathy Law talked about the history of Cuba. Shea Hollifield led the lesson from Acts 1:1-11. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, December 11th at 6:30. The lesson will come from John 15:1-17. We would love for you to join us.

The Daytime CWF cancelled our regular meeting due to rain and snow. Instead we met with the JOY Group on November 19th. The JOY program was delightful. Rev. Jeffery Schroeder, dressed as a 19th century traveling minister, delivered a short sermon on 1 Cor. 13. We also had a brief CWF lesson from John 15:1-17. We enjoyed lunch, dessert, and fellowship. It's always nice to see everybody. Next meeting will be on **December 10th** at 10:30 am. This meeting will be our Christmas potluck. Meat and dessert will be provided. The lesson will come from Matt. 28:16-20 and 1 Thes. 5:12-23. Come celebrate the Christmas season with us. Take a break from your hectic Christmas preparations and join one of our women's groups for food and fellowship.

--Jamie McDonald

"For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

Matthew 18:20

Our Church Family



Dear BACC Congregation,

I extend my thanks to you, my church family, for the prayers, concerns and calls regarding my cardiac procedure in November; nothing is as powerful as prayer. Special thanks to Terri Rudolph and Laura & Scott Hollis for the transportation.

"The joy of the LORD is your strength". ~ Nehemiah 8:10

Tom Neumayer



Dear BACC Friends,

We so greatly appreciated the opportunity to surprise Mom (Juanita Coleman) soon after her 89th birthday to celebrate that event with extended family, CWF and JOY Group members, and her immediate family in the BACC Fellowship Hall. This donation is given in her name from all of us. Thank you!!

Joy Black, Danny Coleman, Anne Purser, Bobby Coleman, Frank Coleman, and Our Families

Welcome



We welcome Mr. Jimmy Clark to our BACC congregation! Jimmy, otherwise known as Ryland Franklin Clark, is the father of our own Frank Clark, longtime member of BACC himself. Jimmy is a former Marine, who spent seventy years living in Williamsburg, fifteen years in Gloucester, and currently resides with Frank and Diane and family in Moseley. He enjoys fishing, is excited to join us here at BACC, and is looking forward to making new friends here! He certainly will, as we're all quite excited to have him!



Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth.

1 Corinthians 13: 4-6

Church Family Updates



Congratulations!

We were honored in November to join with the family of Samuel Wade Becker as they committed before the Lord to raise him according to God's Word and God's ways. Samuel's parents, Michael and Diana Becker, were joined by four rows of supportive family members here to support precious baby Samuel! Congrats to the Beckers!



Welcome Emmy!

We were all quite surprised, though none more so than the Clark family themselves, to welcome Miss Emery Paige Clark to our congregation on Friday, November 15. Emery was due to arrive on Christmas Eve, but decided not to disrupt the lovely Christmas Eve services here at BACC. She is the daughter of Kyle and Kelsey Clark, and the granddaughter of Frank and Diane Clark. We are all so happy to have her here!



Lord, Hear Our Prayers ...

Please lift up in prayer:

Doug White and his family upon the death of his father, Dr. Gene White, in November.

Family and friends of Jessica Reveley, friend and colleague of Joan Mielke, and wife and mother of two boys, who passed quite unexpectedly on November 25.

We continue to pray for...

Dawn Mooney, who is recuperating from surgery; John Crank, who is at the Laurels at Bon Air; Tom Neumayer, who had cardiac surgery; Valerie Carey's 4-year old grandson, Caden, who is having health problems; Lenora Fowler; Sandy Howard; Jeter Bourne; Jake McCann; Clairee Cochran; Hannah Moon's friend, Caroline Laughorn; Carrie Berkley's sister, Liz Young; Sitina Yusuf; Traci Eagle; the Inlow's friend, Darryl Luper; Pat Cosby; Steve Goff; Frank Clark's father, Jimmy; Todd Hatton's father, James Hatton; Tammy Rucker's friend, Judith Hazelo; Rhonda Ringel's friends, Pam Soddu and Bob Goad; Charles Stevens son-in-law, Smokey, and daughter, Kris Perkins; Cathy Wheless; Harriet Griggs; Stephen Blanchard's cousins, Van and Leigh Dupriest; Kathy Morton's mother, Pat Hedrick; Debbie Inlow's father; Jackie Nilles' friend, Kathryn Idelson Noftzger; Jim Pannell; Gail Macfadden's friend, Lewis Bell; Harold Campbell; Dot Nuckols; Gerry Roppe; Tom Neumayer's great-granddaughter, Kassidi Stevens; Steve Blythe's cousin, Brandon Clements; Terry Tynan; Steve Kline's niece, Suzy Street; Tom Mayfield's friend, Mickey Denke; Stacy Price; the Blythes' friend, Donna Leake; Susan Baum's friends, Jeri and Darlene, and Kendra Ver Beek's nephew, Erik Hopp, who will be having spinal surgery on November 29.