

# BON AIR CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

## DECEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

### Bon Air Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

2071 Buford Road  
North Chesterfield, VA  
23235  
(804) 272-6228  
worship@baccdoc.org

### VISIT US:

<http://www.baccdoc.org>



Bon Air Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)



### WORSHIP WITH US:

#### Saturday:

5:00 Casual Worship Service in the Sanctuary

#### Sunday Morning Worship:

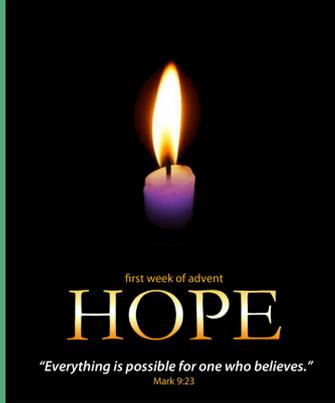
9:00 a.m. Zoom Adult Sunday school  
10:00 a.m. Sunday School on-site  
10:00 a.m. Worship via Zoom  
11:00 Worship in the Sanctuary

#### Prayer and Fellowship/

#### Advent Book Study:

Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.  
via Zoom

**All are welcome!**



This is the beautiful bulletin design created by Susan Deihl for our First Sunday of Advent. It reflects the deep yearning of our hearts. Advent is a time of preparation. It is a time to make ready our hearts for the coming of Jesus.

Come Lord Jesus, come. I am praying that prayer so ardently. I am praying that those who sit in darkness, those who are coping with loss and hurt like they've never known before will feel the hope of Christ dawning into their lives.

Where will we find hope? When our hearts hurt, when we feel lost, where is our hope? The prophet Isaiah reminded us, "those who hope in the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint."

Come share hope, dear friends. As we light candles on the Advent wreath the light grows week after week. When we light candles on Christmas Eve the light grows as we pass on the light of Christ one to another.

I know these have been hard times for so many of you. As I pray for you I pray that you will feel the light of hope growing in your life, day by day, moment by moment. I pray you will feel Jesus coming ever closer to you.

*With love and prayers,*

*Cindy*

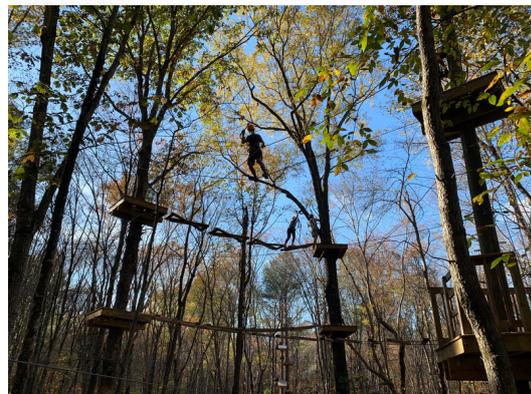
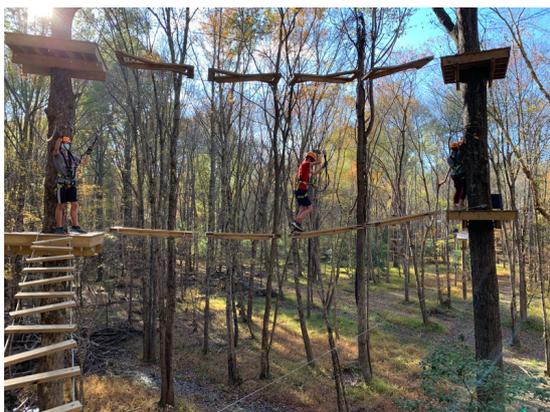




# Youth Group

## *Youth Group Social-Distance Fun*

We had a great time being together and challenging ourselves to the high ropes / ziplining course at Canopy Adventure Park on November 8th. We had 13 brave youth and 4 "even braver" chaperones traverse aerial bridges, swing into cargo nets and soar through the tree tops ... all while cheering each other on! It was wonderful to be \*together again.\*



## *Preparing for our very first Live Nativity*



Many thanks to Robin Blanchard for the wonderful idea of doing a Live Nativity this year. It is sure to bring joy to a lot of people this Christmas season.

A big thank you to Doug Collins, Joe Smith and Jon Ver Beek for designing and building our stable.



***We look forward to seeing you all on Saturday, December 12th at 5:00 p.m.***

# Advent Happenings

## *Hanging of the Greens*

Normally one service following a dinner on the first Sunday of Advent, our Hanging of the Greens service will look a little different this year.

Options include:

- **Saturday, December 5 at 5:00 p.m.**~~Worship Service followed by Hanging of the Greens Dinner, with "to-go" dinners also provided.
- **Sunday, December 6~~10:00 a.m.** Zoom Hanging of the Greens Worship Service and Second Sunday of Advent Worship Service
- **Sunday, December 6 ~~11:00 a.m.** In-Person Worship Service, followed by Hanging of the Green "to-go" luncheon.

## Decorate the Church

It's hard to imagine Bon Air Christian Church looking any more beautiful, but Christmas is when that happens! We would love to have you join us in making the magic take place. **We'll gather to decorate for the Advent season at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 28.**



Join us in bringing some Christmas cheer to our homebound friends. We'll meet in the church parking lot at **3:30 p.m. on Sunday, December 13.**



Our Advent book study on *Sent* will be on Mondays (starting November 30th) at 10:30 a.m. in the multipurpose room or on Wednesdays (starting December 2nd) at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom. We would love to share with you as we prepare our spirits for Christ's coming.

*And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.*

*Luke 2:7*

A colorful illustration of a nativity scene. In the center, the baby Jesus lies in a manger. Mary is on the left, and Joseph is on the right. Three wise men kneel on the right, offering gifts. On the left, two shepherds stand with their staffs, and a cow and sheep are visible. The background is a dark blue sky with white stars and snowflakes.

# Sharing Christ's Love

## CHURCH IN COMMUNITY AND WORLD OUTREACH

The Church in Community Committee thanks all those who participated in the Nov. 10 American Red Cross blood drive held in our fellowship hall. Thanks also to Diane Fearnley and Brenda Kidd for preparing bag lunches for the Gathering Place, a ministry to the homeless, on November 29. And a big thank you to all the BACC members who contributed money and food to our six Thanksgiving families. We are truly blessed to have members who share God's love with our neighbors. During the first two weeks of December, please consider making a monetary donation (write "Christmas families" on your check memo line) or purchasing gifts for our six Christmas families. To sign up to purchase gifts, click on the Google link below or sign up on the list that is posted on the bulletin board outside the church office. **Please deliver all gifts and monetary donations to the church by Sunday, Dec. 13.** Thank you for sharing your blessings! World Outreach would also like to thank all who supported our Reconciliation Gift Offering of \$320.00.

~Cassie Price and Steve Craft



IN PLACE OF OUR TREES THIS YEAR, PLEASE SIGN UP  
TO HELP OUR CHRISTMAS FAMILIES AT

**CHRISTMAS FAMILIES 2020**

OR SIGN UP ON THE BULLETIN BOARDS NEAR THE CHURCH OFFICE.  
PLEASE DELIVER ALL GIFTS AND MONETARY DONATIONS BY  
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13.**

## 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, and are well checked out before food is given. Let's help keep their shelves filled. Current needs are canned soups, canned vegetables, boxed mac and cheese, canned meat and tuna, canned fruit, and cereal.

~Charles Stevens



## CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The evening CWFs are still meeting by Zoom, so watch your email for those links. The CWF Evening Group will meet on Thursday, December 3 at 7:00 p.m., and the Salad Group will meet on Tuesday, December 8 at 6:30 p.m. Both groups provide support for battered women's shelters, one in Chesterfield and one in Henrico. Hopefully all three groups will be able to meet in person soon.

~Jamie McDonald

*But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him,  
how does God's love abide in him?*

*John 3:17*



# Thank You

Our warmest thanks to Paula Craft for once again sharing her talents with us in the design of our lovely Thanksgiving altar arrangement. Being surrounded by beauty like this makes our worship times even more special!



## THANKS TO OUR BON AIR ADVENT ELVES...

who took on the task of assembling and delivering our Advent Bags of Love! We hope that many of you enjoyed the holiday treats, and we truly thank these BACC friends for all of the time and effort they happily contributed to this project! If you haven't received a bag yet, they are available at the church for pick-up beginning this week. Many, many sincere thanks to:

BARBARA BANCROFT  
JAMIE MCDONALD  
SUZANNE DALE  
PAULA CRAFT  
SUSAN DEIHL  
DIANE CLARK

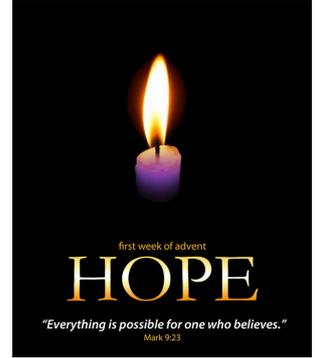
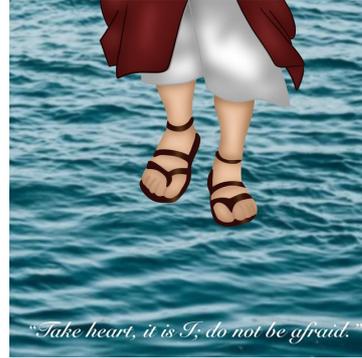
CHRISTIE MACAULAY  
CAROL MCGOWAN  
VICKIE SHANNON  
ALICE MURRAY  
ELLEN MOON  
SARA REESE

Thanks also to our many writers who contributed to the Advent Devotional Book 2020! We so appreciate the time taken to share your thoughts and reflections on the Advent season with us. Please let us know if you'd like to contribute next year to the Lenten or Advent Devotional, or both!





# Thank You



Bryahna Mooney

Emily Rucker

Lilly Ver Beek

Susan Deihl



Many thanks to our talented artists who share their gifts in providing artwork for our weekly bulletin covers.

## THANKS FROM REDD ELEMENTARY

Thank you to the congregation of Bon Air Christian Church for your loving support of Redd Elementary school in so many ways. We appreciate the very generous gift of a check of \$930 for school supplies for the 2020-2021 school year, plus bags of actual supplies. Although the supplies will probably not be purchased until next Fall because of the pandemic and the students still learning virtually, we are now ready to buy them! This photo was taken on the day that Thanksgiving food was delivered to Redd on 11-19-2020. The family was overwhelmed by your generosity. Thank you again for the many ways that you support the students of our school. I look forward to a future date when you can be welcomed back into our building and the daily life of our students. With Thanks, Talaunda Brown, Redd Elementary, CIS Site Coordinator



THANK YOU

*She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."*

*Matthew 1:21*

# Thank You



What a treat for all of us to have Rev. Bill Spangler-Dunning here as our guest speaker on Sunday, November 22! We so enjoyed both his company and his sermon. Bill is the Regional Minister for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). His lovely wife Amy is a "Priscilla" from our congregation and is a Pastoral Counselor. We are thankful for their ministry.

Thank you to so many of you for sending flowers and cards along with phone calls to check on me after my surgery. It means so much to know that you are thinking and praying for me. I am sure all those prayers got me through this trying time. What a wonderful "Spiritual Family" we have and share at BACC! And thank you to all those "Caring Angels" who prepared the Advent Bags that were hand delivered to so many of us!

~Jean Dowdy



Dan Griggs asked that we express his thanks for all of the prayers, cards, and kindnesses sent to Harriet. Harriet is moving to an Acute Care Hospital. Here is her new address: VIBRA, 2220 Edward Holland Drive, Richmond, VA 23230

Thank you to all my church family for the calls, cards and prayers. I am feeling much better. God Bless!  
~Sandy Logan

Our dear friend Sylvia Montgomery recently called the church office, which brightens any day. She wanted to let us know that the "Advent Love Bags were absolutely charming, and everything was adorable!" She had the time of her life, and planned to only open one thing per week, but she got carried away.



## MANY THANKS, ALICE!



Our sincere thanks to BACC member Alice Murray, who took our Nativity costumes home for some much-needed TLC! You may not realize it, but those costumes are more than five years old (wink wink). They even got a good washing, and remarkably did not disintegrate. Thanks so much, Alice, for sharing your time and your skills with us at such a busy time of the year! No one likes to see a raggedy looking shepherd.

*"And there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch by night.  
And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them."  
Luke 2:8-9*



# Good News

## WORDS FROM OUR FRIEND CHARLES STEVENS

**Luke 2:8** Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. 10 Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. 11 For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. 12 And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger." 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: 14 "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!"

Christmas. A time for family, friends, fellowship, and good wishes. How did it all get started? Luke tells us, in simple terms, the answer to that question. It had been 400 years since a prophet of the Lord had been sent to Israel. The people longed for some word from God, some good news to help them deal with, or even overthrow, the oppressive Roman occupation. Suddenly, to some shepherds, the bottom of the social ladder, came this good news. An angel from heaven announced the arrival of the very savior the people longed for. Very often, when God, or even His word, is presented to people, they immediately are afraid. But the angel told the shepherds not to be afraid. He was not bringing threats, but "good tidings of great joy...to all people." This good news was first presented to these shepherds and their flock, but the angel himself proclaimed that it was intended for ALL people. The Jews, the gentiles (that's everybody else), all the people who are rich, poor, any skin color, any spiritual inclination, sinners, business people, religious leaders, the hopeful and the despondent – ALL can benefit from this good news. And if this was not enough, a great multitude of heavenly angels greatly emphasized the first angel's good news, by proclaiming to the shepherds "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!" The shepherds were not hallucinating. What they saw and heard was very real, very great news from God, and then that news was emphasized by many heavenly messengers. The shepherds immediately went to Bethlehem to investigate, to see, and to learn about what the angels had proclaimed to them. We should do likewise. We also have received this good news from God. We also should investigate, and as the shepherds did on their return to their flock, "make widely known" what the angels had said, that others also may "marvel" at the good news. If all people would accept, believe, and widely proclaim this good news straight from heaven, the family times, friends, fellowship, and good wishes we have at Christmas would be with us, world wide, at all times, not just at Christmas. And we would have our "peace on earth, and goodwill toward (all) men!" "Glory to God in the highest" for this good news.

*"Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!"*

*2 Corinthians 9:15*

# Worship With Us



**Join us for our Advent/Christmas worship services, and invite your friends and family as we bow before the manger where Christ was born to Mary.**

Saturday, November 28 at 5:00 p.m.--You are invited to attend our **Blue Christmas Worship Service**. This is a service of healing and comfort as we remember those who are absent from us.

Sunday, November 29--First Sunday of Advent Worship Services  
10:00 a.m. Zoom and 11:00 a.m. In-Person

Saturday, December 5 at 5:00 p.m.--Hanging of the Greens Worship Service, followed by a dinner in honor of our new elder emeriti, Charles Stevens. Dinners "to go" will also be offered.

Sunday, December 6--Second Sunday of Advent and Hanging of the Greens Worship Services  
10:00 a.m. Zoom Worship and 11:00 a.m. In-Person Worship  
12:00 Hanging of the Greens "to-go" luncheon

\*\*Please note there will be an RSVP system for all Christmas Eve services: [www.baccdoc.org](http://www.baccdoc.org)

Saturday, December 12 at 5:00 p.m.--Live Nativity Service  
Join us in the BACC parking lot to see and experience the first Christmas!

Sunday, December 13--The Nativity and Third Sunday of Advent Worship Services  
10:00 a.m. Zoom Worship Service and 11:00 a.m. In-Person Worship Service

Saturday, December 19 at 5:00 p.m.--Saturday Worship Service

Sunday, December 20--The Fourth Sunday of Advent Worship Services  
10:00 a.m. Zoom Worship Service and 11:00 a.m. In-Person Worship Service



CHRISTMAS EVE--Share the bread of life and the cup of salvation as we celebrate God's greatest gift.  
4:00 p.m. Zoom Christmas Eve Worship Service  
5:30 p.m. In-Person Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service  
7:00 p.m. In-Person Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service  
8:30 p.m. In-Person Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service

\*\*Please note there will be an RSVP system for all Christmas Eve services: [www.baccdoc.org](http://www.baccdoc.org)

*"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord."  
Luke 2:11*

# Church Family Updates

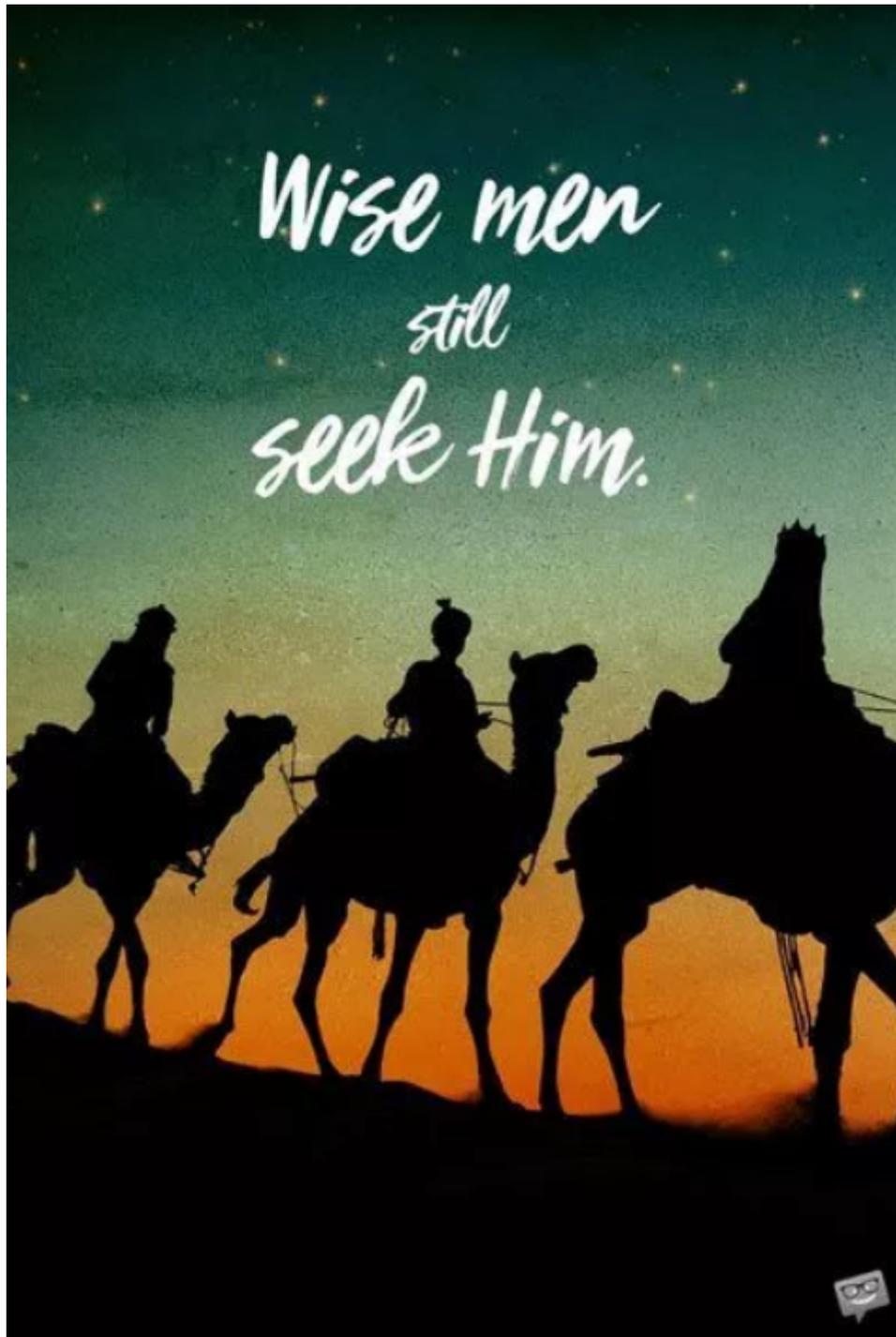


**Please pray for:** the family of Juanita Coleman, who recently passed on to glory; Nancy Roper, who has been diagnosed with COVID-19; Jean Dowdy, as she recovers from recent surgery; Gene Dunston, who is now at home; Shirley Burkhalter; Cathy Wheless; Gary Giffel; Harriet Griggs, who is at VCU Medical Center; Sandy Logan who has sciatic nerve inflammation. Tom Neumayer, who is hospitalized with cardiac issues, Rose McCaferty's sister, Barbara, who remains hospitalized with COVID-19; Rose's brother, Richard, whose lung cancer has metastasized to kidneys and other organ systems; Rose's sister, Judy, whose lymphoma has metastasized to her small intestine; Jim Henderson; Jeter Bourne; Harold Campbell; Charles Stevens; Jimmy Clark; Pat Cosby; John and Judy Crank; Traci Eagle; Peggy Gross; Jackie Nilles; Gerry Roppe; Richard Seeds; Jim Severance; Russell Shelton; Cathy Wheless; Liz Young; Russ Johnson's sister Elizabeth; Faye Lester's sister, Ann Magnum; Kendra Ver Beek's aunt, Linda; Alex and Emily Robinson's two-year-old niece, Sadie; Laura Hollis' sister, Janice Hoover; Sandy Collins' brother-in-law, John Slusher; Jamie McDonald's brother-in-law, George Fay; Charles Stevens' friend, Courtenay Reynolds; Charles' daughter Kris and son-in-law, Smokey; Karson and Maggie Clark's friend, Evelyn; Jasmine Heath's friend, Jessie, as she grieves the loss of her parents; Joan Mielke's sister, Jan; Frances Atherton's sister, Ann; Rhonda Ringel's friends, Pat Tilmon and Diana Barber; Hannah Moon's friend, Caroline Laughorn; Tammy Rucker's friend, Judith Hazelo; Russell Shelton's friend, Paul Townes; Stephen Blanchard's cousins, Van and Leigh Dupriest; Jackie Nilles' friend, Kathryn Idelson Noftzger; Jim Pannell; Gail Macfadden's friend, Lewis Bell; the Blythes' friend, Donna Leake; Jean Dowdy's friend, Julie Pearson; Cassie Price's friends, Jessica and Carter Pope; Steve Blythe's cousin Brandon; Tom Neumayer's great-granddaughter, Kassidi Stevens; Terry Tynan; Steve and Karen Kline's niece, Suzy Street; Tom Mayfield's friend, Mickey Denke; Patrick Sibold; Stacy Price; and Chip Wright; Lynn Sarvis' friend, Jon "Cal" Moore, who is recovering from surgery to fuse his spine after a fall from a ladder.

*Pray* WITHOUT  
CEASING

*The Lord is near to all who call upon Him, To all who call upon Him in truth.*

*Psalm 145:18*



We are so happy to have you as an important and very necessary part of Bon Air Christian Church!  
It is an honor to worship and to serve with you.  
May your Christmas season, even in these uncertain and challenging times, be restful and meaningful for you and your family!



**Bon Air Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**  
**2071 Buford Road**  
**N. Chesterfield, VA 23235**

*Senior Minister:*  
Cynthia Stratton

*Director of Program Ministries:*  
Kendra Ver Beek

*Choir Director and Organist:*  
Vickie Brooks

*Nursery Attendant:*  
Kyla Brooks

*Secretary:*  
Gina Mckenney

**You can find us here:**

Phone: 804.272.6228

E-mail: [worship@baccdoc.org](mailto:worship@baccdoc.org)

Website: <http://www.baccdoc.org>

**Worship times:**

Saturday Casual service 5:00 p.m.

**Sundays:**

Adult Sunday School on Zoom: 9:00 a.m.

Zoom Service 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Service in Sanctuary 11:00

Youth and Adult Sunday school on-site at 10:00 a.m.

**Bon Air Christian Church reaches out to proclaim the Gospel,  
reaches up to worship God,  
reaches in to nurture and grow in faith and love.**