

BON AIR CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

JUNE 2020 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:
10:00 a.m. via Zoom

Prayer and Fellowship:
Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.
via Zoom

*We pray our normal worship
schedule will return in June.
We will continue to keep you
posted via email.*

All are welcome!

Dear Friends:

Who would have ever thought that bleach would become like liquid gold? We do live in a strange world. We know now that there have been warning signs and visionaries who have warned of such a time as this. Sadly, we didn't take them seriously.

What voices do we need to listen to today?

Our hearts go out to all who suffer. Unfortunately there is a lot of suffering. How we are handling life in this pandemic depends partly on our life circumstances. The unemployed with no income suffer a lot more than those who are still able to work and aren't feeling the pain of no income. Extroverts who love being around others are struggling a lot more than those who love nothing more than sitting alone reading a book.

We have a real source of hope in our youth. The message brought to us by some of our seniors during Youth Sunday was poignant and touching.

We are so grateful for all those who help us worship online. It isn't our first choice for worship but it is the best we have right now. Thank you to Jon and Kendra for putting in many hours recording and editing. We are truly blessed by you.

As I think of you I am reminded of this hymn:

*Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above....
When we asunder part, it gives us inward pain;
But we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again. (soon)*

We will meet again. I pray soon we will be physically together and we will celebrate. Until then, zoom in and know we are united in heart, united in faith.

I love you and I miss you. Praying for peace, joy, and healing for one and all.



Shalom,
Cindy

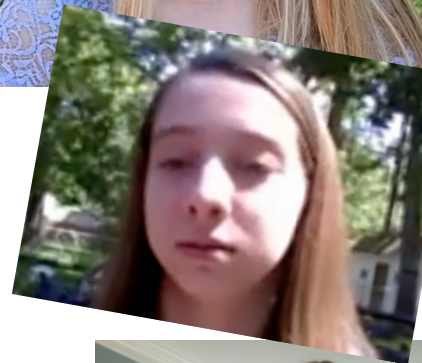
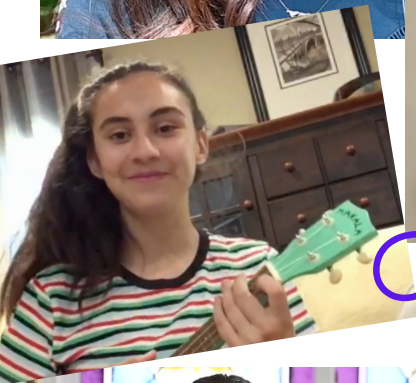
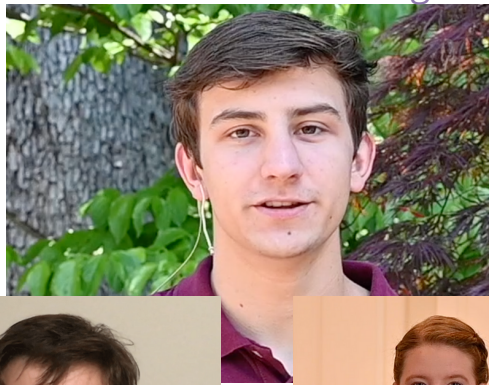
Youth Group

A Youth Sunday like no other ~ great job!

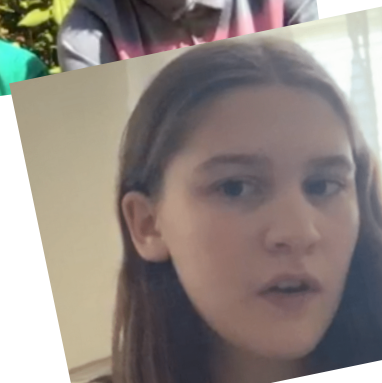
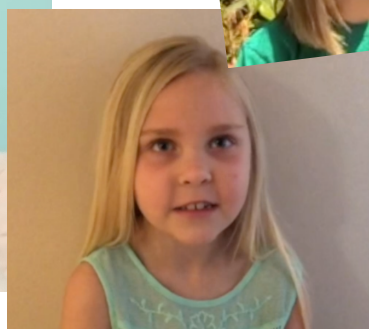
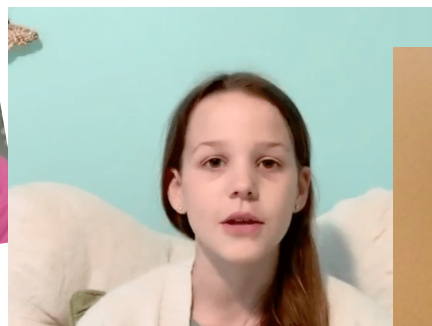
These young disciples did a fantastic job bringing us a message of hope & resilience on May 17th, Youth Sunday 2020. If you were not able to get on live, please be sure to check it out on the Bon Air Christian Church YouTube page. We continue to have a lot of fun on our YG Zoom meetings as well.

We miss everyone & are praying for everyone's health and safety during this unusual time.

[Click here to see the slideshow of our graduating seniors!](#)



Thank You





Congrats, BACC Graduates!

HIGH SCHOOL

CAITLYNN COLLINS will be graduating from the IB Program at Trinity Episcopal School. In the fall, she will be attending Elon University with a scholarship to major in General Engineering. After graduation, she is most looking forward to making new friends, exploring engineering, and enjoying new experiences.

KATIE JOHNSON will graduate from Midlothian High School. She is planning on attending JTCC next year and then transferring somewhere to further her studies in zoology/animal science. She is very much looking forward to continuing her full time employment at the Metro Richmond Zoo this summer, where she has worked for over a year. It is her happy place!

ABDI NUR will graduate from Jame River High School and attend community college, perhaps continuing on to his bachelor's degree after obtaining his associate degree. His interests include social studies and technical skills/auto repair. He is looking forward to more hours at work and continuing his studies.

AHMED NUR will graduate from James River High School and attend community college. His interests include playing and coaching soccer, and a possible career in business. He looks forward to working more and studying.

BELLA SEEMILLER will be graduating from Richmond Christian School and attending Liberty University in the fall. She plans to study Fashion Merchandising and is looking forward to college life.

JAKE VER BEEK will be graduating from the Math & Science High School at Clover Hill High School, and attending Virginia Tech, where he will study Agricultural Business. Jake looks forward to experiencing a new chapter of life.

CAROLINE WHITE will be graduating from the Math & Science High School at Clover Hill High School, and will be attending the University of Virginia, majoring in the biology/pre-med track. She says she's looking forward to all the opportunities college has to offer, particularly meeting people from different states, countries, cultures, and backgrounds.

COLLEGE AND GRADUATE DEGREES

ABBEY CRANK graduates from Randolph-Macon College with a major in Communications and minors in Special Education K-12 and Elementary Education K-6. She will be working with Henrico County Public Schools as an Exceptional Education teacher at Skipwith Elementary School.

MACKENZIE CRANK graduates from the University of Lynchburg with a degree in psychology. She was offered a full-time graduate assistantship at Longwood University, where she will pursue her master's in Counseling with a concentration in Clinical Mental Health Counseling..

COLLIN THOMAS graduates from Ohio State with a Computer Science Engineering degree, and will work in Findlay, Ohio with Marathon Petroleum.

IAN THOMAS graduates with a degree in Material Science Engineering from Virginia Tech, and will work in Newport News with Newport News Shipbuilding.

CAROLYN BRINK received her Masters in Social Work from Virginia Commonwealth University and will be a Mental Health Clinician.



What's Happening?

A Report From Our Treasurer...



Firstly, I want to say that I pray that this message finds you well and that you and your loved ones are surviving these strange times with your faith, physical health and mental health in good condition.

It is my understanding that several of you have expressed in interest in knowing how the corona virus, self-isolating, and the inability to gather contributions through the collection plate on Sundays has impacted our Church's financial situation. Unfortunately, overall giving is down close to \$20,000 from this time last year. Fortunately, giving has not completely dried up as many of you have been mailing your contributions into the Church or going online and giving through the Givelify App. Additionally, as those of you who are familiar with the Church's overall financial condition know, our balance sheet is strong and it is my opinion that we are presently in a good position to make through to the time when we can all meet again in person and resume enjoying one another's fellowship under the "new normal". Until that time, let's keep each other in our prayers and extend as much love, compassion and understanding as we can to one another and to those we meet. God bless you.

Duke Dale

BACC Treasurer



...and Charles Stevens had a few thoughts to share with us.

Habits are hard to break. For this reason, some things we do which might become a habit should not be allowed to become a habit. For instance, not attending church. With the present corona virus lockdown, our not attending church each Sunday could become a habit, once we become accustomed to doing other things on Sunday. It must not be allowed to. Attending church at least once a week is a very good habit to have. But it should not be done only out of habit, for there are many reasons why we should attend church regularly.

1. **DUTY:** We owe it to ourselves to attend church regularly for necessary spiritual enrichment, and we owe it to our God as part of our regular worship, to help us keep mindful of our Christian beliefs and faith.
2. **RESPONSIBILITY:** Our faith in Jesus as our Lord and our Savior is what helps keep us on the straight and narrow path; we must not allow this responsibility to remain on our "back burner." We owe it to ourselves and to our families, as well as to the God who created us, to participate in worship of Him on a regular basis. It is best to do this as part of a group, rather than as individuals. Each other person's participation boosts and encourages our own.
3. **LOVE:** We all love our families, as God loves us. Therefore, we should attend and participate in regular worship, with our families with us. A significant part of God's great love for us, His created people, is that He wants only what is best for us. As we love our families, we also should want only what is best for them. This includes worship experiences, scriptural inspiration through group prayer, and the many learning opportunities at church.
4. **PRAYER:** Prayer is an important part of our lives, both private at home, and communal at church. Going to God in prayer helps us remember that He is sovereign over our lives, and we owe all we have to Him and His teachings, and not through our own efforts, or our own understanding. Prayer helps us maintain our humbleness before our God.
5. **FAITH:** As Christians, we have faith in God, and in Jesus as the Son of God. The above thoughts help us to remember our faith, and not allow it to become slack. Regular attendance helps with this remembering. The current lockdown will be ended sometime, and meanwhile we can attend the services and inspirational messages given by Cindy on the Internet on a regular basis. This we should do.

--Charles Stevens

Well done, good and faithful servants!

Givelify

Tap. Give. Done.

During these challenging days BACC's on-site worship services may be cancelled, but our church's ministry remains strong! And, while services have shifted to online, our offering plate has not ... UNTIL NOW! Recently, our Stewardship Committee, Financial Secretary and Treasurer came together to set-up an online giving tool called Givelify. This is a tool Cindy and Kendra had a great experience with at General Assembly, and it comes highly endorsed by many other churches.

Do you need to use Givelify to give? Absolutely not. The traditional ways of giving are still there for you. The Givelify app simply adds a safe and discreet method for those who wish to give even when they cannot attend in person. It's also good for those times when you leave the checkbook at home. Want to learn how it works? Go to <https://www.givelify.com/>. You can test drive the application in a few seconds.

Think you might want to give it a try? That's great. While you can jump right in and schedule recurring pledge donations, you can also make one-time donations to see how it works. You have full control through the Givelify app on your phone which means you can go back to putting a physical envelope in the plate at any time (or these days – dropping it in the mail/at the church office).

Here is how to get started plus a few things to consider.

- Download the app on your smart phone from the App Store. Search for Givelify. It takes only a matter of minutes to set up.
- The app is free to you but the church is charged a transaction fee. Keep in mind that checks are not free either. In this case, BACC gets roughly \$0.97 of every \$1 given. If you would like to cover that fee (totally optional), you simply increase your gift by 3%. Think, \$3 for every \$100. The total amount of your donation (including the few extra bucks) is tax deductible.
- Your offerings are deposited directly into BACC's bank one day after your gift is made.
- You will receive a donation receipt and you can track giving within the app. PLEASE NOTE: This giving will be separate from the yearly giving statements prepared by the BACC Financial Secretary. We are looking for a solution to integrate these in the future so stay tuned.
- Lastly, we are limiting the contribution categories to some basic ones for now. This is a new tool, so we ask for your grace as we learn how to best leverage it. We also want to see how well it is utilized before investing too deeply into its configuration and backend processes.

That's it! We thank you for all the ways in which you give. Our church's mission continues to move forward and thrive even in these challenging times because of you. We are truly grateful!

Please feel free to call Jon Ver Beek (Stewardship) if you have any questions about the online giving tool or Duke Dale (Treasurer) should you have questions about our finances.

Jon Ver Beek & Shea Hollifield (Stewardship Committee)

Reaching Out with Christ's Love

YOGA CLASSES

When our schedule returns to normal, we will continue our yoga classes with instructor Samantha Burns on the first and third Mondays of each month. Please call the church office or check your email for confirmations on these classes. In the meantime, we thank you, Samantha Burns, for recording a Gentle Yoga video for us. This will be a wonderful and healthy distraction during quarantine time. The hour long yoga video can be found on the BACC YouTube page:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCA0sAYMM8_hH3OrhGbNMSwA/

CHURCH IN COMMUNITY AND WORLD OUTREACH

The Church in Community Committee coordinated the hosting of the American Red Cross community-wide blood drive in our fellowship hall on Tuesday, May 26. They were able to collect 22 blood donations, impacting 66 lives. (Thank you, Cassie Price, for helping with the Blood Drive).

The committee also prepared 30 bag lunches for the Gathering Place homeless ministry on Sunday, May 31. Finally, the committee worked with the World Outreach Committee to coordinate a church-wide drive of hygiene kits, school kits, and emergency buckets to be donated to Church World Services.

 **CWS** The Church World Service Emergency Kits and Buckets are due in June.

BAINBRIDGE FOOD BANK

Bainbridge Community Ministry is a well-run organization that gives food to deserving people in the south Richmond area. Recipients are well checked for actual need before food is given. It is also one of our outreach ministries. Please continue to support this worthy organization and the folks it serves. Current needs are cereal, non-perishable milk, and canned meat and fish.

Thank you to Charles Stevens for picking up and delivering the food for the food bank. All your donations are much needed and appreciated. You may drop off food at the office door anytime.

CMF

These gentlemen have enjoyed a socially-distanced golf game in May, and have a fishing expedition planned for June at the pond at the Vaden's farm. They will remain six feet from all fish and one another. Please contact Tom Snodgrass or the church office for further info.



*Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper
and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.*

John 1:2

Fellowship, Prayer and Learning

Time for Sunday School...

Although we haven't been able to attend Sunday School in our lovely education wing, that has not kept many of us from ZOOM-ing in to study our Bibles and fellowship together! Kitten Whitlow has led an adult class on Sunday mornings at 11:00, and Robin Blanchard has offered Monday Fundays at 4:00 every Monday afternoon for our younger members. In addition, many in our Youth Group have attended the Youth Group meetings every other Thursday evening at 7:00. We're happy to be together, learning and having fun, any way we can!



...and Prayer and Fellowship!

In addition, many have enjoyed our new Prayer and Fellowship group meetings on Wednesday evenings at 6:30. This has been a great way to share our concerns and joys with one another at a time when we can't physically be together, and it's a great way to talk with and get to know those who attend other services (or reside in other states!) a little better.

Ladies, you're invited to the CWF Zoom!

CWF Salad Group update: While our regular meeting schedule ended in May, the Salad Group plans to continue meeting by Zoom this summer, on the second and fourth Tuesdays, with time for prayer and fellowship together and time for fun as well. We've played Bible Trivia and have enjoyed staying in touch with each other. If you'd like to find out more, contact Cathy Law at catherinelaw804@gmail.com or 804-512-9092.

We'd love to have you join us!

*For where two or three are gathered in His name, I am there among them.
Matthew 18:20*

Thank You

THANKS SO MUCH

to those who have made our church sparkle so in the merry month of May!!
Your time and energy are so appreciated!
We are feeling the love here in our beautifully cleaned building!

Kelsey Arthur
Diane Clark
Kristopher Clark
Laura Hollis
Debbie Inlow
Cathy Law
Lena Neal
Sara Reese
Greg Shannon
Vickie Shannon

THANKS FOR A JOB WELL DONE! Dear Kendra, Robin, and Marie, Thank you for the outstanding video that you created, filmed, and edited. Your love for each student was evident in the way that you created a part that highlighted their talents. The church service that the youth did was so touching and spiritual. I sent the link to family and friends. Thank you for all of the time-consuming hard work it took to do this. If I were a parent looking for a Youth Group for my child, I would select this one! Much love and thanks! Barbara Bancroft

LOOKING FOR A GOOD BOOK?

"What is that song you hear? It's a bird's song, loud and clear.

Birds are different shapes and sizes, with fancy songs that could win prizes.

Inside this book are drawings of, the many types of birds we love.

Read this book to make new friends, even past the story's end."

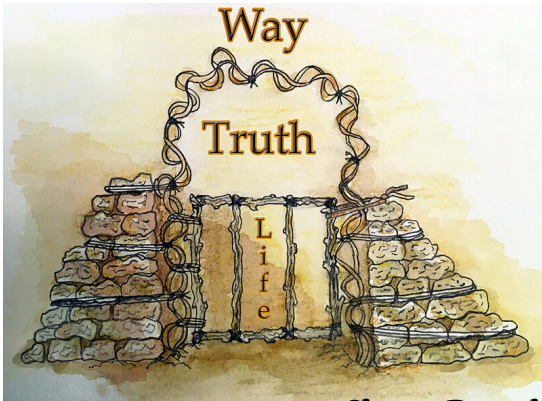
Claire Deitch, a BACC member, is an author and illustrator who remembers how much she enjoyed learning to read. "A Bird's Song" was created to share that enthusiasm and help motivate early readers. With colorful imagery and a light-hearted rhyme, it encourages the viewer to take a closer look at our feathered friends, while making the jump from letters to words.

Go to [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) and type in Claire's name!

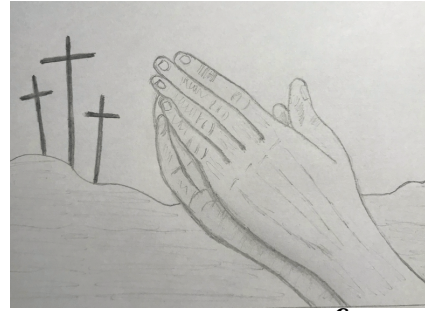


Thank You

So many thanks to our talented artists who share their gifts in providing artwork for our bulletin covers!



Claire Deitch



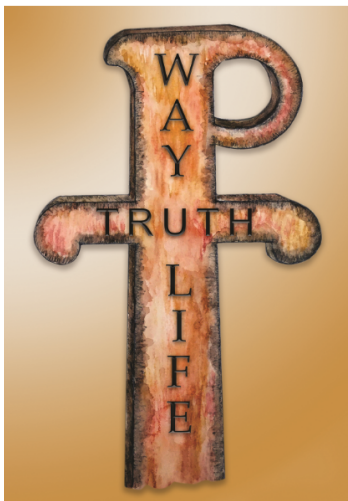
Carol Herrin



Emily McKenney



Bryahna Mooney



Claire Deitch



Emily Rucker

Pentecost



Celebrate Pentecost

Wear red on Pentecost .

Just think~~on zoom all you need is a red shirt.
I guess that could be an upside.

On Pentecost we celebrate the birth of the church. God took a bunch of fear filled disciples and filled them with the Holy Spirit and they became a force. They went out and risked everything so that they could share God's Word. How are we sharing God's Word? What can God do with our lives if we allow God to lead us and give ourselves to proclaiming the Good News.

In this time when so many things are uncertain about our lives, we are still the church. Right now we are One Body, One Church, meeting in many places. We seek to encourage and uplift one another. We seek to be about God's work in whatever means we are able.

One of the ways we celebrate Pentecost is by giving to our Special Pentecost offering which supports new church establishment and church revitalization. You may give through Givelify or by mailing your special offering envelope to the church.



Saturday Service to begin June 5th

Speaking of the Holy Spirit ... we rest upon God's promises, your dedication and lots of prayers as we begin our Saturday service once again. We will observe all of our social distancing protocol and we will be meeting in the fellowship hall with chairs set 6 feet apart. Please let us know if you plan to attend so that we can properly set up the room to keep all of you safe and healthy.

Saturday service is at 5:00 p.m. We will extend to one another grace, compassion and consideration. We seek to love as Jesus loved. Please help us to keep everyone safe by observing social distancing.



Church Family Updates

Lord, Hear Our Prayers ...

We keep Tim Skeens and his family in our prayers in the loss of his mother, Geneva Skeens, last week. Charles Stevens was hospitalized twice due to fluid on his lungs. Our prayers go out to Sherri and Steve Majewski. Sherri's son, Justin, passed away this week. Robin Blanchard requests prayer for her friend Leigh Ashanti, who was diagnosed very suddenly and unexpectedly with stage 4 lung cancer. We continue to pray for Traci Eagle, Liz Young, and Jackie Nilles as they continue their cancer treatments, and for Kitten Whitlow, who had gallbladder surgery. Tommy Williams, Angel's grandfather, is now back at The Laurels, and we continue to pray for him and his family. We pray for Patrick Sibold, who visits our church frequently and has recently begun treatment for cancer. Sandy Collins requests prayer for Chip Wright, who has stage 4 cancer, and is the primary caregiver for his son, and Clay Boyd requests prayer for his sister-in-law Pam Boyd, who is a Covid-19 frontline worker. We also pray for Joshua Brink, who was baptized at BACC two years ago, and had emergency neurosurgery to replace his VP shunt that had malfunctioned. He is home now and is expected to make a complete recovery. Cards can be sent to: The Brink Family, 3004 Drakewood Circle, Midlothian, VA 23113.

Kendra Ver Beek asks for prayers for her uncle, Dwight Walter, who is being treated for a blood clot and inoperable liver cancer after a quite unexpected diagnosis. Joan Mielke requests prayers for her sister Jan, who is in a lot of pain after breaking her arm and shoulder, and Laura Hollis asks us to remember her friend, Dinah Foreman, who had a double mastectomy. Cassie Price requests prayers for James Rogers, who has a heart condition and has needed several surgeries. Lynn Sarvis requests prayers for the Owen family in Gastonia, NC, whose thirty-one-year-old daughter passed away recently. We are praying for Lynn Sarvis' friend Brian Nelson, who has follicular lymphoma; and for Rhonda Ringel's friends, Pat Tilmon and Diana Barber, who are being treated for cancer; John and Judy Crank, who are now at home; Jeter Bourne; Sitina Yusuf; Lenora Fowler; Pat Cosby; Hannah Moon's friend, Caroline Laughorn; Frank Clark's father, Jimmy; Tammy Rucker's friend, Judith Hazelo; Charles Stevens' son-in-law, Smokey and daughter, Kris Perkins; Tom Neumayer, and his great-granddaughter, Kassidi Stevens; Cathy Wheless; Russell Shelton's friend, Paul Townes; Stephen Blanchard's cousins, Van and Leigh Dupriest; Kathy Morton's mother, Pat Hedrick; Jackie Nilles' friend, Kathryn Idelson Noftzger; Jim Pannell; Gail Macfadden's friend, Lewis Bell; Harold Campbell; Dot Nuckols; Steve Blythe's cousin, Brandon Clements; Gerry Roppé; Terry Tynan; Steve Kline's niece, Suzy Street; Tom Mayfield's friend, Mickey Denke; Stacy Price; and the Blythes' friend, Donna Leake. Let's all continue to remember our students, kindergarten through collegiate, who are involved in the challenges of online learning, as well as their parents and their teachers, and our seniors who are so isolated and lonely at this time, as well as our healthcare workers and all essential workers who are doing so much for all of us through these difficult days.