

BON AIR CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) DECEMBER 2021 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>



WORSHIP WITH US:

Saturday Evening Worship:
4:00 Casual Worship Service

Sunday Morning Worship:

8:45 a.m. Worship Service
11:00 a.m. Worship Service in
person and via Zoom

Sunday School:

10:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
via Zoom

10:00 a.m. Sunday School
for all ages at BACC

Prayer and Fellowship:

Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.
via Zoom

All are welcome!

Immanuel

Immanuel, Our God is with us

And if God is with us

Who could stand against us

Our God is with us, Immanuel

For all those who live in the shadow of death

A glorious light has dawned

For all those who stumble in the darkness

Behold, your light has come

We've been stumbling in the darkness. We've lived in the shadow of the pandemic, in the shadow of loneliness, in the shadow of loss and hardship. As we acknowledge that many in our midst have endured some very large challenges in this past year, we also pause to give thanks.

We give thanks for love shared. We give thanks for the memories that literally we wouldn't trade for anything.

We give thanks for all those in our lives who encourage and support and help us along life's path. We give thanks for the ways the challenges cause us to stretch and grow in our own faith.

We give thanks for Immanuel, God with us. We give thanks for the ways that the Holy One's glorious light is dawning in our lives. We give thanks that we rest upon the eternal promises.

Our hearts are full. When we pause to ponder all the beauty God brings into our lives we live gratefully. When we live gratefully we see more clearly the blessings even in the midst of the challenges.

If God is for us, who can stand against us? Trust that God's light will lead us through the darkness. Together, with Immanuel, we will find our way.

Shalom,

Cindy



Advent and Christmas Worship

“How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given.”

We hope you will join us for our Advent and Christmas Eve worship services. As we gather in our lovely Victorian sanctuary, sing carols, hear the Christmas Scriptures, and talk about what these things mean, we draw closer to God. Invite your friends and family and let us bow before the manger where Christ was born to Mary.

11/27: Decorating the church for Advent/Christmas – 9:00 a.m. – Come join the fun!

11/28: The First Sunday of Advent – 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Worship Service

12/5: The Second Sunday of Advent – 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Worship Service

4:00 p.m. Silent Work of Our Hands Auction benefitting youth missions

5:00 p.m. Hanging of the Greens Dinner

6:00 p.m. Hanging of the Greens Worship Service

A traditional service in which we hear the Christmas story portrayed in scripture and in music. It is a time to tune our hearts to that which is truly important.

12/11: Blue Christmas Worship Service – 5:00 p.m.

A service to remember those absent from us. It is a quieter, more solemn observance of this Holy time.

12/12: The Third Sunday of Advent – 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Worship Service

Christmas Caroling – 4:30 p.m.

Bring some Christmas cheer to our homebound friends and then join us after caroling for a dinner party at Cindy's home.

12/18: The Outdoor Live Nativity – 5:00 p.m.

Beautiful music and wonderful children bring us the Christmas story.

12/19: The Fourth Sunday of Advent – 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Worship Service

12/24: Christmas Eve – 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship Services

The 5:00 p.m. service will be live and Zoom. Music for the service is recorded.

The 7:00 p.m. service is live and will include congregational singing.

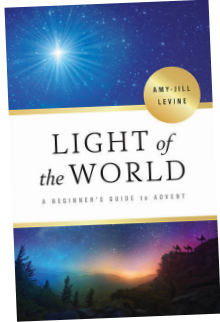
Share the bread of life and the cup of salvation as we celebrate God's greatest gift.

12/25: Christmas Day – 4:00 p.m. Worship Service

Merry Christmas! May the warmth of our savior's love and the good news of his birth and life surround you and your loved ones on this holy and wondrous day.

What's Happening

JOIN US FOR OUR ADVENT BOOK STUDY



Join us at **10:00 a.m on Wednesdays at BACC**, or at **7:00 p.m. via Zoom**, beginning on December 1, as we prepare for the Advent season with a study of *Light of the World*. Advent is not only the perfect time to read the story of the birth of Jesus, but also a great time to dive deeper into the biblical texts that surround the event. In **Light of the World: A Beginner's Guide to Advent**, author, professor, and biblical scholar Amy-Jill Levine shows how the Gospel narratives connect to the Old Testament, highlights the role of women in first-century Jewish culture, and emphasizes the importance of Mary's visitation, the census, the stable, the star of Bethlehem, and the flight to Egypt. A rich and challenging learning experience!

JOY GROUP CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

JOIN US ON TUESDAY,
DECEMBER 14TH AT
12:00 PM!



JOY GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY

Join us for Christmas
Lunch at La Cucina
Restaurant on
December 14th at Noon.

La Cucina Restaurant
1140W Huguenot Rd
Midlothian, VA 23113

Please RSVP at 804-272-6228

OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS BRUNCH!

Our holiday Sunday School Brunch will be held on the Sunday before Christmas, **December 19, from 9:30 to 10:30** for all church members. Please bring something to share. Coffee, juice and water will be provided. We would love to see you there!

AN ADVENT CHALLENGE FOR OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL KIDS!

We will be having a Sunday School attendance competition during Advent! We are encouraging all youth to come to Sunday School every Sunday in Advent season: November 28th, December 5th | December 12th and December 19th.

Youth who have attended all Sundays during Advent will receive a special gift on December 26th.

JOIN US IN SUNDAY SCHOOL!



Beautiful Blossoms

MANY THANKS TO ALL WHO DONATED POINSETTIAS TO ENHANCE OUR WORSHIP THIS ADVENT SEASON!

In honor of David, Leigh, and Laila, given by Brenda Kidd

In honor of Diane Clark and Kitten Whitlow, given by Jean Turlington

In honor of Kama, Greg, Mary, Hunter, and Gwen, given by Mary Garrison

In honor of Estelle Jeter Bourne (Nanny), given by David, Gaye, and Sarah Blevins

In memory of Micah Dutrow and Don Dutrow, given by Cindy Stratton

In memory of W.A. Turlington, given by Jean Turlington and Amy Walsh

In memory of our parents, J.T. and Polly Lenhart and Ralph and Edna Penley, given by Bob and Janet Lenhart

In memory of Ed Garrison, given by Mary Garrison

In memory of my sister Cecilia and my mom, given by Mary Ann Casdia

In memory of Vic and Eleanor Foster, given by Kris Foster

In memory of Jim's parents, Jim and Belle Henderson, given by Phyllis and Jim Henderson

In memory of our mothers, Ann Cochran and Clairee Madison, given by Harold and Cindy Cochran.

In memory of N.T. and Sue Duck, Newman and Helga Baum, and our parents, aunts, and uncles, given by Philip and Susan Baum

In memory of Albert and Elizabeth Dalton, given by Debra Vaughan

In memory of Cynthia and Ted Majewski, and in memory of Molly Johnson, given by Russ and Cindy Johnson

In memory of my mother, Margaret Thompson, my sister, Carol Anderson, and my husband, John Dowdy, given by Jean Dowdy

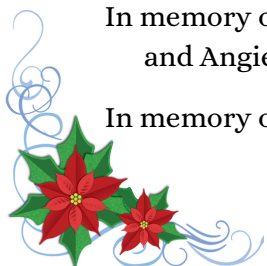
In memory of Polly and Raymond Craft, given by Paula and Steve Craft

In memory of Janice Rice Hedrick and Laura Rice Jenkins, given by Laura and Scott Hollis

In memory of Elizabeth Winders, dear friend, David W. Bowen, Sr, cheished dad, and Herbert and Louise Bowen, beloved grandparents, given by Todd and Dana Hatton

In memory of Hector A. and Georgette B. Cote' and Mastin and Marguerite Goff, given by Steve and Angie Goff

In memory of Mary (Granny) Hawley, given by the Boger Family



Sharing Christ's Love

*"God's love was revealed among us
in this way: God sent his only Son into the
world that we might live through him." 1 John 4:9*



2021 Christmas Offering 
A special day offering of Disciples Mission Fund
supporting the ministries of our Region

Our special Christmas offering goes to support our Regional ministries. The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Virginia provides many vital ministries. Our beloved Craig Springs Camp and Conference Center is supported by our Christmas offering. Our women's retreats and continuing education for ministers are also supported by this important offering. We are thankful for Reverend Bill Spangler-Dunning and his wonderful ministry as our Regional Minister. We hope you will give generously to the Christmas offering.

[Click here to see our](#)

[2021 VIRGINIA CHRISTMAS
OFFERING LITANY](#)

SHARING CHRIST AT CHRISTMAS

We are grateful that we are able to help six families this year. We will be helping families from nearby elementary schools and also some families that we have come to know and love. The deadline for presents to be returned to church is **December 11th**. You may sign up online to buy a gift, or pick an ornament off the tree in front of the fellowship hall. Thank you for sharing the love of Christ and making some friends a little happier this Christmas.

*I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.
Jeremiah 3:15*

Youth Group

CROP Walk
2021

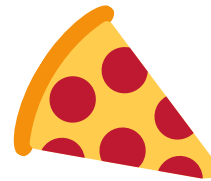


Thanks to all who participated in the 2021 CROP Walk and those who sponsored our walkers. It was a wonderful & successful event. Thanks to the youth who helped carry all the donated food out to the Chesterfield Food Bank truck.



Our #1 walker with the most donations collected, Ms. Laila Finnegan-Hosey!

BACC YG
FUN!



We gathered at The Ver Beek's home on Sunday, November 21st to practice the Nativity and have some good, ole' FUN! 20 kids showed up and some YG leaders ... a great time was had by all! It's always wonderful to be surrounded by your BACC friends. Happy Thanksgiving to the best Youth Group around!



LIVE Nativity
will be
Saturday, 12/18
@ 5:00 p.m.

Friends and Fellowship

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving. The Ladies of the Evening met for dinner at Two Compadres in November. I hosted at my house. Tea and trifle were served. The lesson came from Numbers 27: 1-11 (Zelophehad's daughters). We collected gift cards for the Battered Women's Shelter in Chesterfield County. We also had an outing in November. Twelve of us went to the Blue Willow Tea House in Petersburg for tea. We plan to return. The next meeting for this group will be on **Thursday, December 2 at 7:00 p.m.** at Sara Reese's house. The group will meet at **5:00 p.m. at Antonio's Restaurant and Wine Bar** for dinner.



The Day Group met in November at the Church. We had a very good turnout. We discussed fundraising and had a great time talking with one another. The regular December meeting is cancelled because we are joining the Joy Group for lunch at **La Cucina on December 14 at 12:00 p.m.**

The Salad Group met on Zoom. Nancy Maiden talked about the geography of Afghanistan and Sara Reese led the lesson from Luke 8:1-3. We collected Thanksgiving food for Safe Harbor. The next meeting will also be on Zoom. We'll meet at **7:00 pm on Tuesday, December 14th**. The lesson will come from Numbers 27: 1-11. Join us in December.

~Jamie McDonald



A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

Proverbs 17:17

Friends and Fellowship

THE JOY GROUP



Many members of the JOY Group really enjoyed making Christmas wreaths in November! With the wonderful Paula Craft and Becky Harvell on hand to share their talents, many of us designed and made wreaths to decorate for the Christmas season.



Wreaths are a popular sight during the holiday season, and, along with Christmas trees, Nativity sets, Santa Claus props and colored lights, they bring a sense of cheer and warmth to homes and communities. From lights to bows, the features of wreaths each have specific religious meanings. Per HolidayInsights.com, the wreath's real or artificial evergreen branches represent growth and the promise of eternal life symbolized by Jesus Christ. They also help religious believers remember his everlasting love. Similarly, the wreath's circular shape—with no visible beginning or end—also signifies the eternal nature and love of Christianity's idea of God. Holly symbolizes Jesus' crucifixion. The thorny branches represent his crown of thorns, while the red berries remind Christians of the blood shed for their sins. As with Christmas tree lights, those on a wreath—whether candles or electric bulbs—signify that Christ is the light of the world for Christians. ([LEARN MORE HERE](#))



How blessed we are to have Christian friends who share our beliefs and ideas, and who enjoy spending time together and sharing time and talents in our beautiful little white church!



Friends and Fellowship

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP GROUP



It was a sunny but windy day. The six golfers enjoyed 18 holes at Mill Quarter Plantation Golf Course in Powhatan, VA. Pictured are: (left-to-right) Tom Leshnic (guest of Russ Johnson); Logan Blanchard (age 16); Stephen Blanchard (age classified above your security clearance); David Westmoreland (guest of Stephen Blanchard); Russ Johnson (most balls lost in the leaves & brush); and Bob Lenhart (most improved golfer). Tom Snodgrass (Observer & Safety Officer) took the picture. Scores among the six players were reported to be "close, but not releasable to the public."



In other news, the ROMEOS (Really Old Men Eating Out) continue to meet **each Wednesday morning at 9:15** for breakfast at Joe's Inn. You are invited to join in the fun if you enjoy Eating Out, even if you're not Really Old!

Our December 2021 Men's Gathering is planned for **Thursday, December 16th at 5:30 p.m. at The Pickle Barrel** restaurant located at 12912 Plaza Drive, Richmond, VA 23233. Good food, reasonably priced. We plan to reserve one of the restaurant's smaller gathering rooms so we can make a lot of noise/hear each other without bothering other diners.

QIGONG WITH JOY

We will be restarting our Qigong classes in January, continuing with the Primordial Qigong Movement Form. The first 3 classes will cover what we learned in the fall so new folks can start at the beginning, and returning folks can have a refresher. The 4th-6th classes will offer the next /remaining steps, which will be new for everyone, for a total of 6 classes. Watch for our class day and time, to be announced in late December.

YOGA WITH LINDA



Join us on **Tuesday mornings at 10:00 a.m.** for Yoga with Linda Verheul via Zoom. Watch for the link in your weekly "Church News" email and dedicate some enjoyable and well-deserved time to self-care!

Fighting Hunger Together



CROP WALK 2021 raised \$2,845 and we donated 475 pounds of food to the Chesterfield Food Bank. WoW! We also earned the "Golden Sneaker" award for having the most walkers participate! Way to go, BACC!



David Finnegan-Hosey and Diane Clark spent a morning working at **CCHASM**, busy sorting donations and packing Thanksgiving bags for families.

It you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one. ~Mother Teresa

THANKS! Giving! Sharing our Blessings



MANY THANKS TO ALL who contributed so generously to our Thanksgiving Food Bank! BACC was able to provide Thanksgiving dinner, some additional food items to help out on other days, and some gift cards to help with perishables for six area families. What a blessing it is to have the opportunity to help our brothers and sisters in Christ!



*Carry each other's burdens,
and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.
Galatians 6:2*

Thank You



Our appreciation goes out to David Crank for the beautiful altar arrangement, with plants contributed by Kate Burns. It was created to the glory of God, and in loving memory of Judy Crank and Lou Scharon.

*May your heart be an altar, from which the bright flame of unending thanksgiving ascends to heaven.
~Mary Euphrasia Pelletier*

Dear BACC Friends, I am overwhelmed with gratitude for all the cards, visits, prayers, meals, and words of concern from the church family regarding my recent health issues. It all means so much to me, and I sincerely thank you.

Jim McKenney



Dear BACC Friends,

Thank you so much for all your calls, cards, and prayers wishing me a full recovery from my surgery. Your care and thoughtfulness have buoyed my spirits and contributed to my healing.

Blessings and love,
Cassie Price

Dear BACC Friends, We thank you so much for all of the thoughts, prayers, and cards during the recent loss of Rose's brother Richard. They were such a blessing to us during a challenging time. With Love,

Rose and Jim McCaferty

*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

November Love Bags!

Many many thanks to Diane Clark and her most energetic team, who assembled and delivered another round of LOVE BAGS to our BACC friends who aren't making it out as often right now. Susan Deihl whipped up some yummy pumpkin bread, and there were also treats from Suzanne "the popcorn lady" Dale, as well as ornaments painted by Maggie Clark. Diane has been adding treats to the bags for the past week or so, and on Sunday the Rucker family and Kitten Whitlow helped finish that up.

Our LOVE BAGS were cheerfully delivered by Laura Hollis, Pete Landergan, Kitten Whitlow, Christie MacAuley, Barbara Bancroft, Sara Reese, Cathy Law, and Frank and Diane Clark.

We thank all of you for your time and devotion in sharing the love of BACC to all of our members!

IT'S TREAT TIME FOR US TOO...

because we hear from many of our friends who are so happy to receive their bags!

From Peggye Alcoke: "I loved the popcorn and the pumpkin bread! I just so appreciate all that you have done!"

From Pat Cosby: just received the Advent gift basket and I wanted to thank all that made it possible. So thoughtful, and the bread is delicious. Thank you!

From Josh and Hannah Storm: Love the devotionals and treat. Thank you all very much.

From Shirley Foutz: Thanks to all you faithful friends who drive a long way to western Goochland County to deliver Thanksgiving cheer and Advent materials to Craig and me. Also thanks to all who prepared it. You are special ambassadors of love!



Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.

I John 4:7-8

Meet Zari's Family...

OUR NEW FRIENDS

Cassie Price connected us with this wonderful family. It is hard to imagine a world in which everything you've known flips upside down overnight. Listening to Maryam and Shukria speak about fleeing Afghanistan, being trampled in the mob, and living with fear for family and friends is heart wrenching. Bernie McDonald, Tom Snodgrass, Clay Boyd, and Cindy went to Charlottesville to see how we can help this incredibly sweet and brave family.

Shukria was an entrepreneur who started a farm with one cow and had grown it to 40 cows. She had hired workers and was doing well managing a successful business and it is heart breaking to have lost all that she worked so hard to achieve.

Maryam had just married Zari's brother when the Taliban invaded and she was forced to flee.



*Shukria and her grandchildren:
Gabriel, Tamara Grace and Kate*



Maryam and Zari preparing lunch



*Bernie McDonald, Tom Snodgrass and
Clay Boyd (the rest of him is in the attic)*

Thank you to Bernie, Tom, and Clay for all your help. Thank you to all those who have contributed clothes and gift cards.

Shukria and Maryam literally fled with the clothes on their backs and they are so grateful for all you have done. Maryam cooked us a wonderful lunch and we enjoyed our time together.

Zari and Eric have three children, who are delightful. Eric is in the National Guard and has been away training as a chaplain. Zari was in post graduate studies for international affairs and has had to put her educational pursuits on hold because she is quite busy trying to help her mother and sister-in-law.

If you would like to help, please contact Cindy and she will share with you opportunities for service.

Serving Together

WELCOME, GREG SHANNON!

Does this "new member" face look at all familiar? It should, as Greg and his lovely wife Vickie have been attending BACC for about twenty years now, and dedicate a lot of their time to volunteering here in various ways. Greg is one of our newest deacons, and now an official member of BACC! He is a 1979 graduate of Virginia Tech, recently retired from his career with Suntrust Bank after thirty-three years. Greg and Vickie have been married for thirty years, and they enjoy kayaking and biking together, as well as attending live music outdoor festivals. They also enjoy spending time with Toulou, their favorite canine friend. Greg is a big baseball fan (Baltimore!), as well as a fan of any sport played by Tech. Since retiring, he also volunteers his time with FeedMore to deliver Meals on Wheels. Welcome, Greg! We're delighted to have you serving with us as part of our community of faith!



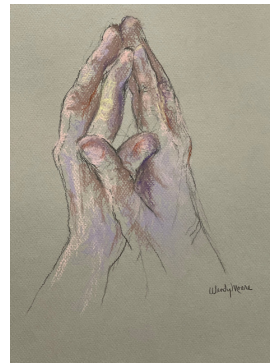
Many thanks to our talented artists who provide lovely artwork for our weekly bulletin covers.



ANDEE KIRK



JOY BLACK



WENDY MOORE



LILLY VER BEEK

We are grateful for the many ways you serve our church. Please click on the link and sign up to be part of sharing the gospel through acts of kindness and love.

[RIDES FOR FRIENDS](#)

[GREETERS](#)

[WORSHIP AND WONDER](#)

[WORSHIP LEADERS](#)

[VISITING OUR BACC FRIENDS](#)

[YOUTH GROUP LUNCHES](#)



TRUNK OR TREAT FUN 2021!



Church Family Updates



Lord, Hear Our Prayers

Please pray for: Natalie Ringel Trimmer, who is having blood pressure issues, and for baby Braden; Lindsey Maiden, who has a blood infection; Alma Spivey, who is dealing with Zenker's Diverticulum, and her nephews, Alan & Jim Boardman, upon the recent passing of their father; Myrna Law; Rose McCaferty and family; Joy and Allen Black, as he recovers from cardiac surgery; Cassie Price, who is recovering from recent surgery; John Crank; Steve Goff; Rhonda Ringel; Kate Burns and family; Jim McKenney; Leah and Chris Harrison; James Hatton, father of Todd Hatton; Jane Washington; Wanda Russell; Martha Southall, neighbor of Greg and Vickie Shannon; Ollie White; Beulah Proffitt; Liz Young; Traci Eagle's cousin, Cindy; Bill Heath, Terri and Jeff Rudolph; Kathy Morton; Gene Dunston; Sylvia Montgomery; Traci Eagle; Lois and Jim Zarefoss; Jim Henderson; Jeter Bourne; Harold Campbell; Jimmy Clark; Pat Cosby; Cathy Wheless; Peggy Gross; Gerry Roppe'; Frank Harlow; Frances Gilman; the Byers family, friends of the Ver Beeks; Mary Williams, friend of Pat Cosby; Stephanie Strobe; Gerry Roppe's, friend, Chico; Joan Mielke's niece, Eva, and her sister, Jan Crawford; Anne Heath's friend, Julia Bowman, and family; Hannah Moon's roommate, Caroline Laughorn; Pat Cosby's cousin, Jo Bailey; Nancy Maiden's friend, Betty Jo; Vickie Shannon's mother, Dorothea Mentzell; Rose McCaferty's siblings, Judy and Bonnie; Barbara Barker; Cassie Price's friends, Jessica and Carter Pope, and Spencer; Laura Hollis' sister, Janice Hoover; Jamie McDonald's brother-in-law, George Fay; Rhonda Ringel's friends, Pat Tilmon and Diana Barber; Tammy Rucker's friend, Judith Hazelo; Jackie Nilles' aunt, Brenda Grant; Jim Pannell; Gail Macfadden's friend, Lewis Bell; Tom Mayfield's friend, Mickey Denke; Patrick Sibold; Stacy Price; Chip Wright; Lynn Sarvis' friends, Pat Pitt and Ida McElroy; Patsy Layer; and Ivy Melanson, friend of Clay Boyd.

Warmest congratulations to Rhonda and Mark Ringel upon the birth of their grandson, Braden Scott Trimmer. Braden was born on Thursday morning, November 18, at 9 pounds, 10 ounces.

Braden's parents are Natalie and Winston Trimmer.



"Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful."

Colossians 4:2