

# BON AIR CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

## FEBRUARY 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>



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:

Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.  
via Zoom

**All are welcome!**

## A time to love

Midway through February we have Valentine's Day, which is closely followed by Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday is the beginning of our 40 days in Lent. We remember after his baptism Jesus spent 40 days in the wilderness. Frederick Buechner said the wilderness time is a time "for Jesus to find out what it means to be Jesus." Lent is a time we spend in similar contemplation as we seek to find out what it means to be us, made in God's image.

During Lent we ponder the meaning of Jesus' love and sacrifice for us. We begin with our Ash Wednesday Chain of Prayer. For many of us that quiet time in our sanctuary is one of the most poignant and deeply moving spiritual experiences in our year. It is an uninterrupted, focused prayer time, and renewing to our souls. Ash Wednesday and Lent serve as invitations for us to fix our minds on God's love through Jesus, and also on our love of God.

Many of us suspect Valentine's Day is a creation of the card companies. Some remember St. Valentine was a man who went about helping the poor and needy. Regardless of its origins we have another opportunity to share our love. "What the world needs now is love, sweet love...for everyone." The Apostle Paul reminds us that "love is patient and kind...love bears all things,.... May faith, hope and love abide with you." We are called to be God's love in the world today. May we find ways to share God's love, even with those that are not easy to love.



*With love and prayers,*

*Cindy*



»LOVE«



# Youth Group

NOW  
SCHEDULED

**Mark your calendars —Youth Group 2021, here we come!**

**Sunday, January 31st at 7:00 p.m.** – ZOOM YG Game Night.

Invitation will come via email.

We will catch up, do a quick lesson and play some games!

We will also talk a bit more about plans for Youth Sunday.

Speaking of Youth Sunday – *how would you like to be involved this year?*

We like seniors to deliver the sermon so heads up, class of 2021!

Please think about how you want to be part of spreading the Good News on this very memorable and meaningful day when the youth deliver the message!

**Sunday, February 21st at Noon** – Social distance lunch & YG Jeopardy at BACC

**Sunday, February 28th** – Recording for Youth Sunday (stay tuned!)

**Tuesday, March 2nd @ 6:30p.m.** – Recording of music / songs for Youth Sunday

**Sunday, March 7th** – Recording for Youth Sunday (stay tuned!)

**Sunday, March 14th** – YOUTH SUNDAY

Also in March, we will look at doing an Escape Room adventure. We do need to ensure that everything is COVID-safe, and in April we are looking into a hiking trip!

Can't wait to see you all again very soon!

*Yours in Christian Love,  
Kendra*

# A Virtual Feast



## A Virtual Feast

Pre-recorded  
Bagpipe  
Concert

Now Available on the Web!

Bud Deihl and Chance Bell invite you to join them for "A Virtual Feast," a continuation of the live concert and feast we have shared with the community for over 20 years.

Due to the covid pandemic, this years concert has been pre-recorded and made available on the web. We hope this ONLINE performance of music, along with a link to recipes from previous concert receptions, will enable you to enjoy a feast of your own in the safety of your own home.

Visit <http://1piper.com> to watch the recordings and to access the recipes!

### PEANUT BUTTER BALLS



#### Ingredients:

- 28 oz. Jiffy smooth peanut butter
- 2 sticks melted butter
- 2 tablespoons vanilla
- 2 lbs. powdered sugar

<http://1piper.com>

*Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men.*

*Colossians 3:23*





# Sharing Christ's Love

## CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Can't believe it's already February. Want to wish everyone a Happy Groundhog's Day. I don't know if you've seen the movie Groundhog Day, but it seems like sometimes we're living the same day over and over again. Nothing has really changed for the evening CWFs. We're still meeting on Zoom, sending cards and giving support to two battered women's shelters, one in Chesterfield and one in Henrico. Ladies of the Evening have their Zoom meeting on the first Thursday of the month and the Salad Group holds their Zoom meeting on the second Tuesday. Both meetings start at 7:00 pm. At the meetings, we catch up, discuss concerns, have prayer and a Bible lesson. This month's lesson comes from Ecclesiastes 3:1-15. The Salad group also has a lesson about Morocco. It's not too late to join us. I want to invite anyone from the Daytime CWF to join us on one or both Zoom meetings. I've gotten to really enjoy the Zoom meetings, and not just because you can come as you are. It's great getting to talk with friends. But I am looking forward to being able to meet in person. Hopefully soon!

—Jamie McDonald

*Christmount*

Retreat. Camp. Conference Center.

## THANKS FROM CHRISTMOUNT



Dear Bon Air Christian Church, What a year! It is hard to believe that 2020 is already behind us.

Although it has been one of the strangest periods in our history, friends like you have been instrumental in pulling us through. We could not be more grateful for your commitment to Christmount. With nearly 75 years of rich history, your gift is ensuring another 75 more! With your help, Christmount is continuing to make a difference in our world today. Perhaps now more than ever, your gifts are impacting our community in surprising and amazing ways. Thank you for doing what you do so we can keep doing what we do. With Gratitude, Rev. Rob Morris, Executive Director

Dear Reverend Stratton,

Thank you so much for answering our call for support with your recent gift of \$225.00 received on 12/29/2020. Bon Air Christian Church's gift will be put to work immediately, making a real difference for CrossOver Healthcare Ministry and patients. Our response to COVID-19 has meant changing and adapting our care delivery model to ensure that we can continue providing high quality healthcare to our patients. With your help, we've been able to do just that. CrossOver patients are among those most vulnerable to the COVID-19 virus and associated complications. Over half of our patients have chronic health conditions, and many already live with food and housing insecurity. They are some of the most likely to catch the disease, some of the most likely to be endangered by it, and some of the first people to be negatively affected by the economic consequences of the pandemic that we are only just beginning to feel. We are as committed to our patients as ever, and so we are on the front lines of COVID-19 mitigation. But the challenges are significant. We keep saying it because it's true: we need you now more than ever. Thank you for being there for CrossOver, our patients, and our community. We couldn't do it without Bon Air Christian Church. With sincere gratitude, Julie S. Bilodeau, CEO

**CROSSOVER**  
Healthcare Ministry  
COMPASSIONATE HEALTHCARE FOR PEOPLE IN NEED



*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



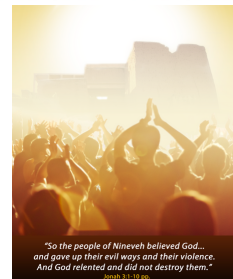
Wendy Moore



Emily Rucker



Lilly Ver Beek



Susan Deihl



Claire Deitch

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

## **A NOTE FROM PAT PENNINGTON REGARDING HER FRIEND NANCY BINGLE, WHO HAS BEEN ON OUR PRAYER LIST:**

**THANK YOU**

My friend Nancy's initial progress with chemo amazed her doctor, who called her on New Year's Eve with the good news! She credits your prayers and asks that I thank you for her as she continues in her battle against cancer. Thank you!

—Pat Pennington

## **THANKS FROM LEXINGTON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

Dear Friends of LTS at Bon Air Christian Church, The Lexington Seminary community is blessed by your generosity and kindness. We thank you for valuing the work of the Seminary and joining with us in preparing men and women for service in Christ's church. When students reflect upon their opportunity to attend LTS, words can't describe how enthusiastic and appreciative they are to be in the Seminary's Master of Divinity program. If they could speak to you face-to-face, they would thank you for helping make their seminary education possible. So, on their behalf, thanks for your partnership and gift of \$100.00.

Best wishes for a much better New Year!

Sincerely, Mark V. Blankenship, Vice President for Advancement



## **THANKS FROM COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS**

I wanted to take the time to thank your church and your amazing members for continuing to support our school each year. Words cannot express how grateful we are for you all. Thanks also for the gifts and gift cards to a family in need at Redd School. This allowed them to celebrate a wonderful Christmas. Your kindness was so appreciated. We cannot wait to see our awesome volunteers when things open back up. Happy New Year 2021!

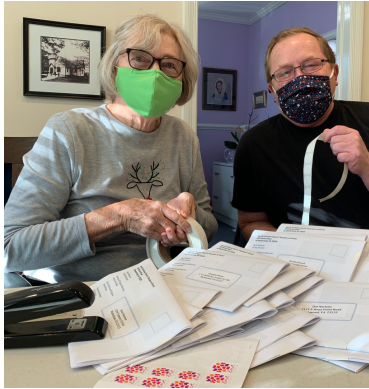
Best, T. Brown, Communities in Schools of Richmond, Site Coordinator at Redd School

*"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."*  
*John 16:33*

# Thank You

## SIGNED, SEALED, DELIVERED!

We are so thankful each and every month for our two BACC friends who give so generously of their time to come in and help us get our newsletters out. **Pat Pennington** and **Tim Skeens** are the dynamic duo who join us in the office to assist in getting those newsletters in the mail on time. We always have lots of fun when Tim and Pat come to work with us, and if you think they're smiling behind those annoying masks, you would be correct! Thanks so much, Tim and Pat, for sharing your time with us to get the BACC news out!



## STILL WORSHIPPING AND WONDERING...

### Some words from Miss Robin...

I want to send a very sincere thank you and shout out to the best filming crew, director and producer on the planet, **Reese Blanchard**. She has dutifully filmed most of our Worship and Wonder stories since last March, and she does ALL of the editing every single week for each and every one of our W&W filmings to date. We truly would not have been able to provide this ministry online for the world to see without her technical skills and talent. We have learned a lot and I am thankful for her and **Logan Blanchard**'s help and support. What a blessing this ministry has been during a pandemic. Something for us to look forward to during lock down!

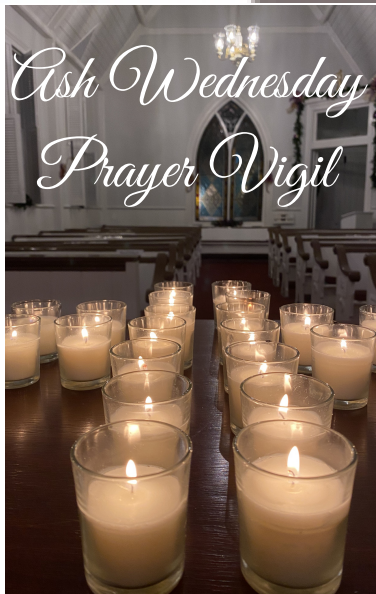
I would also like to send a heartfelt thank you and public acknowledgment to **Gail Macfadden** for her passion and love for this ministry. Gail has purchased new W&W stories and supplies this year, plus she completely authored and produced several new stories! Gail has been a storyteller since the beginning of this program and we are so blessed to have her dedication, talent and commitment. We have had a blast! If you haven't been watching the W&W stories on YouTube, I encourage you to do so! They are a beautiful way to hear stories from the Bible, no matter your age. I promise you will learn something and be touched by the message. Lastly, thank you to those of you who have been watching each week!

**And Thank You, Robin Blanchard!** We are grateful for your faithful and dedicated service. There has not been a week when our W&W story has not been available for us to enjoy online. Thank you for all of the time, talent, and skills that you devote to keeping this children's ministry going for us. If you haven't been watching the stories, or haven't seen a Worship and Wonder story at all, check out a few of ours on You Tube.



[Worship and Wonder-January 17: The Good Samaritan](#)  
[Worship and Wonder-January 24: Jonah and the Whale](#)

# Lent



## *Join us for our Ash Wednesday Chain of Prayer*

Our PRAYER VIGIL will begin at 6:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 17. Ash Wednesday is the first day of the season of Lent, a time to reflect on the sacrificial love of Christ and our commitment to Him. It is an opportunity to see the Holy Spirit's guidance as we examine ourselves, looking at those places where we are honoring God and following God's will in our lives, and those where we are not, and to seek God's help to improve ourselves. We maintain a continuous 24-hour prayer vigil throughout the day and night, with members taking turns to pray in the sanctuary for half hour slots. Anyone is welcome to stop in throughout the day to pray, as we will have a prayer station set up in the library as well. We hope that you will choose to be part of this special time. One of our elders will be in the church office throughout our chain of prayer so that no one will be alone in the building.

There is a paper signup on the bulletin board outside the church office, and there is also an online signup available: [Ash Wednesday Chain of Prayer](#).

## PASTOR'S CLASSES

Cindy will begin pastor's classes in February for youth and adults who are interested in church membership. Please contact the church office if you would like information about baptism and/or church membership.



## OUR LENTEN BOOK STUDY will begin in February.

### **BLACK & WHITE: DISRUPTING RACISM ONE FRIENDSHIP AT A TIME**

by Tessa Hadra and John Hambrick

*Most of us don't need to make speeches. We need to make friends. This is the core message of this important book. If you will risk forging friendships with those who do not look like you, it will change the way you see the world, and that could change the world.*



We would love to have you take part as we consider race relations in our world today and how we might improve them in our day-to-day lives. Our book study groups will be led by Jamie McDonald. We would love to have you join us!

**If you are interested please contact the church office at [worship@baccdoc.org](mailto:worship@baccdoc.org) or call us at 804-272-6228. We look forward to learning together!**





# Points to Ponder

## SOME THOUGHTS FROM CHARLES

The year just passed, 2020, was a year of confusion. From the COVID-19 virus at the beginning, through all the biased political wrangling of summer, to the questionable elections at the end, it was a year of uncertainty. It seems that many folks have given up making sense of this current series of events. To them, through a lack of understanding, there is little hope for anything good to come of it all. We have just observed and celebrated the birth of our only true savior, and our Lord, Jesus the Christ. Faith in Him, as our messiah and our savior, and in His father our God, gives us hope that things will be better, at least spiritually for us, and hopefully in a worldly sense. A quick trip through the scriptures brought to light a number of quotations that will give us the hope we need to understand ourselves better in the midst of all of the public confusion. (Biblical hope is the reasonable expectation of that which is hoped for.) For instance, from King David: Psalm 31:24 - "Be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart, all you who hope in the Lord." And Psalm 42:5, when he was confronted with overwhelming problems, "Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God, for I shall yet praise Him for the help of His countenance." Here, David, in times of uncertainty, expresses the value to him of his strong faith in his (and our) God, and in God's offering to His faithful, His divine hope for better things. And also, from Psalm 78:7 "That they (present and past generations) may set their hope in God, And not forget the works of God, But keep His commandments." Also, from the Psalmist, who in times of joy, offered these prayers of praise for his (and our) God: Psalm 146:5 "Happy is he who has the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in the Lord his God..." And, Psalm 147:11 "The Lord takes pleasure in those who fear Him, In those who hope in His mercy..."

When we are despondent, and feel as if we have nowhere to turn for consolation, God is always there for us. He knows of the world's situation, and also knows of our feelings concerning all the events around us. His mercy is always available for our counsel and comfort. Our continuing faith in our Savior Jesus and our God will bring us comfort, and a sense of understanding, even in these troublesome times. For instance, the prophet Jeremiah wrote: Jeremiah 17:7 "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, and whose hope is the Lord." And the apostle Paul wrote, for those undergoing great persecution, Romans 5:5 "Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us." And from Lamentations: 3:26 "It is good that one should hope and wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord." The time of Paul was a time of persecution of Christian believers like nothing we know of, except through the scriptures and history books. Yet he found consolation in the comfort offered to him through his faith in God, even as he realized he would be martyred for his beliefs, and for his teaching of them. He also wrote: Romans 12:12 "Rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; ... For whatever things were written before, were written for our learning, that we, through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures, might have hope." Even though we personally and individually can do little or nothing to remedy all the social and spiritual ills that surround us, we should not give up, and we should not lose hope. Our God is still, and always will be, in control, and He is supreme to all the evils being pronounced in our country. We should remember this, and recognize His authority over us, as well as over those evils. A good closing quotation also is from Paul, who wrote to the church in Rome: Romans 15:13 "Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Paul's hope was for all things to work out acceptably for individuals who have Divine hope, that they may not be overcome by the depressing nature of the evils around them (and around us). And from the writer of Hebrews: 6:11 "And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end." Our hope and our faith are our best weapons against the spiritually depressing nature of the events around us. Things will be better sometime; we should keep our hope, and pray that God will bring it soon.

# Church Family Updates



## WELCOME, TILLY!

We are so excited to welcome Tilly Deen Robinson, brought by her parents, Alex and Emily Robinson, for her Baby Blessing and Parent Dedication service on Sunday, January 10th. The Robinsons joined our church family soon after the Pandemic began in the spring of 2020, and have been Zooming away with us ever since. Be sure to welcome sweet Tilly and her family as soon as you are able to meet them!

*"Let the children come to me, for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as they ..."*

**Please pray for:** Cindy Johnson who has been diagnosed with breast cancer; Shirley Burkhalter who has been diagnosed with Covid-19; Sylvia Montgomery who is now back at Chesterfield Heights; Marie Boger's cousin, Teresa Houtz, whose father passed away this week, and who then lost everything from smoke & water damage in an apartment fire later that same evening; Sara Winders, daughter of Dana Hatton, who has been called to active duty in the Virginia National Guard; Dave DiBerardino, son-in-law of Joe and Barbara Bancroft, who is dealing with progressive vision difficulties; Tristan Spangler Dunning, who is being treated for cancer; Dan and Harriet Griggs, as Harriet recovers from covid and surgery; and Angie Goff's sister, Cathy, who is under cardiac care.

**Our sympathy is extended to:** Bill and Nancy Jeffrey, upon the death of their granddaughter; Gail McTamane upon the recent loss of her mother, Grace Raker; Kath Cartino upon the recent loss of her mother; Robert, Myria and Ethan Thompson, upon the death of Robert's mother; and also to our Regional Minister, Bill Spangler-Dunning upon the death of his mother; Virginia Hawn's family, as Virginia passed recently after a short battle with Leukemia; Anthony Caserta and family upon the loss of his father, Philip Caserta; and our sympathy is also extended to the family of Tom Neumayer, who went on to glory in December.

**Our prayers continue with** Lois and Jim Zarefoss; Jim Henderson; Jeter Bourne; Harold Campbell; Charles Stevens; Jimmy Clark; Pat Cosby; John and Judy Crank; Steve Goff; Cathy Wheless; Traci Eagle; Peggy Gross; Jackie Nilles; Gerry Roppe; Richard Seeds; Jim Severance; Russell Shelton; Liz Young; Lewis Williams, uncle of Diane Clark; Cathy Law's mother, Myrna, who is recovering from recent surgery; Vickie Shannon's mother, who is recovering at home after a hospital stay; Barbara Barker, mother of Guy Barker, who is in declining health; Cassie Price's friend, Spencer; Joan Mielke's sister, Jan Crawford; Rose's brother, Richard and her sister, Judy, who are battling cancer; Pat Pennington's friend, Nancy Bingl; 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; 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; Terry Tynan; Steve and Karen Kline's niece, Suzy Street; Tom Mayfield's friend, Mickey Denke; Patrick Sibold; Stacy Price; Chip Wright; and Lynn Sarvis' friends, Jimmy and Pat Pitts, as Jimmy has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.

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

*Psalm 145:18*