

BON AIR CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

JANUARY 2021 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:

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!

Dear friends:

At Dot Nuckols' memorial service on December 21st, her daughter asked me to read an article about the Christmas star which was to appear to us that evening. The article reminded us that the Bethlehem star appeared in a time of social and political unrest when people were suffering. It came as a light to the nations. It came to lead simple shepherds and wise ones from afar to meet the one who came to be the true light of the world.

As Jupiter and Saturn aligned thousands of miles apart, they created for us our Christmas star. It too is a light for us. At Gordon Elementary, people from the neighborhood gathered in the parking lot. They stood gazing heavenward. In the midst of a time of turmoil, there is still a light for the nations. There is still a light for us.

After the 12 days of Christmas, on Epiphany, January 6th, we celebrate the light of God that is made manifest in a world of darkness. We, like wise ones of old, seek after our Lord and Savior. He is still coming into the world. Our Lord Jesus continues to come to us.

As we turn the calendar to 2021, may we seek to be bringers of God's light. As the chorus says in "We Three Kings":

*O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.*

Holy God, we look for your guiding light within our own hearts. Grant that we will shine the light of your love to all we meet today, and that every day we will be your gracious hope dawning into our world.

With love and prayers,

Cindy





Youth Group

In the midst of a global pandemic, when it wasn't safe to gather in large groups, the BACC Youth still found ways to **connect, engage, serve, support and love one another!** There were lots of things we couldn't do ... but a **WHOLE BUNCH** of things we **could!**



We learned how to play games on Zoom.

We met in a park with masks & completed an Amazing Race.

We safely fed the Men's Homeless Shelter.

We masked up and did our annual CROP Walk in a new & fun location.

We hosted a *VERY* successful socially-distanced Trunk or Treat for our community.

We completed a 30-Day Thankfulness Challenge.

We socially distanced as we zip lined & traversed obstacles in high trees.

We put on *THE MOST BEAUTIFUL* and first ever Live Nativity at BACC.



And we ended a very "different" year by decorating Christmas cookies and quietly worshipping and praising God for all of our blessings. We sat with our families and listened to Christmas music while decorating, but you could FEEL the love in that room and the gratefulness for all being able to be together. May 2021 bring us many more wonderful memories with this amazing group of kids!



2021

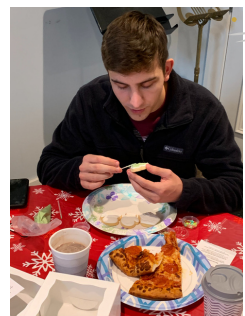
*A *NEW YEAR* is God's Gift:*

*In the Joyful moments,
Thank Him.*

*In the Busy moments,
Bless Him.*

*In the Trying moments,
Trust Him.*

*In the Quiet moments,
Praise Him.*



Starting a New Year

A TREASURER'S REPORT FROM DUKE DALE

As 2020 draws to a close I pray that this message finds you well and that you and your loved ones are filled with the love of Christ during this Christmas season. Thanks to everyone's generosity, our Church's finances are in good shape. Through November we had collected \$340,000 of the \$345,000 budgeted goal for the entire year, which means that by the end of the year we will have collected enough to exceed our goal. Additionally, expenses are expected to come in under budget due primarily to the associate minister's position having not yet been filled combined with reduced spending in other areas due to COVID. BACC's balance sheet remains strong and the Church is in a good position to make it through to the time when we can all be vaccinated and once again feel comfortable meeting in person to enjoy one another's fellowship. Until that time, let's keep each other in our prayers and continue to 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

OFF WE GO...

**We are looking forward to a wonderful year of serving God
and proclaiming the Good News**

We will also have our installation service for our new officers, our first board meeting, and our first elders meeting of the new year on January 10th. We are grateful for our leaders and for all those who work diligently so that we can continue to be God's messengers in the world.

OUR ANNUAL CABINET PLANNING SESSION

Friday, January 29 from 6:15-8:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 30 from 9:30 a.m-12:00 p.m.



All committee chairs for 2021 are invited to join us in person or via Zoom.

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

Colossians 3:23



Sharing Christ's Love

CHURCH IN COMMUNITY

Church in Community is ending the year on a high note. Because of the incredible generosity of our BACC congregants, we were able to provide a bounty of gifts and gift cards to six needy families in our community. This thank-you we received from a Bon Air Elementary School family says it all:

"Thank you so much and everyone at Bon Air ES and the church! This has taken so much weight and stress off of my shoulders. I was literally talking to my teenager this morning about how we were going to explain to the kids to not expect a whole bunch of presents for Christmas, and you all have totally blessed my family and turned the holidays around for us! We are eternally grateful, and I'm so glad that I reached out for assistance, but I never expected this much generosity! Me and the kids are working on canvases for Bon Air ES and the church. Thank you all and God Bless, we hope you all have a wonderful holiday season!"

In addition to sponsoring six Christmas families, Church in Community also made a year-end donation of groceries to the Bainbridge food pantry and donated \$225 to CrossOver Health Ministry, a faith-based nonprofit that provides free healthcare to low-income, uninsured patients in RVA--a critical ministry during this pandemic. Finally, Church in Community will provide dinner for the Men's Homeless Shelter on January 2. Blessings to everyone at BACC who has given their time and resources during this holiday season. You are true disciples of Christ!

Peace and love, Cassie Price

BAINBRIDGE FOOD BANK

The bleak midwinter is upon us. But the midwinter won't be so bleak for the folks who depend on Bainbridge Community Ministry for part of their food supply if we continue to keep our Bainbridge box filled. Thanks for thinking of them. Current needs are canned soup, cereal, peanut butter and jelly, and canned meat and fish products.

—Charles Stevens

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

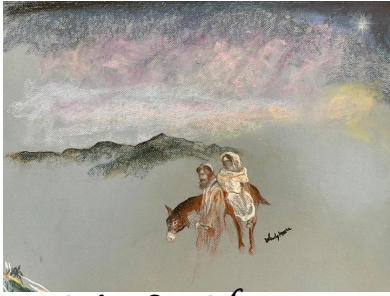
Unfortunately, with Covid still hanging around, we have decided to cancel the Daytime CWF for the remainder of the year. Hopefully September will be better. Also due to Covid, the evening groups are still meeting by Zoom. It's not the same as in person, but it is very nice to see everyone and catch up. Please join us. The **Evening Group** will meet on **Thursday, January, 7 at 7:00 p.m.**, and the **Salad Group** will meet on **Tuesday, January 12 at 6:30 p.m.** Watch your email for those links. Both groups continue providing support for the battered women's shelter. Stay safe and pray for a better 2021!

—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



Wendy Moore



Carol Herrin



Bryahna Mooney



Emily McKenney

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

Hi Everyone,

I just wanted to say "Thank You" for all the hard work and the thoughtful gifts. I have received my Advent care package and it really brightened my day. As you know, being able to attend BACC worship online is truly a blessing. You all go above and beyond to make these things happen. Sometimes I think that we miss out by not being able to see how our efforts impact the lives of others. This is a shout out to say "You Rock!"

Yours in Christ, Claire Deitch

November 30, 2020

To BACC CWF & congregation,

My deepest thanks to you all for your prayers for Harriet, your remembering us in your thoughts, and for the yummy holiday gifts. May each of you have a joyous Advent and keep safe.

Dan Griggs

Thank you to everyone for your calls, cards and prayers when my brother passed in November. They meant so much to me and my family. Also, a big thank you to Cindy, the staff, those who wrote Advent messages and those who put the Advent bags together. Your labor of love was very meaningful to me.

Love and hope as we begin a new year, Jane Miller

"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

Dear Friends, Thank you for your generous gift of \$200.00 given to the Youth Life Foundation of Richmond on December 8, 2020. Your gift will go towards the Youth Life Learning Centers of Richmond, offering unparalleled opportunities to our students in Richmond, Virginia. We thank you for your gracious donation. You are leaving a legacy of hope in the lives of young people being reached through our learning centers.

I thank you for your faithful support.

God Bless,

Heather Goodlett,

Founder and Executive Director

Youth Life Foundation of Richmond



Dear Reverend Stratton, The challenges of 2020 have given us all time to pause, connect with what's important, and learn to build community when we can't physically be together. Our neighbors who are battling addiction, housing instability, or limited employment prospects have been hit especially hard by the pandemic and the limitations it imposes. Your support of The Healing Place allows us to connect fellow Richmonders with an important safety net when they're struggling. Your gift of \$100 on 12/15/2020 allows us to convert your compassion into action when it's needed most. As we continue to adjust our program operations and volunteer opportunities to keep everyone safe, please stay connected with our work at caritas.org and our social media channels. Thank you for giving our most vulnerable neighbors the gift of hope during this holiday season.

Warmly, Karen J. Stanley, President & CEO



Dear Ladies and Gentlemen: Thank you for your generous donation of \$6,075.00 towards Craig Springs. This will help tremendously. Thank you for always giving to Craig Springs. Bless you all.

~Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Virginia

"Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."

Galatians 6:2

Good News!



CONGRATULATIONS, CHARLES STEVENS!

Thank you, Charles for your faithful service to our congregation. Charles has served as our Saturday night elder for many years. We are grateful for his dedication. Charles was nominated by the elders and confirmed by the board and congregation as an elder emeritus during our Saturday evening Hanging of the Greens service on December 5, 2020.



Welcome Georgie!

Cindy was delighted to officiate the baby blessing and dedication service for Georgie Elle Green on Saturday, December 19. Georgie was born on August 8, 2020 and is the daughter of Kathryn and Miles Green and the granddaughter of Jeff and Mary Ann Roberts.



Welcome Bode!

We are all so happy to welcome our newest BACC member, Bode James Clark, born to Karson and Maggie Clark on December 22, 2020. Bode is the grandson of Frank and Diane Clark, so we are thrilled for the entire Clark clan on their wonderful new addition! Bode weighed in at 6 pounds, 4 ounces, and was 19 inches long, and he cannot wait to make it to Sunday school!



"Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!"

2 Corinthians 9:15



January Reflections

A JANUARY MESSAGE FROM OUR FRIEND CHARLES

Christmas is all over. We enjoyed the exciting buildup all through the month of December. Now that Christmas Day is over, it is all gone. But is it? Where did it go? What now? The Gospel of Luke gives us some ideas, as does the Old Testament.

When the angel, and the heavenly host, announced to the shepherds the arrival of the baby Jesus, the shepherds immediately went to Bethlehem to see for themselves. On their way back to their flocks, they told everyone they met of the angel's announcement. We should tell others also.

When Mary and Joseph brought the new-born baby Jesus to the temple for his initial religious rites, the just and devout man Simeon immediately recognized him as God's promised one. The blessing he gave foretold much of the future of Jesus: *"He will bring glory to the nation of Israel, and a light to the Gentiles."* And the prophetess Anna, also in the temple, on seeing the baby Jesus, thanked God for his arrival, and spoke highly of him to all those who were in anticipation of their savior. Simeon and Anna recognized this new-born baby as the long-awaited Messiah, and prophesied of things to come through his ministry. They happily told all they could of his birth, and of his future mission. We should tell others also.

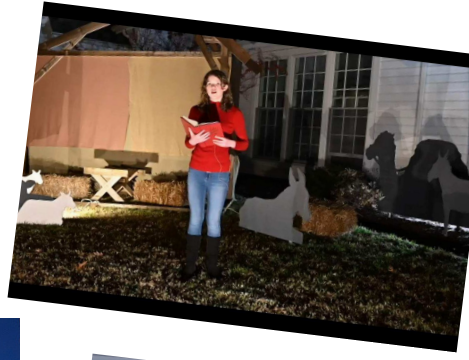
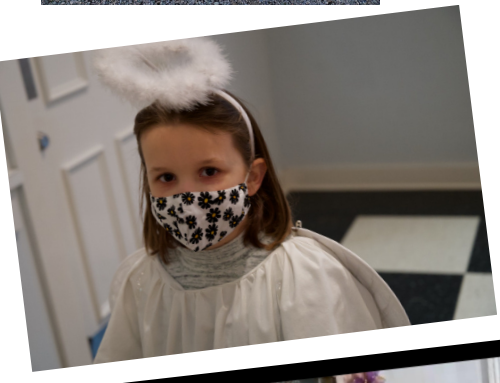
In Jesus' parting words to his disciples, he told them to go and make disciples of all nations, based on all that he had taught them; and that God would give them the words to say at these times. We should tell others also.

In the Old Testament book of Deuteronomy (*Chapter 6*), after Moses had reviewed the Ten Commandments with the Israelites, he instructed them always to keep God's Words foremost in their minds: *"You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. 8 You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. 9 You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates."* Jesus told us that he came, not to abolish the Law, but to fulfil it. So we are instructed always to be mindful of God's Words, and mention them often to our families, and to others we meet. This a habit we are instructed to form.

Now that Christmas "Day" has come and gone, we (*us spiritually minded church goers*) are still aware of the purpose, and the meaning, of Christmas. But many members of the general population are not aware of the purpose and meaning of Christmas. They recognize only the secular and popular elements of the season. For them, when Christmas Day is over, it really is over for another year. For us spiritually minded church goers, Christmas is not over at the close of Christmas Day. In our hearts and in our minds Christmas continues all year, as we realize and understand the purposes and reasons in Jesus' teachings. Our Lord has instructed us to share this good news with others at every opportunity. If we do this, our Christmas will last all year, until the next Christmas season.



Advent at *Bon Air Christian Church* **The Nativity**



Advent at

Bon Air Christian Church

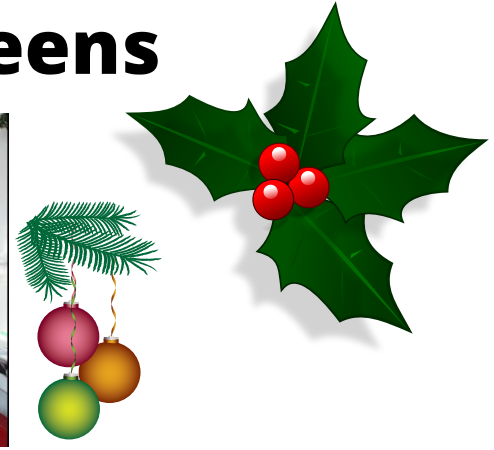
Caroling to friends



Lighting the Advent Wreath



Hanging of the Greens



Advent Blossoms

Many thanks to all who donated lovely poinsettias to decorate our beautiful sanctuary for Advent 2020. We all enjoy the flowers, and reflecting with you on those you love and remember:

From Susan Allen, in memory of Richard Allen and in memory of Jeffrey Pearce.

From Susan and Philip and Baum, in memory of our parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles.

From Diana Becker, in memory of her husband, Michael Becker, and in honor of her mother, Olinda Pena, who is a Christmas baby and loves the color red.

From Joy, Danny, Anne, Bobby, and Frank, in memory of Juanita Coleman, and in memory of Linwood Coleman.

From Mary Ann Casdia, in memory of her sister Cecelia, and in memory of her sister-in-law Marion.

From Paula Craft, in memory of Polly and Raymond Craft.

From Duke and Suzanne Dale, in memory of family and friends who have gone on to glory before us.

From Jean Dowdy, in memory of John Dowdy, my loving husband, and in memory of Carol Anderson, my wonderful sister.

From Kris Foster, in memory of Vic and Eleanor Foster.

From Ed and Mary Garrison, in honor of Greg, Mary, Hunter, and Gwen Garrison.

From Steve and Angie Goff, in honor of Georgette B. Cote, and in memory of Hecotor Cote, and Martin and Marguerite Goff.

From Todd and Dana Hatton, in honor of James Hatton, praying for healing of the cancer, in memory of Herbert and Louise Bowen, loving grandparents, in memory of Elizabeth Winders, loving mother-in-law and dear friend, and in memory of David Wayne Bowen, Sr., best dad ever and greatly missed.

From Jim and Phyllis Henderson, in memory of James A. and Belle D. Henderson.

From Shea Hollifield, in memory of her mother, Barbara Hollifield.

From Laura Hollis, in memory of Janice R Hedrick, and in memory of Laura R. Jenkins.

From Cathy Law, in honor of her mother, Myrna Law.

From Jackie Nilles, in memory of her parents, John and Joyce Burton, and in appreciation of her BACC family.

From Rhonda Ringel, in honor of Jackie Nilles, and in memory of Arlette Brown.

From Lynn Sarvis, in memory of Lloyd and Barbara Thacher.

From Alma Spivey, in loving memory of Joe Spivey, Alma Smith, and Virginia Boardman, given by family.

From Jean Turlington, in honor of Diane Clark, Kitten Whitlow, and BACC Friends and Family.

From Martha Wright, in memory of her husband, Bill Wright, and her brother, Wesley Mills.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT FLOWERS:

From Bill and Nancy Jeffrey, in honor of Bill's birthday, their 63rd wedding anniversary, and the Thanksgiving/ Advent season.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT FLOWERS:

From Cynthia Stratton, in memory of Don and Micah Dutrow.
From Jean Turlington, in memory of W.A. Turlington.
From Bob and Janet Lenhart, in memory of Edna and Ralph Penley, and JT and Polly Lenhart.





Church Family Updates

Please pray for: Debbie and Michael Hubbard, Brand Inlow's sister and nephew who have been diagnosed with Covid-19. Please pray for: Dan and Harriet Griggs, as Harriet had her leg amputated on Christmas Eve, and is now back at Vibra, and for Cathy Law's mother Myrna, who will be under going surgery soon; Vickie Shannon's mother, who was admitted to the hospital recently; Angie Goff's sister, Cathy, who is under cardiac care at Chesapeake General; Cassie Price's friend, Spencer, who is battling anxiety and depression; and Joan Mielke's sister, Jan Crawford, who has been diagnosed with leukemia and is not doing well. Joan and Dean have gone to Mississippi to be with her.

Our prayers continue to be with: Steve Goff, who is recovering from recent surgery; Jean Dowdy; Shirley Burkhalter, who is back at home at Chesterfield Heights; Cathy Wheless as she recovers from recent surgery; Rose McCaferty's sister, Barbara, who remains hospitalized with COVID19; 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; Pat Pennington's friend, Nancy Bingle; Traci Eagle; Peggy Gross; Jackie Nilles; Gerry Roppe; Richard Seeds; Jim Severance; Russell Shelton; 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; 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 and his 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; and Lynn Sarvis' friend, Jon "Cal" Moore.

Pray WITHOUT
CEASING

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

Psalms 145:18

With Love and Appreciation

thank
you ❤️



We are so grateful
for the privilege of serving
Christ with you.



Thank you for thinking of us at
Christmas time and for
all the ways you share
your love with us!

Cindy, Vickie, Kendra,
Gina and Kyla



Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together!

Psalm 34:3