

BON AIR CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

MARCH 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!

In Search of Meaning

Rabbi Harold Kushner once said, "Our souls are not hungry for fame, comfort, wealth or power. Those rewards create almost as many problems as they solve. Our souls are hungry for meaning, for the sense that we have figured out how to live so that our lives matter so that the world will at least be a little different for our having passed through it." "...To believe in God is not to affirm His existence. To believe in God means to trust God, to rely on God to be there for you when you are afflicted by despair, to light your path when you are uncertain as to what to do."

I have been watching "The Crown" on Netflix. In the last episode I watched, Prince Phillip went through a mid-life crises as he questioned the meaning of life and also the meaning of his life in particular. He turned to various answers: exercising relentlessly ...and he was particularly fascinated by the astronauts who landed on the moon. He was discouraged when he realized that, while they were brave men, they hadn't really reflected on the meaningfulness of their exploration.

Prince Phillip had previously scoffed at a group of priests who had gathered to reflect on their lives and their ministry. He ended up going back to them and asking them to forgive him and confessed his own sense of lostness; wondering and wandering; his search for meaning.

We find our meaning in God. Faith is the journey as we seek after God's presence in our lives. Every day when we turn our lives to Jesus we discover a little bit more of who we are, whose we are, and what our purpose is in this life.

Today we are blessed with another day to reflect his wondrous light and share his glory with all that we meet. That is indeed a blessing.

*With love and prayers,
Cindy*



Youth Group

Sending our Love

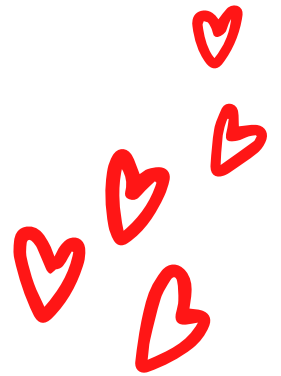
The Youth Group created handmade Valentine's Day cards and sent them to some special members of Bon Air Christian Church to let them know that they are loved!

Typically we would have our Valentines' Dinner & Dance, but this year looked a little different. We didn't want this day to go by without letting people know that the Youth Group loves them, prays for them, and thinks of them often.

We hope you all enjoyed the candy goody bags too! Hopefully next year we will be dancing the night away...together !



love



We had a great turn-out for our YG lunch on Sunday, Feb 21st. We ate pizza (and lots of candy), caught up a bit, and played a great game of Jeopardy that Ms. Marie created for us. It was a close game and a ton of FUN!

Next up:

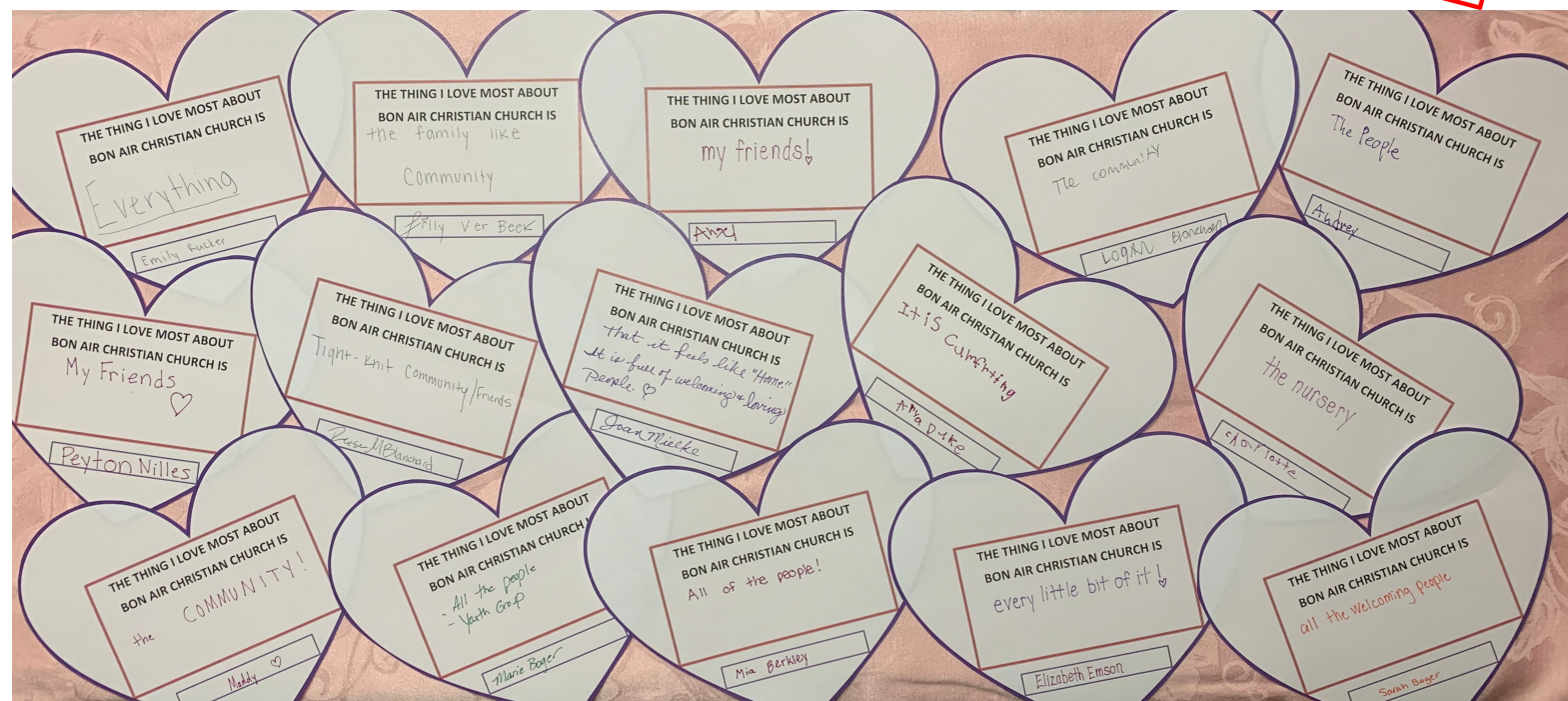
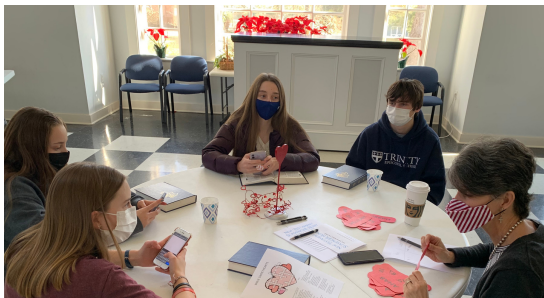
- Youth Sunday, March 14th
- Gnome & Raven Escape Room, March (TBD)
- YG Hike, April (TBD)
- Volunteering at Shalom Farms, April 3rd & May 8th



Feeling the Love...



We all had a great time at our Week~After~Valentines Party on Sunday, February 21! We loved each other just as much as we did on the 14th, when it was cold and icy and many of us didn't have power. We made a craft, and enjoyed the candy bags that Miss Kendra made for us, and the special treats from Miss Elizabeth Young's Bebe's Bakery! Our younger group did a great job with the Bible Sweethearts matching game, and the older group did well with their phones to help. :) We're already looking forward to next year's Non~Pandemic Good Weather Valentine's Party, on the calendar for Sunday, February 13th!



Spreading the Joy of Christ

BAGS OF BLESSINGS

Much appreciation goes out to the Bon Air Sweethearts who assembled and delivered treats to some of our BACC friends to remind them that we love and miss them during these challenging days! Thanks to **Diane Clark** for organizing this project, **Julie Burke** for coloring some of the bags for us, **our wonderful youth group** for making prayer boxes for some of the bags, **Susan and Bud Deihl** for the lovely and delicious handcrafted Easter eggs, and our fabulous delivery team, **Suzanne Dale, Christie MacAulay, Jamie McDonald, Pete Landergan, Paula Craft, Sara and Tom Snodgrass, and Diane Clark**. Your acts of kindness brought joy to so many!



REFUGEE FAMILY UPDATE

This April will mark five years since Sitina Yusuf and her sons, Abdi and Ahmed Nur, arrived as refugees from Ethiopia, via Kenya, and BACC served as their co-sponsors. As you may remember, Abdi and Ahmed graduated from James River High School last June. Each of these young men, now ages 22 and 20, is taking classes at John Tyler Community College and working full time at Ray's Upholstery and Auto Restoration. Abdi, the older brother, has purchased a second vehicle, as Ahmed will get his driver's license soon. Abdi keeps the vehicles in top running condition! Both of them help their mother with household chores. Sitina has recovered from an unusual eye inflammation nearly two years ago. The family remains very grateful for the help and support provided by BACC and remain in regular contact with several members. They have indeed been a blessing for us.

—Cathy Law

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

I hope March means spring is on the way. I'm writing this while watching the icicles dripping from the trees. March should bring daffodils. I love their cheery yellow blooms, plus nothing eats them. CWF is still doing Zoom meetings. The **Ladies of the Evening** are going to meet on **Thursday, March 4th at 7:00 p.m.** The **Salad Group** will meet on **Tuesday, March 9th at 7:00 p.m.** I hope you will be able to join us. Want to wish everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day. Looking forward to the gold at the end of the rainbow. I know my pot of gold will be a greater appreciation of the things I took for granted: meeting with friends, seeing everyone at Sunday worship, not wearing a mask, eating out, etc.

—Jamie McDonald

CWS KITS!

It's that time of the year again! Be on the lookout for upcoming info and dates about this important ministry which helps so many people, or click below to see Church World Services in action!

Hebrews 13:16 [And don't forget to do good and share with those in need.](#)

YOGA WITH LINDA

Join us on Wednesday mornings at 11:00 a.m. for Yoga with Linda Verheul via Zoom. Watch for your link in the Wednesday morning email with the Prayer and Fellowship info, and dedicate some enjoyable and well-deserved time to self-care!



Sharing Christ's Love



THE GENTLENESS OF LIGHT

Watching and listening to the soft-spoken rain upon my soul.
I long so much for the past and of better times.
I wish for the longing of Love of past weariness.
Or do I?
Is it I wish or need the essence and feelings
For the softness and warmth deep in my being?
The newness and the light of the morning will tell.
I just have to listen and be.
And you are there.

—Craig Huddle 1.27.2021

A WORD FROM CHARLES

Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.

And where I go you know, and the way you know. - John 14:1-4

This scripture is part of Jesus' final words of compassion and instruction to his disciples, just before He will no longer be physically with them. Jesus realizes that just ahead of Him is His betrayal, arrest, the mock trial which violated the Jewish leader's own rules, and His scourging and crucifixion. He is preparing them for their ministries on His behalf after He is no longer with them. Jesus realizes they still do not fully comprehend or understand the fullness and complexity of His life, and the depth of His purpose here on earth. Even though in Jesus' mind are the agonizing thoughts of what lies ahead of Him, His main concern here is for the future good and success of His disciples. He will be gone, but they will continue after Him. Out of His love for them, he concentrates on what they need to know at this time, to prepare them for their future ministries, and their future trials and deaths. Even though Jesus' heart is indeed troubled, His emphasis and concern is for the good of His disciples. And He understands they still do not fully appreciate what He has been telling them. He knows that as they pursue their individual ministries on His behalf, they will have their own trials and tribulations. But if they persist and keep their faith in what He has told them for the past three years, and keep their faith in Him, as well as keep their faith in God, and all this throughout their missions to the end of their lives, there will be a place in Heaven waiting for each one of them. Jesus here steadfastly promises this to them. They already believe in God; they all were raised as Jewish boys, and received teachings about God and the prophets as they were growing up. Jesus reminds them that they must have that same faith and belief in Him now while he is with them, as well as throughout their future when he will not be physically with them, as they already have in God. Jesus and His disciples all (the 11) now have done their work and have been welcomed to their promised places in heaven. Numerous other divinely inspired teachers since Jesus' time also have come, done their work, and been welcomed to their heavenly places. Jesus' compassionate words of advice applied to all of them, and they apply to us as well. We are not all prophets, pastors, or even teachers of the Word. But in our daily lives, the way we live and the way we relate to others become inspirations to those who observe us. When we recognize others as children of God, and treat them with courtesy, respect, and dignity (as Jesus did), others observe us and can recognize God at work in each one of us. This is one way each of us can help spread the good news of the Gospel. Our Heavenly Father: As we go about our daily lives, help us to remain aware that others are observing us and notice how we relate to other people. Help us to remember that we always should treat others with respect and dignity, even though we may not like them, or agree with them. This way we help spread the Love of Christ to those who may need it. Amen.

Thank You



Carol Herrin



Bryahna Mooney



Emily McKenney



Wendy Moore

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

THANKS SO MUCH to our wonderful writers for sharing their time and talents with us in writing a Lenten devotional for our booklet this year.

These reflections mean much to us and really add to our private worship times as we make our way through the Lenten season.



THANKS ALSO to all who participated in our **Ash Wednesday TWENTY-FOUR PRAYER VIGIL**, one of our most special times of the year. Even on a cold and icy night, we had members covering the hours from our sanctuary and from homes, so that we had twenty-four hours of continuous prayer uplifted.

MANY THANKS TO ELIZABETH YOUNG for the yummy treats from **BEBE'S BAKERY** for our Week-After-Valentine's Party! Both kids and adults really enjoyed the deliciousness! We so appreciate the gift of your time and talents, Liz!



God's love, we foster hope by empowering families, youth, and adults to lead fulfilling lives.

Do you have room in your heart, space in your home, and a desire to make a difference in the life of a young person in your community? HopeTree Family Services is in search of people like you to welcome a young person into your home through foster care. Foster care is a temporary arrangement during a time that a child or teen cannot live with his or her birth family. HopeTree provides foster parents with the training, support, and resources they need in order to care for the young people placed in their homes. If you want to learn more about this opportunity, please RSVP for ONE of HopeTree's Online Information Sessions:

March 11th, 6:30pm-7:30pm

March 18th, 12:00pm-1:00pm

March 25th, 6:30pm-7:30pm

April 8th, 6:30pm-7:30pm

April 15th, 12:00pm-1:00pm

April 22nd, 6:30pm-7:30pm

For more information or to RSVP contact Abigail Lee at AbigailS@HopeTreeFS.org or visit our website www.HopeTreeFosterCare.org.

March and April Foster Parent Information Sessions

Thank You



THANK YOU, everyone who has lifted up prayers, sent supportive thoughts, sent kind cards of care and sympathy, in the loss of my beloved Harriet. So many have expressed beautiful thoughts about her, and I treasure each expression. She suffered terribly this past year, and so I take comfort in the traditional translation of Deuteronomy 33:27a – “The eternal God is your resting-place, and underneath are the everlasting arms.” A memorial service will be planned for this spring.

-Dan Griggs

I would like to thank all of the people who have remembered me. First of all, youth group who made a Valentine by hand for me. That was so sweet and I appreciate it a lot. Secondly, CWF group night group that continues to send monthly cards with all of your prayers and thoughts, and finally all the people who put together seasonal bags with thoughtful and educational items and tasty treats, and most of all the devotionals. I can't thank you enough for remembering me and keeping me a part of the church family. I am truly grateful to all. God's blessings, Pat Cosby



Dear Bon Air Church Family, Thank you so much for all the cards, calls, gifts, food, and prayers during my recent breast surgery. It has been such a blessing to receive them all. I feel like I am surrounded in God's love as all of these kind gestures have made me feel that way! So please know that I appreciate everything, and I am so happy to be part of such a wonderful church family.

Many blessings, Cindy Johnson

Many thanks to all who have brought me all that delicious food, and also many thanks to all who have included me in their prayers. I am still slowly worsening from my congestive heart failure, but I am better now than my heart doctor thought I would be several months ago. Prayers and good food help.

Thanks again. Charles Stevens



I've just received my "Lenten Box" and what a blessing it is. I was especially touched by the "Prayer Box." What a beautiful thought. Please convey my thanks to everyone who worked to bring this about. On a cold, grey winter morning it was so wonderful to open a package obviously crafted with such love. A high-five to all "Cheer-Givers" and "Joy-Distributors"

☺ Claire Deitch

THANKS SO MUCH to all of you who have shown your kindness and support in so many wonderful ways as Miss Angel's family has endured stressful times and she has made her home with us for a while. You have helped with clothing, tutoring, counseling, new glasses, new shoes, cuddlies to sleep with, general expenses, fun excursions, a few hours away here and there, expertise and advice in select areas, and listening ears and words of encouragement. Every last bit of it has been so very appreciated! She feels so loved here with her church family, and recently said, "I hope we never have to move again. I don't want to live far away from our church." Neither do I, my friend, neither do I! May the love and caring that you have shown to us come back to you many times over!

In His Love, Gina and Jim McKenney



*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

Lent and Easter

OUR LENTEN BOOK STUDY

On Monday, Feb. 22nd at 11:00 am at BACC we began our Lenten Book Study, and on Wednesday the 24th we started our Zoom Study at 7:00 pm after the 6:30 Prayer & Fellowship Zoom meeting. Everyone is welcome. If possible, please read the next four chapters in the book Black and White before each meeting. We'll need to cover about four chapters each week to finish before Easter. Even if you are unable to read the chapters before the meeting, don't let that stop you from attending. Just living in the United States will give you plenty to talk about. If we are unable to finish the book before Easter, I am not adverse to continuing after Lent. I will not be able to lead the in-person class on March 29th, but I don't mind continuing when I get back in town.

—Jamie McDonald



PASTOR'S CLASSES

Our pastor's classes this spring will be meeting on Sundays at 11:45 a.m. on February 28, March 14, and March 28.



HOLY WEEK

March 28 - Palm Sunday Worship Services

April 1 at 7:00 p.m.- Maundy Thursday Worship Service

April 2 at 12:00 noon - Good Friday Worship Service

April 4 — Easter Worship Services

7:00 a.m. — Sunrise Service in Fellowship Hall

10:00 a.m. — Zoom Easter Service

11:00 a.m. — Outdoor Easter Service

Church Family Updates

Please pray for: Dan Griggs and his family in the recent loss of their beloved Harriet; Cindy Johnson, who will soon begin treatment for breast cancer; Scott Graham, who will have hip replacement surgery on Wednesday; Sylvia Montgomery who has been moved to Morningside in the West End; Traci Eagle, who is recovering from pyelonephritis; Bob Basalay, friend of Bob and Carol McGowan; and Buddy Snoot, Terri Snoot's father-in-law who is in critical condition at VCU after a house fire.

Our prayers continue to be with: Lois and Jim Zarefoss; Shirley Burkhalter; 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; Marie Boger's cousin, Teresa Houtz; Tristan Spangler Dunning; Lewis Williams, uncle of Diane Clark; Cathy Law's mother, Myrna; Vickie Shannon's mother, who is recovering at home after a hospital stay; Angie Goff's sister, Cathy, who is under cardiac care at Chesapeake General; Rose McCaferty's sisters, Judy and Bonnie, recently diagnosed with COVID-19; Dave DiBerardino; Barbara Barker, mother of Guy Barker; 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 Bingle; Russ Johnson's sister Elizabeth; 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; Hannah Moon's friend, Caroline Laughorn; Rhonda Ringel's friends, Pat Tilmon and Diana Barber; 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.

OUR WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS to Rose and Jim McCaferty on the birth of their first granddaughter, Solstice Circe Granger, born on Wednesday, February 24, 2021, to Megan and Cameron Granger. We are so happy and excited for all of you!



Address for Bill, Amy and Tristan Spangler-Dunning:

2712 Sweet Hollow Road
Big Island, VA 24526



New Address for Sylvia Montgomery:

Morningside in the West End
3000 Skipwith Road, Room 115
Richmond, VA 23294
804 814-6628

*The Lord is near to all who call upon Him, To all who call upon Him in truth.
Psalm 145:18*