BON AIR CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) DECEMBER 2022 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 p.m. 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. Sunday School

Prayer and Fellowship:

Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom

All are welcome!

Dear friends:

"O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind; bid envy, strife and quarrels cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace."

Our prayers, as we enter this Advent season, are for peace, for healing, and for an awareness of the presence of Christ in our midst. We hope you will join us for our Advent and Christmas worship services, as we gather in our lovely Victorian sanctuary, sing carols, hear the Christmas scriptures and talk about what these things mean as we draw closer to God. Invite your friends and family and let us prepare our hearts for the arrival of Jesus Christ, Emmanuel, God-with-us.

In addition to our usual Worship Services throughout Advent, please join us for our special services and events:

12/4 5:00 p.m. Hanging of the Greens Dinner6:00 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 4:30 p.m. Christmas Caroling

Bring some Christmas cheer to our friends with mobility challenges.

12/17 4:00 p.m. Blue Christmas Worship Service

A service for all for whom the holiday season is difficult, because of grief, mental health struggles, or simply the shortening of the days. It is a quieter, more solemn observance of this Holy time.

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

Beautiful music and wonderful children bring us the Christmas story.

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

Both services will be in-person, with the 5:00 also streamed via Zoom. Share the bread of life and the cup of salvation as we celebrate God's greatest gift.

12/25 11:00 a.m. Christmas Day Worship Service

Christmas Day is a Sunday this year, so we will have one service at 11:00 a.m. This will be a brief, informal service – wear your PJs and come ready with requests for favorite Christmas hymns!

Grace + Peace, David



Many thanks to all who placed lovely poinsettias in our sanctuary during the Advent season to enhance our worship times and remember and honor special loved ones:



- In memory of Micah Dutrow and Don Dutrow, given by Cynthia Stratton
- In memory of W.A. Turlington, given by Jean Turlington and Amy Walsh
- In memory of their parents, J.T. and Polly Lenhart and Ralph and Edna Penley, given by Bob and Janet Lenhart
- In memory of James A. and Belle D. Henderson, given by Jim and Phyllis Henderson
- In memory of C. Linwood Coleman and Juanita Coleman, from Joy, Danny, Anne, Bob & Frank
- In memory of Laura Rice Jenkins and Janice Rice Hedrick, given by Laura and Scott Hollis
- In memory of husband John Dowdy, sister Carol Anderson, and mother Margaret Thompson, given by Jean Dowdy
- In memory of Hector and Georgette Cote' and Mastin and Marguerite Goff, given by Steve and Angie Goff
- In memory of Joe and Barbara Gilboy, given by grandchildren Maggie, Karson, and Bode Clark
- In memory of Tom Finnegan, given by Jane Finnegan
- In memory of Ed Garrison, Gwen and Lester Alley, and George and Edith Garrison, given by Mary Garrison
- In memory of Jimmy Kauffman, given by Leigh and David Finnegan-Hosey
- In memory of Mother, Father, our two sisters and a brother, given by Nancy Roper and Betty Snead
- In memory of my father, mother, and twin brother, given by Nancy Wyman
- In memory of Polly and Raymond Craft, given by Steve Craft and Paula Craft
- In memory of Clare' F. Madison, given by Cynthia and Harold Cochran
- In memory of Albert and Elizabeth Dalton, given by Debra Vaughan
- In memory of her mom, Betty Weiditz, and Samy, given by Mary Ann Casdia
- In memory of Linwood and Arlette Brown, and in honor of Wendy Moore and Mary Ann Casdia, given by Rhonda Ringel
- In honor of Jake, Charlie, and Lilly, given by proud parents
- In honor of Crystal Ortner, given by Jane Finnegan
- In honor of all branches of our armed services—those who proudly serve, given by Jean Dowdy
- In honor of her family, given by Brenda Kidd
- In honor of Hunter, Gwen, Mary, and Greg Garrison and Kama Garrison, given by Mary Garrison
- In honor of Estelle Jeter Bourne, given by David, Gaye, and Sarah Blevins



OUR CHRISTMAS FAMILIES

BACC is helping 10 families, ranging from 2 to 9 family members, for the holidays. Thanks to your generosity, each family received a generous amount of food for their Thanksgiving dinner. We have already heard about how thankful they are!

To help the families for Christmas, here is the link to the on-line sign-up to provide gifts for the families: **CHRISTMAS FAMILIES**

For those who do not use online sign-up, there are trees with gift tags outside the Fellowship Hall for you to sign up for a gift or two. Each family is assigned a number, and the child's age and gender and the requested gifts are listed.

Please return your gift no later than December 11, with the age and gender of the child and the family number. This is important, as we will be sorting well over 100 gifts! Returning gifts by December 11 is important, as the gifts will be delivered in the next couple days.

Each family will also receive a gift card to purchase food for Christmas dinner.

Monetary donations are also accepted. Please designate your gift for the "Christmas Families."

Your gifts will help to cheer families who are having a tough time this year. Thank you for your generosity and thoughtfulness! If you have questions about any of the gifts, please contact Sara Reese (804-350-7689, sfreese52@comcast.net) or Cathy Law (804-512-9092, catherinelaw804@gmail.com) right away.



While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son.

She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.



We had a great time at our last Youth Group meeting playing Minute to Win It games (*thank you Leigh Finnegan-Hosey!*) and doing a Thanksgiving Scavenger Hunt! The Youth also wrote an Advent devotional together. It is always a wonderful day when we are able to gather together and give thanks for this wonderful church and great group of kids!

Next up is **Christmas Caroling on Sunday, December 11th at 4:30 p.m.** with a **YG Christmas Party at The Ver Beek's immediately following**.

We hope all the kids can come and have some Christmas fun!

Our **Live Nativity is Sunday, December 18th at 5:00 p.m.** and all youth and children are welcome to participate! We are practicing every Sunday of Advent at 10:00 a.m. in the multipurpose room. We hope to see you there!





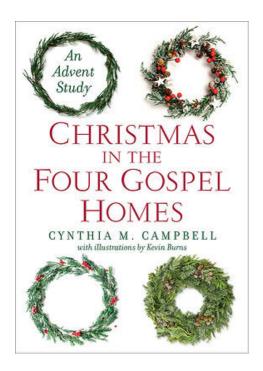












ADVENT BOOK STUDY CHRISTMAS IN THE FOUR GOSPEL HOMES

An Advent Study by Cynthia M. Campbell

For each week of Advent, pastor and professor Cynthia M. Campbell reflects on the distinctive perspectives each gospel writer brings to their accounts of the incarnation. Imagining each of the four Gospels as a "house," which we the church visits together at Christmas, Campbell and illustrator Kevin Burns guide us through a creative look at the different emphases of the gospel writers and how they inform our own journey as disciples of Christ. We will meet on Zoom on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. beginning November 30th, using the Prayer and Fellowship link. We will also meet in-person at BACC on Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. beginning December 1st. Books are available in the church office.



JOY GROUP



We had a great time at our November meeting playing a variety of word games with Brenda Kidd! (Tipoff: Kitten Whitlow saved all of hers with the correct answers on them, so she can play with someone else and win--beware!).

For our December meeting, the JOY Group and the CWF Day Group will join together to enjoy a Holiday Lunch at Candela's Restaurant on Robious Road. Please join us on Tuesday, December 20th at 11:00 a.m. to celebrate the season with fun and friends!

Please RSVP to the church office if you plan to join us.





CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Hard to believe Christmas is almost here. It's a very busy season. The Day CWF will be celebrating with the Joy Group. We're planning a **Christmas lunch at Candela's on Robious Road at 11:00 a.m. on December 20th**. Looking forward to good times with good friends. The Day Group last met on Election Day, November 8th. Brenda Kidd led the lesson.

The Evening CWF met on November 3rd. We had dinner at Tazza Kitchen and then met at the church for the meeting. We collected gift cards for the Women's Shelter at the Richmond YWCA. We've been asked to help sort books for their Sprout Schools in December. They have a lot of donated books that need to be sorted and disbursed to the various Sprout schools. Get well, Thanksgiving, and sympathy cards were signed and sent out. I taught the lesson on the Fourth Commandment (Keep the Sabbath). Remember everyone needs to take time to rest. And then we had dessert, which was provided by our hostess, Janet Lenhart. Yum, yum! The next meeting will be **Thursday, December 1st at 7:00 pm.** Sara Reese will be our hostess. The lesson will come from Exodus 20:12 and Luke 9:57-62. We plan to eat dinner at **Carrabba's at 5:00 p.m.** Please join us.

The Salad CWF met on Monday, November 21st in the Multi-Purpose room. Several members joined us on Zoom. It was wonderful to meet together again and enjoy a meal together after two years. The salad and fixings were delicious. We met at 6:15 p.m. for the meal and the meeting started at 7:00. We once again will be collecting items for Safe Harbor for our mission project. This group also sends cards to let people know they are in our thoughts and prayers. Cassie Price talked about the history of Ukraine. Russia has been oppressing Ukraine for centuries. Shea Hollifield led the discussion on keeping the Sabbath. We all need time to rest and focus on our relationship with God. Next month, we'll discuss the Fifth Commandment-Honor your Father and Mother. The Salad Group will next meet on **December 19th. Come at 6:15 to join us for salad and the meeting will begin at 7:00.** The Zoom option will also be available. We meet in the Multi-Purpose room. Everyone seems to really be enjoying the lesson material this year. Come join us and see if you agree!



CWF ladies and friends enjoy a play at Swift Creek Mill Theatre



Fall CWF Beach Trip: Arlene Westveld, Kris Foster, Arlene Giffel, Vickie Shannon, Carol McGowan, Lisa Ploehn, Carol Herrin, Jean Turlington, Laura Hollis, Jean Dowdy, Karen Basalay, Sara Reese, and Jamie McDonald

Fun and Fellowship

CHRISTIAN MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The CMF is a social group of BACC men who gather in fellowship throughout the year. If you are too old for the Youth Group, you are just the right age for the CMF.

This month, two events are planned. More may be added as the men identify activities they would like to share with their brothers. Keep a watch on the Sunday church bulletin for updates.

ROMEOs meets every Wednesday Morning at 9:15 AM,

Joe's Inn – Bon Air. We carry on the tradition of BACC men who started the group fellowship more than 25 years ago. We have a table on the left side of the restaurant, near the back on the lower level. Dress is casual. Just show up. Some charter members of the group say the original ROMEO acronym identified them as 'Retired Old Men Eating Out.' This new generation could more aptly be described as 'Reliable One-of-a-kind Men Enjoying Ourselves'.

The once-a-month Men's Gathering is scheduled for December 15th at 5:30 PM. Location is Extra Billy's Brewery and Smokehouse, 1110 Alverser Drive, Midlothian, VA 23113.

Contact Tom Snodgrass (numbers below) to express your intent to attend. The Men's Gathering is held at a different restaurant each month, usually on the third Thursday of the month.

Contact Tom Snodgrass (TESNODGRAS@AOL.COM or 804-370-5279) if you have ideas for Christian Men's Fellowship activities through the Winter and Spring months. In previous years we have gone pond fishing, and held lots of golf events and card games. We are considering adding a dove shoot for 2023.

Our ROMEOs enjoying breakfast together on November 16th: Jim McKenney, Bill Heath, Bob McGowan, Steve Craft, Tom Snodgrass, Greg Shannon, and Bob Lenhart

Christian Men's Fellowhip guys enjoying dinner together on November 17th at Yen Ching Restaurant: David Finnegan-Hosey, Duke Dale, Bob Lenhart, Bob McGowan, Kris Clark, Frank Clark, Steve Craft, Jim McKenney, Tom Snodgrass, and Sam Herrin





OUR NEW UKRAINIAN FRIENDS

Dear friends:

I would like to invite you to share in welcoming some new friends from the Ukraine. This is the Somik family. We have had the opportunity to get to know the family through video calls and they will be coming to Richmond in January. Olena and Roma have two beautiful, smart, and talented girls. Khrystina is 16 and hopes to celebrate her 17th birthday in the USA in January. She already has taken some college courses and has communicated with VCU to see if her credits will transfer. Her sister is Polina and she is 6 years old. Polina is a gymnast and dancer.

They are much like us. They want to live in a safe place and provide for their family. When they come in January, they will have only what they are able to bring in their suitcases. If you have furniture, household items that you would like to contribute please email or call me.

We have all been praying for our Ukrainian friends. They have had their lives uprooted. Their businesses and their homes destroyed. One of my new Ukrainian friends said that for at least 10 hours a day they have no electrical power and it is cold. One of my dance instructor's parents is in part of the Ukraine that is now ruled by Russian occupation, and they suffer their lack of freedom. This is devastating to innocent people and their families.

One of my dear friends is returning to the Ukraine with his wife, his toddler and his baby on the way. Please continue to pray for Vlad and Tanya, who have worried for their families and missed their home.

These dear people are so grateful for whatever help they can receive and deeply grateful for your prayers. They are hardworking, well-educated and motivated to have a new life and seeking peace.

— Cindy



Serving Together



Dear Bon Air Christian Church,

In life we are given opportunities to share God's loving kindness with others. Whether it's a kind word, a prayer, or a helping hand, I've always believed when we bless others, it opens the door for more blesssings and greater opportunities for us to share Christ's love with the world.

This holiday season, I am reminded that you are a blessing to neighbors around the world. Here are a few ways you served as a blessing to others:

This year you shared love and hope by blessing families with backpacks filled with essential items. From sharing kits and blankets with Ukranian refugees in Moldova and providing cleanup buckets to disaster victims in Florida, Kentucky, Virginia, and other states across the U.S. to ensuring children had supplies for school, God continuously used faithful volunteers like you to share love and hope through this ministry.

A CWS kit may seem like a small response in the face of a life changing disaster or humanitarian situation, but those supplies are a blessing filled with hope and dignity to people who have lost so much. Again, we are grateful for all you do to make our CWS Kit program a blessing to our neighbors around the world, and we look forward to working with you again.

With Gratitude, Matthew Stevens Church World Service



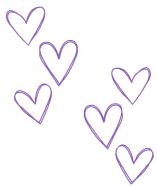
Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you;

he is the Messiah, the Lord.

Luke 2:11



Thank Full
For your gift of love
For your presence with me
For your unwavering support
For your encouragement and kindness
For the honor of serving alongside of you
I give thanks.



Thank you, dear friends and wonderful church, for the many ways you have shared your lives and your love with me. I am so grateful to you and to God for the extraordinary blessing of this amazing church family. You remain in my heart and in my prayers. Always.

Love, Cindy









What a wonderful day it was celebrating Cindy and her incredible 36 years here at BACC. Words will never be enough to thank her for all that she has done and all that she is to this church and this congregation.

We love you Cindy!

Retirement





Karson Clark assisting one of our newest acolytes, Bode James.

MANY THANKS ALSO to all who dedicated their time and talents to decorating our beautiful church for the Advent and Christmas season! It was so wonderful to come in for worship that Saturday evening and Sunday and feel the joy and comfort that this brings! Special thanks to Paula Craft for coordinating and prepping.

Advent Devotions 2022

THANKS TO NICOLE VADEN

for doing the lovely Thanksgiving altar arrangement for us this year! We have certainly enjoyed it throughout the Thanksgiving season, and so appreciate Nicole sharing her talents with us in yet another way!



OUR ADVENT DEVOTIONAL 2022

Thanks so much also to all who so generously shared their time and talents in writing a devotional for our 2022 Advent Devotional Book. Your gifts are so appreciated, as so many of us enjoy these lovely reflections throughout the Advent season!

Thanks also to Diane Clark, our "Bag Lady," and her dream team of helpers and drivers (Suzanne Dale, Christie Macaulay, Catherine Parrish, Kitten Whitlow, Pete Landergan, Kris Clark, and Frank Clark), who made sure that all BACC members near and far receive a copy of our Advent Devotional Book!

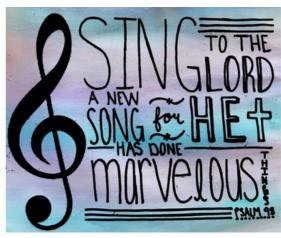
If you still need a copy, please let our church office know and we will get one to you!

For to Us a Child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6





BRYAHNA MOONEY



EMILY RUCKER

Many thanks to our talented artists who provide artwork for our bulletin covers!



God is our refuge and strength,
a help always near in times of great trouble.

ANDEE KIRK



JOY BLACK

Thank you for serving!

We are so 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.

GREETERS

WORSHIP AND WONDER

WORSHIP LEADERS

WEDNESDAY PRAYER AND FELLOWSHIP





Please pray for: Dee and Dave Caras and family in the recent loss of Dee's mother, Diana Menefee; Todd and Dana Hatton, who are suffering with Covid; Tim Skeens, who is being treated for pneumonia.

Please continue to pray for: Becky West; Ada Slayton; Ellen Moon; Joe Atherton; Jean Venner; Cheryl Farrell; Steve Goff; Joshua Barrack; Nikki Todd; TB Washington and family; Mary Ann Casdia; Traci Eagle; Mary Garrison; Chris and Leah Harrison; Craig Sandahl; Beulah Proffitt; Patty Simmons; GerryRoppe'; Alma Spivey; Scott McCann; Chris Verheul; Jenn Metcalf; Janice Hoover, sister of Laura Hollis; Liz Young; Jim Henderson; Peggye Alcoke; Terri Rudolph; Daniel Vaden; Sandy Logan's son Jeff; Alice Murray's son Brett; Mary Ellen Cummins; Myrna Law; Gene Dunston; Sylvia Montgomery; Jeter Bourne; Pat Cosby; Harold Campbell; James Hatton; Wanda Russell; Joe Bancroft's brother-in-law, Joe Thomas; Gerry Roppe's friend, Chico; Cathy Wheless; Larry Brown; Judi Wright, sister of Debra Vaughan; Steve Kline's friend, Gail Smith; Billy Pike, friend of Becky Harvell's; Martha Southall, neighbor of Greg and Vickie Shannon; Evan O'Dell; Chris Lion; Lisa Perkins; Traci Eagle's cousin, Cindy; Frances Gilman; Mary Williams, friend of Pat Cosby; Stephanie Strobe; Hannah Moon's roommate, Caroline Laughorn; Pat Cosby's cousin, Jo Bailey; Nancy Maiden's friend, Betty Jo; Tammy Rucker's friend, Judith Hazelo; Patrick Sibold; Barbara Barker; Chip Wright; Stacy Price; Jim Pannell; Vickie Shannon's mother, Dorothea Mentzell; Rose McCaferty's sister Judy; Cassie Price's friends, Jessica and Carter Pope, and Spencer; Rhonda Ringel's friends, Betty Jean and Diana Barber.

