

# BON AIR CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

## JANUARY 2024 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!

**"I love those who love me, and those who seek  
me diligently find me."  
– Proverbs 8:17**

As the New Year begins, what are you searching for?

As you have probably heard, Bon Air Christian Church is entering into a process of searching, specifically for an associate minister to help us strengthen our ministries across the multiple generations that make up our beautiful congregation. As we embark on this path together, we will be looking for ways to hear from you about what you are looking for and hoping for in an associate.

One way to do that is to start by thinking about what each of us is hoping for and searching for this year. As the year begins, we'll asking that question together in our worship services. We'll take a look at biblical stories of searching, like Magi coming from a faraway land in search of a vision. Or people coming to John the Baptist at the Jordan River looking for a new beginning. Or crowds coming to Jesus seeking blessings, healing, and transformation. Along with these stories, we'll be offering some creative and interactive ways to share with each other our hopes and imaginings for this coming year.

Of course, as disciples of Christ, when someone asks us what we're searching for our first answer might be easy: "Jesus!" I'm reminded of the old story of a pastor sitting on the steps of the sanctuary for a Children's Sermon, and beginning his message by asking them: "Can you tell me an animal that's gray and hides nuts for the winter?" After a long silence one of the children responded: "Well, pastor, I know the right answer is Jesus, but that sure sounds like a squirrel!"

Reading the ancient stories of Jesus reminds us that often, people are searching for something else, and are surprised to find Jesus, or surprised by the version of their searching that Jesus fulfills. Perhaps you are searching for something right now, or perhaps you know a friend, family member, or neighbor who is searching. I pray that this season helps encourage us all in our searching – and that we find ourselves, like the disciples so many centuries ago, surprised by what Christ has in store for us. Surprised that it is God who has first been reaching out to us.

Grace + Peace,

*David*



# Worship With Us

## Christmas Eve Worship and our Christmas Pageant

It was a beautiful celebration of our Savior's birth. We started the morning with our Children's Christmas pageant and then had two Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship services. Thank you to all who were involved to make it such a special Christmas at BACC!



*"For unto you is born this day in the city of David  
a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."*

## Blue Christmas

We had 33 attendees at our Blue Christmas worship service this year. This is a worship in which we remember those whom the holiday season is difficult because of grief, loss, mental health challenges, or simply shortening days.





# Christmas Caroling

**“The Best Way to Spread Christmas Cheer, is Singing Loud for All to Hear.” ~Elf**

It was a rainy night but it didn't stop a small group of us from spreading some Christmas cheer to a few members that can't get to church easily any more. They were so very grateful, and it really did bring them joy to hear some caroling. Fa La La La ...



We were able to visit TB Washington, Jean Beatley, Christine Vaden, Martha Wright, Ethlene Slayton and Sylvia Montgomery. All of these people send their love to their Bon Air Christian Church family!





Thanks to all who purchased poinsettias to honor or remember their loved ones. The poinsettias adorned our sanctuary and made it beautiful for all to enjoy. We thank you and remember these dear loved ones during the Christmas season. Flowers can now be taken home with you.



***In memory of...***

Don Dutrow and Micah Dutrow, given by Cindy Stratton

W.A. Turlington, given by Jean Turlington and Amy Walsh

Our parents, J.T. and Polly Lenhart and Ralph and Edna Penley, given by Bob and Janet Lenhart

Thomas Finnegan, given by Jane Finnegan

Polly & Raymond Craft, given by Paula and Steve Craft

Peggy Alcock & Iva Teachey, our beloved mothers who died this year, given by Susan & Kim Teachey

Dick & Nancie Price, George & Dorothy King, and Charles & Connie Stuart, given by Cassie Price

Barbara Hollifield, given by Shea Hollifield

Harry & Frances Lowers, given by Alice Murray

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

Laura Rice Jenkins & Janice Rice Hedrick, given by Laura Hollis

Juanita & Linwood Coleman, given by Joy Black

Our mother and grandmother, Jeter Bourne, given by David, Gaye and Sarah Blevins, and Michael Bourne

Our parents and grandparents, given by Susan & Philip Baum





## ***In memory of...***

Jerrell Todd, given by Barbara & Joe Bancroft

Gene & Bill Dunston, given by Joan Mielke

Betty Caras, given by Dave Caras

Diana Menefee, given by Dee Caras

Jim Henderson, given by The Ver Beeks

Chuck McGowan, and Bill & Julie Burke, given by Bob & Carol McGowan

Myrna & Bill Law, given by Cathy Law

Ed, Edith & George Garrison, Lester & Gwen Alley, given by Mary Garrison

Jim Henderson, and his parents Jim & Belle, given by Phyllis Henderson

Ted & Cynthia Majewski, and Molly Johnson, given by Russ & Cindy Johnson, Nicole Vaden and Lauren Johnson

Leona & Andrew Lesyinski, Sally & Joseph Basalay, and Helen Donaldson-Basalay, given by Karen & Bob Basalay

David, Carol & Mike McColm, given by Lisa McColm

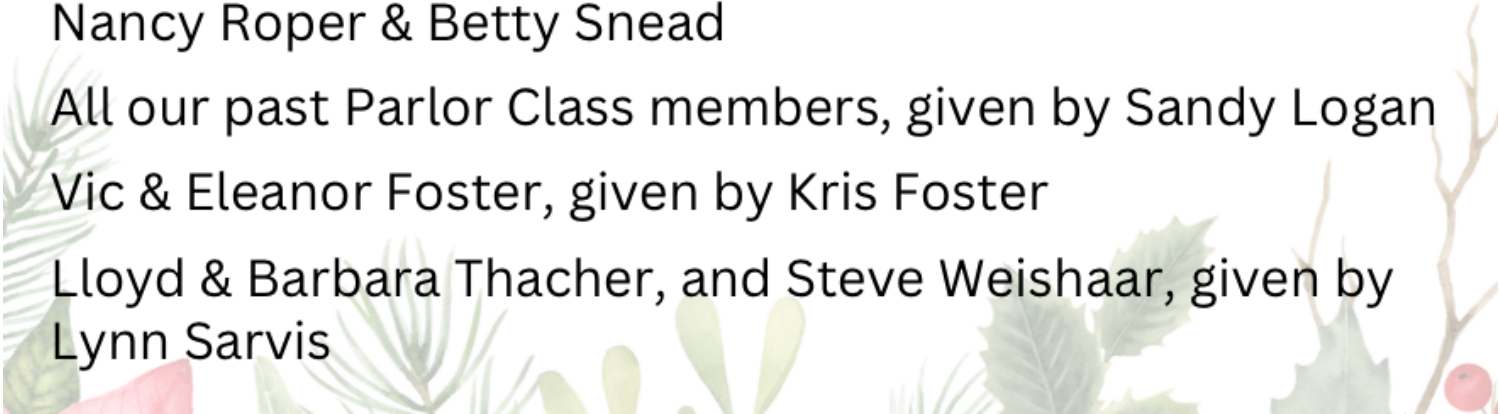
My mother, brother and father, given by Nancy Wyman

Our mothers, fathers, sisters and a brother, given by Nancy Roper & Betty Snead

All our past Parlor Class members, given by Sandy Logan

Vic & Eleanor Foster, given by Kris Foster

Lloyd & Barbara Thacher, and Steve Weishaar, given by Lynn Sarvis







## ***In memory of...***

The family and friends who have gone before us, given  
by Brenda & Scott Graham

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

## ***In honor of...***

David, Leigh, Laila & Jane,  
All the children of BACC, and  
All those dealing with mental health issues, given by  
Brenda Kidd

Suzanne Dale, and all of my Craig Springs friends --  
counsleors and campers, given by Lois Haines

The Ver Beek Family, given by Barbara & Joe Bancroft

Charlotte Shea Marling, given by Shea Hollifield

My parents, Tom & Lois Martin, given by Jane Finnegan

Kitten (Mimi) Whitlow, given by John, Rhys, Daniel &  
Michael

Our Mommy & Daddy (Erin & Patrick Wilkinson), given  
by Miles & Savannah

Kay McGowan, given by Bob & Carol McGowan

Kama, Dave, Mary, Greg, Hunter, and Gwen, given by  
Mary Garrison

The engagement of our daughter Whitney to Joseph,  
given by Brenda & Scott Graham



# Youth Group

It has been a fun year with our amazing youth! This group definitely knows how to have a good time! We meet on the 1st Sunday of every month now and in December the youth made the props for our Stellar Christmas Pageant (pictures below), and also played some very competitive games ... let's just say they were breaking a sweat after a couple of the games, haha!

Thanks to so many of the children and youth for participating in the monthly meetings, our fall lock-in, Christmas caroling and the pageant. There are lots of fun things planned for 2024 and we hope to make some more wonderful memories together!

We will meet next on **Sunday, January 7th, Noon - 2:15 p.m.** If you have any questions about the BACC Youth Group, please feel free to reach out to Kendra at the church office or at [kendraverbeek@baccdoc.org](mailto:kendraverbeek@baccdoc.org).





# Letter from our Board President

Dear BACC,

I hope you are all well and enjoying the wonder of the holiday season.

This time of year always reminds me of the many blessings in our lives. BACC and our wonderful staff are one of those blessings. Their hard work and dedication are unmatched, and they truly make our church a home. David brings his wonderful messages to us each week with energy, passion, and humor that touches each of us and strengthens our faith. Kendra does a fantastic job making sure our church operates efficiently and what she has done for our digital outreach is a miracle. We are blessed to have Vickie and all her musical talents as well as her leadership of the choir with music that touches each of us. Kyla lovingly cares for all our kids creating a safe and fun place for them during our worship services.

These folks work tirelessly to create a wonderful experience for us each Sunday. As Christmas approaches, we have an opportunity to show our appreciation for all they do for us during the year.

I ask each of you to prayerfully consider joining me in showing our love to these special people. Your contribution towards a monetary gift this Christmas season shows them all their hard work is noticed and appreciated. Please mark your contributions as “Staff Gift” and place them in the offering plate over the upcoming Sundays or give it to your elder. We will present all gift proceeds to our staff on behalf of the congregation.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you in church.

Thanks,  
*Russ*

Russ Johnson  
President of the Congregation  
Chairman of the Board





# What's Happening

## RESOLVE TO SAVE LIVES IN 2024

The start of a new year is the perfect time to make a resolution to become a regular blood donor in 2024. January is National Blood Donor Month! The Red Cross observes this as a time to celebrate our generous volunteer donors and to encourage others to join our lifesaving mission.

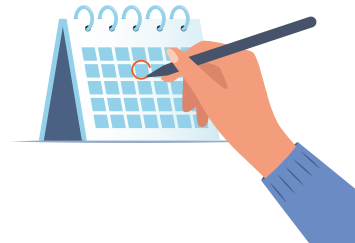
Click this link to sign up for the blood drive that BACC will host on **January 24th**: [GIVE BLOOD](#)

Together we can save lives! If you have any questions, please call Cassie Price or the church office.



## IMPORTANT DATES COMING UP:

As we get back into the swing of things after the holidays, we wanted to remind you of a few important dates coming up. The new year is upon us and meetings are fast approaching. The Spirit is moving at BACC and there is a lot of exciting and important work to be done in 2024.



**Thursday, January 4th, Office will be closed** for Staff Planning retreat.

**Friday, January 5th, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Elders Meeting at BACC.** Dinner will be provided.

**Saturday, January 6th, 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Cabinet Planning meeting at BACC.** Breakfast & Lunch will be provided.

**Sunday, January 7th, Noon - 2:15 p.m. Youth Group meeting at BACC.** Lunch will be provided.

**Sunday, January 7th, Noon - 2:30 p.m. De-decorate the church.** Lunch will be provided and many hands make for light work. Please come help if you are able!

**Sunday, January 14th at 11:00 a.m. Worship Installation of Elders and Deacons**

**Sunday, January 21st immediately following 11:00 a.m. Worship Board Meeting**

**Sunday, January 28th at 11:00 a.m. Worship Installation of Cabinet and Church Officers**

**Sunday, January 28th, Noon - 1:00 p.m. Search Committee meeting**

# Fun and Fellowship

## CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

December was a busy month with meetings and other activities. Looking forward to the new year. The CWF Night Group will meet on **January 4th at 6:30 pm** at Andee Kirk's home: 906 Buford Oaks Circle, N. Chesterfield, 23235.

The Day CWF met on Dec. 12th. Brenda Kidd led the lesson about Christmas traditions. Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, January 9th at 10:30 a.m.** with lunch at Jason's Deli on Forest Hill Ave afterwards (no need to RSVP). The Bible lesson in January will be told by different members of our group. Please remember to bring gift cards for the Women's Shelter of the Richmond YWCA if you would like to help with this ministry. The Bainbridge Food Bank does not need peanut butter right now but does need jelly, canned fruits & vegetables & meats.

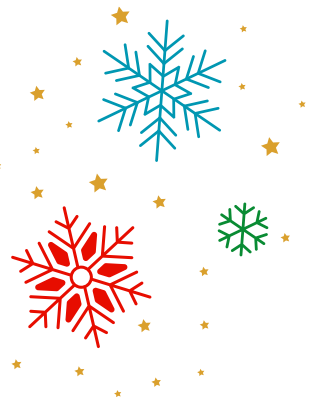
Future activities include a play at Swift Creek Mill, Richmond Ballet's Dracula, a tea at Magnolia Grange, and our spring beach trip. Hope you will join us.

I hope all of the women at BACC will join one of our CWF groups. And don't forget the Chili Cook-off and the Work of our Hands Silent Auction on **Saturday, February 17th, 2024**. Let me know if you can provide something for the auction.

~ Jamie McDonald

## JOY GROUP

We had a wonderful time at our December Holiday JOY Luncheon at Angelo's Italian Restaurant on December 21st. The food & friendship was wonderful and the "Elf" gift exchange was very fun! Our next JOY meeting will be on **January 18th at 10:30 a.m.** Be on the lookout in your Wednesday email for more information about that meeting. Remember -- everyone is welcome to join the "Just Older Youth" group!





# Fun and Fellowship

## CHRISTIAN MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

January 2024 Scheduled CMF Activities:

- Jan 3 - Men's Lunch at Joe's Inn Bon Air (11:30 AM)
- Jan 9 - Tour Keystone Truck & Tractor Museum Colonial Heights (10:00 AM)
- Jan 10 - ROMEO's Breakfast at Joe's Inn Bon Air (9:15 AM)
- Jan 17 - ROMEO's Breakfast at Joe's Inn Bon Air (9:15 AM)
- Jan 24 - ROMEO's Breakfast at Joe's Inn Bon Air (9:15 AM)
- Jan 25 - CMF Gathering at Church - Dinner & Planning Meeting (5:30 PM)
- Jan 31 - ROMEO's Breakfast at Joe's Inn Bon Air (9:15 AM)

Acronym Finder: 'ROMEO'

1. (Preferred) Reliable One-of-a-kind Men Enjoying Ourselves
2. (Acceptable) Retired Old Men Eating Out
3. (Un-liked) Really Old Men Eating Out

December 2023 Snapshot.

Men's Lunch at Joe's Inn Bon Air (Dec 6/11:30 AM) 1st Wednesday each month  
ROMEO's Breakfast at Joe's Inn Bon Air (Dec 13th, 20th, 27th)

For more info on CMF events/activities, contact Tom Snodgrass (Call/text 804-370-5279 or email [tesnodgras@aol.com](mailto:tesnodgras@aol.com))



Picture: Attendees at Inaugural Men's Lunch on Dec 6th.

(From Left to Right Clockwise). Kim Teachey, Bud Deihl, Steve Craft, Jim McKenney, Bob Lenhart, Bob McGowan, Bob Basalay, Bernie McDonald, David Finnegan-Hosey, David Caras, Doug Collins, Greg Shannon, Wayne Farrell, Brand Inlow, Tom Snodgrass.

*Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.*  
*Thessalonians 5:11*

# Thank You

## **Thank you, Thank you!!**

BACC sponsored 10 families for the holidays. Thanks to the generosity of so many of our members, these families' holidays were enriched. Twenty children received gifts of toys, books and new clothes for Christmas. Members of the Church in Community team delivered the gifts to the schools, and each school was thankful for our support of their students and families.

~ Cathy Law



To all of you,

I'm not even sure that I have the proper words to thank everyone at BACC for all the kindness extended to our family during and after Jim's illness and passing, and I can't begin to express to you how appreciative we were for everything done to help our family at this time. I truly never expected the comments expressed during the service to be as touching, compassionate or as heart warming as they were and I am certain I will never forget it. I know how much this church meant to Jim (and to me) and how much he enjoyed becoming more involved. May God be with you.

With much love,

~Phyllis Henderson



Dear Bon Air Christian Church Sponsors,

We are incredibly grateful for the love and support you have shown to our families. Thank you for your partnership.

Warmly,

~ Bon Air Elementary School



Dear Bon Air Christian Church,

Thank you for supporting CARITAS. Your recent gift of \$875 makes it possible for us to meet the immediate and long-term needs of those working to find homes and overcome addiction. As CARITAS continues to adapt and innovate to address the challenges faced by our participants, we rely on support from caring community members like you who see the potential in people easily forgotten. Your investment allows our participants to realize that they have a purpose in life, that there is more to their story than their situation. There is no greater gift than that, so grateful for you!

With appreciation,

~ Clara Stokes (Chief Advancement Officer)



# Church Family Updates

## *Lord, Hear Our Prayers*

**Please pray for:** Jane Miller who is recovering from COVID.

**Please continue to pray for:** Zachary Moon; Bob and Carol McGowan; Steve Goff, Steve Kline, Emilie Fuller and family; The family of Lois Zarefoss; Traci Eagle; Taylor Brooks; Gerry Roppé; Jack Dalton; Rhonda Ringel; Phyllis Henderson; Paula Spencer, Nick and Will Monger; Caroline Laughorn; Cathy Law's brother, Richard; Diane Feranley's friend, Nancy; Baby Gabriel; Laura Finch and Brian Cassel; Rick and Kathy Morton; Marion and Gary Hosey; James Huff Jr.; Darlene Edwards; Peg Eagle; Bob Basalay; Paul Stairs; Pat Cosby; Sylvia Montgomery; Harold Campbell; Wanda Russell; Gail Macfadden; Debra Vaughan's daughter-in-law, Janice; Paul Stair's sister; Kevin Heath's mother; Josie Schmidt's sister, Mary; Wendy Moore's friend, Laverne and her brother; the family of Alma Spivey; Suzanne Dale's friends Cindy and Steve Edgerton; Brad Munce; Shea Hollfiled's niece, Holly; Tanya Morgan; Rose McCaferty's sisters, Barbara and Judy; Steve Goff's uncle, Bob; Ted and Ellen Garrett and family; David Winders; Ken Schmalenberger; Sam Morse and family; Mary Ann Casdia; Glenda Turner; Bobby Saunders; Wilma Pruett; Bridget Hengle; Joan Mielke's friend, Pete and Joan's nephew, Bucky; and her sister in law, Lynn; Faye Ringel; Megan Moran Bucholz; Kath Cartino; Bob Penley; Eric Morris; Gunnar Dickson; Gerry Roppé's friends, Chico and Sue; Doug Collins, Sr.; Kathy Morton's nephew, Sean; Gail Cox; Emily Porter; Cindy Stratton's friend, Vlad; Gina McKenney's niece, Jimie, friends Woody Campbell, Kathy Sanford, and John Mann, and former student, Jackson; Alice Murray's friend, Robin T.; Jack and Alois Ellis; Mike Vernon; Connie Graves; Kip Barefoot; Ada Slayton; Scott McCann; Chris Verheul; Janice Hoover; Alice Murray's son Brett; Mary Ellen Cummins; Nikki Todd; Carolanne Ivey; Jean Venner; Cathy Wheless; Larry Brown; Judi Wright; Chris Lion; Lisa Perkins; Traci Eagle's cousin, Cindy; Frances Gilman; Jo Bailey; Judith Hazelo; Patrick Sibold; Stacy Price; Jim Pannell.



*Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.*  
*Colossians 4:2*