

# BON AIR CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

## MARCH 2025 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!**

### **This Lent, We're On the Way with Jesus**

The sacred season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (March 5th). Lent is the 40 days (not including Sundays) leading up to Easter. Forty days reminds us of Jesus fasting in the wilderness, itself an echo of many other wilderness experiences throughout scripture.

This Lent, our theme will be "On the Way with Jesus." In Luke's gospel, ten chapters (from 9:51-19:27) are dedicated to Jesus's journey from the Galilee to Jerusalem. Ten chapters of travel from the familiar environs of home to an encounter with the powers and principalities that await Jesus and his disciples, an encounter which will lead to his death at the hands of religious and political authority. For ten chapters, we walk with Jesus on the way to the cross...and, finally, to the empty grave that lies beyond it.

For the next 40 days, we will be on the Way with Jesus. We'll learn that some of his more difficult teachings can only make sense if we are journeying alongside him, not only hearing his words but walking with him, meeting the people he meets, loving the people he loves.

At BACC, we have many opportunities to grow in our walk of faith throughout the Lenten season. I pray that we may we find each other on our way with Jesus throughout this sacred season.

Grace + Peace,

*David*

# Preparing for Lent

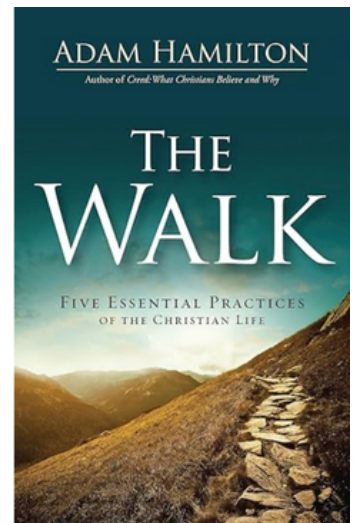
During this sacred season of 40 days (not including Sundays) leading up to Holy Week and Easter, we have many different ways to grow in our faith:

Our Lent devotional guide is now available; you can pick one up in the sanctuary during worship, at the pancake supper, or in the church office. Many thanks to everyone who contributed!

Our 24-hour Ash Wednesday prayer vigil will begin at 6:00 a.m. on **March 5th**. Consider signing up if you haven't already. Our goal is to have someone praying for the entire 24 hours. We especially need people to sign up between the hours of 7 p.m. - midnight.

Throughout Lent, our worship focus will be "On the Way with Jesus," with the weekly gospel lessons coming from Luke's extended travel narrative as Jesus and the disciples journey from the Galilee to Jerusalem.

In keeping with that theme, our Lenten book study this year will be *The Walk: Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life*, by Adam Hamilton. The study begins on **March 5th/6th**, with a Wednesday Zoom session beginning at 7:05 p.m. or a Thursday in-person session at 10:30 a.m. Books are available in the church office.



*Then I turned my face to the Lord God, seeking him by prayer and pleas  
for mercy with fasting and sackcloth and ashes.  
Daniel 9:3*



# What's Happening

## **READ ACROSS AMERICA DAY**

Read Across America Day is **Friday, March 7th** at Elizabeth D. Redd Elementary School! Volunteers read a book to a classroom, after choosing a book at the school. To sign-up, please contact Angie Branyon ([angelabranyon1@gmail.com](mailto:angelabranyon1@gmail.com)) or Cathy Law ([catherinelaw804@gmail.com](mailto:catherinelaw804@gmail.com)) with how many classrooms you would like to read to and what grade level.

Most volunteers read for about 15-20 minutes in each classroom. The school address is 5601 Jahnke Rd. Angie and Cathy volunteer at the school and can answer questions. We hope you can join in this special ministry!

## **JOY GROUP**

We do not currently have plans for March JOY Group. If you would like to organize an outing or presentation for this group, or if you are interested in helping to lead JOY Group in the future, please contact Kendra in the church office.

## **ASSOCIATE MINISTER SEARCH UPDATE**

Thank you to everyone who took time to attend worship during Rev. Amy Oblinger's visit, to meet her during coffee hour, or to listen to her sermon on our YouTube channel. The next step in our process is for our Search Committee to bring a recommendation to the Church Board at its March 9th meeting. Following the Board vote, the Search Committee will be in touch with Amy. Any call to an Associate Minister is ultimately subject to a congregational vote; the Chair of the Board will send communication about a congregational meeting if one is called for. Thank you all for your prayers and your support during this discernment process!

*God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus  
Christ our Lord.  
1 Corinthians 1:9*

# What's Happening

**Easter Flower Orders are DUE MARCH 24th**

## *Easter Flower* **ORDER FORM**



NAME OF PERSON ORDERING:

**EASTER LILLIES \$15/EACH**  
(4+ BLOOMS) / 6" POT

**FLORAL MUMS \$15/EACH**  
6" POT / ASSORTED COLORS

**TULIPS \$11/EACH**  
(4-5 BULBS) / 6" POT / ASSORTED COLORS

**HYACINTHS \$11/EACH**  
(3 BULBS) / 6" POT / ASSORTED COLORS

IN HONOR OF:

IN MEMORY OF:

GIVEN BY:

AMOUNT PAID:

CHECK #

CASH

**Orders due by March 24th**

You can fill this out and bring it in to the church office OR there will be inserts in the bulletins in March.

These flowers help decorate our sanctuary for Easter Sunday. Flowers can be picked up and taken home after Easter Worship Service.

Thank you!



*A reminder that we are able to love others because of God's love for us.*  
*1 John 4:19*

# What's Happening

## SHROVE TUESDAY

### Shrove Tuesday

PANCAKE DINNER  
TUESDAY, 3/4 @ 6:00 PM



**Donations will be collected --  
ALL are welcome!**

Shrove Tuesday or Pancake Day is the Tuesday before the Christian period of Lent -- a traditional time of fasting/restraint.

Shrove Tuesday / Pancake Day came to Newfoundland from the United Kingdom. The idea of making pancakes came from a desire to use up the 'forbidden' ingredients (fat, eggs, etc) before the Lenten fast began.

We hope you can join us for one of our favorite yearly events at BACC. Delicious food, fellowship, and raising money for a worthy cause! Come eat and enjoy!

ALL are welcome!

*Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the Lord.  
Psalm 31:24*

# Youth Group

**REMINDER:** Youth Group meets the 1st Sunday of every month at BACC, unless otherwise communicated. We look forward to seeing your smiling faces :)

**2025 Craig Springs camp dates below.**  
MARK YOUR CALENDARS! *Registration open soon!*

## VA CAMPING MINISTRY 2025

6.15-6.20	Intergenerational Mission Trip
6.21-6.28	TREC Camp
6.22-6.27	Nature Camp
6.29-7.4	Special Camp
7.6-7.11	Triple 1
7.20-7.24	New Covenant
7.21-7.26	CAMPDD
7.27-8.1	Triple 2
8.1-8.3	Family Camp
8.3-8.8	Adult Hiking Camp

## CRAIG SPRINGS

- Nature Camp
- Special Camp
- Triple 1 Camp
- New Covenant
- CAMPDD
- Triple 2
- Family

## ADDITIONAL LOCATIONS

- Intergenerational Mission Trips
- TREC Camp
- Adult Hiking Camp

**Learn more about each camp and what it has to offer, and age ranges on the Craig Springs website. If you have any questions about the Mission Trip or summer camp, please don't hesitate to reach out to the church office. Also remember that BACC pays 1/2 for all campers to attend Craig Springs! We also have scholarships available if more help is needed.**

At Craig Springs, they are always in need of items big & small, new & used. Please Email [admin@craigsprings.org](mailto:admin@craigsprings.org) if you are interested in donating an item, or making a donation for the purchase of an item. Here is a current wish list of items needed:

**Hide-a-bed couch / Twin size, Trash cans with animal resistant lids, Books\*, Gator or other ATV, Mesh pool cover.**

*(\*Please note, either send a book list for us to select from or understand that donated un-needed duplicates and books in excess of our need will be passed along and not retained by the camp.)*



# Sharing God's Love

## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

At Bon Air Christian Church, there are multiple opportunities for us to reach out to others in our community, to show God's love at a time when it may be most needed. Here are some of those ways, both for local and global missions.

**Non-perishable food donations for the Bainbridge Food Pantry.** Canned fruit, jelly/jam, canned meats and hearty canned soups are most needed. Bins are located by the church office and the Fellowship hallway.

**Volunteer at Redd Elementary.** Read Across America is March 7, when volunteers sign up for an hour or more to read a book to classrooms. Watch the Wednesday email for sign-up info. Another opportunity will be Field Day on May 23, when volunteers help with outdoor games and activities. The sign-up for Field Day will come in a few weeks. Watch for it!

**HomeAgain Shelters:** For about 30 years, the BACC Elders and their flocks provided a meal once a month at the men's shelter. That shelter has closed, but the BACC Elders are looking at alternate ways for the flocks to support those experiencing homelessness. Watch for info in the next few weeks.

**Church World Services Kits:** BACC serves as a collection site for CWS hygiene, period and kids (previously school) kits and emergency clean-up buckets. If you would like to put together some kits, here is the link to the CWS site: [Assemble Kits - CWS Kits](#). The kits' lists were recently updated, to better reflect the needs. They are a small but impactful way to bring relief to someone during a difficult time. Please deliver the boxed kits to the church by May 31.

**Virginia Regional Mission Trip:** In June, several BACC members are going to Christmount, in Black Mountain, NC, to help with Hurricane Helene recovery. Christmount is the national camp and conference center for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Our own Diane Clark is the co-director for the mission trip. While registrations are full, watch for updates about this trip.

**Special Offerings:** Over the course of the year, there are 6 special offerings collected to support various ministries in our denomination. In February, the offering was for Week of Compassion, the relief, refugee and development mission fund for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), which works with partners to alleviate suffering throughout the world. Donations for WOC are still accepted. The next special offering will be at Easter, which supports Disciples' ministries at the national and international level.

**The bulletin board in the back hallway** has information about mission work around the world. A volunteer is needed to keep the Week of Compassion map updated on its work around the world. Let the church office know if you could help.

# Fun and Fellowship

## CHRISTIAN MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

On Wednesday February 5th, ten BACC men gathered at Joe's Inn for lunch. This is a monthly occurrence, usually on the first Wednesday of the month. We would like you to join us at a bigger table. Call Tom Snodgrass 804-370-5279 to reserve your seat for **March 5th @ 11:30 AM**.



### **BACC Yard Sale, Saturday, March 29th 8 AM – 12 Noon in the BACC Fellowship Hall.**

Donate your gently used and fully operational items for resale to your brothers & sisters in Christ and the Bon Air community.

Sale proceeds support Christian Men's Fellowship activities as we live out the BACC Mission. Items acceptable for sale: Clothing & footwear, small appliances, hand & power tools, tables and chairs, LP records, CD/DVD & players, books, lamps,

dinnerware, cookware, sports equipment, pet support items, artwork, clocks, speakers, knickknacks, bedding (excluding mattresses), baby/kidssupport items, toys & games for all ages, collections, lawn care equipment.

Items excluded from sale:

- o Furniture that requires four or more hands to move/lift in total.
- o Major Appliances (four hands rule also applies).
- o Perishable food & canned goods, medications and beauty products.
- o Audio, video & information technology that is more than 10 years old.
- o Mattresses of any size.
- o Pets & creatures of any phylum.
- o Vehicles, craft or equipment that requires a personal property tax.
- o Firearms & ammunition. (Bows, crossbows, arrows, bolts, knives & similar items that can be sold without a background check and are in compliance with Virginia law are OK).

How This Works.

- Bring your Yard Sale item to the BACC Fellowship Hall.

Donations may be brought in beginning Wednesday March 26th at 8:00 AM through 6:00 PM and the same hours on Thursday & Friday (March 27th & 28th). Neither CMF members nor the church staff will be on site to accept your donation.

- Additional questions can be answered by Tom or Frank.

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him.  
Romans 15:13*



# Fun and Fellowship

## CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

It's March! Watch out for leprechauns! The CWF group that meets at Andee Kirk's house (906 Buford Oaks Circle) will be meeting on **Thursday, March 6th at 6:30 pm**. The lesson will be on Miriam, Moses' big sister in Exodus 2 and on page 104 in the lesson book. Everyone is invited.

The Day Group will meet at 10:30 am in the Multi-purpose room on **Tuesday, March 11th**. The lesson will be looking at Jesus through the lens of the non-canonical Gospels. If you don't know what they are, come and find out. Background scriptures are Matt. 1-2; Luke 1-2. Don't forget to bring your canned goods for the Bainbridge food pantry and your gift cards (Target, Wal-Mart, Food Lion, etc.) for the Women's Shelter of the Richmond YWCA. And don't forget the clothes closet at Redd Elementary. Sara R. is collecting empty egg cartons. Lunch for those interested will be at Napa Kitchen and Wine. Hope to see you at the meeting.

The Salad Group meets on **Thursday, March 13th** in the Education Wing. Gather for Salad at 6:00 pm. Don't forget your donations for Safe Harbor (personal care items). The meeting starts at 7:00 pm. You can join this meeting on Zoom. Cathy Law ([catherinelaw804@gmail.com](mailto:catherinelaw804@gmail.com)) can send you the link. A retreat is coming up -- **April 11th - 13th** at Lake Gaston.

On **March 16th, 2025**, after the 11:00 am service, we'll have a joint CWF meeting to discuss how to spend the money we have raised this year. We have over \$3,000.00 to disperse. We'll also elect officers. Hope everyone can attend. Pizza will be provided.

Also coming up is the Virginia Disciple Women mini-retreat on **Sat., April 5th, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm** at Bon Air. The theme is "The Power of Grace". Here is the registration link: [SPA DAYS – Virginia Disciples Women](#); Lunch is included in the program fee. SPA is an acronym for Self-care, Prayer, Action. It's a nice way to meet women from other Disciple churches in the area, in study, prayer and fellowship.

And it's never too early to mark your calendar for the 2025 Chili Cook-off and Silent Auction. The event will be on Saturday, November 15, 2025 after the Saturday evening service. Start working on your auction items.

Hope to see you in March.

~ Jamie McDonald

*And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.  
Acts 2:42*

# Thank You

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who serves at Sunday Services as Greeters, Worship Leaders, Worship & Wonder Storytellers, Worship & Wonder Helpers and Nursery Helpers. Many of these folks do it monthly and/or every other week. They quietly serve without any recognition.

So, if you think of it on your way out of the next Sunday Service, be sure to offer them a thank-you.

And if you have ever thought about serving in one of these positions, talk with the person serving or Andee Kirk, Worship Committee Chair or Cindy Johnson, Christian Education Chair or with Kendra Ver Beek.

You can sign up to volunteer on the Combined Sign-up Genius included in the Church E-mails on Wednesdays and Fridays.

~Andee Kirk



Hello Kendra,

I want to share the 2024 CWS Kits and Blankets shipping report with you (below). Your work with the CWS Kits program throughout last year helped to make both strong and prompt responses possible when people near and far experienced devastating circumstances. It is an honor to be working with you.

I have also attached to this email copies of the updated 2025 Kit Assembly lists. There are a total of four CWS kits for 2025; three kits have been updated and there is one new kit. Remember, kits assembled according to the previous kit lists will be accepted through June 2025.

Thank you and please let me know if I can help with any questions.

Deniese

Thanks to the generosity of donors who support CWS Blankets and CWS Kits, Church World Service was able to respond swiftly to the devastation caused by Hurricanes Helene and Milton. CWS was on the ground quickly, providing essential relief supplies, including **26,436** CWS Kits and Blankets. These critical items are helping families begin the long journey of recovery.

Thank you for making this response possible.

**10,084** emergency cleanup buckets

**27,275** blankets

**278** welcome backpacks

**11,179** period packs

**60,580** hygiene kits

**17,610** school kits

**CWS**  
**YOUR COMPASSION IN ACTION**  
**2024 CWS Kits & Blankets Shipping Report**

Scan the QR code to see the complete shipping report.

"For many people living on the edge of poverty, they often have to choose between buying food for their family and basic hygiene items. The donations from Church World Service are an essential part of keeping families healthy."  
— KAYLA DAVIS, A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

RP 25-43





# Thank You

Dear friends,

Thank you for your generous support over the past year. Together, we are providing a place for all to discover community, acceptance, and purpose. Below is a list of your 2024 contributions to our organization.

Total: \$330.00

In all honesty, we could not have made it through one of the most destructive natural disasters on record without the help from so many amazing people. We look forward to your continued support and to sharing stories of success with you and the future.

With gratitude,

Rob

(Reverend Rob Morris, Executive Director / Christmount)



Dear Karen (Basalay),

Thank you for joining and donating gift cards to YWCA Richmond. Your in-kind donation of \$505 to YWCA Richmond is appreciated.

Through your generosity, YWCA impact is felt throughout our community. One gift might not feel like the systematic change we need to end intimate partner violence, or provide high quality education to children in the Richmond region. However, every donation empowers us to continue the work to provide programming for our community.

Thank you for joining us and creating a stronger Richmond. Thank you for your continuous support! We appreciate you!

Sincerely,

Juliana Gecker, Advancement and Events Coordinator  
YWCA Richmond



*He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.*

*Isaiah 40:29*

# Baby Blessing

## DELILAH MAE -- Blessing and Dedication

On Sunday, February 2nd, David had the joy of blessing and dedicating Delilah Mae Gilbert. Nick and Sara Gilbert are her proud parents, and Dana and Todd Hatton are Delilah's dotting grandparents.

In the Disciples of Christ denomination, a baby blessing signifies a public act where parents present their child to God, acknowledging the child as a gift and seeking guidance and strength to raise them in the Christian faith.

Bon Air Christian Church loves you, Delilah!



Blessed

*"For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb."*

*Psalm 139:13*

# Church Family Updates

## *Lord, Hear Our Prayers*

**Please pray for:** Zachary Moon who was hospitalized for esophagus pain, and is awaiting test results; Ethelene Slayton who has a respiratory infection; Carol McGowan as she returns home and recovers from a fall; Jane Finnegan and family upon the death of her mother; Bob Blumenstein who will have a heart ablation procedure in March; Ruth Ann Bates' friend, Linda, upon the death of her fiancé, Skip; Devon Forehand, friend of Debra Vaughan; Joe Charboneau and family upon the death of his Aunt Betty; Janet Lenhart's friend, Betty Jurman, who will have heart surgery; Jan Jones' friend, Iris; Gina McKinney's friend, Jamie, who has been diagnosed with colon cancer; Lisa McColm's niece; Pope Francis and our all of our Catholic brothers and sisters as he recovers.

**Continued prayers for:** Traci Eagle; Steve Goff; Sara Reese's niece, Skye; Debra Vaughan's daughter in law, Janice; Martha Wright; Linda Verhuel's sister, Amy; Brand Inlow and family; Emilie Fuller; Marion and Gary Hosey; Natalie and Braden Trimmer; Taylor Brooks; Anna Claire Jurman; Shirley Gibson's son, Drew; Cindy Stratton's niece and family; Cathy Wheless; Richard Seeds; the family and friends of Will Woolridge; Chris Verheul; Steve and Karen Kline; Rick Lewis; Gerry Roppé; Diane and Phil Harris; Mary Garrison; Vickie Shannon's mother; Sylvia Montgomery; Harold and Gail Campbell; Evan Lenhart; Wanda Russell; Gail Macfadden; Donnie Etz's brother, Shawn; Angel Huff and family; Tery Sarver's brother, Butch; Mary Ann Casdia; Jake & Mazie McCann; Teresa & Larry Lafoon; Tammy Rucker's Mom, Pat; Alice Murray's sister, Ruth Ann Bates' friend, Linda; Devon Forehand; Linda Lowers; Darlene Hicks; Eric Moorehouse; Joel Blackwell; Jane Shuler; Alice Murray's friend, Robin; Frances Gillman; Bill Mahoney; Cindy Cochran and family; JJ Blum; Doug Collins, Sr.; Nancy Rucker; Teresa McLaughlan; Jim McCaferty's mother, Mary, and Rose's sisters, Barbara and Judy, and her niece and husband, and her nephew; Will Monger; Peg Eagle; Pat Cosby; Lanny Saylor; John Foster; Karen Shelton Smith; Caroline Laughorn; Jerry Ayers; Claire Marling's student, Victoria; Kearny Kearny; Baby Isaac Menke; Joann Ivey; John Strickland; Marvin Robins; Barbara Horton and family; Fred Turner; Phil Hepler; Diane Fearnley's friend, Nancy; Wilma Pruett; Faye Ringel; Eric Morris; Gail Cox, friend of the Baum's; Cindy Stratton's friend, Vlad; Connie Graves; Ada Slayton; Scott McCann; Janice Hoover; Nikki Todd; Judith Hazelo.

*The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you;  
he will never leave you nor forsake you.*

*Deuteronomy 31:8*