

Bon Air Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
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January 2015

Volume 54 No. 01

Dear friends,

It is always important for us to start well and to try to focus our minds and spirits on our calling. For those seekers who wish to find a worthy New Years Resolution let us ponder:

THE MISSION OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST): To be and to share the Good News of Jesus Christ, witnessing, loving and serving from our doorsteps “to the ends of the earth. (Acts 1:8)

THE VISION OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST): To be a faithful, growing church, that demonstrates true community, deep Christian spirituality and a passion for justice. (Micah 6:8)

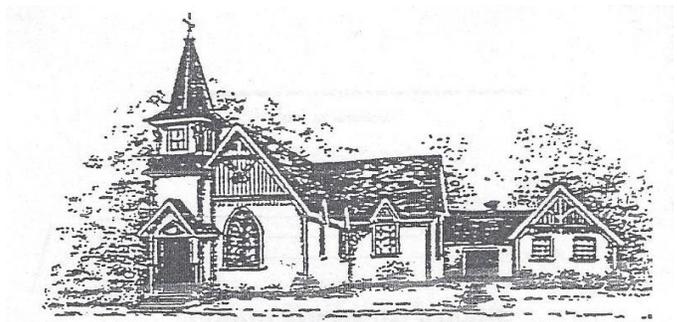
THE CONFESSION OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST): As members of the Christian Church, we confess that Jesus, is the Christ, the Son of the Living God and we proclaim him as our Lord and Savior.

What if we say those statements and say “My Mission is to be and to share the Good News... My Vision is to be faithful and help grow the church and demonstrate what it means to be part of a true community and to live a deeply spiritual life with a passion for justice. I confess that Jesus is my Savior.” Indeed, those are worthy resolutions. Somehow they seem a little grander than losing a few pounds and exercising more.

We have rushed to Bethlehem with shepherds and tuned our hearts to the lovely music of angels and adored the baby boy born to Mary. Now let us sojourn on and live out what his presence in our hearts truly means.

Let us go into a world that longs for more, a world that is aching for Good News and let us be his light into the darkness. Let us be the hands that reach to those who are need, to those who are lonely and to those who are searching. Let us seek Jesus within our own hearts and allow him to be born within us every day. I am deeply thankful that I am graced with the opportunity to share this journey with you as we seek to be people of vision and live our mission.

Cindy



A Very Special Gift

Church Mortgage – Paid in Full!

Dear friends:

Bon Air Christian Church has been richly blessed by a generous donation from an anonymous benefactor. The donor has paid off the building fund loan, which we have with Church Extension.

In 2006 we built our lovely Education Building and through it we minister not only to our congregation but we also reach out into our community. Many of our church leaders have been eagerly anticipating the moment when our mortgage would be paid and we would be able to expand our ministries.

We are thankful to the anonymous benefactor who has made it possible for us to minister even more effectively to our community and world.

Yours in Christ's love,
Cindy



**JOY Group Welcomes
Patrick Henry!
January 20th**

at 10:30 a.m.

JOY will have a visit from Patrick Henry on January 20 @ 10:30 AM at the church!! Per usual, we will have a "pot luck luncheon" to feed our esteemed guest!! Also, I would like two volunteer host/hostesses for the occasion. Please call Laura Hollis @ 804-320-3466, or email Lollihollis@verizon.net.



The church provided Christmas presents for 6 families from 3 elementary schools: Crestwood, Bon Air and Redd. The church also provided presents for 2 adult individuals. Church in community thanks the congregation for your generosity during this Christmas season.

Sandy Logan
and Frances Atherton

Thank You

*The BACC staff wishes to thank all of our BACC friends for their generosity and thoughtfulness at Christmas. We are so grateful for the many ways you support us. Wishing you all a blessed 2015!!
Cindy, Becky, Vickie and Shirley*

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark your calendars!

March 6-7 - Elders and Deacons Workshop - Christmount - Dr. Richard Weis - "Keeping Faith in Times of Change"

April 10-12 - Virginia Disciples Men's Retreat - Christmount - Dr. Jack Sullivan, Jr. - "From Membership to Discipleship: What Christian Men Should Do Now"

May 1-3 - Biblical Storyteller Festival and Workshop - Christmount - Donna Marie Todd and Others

June 5-7 - Virginia Disciples Women's Retreat - Lynchburg College - Rev. Pat Donahoo - "Change"

June 12-14 - Spring Work Weekend - Craig Springs

July 18-22 - General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) - Columbus, Ohio - "Soar!"

Christian Women's Fellowship

The Christian Women's Fellowship is open to all women of the congregation. There are three groups to choose from:

The **Day group** meets the second Tuesday of the month. The next meeting will be January 13th. Everyone is asked to bring a sandwich to the meeting. Meeting starts at 10:30.

The **Evening group 1** meets the first Tuesday of the month in members' homes. The next meeting is January 6th at Sara Reese's. Kitten Whitlow is the group leader.

The **Evening group 2 (Salad Group)** meets once a month at 6:15 at the church. The meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month. The next meeting is scheduled for January 14th.

A Holy Calling Installation is January 4

The installation of church officers is Sunday, January 4. Our new elders are: Joe Bancroft, Shea Hollifield and Bill Sydnor. Our deacons are: Sandy Collins, Laura Hollis, Whitney Graham, Cathy Law, George Smith, Daniel Whitlow, Jerrell Todd and Ian Thomas. Also, Paul Seemiller is deacon for term ending 2015 and Tom Mayfield is filling vacancy ending 2016.

Our committee chairs are:

Christian Education: Cassie Price

Worship: Andee Kirk

Church in Community: Shea Hollifield

Evangelism: Jean Dowdy

*Membership: Jane Miller, Laura Hollis
Arlene Giffel*

Outside Property: Doug Collins

Inside Property: Kevin Heath

Stewardship: Joe Bancroft

World Outreach: Cathy Law

Long Range Planning: Doug White

Sandy Collins will be serving as chair of the board and president of the congregation. Jon Ver Beek will be Treasurer and Andee Kirk is Sunday School Superintendent.

As we prepare to ordain new elders and deacons, and install new church officers and committee chairs, we are reminded that God calls us to holy and sacred service.

For all of us who have been ordained through the years, we are invited to remember our calling and renew our covenant of service to Christ and his church.

CHRISTMOUNT HISTORY IN LIBRARY

The book, "A History of Christmount - Retreat, Camp and Conference Center for The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)" is now in our church library. This brief book (54 pages with lots of pictures) tells the story of Christmount from the purchase of the property in 1948 to the present.



**Recycle the old
and use the new!**

Please fill in the blanks!

Each January the offering envelope list is updated. This means that **you may not** have the same number you had in 2014. Therefore you should discard any unused 2014 envelopes or return to the church office to be recycled.

Envelopes are distributed monthly. The usage of envelopes is encouraged for all members and all who contribute financially to Bon Air Christian Church. If you are not receiving envelopes now and would like to have them, please call the church office at 272-6228.

The Financial Secretary and the Offering Committee want to be accurate in seeing that your offerings are used in the way you intend. For example, please indicate whether you mean Current Operating Expenses, and/or Other. If you choose Other it is necessary that you be specific in indicating what you mean i.e. a Memorial Gift, Note Cards, Minister's Discretionary Fund, or any number of other offerings you may choose.

We appreciate your use of envelopes. It makes the offering committee and the financial secretary's jobs much easier. Thank you.

BACC has received the following notes:

Dear BACC,

Thank you so much for all you have done for me. The visits, cards and calls have done a lot to raise my spirits as I continue to recover from surgery and I am especially grateful for all of the prayers.

Sincerely,
Bill Thornton

From one of our Thanksgiving food recipients:

Thank you so very much for all your kindness shown and given to my family,

Sincerely yours,
Margaret Shaw and son, James

A Note from Bainbridge Community Ministry:

First we would like to sincerely thank you for your generous support of our Bainbridge Community ministry in past years. Our ministry operates on an annual budget of approximately \$30,000 in direct donations along with \$50,000 in donated food and services. It is our calling to reach out to Richmond's working poor and the elderly helping them with direct assistance. Our clients are checked through various agencies to be sure that they are not getting help from other sources. Some are families supported by minimum wages and others are senior citizens on fixed incomes. Our goal is to keep our families together by providing direct assistance with food and basic necessities....

Our weekly volunteer staff, Lynn Kendrick our Director, the BCM Board and all of our other volunteers at the Bainbridge Community Ministry are sincerely; grateful for your generosity, your thoughts and your prayers. In the spirit of love and hope we would like to call on you again to help us in reaching out to our forgotten clients. May our Lord continue to reward your faith and generosity with a warm glow in your heart that lasts throughout the year.

Gratefully in Christ,
Phil Powell
Bainbridge Community
Ministry Board

A BIG THANK-YOU

Thank you for your support of the six Special offerings received during 2014. Listed below are the amounts of the offerings for 2013 and 2014.

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
Week of Compassion	\$1,570.86	\$2,066.97
Easter	\$2,476.13	\$2,840.75
Pentecost	\$854.35	\$948.00
Reconciliation	\$467.00	\$477.00
Thanksgiving	\$1,141.00	\$1,125.00
Christmas	\$2,842.50	\$2,052.00

Well done, good and faithful servants.
World Outreach
Brenda Kidd



Board meeting January 4
Elders, Deacons, Committee chairs
needed for quorum

Installation service
Church officers, New elders and
Deacons
January 4

Cabinet Retreat
Committee chairs
training session
January 9-10

BACC Welcomes New Members

The church welcomes Lora Hamilton, Marvin and Jason Williams to our church family. Please add them to your church directory:

Marvin and Jason Williams
2621 Arrandel Road
Midlothian, VA 23113
Marvinwilliams15@gmail.com
(804) 218- 0253

Lora Hamilton
2317 Lenora Lane
Richmond, VA 23230
(804) 339-5491
Hamilton5106@gmail.com



Library Corner

Here are some books you may want to read during the cold rainy and snowy January from our library:

The Boys in the Boat by Daniel James Brown celebrates the 1936 U.S. men's Olympic eight-oar rowing team—nine working class boys who stormed the rowing world, transformed the sport, and galvanized the attention of millions of Americans.

The sons of loggers, shipyard workers, and farmers from the American West, the boys took on and defeated successive echelons of privilege and power. They vanquished the sons of bankers and senators rowing for elite eastern universities. They defeated the sons of British aristocrats rowing for Oxford and Cambridge. And finally, in an extraordinary race in Berlin they stunned the Aryan sons of the Nazi state as they rowed for gold in front of Adolf Hitler.

Against the grim backdrop of the Great Depression, they reaffirmed the American notion that merit, in the end, outweighs birthright. They reminded the country of what can be done when everyone quite literally pulls together. And they provided hope that in the titanic struggle that lay just ahead, the ruthless might of the Nazis would not prevail over American grit, determination, and optimism.

And even as it chronicles the boys' collective achievement, *The Boys in the Boat* is also the heart warming story of one young man in particular. Cast aside by his family at an early age, abandoned and left to fend for himself, Joe Rantz rows not just for glory, but to regain his shattered self-regard, to dare again to trust in others, and to find his way back to a place he can call home.

The Christmas Singing by Cindy Woodsmall tells the story of Mattie who thought her childhood sweetheart adored her until he abruptly ended their engagement on Christmas Eve.

Three years later, will learning the truth behind his rejection restore her Christmas joy – or open the door to even deeper heartbreak?

Spend Christmas with the Amish in this story of love, romance, heartache, and restoration.

Experience the holidays with the Plain folk and discover the power of second chances in this touching story.

The Best Yes: Making Wise Decisions In The Midst of Endless Demands by Lysa TerKeurst

Are you living with the stress of an overwhelmed schedule and aching with the sadness of an underwhelmed soul? Lysa TerKeurst is learning that there is a big difference between saying yes to everyone and saying yes to God. **In The Best Yes** she will help you:

- Cure the disease to please with a biblical understanding of the command to love.
- Escape the guilt of disappointing others by learning the secret of the small no.
- Overcome the agony of hard choices by embracing a wisdom based decision-making process.
- Rise above the rush of endless demands and discover your best yes today.



Join **Week of Compassion** and Our Partners on Saturday, January 10, 2015 from 12:00 – 2:30 p.m. to see how your **Compassion is Put into Action Around the World, Around the Year!**

Host Congregation:

Seventh Street Christian Church
4101 Grove Avenue
Richmond, Virginia 23221

Lunch will be catered: \$5 per person and children under 12 are free

Please **RSVP for Lunch by January 3, 2015 to Seventh Street Christian Church by phone at 804-358-4194 or via email at**

office@seventhstreetchristianchurch.org

Dawn Barnes will also be our guest Week of Compassion speaker for our **Casual Worship Service** on Saturday, January 17 at 4:00.

We hope you will come and hear how our ministry is changing lives and bringing hope throughout the world.

Bon Air Christian Church

4:00 p.m.

January 17, 2015

Our congregation gives generously to the Week of Compassion offering. This is a wonderful opportunity to hear how we minister through this offering to those whose lives are disrupted by hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes and other natural disasters.

Family Concern:

Our sympathy is extended to Carolyn, Jamey and Josh Davidson upon the death of Carolyn's father.

Jamie McDonald had foot surgery this past month. Jamie is recuperating at home.

We pray for: Cathy Wheless, Lloyd Thacher, Harriet Griggs, Alice Beasley, Alma Spivey, Helen Macklin, Bruce and Peg Macfadden, Natalie Ringel, and Gerry Roppe.

Our prayers are with: Sophie Sutphin, Juanita Coleman's great granddaughter who is undergoing chemotherapy; Dawn Mooney's sister, Debbie Roben; Jake and Mazie McCann's granddaughter, Jessie Abbate, Duke Dale's sister, Leslie Brinson; Nancy Maiden's brother-in-law John Maiden who has been diagnosed with cancer; Joe Bancroft's friend, Johnny Guilliams who has cancer; Gerry Roppe's Uncle Jack; Shirley Burkhalter's sister, Ginny McGuire; Shea Hollifield's friend, Denise Ambrose who is being treated for leukemia; Tom Mayfield's friend Mickey Denke; Leigh Anne Phan's friend, Ron Evans; Rhonda Ringel's friend, Evan Smith; Steve Kline's friend, Ed Winfield; Steve Goff's friend, Beth Ann Molter; Peggy Hill; Jackie Nilles' aunt, Brenda Grant; the Landergan's friend, Dan Bickett; Stacy Price; Arlene Blythe's friend, Donna Leake; Hannah Bryant who has leukemia and the Macfadden's friend, Lewis Bell.

We continue to keep in prayer Captain Nicolle Bernard who deployed in the Middle East and Sydney McKenney who is working in Ecuador.

SERVING SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY 2015

January 4

Elders: Bud Deihl, Barbara Bancroft

Deacons: 8:45 Rick Bernard (P), Tom Snodgrass

11:00 Clairee Cochran (P), Connor Kirk, Polly White, Cathy Law

Worship Leaders: 8:45 Bernie McDonald 11:00 Doug White

Acolyte:

Worship & Wonder Storyteller: Worship & Wonder Helper:

Ushers/Greeters: 8:45 11:00

January 11

Elders: Frank Clark, Bill Sydnor

Deacons: 8:45 Tom Mayfield (P), Chris Bates

11:00 Jerrell Todd (P), Whitney Graham, Daniel Whitlow, Carol McGowan

Worship Leaders 8:45 Cassie Price 11:00 Joan Mielke

Acolyte:

Worship & Wonder Storyteller: Worship & Wonder Helper:

Ushers/Greeters: 8:45 11:00

January 18

Elders: Steve Kline, Shea Hollifield

Deacons: 8:45 Tom Snodgrass (P), Sandy Collins

11:00 Stephen Blanchard (P), Jerrell Todd, Clairee Cochran, Arlene Giffel

Worship Leader: Shea Hollifield

Acolyte:

Worship & Wonder Storyteller: Worship & Wonder Helper:

Ushers/Greeters: 8:45 11:00

January 25

Elders: Barbara Bancroft, Duke Dale

Deacons: 8:45 Jeanne Brock (P), Carol McGowan

11:00 Lauren Johnson (P), Ian Thomas, Doug White, Polly White

Worship Leaders: 8:45 Joan Mielke 11:00 Kitten Whitlow

Acolyte:

Worship & Wonder Storyteller: Worship & Wonder Helper:

Ushers/Greeters: 8:45 Steve and Angie Goff 11:00

Offering: Rose and Jim McCaferty (P) denotes communion preparation