



Big Cove News

February 2014
Big Cove Presbyterian Church (USA)

February Elder on Call
Todd Worthington

Pastor
Rosemary McMahan

Parish Associate
Houston Hodges

Administrative Assistant
Mary Hooper

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From the Parish Associate

~ Reaching for Teaching!

I think we need more of our flock who are willing to do some teaching, either with adults or with younger folk. It’s important, it’s not hard, and ... it’s fun! I want to invite, and nudge, and challenge, some of you to give it a try, and I offer to help you get ready for that if you want.

Today’s learning materials are well written, and usually brief. To do the most basic job of teaching a chapter of a book on the Lord’s Prayer or the Life and Teachings of Paul can be done in two easy steps:

1. Read through the material several times and pick out five or six interesting paragraphs. Plan to read those to the class, and after you read one say, “What do you think of that?” and... get out of the way! Big Cove will come through.
2. Then find two or three other interesting things the author says, about which you can ask, “What does that mean for us in Big Cove Presbyterian Church?” and do so.

Let them talk, and try not to step in to cut off discussion too soon. Silence motivates response.

Want to try it? I think you’ll really like seeing the look in someone’s eye when they say something that surprises themselves and represents a new learning... and I also believe you’ll get more out of that class yourself than you ever expected. I would be flattered, tickled, and available to act as your consultant to help you get ready to take on just one class as an experiment.

Next time they ask, “Who will teach the class next week?” take the question very personally. Maybe it’s YOU God has in mind.

--Houston Hodges, Venerable Old Parish Associate

Lent is Around the Corner!

The word “Lent” literally means “spring,” and after this cold winter, we are all anticipating the first daffodils! As we move into the season of Lent, we will begin with worship on Ash Wednesday, March 5, at 6 PM. Watch for more details.



Upcoming Lenten Study

Beginning Wednesday March 12, from 6-7 PM, the pastor will lead a six-week study on spiritual formation, using the book The Clearing Season: Reflections for Lent, by Sara Parsons. This book invites us to look at Lent not as a time to give up something like chocolate, but as an opportunity to get our spiritual lives in better order. Topics include: Exploring the Wilderness, First Clearing, Natural Rhythms, New Growth, Weathering Storms, and Consecration. Each chapter includes personal questions for reflection. Anyone who would like to address his or her spiritual growth in a more intentional manner is invited. 6-7 PM. Copies of the book may be purchased through Amazon.com. Cost is \$12.60 for paperback and \$7.99 for Kindle.

The Immersion Group will also be meeting, and we would like to invite participants in both classes to meet for soup and fellowship at 5:30.



Chili Cook Off and Bake Sale

Free lunch for everyone on February 16, immediately after the 11:00 service!

Get your chili recipe ready and bring all your baked items that Sunday. Prizes will be awarded for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place best chili. A form for indicating that you will bring chili or

baked goods is attached to the e-mail in which you received this newsletter.

If you are not bringing chili, it would help if you could bring drinks *OR* crackers, chips or cornbread to go with chili. Please let Gail Birdsong know if you are planning to bring these items.

There will be a silent auction for the baked items. Glenda and Jeff Harris have agreed to organize the bake sale.

Call Glenda Harris or Gail Birdsong if you have any questions.



OVERVIEW OF ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AND OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BIG COVE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

January 26, 2014

Rev. Rosemary McMahan called the meeting to order at 5 pm and opened with prayer. Elder Ryan Worthington, chair of the 2013 Nominating Committee, presented the proposed slate of elders for the Class of 2016 to serve on Session: Elder Todd Worthington to continue for a second term; Elder Ray Waldrop to continue a second term. Their election was unanimous. Elder R. Worthington also presented the proposed slate of deacons for the Class of 2014: Vicki Waldrop, serving a second year, and Sally Harris, serving her first year. Their election was unanimous.

Glenda Bass, Larry Clark, Dexter Gentle, and Ron Harris were nominated to serve on the 2014 Nominating Committee. Their election was unanimous. The session will elect the chair from among its ruling elders. Rev. McMahan closed the meeting with prayer and opened the Trustee Meeting.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, Rev. McMahan announced that no new business had transpired in 2013. That meeting was closed with prayer.

Clerk Neva Beasley gave the Clerk's report and Dennis McMahan presented the 2014 Budget. He and Elder Tennent Lee underscored the importance of paying back our loan from the Church Development Foundation Board as quickly as possible so that other churches might also benefit from its generosity. The 2014 Budget is closely in line with the 2013 Budget with the exception of adding an elevator warranty contract.



Rev. McMahan ended the informational segment with her report.

January Session Report

The session held its monthly meeting on Jan. 28. Elders would like to remind the congregation that these meetings are open to anyone with an interest in attending. If someone would like a concern or topic addressed, he or she needs to contact Clerk Neva Beasley to have the item added to the agenda.

Session approved the following appointments for 2014:

Clerk of Session for 2014—Neva Beasley
Treasurer—Betty King
Christian Ed—Christie Finley
Personnel Liaison—Ray Waldrop
Personnel Chair—Ron Harris
Finance Liaison—Todd Worthington
Finance Chair—Dennis McMahan

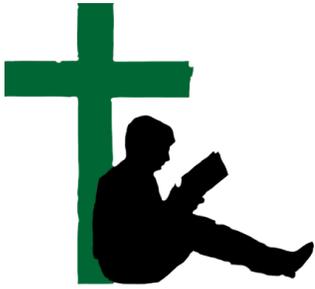
Outreach Liaison—Debbie Book
Outreach Chair—Jeff Irons
Worship Chair—Tennent Lee
Planning—Ryan Worthington
Building and Grounds—Dallas Ferneau
Decorating Chair—Kathy Barnhart
LAT Chair—Linda Wheeler

Elder Ray Waldrop was appointed commissioner for the February Stated Quarterly NAP meeting.

Session approved the purchase of banners to advertise the 9 am worship service and the 11 am service, along with delegating a “Sign Team” to make recommendations to the session for a permanent church sign.

Rev. Dr. Paige McRight, Interim Executive Presbyter, met with the session as part of Elder Training and reviewed the role of session as outlined in the Book of Order.

The session meets the last Tuesday of each month at 6 PM in the large classroom upstairs.



Don't forget the Christian Exploration Meeting!

Monday, February 3, from 6:00-7:00 PM at the church!

This meeting is for those who volunteered to be on the Christian Exploration Team as well as for any other interested people. The purpose of the meeting will be to decide on a second course of study for Christian Exploration and to map out classes and leadership for the rest of the year. We would also like to find a chairperson! Those interested in children/youth studies and leadership are also invited. Please contact Elder Christie Finley if you have any questions, suggestions, or comments.

Youth Report!

Five of our young people are currently preparing to make their Public Profession of Faith on Easter Sunday! Each week, they explore their faith with the pastor during the Christian Exploration time. Please keep these very special future leaders of our church in your prayers: Drake Finley, Savanna Harris, Alaina Harvey, Jack Hosna, and Ryan Pepper. And let them know that you are excited for them!



Our younger kids learn the faith with laptop in hand as Kirk and Christie Finley use technology to introduce them to Christian beliefs.

Want to be involved with our youth? Watch for an upcoming parents' meeting in February, or contact Todd Worthington.



An Evening with the Author

Big Cove Presbyterian Women is sponsoring an evening with Author Judy Mitchell Rich on Thursday March 27th at 6:00.

Though the PW is sponsoring the event, women *and* men of the church are invited. (Finger foods will be served.) Judy will bring copies of her first novel, *Like Sheep*, and her latest publication, *Like a Fox*, for sale, and there will be a time for autographs.

The Rev. Dr. Judy Mitchell Rich lives outside of Athens, Alabama, in the country, where she enjoys the stream behind her house and the wooded area which houses wild turkeys, deer, and many birds.

She is a graduate of Fairborn High School in Ohio; Muskingum College; McCormick Seminary. If you're into letters after names, hers would be: B.A., M.A., M.Div. and D.Min.

She is an ordained Presbyterian USA pastor and has served as an Associate Pastor, Interim Pastor and Solo Pastor for churches in Michigan, Kansas and Ohio, and on the staff of the Presbytery of Northern Kansas.

Brief description of books:

Like Sheep: A dilapidated country church. Unfriendly people. Peculiar "ghosts" and a secretive artist. Pastor Suzanne is assigned to a country church in the wheat fields of Kansas where she encounters a mysterious challenge. Trying to solve the problem and save the church shakes the ground under her feet.

Like a Fox: Pastor Suzanne is cautioned against going to Covenant Church because they are a "clergy killers." Three former pastors have left the ministry. She enters with caution, seeking to find the source of their problems, restore them and survive.



Director for Maranatha Sought

North Alabama Presbytery is looking to employ a new Director for Maranatha Camp and Conference Center in the fall of 2014. The director should have a deep personal faith within the Reformed tradition, a strong commitment to the Christian nurture of persons of all ages, extensive church camping experience, administrative, program development, and marketing skills, and experience hiring, training and supervising staff. Housing on site is provided in addition to salary and benefits. Qualified candidates should send resumes to Albert Schild, chair of the Maranatha Director Search Committee, and to the Interim Executive Presbyter at the Presbytery office.

"Listening: Sacred Art and Practical Skill"

Presented by the Huntsville Association for Pastoral Care's School of Applied Ministry, Tuesday, February 11, 6:00-9:00 pm (supper and registration at 5:30). Cost: \$35 (includes supper!), First Baptist Church, 600 Governors Drive, in the Community Room of the Family Life Center.

Participants in this class will learn the theology of listening, be able to identify barriers to listening, and learn the practical skill of reflective listening

Presenters: Judy Guerry and the Rev. Carl Malm.

For more information or to register: malmcarl@hotmail.com or 256 883-6539.

For Stephen Ministers, Ministers of Communion, Congregational Nurses, Elders, Deacons, Pastors, and All Who Give Spiritual Care



LADIES WEEKEND GETAWAY 2014!

Study facilitator: Pastor Rosemary

When: May 30 - June 1 (Friday 5:00 p.m. until Sunday 11:00 a.m.)

Where? Goose Pond Colony-Set in the trees on the waterfront, quiet, relaxing, yet with all the comforts of home. Each has 2 bedrooms with 2 queen beds, 2 bathrooms, a kitchen, dining room, living room, screened porch or deck, and grill. There are piers for the cottages if you want to sunbathe, swim, fish, read, or water gaze!

Cost: Appx \$125-135 per person (with 4 to a cottage) plus Saturday evening meal at The Docks.

******Deposit:** \$50.00 due by February 15 ****payable to Big Cove PCUSA ("For" Ladies retreat 2014)

Questions: Linda Wheeler, Debbie Book, or Diane Smith



Important Dates in February



February 2: Ordination & Installation of Elders at 9 am worship

February 2: Inter-generational Christian Exploration at 9:55!

[Bring a canned good for the Care Center for "Soup-er Bowl" Sunday!]

February 3: Presbyterian Women meet at 10 am at Pat Lutz's home

February 3: Christian Exploration Meeting, 6-7 PM

February 8: Men's Bible Time 9:30

February 14: Valentine's Day

February 16: Chili Cook-Off and Bake Sale after 11:00 service

February 17: Presidents' Day

February 23: Rev. Mark Howard, President of the Children's Home, will preach and lead the Adult Christian Exploration class

February 25: February Session Meeting

Regularly Scheduled Weekly Events:

Sunday Worship, 9 am and 11 am

Christian Exploration: 9:55-10:45

Wednesday Meditative Yoga: 9:30-11 AM

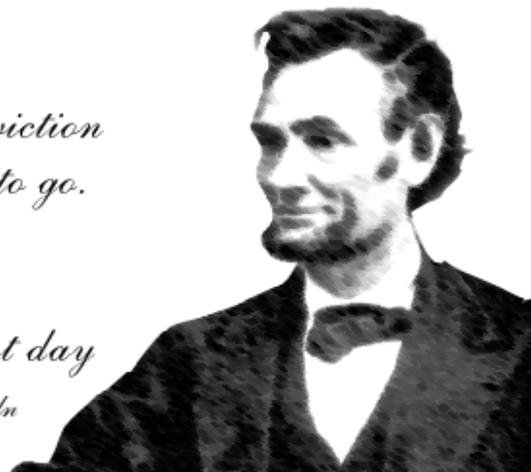
Wednesday Night Immersion Study: 6-7 PM

Wednesday Night Choir Practice: 7-8 PM

Thursday Morning Prayer Group: 10-11 AM

Sunday Night Youth (SNY): 5:30-7 PM, white church

*I have been driven
many times
upon my knees
by the overwhelming conviction
that I had nowhere else to go.
My own wisdom
and that of all about me
seemed insufficient for that day
- Abraham Lincoln*



Honor Presidents' Day

Happy February Birthday!

Tommy Blakemore on the 2nd
 Kay Gentle on the 3rd
 Sylvia Romero on the 5th
 Tom Bell on the 9th
 DJ Book on the 10th
 Kirk Finley on the 14th
 Mariah Dickinson on the 14th
 Sally Harris on the 16th
 Vicki Irons on the 19th
 Ann Sublett on the 20th
 Kay Hanks on the 22nd
 Peggy McMahan on the 24th
 Neva Beasley on the 24th
 Renay Nunn on the 25th
 Pat Burke on the 26th

*Please Note March
 Newsletter deadline:
 February 24*

Happy February Anniversary!

Tom & Sharon Bell on the 6th
 Tom & Shirley Jones on the 12th
 John & Becky Marshall on the 15th

Financial Corner December 2013

Receipts: \$16,280.99

Operation Expenses \$16,769.86

Donations to The Children's Home: \$284.00

Capital Campaign Donations: \$12,200.00

Any questions relating to the above may be addressed to Diane Lee, Bookkeeper, or any of the current elders.

~Worship Leaders for February~

9AM Worship:

	<u>February 2</u>	<u>February 9</u>	<u>February 16</u>	<u>February 23</u>
Greeter	Ryan Pepper	Sean Pepper	Daniel Waldrop	Vicki Waldrop
Host/Hostess .	Sally Harris	Ross Rutledge	Melinda Harvey	Janet Indihar
Worship Leader.	Christie Finley	Ross Rutledge	Don Barnhart	Nancy Bass
Power Point . . .	Sylvia Romero	Kirk Finley	Gary Indihar	Dennis McMahan

11 AM Worship:

	<u>February 2</u>	<u>February 9</u>	<u>February 16</u>	<u>February 23</u>
Usher	Kay Hanks	Jeff & Vicki Irons	David Lilly	Hartwell Lutz
Worship Leader .	Mickey Sharp	Dennis McMahan	Mike Feehan	Pastor
First Reader	Todd Worthington	Connie Sharp	Gail Birdsong	Mike Feehan
Second Reader .	Kathy Barnhart	Mickey Sharp	Larry Clark	David Lilly

Care Center Pick Up

<u>February 2-8</u>	Kay Hanks
<u>February 9-15</u>	Kay Hanks
<u>February 16-22</u>	Ann Sublett
<u>February 23-March 1</u>	Ann Sublett

WAVE Team

Connie Sharp
 Linda Wheeler
 Pam Worthington
 Merrie Duncan