

## BIG COVE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MID-WEEK REMINDERS

Week of November 23-29, 2014



### WORSHIP LEADERS for *this coming Sunday, November 30:*

**9 AM:** Greeter: Alaina Harvey  
Host/Hostess: Melinda Harvey  
Worship Leader: Tom Jones  
Power Point: Kirk Finley

**11 AM:** Usher: Jane Rutledge  
Worship Leader: Neva Beasley

Readers: Larry Clark (Isaiah 64:1-9), Gail Birdsong (1 Corinthians 1:3-9)

Care Center and Wave Team leaders for *the rest of this week, through November 29:*

Care Center Pick-up: Joyce Clark  
WAVE Team: Merrie Duncan

Care Center and Wave Team leaders for *next week, November 30-December 6:*

Care Center Pick-up: Joyce Clark  
WAVE Team: Jeff & Vicki Irons

The Children's Home Box brought in \$54.01 this week. Thank you!

**\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE:** If you have need of a ride to any evening event at the church, please call the office and we will make arrangements!

Brenda Copeland is suffering from bronchitis/pneumonitis and has asked for your prayers.

### MEETINGS and Activities this week:

- Wednesday Night Immersion will not meet this week, but will resume after Thanksgiving.
- Thursday morning prayer group will not meet this week

### Important Announcements, Events-to-Come, Deadlines, Etc.

#### *Christian Exploration in Advent and Beyond!*

We have finished the "I AM" series of exploring who God is through what we know about Jesus. The Advent Wreath-making Intergenerational Class has been canceled for November 30 due to lack of participation. We will not have Christian Exploration that Sunday.

**Our final Christian Exploration classes** will be held on **Dec. 7 and 21<sup>st</sup>**.

**The Youth are invited** to attend “*Stories and Symbols of the Nativity*” with Pastor Rosemary.

The Christmas story may be the most familiar story from the Bible, yet if asked to tell it, most people would get many details wrong! The story most of us "know" often represents a mixture of biblical and secular tales. Was there really a little drummer boy? Did the innkeeper really send Mary and Joseph to sleep in the stable? Was Jesus born at midnight on December 25th? Did the angels lead the shepherds to the manger? Why were gold, frankincense, and myrrh appropriate gifts for a baby?! Come find out the answers!

**Adults will study the following:**

**December 7: “Emmanuel!”** Exploring the old Advent favorite, *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*, we will be preparing ourselves to better understand the “O Antiphons” Advent Service on Dec. 17 at 6:30 PM.

**December 21: “What About Those New Year’s Resolutions?”** Is there anything inherently religious about the ways we celebrate New Year's? Should there be? We will be reflecting on the past and coming year and offering some guided prayer as the New Year begins.

- **Those who wish to place a Christmas poinsettia** in the church in memory or in honor of someone may do so by using a form on the table in the back of the sanctuary. ***This year the poinsettias will be white and will cost \$11 each.*** Make checks payable to Big Cove, and designate "For Christmas Poinsettia" on the check. Orders should be in by **Sunday, December 7.** Thank you for your help in making the church beautiful for the up-coming holidays.
- **If you have signed up for the Ladies’ Night Out Dinner and *Recycled* Christmas Gift Swap** on December 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:00, remember to bring a recycled Christmas gift-do NOT go out and buy one! . . . **But please do WRAP the gift!**  
\*\*\*Kathy needs 1 or 2 more people at 9 am Wednesday morning to help move chairs and tables, and she could use 3 or 4 people at 10 am to set the tables with silverware, etc. Please contact Kathy if you want to help.  
(**Note:** this event takes the place of the regular December meeting of the Presbyterian Women.)
- **Mark your calendar and bring your friends to a very special Big Cove Christmas program.** At 6 PM on Sunday, December 7th, our choir will perform “*When Earth Received Her King*”, a Christmas Cantata arranged by *Marty Parks*. Fresh and unique arrangements of favorite carols and hymns are woven together with connecting scriptural references, in a moving celebration of the Christ-child’s birth. Please join us!  
\*\*\****Please bring a plate of finger foods or hors d’oeuvre to share at the reception afterwards.***\*\*\*  
(Drinks will be provided)
- **The Hosnas are hosting a Christmas party for the youth group** on Sunday December 14 from 4-7 p.m. Contact Kate Hosna if you have questions.
- **The special Advent “O Antiphons!” service** will take place on Wednesday December 17 at 6:30.
- **The Christmas Eve Worship service** will include communion and candlelight, and will begin at 5:30.

\*\*\***Opportunities for service**

- \*\*\***About Christmas gifts for children at the Presbyterian Home for Children:**  
*Please return the gift (unwrapped) to the church with the name tag attached, **NO LATER than November 30, [This Sunday!]**so we can get the gifts to the Home on December 6.*

- **\*\*\*Please remember to help The Mental Health Center of Madison County** provide Christmas bundles for 300 residents of Madison County who are hospitalized, living in group homes or attending special programs because of severe and persistent mental illness. This program is called **Operation Santa Claus**. Big Cove members who would like to help Santa Claus out with this project should bring full-sized:

**toothpaste** (60 tubes are needed)

**deodorant** (60 solid sticks, a mixture of men's and women's, are needed)

There is a collection basket in the vestibule. **OSC needs the items by December 9**. Contact Jeff Irons or Debbie Book if you have questions.

- **\*\*\*The CARE Center Bags of Blessings Pack Night will be December 10, 2014.**

If you prefer not to drive at night, there is also an opportunity for a few extra folks to help with the *set up* for the pack night **on the morning of the 10th**. If enough people want to help with that, Michelle can let some of the regulars "have the day off." It will take place 9 am-11 am-ish (depends on when the set up is finished). Please let Melinda Harvey know as soon as you can if you wish to help with that part of the project so that she can pass the info on to Michelle.

Sign-up sheets and the starting time for the evening part of the Pack process should be found on the table in the back of the sanctuary. See Melinda if you have questions.

- **\*\*\*For the rest of the holiday season, focused donations for The CARE Center** are any items to support Christmas meals. Suggestions:

Canned Yams

Stuffing/Dressing Packages

Cream of Mushroom Soup

Canned Green Beans

Canned French Fried Onions

Canned Cranberry Sauce

Canned Corn

Canned evaporated milk

Canned pumpkin pie mix

Box cake, bread, muffin, coffee cake, pie crust mixes

Or anything other non perishable items to support Christmas meals.

***Thank you!***

## ***Congratulations!***

*Auburn University announces that Emily Astrid Worthington, daughter of Todd and Pam Worthington, is receiving a degree of Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Sciences on Saturday, December 13, at 10 am in the Auburn Arena. Congratulations to Emily!!! If you want to send her a card, her address is in the church directory.*

### **Happy Birthday this week!**

Glenn Wheeler on the 26<sup>th</sup>

Nancy Bass on the 27<sup>th</sup>