



# Big Cove News

## December 2014

### Big Cove Presbyterian Church (USA)

**December Elder on Call**  
**Christie Finley**

**Pastor**  
**Rosemary McMahan**

**Parish Associate**  
**Houston Hodges**

**Administrative Assistant**  
**Mary Hooper**

**In this Issue...**

“Watch for the Light” . . .1

Christian Exploration . . . 2

Operation Santa Claus. .2

Ladies’ Night . . . . . 2

Decorating PHFC . . . . . 2

Christmas Cantata . . . . 3

Bags of Blessings Info . . 3

Important December Dates . . . . . 4

Regularly Scheduled Events, December Birthdays & Anniversaries . . . . . 4

Financial Corner . . . . . 5

December Worship Leaders . . . . . 5

*Watch for the Light!* ~ from the Pastor

As we begin this season of Advent and holiday (holy day) festivities, please consider watching for the arrival of the **Light of the World** by setting time apart for this events:

Advent Sermon Series: *The Many Names of Christ*. Each week, we will explore together one of 25 names (!!!) attributed to Christ and reflect on how those names can shape us and prepare us for Christ’s arrival.

**Christian Exploration:** Both youth and adults will be studying holiday (holy day) themes. On Dec. 7 and 21, the youth will meet with Pastor Rosemary to learn what is fact and what is myth about the Christmas story. The adults will use The Thoughtful Christian material to explore the meaning behind the ancient hymn “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” and the purpose of New Year’s resolutions.

**Ladies’ Night Out:** Too tired to cook because of work, shopping, and cleaning? Let Kathy Barnhart fix your dinner! All ladies, young and old, are invited to a time of fellowship on Thursday, Dec. 4, at 6 PM for dinner. Bring a wrapped “white elephant” for gift-giving. Do not purchase anything new! Quirky, humorous or unique gifts are welcome.

**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. Bring a finger food to share after the program, and bring a friend, too!

Our Advent celebration of the “**O Antiphons**” will take place Wednesday, Dec. 17, at 6:30 PM with a shortened version and a warmer location! Please try to attend this quiet and reflective “time out” before the Christmas rush.

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship with Communion** will be held again at 5:30 PM. A nursery will be available. Bring friends and family and celebrate our Lord’s birth!

**Advent devotional booklets and Advent calendars** for the youth will be available on November 30. Please pick one up and set aside ten minutes a day to remember who it is that is arriving!

The Light shines on! I am looking forward to walking toward it with you this Advent season.

Blessings,  
*Rosemary*

# Christian Exploration Continues!

Our final Christian Exploration classes will be held on December 7<sup>th</sup> 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 25<sup>th</sup>? 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.



## Operation Santa Claus

Remember to help Santa provide Christmas packages for individuals in Madison County who suffer severe or persistent mental illness. The Big Cove Outreach team has agreed that we can provide:

**toothpaste** (OSC needs 60 tubes)

**deodorant** (OSC needs 60 solid sticks, including lots for males)

There is a basket for these items in the vestibule of the church. **OSC needs the items by December 9**. Contact Debbie Book if you have questions.

## Don't forget the Big Cove's Presbyterian Women's Ladies' Night Out

Dinner and *Recycled* Christmas Gift Swap on **December 4<sup>th</sup>** at 6:00.

Please wrap your gift.

Please check with Kathy to see if she needs any more help.

**LADIES  
NIGHT**



## December 6 - CHRISTMAS DECORATING PHFC

### Be an ANGEL!

Please consider joining us in decorating the Presbyterian Home for Children campus on **Saturday, December 6**. Other groups will be volunteering on this day also.

We will leave at 8:00 a.m. and return 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. Most decorations will be provided; however, if you have new or gently used LED lighting, ornaments, garland, wreaths, etc., to donate, please pack and mark them accordingly, and let Linda Wheeler know you have a donation.

Look for the sign-up sheet on the table in the back of the sanctuary and contact Linda with questions.

## Special Christmas Music

Don't forget to come and bring your friends to a very special Big Cove Christmas program. At 6 PM on Sunday, **December 7<sup>th</sup>**, 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! Bring a plate of finger foods to share; drinks will be provided.



## The CARE Center Bags of Blessings Pack Night

will be the evening of **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



**If you need a ride to any evening** event at the church, please call the office, and we will make arrangements for you to get there!

Don't forget the Candlelight Worship and Communion service that begins at **5:30 on Christmas Eve!**





# Important Dates in December



- December 2: Session Meeting 6:00**
- December 4: Presbyterian Women's Dinner 6:00**
- December 6: Decorating Workday at PHFC**
- December 7: Choir Cantata and reception 6:00**
- December 13: Second Saturday Bible Time 9:30**
- December 14: Youth Group Christmas party at the Hosnas 4:00-7:00**
- December 17: Advent Worship Service 6:00**
- December 24: Christmas Eve Service 5:30**
- December 28: One Worship Service at 10:00**

## Regularly Scheduled Events:

- Sunday Worship, 9 am and 11 am**
- Christian Exploration 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays 9:55**
- Youth Group 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays**
- Wednesday Meditative Yoga: 9:30-11 AM**
- Wednesday Night Immersion Bible Study 6-7 PM**  
**(Fellowship and Bring Your Own Bag supper starts at 5:30)**
- Wednesday Night Choir Practice: 7-8 PM**
- Thursday Morning Prayer Group: 10-11 AM**

### Happy December Birthday!

- Gary Bass on the 10<sup>th</sup>
- Jodi Gallo on the 10<sup>th</sup>
- Alfio Gallo on the 14<sup>th</sup>
- Juanice Scrimshire on the 20<sup>th</sup>
- Bruce Harvey on the 24<sup>th</sup>
- Tom Jones on the 24<sup>th</sup>
- Sharon Bell on the 27<sup>th</sup>
- Daniel Waldrop on the 29<sup>th</sup>

### Happy December Anniversary!

- Larry and Joyce Clark on the 28<sup>th</sup>
- Don and Kathy Barnhart on the 29<sup>th</sup>



## Financial Corner

For October 2014

|                                   |               |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Receipts:                         | \$10,714.00   |
| Operation Expenses:               | \$21,297.82 * |
| Donations to the Children's Home: | \$108.00      |
| Capital Campaign Donations:       | \$2,388.44    |

\*\$10,110.00 for LED sign

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

*Please Note January Newsletter deadline: December 29*

### ~Worship Leaders for December~

#### 9AM Worship:

|                     | <u>December 7</u> | <u>December 14</u> | <u>December 21</u> | <u>December 28</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Greeter . . . . .   | Nicole Harris     | Ryan Pepper        | Sean Pepper        | Whitney Smith      |
| Host/Hostess. . . . | Vicki Waldrop     | Sally Harris       | Michele Pepper     | Sally Harris       |
| Worship Leader. . . | Ross Rutledge     | Gary Indihar       | Don Barnhart       | Debbie Book        |
| Power Point . . . . | Gary Indihar      | Dennis McMahan     | Katrina Pepper     | Sylvia Romero      |

#### 11 AM Worship:

|                    | <u>December 7</u> | <u>December 14</u> | <u>December 21</u> | <u>December 28</u> |
|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Usher . . . . .    | Mickey Sharp      | Ann Sublett        | Gary Bass          | Larry Clark        |
| Worship Leader . . | Mike Feehan       | Tennent Lee        | Pastor             | Mickey Sharp       |
| First Reader . . . | Mike Feehan       | David Lilly        | Connie Sharp       | Todd Worthington   |
| Second Reader . .  | Tennent Lee       | Hartwell Lutz      | Mickey Sharp       | Kathy Barnhart     |

#### Care Center Pick Up

|                               |             |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| <u>November 30-December 6</u> | Joyce Clark |
| <u>December 7-13</u>          | Kay Hanks   |
| <u>December 14-20</u>         | Kay Hanks   |
| <u>December 21-27</u>         | Kate Hosna  |
| <u>December 28-January 3</u>  | Kate Hosna  |

#### WAVE Team

Jeff & Vicki Irons  
 Ron Harris  
 Hartwell & Pat Lutz  
 Jane Rutledge  
 Ron Harris