



Big Cove News

January 2015

Big Cove Presbyterian Church (USA)

Pastor
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Parish Associate
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Another New Year! ~ from the Pastor

Another year has come and gone, and yes, the years do fly by faster as one gets older! The spiritual questions for each of us to reflect on are, “How has my faith influenced my life this past year? Am I different in any way than I was last year? Have I grown any closer to God?” Too many studies have indicated that merely belonging to a church does not mean that we are growing in our faith. If we aren’t growing, then what needs to be changed?

My “star word” for 2014 was “FOLLOW.” Over the past year, I kept that star hanging on my file folder on my desk where I saw it almost every day, and every time I looked at it, I thought, “But I AM following Christ! I minister with a church. I preach, teach, care for those who are hurt. What else can I possibly do?” But as I assess where I am now versus where I was a year ago, I’m not sure I can say that I have grown spiritually or feel any closer to God. What does “Follow” really mean, anyway?

In God’s mysterious way, he sent me the answer on this last day of 2014 in a meditation I received from The Daily Dig. Here is what it means to “Follow”:

You have been placed upon this earth. Go your way through it, paying heed to God’s will. Follow his leading, and pay attention to each sign he gives. He who sent you is there. He will guide you. He will accompany you with the face of your brother. He will keep you from falling. He will point out your path. He will receive you at its end. Even then he will stay beside you. Forever.

Give thought now to the road Jesus trod upon this earth, starting in Bethlehem. It is your path. Follow it, and become one with the will of God as he has shown it to you. Source: Jorg Zink, “[Doors to the Feast](#)”

It looks to me like following Christ includes paying attention, listening, and being aware, actions hard to make space for when all I am doing is *doing!* “Follow” and “fallow” are closely related in this sense. Some things have to be let go so that I can have time and space to be empty, like fallow ground, in order to be receptive. So I am keeping my 2014 star word because I want to be reminded to be fallow, as well as to follow so that I can indeed grow closer to God this year and somehow be different this time next year.

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From the Pastor—continued from page 1

What are your hopes and dreams for your relationship with Christ in 2015? If “church” is anything, and if being a “pastor” is about anything, I would hope that both are a means that help you, and me, grow as spiritual beings, as children of God, for that is who we are. My door is always open! I would be honored to share your journey with you.

May God bless you abundantly in 2015! ~ **Rosemary**



The Work of the People!

Our Annual Congregational Meeting will be help between services on Sunday, January 18, beginning promptly at 10 am. We will hear the Clerk’s report and receive the budget for 2015. More importantly, YOU the people will elect three incoming elders and two deacons. This privilege gives you say over who you want to lead our

church community. The Nominating Committee will present its slate of nominees, but you have the right to nominate anyone from the floor—provided you have gotten his or her permission to do so.

YOU the people will also nominate and elect the 2015 Nominating Committee. This team has the very important ministry of prayerfully discerning who they believe God is calling to leadership in the church. This call must be verified by the nominee and by YOU.

Our Policy and Procedures’ manual states that 25% of the congregation must be present. The session intentionally set this number much higher than the standard 10% because we believe YOU the people need to be a part of the decision-making processes in our congregation. So please take the privilege seriously and join us for 45 minutes as we celebrate what we’ve done and look forward to where God sends us next!

Ordination and Installation of Church Officers

On Jan. 25, incoming officers will be ordained or installed at each worship service. All elders are encouraged to come to church for the laying on of hands. We want to thank outgoing elders **Ray Waldrop, Ryan Worthington, and Dallas Ferneau** for the gifts of their time and talents.



Presbyterian Women

The regular January meeting of the Presbyterian Women of Big Cove will take place on Monday, January 5 at 10:00 at the church. We will continue our study of Esther and Ruth, and Joyce Clark will be leading the discussion.



Christian Exploration: What's Next?

Our Christian Exploration program is in need of a chair and a team to evaluate, choose curriculum, and promote classes for adults. Therefore, other than Wed Night Immersion and Second Saturday Bible Study, Christian Ex will not meet on Sundays during January.

The session hopes to have a team in place for February, but we need your assistance. If you are interested in chairing or being a part of this team, please let the pastor know ASAP.

Share God's Love with your friends through CARDS

Consider volunteering to help with the **Big Cove Card Ministry** in 2015. Everyone loves to be recognized on his or her birthday or anniversary. By helping send out these cards of care and celebration to your friends in Christ, you will help keep kindled the warmth that characterizes Big Cove Presbyterian Church!

For this ministry, the year is divided into quarters, so your service will only be a brief 3 months, and the responsibilities for each three months are further divided so that you would only be responsible in those three months for either youth (birthdays, get well, or congratulations), adult birthdays, or anniversaries, but you can put a lot of brightness and light into other people's lives during those 3 months!

Please contact Glenda Harris if you can help.





Important Dates in January



January 1: Happy New Year!

January 4: Star Sunday

January 5: Presbyterian Women meet at church 10:00

January 6: Epiphany

January 10: Second Saturday Bible Time 9:30

**January 18: Annual Congregational Meeting and Election of Church Officers
(between services)**

January 18: Youth Activity TBA

January 19: Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

January 25: Ordination and Installation of Church Officers

January 27: Session meeting 6:00

Regularly Scheduled Events:

Sunday Worship, 9 am and 11 am

Christian Exploration 1st and 3rd Sundays 9:55

Youth Group 3rd 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 January Birthday!

Jeff Harris on the 8th

Betty King on the 13th

Ryan Renfroe on the 16th

Rosemary McMahan on the 18th

Wayne Deaton on the 23rd

Drake Finley on the 24th

Rebecca Renfroe on the 27th

Michael Beasley on the 28th

Jo Stroud on the 29th

Izabella Gallo on the 31st

Happy January Anniversary!

Houston & Pat Hodges on the 3rd



Financial Corner For November 2014

Receipts:	\$11,995.00
Operation Expenses:	\$11,260.26
Donations to the Children's Home:	\$106.01
Capital Campaign Donations:	\$1,000.00

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

Please Note February Newsletter deadline: January 26

~Worship Leaders for January~

9AM Worship:

	<u>January 4</u>	<u>January 11</u>	<u>January 18</u>	<u>January 25</u>
Greeter.	Alaina Harvey	Daniel Waldrop	Vicki Waldrop	Kirk Finley
Host/Hostess. . .	Melinda Harvey	Michele Pepper	Ross Rutledge	Vicki Waldrop
Worship Leader. .	Tom Jones	Gary Indihar	Ross Rutledge	Ron Harris
Power Point . . .	Kirk Finley	Gary Indihar	Dennis McMahan	Gary Indihar

11 AM Worship:

	<u>January 4</u>	<u>January 11</u>	<u>January 18</u>	<u>January 25</u>
Usher	Dexter Gentle	Kay Hanks	Jeff & Vicki Irons	David Lilly
Worship Leader .	Neva Beasley	Mike Feehan	Tennent Lee	Pastor
First Reader . .	Tom Bell	Neva Beasley	Mike Feehan	Tennent Lee
Second Reader .	Gail Birdsong	Larry Clark	David Lilly	Hartwell Lutz

Care Center Pick Up

<u>December 28-January 3</u>	Kate Hosna
<u>January 4-10</u>	Connie Sharp
<u>January 11-17</u>	Connie Sharp
<u>January 18-24</u>	Ann Sublett
<u>January 25-31</u>	Ann Sublett

WAVE Team

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