



# Big Cove News

April 2015  
Big Cove Presbyterian Church (USA)

## April Elder on Call

Christie Finley

### Pastor

Rosemary McMahan

### Parish Associate

Houston Hodges

### Administrative

Assistant

Mary Hooper

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## Holy Week Activities

**April 2:** Maundy Thursday Worship with Stripping of the Table at 6:30 pm

**April 3:** Tenebrae Candle Service at 6:30 PM

### April 5 (Easter!):

**~SonRise Worship** at 6:30 am—A volunteer team will lead this service. Please bring a simple breakfast item to share with fellow early risers after worship. Juice and milk always welcome, along with someone in charge of coffee.

**~First Light Worship with Communion** at 9:00 am

**~Brunch and fellowship** in the vestibule between 9 & 11 services

**\*\*Please visit the BCPC FaceBook page (or the e-mail Christie sent out) & click on the "e-vite" to RSVP for Easter Brunch (& bring a breakfast goodie!)**

**~Easter Egg Hunt** (for children 5<sup>th</sup> grade and under) at 10:30 am

**~Traditional Worship with Choir and Communion** at 11:00 am

## Christ is Risen, Indeed!!



## About the Presbyterian Home for Children

The Board of Trustees of the Presbyterian Home for Children in Talladega, Alabama, announced a plan in January *to transition* its ministry to programs that will focus on positive outcomes in the lives of the children and young adults they serve while freeing the ministry from dependence on a single source of government support.

“While our ties to Medicaid and the State Foster Care system have enabled us to serve many needy children and youth in the last 25 years, those same ties have limited the services we can offer and taken critical decisions out of our hands,” said Board Moderator Rev. Dr. Joseph Johnson, III.

Please read below for the several areas of ministry in which the Home is now involved:

**Secure Dwellings** is an on-campus ministry for homeless children and their female caregivers. We help these women reach the next level — education, life skills, job training, employment — by providing transitional housing, transportation, and access to social services. The goal is to provide a safe haven for children who have been homeless to rest, grow, and play while their parent or guardian works on developing the educational, vocational, and social skills necessary to become self-sufficient.

**Transition to Adult Living** is a ministry focused on helping young women ages 19-24 successfully transition to adulthood. These ladies dream of rising above their past situations; lives without poverty, domestic violence, and neglect. Program participants are given group and individualized training concerning budgeting, financial aid, job interviews, and even safe boundaries within relationships. We meet each young woman where she is on her life journey and assist her in mapping out and reaching her goals.

**Moderate Residential Care** is provided for children who live on the 88-acre campus near downtown Talladega. Many are referred by the State of Alabama through the Department of Human Resources (DHR). Others are privately placed by families who recognize the need for outside help with a child’s behavioral or educational needs.

**Hope Academy**, the Home’s SACS-accredited on-campus school, meets the educational needs of both residents and private-pay students from the community who are attracted by the small class size and personalized attention of the school. As children come and go from campus, course credits are transferrable to all schools and count toward graduation for older students.

The current moderator, Rev. Robin Palmer, writes:

“There’re still eight beds for Moderate Care, and if there are at least 7 girls placed with us by DHR then that program breaks even. It was necessary to keep that going in order to keep the school open through May. I don’t know if the school will be able to continue after this school year, but there probably won’t be enough money. It would have to be self-supporting and it never has been. Usually it costs the Home money. Right now on campus there are homeless children with their female parents, young adult women in transitional living, and the Moderate Care girls, plus the day students at Hope Academy during the day.”

## Your Session at Work in March

The Big Cove Presbyterian Church Session met at 5:45 PM on March 31 to receive new members Presley Birdsong, Judy Styles, and Adam Wheeler.

The session also discussed Chapter Two of The Sailboat Church, a group study.

The session approved the Clerk's Report and Pastor's Report, along with the Financial Reports, being reminded that we are still running about a \$5000 budget deficit.

The session approved the use of the small upstairs' classroom for the continuation of a weekly Centering Prayer group to meet on Mondays from 6-6:30 PM.

Elder Christie Finley will work with the pastor and with Mike Feehan on drafting a required Child Protection Policy.

Session meetings are held the last Tuesday of each month at 6 PM in the large classroom upstairs. These meetings are open. If you would like a topic addressed, please see the pastor to have it included on the agenda.

Current Session members are: Pastor (moderator); Neva Beasley (clerk); Kathy Barnhart; Debbie Book; Christie Finley; Mickey Sharp, and Todd Worthington.



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## Spring Gathering of Presbyterian Women



PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN

**The Presbytery-Wide Spring Gathering of Presbyterian Women** is scheduled for April 14, 2015 at First Presbyterian Church in Athens.

Our speaker will be Bligh Jones, PW Synod Moderator.

Lunch, prepared by the Athens PW, will cost \$10.00.

Coffee Hour will begin at 9:15 with meeting following at 10:00.

If you wish to go, please make a reservation with Gail Birdsong **by Easter**, April 5.

**A Farewell Message:** I know I was not able to say goodbye to everyone at Big Cove over the last few weeks, so I hope this message in the newsletter will suffice.

I just want everyone to know how special Big Cove Church has been to me and my family over the years. We all will miss the church family we have gotten to know, and will always consider Big Cove our church family no matter where we worship in the future. Big Cove is that special to us.

Rosemary as our Pastor and Houston as our Associate Pastor have been our spiritual guides over many years and words cannot describe how thankful and blessed we are that they were placed in our lives during this seemingly short time.

I am joining my family in Florida and will also be in a better place to care for my Dad as his health declines. As Rosemary has taught us many times over the years, no matter where we are, the love of Jesus renews, transforms, and grows in all of us who seek and believe. We will carry that message with us to our new home as we build a new life; to completely refresh and renew.

Thank you so much for those who have listened to our hearts and who grew with us in our walk in faith. We love all of you, and although we are sad to say goodbye, we know that Big Cove is in great hands with Rosemary and the leadership of the church, active members, and most importantly, guidance from the Holy Spirit.

There is something special at Big Cove, we all feel it, it is a once in a lifetime experience; and we will carry this memory with us on our next journey and continued walk in faith.

***May the Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. —Gary Indihar***

## Big Cove Women's Spring Retreat—Saturday, May 16

For several years Big Cove Women have enjoyed a weekend retreat beginning on a Friday and ending on Sunday. However, after discernment, we have decided to "do a new thing." And what better time than spring when all things are becoming new again? We look forward to more being able to participate since it is one day and in-town.

This year we will meet in the Clearwater Community Clubhouse located 1st drive to left on Trick Lane (off Terry Drake in Owens Cross Roads near Goldsmith-Schiffman Elementary School.)

Pastor Rosemary will use the book *A Clearing Season: Reflections for Lent* by Sarah Parsons. You may ask why "Reflections for Lent" in May? If you are like me you need "a clearing out" of your life and soul more often than Lent. We will take a practical approach to making room in our life for God. *You will NOT need a copy of book*; we will use prepared handouts, readings, reflections, etc.



We will begin the day at 9:00 a.m. with coffee, juice, etc. We will have a pot-luck salad luncheon. *Please bring a salad to share.* Soft drinks, tea, and dessert will be provided. (no alcohol is permitted on premises.) Pool will be open (members only) however, we will not be disturbed as the entrance to the pool and restrooms are separate.

**SATURDAY, MAY 16**  
**9:00 a.m. - Fellowship/Coffee**  
**9:30 a.m. - Sessions will begin**  
**12:00 p.m. - Lunch on site**  
**12:45 p.m. - Continue sessions**  
**4:00 p.m. - Dismiss**

**Christ's message is one of new life and forgiveness. To arrive at newness of life, we first name the parts of ourselves where life does not flourish. Our prayer is that this one-day retreat will allow us to create open space in our everyday life and that in this newly opened space we may live more freely and commune more closely with the divine.**

To make your reservation please contact Linda Wheeler  
at 256-283-1822 or [linda.wheeler@comcast.net](mailto:linda.wheeler@comcast.net)



## Want to Help Provide a Home?

Faith Presbyterian Church, and several other Madison County and Huntsville churches (who affectionately call themselves “The Gang of Churches”) are once again sponsoring and building a Habitat for Humanity home, and would like to offer members of the Big Cove Presbyterian Community the chance to “join the gang!”

Volunteers may sign up by sending their names, phone numbers, e-mail addresses, and particular skills (though no particular skills are required!) to Renee Savelle. Renee is a member of Faith Presbyterian and is a friend of mine; I have told her that some Big Cove members might contact her. You can tell her that you are from Big Cove and that Mary sent you!

A tentative schedule of work is below. If you contact Renee, she will put you on the volunteer list and you will be notified via e-mail when the next workday is and what will be done (sometimes the work schedule changes because of weather or construction constraints).

The home will be for the James and Sandra Manuel family at 2406 Garden Park Drive NW, Huntsville 35810 and the Faith Presbyterian Construction Lead is Doug Franklin.

Habitat for Humanity rules stipulate that volunteers must be 14+ years old, and must be 18+ to use power tools or be on the roof. All volunteers are required to complete an Emergency Contact Form. A Release and Waiver of Liability for Minors Form is also required for anyone less than 18 years old. These will be available at the worksite.

Site work began on March 14, and *new volunteers are welcome any time! Work every Saturday begins at 8:00 am and lasts until about 1:00 pm (lunch is provided). Come when you can and stay as long as you are available. All help at every level is greatly appreciated! Come every week or only once!* —Mary

### Tentative Work Schedule

- April 11:** Start vinyl siding, blocking & seal ext. air leaks
- April 18:** Paint walls, trim & folding doors; finish siding
- April 25:** Install vinyl flooring, rough landscape
- May 2:** Install cabinets, finish baseboard/ closet doors & shelves
- May 9:** Final landscaping, paint doors & trim
- May 16:** Make-Up day
- May 23:** Clean floors & punch list



Remember the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Vine Fundraiser

## Branches of The Vine - A Spring Celebration

You are invited!! Great Fellowship. Burrirt on the Mountain. All proceeds go to scholarship assisted sessions. **April 16, 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm.** RSVP here: [www.vinepcc.com](http://www.vinepcc.com) or contact Vicki Waldrop with questions.



# Important Dates In April



**April 5: Easter-Christ is Risen!**

**April 11: Second Saturday Bible Time 9:30**

**April 13: Outreach Team Meeting 6:00**

**April 14 North Alabama Presbytery Presbyterian Women Spring Gathering  
(see details above, page 3)**

**April 16: The Vine Fundraiser 5:30-8:00**

**April 19: Youth Event (Watch e-mail and midweeks for details)**

**April 28: Session meeting 6:00**

## Regularly Scheduled Events:

**Sunday Worship, 9 am and 11 am**

**Christian Exploration Sundays 9:55**

**Youth Activity 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays**

**Centering Prayer Monday evenings 6:00 pm**

**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 April Birthday!

**Pam Worthington on the 6<sup>th</sup>**

**Glenda Harris on the 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Christie Finley on the 10<sup>th</sup>**

**Katrina Pepper on the 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Diane Lee on the 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Mary Hooper on the 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Glenda Bass on the 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Kathy Barnhart on the 18<sup>th</sup>**

**Ryan Pepper on the 18<sup>th</sup>**

**Gail Birdsong on the 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Ginger Adkins on the 25<sup>th</sup>**

**Michele Pepper on the 30<sup>th</sup>**

## Happy April Anniversary!

**Betty King and Rodney Renfroe on the 4<sup>th</sup>**



*Please Note May Newsletter  
deadline: April 27*

<b>Financial Corner</b>		<b>For February 2015</b>
<b>Receipts:</b>		<b>\$13,446.00</b>
<b>Operation Expenses:</b>		<b>\$15,329.37*</b>
<b>Donations to the Children's Home:</b>		<b>\$83.29</b>
<b>Capital Campaign Donations:</b>		<b>\$880.00</b>
<p>*Includes \$3,222.88 for installation of LED sign. Funds to pay for this will be transferred from savings account</p> <p>Any questions relating to the above may be addressed to Diane Lee, Bookkeeper, or any of the current elders.</p>		

*~Worship Leaders for April~*

9AM Worship:

<u>April 5</u>	<u>April 12</u>	<u>April 19</u>	<u>April 26</u>
Greeter. . . . . Sean Pepper	Daniel Waldrop	Nicole Harris	Savanna Harris
Host/Hostess. . Christie Finley	Melinda Harvey	Debbie Book	Nicole Harris
Worship Leader. Debbie Book	Whitney Smith	Don Barnhart	Tom Jones
Power Point . . Sylvia Romero	Vicki Waldrop	Kirk Finley	Melinda Harvey

11 AM Worship:

<u>April 5</u>	<u>April 12</u>	<u>April 19</u>	<u>April 26</u>
Usher . . . . . David Lilly	Hartwell Lutz	Pat Lutz	Jane Rutledge
Worship Leader . Pastor	Mickey Sharp	Neva Beasley	Mike Feehan
First Reader . . . Tom Bell	James Glenn	Tennent Lee	Hartwell Lutz
Second Reader . Mike Feehan	Jeff Harris	David Lilly	Todd Worthington

Care Center Pick Up

<u>March 29- April 4</u>	Kay Hanks
<u>April 5-11</u>	Kay Hanks
<u>April 12-18</u>	Kate Hosna
<u>April 19-25</u>	Kate Hosna
<u>April 26-May 2</u>	Connie Sharp

WAVE Team

Jane Rutledge
Connie Sharp
Linda Wheeler
Pam Worthington
Neva Beasley

