



# Big Cove News

## December 2015

### Big Cove Presbyterian Church (USA)

#### *From the Pastor*

Dear Beloveds:

A chaplain friend of mine named Rev. Rex Woods wrote a lovely prayer/poem that reflects a special prayer for the season. It is entitled, This Year for Christmas. During this special Advent season, may Rev. Woods' words help us prepare for the Lord's birth.

#### *This Year for Christmas*

Lord, this year for Christmas

I want to give and receive gifts that are lasting and truly important.

-Gifts that will be remembered,

-Gifts that will make me a better person, for having given and received them.

Lord, this year for Christmas

I want to give and receive gift of Hope.

-Hope that leads us into the future

whatever our past may have been.

-Hope that shines like a beacon in darkness

showing us the way to our truest and best selves.

Lord, this year for Christmas

I want to give and receive gift of Peace.

-Peace that is more than harmony,

-Peace built on a foundation of mutual respect,  
mutual acceptance and mutual trust.

For Christmas, I want the gift of Peace between

nations and races, between my co-workers,  
within my family and within myself.

Lord, this year for Christmas

I want to give and receive gift of Love.

-Love that is caring and compassionate,

-Love that is selfless,

-Love that is forgiving,

-Love that is generous and gracious.

Lord, this year for Christmas

I want to give and receive gift of Faith,

-Faith in myself,

-Faith in other people,

-Faith in the Mystery of Life.

Lord, this year for Christmas

I want to give and receive gift of Joy.

-Joy that comes from

Hoping,

Loving,

Peace Making,

Believing and Trusting.

Lord, this is what I really want for Christmas.

-Enable me to give generously,

-To receive graciously. Amen.

Advent blessings to you and yours,

*-Pastor Linda*

#### **December Elder on Call**

**Christie Finley**

#### **Interim Pastor**

**Linda Post**

#### **Parish Associate**

**Houston Hodges**

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## Your Session at Work



The Big Cove Session postponed its customary November end-of-month meeting until the beginning of December.

That meeting is on Tuesday, December 1 at 6:00. When there is news from that meeting, it will be published for you in some form—perhaps a special midweek section.

*Session meetings are generally held the last Tuesday of the month at 6 PM in the large classroom upstairs. These meetings are open. If you would like something addressed, please let the Clerk, Neva Beasley, know beforehand, and please keep these servant-leaders in your prayers, along with Deacon Vicki Waldrop.*



### Please turn in your pledge card!

The 2016 budget depends on your support, and the finance team and session need to finish plans soon! Extra pledge cards are available on the sanctuary table.

**Don't forget** that Big Cove's ministries and missions are also in need of contributions that are not financial, so please turn in your Time & Talent sheets, as well. There are also extra T & T sheets on the table in the back of the sanctuary.

**Don't forget the third annual women's dinner** on Thursday, December 3 at 6:00 p.m. Connie Wilson will be demonstrating and making a Christmas arrangement, and the finished product will be a door prize! As the "price of admission," **please bring a can or two of food or some other items to donate** to the CARE Center.



**Please come to share a special musical experience** Sunday evening, December 6, as our choir performs "When Earth Presents Her King," a wonderful cantata arranged and orchestrated by Marty Parks. The program begins at 6 PM and should last approximately 30 minutes. Light "finger-food" snacks will be provided afterward.

**Immediately after playing for our choir's Christmas cantata** on December 6th, Jervon will drive to Oakwood College to play in a music program featuring an ensemble comprised of several of the college's higher level musical students. If you would like to join us there for this additional musical treat, which begins at 8 PM, look for flyers containing a map/ directions on the table in the sanctuary.



**Operation Santa Claus**, a program which helps provide Christmas for adults with mental illness who live in group homes in Madison county, needs our help.

Please help by bringing **\*\*\*warm gloves** (for adult-sized hands) **and body lotion\*\*\*** and place them in the collection bin in the stairwell.

*All donations need to be in **by Sunday December 13th.***

Thanks!!

**There will be a Bags of Blessings set up** on Wednesday, December 9 at 9 am at The CARE Center. No need to sign up—just **show up!**



You are invited to a Taizé Prayer Service at First Presbyterian Church in Decatur on Tuesday, December 15, 2015. For more information, see the poster on the bulletin board by the elevator downstairs.

## Regularly Scheduled Events:

**Sunday Worship: 9 am and 11 am**

**Christian Exploration: 10:00**

**Monday: Centering Prayer 6 pm**

**Wednesday: Immersion Bible Study 6:00-7:00 (No meeting on 12/23)**

**Choir Rehearsal 7:00-8:00 (No rehearsals 12/9, 16, 23, 30)**

**Thursday Morning Prayer Group: 10-11 AM**

**Second Saturday Bible Time: 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday each month 9:30**

**Sunday Night Youth Group: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in each month 5:30**

**Session Meeting: Last Tuesday in each month 6:00**





# Important Dates in December



- December 1: Session Meeting 6:00**
- December 3: Presbyterian Women's Dinner 6:00**
- December 6: Choir Cantata 6:00**
- December 9: Bag of Blessings Set-up only at 9:00 am**
- December 12: Second Saturday Everybody Come Bible Time 9:30**
- December 14: Outreach Team Meeting 6:00**
- December 24: Christmas Eve Service 5:30**

## Happy December Birthday!

- Gary Bass on the 10<sup>th</sup>**
- Juanice Scrimshire on the 20<sup>th</sup>**
- Julie Loggins on the 21<sup>st</sup>**
- Tom Jones on the 24<sup>th</sup>**
- Bruce Harvey 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 & Joyce Clark on the 28<sup>th</sup>**
- Don & Kathy Barnhart on the 29<sup>th</sup>**

*Please note deadline for January  
newsletter: December 28*

### Financial Corner

For October 2015

<b>Receipts:</b>	<b>\$11,300.00</b>
<b>Operation Expenses:</b>	<b>\$8,051.01</b>
<b>Donations to The Children's Home:</b>	<b>\$172.65</b>
<b>Capital Campaign Donations:</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>

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

*~Worship Leaders for December~*

9AM Worship:

	<u>December 6</u>	<u>December 13</u>	<u>December 20</u>	<u>December 27</u>
Greeter. . . . .	Renay Nunn	Kirk Finley	Whitney Smith	Nicole Harris
Host/Hostess. .	Debbie Book	Nicole Harris	Ross Rutledge	Melinda Harvey
Worship Leader.	Michele Pepper	Whitney Smith	Ross Rutledge	Don Barnhart
Power Point . .	Kirk Finley	the Harveys	Sylvia Romero	Tennent Lee

11 AM Worship:

	<u>December 6</u>	<u>December 13</u>	<u>December 20</u>	<u>December 27</u>
Usher . . . . .	Pat Lutz	JC Scrimshire	Gary Bass	Mickey Sharp
Worship Leader .	Mike Feehan	Tennent Lee	Mickey Sharp	Neva Beasley
First Reader . . .	Larry Clark	James Glenn	Tennent Lee	Connie Sharp
Second Reader .	David Lilly	Mike Feehan	Judy Styles	Mickey Sharp

Centering prayer leaders: December 7: Debbie Book  
 December 14: Connie Sharp  
 December 21: Renay Nunn  
 December 23: Debbie Book

Care Center Pick Up

<u>November 29-December 5</u>	Joyce Clark
<u>December 6-12</u>	Kay Hanks
<u>December 13-19</u>	Kay Hanks
<u>December 20-26</u>	Kate Hosna
<u>December 27-January 2</u>	Kate Hosna

WAVE Team

Linda Wheeler  
 Pam Worthington  
 Neva Beasley  
 Jeff & Vicki Irons  
 Hartwell & Pat Lutz

Contact list for Big Cove Presbyterian

**Session:** Neva Beasley (Clerk), Kathy Barnhart, Debbie Book, Christie Finley, Mickey Sharp, Todd Worthington  
**Deacon:** Vicki Waldrop

**If you have questions about a particular ministry or mission in the church, please contact:**

**Treasurer:** Kirk Finley  
**Finance:** Larry Clark, Todd Worthington, or Diane Lee (bookkeeper)  
**Adult Christian Exploration:** David Lilly  
**Christian Exploration, Children & Youth:** Linda Wheeler  
**Congregational Care:** Deacon Vicki Waldrop  
**Nursery Contact:** Whitney Smith  
**Personnel:** session liaison Christie Finley  
**Property/ Grounds:** Bruce Harvey & Dexter Gentle  
**Planning Ministry Team:** Kathy Barnhart  
**Outreach Chair (Christmas Bazaar):** Vicki Waldrop  
**CARE Center:** Michele Pepper  
**Presbyterian Home for Children:** currently vacant  
**Youth Contact:** currently vacant  
**Presbyterian Women:** Gail Birdsong  
**Second Saturday Bible Study:** David Lilly or Houston Hodges  
**Worship Team:** Tennent Lee: session liaison, Mickey Sharp  
**Church Website:** Mike Feehan  
**Church Facebook Page:** Houston Hodges or Mary Hooper

E-mail addresses and phone numbers may be found in the current directory.

