



# Big Cove News

May 2016

Big Cove Presbyterian Church (USA)

## May Elder on Call

Mickey Sharp

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### *From Pastor Houston Hodges*

#### A Trial Sermon

May 1<sup>st</sup> will be my first sermon since the middle-of-the-night brain-whack that I underwent on February 22-23; my neurologist has confirmed that it was a “seizure,” not exactly a stroke or a Transient Ischemic Attack. He has me on a new medication to add to my twice-daily regimen of multi-colored caps, so we hope that’s effective! I seem to be mostly okay, can get up in the morning and act normal ... and get to the grocery store and over the mountain to church ... but I can tell there’s been an impact, especially in terms of short-term memory.

Nonetheless, I want to preach! I’ve been doing that for sixty-one years now, and can’t break the habit ... so when the slot opened up for the first Sunday in May, I said I’d take it on. So ... I went to the good ol’ Revised Common Lectionary, and found a whole bouquet of disparate messages! Nothing seemed to connect with anything else, and I couldn’t make them coalesce to support a single theme, the way they were supposed to!

Well, we’ll just go with that, on May 1, and you need to fasten your seat-belts.

Once more I’m finding God working differently with me, not making me hew out the sermon one sentence at a time from the bedrock, but giving it to me in virtually finished form, just waiting for me to capture its three distinct points.

I’m calling it “Three Scripture-Drops,” and will do the best I can with it. I’ll appreciate your help, dear friends, with comments or opinions (Big Cove is opinion-rife, we all know!), as I keep working at what I’m called to do, which is to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ one more time. I have no idea whether the Almighty will keep dealing with me by the same techniques, or will work some more changes in this lump of clay called HH; but you’ll get a view of my innards if you show up May 1 at 9 or 11!

## Your Session at Work

The Session met on April 21 with Rev. Dr. Tammy Gregory Brown serving as moderator. The following items were accomplished or addressed:



- Received Daniel Waldrop, Sean Pepper, the Jones family, and the Butz family into membership.
- Received a draft MIF from the PNC.
- Talked with Mel Strain to determine his willingness to be a stated supply minister.
- Approved the request to hold the Called NAP Meeting at Big Cove May 10.
- Approved the request to have one service on Pentecost at 10 am.
- Elected Elder Dexter Gentle to be commissioner from Big Cove for the Called NAP meeting
- Approved a loving offering for Camp Marantha for a date to be determined after Called Meeting.
- Tabled the piano de-humifider question until some more information could be gathered.

*This month's session meetings will be at 6 PM on May 31<sup>st</sup> 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 of the officers for 2016 in your prayers.*

## The Year You were born: a Very Good Year!

It has come to our attention that there are a couple of good reasons for some of us to know what year folks in the Big Cove community were born. This information is, understandably, particularly sensitive for some people. In the past, when we have asked for birthdates, we have specifically avoided asking for the year. We've decided to ask for that information now. Here are two reasons the information would be useful for friends in the community:

**First, the Card Ministry—particularly for children and youth:** While we used to have a young person who knew the other young folks and would send out birthday cards to their peers when their birthdays came around, the young folks who used to do it have either grown out of the category of “young person,” or they have gotten too busy to do it well, or they (or their parents!?) have been burned out by being in that job for too long. So, at least for now, birthday cards *for people of all ages* are being sent by one person each quarter. Sometimes, that person does not know all of the children and youth in the community and might not be aware of a young person's exact age. If the birthday card sender knows the birth years for our youngsters, it is more likely that the young person will get a birthday card that is “age appropriate” for him or her. So if parents don't mind, please send your children's birth years to Mary ([bigcovechurch@gmail.com](mailto:bigcovechurch@gmail.com)), and she will pass them on to the card-senders.

**Second, the yearly report to the Presbytery:** Every year, personnel in each Presbyterian church are required to send in a description of the church's membership, including statistics about how many members are in different category age groups. For Big Cove in the past, this information was reached by “guesstimating” people's ages. If we know people's birth years, it will be much easier to be accurate about that information. If you are comfortable providing that information for this purpose, please send the years that you and your family members were born—either to Mary ([bigcovechurch@gmail.com](mailto:bigcovechurch@gmail.com)) or to Neva Beasley, Clerk of Session

*Thank you!*

**Job opportunities**—First Presbyterian Church, Huntsville has immediate openings for the following positions:

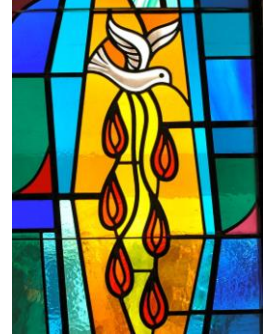
**Facilities Coordinator (Part-time, 15-20 hours per week):** Responsible for the general maintenance of all church facilities and equipment owned or operated by FPC.

**Assistant Sexton (Part-time, 15-20 hours per week):** Has overall responsibility and duty to maintain the church facilities in a clean and orderly condition.

Resumes should be sent to First Presbyterian Church, Attention: Personnel Committee, 307 Gates Ave, Huntsville, AL 35801.



## **Important Dates in May**



- May 2: Presbyterian Women 10:00**
- May 3: Christianity Uncorked 6:00 El Olmeca**
- May 7: First Saturday Everybody Come Bible Time 9:30**
- May 8: Mother's Day**
- May 10: Called Presbytery meeting at Big Cove 10:00**
- May 15: Pentecost-one service at 10:00**
- May 15: Sunday Night Youth Group 5:30**
- May 30: Memorial Day**
- May 31: Session Meeting 6:00**



### **Regularly Scheduled Events:**

- Sunday Worship: 9 am and 11 am**
- Christian Exploration: 10:00 (through May 22)**
- Monday: Centering Prayer 6 pm (on hiatus till mid-May; watch midweek announcements for resume date)**
- Wednesday: Immersion Bible Study 6:00-7:00 (through May 25)**
- Choir Rehearsal 7:00-8:00**
- Thursday: Morning Prayer Group 10-11 AM**
- First Saturday Bible Time: 1<sup>st</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**

### Happy May Birthdag!

Lynn Nixon on the 1<sup>st</sup>  
Jimmy Scrimshire on the 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Don Barnhart on the 5<sup>th</sup>  
Joyce Clark on the 5<sup>th</sup>  
Ryan Worthington on the 8<sup>th</sup>  
Presley Birdsong on the 17<sup>th</sup>  
Alaina Harvey on the 18<sup>th</sup>  
Conrow Book on the 21<sup>st</sup>  
Sherry Sakovich on the 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Jane Rutledge on the 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Merrie Duncan on the 24<sup>th</sup>  
Jackie Burnette on the 31<sup>st</sup>

### Happy May Anniversarg!

James & Catherine Glenn on the 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Carlos & Sylvia Romero on the 24<sup>th</sup>  
David & Kate Hosna on the 24<sup>th</sup>  
Mickey & Connie Sharp on the 29<sup>th</sup>  
Don & Brenda Copeland on the 31<sup>st</sup>  
Kelvin & Jessica Birdsong Selvage on the 31<sup>st</sup>

*Please note deadline for June  
newsletter: May 23*

### Financial Corner

For March 2016

Receipts:	\$18,240.00
Operation Expenses:	\$14,413.00
Donations to The Children's Home:	\$134.00

Receipts were much higher on March 27, Easter Sunday.  
Expenses included \$2,198 for quarterly Federal and State  
Withholding Taxes and \$1,900 to NAP and The Vine.

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

### Contact list for Big Cove Presbyterian

**Session:** Neva Beasley (Clerk), Kathy Barnhart, Dexter Gentle, Tennent Lee, Mickey Sharp, and Todd Worthington;

**Deacons:** Melinda Harvey, Michele Pepper

**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:** Sunday gatherings-David Lilly; Wednesday evening studies-Debbie Book

**Christian Exploration, Children & Youth:** Kathy Barnhart and Linda Wheeler

**Congregational Care:** Deacons Melinda Harvey and Michelle Pepper

**Nursery Contact:**

**Personnel:** Tennent Lee

**Property/ Grounds:** Dexter Gentle & Bruce Harvey

**Planning Ministry Team:** Kathy Barnhart

**Outreach Team (& Christmas Bazaar):** Vicki Waldrop & Neva Beasley

**CARE Center:** currently vacant

**Presbyterian Home for Children:** Julie Loggins and Clay Weir

**Youth Contact:** James Glenn

**Presbyterian Women:** Gail Birdsong

**First Saturday Bible Study:** David Lilly or Houston Hodges

**Worship Team:** Tennent Lee: session liaison, Mickey Sharp

**Church Website:** Jeff Stephens

**Church Facebook Page:** Houston Hodges or Mary Hooper

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

*~Worship Leaders for May~*

**9AM Worship:**

	<u>May 1</u>	<u>May 8</u>	<u>May 15</u>	<u>May 22</u>	<u>May 29</u>
Greeter. . . . .	Alaina Harvey	Ryan Pepper	Nicole Harris	Savanna Harris	Sean Pepper
Host/Hostess. .	Debbie Book	Melinda Harvey	Vicki Waldrop	Nicole Harris	Debbie Book
Worship Leader.	Debbie Book	Don Barnhart	Tom Jones	Clay Weir	Don Barnhart
Power Point . .	Sylvia Romero	Harveys	Tennent Lee	Sylvia Romero	Jeff Stephens

**11 AM Worship:**

	<u>May 1</u>	<u>May 8</u>	<u>May 15</u>	<u>May 22</u>	<u>May 29</u>
Usher . . . . .	Larry Clark	Dexter Gentle	Kay Hanks	David Lilly	Hartwell Lutz
Worship Leader .	Joan Kerr	Larry Clark	Tennent Lee	Sandra Stephens	Joan Kerr
Reader . . . . .	Tennent Lee	David Lilly	Connie Sharp	Mickey Sharp	Sandra Stephens

**Centering prayer leaders: TBA**

**CARE Center Pick Up**

<u>May 1-7</u>	Kate Hosna
<u>May 8-14</u>	Connie Sharp
<u>May 15-21</u>	Connie Sharp
<u>May 22-28</u>	Ann Sublett
<u>May 29-June 4</u>	Ann Sublett

**WAVE Team**

Linda Wheeler  
 Pam Worthington  
 Neva Beasley  
 Tom & Sharon Bell  
 Jeff & Vicki Irons

