



# Big Cove News

## April 2017

### Big Cove Presbyterian Church (USA)

**PASTOR**  
**Candice L. Klein**

**April ELDER ON CALL**  
**Tennent Lee**

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Information for May Newsletter is due to church office by noon, April 24.

#### *From the Pastor* **Easter Ain't Easy**

Easter is coming. You probably already knew that. You may be preparing with bunnies and colored eggs. You may be anticipating having the children wake on that *First Lord's Day* with giggles and energy. You may be planning a special meal with family and friends – and using all the special tableware and silver. It's a great day, indeed. The Lord is Risen!

But Easter is confusing and frightening, too. It's preceded by fear and pain. It contains loss and tremendous grief. We know some of those details – Jesus at his trial with no lawyer and no witnesses speaking on his behalf. We know about the beating, the mocking, the embarrassment of having his clothing stripped off him, and then expecting him to walk through public streets. We recall him carrying the cross (geez! even today the government executes criminals but doesn't ask them to carry their own vial of poison into the execution chamber.) We have heard details about the brutality of the crucifixion. We know that soldiers stood beneath him and laughed as they gambled for the last piece of clothing he owned, and then offered him vinegar because he said he was thirsty. The Scripture speaks of an earthquake and profound darkness in the middle of the day. His supporters had fled in an attempt to save themselves and left him there to die alone. Don't fool yourself, Easter ain't easy.

And isn't that what our lives look like? Sure, we know the kids will grow up and go to college and make excellent life choices – or maybe not. We expect they won't play with drugs or gamble their life savings away, but too often they do. We expect that the retirement money will last a long time. Our health won't include horrible issues. We smile and say "*oh fine, thanks*" when our lives are actually falling apart. We sing hymns of joy and hope, but go home to bills and broken marriages. We plan for vacation but the car needs new tires and the house needs a roof.

"Do not be afraid," the angel says. Yet there is much to fear in life. *And*, the resurrection of Christ creates the possibility for joy and hope and courage and more. Why? Because it changes everything. For in the resurrection we have God's promise that life is stronger than death, that love is wider than hate, that mercy overcomes judgment, and that all the sufferings and difficulties of this life are transient – real and palpable and sometimes painful, for sure, but they do not have the last word and do not represent the final reality.

So I remind you that *Christ is Risen!* And I remind you to keep on keeping on. If we're recognizing Easter, if we're aware that God is in control, if we push through the darkness and help others to push through it, too, we *can* get to Easter. But Easter is always, always, preceded by pain, by darkness, by confusion, by loss and grief. And the goodness in our lives is always preceded by such things, too. (continued on page 2)

*(From The Pastor continued from page 1)*

Don't go to Easter without going through Holy Week. Don't expect to go to college graduation without studying. Don't expect to have children without having dirty diapers. Don't expect to get healthier without doing exercise. Don't expect to have Easter dinner without preparing the meal and paying for the groceries and cleaning the house. Getting to the *good stuff* like Easter, means going through the darkness first.

But go through it. Know it's there. Don't dismiss it. Don't ignore it. Do the work. Experience the darkness. Know the grief. Feel the loss of the greatest man who ever lived.

And do not fear. Easter, like life, ain't easy. But our God is a God of new life and never-ending possibility.

*Candice*

*"Fear not. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said."*

– Matthew 28:6

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## Your Session at Work

The Session met on March 28, 2017 and accomplished the following:

- Received reports from Finance, Clerk and Pastor
- Approved adding three signatures to church credit card
- Discussed service for April 23-Earth Day
- Approved money for possible bus tickets for homeless
- Discussed mortgage information
- Accepted request from Pastor for Memorial Day leave
- Discussed possible mission projects for future
- Scheduled the Ordination of Julie Loggins at the 9 am service on April 2



*Session generally meets in the large classroom upstairs on the last Tuesday in each month. These meetings are open. If you would like something addressed, please let the Clerk, Neva Beasley, know beforehand, and please keep the pastor and all of the church officers in your prayers.*

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## Important Dates in April

**April 3: Presbyterian Women meet at 10:00**

**Holy Week  
Schedule**

**April 9: Palm Sunday**

**April 13: Maundy Thursday-Seder Meal 6:00 pm**

**April 14: Good Friday Worship service 6:00 pm**



**See details  
page 4**

**April 16: Easter! (with "flowering the cross"**

**SonRise Service 6:30 (outside weather permitting)**

**One Joint worship service at 11:00**

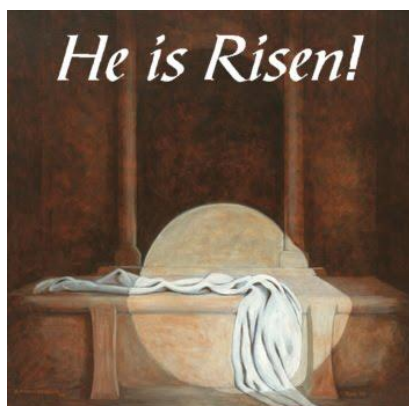
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**April 18: Worship Ministry Team meeting 5:30**

**April 22: Earth Day**

**April 24: Deadline for April newsletter info**

**April 25: Session Meeting 6:00 p.m.**



## Regularly Scheduled Events

**Sunday Worship: 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.**  
**Sunday Christian Exploration for all ages: 10:00 a.m.**  
**Sunday Night Youth Group: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in each month 5:30 p.m.**  
**Monday: Centering Prayer 6:00 p.m.**  
**Tuesday: Prayer Group 11:00 a.m.**  
**Tuesday and Thursday: Steady for Life 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.**  
**Wednesday: Current Conversations 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**  
**Wednesday: Choir Rehearsal: 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**  
**Fourth Saturday Bible Time: 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday each month 9:30**



Sophie Hosna thanks the BCPC families that joined us in buying an ad for Big Cove Presbyterian Church in the program for Huntsville High Theater's production of 'The Little Mermaid.'

Many thanks to the Barnharts, Harveys, Nicole Harris, Loggins/Weirs, and Waldrops! 'The Little Mermaid' show runs April 7-15.

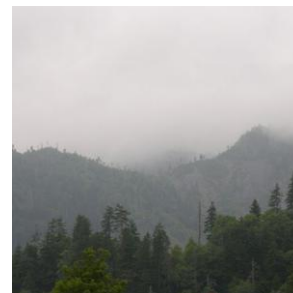
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## Big Cove Youth—Gatlinburg, Here We Come!!

The youth group is planning a Friday to Sunday trip for youth 12 and up to Gatlinburg on 5/5-5/7.

So far it looks like we may have 10 young people coming.

If any other young people are interested please contact Ross Rutledge:



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### FINANCIAL CORNER

### February, 2017 REPORT

<b>Receipts:</b>	<b>\$20,656.61</b>
<b>Operation Expenses:</b>	<b>\$11,643.67</b>
<b>Donations to The Children's Home:</b>	<b>\$185.00</b>

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



## The Seder Customs of the Passover

Please join us on Maundy Thursday--April 13th--at 6 pm to celebrate our annual Seder dinner. The Passover is traditionally a Jewish time of remembrance celebrating the Israelites' deliverance and redemption told through the story of Moses.



As we experience this celebration through Jewish eyes we also remember the new beginning offered to us by Jesus and his promise of salvation.

Everyone has a program, called "The Haggadah," and we participate together in the readings.

Mediterranean style leg of lamb and chicken will be served.

So bring a side dish, salad, or dessert, and enjoy a wonderful time of fellowship for the entire family. Children are welcome!

Please call Mary at the Church office by the end of the day on Monday, April 10, to make reservations and tell us what you will bring!



## Celebrate Holy Week at Big Cove Presbyterian Church through these special events:

- ~~ On **Palm Sunday (April 9)**, worshipers at both First Light (9:00) and the traditional 11:00 service will have opportunity to wave palm branches as they sing "Hosanna," and remember Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem.
  - ~~ On **Maundy Thursday (April 13)**, at 6:00 we will celebrate a Seder supper (see details above).
  - ~~ On **Good Friday (April 14)** at 6:00, there will be a somber, quiet, contemplative worship service, as we remember the darkness of the day of Christ's crucifixion.
  - ~~ On **Easter morning (April 16)** there will be JOY in the morning!!—at a **SonRise** service outdoors (weather permitting) at 6:30 and at a joint blended Easter service at 11:00.
- To both services, members of the congregation are encouraged to bring flowers from their yards or gardens to help "flower the cross" in the sanctuary. The Liturgical Arts Team will provide means for people to affix flowers to the cross so that it will look similar to the picture to the right. >>>>
- It's a special way of celebrating the joy and beauty of Easter!



## *Celebrations for Big Cove Friends in April*

### Happy April Birthday!

April 1	Michelle Jones	April 16	Glenda Bass
April 5	Will & Walker Weir	April 18	Kathy Barnhart
April 6	Pam Worthington	April 18	Ryan Pepper
April 8	Glenda Harris	April 19	Gail Birdsong
April 10	Christie Finley	April 25	Ginger Adkins
April 11	Katrina	April 29	Lindsey Butz
April 12	Diane Lee	April 30	Michele Pepper
April 15	Mary Hooper		


### Happy April Anniversary!

April 4      Betty King & Rodney Renfroe

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### Worship Leaders for April

#### First Light 9:00 a.m.

	<u>April 2</u>	<u>April 9</u>	<u>April 16-Easter</u>	<u>April 23</u>	<u>April 30</u>
Greeter	Julie Loggins	Rachel Jones	<b>E    Son Rise</b> <b>A    Service</b> <b>S    at</b> <b>T    6:30~</b> <b>E    Joint</b> <b>R    Service</b> <b>!    at 10:00</b> 	Ryan Pepper	Sean Pepper
Host/hostess	Bruce Harvey	Michelle Jones		Debbie Book	Nicole Harris
Worship Leader	Don Barnhart	Clay Weir		Debbie Book	Linda Wheeler
Power Point	Tennent Lee	Vicki Waldrop?		Ron Jones?	The Harveys

#### 11:00 a.m.

	<u>April 2</u>	<u>April 9</u>		<u>April 23</u>	<u>April 30</u>
Usher	Pat Lutz	Larry Clark		Dexter Gentle	Kay Hanks
Worship Leader	Neva Beasley	Sandra Stephens		Joani Kerr	Tennent Lee
Reader	Hartwell Lutz	Tom Bell		Sandra Stephens	Judy Styles

#### The CARE Center Food Pick Up

April 2-8	Pat Burke
April 9-15	Joyce Clark
April 16-22	Joyce Clark
April 23-29	Kate Hosna
April 30-May 6	Kate Hosna

#### WAVE Team

Jane Rutledge  
Linda Wheeler  
Pam Worthington  
Neva Beasley  
the Lutzes

#### Centering Prayer leaders

April 3 Chris  
April 10 no meeting (Holy Week)  
April 17 Chris  
April 24 Debbie

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**Job Opening** in the Presbytery: First Presbyterian Church in Huntsville is seeking a Financial Assistant—the position is anticipated to be 20-25 hours/week. Preferred candidates would have experience in church accounting (knowledge of Church Windows is ideal) and would not be a member of OR related to a member of First-Huntsville. A full job description is on the bulletin board in the Big Cove Information Center. Interested candidates should contact Marshall Schreeder



## Contact list for Big Cove Presbyterian

*You may want to make a copy of this page for future reference*

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

**Pastor:** Rev. Candice Klein

**Church Administrative Assistant:** Mary Hooper

**Session Ruling Elders:** Kathy Barnhart, Debbie Book, Dexter Gentle, Bruce Harvey, Tennent Lee, Neva Beasley (Clerk)

**Deacons:** Clay Weir, Judy Styles

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

**Finance:** Sandra Stephens, Bruce Harvey, Diane Lee (Bookkeeper)

**Treasurer:** Kirk Finley

**Christian Exploration:**

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

**Children and Youth:** Kevin Wilson

**Congregational Care:** Deacons

**Nursery Contact:** Presley Birdsong

**Personnel:** Tennent Lee

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

**Planning Ministry Team:** Kathy Barnhart

**Outreach Team and Christmas Bazaar:** Vicki Waldrop, Debbie Book, Julie Loggins, Neva Beasley

**CARE Center:** Currently vacant

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

**Youth Contact:** Currently vacant

**Presbyterian Women:** Gail Birdsong

**Fourth Saturday Bible Study:** David Lilly

**Worship Team:** Linda Wheeler (chair), Debbie Book

**Church Website:** Jeff Stephens

**Church Facebook Page:** Julie Loggins, Mary Hooper

## **A few Pictures from the Installation Celebration & Worship March 26! (Thanks to Kate Hosna!)**



