



Big Cove News

September 2017

Big Cove Presbyterian Church (USA)

PASTOR
Candice Klein

September ELDER ON CALL
Dexter Gentle

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October Newsletter deadline is
September 25.

Harvey

I watched the same pictures you did as the waters surrounded Southeast Texas and especially Houston – an immense town I know well. They named neighborhoods and intersections I have traveled many times. I looked for faces of people I know, hoping not to recognize a loved one. I prayed as you did, for strangers – Hispanic, Black, Asian, White, elderly, infants, frightened children, pregnant women, family pets. There was nothing we could do. The horror continued, the rains would not stop. Even if we tried to go there, we couldn't get in. The floodwaters rose as Harvey sat unmoving overhead.

At first the water was just water. As days passed the water became dirty water. Snakes (also seeking high ground) and fire ants, debris, mud and bacteria now swirl around homes and parks, highways and cul-de-sacs. People living paycheck to paycheck are now out of money and the lucky ones are sleeping on cots – possibly for months to come.

The area was swarming with police and military. The entire Texas Guard was called out. Military from other states had come to help. Helicopters lifted people from rooftops. Air boats took families to safety. It wasn't enough. And then, it happened. A call went out for boats. *Anyone, anywhere with any kind of boat – please come and help.* They came. Rowboats and motor boats, kayaks and rubber floaters, flat bottom boats and racing boats. From Houston, from Clear Lake, from Conroe, from Bay City, Mission Bend, Rosenberg, Deer Park, Jersey Village, Channelview, and the Woodlands. Strangers helping strangers. Someone at home set up an emergency contact site on FaceBook because the 911 system was overloaded. Black men carried White babies to safety. Asians helped elderly Hispanics aboard. People who could still drive personal trucks took groceries and dry socks to shelters. Churches opened to house families and entertain small children. Pets were allowed inside.

God's people were everywhere. This is what ministry looks like. God's people bring light and hope.

The storm has now moved on. But it has left its ugly mark on Orange and Beaumont and moved into Louisiana. Let's continue to help them. I ask in selfishness, because I know many of them personally. But I make no apology for asking. And I thank you for all you will do.

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Lord, all around us the waters are rising.

I feel so helpless, for I cannot stop the rain from falling or the waters from rising.

I feel so powerless, for the current is strong and my body is tired.

I feel so empty, for our possessions are floating away or anchored in the muddy water.

Lord, all around us the waters are rising.

Grant me your strength, since mine is somewhere downstream.

Grant me your patience, since mine is drowning.

Grant me your perspective, since my loss is in replaceable things, not irreplaceable grace.

Give me eyes to see how precious your gifts are: family and friends, faith and mercy.

And Lord, when the waters rise around me in my spirit,

and my faith and hope are swept downstream,

help me to remember how you got me through this flood.

In Your Son's name. *Amen.*

– The Rev. John G. Hamilton

Peace,

Candice

“When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.”

- Isaiah 43:2

Your Session at Work

The Session met on August 29, 2017, and accomplished the following:

- Reviewed Membership Roll
- Discussed plans for Stewardship Drive
- Discussed planning for youth
- Approved contract with First Light Musician
- Set Congregation Information Meeting – September 10 at 4 pm
- Approved contributions for PDA – Texas Disaster Relief
- Discussed having more joint worship services
- Discussed additional possible Outreach projects
- Discussed need for planning youth program
- Received minutes of Lunch Meeting between Tennent Lee, Neva Beasley and Pastor Candice Klein
- Decided what needs to take place for Nominating Committee work to begin



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.

TRY SOMETHING NEW

Volunteers needed!

The schedule of worship leaders and volunteers for the 4th Quarter of 2017 is under construction. Ideally, it will be ready by the middle of September so that all the folks on it will know their responsibilities as of October 1, which is the first Sunday of the new quarter.

For various reasons, several people have asked to be removed from the regular rotation for several of these important positions, and we could REALLY USE some additional regular volunteers, especially in the lists of *worship leaders* for both services, people who can make *Power Point* slides for First Light, and people willing to *deliver the donations for the CARE Center*. It would be helpful to have more *hosts/hostesses* for First Light, as well.

***Please consider prayerfully whether you are being led to help in one of these positions!

If you have questions about the responsibilities of any of these positions, please ask the pastor or Linda Wheeler or Debbie Book from the Worship Ministry Team, ask someone you know who already volunteers for one of these positions, or call the church office.

If you are already a leader, thank you so much! And *****please send a list of those Sundays/weeks in October, November, or December when you will not be available*****, so that the schedule can reflect those dates as much as possible!

Thank you!!



There will be **another Bags of Blessings** setup day at **The CARE Center** on Wednesday, September 27 beginning at 8:30 a.m. Just show up if you can help! Contact Sharon Bell if you have questions.

Thanks to *many* Big Cove members, only 3 Sundays (1 in September and 2 in October) are left in 2017 on which *sanctuary flowers* have not been provided. Please see the flower calendar in the Information Center if you would like to provide flowers on one of these Sundays. Write a \$25 check (designated “Sanctuary Flowers”) to Big Cove Presbyterian and place it in the offering or the envelope beside the calendar. You may take the flowers home with you after the 11:00 service that Sunday.



Important Dates in September

- September 4:** Labor Day; church office closed
- September 10:** Christian Exploration gatherings for all ages resume
(between worship services—about 10:00)
- September 10:** Information meeting with the congregation 4:00
- September 11:** Presbyterian Women 10:00
- September 19:** Worship Ministry Team meeting 5:30 p.m.
- September 23:** Saturday Bible Time 9:30
- September 25:** Deadline for October newsletter info
- September 27:** Bags of Blessings Set-up CARE Center 8:30 a.m.
- September 26:** Session Meeting 6:00 p.m.

Regularly Scheduled Events

- Weekly:** Sunday Worship: First Light 9:00, Traditional Service 11:00
Sunday Christian Exploration between worship services (about 9:45)
(will resume September 10)
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.
Current Conversations: Wednesday 6:00 p.m.
Choir Rehearsal: Wednesday 7:00 p.m.
Church office hours: Monday through Thursday 9:00-2:00
Pastor's Office Hours: Monday & Tuesday 9:00-12:00
Wednesday 3:00-6:00 (And other times by appointment)
- Monthly:** Worship Ministry Team Meeting: 3rd Tuesday at 5:30
Saturday Bible Time: 4th Saturday each month 9:30

FINANCIAL CORNER

July 2017 REPORT

Receipts:	\$13,053.00
Operation Expenses:	\$13,234.74
Donations to The Children's Home:	\$ 66.00

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

Celebrations for Big Cove Friends in September



Happy September Birthday!

September 7-Emily Worthington Lambert	September 19-Dallas Ferneau
September 8-Edith Cropp	September 23-Don Copeland
September 14-Kendall Selvage	September 24-Joseph Harris
September 16-Sophie Hosna	September 25 Connie Wilson
September 17-Elizabeth Butz	September 28-Larry Clark

Happy September Anniversary!

September 13- Dexter & Kay Gen



Worship Leaders for September

First Light 9:00 a.m.

	<u>September 3</u>	<u>September 10</u>	<u>September 17</u>	<u>September 24</u>
Greeter	AlainaHarvey	Nicole Harris	Savanna Harris	Collin Jones
Host/hostess	Melinda Harvey	Debbie Book	Nicole Harris	Michelle Jones
Worship Leader	Dallas Ferneau	Debbie Book	Don Barnhart	Linda Wheeler
Power Point	The Harveys	Ron Jones	Tennent Lee	Vicki Waldrop

11:00 a.m.

	<u>September 3</u>	<u>September 10</u>	<u>September 17</u>	<u>September 24</u>
Usher	Pat Lutz	Gary Bass	Larry Clark	Dexter Gentle
Worship Leader	Neva Beasley	Joani Kerr	Tennent Lee	Sandra Stephens
Reader	Neva Beasley	Gail Birdsong	Larry Clark	Joani Kerr

	<u>CARE Center Donations Pick Up</u>	<u>WAVE Team</u>
September 3-9	Kate Hosna	Linda Wheeler
September 10-16	Kate Hosna	Pam Worthington
September 17-23	Gary Bass	Neva Beasley
September 24-29	Gary Bass	the Lutzes

Contact Debbie Book about Centering Prayer dates and leaders.

Contact list for Big Cove Presbyterian

E-mail addresses & 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, Julie Loggins, 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: Sandra Stephens

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: Debbie Book, Vicki Waldrop, 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, Julie Loggins

Church Facebook Pages and Social Media: Julie Loggins, Mary Hooper