

The Scroll

February 2024 Vol. 186 No. 2



Bishopville Presbyterian Church

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Printed materials available, upon request, through office
Please contact office to make any corrections/changes
to your and/or your family's records

SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.
Coffee Time - 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship Service - 11:00 a.m.
Bible Study, in Session room: 4:30 p.m.

Business Office Hours

9:00 am - 5:00 pm (Monday - Wednesday)
Unless otherwise noted

Adult Choir Practice

Thursday's @ 4:00 p.m.

Key Officers and Staff

Clerk: Gregg McCutchen III / Reese Atkinson, Asst.
Treasurer: Ray Drayton / Billy Clyburn, Asst.
Office Manager: Gwen Hayden Steinmeyer
Choir Dir. Bo Dickinson / Louise McCutchen, Asst.
Pastor: Rev. Christopher Parnell

February

2024

From the Pastor's Desk... "What does it mean that God is sovereign?"

There I am, just the other Friday evening, and my phone buzzes. It's a text from my middle daughter, off at college, asking me that very question - not just as her dad, but also as her pastor. So how did I respond?

It's really interesting to me, the word the New Testament translates into either the noun or adjective "sovereign". Just look at Acts 4:24, where the persecuted church prays to "the Sovereign Lord, maker of heaven and earth", and 1 Timothy 6:15, where the persecuted Apostle blesses his successor according to the "blessed and only Sovereign, King of kings, Lord of lords", or finally at Revelation 6:10, where the persecuted saints in heaven cry out, "O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long, how long...?"

See a pattern? Persecuted people lean into the idea that God is sovereign. But what is this word that can be translated as a noun or adjective as "sovereign"? Where does it come from, what does it mean, and what version of this word has been "shoved into" English, like so many deep & nearly incomprehensible Greek words or ideas in the New Testament have been (like prophet or baptize or martyr)?

That last one is the easiest to answer - because the root word Luke records in Acts, Paul writes in 1 Timothy, and John hears in heaven is the word that gets pushed into English as "dynasty." (If you're curious, the Greek word looks like this: *dunasthV*). It comes from the root word from which we get the English words "dynamic" and "dynamite" or "dynamo". It literally means active or applied power. Okay... So now think about this: What does it mean that God is dynamic?

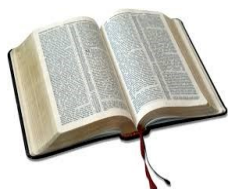
What does it mean that God is the One who has active, applied power - especially to the persecuted Church? It all boils down to this: God's sovereignty means that God is the One who makes things happen. That's why I told my daughter that one of the best ways to understand God's sovereignty was to read through the book of Romans, especially chapters 7 & 8. While Paul doesn't use the word "sovereign," just listen to what he says:

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin. There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus! For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do, by sending his own Son. (Romans 7:21-8:3a, ESV)

In other words, God is the One who makes things happen - and specifically, for Paul, for you for me, God is the One who makes us saved from sin, saved from condemnation, saved from our own inability to keep ourselves saved, saved from our own shame and doubt, thanks be to God! God is the One who makes things happen, no matter what, and so Jesus can declare his Church is built on a foundation that even every power in Hell or on Earth can shake. Why not? Because God is Sovereign - God is the One who makes things happen.

It's for this reason the persecuted saints of old and the persecuted saints today all look to that aspect of God's nature, his sovereignty. They can't fix their situation, they can't avenge their own deaths or right their own failures; but God can. That's what it means that God is sovereign - and that's why I love that fact about him.

For my daughter, I hope this has been helpful; for the rest of you, I pray that it helps you, too. God bless you! Pastor Chris



February Sunday Sermons

4th:	A Difficult Question	Mark 12:28-34
11th:	The Widow's Mite	Mark 12:41-44
18th:	Signs of the Times (part 1)	Mark 13:3-13
25th:	Signs of the Times (part 2)	Mark 13:14-29

NEWS FROM THE SESSION...

The Session met Jan. 14th @ 8:30 am.

Keith Hyman joined our meeting. He affirmed his belief in God and was received into Church membership by Re-Affirmation of Faith.

Elder, Eddie Boykin gave our opening prayer & devotional.

Elders, Cindy Welsh & Wendy Welch said we would have a Valentine Luncheon after Church on February 11th, hosted by our Kids for Christ.

Bethlehem UMC invites all to their Ash service & Lent lunch on Wednesday, Feb. 14th @ 12 pm

We had our annual Congregational meeting on January 28th and the 2023 Statistical reports were received, as info, and we approved the 2024 Pastor's Term's of Call & the 2024 Budget.

We are planning on the parking lot project to begin in late March.

If the Session or I can help you in anyway, please call the Church office or my cell 803.229.5307.

Love in Christ, Gregg McCutchen III,
Clerk of Session

Next Session meeting: February 11th @ 8:30 am

FEBRUARY ELDERS-ON-CALL
 *Renee Bell & Cindy Welsh
 *denotes Session devotional responsibilities

January 2024 Statistics	
Attendance Average's	
Worship: 48	Sunday School: 18
<u>Budgeted Income & Expenses (operating)</u>	
MTD Income received:	\$14,008.55
YTD Income received:	\$14,008.55
Budgeted YTD Income Needed:	\$17,113.00
MTD Expenses disbursed:	\$13,307.52
YTD Expenses disbursed:	\$13,307.52
Budgeted YTD Expenses:	\$13,999.00
<u>Un budgeted Income & Expenses</u>	
(Cemetery, Building, Parking Lot Funds)	
MTD Income received:	\$1,545.00
YTD Income received:	\$1,545.00
MTD Expenses disbursed:	\$12.66
YTD Expenses disbursed:	\$12.66

PW Circle: Monday, Feb. 19th @ 7 pm
Host: Jennifer McCutchen

Men of Church: Wednesday, Feb. 21st @ 7 pm
Host: John Henry & Jimmy McCutchen

Our HOMEBOUND Members

Doris Bell, Memory Care Manor, Florence
 BJ Kerr @ McCoy Nursing Center
 Beth McCutchen @ her home
 Boochie Swearingen @ Wellmore, Tega Cay
 Hugh Tindal @ his home
 William Watkins @ home of Geri Cutler

SANCTUARY FLOWER CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 2024

- 4th: Jim Ed & MaBeth McCutchen
- 11th: Family of Iris Thomas
- 18th: Ann & English Cooper
- 25th: Renee & Crues Bell

MARCH 2024

- 3rd: Jimmy & Marsha McCutchen
- 10th: Jim & Barbara Latimer
- 17th: Louise McCutchen
- 24th: Kerry & Steven Frazier
- 31st: Lian Latimer

APRIL 2024

- 7th: Carol Latimer Finethy
- 14th: Retta & Hugh Tindal
- 21st: Renee & Crues Bell
- 28th: Family of Sarah McCutchen



MAY 2024

- 5th: Kathryn Welch
- 12th: Lila Mae Welsh Family
- 19th: Jim Ed & MaBeth McCutchen
- 26th: Marsha & Jimmy McCutchen

JUNE 2024

- 2nd: William Welsh Family
- 9th: Dot & Buddy Wilson Family
- 16th: Crues & Renee Bell
- 23rd: Gregg McCutchen III

JULY 2024

- 7th: Virginia & Charlie Ipock
- 14th: Henry & Harriett Watson Family
- 21st: William & Pat Monroe Fields
- 28th: Reese & Melinda Atkinson

AUGUST 2024

- 4th: Bert Cousar
- 11th: Debbie & Bill Tindal
- 18th: Bill Welsh Family
- 25th: OPEN

Please contact the Church Business Office (preferably by email) to change a date or to be added/removed from the running Flower Calendar



We are currently accepting donations to have our parking lots paved. Please note "parking lot" on all gifts
Thanks in advance for your support!



Bible Study
Sunday's @ 4:30 p.m.
in the Session Room
All are invited to attend

FROM CHURCH BUSINESS OFFICE
Email & Postal mail, is checked and acted on, daily as applicable. Please mail donations to:
Bishopville PC @ POB 66
Bishopville, SC 29010

NOTE: Post Office returns all mail sent to street address

OFFICE HOURS **Business Office Hours**
Monday - Wednesday
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Unless otherwise noted

2024 Business Office vacation/holiday closings:

- March 27th
- May 14th - 21st & May 27th
- July 3rd
- August 27th - September 2nd
- October 8th - 14th
- November 26th & 27th
- December 24th, 25th & 31st

Please contact office to update your records (pref. by email) or to be added or removed from any calendars



Lent Begins
Ash Wednesday

Community Ash Wednesday Service & Lenten Lunch
Wednesday, February 14th

12:00 pm

Bethlehem United Methodist Church, hosting

BPC will host the last lunch on March 20th

Happy Birthday February March

Kayla McCutchen	1	Bo Simon	2
Hampton Gaskins	15	Louise McCutchen	3
Martha Kay Hunt	15	Carol Latimer Finethy	4
Benny Welch III	15	Emmett Kerr	5
Patrick Finethy	17	Katie Ellen	7
Laura Parnell	19	Bill Gaskins	8
Bubba Muldrow	20	William Corbett	9
Myers Varn Floyd	21	Isabelle Tindal Bailey	10
Shirley Wallace	28	Lena McCutchen	10
		Meredith Gaskins	12
		Emmie McCutchen	19
		English Cooper	20
		Tyson Eckley	22
		Jane Huggins	26
		Stella Lynch	27
		Peyton Welch	27
		Carl Frazier	29
		Cindy Welsh	29
		Bill Tindal, Jr.	30
		Lian Latimer	31



The Kids for Christ will furnish a Valentine Luncheon after Church on Sunday, February 11th
Everyone is invited

~ In Memoriam ~
Richard Perry "Dick" McCutchen
10/30/1938 - 01/19/2024

The McCutchen family thanks everyone for all your past & present prayers and they covet your continued prayers



**Presbyterian Women
RADA fundraiser
for Ministry & Missions**

You can order through our website, Facebook page, or the unique link below to help support them year round
<https://radafundraising.com/?rfsn=1838016.df3fba>



Volunteers Needed in Nursery
Please help, on a rotation schedule, so everyone gets a chance to enjoy the worship service on Sunday mornings

Sunday School Teachers Needed!!!

Please contact Chris if you are willing to teach, on a rotating schedule



“Blessing Box” Ministry

These boxes are stocked/maintained with food, necessities, Quarterly Daily Breads, and Bibles. The boxes have been placed throughout our community and our children are stocking, maintaining, and updating the Church about the progress.

Collection dates: 1st Sunday of each month.

Items needed: Water & non-perishable (healthy, low sodium & low-fat) foods & drinks. All cash will help purchase needed items. Please note Blessing box on gifts

Jewish Voice Coin Collection



Thanks to your support, Jewish Voice was able to help meet people's basic need for dental services in war-torn Ukraine. Your generosity shares the hope of Yeshua (Jesus) while providing tangible help to meet real needs – sometimes in desperate situations, like Ukraine. Coin banks are in the Bell Tower room and you can pick up and drop off any time of the year, in the office. **Thanks to everyone who participates!**

Next Coin Collection Date: May 12, 2024 ... Small change creates BIG change!

All 5th Sunday loose offerings will be placed into the Kids for Christ Mission Fund. Please note “Kids4Christ” on all gifts outside this timeframe. Please make checks payable to BPC. If it is for a specific need or project, please indicate the need on your check or correspondence. Thanks for supporting our Children and helping them make wise life choices & caring for others, especially those in need or less fortunate. **2024 collection dates: March 31st, June 30th, September 29th, December 29th**



Mayesville Presbyterian Church invites everyone to their upcoming piano recital by Anna Bogolubova on Sunday, February 4th @ 4:00 p.m. The concert is part of the Church’s Rejoicings Series. Anna is one of Ukraine’s leading concert pianists. She has won 1st prize in multiple international piano competitions and has performed solo concerts worldwide. Mayesville PC is located at 109 W. Sumter Street in Mayesville, SC