

# Beckley Disciples News

September/October 2020

A Global Mission Church

## Gone Fishin'

Fall usually ushers in a busy time in the life of our church. Even though the dreariness of the season approaches, opportunity abounds for us to share the One who is the "light of life." Unfortunately, COVID-19 continues to rear its ugly head and most of our planned activities have already been canceled or severely altered.

This does not mean, though, that the church should be at rest. Our life together begins in worship. Whether you join us for the streaming service at 9:00 or in the sanctuary at 10:45 I would encourage and challenge you to be with us. This is a spiritual discipline that will reap rewards throughout the coming week.

Choosing to support one of our outreach ministries provides the opportunity to plant and water Gospel seeds in the lives of those whom we meet. Whether with a food bag, a coat, or helping through the benevolence fund,

we are sharing Christ's love with a neighbor in need. Your gifts to these ministries enable us to do this work.

If you are looking for daily encouragement in your faith there are also opportunities. Each day on the church's Facebook page there are daily scripture readings, a prayer, and a thought from a noted church leader. Take a few moments to complete the readings for the day, and let your heart be free as you pray.

The website also contains a daily devotion for you to read. The text is at the heading of the page, followed by some thoughts on it, as well as applications for us today. Just visit [beckleydisciples.org](http://beckleydisciples.org), and enjoy God's Word.

Finally, there is a Bible Study group on our Facebook page. Each Wednesday a fresh passage is posted with some



thoughts on the passage and points for you to ponder. You are encouraged to respond, because this can be an interactive group.

Even in our cloistered culture, it is still possible to exercise our faith so that it will grow, and bear fruit for he Master.

Faithfully,  
DRS

## Operation Christmas Child

While we live in a world of uncertainty, that is not true of our faith. The Babe of Bethlehem was born to the accolades of angels, shepherds and magi. Our participation in Operation Christmas Child joins us in the praise of God's gift of a Savior Lord. Beginning October 4, and continuing through November 1, we will be collecting shoebox materials for children of various ages. Obviously, we do not have bulletins at this time, so we will have posters throughout the building with the "have's" and "have not's," particularly pay close attention to the latter. If you would prefer to make a monetary donation, we will gladly accept that and shop on your behalf. We have money for the shipping this year, so we ask that everyone use their contributions to help fill as many boxes as possible. We have been able, the past few years to fill and ship at least 50 shoeboxes, so that will be our goal once again in 2020. There will be boxes for your donations in the narthex and on the stage in the Fellowship Hall. If you have any questions, please see Tammy.



## Outreach Endeavors

First, a big thank you to everyone who came and contributed during our "Day without Pancakes." My colleagues from Mabscott Elementary School did an outstanding job in sharing in the life of our children, their needs, and how our church has helped meet some of those needs.

Second, I was overwhelmed to hear that we had over \$600 donated this year to help with various school supplies. Plus, we received numerous school supplies for backpacks. I am grateful for your generosity, and I know the children will be blessed by our efforts. Of

course this school year is going to be different and filled with difficulties, so please be in prayer for the entire school system.

There is not going to be the traditional Kid's Classic this year in uptown Beckley. Instead, there will be a drive through event at New River Park, with a variety of giveaways and entertainment for the children and their family. That evening there will be additional activities at the Convention Center.

Our next big outreach project will be Operation Christmas



Child, which is detailed elsewhere. Hopefully, we will be able to resume Children's Church soon. In the meantime, please stay safe.

*Tammy*

## Celebrating Faith

Our church has been blessed by a generous donation from the Knuckles family of a Kawai electronic piano. This is a beautiful instrument, and it has become the centerpiece for our Sunday morning music ministry. I hope everyone enjoys it as much as the staff has. We are planning a service of dedication/recital for sometime in the near future.

I appreciate Christina Crouch sharing her musical talents throughout the summer with us.

She is a welcome addition to Sunday morning, and we are grateful for her willingness to share her gifts.

Right now choir is on hold. Don and I are having discussions as to how to proceed, and hope to have a workable plan sometime in September. For now we are asking worshiping in the sanctuary to enjoy the music provided by Becky and myself, and to join in if so inspired.



Finally, if you are not comfortable being in sanctuary worship, don't forget we stream worship at 9:00 a.m. each Sunday morning from the chapel.

*Yvonne*

## Reconciliation Offering

Over the past several months we have witnessed the need for reconciliation in our country. Violence, hate and indifference toward both have run rampant. As a people called to embrace love and sow peace, it is up to us to make a difference.

The Reconciliation Offering (received September 27 & October 4) goes to support the pro-reconciliation, anti-racism efforts

of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Half of these monies are returned to our Region for the efforts we undertake locally.

We will have a Minute-for-Mission to help interpret the work of this ministry. Since we don't have a bulletin, must mark your gifts "Reconciliation," and place them in one of the offering



plates near the sanctuary.

Our goal for this year is \$300, and together we can make a bold statement of reconciliation through our efforts.

# News for the Pews

## Change for Life

We are desperately in need of the loose change you have in your pockets or on your tables at home. Due to need, the Benevolent fund is out of money, and this is the chief means by which we replenish it. Please come on September 6 & October 4 with your extra gifts, so that we can resume helping neighbors in need.

## Office Notes

The church office will be closed on Monday, September 7, for the Labor Day holiday. Don will be available on his cell phone that day. The office will reopen on the 8th. With Don's retirement, we have begun a time of transition in the office. Barbara Adkins is going to assume Nancy Snyder's duties as office assistant. They will be working together for a few weeks, and then Barbara will take over. For the time being, office hours will remain as the are: Monday (9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.), Tuesday & Friday (9:00 a.m.—1:30 p.m.)

## Disciples Women

As with many other activities, the Disciples Women fall retreat has been canceled for this year. In its place a virtual event is scheduled for September 13, 6:00—7:00 p.m. Please email Jennifer Allen (jrheaallen@yahoo.com) and she will provide the login information for you to participate in this meeting. If you have any questions, please reach out to her, or call the church office.

## Sunday Morning Activities

We have decided that we will continue not having either Sunday school or Children's Church. We had set the beginning of school as the time for resuming. However, there is still uncertainty about how practical close gatherings are.

Please participate in the Facebook Group Bible study, use the Daily Scripture readings, prayer and thought for the day posted each day on that Page, or use the daily devotion on the website to help with your spiritual disciples during this time

## Cabinet Meeting

The Cabinet will have its annual budget meeting on Monday, September 21, in the Anchor classroom. We will be practicing social distancing, and ask that those attending please wear a mask. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. Department heads are reminded to have their requests to Don by the 18th, so that he can prepare the worksheet. We will also be discussing a stewardship campaign for October. We need all department heads to be in attendance for this important meeting.

## Coat Ministry

Normally during the month of October we ask members to donate gently used winter coats for our annual coat distribution in November. As with so many activities COVID has caused us to make some significant changes to this ministry. If you would like to donate coats, we won't discourage you. However, throughout this year we have been blessed. We are not planning our three-day distribution in November at this point. Instead, we will distribute coats as we receive requests from individuals via the church office. If conditions improve dramatically this will decision will be evaluated. However, for now we feel it is in the best interest of the staff, volunteers and clients to handle distribution in this manner.

## Update

The Pulpit Committee hosted a candidate for interim minister on August 29 & 30. The candi-



date visited the parsonage and spoke with Don and Nancy; was led on a driving tour of the Beckley area; and, toured the church, delivered the morning sermon and held a question and answer session with the congregation. The Committee will continue to work and report on its efforts.

*John File*, chair.

## A Time of Remembrance

This year All Saints Day (November 1) falls on a Sunday. We will take time during the Sunday morning worship in the sanctuary to remember those of our members who have joined that "great cloud of witnesses." While we do our best to keep up with this, if you know of members who have died, particularly those living out of town, do not hesitate to send information to the church office.

## Scholarship Recipients

We are pleased to announce the recipients of this year's Addie Lanier File Scholarship. Kristie Korczyk is a student in the veterinarian medicine program at Oklahoma State University. Abigail (Snyder) Newman is a student at Wytheville Community College/Old Dominion University, pursuing a degree in nursing. Garrett Runion is a student at West Virginia Tech University, and he is pursuing his degree in nursing. Thank you to the File family for establishing the scholarship, and congratulations to this year's recipients.

**First Christian Church**  
*(Disciples of Christ)*

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**Church Staff:**

Donald R. Snyder, Senior Minister  
Tammy Runion, Director of Outreach  
and Education  
Yvonne Seay, Director of Worship  
Becky Leach, Organist  
Nancy Snyder, Office Assistant  
Barbara Adkins, Bookkeeper  
Angelo Martin, Custodian

**Sermon Scriptures**

September 6	John 6: 66-69
September 13	Jeremiah 29: 11-12
September 20	Zechariah 4: 6-7
September 27	2 Chronicles 7:14
October 4	1 Thessalonians 1: 3-5
October 11	Hebrews 11: 1-3, 6
October 18	1 Peter 1: 3-4
October 25	1 Corinthians 13: 13-14

**Serving in September**

**Lead Usher:** John File

**Outside Communion:** John File

**In the Hospital**

Casey Baber, Michal & Elizabeth Meadows,  
Alicia Terry

**Prayer Concerns**

Casey Baber, Carolyn Bailey, Susan Bailey Hoskyns, Jayne Chafin, Taylor Dacal, Woody & Patty Dacal, Jane Flowers, Pat Freeman, Kevin & Susan Fry, Amy Herrenkohl, Nancy Kittle, Yvonne Leach, Betty McClung, Derek Ross, Jim & Pat Trader, Wayne & Gloria Tucker, Kevin Winfree.

**In the heart of Beckley, with a heart for the Gospel.**