

# The Good News of...

# January 2020



# Brandon Christian Church



I have a minister friend who writes lovely poetry and every Christmas he sends a wonderful poem inside his Christmas card. This is one from many years ago. I have used it before, but as I was re-reading it the other day, I thought—this is a great way to begin a new decade—to begin 2020—with the Word! I hope you receive much from it as I did. Read it through slowly and allow it to linger in your thoughts.

### This I Believe...

I believe in The Word...the Gospel of Salvation of Jesus Christ  
the words of the angel to Joseph,  
the words of the angels to the shepherds,

the words of the angel at the Tomb.

...I believe the Word became Flesh...the Immanuel

...the words of the prophet Isaiah "...they will call him Immanuel."

...the words of the Baptizer, "...the kingdom of heaven is near."

...the words of the Lord, "I am going to the Father."

I believe in the Word Incarnate...the Savior

...the words of Promise, "I am with you always, even to the end of time,"

...the words of Hope, "I do not leave you as orphans..."

...the words of Consolation, "Peace I leave with you..."

I believe in the Words Eternal...the Messiah  
"...I am the Resurrection and the Life..."

"I have come that you may have abundant life."

"...you will be with me in paradise."

May the Word bring you Peace... -by Jerry Griffin



The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you; The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, And give you peace.

Happy New Year

Our ever-present, ever-faithful, ever-loving and gracious God is busy working among us. I sense the Spirit of God rising up to lead us forward through an exciting and uplifting 2020! I believe we are in for a year of building up! I pray you will come along too!

Happy New Year Loved Ones. See you Sunday!

**Rev Day**



## Church Staff

Senior Minister— - Rev. Day Broers-Case

Director of Music— - Rick Barclay

Admin. Asst.— - Jamie Butterweck

910 Bryan Road, Brandon, FL 33511

813-689-4021

Office Hours: Monday—Thursday

9:00 am—1:00 pm

[brandonchristianchurch@gmail.com](mailto:brandonchristianchurch@gmail.com)



## EQUAL EXCHANGE FAIR TRADE GOODS

Take a look at the assortment on the rolling cart during Fellowship. From hot cocoa to candy bars and chocolate chips to various kinds of coffee, there is lots to enjoy. And it's all Equal Exchange...which means that farmers in developing countries



such as El Salvador and Mexico can be assured Fair Trade for their products.

## Meals on Wheels

### Did you Know....???

Brandon Christian Church has been serving Meals on Wheels of Greater Brandon since 2002. Along with 16 other area churches, we help provide five (5) meals per week to over 200 recipients.



Recipients are asked to pay \$2.50 per meal, but no one is denied a meal if they do not pay. All payments and additional donations are reimbursed to the participating churches. While these reimbursements, along with occasional other donations, are the sole funding source for this ministry (it is not supported by the annual budget), the dedication of both church members and some non-members utilize our facilities to provide this service to our community.

### FEEDING TAMPA BAY

Volunteers are helping at the Publix Community Market from 11:30am to 3:30pm the final Monday of every month. During Mission Week, several BCC volunteers enjoyed their time helping with this ministry, and it was decided that we would continue. Some folks meet at the church and carpool to the location at 4702 Transport Drive, Bldg. 6, Tampa, and others meet the group on-site. It mostly involves helping people select food items and carry them to their car or other transportation. If you would like to volunteer, the next date is **Mon, Jan 27th**. Contact Steve Blinder at (813) 514-3815

### Things to Know for January

- |                                     |                            |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Jan 1—Office Closed—Happy New Year! | Jan 19—SWIFT               |
| Jan 5—Rev. Day Back                 | Jan 20—Office Closed (MLK) |
| Jan 6—Epiphany                      | Jan 21—Mission Wk Mtg.     |
| Jan 10—Food for Tht.                | Jan 26—Fam. Promise Start  |
| Jan 12—Celebrate Lisa P.            | Jan 27—Feeding Tampa Bay   |

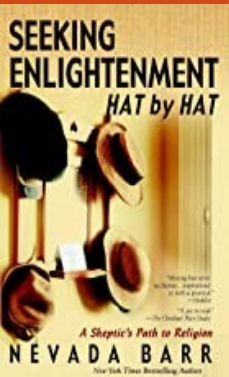
### Fellowship Hosts

Jan—Joy Care Team will be the hosts for the month

### Christian Book Discussion

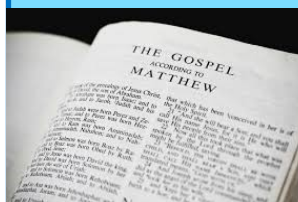
See pg 5 for the year

The Book Discussion Group will be meeting on January 12th at 2:00 in Room 1 of the Education Wing. January's discussion will be on "Seeking Enlightenment...Hat by Hat: A Skeptic's Path to Religion" by Nevada Barr. From the back cover: "Seeking Enlightenment...Hat by Hat is the beguiling story of her journey from arrogance and atheism toward humility and a sense of being part of something greater than herself. Hat by hat, step by step, Barr leads readers down her path to enlightenment by sharing personal episodes, some of them funny and revealing, others painfully honest. Each chapter offers a truth or an answer forged through experience and deep reflection, and a nugget of insight certain to encourage thought and discussion among readers, who may, in turn, find their own spiritual language."



### Bible Study—Matthew:

Steve Blinder will be leading a study and discussion on the Gospel of Matthew. All are welcome, so mark your calendars and join Steve for an 8 week exploration of Matthew's gospel!



- There will be two sessions each week, one on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 8:00, and again on Thursday afternoons from 1:00 to 2:30. The schedule is as follows:
- |   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| Jan 22—6:30 to 8:00 and Jan 23—1:00 to 2:30 |                 |
| Feb 5 and Feb 6                             |                 |
| Feb 12 and 13                               | March 4 and 5   |
| Feb 19 and 20                               | March 11 and 12 |
| Feb 26 and 27                               | March 18 and 19 |



# SWIFT



*(Single Women in Fellowship Together)*

*SWIFT will meet on Sun, Jan 19, after church services, location TBD. (Stay tuned to Flock Talk for updates)*

*All single women are invited to come sharing a meal and fellowship together!*

For more information, contact Betty at 813-404-9393 or [bdawson@dawsoncrew.com](mailto:bdawson@dawsoncrew.com)

FINANCE MEETING—THURS, JAN 9  
7:00PM, **ROOM #2**

ELDERS' MEETING—SUN, JAN 12  
12:30PM, **ROOM #2**

BOARD MEETING—SUN, JAN 19  
5PM—**ROOM #2**

In essentials, unity. In non-essentials, liberty.  
In all things, love!



## Birthdays!

- Jan 1—Brielle Griffin
- Jan 5—Don Sherman
- Jan 6—Jeff Failes
- Nancy Riensche
- Caitlin Witherow
- Jan 17—Cindy Sears
- Susan Paulson
- Jan 28—Diane Garthwaite

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No Anniversaries



Food For Thought will be meeting on Fri, Jan 10th, 11:00 am at the Latin Grill, 3338 John Moore Rd, Brandon. The topic is yet to be determined...stay tuned to Flock Talk for more information!



Family Promise will be returning to BCC from January 26 through Feb 1, 2020! This will mark a milestone as Family Promise of Hillsborough County will be graduating their 50th!! family when this session is completed.

As usual, Family Promise will take precedence over all other activities, and the calendar has been updated to show the activities that have been cancelled with a strike-through marking over them.

BCC is grateful to be one of 13 host congregations to take part in the program. Host Congregations provide a safe sleeping area, hot dinner, bag lunch, and a continental style breakfast each morning; additionally hosts spend the night with the family to provide support.

Family Promise of Hillsborough County seeks to “help homeless and low-income families achieve sustainable independence through a community-based response.

If you are interested in helping please see Sue B.

## Florida Disciples Camps and Retreats for 2020

- |                                 |                                     |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Jan 17-20 ACE Retreat           | June 21-26 Midway Camp              |
| Jan 18-20 Young Adult Retreat   | Jun 28-Jul 3 Junior Camp            |
| Jan 18-20 Winter Family Camp    | Jul 5-11 Spiritual Arts Camp        |
| May 23-25 Summer Family Camp    | Jul 12-17 MS Outdoor Adventure Camp |
| May 23-25 Young Adult Retreat   | Jul 17-19 Uno Camp                  |
| June 7-13 HS Canoe Camp         |                                     |
| June 14-19 Elem Equestrian Camp |                                     |

# Thank you, Sunday Servers



## LITURGISTS (Rev. Day)

January 5 Lonnie Drayer  
 January 12 Linda Sherman  
 January 19 Mary Ann Goodrum-Booth  
 January 26 Dave Whitfield

## ELDERS (Jo/Don)

	<u>BREAD</u>	<u>CUP</u>
January 5	Cammie D.	Steve B.
January 12	Don S.	Brian S.
January 19	Britt F.	Diane G.
January 26	Don S.	Brian S.

## GREETER(S) (Don)

January 5 Sue & Steve Benitez  
 January 12 Witherow Family  
 January 19 (MLK BDay Wknd) The Powells  
 January 26 Smith Family

## DEACONS (Scott/Ron)

Jan 5 Open/Close: Tim Smith  
 Communion Prep: Paula Smith  
 Serving: Steve B., Robyn D., Morgan D., Paula S.

Jan 12 Open/Close: Steve Benitez  
 Communion Prep: Robyn DiGregorio  
 Serving: Rex C., Paula S., Steve B., Robyn D.

Jan 19 Open/Close: Rex Chivers  
 Communion Prep: Karen Whitfield  
 Serving: Tim S., Paula S., Morgan D., Karen W.

Jan 26 Open/Close: Tim Smith  
 Communion Prep: Paula Smith  
 Serving: Steve B., Robyn D., Morgan D., Paula S.

## NURSERY (Linda)

January 5th Linda/TBA  
 January 12th Karlita K./Karen W.  
 January 19th Jo and Dan Henkel  
 January 26th Lucy B./Linda S

## COUNTERS (Jo/Don)

January 5 Cammie D./Betty D.  
 January 12 Sue B./Brian S.  
 January 19 Jo H./Britt F.  
 January 26 Jo H./Steve B.

## WORSHIP AND WONDER (Diane)

January 5 Diane G./Andrea M.  
 January 12 Diane G./Andrea M.  
 January 19 Don S./Amy W.  
 January 26 Diane G./Andrea M.





## Christian Book Discussion

Here are the books for the year:

Jan 12—Seeking Enlightenment Hat by Hat; Nevada Barr (1 ebook, 1 reg print, 1 lg print)

Feb 9—Eighteen Acres; Nicole Wallace (3 books, ebook downloadable, used \$6)

March 8—Here We Are—American Dreams, American Nightmares; Aarti Namedev Shahani(3 books, 1 ebook, used \$5)

April and May—No discussions (Easter and Mothers Day)

June 14—The All-Girls Filling Station’s Last Reunion; Fannie Flagg (Lots of books, CDs, and large print—used \$9)

July 12—Sometimes Amazing Things Happen; Elizabeth Ford (1 book, used \$7-\$15)

Aug 9—The Fever Tree; Jennifer McVeigh (books, CDs, and downloads—used \$2-\$6)

Sept 13—The Giver of Stars; Jojo Mayes (**Holds**, lots of books, still expensive online \$10-\$15)

Oct 11—Mere Christianity; C.S. Lewis (8 Books reg and lg print, used &2-\$6)

Nov 8—Where the Crawdads Sing; Delia Owens (**Holds**; lots of books, download, online \$12-\$15)

Dec 13—The Blue Bottle Club; Penelope J. Stokes (1 reg, 1 lg print, used \$6)

## Worship and Wonder

On Sunday, January 19, we will have a Worship and Wonder workshop immediately following fellowship time. This workshop is for anyone who is interested in learning more about the Worship and Wonder program. It is also a review for those of us who have been working with the program.

A light lunch will be provided for those in attendance. Please let Diane Garthwaite know if you will be attending so we will be sure to have enough food.

Thanks!

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garthdi72@gmail.com

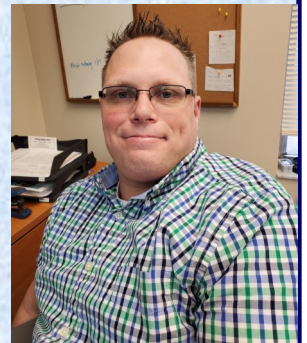
## Meet Our New Admin Assistant

Jamie Butterweck joined the staff at Brandon Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in December of 2019. Born in PA and raised mostly in NH, he and his family moved to Florida rather recently.

A lifelong member of the UCC, he has been an active participant in church outreach and programs most of his life. Jamie has a heart for social justice, with a keen interest in helping those less fortunate and supporting civil rights.

It was through a shared passion for helping others that Jamie met his husband Chris in 2013 when they were both volunteering at a weekly outreach program. They were married in September of 2018, and moved to Bloomingdale in May of 2019 where they live with their 2 cats, Zoe and Merle, and their dog Brady.

Jamie believes we are all called to live life as Christ taught—to love God with all of our hearts and souls and minds, and to love our neighbor as ourselves. He is excited to be joining the staff at such a wonderful and dynamic church, and looks forward to getting to know you all!



## Celebrating Lisa Peterson:

All are welcome to join us for a special time of fellowship to thank Lisa and celebrate her time as Admin Assistant. We have been blessed by her smile, her warmth, her work ethic, and her love of God and all of God’s creation. Lisa is stepping down to spoil her grandchildren full time. She will be missed in the office, so please join us in wishing her the best in her new role!



## **Sunday School Survey**

**December, 2019**

Sunday School, Faith Groups, Bible Studies, Book Studies — whatever you call our spiritual learning experiences — are so essential to our lives in Christian community! That is why we are charged up and renewed for living and serving in a Christian way. Check your attitude, could it use an adjustment? Would you like to feel closer to God? Would you like to hear God more clearly? If so, what is keeping you from joining one of these groups?

We offer Sunday morning classes for children and adults. Currently, the time is 9:30-10:30.

Bible study or book study is Wednesday evening, 6:30-8:00 and Thursday afternoon, 12:30-2:00

**If these groups and times do not work for you, what would? Please let us know your ideas for classes and times:**

**Possible Classes?**

**New times?**

**Donuts and Coffee?**

**Comments:**