

The Scroll

April 2025 Vol. 187 No.4



Bishopville Presbyterian Church

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Look for us on Facebook

Email us to receive enews: bishopvillepc@gmail.com
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.
Worship Service – 11:00 a.m.

Business Office Hours

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

Adult Choir Practice

Thursday's @ 4:00 pm

Key Officers and Staff

Clerk: Reese Atkinson / Asst. Matt Bramlett
Treasurer: Gregg McCutchen / Asst. Billy Clyburn
Office Manager: Gwen Hayden Steinmeyer
Choir Director: Bo Dickinson / Asst. Lian Latimer

Pastor: Rev. Christopher Parnell



From the Pastor... “Jonah was a prophet! Woo! Woo!” (Jonah, a VeggieTales Movie, Big Idea, 2002)

Why does Jonah matter? It’s a story about a prophet who doesn’t want to go, a city that needs to repent, and a God patient enough with both of them that He connects them through sailors, a great fish, and a well-placed caterpillar. On a more technical note, Jonah is about Yahweh, God of Israel, the One True & Living God who made heaven and earth exercising both his mercy and his might in order to bring salvation to a people who don’t deserve that salvation - Assyrians & a certain Jewish prophet alike. And at the end, as God declares to the prophet named for a dove, “shouldn’t I have mercy...”?

It’s neat. It’s a great story, it’s a powerful moment, and it’s been memorialized in everything from kids’ movies to toys, in art from the highest masters to the cheapest knockoffs, and in sermons from pastors great and small, all our lives. We know Jonah. We know Nineveh. We’ve heard the debates - was it a whale or a whale shark, was this a real story with real miracles, or a prophet’s invention, an allegory or a fable to prove a point, why would God have spared Nineveh - doesn’t he know that’s going to become the seat of the Assyrian Empire someday?! We know this one, we’ve heard it all...

Or have we?

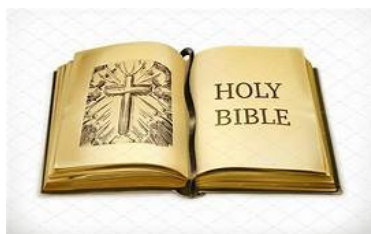
Any time Jesus talks about the Old Testament, we ought to sit up a little straighter and pay a little closer attention to what he’s saying. It’s like this - here’s where those Red Letters overlap the Black Letters in the Bible. (I think most of us know what a red-letter Bible is.)

So when Christ Jesus, Son of God, our Savior, talks about Jonah, we need to pay careful attention to what he’s saying, to the connections he’s making, and to the promise of God He, Jesus, has come to fulfill. And what does Jesus say about Jonah? “For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth” (Matthew 12:40 ESV).

Christ Jesus, telling us about Jonah, does something amazing. Jesus connects His own impending crucifixion, death, burial, and resurrection to this story of how God his Father already moved heaven and earth to bring His steadfast love and mercy, His call to repentance, His light and salvation to a people living in great darkness, a people far away and far outside. Jesus connects our salvation to the story of Jonah, where God sends His own to proclaim:

Repent! Time is short and the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand!”

-Pastor Chris



April Sunday Scriptures

6th:	1 Corinthians 15:1-11
13th:	1 Corinthians 15:12-26
20th:	1 Corinthians 15:27-28
27th:	1 Corinthians 15:35-45

NEWS FROM THE SESSION ...

The Session met March 9th. Ryan McCutchen had our devotional

Our wedding policy is in the process of being updated, after 20+ years

New gutters & downspouts are being added and/or repaired on our buildings

We welcome everyone to join us in our Advent & Easter events, see details in the bulletins & SCROLL

If the Session can do anything for you, please contact the Church Office or send an email.

Love in Christ, Reese Atkinson, Clerk of Session
Next Session meeting: April 13th @ 8:30 a.m.

APRIL ELDERS-ON-CALL:

***Matt Bramlett & Reese Atkinson**

**denotes Session devotional responsibilities*

March 2025 Statistics (1st Qtr)

Attendance Average's

Worship: 58 Sunday School: 26

Budgeted Income & Expenses (operating)

MTD Income received:	\$17,670.45
YTD Income received:	\$43,037.55
Budgeted YTD Income Needed:	\$54,807.00
MTD Expenses disbursed:	\$18,927.10
YTD Expenses disbursed:	\$49,868.71
Budgeted YTD Expenses:	\$49,132.00

Non-budgeted Income & Expenses (designated)

(Cemetery & Playground Funds)

MTD Income received:	\$ 600.00
YTD Income received:	\$2,965.00
MTD Expenses disbursed:	\$ 00.00
YTD Expenses disbursed:	\$3,600.00

Fellowships

Morning Circle Wednesday, April 9th @ 10:30 am. Diane McElveen will host (special Easter program - All women invited)

Night Circle: Monday, Apr. 14th @ 7 pm at the home of Melinda Atkinson

Men of Church: Wed. April 16th @ 7 pm Reese Atkinson will host

*** The Morning Circle & Men meet in FH**



2nd Qtr Communion will be served on Sunday, April 6th. Communion is gladly served in the homes of those who can't attend services. Please contact an Eder or the Pastor for extended services

Communion Elders: Reese Atkinson & Ryan McCutchen

APRIL 2025

- 6th: Perry & Jennifer McCutchen
- 13th: Reneé Bell
- 20th: Hugh & Retta Tindal
- 27th: Sarah McCutchen Family

MAY 2025

- 4th: Kathryn Welch
- 11th: Lila Mae Welsh family
- 18th: John & Karen Gentry
- 25th: Marsha & Jimmy McCutchen

JUNE 2025

- 1st: William Welsh family
- 8th: Dot & Buddy Wilson family
- 15th: Reneé Bell
- 22nd: W. Gregg McCutchen III
- 29th: The Latimer Family

JULY 2025

- 6th: Virginia & Charlie Ippock
- 13th: Henry & Harriett Watson family
- 20th: William & Pat Monroe Fields
- 27th: Reese & Melinda Atkinson

SANCTUARY FLOWER CALENDAR



AUGUST 2025

- 3rd: Bert Cousar
- 10th: Bill & Debbie Tindal
- 20th: Bill Welsh Family
- 24th: Michael Blades
- 31st: John Latimer

SEPTEMBER 2025

- 7th: Renee Bell
- 14th: Jim & Barbara Latimer
- 21st: Jennifer & Perry McCutchen
- 28th: Reese & Melinda Atkinson

OCTOBER 2025

- 5th: Liz & Billy Simon
- 12th: John & Karen Gentry
- 19th: Christine Shirley Family
- 26th: Mike Monroe

NOVEMBER 2025

- 2nd: Renee Bell
- 9th: Wendy & Beny Welch
- 16th: Jackie & Ray Drayton
- 23rd: Jim & Barbara Latimer
- 30th: Hanging of the Greens

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



- Cyndi Eckley 1
- Charlie McCutchen 1
- Gwen Steinmeyer 2
- Melinda Atkinson 3
- Kerry W. Frazier 3
- Kathryn Welch 4
- Renee Bell 13
- Doris Bell 14
- Kathryn Hart 19
- Tyner B. Logan 20
- Caroline McCutchen 20
- Devin Atkinson 22
- Susan Hilditch 23
- Ryan McCutchen 25
- Gregg McCutchen III 27



- Madison Bramlett 7
- Zeke Gaskins 7
- Jimmy McCutchen 3
- Terri Ann T. Belk 13
- Beth Grant 15
- Beth McCutchen 17
- Ricky McCutchen 23
- Virginia Kerr Beard 28
- Debbie Tindal 28
- Tim Kirven 31

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 street mail



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

2025 Business Office vacation/holiday closings:

May 13th - 20th & 28th, July 2nd,
Aug. 27th, Sept. 1st, Oct. 7th - 13th,
Nov. 25th & 26th, Dec. 23rd - 29th & 31st
Please contact office to update records (via email)

April Special Events at a Glance

- 4/5: Easter Egg Hunt (Ryan/Andrea's)
- 4/6: Communion Sunday
- 4/13: Palm Sunday
- 4/16: Lent Lunch @ BPC
- 4/17: Maundy Thursday Communion
- 4/20: Easter Sunrise & breakfast



Our HOMEBOUND Members

- Doris Bell @ Memory Care Manor, Florence
- Karen Gentry @ Memory Care Manor, Florence
- BJ Kerr @ McCoy Nursing Center
- Beth McCutchen @ McCoy for rehab
- Hugh Tindal @ his home
- Dotty G. Williamson @ Morrell's rehab, Hartsville



Coffee Time: Sunday's @ 10:30 am, between Sunday School & Church. Anyone who wishes to host, please sign up on the calendar(s) in the kitchen. Everyone is welcome to join us



The Kids for Christ Mission raised \$202 with their Valentine luncheon. Thanks to everyone who participated and helped

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 all who participates!
Next Coin Collection Date: May 11, 2025**



Samaritans Purse Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry
Thank you to everyone who helps pack or donates funds for the OCC shoeboxes.

**We packed 81 shoeboxes, in 2024!
See display in Education building**



“Blessing Box” Ministry

These boxes are stocked/maintained with food, necessities, Devotionals & Bibles. Our children are stocking, maintaining, and updating the Church on the progress.

Collection dates: 1st Sunday of each month.

All 5th Sunday undesignated gifts are placed into the Kids for Christ Mission Fund.

Please note “Kids4Christ” on gifts outside this timeframe. Make checks payable to BPC. If it is for a specific need or project, please indicate that on your check or correspondence. **2025 dates: Mar. 30th, June 29th, Aug. 31st, Nov. 30th**

We have a group cleaning stones in our cemetery. Please contact the Church office via email or Wendy Welch, if interested



Join us on April 13th as our children wave palms in our annual Palm Sunday service



Lent Lunches

Lent Lunch
Wednesday, April 16th @ 12:00 p.m.

BPC Fellowship Hall
Hosted by the BPC Women

Everyone is invited to attend. No cost



Maundy Communion
Bishopville PC
Thursday, April 17th
6:00 pm
Communion Elders:
Jimmy McCutchen & Cindy Welsh



EASTER EGG HUNT

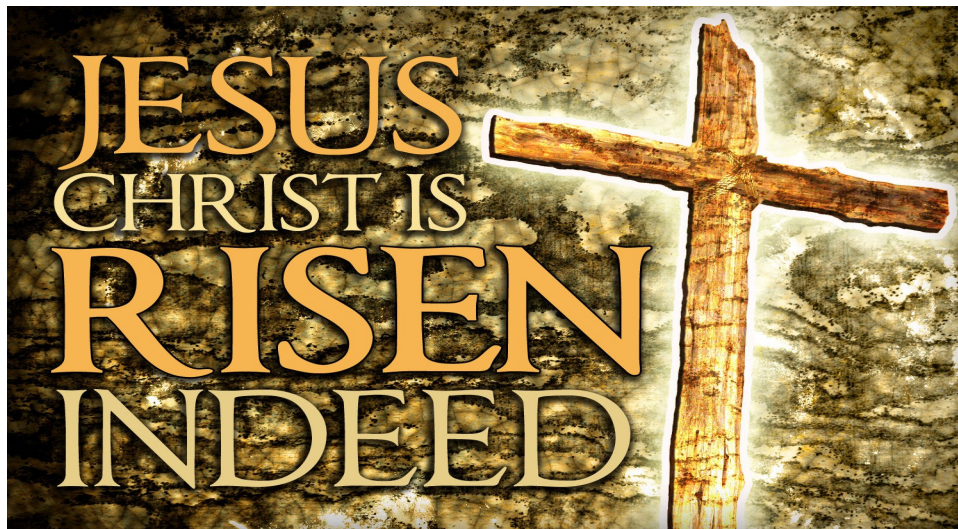
Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, April 5th
10:30 a.m.
Home of Andrea & Ryan McCutchen

Lunch provided
Fun for all ages!

Each child should bring an Easter basket



Easter Sunrise service, breakfast, and Living Cross
Sunday, April 20th @ 7:00 a.m.

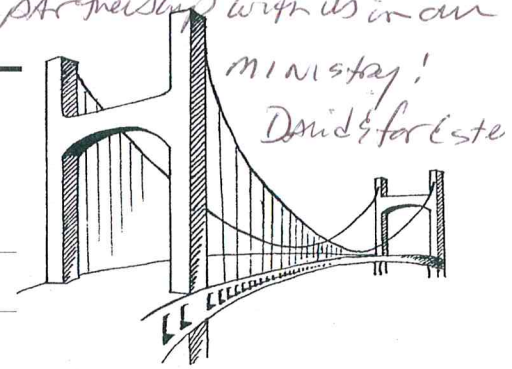


DEAR FRIENDS AT BISHOPVILLE P.C. : Thank you for your partnership with us in our ministry!
David & Estelle

BRIDGES

David & Estelle Abernathy

February 2025



38 years of service in Bible translation



We recently received a card from Wycliffe Bible Translators in Orlando congratulating us on our 38th year of service with Wycliffe in the worldwide Bible translation movement. Most of our service has been in Waxhaw, NC, but we have spent two years in Mexico and two years in Kenya, and I have spent 14 weeks in Nigeria. It has been a really rewarding career, with a lot of blessings, the opportunity to make new friends and to have work that is meaningful for eternity. We are grateful to God for allowing us to have had this opportunity, and to our friends and supporters who have enabled us to continue in service for this long.

So many hats!

Over the last 38 years we have worn a lot of hats. I have served as an administrator, exegetical summary author and editor, shop assistant in maritime services, international shipping, public relations, exegetical consultant, and as a Bible college lecturer in Biblical languages. Estelle has worked as a bookkeeper, home school teacher (in Mexico), and providing hospitality in Mexico and Kenya.



A fork in the road



In December I was diagnosed with **chronic kidney disease**, at a level 3a out of 5, with 5 being end-stage kidney failure requiring dialysis. To keep from sinking down to level 5, I need to make major changes to my diet, lose weight, and lower my blood pressure. I had no idea that I had kidney disease, but for years I have had some of the symptoms of kidney disease such as fatigue, shortness of breath, and swelling in my feet.

I have slowed down a good bit compared with the pace I kept in previous years. Kidney disease is not just a threat to my long-term health. It's also an annoyance because it means that I can't take many of the over the counter medicines I need for back pain, or for the bouts of frequent heartburn caused by one of my medications. It also appears that my chronic headaches may be returning despite the medicine I am taking for that.

So we are at a fork in the road. How should our life's work continue? Both of us will be 72 this year. Is it time to retire? Or should I try to cut back the number of hours I work per week?

Because of the kidney disease and fatigue, and because of the amount of time I spend helping Estelle with her medical concerns, my doctor has told me that I should not work more than 25 hours a week, and has written a letter to that effect for my supervisors. They have agreed to that, so I will formally begin what is called a reduced assignment the first of March. (Our support needs will remain the same however.) We will postpone a decision about retirement until later this year.

Estelle—my ministry teammate
and travel companion



A beautiful smile!



At Treetops Game Park
Nyeri, Kenya, 2007.



Celebrating her birthday at Safari Park
Hotel, Nairobi, Feb 9, 2007



At some ancient ruins in Oaxaca, Mexico
1992



Bookkeeping at JAARS about 10 years ago



In our kitchen in Nairobi, 2006

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

We give thanks...

- For 38 very blessed years in Bible translation ministry
- For the friends and supporters who have enabled us to do what God has called us to do
- For our home near the JAARS Center, where we and our family have lived since 1997

Home address:

7407 Tirzah Church Rd
Waxhaw, NC 28173-7638
(704) 843-5347

Email addresses:

David_Abernathy@sil.org
Estelle.Abernathy@jaars.org



Please pray...

- For health and strength for both of us as we age
- For me to manage chronic kidney disease well through diet and exercise, and for my headaches to discontinue
- For the training of a new, very capable member of our team, Chris, who will work remotely (just as all the rest of us do)

Wycliffe®

Wycliffe Bible Translators
PO Box 628200
Orlando, FL 32862-8200

(For financial contributions please make checks payable to **Wycliffe Bible Translators**, and enclose a **separate note** with your check stating that your gift is 'preferenced for the Wycliffe ministry of David and Estelle Abernathy')