

# The Scroll

August 2019 Vol. 181 No. 8



**Bishopville Presbyterian Church**  
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## August 2019 At A Glance

- 4th: LCCM food gifts
- 9th: Kids for Christ Circle meeting
- 11th: Session / Church Picnic
- 18th: Sunday Bible Study resumes
- 29th: Church Office closed for vacation

## September 2019 At A Glance

- 1st: LCCM food gifts
- 2nd: Labor Day: Church Office closed
- 8th: Session
- 15th: PWCT resumes
- 16th: Night Circle resumes
- 17th: Morning Circle resumes
- 18th: Men of Church resumes
- 29th: Rally Day



## **PICNIC**

August 11th @ 4:00 p.m.  
@ Steven & Debra Welsh's

 **August 2019**

Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.

Fellowship & Coffee - 10:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service - 11:00 a.m.

Women's Prayer Group: Wednesday's @ 4 pm

Adult Choir - Thursday's @ 5:30 p.m.

### Business Office Hours

9:00 am - 5:00 pm (Mon., Tues., & Thurs.)  
Unless otherwise noted

### Key Officers and Staff

Charlie Ipock, Clerk of Session

Gregg McCutchen III, Assistant Clerk of Session

Jerry Adams, Church Treasurer

Billy Clyburn, Assistant Treasurer

Gwen Hayden Steinmeyer, Office Manager

Rev. Christopher Parnell, Pastor



# Bishopville Presbyterian Church

August Elders-On-Call: Wendy Welch & Gregg McCutchen

**Sunday, 4th:** 8th Sunday after Pentecost  
LCCM food altar gifts  
Coffee: Wendy Welch & Melinda Atkinson  
Flowers: Bert Cousar

**Friday, 9th:** 6:30 p.m. Kids for Christ Circle @ Easters' home

**Sunday, 11th:** 9th Sunday after Pentecost  
Coffee: Kathryn Welch & Dawn Nesbit  
Flowers: Debbie & Bill Tindal  
8:00 am Session  
4:00 p.m. Church-Wide Picnic @ Welsh's home

**Sunday, 18th:** 10th Sunday after Pentecost  
Coffee: Steven Welsh & Tyson Eckley  
Flowers: Family of Bill Welsh

**Sunday, 25th:** 11th Sunday after Pentecost  
Coffee: Betsy & Matt Bramlett / Betty Heriot

**29th:** Church Office closed for vacation

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR'S

**Annual Church Picnic**  
August 11th  
Activities @ 4:00 p.m.  
Supper @ 6:00 p.m.  
At home of Steven & Debra Welsh

**Rally Day**  
September 29th @ 6:00 p.m.  
Fellowship Hall

**World Communion & Cents-Ability offering**  
October 6th, during worship



Don't forget to like us on Facebook, to receive our news feed



*OPEN 2019 Flower Calendar*  
August 25th;  
September 22nd & 29th  
December 29th

Please contact the Church office if you would like to reserve one of these dates

**Business Office Hours**  
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday  
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Unless otherwise noted

Email us to receive enews: [bishopvillepc@gmail.com](mailto:bishopvillepc@gmail.com)  
Printed materials available, upon request, through office



**LCCM August Collection ~ PEANUT BUTTER ~**  
Don't forget to bring extra canned items to Church on Sunday, August 4th for our monthly Altar collection





Isaiah 5:11a, “Woe to those who rise early in the morning that they may run after strong drink...”

After I graduated, my alma mater, Erskine Theological Seminary actually gave me a coffee mug with the above quote from Isaiah printed on it. The mug sits on my desk where I can see it & smile... while I drink my “strong drink” of black coffee.

What’s really interesting about this quote - other than Erskine’s pun - is that it falls in a section of Isaiah where the prophet shares God’s own lament. God made a vineyard, a place he prepared, tended, planted, walled, & weeded, a “pleasant planting” (Isa. 5:7). This was a place with plenty of room, art, fine music, beauty, & peace. This vineyard was, for lack of better words, beautifully amazing - greener than anything in Napa Valley or North Carolina, more idyllic even than the best vineyards in France or Italy, more wonderful than earth can imagine or produce.

This vineyard, says God through Isaiah, is God’s people. His chosen, His claimed, His church, His nation. Throughout the Bible, we’re told a LOT about the character & nature, the care & love, the justice & holiness, the glory & majesty of the Lord our God. The Bible reveals God to us, God’s people. The Bible describes God - and, for me, one of the best ways to understand God is to listen to passages like Isaiah 5. Why? Because in these places in the Bible, we learn about how God looks at us, God’s people, and when we do, we discover even more amazing things about God than we could ever imagine.

Let me give you this example - if you heard me talk about my kids, you’d hear me use some interesting, if odd, words & phrases. You’d have heard me call one of my kids “pumpkin” when she was 2. You’d have heard me singing about chocolate milk to another of them. You’d hear me call one “cat” and other “boy” repeatedly. You’d hear me reading books in silly voices, counting the number of turns between Rock Hill and Iva, yelling myself hoarse at basketball games, & playing with trucks on the floor. Now think about what this tells you - does this give you information about my kids? Or more about how I feel about my children?

So when I hear God essentially saying, “You are my vineyard” - and I read Isaiah 5:1-6 about all the ways in which God shows his love for his people through the image of the vineyard, I am amazed all over again that, even in the midst of a passage that condemns God’s people for their unfaithfulness to God, for their abandoning him for useless dead idols, that God shows them, proves to them, calls to them: “This is my love for you - I am your God. Be my people.”

And so I look at my own life. How have I “gone after strong drink” - the strong drink of idolatry, of selfishness, of not turning to and embracing God’s love, of not appreciating God’s provision, of not accepting God’s call? How have I “lacked knowledge” when God has shown me so much through the world he’s made, the book he’s shared, the Church he’s given me? How have I “been quick” in how I judge myself - and how I misjudge God’s true nature? How can I - grafted into God’s vineyard as I have been (Romans 11) - get right again?

And so Isaiah 5 bleeds into Isaiah 6: What I broke, God himself can & will fix - he alone can help me see, hear, understand, & turn - and he will heal me. This is the promise of Isaiah, this is the promise of our Lord Jesus’ life & mission, & this is the promise on which God has planted his Church, our Church. God fixes, God makes us right, God heals.

And so, as I look at my coffee cup (empty again!), I am brought back, over & over again, to Isaiah 5 & 6, and to the promise, the blessing, and the hope of the one true & living God, my Savior & my Friend, and I drink again the “strong drink” of what he’s given me in Jesus. I am his vineyard, you are his vineyard, and God loves us and will be there for us - to give us joy, to give us peace, to give us safety & fruitfulness, all to the glory of his holy name!

God bless you all! - Pastor Chris

### August Sunday Sermons



<b>4th:</b>	<b><i>Shine, Jesus, Shine!</i></b>	<b>2 Corinthians 4:1-11</b>
<b>11th:</b>	<b><i>Being So Persuaded...</i></b>	<b>2 Corinthians 5:11-21</b>
<b>18th:</b>	<b><i>A God Like Who...?</i></b>	<b>Micah 7:18-20</b>
<b>25th:</b>	<b><i>Heart-room</i></b>	<b>2 Corinthians 7:2-12</b>

**News from the Session...**

Is it August already? How did this happen? Summer has moved so quickly, I hope all have been able to slow down and enjoy it. Whether you've gone to the beach, mountains, or a "staycation" I trust you've been able to enjoy some time with family and friends. Let me ask another question: Have you taken some time to enjoy some time with God? If not, take some as summer winds down. While you're driving into work, at work, in the shower, in bed, or at Church, spend some time talking to God. It is something I know I can do more of, and it's always good to be reminded.

The Session will certainly be doing so as it continues to manage various projects going on. We have been blessed to be gifted numerous pieces of property which we continue to manage and some that are close to being sold. Should you have questions, comments, concerns, or thoughts regarding any of these properties, please let a member of the Session know. Please keep the Session in your prayers as we consider these matters and others. Enjoy the remaining part of the summer and I look forward to seeing you around!

In Christ, Charlie Ipock, Clerk of Session

**Next Session Meeting: August 11th @ 8:00 am**

**AUGUST ELDERS-ON-CALL**

**\*Gregg McCutchen & Wendy Welch**  
 \*denotes Session prayer/devotion responsibilities



**Recent Visitors**  
 Dwayne & Teresa Sweatman  
 from Camden

**\$393.00 was collected & sent to Gideon's International**  
 We are deeply appreciative of the support by BPC and for allowing me to present a report on June 9th of what God is doing in transforming lives around the world through His Word. Your offering will provide 325 New Testaments, and we ask that the Church pray that many hearts will turn to Jesus Christ as a result of receiving a copy! In Christ, Ralph E. Sims



**September 29th**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
 Bring a covered-dish and join us for this fun event



**Women's Prayer Group & Bible Study**  
 Women's Group: Wednesday's @ 4:00 pm  
 Pastor's Bible Study: Sunday's @ 5:30 pm (resumes 8/18)

**July 2019 Statistics**

Average Attendance: SS - 37 Worship - 59

**Budgeted Income & Expenses (operating)**

MTD Income received:	\$12,400.00
YTD Income received:	\$94,809.91
<b>Budgeted YTD Income Needed:</b>	<b>\$123,641.00</b>
MTD Expenses disbursed:	\$14,786.03
YTD Expenses disbursed:	\$116,358.91
<b>Budgeted YTD Expenses:</b>	<b>\$126,056.00</b>

**Non-Budgeted Income & Expenses**  
 (Memorial, Building, & Cemetery Funds)

MTD Income received:	\$410.00
YTD Income received:	\$13,010.00
MTD Expenses disbursed:	\$12.41
YTD Expenses disbursed:	\$2,607.32

**Church Office Closed**  
**August 29th - September 2nd**  
 Email periodically checked, when applicable

*In Our Thoughts & Prayers*

Our congregation offers the Spirit of Consolation to those who have lost family & friends. Our thoughts & prayers are with you

- Faye McGuirt Brown**  
**Paula Lyles Murph**, (Robbie Lyles' sister)  
**Nelle Kirby Player**  
**Lanier Livingston**  
**Nelle Broadway Baker**

*For I, the LORD your God, hold your right hand; it is I who say to you, Fear not, I will help you. — Isaiah 41:13 (RSV)*

**Our HOMEBOUND Members**

- Dot Cothran** @ her home  
**Laura Latimer**, The Blake, Elgin  
**Louis Shirley** @ his home  
**Boochie Swearingen**, Sunrise, Charlotte



**John & Doris Bell**  
 The Manor  
 2100 Twin Church Rd, rm#100  
 Florence, SC 29501



### The Kids for Christ Israel Coin Collection Ministry

We collected **\$325.95** in July to help support Jewish Voice Ministries. Through our support, indigent people in many countries receive: Free medical & dental care, water filters, if needed, opportunity to receive prayer & hear of Yeshua (Jesus). Thank you for your continuing support, prayers and coins for God's chosen people  
**Next Collection Date: November 10, 2019**

AUGUST HELPER CALENDARS		
DATE	GREETER	NURSERY
4th	Dawn Nesbit & Caroline McCutchen	Charlie & Virginia Ipock
11th	Judith Watkins	Kerry Frazier
18th	William Watkins	Betsy Bramlett
25th	Caroline Welch & Claire Parnell	Cindy Welsh



Presbyterian Women ongoing fundraiser for Ministry & Missions. Kitchen items from RADA, a company that's been making top quality kitchen

knives and utensils at reasonable prices since 1948. Visit the link below or visit our website to help support them.

<https://radafundraising.com/?rfsn=1838016.df3fba>

## Happy Birthday August September

### Montreat Youth Conference 2019

#### "Let Love Lead"

Three of our HS students; Brooke Welch, Sidney Easters and Avarie Easters attended Montreat Youth Conference, with students from First PC, Hartsville, where they hope to have many opportunities to grow in their faith and commitment to serve the Lord. They've agreed to be interviewed by Pastor Chris upon their return and we look forward to reading this article, in the September SCROLL, about their experiences. The students & parents thank everyone for all your support & prayers to help get them to this conference!

Bobby Thomas	1	Kate Jeffords	1
Caroline J. James	5	Manning Bramlett Lloyd	4
Chloe Jeffords	5	Steven Terrell III	8
Billy Clyburn	6	Jeff Varn	8
Susan Cline	7	Betty Heriot	10
Leila McCutchen	7	Julie Cothran	12
Edie Varn	8	Caroline Welch	13
Mary Ellen Gaskins	9	Charlie Ipock	14
Brittany A. Hyman	11	Solomon Eckley	18
Steven Frazier	12	Virginia Clyburn-Ipock	20
Grayham Geddings	13	Suzanne Simon	21
Matt Bramlett	15	Bert Cousar	22
Mary Cousar Laney	18	Lindsay Simon	22
Jennifer Bailey	22	William Frazier	24
Lydia Conway	22	Ansley Nesbit	24
Diane McElveen	26	Patrick Parnell	24
Sidney Easters	27	Crues Bell	25
Benji Harrington	30	Reese Atkinson	29
Sara Abbett Kirven	30	McCants Lloyd	29
		Wendy Welch	29

### Kids for Christ Circle Meeting Friday, August 9<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 pm

At the home of Aaron & Kim Easters  
Dinner & Bowling

We packed & delivered **76 book bags** in July for Lee County, Va. children in need, along with needed staples & supplies for their families. Thank you to everyone who helped contribute to this cause. Together we can all help ease the burden of those less fortunate. Please keep our kids in your prayers that they continue flourishing with unselfish giving to others

#### August Special Events:

- Church Picnic
- School resumes

#### September Special Events:

- Labor Day
- Rally Day



### Operation Christmas Child Shoebbox Mission

Needed Items: Toys, School Supplies, Personal Hygiene items (ex: toothbrushes & wash clothes), etc. Please see exhibit, in Fellowship Hall, as needs change

Thank you for your partnership with us! David & Estelle

# BRIDGES

David & Estelle Abernathy

July 2019



## Where does the process of Bible translation start?

The process of translating the Scripture into a language that does not yet have it does not start at a translation desk. It starts with doing language surveys of an area where the language is spoken. In the past this usually meant travel over rough roads, or even where there are no roads, going from village to village with a local interpreter. The language surveyor would ask questions to try to determine how well the people in one area understand others in neighboring areas, the degree of literacy, whether there are any existing Scriptures in use, either in the national language or possibly in some regional language, and how people feel about their language, or about neighboring languages.

Currently the process is more likely to begin in cities where speakers of the indigenous language or languages have relocated. It might also involve research at a university library to see if linguistic studies have been done of which we were not already aware. It may involve trips to government offices to ask permission to do research in an area. Then there is the field work...

Survey often requires travelling in parts of the country that are difficult to get to, which may involve some degree of physical danger where roads that are less than ideal, and emergency personnel are few. In addition, on a survey outing you have less control over your sleeping arrangements and what you eat, so you are more exposed to picking up disease, or being bitten by insects or animals.



Off-roading in out-of-the-way places

Then there is the complexity of determining language boundaries. In a cluster of villages or towns, one village—let's call it village X—may understand village Y and Z, but not village W, whereas village W can understand village X and Z, but not Y. Meanwhile village Y can understand village Q and Z, but not W or X well enough to read anything written in that language. There may be a trade language or creole that everyone understands, but which may or may not have vocabulary adequate to talk about spiritual things. People also may not have a deep level of emotional attachment to a trade language or creole.

There are also questions about language vitality and use. That is, how many of the people still use the language *and teach it to their children*, and where is the language used? Do they use the language at home? At school? At church? At the market? What are the attitudes of people toward the language? Are they proud of it? Or does it have low prestige such that people would be unlikely to want to have Scripture in it?



A Scripture dedication in Kenya, East Africa

Once these questions, and others like them, are answered, the process can begin of determining where a program for Bible translation and language development would best be inaugurated. Then comes allocating a team, then language learning, linguistic analysis of the language, and the long process of translation, consultant checking, and village checking the translation for clarity.

The end result, of course, is the eventual publishing of Scripture, as seen in the photo to the left.

### What can happen in 47 years?

In the 47 years since the summer of 1972 a lot of things have happened in the world, some of which were good, and some not so good. In 1972 no one owned a personal computer, and a hand calculator might have cost several hundred dollars. Now we can carry a fairly powerful computer in our pocket or purse, and people all over the world have them, not just the wealthy. Several nations exist today that did not in 1972, and some nations that were around then no longer exist. Security concerns have permanently affected air travel. The internet is a fact of daily life, and all businesses, homes, and cars depend on electronic circuit boards in one way or another. Cars are more expensive, but they are designed to last a lot longer.

Of special interest for our ministry is the fact that there are now hundreds more languages that have at least some Scripture, and there are translation programs in many hundreds more. Smart phone apps are making the gospel and the Scriptures accessible to many millions of people that did not have them before.

For us personally, our parents and most of our aunts and uncles have passed away and are no longer with us. On the other hand, we have added eight children, two daughters-in-law, a son-in-law, and three grandchildren to the family, and by the time you receive our next newsletter, another son-in-law will have joined us. We have lived at a total of fourteen different addresses in three different states and three different countries. We have been blessed with hundreds of *truly wonderful* friendships, meaningful work, and spiritually enriching and nourishing churches.

Why focus on the last 47 years, as opposed to any other number? That's when Estelle and I were married. Since August 19, 1972 we have had, and continue to have, a wonderful life together.

We are grateful!



## FOR YOUR PRAYERS

### We give thanks...

- For progress in the Old Testament Lectionary Exegetical Summary Project. We are close to 90 percent finished
- That my problem with eye strain has decreased

### Please pray...

- For the Lectionary project material to be finished well, and that it would serve the needs of translators in the field well
- For permanent employment for Michael teaching music
- For Philip as he continues field training for reconnaissance duty in the Marine Corps

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