

The Scroll

December 2019 Vol. 181 No. 12



Bishopville Presbyterian Church

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Bishopville, SC 29010-0066

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December 2019 At A Glance

- 1st: LCCM food gifts / 1st Advent / HOGs
- 8th: Session / 2nd Advent / Children's Play Christmas luncheon
- 14th: Wreaths Across America service
- 15th: 3rd Advent
- 22nd: 4th Advent
- 24th: Christmas Eve service @ BUMC
- 25th: MERRY CHRISTmas!!!
- 24-31: Business Office closed



January 2020 At A Glance

- 5th: LCCM food & cash gifts / Communion
- 12th: Session
- 15th: Men of Church
- 19th: PWCT / Congregational Meeting
- 20th: Night Circle / Business Office closed
- 21st: Morning Circle
- 24-25: Presbytery Meeting
- 26th: Family Night Supper

*Looking
Toward
Advent*



2019

December

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**

Pastor's Office Hours

By appointment only

Key Officers and Staff

Clerk: Charlie Ipock / Gregg McCutchen, Asst.

Treasurer: Jerry Adams / Billy Clyburn, Asst.

Office Manager: Gwen Hayden Steinmeyer

Pastor: Rev. Christopher Parnell



Bishopville Presbyterian Church

December Elders-On-Call: Charlie Ipock & Steven Welsh

- 1st - 22nd:** All loose offering designated to Presbytery "Gratitude" Fund
- Sunday, 1st:** First Advent / Hanging of Greens / LCCM food gifts
6:30 p.m. Bruce McCathern Concert @ BUMC
Coffee: Steven Welsh & Tyson Eckley
Flowers: Hanging of Greens
- Sunday, 8th:** Second Advent
8:00 am Session & Elder examination
11:00 a.m. Children's Christmas Play & Elder Installation
12:00 p.m. Christmas covered-dish luncheon
6:00 p.m. First Baptist Church Christmas program
Coffee: Christmas Luncheon
Flowers: Poinsettia's
- Saturday, 14th:** 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall reserved
11:45 a.m. Wreaths Across America in BPC Cemetery
- Sunday, 15th:** Third Advent
Coffee: Betsy & Matt Bramlett / Betty Heriot
Flowers: Poinsettia's
- Sunday, 22nd:** Fourth Advent
Coffee: Debbie Tindal & Leila McCutchen
Flowers: Poinsettia's
- Tuesday, 24th:** 6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service @ BUMC
- 24th - 31st:** Church Business Office closed for holidays
- Sunday, 29th:** First Sunday after Christmas
Loose offering designated to Kids for Christ mission
Coffee: Church
Flowers: OPEN



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

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

Flower Calendar open: December 29, 2019



OPEN 2020 Flower Calendar
January 12th, February 2nd & 23rd,
March 8th & 15th; April 5th, 12th & 19th;
May 3rd, 24th & 31st; June 28th; July 19th;
August 23rd & 30th; September 27th

Call the Church office if you wish to reserve a date

Email us to receive enews: bishopvillepc@gmail.com
Printed materials available, upon request, through office



LCCM December Collection ~ HOLIDAY NON-PERISHABLES ~
Don't forget to bring extra canned items to Church on Sunday, December 1st for our monthly collection



From the Pastor's Desk... "The best "No" vote I ever got..."

8 years ago, this month, my friend Alba was diagnosed with what Duke University Hospital called inoperable cancer—and she was given no more than 1 year to live. As her husband Steven said to me this week, they've had 8, not easy, but wonderful years together since then—because "God is Great!"

Steven holds a special place in my heart, not only for his friendship & brotherhood in Christ Jesus, but because of a "No" vote he once cast. It happened this way—when God called me to leave my NC churches, I presented my resignation to the church, and Steven voted, loudly & clearly, "No." Now, that seems like a harsh thing to do, maybe even a disrespectful or unpleasant thing to say—but I can tell you that, both in that moment in 2015, and even now more than 4 years later, I can hear that "No" even today as one of the most blessed encouragements in my ministry and in my life. That "No" warmed my heart and reaffirmed—in that brief moment—God's calling, God's love, and God's grace in my life.

I thank God, and will always thank him for Steven's "No."

When do we need a "No" in our lives? That doesn't sound like the sort of answer we'd want to get. When we guys bend on one knee, open that box—is it "No" we want to hear? When we look wistfully at the car, pick up the keys, and head for the door—is it "No" we hope our parents say? When we pick up the phone on Saturday evening, dressed & ready to go—is it "No" we expect to ring in our ears? When is "No" a good answer? And that's just humanly speaking! Doesn't the Bible say—"And he will supply every need"? Doesn't the Bible say—"He has graciously given us all things"? Doesn't that sound like God would be the last person to ever say, "No"? How could he do that to us? How could he bless us through a "No"? Is it even possible?

Well—to answer that question, we've got to realize what God *actually* says, compared to what we think he says, or what we want him to say. So, what does God say? So does the Bible actually say, "He will supply every need"? Yes—in Philippians 4.19-20: "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in Christ Jesus—to our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen." Wait a minute—did you see that? Paul (writing this from PRISON), tells us, as he closes his letter to Philippi in prayer, that God will give us our NEEDS... through & in the person of Jesus Christ, for God's own glory.

Huh. I wonder what sort of NEED we might have for which Christ is the only provision?

How about "He has graciously given us all things"? That comes from Romans 8.31-33, "If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies." Hey— isn't this saying the same thing as Philippians 4? God will give us everything we NEED... through & in the person of Jesus Christ, for God's own glory. And this time, it's not Paul who's being persecuted, "led like sheep to the slaughter daily"—it's the Roman Church!

God doesn't always say "Yes"—but he always gives us what we need in Jesus. And sometimes—and this is as hard to write as it is to hear—sometimes what we need in Jesus is for God to tell us "No." The same Paul—imprisoned when he wrote Philippians, writing to the persecuted faithful when he wrote Romans—this same Paul, in his second letter to Corinth tells us about a time God told him "No": "*The Lord said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me*" (2 Corinthians 12:9). Look at that—Paul asked to be healed, something he thought he needed, something that would seemingly improve both his quality of life and the quality of his ministry, and God said, resoundingly, "No—this is not what you need in Christ Jesus."

Paul needed his "thorn", his weakness. Peter needed to be humbled—and drenched, when he leapt boldly out of the boat. Mark needed to be left behind when Paul took off to visit the churches. Titus needed to be left in Crete (Titus 1.5), Trophimus needed to be left in Miletus (2 Timothy 4.20), John needed to be exiled on Patmos—because in those moments of God's saying "No", he was blessing each of these men with what they NEEDED in Christ Jesus.

Where are you? What do you need from God? A "Yes"—sometimes (many, many times, in fact) God is indeed saying "Yes" to you in amazing, beautiful, wonderful ways. Sometimes—more times than you could imagine, in fact—he's said "Yes" by denying Satan's influence over you, by his Holy Spirit's restraining those who would or could harm you, by healing you or preventing you from injury. But sometimes—sometimes, don't you need God's glorious, gracious "No"—a "No" like Paul's, that thrust him entirely into the everlasting arms of Jesus? Don't you need God's glorious, gracious "No"—a "No" like Steven's vote, an affirmation, a blessing, even when you think you're finished? Sometimes nothing is sweeter, nothing is better than God—in his infinitely immeasurably good love—saying, "Child—I love you. No."

Blessings & Amen! -Pastor Chris

December Sunday Sermons & Scriptures



1st:

5th:

15th:

22nd:

29th:

Hanging of Greens

Children's Pageant

God, I Thank You

The King Is Here

An Old Resolution

Isaiah 52:13-53:12

Zechariah 14:3-9

1 Corinthians 1:23-2:2



Pastor's Bible Study ~ Sunday's @ 5:30 pm
Unless otherwise noted

News from the Session...

Next Session Meeting: December 8th @ 8:00 am

DECEMBER ELDERS-ON-CALL

***Charlie Ipock & Steven Welsh**

*denotes Session prayer/devotion responsibilities

**1st Quarter Communion
January 5, 2020**

Elders in charge: Bert Cousar & Gregg McCutchen

We will also collect food and Cents-Ability offering for the LCCM

*Please mark all special donations, appropriately, so they reach their destinations



The Session has called a **Congregational Meeting for January 19th**, during worship service, for the purpose of; reporting the 2019 statistics and financial records, presenting the 2020 budget and Pastor's Terms of Call, for approval



- Matt Bramlett, installed (1st term)
- Cindy Welsh, installed (1st term)
- Ryan McCutchen, ordained & installed (1st term)

Thank you to the following officers, leaving us this year **Perry McCutchen, Wendy Welch, and Steven Welsh**. You all did a wonderful job and will be missed!



**Women's Prayer Group
Wednesday's @ 4:00 pm**



**Hanging of the Greens Service
December 1st @ 11:00 a.m.**

Come join us as our Sanctuary comes alive with the sights and sounds of the Advent season.

November 2019 Statistics

Average Attendance: SS - 39 Worship - 59

Budgeted Income & Expenses (operating)

MTD Income received:	\$16,563.00
YTD Income received:	\$154,556.56
Budgeted YTD Income Needed:	\$194,293.00
MTD Expenses disbursed:	\$13,633.79
YTD Expenses disbursed:	\$179,984.61
Budgeted YTD Expenses:	\$193,087.00

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

MTD Income received:	\$325.00
YTD Income received:	\$16,160.00
MTD Expenses disbursed:	\$00.00
YTD Expenses disbursed:	\$2,607.32

**Church Business Office Closed
December 24th - 31st**



**Gratitude Gift offering
Collected December 1st - 22nd**
The EPC's annual Christmas offering supports the Gratitude Gift Fund, which helps retired EPC ministers and missionaries in need. When grief or pain impact the lives of these faithful shepherds, the blessing of financial assistance is a tangible way to show that others care

**Community Christmas Eve Service
December 24th @ 6:00 p.m.
Bethlehem United Methodist Church
Everyone is invited to attend**



Our HOMEBOUND Members

- Dot Cothran @ her home**
- Laura Latimer, The Blake, Elgin**
- Louis Shirley @ his home (melanoma)**
- Boochie Swearingen, Sunrise, Charlotte**
- Johnny McCutchen @ his home**
- John & Doris Bell, The Manor, Florence**



The Kids for Christ Israel Coin & Bake Sale Ministry
Our children collected \$784.00 in the coin jar collection & bakesale on November 10th.

All proceeds were sent to the Jewish Voice Ministries.

Thank you to everyone who participated!
Next collection date: May 10, 2020



Presbyterian Women RADA fundraiser
for Ministry & Missions

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

Kids for Christ Mission's

The Kids for Christ packed and delivered 37 Shoeboxes for Samaritan's Purse and mailed 3 barrels of shoes to Zambia!
Thank you to everyone who participated!!!

Children's Play & covered-dish supper
Sunday, December 8th @ 11:00 a.m.
Church will provide meats & bread
Kids for Christ will provide desserts
Bring your favorite dish & join us!

Merry Christmas!!!



Advent Lighter Schedule:

Advent

- Dec. 1st: Reese & Melinda Atkinson Family
- Dec. 8th: Tyson Eckley
- Dec. 15th: Solid Rock SS Class
- Dec. 22nd: Cindy Welsh Family

www.wreathscrossamerica.org



Learn about Wreaths Across America's Mission to Remember, Honor and Teach

Wreaths Across America service
Bishopville Presbyterian Church Cemetery (SCBPCC)
Saturday, December 15th @ 11:45 a.m.

Following a short service, wreaths will be placed on the graves of military veterans buried in our cemetery. Please join us as we honor and remember our veterans. Please visit our local link to help or learn more:

<https://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/150452/Overview/?relatedId=150000>

DECEMBER HELPER CALENDARS

DATE	GREETER	NURSERY
1st	Cameron & Jill McElveen	Wendy Welch
8th	Dawn Nesbit & Caroline McCutchen	Debbie Tindal
15th	Judith Watkins	Betsy Bramlett
22nd	William Watkins	Kerry Frazier
29th	Caroline Welch & Claire Parnell	Cindy Welsh

Happy Birthday



Michael Jeffords	5	Robert McCutchen III	2
Sara Catherine Corbett	6	Ann West	2
Elouise Wright	7	Rhetta Simon Cloyd	3
Gordon Eckley	8	Chip Smith	3
Becky Crichton	9	Bill Tindal	3
Mike Monroe	13	Kody Mills McCutchen	4
Janice Reynolds	13	Michael Farver	5
Boochie Swearingen	13	John Bell, Jr	9
Dawn Levers	14	Will McElveen	9
Maggie Corbett	15	Kean Scott III	9
Tom Kerr	18	John Crues Bell IV	12
Jennifer McCutchen	18	Bill Conway	13
Billy Simon	20	Steven Welsh	13
Retta Tindal	24	Ken Cutler	14
Brooke Welch	24	T-Bo Ellen	16
Wyatt Frazier	28	Carole Scott	18
Rena Smith	29	Ruby Nell Bailey	20
		Aidan Hilditch	25
		William Clyburn Ipock	26
		Jean Woodmansee	26
		Brooke Harrington	30
		Amber Harrington	30
		Josh Kirven	30
		John Latimer	30



First Baptist Church Cantata
Sunday, December 8th @ 6 pm
Reception afterwards

Yesterday's high :88
Last night's low: 69

5802 Bob Bullock Loop 20
Building C 18-102
Laredo, TX 78401

Email: jeanlegters@gmail.com

November 20th, 2019

U.S. Magic Jack Phone: (314) 774-0853

Dear friends and prayer partners,

Oh come let us adore Him. Christ the Lord. Let all that has breath praise the Lord. Let us praise, give thanks and worship the Lord because of His very best that He has given us.

From my house I can hear the seminary choir rehearsing for the December 5 concert which marks the end of first semester. It is also the end of my teaching until August because I cannot distinguish the printed notes for the students in the spring. There are now about 50 students on campus, not counting the expansion centers and the biblical counseling program or the youth program.

I continue visiting villages about two hours away most weekends, depending on if I can find a driver/preacher. In Yalcobá, the leader of the congregation is in need of surgery due to a hernia on his spinal column. Personal family and congregational concerns become my prayer concerns also. The people in these villages have been friends for many years and are almost like family to me. In Temax, Debbie and I recently went to say goodbye to some very dear Korean missionaries who have retired and will not be able to come back due to health concerns. Dave and I worked extensively with them. My Merida church recently celebrated its 133rd anniversary. In November, I played for a wedding there, accompanying a young man who plays flute and a girl who plays the violin. There are many avenues of service open to me.

Looking to the new year, the Sac Be presbytery will be meeting here in Merida, January 7-9. A friend is going to take me and help sell books with me. I will be able to come home to sleep at night which solves a big problem because everybody here sleeps in hammocks and I now can only use a bed. On February 4, the seminary reopens and Dr. Will Ackles and his wife will be coming to teach again. I look forward to their presence at my house.

My grandchildren are all occupied in applying to colleges and thinking about their future while the younger ones are still in school. Diego will be five January 1 and he loves reading the Jesus Bible story book every day, and playing with dinosaurs and cars. He and I go swimming at the same pool, although it is becoming a little cooler now.

My health is generally all right, although I still have some problems related to the accident. Low vision and impaired mobility have taught me a lot about patience and accepting what the Lord brings into our lives. I still am thankful for what I can do, and try to accept what I cannot do.

Let us face 2020 knowing it is in His hands and therefore will be for our good and His glory.

Your servant for Jesus' sake,

Jean Legters

Any gifts for the camp or our ministry may be sent to

Son Raise Missionaries Services

P.O. Box. 43

Byron Center, MI 49315