

The Scroll

January 2021 Vol. 183 No. 1



Bishopville Presbyterian Church

215 S. Main Street (physical) / PO Box 66 (mailing)

Bishopville, SC 29010-0066

Email: bishopvillepc@gmail.com

Website: www.bishopvillepc.com

Phone: 803-484-5441

Due to the COVID-19 virus all Sunday Worship Services will be begin @ 10:00 am, until further notice. No other gatherings, during pandemic, unless noted



Find us on
Facebook

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

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

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Session will meet, as needed, to approve appropriate & safe decisions regarding services & gatherings. All updates will be posted on our website & our Facebook page, as it becomes available

January Elders-On-Call:
Bert Cousar & Matt Bramlett

January



2021

COVID SERVICE SCHEDULE

NO Sunday School

NO Fellowship & Coffee

Sunday Worship Service - 10:00 a.m.

Business Office Hours

9:00 am - 6:00 pm (Monday - Wednesday)

Unless otherwise noted

Key Officers and Staff

Clerk: Charlie Ipock / Ryan McCutchen, Asst.

Treasurer: Ray Drayton

Assistant Treasurer: Billy Clyburn

Office Manager: Gwen Hayden Steinmeyer

Pastor: Rev. Christopher Parnell

From the Pastor's Desk...

Revelation 2:12-13, *"And to the angel of the church in Pergamum write: The words of him who has the sharp two-edged sword. I know where you dwell, where Satan's throne is. Yet you hold fast my name, and you did not deny my faith even in the days of Antipas my faithful witness, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells."*

Dr. Melton used to tell us to be careful about preachers who "knew a little Greek" - usually, he said, that meant they knew a short guy selling gyros. With that caveat, I'm going to try not to go too far out on a limb here -but here we go. There are certain words that have been, well, shoehorned from the Greek language of the Bible into English: words like "prophet" or "baptize" or - significantly - "martyr". These are words that can be translated into English, but usually have enough baggage or context or implications attached to them that they can't easily be translated... so we just shove them into English.

Martyr is one of those words. There's a level where it simply means "somebody who tells somebody else something they've seen" - like our word "witness". At the same time, there's a sense in the word where what the "witness" has seen is so important, so profound, so true, that they would die rather than contradict what they've seen. So, instead of using 10-15 words every time we want to say that, we simply say, **"He's a martyr."**

Antipas, in Revelation 2, is a martyr. In fact, he's one of the earliest Christian martyrs, along with John's brother James and Steven (both of whom are martyred during the book of Acts). Church tradition holds that the Emperor Domitian either had him burned alive, or burned in a cast-bronze bull, for failing to deny Jesus and renounce his faith. Antipas had been taught by the apostles (likely Paul or John) and had been ordained & installed as the pastor of the church they planted in Pergamum. He was so committed to what he'd been taught - even though he never knew Jesus personally, never heard Jesus preach, didn't see the Cross, probably (though we don't know for certain) never even visited Jerusalem - yet Antipas was willing to defy the order of the Emperor himself, the very head of the Roman government, rather than to deny Jesus. That is an amazing level of faith.

Now, other than what we read about him in Revelation and subsequent church history, we don't know a lot about Antipas. Unlike other martyrs like Ignatius or even Steven, we don't have sermons or letters (that I could find) from him. All we know with absolute certainty is that he died because he would not deny Jesus - and in that, we are taught something important about our faith. We American Christians are immeasurably blessed; we meet openly, we're not penalized for going to church, we're not threatened with murder or confronted with gunmen when we worship, we don't have our livelihoods taken away by our government or rival religious factions. We are incredibly blessed. Our national identity is built on Christian ethics, values, & traditions (think about how utterly Presbyterian our government is). We even get tax benefits for giving to our church!

And yet... As Dr. Voddie Baucham rightly points out, our national Christian freedom is but a historical "blip" on the grand scale of history. And, for much of the Church, throughout history and even across the world today, persecution is the norm, rather than tolerance or acceptance. We are blessed beyond description - yet that blessing hangs on a fragile thread. So what do we do?

We learn from Antipas. We learn from Steven. We learn from James, from Ignatius, from Justin Martyr, from Jan Hus, from Wycliffe, and from the countless other brothers & sisters across the world and across the ages who show us - who witness to us - what it means to trust Jesus with our very lives, even in the face of persecution. We learn from them, and we pray. We pray, earnestly thanking God for our blessings, and we pray, eagerly urging Him to bless our persecuted family. We pray, with the hurting saints and the great crowd of Heaven itself, "How long, O Lord - come quickly, come quickly, Lord Jesus!"

And, like Antipas, we look to the One who will give us that heavenly manna, and that new name, written down in glory, which no one can ever take away from us.

God bless you! Pastor Chris

January Sunday Sermons & Scriptures

For so they persecuted the Prophets...



3rd:
10th:
17th:
24th:
31st:

part 1
part 2
part 3
part 4
part 5

Matthew 5:11-12, John 15:18-27

Daniel 3:1-18

Daniel 11:1-16

Acts 6:8-15; 7:51-60

Acts 12:1-17

I always wondered what this part of Psalm 23 meant. I thought "He anoints my head with oil" was figurative language for God keeping the Psalmist healthy. I never knew this parallel - Anoint my head with oil.

"Sheep can get their head caught in briars and die trying to get untangled. There are little flies that like to torment sheep by laying eggs in their nostrils which turn into worms and cause the sheep to beat their head against a rock, sometimes to death. Their ears and eyes are also susceptible to tormenting insects. So the shepherd anoints their whole head with oil. Then there is peace. That oil forms a barrier of protection against the evil that tries to destroy the sheep. Do you have times of mental torment? Do the worrisome thoughts invade your mind over and over? Do you beat your head against a wall trying to stop them? Have you ever asked God to anoint your head with oil? He has an endless supply! His oil protects and makes it possible for you to fix your heart, mind, and eyes on Him today and always! There is peace in the valley! May our Father anoint your head with oil today so that your cup overflows with blessings!

JANUARY ELDERS-ON-CALL Matt Bramlett & Bert Cousar



1st Quarter Communion January 10, 2021

Elders in charge: Bert Cousar & Gregg McCutchen

Loose offering and canned food items will also be collected for the

LCCM (You must note "LCCM" on check or envelope for special donation)

December 2020 Statistics

As of 12/30/2020

Worship Attendance average: 34

Budgeted Income & Expenses (operating)

MTD Income received: \$15,913.55

YTD Income received: \$190,426.07

Budgeted YTD Income Needed: \$217,838.00

MTD Expenses disbursed: \$22,374.27

YTD Expenses disbursed: \$191,879.42

Budgeted YTD Expenses: \$217,838.00

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

MTD Income received: \$2,900.00

YTD Income received: \$7,540.00

MTD Expenses disbursed: \$12.66

YTD Expenses disbursed: \$2,212.66

The Session has called a **Congregational Meeting for January 17th**, during worship service, for the purpose of; reporting the 2020 statistics and financial records, presenting the 2021 budget and the Pastor's 2021 Terms of Call, for approval



Thank you to the Church, Session, PW, and all others who remembered me during this crazy Christmas year! I truly appreciate your kindness, prayers, and gifts - Gwen

Our HOMEBOUND Members

Doris Bell, Memory Care Manor, Florence

Laura Latimer, The Blake, Elgin

Boochie Swearingen, Sunrise, Charlotte

Hugh Tindal @ his home

Dick & Beth McCutchen @ their home

I would like to thank you for remembering me at Christmas and throughout the year. There are no treasures greater than friends. I wish for you a Blessed and Happy New Year. Love to all, Louise

In Memoriam

Robert "Robin" Leslie Jeffords
7/13/1956 - 12/25/2020



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>



6 month - Flower Calendar

JANUARY

3rd: Gregg & Jenny McCutchen
17th: Carol Latimer Finethy
24th: Charlie & Virginia Ipock
10th & 31st: OPEN

FEBRUARY

14th: Jim Ed & Mabeth McCutchen
21st: Family of Iris Thomas
7th & 28th: OPEN

MARCH

7th: Renee & Crues Bell
14th, 21st, 28th: OPEN

APRIL

4th: Kerry & Steven Frazier
11th & 18th: OPEN
25th: Rob McCutchen, Jr. Family

MAY

9th: Lila Mae Welsh Family
16th: Jim Ed & MaBeth McCutchen
2nd, 23rd & 30th: OPEN

JUNE

6th: William Welsh Family
13th: Dot & Buddy Wilson Family
20th: Retta & Hugh Tindal
27th: OPEN

Happy Birthday January February

Robert McCutchen III	2	Kayla McCutchen	1
Ann West	2	Laura Latimer	4
Rhetta Simon Cloyd	3	Hampton Gaskins	15
Chip Smith	3	Martha Kay Hunt	15
Bill Tindal	3	Benny Welch III	15
Kody Mills McCutchen	4	Patrick Finethy	17
Michael Farver	5	Laura Parnell	19
Will McElveen	9	Bubba Muldrow	20
Kean Scott III	9	Myers Varn Floyd	21
John Crues Bell IV	12	Shirley Wallace	28
Bill Conway	13		
Steven Welsh	13		
Ken Cutler	14		
T-Bo Ellen	16		
Carole Scott	18		
Ruby Nell Bailey	20		
Aidan Hilditch	25		
William Clyburn Ipock	26		
Brooke Harrington	30		
Amber Harrington	30		
Josh Kirven	30		
John Latimer	30		



Email & Postal mail, is checked and acted on, daily as applicable. Please mail donations to:

Bishopville PC

POB 66

Bishopville, SC 29010

NOTE: All mail sent to our street address will be returned by Post Office

Business Office Hours: Mon-Wed, 9:00 - 6:00

2021 Business Office vacation/holiday closings:

January 18th

February 10th - 15th

March 31st

May 26th - 31st

June 9th - 14th

June 30th - July 6th

August 18th

September 6th & 29th

October 11th

November 24th - 29th

December 22nd - 28th

Please contact office to update any pertinent information to our records



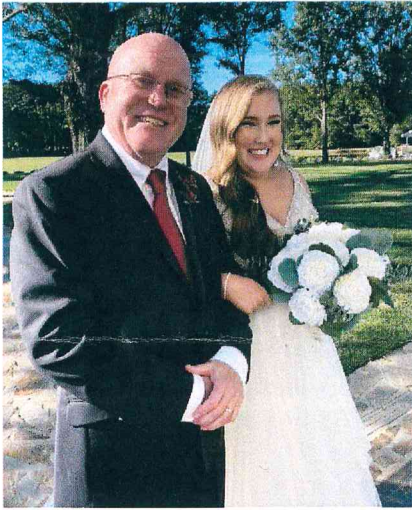
Canned Food & Monetary gifts
for Lee County Cooperative
Ministry "LCCM"
1st Sunday of each month

Please note "LCCM" on all monetary gifts
CANNED ITEMS ONLY, during C-19
Please leave all food donations in Bell Tower
room (in LCCM canister)

Cherry Christmas from the Bakers



2020—A pandemic, 3 surgeries and a wedding!



Introducing **Michaela Baker Taylor**! Michaela's wedding was our definite highlight. She was a beautiful bride on her big day. They really adore each other.



Introducing **Collyn Taylor**. Collyn works with **Gamecock Central**, the definitive source for all South Carolina news. He covers the major sports and he's involved in most of the press conferences. During one basketball press conference, Coach Martin kidded Collyn, saying that he couldn't attend any basketball games without a field trip permission form signed by Michaela! You can tell the USC coaches really like him.

(I'm so glad he loves to play golf!)



Zac is employed by Symetra Financial in Washington and was recently awarded an excellence award by the CEO. She applauded his video work and his ability to create masterpieces.

(By the way, I think he stole my moustache!)





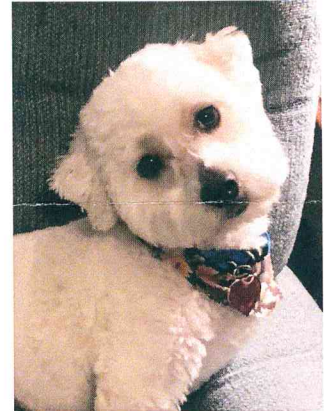
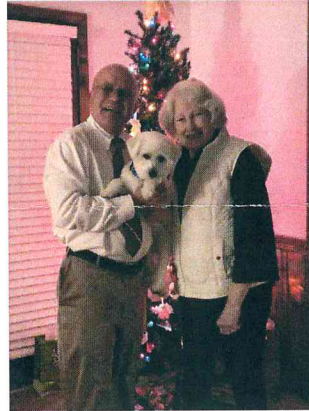
The three plastic surgeries for Pam were difficult and definitely took a lot out of her. She is doing much better the past few months. Her nose looks great and she was beautifully stunning at the wedding!

*We are so grateful for your friendship.
May this Christmas be one where His peace
and presence overwhelms any fear, as we
remember His incredible love for us.*

Meanwhile, Kathryn was busy buying a house, taking advantage of the low interest rates. She's enjoyed her role as a new homeowner, but she hasn't always enjoyed all of her new responsibilities!

She is a Super Hero Nurse as she has worked at a Pediatric Office during the pandemic.

We have to mention our **Harley**. He's 18 months now and is finally showing some signs of calming down. His favorite pastime is chewing on his toys, or socks, whenever he can steal one.



*"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives.
Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." John 14:27 NIV*

Carroll + Pam

Carroll and Pam Baker | 336 Brickling Road Irmo, SC 29063 | cbaker@fca.org | 803-206-2542

To give online visit my.fca.org/carrollbaker

Dear Prayer Partners,

Some of you have written to me saying you are praying about the camp situation. We wanted to share some news that is a reason for rejoicing. The camp board president together with pastor Alberto Tuyub (also a member of our camp board and originally from that same town where camp is legally registered) traveled to the township offices to inquire about the taxes owed on the property. There is a new mayor in the township who has ties to the Presbyterian church there and who knows pastor Alberto personally. He directed them to the treasurer who informed them the amount to pay was 43,000 pesos, but that they were being given a 50% discount for bringing the property tax account up to date and would only need to pay \$22,000 pesos. They were able to pay the tax for the past five years and were also assured that official drawings of the property with updated satellite-measured coordinates would be drawn up for the camp board free of charge. When talking to the secretary of the treasurer's office, she shared with them how she had become a believer in Jesus three years ago and attended the Emmanuel Presbyterian Church in that town. She called others in that office, who are also believers, and church members, and before leaving, Pastor Alberto (Beto) led them all in prayer. This is incredible! Things like this do not happen here in Mexico! The God of the impossible intervened because of all of our prayers. This is just the first step in unraveling this legal mess. But God has also provided support in the next steps that need to be taken. The husband of a close friend of my daughter Debbie is a former attorney general for the state of Yucatán and he met with Debbie and the camp president to review the concerns and propose a response strategy. Although not a Christian, he has a personal interest in the camp because of his wife who grew up attending youth camps at Porvenir and her parents who also were very active in children, family and youth camps. He gave some good ideas and assured us that although the legal part may take years to battle out in court, if it comes to that, he is confident camp Porvenir has the upper hand. It can prove ownership and possession (paying property taxes, bills, maintenance, etc.) of the property for over the past 50 years, and the updated official documents from the township will only serve to reinforce this fact. This attorney and Debbie are also good friends with the head justice of the supreme court of Yucatan, and he has expressed that although he is not able to intervene directly, he can monitor that no corrupt dealings occur when/if the case goes to trial. So once again, The Lord is answering all our prayers and leading us to the right people who can help.

We thought this was such great news and we wanted to share it with you. Have a blessed Christmas and remember to pray for the camp in the new year. We appreciate each one of you. Blessings, Jean Legters