

The Scroll

November 2019 Vol. 181 No. 11



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/Fax: 803-484-5441

November 2019 At A Glance

- 3rd: LCCM food gifts / OCC packing party
Daylight Savings Time ends
Gwen's 16th Anniversary w/BPC
- 10th: Session / Israel Coin jars & Bakesale
- 18th: Harvest Banquet @ BPC
- 20th: Men of Church
- 24th: Thanksgiving service @ 1st Baptist
Dwayne Sweatman in pulpit
- 26-28: Business Office closed

December 2019 At A Glance

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



Ends: November 3rd
Don't forget to fall back an hour
on Saturday night before bed



NOVEMBER 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

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

November Elders-On-Call: Steven Frazier & Wendy Welch

- Sunday, 3rd:** All Saints Day & LCCM food altar gifts
 2:00 a.m. Daylight Saving Time Ends
 12:00 p.m. Operation Christmas Child shoebox Packing party
 Coffee: Marsha McCutchen & Brittany Hyman
 Flowers: Crues & Renee Bell
- Sunday, 10th:** 22nd Sunday after Pentecost
 8:00 am Session
 10:30 a.m. Kids for Christ Mission Bake Sale
 11:00 a.m. Israel Coin collection
 Harvest Banquet reservation deadline
 Coffee: Ann Cooper & Lian Latimer
 Flowers: Wendy & Benny Welch
- Sunday, 17th:** 23rd Sunday after Pentecost
 Poinsettia order deadline
 Coffee: Wendy Welch & Melinda Atkinson
 Flowers: Ray & Jackie Drayton
- Monday, 18th:** 6:30 p.m. Harvest Banquet @ BPC
- Wednesday, 20th:** 7:00 p.m. Men of Church (Billy Clyburn & Charlie Ipock)
- Sunday, 24th:** Reign of Christ & PW "RADA catalog" deadline
 11:00 a.m. Dwayne Sweatman in pulpit
 2:00 p.m. Church-Wide Clean-Up Day
 6:00 p.m. Thanksgiving Community Service @ 1st Baptist
 Coffee: Kathryn Welch & Dawn Nesbit
 Flowers: Naomi McCutchen Family
- 26th - 29th:** Church Business Office closed for holidays

MARK YOUR CALENDAR'S

Operation Christmas Child
 Shoe box packing party
 November 3rd @ 12:00 p.m.

Israel Mission collection
 Kids Bake Sale @ 10:30 a.m.
 Coin jars collected @ 11:00 a.m.

Harvest Banquet
 November 18th @ 6:30 p.m.
 BPC Fellowship Hall



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



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

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



LCCM November Collection ~ HOLIDAY NON-PERISHABLES ~
 Don't forget to bring extra canned items to Church
 on Sunday, November 3rd for our monthly collection



From the Pastor's Desk... Recently I had the chance to sit in on my middle daughter's algebra II class, and having done so, I am, as the Psalmist sings, "full of thanksgiving & joy" that our Lord called me to ministry instead of math. I remember Mrs. Bouchillon, in 11th grade trigonometry trying to teach me the quadratic equation - with help, I could get to the right answer, but on my own, somewhere along about 4 or 5 lines down, something would always go... wrong. There's a reason my kids, when they need help with math & algebra homework, look for their mom rather than their dad.

As a pastor, I often get questions about what books I would recommend for certain people or certain situations. This is something that happens to most pastors, so much so, in fact, that it's a pretty common sort of question asked during ordination exams for teaching elders (at least, in the last 3 presbyteries in which I've been a member). More often than not, these are books on prayer, theology, or about Christians living in & through difficult situations, or maybe books about Christians who have already lived through difficult times. Sometimes, though, the books are a little different. One of my own favorite Christian authors is C.S. Lewis, a Christian, a scholar, a professor, and the writer of a number of those books that fit - if nowhere else - in that "little different" category. There are his science fiction trilogy, his devotions, the *Screwtape Letters*, the *Narnia* books (Christian fairy tales, if you'd believe it!), and, of course, his book which defines - for him and so many others - what it means to live what Watchman Nee calls "the Ordinary Christian Life": *Mere Christianity*.

I haven't often recommended *Mere Christianity* myself, though I've very often had other pastors recommend it to me & to their churches. This isn't because I don't think highly of the book (I do!) nor because I don't think Lewis' powerful introduction to Christianity is valuable (it is!), I haven't recommended it because I haven't often had a reason. Today, though, I think I do. Increasingly, I am reminded we live in an age, in a culture, in a nation that has forgotten what it means to be truly, simply Christian - notice I didn't say the Church has forgotten this. It hasn't. Our nation, our national media, our national conversation (or what passes for it on social media), however has forgotten, and so it has created a neat fictional Christianity it uses as a stand-in for the real thing.

What do I mean? Christians - as defined by the American media & social media are either well-meaning ninnies, or Neanderthal brutes. "Bad guy" Christians are played or described backwards, anti-science, anti-progress, anti-immigrant, anti-intellectual, redneck bullies who want to oppress women, gays, & minorities, whose main dream is to push western culture back into the "Dark Ages" of institutionalized Christendom.

"Good guy" Christians are shown to be well-meaning, accepting, but still not-quite as smart, not-quite as brave, not-quite as... good as they can be - but are useful for making inroads for the truly smart, truly progressive, truly intellectual forces to push the rest of the Church into the 21st Century.

The best Christians - according to this fiction built around the world having forgotten true Christianity - the absolute best Christians are those who understand that their religion, their faith, is but one of many, many truths that help people cope with the unknown. A flickering hope - nothing more, nothing less.

Yet, none of these are accurate, none of these are true, and none of these actually present the Christian as his or her true person. They've taken all the pieces of Christianity, added them together, but somewhere, the equation's gone horribly wrong.

Interestingly, even in 1950s England, CS Lewis saw this fictional view of Christianity beginning to develop, and *Mere Christianity*, in some ways, is his response. In *Mere Christianity*, he writes, "...being a Christian does mean thinking that where Christianity differs from other religions, Christianity is right and they are wrong. As in arithmetic - **there is only one right answer to a sum**, and all other answers are wrong..." (my emphasis). In other words, as Jesus himself says, in John 14.6, "**I am the way, the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except by me.**" To be a Christian is to take Jesus - the Christ - at his own word. To do otherwise is to say that Jesus, in John 14, is a liar or a madman - and if we do that, we lose the Christ.

So what do we do? Lament? Rant & rave on social media? Crawl back into bed and wish it were tomorrow? Or do we look at the age in which we live, seeing its fictional Christian, its bad-math Christian, and live our faith authentically, truly, real-ly in the same way that Mrs. Bouchillon's red pen worked across my quadratic equations? Do we offer - by letting the world see us, hear us, experience our prayers, our charities, our ministries, our love for one another, our love that overflows onto the "least of these" and even onto our enemies - a corrected view of what it means to be, as Lewis writes, "merely" or simply Christian? What opportunities might that create? What glory might that lift to the Lord Jesus our Savior? Live your purpose: Glorify God - and enjoy Him always as you live your faith, simply, purely, and truly, dependent on Jesus, the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Amen. - Pastor Chris



November Sunday Sermons & Scriptures

3rd:	<i>Once Upon a Banquet</i>	Luke 14:1-24
10th:	<i>Only 1 in 10</i>	Luke 17:11-19
17th:	<i>God, I Thank You</i>	Luke 18:9-17
24th:	Dwayne Sweatman in pulpit	



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

News from the Session...

There is a nip in the air - finally - and the leaves are slowly starting to creep darker . . . it must be turning to Fall. As time with family draws nearer during this time of the year let us also draw nearer to our Lord and Savior. When the days get shorter and the nights longer, set aside a few minutes to talk to God. Read His word. See His majesty in all He has done and continues to do. Whether it be nature, family, or His Scripture, there are innumerable means through which we can worship Him. Take a moment during this season to slow down, step back, and appreciate all that He has done. May all be blessed this November and coming Fall.

In Christ, Charlie Ipock, Clerk of Session

Next Session Meeting: November 10th @ 8:00 am

NOVEMBER ELDERS-ON-CALL

***Steven Frazier & Wendy Welch**

*denotes Session prayer/devotion responsibilities

MEMBERSHIP
welcome to the family



We welcome our newest Church Family members

Reese Atkinson and

Dwayne & Teresa Sweatman

Reese is the husband of Melinda Atkinson and father of Brittany Hyman and Devin Atkinson

Dwayne and Teresa are from Camden and have 3 grown children. Dwayne will fill our pulpit, in Chris' absence, on November 24th

They joined our Church October 13th by Re-affirmation of Faith. We are very pleased to have them in our Church!



Don't forget to order your Christmas Poinsettia's

Order forms are in bulletins and in the Church office. Plants will adorn the Sanctuary **December 8th - 22nd**. Make checks payable to the church. Cost is \$14/ea.

ORDER YOUR POINSETTIAS

Order Deadline: November 17th



Prayer Requests

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.

October 2019 Statistics

Average Attendance: SS - 39 Worship - 59

Budgeted Income & Expenses (operating)

MTD Income received: \$16,286.00

YTD Income received: \$137,993.56

Budgeted YTD Income Needed: \$176,630.00

MTD Expenses disbursed: \$13,762.73

YTD Expenses disbursed: \$166,409.11

Budgeted YTD Expenses: \$177,839.00

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

MTD Income received: \$495.00

YTD Income received: \$15,735.00

MTD Expenses disbursed: \$00.00

YTD Expenses disbursed: \$2,607.32

Church Business Office Closed November 26th - 29th

Email periodically checked, when applicable



Men of Church

November 20th @ 7:00 p.m.

Hosts: Billy Clyburn & Charlie Ipock

Please join us for good food & good fellowship

NO PW Circle meetings in November

November is National Hospice Month. Please pray for the families & patients receiving Hospice care & their Hospice teams



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
November 10, 2019**

Bake Sale during Coffee hour. Please have baked goods in the kitchen no later than 9:00 am on Nov. 10th.

Coin Jars will be collected during worship
All proceeds will be donated to the Jewish Voice Ministries



Presbyterian Women RADA catalog fundraiser deadline is November 24th.

Catalogs are all around Church
You can always order through our website or the link below to help support them year round for Ministry & Missions
<https://radafundraising.com/?rfsn=1838016.df3fba>

Kids for Christ Mission's

OCC Shoebox Items needed: Bowls, cups, spoons, Personal Hygiene (toothbrushes/wash clothes), teenage items, etc... **Due Nov. 3rd**

Zambia Shoe Drive: Shoes sizes Toddler - Men's are **due Nov. 17th.** See Angel trees in Tower rooms



Shoebox Packing Party: November 3rd after Church



NOVEMBER HELPER CALENDARS

DATE	GREETER	NURSERY
3rd	Betty Heriot	Kerry Frazier
10th	Kirven Family	Cindy Welsh
17th	Jimmy McCutchen	Charlie & Virginia
24th	Marsha McCutchen	Jill McElveen



Happy Birthday



Ari Dickinson	3	Michael Jeffords	5
Rawlins Crues Smith	3	Sara Catherine Corbett	6
Jerry Adams	4	Elouise Wright	7
Thaddeus Matthew Bailey	8	Gordon Eckley	8
Maddie Varn	8	Becky Crichton	9
Jill McElveen	9	Mike Monroe	13
Eddie Boykin	10	Janice Reynolds	13
Catherine Bell Smith	12	Boochie Swearingen	13
Judith Watkins	12	Dawn Levers	14
Cally Bell	14	Maggie Corbett	15
MaryAnna Welsh	14	Tom Kerr	18
Peggy Corbett	15	Jennifer McCutchen	18
Missy Kirven	20	Billy Simon	20
Perry McCutchen	22	Retta Tindal	24
Dr. Leon Hunt	23	Brooke Welch	24
Jackie Drayton	25	Wyatt Frazier	28
Jane Harrington	27	Rena Smith	29
Sissy Jeffords	29		
Lisa Jeffords	30		



November Special Events:

- OCC packing party
- Israel coins/Bake Sale
- Harvest banquet
- Thanksgiving

December Special Events:

- Hanging of Greens
- Season of Advent
- Wreaths Across America
- CHRISTmas

Monday, November 18th
@ 6:30 pm

Harvest Banquet
Bishopville PC Fellowship Hall



2019 Harvest Banquet

Guest Speaker: Melodie Griffin, Director of Traditional Worship, Mt. Horeb United Methodist Church, Lexington, SC. Meal is \$15/pp. Reservations can be made in the BPC or BUMC offices. Please make check payable to Bishopville PW, marked "Harvest Banquet"
Reservation Deadline: November 11th

**Community Thanksgiving Service
November 24th**

6:00 p.m.

**First Baptist Church
Everyone is invited
Reception after service**

