



THE SPOTLIGHT

DECEMBER 2011

Bridgewater
Presbyterian Church
110 East College St.,
Bridgewater, VA 22812
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www.bridgewaterpc.org

Missions for Advent



MITTEN OFFERING

for homeless men, women and children in Washington, DC. Please bring NEW hats, socks, gloves, scarves and mittens. This year they are also accepting used/nearly-new winter coats & boots in all sizes. Donations need to be here by Wednesday, Dec. 14. Put them in the box under the Chrismon Tree.

TOYS FOR TOTS

for local needy children. The Youth ask you to bring a NEW unwrapped toy for any age child that will be distributed by local Marines. We need them by Wednesday, Dec. 14. Put them in the Fellowship Hall. Cash donations also accepted and the youth will cheerfully shop for you! See Kerry or Elizabeth for more information.



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Worship/Fellowship for Advent

ADVENT PARTY

on Sunday, Nov. 27 at 5:00. Bring a finger food to share and come to create ornaments and wreaths.

BIBLE STUDY

using "The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem" by Adam Hamilton. Mondays at 6:45 for the 4 weeks of Advent (Nov. 28 and Dec. 5, 12, 19). Open to everyone, no book required. Each chapter stands alone if you miss a week. Need a ride? Call the office.

CHOIR CANTATA

On Sunday, Dec. 18 the choir presents "Night of the Father's Love" during worship.

CHRISTMAS EVE

Worship will include our tradition of lighting candles. It begins at 7:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY

Worship at 10:30 a.m.



CAROLING

On Sunday, Dec. 18. Come at 4:15 to visit/sing to "our own" before the meal. Sign up to bring soup, chili, sandwiches or dessert. After dinner we will spread Christmas cheer to "our neighborhood" then return for dessert and hot chocolate. Come for all or most! Call the church office if you need a ride.
Projected timetable:
4:14 - 5:30 carol
5:30 - 6:30 eat supper
6:30 - 7:30 carol
7:30 - ?? eat dessert

Congregational Meeting - Sunday, Dec. 4 during worship to elect officers. Important details on page 4.

Committee Meetings:

- *Resource: Monday, Dec. 12th, 7:00 p.m. at McQuilkins' Bwater*
- *SUPER TUESDAY, Dec. 6th, 6:30 p.m. at church for Member Care, Mission, Education and Spiritual Life*
- *Session: Sunday, Dec. 11 at 3:00 p.m. at church*

MEMBER CARE

Meets @ 6:30 Tuesday, Dec. 6th



We extend sympathy to:

- ~ family & friends of **Mary Wine**. She died on October 30th.
- ~ **Irene Whitmore's** family and friends. She died on Nov. 8th.
- ~ **John & Nancy Spencer** on the death of their nephew.
- ~ **Charlette McQuilkin** on the death of her mother.

Keep in prayer:

- ~ John Ralston, Dayton UMC child, cancer treatment in Texas
- ~ Rev. Bill Morris
friend of the Florences, cancer

From Linda West:

I want to thank everyone for the many prayers for my sister, Britta White. The doctors have discovered more cancer and she is again in the hospital and not doing well. Please continue to remember her.

Also, I cannot fully express my gratitude for your generous outpouring of love and support over the past few months. Your notes, calls, prayers and meals have sustained me and my family. We are blessed to be part of such a caring church family.

Note: Sally sent a copy of the All Saints' bulletin to the family of Ann Hollyday. Here is their response:

Thanks so much for your thoughtfulness in sending the bulletin from last weekend. My sisters and I really appreciate all of you who were Mom's church family while she lived in Bridgewater. We are all doing fine. Although it took a while to adapt to how different our days are without Mom in them, life does have a way of moving on. Deb and I both have welcomed grandchildren, and Joyce has officiated at several weddings and baptisms, since Mom's passing. Again, we are grateful for your support and wish you a happy fall.

- Blessings, Kay

**T
L
C**

December Tender Loving Care

- 4 - Carolyn and George Anderson
- 11 - Mike Heatwole is now in the Turner Ashby HS Athletic Hall of Fame!
- 18 - Will Canter for teaching our High School Youth
- 25 - Merry Christmas to Everyone

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Meets @ 6:30 Tuesday, Dec. 6th



Lunch Bunch is Wednesday, Dec. 21 at 10:30. Lesson #4 will be led by Jane Crockett. Call Sally the Tuesday before to order lunch.

Book Group will meet Thursday, Dec. 15 at 7:00 p.m. at Betsy Glendye's to discuss "The Necklace" by Cheryl Jarvis. You can find it at the Green Valley Book Fair.

January's book is "In the Garden of Beasts" by Erik Larson – time and place TBA.

February's read is "The Postmistress" by Sarah Blake, also available at the Book Fair.

MISSION

Meets @ 6:30 Tuesday, Dec. 6th



HOLIDAY GIFTS FROM THE COFFEE CUPBOARD

Fair trade chocolates, coffee and teas make great gifts and stocking stuffers. Just in time for the holidays, we have organic chocolate caramel crunch with sea salt and organic Ecuador dark chocolate (65% cacao). Both are delicious gourmet items with health benefits! The flavonoids in dark chocolate are linked to lowered blood pressure and LDL, the bad cholesterol. The bars, which usually retail for \$4.25, are only \$3.

The Presbyterian Coffee Project cupboard is also restocked with whole bean and drip grind coffees in a variety of

roasts. And we have organic cocoa for baking or for hot cocoa, a large variety of teas, as well as organic tamari roasted almonds, which are full of heart-healthy antioxidants.

Equal Exchange's chocolate, coffee, tea, and nuts are all fairly traded and grown under environmentally sustainable conditions, providing small-scale farmers in Latin America, Africa, and Asia a better future for themselves and their families. Please support this mission of our church and enjoy these high-quality products.

Cheryl Gets To Smell the Coffee!

Cheryl Burke has been selected to the PCUSA delegation traveling to Nicaragua (January 7 - 14) to see how Equal Exchange is working there. The group will visit coffee farmers and working with them. She is excited about seeing new places and meeting new people in Nicaragua. **Keep her in your prayers!**

CROP Meal Update: Thirteen members of BPC attended the meal. One person commented, "I would not have gone if we had not gone as a group." Eating together brought to light the reality of our abundance compared to the scarcity elsewhere on this planet. Robbie Miller, Bridgewater College Chaplain and CROP Walk/Meal Coordinator, sent this email: *"I'm very pleased to report a record-setting CROP Meal with 237 CROP student meals surrendered, a record 227 CROP meals purchased, and a record \$2,102 raised by the CROP Meal! Thanks for everything you did to help make this possible!"*



CROPS Walk Summary: BPC donated \$200. The event total is coming soon.

The 2¢-a-Meal Offering received Nov. 13 totaled \$151.⁰⁰

THANKS!



The Christmas Joy Offering is a cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930's. Because Advent and Christmas shine alight not only on our world's greatest hope but also on our world's greatest need, it is a timely opportunity for congregations to support causes designed to bring Good News of Great Joy to the poor in circumstance and spirit. Your Joy gifts are distributed equally to (a.) an Assistance Program for current and retired church workers and (b.) the seven Presbyterian Racial Ethnic School & Colleges in the United States. The offering is received on December 18th. Thank you!

SPIRITUAL LIFE

Meets @ 6:30 Tuesday, Dec. 6th

Lectionary for December 2011 (year B)

4: Isaiah 40: 1-11	Psalm 85: 1-13	2 Peter 3: 8-15	Mark 1: 1-8
11: Isaiah 61: 1-11	Psalm 126	Luke 1: 4-55	1 Thes. 5: 16-24 John 1: 6-28
18: 2 Sam. 7: 1-11, 16	Psalm 89: 1-4, 19-26	Romans 16: 25-27	Luke 1: 26-38
24: Isaiah 9: 2-7	Psalm 96	Titus 2: 11-14	Luke 2: 1-20
25: Isaiah 52: 7-10	Psalm 98	Hebrews 1: 1-12	John 1: 1-14

COMMUNION

**1ST SUNDAY OF
ADVENT
Nov. 27**



SESSION Sunday, May 22nd @ 4:00 p.m.

CHURCH OFFICER ELECTION:

The Church Officer Nominating Committee has secured two persons willing to serve as Elders (class of 2014) – Bev Carver & Brett Johnson. The Session has called a meeting of the congregation during worship on Sunday, December 4, 2011 for the purpose of electing church officers. The class will be complete with 2 if there are no other nominations. Please, prayerfully consider serving BPC as an elder. Nominations can be made from the floor, provided the person being nominated has been contacted prior to the meeting and agrees to serve.

We thank our retiring elders and the committee for their diligence:

The Elders:

*Betsy Glendye, David McQuilkin,
Ed Sonifrank*

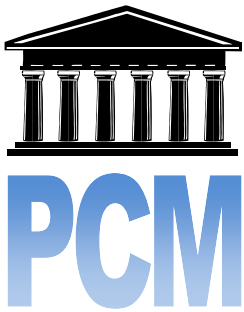
The Committee:

Nancy Spencer, Karen Leigh, Bev Carver

YOUR GENEROUS SPIRIT
~ The Thanksgiving Meal ~

Thank you Bridgewater Presbyterian Congregation! The menu was completed in full, **plus!** One person left a check on the food display, another left \$20 and some of you gave an additional \$40.⁰⁰! The cash purchased fresh fruits and vegetables to go along with the dry goods, and these were delivered to a local school to their guidance counselor. Which means, on Thanksgiving Day, two families - 15 folks in total - had a meal reminding them that there are good folks out there who care what happens to our neighbors. Thank you all so much!

*The Mission
Committee*



Thank you to all who donated cash for us to purchase a meal of “comfort foods” for the Presbyterian Campus Ministry. Your faithful support of the students is most appreciated.

To “our own” BPC students, we want to send exam survival packages. We are looking for candy bars, snack-size packs of cookies, cereal or granola bars, mints, hot or cold beverage powders, etc. There are 13 students and **we need items by Sunday, Nov. 27**. Call Joe Crockett for more information

Keep an eye out for possible spring break mission trips!



Date	Ushers	Greeters	Acolytes	Nursery
4	David Rees Dana Eichlin	David & Judy Rees	Katie McElroy	JC & Carla Enterline
11	Merrill Simon & a Glendye	JC & Carla Enterline	Wesley Eichlin	Cheryl Burke Steven Burke
18	Karen Leigh Steve Humphreys	Steve & Pat Humphreys	Kendall West	Judy Rees Wesley Eichlin
25	Bev Carver David McQuilkin	David & Charlette McQuilkin	Kyle Eichlin	Alex McElroy
Jan. 1	Emily Heatwole JC Enterline	Jon & Mary DeVier-Scott	Lauren West	Merrill Simon & Sarah Simon

Flowers - All Sundays are available. To share flowers call the church office or sign the poster on the information kiosk in the fellowship hall. The 2012 one will be up soon!

A Note from the Pastor

A fun question to ask younger elementary age children is this: “How big is “BIG?” Try it and see what kind of answers you get. In fact, why not try and answer that very same question yourself!

What did you come up with?

I suppose it mostly depends on your point of view. Years ago I sat beside a pond on my grandfather’s farm, trying to throw rocks across it, but it was “too big.” I went back to that same pond after several summers, and I could throw a rock to the other side, so the pond was now “small.”

I remember seeing Lake Dora for the first time when we moved to Florida. Now, that lake was big; you could see the other side, but it was probably several miles away. And I remember the first time I stood on Daytona Beach, looking at

the Atlantic Ocean. Now, that was a “big” pond/lake/ocean!

And then I remembered my fifth grade geography lesson, and knew that the western ocean, the Pacific, was bigger. It seems that the longer I live, and the more that I travel, what was once “big” has become “small.”

As we approach Advent, I pose the same question to you, with just a little twist: “How big is God in your life?”

Perhaps this Advent we can look for the big God of our youth, the God that was just like us and yet not just like us. The one shepherds, wise men and angels left their homes to find, if only for a moment, telling us that a moment in the presence of Christ would last a lifetime. The one that the darkness feared so much so

it would risk civil war to stop Him before His first birthday. The one that was willing to risk it all on the hope that even cowards who ran away would come back and bring the message of hope to the world. The one we know as Immanuel.

I wish had more to say, but this is a conversation best shared out loud. I would invite those who have tried to answer this question this month to gather just before or just after worship and talk about it. How about the round table near the adult classroom? I’ll put a marker on it for us. See you there?

May we all come to know again our God this Advent Season!

Blessings,
Kerry

How
big is
GOD
in
your
life?

Please Note:

Kerry is on vacation Dec. 25—31. If you have a pastoral emergency during this time please contact Elizabeth Engleking at

Trunk-or-Treat Summary:

Thank you Bridgewater Presbyterian Church! What an exciting event to be a part of! To everyone who decorated their cars, donated supplies, created and led games, and prepared food - *thank you all*. A large note of appreciation needs to go to Emily Heatwole, Judy Rees and LeeAnn West, for their organization, vision and leadership in this outreach event. Great job, ladies!

If you missed coming to the event, as best as I can tell, well over 90 children attended. It was hard to count them - they kept moving all of the time. When you add

in the adults who came with the children, I am guessing that over 140 folks were in our parking lot that evening. The adults I spoke to (and I think I spoke to every one of them plus the children) were impressed and very thankful that we were able to provide a wonderful and safe activity for their children.

So, BPC, thank you so much for accomplishing this. Start thinking about how you will decorate your trunk next Halloween!

Your Pastor,
Kerry



If you want to view or get prints of some photos taken at the event, contact the church office.

RESOURCE

Meets @ 7:00 Monday, Dec. 12th at McQuilkin's

Church Attendance

October = 2: 55; 9: 57; 16: 49; 23: 60 30: 58
 November = 6: 68; 13: 70; 20: 74 27: tba

Invite family, friends & neighbors to Cantata & Christmas Eve!



The Church's Finances

-prepared by Bev Carver, Disbursement Treasurer

<i>Account Balances</i> as of	<i>Operating</i>	<i>Special</i>	<i>Payroll</i>	<i>Tax</i>	<i>CD</i> Renews 1/24/12
Oct. 31, 2011	\$20,668	\$42,813	\$307	\$499	\$25,317.37

<i>Totals</i> as of	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expense</i>	<i>Difference</i>
10/31/11	\$92,532	\$96,179	\$3,647

<i>Benevolence to Presbytery</i> as of	<i>Income</i>	<i>Presbytery Asking for Year 2011</i> (based on membership of 126 on 12/31/09)	<i>Difference</i>
11/06/11	\$2,502	\$5,745.60	\$3,243.60



Pick up your 2012 weekly offering envelopes from the Fellowship Hall. If you don't find a box with your name on it, take the next available number and write your name beside that number on the pad provided. On January 1, 2012, begin using this box and discard any that have 2011 on them. And THANK to all who returned a pledge card!



Birthdays

- 1 Cheryl Fairchilds
Christopher Burke
- 4 Betsy Glendye
Cory Deavers
- 6 David Rees
- 9 Lindsay R. Reed
- 16 Jessica Eichlin
- 17 Carla Enterline
Jim Thompson
- 19 Olivia Edwards
- 20 Steven Burke
- 28 Steve Humphreys
Martha Boccock
- 29 Tom Mizell

The *Spotlight* is a monthly publication of Bridgewater Presbyterian Church;
Sally Smith, Editor

Pastor: Kerry Foster

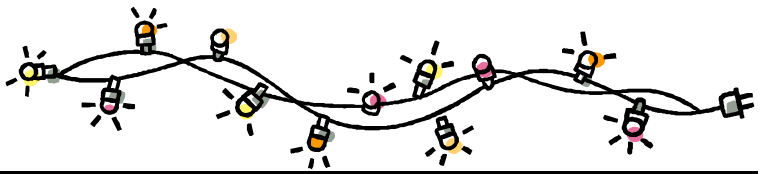
144 River View Drive, Verona, VA 24486
 540-448-2034 (cell) — kfosterbpc@verizon.net

The Session

<i>-Class of 2011-</i>	<i>-Class of 2012-</i>	<i>-Class of 2013-</i>
Betsy Glendye (Member Care)	Cheryl Burke (Mission)	Elizabeth Engleking Clerk (Christian Education)
David McQuilkin (Resource)	Joe Crockett (Mission + Spiritual Life)	Jim Enterline (Mission)
Ed Sonifrank (Resource)	Merrill Simon (Building & Grounds)	Emily Heatwole (Spiritual Life)

**Thank you,
 retiring elders!**

DECEMBER 2011



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<i>Advent 1</i> Nov 27 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship— <i>COMMUNION</i> 5:00 Advent Party!	Nov 28 6:45 Advent Bible Study	Nov 29 6:00 TOPS	Nov 30 7:00 Choir	1 6:00 Scouts	2	3
<i>Advent 2</i> 4 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Congregational Meeting FH reserved 5:30 - 8:30 pm	5 6:45 Advent Bible Study	6 6:00 TOPS 6:30 SUPER TUESDAY	7 7:00 Choir	8 6:00 Scouts	9	10
<i>Advent 3</i> 11 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship New Officer Ordination & Installation 3:00 - Session	12 7:00 Resource @ McQuilkins' 6:45 Advent Bible Study	13 6:00 TOPS	14 Mitten & Toy Deadline 7:00 Choir	15 6:00 <u>Scouts</u> 7:00 Book Group @ Betsy's	16	17
<i>Advent 4</i> 18 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship - <i>CANTATA</i> <i>Christmas Joy Offering</i> 4:15 <i>Caroling & Meal</i>	19 6:45 Advent Bible Study	20 6:00 TOPS	21 10:30 Lunch <u>Bunch #4</u> 7:00 Choir	22 6:00 Scouts	23	24 Christmas Eve Worship at 7:00 p.m.
<i>Christmas Day</i> 25 No Sunday School today 10:30 Worship	26 <i>Office Closed</i>	27 Newsletter Deadline 6:00 TOPS	28	29	30	31
<i>New Years Day</i> Jan 1 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	Jan 2	Jan 3 6:00 TOPS	Jan 4	Jan 5 6:00 Scouts	Jan 6 <i>Epiphany</i>	Jan 7

FH=Fellowship Hall; S=Sanctuary; JL=Journeyland; O=Office; COB=Church of the Brethren.

All meetings held at the church unless otherwise noted.

Poinsettia Order Form

We are again decorating with poinsettias in December, and you are invited to share a plant in memory or in honor of a loved one. The cost this year is \$6 per plant and they will be displayed starting Sunday, Dec. 11th. You may take them home after the Christmas Eve Service. Complete this order form and return it, along with payment, to the church office by December 4th.

Your Name: _____ phone # _____

In Honor Of: _____

In Memory Of: _____

_____ x \$6.00 = _____

of plants total enclosed





*Mittens & Toys
Need to be at church
by Wed. Dec. 14*

*Christmas Cantata
Sunday, Dec. 18 - 10:30 a.m.
"Night of the Father's Love"*

Caroling
Sun. Dec. 18

Start at 4:15...
Then eat supper...
Carol some more...
Then eat dessert!



*Congregational
Meeting Dec. 4*

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postage

To: