

A  
COMMUNITY OF  
FAITH  
STRIVING  
TO

**KNOW**  
CHRIST  
PERSONALLY

**GROW**  
WITH CHRIST  
INTIMATELY

**SHOW**  
CHRIST  
PASSIONATELY

**Our Mission**

Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world

**Our Vision**

To **Know** Christ personally,  
**Grow** with Christ intimately,  
and **Show** Christ passionately

**A "Future with Hope"**

In worship last week, we began our "Future with Hope" stewardship theme last week, we reflected on how rhythms of exile and return have always been a part of Christian life. And that's true. It's also true, though, that the Covid-19 pandemic has been a season of separation like no other we've ever known. As we look ahead to Colonial Avenue Baptist Church's next chapter, we may never appreciate the power of gathering together in person more than we do today.

The beauty of worship — gathering together in the midst of a world full of distance. The wonder of music — singing together in the midst of a world full of silence and loneliness. The nourishment of Communion in the midst of a world full of dust and hunger. And the joy of service — working together in the midst of a world full of broken systems and broken hearts.

In short, if the world is full of exile, our church is a community of return. A place to come home to, again and again. A congregation in which we can tangibly experience God's ancient promise to "bring you back to this place," and "give you a future with hope."

And here's one more thing that's true: even when this pandemic is a distant memory, the world will still be full of need. Still longing for home, for community, for reunion, for return.

That's why we're here. That's who we are: a way station of hope along life's way. It's the same reason God chose to be born with us as Jesus of Nazareth, to help us build bridges of connection and companionship — so that everyone might experience a homecoming to God's new world of joy, justice, and love.

So keep praying and giving thanks for all the ways our faith, our prayers, our worship, our music, our building, our service, and our lives help bridge the gaps that divide creation. And as you do, consider the ways that you can be a part of giving, in gratitude for God's gift of "a future with hope."

Blessings,  
The Finance Committee



## *Finances*

Total Budget Income for 2021:	\$ 102,641.26
Jan. Budget:	\$ 12,087.16
Feb. Budget:	\$ 8,603.34
March Budget:	\$ 12,904.60
April Budget:	\$ 10,706.21
May Budget:	\$ 10,992.11
June Budget:	\$ 9,107.91
July Budget:	\$ 15,576.44
August Budget:	\$ 12,872.53
September Budget:	\$ 9,790.96
October Budget:	\$
November Budget:	\$
December Budget:	\$

## *November Birthdays*

Tim Vest	November 3
Betty Obenchain	November 6
Debbie Agee	November 8
Yvonne Metz	November 9
Justin Dudley	November 12
Paul (Pat) Wilson	November 12
Danielle Flory	November 18
Catie McCown	November 21

## *Prayer Concerns*

- Those affected by COVID-19, including Carrol Hall's brother who is in the hospital
- Those who are homebound or in retirement and nursing homes: Betty Brown, Madaline Brown, Lois Burge, Jane Byrum, Mary Durrer, Freda Guill, Evelyn Hutcherson, Yvonne Metz, Nadine Minnix, Shirley Moore, Betty Obenchain, Bill & Liz Parker, Louise Parris, Evelyn Ragland, Alice Scogins, Katie Wood
- Those with cancer including Alison Ziegelmeir (Ric Scott's cousin), Barbara Kern, Richard Rader, Bob Padfield (Kati Padfield's father-in-law), Jack Cooper, & Brian Britt (Ron Britt's son)
- Paula, daughter of Reatha Linkenhoker
- Buck Conner
- Doug Heptinstall
- Marie Maddox
- Craig McCown's father, with cardiac issues
- Ron Britt, in Roanoke Memorial Hospital
- Matthew, Bob and Sally Crawford's grandson, who had surgery on Thursday to repair his broken arm
- A.G. Melson, who will have surgery on Nov. 3 to remove skin cancer
- Brennon Viele's stepmother, Cindy, recovering from surgery to remove gallstones & infection

## *Brown Bag Bible Study*

- **Wednesdays, 12 pm:** Join our mid-week "Brown Bag Bible Study" of the book of Jeremiah, led by our Minister-in-Residence, Rev. Steven Harris. Bring your lunch, if you like, and come be fed by God's word! The study will also be available on Zoom at <https://bit.ly/cabciblestudy>. If you are asked for a passcode, it is CABC.

## *November Youth Schedule*

### **Tuesday, Nov. 2, 10 am-3 pm: Hike to The Cascades**

- Bring your lunch and a water bottle!

### **Sunday, Nov. 7, 5-7 pm: Dinner and Discipleship: Thanks and Giving**

- Join us for a time of Bible study, games, and connection! We'll meet in the Colonial Presbyterian Picnic Pavilion. Bring your dinner and we'll provide dessert.

### **Sunday, Nov. 14, 5-7 pm: Friendsgiving**

- Let's celebrate Thanksgiving by having a "Friendsgiving" meal. Bring your favorite food to share (Thanksgiving or otherwise). We'll play some games and spend some time counting our blessings, too. We'll meet in the Colonial Presbyterian Picnic Pavilion, weather permitting.

### **Sunday, Nov. 21, 3-4 pm: Kirkin o' the Tartan at Colonial Presbyterian Church**

- See the description of this time of music, worship, and family blessings in the invitation included in this newsletter.

### **Sunday, Nov. 28, 5-7 pm: Dinner & Discipleship: Advent**

- Join us for a time of Bible study, games, and connection as we learn more about the season of Advent. We'll meet in the Colonial Presbyterian Picnic Pavilion, weather permitting. Bring your dinner and we'll provide dessert.

## ***CAB Kids Family "He's Coming!" Preparing for Advent Party***

- Children of all ages & and their families are invited to join us on **Saturday, November 20, from 5-7 pm** for a special time of preparing for Advent. We'll have a chicken noodle soup and grilled cheese dinner together, followed by a time of family fun – Advent games, making an Advent wreath for home, and an interactive Bible story. Please let Pastor Melissa know by November 17 if you will be attending.

### ***Let's Enjoy Time with Our Sister Churches!***

- Pizza & Movie Night with Calvary Baptist Church, **Nov. 13, 6:30 pm**: Calvary Baptist Church will be having a pizza & movie night in our fellowship hall on Saturday, November 13, beginning at 6:30 p.m. and has invited our congregation to join them.
- Kirkin' O' the Tartan, **Nov. 21, 3 pm**: Our church has been invited to join CPC for their annual Kirkin' o' the Tartan, which will be in the picnic pavilion this year. This is a Scottish-American tradition of offering blessings to families. "Kirk" is the Scottish word for "church." Tartans, with their distinctive plaid, represent specific Scottish clans. The Kirkin' o' the Tartan is the presentation of a Scottish family's symbol, its tartan, at church for blessing. The service encourages participants to reflect with thanksgiving on their own family and to celebrate God's grace poured out for all generations.

### ***Missions***

- Our Missions Committee recently pledged to be part of a CBFVA 25 Church Challenge as part of the Bridges of Hope program in Bluefield. The Wade Center is the only childcare center in the Bluefield area serving underprivileged children. Most of these children use their time at the Wade Center doing homework because it is a safe, nurturing space and because it has an actual internet connection. Unfortunately, the computers at the Wade Center are in a major need of an upgrade. We donated \$500 dollars to help get new computers to the Wade Center giving students good, reliable computers to do zoom meetings and on-line homework. Another way CBFVA is assisting in this area is advocating for better internet service in rural areas. Even if we bought a computer for each student at the Wade Center, many would not be able to use them because they do not have internet usage at home. In the last few months, members of the CBF family, both Virginians and others, have had discussion with legislators asking them to take this issue seriously. To learn more, check out this blog, written by Kris Aaron, pastor of First Baptist Bristol, about his experience speaking to Senator Warner's office about Broadband in rural Virginia! <https://bit.ly/cbfvabroadband>
- We are joining with our ministry partner, Keystone Community Center, and other churches to provide food for families in need during the holiday season. A list of needed items is available in the church foyer or from the church office. Donations for **Thanksgiving boxes** should be brought to the church by **November 7**. We will accept donations for the **Christmas boxes** through **December 5**.

### ***From the Worship Committee***

- The Worship Committee would like your help with preparing the sanctuary for the Advent season. On **Sunday, Nov. 21**, we will be putting up the Chrismon tree and preparing for our Hanging of the Green service.
- Join us during morning worship on **the first Sunday of Advent, Nov. 28**, for a special Hanging of the Green service as we prepare our sanctuary and our hearts for the coming of Christ.
- If you would like to place a **poinsettia** in the sanctuary during Advent in memory or honor of a loved one, please fill out a form (available on the table in the sanctuary foyer) and place it, along with a payment of \$8, in the offering plate by **November 28**. If you are not attending worship in person, you can contact the church office to place your order.
- If you would like to help lead worship by reading scripture, please sign up on the list in the sanctuary foyer. If you are not attending worship in person, we would be happy for you to send us recordings of your readings (or to come take video of you reading each week). We also need volunteers to do the Advent candle readings.

### ***Quarterly Business Meeting***

Our quarterly congregational meeting will be on **Sunday, November 21, following worship**. Along with reports from our committees, the Finance Committee will present the **proposed budget for 2022**. The budget will be discussed at this meeting, sent to all members electronically or through the mail, and voted on in a called business meeting on **December 5**.

### ***Centering Prayer***

- Join us on **Tuesdays at noon** in person or on Zoom (<https://bit.ly/pbjcenteringprayer>) to learn more and practice this form of contemplative prayer.

**Colonial Ave.  
Baptist Church**

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540-774-2084  
www.cabc.us

**Our Church Staff:**

Rev. Melissa Scott  
Pastor

Rev. Steven Harris  
Minister in Residence

Karen Viele  
Church Administrator

Bill Lininger  
Music Director

***Gratitude***

Let us think for a bit about gratitude. Our focus will be from January of this year till present. What I am going to ask you to do please take your time. Let the question germinate so you can clearly see God's work in your life. Some answers will appear quickly, and I invite you to not stop at the automatic answers.

It is true that the year has offered challenges for each of us. Some have had challenges with health, unexpected events and expenses, financial difficulties, or changes in relationships, deaths, and births. On the other hand, there have been wonderful events, happy occasions, and bright spots that have also been part of life's ebb and flow.

Have you given much thought of how God has blessed your life this year? This is where gratitude comes in. Scripture assures us that in all things, God is working to bring about good. God has been at work in our lives this year. I invite you to start making a gratitude list. Any time you think of something God has done in your life, a blessing, add it to the list. This is not a project to do in one sitting. Let the question germinate over the next several weeks. The purpose of this gratitude list is to allow you to see visually God's activity in your life.

Having seen God's work in your life, consider how your stewardship to God's work through CABC can be a response of gratitude. How does your stewardship of financial giving reflect your gratitude? What commitment are you willing to make for all God has and is doing in your life?

From Our Minister-in-Residence, Rev. Steven Harris

