



MISSION STATEMENT

- ❖ Bridging – Our church family with our neighbors
 - ❖ Building – Ministries to serve
 - ❖ Becoming – Disciples for Christ.

VISION STATEMENT

We strive to be a church where people are spiritually healed, joy reigns, and the love of God is shared.

IDENTITY STATEMENT

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

“We are Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As part of the one body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord’s Table as God has welcomed us.”

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday 9am - 2pm

Rev. Jonah Smith-Bartlett, Pastor
Eric Seiler, Chairman of the Board
Rob Peterman, Choir Director
Shellie Johnson, accompanist

Adult Bible Study 9:30am
Worship 11:00am

www.batteryparkchristianchurch.org
bpcc.office@verizon.net



Dr. Bill Blake is celebrating his 90th birthday this month! He has invited our members to a party on Sunday afternoon, Jan. 12 from 2 to 4 at Westminster Canterbury in the Roof Garden.

From the Pastor

Dear Friends,

It's hard to believe that we are about to begin 2020! Every new year brings hope and possibility but, in the life of Battery Park Christian Church, I believe that we are about to embark on an especially amazing year. It will be a year full of great worship, programming, and joy in living the gift of church.

There have been a number of exciting events at Battery Park over the last couple of months. Many young friends lit the Advent Candles at the beginning of worship every week. We experienced the warm community of the Group Home Christmas Party. We welcomed Linda Westbury and Bill Slater as our newest official members. We began to think broadly and boldly about what we want BPCC to be for our members and what we want it to become for the community.

I'm not one to do well with New Year's Resolutions. My resolve in most of these efforts of self-discipline falls short. But as the new year begins, I do want to encourage us to continue to live into the covenant of church. Let's all think about what it means to give of time, talent, and money so that our Kingdom-building might grow. Let's think of who else we might pull into this community (and who we might welcome back!) so that we might share the good news of the gospel with an expanding family of faith. Let's challenge ourselves and encourage one another to make 2020 a year when Battery Park Christian Church realizes and lives into all its God-given potential.

In an entirely different context I was once told, "I've been told that the truth is there are long roads ahead. But it's also the truth that with every small step I'm getting closer".

A long road indeed. But we have no better guide than Jesus Christ, and I can't imagine better companions than this faithful and growing congregation.

Happy New Year!

Rev. Jonah Smith-Bartlett

JANUARY SPOTLIGHT

Each week during the year, we “spotlight” a homebound member. During the week, remember to send that member a card, write a note, or make a phone call. Let them know how much they are missed!

1/5 Mr. Douglas Bobbio
1711 Bellevue Ave., D-717
Richmond, VA 23227

1/12 Mr. Bill Gotthardt
7080 Brooks Farm Road, Room 125
Mechanicsville, VA 23111

1/19 Mrs. Betty Land
7300 Forest Ave. #324-A
Henrico, VA 23226

1/26 Mr. Douglas Bobbio
1711 Bellevue Ave., D-717
Richmond, VA 23227

There are several of our members who aren't able to attend on a regular basis and who are not on this list, but are in our thoughts and prayers. A card or a phone call would mean so much.

If you have been unable to come to church and want to be added to our homebound list, please let the church office (804-266-3973) or the Elders know. We miss and pray for everyone who is unable to make it to church.

In order to assure all mail to the church is received, we have rented a post office box. Our physical address remains 4201 Brook Road. Our new mailing address is as follows:

Battery Park Christian Church
P.O. Box 9314
Richmond, VA 23227

January Birthdays

Those born in January are lucky to have the beautiful and diverse garnet as their birthstone. Garnets come in an extraordinary including orange, yellow, There are even garnets to purple in different true value of the garnet bring the wearer good health, wealth and happiness.



are commonly red but also range of beautiful colors, purple and vibrant green. that change color from blue lighting. Some believe the birthstone is its power to

Lucy Baughan	Jan. 1	Troy Williams	Jan. 15
Jonah Smith-Bartlett	Jan. 3	Jacob Marsh	Jan. 16
Danny Broaddus	Jan. 5	Chris Daniel	Jan. 17
G.T. Nuckolls, III	Jan. 5	Meagan Ramos	Jan. 18
Nancy Gayle	Jan. 9	Nancy Phillips	Jan. 22
Barbara Lucord	Jan. 11	Diana Heller	Jan. 23
Piper Carr	Jan. 11	Winnie Bobbio	Jan. 24
Logan Heckman	Jan. 13	George Nuckolls, Jr.	Jan. 24
Bill Blake	Jan. 13	Laura Isley	Jan. 25
Patsy Stockdon	Jan. 14	Susie Bodenheimer	Jan. 29
Linda Hunley	Jan. 15		
David Wagner	Jan. 15		

If anyone is inclined not to believe in God, all they need to do is to look at His creation. Even the stones of the earth and the pearls of the ocean are unique and beautiful, as are each of you. Thank you, God.

If you find errors, please notify the church office. Thank you.

CARITAS COMING THIS MONTH

We will be hosting CARITAS from Saturday, January 25, 2020 through Friday, January 31, 2020. Our guests this year will be 35 women, for whom we will provide dinner, breakfast and bag lunches.

Please bring in toiletry items, women's clothing, books, magazines, cards, tote bags, and backpacks for our guests between now and the 25th. Monetary donations to offset the costs of the lunches, breakfast, and paper products can be given to Laura Wagner or Barbara Lucord. We also need volunteers to help set up cots on Saturday, January 19, 2019, prepare dinner on Tuesday, January 28, 2020, help with lunches during the day, and to spend the night in the parlor while our guests are here.

Please contact Laura Wagner, 334-1664, wagner5@mindspring.com, if you can help with this important ministry of our church.

The acronym CARITAS originally stood for Congregations Around Richmond To Assure Shelter. While they currently just call themselves CARITAS, this will give you an idea of their ministry. This will be our last year participating as a church to house the homeless since they are near completion of a facility for the women (the men's facility opened last year). We are looking for a way to continue our participation in this important ministry.

Every Member Can Help

One of our newest members expressed her desire to help at the church saying, "if you believe in something, you really need to support it by being there to help." This is true. Another way to say it is that you get as much from your membership as you put into it. To that end, there are always volunteer jobs you can do, even if you aren't able to take on the heavy loads. Bonnie Garrett, director of our membership department, says she would love some help sending birthday cards to each member from the church. You can see in the above article how you can help with CARITAS. Offer your talents to the church, and you'll be blessed for your participation.

World Outreach

Our two recent special offerings have been sent to the Disciples Mission Fund. The total for the Thanksgiving and Christmas offerings was \$406.00.

The next special offering will be collected the last two Sundays of February for the Week of Compassion. As the relief, refugee, and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Week of Compassion works with partners to alleviate suffering throughout the world. In the past year, your offerings have helped by responding to flooding in the Midwest, drought in India, families separated at the border and those in refugee camps in the Middle East. We have assisted with agriculture projects, and women have been empowered through vocational opportunities from Haiti to Iraq.

You gave the gift of clean water to families in Indonesia and Mozambique following natural disasters. Children traumatized by storms and displacement in South Texas received aid and new churches were built in areas of hurricanes and tornadoes. Life and light was brought to so many places as lives were transformed.

Pre-Need Funeral Arrangements

Like many churches, our congregation has more seniors than young adults. Therefore, the local cemeteries and funeral homes stop by from time to time to remind us of their existence. Recently, a representative from Forest Lawn Cemetery met briefly with Bonnie Garrett who was in the office when he arrived.

This isn't an advertisement. You know of other cemeteries and funeral homes, but some of the information in the Forest Lawn brochure might be of interest. They suggest individuals plan their funeral arrangements before they are needed, giving these five reasons for doing so. Pre-arrangement . . .

1. Prevents emotional over-spending that could occur under last-minute arrangements.
2. Selecting your family plot in advance gives you the best selection.
3. Brings security and peace-of-mind to your family.
4. Assures that surviving spouses will not be forced to pay for final arrangements.
5. Protects your estate from inflation.

AN AMBITIOUS BUDGET FOR 2020

Friends,

In 2019, we, as a membership, made a great change in our course. Instead of being a small church looking toward our eventual downsizing and closing, we chose to strike out in the opposite direction. Rather than simply lying down and accepting our eventual fate, Battery Park Christian Church decided to grow and work for a greater future. As Chair of the Board, I have never been more proud or excited.

With this renewed life we also created and approved an ambitious budget. While most budget items remained the same, we included increases in areas to assist us in the growth process. As we move into the new year, I would like to make you aware of a few facts.

- Our 2020 budget calls for a total investment of \$181,464.
- This new budget suggests an average income of \$15,122 per month OR \$3,490 per week.
- Income for the church comes from a variety of sources (building use, outside donations, bequests), but the primary source is our weekly offering.

If we are to succeed and grow as a church, we must be able to fund ourselves. With this Evangel, you will see where we stand at the beginning of this year. Beginning with the next Evangel, you can expect to see the progress of paying for our budget, as well as collections and attendance for the previous months. The hope is that this will keep you better informed of our progress as well as our needs.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

God Bless,

Eric Seiler
Chair, BPCC Board

Income and Expenses, Jan - Dec 2019

Income	
Offering	73,327
Building use	32,025
Other	9,205
Total Income	114,557
Expenses	
Personnel	61,122
Utilities and Maintenance	44,940
Unexpected Major Expenses	26,395
Other	20,040
Total expenses	152,497

Net loss (taken from reserves)	(37,951)
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Bon Secours Care-A-Van will not be seeing patients at Battery Park in January. When they return in February, they will use a new first come first served telephonic access system with patients calling in advance. This will help avoid long wait times. They are posting an information box on our premises with flyers in English and Spanish to explain the new system.

Flowers for our Worship Services

Jan. 5 – given by Bonnie and Richard Garrett in honor of their children.

Jan. 12 – given by Tom Carr in honor of his wedding anniversary and his and Jean's three children.

Jan. 19 – if you'd like to donate the flowers, contact the church office.

Jan. 26 – given by the Bobbio's in honor of Winnie's birthday.

District VII News

Catherine Law sent a summary from the recent District VII 2019 Assembly, held at Seventh Street Christian Church. There were approximately 55 people in attendance. \$260 was received in registration fees, \$84 as an offering for Church World Services and 20 Hygiene Kits were assembled for CWS. Thanks to the generosity of the host congregation, there were no expenses. Hence, all the money collected went to CWS. Jackie Twedell spoke to the group about her CWS-sponsored trip to Myanmar. Bill Spangler-Dunning and Marilyn Whitaker attended to represent the Regional Office in Lynchburg. Cathy stated it has been an honor to serve as the Board president for two years, and she looks forward to serving with Jackie as the incoming president.