

DECEMBER IN REVIEW

Our average attendance was 15.5. Here we are, looking back on what we've done in the last month and the year. The biggest difference in December was that we had Sandy Downs as our minister to lead the worship.

We celebrated Advent each Sunday with the Advent Candle service. Each candle reminded us of our blessings and of our need to be responsible. The Angel Tree grew and grew until we collected \$450.00 for the Community Market. We can be proud of the fact that WE helped to feed the needy elderly in our community.

We collected funds for the Region to assist in the development of churches in our Region.

On December 18, we enjoyed the annual Christmas brunch. The variety of foods that appear on that table is amazing! And everyone remained awake for the worship service that followed.

December 20 was the evening chosen for the Blue Christmas service we host with Hospice. Despite the rainy weather, there was a good attendance and everyone stayed for a fellowship after the service with cookies and coffee. Pastor Sandy assisted with the program. Hospice expressed gratitude for the hospitality of VCC. This is a great example of outreach service to the community.

Robert Henderson led us each week in Sunday school to talk about the need to consider others more than self - a

reinforcement of the Christmas message.

The worship service on Christmas Day was very special. We heard the story of the birth of the Savior in scripture, enhanced by hymns.

LOOKING AHEAD

Many of our flock were away, celebrating Christmas with families. We look forward to welcoming them back.

The big date for January is Sunday, January 15. This is the date Rev. Sandy Downs will be formally installed as our minister by Regional Minister, John Mobley. Please mark the date on your calendar and be prepared to the church family luncheon that will follow worship service.

Our Psalm Study will reconvene January 1, following worship service. If you have not been doing the "brown bag" lunch and discussion, it is not too late. The more input we have, the more we learn.

THOUGHTS FROM SANDY

Have you ever noticed how many times the word "new" is used in the Bible? The Psalms are filled with directives to "sing a new song". The prophets constantly said that God would do "a new thing". Revelation tells us about "a new heaven and a new earth" and the "new Jerusalem." Jesus tells us at the Last Supper that our communion is the sign of the New Covenant. God must

like new things. Now we have another New Year to serve God in. Only God knows what new blessings we will receive, challenges we will face, and new ministries we will get to participate in. We don't have to know yet. What we do know is that we need to prayerfully live out every day in the way that brings glory and honor to God, our Maker, Redeemer, and Sustainer.

SPLINTERS FROM THE BOARD

On December 11, 2011, the Board:

- Approved the Minister's plan to use scripture and hymns to "tell the story" on December 25.
- Voted to change the date of the monthly luncheon to January 15 to coincide with the Installation service.
- At the special meeting held to elect a board chair, Dottie Battle was unanimously elected.

PRAYER LIST

Nana Daronatsy
Rev. Henry Geigle
Janice Johnson
Kevin Kurtz
Jay Lewis
Wendal McClure
Family of Melba Peters
Mae & George Ramey
Dan Roberts
Joan Schwartz
Dennis Whittaker

PRAYER LIST (CONTINUED)

All those affected by natural and manmade disasters

Military Service: Dale Braxton, Jr.

In seminary:

Amber Churchill (Grace CC)

Mark Underwood (Madison CC)

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Susan Henderson (January 4)

Scott Chastain (January 22)

LECTIONARY

January 1, 2012

- Numbers 6:22-27
- Psalm 8
- Galatians 4:4-7 or Philippians 2:5-11
- Luke 2:15-21

January 8, 2012

- Genesis 1:1-5
- Psalm 29
- Acts 19:1-7
- Mark 1:4-11

January 15, 2012

- 1 Samuel 3:1-10, (11-20)

CALENDAR

Weekly

Wednesday 5:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

Sunday 10 AM Sunday School
Sunday 11 AM Worship Service

January 1 Psalms study after worship, brown bag lunch

January 15 Pastor Installation Service
Fellowship Meal after worship

Vision

To be a faithful, growing church that demonstrates true community, deep Christian spirituality and a passion for justice.

Micah 6:8

- Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
- 1 Corinthians 6:12-20
- John 1:43:51

January 22, 2012

- Deuteronomy 18:15-20
- Psalm 111
- 1 Corinthians 8:1-13
- Mark 1:21-28

January 29, 2012

Not available on the website.



Village Notes

Village Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

www.vccauburn.com

January, 2012

700 East University Drive 887-5111



STATEMENT OF CALLING

We believe we are called as a nurturing faith community to share with all, God's love as revealed in Jesus Christ through prayer, worship, education, and outreach to others.

GOALS

To make all people feel welcomed and wanted.

To provide a facility (inside and out) that is physically accessible to all.

To be open to people who come from diverse backgrounds.

To be open to people who may have had negative church experiences in the past and who are searching for an open, inquiring community of faith where we can all agree to disagree agreeably.