



From My Heart to Yours...

It is my first day back in the office. Lori and I are rested and ready to go into a new year! Rachel comes in with music for the bulletin and thoughts for a Palm Sunday Cantata. There is a bulletin to do and a newsletter to get out and plans to make for Bible study, Sunday school, youth ministry goals, building & grounds needs, new elder orientation, and statistical reports for Presbytery are due soon. New ministries, like the Giving Spoon, are getting started in January and fellowship events to get to know our new members are needed. Here we go again!

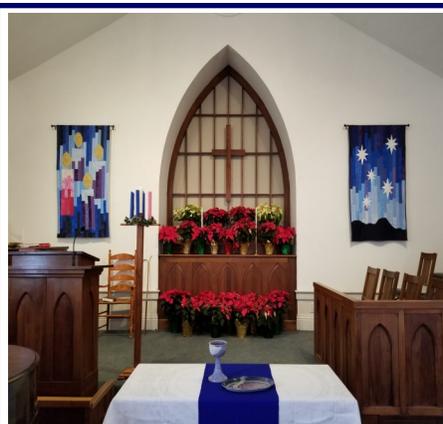
I look out the window at the rain and watch a man and his new puppy walk down the street. I walk into the sanctuary and realize it is time to change banners from the Christmas season to the Epiphany season and to take down the tree in the Fellowship Hall and to bring in the Nativity scene from outside. It is not as fun to take down as it is to put up! And I admit I am tempted to return to home to a nap and a good book and try to begin again tomorrow.

Then I open a letter from one of our summer affiliate members. It is a card with their family picture and a note. It reads, "Thought you would like this Charles Dickens quote: ***I will honor Christmas in my heart and try to keep it all year.***" My friend goes on to say, "I would like to think I could keep this promise. The world sure would be a better place if we all could."

During the Christmas season, here at BCPC, we enjoyed a full sanctuary and the beautiful sound of music. We enjoyed giving to two adopted families through the Family Resource Center, and making their dreams come true. We enjoyed our youth as they put on their Christmas pageant, and we enjoyed passing out food in our parking lot at our Manna Food Bank Pop-Up Market. Most of all, we enjoyed bringing in new members and welcoming visitors. We even met some Korean Presbyterians who were looking for a house of worship after they rode the Polar Express.

So as we look toward 2019, may we remember to ***honor Christmas in our hearts and try to keep it all year***, because this world needs the joy and kindness and generosity and hope we felt throughout this special season to remain in our hearts and to be shared.

Pastor Terry



Christmas 2018





SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Steve & Patty Griffith (A) Dave Conklin	2 11:00 Bible Study	3 8 am Men's Breakfast Tim Kurr	4 Griffin Donaldson	5 Rachel Lackey & Jim Strickland (A)
6 Coffee Hour After worship Ruthie McGowan Carden Oetting Ann Lloyd	7 Derek Oetting	8	9 11:00 Bible Study 12:00 - 2:00 Manna PopUp Mkt	10 8 am Men's Breakfast 1 pm Lois Circle	11	12
13 Linda Mitchell	14	15 Paul Butler	16 11:00 Bible Study 6:30 Pot Luck Fellowship Supper	17 8 am Men's Breakfast Mike & Dawn Letterman (A) Julia Burrows	18	19 Marilyn Monatefi
20 Congregational Meeting	21 BCPC Office Closed MLK Holiday	22	23 11: 00 Bible Study Lauren Monnat	24 8 am Men's Breakfast	25	26 Andrew Monnat
27 Boyd Donaldson	28 <i>Session Members</i> 6 pm Session Meeting	29 Bryson City Food Pantry 6-8pm BCPC's turn in Food Pantry	30 11: 00 Bible Study	31 8 am Men's Breakfast	1	2