



Welcome to the January 1, 2018 edition of the Bayshore Gardens Community Church Beacon! We are pleased to continue to provide updates on the life and ministry of the church. Also, we invite you to join us in worship this Sunday! Finally, we encourage you to personally bring a friend to experience God!

During the past month (December) we prayed for these folks who had particular concerns: Alice Gladney, Bonnie Pfohl, Stephanie Ramos, Earl Shoemaker, Jeffrey Williams and our Shut-Ins: Fred Geldmaker, Muriel Johnson, Pat Palmer, Ken and Marcia Russell and Evelyn Tolsma.



During the month of December our church family showed they “Love God and Love Others” through their generous giving. Because of you, 28 children and their families were able to celebrate this Christmas Season. When Pastor Dustin, Sondra and Ginger delivered the gifts to Bayshore Gardens Elementary there were smiles all around. While Sondra, Ginger and Melinda were wrapping the gifts for the family across the street, the children’s mother was able to join us and help in getting everything ready. What a joy it was to see BGCC act and carry out our “Love of God and Love of Others”. Our Consistory has received a lovely thank you card from the Wells Family. Thank you to all who participated in this Christmas act of love.



We want to thank Donna Brown for leading our Christmas Carolers on December 20th. Also, we cannot forget the very special carolers who came to share along with our neighbors the Good News of our Savior’s Birth.
I heard the cookies and hot chocolate were very tasty.



If you could write a note to your younger self what would you say . . . IN ONLY TWO WORDS?

HAVE hope, **TRY** new things, **BE** active, **SEE** the good, **SAY** “I Love You,” more, **CHALLENGE** yourself, **CHOOSE** to be happy, **EAT** better, **ENJOY** today, **FORGIVE** more readily, **READ** more often, **BECOME** your best you.

Happy, Happy New Year! We wish you all the best, great work to reach your fondest goals, and when you’re done, sweet rest. We hope for your fulfillment, contentment, peace and more, a brighter, better new year than you’ve ever had before.

Dear friends of Bayshore Gardens Community Church -

Greetings in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ! I am happy to share with you my prayer for you to have a blessed and wonderful 2018 - Happy New Year! I write to you wishing you a more full and deeper experience of God's love. May you know the depth of this amazing love in the coming year! May you know the joy of serving God and serving others in the months to come. And may you know the joy of welcoming and acceptance as shown by Christ's church at Bayshore Gardens Community Church.

What a wonderful 2017 we had together! We are grateful to God for his faithfulness. We welcomed many new members into the church. We avoided major damage from hurricane Irma, while partnering with MRDV to send supplies to Puerto Rico. We welcomed a second congregation into the church: "Casa de Dios" (House of God) ministries is using the sanctuary on Sundays. Pastor Jose Luis and his flock are grateful for this partnership! We had some great outreach events in 2017: Easter Egg Hunt coordinated by our Chancel Choir and especially Donna Brown, Amazing Community Dinners, A fun night of Christmas caroling (and cookies and hot cocoa), Christmas adoption of students at Bayshore Gardens Elementary School coordinated by Sondra and Ginger, Christmas adoption to our neighbors made possible through all of you! We have some new Consistory Members too: Deaconess Ginger Sandhoff and Elder Matt Claire, who will be installed in our worship service on January 7. This will also be a communion Sunday!

I continue to believe that the best days for the church are ahead of us as we love God and love others. We will be spending time in worship to look at God's Word on these two very important subjects. It is also my hope and prayer that the way we love each other and love our community is the best way to shine the light of Christ within us and to further the kingdom of God.

Thank you for the love that you have shown to my children and myself - we love you too! It is a joy and privilege to serve alongside you as your pastor.

Wishing you a blessed and wonderful New Year!

See you on Sunday!

*Just a branch,
Pastor Dustin*

Amount Needed for December's Monthly Budget	Amount Received for December's Monthly Budget
\$ 3,406.00 x 5 Sundays = \$ 17,030.00	\$ 13,370.42

Please remember that our expenses continue even when you cannot be here.

To save mounting postage costs, we would prefer to send the newsletter to you via email if you have email access. If not, we would be happy to continue sending the newsletter via postal mail. You may let the office know at belltower3@verizon.net or by calling the church office at (941) 755-3503. Thanks!