

FOCUS

ONE FAMILY



November 30, 2016

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2016 Second Sunday in Advent

9:00 a.m. ~ "Care and Prayer" (Session Room)

9:30 a.m. ~ Sunday School (Classes for All Ages)

10:30 a.m. ~ Worship
"The Favored One"

Luke 1:26-38 Luke 1:46-55



The Joy Ringers will provide special music for our service :

Introit: "Rejoice, Rejoice"

arranged by Cathy Moklebus

Offertory: "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" by Sandra Eithun

11:40 a.m. ~ Children's Choir (Choir Room)

5:00 p.m. ~ Youth Bells (Sanctuary)

6:00 p.m. ~ Youth Group (West Building)

6:00 p.m. ~ *Not a Silent Night* Book Study (McLaurin Room)

ELDERS GREETING AT WORSHIP

John Dunn, Anne Abbott

ELDER LEADING SUNDAY MORNING PRAYERS

Will Holmes

WORSHIP AT HOME

Susan D. Osteen, Matt Blankenship

TELLER DUTY

Robbie Branham, Kyle Osteen

ELDER IN CHARGE OF VISITING (December 4 - 10)

Will Holmes

USHERS

Kyle Osteen, Kimberly White

Junior Ushers: Ann Weathers Blankenship, Duncan James

YOUTH READER

Matthew Blankenship

CHURCH HOUR EXTENDED CARE

VOLUNTEERS

Committee Member – Missy Coulter

Nursery – Markita Gadson

2, 3, 4 & 5 Yr. Olds – Billy and Missy Coulter

CHOIR FESTIVAL



The Chancel Choir will participate in the annual Festival of Choirs held at Trinity United Methodist Church this Sunday, December 4, at 3:00 p.m. Please join us for an afternoon of Advent and Christmas music.

PREPARE THE WAY



Advent is upon us. It is a season of anticipation and of waiting. It is also a season of preparing ourselves and the world to welcome the Christ child into our midst. This Advent, we are focusing on the characters in the birth narrative and how they each prepared for Jesus in their own way. Last week

we were visited by John the Baptist who prepared the way with the gift of "Mentenoia" (Repentance). John's message of reconciliation gives us the hope that our lives can indeed change for the better and be moved towards a path of healing and restoration. This Sunday we will hear from Mary, the mother of Jesus. Her message of preparation is one of making room for peace to enter into our hearts and souls. On December 11, we will rejoice with singing and celebration as we prepare the way for Jesus with JOY! This will be our special lessons and carols service. On December 18, Joseph, the husband of Mary, will prepare the way with love. You won't want to miss a single Sunday! This season of advent is not just for us to enjoy, it is for the entire world. Please reach out, invite a friend, family member or neighbor to join us at First Presbyterian. The whole world needs to know and experience the wonder of Emmanuel, God with us.

Nick
Nick

41st ANNUAL SERVICE OF



LESSONS AND CAROLS

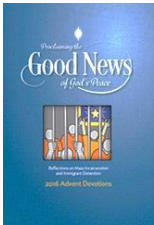
Sunday, December 11

10:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Featuring the Chancel Choir, the Taylor Strings and other guest musicians

This service is modeled after the traditional Festival of Lessons and Carols, first held on Christmas Eve in 1918 at King's College Chapel in Cambridge, England. We have lovingly woven together sacred music and scriptural texts in an attempt to tell the extraordinary story of Jesus' birth.

The Angel Tree Project is a program that provides Christmas gifts for less privileged families in our community. Angels can be picked up from the tables in the Fellowship Hall. When you pick up an angel, please remember to sign the sheets provided. Gifts must be returned by Monday, December 12. Please be sure to tape the angel to the top of the package.



**ADVENT DEVOTIONALS
AVAILABLE**

Advent devotionals are available and may be picked up from the table outside the church office.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5

- 10:00 a.m. Council of Presbyterian Women
.....McLaurin Room
- 6:00 p.m. Presbyterian MenFellowship Hall
- 6:30 p.m. Troop 86..... Scout Hut
- 6:30 p.m. Pack 86..... West Building

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6

- 7:00 a.m. MSY Prayer BreakfastBaker's Sweets
- 10:00 a.m. Staff MeetingParlor
- 11:30 a.m. Worship and MusicParlor

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7

- 7:00 a.m. HSY Prayer BreakfastBaker's Sweets
- 12:00 p.m. Lectionary LunchMcLaurin Room
- 5:45 p.m. Joy Ringers..... Sanctuary
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir..... Sanctuary

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

- 9:00 a.m. Care and Prayer Session Room
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School (Classes for All Ages)
- 10:30 a.m. Service of Lessons & Carols Sanctuary
- 11:40 a.m. Children's Choir..... Choir Room
- 3:00 p.m. Service of Lessons & Carols ... Sanctuary
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Bells Sanctuary
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Group..... West Building
- 6:00 p.m. *Not A Silent Night* Book Study.....
.....McLaurin Room



PRESBYTERIAN MEN

Presbyterian Men will meet Monday, December 5, in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 p.m. Max Goodson has a great program planned for the FPC Men of the Church. Dickie Jones will be speaking and he will have an inspirational and motivating message Randy Lynch will preparing the meal.

SERVICE OF COMFORT AND HOPE

December 14 ~ 5:30 p.m. in the Chapel

Join us for a meditative service of scripture readings, prayer and music by Kipper Ackerman, Harp.



SHOWER SHAW WITH COOKIES

Our church has been asked to provide 50-100 dozen cookies. Cookies need to be homemade and packed in disposable containers that are labeled with the number of dozens, if they contain nuts and First Presbyterian Church on the outside. Please deliver cookies to Swan Lake Visitors Center on Wednesday, December 7, between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Let's show our appreciation to the men and women at Shaw by sharing the spirit of Christmas through this project.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The Council of Presbyterian Women will meet Monday, December 5, at 10:00 in the McLaurin Room.



The following Circles will meet Tuesday, December 6, as follows:

- #1 - 12:30 p.m. in the McLaurin Room
Hostesses: Linda Brown, Catherine Frerichs, Brenda Mims
- #3 - 10:00 a.m. at the home of Anne Haynie, 2781 Creekside Drive
Hostess: Anne Haynie
- #4 - 10:00 a.m. in the McLaurin Room.
Hostesses: Linda Nock and Suzanne Jackson
- #6 - 6:30 p.m. at the home of Robin Thames 820 Haynsworth Street
Hostesses: Robin Thames
- #9 - 7:00 p.m. at the home of Sibbie McFaddin, 422 Haynsworth Street
Hostess: Nancy Smith (Members are asked to bring cleaning/personal supplies for YWCA Safe House and a covered dish.)

Circle #8. Winnie Gee and Fran Kay Co-Chairs, will meet Wednesday, December 7 at 3:00 p.m. at Covenant Place

CHRISTMAS PIANISTS

It's time to plan for our young pianists to share their Christmas pieces with the congregation! Please email the title and composer of the piece that your child will play with your choices of dates! Contact Joni at jonibrown@fpcsumter.org or call 803-773-3814.



The available dates are:

- December 18, 10:30 a.m.
- December 24, 4:00 p.m.
- December 24, 6:00 p.m.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Covenant Place: Marion Young

At Home: Billy Freeman, Charles Shaw,

Linda Montague, Helen Brookes-Futrell, Gordon Rettke



CONGRATULATIONS to Susan and Emmett Freeman on the birth of a son, Charles Mitchell Freeman, who was born November 22. Proud grandparents are Terry Hill and Sarah and Billy Freeman.

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to the family of Virginia Rissling who died November 20.

Names added to this list will be removed after three weeks unless there is a continued need or a request to remain on the list.

FOCUS ON FINANCES

Week Beginning 11/13/2016

	Received		Budgeted
	<i>This Week</i>	<i>YTD</i>	<i>YTD</i>
Revenue			
Contributions	\$18,016.00	\$623,332.52	\$672,219.28
*Other Sources	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$133,448.51</u>	<u>\$142,525.67</u>
	\$18,016.00	\$756,781.03	\$814,744.95
Disbursements	\$6,422.17	\$752,533.67	\$808,366.31
Surplus (Deficit)	\$11,593.83	\$4,247.36	\$6,378.64

**Endowments, Church Event Fees, etc.*