



# St. John's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Notes & Announcements

December 7, 2008

### Prayer Requests

**For Healing:** Bob Benson, Tom Davis, Gene Edwards, Burt Fowles, Melinda Franks, Cassidy Freeman, Robert Hemphill, Warren King, Mary Law, Susan Love, George McCain, Jim Mittenzwei, Anne Moore, Dale Ness, Evan Pertile, George Pierce, Sam Roberts, Colleen Robinson, Vince Seadale, Ida Storrs, Mollie Sullivan, Aloo Tata, John Thomas, Kit Turner, Laura Watkins, Martha Weed, Pearl Wilson

**For Expectant Parents:** Claudia & Shannon Baker, Julia & Michael Bellon, Sarah & Hoyt Burnett, Krista & David DeLong, Lisa & Travis Faulds, Ashley & Scott Jaillette, Areli & Craig Keeney, Becky & David Shea, Amanda & David Williams

**For Active Military:** Fred Aldrich, John Benson, Michael Fisher, Michael Hook, Heyward Lindler, Ben Minton, Scott Turner, John Whilden, Mike Williams

**For those who have died:** Joseph Mariner Thompson (11/21), father of Susan Turnbull; Myrtice Bloodworth, grandmother of Jamie Welch

### Christmas Worship

#### Christmas Eve

Wednesday, Dec. 24

\*4:00 pm Children's pageant "A Shepherd's Story"

\*4:30 pm Holy Eucharist

10:00 pm Carol Service

10:30 pm Holy Eucharist

\*Nursery Available

#### Christmas Day

Thursday, Dec. 25

10:30 am Holy Eucharist

No Nursery

#### Sunday, Dec. 28

\*10:30 am Holy Eucharist (one service only)

No Sunday School or Children's Chapel

\*Nursery Available

No Service on Wednesday, Dec. 31

Parish Office will be closed Dec. 24, 25, & 26

### This Week at St. John's

**Sunday School** for 3K – 5<sup>th</sup> grade will meet TODAY at 10:15 am. Grades 6-12<sup>th</sup> should attend the Annual Meeting with their parents.

**Adult Christian Formation** classes will not meet TODAY.

**Annual Parish Meeting** is TODAY at 10:15 am in the Barr Center Gym. All members of the congregation 16 years of age and older are entitled to vote at the annual meeting. If you have a proxy ballot, please give it to Michael Burkett before the call to order of the meeting.



**Advent Giving Tree** gifts should be returned TODAY. If you do not have your gifts today, please bring them to the church tomorrow at 9 am.

**St. Mary's & St. Catherine's Guild** will meet in the Parlor at 3:00 pm on Monday, Dec. 8. We will celebrate Holy Eucharist together followed by fellowship & refreshments. Contact: Judy Anderson (799-1821)

**St. Monica's & St. Bridget's Guild** Christmas party will be Monday, Dec. 8 at 6:00 pm at the home of Rhett & Beaver Hardy. Please bring an appetizer and one present for our annual Christmas game. Saturday, Nov. 13 at 10 am we will meet in the Barr Center kitchen to package and deliver cookies for the shut-ins. Please bring two dozen cookies. Contact: Miriam Hedgepath (787-0219)

**Yoga No Yoga** this week (12/9).

**Connections** St. John's young couples group will gather on Wednesday, Dec. 10 at the home of Ashley and Scott Jaillette (618 South Woodrow St.) at 7:00 pm. Everyone is invited to bring a covered dish and a gift for the white elephant exchange. Newcomers welcome. Contact: Ashley Jaillette (331-5491)

**January Messenger Deadline** is Thursday, Dec. 11. Please send all items to Rachel Cross (rbc@stjohnscolumbia.org).

### Looking Ahead . . .

**Happy Birthday Isaiah Knight!** Mr. Isaiah Knight has been our Sunday sexton for many years. Dec. 13 he will celebrate his 80th birthday. On Sunday, Dec. 14 immediately following the 9:00 service, St. John's will have a reception in the gym to honor him. There is no adult Sunday School that day. Children are asked to stop by before Sunday school. Please come celebrate the life of this faithful man.

**Children's Christmas Eve Pageant** "A Shepherd's Story" The pageant will be at 4:00 pm in the church. All children 3K-5th grade will learn the carols in Sunday School and choir. Rehearsal for "The Shepherd's Story" will be Sunday, Dec. 21 at 4:00 pm in the church.

**Caroling & Hot Chocolate** Dec. 21 at 4:30 pm. The parish is invited to join EYC for this.

## EYC Calendar

Sundays 5-7pm unless otherwise noted

- Dec 7 EYC @ the Art Shack: ornaments  
Final Payment for Ski Trip Due  
Dec 14 EYC Christmas Outreach  
Dec 21 4:30 The Parish is invited to join EYC  
For caroling and hot chocolate  
6-8pm EYC Christmas Party  
Dec 28 NO EYC  
Jan 4 EYC Bring new socks and T-shirts  
Jan 6 Feast of Lights

## SR HIGH SKI TRIP

When: January 9-11 Cost: \$210

Dec 7: Final Payment due TODAY!

For more information go to the blog. Contact Dorian with questions or to sign up.

Always check the blog for updates and details:  
[Stjohnscolumbiayouth.blogspot.com](http://Stjohnscolumbiayouth.blogspot.com)

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**Attention Parents** Parents are needed to help in the nursery on Sunday, Dec 14, 21 and 28. Please call Mary Jo (799-4767) if you will be in town and can help.

**As you enter for worship** every Sunday, please remember to pick up a green Wonder, Love and Praise songbook. Some of our music at all services (except 7:45) will be from this new hymnal supplement.

**Worship music online** —You may listen to recent choir anthems and solos on our church website. Click on links on the main Music page ([stjohnscolumbia.org](http://stjohnscolumbia.org)).

**Join the choir this year.** Chancel Choir practice on Wednesdays, 7-9 pm in the Music Room. All singers welcome. It's a great place to give of your time!

**Festival of Lessons & Carols** at St. Joseph Catholic Church Sunday, Dec. 7 at 3:00 pm & Tuesday, Dec. 9 at 7:00 pm. This candlelight service features adult & children's choirs, handbells, organ, piano, harp, flutes, trumpet & percussion.

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**Servant Ministry** Joyful, joyful: we all had a wonderful time on Nov. 23 at the Harvest Eve service and dinner. The service was beautiful, thanks to clergy and choirs, the food was tasty, thanks to the wonderful young people of the EYC, and thanks to all of you, we collected 356 lbs of food for Harvest Hope Food Bank, vitamins for the Peru project and sent over 32,000 grains of rice to feed the hungry *via* computer. Let's do it again.

**Collection for Cooperative Ministry** Coats, sweaters, new underwear and socks for children and adults will be collected TODAY & Monday, Dec. 8 only. A collection box will be in the Barr Center lobby only. Contact: Tom Savage (796-8488).

**Hand Middle School** is seeking re-gifts for the Christmas Store where qualified students can shop for their families. Leave your gifts in the box in Heyward Hall near the office. Contact: Barbara Mullen (252-1571)

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**Decorate the Church for Christmas** Please join the Guild of Flowering the Cross in the festive decorating of the church for Christmas on Tuesday, Dec. 23 at 9:00 am. Bring your garden scissors, excitement, awe and wonder. Gather in front of the church. Contact: Anne Miller ([mikeanne@bellsouth.net](mailto:mikeanne@bellsouth.net)).

**Keenagers Luncheon** will be at 12:30 pm on Tuesday, Dec. 16 featuring - Gospel Sextet-Spirit's Call. You will not be able to keep your feet from tapping as they sing both new tunes and old gospel favorites. Bring your friends to hear this most excellent group. Make your reservations for lunch by calling the parish office (799-4767) by Monday, Dec. 15. Lunch is \$5. Everyone is invited regardless of age.

**Altar Flowers** *Open dates Dec. 28, Jan. 4, Jan. 11, & Jan. 18.* Order forms are available in the church narthex or on-line.

**Altar Flower Delivery** The schedule is being set for 2009. If you would like to help deliver altar flowers (just 2 Sundays a year), please call Lisa Wilcox (252-1180).

**Auction/White Elephant Sale** will be on Sunday, Jan. 25, at 5:00 pm at the King's Grant clubhouse. Women: there is no cost to attend, and you will eat, drink, and make merry as you bid on vacation homes, jewels, spa packages, and art. Money raised will provide scholarships for the St. John's Women's Retreat. Contact: Pam Hodnett (252-7578) Retreat dates: March 27, 28 & 29.

**Kanuga Parish Weekend** Feb. 13-15, 2009. *Telling Our Story. . . Making scripture come alive!* Our speaker: Tracy Rodosevic, Dean of the Academy for Biblical Storytelling. Adults, youth and children will experience the deeper message behind the stories of the Bible through Tracy's special brand of humor, insight and faith. Check her out at [Tracyrad.com](http://Tracyrad.com). Registration forms will be available soon. Gift certificates will be available TODAY at the annual meeting.

**Bena Dial Scholarships** are given by the ECW of the Diocese of Upper SC. Applications are now available online at [www.edusc.org/ECW](http://www.edusc.org/ECW). Deadline is March 1, 2009.

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## Stewardship 2009

*A spiritual gift is given to each of us as a means of helping the entire church.* 1 Corinthians 12:7

Thanks to all of you who have turned in your 2009 Pledge Card so far. If you haven't done so already, please turn your pledge in as soon as possible. If you need another copy, there are copies in the church narthex and the church office, as well as on our website.

St. John's needs all of its members to respond fully to God's grace by pledges of Time, Talent and Treasure. Our 2009 pledge, a percentage of our treasure, is an acknowledgement that all we have is a gift from God. It shows that we are choosing to honor God by returning to him a portion of what we have received for the work of Christ through our church. Thank you for your commitment to God through St. John's.

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## Adult Christian Formation

*Sunday morning class offerings will resume in January.*

**Financial Peace University** A biblically-based class taught by national radio personality and personal money management expert, Dave Ramsey. *The average family pays off \$5,300 and saves \$2,700 during the 13-week course!* Join us for a preview, TODAY at the Annual Meeting or Jan. 4 during Sunday School for details. Classes will be on Sundays 5:00 -7:00 pm beginning Jan. 18. Contact: Shelly Jones (665-7255)

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**Tuesday Morning Men's Bible Study** Minor Prophets, i.e., the shorter books. Newcomers always welcome. Reading schedule is posted on our web site. Bring a Bible. 6:45-8:00 am, Barr Center Dining Room. Contact: Ned Badgett (787-8189)

**MOMS (Ministering Our Mother's Spirits) Bible Study** meet on Tuesdays, 9:30 -12:00 pm in the Parlor-first floor. We will be in the kitchen cooking this week (12/9). Childcare is provided.

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## Today's Altar Flowers

Given to the glory of God by Adele and Gordon Thomas and in memory of, and in honor of the birthday of, Rebecca McCabe Hunter, Adele's grandmother.

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## Today's Service Participants

*Lectors:* 7:45 John Walker, Lessons and Prayers; 9:00 Janine Lewis, Lessons and Prayers, Stacy Collins, 2nd Chalice; 11:15 Rodger Stroup, Lessons and Prayers, Rob Wilcox, 2nd Chalice  
*Acolytes:* 9:00 Crucifer: Jack Moore; Mary Sarah Komar, Elaine Epting, Blair Epting; 11:15 Crucifer: Preston Busbee; Mary Margaret Collins, Winston Collins, Wilson Sparks  
*Acolytes for next Sunday (12/14):* 9:00 Crucifer: Sara Williamson; Locke Williamson, Will Komar, Austin Lewis  
11:15 Crucifer: Lawson Smith; Maddie Norris, Will Norris, Samuel Miller