



St. John's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Notes & Announcements

December 21, 2008

Prayer Requests

For Healing: Bob Benson, Paul Bowers, Tom Davis, Gene Edwards, Melinda Franks, Cassidy Freeman, Robert Hemphill, John King, Warren King, Mary Law, Walter Lewis, Susan Love, George McCain, Kathryn McCormick, Ramona Mitchell, Jim Mittenzwei, Anne Moore, Dale Ness, Evan Pertile, George Pierce, Sean Rankin, Sam Roberts, Colleen Robinson, Ida Storrs, Mollie Sullivan, Aloo Tata, John Thomas, Kit Turner, Martha Weed, Pearl Wilson

For Expectant Parents: Claudia & Shannon Baker, Julia & Michael Bellon, Liz & Ryan Brewer, 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

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

Lessons & Carols

with Holy Eucharist

*10:30 am - one service today

No Sunday School or Children's Chapel

*Nursery Available

This Week at St. John's

A special welcome this morning to the Christ School (Arden, NC) basketball team, their coaches, families, and fans! The boys are playing tournament games this weekend in Columbia, and will be worshipping with us at the 11:15 Eucharist. Christ School is an Episcopal school for boys near Asheville. Mike Montgomery is currently an 11th grader there, and St. John's alumni include Beaver Hardy, Heyward Hardy, Ned Badgett, and Will Moore. Welcome, Greenies!

Adult Christian Formation classes will not meet TODAY.

Attention Acolytes! ALL acolytes scheduled for Christmas Eve will have a mandatory rehearsal TODAY at 3:00 pm in the church. Contact: Marion Swain (803-493-4447)

Children's Christmas Eve Pageant Rehearsal for "A Shepherd's Story" will be TODAY at 4:00 pm in the church. All children 3K-5th grade are invited to participate. Contact: Mary Jo Pendarvis (799-4767 or mjp@stjohnscolumbia.org).

Caroling & Hot Chocolate with EYC is TODAY at 4:30 pm. The parish is invited to join EYC for this event.

Decorate the Church for Christmas Please join the Guild of the Flowering 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).

If you have a magnolia, holly or eucalyptus tree in your yard and would bring cuttings on Tuesday, Dec. 23 to decorate the church for Christmas, please contact Anne Miller at mikeanne@bellsouth.net.

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

Holy Eucharist 5:15 pm Wednesday Service will resume Jan. 7.

Advent Mite Boxes Remember to be collecting your coins in your Advent Mite Boxes made at Harvest Eve and at the Advent Festival. We will bring the mite boxes to Feast of Lights on Jan. 6 and present to the Christ Child. If you need a mite box, please contact Faxie Watt (faxwatt@aol.com).



Feast of Lights

Tuesday, Jan. 6 at 6:30 pm in the church

EYC Calendar

Sundays 5-7 pm unless otherwise noted

- Dec 21 4:30 pm The parish is invited to join EYC for caroling and hot chocolate
6-8 pm EYC Christmas party
Come join us for food, fellowship and reindeer games!
- Dec 28 NO EYC
- Jan 4 EYC Bring new socks and T-shirts for the City Homeless Shelter
- Jan 6 6:30 pm Feast of Lights
- Jan 11 EYC bowling
- Jan 9-11 Sr. High ski trip

Always check the blog for updates and details:
stjohnscolumbiayouth.blogspot.com

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

Thank You! A big "thank you" to all who contributed to the Christmas shop for eligible students at Hand Middle School. You helped make the holiday more special for many families.

Harvest Hope Food Bank "...for I was hungry and you gave me food....just as you did it to one of the least of these, my family, you did it to me." Make food donation a habit--check your list as you leave for church each Sunday: car keys, children, offering envelope, and food items for Harvest Hope. Place your items in the basket in the church narthex.

Recent Pastoral Letter from the Bishop Copies available in the church narthex or online.

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

2008 Annual Report is available online or in the narthex.

Lists of Birthdays & Anniversaries of parishioners for Jan. & Feb. are now available in the church narthex.

Last Chance! Family and Individual Advent Devotionals are still available in the church narthex, by the nursery in Heyward Hall, and in the Barr Center lobby.

Yoga will meet on Tuesdays at 6:30 pm in the Multipurpose Room-lower level.

Men of St. John's Annual Meeting will be Tuesday, Jan. 13 at 6:00 pm in the Barr Center gym. Guest speaker: James Murray from Onesimus, a prison fellowship ministry. All men are invited for a steak dinner. An offering will be accepted for the cost of dinner.

Weight Watchers Group starting at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral on Tuesday, Jan. 6 at 8:00 am in the Edward Room of the Trinity Center for Mission and Ministry on the corner of Marion and Gervais Streets. The cost is \$98.00 for 10 weeks. Please contact Ellen Linder (771-7300 or elinder@trinitysc.org) if you have questions or would like to join.

Pertile Family If you would like to send a note of encouragement to the Alex and Rachel Pertile family during Evan's treatment at St. Jude's Children's Hospital over the next several weeks, use one of these addresses -

Home: 112 Sundowne Place
Columbia, SC 29209

Hospital: Evan Pertile
Target House 2
1811 Poplar Avenue
Memphis, TN 38104

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 Radosevic, 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. Registration forms will be available soon.

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

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. 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.

Adult Christian Formation

Sunday morning class offerings will resume on Jan. 4.

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 pre-view, 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)

Tuesday Morning Men's Bible Study will resume Jan. 6. Contact: Ned Badgett (787-8189)

MOMS (Ministering Our Mother's Spirits) Bible Study MOMS will resume Jan. 6. Contact: Cope Fralick (256-7749).

Today's Altar Flowers

Given by Billy Martin, Suzanne Martin Baird, Sally Martin Porter, and Mary Martin Fox in memory of Peggy Martin and in honor of Bill Martin.

Today's Service Participants

Lectors: 7:45 Bill Todd, Lessons and Prayers; 9:00 Benton Williamson, Lessons and Prayers, Faxie Watt, 2nd Chalice; 11:15 Angela Daniel, Lessons and Prayers, Rodger Stroup, 2nd Chalice
Acolytes: 9:00 Crucifer: Taylor Jackson; Grace Graham, Allie Stubbs, Bellinger Boylston; 11:15 Crucifer: Zack Lindler; Jordan Lindler, Sarah Axson, William Axson
Acolytes for next Sunday (12/28): 10:30 Crucifer: Pierce Jones; Charlotte Jones, Katie DuBose, Austin Williams