

This Week at FPC

Sunday, November 27

8:45 AM Early Worship*
9:00 AM Ignite@9*
10:00 AM Christian Education
11:00 AM Worship*

Monday, November 28

5:30 PM Session Ministry Meeting
6:00 PM Ballroom Dance Class
6:00 PM Stephen Minister Training

Tuesday, November 29

11:30 AM College Student Lunch at Abbey
12:00 PM Center for Christian Studies Meeting
7:00 PM MSNGRbird Rehearsals
7:30 PM Adult Handbell Choir

Wednesday, November 30

4:30 PM Logos
5:00 PM Oasis: Prayer
5:30 PM Church Family Night Supper
6:00 PM Yada Yada
7:35 PM Adult Choir

Thursday, December 1

7:15 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast
9:15 AM Coffee Chat
12:00 PM Advent Lunch
5:30 PM Worship Ministry
7:00 PM Faith Discussion Group (Abbey)

Friday, December 2

11:00 AM Intercessory Prayer Group
6:00 PM Friday's at First

Saturday, December 3

12:00 PM Personal Prayer for World Peace
(Wherever you are when the siren sounds)

* Childcare Provided

Check out First Presbyterian Church's
NEW website at www.columbusfpc.org &

facebook

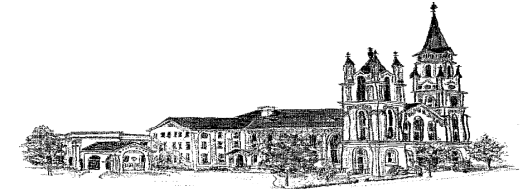


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Services are broadcast LIVE! Sundays at 11:00 AM, on WRBL TV-3.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1100 First Avenue
Columbus, Georgia 31901
706-322-4523



www.columbusfpc.org

November 27, 2011 - 11 a.m.

Volume 66, Number 47

Angels Among Us!

To be honest, there have been times I entered the Season of Advent with a bit of dread and foreboding. Some years I have silently prayed, "God, is it here already? I am tired from a busy fall schedule. Help me make it through another Advent and Christmas. Just let me survive!" Maybe you have had such thoughts and uttered such prayers. Maybe you are feeling just this way right now. Well, hang on. There is hope for us all!

This year I am in a much different state of mind. This Advent my heart is in a different place. There is an eager anticipation in my soul for the Advent and Christmas Season at First Presbyterian. Much of my excitement is due to our theme for the season of expectation and preparation, "Angels Among Us." My hope and prayer is for the Holy Spirit of God to open our eyes and our hearts to a greater awareness of His presence among us and to what God is doing in each of us, our church and in the world! Indeed, there are Angels among us and they are bringing Good News! This year I am watching and waiting, expecting and anticipating! How about you?

In Advent Hope,

Christmas and Advent Schedule

This Week

Sunday, November 27

1st Sunday of Advent

Zachariah and Elizabeth's Story

Wednesday, November 30

Church Family Supper 5:30 p.m.

Program: Rev. Dr. Lyle Dorsett,

Beeson Divinity School

Thursday, December 1

Advent Lunch Series 12 p.m.

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Lyle Dorsett

Upcoming Events

Sunday, December 11

Lessons and Carols 5 p.m.

Sunday, December 18

Christmas Breakfast 9:30 a.m..

Saturday, December 24

Candlelight Communion Service

4:30 PM & 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 25

Fellowship Hour, 10 a.m.

Combined Worship 11 a.m.



All Members, *Ministers*
The Reverend Charles R. Hasty, Jr., *Senior Pastor*
The Reverend Dr. E. Jones Doughton, *Associate Pastor*
Mr. Thomas H. George, Jr., *Organist and Choirmaster*
Ms. Suzanne McCary, *Church Administrator*
Mr. Don Sharitt, *Director of Youth Ministries*
Mrs. Jami Conroy, *Director of Children's Ministries*
The Reverend Jason Micheli, *Campus Pastor, Abbey Fellowship*



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

1st Sunday of Advent

Liturgical Color: Purple

November 27, 2011 † 11 a.m.

† GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME †

PRELUDE *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* Callahan
(Prepare for worship in silent prayer.)

CHORAL INTROIT *On Jordan's Bank* Monk

*CALL TO WORSHIP

*HYMN 170 *O Come, All Ye Faithful* ADESTE FIDELES
(verses 1 and 2)

LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF HOPE Guatemala Mission Trip

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of glory, we confess that we have not recognized You in our midst nor listened for Your voice. Our faith is fragile, and our iniquity goes unrecognized amid our massive self-concern. We have lived as if we have no need to account for the life we have been given. Our church is focused more on our own survival than on its mission in the world. We come to You today with sincere repentance for our neglect. We have failed to prepare the way for Christ's entry into our everyday environment. Pardon and change us, we pray...(continue in silent personal confession)

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (*Sung*)

O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray; Cast out our sin, and enter in, Be born in us today.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Friends, hear and believe the Good News of the Gospel.

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (*Sung*)

We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell; O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Emmanuel.

(*Elementary Children dismissed to Children's Church*)

† PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD †

*PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

*FIRST LESSON Isaiah 40:1-11 p. 667, OT

ANTHEM *With Songs of Rejoicing* Bach
Youth Choir

With songs of rejoicing sing praise to the Lord; For He has done marvelous things! Break forth into joy. His praises the lyre and the trumpet employ. The floods clap their hands, and the hills sing for joy. The seas with their roaring speak praise to His name. With songs of rejoicing sing praise to the Lord; For He has done marvelous things! Break forth into joy. With songs of rejoicing sing praise to the Lord. Come make a joyful noise. Sing to the Lord Alleluia! Sing Alleluia!

*SECOND LESSON Luke 1:5-25, 57-66 p. 56, NT

SERMON **Angels Among Us:** Rev. Charles R. Hasty, Jr.

Zachariah and Elizabeth's Story

† RESPONDING TO THE WORD †

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The Apostles' Creed (*The Hymnbook*, page 12 – "He descended into hell")

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER ("Debts", "Debtors")

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

"Of your time and talents give Him, they are gifts from God above, to be used by Christians freely to proclaim His wondrous love. Come again to serve the Savior, tithes, and offerings with you bring. In your work, with Him find favor, and with joy His praises sing."

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Comfort, Comfort Now My People* Larkin

"Comfort, comfort now my people; Tell of peace!" So says our God. Comfort those who sit in darkness Mourning under sorrows load. To God's people now proclaim That God's pardon waits for them! Tell them that their war is over; God will reign in peace forever! For the herald's voice is crying In the desert far and near, Calling us to true repentance, Since the Kingdom now is here. Oh, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God always! Let the valleys rise to meet him, And the hills bow down before him. Straight shall be what once was crooked, And the rougher places plain! Let your hearts be true and humble, As befits his holy reign! For the glory of the Lord Now on earth is shed abroad, And all flesh shall see the token That God's word is never broken! "Comfort, comfort now my people; Tell of peace!" So says our God!

*DOXOLOGY HYMN 544

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

† SENDING †

*HYMN 151 Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus HYFRYDOL

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE *Go, Ye Who Bear the Word* Whitworth

*POSTLUDE *Come, Redeemer of the World* Bach

**Worshippers are invited to stand.*

†††

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Sara Gardiner Davis Spencer by her family.

Following the 11 a.m. service, a Stephen Minister will be available in the Sanctuary for prayer and in the Museum for private prayer.

Hearing devices are available by request in the Sanctuary. Please ask any usher for assistance.

Youth & Children's Ministries
Family Ministries

LOGOS-a-GoGo 2011 - 2012

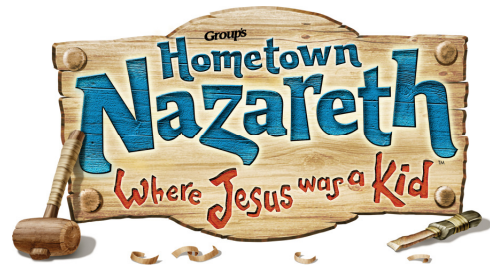
Bible Verse for November:

Praise the Lord. O Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.

Psalm 106:1

Logos Themes

- Nov. 30 Spreading the Cheer
- Dec. 7 Tree Lighting
- Dec. 14 Jesus Birthday



Let's prepare our hearts for the true meaning of Christmas – the gift of Jesus! Each Sunday we will go back in time to Hometown Nazareth. Kids will visit the home of Jesus' mom, Mary, and hear her story of the nativity and the young years of Jesus' life. Kids will also get to visit an authentic marketplace where they can experience a hands-on Bible time village. Your kids will not to miss the fun!



To go Baaaaaack in time we still need these items:

- Mini glass mason Jars
- Olive Oil
- Donations to cover the carpenters shop craft and bead shop craft.

**Youth Calendar
(6th - 12th grades)**

- Nov. 27 No SNL!
- Dec. 4 Y-Team Meeting
SNL! Bible Study
- Dec. 8 High School Bible Study
- Dec. 11 SNL! Caroling at Covenant Woods
- Dec. 18 Caroling at Homes of Homebound Church Members
Youth Christmas Party



YOUTH CHOIR WILL lead in Worship this Sunday, November 27. We will meet in the Children's Choir Room (2nd floor – sanctuary building) at 10:40 for robing and a pre-service rehearsal. We will sing *With Songs of Rejoicing* as the first anthem. We will NOT meet in the afternoon.

Wanted: Volunteers to run the soundboard during church services. No experience necessary. We will teach you. Younger adults welcome. It's fun and challenging and an excellent way to serve your church with your talents. Contact Harry Rice at 706.315.5978.

Congregational Joys & Concerns

Health Concerns

Members: Terrell Adams, Kathy Chancellor, William Gibbs, Faye Johnson, Scott Jones, Hugh Kennedy, Ty Kingery, Betty Lawrence, Elaine McMullen, Bill Miley, Dave Moss, Laurene Moye, Bill Mullin, Fran Paepcke, Dewey Reaves.

Family: Virginia Bartow, *mother of Pam B. Moye*; Ken Crumpler, *husband of Kathy Crumpler (Part-time Receptionist)*; Betty Dickson, *mother of Cindy Sharritt*; Steve Enfinger, *cousin of Faye Johnson*; Catherine Handjis, *aunt of Chris Smith*; Florence Henry, *mother of Larry Henry*; Shara Johnson, *daughter-in-law of Will and Faye Johnson*; the Merriken Family, *friends of Jarrett and Leah Cudd*; Daniel Moseley, *son of Kimberly and Danny Moseley*; Ed and Mary Anne Neal, *father and mother of Warner Neal*; Virginia Rhoades, *mother of Sharon Webb*; Jane Shirah, *sister of Paul Dobbs*; David Stephenson, *son of Agnes Stephenson*; Susan Thomas, *sister-in-law of Inga Paris*, Cathy Smith Wilkerson, *niece of Biddy Hammett*.

Remember our deployed soldiers: Charles Carmen, Wade Greenley, Allie Vacalis, their families, and military families around the world.

† In Memoriam †
Pat Woodson

October 31, 1927 - November 11, 2011

Congregational Sympathy is extended to Jeanne Dickey on the recent loss of her brother, Jimmy Hart. Mr. Hart is the father of Richard Hart, former Associate Pastor at First Presbyterian.

Congratulations to Eric Norris, son of Becky and Terry Norris, who received teacher of the year for his school and for his county in Pickens County,

Notes for Sunday, November 27, 2011

8:45 AM Usher Team

Leonard Buce, Gary Singley.

11:00 AM Usher Team

Pete Pease – Captain, Chad Cottrell, Rob Harbison, Frank Lumpkin, III, Will McCormick, Emily Pease, Mark Post, Mary Casey Powers, Mike Stone, Crystal Trawick, Johnson Trawick.

Vestibule Team

Jack Benedict - Captain, Edgar Chancellor, Sam Greer, Faye Woodruff, Stacy Welch, Lucile Flournoy.

Greeters and First Friends

Leonard Buce, Rachel Cowart, Cammy Currie.

TV Team

Scott Barton, Georgia Barton.

Soundboard

Jarrett Cudd.

Youth Scripture Reader

Matthew Adams.

Pastor-on-Call

Rev. Charles R. Hasty, Jr.

Sermons Online

Go to www.columbusfpc.org, click on Worship and then Sermon Archives.

Congratulations to Collier Trotter and Erin Bass who were married on Saturday, November 19th in Winter Haven, Florida. Proud parents in our congregation are Mr. and Mrs. Perrin C. Trotter. Proud grandparents in our congregation are Mr. and Mrs. James J.W. Biggers, Jr.

Congratulations to Mason and Barrie Jarrett on the birth of their daughter, Mary Rollins Jarrett, who was born on November 8. Proud grandmother in our congregation is Patti White.

Choose This Day

As of Monday, November 21, 2011, we have received 232 pledge cards totaling \$1,107,671. The average pledge is \$4,744. This represents a 6.7% increase over the same group last year.

Financial Status through Sunday, November 20:

Total Income	\$1,353,403
Total Expenses	(\$1,425,374)
	(\$71,971)

Had projected a net loss of (\$261,000) so the church continues to operate ahead of budget.

Ministry Opportunities

Please continue to pray for the work of the **Narnia Center in Moscow**. We support them through the Global Missions Offering. They commission and publish Russian Christian Children's literature as well as translate and publish Children's Christian classics. They train Children's Sunday School teachers. They train trainers in order to multiply their work. Children's Christian Education was illegal from 1917-1991. This is still cutting edge Christian mission work to a people and age that desperately need it.

Stephen Ministers Available. If you would like to pray with a Stephen Minister immediately following the 11 a.m. worship service, Mary Margaret Stone will be in the Museum, Earle Powell will be in the Sanctuary, and Earle Powell will be on call during the week at 706.569.7776. All contacts with Stephen Ministers are held in confidence.

IT'S THE FIRST CHRISTMAS without him or her and it hurts. The family gathered around the tree is smaller now. You keep thinking of the way it was last year. At this difficult time, a **STEPHEN MINISTER** can help. Your Stephen Minister will listen while you work through your sorrow and pain. If you can use the help of a Stephen Minister, contact Rev. Doughton.

We will receive the **annual Thanksgiving Offering for Thornwell Home Sunday, November 27**. For decades children from Georgia, South Carolina, and elsewhere have found a haven of hope at Thornwell. Offering envelopes will be in the pews. *Please make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church.*

The Operations Ministry Team oversees the faithful stewardship of the "hard assets" of the Church. This includes all property, insurance matters, vehicles, parking and systems necessary for their operation (HVAC). This ministry will oversee repairs and/or improvements for the grounds. They work closely with both the facilities manager and the church administrator. Elders Bill Hardegree and Mary Bradley co-chair this body. Elder Wes Driver as well as "at large" members Terrell Adams, Stacy Barnes, Nancy Gunby, Ed Kinner, Bud Paepcke, and Ben Williams work to fulfill the team's mission. Staff members Suzanne McCary and Mike Nierode give support to the work.

First Presbyterian Rings the Bell for the Salvation Army December 5-10: Ring the bell and keep the kettle warm for the Salvation Army as First Presbyterian commits to a week of helping them collect for those in need. To sign up, contact Cathy Bickerstaff at bickerstaff6500@charter.net or Lynn Barnes at barnes1880@gmail.com.

The Christmas Market returns Sunday, December 4. The Mission Ministry Team will host this event that will continue through Sunday, December 18. You can shop for Christmas presents for friends and family by making a donation to one of our local church partners. A provided shopping list will show just how much your money will benefit these groups. There is no better way to celebrate the holiday than to honor friends and family with a donation to one of these worthy organizations.

Annual Christmas Market Kick off Luncheon: Join us for a simple soup, salad, and sandwich lunch after the 11 a.m. worship service on Sunday, December 4, and learn about some of the organizations that benefit from the donations our members make as Christmas gifts to one another. You can shop the market every Sunday until Christmas. For information or to volunteer to help, contact Glenda Malenke at glenda@ctvea.net.

Sack Lunch Ministry: As you are preparing your family for the cooler weather to come, please remember that our friends who come to the door each day for a sack lunch could also use some help. We are requesting clean adult-sized jackets, coats, hats and gloves. We could also use heavy shirts and sweatshirts as well as socks. We have very limited storage space but will try to find room for these much-needed seasonal items. Thank you in advance for your help.

The Jail Ministry is requesting any used, soft back Bibles, Christian reading materials (soft back) or used glasses for the inmates. There will be a box by the stairs leading to the 2nd floor to place these items. Any questions, please contact Mary Margaret Stone, 706.576.5683.

Fellowship & Christian Education Opportunities

Men's Prayer Breakfast

Thursday, December 1, 7:15 a.m. in the Parlor.
Rev. Lyle Dorsett of Beeson Divinity School will be our speaker.

College and Career Sunday Morning Conversations

Join us 20-somethings on Sundays at 10 a.m. in room 108 to discuss the intersection of our faith and events in the news. For more information, please visit <http://www.columbusfpc.org/adult-sunday-school> or contact Rev. Jason Micheli.

Oasis : Prayer: Join us in the chapel on Wednesdays from 5 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. for a time of quiet reflection and prayer. (Feel free to arrive late.) We close with a communal prayer at 5:30 p.m. For more information, please contact Rev. Micheli.

Hanging of the Greens. Christmas garland will be hung in the Sanctuary on **Thursday, December 1**, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Help is needed! No experience necessary. If you would like to volunteer for this annual event, contact the church office. Refreshments will be served.

Chrismon Tree. The church purchased a lovely artificial pre-lit tree last year which will only require shaping, fluffing, and decorating. Would you help us on Monday, December 5 at 9 a.m.? Please call Jennifer Lami at 706.593.1260 to offer your services! Many hands make quick work. Thank you!

Santa Express: Once again Presbyterian Women are collecting small gift items for residents of Presbyterian Homes. Please help by placing small items such as perfume, socks, costume jewelry, tissues, deodorant, toothpaste, shampoo, sugar free candies, and videos in the specially marked box by November 28.

DECEMBER ESCAPE! Relax and enjoy an outing on our bus to LaGrange on Tuesday, December 6 and take a tour of the HILLS and DALES ES-TATE decorated for Christmas and the garden. Please contact the church for your reservation. The cost of the tour is \$12.00. Lunch on your own at TASTE OF LEMON.

Wednesday Night Programs:

- Nov. 30 Dr. Lyle Dorsett, Beeson Divinity School Samford University.
- Dec. 7 Tree Lighting
- Dec. 15 Matthew Fleming, Instructor in Preaching at Columbia Theological Seminary.

We are pleased to launch our first **Advent Noon Luncheon Series beginning Thursday, December 1 and continuing each Thursday up to Christmas.** Our theme comes from John 1 "The Word Made Flesh". Make plans to enjoy one or all of these speakers:

- Dec. 1 Rev. Dr. Lyle Dorsett, Billy Graham Professor of Evangelism at Beeson Divinity School of Samford University
- Dec. 8 Rev. Garrett Andrew-dynamic pastor of First Presbyterian in Albany, Georgia.
- Dec. 15 Mr. Matthew Fleming, Instructor in Preaching at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Ga.
- Dec. 22 Rev. Nikki McMillan, pastor for The Bare Bulb in Warner Robbins.

Julie Micheli's class "**Spiritual Disciplines and Advent**" will take a break on **Sunday, November 27 and resume on Sunday, December 4 at 10 AM in 303 A and B.** The class will continue through December 11. Often we can become overwhelmed by the frantic pace of the holiday season and lose sight of the true meaning of Advent. In this class we will explore some of the classic spiritual disciplines, such as silence, solitude, meditation, worship and simplicity, and how those practices can help us become more centered during the Advent season. We will also explore how to use an advent wreath at home in an individual or family devotional practice, and you will be provided with a helpful take-home resource on this practice.

Our annual **Christmas Breakfast returns Sunday, December 18**, from 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Please make plans to attend and if you can help in any way, contact Jane Jarrell at 706.221.0660 or Debbie Buce at 706.563.9280.