

## This Week at FPC

### Sunday, December 11

- 8:45 AM Early Worship\*
- 9:00 AM Ignite@9\*
- 10:00 AM CCS - Julie Micheli
- 10:00 AM Christian Education
- 11:00 AM Worship\*
- 5:00 PM Lessons and Carols
- 6:00 PM Sunday Night Live!

### Monday, December 12

- 12:00 PM Stewardship and Finance Ministry
- 5:00 PM Missions Ministry
- 5:30 PM Personnel Ministry
- 5:30 PM Deacons
- 6:00 PM Stephen Minister Training
- 6:00 PM Ballroom Dance Class

### Tuesday, December 13

- 11:30 AM College Student Lunch (Abbey)
- 7:00 PM MSNGRbird Rehearsals
- 7:30 PM Adult Handbell Choir

### Wednesday, December 14

- 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 15

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

### Friday, December 16

- 11:00 AM Intercessory Prayer Group

### Saturday, December 17

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

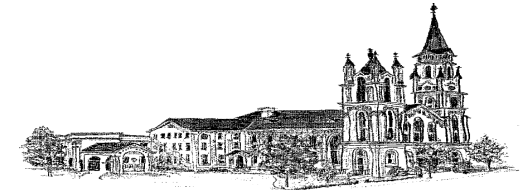
\* Childcare Provided

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



[www.columbusfpc.org](http://www.columbusfpc.org)

December 11, 2011 - 11 a.m.

Volume 66, Number 49

### Angels Among Us: Joseph's Story

This week we will take another look at an encounter with an angel as we hear Joseph's story. It is understandable how Joseph would want to break the engagement with Mary once she told him she had been impregnated by the Holy Spirit. Who could believe that story? Who could blame him for doing what he felt he should do? After he encountered an angel himself, it changed his mind and his life.

Join us as we explore another way God's angels are alive and active and an important part of our lives today. Joseph's obedience to the angel's instruction changed his life forever. Not only will worship be inspiring and beautiful, but make plans to join us for Lessons and Carols at 5 p.m. I hope to see you Sunday morning and evening.

In Advent Love,

*Chuck*

### Christmas and Advent Schedule

#### This Week

Sunday, December 11

3rd Sunday of Advent

Joseph's Story

Lessons and Carols 5 p.m.

Wednesday, December 14

Church Family Supper 5:30 p.m.

Program: Rev. Matthew Fleming,

Columbia Seminary

Thursday, December 15

Advent Lunch Series 12 p.m.

Speaker: Rev. Matthew Fleming.

#### Upcoming Events

Sunday, December 18

Christmas Breakfast 9:30 a.m.

Saturday, December 24

Candlelight Communion Service s

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

3rd Sunday of Advent

Liturgical Color: Purple

December 11, 2011 † 11 a.m.

### † GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME †

PRELUDE *Three Noels* Dandrieu  
(Prepare for worship in silent prayer.)

CHORAL INTROIT *Prepare the Way for Christ Shall Come* Bach

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF LOVE Mrs. Jami Conroy and members of Children's Church

\*HYMN 152 *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* TRURO

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**All-knowing God, we confess our worry and anxiety. We admit the fears that make us defensive instead of loving. We acknowledge our resentment over losses we have sustained and oppression we have suffered. We recognize that we have been far more concerned for our own welfare than for the building up of Christ's body, the church. In our congregation, we have focused on survival more than service. We look for what we can gain more than for what we can give. Re-establish Your rule among us, we pray, and save us from ourselves...**  
*(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 †

\*HYMN OF ILLUMINATION 162 *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* ES 1ST EIN ROS'

\*FIRST LESSON *Philippians 2:5 - 11* p. 197. NT

ANTHEM *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* Shackley  
Andrew Hendley, clarinet

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand. Ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in his hand. Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand. King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood. Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood, he will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food. Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way, as the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day, that the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away. At his feet the six winged seraph, cherubim, with sleepless eye, veil their faces to the Presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry; "Alleluia! Lord most high!"

\*SECOND LESSON *Matthew 1:18 - 25* p. 1, NT

SERMON **Angels Among Us: Joseph's Story** Rev. Charles R. Hasty, Jr.

### † 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

*"Lest the gifts we offer, money, talents, time, serve to salve our conscience to our secret shame: Lord, reprove, inspire, us by the way You give, teach us, dying Savior, how true Christians live."*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *And The Glory Of The Lord* Handel

And the glory, the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

\*DOXOLOGY HYMN 544

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### † SENDING †

\*HYMN (see insert) *Come, Now and Praise the Humble Saint* CAROL

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE *All Praise to You Eternal Son* Monk

\*POSTLUDE *Noel Suisse* Balbastre

*\*Worshippers are invited to stand.*

†††

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.

## Fellowship & Christian Education Opportunities



*A Service of  
Lessons and Carols  
Sunday, December 11  
5:00 PM*

*Join us for this special family time  
of Christmas joy and celebration.*

**LESSONS  
& CAROLS**

**Men's Prayer Breakfast**  
will meet on Thursday, December 15 at 7:15 a.m.  
in the Parlor. Rev. Matthew Fleming will speak.

**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.

**Circle 3** will meet Tuesday, December 13, at 10:00 a.m. at the home of Jane Etheridge, 1519 Elmwood Dr.

**Circle 4** will meet Monday, December 12, at 10:15 a.m. at the home of Mary Speed, Spring Harbor.

**Circle 5** will meet Tuesday, December 13, at 10:15 a.m. at the home of Kathryn Adams, 2829 Techwood Dr.

**Wednesday Night Programs:**  
Dec. 15 Matthew Fleming, Instructor in Preaching at Columbia Theological Seminary.

**Our First Advent Noon Luncheon Series continues each Thursday until Christmas.** The theme comes from John 1 "The Word Made Flesh". Make plans to enjoy one or all of these speakers:

Dec. 15 Rev. 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" concludes on December 11.** It takes place at 10 a.m. in 303 A and B. 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.

**Theology and Literature** will meet at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 13, at the home of Tootie Bickerstaff for dessert and a discussion of *Bel Canto* by Ann Patchett. You are invited to join us for this time of fellowship.

## Congregational Joys & Concerns

**Health Concerns**  
**Members:** Terrell Adams, Kathy Chancellor, William Gibbs, Faye Johnson, Scott Jones, Hugh Kennedy, Ty Kingery, Betty Lawrence, Elaine McMillen, Bill Miley, Daniel Moseley, 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 Sharitt*; 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*; Ed and Mary Ann 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.

**Please remember,** in order to receive contribution credit for the year 2011, all monies must either be received in the church office or post-marked no later than Saturday, December 31<sup>st</sup>. All donations of stock must be transferred on or before that date as well. The church office will be open on Friday, December 30<sup>th</sup>, until 5 p.m. Contributions received after December 31<sup>st</sup> will be credited to the year 2012.

## Notes for Sunday, December 11, 2011

**8:45 AM Usher Team**  
Leonard Buce, Gary Singley.

**11:00 AM Usher Team**  
Tom and Lucile Flournoy – Captains, Mary Dell Borneman, Bob Borneman, Walker Borneman, Sam Dismuke, Sara Dismuke, Mint Flowers, Jim Gunby, Elizabeth Harbison, Abigail Hasty, Hugh Kennedy, Mary Casey Powers.

**Vestibule Team**  
Ed Adams - Captain, Tommy Adams, Ed Booth, Jake Burrus, Jimmy Moye, Stacy Welch.

**Greeters and First Friends**  
Rennie Bickerstaff, Jack Benedict.

**TV Team**  
Kyle Moye, Ed Adams, III.

**Soundboard**  
Harry Rice.

**Pastor-on-Call**  
Rev. Charles R. Hasty, Jr.

**Sermons Online**  
Go to [www.columbusfpc.org](http://www.columbusfpc.org), click on Worship and then Sermon Archives.

**Financial Status through  
Sunday, December 4:**

Total Income	\$1,392,353
Total Expenses	(\$1,456,508)
	(\$64,155)

While we are currently running ahead of our projected budget, the church receives approximately 20% of our pledged income receipts in this crucial month of December. Your faithfulness during this time will allow the church to end the year with positive results.

**Choose This Day**

As of December 6, we have received 245 pledge cards totaling \$1,138,487. The average pledge is \$4,647. This represents a 6.86% increase over the same group last year.

Increased	82	Same	82
Decreased	50	New	31

## Ministry Opportunities

Through your gifts to the **Global Mission Offering** we support the work of the Amazon Medical Mission Trips. Teams of Brazilian doctors, dentists, Christian educators, missionaries, and others travel up the Amazon River to bring health and healing to the bodies and souls. Please pray for preaching points, the newly converted, lay leadership, and the lay missionaries. Please pray for the Lord's protection during these trips; for the partnership with Missionary Aviation Fellowship; for the physicians, dentists, and volunteers [from various churches, mainly in Manaus] who participate in the trips; and for wisdom in the coordination of the Amazon Program for 2012. A central part of our partnership with the Independent Presbyterian Church of Brazil church (IPIB) is sharing prayer needs. Let us together lift up these requests to our faithful and loving triune God.

**Stephen Ministers Available.** If you would like to pray with a Stephen Minister immediately following the 11 a.m. worship service, Alice Bryan will be in the Museum, Cammy Currie will be in the Sanctuary, and Ulla Booth will be on call during the week at 706.322.2466. 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.

**The Christmas Market continues this Sunday, December 11 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.

**First Pres Bell Ringers are Special!** Thank you all for filling our week so promptly and helping the Salvation Army. We hope you all had a good experience and enjoyed your time of serving others. Let's do it again next year!  
Cathy Bickerstaff and Lynn Barnes

**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.

**Correction:** The amount reported in last weeks bulletin about the money received from our recent Missions Auction is incorrect. The correct amount should be \$9,483.00.

Special thanks goes to all who invested in **Thornwell Homes** this year. We received **\$1,250.55** from our Thanksgiving Offering.

**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.

**Check out First Presbyterian Church's NEW website at [www.columbusfpc.org](http://www.columbusfpc.org) &**



## Youth & Children's Ministries Family Ministries

### LOGOS-a-GoGo 2011 - 2012

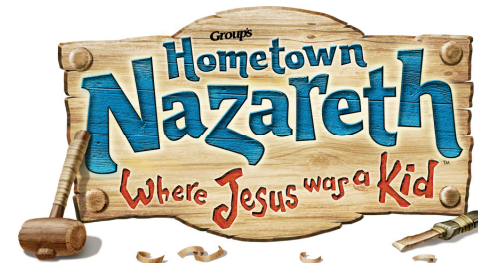
#### Bible Verse for December:

*Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.*

#### Isaiah 4:17

#### Logos Themes

- Dec. 14 Jesus' Birthday
- Jan. 11 Epiphany
- Jan. 18 Backwards Night
- Jan. 25 Grandparent's Night



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 where the 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 visit an authentic marketplace where they can experience a hands-on Bible time village. Your kids will not want to miss the fun!

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

- Dec. 11 SNL! Caroling at Azalea Trace
- Dec. 14 Last Logos and Yada Yada until after Christmas.
- Dec. 18 Youth Christmas Party at the Sharitt's (6127 Bristol Blvd.) and Christmas Caroling: 5 - 10 p.m.
- Jan. 8 SNL! and Youth Choir resumes.
- Jan. 11 Logos and Yada Yada resumes.
- Jan. 14 Confirmation Retreat at FPC. (Details to come)
- Jan. 15 Confirmation Class Begins



**YOUTH CHOIR WILL NOT** meet this Sunday, December 11. **WE WILL HOLD A SPECIAL REHEARSAL** on December 21, beginning at 5:30 with a pizza supper. Rehearsal will run from 6:00 to 7:00. This will be our final rehearsal for Christmas Eve.