

**Christian Life Conference 2010:** Make your summer plans now for Christian Life Conference 2010! First Presbyterian Church, along with Darlington and Bishopville churches, will host the Christian Life Conference 2010 in Montreat, NC. A hosting team that consists of at least 20 adults will be needed from First Presbyterian to help plan and organize various aspects of the conference. It's a big job! Please consider joining our team, led by Martha Chastain and Joe Koenig. Please contact the church office if you want to get involved!

**Children's Ministry: Kids in A.C.T.I.O.N.**

- ◆ **Chapter Challenge** for December 27<sup>th</sup>: "Then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath or spirit of life, and man became a living being." *Genesis 2:7*
- ◆ **Skating Trip:** January 9<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-4:00 PM. Bring \$5 for admission and snacks.
- ◆ **Confirmation Party:** January 31<sup>st</sup>, 4:00-5:30 PM. Our 6th graders will meet their mentors and kick off their Confirmation Year!

**Fuel Youth Events:** [www.fuelfortherevolution.com](http://www.fuelfortherevolution.com)

- ◆ **Sunday Morning Shift:** Each Sunday morning the Youth Ministry meets upstairs in the Garage at 9:45 AM for fun through games and teaching from Scripture.
- ◆ **NEW and IMPROVED Ski Trip Plan:** We are revamping our ski trip plan! New price (\$225), new location (Winterplace, WV), same dates (January 22-24), *more* skiing (all day Saturday *and* 1/2 day Sunday). Please call Stacey at 453-8076 for more details. Registration deadline is today, Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>.
- ◆ **Small Groups at the Fuel Cafe:** Resumes on Wednesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010
- ◆ **Sr. High Summer Mission Trip to Nicaragua:** We are taking a group of Sr. High students to Nicaragua in conjunction with Son Servants, Youth Conference Ministries' short-term mission trip organization. The trip will be July 17-24. More details, including cost and deposit due dates, will be coming soon. Pray and ask God if you should join us!
- ◆ **Jr. High Summer Trip to "The Great Escape":** We are planning to take a group of Jr. High students to "The Great Escape," a week-long middle-school conference hosted by Youth Conference Ministries which will be held June 14-19 on the campus of Lee University in Cleveland, TN. The week will be packed full of recreation and activities, as well as dynamic speakers, musicians, and artists who communicate the Gospel in ways that connect with middle-school students. More details, including cost and deposit due dates, will be coming soon.
- ◆ **2010 Kick Off Meeting for Parents and Students:** Parents are invited to join their kids in The Garage on Sunday morning, January 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:45-10:45am for a fun and informing meeting about what will be going on with our youth group from January through August. This will be a great time to bring your calendar and hear more about upcoming trips and activities, pay deposits on any trip your child will be attending, or ask any questions you may have. Please plan to join us!
- ◆ **Don't Forget:** Coming soon!

**The Presbyterian Coffee Project:** Calling all Coffee Lovers! Warm up with Organic Coffee this winter. Drop by the Fellowship Hall after services and stock up! Remember, for each pound of coffee purchased through the project, Equal Exchange makes a contribution to the Presbyterian Small Farmer Fund.

**Special Prayer Needs:** We encourage you to note your prayer requests on the *Request for Prayer* cards in the pew racks and then place them in the offering plate. Your requests are referred to the Pastors.

**Hearing Assisted Devices** are available in the sanctuary. Please see an usher to receive one. The devices are wireless so you may sit anywhere you wish and adjust the volume.

**Visitors Welcome:** If you are a guest with us today, we want to give you a special "welcome" gift. Make sure, as you leave today, to pick up a bag from our hospitality area in the back of the sanctuary.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Sunday, December 27, 2009**

- 8:30 AM Contemporary Worship Service
- 9:45 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service
- 4:30 PM Volleyball in CLC

**Monday, December 28, 2009**

Mother's Morning Out CLOSED  
Church Office Closed

**Tuesday, December 29, 2009**

- 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study Breakfast: GS Rm
- 9:30 AM Women's Prayer Group in Parlor
- 10:15 AM Manna House Lunch Crew

**Wednesday, December 30, 2009**

Mother's Morning Out CLOSED  
**No Wednesday Night Activities**  
6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal  
7:30 PM Chancel Choir Practice

**Thursday, December 31, 2009 New Year's Eve**

12:00 PM Church Office Closes for half day

**Friday, January 1, 2010**

Church Office Closed  
Mother's Morning Out CLOSED

# First Presbyterian

FLORENCE SOUTH CAROLINA

11:00 am

December 27, 2009



**Growing UPWARD**  
worshipping and praising

**Growing INWARD**  
becoming more like Christ

**Growing OUTWARD**  
sharing the good news



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*Enter Reverently. Meditate Quietly. Worship Devoutly.*

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### PRELUDE

*Noël* Louis-Claude Daquin

### GREETINGS

### INTROIT

*See Amid the Winter's Snow* John Goss  
arr. Haan

See amid the winter's snow, born for us on earth below;  
See the tender Lamb appears, promised from eternal years!  
Hail, thou ever blessed morn! Hail, Redemption's happy dawn!  
Sing through all Jerusalem, Christ is born in Bethlehem!  
Edward Caswell, 1851

### CALL TO WORSHIP AND INVOCATION

*The Lord's Prayer* No. 740

### \*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

*Joy to the World!* No. 179  
ANTIOCH

### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*The Apostles' Creed* located in pew rack

### \*THE GLORIA PATRI

No. 734  
*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.*

### MUSICAL MEDITATION

*Sweet Little Jesus Boy* Robert MacGimsey  
Emily Monk, soprano

Sweet little Jesus Boy they made you be born in a manger. Sweet little Holy Child didn't know who you was. Didn't know you'd come to save us Lord; To take our sins away. Our eyes was blind we couldn't see, we didn't know who you was. Long time ago you was born, born in a manger low sweet little Jesus boy. The world treat you mean Lord, treat me mean too, but that's how things is down here: We don't know who you is. You done told us how we is tryin'. Master, you done showed us how even when you was dyin'. Just seem like we can't do right, look how we treated you. But please, sir, forgive us, Lord. We didn't know it was you. Sweet little Jesus Boy, born long time ago. Sweet little Jesus Child and we didn't know who you was.

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Heavenly Father, we acknowledge that all things good in this world come from You; life, breath, happiness, goodness, truth, and beauty. Yet our hearts can be hardened by life and ungrateful. Help us see Your handiwork. Forgive us for our lack of thankfulness. In the spiritual world, we are also dependent on You for all things. Give us grace to know more of our need for Your grace. Show us our sinfulness that we may confess it. And forgive us for losing sight of Christ, and the gift that He is to us. Continue to bring Him before us in such vividness that our passions for the things of this world fall away, and all our delight is found only in Him. We pray this together in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON

### MESSAGE FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Following the Message for Young Disciples, children in 3K through 1<sup>st</sup> Grade are invited to go with a worship caregiver to attend *Children in Worship*. If this is your child's first visit to Children's Church, we encourage you to walk with them. A nursery is provided for 2K children and below.

### \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT

*Go, Tell it on the Mountain* No. 218  
GO, TELL IT

### PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory  
*Merrily on High* French Carol  
arr. Jennings

Chancel Choir

Ding dong! Merrily on high in heav'n the bells are ringing, Ding dong! Verily the sky is riv'n with angel singing. Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis! E'en so here below let steeple bells be swungen, and "io, io, io," by priest and people sungen. Merrily ringing, merrily singing, ringing and singing, Hosanna in excelsis! Pray you, dutifully prime your Matin chime, ye ringers; May you beautifully rime your Evetime Song, ye singers: Glory, Hosanna in excelsis!  
G.R. Woodward

\*The Doxology No. 34  
OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

\*Prayer of Dedication

### ORGAN INTERLUDE

*In Bethlehem's Stable* Helmut Walcha

### PRAYER FOR GOD'S PEOPLE, WORK AND WORLD

### SERMON

"The Face of God"  
*Colossians 1:9-20*

Rev. Handley

### \*HYMN OF RESPONSE

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing!* No. 185  
MENDELSSOHN

### \*CALL TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*CHORAL RESPONSE

*The First Noel* English Carol  
Noel, noel, born is the King of Israel!

### \*POSTLUDE

*O Come, All Ye Faithful* 18th century Latin Hymn  
setting Cherwien

\*Congregation is invited to stand.

☞ Pastor will dismiss children to leave with their worship care-giver.

This morning's worship is led by  
Rev. Chris Handley, Associate Pastor,  
Dr. Barry Jenkins, Senior Pastor, and  
Mrs. Ann Rodgers Chandler, Organist and Director of Music

✝ ✝ ✝ ✝ ✝

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Elder Greeters** for this morning's service are Wendell Jones and Richie Wilhoit.

**Ushers Volunteers:** If you would like to help usher during the worship service in the month of January, please contact Hunter Morgan at 393-5565.

**Communion:** We will celebrate Communion next Sunday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> at both services.

**Prodigal God:** On January 3<sup>rd</sup>, First Presbyterian will kick off an exciting 6 week study of the Parable of the Prodigal in Luke 15. Together we will study the parable through a sermon series, coupled with weekly small group gatherings. This campaign is inspired by a book and discussion guide by Dr. Tim Keller called *The Prodigal God*. If you are not a member of a weekly small group, you may sign up for one at the Prodigal God display in the Fellowship Hall. Books and study guides are also available there for a discounted price.

**Encounter with God Devotionals** January/February/March editions are available in the Fellowship Hall. *Encounter with God* takes you through the Old Testament once and the New Testament twice in five years, reading 10-20 verses per day. \$3.00

**PW Women's Mid Winter Gathering:** Thursday, January 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:30 AM. We will begin with our White Cross Mission project in the Good Samaritan room followed by a short business meeting at noon. Lunch will be served in the Fellowship Hall. If anyone in your circle would like to volunteer to help, please let Virginia Spencer know.

**Haiti Mission 2010** is scheduled for March 4<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>. We are planning to help stucco the school, work on drip irrigation and canals, and build bookshelves in addition to ministering to the Haitian people. Please contact Chris Handley if you are interested in going!

**Amazon Mission 2010:** June 5-13, 2010. Join us for an experience of a lifetime as we visit remote jungle villages along the Amazon River. Ask anyone who has ever been on one of these trips and they will tell you it was one of the most powerful spiritual experiences of their lives. Our teams are usually around 12-15 people and we still have some slots available. Give prayerful consideration as to whether God might be calling you to the Amazon.

**The Lazarus Life In Town Retreat:** February 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> we will welcome Stephen Smith, author of *The Lazarus Life*, a book about the story of Lazarus from John 11 filled with deep meaning for people today who are wanting to change but cannot; wanting to transform but feel stuck; longing for "more" in life but can't find it. Our retreat will begin Friday with a dinner, continue Saturday morning from 8:30-11:30 AM and end that Sunday with a combined worship service and lunch. More details tba!