

St. John's Visitor

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ST. JOHN'S CHANCEL CHOIR IN THE WINTER GARDEN OF THE BILTMORE HOUSE



The week after Thanksgiving, the St. John's Chancel Choir appeared at the Biltmore House, as part of their Christmas Candlelight tour. Thanks very much to Van Smith and his downtown men's store, Lionel Smith, Ltd., for donating tuxedos for the men to wear. The choir is looking forward to December 23's Christmas cantata, *Canticle of Joy*, which they studied in a workshop with the composer Joseph Martin. They will present the cantata at both services that day. The choir will also appear at the 11pm worship service on Christmas Eve.

WINTER SOLSTICE SERVICE is a brief worship service to memorialize loved ones during the holiday season. This service is a simple, quiet one, providing an opportunity to spend time with others in a similar place during the 2007 holidays. You are invited to be present in St. John's Chapel on Friday, December 21, at 7 pm. This day of the calendar year has the shortest number of daylight hours; hence the night is the longest which can be symbolic of feelings of loss and grief.

December 16, 2007
Third Sunday of Advent
"ARE YOU THE ONE?"
Rev. Dr. George Howle
Scripture: Matthew 11: 2 - 11

Anthem
Offertory
Hymns

What Sweeter Music
Christmas Day

Rutter
Holst

O Come, All Ye Faithful
The First Noel

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

NEWS OF THE FAMILY

Meetings to Note

Thursday, December 13

1:30 Spiritual Gifts Class
7:00pm Overeaters Anonymous

Friday, December 14

11:00am Coping with the Holidays
7:00pm Primetime Bridge

Sunday, December 16

8:15am Coffee House
12:30pm Strategic Planning/Evangelism
5:00pm Masterworks Chorale Concert
6:00pm Sunday Night Youth Party
6:00pm *Christian Believer* Bible Study

Monday, December 17

4:00pm United Methodist Women Elections
7:00pm Women's Bible Study
7:00pm Finance Committee

Tuesday, December 18

Youth Caroling
6:00pm Asbury Class Party
7:00pm First Place

Wednesday, December 19

9:30am Prayer Shawl Breakfast Drop-in
1:30pm *Old Testament* Bible Study
4:00pm Grief Share Group
7:00pm Covenant Prayer Group
7:00pm Men's Bible Study

Serving This Week

Crucifer - Lizzie Mahoney
Acolytes - Zach Madden, Kaitlyn Mikes
Altar Guild - Donna Caprell Kraft,
Betty Mullikin, Zenith Sharpe, Cynthia Stapleton, Vivian Tate
Crib Rm (11:00 a.m.) - Casey Young
Toddlers - Holley Kring
2-3 Yr Nursery - Ann Prather
3-4 Yr Nursery - Laura Rowan
Greeters 8:45 - Joe & Leah Lewis,
Bobby & Phyllis Coker
Sunday School Greeter - Beverly Burch
Greeters 11:00 - James & Lou Davis,
Bill & Sylvia Spell
Sunday AM Host (December 16)
Jim Heffner
Evening Hosts
Sunday (Dec 16) - *Dan Fabrick*
Monday - *Eric Randall*
Tuesday - *George Kelley*
Wednesday - *Charlie Neill*
Thursday - *Chuck Bryan*
Friday - *Barry Pearson*
Saturday - *Jim Minear*

Last Week's Attendance

8:45	168
11:00	520
Total	688
SS	333

NEW ARRIVAL: *Diana Kisner Street*, daughter of *Stephanie & Eddie Street* and granddaughter of *Christy & Steve Kisner*, was born December 5 in Charleston, SC.

BAPTISM: Receiving the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on Sunday, December 9, was *Amy Elizabeth "Libby" Helms*, daughter of *Tom & Lucy Helms*.

WEDDING: Congratulations to *Lisa Michelle Pardue* and *Jesse Paul Reeves* who were married in the sanctuary on Saturday, December 8.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR COLLEGE GRADUATES!

WALTER JOSEPH CANTWELL

B.A. - Religious Studies, The University of South Carolina

AMANDA LYNN DAY

(granddaughter of Jean Harris)

B.S. - Social Science Education, The University of South Florida (Tampa)

WILLIAM EDWARD DURRETT III

B.A. - History, Coastal Carolina University

LAUREN HEATHER O'REAR

B.A. - Economics, The University of South Carolina

ROBERT MICHAEL SECRIST

(grandson of Hilda Secrist)

B.S. - Civil Engineering, North Carolina State University (Raleigh)

CONDOLENCES: *Deepest sympathy is extended to the following persons who have recently lost family members:*

Betty Jossey in the death of her brother, **Bill Reynolds**, in Ohio on November 13.

Sarah Perkins in the death of her sister-in-law, **Norma Snead**, in Florence on November 25.

Lucy Helms in the death of her mother, **Amy Tinsley**, in Aiken on November 29.

Francis Hubbard in the death of his brother, **Wendall Hubbard**, in Columbia on December 8.

HOSPITALIZED: **Aiken** - Jimmy Player, Ann Jones; **Univ.** - Tanner "Dixie" Hendrick, Jennifer Willoughby; **Atlanta** - Elizabeth Dill, Mary Anne Quinn; **Discharged** - Fred Penix, Jenny Johnson

IN MEMORIAM

IVEY JEAN PAGE ALEXANDER

December 8, 2007

Thank you for your support of the Friendship Sunday School Class' Soup and Salad Lunch. We raised over \$500 which will be used for holiday mission projects.

Kathy Samaha

Sunday afternoon Prayer Shawl Group and Emmaus Group will not meet again until January 6.

PLEASE leave any sturdy packing boxes you can spare in Terry Fleming's office.

2008 STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Budget \$ 1,822,175
Amount pledged \$ 1,574,536

Financials for week ending December 8, 2007

Budgetary needs for the week \$ 28,907
Budgetary funds rec'd this week \$ 47,649
Budget funds rec'd to date \$1,406,382
Actual expenses to date \$1,250,918
St John's loan amt w/Security Fed \$1,478,508

**Last 2007 Supper
is December 12**

**FELLOWSHIP SUPPERS
resume January 9, 2008**



St. John's
youth ministry

Sunday Night Youth Meetings

Dec 16 - Youth Christmas Party
Dec 23 - No meeting (Christmas weekend)
Dec 30 - No meeting (New Year's break)

Youth will shop for adopted family this Saturday, December 15. Plans are to return to the church to wrap and then deliver the gifts the same day.

Tuesday, December 18 - Christmas Caroling

Friday-Monday, February 8-10

Ski trip to Sugar Mountain, NC.

Accommodations will be at a hotel in Boone and transportationskis will be by chartered bus. Permission slips are now available and registration deadline is Sunday, January 13.



CHILDREN'S CORNER

O.A.R.S. SCHEDULE FOR

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2007:

1ST GRADE: THOU ART
2ND GRADE: FROM BC TO PC
3RD GRADE: MARY & MARTHA'S B & B
4TH GRADE: JOYFUL NOISE
5TH/6TH GRADE GIRLS: CREATON STATION
5TH/6TH GRADE BOYS: PALMS & PSALMS

LOOKING AHEAD

December 16 - Masterworks Concert

December 19 - Last day of Preschool

December 21 - Winter Solstice Service

December 23 - Chancel Choir Cantata (both services)

December 24 - Candlelight/Communion Service (5pm)

Candlelight Service (11pm)

January 23-27 - Global Impact Celebration

February 6 - Ash Wednesday Service

February 14 - Valentine Widow/Widowers' Luncheon

February 10 - Organ Concert

March 20 - *Last Supper* Dramatic Presentation

and Communion

March 23 - Easter Sunday

April 5-11 - Mission trip to New Orleans

April 27 - Organ Concert

May 18 - Confirmation Sunday

St. Johns ministry in Honduras continues, with some new wrinkles being in place for the arrival of 2008. The organization guiding the outreach has been renamed as the Honduras Agape Foundation (formerly the South Carolina Project Agape Foundation), to reflect the ministry's growth and to highlight the focus of our ministry.

The ministry is still focused largely on the town of Quimistan, in cooperation with a local congregation to help support the spiritual, physical and emotional health of local kids and their families. Dozens of volunteers from around Aiken have participated in mission trips over the past several years, helping provide simple, sturdy houses and basic medical and dental care, as well as assisting with improvements in local schools.

Plans are coming together for several Honduras trips in 2008. Dates so far are Jan. 17-27 (focusing on vacation Bible school as well as a sanitation project at a local elementary school), March 26 to April 5 (home construction and dental aid), June 11-21 (home construction and other projects to be determined) and July 9-19 (likewise). Details are available from Ed Norton (649-9754) and Michael Norton (648-9740) and also via the website. The Web site is www.HondurasAgape.com.

PRIMETIME SUNNY MONDAY invites retirees to attend the monthly meeting next Monday, December 17, at 10:30am in Ward Hall. This will be their annual Christmas program with lots of music featuring Diane Miniard, Patsy Flowers and carols for you to sing. The



lunch which follows will include turkey pot pie, marinated vegetables, cranberry sauce and red velvet cake. Please make reservations on the friendship pad Sunday morning or telephone the church office (648-6891.)



OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2008 will be available for you to pick up Sunday on tables outside Ward Hall. Please find yours and save the cost of mailing.

PRIMETIME BRIDGE GROUP will meet on Friday, December 14, at 7pm. They will be using a room upstairs this month.

Sunday, December 16, **MASTERWORKS CHORALE** will present a *Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols* in the sanctuary at 5:00pm. First held at King's College in Cambridge, England, on Christmas Eve 1918, this service has become a tradition rich with history, in part through international broad-



cast reaching millions of people. Please come and enjoy the telling of the Christmas story. Tickets are available at the USCA Etherredge Center Box Office by calling 641-3305 or at the door the evening of the performance.

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PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID
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ST. JOHN'S VISITOR
P O Box 809
Aiken, SC 29802-0809

POSTMASTER: Send change of address to
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OUR MISSION STATEMENT

*We grow in faith and number by sharing
the Good News of Jesus Christ, through
worship, nurture and service.*



Serving you...

Ext

22 GEORGE K. HOWLE
23 HARRY W. SAMPSON
29 TERRY FLEMING
26 CATHERINE STAPLETON NANCE
25 NANCY FAIRGRIEVE
27 GENE AIKEN
58 WALTER CANTWELL
57 NANCY REED
34 ANNE L. HAWKINS
21 PAULA C. SAWYER
30 MICHELLE I. PEARSON
33 MARY KOSKY
60 JAN GILBERT
61 MICHELLE BROWN
CARLA F. FLEMING
31 GERALD F. THOMPSON
WILLIE M. GREEN
ENSLEY O. ADAMS
ROBERT WOODS
YVONNE DUBLIN

Minister
Director of Staff and Planning
Director of Congregational Care
Director of Music Ministries
Financial Services
Director of Youth Ministries
Ministerial Intern
Director, Adult & Senior Ministries
Assistant to Ministers
Church Secretary
Director, Preschool/MDO Ministries
Coordinator of Volunteers
Missions Coordinator
Director, Children's Ministries
Organist
Custodian Coordinator
Custodian
Custodian
Custodian
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