

The PRESSbyterian

www.1stpresbyterian.org

December 2021

SEASON of WONDERS

Celebrating the Miracle of Christmas

DECEMBER 12, 2021 ❄️ 4:00 P.M.



The chancel choirs of Orangeburg Lutheran Church and First Presbyterian Church Orangeburg and other musicians will come together to present the Christmas Cantata "Season of Wonders" by Joseph Martin. This will take place in our sanctuary at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday afternoon, December 12, 2021. The cantata is under the direction of Rev. Raymond Tucker and Dr. Eunjung Choi (Director of Music Ministries at Orangeburg Lutheran).

A reception in The Centre will follow the cantata.



CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION SERVICE

6:00 P.M.

ONE STARRY NIGHT DECEMBER 19, 2021

On Sunday, December 19, at 7:00 p.m., "First Praise & Friends" will present an evening of Christmas music and sacred readings. The concert is entitled "One Starry Night" and will feature singers and musicians from several area churches. A love offering will be received for Samaritan House of Orangeburg. Please mark your calendars and invite family and friends as we celebrate Christ's birth.

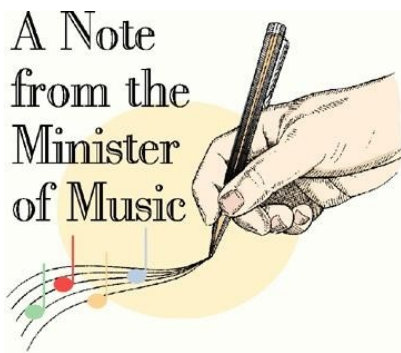


December 15, 2021 ♦ 6:00 p.m.

The Children's Christmas Pageant is on Wednesday, December 15, at 6:00 p.m. in our sanctuary. All children three years old through sixth grade are invited to participate. Children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews whether church members or not are welcome.

Our **ONLY PRACTICE** is December 5 immediately following the children's sermon and **COSTUMES** will be given out.

Kaye Borgstedt



Once again the time has arrived for the church to begin the pilgrimage to Christmas. On the first Sunday of Advent, we embark upon a journey which begins quietly, deliberately, with the intent of preparation; a trek which ends joyfully with the birth of our Lord.

Advent is a time for worship. It is not just a celebration of a time past of shepherds and wise men and kings, nor is it just a present time made for orchestras and choir and tinsel bells. It is not a ritual we've come to watch. It is something we participate in; a time we give, a time we receive. We have to move toward the manger. We have to open the doors of our crowded hearts. Our melodies and praise, our confessions and thanksgivings, must become part of our Advent worship.

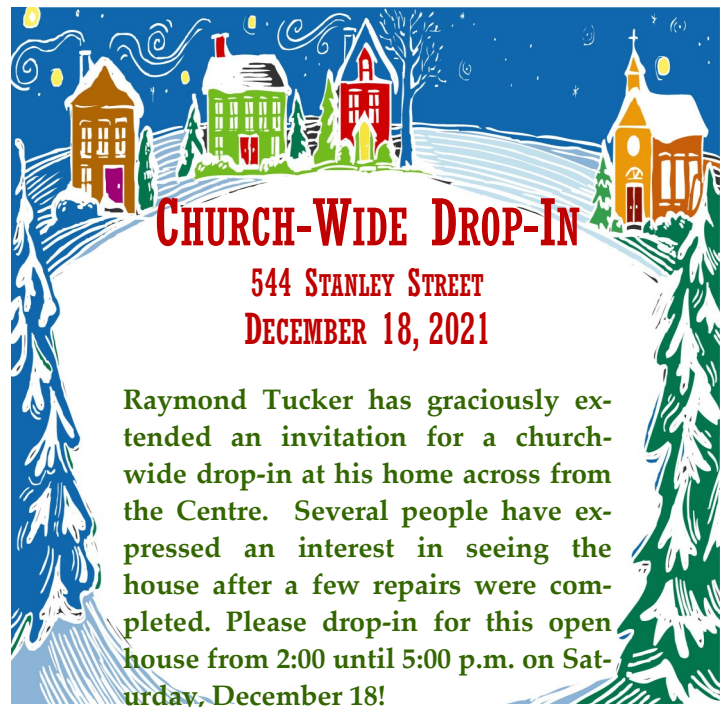
The Christmas of faith beckons us to remember that God is not absent from our lives. It reminds us that when we turn to Him in faith He comes again and again. We can affirm with Isaiah the following:

*Have courage, never fear: here comes our God.
He comes to save you.
Prepare to call him by name.*

Raymond E. Tucker
Minister of Music

JOHN KNOX SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS BRUNCH

John Knox Sunday School Class brunch will be at 12:15 on December 5 at George Ware's home. Bring your favorite breakfast or brunch dishes. Make out your check donations for Liz Codington to Christar.



SUNDAY SCHOOL DECEMBER 2021

ADULTS

December 5 and 12: Everyone is invited to the Fellowship Hall on December 5 and 12 where Dr. Massie will be leading Advent lessons. Fellowship with coffee is at 9:30 and lessons start at 10. **December 19** is the traditional birthday party for Jesus. All are welcome!

YOUTH, MIDDLE SCHOOL AND CHILDREN will continue current curriculum

December 19 everyone is invited to our traditional Birthday Party for Jesus in the Centre at 9:45 a.m.

December 26: no Sunday school

Kaye Borgstedt

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

DECEMBER 19, 2021

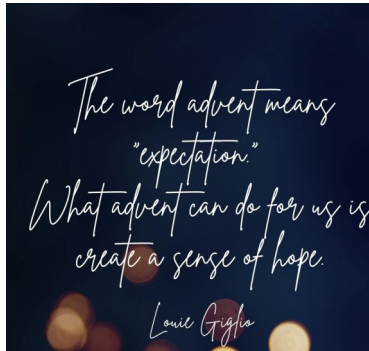
The Christmas Joy Offering will be received on Sunday, December 19. Prayerfully consider supporting this annual PCUSA offering.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

WHAT KIND OF "WAITER" ARE YOU?

In your everyday life, have you ever thought about how much of your time is spent waiting? We wait at traffic lights, in lines in grocery and other stores, in doctor's offices and other waiting rooms, for someone to get ready, for someone to complete a project so we can do our part and the list goes on and on. While waiting on someone or something, what do you do? Do you fume, complain, get frustrated, do nothing...all natural tendencies. Think about waiting in a new light. We can pray, write or send an encouraging text, make a phone call we've been putting off and consider this wait as a time of peace. We could see our waiting as a time to grow our trust in God and as a time for Him to use to grow our relationship with Him. Think about the difference in a child's waiting usually with eager anticipation for what is coming. In our time of "instant," we may forget God's timing, which we know is perfect. God does not just snap His fingers, as He has a plan for each of us and sometimes we have to remember not to complain because God's timing is perfect. Waiting time does not have to be wasted time.

In our spiritual lives, we are entering the liturgical season of Advent which has been described as a time of watchful alertness and a time of preparation. In other words, active waiting. Isaiah said, "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall not be weary; they shall walk and not faint" (Isaiah 40: 31). Christians wait with hope as our waiting is waiting with expectation for God's promised future. Jesus is that hope. God did send us His only son as promised in the Old Testament. The New Testament tells us that Jesus is



the ultimate fulfillment of the OT promise. Jesus came and said He would return and our wait now is with the expectation of the fulfillment of that promise. In the meantime, we have His promise of the presence of His Spirit at every stage of life. How open are you to the Spirit of Jesus? Waiting time does not have to be wasted time. God sent His Son over 2000 years ago and promised to

return. He will and we can use this time to draw nearer to Him. Close and deep relationships take time and are worth the wait. While we are waiting, God wants to draw us nearer to Him. During this Advent season I

Challenge you to spend time in a spiritual inventory. How have you grown spiritually since last Advent season? Where do you want to be when Advent 2022 comes? What do you need to do to get there?

Prayer: Father God, help us savor this time of waiting. Help us rejoice in the slow process of Your drawing nearer to us and us closer to You. Help us be patient as You transform our lives and give us the courage to do what you have given us the ability to do. Amen.

Serving together.

Kaye Borgstedt
Christian Education Coordinator

Listen & Silent
are spelled with
the same letters.
Think about it.



BRING AN ORNAMENT!

FPC family Christmas tree is on the stage in the Centre. We would love for you to bring a Christmas ornament, put your name and date on it and put it on the tree.

THANKFUL ADVENT CELEBRATION

Join with your church family for a Thankful Advent Celebration on Sunday, November 28, at 9:45 in the Centre. We will have a light breakfast, fellowship and more.

SALVATION ARMY CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS

The youth will be filling Christmas stockings for the Salvation Army, and we'd love to have your help. You can drop off items in a labeled box in the Centre lobby through Thursday, December 9. You don't need to worry about bringing enough items to fill a whole stocking because we're going to combine the items when we assemble the stockings. Please see the list below for suggestions and make sure the items are small enough to fit in a stocking. Thank you for helping us make Christmas a little brighter for children in the Orangeburg area.



Sarah Coggins

Infant	Toddler	Ages 3-5	Ages 6-9	Ages 10-12
Baby shampoo	Picture books	Small toys	Pencils	Travel games
Baby powder	Socks	Puzzles	Erasers	Lip gloss
Baby oil	Hats	Matchbox cars	Crayons	Nail polish
Sleepers	Mittens	Books	Barrettes	Note cards
Bath toys	Small stuffed animals	Flash cards	Socks	Yo-yo
Onesies	Bath toys	Hair barrettes	Underwear	Hair barrettes
Bibs	Pull/push toys	Toothbrush/paste	Hats	Perfume/Cologne
Baby blankets	Soft brushes	Underwear	Small dolls	Hand-held video games
Pacifiers	Sippy cups	Socks	Yo-yo	Socks
Diapers	Small toys	Gloves/Hats	Comb/Brush	Underwear
Baby wipes	Baby barrettes	Play-dough	Toothbrush/paste	Gloves/Hats
Teething toys	Bowl set	Stuffed animals	Markers	Wallet
Small stuffed animals	Pajamas	LEGOs	LEGOs	Books
		Barbie dolls	Matchbox cars	Lotions
		Coloring book/Activity book	Play Make-up	Watch

GENERAL FUND 2021

For month ending October 31, 2021

General Fund Income

General Fund Budgeted Expenses

Month

\$32,689.64

\$45,287.80

(\$12,598.16)

Year-to-Date

\$341,798.27 *

\$335,504.33

\$ 6,293.94

* Includes PPP loan of \$23,800

CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES 2022

Contribution envelopes for use beginning in January are available for pickup in the Parlor. Please be certain to pick up the correct box, as they are labelled and numbered.

First Presbyterian Church Calendar

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT: NOVEMBER 28



- 9:45 a.m. Thankful Advent Breakfast
- 11:00 a.m. Worship
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Handbell Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Fellowship
- 6:00 p.m. Carol / Crusader Rehearsal

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29

- 9:30 a.m. Sanctuary and Grounds Decorated
- 7:00 p.m. Cantata Joint Rehearsal

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

- 7:00 a.m. CTVI Tuesday Morning Bible Study
- 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 11:00 a.m. Intercessors Meet in Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary open for prayer
- 1:00 p.m. Intercessors
- 6:15 p.m. "One Starry Night" Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1

- 8:00 a.m. Jim Turner Men's Bible Study
- 10:30 a.m. Circle 2
- 6:00 p.m. Cherub Choir Rehearsal
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT: DECEMBER 5



- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School Fellowship
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service
- 12:15 p.m. John Knox Class Brunch
- 2:00 p.m. Youth Rake 'n Run
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Handbell Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m. Carol / Crusader Rehearsal

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6

- 7:00 p.m. Cantata Joint Rehearsal

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7

- 7:00 a.m. CTVI Tuesday Morning Bible Study
- 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 11:00 a.m. Intercessors Meet in Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary open for prayer
- 1:00 p.m. Intercessors
- 6:15 p.m. "One Starry Night" Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8

- 8:00 a.m. Jim Turner Men's Bible Study
- 6:00 p.m. Cherub Choir Rehearsal
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11

- 11:00 a.m. Cantata Joint Rehearsal

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT: DECEMBER 12



- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School Fellowship
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service
- 4:00 p.m. "Season of Wonders" Cantata
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Fellowship

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13

- 11:00 a.m. Circle 3

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14

- 7:00 a.m. CTVI Tuesday Morning Bible Study
- 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 10:30 a.m. Circle 1: Library
- 11:00 a.m. Intercessors Meet in Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary open for prayer
- 1:00 p.m. Intercessors
- 6:15 p.m. "One Starry Night" Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15

- 8:00 a.m. Jim Turner Men's Bible Study
- 6:00 p.m. Children's Christmas Pageant
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18

- 2:00 p.m. Church-Wide Drop-In

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT: DECEMBER 19



- 9:45 a.m. Birthday Party for Jesus
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service
- 12:30 p.m. Diaconate Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. "One Starry Night" Concert

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21

- 7:00 a.m. CTVI Tuesday Morning Bible Study
- 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 11:00 a.m. Intercessors Meet in Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary open for prayer
- 1:00 p.m. Intercessors

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22

- 8:00 a.m. Jim Turner Men's Bible Study

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24—CHRISTMAS EVE

- 6:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion Service



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25—THE NATIVITY OF JESUS CHRIST



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26

- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28

- 7:00 a.m. CTVI Tuesday Morning Bible Study
- 11:00 a.m. Intercessors Meet in Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary open for prayer
- 1:00 p.m. Intercessors

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29

- 8:00 a.m. Jim Turner Men's Bible Study Class

First Presbyterian Church
650 Summers Avenue
Orangeburg, SC 29115
Return Service Requested



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

12/02	Anna Brake Plummer	12/19	Caroline Bryant
	Hazel Richardson	12/20	John Brailsford
12/03	Warren Albergotti		Amber Hutto
12/04	Frances Lytch		John Dangerfield
12/05	Ashton Gué		Cap Thackston
	Jay Plummer	12/21	Riley Frierson
12/10	Jimmy Guthrie	12/23	David Gillespie
12/12	Taylor Cooper	12/29	Carol Farnum
12/15	Fran Hendren		Josh Nexsen
	Mark Dudley	12/30	Kyle Crabb
12/17	Council Burroughs		Kayla Wall
12/18	Geni Gillespie	12/31	Alice Flansburg
	Clay Lee		



MEMORIALS

IN MEMORY OF

Dr. Michael Strong
Mrs. Helen W. Culler
Dr. Steven Patterson
Mr. Virgil Simpson
Mr. Charles Barnwell
Mrs. Sara Turner

GIVEN BY

Kathy and Herb Bradley
Cam and Emory Smith
Mr. and Mrs. John Samies
Mr. and Mrs. John Shuler
Gordon and Ginger Weigle
Mr. and Mrs. Moss Perrow, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bethea, Jr.