



# The PRESSbyterian

www.1stpresbyterian.org

December 2022



A FESTIVAL OF  
*Lessons & Carols*

Presented by the Chancel Choirs of  
Orangeburg Lutheran Church and  
First Presbyterian Church  
and the Bell Choir of Orangeburg Lutheran

**December 18, 2022 4:00 pm**

Orangeburg Lutheran Church  
610 Ellis Avenue  
Orangeburg SC 29115  
803-534-1192

Directed by  
Dr. Eunjung Choi  
Rev. Raymond Tucker  
Guest Soloist: Diamond Tyler

**Admission is free**  
**Reception will follow in Caughman Hall**

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE DECEMBER 25 AND JANUARY 1

On December 25 and January 1 the service of worship will be at 10:00 a.m. There will be no Sunday School Classes on those days.

## CHRISTMAS BENEFIT CONCERT

On Wednesday, December 7, at 6:30 p.m. in our sanctuary, "First Praise & Friends" will once again present an evening of Christmas music and sacred readings. This year's concert is entitled "A Manger Story" and will feature singers and musicians from several area churches. A love offering will be received for Edisto Habitat for Humanity. Please mark your calendars, as well as spread the word to family and friends.



Bert Shuler

**CHRISTMAS EVE  
CANDLELIGHT  
COMMUNION SERVICE  
6:00 P.M.**



## PARTICIPATING IN WORSHIP

December 4      Youth Handbells  
December 11     Children's Choirs

## THANKSGIVING BOX THANKS!



Once again we were able to honor all requests for Thanksgiving Boxes. We wish to thank you for your generous donations that made this possible. We also thank all who volunteered to accomplish this.

The cardboard boxes were once again donated by Zeus and Piggly Wiggly discounted the \$20 gift certificate included in each box. Many thanks to both of them.

Elise and Gerald Myers  
Co-Chair Thanksgiving Box Ministry  
Evangelism Unit

---

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

- ♦ **November 27, December 4 and December 11**, our pastor, Rev. Clark Remsburg, will lead a study entitled "Journey To The Manger." We will meet in the fellowship Hall at 9:30 for fellowship and study will begin at 10:00.
- ♦ **December 18** - Our traditional Birthday Party for Jesus will be at 9:45 in the Centre Foyer. ALL are invited to attend for a continental breakfast and other Christmas activities.
- ♦ **December 25 and January 1**—no Sunday School; worship will begin at 10:00 a.m.



## "THE LONGEST NIGHT"

*A WORSHIP SERVICE OF  
REMEMBRANCE, CONSOLATION, AND ASSURANCE*



Wednesday, December 21st at 6:00 pm, we're offering a worship service entitled "The Longest Night" also known as "Blue Christmas." This is a time when we can, with others, acknowledge the "blue" feelings we have during the season of Christmas, the reasons for them, and offer them to God. This time has been called the "long dark night of the soul," "the winter of our discontent" in which memories of past experiences and the pain of present experiences can become overwhelming. For some, Christmas Day is the most difficult. For others, it may be Christmas Eve, or New Year's Eve, or the beginning of another lonely New Year. In this service, we will sing hymns appropriate to the season, recognizing that this is not a season of joy for everyone. You will be invited to reflect on the pain, the loneliness, and the sadness you may feel, and offer it to God for healing and transformation. It is our prayer that you will find hope and comfort in knowing that you are not alone. You might even invite someone else you know for whom this is a difficult season. I look forward to seeing you there.

Pastor Clark Remsburg

---

## CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

**DECEMBER 18, 2022**

The Christmas Joy Offering will be received on Sunday, December 18. Prayerfully consider supporting this annual PCUSA offering.

## JOHN KNOX AND SALTSHAKER CLASS



The John Knox Class and the Saltshaker Class invite you to our annual delicious Christmas breakfast! This year it will be held at 9:00 a.m. on December 4 in the Centre. Bring your favorite breakfast dish and join us before our special Advent lesson with Reverend Remsburg at 10:00.

---

## NOTE OF THANKS

It is really hard to know exactly how to express how I feel at this moment to all of you in this wonderful church.

Larry and I have been so blessed for many years to call you our friends. Our family truly thank each and every one of you for all the prayers, cards, calls, food, and visits during this most difficult time. You made everything so easy for us.

Also, when Paul had his heart attack and by-pass surgery, you again came to our aid by being there for anything we might need. We thank you again for your prayers and concern. I am so very thankful to be a part of First Presbyterian.

My Love to all of you,  
Bonnie Jordan and family

---

## CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES 2023

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.

## MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY

The Card Ministry of the Diaconate is seeking new members to join them for the coming year. This is a good way to minister to our church family, all from the comfort of home! Sending cards (birthday, sympathy, get well, thinking of you) to members a few weeks a year is all that is involved. Please let me know if you would like to sign up. My email address is [laurafogle1974@gmail.com](mailto:laurafogle1974@gmail.com) and my cell phone is 803-533-8984.

Thank you!  
Laura Fogle

## READING TOGETHER

There is something special about knowing that every member of our church family is reading the same scripture. Please join me in this tradition.

Kaye Borgstedt

### Christmas Tradition

Beginning December 1st read one chapter of the book of Luke in the Bible each evening.

There are 24 chapters.

On Christmas Eve you will have read an entire account of Jesus's Life and wake up Christmas morning knowing WHO and WHY we celebrate!!





# SALVATION ARMY CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS

The youth are filling Christmas stockings for the Salvation Army, and would love to have your help. Drop off items in the Centre lobby through Thursday, December 1. You don't need to worry about bringing enough items to fill a whole stocking because the items will be combined when we assemble the stockings. Lists for suggestions are available in the McLees Gallery; make sure the items are small enough to fit in a stocking.

Sarah Coggins  
Director of Children and Youth



# SCRIPTURE READINGS IN ADVENT

Pastor Remsburg will preach from these passages in December, in case you wish to read them in advance.

<b>December 4</b>	Isaiah 11:1-10 Romans 15:4-13	Psalms 72:1-7, 18-19 Matthew 3:1-12
<b>December 11</b>	Isaiah 35:1-10 James 5:7-10	Psalms 146:5-10 Matthew 11:1-22
<b>December 18</b>	Isaiah 7:10-16 Romans 1:1-7	Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19 Matthew 1:18-25
<b>December 24</b>	Isaiah 62:6-12 Titus 3:4-7	Psalms 97 Luke 2:(1-7), 8-20
<b>December 25</b>	Isaiah 9:2-7 Titus 2:11-14	Psalms 96 Luke 2:1-14, (15-20)



# GENERAL FUND 2022

For month ending October 31, 2022	<u>Month</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
General Fund Income	\$37,615.50	\$355,440.12
General Fund Budgeted Expenses	<u>\$35,852.89</u>	<u>\$336,801.12</u> *
	\$ 1,762.61	\$ 18,639.00

\* Includes total missions transfer of \$18,900.00

# YOUTH FUNDRAISER

Join us in the Centre after worship on December 11 for a fundraising lunch. The lunch will benefit the youth attending the ski trip March 4-6. The menu will be soup, baked potatoes, and salad, and donations will be accepted.

Sarah Coggins  
Director of Children and Youth



# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**Advent** is a time of preparation.

## As an individual

During Advent we concentrate on the birth of Jesus but we also need to be prepared for His return. We really should be living as if each hour may be our last. We certainly remember the birth of Jesus as the Incarnation—Jesus in human form. As we prepare for the birth with devotional readings, programs, prayer and gift giving, let us remember why God gave us the ultimate gift of His Son and vow to make our Advent preparation become a daily habit. Titus and other books of the Bible give us instructions for godly living and urge us to be ready and zealous in doing good deeds which are not limited to Advent. As Christians, we carry the name of Christ every minute of every day and we have the help of the Holy Spirit as we present Christ to the world in words, attitudes and actions. What Christian Heritage are you leaving? Are you using your GPS, God's positioning system, as a guide for daily living?



## As a family

Who does all the decorating, baking, gift buying and wrapping, etc. at your house? Are you "accelerating through this process with your gas gauge registering on empty"? Why not slow down (after all, even God rested) and try some of these suggestions. Let everyone help with the decorations. Leave ornaments and other decorations just as they are placed by family members. What does changing them say to the person who placed them? The idea is not symmetry or perfection but family working together. While decorating, talk about your childhood memories and let children do the same. Talk about special ornaments/decorations you are using, who made them. Remember, when baking cookies together, they will be good no matter how they look. Take some to others. Intentionally plan a devotional time. First Presbyterian will provide resources and maybe this will become a habit for your family.

If you are living alone, invite friends over for a decorating party. Make it simple. Coffee or tea and store bought cookies are fine because the idea is to be together. Everyone can share Christmas memories. Plan a time when friends, no matter where they are, will read the same devotion you are reading. Later you may discuss the readings but just knowing someone else is reading with you can be comforting.

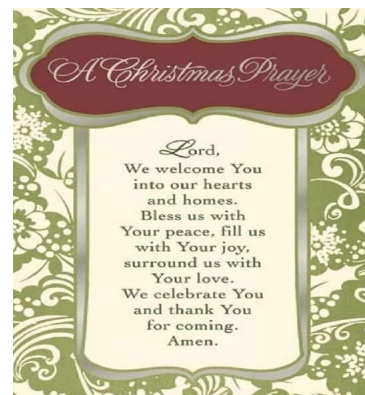
## As a congregation

Make an extra effort to reach out to our members who are sick, shut-in, in nursing homes and residential care. We have many members who have experienced the death of a loved one this year. Reach out to them with a card or call and an offer of prayer. Participate in Sunday morning fellowship at 9:30. Participate in all worship services. Pray for each other. Greet each other with a smile. When you ask, "How are you," really listen before responding. Offer support and encouragement. Call a shut-in and offer to run errands or call a more life experienced person and see if they have any task with which you can help. And the list goes on and on.

**Christmas:** Dec. 25-Jan. 6

As you pack up the decorations (and this can also be a family experience), look around you and see how the Advent experience has changed you. Are you packing away Jesus or are you carrying Jesus in your heart? Are you packing up all the feelings of joy and praise? Talk about the experiences of the season. Ask about favorite events and memories made during this Advent and Christmas season.

Why not leave a crèche out all year to remind you of Jesus and His sacrifice? Will God be acknowledged and obeyed every day? By spending time with God every day by reading the Bible and praying, we will be able to find the joy in every circumstance. Colossians 3:11 tells us "Christ is all, and is in all". Let us respond to each other with "compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience" v. 12. Most of all we are called to "put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity" v. 14.



With Christian Love and Merry CHRISTmas!  
Kaye Borgstedt  
Christian Education Coordinator

## PASTOR WELCOME / THANKFUL ADVENT LUNCH



### MEMORIALS

#### IN MEMORY OF

Hugh Smith  
Larry Jordan

Shirley Salley  
Bobby Vaughn

#### GIVEN BY

Mrs. Nancy Nance  
Mary and Richard Hunter  
Joe and Judy Sikes  
Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Frierson

Janet and Johnny Brailsford  
Betsy King Wash  
Mrs. Frances Lytch  
Ethel Vereen, Sandra Hughes and family

Sloan and Marion Moore  
Mr. George Ware  
John and Jane Shuler

### 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
12/09	Will Adicks	12/23	David Gillespie
12/10	Jimmy Guthrie	12/26	Ginny Fitzhugh
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		Charlotte House

### OUR FATHER'S CLOSET COAT DISTRIBUTION

*Our Father's Closet* gave out over 220 coats this Fall to area school children. Thank you to everyone who donated coats, time and money!





# First Presbyterian Church Calendar

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT: NOVEMBER 27



9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School Fellowship  
 10:00 a.m. Sunday School  
 11:00 a.m. Worship  
 12:30 p.m. Chrismon Trees placed  
 5:15 p.m. Youth Handbell Rehearsal  
 6:00 p.m. Youth Fellowship  
 6:00 p.m. Carol and Crusader Rehearsal  
 6:00 p.m. Cherub Choir Rehearsal

## MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28

7:00 p.m. Joint Choir Rehearsal

## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

7:00 a.m. CTVI Tuesday Morning Bible Study  
 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting  
 10:00 a.m. Church and grounds decorated  
 11:00 a.m. Intercessors Meet in Sanctuary  
 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary open for prayer  
 12:30 p.m. Intercessors

## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

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

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT: DECEMBER 4



9:00 a.m. Christmas Breakfast  
 John Knox & Saltshaker  
 9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School Fellowship  
 10:00 a.m. Sunday School  
 11:00 a.m. Worship  
 12:30 p.m. Diaconate Meeting  
 6:00 p.m. Youth Fellowship  
 6:00 p.m. Carol and Crusader Rehearsal  
 6:00 p.m. Cherub Choir Rehearsal

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 5

7:00 p.m. Joint Choir Rehearsal

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6

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  
 12:30 p.m. Intercessors

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7

8:00 a.m. Jim Turner Men's Bible Study  
 7:00 p.m. Concert: "A Manger Story"

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT: DECEMBER 11



9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School Fellowship  
 10:00 a.m. Sunday School  
 11:00 a.m. Worship  
 12:30 p.m. Youth Fundraiser Lunch  
 2:00 p.m. Youth Rake 'n Run  
 6:00 p.m. Cherub Choir Rehearsal

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 12

11:00 a.m. Circle 3  
 7:00 p.m. Joint Choir Rehearsal

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13

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  
 12:30 p.m. Intercessors

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14

8:00 a.m. Jim Turner Men's Bible Study  
 6:00 p.m. Family Fun Night

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17

10:30 a.m. Joint Choir Rehearsal

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT: DECEMBER 18



9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
 10:00 a.m. Christmas Party for Jesus  
 11:00 a.m. Worship Service  
 4:00 p.m. Service of Lessons and Carols  
 6:00 p.m. Youth Fellowship

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20

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  
 12:30 p.m. Intercessors  
 6:00 p.m. Session Meeting

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21

8:00 a.m. Jim Turner Men's Bible Study  
 6:00 p.m. Blue Christmas Service

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24—CHRISTMAS EVE

6:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion Service



## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25—THE NATIVITY OF JESUS CHRIST

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27

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  
 12:30 p.m. Intercessors

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28

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

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



**DECEMBER 2022**

**Christmas!**

**MINUTE TO WIN IT**

Join us for a Family Fun Night!

When: Wednesday, December 14th at 6:00  
Where: The Presbyterian Centre  
Who: Fun for All Ages!

Who will be crowned the Minute to Win It Champs? Mark your calendars to join us for a fun filled night of laughter, dinner, and fellowship. Feel free to invite friends and family. You won't want to miss this!

Please sign up by Friday, December 9th by calling the church office (803) 534-0088 or emailing Denise at [dseymore@1stpresbyterian.org](mailto:dseymore@1stpresbyterian.org)