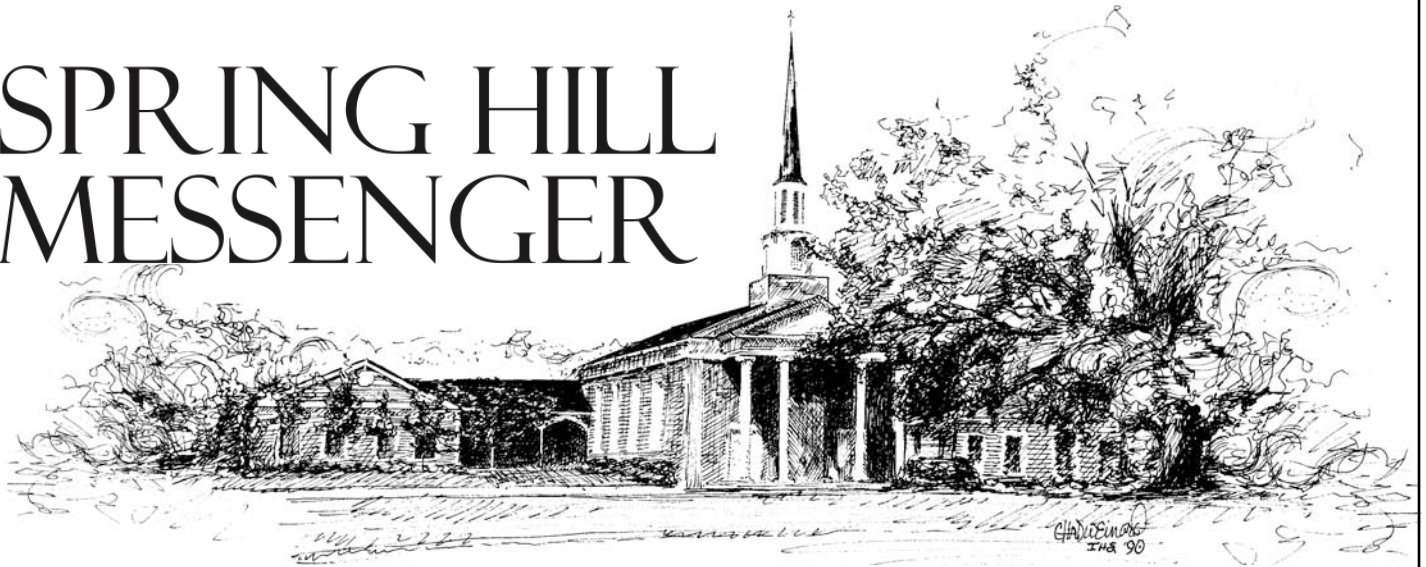


SPRING HILL MESSENGER



Spring Hill Presbyterian Church, Mobile, Alabama

Volume 66, Number 20, December, 2010

From the Pastor

The spirit of Thanksgiving moves us seamlessly into the spirit of Advent and Christmas, for in these sacred days we are mindful of the blessings we enjoy because of the goodness of our Father and Savior. The generosity we receive from Heaven is so wonderful and deep that our words of gratitude seem to fail; and so we wonder: What can we do to express our thankfulness? The best of all ways is to give ourselves wholly to Christ and to live every minute of every day for Him. There are many additional ways as well, one of which has been our privilege to offer God a house of prayer and worship, a chapel, where at any time of the day we can meet Him, either privately or corporately. The chapel is our gift to the Holy Triune God from Whom more blessings have come than we can number or even remember.

To commemorate this gift, services of dedication will be held on Sunday, January 30. The theme of both the 8:30 and 11:00 service will focus on the meaning of having a new space in which to worship. From our sanctuary we will move onto the grounds in front of the chapel for the litany of dedication; then we will have the opportunity to

enter the chapel while Randy Sheets plays the new organ. Please put this date on your calendar and encourage

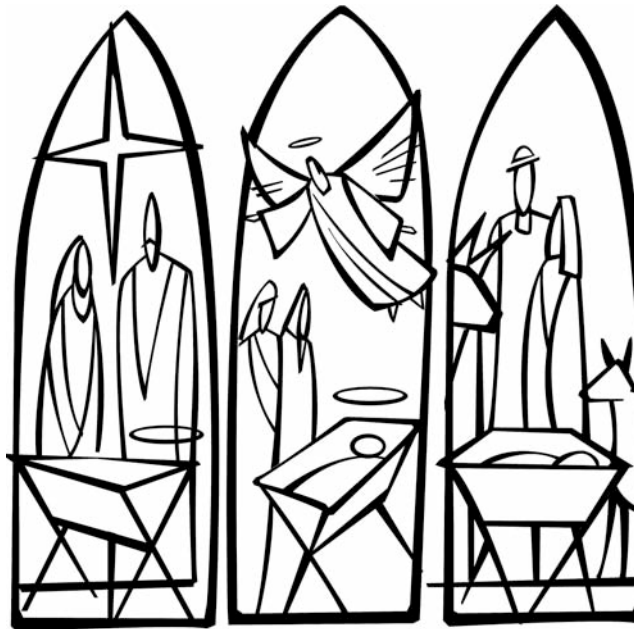
family and friends to join you on what will be a very special day in the life of Spring Hill.

Perhaps the best way we can prepare our hearts for the chapel's dedication is to put aside time every day to thank God for His blessings and to tell Him, our Father and Savior, that we offer this chapel in gratitude for the grace we continue to receive. I hope you will do that, for I believe if you will the holidays we're about to celebrate will become richer in meaning than ever before.

Now may joy and gratitude fill your hearts in this holy season, and may you approach the new year in the certain knowledge that God's love has neither beginning nor ending, and that His love, given to the world through Jesus, will keep you in His care forever.

Yours in Him,

Norman



Advent Behind and Before

What comes to mind when you hear the word 'Advent?' Candles? Music? The run-up to Christmas? Even after I became a committed follower of Jesus, I wasn't clear on church seasons with somewhat unusual names. But as I sought to grow in my understanding, I came to appreciate the meaning of Advent, and even to understand that believers in Christ might well be described as "Advent People."

The word 'advent' is from Latin, which means 'coming.' Believers use it to refer to the coming of Christ to earth. Since Christ has come, and will come again, Advent points in two directions. Advent points back. It is a season when we focus thankfully on the fact that God came among us as the man, Jesus, who is the Christ and who has given his life to redeem us from

our sin. God dramatically entered our world in Christ, and showed us his character and his love in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. On the basis of these things, Jesus called us to follow him, and we have responded.

But Advent is also the time to focus on the reality that Jesus will return, this time in power to establish God's kingdom. This is the goal of all history, the time for the renewal of all things. We join John, the writer of Revelation in his closing prayer of the book (22:20): "Come, Lord Jesus."

The comings of Jesus are behind us and before us. They bracket our lives in the past and in the future. This gives us an outlook and perspective on the world and on our own lives which is unique to us as believers. We live life in thankful

response to what Jesus has done for us in the past. At the same time, we live life wanting, as Jesus urged, to be found faithful when he returns (e.g.: Mt. 24:36-51).

As we reflect on Advent, we realize that it is far more than a run-up to Christmas. Advent—the two comings of Christ to the world—is a Christian world-view. It is a way of understanding the world which gives meaning and perspective to all that we think and do. During this Advent season, let us encourage one another in living thankfully in the confidence that Jesus came once to give his life on the cross to redeem us, and in seeking to be found faithful by him when he returns. Let us be "Advent People."

Pastor Sid

Giving and Receiving

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ!

How many of us are guilty of too much giving? Too much giving?" you say, "How is that possible?" It is true that giving is a Christian virtue. We believe that love is most clearly seen in self-sacrifice and service. We are most certainly called to give. However, at this time of year, I have found that many Christians practice the art of giving to such an extent that they are unable to participate in the truest Christmas act: receiving.

We all know these people. These are the people who run themselves ragged buying the perfect gifts and decorating the house perfectly and baking the most perfect and beautiful desserts. They organize fun events for the family and try to make the holiday a special and memorable event for everyone, even if it means giving themselves a heart attack. And, while all of this work and giving is admirable, it is not the point of Christmas.

Think about the Christmas story. There are many characters with whom we can identify. Perhaps we see ourselves as Mary and Joseph, who received a blessing in the form of a baby and realized that God was calling them to participate in the holiest of tasks. Maybe we are the innkeeper, who graciously received a couple in

need and provided them with a place to have their baby. Perhaps we see ourselves as the shepherds who received the good news of great joy that a Savior, the Messiah, had been born in Bethlehem. Or, maybe we see ourselves as the angels who received the call to proclaim the birth of Christ the Lord, perhaps we are the magi who received the sign of the star in the sky that told of a King's birth.

Wherever we find ourselves in the Christmas story, our role is to receive. Christmas is all about receiving God into the world with humility and praise. It is true that such a miraculous and wondrous event begs for us to respond in some way. But, if we spend our Christmas working ourselves to the bone, trying to create the perfect season experience for everyone around us, we will miss the chance to discover that the God who is the perfect Giver is also the perfect Gift.

We can never out-give God. We can never top that ultimate gift. Thanks be to the One who laid in the manger!!

Have a wonderful and wonder-filled Advent and Christmas.

Andrea Hall

Director of Christian Education

Intergenerational Epiphany Celebration

Thursday, January 6, 2011;

5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. in the Bullard building.

Calling all preschoolers children, youth, young adults, empty nesters, and seniors! Please join the CE Committee for an Epiphany celebration for the whole family. We will share a meal and participate in some fun Epiphany activities together! A main dish will be provided. Please bring a side, salad, or dessert to share. Childcare will be available for infants and toddlers. See Andrea Hall for details or to help.

ADULT DISCOVERY BIBLE CLASS

This month will conclude our study of our God. We have been reminded that God keeps His promises; His law sustains us; He is awesome, forever all-knowing and He protects us. We have had six different teachers this quarter, and each is well-prepared and does an outstanding job. Our discussions are spirited, challenging and sometimes provocative. It enhances the degree of your class discussion if you have read the lesson in advance, but it is not required that you do so.

This Winter Quarter we are going to have as our theme "Assuring Hope", beginning with the promises of hope, as found in the Old Testament Book of Isaiah, and ending with the coming of Jesus, the fulfillment of such promises, as found in the New Testament Book of Mark. You are certainly invited to join us and participate in the gaining of knowledge of the teachings of the Bible, which gives us the true instruction for our spiritual guidance.

Crown Ministry Class for the Winter

If you are interested in participating in the Crown Ministry class this winter, contact Bobby Crow, Christopher Jones or the church office. Register by Sunday, January 16. Class dates and times will be determined by the class.

Christmas Wish List

The Service Committee has again planned for our church to participate in the Christmas Wish List program in conjunction with Catholic Social Services Center. We will have the names of 30 children and 10 elderly adults who will be counting on us for Christmas gifts. The plan is for each child to receive three gifts and the elderly to receive a package of personal items plus one special gift. Cards are now posted on the bulletin boards outside the Fellowship Hall. Please plan on helping us provide smiles and happiness this Christmas! Elderly packages are requested in the parlor before Sunday, December 5. Deadline for receiving the children's wrapped and tagged gifts to the parlor will be Sunday, December 12.

TO ALL FAMILIES - DECK THE HALLS -HANG THE GREENS!

Isn't the Church beautiful at Christmas time? It is decorated for Christ and it shows the beauty of Christ. Wouldn't you like to have a part of this helping to honor Christ? Come to the Bullard building on December 11th at 9:00 a.m. Bring the whole family and platter of finger foods.

Joy Gift

The Joy Gift Offering is taken annually at Christmas

by Presbyterian congregations to support the Board of Pensions for their

Assistance Programs and for the Committee on Higher Education to support the Presbyterian, racial and ethnic schools and colleges. Special envelopes will be in the pews on December 12 and 19.



Book of Timothy





SERVICE THAT IS PLEASING TO GOD

To All the members of Spring Hill Presbyterian,
Greetings in the name of Christ!

As outgoing chair of the Service Committee, this is my last report to the congregation of the goings on for your Service Committee here at Springhill Presbyterian. I have been blessed this past year with my involvement with the Service Committee, not only with the great things we've accomplished together, but with new found friendships with some of the most extraordinary people this congregation has to offer. During 2010, we have provided over \$56,000 in funds to very worthwhile charities, which provide services to the needy in so many ways, ranging from health care, to prescription medicines, to counseling, food, shelter, and in many other ways. In addition to funds, our congregation also provides clothing, food, and other materials directly to the needy, including toys at Christmas for needy families (SHAMELESS PLUG ALERT--go grab a slip for our Christmas Wish List if you haven't already!).

But perhaps as importantly, your Service Committee provides a service to our congregation, by reminding all of us that living a Christ centered life requires more than just going to church. As Paul stated in the letter to the Galatians, "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2. Working through this past year as chair of this wonderful committee has reminded me daily that a life in Christ requires a commitment to others, and I have been blessed to see so many fine examples of people fulfilling that commitment, in so many different ways.

But God doesn't reserve the requirement of service just to a committee—he provides that privilege to us all. Indeed, one of the most wonderful examples of a community focused on serving others can be found in Acts Chapter 4, in the very first example of a Christian community:

All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. 33 With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's

grace was so powerfully at work in them all 34 that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales 35 and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.

What kind of a world would it be if we lived in the same manner? Where God's grace was "so powerfully at work" that there were no needy persons left among us? What kind of church could we be if all of us "believers" were "one in heart and mind?"

I once thought that high standard set by our Christian forbears was impossible, and that the daily demands of life required so much of my attention that I simply didn't have anything left for others. Although I'm not sure I have the courage to "sell all my belongings" quite yet like the first Christians, I do know now how hollow a life focused merely on the daily demands of life truly is, if for no other reason that I have had the privilege of seeing what life can be like when the focus is on God and on the people around us. I guess if I have any parting words for all of you as I close my term as chair of this committee, they would be this: for all of us to think hard about where we are called to serve within the body of Christ, not just within our church, but within the larger community. I made the mistake of waiting until God placed me in a position where I could no longer ignore my responsibilities to my neighbors. I challenge all of you to avoid that mistake, and find a way, wherever you are, to get involved. Christ always intended for the Church to be his living example of the Kingdom of God on earth, where we "carry each other's burdens" on a daily basis. The members of this church do so much for the community as a whole in serving those who need the most help. And there is a role for YOU to play in that service.

God bless you all!

Robbie Turnipseed

From The Stewardship Committee

Genesis 12:1 The Lord had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you. 2 "I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

Abraham is told to leave his home and the security of his Father's house, to go to a land that God will show him. He is told by God that he will be blessed and that he will also become a blessing to others.

The way to God's blessing is a way of faith. There are times when God asks us to do something where we are unable to see the outcome. Abraham was asked to go, but was not shown where at the time of departure.

Our giving is like that. God asks us to give our tithes and offerings, and promises us a blessing. Often we are unable to see any way in which by our giving, we will still have more after, than before we gave. Yet for those who trust God and are faithful in giving, they see again and again God's blessings in their lives.

But there is more to this story than just being blessed ourselves. Abraham was told that he would be blessed and would also be a blessing to others. How true this principle is in the area of our giving. Through our financial gifts the poor are clothed, the hungry are fed, the Gospel is preached, and so much more.

So when we give, we are truly able to give because of God's blessing in our lives. But, through and because of our giving, we are not only blessed ourselves, but we are a blessing in other peoples lives as well.



Candy Cane

A candy maker in the American state of Ohio twisted peppermint sticks into the shape of the letter "J" to stand for Jesus. In later years, some have turned them the other way and used them to symbolize the shepherds' crook.

CHARITIES AND THEIR DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVES:

Presbyterian Children's Home – Sue Martino
Habitat for Humanity – Chris Pennington
Food Bank -Linda Fletcher
L'Arche of Mobile – Nancy Oppenheimer
Penelope House – Sylvia Weinard
Salvation Army Women & Children (Haven)
– Ellen Jones
South Alabama Women's & Children's Hospital
- David Ayers
Service Center – Linda Fletcher
Crittenton Teen Services – Gwin Williams
Ozanam Pharmacy – Brian Campbell
Victory Health Clinic – Robbie Turnipseed
Young Life – Brian Campbell
Family Promise – Nancy McCrummen
Wings of Life – Jeff Ivey
Health Care for Homeless – Hilda Gewin
Home of Grace for Women – Sally Cobb
Salvation Army Deliveries – Sally Cobb
Red Cross Blood Drive – Basil Smith
Christmas Wish List – Pam Phillips, Weezie Taylor
Service Committee Discretionary - Committee

Current Issues Sunday School Schedule

December 5	Children's Christmas Program
December 12	Rick Stout
December 19	Royce Ray
December 26	Judy Stout – World Food Issues

Current Scriptures Class Schedule

December 5	Job 42:2
December 12	1 John 4:8
December 19	Psalms 19:9
December 26	Isaiah 5:16

News from the Financial Office

2010 Pledges

Spring Hill Presbyterian Church members will receive a contribution statement in early December. Please review your statement and notify Nena Smith in the financial office of any discrepancies as quickly as possible.

2011 Contribution Envelopes

The contribution envelopes will be mailed quarterly directly to you. The first quarter envelopes should be received in December. Each year new envelope numbers are assigned. Please use the appropriate envelope.

Year-End Gifts

Current IRS regulations dictate that contributions received in the office after December 31, 2010 must be posted to the 2011 tax year regardless of the date on the check. In addition, if you are mailing your check, it must be postmarked no later than December 31, 2010 in order to receive tax credit for the current year.

If you are considering a gift of stocks or mutual funds, please start the process early. It is helpful to inform Nena Smith prior to transferring stock. These procedures sometime take longer than expected, especially if complications occur.

Holiday Schedule

The financial office will be closed on December 24 and reopen Tuesday, December 28. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and December 31 from 8:00 to noon to receive year-end gifts.



Statement as of October 31, 2010

2010 Pledges	\$1,201,402
Year to date received	1,001,646
Other receipts	2,849
	1,004,495
Benevolences	86,951
Denomination expense	8,168
Session directed gifts	126,036
Salaries and services	574,500
Programs	58,188
Office expenses	24,303
General & plant services	142,616
Other	31,068
	1,051,828
Excess receipts over expenses (deficit)	(\$47,333)

For a complete financial report please contact Nena Smith at the church office.

We Rejoice

We rejoice with Mark and Sharon Scott in the marriage of their daughter, Amanda Pearman to Peter Frederick Keith, on November 20 in the sanctuary.

We share in Sorrow

The prayers and sympathy of the congregation are with Ginny Thompson in the death of her mother-in-law, Annette Thompson, on November 15.

LECTIONARY FOR THE LORD'S DAY:

December 2010

- 5 2nd Sunday of Advent**
Isa. 11:1-10; Ps. 72:1-7, 18-19
Rom. 15:4-13; Matt. 3:1-12
- 12 3rd Sunday of Advent**
Isa. 35:1-10; Ps. 146-5-10 or Luke 1:47-55
James 5:7-10; Matt. 11:2-11
- 19 4th Sunday of Advent**
Isa. 7:10-16
Matt. 1:18-25
- 26 1st Sunday after Christmas**
Isa. 63:7-9; Ps. 148; Heb. 2:10-18
Matt. 2:13-25

January 2011

- 2 2nd Sunday after Christmas Day**
Jer. 31:7-14; Ps. 147: 12-20; Eph. 1:3-14
John 1: (1-9) 10-18
- 9 Baptism of the Lord**
Isa. 42:1-9; Ps. 29; Acts 10:34-43
Matt. 3:13-17
- 16 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Isa. 49:1-7; Ps. 40:1-11; 1 Cor. 1:19
John 1:29-42
- 23 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Isa. 9:1-4; Ps. 27:1, 4-79; 1 Cor. 1:10-18
Matt. 4:12-23
- 30 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Micah 6:1-8; Ps. 15; 1 Cor. 1:18-31
Matt. 5:1-12

CHURCH CALENDAR

December 2010

- 1 Women's Bible Study – 9:15 a.m.
Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Team – 9:30 a.m.
- 2 1st Thursday Lunch – 11:45 a.m.
- 5 Cantata – 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. services
Children's Christmas Play – 9:30 -10:30 a.m.
(Bullard Building) Light Breakfast
- 7 Committees
- 8 Women's Bible Study – 9:15 a.m.
- 10 Meals on Wheels – 10:30 a.m.
- 11 Hanging of the Greens
- 12 Children's Choirs and Youth Chorale present
Christmas music
- 14 Men's Breakfast – 7:00 a.m.
Diaconate 7:00 p.m.
- 15 Women's Bible Study – 9:15 a.m.
- 18 Yeoman Workday
- 19 Service of Lessons & Carols – 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
- 24 6:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m. Candlelight Service
(Communion at 10 p.m. only)
- 26 11:00 a.m. service (no 8:30 service)
- 27 Church Office closed
- 31 Church Office closes at noon

January 2011

- 3 Church Office closed
- 5 Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Team
Wednesday Night Bible Study - 6:30 p.m.
- 6 Intergenerational Epiphany Celebration
– 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
- 11 Men's Breakfast – 7:00 a.m.
Committee Kickoff Banquet and Meetings
– 6:00 p.m.
- 12 Circles
Wednesday Night Bible Study - 6:30 p.m.
- 14 Meals on Wheels – 10:30 a.m.
- 15 Yeoman Workday
- 17 Newsletter Deadline – 9:00 a.m.
- 18 Men's Breakfast - 7:00 a.m.
Diaconate – 7:00 p.m.
Session – 7:00 p.m.
- 22 Friends of the Groom Drama Group Workshop
- 23 Friends of the Groom in 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. worship
Friends of the Groom Concert – 2:00 p.m.
- 29-30 Officers Retreat Officer Retreat
- 30 Communion
Dedication of the Chapel

Presbyterian Women Activities

Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Team will meet on Wednesday, December 1 at 9:30 a.m. in the Conference Room. Circles will meet on Wednesday, December 8 as follows:



#1 at 10:00 a.m. at the home of Amy Walton (7051 Stonebridge Ct.)

#3 at 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor

#4 at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Edith Abrams (4916 Princeton Drive)

PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

The Coordinating Team's first meeting of the new year will be held Wednesday, January 5, 2011.

Remember to put the following dates on your new 2011 calendar:

March 16, 2011 - PW Spring Gathering at Government Street Presbyterian

May 11, 1022 - Birthday Luncheon and officer installation

July 20-22, 2011 - AL/MS Conference at Memorial Presbyterian in Montgomery

AGENCY REPORT - OZANAM CHARITABLE PHARMACY

By: Brian Campbell

We all are feeling the impact of the current financial downturn. Charities are having a hard time meeting their fundraising goals to keep operations going. One of the charities that your tithes support is Ozanam Charitable Pharmacy in downtown Mobile. Ozanam is a non-profit organization that provides life-sustaining medication to persons with severely limited income and resources. The pharmacy serves over 1800 individuals in Mobile, Baldwin and Escambia Counties in southwest Alabama and fills approximately 24,000 prescriptions annually.

Ozanam Charitable Pharmacy is living out the second greatest commandment ['Love your neighbor as yourself.'] on a daily basis as their pharmacists and staff of volunteers serve those in medical need (our neighbors). Ozanam operates out of donated Catholic Charities building on Dauphin Street. They are very thankful for Spring Hill Presbyterian Church's financial tithes.

The following is a list of current needs:

- Vertical filing cabinets
- Refrigerator for storing medicines like insulin
- Copy paper, pencils, pens
- 4th year pharmacy students to volunteer
- Pharmacist who desires to volunteer (retired is ok)

Ozanam is a free prescription drug program for uninsured individuals. Given the current unemployment rate, Ozanam's services are being utilized now more than ever. Feel free to visit [HYPERLINK "http://www.OzanamPharmacy.org"](http://www.OzanamPharmacy.org) www.OzanamPharmacy.org for more information.

Library Adventures

Expired and overdue. - challenges of a church library

Expired.

Services for an expired squirrel were not covered IN THE PC(USA) BOOK OF OCCASIONAL SERVICES, but know he was dispatched decently and in order. He had taken refuge in one of the lower cabinets of the library; his request for refuge could not be processed quickly enough so he was considered "overdue" and needed to move on.

Overdue

This was only one of two activities taking place in the library this summer. The other was not surprising considering the overdue need for a roof repair, but not soon enough to delay the damage of moisture, mold and mildew which required triage to return the shelves to a more sanitized form.

Please realize that neither of these activities 1) death of a migrant squirrel, nor 2) an emergency room procedure usually associated with a hospital was covered in the curriculum at library school. But they do develop a need for flexibility and creativity on the part of the professional librarian!



Music Notes

By Randy Sheets, Director of Music Ministries and Organist

Worship during Advent and Christmas

Sun., Nov. 28. The first Sunday of Advent. **Holy Communion.**



Sun., Dec. 5. **Cantata Sunday**, with music by the Chancel Choir and chamber orchestra of 14 instruments.



Sun., Dec. 12. **Children and Youth** present Christmas music in worship.



Sun., Dec. 19. **Service of Nine Lessons and Carols.** Scripture and music telling the story of God's loving purposes from the Garden of Eden through the glorious Redemption brought us by the Holy Child.



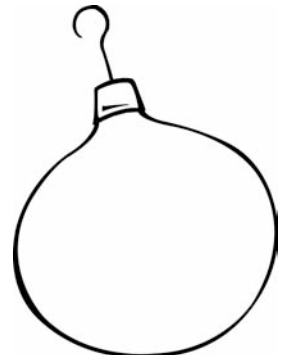
Christmas Eve worship

6:00 p.m. Carols and Candlelight (with music by the children's choirs and Youth Chorale)

10:00 p.m. Carols, Communion, and Candlelight (music by the Chancel Choir)



Sun., Dec. 26. Only one morning worship service (11:00 a.m.)





Wonder, O Earth!

Music for Christmas

December 5

In our morning worship services

Featuring our Chancel Choir and fourteen instrumentalists
(strings, trumpet, timpani, percussion and organ).

Christmas Masterworks by great composers and
a thrilling medley of carols by living Texas composer Randol Alan Bass.

Reserve the dates -

Saturday and Sunday,
Jan. 22-23 for



A weekend at SHPC

Sponsored by our Religious Arts Committee and Worship Committee

Saturday,

9 a.m. until noon

BEYOND BATHROBES: CHRISTIAN DRAMA AND STORYTELLING --An interactive experience for anyone from grade 3 through adulthood. For actors, Christian educators, youth leaders, directors, mimes, clowns, and anyone else who likes to express their faith creatively. Those who come will be invited to participate in a variety of drama and storytelling activities, including five ways to perform a story in church and using drama in worship and education. After lunch, persons from grade 7 through adulthood will be invited to rehearse for dramatic presentation of scripture in the next day's worship services. Registration for the workshop is requested. Stay tuned for details.

Sunday,

8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Friends of the Groom and SHPC members will take part in the morning worship services
---illuminating scripture and faith with drama.

2:00 p.m. **"From the Ridiculous to the Divine,"** a Drama "Concert" by "Friends of the Groom" in our sanctuary.

Friends of the Groom-- Frequently Asked Questions

"Who Are You Really?" -- Friends of the Groom is a theater group committed to proclaiming the Christian message with a unique blend of humor, story, challenging content, and scenes that are hard to forget. The interdenominational group is composed of adult performers from the Cincinnati area, usually traveling in teams of three.

"Do You Rent Tuxedos?" -- Not yet. The name "Friends of the Groom" refers to the image of Christ as the bridegroom in the New Testament. However, we're always open to new fundraising suggestions.

"What Do You Do?" -- Since 1980 the group has performed original Christian plays, led retreat weekends, and conducted workshops at hundreds of locations from Alaska to Florida. Each year we average well over 100 performances in 12 -16 states for 10 - 12 different religious denominations.

"Can You Tell Us About Your Plays?" -- Much of the material we present is intended to challenge an audience with a message and make them laugh at the same time. Sample scenes and plays include:

- . A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to Jericho - A unique treatment of the familiar Good Samaritan story. An actress attempts to find a comfortable role to perform in the parable and instead is confronted by the cost of the gospel.
- . The Lord's Prayer - A person reciting the Lord's Prayer is startled when God answers.
- . The Parable of the Lighthouse - A story for the church. A small lighthouse becomes so successful that its social functions begin to interfere with its life saving operations.
- . The Case of the Missing Bodies - A comic rendition of a story from the Biblical book of Acts, presented in the style of a 1940's Humphrey Bogart detective movie.
- . Rescue in the Night: The Story of Daniel in the Lion's Den - A cleverly rendered musical version of the well known tale of faith and courage, complete with dastardly villains and street-wise lions.

Find out more at www.friendsofthegroom.org

Memorials have been received for the following:

Owen Drey
Roland Williams
Robert O. Harris
Allen Curtis Couch
Janel Porter Krebs
Annette Thompson
Bill Harris
Vilma Croom

From the following:

Mack & Betty Graham
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Wells
Richard and Sally Morgan
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Braun
Sue and Ferd Zundel
Thelma Bowen
Hilary Cabaniss
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Robers
Chris and Ashley Brown
James and Betty Tarlton
Al and Virginia Martin
Larry and Nancy Sims
Eliott and Alex Turner
Al and Leslie Cheatham
The McGregor Golf Group - Ed, Mathew, Bill,
Bobby, George, Buddy, Tom, Bob and Cecil
Dr. Jeff Harvell
Sam and Judy Strada
Cecil and Helen Harvell
Marion and Malinda McMurphy
Linda and Don Parker
Linda Fletcher
Marcy Harris
William and Anna Anderson
Roy and Sue Martino
Phyllis Feibelman
Dr. Robert Harbin
Appie and Tom Sharp
Gaylord and Betty Lyon
Reneau and Win Hallett
Mr. and Mrs. John P. Scott, Jr.
Mrs. John W. Adams
Jean Williams
Buck and Joelyne Trehern
Dwight and Loretta Baker
Ken Reid
Gina Johnson
Robert and Mary Ann Donnell

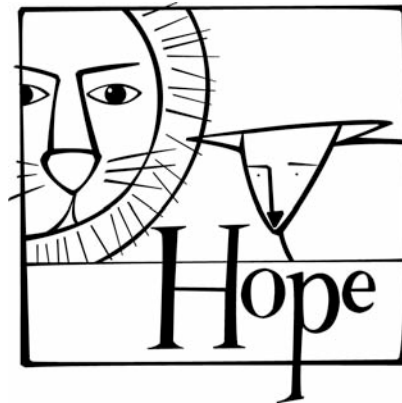


1st Thursday Lunch

Our December Lunch will be on Thursday, December 2. Bring a friend to join the fun. Come early to chat. Lunch is at 11:45 a.m.; cost is \$6.00.

Thanks!

Many, many thanks to our office volunteers who are so helpful to the staff; to our Holy Folders who meet monthly to fold and sort the newsletter for mailing: Linda Fletcher, Hilary Cabaniss, Linda Langston, Mary Lou Kopf, Harriett Pennington, Doris McGowan, Donna Smith, Janet Brown, Frances & Duncan McDonald. We are grateful also to our weekly volunteers, Edith Abrams, Eva Macon and Thelma Bowen who fold the church bulletins and to Mary Hazen Braswell and Fay Phillips who assist in the office and answer phones during staff meetings. We are truly indebted to all of you for your invaluable service to the church.



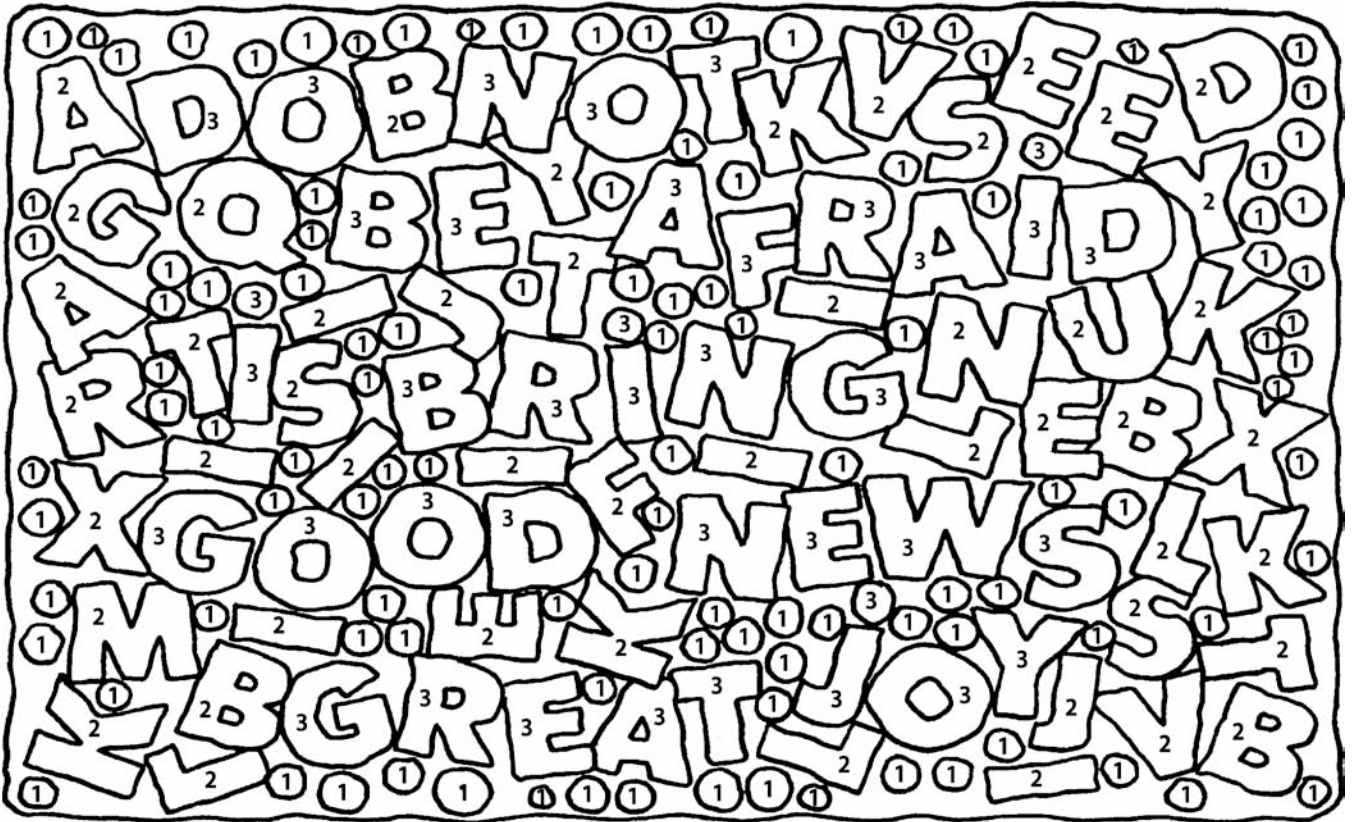
Once again we find ourselves enmeshed in the Holiday Season, that very special time of year when we join with our loved ones in sharing centuries-old traditions such as trying to find a parking space at the mall. We traditionally do this in my family by driving around the parking lot until we see a shopper emerge from the mall, then we follow her, in very much the same spirit as the Three Wise Men, who 2000 years ago followed a star, week after week, until it led them to a parking space.

- Dave Barry

Color by Number

Using the color code, color this art to reveal the message from Luke. 1=Red; 2=Green; 3=Blue

Answer: Do not be afraid. I bring good news great joy.



Promise Puzzle

Unscramble the words to find the message from Psalm 91:11-12

“O F R E H I L W L

M C A O N M D I S H G L A E S N

C R O N N I C N E G O Y U O T U R D A G U O Y N I

L A L R O Y U W S Y A . N O H I T R E S H N A D H Y E T

L W I L A E R B O U Y P U .”



Answer: “For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. On their hands they will bear you up.”



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