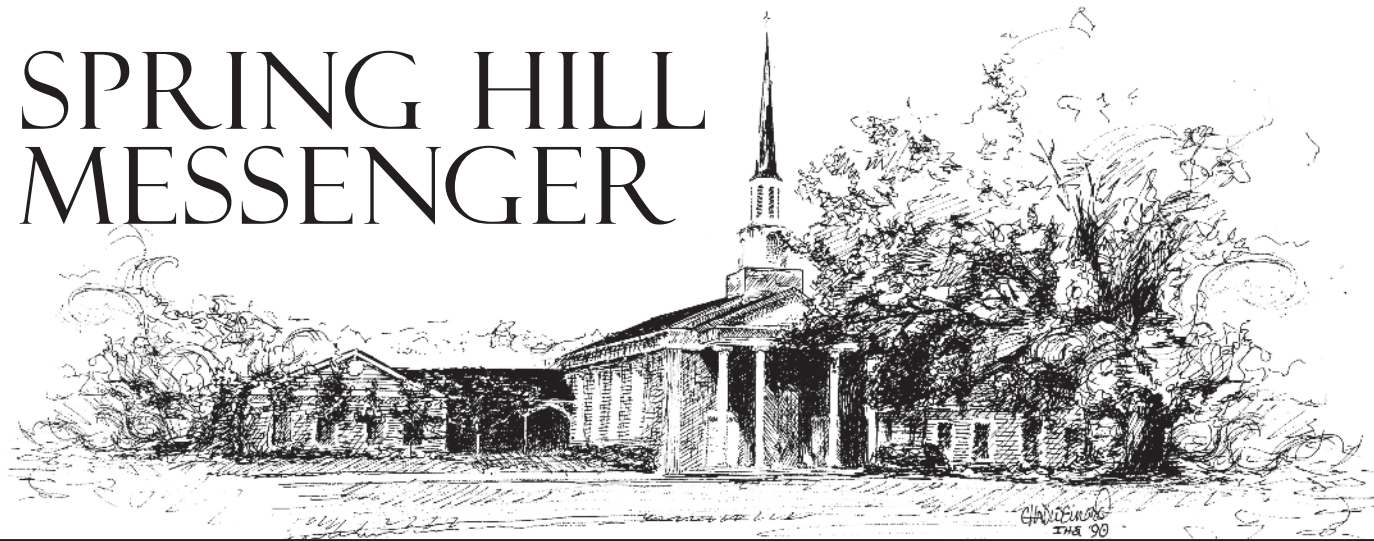


SPRING HILL MESSENGER



Spring Hill Presbyterian Church, Mobile, Alabama

Volume 65, Number 10, December, 2009/January, 2010

From the Pastor's Desk...

The Christian year begins on November 29, the First Sunday of Advent. It heralds a new beginning focused first on the coming of the promised Messiah. As the year moves into winter and then spring, we celebrate the great events in Christ's life which are the great events in salvation history. Then comes Pentecost marking the descent of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the church.

What the Christian year brings to mind is that we're being drawn month-by-month into a deeper understanding of our Christian identity. That understanding is a process by which we go deeper and deeper into the faith we've been given; and with every new level of awareness comes a new understanding of how great Christ's love is for us and how much we owe Him for what He has done for us; with that understanding we are drawn into a transforming experience of gratitude.

A truly grateful person is a happy person. For two thousand years true Christians have been noted for their joy and gratitude, their open hearts, their desire to show hospitality, and their happiness in loving both friend and stranger. Advent and Christmas remind us of these truths, and each has the power to show us more clearly who we are in Christ.

So let us greet this holy season with open and grateful hearts remembering that Christ came to make our hearts His home, and there forever dwell.

Yours in Him,

Norman



Church Calendar December 2009

- 1 Committees
- 2 Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team – 9:30 a.m.
- 3 First Thursday Lunch – 11:45 a.m.
- 6 Cantata – 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. services
Children's Christmas Play – 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.
(Bullard Building) Light Breakfast
- 8 Men's Breakfast – 7:00 a.m.
Diaconate – 7:00 p.m.
- 9 Circles
- 11 Meals on Wheels – 10:30 a.m.
- 12 Hanging of the Greens
- 13 Children's Choirs and Youth Chorale
present Christmas Music
- 15 Session – 7:00 p.m.
- 20 Service of Lessons and Carols – 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
- 24 6:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m. Candlelight Service
(Communion at 10 p.m. only)
- 27 11:00 a.m. service (no 8:30 service)
- 28 - Church Office closed
- 31 - Church Office closes at noon

January 2010

- 1 Church office closed
- 2 Campus Ministry Retreat
- 5 Committee Kickoff Banquet and Meetings – 6:00 p.m.
- 6 Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Team – 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday Night Supper—5:45 p.m.
Bible Study – 6:30 p.m.
(begins on the 6th and continues through January)

Molly's Musings



"Rome Wasn't Built in a Day"

I want to begin this newsletter with a sincere and heart felt thank you to the congregation of Spring Hill Presbyterian Church! The generosity that has been poured out in support of Campus Ministry has been overwhelming. Your monetary gifts, your willingness to provide snacks for Bible study and meals for Frunch, and your interest in the program (many of you have asked, "How's it going?") has blessed me and the college students involved in unspeakable ways. Your response to this mission field has been pure encouragement. From the bottom of my heart: thank you, thank you, THANK YOU!!!

I've been trying to formulate an answer to the question I am asked every time I find myself gathered with the Body of Christ; "How are things going with campus ministry?" First of all, I reiterate my thanks for the asking. At times, I feel isolated from the membership since I'm not at the church as much. When you ask, I am reminded that you care and are interested. (Side note: That being said, please never feel obligated to ask. Just know I appreciate it when you do.)

Such a question, however, is difficult to answer. What do I say? How do I sum up the work that's going on in a few seconds? I always walk away after answering that question thinking, "I really did a poor job conveying what's going on." As a result, this article is my best attempt to give you a glimpse of this developing ministry.

I was a sprinter on my high school track team, and I don't think I've ever stopped (sprinting, that is). One challenge I have faced in regards to campus ministry is realizing that building a ministry is more like running a marathon (or ultra marathon) than a 100 yard dash. Judy Bodie so kindly reminded me a few weeks back that Jesus started with just a handful of men. If He's the example I'm to follow, I'd say we're on track (in regards to numbers). I have spent this semester really investing in the lives of a handful (15 - 20) of mostly women. It's been slow and time consuming but the fruits are beginning to develop. One student is going to help me teach the college Sunday School class. Another is

going to be a hostess for Frunch. A few of them are in the process of making friends with older, more mature Christians who will disciple them on their journey of faith through college. Many have signed up to go to Passion in January. To sum it up, it's been slower than I thought, but then again, what do I know? I'm so green. I'm merely trying to discern which way the Spirit wants me to go, and that has been a day by day process. Rome wasn't built in a day, right?

Do you remember what it was like to be in college? In case you've forgotten, I've rediscovered it's an interesting, exciting, unique, and at times, a difficult period in life. It's a time of self discovery and of answering hard questions like: What am I going to do with the rest of my life? What happens if I don't know? What happens if I don't realize my dreams? What do I do with the pain I've endured? How do I heal from wounds? How can I live a healthy, faithful life as a Christian? How do I separate myself from a culture that is so wayward? How can I find a community of people that share my values and faith and encourage me in my walk with Christ? If you do not have relationships with students then you cannot guide them as they wrestle with such questions. I have learned to love coffee because over a cup relationships are built. God willing (for He is the only true Builder), I am beginning to have influence in the lives of these students. Once that is established, I have the privilege of encouraging and spurring them on to love Christ and live for Him. At the end of the day, this is the only goal that matters.

There is still so much more to say, but it must wait for another day. Thank you again for your love, trust, encouragement, and support. I feel the burden of such a responsibility every day, but I also consider the work you've entrusted to me a privilege and pure joy.

Gratefully,

Molly

Presbyterian Women Activities

December Schedule

Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Team will meet on Wednesday, December 2 at 9:30 a.m. in the Conference Room.

January

The team's first meeting of the new year will be held Wednesday, January 6, 2010 in the Conference Room.

Circles will meet on Wednesday, December 9 as follows:

- #1 at 10:00 a.m. at the home of Joan Christmas (12 Spring Bank Rd. N.)
- #3 at 9:30 a.m. at the home of Cassie Steele (121 Eaton Square) Circle #2 is invited to join Circle #3.
- #4 at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Edith Abrams (4916 Princeton Drive)

The circles will discuss Lesson 4, "The Land of Promise or the Promised Land?" and Lesson 5, "Can War be Holy?" If you haven't done it already, you are encouraged to read the entire book of Joshua as well as reviewing the scriptures associated with the particular lesson.

Remember to place the following dates on your new 2010 calendar:

March 19, 2010.
PW Spring Gathering at
First Presbyterian Church, Andalusia, AL

•
June 3-5, 2010.
Synod of Living Waters, PW Gathering,
First Presbyterian Church, Huntsville, AL

•
July 21-23, 2010.
AL/MS Women's Conference,
here at Spring Hill Presbyterian.

Make Your Plans Ahead

Although it is a couple of years away, if you are curious about the reach of Presbyterian Women, plan to attend the Churchwide Gathering which will be held July 22-26, 2012 in Orlando, FL. The meeting attracts women from all over the world.

Mission Op

If you are looking for mission opportunity, consider joining other Presbyterian Women for USA Mission Experience, which will be held September 6-9, 2010. This will give you a chance to meet with some of our sisters in the Dakotas. Several Native American reservations, schools, churches and tribal colleges are on the list as well as some historical sites, according to the PW Web site. For more information, please visit the PW Web site at www.pcusa.

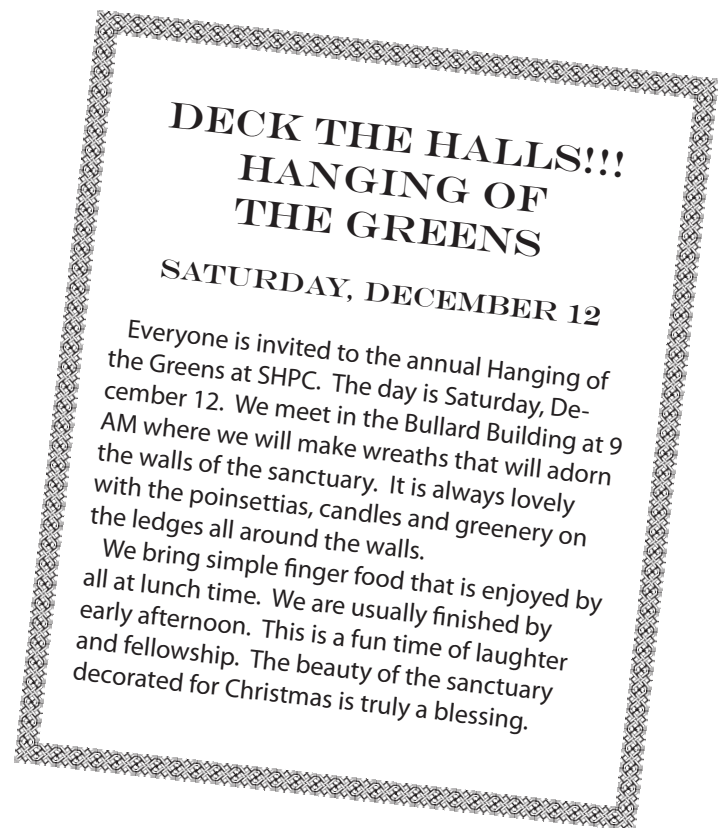


Horizons Magazine

One way to get your PW study guide in time for the September meeting is to subscribe to Horizons, the magazine for Presbyterian Women. With a subscription, you should receive your 2010-2011 study guide in the spring. Getting the study guide early this year means you will have it in hand when the AL/MS conference meets here in July.

Take Note

At the September circle meetings, a birthday list from the Presbyterian Home for Children was handed out. One way to keep up with the birthdays may be to write them down on your new 2010 calendar as you mark the birthdays of family members and other special people.



May the light from the candles lit during Advent continue to shine and illumine your path toward the true Light of the World.

May He be your beacon in 2010.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Rhoda A. Pickett
PW Communicator



To submit Presbyterian Women's News, contact Rhoda by email rpickett@press-register.com



Music Notes

from Randy Sheets, Director of Music Ministries and Organist

Worship during Advent and Christmas

Sunday, November 29

The first Sunday of Advent. Holy Communion.

Sunday, December 6

Cantata Sunday, with music by the Chancel Choir, brass and wind instruments.

Sunday, December 13

Children and Youth present Christmas music in worship. Sermon by Dr. McCrummen

Sunday, December 20

Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

Christmas Eve Worship, Thursday, December 24

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)

Sunday, December 27

Only one morning worship service (11:00 a.m.)

Choir Schedule for Worship - December

Angel Choir (ages 4-5)

Dec. 13, 11:00; Dec. 24, 6:00 p.m.

Carol Choir and Junior Choir

Dec. 13 (both 8:30 and 11:00); Dec. 24, 6:00 p.m.

Youth Chorale

Dec. 13 (both 8:30 and 11:00); Dec. 24, 6:00 p.m.

Youth Handbells

Dec. 13 (both 8:30 and 11:00)

Chancel Choir

Each 11:00 service, except Dec. 13; also 8:30 services on Dec. 6 and 20. Dec. 24, 10:00 p.m.

Spring Hill Ringers

Dec. 20, both 8:30 and 11:00



Gloria, Gloria

Music for Christmas
By C. T. Pachelbel, Pinkham,
Hurd, and others

Presented by the Chancel Choir,
Woodwinds, Brass and Organ

Sunday, Dec. 6,
during our 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 worship services



Schedules and Opportunities

Church Schedule...continued from page 1

January 2010

- 7 First Thursday Lunch
- 8 Meals on Wheels – 10:30 a.m.
- 12 Men's Breakfast – 7:00 a.m.
Diaconate – 7:00 p.m.
- 13 Circles
- 18 Newsletter Deadline – 9:00 a.m.
- 19 Session – 7:00 p.m.



Current Issues Class Schedule

- 11/29 Kathy Hamilton – Senior Health Issues (Part Two)
- 12/6 Children's Christmas Pageant in Bullard Building
- 12/13 Laura Soulier – "Avoiding Fraud –
Deterring, Detecting and Defending"
- 12/20 Linda Busby Parker, Editor/publisher Excalibur Press
– "Walking into the Christmas Season in
Other People's Shoes" – Various perspectives on
Christmas from Personal Essays and Short Stories.
From "Christmas is a Season 2008" and
Christmas is a Season 2009"
- 12/27 TBA

Current Scriptures Class Schedule

- 11/29 Galatians 5:16
- 12/6 No Class due to Christmas Program
- 12/13 Galatians 5:22-23 and Galatians 6:7
- 12/20 Philippians 1:21
- 12/27 Hebrews 11:1, 6

LECTIONARY FOR THE LORD'S DAY, DECEMBER 2009

- 6 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
MAL. 3:1-4; LUKE 1:68-78; PHIL. 1:3-11
LUKE 3:1-6
- 13 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
ZEPH. 3:14-20; ISA. 12:2-6; PHIL. 4:4-7
LUKE 3:7-18
- 20 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
MIC. 5:2-5A; LUKE 7:47-55 OR PS. 80:1-7
HEB. 10:5-10; LUKE 1:39-45 (46-55)
- 27 1ST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
1 SAM. 2:18-20, 26; PS. 148; COL. 3:12-17
LUKE 2:41-52

JANUARY 2010

- 3 2ND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
JER. 31:7-14; PS. 147:12-20; EPH. 1:3-14
JOHN 1 (1-9) 10-18
- 10 BAPTISM OF THE LORD
ISA. 43:1-7; PS. 29; ACTS 8:14-17
LUKE 3:15-17, 21-22
- 17 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
ISA. 62:1-5; PS. 36:5-10; 1 COR. 12:1-11
JOHN 2:1-11
- 24 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
NEH. 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10; PS. 19
1 COR. 12:12-31A; LUKE 4:14-21
- 31 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JER. 1:4-10; PS. 71:1-6; 1 COR. 13:1-13
LUKE 4:21-30



1st Thursday Lunch Bunch!

Our December Lunch on Thursday, December 3 will be the annual Dirty Santa Program. Please bring a wrapped gift (\$10.00 maximum). The gift can be fun or practical, to eat or to look at, to play or to read. It can be bought or home-made. Eva Macon will be Santa's helper and Pat Stoll will create a magical meal.

Bring a friend to join the fun. Come early to chat.
Lunch is at 11:45 a.m.

For transportation assistance, call Janie Sims, 340-6534.

Committees



Global Missions: Report from the field

Beijing, China 2009

Educational Services Exchange with China
Yuan Ming Yuan Campus, Peking University

Michael stood just a few steps inside my room; Michael was the English name he chose when entering the summer "Total Immersion Program" at Peking University. He was also my class monitor that assisted me daily with the demands of my routine. The graduation ceremony had ended, we had a group picture taken in the tennis court area and then Michael and I proceeded back to my room for our final goodbyes. I turned around after unlocking and entering my room. There he stood tears running down his face and his eyes completely red. Michael was a highly intelligent and educated young man who had entered the summer English program at Peking University to improve his oral English communication. He was a supervisor of a prospering organic foods company in a providence south of Beijing.

Michael was crying because within six weeks our friendship had now become bonded for eternity. He had come to my room to receive an English and Chinese translation of the Bible. He had secretly questioned me on several occasions about God, the Bible, my beliefs, and the Haidian Church we attended each Sunday in Beijing. I'll never forget how he held his hands for me to place the Bible in them. The Bible was so sacred to him and he held it as if there was no other book in existence.

Connor and I have thought long and deep on why Christianity is so different in China compared to Christianity here and why the Haidian Christian Church, we attend in Beijing, would be the perfect model for every church in the nation. It is because they take nothing for granted; and it is shown through the depth of their actions, thoughts and feelings that are sealed with authenticity, truthfulness, and sincerity, experiencing the true utmost of God within their daily life. Within the Haidian Christian Church are people from all nations and every walk of life. There are Chinese people crying to know about God, to have a Bible placed in their hands, to finally realize that their minds are free to think about God.

ESEC is founded on the concept of Christian humanitarian principles with the guiding tenet of ESEC's partnership being mutual respect. The 20 years that ESEC has served in China marks two historical decades of rapid progress and reform for Chinese society. ESEC is welcomed by the government in more than 200 institutes of higher education. As partners we focus on understanding and appreciation for one another. China has experienced a degree of change that is considered revolutionary, both in its scope and in its record-breaking pace. We are honored indeed to be inspired observers and joyful participants.

Love,
Jackie and Connor McClain

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 13 and 20.

Service Wings of Life

One of our Service Committee partners is the Wings of Life located in downtown Mobile. The Wings of Life is a refuge for those who need help coping with alcohol and drug dependence in a Christian environment.

With between 70-90 people living at the center at any given time, the Wings of Life has a systematic way to recover from dependency in lieu of jail time. Their 90-day program involves counseling in order to become self-sufficient in the work force. Each resident performs on-site duties during their stay from cooking to cleaning to outside yard work as well. The program actively helps them secure employment and even provides transportation to the workplace until able to secure their own housing.

Other ways the Wings of Life contributes to our local society:

- Feeding the homeless (over 100,000 meals are served annually)
- Provides healthcare to their residents including eye care & dental
- Conducts 4 church services per day.

Those not living at the center needing lunch are required to attend a service before eating.

Everything the Wings of Life has comes from donations from local churches and individuals. Donations are not just monetary. The Wings of Life will come pick up items not needed or planned for disposal (TV's, clothing, blankets, canned foods, furniture). At Spring Hill Presbyterian, we budget financial help for the Wings of Life through our offerings. We also donate time at their huge Thanksgiving Day lunch, and they are always looking for more help.

Christmas Wish List

Our church is again participating in the Christmas Wish List program sponsored by Catholic Social Services. We have the names of 30 children and ten elderly adults who will be counting on us for Christmas gifts. The plan is for each child to receive at least three gifts and the elderly to receive a package of personal items plus one special gift. Cards are posted on the bulletin board outside the Fellowship Hall. Please check it out and help provide smiles and happiness on Christmas morning. Deadline for delivering the wrapped and tagged gifts to the parlor will be Sunday, December 13.

Agency Requests

(Donation Bins in Bullard Building)

Penelope's Closet

Books, Plastic Hangers, Children's Clothes

Victory Health Partners

Toilet paper, copy paper, paper towels, stamps

Food Bank

Canned fruit and vegetables
(Donation Bin in Main Building)

Healthcare for Homeless

Toiletries (Kleenex, toothpaste, combs, deodorant)
call Hilda Gewin 342-5604

Memorials have been received honoring:



Joan Hartwell	Kelsey Bradley Favrot
Ruth Coats	Lloyd Pennington
Bob Miller	John B. Waterman II
Linda Bullard Hollingsworth	Annie Ruth Brock
Christopher Schultz	Marynell Perkins

From the following:

Pat and Robert Edington
Jay and Kelley Smith Evers
Sharon and Eddie McDonough
Tut Smith
Alex and Molly Lankford
Dick Bradley
Gordon and Margaret Mowry
George and Greta Massing
Helen Wells
Billy and Sue McLean
Ruth Fitzgerald
Sarah and Tom Damson
Sam and Judy Strada
The Bridge Group
Marion and Malinda McMurphy
Walter E. Roney, Jr.
Sybil Merig
Natalie Manire

James Manire, Jr. and Family
Dick and Betty Allen
Hilary Cabaniss
Lynda Holder
Sally and Mitch Cobb
Roy and Gail Kennedy
Natalie and Tim Willard
George and Kathleen Handley
Mr. and Mrs. Don Shumaker
Will and Anita Clary
Zevac & Lindsey, L.L.C.
Sally Whites
Betty Corley
Janice Schumaker
Robert Zundel and Mellisa Clawson
Sue and Ferd Zundel
Joan and Charlie Christmas
John Creel

Louis and Moren Braswell
Fred and Judy Bodie
Burt Taylor
Clint & Ann Iles
Mr. and Mrs. Caine O'Rear III
Vic, Ginger, Grant, Adam & Becca Klein
Dr. and Mrs. Edward Bryant
Mr. and Mrs. David Longstaff
David and Theresa Jellenc
Betty Scheu
Randy and Vera Lynn Sheets
Berkeley and Swayne Latham, Jr.
Beth Thomas
Luis and Gayle Williams
Sarah and Joe Ferguson
Carey Chitwood
Billy and Adrienne Thrash

Honoraria have been received for the following:

Sara Coats
Dr. Andrew Harper

From the following:

Pat and Robert Edington.
Randy and Vera Lynn Sheets

We Share in Sorrow

The prayers and sympathy of the congregation are with Stephanie White in the death of her brother, Christopher Schultz, on October 28 in Ridgecrest, CA; with Bill Coats and Emily Coats in the death of their wife and mother, Ruth, on October 30; with Percy Perkins in the death of his wife, Marynell, on October 31; and with Mary Beth Culp and Annette Simmons in the death of their brother, Ray Wade, Jr. on November 4 in Choutrand, LA.



WE REJOICE!

We rejoice with Ryan and Kristan Mahtani in the birth of a daughter Leah Jane on November 1. (Grandmother is Luann Rice and great-grandmother is Jane Moser.)

We rejoice with Roy and Sue Martino in the marriage of their daughter, Sarah, to James Dingivan, on November 7 in the sanctuary.

I Wonder As I Wander.....



Usually, when I start a new job I have a general idea of what I am supposed to do, but not this time. Just as in the past, the Lord has thrown me in head first. The first Sunday school class I ever taught was a group consisting of mostly retired Sunday school teachers, elders and others whose knowledge of the Bible far exceeded mine.

As I began preparing my first lesson, I thought to myself, what on earth can I teach these people. But, of course, God knew what he was doing. I quickly realized that I couldn't go wrong with these people. I could throw out any of the verses learned long ago, and they knew they were there. I didn't have to wait for them to look them up or tell them the vicinity in which to search. They already knew. I was also acutely aware of the fact that if I said something wrong, they would also know that. Consequently, I sweated bullets to be accurate.

This proved to be quite beneficial in learning to teach, for not only did I research everything thoroughly, my knowledge grew even more as I groped to find something which would challenge them. Ironically, it was the "simple" things that found their way into my lessons. Profound truths which they knew but had never pondered were brought forth, i.e., once a soul is created it never dies.

After working several months with these people, it was time to graduate and teach the younger ones. True challenges emerged since I not only had to be ready to quote both scripture and verse, I had to be ready to answer their impromptu questions accurately. My answers had to be right because another profound truth had been given to me. Whenever you take a young child and start molding his faith, it is an awesome responsibility and certainly not one to be taken lightly. Teaching children about God is the ultimate responsibility any person can have because, not only does it affect their lives, but it can also affect the lives of everyone in the church they choose to be affiliated with in the future. It has eternal effects.

But, we all are children....children of God who are growing in our walk with our Savior day by day. And, little by little, we are taking those baby steps into the arms of Jesus.

Please stop by my office and let us learn together.

In Christ,

Mary Hogue

Interim Facilitator of Christian Education

Notes from the Financial Office

2009 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.

2010 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, 2009 must be posted to the 2010 tax year regardless of the date on the check. In addition, if you're mailing your check, it must be postmarked no later than December 31, 2009 in order to receive tax credit for the current year.

Holiday Schedule

The financial office will be closed on December 24 and reopen Tuesday, December 29. 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. 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.

Library News

The dry nature of the Middle East desert has preserved more evidence for scholars to explore and study about groups and individuals who were active in the earlier years of the Christian era.

Lost Christianities: Christian scripture and the battles over authentication is the program selected by the "Current Issues" Sunday School class for study and discussion.

The Teaching Company chose Bart Erhman as the expert and lecturer for the program. Dr. Erhman is the James A. Gray professor, and also chair of the Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. For additional material by Erhman, check the display table in the library or visit the 9:30 a.m. Sunday School class in the Terry room of the Edington Building.





The Young and the Rest of Us:

Join us for a
Christmas party
at Robertson Gallery
450 Dauphin Street

Friday, December 4, 6:30

We'll enjoy music by our very own,
Brandon Rice.

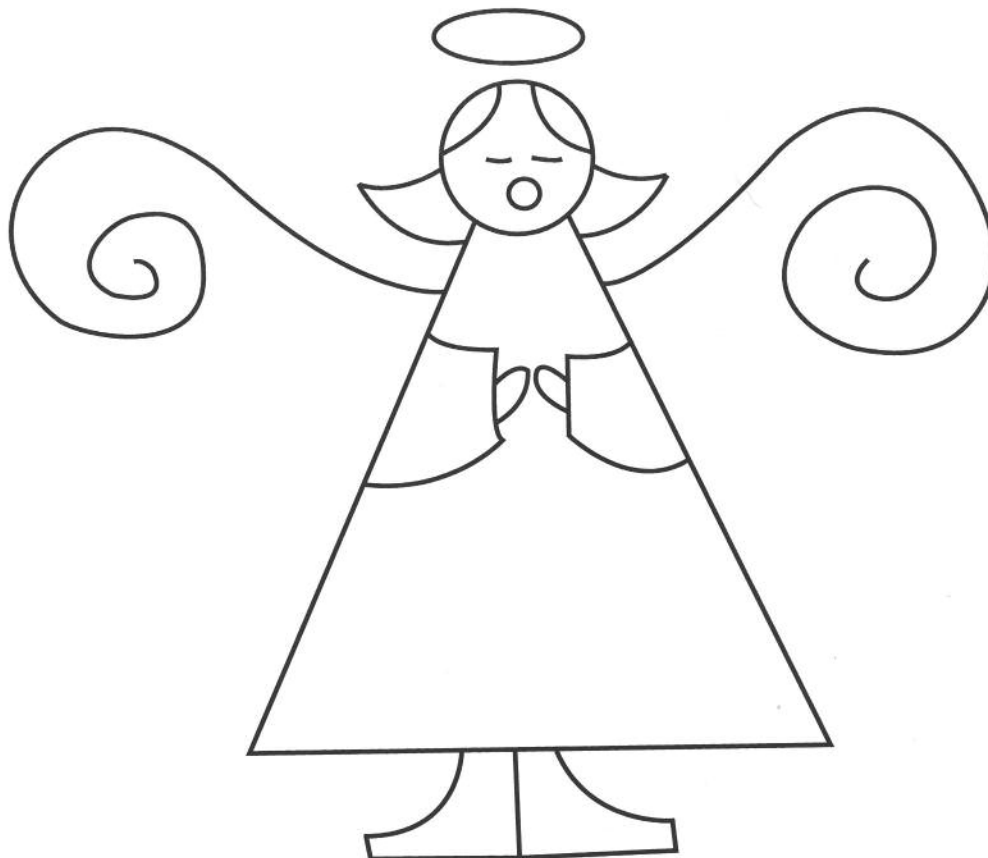
bring \$10 & beverage of your choice
(appetizers will be provided)

RSVP: 344-4202 or smeags123@aol.com



Color the Angel

Here is how the shepherds heard the news of Jesus' birth. Color the angel, look up Luke 2:8-14, and read the news.



Good News

Fill in the correct letters and read what it says from top to bottom.

What letter is in this word

- fear
- toil
- for
- shout
- hand
- steal
- shout
- abuse
- seat
- late

but not in this word?

- ear
- til
- of
- shot
- had
- seal
- shut
- base
- eat
- let

What letter is in this word

- cart
- hate
- said
- belt
- raid
- bite
- seat
- brow
- tone
- brand
- sent

but not in this word?

- art
- ate
- sad
- bet
- air
- bet
- tea
- row
- ten
- band
- set



Springhill Presbyterian Church
10 Westminster Way
Mobile AL, 36608

www/shpc.us

Season's Greeting from SHPC Staff

Jane

Ginny

Nena

Norman

Cathy

Mary

Louayne May

Randy

Marty

Ashley

Mark

Lucas

Alicia