



# Columns

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Georgetown Presbyterian Church

December 2011

*"Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."*

Luke 2:15

Dear Friends,

As we begin the month of December, we will already be four days into the season of Advent. Advent is that time on the calendar of the Christian Church in which we focus on the hope of our Lord coming in glory to redeem the world and usher in the Kingdom of God once and for all. The ultimate hope is directed toward the second coming of Christ, but we learn of this hope through the Old Testament prophets, and through the opening chapters of our Gospels.

I love the season of Advent, because it helps me redirect my focus in this day and age of the commercialization and secularization of the Christmas season. (In the church, we still say Christmas, not the generic "holiday.") During the season of Advent we have the opportunity to reflect on our broken, sinful world, and the need we have for a Savior. And during the season of Advent we are reminded of God's love for the world, and God's determination to break into this world with his plan of salvation.

I hope that you will take time each day during this season to marvel at God's grace and love. If you haven't already picked one up, please come to the church and pick up a copy of the Advent Devotions book edited and compiled by Thom Martin, with daily meditations by members of the church; there are copies available in the narthex of the sanctuary, the connector, and the fellowship hall.

**Also, please be aware of our schedule of special services during the season.**

**Sunday, December 11, Advent Lessons and Carols**

**Sunday, December 18, Las Posadas children's presentation**

**Saturday, December 24, Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 6pm**

**Sunday, December 25, Christmas Worship, 10am**

**(Note: Only one worship service on Christmas day)**

May God bless you with a joyful, hope-filled season.

Faithfully,

Steve Wilkins

## INVITE OTHERS

*"The best thing to give to your enemy is forgiveness; to an opponent, tolerance; to a friend, your heart; to your child, a good example; to a father, honor; to your mother, conduct that will make her proud of you; to yourself, respect; to all men, charity."*

To this quote, we would add  
Romans 6:23

*...the Gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

So many events in GPC celebrating this Christmas season, the perfect opportunity to **invite another** to worship with us and to know the True Gift.

## WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS



George and Pat Orr

## CONGRATULATIONS



On Thursday, November 10, 2011, Yorky Burnas-Arnold [our Hispanic Ministry director] took the oath to become a United States citizen. Please congratulate her on her diligence and hard work and devotion to our wonderful country.

# CONGREGATIONAL CARE

## Students of the Month

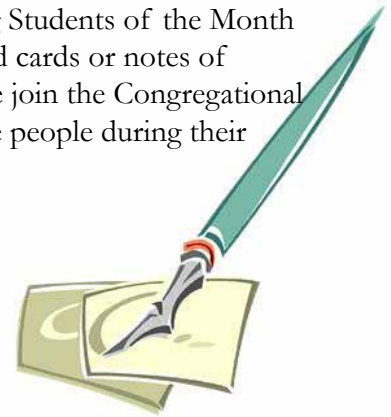
The Congregational Care Committee is featuring Students of the Month again this year. The congregation is asked to send cards or notes of encouragement to these featured students. Please join the Congregational Care Committee in supporting our young college people during their journey.

### *Featured Students for December:*

Ian Dillinger at University of South Carolina  
2719 Mills Drive • Columbia, SC 29204

Molly McNeill at University of South Carolina  
1051 Southern Drive, Apt 1505 • Columbia, SC 29201

Matt Piepenbring at Winthrop  
piepenbringm2@winthrop.edu



## BRIDGES Adventures • 6pm each Wednesday



December 7 Tara Hall boys Christmas party

December 14 Gathered in the Word, praying the scripture together,  
Fellowship Sunday School Classroom



We will be visiting the  
Presbyterian Home in  
Summerville sometime after  
Christmas. Please look for the  
announcement.

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*Thank you for all of your prayers, your warm and wonderful care and support for the loss of my father. The service was beautiful and the reception very comforting. Thank you to my wonderful church family. Ginger Matthews*

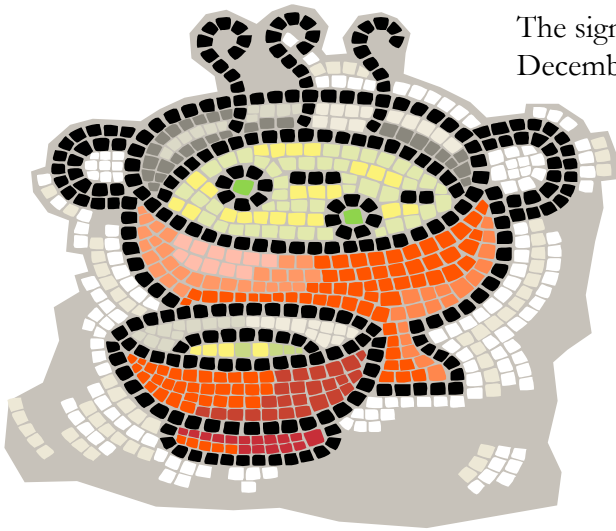
## PERENNIALS

THE FUN LOVING MATURE GROUP!

**There is no Perennial Board meeting in December.**

### “SOUPER” Dinner

Thursday, January 19 at 5:30 pm Chef Al will cook a “SOUPER” dinner. This annual January event will offer various soups, bread, salad and dessert for \$6 per person, payable at the door. We will play Bingo--so remember to bring your favorite gift-wrap “White Elephant” bingo prize so others may enjoy your treasure! Please do not bring books, as we will have a book exchange at the March dinner.



The sign up sheet will be posted on the Perennial Bulletin Board in December. Call the Church office if you have questions.

## MISSION AND OUTREACH

### Mission and Outreach Marketplace

Open December 4-14

Searching for a meaningful gift for that somebody who has everything? Are you one of those who would rather not battle the traffic at the mall or the store? The Mission and Outreach Marketplace may just be your one-stop solution! You can honor a person you love by making a donation that will be sent to the mission field or to a local ministry in his or her honor.



On any given Sunday or Wednesday through December 14, you may visit the Mission and Outreach Marketplace table at the entrance of Fellowship Hall. The concept is simple. You make a donation to one of our mission projects or Helping Hands, and then you send a card (supplied by the Mission and Outreach Marketplace) to a friend or family member to inform them that a Christmas gift has been given in their honor. This is a great way for you to honor someone special with a gift given to Jesus in his or her honor.

The Wise Men gave to Jesus. So can you, through the Mission and Outreach Marketplace!

## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

### Birthdays

12/1	Thomas Green	12/23	Elizabeth Assey
12/2	Jimmy Morris		Susan Goodman
	Christina Wilcox	12/24	Evie Gibson
12/3	Katherine Morris		Katie Glenn
12/5	Sandie Booth		Hollace Tuttle
	Sally Gillespie	12/25	Jimmy Hills
12/5	Marie Shank	12/26	Norman Assey
12/6	Davis Jayroe		Brian Clark
	Riley Jordan		Ian Dillinger
12/7	Joni Howell	12/28	Elizabeth Chastain
12/8	Robin Brown		Edwin Jayroe
	Molly McNeill	12/30	Jean Bailey
	Sandy Ragin		Rand Bailey
12/9	Madeline Young		Eddie Meador
12/10	Liz Brachna	12/31	Pat Buss
12/16	Joel Tamsberg		Lance Duvall
12/20	Susan Cyr		David English
12/21	Jay Taylor		Kenny Mitchum

### Anniversaries

12/2	Al & Jill De Marchi
12/11	Emmanuel & Emilienne Koumamou
12/21	Bob & Betty Kilgore
	Don & Flo Mabe
12/26	Bob & Jane Sizemore
12/30	Luke & Gayle McCain

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



In December, the GPW's Monthly Mission Project will be to bake cookies and take them to Prince George and Georgetown Healthcare and Rehab. We would love to have anybody help, with the baking and/or delivering. We plan to try to visit some residents also. If you know of friends in these two homes, please let Joanne Duvall know so that we can go by and speak to them. If you're baking cookies, please have them in the church kitchen by Tuesday, Dec. 13, at 9am. You can leave them on Sunday or Monday, just mark them for GPW. At 9:00 on Tuesday, we'll meet in the kitchen, put these on some big trays, and go visit at the two homes. The cookies will be given to the staff, and they know which patients to share with. Whether you bake or not, we'd love for anyone to join us to visit! The more, the merrier!

# MUSIC AND WORSHIP MINISTRY

The Music Ministry of Georgetown Presbyterian Church presents

## *Advent Lessons and Carols*



**Sunday, December 11, 2011**  
**eleven o'clock in the morning**  
The Chancel Choir and String Quartet  
directed by Thomas A. Martin, IV

### *Advent & Christmas Schedule*

**Sunday, December 4**  
2nd Sunday in Advent  
Worship 8:45am and 11am

**Wednesday, December 7**  
Tara Hall Christmas Party  
6pm Fellowship Hall

**Sunday, December 11**  
3rd Sunday in Advent  
Worship 8:45 and 11am  
Advent Lessons and Carols  
11:00 service

**Sunday, December 25**  
Christmas Day  
one worship, 10am  
no Sunday School

**Wednesday, December 14**  
Bridges dinner at 5:15pm  
Children Christmas caroling 6-7pm

**Sunday, December 18**  
4th Sunday in Advent  
Worship 8:45 and 11am  
Las Posadas, Children's Christmas Pageant  
11:00 service

**Saturday, December 24**  
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service  
6pm

**About the Service**  
The carols sung at the Advent Service of Lessons and Carols, and throughout the subsequent liturgical seasons of Christmas and Epiphany, have deep roots in the tradition of Christian worship. Because the origin of carol-singing is pagan (the derivation of the word may be koros: the circle of dancers and singers that complemented the dialogue of Attic drama), it was only by the grudging consent of the medieval Catholic Church that Christian carols took root in Europe. However, by the beginning of the fifteenth century, carol-singing had become an integral element of seasonal worship. Though carols, indeed the celebration of Christmas itself, were banned in England by the Puritan regime of Oliver Cromwell during the seventeenth century, they were preserved and augmented in the New World, and eventually restored as a beloved tradition in Britain. While the terms "carol" and "hymn" may occasionally overlap, the two genres are, in fact, different. Hymn texts tend to didacticism; while the purpose of the carol - one that stems from its medieval analogue, the mystery play - is narrative. For unlettered folk of the Middle Ages, the carol, like a stained glass panel or a fresco tableau, depicted the momentous event of Christ's Incarnation. And, in honor of the saint who may well be called the father of the Christian ode to joy, Francis of Assisi, the nature of most carols is both "hilarious" (joyous) and reverential. Centuries ago, carol-singing celebrated several seasons of the Church year. The custom has come, however, to be associated with the seasons of Advent and Christmas.

# YOUTH MINISTRY

## Middle School -

December 7—No Youth Group, you are invited to attend the Tara Hall Party with your family.

December 14—Middle School normal Schedule 5:30—8pm

December 18—Middle School & High School Party (see Christmas Party)



## Senior High -

December 4—Youth will meet from 5:30-8pm

December 11—Youth will meet from 5:30-8pm

December 18—Senior High & Middle School Party (See Christmas Party)

December 21—Service Project from 9am-12noon



College students who are returning home for the holidays will meet in the Fellowship Hall Sundays at 10am, December 18, and January 8. This will be an opportunity for us to catch up and look at how our lives in Christ have suffered and/or flourished in college. We will look at ways we can strengthen our faith when we find ourselves in “the wilderness”.



## Christmas Party

On Sunday, December 18, the middle school and high school youth will meet in the church parking lot at 3pm. We will caravan to Mingo Plantation where Anne and Jody Tamsberg will host this year's Christmas Party. Youth will need to bring a “Tricky Santa” gift of no more than \$5 in value. This should be a gift appropriate for a male or female. Only those with gifts can participate in the exchange. Be sure to dress appropriate for the weather and prepare for the “one horse open sleigh”. There will be all kinds

of fun. Bruce will need to know how many people will be attending no later than Sunday, December 11. Parent helpers, chaperones and Sunday school teachers are welcome to join us. The youth will be returning to the church by 9pm.

## Service Project

Wednesday, December 21, at 9am the senior high youth will meet in the fellowship hall/kitchen to prepare meals for the pastoral care freezer. Ingredients will be waiting for you to cook and prepare. We should finish by 12noon.



## Montreat Youth Conference— “Perfectly Imperfect” July 22-28, 2012

Early bird registration cost	\$598
(sign up by December 18)	
Cost after December 18	\$722
*Registration Deposit	\$100
(if you have more than one child deposit is \$50 each)	

\*Refund will only be given if you find someone to buy your space. Cost will decrease based on funds raised. Space is limited to first 22 registered.

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

*Merry Christmas everyone!*

Once again we find ourselves in the Christmas Holiday mode. It's fun, hectic and can be filled with joy. So, it's the joy that I pray fills your hearts and soul as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Looking ahead, I want to bring several events to your attention.



Monday through Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>, our **Christmas Shoppe** will be open. We are collecting "yard sale" type items to place in the shop. If you would like to make a donation, please bring it by the church office. **If you are able to "work" in our shop, we could certainly use you.** We offer gift wrapping of the items, and that takes lots of hands. Please let me know if you can help. We would like to have the shop open from 2:30-5pm, so feel free to drop by on any of those dates and see the activity.

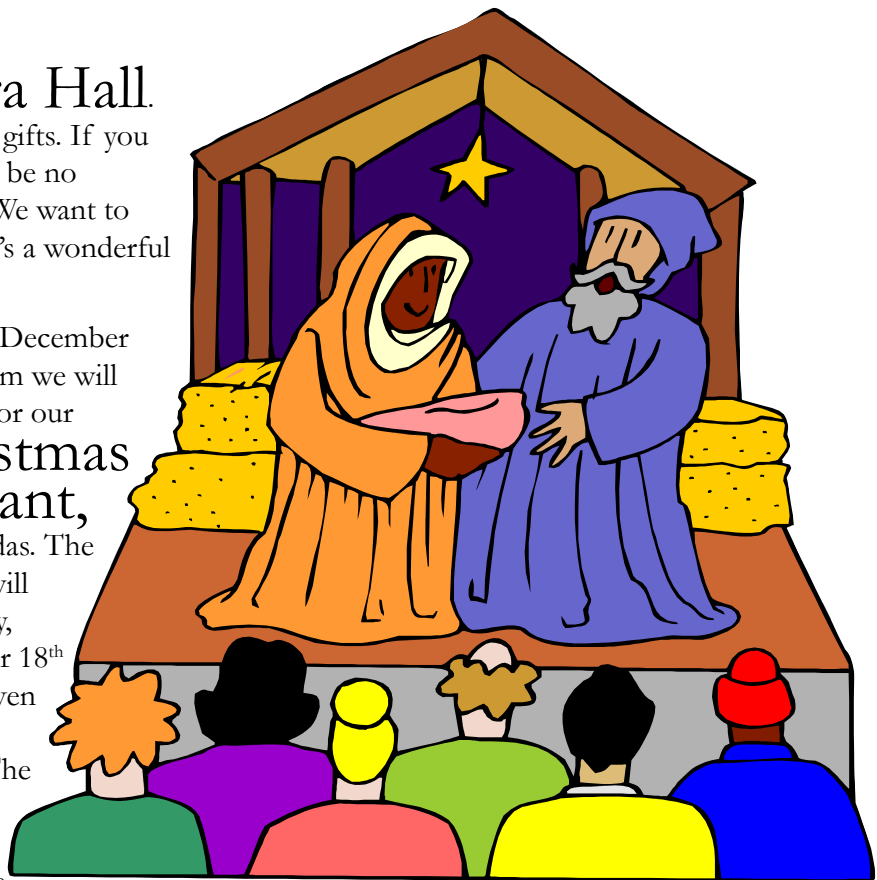
On Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, we will host **Tara Hall**. The boys are always so grateful for their meal and gifts. If you can join us, dinner will be at 6pm. Note: there will be no children's activities, but nursery will be available. We want to encourage children to attend with their families. It's a wonderful experience.



### Christmas Caroling

via a hay ride for the children will be Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. We want to take the elementary children through Willowbank. If you have a particular home that you would like for us to serenade, please call and let me know. We will do our best!!

Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, at 9am we will practice for our **Christmas Pageant**, Las Posadas. The pageant will be Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at the eleven o'clock service. The children will need to be here no later than 9:30am on the 18<sup>th</sup> in order to dress for the pageant.



*May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts this Christmas and everyday of the year. Debbie*

# CONGREGATIONAL SUPPORT

## Nursery

12/4 Michelle Wood  
12/11 Terri Glenn  
12/18 Alma Power  
12/25 TBA

## Children's Church

12/4 Wendy Siau  
12/11 Kim Jordan  
12/18 Brenda Martin  
12/25 TBA

## Greeters

8:45 Service  
12/4 David & Charlotte VanHoose  
12/11 David & Charlotte VanHoose  
12/18 Bill & Betty Griffin

## 11:00 Service

12/4 Edwin & Carol Jayroe  
12/11 Edwin & Carol Jayroe  
12/18 Joe Padgett

## Ushers

8:45 Service  
Larry & Libby Michau  
  
11:00 Service  
12/4 Kalib Moyer, Joe Padgett,  
Gayle McCain, Jo Swift  
12/11 Dean Brown, Ted Quantz, Joe  
Dick Schwab, Tommy Rowland  
12/18 Doug Wilson, Sandie Booth,  
Linda Puckett, Carol Mabe  
12/25 JL McAlister, Pinckney  
Skinner, Hannah Skinner, Ann  
Martin

## Memorials & Honorariums

To the Children's Ministry  
*In Loving Honor of Gerti Dorn*  
  
To the General Fund  
*In Loving Memory of Harriett Gotwals*  
by Stan & Martha Brown  
  
*In Loving Memory of Phil McDilda*  
by Fred & Kaye Thomas

*The Session and Congregation of  
Myrtle Beach First Presbyterian Church  
Cordially Invite You to Attend a  
Farewell Retirement Celebration  
in Honor of  
Dr. Robert C. Wilkes, Jr.  
Celebrating 28 years  
of Dedication and Selfless Service  
Sunday, December 18, 2011  
3:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.  
First Presbyterian Church-Great Hall  
3810 Robert Grissom Parkway  
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina 29577*

*Please RSVP by December 9*

*(843) 448-4496*

# MANNA IN THE MORNING

*"Then the Lord said... I will rain down bread from heaven for you. The people are to go out each day and gather enough for that day.' ...The people of Israel called the bread manna."*

Numbers 16:4, 31

*"One does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord."*

Deut. 8:3

## Lectio Divina

Use lectio divina in your daily reading of scripture by reading a few verses of the Bible. Read unhurriedly and listen for the message God has for you. Stay alert to connections to the Spirit that may reveal the passage and what is going on in your life. Once you have heard a word that is meant for you, you are naturally drawn to prayer. Pour your heart to God. Read, reflect, respond and rest — this is the basic rhythm of divine reading.

1. Read the scripture slowly.
2. Reflect on a word or phrase.
3. Respond to what you have read.
4. Rest in God's word.

From Upper Room Ministries  
[http://www.upperroom.org/daily/?page\\_id=9](http://www.upperroom.org/daily/?page_id=9)

Note: Scripture readings and weekly themes are taken from Norman Shawchuck and Rueben Job, *A Guide to Prayer for All God's People*, (Nashville: Upper Room Books, 1990).

Won't you take time to each day to let God speak to you through His Word? Listed below is a series of daily readings from the Bible. You are encouraged to spend a few minutes in the morning to let the scriptures soak into your heart. You may choose to begin each day by reading the psalm of the week. There is a single text listed for each weekday and Saturday; the Sunday texts are the Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel lectionary selections that are incorporated into our worship services (Note: during the time between Easter and Pentecost, the Old Testament lesson is replaced by a reading from Acts). One suggestion for daily reading would be to engage with the text through a process known as "Lectio Divina" (a Latin term that simply means "Divine Reading").

Thursday, December 1

Isaiah 43:1-13

Friday, December 2

Hebrews 10:11-25

Saturday, December 3

Zephaniah 3:14-20

**Getting Ready--**

**2nd Sunday in Advent**

*Psalm of the Week Psalm 62*

Sunday, December 4

Isaiah 40:1-11

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Mark 1:1-8

Monday, December 5

Luke 1:5-25

Tuesday, December 6

Luke 1:57-80

Wednesday, December 7

Matthew 3:1-12

Thursday, December 8

Isaiah 62:1-12

Friday, December 9

Luke 12:35-48

Saturday, December 10

Isaiah 51:1-8

**Good News--3rd Sunday in Advent**

*Psalm of the Week Psalm 80*

Sunday, December 11

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

John 1:6-8, 19-28

Monday, December 12

Mark 13:1-13

Tuesday, December 13

Luke 21:25-36

Wednesday, December 14

Revelation 1:1-8

Thursday, December 15

John 1:14-18

Friday, December 16

Ezekiel 34:11-16

Saturday, December 17

Acts 1:1-11

**When God Comes--**

**4th Sunday in Advent**

*Psalm of the Week Psalm 65*

Sunday, December 18

2 Samuel 7:8-16

Romans 16:25-27

Luke 1:26-38

Monday, December 19

James 5:7-18

Tuesday, December 20

Matthew 1:18-25

Wednesday, December 21

Isaiah 40:1-11

Thursday, December 22

Ezekiel 34:17-31

Friday, December 23

Isaiah 9:1-7

Saturday, December 24

Philippians 4:4-9

**God's Greatest Gift**

*Psalm of the Week Psalm 98*

Sunday, December 25

Isaiah 52:7-10

Hebrews 1:1-4

John 1:1-14

Monday, December 26

Exodus 20:18-26

Tuesday, December 27

Galatians 3:23-4:7

Wednesday, December 28

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Thursday, December 29

John 3:1-8

Friday, December 30

Ephesians 1:3-14

Saturday, December 31

Colossians 1:15-23

**Chosen by God**

*Psalm of the Week Psalm 89:1-18*

Sunday, January 1

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Galatians 4:4-7

Luke 2:22-40

Monday, January 2

John 15:12-17

Tuesday, January 3

1 Thessalonians 1:2-10

Wednesday, January 4

Isaiah 42:1-9

# DECEMBER 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7:30am-5:30pm Preschool/F.I.S.H. Monday-Friday Unless otherwise noted.	11am-6pm The Music Studio Monday-Thursday Room B223 (upstairs conference room) Unless otherwise noted.	Sunday Worship 8:45am and 11am Unless otherwise noted.		1 1	2 2	3 9:30am, Quilters
4 8:30am-12noon, Mission & Outreach Marketplace 8:45am, communion 9:30am, Children's Music 9:45am, Session training 5:30pm, Senior Hi youth	5 10am staff meeting 10am PW Coor team mtng 6:30pm, Indigo	6 12noon, Pastoral visitation lunch	7 7:15am, Men's breakfast 12-1pm, brown bag lunch with the pastor 5:15pm, Bridges, Tara Hall 5:15-7pm, 8:30am-12noon, Mission & Outreach Marketplace 7pm, Chancel Choir	8 8	9 9	10 9:30am, Quilters
11 8:30am-12noon, Mission & Outreach Marketplace 9:30am, Children's Music 9:45am, Session training 11am, Advent Lessons and Carols 5:30pm, Senior Hi youth	12 10am, CE staff meeting 10am Miriam Circle 11:30am Inez Straight Cir 2:30pm, Lela Marvin Cir 2:30-5pm, Christmas Shoppe 7pm, Mary Martha Cir 5:30pm, Prop: Mission 6:30pm, Indigo	13 9am, PW mission project 2:30-5pm, Christmas Shoppe 5pm, CDC committee	14 7:15am, Men's breakfast 12-1pm, Bag lunch with the pastor 2:30-5pm, Christmas Shoppe 5:15pm, Bridges 5:30pm, Middle Sch Youth 6pm, Gathering in the Word, FHall 6-7pm, Children Christmas Caroling 7pm, Chancel Choir	15 2:30-5pm, Christmas Shoppe 5:30pm, Stewardship/Fin Committee, Session room	16 Preschool Christmas Program, Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall	17 9am, Children's Christmas pageant rehearsal 9:30am, Quilters
18 9:30am, Children's Music 9:45am, Session training 10am, Java & Jesus 11am Las Posadas Children's Christmas pageant 3-9pm, Mid Sch & Sr Hi Christmas party 3-5pm, Dr. Robert Wilkes, Jr. retirement celebration, First Pres, Myrtle Beach	19 Preschool/FISH closed 10am, staff meeting 6:30pm, Indigo	20 Preschool/FISH closed 5-8pm, Helping Hands & reception, FHall 5:30pm, Session	21 Preschool/FISH closed 9am-12noon, Sr Hi youth service project	22 Preschool/FISH closed	23 Preschool/FISH closed	24 9:30am, Quilters 6pm, Christmas Eve service
25 FOOD PANTRY CHRISTMAS DAY no Sunday School 10am Worship, one service	26 Preschool/FISH closed Office Closed 6:30pm, Indigo	27 Preschool/FISH closed	28 Preschool/FISH closed 7:15am, Men's breakfast 12-1pm, bag lunch with the pastor	29 Preschool/FISH closed	30 Preschool/FISH closed	31 9:30am, Quilters

*"Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."*  
Luke 2:15

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