

Church Calendar

SUNDAY—DECEMBER 6

Singing Time	9:05 A.M.
Sunday School	9:20 A.M.
Fellowship in the Foyer	10:20 A.M.
Worship Service	10:45 A.M.
Missions 2010 Meeting	12:15 P.M.
Laurens Small Group	5:00 P.M.
Clinton Small Group (<i>Meet at Ragins'</i>)	5:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY—DECEMBER 9

Orchestra Rehearsal	4:15 P.M.
Choirs	4:45 P.M.
Supper	5:15 P.M.
Classes for all ages (<i>nursery for birth through age three</i>)	6:00 P.M.
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	7:05 P.M.

SATURDAY—DECEMBER 12

<i>Carols of the Christ Child</i> Rehearsal	10:00 A.M.
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SUNDAY—DECEMBER 13

Singing Time	9:05 A.M.
Sunday School	9:20 A.M.
Fellowship in the Foyer	10:20 A.M.
Worship Service	10:45 A.M.
<i>Carols of the Christ Child</i>	5:00 P.M.

Upcoming Events

Community Caroling	December 16
Youth Christmas Party	December 19

Sunday School

ADULT

<i>Proverbs</i>	Dick Gillen
<i>1, 2 Thessalonians</i>	Wayne Smith
<i>Satan's Greatest Hits</i> (College-Early Career).....	Jim Roberts

YOUTH

Senior High.....	Leigh and Tacy Fleury
Junior High.....	Jay and Suzanne Ragin

CHILDREN

5th/6th grade.....	Tommy and Nancy Motes
3rd - 4th grade.....	Paul and Sandy Moore
1st - 2nd grade.....	Jody Lipford/Robin Roberts
4 - 5 yr. olds.....	Pete and Jen Partee
2 - 3 yr. olds.....	Laura Lipford/Betsy McKinney
Toddlers.....	Anne Edwards/Fran Arscott

Nursery

In the nursery this week	In the nursery next week
<i>Babies</i> S. Moore/L. Dowdle	<i>Babies</i> R. Roberts/S. Downie
<i>Preschool</i> J. and K. Davidson	<i>Preschool</i> .. E. MacCormack/R. Kelly

Prayer Concerns

THE CHURCH AT LARGE

Bailey Manor—Residents in independent living
 Presbytery—Powell PC, Spartanburg
 Denomination—Covenant Theological Seminary, Dr. Bryan Chapell
 Missionaries—Robert & Shirley Woodson, Peru

CHURCH MEMBER REQUESTS

Gary Lewis—continued progress and recovery
 Terry Baxley—Medical issues related to MS
 Larry Smith, Eric's father—aggressive bladder cancer
 Phyllis Greer—comfort and peace
 Robert Roper—prostate cancer

PRAISES

Special times with families
 Jim Edwards—good recovery
 Richard Dowdle—good doctor's report

THOSE EXPECTING

Tacy Fleury—due in March
 Jen Partee—due in March

OTHERS

National Leadership—Secretary of Defense Robert Gates
 State Leadership—Rep. Jeff Duncan
 Local Leadership— Clinton City Council
 Homebound, Military and their families
 School personnel during the hectic holidays

To put requests on the prayer chain, contact

Anne Edwards—683-5757, email
 Marilyn Daniluk—833-4359, phone
 or the church office during the day

Our Staff

Pastor
 Rev. Jim Roberts 833-4583

Assistant Pastor
 Rev. Dick Gillen 938-0334

Director of Music and Youth
 Dr. Leigh Fleury 833-6530

Director of Children's Ministries
 Penny Greer 833-2955

November Financial Report

Week 1	\$10,279.30
Week 2	\$ 8,323.37
Week 3	\$4,748.24
Week 4	\$6,110.00
Week 5	\$8,551.79
Month Total	\$38,012.70
YTD Total	\$341,842.73
YTD Budget	\$351,400.50
YTD Expenses	\$347,248.19

Serving You

Deacons for DecemberJody Lipford, Robbie Strickland

Ushers for December.....Jody Lipford, Robbie Strickland
 Dave MacCormack

December 6, 2009

** Those who are able, please stand ♦ Ushers may seat at this time
 Hearing devices and large-print bulletins are available from the ushers*

Meditation Psalm 45:3–6

Gird your sword upon your side, O mighty one; clothe yourself with splendor and majesty. In your majesty ride forth victoriously in behalf of truth, humility and righteousness; let your right hand display awesome deeds. Let your sharp arrows pierce the hearts of the king's enemies; let the nations fall beneath your feet. Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever; a scepter of justice will be the scepter of your kingdom.

Prelude Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence ~ arr. J. Cotter

Lighting of the Advent Candle Campus Outreach Staff
 Based on Isaiah 9:6, 33:22, Hebrews 1:8, Philippians 2:9-11

* **Call to Worship** From Psalm 147 Mr. Jay Ragin

Leader: Praise the LORD.
 Congregation: *How good it is to sing praises to our God, how pleasant and fitting to praise him!*

Leader: The LORD... heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. He determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name.

Congregation: *Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit. The LORD sustains the humble but casts the wicked to the ground.*

All: *Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make music to our God on the harp.*

*♦ **Hymn of Adoration** Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates #198

* **Prayer of Adoration and Invocation**

◆ **Welcome** (Please date, sign, and pass the friendship registers.)

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Sentences Psalm 116:17-19

Offertory Music Sanctuary Choir

Of the Father's Love Begotten ~ D. Warland
(see hymn 162 for text)

* **Response** Doxology #731

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heav'nly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* **Offertory Prayer**

Confession of Faith Apostles' Creed¹

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell.² The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic³ church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

* **Song of Preparation** Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence #193

* **Scripture Reading** Isaiah 9:6-7

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon TO US A CHILD IS BORN Mr. Jim Roberts
- THE MIGHTY GOD-

* **Hymn of Response** O Come, All Ye Faithful #208

Lord's Supper

Confession of Sin

Call to Confession Isaiah 30:15, 18

Silent Confession

Prayer of Confession

Most Mighty God, when we look at our own lives, we must confess they are filled with a mixture of giving and selfishness, of waiting on you and of rushing along without thought of your great love. Forgive us for missing the mark of Advent, for our frantic ways and misplaced efforts. Help us to trust in you, the one who still brings us salvation, who still supplies us strength, who hears our songs of gratitude, who accepts our joyful praise. Let us all draw water from the wells of salvation. Let us shout it in church and in town: For your name is great and is still to be praised. Your saving deeds support our lives, and your greatness still astounds us.

Assurance of Pardon Ephesians 1:3-7

Words of Institution 1 Corinthians 11:23-29

Invitation to Partake

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Consecration of the Elements

Sharing of the Bread

Sharing of the Cup

Prayer: Thanksgiving, Intercession, and the Lord's Prayer

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts
as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but
deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power
and the glory forever. Amen.*

* **Benediction**

* **Congregational Response**

*O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O Come, let us
adore Him, Christ the Lord.*

Postlude Noel Nouvelet (Sing We a Glad Noel) ~ D. Wood



¹The Apostles' Creed, although not written by the apostles, is a concise summary of their teaching. Begun in the second century, it developed into its present form by the seventh century.
²By "he descended into hell" we mean that Christ suffered the wrath and punishment of God in our place on the cross.
³The word catholic means "universal."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Carols of the Christ Child, our Christmas concert, will be presented on December 13, at 5:00 P.M. This is a great time to invite friends to Westminster to hear the gospel presented in music and scripture. Please bring a large platter of heavy hors d'oeuvres for reception after the concert.

Cusco calendars—2010 calendars, featuring and benefiting the children of the Josephine House in Cusco, Peru, are available for purchase from the church office. 100% of the proceeds go to the Josephine House. Sample calendars are in the narthex and fellowship hall foyer.

Good News Gifts—The outreach ministry team has made the decision to forego Angel Tree and provide Christmas gifts to children in our own community. If you would like to provide a gift, please see the display in the fellowship hall foyer. Be sure to sign for the "ornament" you take. Contact Ronda Buford if you have questions or need more detail.

Holiday Gift Basket orders will be taken through Wednesday, December 9. If you would like to purchase one, be sure to get your order into the church office by closing time on Wednesday. Baskets will be available for pick up on Sunday, December 13. All proceeds will go to the Missions 2010 fund.

From the treasurer—We experienced a significant increase in giving in November and have reduced our yearly operating deficit to just under \$5,500, a remarkable achievement in a very difficult economic environment. With a small increase in giving from each one of us in December, a surplus for the year is within reach.

Wednesday supper this week will be *manicotti, salad and breadsticks*. Use the designated space on the friendship register to let us know how many adults and children from your family will be here for supper.

If you would like to provide a poinsettia for the sanctuary, in honor or in memory of a loved one, please fill out the form below and place it in a manila envelope in the offering plate with your \$10.00 donation.

I would like to provide a Christmas poinsettia:

In memory of

In honor of

My name _____

