

Fort Hill Presbyterian Church

The Presbyterian Church (USA)
Clemson, South Carolina

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

December 6, 2009

Our Vision

*Joining together on a journey of Christian faith,
we seek to be Disciples of Christ and to share God's love
in our community and around the world.*

399 College Avenue, Clemson, SC 29631
864-654-2061; fax 864-654-8934; www.forthillchurch.org

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Second Sunday of Advent

December 6, 2009, 10:30 A.M.

PREPARING TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

Trinity Chimes

Prelude: "Sleepers, Wake! A Voice is Calling" (Hymn text #17)

J. S. Bach

*(The prelude signals the beginning of corporate worship
so bring your individual greetings and conversations to a close at that time. Thank you.)*

Time of Greeting and Fellowship and Life of the Church

Laura Conrad

Leader: Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Processional Hymn #2: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" verse 1 (remain seated)

HYFRYDOL

**Come, Thou long expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.**

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Dick and Laura Shick and the confirmation class: Mimi Borick,
Dylan Bolger, Jake Alexander, and Ashley Jarrett

+Hymn #20: "Watchman Tell Us of the Night" (Sung to tune of Hymn #303)

ABERYSTWYTH

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Kerin Watts

**God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came among us as light shining in the darkness. We confess
that we have not welcomed the light, or trusted good news to be good.**

**In gratitude we have accepted your good gifts for ourselves, but in mistrust we have held on to them,
unwilling to share with our neighbors in need.**

**In faith we have accepted your call to discipleship, but in fear we have refused serve in all but the most
convenient places.**

**In hope we have prayed for peace and justice, but in ambivalence we have busied ourselves with other
things, leaving so many of your children to suffer with neither peace, nor justice.**

**In this time of preparation and hope-filled waiting, we have closed our eyes to glory in our midst,
expecting little and hoping for less.**

**Forgive us O God, for we mean well, but we falter so easily. Create within us a right spirit and give us
courage to serve and love you, that we may be living vessels of your will, and full participants in your
coming Kingdom. (followed by silent individual confession)**

Assurance of Pardon: (followed by)

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

All: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.**

*+A Faithful Response: "Joy to the World!"

ANTIOCH

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;

He comes to make His blessings flow

Far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found, far as, far as, the curse is found.

(During the singing of the hymn, children may come to the front.)

PROCLAIMING THE WORD OF GOD

Special Music from JAM and Jesus Jammers

directed by Kristy MacRae

**Silent Night (1st time: chimes; 2nd time: children join and sing;
3rd time: congregation join the children singing)**

Silent Night, Holy Night, All is calm, all is bright.
Round yon virgin mother and child. Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in Heavenly peace, Sleep in Heavenly peace.

Mary's Boy Child

Long time ago in Bethlehem, so the Holy Bible say.
Mary's boy child, Jesus Christ, was born on Christmas Day.
Hark! Now hear the angels sing, a new King born today,
And man will live forevermore, because of Christmas Day!

*(Following the music, 3 year olds-Kindergarten may leave THROUGH THE SIDE DOOR for extended care.
Visitors: please accompany your child to the nursery for registration purposes.)*

Old Testament: Isaiah 65:17-25 (The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God.**)

Lee Sommerfeld

Anthem: "Oh, How Beautiful the Sky"

Christiansen

New Testament: Luke 1:26-38 (The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God.**)

Sermon: There's Something About Mary

Bill Gause

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

+Hymn #38: "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

CAROL

+Affirmation of Faith: "The Apostles' Creed" (front of Hymnal, page 14)

Prayers of the People

Invitation to Discipleship

Offering of Oneself and One's Gifts to God and to God's Church

Offertory: "Once He Came in Blessing"

John Leavitt

+Response of Praise: Hymn #23, "Angels We have Heard On High" (1st verse)

GLORIA

**Angels, we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving followed by "The Lord's Prayer"

Sharing the Bread and Cup

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

+Hymn #31: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

MENDELSSOHN

+Benediction and Choral Response

+Postlude: Fanfare on "Hark the Herald Angels Sing"

Robert Hobby

+indicates that all who are able may stand

*indicates that Ushers will seat late worshipers

SERVICE NOTES FOR 10:30 AM SERVICE

- Following worship please introduce yourself to those around you. Don't take it for granted they know who you are; tell them your name. **Bill Gause** will be at the Edgewood Avenue Door; **Laura Conrad** will be at the Courtyard Door and **Kerin Watts** will be at the Porte-cochere Door.
- We welcome visitors to worship today and pray the service will be a blessing to you. Please print your name on the Friendship Pad when it is passed and introduce yourself to those who are seated around you. You are invited and welcome to participate in all the programs of Fort Hill Church. If you would like to join our church, please indicate this on the Friendship Pad.
- The Elder on duty today is **Bill Cato**. Following worship, the Elder on Duty will be at the Baptismal Font. If you would like to join the church, express a joy or concern or make a suggestion to the Session, please speak to this Elder on Duty.
- The Elders serving Communion today are: **Bill Cato, Caleb Bailey, Chris Bandy, Robin Denny, Becky DeWitt, Leslie Hicklin, Bobby Skelton, Cal Sawyer, John Spragins, and William Spitler.**
- JAM (Jesus And Me) 3rd-5th grade members are: **Hallie Conrad, Alyssa Howard, Carter McInnis, Hannah Grace Rutland.** Jesus Jammers K-2nd grade members are: **Sam Bruce, Baze Gianiodis, Elyse Hollingsworth, Jensen McInnis, Peyton McRoberts, Catherine Norris, Kristen Smith, Will Turner, Sydney Weeks, Ally Wilson, Caila Worley, Coleman Wright, Tipton Wright.**
- Please honor the worship experience by refraining from photography during the service.
- Child care is offered during worship for children through age 5. Childcare for children 0-3 years of age begins at 10:15 am in education building (first floor). Please ask usher for directions to nurseries.
- Restrooms are located at the front (handicapped-accessible) and rear of Sanctuary and in both adjacent buildings.
- Hearing devices are available in the Narthex. Please see an usher for assistance.
- Scripture passages for next Sunday are: Zephaniah 3:14-20; Isaiah 12:2-6; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18.

SUNDAY'S SERVANTS

Pastor On Call (12/7 - 12/13) **Laura Conrad (Call 654-2065 between 4:30 pm and 8:30 am)**
 (This information is also available each week on our answering machine after normal business hours.)

Deacons Corner – Care Line: If you know of any congregational member who needs care for illness, anticipated surgery or hospitalization, a birth or death in the family, or any other concerns that the church family should know and pray about, please call FHPC Care Line, 864-654-2061.
 Prayer Request cards are available in each pew rack. Please fill out card and place in offering plate.

<p>Offering Counters for Today Joe Dickey and Wayne Madison</p> <p><i>Offering Counters for Next Sunday</i> <i>Jan and Bill Kahle</i></p>	<p>Nursery Workers for Today Megan and Eddie Chavis, Tracy and Tommy Bolger, Elizabeth Bost and Mary Courtney Norris, LeAnne Greene</p> <p><i>Nursery Workers for Next Sunday</i> <i>Sally and John Martin, Ann Howard, Emily Bartels and Kristy MacRae, Blythe and Marshall Smith</i></p>
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Attendance from 11/29/09:	10:30 Worship	233	Sunday School	93	8:30 Worship	89
Thanksgiving service 11/26/09	Worship	86				
Attendance from last year 11/30/08:	10:30 Worship	208	Sunday School	79	8:30 Worship	72

Head Ushers for December: Kristen McInnis / Randy Moore; Head Ushers for January: Alice Thalheimer / John Spragins

Staff Notes

Rodney Norris' Sabbatical - Last year Session approved a three month Sabbatical for Rodney Norris, our Associate Pastor for Youth and Young Adults. He will be away from Nov. 2, 2009 – Feb. 1, 2010.
Lori Houck will be on vacation Friday, December 11.

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Sun. 12/6	8:30 AM	Worship – Tartan Hall
	9:15 AM	Sunday School– Various locations
	9:45 AM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
	10:30 AM	Worship - Sanctuary
	3:30 PM	Gift Day – Bethlehem Hall, Club Room
	5:30 PM	Middle School Youth Group – Youth Room and Club Room
	6:00 PM	Senior High Youth Group – Club Room and Youth Room
	8:00 PM	Alcoholics Anonymous - Education Building
Mon. 12/7	12:15 PM	Circle 1 – Club Room
	3:00 PM	Circle 5 – Club Room
	7:00 PM	Personnel Ministry Meeting – Conference Room
	7:00 PM	Boy Scouts – Tartan Hall, Club Room, dungeon
	7:15 PM	Christian Education Ministry Meeting – Room 206
Tues. 12/8	9:30 AM	Staff Meeting – Conference Room
	11:00 AM	OLLI – Club Room
	7:00 PM	Cub Scouts – Tartan Hall
	7:30 PM	Circle 2 - Library
	8:00 PM	Alcoholics Anonymous - Education Building
Wed. 12/9	3:00 PM	Sermon Starters – Clemson Downs
	5:30 PM	Worship Ministry Meeting – Conference Room
	6:00 PM	Fellowship Ministry Meeting - Library
	6:15 PM	Handbell Rehearsal – Choir Room
	7:30 PM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
Thur. 12/10	11:45 AM	Staff Lunch
	2:15 PM	OLLI - Library
	8:00 PM	Alcoholics Anonymous - Education Building
Friday 12/11	12:30 PM	Alcoholics Anonymous – Education Building
	5:30 PM	Cub Scouts – Tartan Hall

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Christian Sympathy is extended to Michael and Helen Steele and family upon the death of Michael's great-grandmother, Eunice Black, of Pawley's Island on November 14.

Congregational Meeting: Electing Church Officers - The Session has called a Congregational Meeting to take place at **10:15 am** on **Sunday, December 20**, in the Sanctuary for the purpose of electing church officers: elders, deacons, and a trustee. All members are encouraged to attend.

The 2010 Stewardship Campaign officially ended Sunday 11/22/09. The response showed your Faith in Action, and we would like to say THANK YOU for your support for next year's ministries and programs. Final pledges totaled \$696,628 against an asking budget of \$789,463 which leaves us \$92,835 short. If you have not pledged, please prayerfully consider your financial support for 2010.

The winners of the weekend in Highlands were **Keith** and **Terri Smith**. Finance and Stewardship wish to thank all those who sent in their pledge cards. We still need support, as of this date, we are about \$92,000 short of session's goal. We are still accepting pledges. Please consider sending in yours if you haven't done so.

The 2010 Flower Calendar is in the Narthex. Choose your date and sign up now to provide flowers for the sanctuary. The arrangements are made by Tiger Lily for \$40. Thanks for helping decorate the sanctuary!

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas! Thanks to the members of the Seekers and the Bible Sojourners Sunday School classes for helping to hang the greens! You may not have made it for the decorating, but you can still help by making a contribution to provide a wreath or a poinsettia in memory or honor of someone special. Please make checks payable to Fort Hill and indicate who you are remembering and whether you are providing a wreath (\$30) or a poinsettia (\$15). Please fill out insert in bulletin to include with your check. Your contribution will be recognized in the December 20th bulletin.

New day and time for Angel Vespers! This year, Angel Vespers will be on Sunday, December 13, followed by our 2nd Sunday Supper. JAM and Jesus Jammers and Elementary age children who wish to participate in Angel Vespers will meet in the choir room at 4:30, along with the Middle School Youth, who will be assisting. Musical Explorers who wish to participate will meet in the Temple Sunday School room at 5:05. **Angel Vespers program will begin at 5:15 pm in the Sanctuary** followed by our 2nd Sunday Supper in Tartan Hall. Dinner will be chicken strips, salad, fruit and bread. Cost is \$5 for adults and \$2 for children. Please call the church office at 654-2061 to make reservations by December 9.

Young Adult Group is made up of singles and couples in their 20s and 30s with or without children who gather together for spiritual, social and service events. We meet the last Monday of every month for Theology on Tap to discuss a theological topic for the night. We meet every third Sunday for lunch following the 10:30 worship service. To be added to the young adult email list, email ebritt@alumni.clemson.edu.

Up-Coming Events –December 20 - Lunch at Moe's after church. There will be no Theology on Tap this month due to the Christmas Holidays. See everyone in the New Year.

Middle School News - Last week we did not meet for the Thanksgiving Holidays. This week is **Gift Day from 3:30 – 5:30** at the church followed by some **games and dinner from 5:30 – 6:30** in the Youth Room.

Up-Coming Events - December 12 – Christmas Progressive Dinner. **December 20** – We will go to Wal-Mart to buy Christmas presents for the family we adopted for Christmas. **January 31** - Snow tubing at Sapphire Valley, NC. **Summer Dates – July 5-10** - mission trip to Ronceverte, WV. **July 21-25** - Montreat Middle School Conference at Presbyterian College.

Sr. High News - Tonight we will meet at our regular time for dinner and fellowship.

Up-Coming Events – Dec. 13 – Christmas Progressive Dinner. **Dec. 20** – We will go to Wal-Mart to buy Christmas presents for the family we adopted for Christmas. **Feb. 5-7** – Ski Trip to WinterPlace, WV. **March 19-21** – Foothills Presbytery Sr. High Retreat in Montreat. **Summer Dates - June 18-27** mission trip to Camp Kintail in Canada. **July 11-17** Montreat Conference.

Presbyterian Student Association – For weekly information on our University Ministry, please see the PSA Corner insert in each week's bulletin.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord with Musical Explorers!!! We will be singing with our preschoolers (4&5-yr. olds and 2&3-yr. olds) during the 10:30 Children's Church time. Our song selection for December includes "Mary Had a Baby," "Away in a Manger" and other Bible song favorites. The children will be singing these two songs during Angel Vespers on December 13th. If you have any questions about the Musical Explorers program, please contact Kristy MacRae at krmacrae@hotmail.com.

OUTREACH

The Feed the 5000 collection (containers for donating at doors as you enter or leave) on 11/29/09 was \$121.55. The money goes to Clemson Community Care, Our Daily Bread, Golden Corner Food Bank and Safe Harbor II to buy food.

Volunteers needed for 2009 Christmas Basket Mission on Friday, December 18, and Saturday, December 19. If you can help, please sign up in the FHOG office. Donations of 3 lbs. hams or frozen turkeys are needed! Monetary donations to help buy food should be sent to Fort Hill, note "Christmas Baskets" on the check.

Christmas "Gifts That Give" – This year Christian Action is broadening its Christmas gift program even more to include many other deserving charities. "Gifts that Give" opportunities now are:

Presbyterian – Medical Benevolence Foundation, Presbyterian Communities of SC (for residential aid), and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

International – Ghana Partnership*, Heifer International, Water Missions, and Church World Service.

Local – Clemson Community Care, Clemson Child Development Center, Camp Buc*, Habitat for Humanity of Pickens County, Safe Harbor II, Helping Hands, Clemson Free Clinic, and InDwellings*. * These organizations, while local or international in nature, also fit into the "Presbyterian" category in that they are affiliated with and/or supported by the Foothills Presbytery. Please look at the "Gifts that Give" table in the covered arcade for an overview of these charities and the gifting procedure. This Christmas we invite you to share God's love with a hurting world. Christmas "Gifts That Give" can be a simple shopping solution for both you and your family.

Fort Hill's Habitat for Humanity House – Good news! Thanks to a break in the rain, the house was positioned over the footer last week and the cement block foundation walls are being built. Please remember to sign up on one of the volunteer lists. Indicate a job preference, if you have one. During the prior week, Wes Worley contacts volunteers about work for a given Saturday depending on the number of workers that are needed. Signing up to volunteer is by no means a commitment to work every Saturday. It simply means that you would be willing to have Wes call you to see if you would be available to help the following Saturday, depending on the type of work that is planned. To volunteer contact Wes at 654-9449 or e-mail him at wes.worley@att.net.

The Key Koraliers present their annual Christmas Cheer Concert on Monday, Dec. 7 @ 7:30 at Walhalla High School. Tickets are available for \$10 from several Chancel Choir members and at the door. Also appearing will be the Middle School Honors Chorus from Seneca. Your support is appreciated.

Plan to attend Handel's Masterpiece of music, "Messiah" presented by Foothills Chorale today, December 6, at 3:00 pm at the Brooks Center with splendid vocalists and orchestra under the direction of our own, Bill Diekhoff. Tickets are available from chorale members, Jim/Vernie Roberts, 654-3735, Marlene Nicholas, 654-9309, Randall/Millie Poole, 654-1185. Tickets are \$15 for the concert, or \$25 for season tickets (3 concerts). No box office tickets available but will be sold at the door. Welcome the Christmas season with this inspiring music.

Foothills Retirement Community invites you to Christmas in Toyland Open House on Thursday, Dec. 10 from 2-5pm. Pictures with Santa will be from 3-4pm. There will also be seasonal music, holiday refreshments and tours of patio homes and apartments. RSVP by Dec. 4th to 864-859-3367. See flyer on bulletin board.

PASTORAL STAFF: Laura Conrad, Pastor (laura.conrad@forthillchurch.org); Bill Gause, AP for University Ministry (bill.gause@forthillchurch.org); Mary Cunningham Gause, AP for Christian Education (mary.gause@forthillchurch.org); Rodney Norris, AP for Youth and Young Adult Ministry (rodney.norris@forthillchurch.org); Pansy Duke, Parish Visitor (pansy.duke@forthillchurch.org); Jack Lovett Stevenson, Pastoral Counselor (jps28@bellsouth.net)

SESSION: Mary Dusenberry – Interim Clerk, Sally Martin – Assistant Clerk, Mike Blackwell - Treasurer
Class of 2010: Caleb Bailey, Bill Cato, Bob Folsom, Bobby Skelton, William Spitler, John Spragins, Alice Thalheimer, Linda Wofford

Class of 2011: Chris Bandy, Charles Barron, Becky DeWitt, Amy Elrod, Leslie Hicklin, Ethel Pettigrew, Cal Sawyer

Class of 2012: Elizabeth Bost, Terri Bruce, Will Gregory, Sally Martin, Kristen McInnis, Randy Moore

DEACONS: Lee Churchfield – Moderator, Larry Goodwin – Vice-Moderator

Class of 2010: Myra Cato, Lee Churchfield, Betty Dean, Joan Dixon, Cynthia Gravely, Edmee Reel, Cathy Spragins, Tom Wooten

Class of 2011: Michael Bailey, Susan Brown, Larry Goodwin, Karen Lindenmeyer, Betty Long, Stephanie Scott, Audrey Thompson, Eva Williamson

Class of 2012: Janet Bean, Debbie Collins, Robert Key, John McGregor, Cathy McInnis, Alison Reynolds, Suzan Simmons, Bryan Young

TRUSTEES: Danny Gregg (2010), Joe Dickey (2011), Robin Weeks (2012)
Endowment Committee: The Three Elected Trustees, Member At Large, Jim Phillips

CHURCH STAFF: Administrative Assistant: Fran Solesbee (fran.solesbee@forthillchurch.org)
Office Administrator: Lori Houck (lori.houck@forthillchurch.org)
Sexton: Milton Benson, Assistant Sexton: Doris Clark

PRESBYTERIAN COUNSELING CENTER: The Rev. Dr. Jack Lovett Stevenson (653-4025 or 442-9003)

MISSIONARIES: Rodney and Sharyn Babe – Haiti
David and Susan Thomas – Cuernavaca, Mexico
Dr. Michael and Nancy Haninger – Democratic Republic of Congo

MUSIC: Chancel Choir Director – Bill Diekhoff (billyd4@charter.net)
Organist – Judy Bonham (bonhamj_44@yahoo.com)
Pianist – Becky Bowman
Children’s Choir Director – Kristy MacRae (krmacrae@hotmail.com)

CHURCH SCHOOL:

Classes for Children and Adults at 9:15 am Nursery and preschool extended session at 10:30 am
Superintendent: Tom Wooten Nursery workers: Sarah Kolacki, Amanda Towery, Michelle Blackwell, Andrea Adderhold

MIDDLE SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP: Advisors: Jackie Martin, Colin Pettigrew, Dick and Laura Shick

SENIOR HIGH FELLOWSHIP: Advisors: Andy and Reagan Blondeau, Cyndi Davis, LeAnne Greene, Nick Greene, Mark McInnis

PRESBYTERIAN STUDENT ASSOC. (PSA): Bill Gause, AP for University Ministry: bill.gause@forthillchurch.org (654-3705)
Kerin Watts, University Ministry Intern: kerin.watts@forthillchurch.org (654-3705)

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN: Carol Stout, Moderator; Linda Gahan, Moderator-Elect; Janette Hamilton, Secretary; Anna Tollison, Treasurer
Circle 1 – meets first Monday at 12:15 pm, Donna Crader & Eva Henry, Co-Leaders
Circle 2 – meets second Tuesday at 7:30 pm, Clinta Moore & Elaine Prock, Co-Leaders
Circle 3 – meets second Monday at 9:30 am, Gayle McGregor & Lisa Street, Co-Leaders
Circle 5 – meets first Monday at 3:00 pm, Laura Lefevre & Hazel Sparks, Co-Leaders
Circle 7 – meets fourth Monday at 9:15 am; Rotating leadership; Moms with younger children

MEN OF THE CHURCH: Bob Littleton, President; Gus Gustafson, Treasurer - Meets monthly – first Tuesday at 7:00 am

FORT HILL PRESBYTERIAN PRESCHOOL: Shelley Burchfield, Director; Donna McCubbin, Treasurer

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Pack 235: Tim Howard, Cubmaster; Jay Jones, Committee Chairperson; Helen Adams, Institution Representative

Troop 235: Vic Shelburne, Scoutmaster; Bill Foster, Committee Chairperson; Helen Adams, Institution Representative

Fort Hill Presbyterian Church is a member of Foothills Presbytery, Synod of South Atlantic, Presbyterian Church (USA).
