

**Sunday, December 11**

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 35:1-10;  
Psalm 146:4-9; Matthew 11:2-11

- Advent III
- 7:45 am Traditional Service-Church Bldg.
- 8:45 am Contemporary Worship-Doar Hall
- 10:15 am Advent Sunday School
- 11:15 am Traditional Service-Church Bldg.
- 6:00 pm NA
- 5:00 pm Middle School Youth Group
- 6:00 pm NA
- 7:00 pm Bereaved Candle Lighting Service
- 7:00 pm DA

**Monday, December 12**

- 8:00 am Centering Prayer
- 10:00 am AA
- 10:30 am Pastoral Care Team Meeting
- 10:30 am Women's Bible Study
- 7:00 pm GriefShare
- 7:00 pm AA

**Tuesday, December 13**

- 6:30 am Men's Bible Study
- 7:00 am Men's Bible Study
- 10:00 am AA
- 6:30 pm Cub Scout Pack #730

**Wednesday, December 14**

- 10:00 am AA
- 12:00 pm Men's Bible Study
- 5:30 pm Cursillo Group
- 7:00 pm AA
- 7:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, December 15**

- 10:00 am AA
- 11:00 am Healing Prayer Service
- 11:30 am Al-Anon
- 5:00 pm Summerville Medical Outreach
- 6:30 pm Service of Confirmation

**Friday, December 16**

- 8:00 am Men's Bible Study
- 10:00 am AA
- 7:00 pm AA

**Saturday, December 17**

- 7:30 am DA
- 5:00 pm Wedding & Reception
- 7:00 pm AA

**Sunday, December 18**

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 7:10-16;  
Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18; Matthew 1:18-25

- Advent IV
- 7:45 am Traditional Service-Church Bldg.
- 8:45 am Contemporary Worship-Doar Hall
- 10:15 am Advent Sunday School
- 11:15 am Traditional Service-Church Bldg.
- 6:00 pm NA
- 7:00 pm DA

**Clergy:**

- The Rt. Rev. Mark J. Lawrence, *Bishop of South Carolina, XIV*
- The Rev. Tripp Jeffords, *Rector* FrTripp@StPaulsSummerville.org
- The Rev. B. Tyler Prescott, *Associate Rector* TylerP@StPaulsSummerville.org
- The Rev. John Scott, *Assistant Rector* JohnS@StPaulsSummerville.org

**Staff:**

- Kerry Hall, *Parish Administrator* KerryH@StPaulsSummerville.org
- Cathy McGrew, *Community Connections Coordinator* CathyM@StPaulsSummerville.org
- Bonnie James, *Worship Arts Director* BonnieJ@StPaulsSummerville.org
- The Rev. Corey Kincaid, *Youth Minister* CoreyK@StPaulsSummerville.org
- Tina Smith, *Faith@Home Coordinator* TinaS@StPaulsSummerville.org
- Pam Poelker, *Communications Director* PamP@StPaulsSummerville.org
- Mary Glace, *Admin. Assistant* MaryG@StPaulsSummerville.org
- Fleming Moore, *Facilities Assistant* FlemingM@StPaulsSummerville.org
- Richard Scott, *Organist-Choir Master* RichardS@StPaulsSummerville.org



**St. Paul's Summerville**  
316 W. Carolina Avenue, Summerville, SC 29483  
Church Office: 843.873.1991  
www.StPaulsSummerville.org  
CCLI #335059

**December 11, 2016**  
**The Third Sunday in Advent**

**Isaiah 35:1-10**  
**Psalm 146:4-9**  
**Matthew 11:2-11**



*Nicholas, Claus & Jesus*

by Father John Scott

The Santa Claus who dominates the Christmas season in America, actually traces his roots back over 1800 years to the near eastern country of Turkey and a Bishop of the Christian Church by the name of *Nicholas*.



Bishop Nicholas was a very saintly man who not only preached the Gospel of Jesus, but actually lived Jesus' teaching by loving all of his people, providing for the poor and needy of his community, and encouraging all of his people to do the same. During the Christmas season, when Christians celebrated God's great gift of His Son, Jesus, to the world, he taught the importance of being especially generous to the poor and needy, so all of us could celebrate God's love. Because of his example and teaching of loving others at this season, many began to refer to him as *Father Christmas*.

As the Gospel of Jesus Christ spread across the world and changed the hearts of people to be more mindful of the needs of other, the example of *Saint Nick* also spread around the world. The spirit of *Father Christmas* was eagerly adopted by every land, and was amazingly adapted and modified to fit the customs and traditions of every country.

In England he became *old Man Christmas*; in France he was called *Pere Noel*; in Germany he was known as *Christ Kind*. When brought to America by German immigrants that name was anglicized into *Kris Kringle*. The Dutch, who settled New York, referred to him as *Sinterklaas*, which over time morphed into *Santa Claus*.

In 1823 in New York City, an Episcopal Priest by the name of Clement Clarke Moore, wrote a Christmas story for his Children entitled '***Twas the Night Before Christmas***. This story captured the joyous spirit of St. Nicholas and gave new and exciting definition to the image that as grown over the years, into the picture of Santa Claus that we now share.

As we welcome this character into our celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ, it is important to remember that **Jesus** must be the center of our Christmas celebration and that the good that **Santa** does in this season is by following the teachings of Jesus to love God, above all else, and to love our neighbor as our self. The true Spirit of Christmas is not the RECEIVING.....but the GIVING



Biblically minded—Christ centered—Holy Spirit driven

**Guests**



WELCOME, We're glad you're here!

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

- 7:45 am  8:45 am  11:15 am

- 1st Time Guest  New to Area  
 Looking for a church home  
 Regular Attending Non-Member

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY / STATE / ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

- I would like to receive email from St. Paul's  
AGE  
\_\_13-19 \_\_20's \_\_30's \_\_40's \_\_50's \_\_60's \_\_70's+

CHILDREN IN ATTENDANCE

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

I would like more information about:

- \_\_\_ A new life in Christ
- \_\_\_ Membership at St. Paul's
- \_\_\_ LifeGroups
- \_\_\_ ALPHA
- \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**PRAYER REQUESTS & COMMENTS**

If you would like your request concerning health, death, or other concerns to be added to our public prayer, please indicate by marking the box. All others will be put on the confidential prayer list for 3 weeks.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Place form in the offering plate or take to our Welcome Table to receive more information and a gift.

# MEMBERS

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

7:45 am  8:45 am  11:15 am

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE \_\_\_\_\_

## CHILDREN IN ATTENDANCE

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

## CHANGES ONLY

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY / STATE / ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to receive email from St. Paul's.

## PRAYER REQUESTS & COMMENTS

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please place completed form in the offering plate or take to our Welcome Table. Anonymous comments will be discarded.

# MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS 843.873.1991

For more information, visit our website at [www.StPaulsSummerville.org](http://www.StPaulsSummerville.org)

## GENERAL INFORMATION FOR THIS MORNING

**Welcome** to St. Paul's! We hope to create an atmosphere in which everyone feels welcomed with open arms. Here is the information that you need to know for a successful morning of worship and Sunday School:

- **Worship as a Family (all ages):** At St. Paul's, we encourage families to worship together on Sunday mornings, therefore children in first grade and older will remain with their parents throughout the service. If you or your children are not used to this, please know that we understand and recognizing that it might take a few times to develop the routine. We're here to help, so don't hesitate to ask a priest or our Children's Minister about successful family worship. *If you need to take your children out of the service for a moment (we know, temper tantrums happen!), please feel free to:*
  - ☞ In Doar Hall, go to the Atrium (to your left) or St. Paul's central (to your right)
  - ☞ In the Church Building, go to the Family room behind the choir area (front left).

In each of these locations you will be able to hear the service through speakers.

- **Kid's Church (3 years old through Kindergarten):** Children who wish to go to Kid's Church will leave the service after the Gospel is read and return for Holy Communion. While away, they will participate in a liturgy that mirrors that of the church service, including a Bible teaching at their level, song, prayers, and confession.

- **Nursery: Infant** (6 – 17 months) and **Toddler** (18 months – 3 years) are located on the first floor of the Children/Youth Building. Our experienced staff is CPR and First Aid certified and pagers are provided to notify parents if necessary.

**Communion**—anyone baptized in the Christian faith is welcome to receive communion this morning. **Please note:** the Communion elements consist of real wine and bread or wafers containing wheat. Please ask the bread server for gluten free wafers. Receiving one or the other is considered participating as fully as anyone who receives both.

All guests are invited to visit our **Welcome Table** after the service today. You will receive a gift and information about St. Paul's.

**Giving**—Cash and checks may be placed in the offering plates. We have electronic giving centers in Doar Hall for debit and credit cards. St. Paul's does not want anyone to incur debt in order to give to the Lord. We offer the electronic giving centers as a convenience.

## YOUTH MINISTRY

**KOREY KINCAID YOUTH MINISTER 785.215.3710**

### Today

- **Sunday School**--there is no Middle School or High School Sunday school class due to Inter-generational Sunday school class in Skardon Hall.
- **Confirmation Class**--meets today from 3 to 4 pm in the C/Y Bldg.
- **Middle School Youth Group**--meets tonight from 5 to 6:30 pm in the Youth Room (C/Y Bldg.)

### This Week

- **High School Youth Group (12/14)**--meets in the C/Y building from 7-9 pm.

### Important Upcoming Dates

- **Christmas Break**--Christmas is on the horizon! There will be no Youth Groups meeting Sunday, December 18th through Sunday, January 1st!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

I publish the **Banns of Marriage** between Lauren Elizabeth McGrew and James Ross Bullard. If any of you know just cause why they may not be joined together in Holy Matrimony, you are bidden to declare it. This is the last time of asking.

### Sunday School this morning:

- **Intergenerational Advent Series** - week three. Meets in Skardon Hall.
- **Connect 102-Spiritual Gifts** in Skardon Rm. #7

**GriefShare**—a grief support group meets weekly on Monday nights at 7 pm in the Conference Room of Skardon Hall. Contact John Scott for more information.

**Worldwide Candle Lighting Memorial Service** for bereaved parents, grandparents, siblings, etc. TONIGHT at 7 pm in Skardon Hall. Open to the public—invite a friend.

**Annual Hayride**—join us on Sunday, December 18 at 4 pm for our hayride event. We'll gather behind the C/Y building.

### Christmas Services:

#### **Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24:**

- 5 pm—Family Service in Doar Hall
- 7 pm—Contemporary Service in Doar Hall
- 8 pm—Traditional Service in the Church Bldg.
- 11 pm—Traditional Service in the Church Bldg.

#### **Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25:**

- 10 am—Service in the Church Building.

**IMPACT Ministries Food Distribution**—St. Paul's monthly community food distribution is an equal opportunity provider.

**A Service of Confirmation**—everyone is invited Thursday, December 15 at 6:30 pm in the Church Building for a confirmation service. Bishop Lawrence will preside over the Confirmation, Reception and Re-Affirmation of some of our adults who wish to formalize their membership status.

*Dear Parish Family,*

*I am writing to you with a twofold purpose in mind. First, I want to let you all know that Pam Poelker is leaving her position with St. Paul's as Director of Communications. Her final day will be December 21st. Pam sensed the need for a change in her life and is headed to Charleston Southern University where she will serve there in a new capacity. The great news is that Pam and Scott intend to continue to worship with us as their parish family.*

*My second reason for writing is to thank Pam for her years of service to St. Paul's as Communications Director (12+ years) and as the Christian Learning Center Director (in the 90's.) Pam has been a hard worker for us, a person of spiritual depth in staff meetings, and has served her church diligently. If you see Pam at worship or want to drop her a note, please take time to thank her for a job well done and wish her well in her new position.*

*Scott, as you may know, was the chair of the search committee that hired me. I am very grateful for Scott's work and for my opportunity to come and serve among you. Since my calling to St. Paul's, I have been blessed to spend time with Pam and Scott at their home and in their LifeGroup. They are both tremendous blessings to our parish community!*

*So now, it is up to us to search and to pray for just the right person to come into our Director of Communications position to continue the fine work Pam has begun among us!*

*Many thanks Pam Poelker!  
God's Grace and Peace,  
Tripp+*