

Saturday, December 24

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 3:4-7; Matthew 1:18-25

- The Eve of the Nativity
- 5:00 pm Family Service—Doar Hall.
- 7:00 pm Contemporary Worship-Doar Hall
- 8:00 pm Traditional Service-Church Bldg.
- 11:00 pm Traditional Service-Church Bldg.
- 7:30 am DA
- 7:00 pm AA

Sunday, December 25

- 10:00 am Traditional Service-Church Bldg.
- 6:00 pm NA

Monday, December 26

- Office CLOSED
- 10:00 am AA
- 7:00 pm GriefShare
- 7:00 pm AA

Tuesday, December 27

- 6:30 am Men's Bible Study
- 7:00 am Men's Bible Study
- 10:00 am AA

Wednesday, December 28

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

Thursday, December 29

- 10:00 am AA
- 11:00 am Healing Prayer Service
- 11:30 am Al-Anon

Friday, December 30

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

Saturday, December 31

- 7:30 am DA
- 7:00 pm AA

Sunday, January 1, 2017

- 7:45 am Traditional Service-Church Bldg.
- 10:00 am Lessons & Carols —Doar Hall.
- 6:00 pm NA

December 24, 2016
The Eve of the Nativity

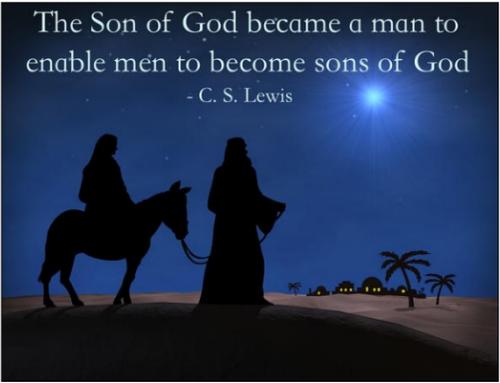
Isaiah 9:2-7
Psalm 96
Titus 3:4-7
Matthew 1:18-25



THE GOSPEL OF CHRISTMAS

W e at St. Paul's offer you our warmest welcome. We hope that you are about to have a very merry 12 days of Christmas! The joy of Christmas doesn't have to last just for a season, however. The Good News at Christmas is that through Jesus a doorway into eternity was opened for all to step through in faith. Through Christ's coming almost 2000 years ago, salvation would be no longer only for the Jews, but was poured out to "a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages (Rev. 7:9)." This is the Good News of Christmas.

In the Bible, we read that on the first Christmas shepherds heard the angels proclaiming "good news of great joy." The good news was that salvation through faith was for everyone. Now, even shepherds could experience "peace with God." The shepherd's response: they "glorified and praised God for all they had heard and seen..."



I hope you are here to glorify God for what you have "seen and heard" and believed. If you are a believer, we invite you to enter into worship with us and to receive Christ's Mass (all baptized Christians are welcome), remembering that God has done great things for us!

Perhaps you are new to the church, and you are still exploring the Gospel for yourself. C.S. Lewis once summed it all up like this, "The Son of God became man to enable men to become sons of God." When God took on flesh He was, in essence, reaching out to his lost creation by becoming one of us in the form of Jesus. On the cross, Jesus removed the partition of sin between us and God. Jesus promised at the end of this life that He would "cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9), "take us to himself" (John.14:3), and "present us holy and blameless" (Colossians 1:22) to our Father in heaven. At Christmas, the rescue mission began!

If this Good News intrigues you...why not explore some more? I want to invite you to meet the savior at St. Paul's. We are a church where "wise men" and women seek Him still. If you do not have a church home, we invite you to join us for worship and Sunday School, for ALPHA or small groups (Life Groups). We promise that you will hear the same Good News the shepherds heard; and who knows, one day you too might "return (home), glorifying and praising God" just like they did so many years ago.

Merry Christmas to All!
 Fr. Tripp Jeffords+

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.

Clergy:

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

Staff:

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



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

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

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.

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

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

Important Upcoming Dates

- Christmas Break--There will be no Youth Groups meeting during the school break
- High School Youth Group--starts up again, Wednesday, January 4th at 7pm in the C/Y building!
- Middle School Youth Group--starts up again, Sunday, January 8th at 5pm in the C/Y building!

To all the parents and youth of St. Paul's, may hope, peace, joy, and love fill your homes and hearts this Advent season. Have a very Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year!

--Korey Kincaid, Director of Youth Ministry

ANNOUNCEMENTS

 **Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25:**
10 am—Service in the Church Building.

New Year's Day Services

7:45 am in the Church Bldg. Regular Eucharist.

10 am in Doar Hall we will have a service of **Lessons & Carols**. The service will be a series of scripture readings, communion, Carols and special music to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

St. Paul's 2017 **Annual Meeting** will be held on Sunday, January 15, 2017 at 10 am in Doar Hall.

The **Church Office** will be closed on Monday, December 26 and Monday, January 2.

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.

Calling all **Stephen Ministers**. Please join us on January 8, 2017 at 12 Noon in Room #7 of Skardon Hall (Connect Room) to discuss the future of Stephen Ministries at St. Paul's.

ALPHA—Join us on February 7 for **Exploring Alpha**, an introduction to the **Alpha Course** which begins on February 21. Exploring Alpha is a one night celebration for anyone who has attended an Alpha Course and for anyone who is interested in Alpha. The eight week Alpha Course is for anyone interested in exploring the Christian faith that includes dinner, a short talk, and opportunity for in-depth small group discussion about Christianity, Jesus, and the Christian life.

Summerville CommUNITY Artists Heritage Series—Holiday Celebration on Monday, December 26, 6:30 to 9 pm at Oscar's of Summerville. A free program to experience the history of holidays with music, visual art, and spoken word. Special menu available.

Special Sunday School Class—Sunday, January 8 at 10:15 in Doar Hall. Tripp will lead a class discussing the upcoming move of our Diocese of South Carolina into the newly formed Anglican Church of North America (ACNA). Our goal is to be at peace with this vote when the time comes, and even to rejoice over the new possibilities we will have to work with evangelically and mission minded churches who are passionate about spreading the Good News of God in Christ.

*The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God
and in loving memory of our dear friend and sister in Christ, Elaine Barron,
by her Tuesday Morning Group.*

*The **Chrismon Tree** in the Church Building is given to the glory of God
and in memory of family and friends that we lost this year:
William Parker Andrews, Jr., Flat Rock, NC
Mary Rogers Adden, Orangeburg, SC
"Dottie" Werner Cuthbert, St. Paul's Summerville
And on this 25th Anniversary of gifting the Chrismon Tree in loving memory of
Dorothy Rogers Bailey, we give thanks for our family.
Given by the Children and Grandchildren of Mr. and Mrs. R. Lowndes Bailey*