



# The Spire

December 2011

A publication of Shandon Presbyterian Church • Columbia, SC

Join us for the 2012 churchwide retreat

Page 4

Winter/spring Christian education and WAS

See insert

## Advent & Christmas at Shandon

### Special services

December 21

#### Longest Night Service

• 6:30 p.m. – A service of carols, healing and wholeness. (More information, page 2.) Child care provided for crib through kindergarten.

#### Christmas Eve

• 4 p.m. – The premier of a new children’s musical written by Anne McNair

• 8 p.m. and 11 p.m. – Candle-light communion service. (Child care provided for crib through kindergarten – 8 p.m. only).

#### Christmas Day

• 11 a.m. – Worship service  
Come casual for carols and the Christmas story.



### Sundays of Advent

#### Preparing the way



#### November 27

“The Prophet Prepares”  
8:45 and 11 a.m. worship



#### December 4

“John Prepares” – 8:45 and 11 a.m. worship  
Palmetto Brass joins the Chancel Choir



#### December 11

“The Shepherds Prepare” – 8:45 and 11 a.m. worship  
Shine Choir presents the anthem at 11 a.m.



#### December 18

“The Angels Prepare” – 8:45 and 11 a.m. worship  
Special service of lessons and carols



### Wednesdays at Shandon

#### November 30 – Advent Festival

In addition to regular WAS schedule:

- The **Alternative Gift Market** in the Activity Center offers shopping for gifts that serve those in need.
- During their Bible study time, children and parents can create Christmas crafts during our **Advent workshop** in Davis Hall.

#### December 14 – Advent Carol Sing

• 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary with Shandon’s orchestra

#### December 21 and 28

• No WAS activities (resuming January 4, see insert for details).

### Sunday School

#### December 11

Children’s birthday party for Jesus



#### Christmas music

Details, page 3.



#### Holiday outreach opportunities

See page 2.

## Longest Night Service offers holiday comfort and hope

While many of us bask in the holiday spirit of good cheer, the season of Christmas can be painfully difficult for others. Following a death of loved one, for example, some face the holidays with sadness and longing. Statistics show that a rise in depression is common during the winter, and it is particularly prevalent during the holidays.

Shandon's pastoral staff offers this special worship service because we recognize that Christmas can be a season of grief as well as joy. Some face this season with issues of health, loss, separation or concern for a world in which there is so little peace even as we herald the Prince of Peace.

Join us at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 21, for a simple service of Christmas carols, comforting and hopeful scripture readings, a brief meditation and an extended time of prayer to lift to God our yearnings for healing and wholeness for ourselves and our world. We will listen for the "light and life to all He brings, risen with healing in his wings" and place our concerns in the arms of our compassionate God.

Come if you need to. Come if you want to. Come if you are curious. Come lift prayers for one another and for the peace of the world. Come if you simply want more time singing carols in our beautiful sanctuary. Come if you are traveling for Christmas and would enjoy an evening of worship with your church family before you leave town. Come alone, come together, come with friends, family or neighbors for whom this Longest Night Service might be a welcomed worship opportunity of grace and peace.

## Holiday outreach ...

### Holiday gifts to honor family, friends

Shandon will host 13 mission organizations at the **2011 Alternative Gift Market** during Wednesdays at Shandon on Nov 30. Participating organizations are Cedepac, Family Shelter, Free Medical Clinic, Harvest Hope Food Bank, Light the Way, Medical Benevolence



Foundation, Richland Free Dental Clinic, Sistercare, St. Lawrence Place, Thornwell Home, Transitions, Trinity Sudan Partnership and Women's Shelter.

Come to WAS dinner on Nov. 30 and visit with mission representatives to decide how you will honor family and friends. This is an easy, effective way to plan your Christmas shopping. Your contribution to the Alternative Gift Market "feeds the hungry and gives drink to the thirsty."

If you cannot attend WAS on Nov. 30, we also will collect donations Sundays, Dec. 4, 11, and 18.

### Share holiday spirit with families in need

The **Families Helping Families** Christmas tree will be up **Nov. 27**. Please plan to take a tag and buy one or more gifts for a family in need this Christmas. Gift deadline is Dec. 14. Specifics on each family and a sign-up sheet



will be located next to the tree. Please consider having your Sunday School class or other church group join together to support several families this Christmas season. Thank you in advance. Each year Shandon comes through wonderfully to help families in need enjoy a happy Christmas.

### Second Saturday outreach Dec. 10

Meet at 8 a.m. at McDonald Youth Center for a light breakfast, devotion and fellowship followed by work sorting gifts for the Families Helping Families Christmas gift project.

Children's activities ...**Advent workshop  
on Nov. 30**

Children and parents join us for an Advent workshop in Davis Hall during children's Bible study time at WAS on Nov. 30.

Children's choirs will meet at their regular times.

Also, this year we will be offering activities for Shandon's youngest children in Davis Hall at 5:45 p.m.

**'Birthday Party for Jesus'**

The celebration on Dec. 11 will feature a skit by the Middlers. "Light Breaks into a Dark World" is based on Luke 2:1-20. The skit will be presented during the Sunday school hour; please come to your Sunday school classroom as normal.

Children ages 2 through fifth grade are asked to bring canned goods for Harvest Hope Food Bank.

**Advent devotionals, wreaths and candles** are available in the reception area. Pick up a devotional for your family to make the Advent season more meaningful.

**SHANDON OFFICE  
HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

Shandon's offices will close at noon Friday, Dec. 23, and reopen at 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 27.

Holiday music ...**Celebrate Christmas  
with carols and choirs**

Can you imagine a Christmas without beautiful music? Neither can we. So here are the special musical moments at Shandon during December:

- Palmetto Brass joins the Chancel Choir at 11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 4. The Arise Choir will sing the introit, and our new tenor choral scholar, Johnnie Felder, will sing "Every Valley" from Handel's "Messiah."
- The Shine Choir will present the anthem for the 11 a.m. service on Dec. 11.
- Join us for the Advent Carol Sing at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 14, in the sanctuary.
- Enjoy a special service of lessons and carols with Youth and Chancel Choirs at both services on Dec. 18.
- A new children's musical written by Anne McNair will premier at 4 p.m. on Christmas Eve.

And in the neighborhood ...**'Signs and Wonders'**

The Sandlapper Singers directed by Lillian Quackenbush will present "Signs and Wonders" at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2, at Dreher High Performing Arts Auditorium.

A special feature of the program will be the premier performance of the Young Sandlapper Singers with two of Shandon's own, Ansley Roberts and Grayson Murray.

Also joining the Sandlapper Singers on the program are Neil Casey String Quintet; Rebecca Nagel, oboe; Brookland-Cayce High School Honors Choir; scholarship winner Brittany Chapman; and the visual art of Eileen Blyth, who illustrated Terry Kay's book "To Whom the Angel Spoke."

Tickets are available at [sandlappersingers.org](http://sandlappersingers.org) or by calling (803) 381-5481.



Shandon  
Presbyterian  
Church  
Retreat

**Living  
in the  
Household  
of God**



**March 9-11, 2012 ♦ Assembly Inn, Montreat, NC**

*Please accept our 'Open House' invitation*

As members of the household of God how are we called to live? There are passages in the New Testament that detail how it is we are to act in God's household. What are the "house rules" and what difference do they make to both those within the household and those outside of it? Join us as we explore what it means to live in ways that reflect the different gifts of the Spirit we've been given and the one Lord we serve.

**Look for brochures and registration forms on display at Shandon or print one from our website, [shandonpres.org](http://shandonpres.org).**

**Registration and deposit deadline:  
January 8**

## Presbyterian Women



### CIRCLE MEETINGS

**Circle One:** 10:30 a.m. Dec. 12  
Ann Williams home

**Circle Two:** 10 a.m. Dec. 13  
Jennifer Duell's home

**Circle Three:** 10:30 a.m. Dec. 13  
Judy Hair's home

**Circles Four and Six:** 10:30 a.m.  
Dec. 13, Shandon Atrium

**Circle Five:** 10:30 a.m. Dec. 13  
Betty Fitzgerald's home

**Circle Seven:** 7 p.m. Dec. 13  
Janet McGrew's home

**Circle Eight:** 6:30 p.m. Dec. 11  
Shandon Parlor

**Circle Nine:** Noon Dec. 15  
Paige Parson's home

**Circle Ten:** 11 a.m. Dec. 15  
Presbyterian Community

## Oregon bound

**Katy Schneider Halliburton**, who spent a year with Shandon as Minister to Youth and Their Families, has been called to be the pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Baker City, OR. She will be ordained by Mission Presbytery in her home church in San Antonio on Dec. 18.

Immediately after Christmas, she and Will are headed northwest for her first Sunday as an ordained pastor on Jan. 8. Our prayers are with her in this calling and in her service to our Lord.

## PARENTS' EVENING OUT

*Senior High fund-raiser  
for Guatemala mission trip*

Bring your children, ages kindergarten and up, to Shandon's Activity Center on **Friday, Dec. 2, and/or Friday, Dec. 9.** Make reservations by the Wednesday before.

Shandon's Senior Highs will entertain and keep them safe from 6:30-9:30 p.m., so that you can have a night off or get some last-minute Christmas shopping done.

All donations will help Shandon's Senior Highs get to their mission trip in Guatemala next summer.



## The Spire

We welcome your news and events for Shandon's newsletter.

January deadline: Dec. 12

Please send information to:  
spire@shandonpres.org

Questions?  
Contact Carol Ward  
803.771.4408, ext.10  
cward@shandonpres.org

Find more news and events on  
our website: shandonpres.org



*Shandon's  
pastors and staff  
wish you a very  
Merry Christmas  
and meaningful  
holiday season.*



Shandon Presbyterian Youth

## SENIOR HIGHS

Students, please remember the **babysitting fund-raisers** for our Guatemala Mission Trip on Dec. 2 and Dec. 9. We will host a Parents' Night Out from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Be at the church by 6:15 p.m., and plan to stay afterward for fun and fellowship.

If you are going international, plan to be at out fund-raisers.

## December dates

### Senior Highs:

- 2** Parents' Night Out fund-raiser
- 9** Parents' Night Out fund-raiser
- 11** Christmas caroling
- 18** Christmas party at the Murray home
- 25** No youth group

### Middlers:

- 4** Christmas caroling
- 11** Christmas party at USC PSA
- 18** No youth group
- 25** No youth group

### January 1

No Middler or Senior High youth group

## Regular Youth Schedule

### SUNDAYS

- 9:45-10:45 a.m.  
Middler and Senior High Sunday School\*  
Confirmation
- 4:30-5:30 p.m.  
Middler Youth Choir (Choir room)
- 5:30-7 p.m.  
Middler Youth Group\*
- 6-7 p.m.  
Senior High Choir (Choir room)
- 7-8:30 p.m.  
Senior High Youth Group\*

\*Groups meet in the McDonald Youth Center unless otherwise noted.

### WEDNESDAYS AT SHANDON

6:15-7:15 p.m.  
FLICs (Faithfully Looking Into Cinema), grades 6-12. After the WAS supper, we'll walk over to the McDonald Youth Center to continue our video/discussion series. FLICs explores Christian themes in some favorite movies and television shows.

## Need a ride to the doctor or errands? Call on Shandon's volunteer drivers.

Call 771-4408 before 1 p.m.  
At least 48 hours prior to your appointment.

## SHANDON'S NEW ARRIVALS

Emily Jordan Culp  
November 5

Parents:  
Roy and  
Shirra  
Culp



## Planning a meeting or event?

You can check Shandon's calendar at shandonpres.org for conflicts or available space. You may also print a building/event reservation form from the website. Click on the calendar link in the right navigation bar.



- All programs begin at noon in Davis Hall
- Sign up for lunch reservations at Shandon's front desk or call the church office, (803) 771-4408.
- Cost for lunch is \$5.

**Tuesday, Dec. 6:** Music by Ben Broughton on guitar with singing by his wife Katie Broughton.

**Tuesday, Jan. 3:** Let's Travel to Turkey with Sam Robinson and Charlie and Sig Hyman.

# An active campus ministry matters

*Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.*  
1 Peter 1:13

I am not quite sure if there is a way that one can be fully prepared to enter campus ministry. Transitioning into the intern position over the summer was a great way to begin learning about this ministry through its programs, missions and the vast resources of Shandon Presbyterian Church. The calm of summer quickly vanished when August 12 brought in the largest class of freshmen at the University of South Carolina. With a full and busy Welcome Week, PSA welcomed and greeted a multitude of students — some who have even found PSA as their home away from home.

We have had a wonderful fall semester bringing in new and old faces alike to celebrate in Christian fellowship. Our PSA Tuesdays have been fun and faithful gatherings of students to hear and talk about God's work in the world through speakers, mission activities, creative worship experiences and even in fun times of fellowship. Our WomenSpace and Men's Bible Study programs bring in students that we might not see throughout the week and allow us to connect in smaller groups as we delve into sharing our opinions and beliefs. Lunch Bunch and other opportunities for fellowship and mission have been wonderful times that allow our students to connect in a relaxed matter with each other as well as with me and campus minister, Rev. John Cook. With so much going on each week it was a real

blessing to go to the mountains of Montreat, NC, for a Sabbath retreat with a small group of students for a weekend in late October.

The change of pace from summer to the academic year was an exciting one and one in which I am learning or experiencing something new each day! It has been a blessing and honor to get to know these students and have them share their stories and experiences with me. From planning a creative worship service, to grocery shopping, to serving lunch at the Soup Cellar, to responding to a flooded meeting room, I have already witnessed and experienced so much!

This semester has seemed to fly by and I have a feeling that the spring semester will be the same. We have so much to look forward to in 2012 — Montreat College Conference, the Heyward McDonald Lecture Series, our regular weekly activities and the opportunity to serve through the spring break mission trip. Thank you, Shandon Presbyterian Church, for my opportunity to learn and grow as well as providing these experiences for our students!

Blessings,

*Erin Foster*

Presbyterian Student Association  
Pastoral Intern 2011-2012

Contact the Presbyterian Student Association (803-799-0212) about how you can get involved in our vital and vibrant ministry to the Columbia higher education community!

## Briefly . . .

### **No blood pressure screening on Dec. 4**

The next Blood Pressure Sunday will be on Jan. 8, 9-10:30 a.m., in Shandon's Parlor. This service, provided by the senior Adult Care Team, is open to anyone in the congregation.

### **Share your time and talent**

If you haven't done so, please fill

out the 2012 Time and Talent form. Forms are available around Shandon, or print one from our website, shandonpres.org. Please consider how you can give of yourself to the church.

### **Shandon Quilt Group**

Join us for fun and fellowship on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at 9:30 a.m. in room 224. Information: Joan Edwards, (803) 647-1398.

### **Don't toss that magazine**

Bring your family publications to Shandon for an exchange. Leave them on the table in the reception area, and feel free to take one or two left there by someone else. Remember to remove or mark through address information before dropping off magazines. Questions: Contact Kay White, (803) 787-0872, or Eunice Youngblood, (803) 776-7207.



## DECEMBER 2011 EXTENDED CARE SCHEDULE

8:45 a.m. service • Monthly coordinator is Stephanie Morgan • 782-7010

Crib Room – 107B, Toddlers/Twos – Room 107, Threes/Fours/Fives – Room 105



DATE	CRIB	TODDLER/TWOs	THREEs/FOURs/FIVEs
12/4/11	Kelli & Mark Anderson 420-1988	Mike Sawyer 798-5317	Debbie Sawyer 798-5317 Lori White 787-2766
12/11/11	Brett & Terra Varner 345-1881	Rob Morgan 782-7010 Dan Plyler 735-6015	Stephanie Morgan 782-7010 Kristi Plyler 622-6514
12/18/11	Patsy Powell 776-3899 Jennifer Raley 873-2007	Melissa Sanderson 254-9951 Rob Cothran 779-6593	Jesse Raley 873-2007 Sherri Cothran 779-6593
12/25/11	<b>No childcare</b>		

11 a.m. service • Monthly coordinator is Carrie Moss • 351-2532

Crib Room – 107B, Toddlers – Room 107, Twos – Room 104, Threes – Room 102, Fours/Fives – Room 105

DATE	CRIB	TODDLER	TWOs	THREEs	FOURs/FIVEs
12/4/11	Allison Croxton 776-8680 Catherine Nolan 269-9963	Carrie Moss 351-2532 Chris & Shane Boring 269-4039	Emmett Nolan 269-9963 Audrey Shifflett 765-0579	Debby Johnson 422-9246 Patty Lawrence 771-4475	Wes Johnson 422-9246 Darcie Jones 445-4231
12/11/11	Sara Eaton 673-7091 Elaine Baskin 256-2776	Vance Eaton 673-7091	Eugene Wang 695-4392 Jill Stewart 783-1341	Mary Rutledge Fowler 695-4392 Ward Bradley 256-6796	Kevin Croxton 776-8680 Betsy Bradley 256-6796
12/18/11	Will & Angie Douglas 391-5557	Jefferson Bates 771-2069	Tracey Waters 730-7595 Stephanie Stuckey 783-1740	Carmen Thomas 422-1252 Will Stuckey 783-1740	Millie Bates 771-2069 Creighton Waters 730-7595
12/25/11	<b>No childcare</b>				

The Columbia Pastoral Counseling Center would like to thank Shandon, the Presbyterian Women, the Second Saturday folks, the CDC and all our supporters (physically and monetarily)! Without you and the prayer support, we could not have had our October garage sale and raised a little over \$7100. There was a lot of "sweat equity" from many folks and we are very thankful for you all.

- Linda Olson and Carolyn White

Dear Transportation Care Ministry,

I thank Shandon and the caring volunteers for the service of providing rides for those who no longer drive or those unable to drive due to eye problems. The service is beneficial to me, and I appreciate all the people who are able to provide this service for doctor appointments and errands. A big thank you and hug to all the volunteers.

- Sincerely, Katherine Zeigler

Dear Shandon Church Family,

Thank you for the many lovely ways in which you have celebrated with me as I retire as con-



gregational care coordinator for Shandon. God has blessed me deeply through the privilege of serving with you as together we have developed caring ministries for our congregation. It will be exciting to see how God will provide for this part of our church ministry in the future. Bob and I will continue to worship, study and serve among you even as we enjoy more time to relax and play in our retirement years.

- Love, Anne Walkup

Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped at Transitions for our outreach project on Veterans Day.

- Sincerely, Gina Brinson

## Milestones

### In Memoriam:

Monroe F. Greene

January 14, 1921 - November 6, 2011

Anne S. Cuddy

August 13, 1934 - November 14, 2011

Marjorie "Margie" Sollee

October 20, 1914 - November 15, 2011

### The sympathy of Shandon reaches out to the family of:

Linda Rayl in the death of her mother, Helen Pace of Columbia; and Margaret Hicks in the death of her grandmother, Dorothy Arnold of Columbia.

## Memorials & Honorariums

### General Memorial Fund

**In Memory of Frank H. "Willie" Wiles** - Cappy and Chris Boswell; **In Memory of Doris Wilcox** (sister of Leah Lockhart) - Doris Taylor; **In Memory of Philip Alton Gibson** (father of Dolly Patton)

- Harriet Dubose; **In Memory of Kathy Spearl** (sister of Cheryl Spencer) - Flynn & Anne Harrell; **In Honor of the Soup Cellar Volunteers** - Jeanette Kimbrough; **In Honor of William Graham Varner** - William A. Thomas

### Pastors Fund

**In Memory of J. William "Bill" Pitts, Jr.** - Richard and Jane Kennedy; Marjan Lucas; **In Memory of Frank H. "Willie" Wiles** - Doris Taylor

### Centennial Fund

**In Memory of J. William "Bill" Pitts, Jr.** - Generations Sunday School Class; **In Honor of Amelia Littlejohn** - Harry and Mary Easterling; **In Memory of Wave Parks** - Wilbur and Diane Smith; **In Memory of Jessie Anderson** - Barbara Anderson; **In Memory of Monroe F. Greene** - Elizabeth Kelbaugh

### Lewis F. Galloway Community Outreach Endowment Fund

**In Memory of Eleanor J. Blizzard** - Charles & Lynn Roberts; **In Honor of the "Senior Transportation Team"** - Lynn Roberts