South Aiken Presbyterian Church  
The Worship of God  
Second Sunday of Advent

December 8, 2013  
8:45 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

Gathering

Prelude  
Camille Rosier, Guest Accompanist

Chiming of the Hour (11:00)

Welcome & Announcements  
Reverend Judy Bowling

Signing of the Friendship Register

Choir Introt (8:45)  
Advent Gathering  
(11:00)  
Come And See  
Gary Daigle  
Rob Howard

Hannah Kraus & Tim Bennett, Soloists  
Children’s Ensemble

Preparation for the Word

*Lighting of Our Second Advent Candle & Call to Worship (Responsive)

One: We light these candles as a sign of the coming light of Christ.  
Advent means coming.

(The candles of Hope and Peace are lit)

One: The Lord will give you a sign.  
All: Look the young woman is with child  
One: and shall bear a son  
All: and shall name him Immanuel - God is with us.

*Wreath Lighting Prayer (Unison)  
God over all, the vastness of your realm exceeds our ability to imagine. Yet, even as small as we might be in comparison to planets and mountains, stars and seas, you are still intimately concerned for our well-being. We thank you for the peace you bring. Help us this season to remember your peace by becoming peace-makers. In the name of Emmanuel we pray. Amen.

*Hymn #11  
O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?
*Prayer of Confession  (*Unison*)
Holy God Most High, we confess that our feet have wandered from the way of peace into aimless detours and crooked diversions. We need the cleansing and refining that you alone can graciously give if we are ever to be made pure and blameless. Forgive our foolish sins and faithless deeds. Let your tender mercies dawn upon us, that we may seek you and serve you without fear.

(Time for Silent Confession)
One:  Seeking the peace of God, the people said,
All:  “Amen.”

*The Gloria Patri  
Hymnal 579

*Assurance of Pardon

Passing of the Peace  (*Responsive*)
One:  Since Christ has extended to us the peace of God, let us, as his disciples, spread his peace to others.
    The peace of Christ be with you.
All:  *And also with you.*
One:  Let us exchange signs of Christ’s peace with one another.

Children’s Moment  (*Responsive*)
Allison Kelly
Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer  
Hymnal 16
...forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors...

Prayer Response
Come, Emmanuel  
Twila Paris

The Word of God

Epistle Reading  
Romans 15:4-13  
Pew Bible Page 163
One:  The Word of the Lord.
All:  Thanks be to God.

Anthem
The Jesus Gift  
Gilbert Martin
Craig Kiger, Soloist

Hebrew Scripture
Isaiah 11:1-10  
Pew Bible Page 640
One:  The Word of the Lord.
All:  Thanks be to God.

Sermon
“Waiting on Hope”
The Reverend Doctor Christopher Crotwell
Our Response to God’s Word

*Hymn (See Page 5)  We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom

Ordination & Installation of New Officers (11:00)

*Affirmation of Faith - From the Brief Statement of Faith (Unison)
We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.

The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Offertory

*Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

Sending

*Hymn #9  O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

*Benediction

*Congregational Response  Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates  Williams

  Fling wide the portals of your heart; Make it a temple, set apart
  From earthly use for heaven’s employ, Adorned with prayer, and love, and joy.

*Postlude

*Those who are able may stand

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Large print Hymnals are available in the Narthex along with Sound Amplification Devices. If needed, please ask an Usher for assistance.
We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom

1. We wait the peaceful kingdom, when wolf and lamb shall lie
   in gentleness and friendship without a fear or sigh.
   when lion shall be grazing, when snake shall never strike;
   a little child shall lead us both strong and weak alike.

2. Where is the peaceful kingdom? When will this new day start?
   We long for peace and comfort to reign within each heart.
   Yet not in our lives only, nor simply in our home:
   we pray that all creation will one day find shalom.

3. When wars of desolation and hate come to an end,
   when nation meets with nation and calls the other “friend,”
   still peace in all its fullness will only have begun:
   sha-lom for all creation begins with justice done.

4. That little child shall lead us to walk the chosen way,
   to share the peaceful kingdom, to greet God’s new-born day.
   The child born in a stable is sent to break our chains,
   to bring through word and table the day when justice reigns.

This text paraphrases Isaiah 11:6–9 in the first stanza, then reflects on that passage in widening frames of reference from self to all creation and identifies its “little child” with one born at Bethlehem. The tune is named for the composer’s sister, his first piano teacher.

TEXT: Kathleen R. Moore, 2010
MUSIC: Hal H. Hopson, 1963
Text © 2010 The Hymn Society (admin. Hope Publishing Company)
Music © 1983 Hope Publishing Company
Current Prayer Concerns

(After one month names will be rotated to “Continuing Prayer Concerns” list that will be in our AIMS Newsletter.)

Those serving in the military:
Dustin Baker - grandson of Jim & Shirley Shaw
Daniel Bartlett - grandson of Ron & Sandy Bartlett
Kris Cloud - son of Ed & Robin Coward
Charles Hogan, II - son of Charles & Judi Hogan
Heather M. Kostov - niece of Caroline & Greg Teese
Kyle Lukovsky - nephew of Caroline & Greg Teese
Ben McCullough - son of Lisa McCullough
Katie Taylor McCullough - wife of Ben McCullough & daughter-in-law of Lisa McCullough
Will McGarry - grandson of Felder & Dot McLaurin
Shea Peaton - nephew of Kevin & Lydia Hall
Andrew Radford - son of Chuck & Pat Radford & brother of Chris Radford
Chris Radford - son of Chuck & Pat Radford & brother of Andrew Radford
Spencer Riffenburgh - grandson of Tom & Lois Woodman
Matthew Ruggieri - grandson of Archie & Cheryl MacCrum
Timothy Tyler - grandson of Archie & Cheryl MacCrum
Louis Wilson - son-in-law of Brenda Martin Morgan

Members and Those with Family Concerns & Friends in Need of Prayer
Megan Pomputius - Jim & Shirley Shaw’s Granddaughter
Lisa O’Brien - Tom & Peg Pons’ Daughter
Hank Hayes
Frank McKenna - Darleen Ricard’s Friend
Lynda Dye - Sonni Grasso’s Daughter
Debbi Reboul’s Sister
Emily Lockard
Larry Jauert - Linda & Gary Tucker’s Friend
Emily Armstrong
Lynda Lockard
Paul Lehman - Darleen Ricard’s Brother

“I Am The Resurrection and The Life”

Mike Bryce, November 30, 2013
Beverly Cooper, December 3, 2013

Do You Want To Be A Prayer Partner?

Prayer is a powerful force for those in need of healing, comfort, strength, and encouragement. It can also be a blessing for the ones offering the prayer. The good thing about being an email Prayer Partner is that you can pray for those in need at anytime and from any place you may be when you receive the request. This prayer ministry is a part of our church’s Congregational Care Committee who are responsible for caring for the needs of our Church Family and/or others as requested. At the present time there are 183 email and phone Prayer Partners involved. If you want to become a Prayer Partner, or for more information, please call Mary Ann Laurey (648-9574 ext 221) or email maryannlsapc@yahoo.com or Emily Lockard (649-0473) or email emilybim@bellsouth.net.

Please contact the church office - 648-9574 ext 221 - if you wish to add a prayer concern or remove a name from the list. Thank you.
SAPC Christmas Cantata
“Selections from the Season”
December 15, 2013 - 8:45 and 11:00 AM
Featuring the Combined Choirs of SAPC
with Orchestral Accompaniment
Narration by Paul Ebel

Tuesday, December 24
✦ 5:30 PM Family Worship Service
✦ 8:00 PM Candlelight and Communion Service

Nursery available at both services

Advent Devotional materials are available in the narthex
for families, children, youth, and adults.
Please stop by and take some resources to help you
celebrate advent in your home.

Time to Celebrate!!

On December 15, 2013, at 3:00 PM a long-time member of our congregation, Frank Cunningham, will be ordained as a Teaching Elder by the Presbytery of West Virginia. He will serve the congregations of First Presbyterian Ripley and First United Church of Ravenswood in West Virginia. Christopher will represent South Aiken at the service by preaching the sermon. This has been a long road for Frank and for Mary. Please be in prayer for them as they celebrate this achievement. Please continue to be in prayer for them in the days ahead. Their new journey is just getting started!
Sunday, December 8  
8:45a - Worship Service (Sanctuary)  
9:45a - Sunday School (Campus)  
10:35a - Called Session Meeting (PCR)  
11:00a - Worship Service (Sanctuary)  
5:30p - Dinner Theatre (Gym)  

Monday, December 9  
12:15p - Bible Friends (FH/Playground)  
1:00p - Membership Committee (PCR)  
4:00p - Memorial Service for Beverly Cooper  
(Sanctuary)  
6:00p - Basketball Practice (Gym)  

Tuesday, December 10  
10:30a - Kindergarten Christmas Program (FH)  
12:15p - Bible Friends (FH/Playground)  
2:00p - YAH Senior’s Planning Committee (Library)  
5:30p - MOPS (FH)  
6:00p - Basketball Practice (Gym)  
6:00p - Girl Scouts (F207/F209/F212)  
6:30p - Sojourner Truth Circle (Library)  
7:00p - Boy Scouts (F205)  
7:00p - M’Aiken Music Rehearsal (Choir Room)  

Wednesday, December 11  
10:30a - Kindergarten Christmas Program (Gym)  
12:15p - Bible Friends (FH/Playground)  
5:30p - Worship Committee (PCR)  
7:00p - Choral & Orchestra Rehearsal (Sanctuary)  

Thursday, December 12  
9:00a - Kindergarten Christmas Program  
(Sanctuary/Gym)  
8:45a - Kindergarten Chapel (Sanctuary)  
9:30a - PW Knitting Ministry (Library)  
12:15p - Bible Friends (FH/Playground)  
1:30p - Karate (FH)  
6:00p - Basketball Practice (Gym)  
6:00p - Women’s Bible Study (Library/Nursery)  
6:30p - Cub Scouts (F203/F205/F207/F209/F212)  

Friday, December 13  
9:00a - Small Group Women’s Bible Study (Library)  
12:15p - Bible Friends (FH/Playground)  

Saturday, December 14  
9:00a - Secret Santa Workday (FH)  

Sunday, December 15  
8:45a - Worship Service Sanctuary)  
9:45a - Sunday School (Campus)  
11:00a - Worship Service (Sanctuary)  
12:00p - Secret Santa moved to Sanctuary  
12:00p - Pancake Brunch (Gym)  
3:00p - Rev. Frank Cunningham’s Ordination  
(First Presbyterian Church, Ripley, WVA)  

Middle & High School Youth Ministry  
(6th - 12th Grades)  

Youth Pancake Brunch Fundraiser  
December 15 following the 11:00 service  
Come fellowship and celebrate the holidays  
together and enjoy a wonderful  
Pancake Brunch for $5  

Assigned Offering Envelopes for 2014 are  
available for pick-up in the Narthex. If you  
do not want an assigned booklet of enve-  
lopes or if you would like to have an as-  
signed booklet of envelopes, please contact  
the church office  
(648-9574 ext 221).
The Jesse Tree

You will see an additional Christmas tree in the narthex this year that serves as our Jesse Tree for the season of Advent. This is our Family Tree.

The symbol of the Jesse Tree comes from Isaiah: 11 “There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.” Jesse was the father of King David. When King Saul turned away from God, God rejected him as king and sent the prophet Samuel to the farm of Jesse hear Bethlehem in search of a new king from among Jesse’s eight sons. David, the youngest and a shepherd boy, was chosen. God told Samuel, “Arise, anoint him; for this is he” (1 Sam. 16:12). David became a great king and it was in his line, the Jesse line that Jesus Christ was born a thousand years later in fulfillment of the prophecies.

As you can already tell, the Jesse Tree is filled with many stories. Hung on the tree are stories of pain, stories of sorrow, stories of joy, and above all, the stories of the faithfulness of God. To continue sharing those stories you will be invited to hang your stories on the tree too. On the first Sunday of Advent and the start of a new year, everyone will receive your own story ornament in the bulletin. We invite everyone to please take time to fill out a story or memory surrounding the Christmas season and hang it on the tree as you exit the sanctuary.

If you missed the first Sunday of Advent, or have more stories to share, there will be plenty of ornaments located near the tree for you to continue to share your stories as we welcome the Christ child entering our hearts, our congregation, and world in new ways this season.

Throughout Advent, kids in children’s church will remember the stories of God by decorate symbols depicting Bible stories leading up to the birth of Christ.

Advent Devotional sticker books will also be located in our Narthex so that you may count the days of Advent with a Jesse Tree in your home.
Are You Experiencing a "Winter" in Your Life? Our Stephen Ministers Can Help!

The winter weather we've had recently can be symbolic of what can sometimes happen in life. A crisis hits and we feel like we're buried beneath a drift of snow. Relationships can become "icy," or we can feel "frozen" by life circumstances. Little difficulties build up like "slush," making us slip and slide, causing every decision to seem treacherous. Life seems dreary, and we begin to doubt if spring will ever come. We can wonder, "Is God even there?"

Stephen Ministers are trained to provide confidential Christian care, giving you the emotional and spiritual support you need to make it through a "winter" in your life. To learn more about how a Stephen Minister can help you or someone you know, contact Stephen Ministry Leader Lisa Lader (642-6840 or cell 439-2004), Dr. Christopher Crotwell or Parish Associate Rev. Bowling (648-9574). Our Stephen Ministers are ready to care for you.

Christmas Dinner Theater—

Join us as we will be blessed by wonderful food, served by the youth of SAPC, and enjoy the Christmas musical “The Night Shift Before Christmas” put on by the children of our church! Tickets will be sold after each service in the back hallway. Cost: $8.00 for Adults - $3.00 Actors and Children (10 and below)

New Class to Begin in February

Start your first Sunday in February discussing a best-seller for more than thirty years. Have you ever asked these questions: How are we different than the churches down the street? Who Says So? How Can We Find God? How Does God Find Us? What Does God Want with Us? What Are We Doing Here? Why Doesn't God Do Something about it? What is Going to Happen to Us? Christian Doctrine by Shirley Gutherie is grounded in scripture, Reformed tradition, and has introduced thousands of people to the basics of the Christian faith. This class will be taught by Paul Ebel and Missy Byrne starting in February from 9:45-10:45 AM on Sundays. Anyone at any level is welcome to join us for this basic class. Make plans on Feb. 2 to find out what it’s all about.

December Book Club will meet December 16th at 7:00 PM at the home of Debbie Vanous. We will discuss our book and have our Christmas Party. Please bring your favorite snack to share, all are welcome. Our book selection is The Christmas Shoppe by Melody Carlson (extra books are in the office and are $5.00 each). For more information please contact Debbie at 648-6496 or vanous101@bellsouth.net subject line: Book Club.

Are You Experiencing a "Winter" in Your Life? Our Stephen Ministers Can Help!
Please Sign Up for the following activities on the bulletin board just past the water fountain in the hall.

**December 15** - *Christmas Carol, the Musical* has been cancelled due to lack of interest.

**February 4** - 11:00 AM - A trip to Augusta is planned on this Tuesday for a noon concert, followed by lunch, at St. Paul's Church. The concert will feature the *Atlanta Guitar Trio*. Cost is $10.00 for lunch and the concert is free. **Deadline is January 26.**

**February 6** - On this Thursday we will make a return trip to the Koger Theatre for the musical the *Million Dollar Quartet*. From the 1950's Memphis, Tennessee comes this Tony Award winning Broadway musical based on a true story of a famed recording session of the musical icons-Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, and Carl Perkins who came together for one unforgettable night. This toe tapping musical will entertain you with explosive dancing, irresistible songs and laughter. This is a 7:30 PM performance and the cost is $55.00 per person. We will eat together prior to show time. **Deadline is January 12.**

Additional events now in the planning stages include: A second trip to St. Paul's Church on March 4 to hear a concert of Bagpipes and Organ, and a trip to Fort Gordon Dinner Theatre on March 14 to see the production of *The Follies*. So reserve these dates on your calendar now; sign-up sheets will be posted soon.

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_Dear Church Family,_

_We enjoyed the flowers and the Barnabas surprise gift. We are thankful for the prayers and telephone calls. It is nice to have a church family in Aiken. Betty will be in a walking cast until after Christmas. The foot is healing nicely thanks to the grace of God. We hope to be active again soon._

_Cordially,_

_Betty and Bob Rapp_

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**ACTS**

**Monthly Items Needed**

*December - Tuna/Salmon*

You may drop the items in the ACTS basket by the front door in the Narthex or in the basket by the church office. Monetary donations may be made by placing a check to SAPC in the offering plate and noting ‘for ACTS’ on the check. Thanks for sharing with others!

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**FEED THE HUNGRY**

ACTS needs volunteers to move food from the Golden Harvest Distribution Center and stock shelves at ACTS on Monday and Wednesday mornings. If you can volunteer an hour or two a couple times a month, please call Mike McComb at 226-0588. Opportunities are also available to pick up from local stores. ACTS has a truck which can be used.
Our Purpose...“Opening Doors to Serve Christ”

WELCOME  On this second Sunday of Advent, we eagerly welcome all who have joined with us in anticipation of the coming of our Lord, Jesus Christ. May this time of worship be encouraging and inspirational to all.

WELCOME GUEST ACCOMPANIST  Please express your appreciation to Camille Rosier for sharing her instrumental talents with us today. An accomplished piano teacher in her 12th year of instructing with 21 years performing experience, she is a graduate of the Petrie School of Music at Converse College where she earned a Bachelor of Music degree with summa cum laude honors. Her majors are in both Piano Performance and Piano Pedagogy. She is an active member of the Aiken Music Teachers Association (MTA), the South Carolina MTA, the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) and the South Carolina Piano Festival Association. She is serving the SCMTA through 2013 on the Executive Committee as State Secretary and the AMTA for 2011-2012 on the Executive Board as a Vice President. She is a lifelong member of Delta Omicron, an international music honor fraternity, and Pi Kappa Lambda, a prestigious national music honor society. She has received professional certification from the MTNA as a Nationally Certified Teacher of Music in the field of Piano. She is a frequent substitute on both piano and organ, which she has played for 15 years, for local area church services and rehearsals.

NURSERY AND CHILDREN’S CHURCH  Infants are welcome in the Nursery during our 8:45 AM and 11:00 AM worship services and during our 10:00 AM Sunday School hour. During the 8:45 AM worship service children are invited to go to the Nursery or stay in the worship service. During the 11:00 AM worship service 3K-2nd graders are welcome to join our Children’s Church Worship program in the Library after the Children’s Moment.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT
YTD operating contributions & collections as of 10/31/2013 $485,888.31
YTD operating expenses as of 10/31/2013 499,020.85
Approved budgeted expenses for 2013 as of 10/31/2013 517,447.50

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY
Worship Service (8:45) - 83
(11:00) - 132

VOLUNTEERS FOR TODAY
Flowers In memory of our loved ones, given by Anita and Bob Page
Pulpit Assistant (11:00) Reverend Judy Bowling
Sound System (8:45) Robert Glance (11:00) John Empie
Ushers (8:45) Jim Bunch, Ken Hofstetter, Roger Marin, Laurie Marin
(11:00) Ted Nichols, Robert Glance, Bill Ice, Joyce Leo

VOLUNTEERS FOR NEXT WEEK
Flowers To the Glory of God and in memory of Fern S. Baker, given by Lynn Shepard
Pulpit Assistant Barb Johnson
Sound System (8:45) Alan Riechman (11:00) Alan Riechman
Ushers (8:45) Mark Austin, Susan Glenn, Bill Dulworth, Jackie Dulworth
(11:00) Robert Glance, Kevin Pethick, Felder McLaurin, Dorothy McLaurin

Dr. Christopher Crotwell, Pastor and Head of Staff: Office 648-9574 Ext. 226
Allison Kelly, Director of Young Children and Family Ministries: Office 648-9574 Ext. 223 Cell 803-336-9540
Phillip Hare, Director of Music: 648-9574
Scott Chappell, Organist: 648-9574
Tracie Bryant, Financial Manager: 648-9574 Ext. 222
Mary Ann Laurey, Office Manager: 648-9574 Ext. 221
Jeni Myers, Kindergarten Director: 648-9895
Church Fax: 803-648-7972