



SteepleTalk

*Find out what's going on and what's coming up
in the life and ministry at John Knox Presbyterian Church.*

Visit our Website

This Sunday's Worship 1st Sunday of Advent

[Isaiah40:1-11](#)

"Song of Yearning"

Gordon Turnbull

Click [here](#) for bulletin



Sunday, November 27

Please join us at 5:00 PM in the Sanctuary for our Hanging of the Greens service.
A nursery will be available. A reception will follow the service.

Wednesday Night Live

for November 30!

Fellowship Dinner begins at 5:45 PM. Programs for Children, Youth, and Adults will be held between 6:15-7:15. This week everyone is invited to a concert by the Greenville Chamber Singers (article below). Please use the cards in the pew racks to make your dinner reservations. Dinner is free: suggested donation is \$6/adult and \$4/kids 12 & under. Menu for this week: chicken pot pie, veggies, salad bar, dessert.

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS



Is it Far to Bethlehem?

Please join us for the annual Christmas concert presented by the Greenville Chamber Singers on Wednesday November 30, 2016 at 6:30pm in the sanctuary.

This free performance will include familiar favorites as well as new music, featuring works by Benjamin Britten, John Rutter, Greenville's own Dan Forrest, and arrangements by Stephen Hatfield, Michael Engelhardt & Rose Dunphy.

The Greenville Chamber Singers is a non-profit 501(c)3 four-part women's chorus formed in 1996. The group is under the direction of **Angela Lemere**, district choral coordinator at Dorman High School. **Come and let us put you in the Christmas spirit!**

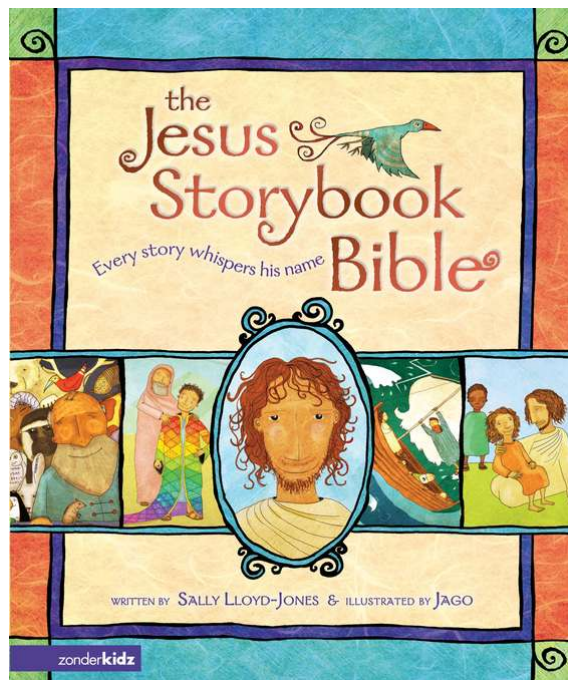
2017 Worship/Study Plan: The Jesus Storybook Bible

We are excited to announce the plan for our next year's focus for worship and churchwide study—a series based on the sweep of Biblical narrative as presented in the popular book by Sally Lloyd-Jones. *The Jesus Storybook Bible* offers an accessible presentation of salvation history from the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation, with tenderness, humor, and theological richness.

Why study a children's Bible storybook? We offer this opportunity as a way to invite and encourage all of God's children, whatever their ages, to learn the story of God's saving love in Jesus Christ. We envision classes, groups, individuals and families gathering to daime afresh the story of God's love. We want to make it easy for children to snuggle with their parents, grandparents, and teachers to learn together the Truth that gives us Life. And we trust that even the most learned and intellectual among us will be refreshed and blessed by the opportunity to experience the highlights of the scriptures in one sweeping study.

We believe strongly that this series will strengthen and bless everyone who shares in it, and so John Knox is providing a free copy of *The Jesus Storybook Bible*, to teach household in our church. All you have to do is let us know as soon as possible that you want your copy, and we will distribute them in December, in time for Christmas gifting.

Use the flyer in the worship bulletin, or email Mandy Scott in the church office (m.scott@johnknoxpres.org), to reserve your free copy of *The Jesus Storybook Bible*.



Children's Ministry News

Christmas Program Reminders

Hanging of the Greens is this Sunday!! All of our children ages K3 – 5th grades are invited to sing at the Hanging of the Greens service on Sunday, November 27. The service begins at 5:00 in the sanctuary with a reception following in the Fellowship Hall. Please have your children wear Christmas colors and meet Mrs. Martin in the sanctuary at 4:45. They will sing at the beginning of the service and then go sit with their families.



Children's Christmas Program – Our children will be performing during our Wednesday Night Live program on Wednesday, December 7 at 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Our next practice will be on Wednesday, November 30 from 6:00-6:25. (*Note earlier time. Make sure your kids eat fast that night!) There will be a Chamber Singers concert that night (November 30) starting at 6:30 in the sanctuary, and all children and families are invited to come enjoy some beautiful Christmas music. We will have activities available for the children after their choir practice from 6:30-7:15, if they choose not to go to the concert. We will have one last practice on Sunday, December 4 from 4:30 – 5:15. Meet Mrs. Martin in the Music Room.

Jesus Storybook Bible

All of our children will be starting a new study in January that will follow the stories in *The Jesus Storybook Bible*, a beautiful book written by Sally Lloyd-Jones. (See related article) This will be a church-wide study, so make sure you reserve a copy of the book for your family. You can use the inserts that were included in the bulletins last Sunday, or you can contact the church office to reserve your copy.

Please refer to your Children's Ministry Newsletter for more details about these and other events for our children! Any questions, contact Susan Felton at sfelton@johnknoxpres.org.

Youth News



All youth will be participating in the Hanging of the Greens service on Sunday, November 27. Please be here at 4:30! The service starts at 5:00. This will be our youth activity for Sunday. Look for details in your Youth Newsletter about what to bring!

Our Senior Highs are working hard on their annual Christmas Play. They will perform on Wednesday, December 7 in the Fellowship Hall during our WNL program. The preschool and elementary children will be performing a short program at 6:30, and the youth play will follow. Junior Highs are asked to be there to support the Senior Highs and will be asked to join them on stage for some Christmas carols to end the show. Please make sure all Senior Highs are here on Wednesday and Sunday evenings for practice!



Kindergarten News

Parent's Night Out Fundraiser: We will have our first Parent's Night Out fundraiser on Friday, December 2, from 5:30 PM to 9:00 PM. We encourage you to take this opportunity to have an evening out, dinner with friends, Christmas shopping time, etc. while the Kindergarten and PDO staff take care of your children. This is a fundraiser for our program with 100% of proceeds helping to purchase things that benefit your children. Children will receive dinner once they arrive and they will be kept busy with many fun activities throughout the evening. Details are specified below:

-DATE: Friday, December 2

-TIME: 5:30 - 9:00 p.m.

-COST: \$25 per child OR \$20 per child for 2 or more children.

-DINNER: Pizza, cookies, and juice. (Parent of infants and toddlers are asked to send in something for their children)

-ACTIVITIES: PDO children will play in their classrooms. K-2 will have a little art project to do. An age appropriate video may be shown.

K-3 thru 3rd grade children will be divided up into groups with friends to complete an art project, go on a flashlight walk in the church, play in the classroom and gym, and watch an age appropriate video.

WE ENCOURAGE KIDS TO WEAR THEIR PAJAMAS!

Please call Laurie at 322-0045 to sign up OR pick up a sign up sheet in the office and leave in Laurie's mailbox. Payment is due on December 2nd. We look forward to taking care of and having fun with your children while you enjoy the night out.

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The Kindergarten classes will perform for our annual **Christmas musical program** on Tuesday, December 13, at 6:30 PM in the fellowship hall. **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

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Holiday schedule for Kindergarten / PDO is as follows: No school from Monday, December 19 through January 1. Classes resume on Monday, January 2.

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**Special Announcement:** John Knox Kindergarten classes are putting up a Christmas tree at the Hyatt Hotel as part of the Festival of Trees that is held there every year. All the decorations have been made in art class with Mrs. Sharp.

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## Young at Heart (YAHs)

Please invite your family and friends and join the YAH's for the special annual Moravian Christmas Lovefeast service on Sunday, December 4 at 5 p.m. in the Daniel Memorial Chapel on the Furman University Campus. The event is free and open to the public.

Based on traditions originating in the early Apostolic church, then later in the Moravian church, the Christmas Lovefeast is a wonderful way to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas. The Chancel Choir will bring an evening of festive music, scripture reading, and of course, a meal of Moravian buns and coffee, and the lighting of beeswax candles. The beautiful sanctuary will be lit by pew candle staffs and decorated with red poinsettias. Everyone is welcome to celebrate the gift of God's love for us and our love for one another during the Lovefeast.



Please meet in front of the Daniel Chapel by 4:40 p.m. so we can be seated as a group. Afterwards, we will meet at the Cherrydale Olive Garden for dinner.

RSVP by December 2 to Bessie/Bill Lee (233-5518), LaRue Wait (675-6172) or JoAnn George (268-6822)

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## Singers Needed!

We need YOU in our combined adult choir for our Hanging of the Greens service which will be held on November 27. We would love to have ANY church folks join us, whether you have been in church choir or not! We will practice on Sunday November 27, from 3:00-4:30 in the sanctuary choir loft. We will be singing some wonderful Advent and Christmas selections so please come and help us spread the joy of this special season!

## Also.....

The Chancel choir would like to extend a welcome to anyone who would like to commit to coming to the next couple of rehearsals (Nov. 30, Dec. 7) & singing in our special Christmas music Sunday on Dec. 11 and/or our continuing music for Advent and Christmas side each Sunday from now until the end of 2016 (only five more weeks!) We rehearse on Wednesday nights at 7:30 PM in the choir room directly across from the children's Sunday School room with the stage on the ground floor. Come on, join us! You know you'll love it!



## Ornaments

Our John Knox Christmas ornaments are back! The youth will be selling these beautiful wooden ornaments during the month of December. Ornaments will be \$12 apiece, and will be available for purchase on Sundays before and after church. Please plan to purchase one or more of these for your collection. They make great gifts! Thank you for supporting our youth!

**If you would like to contribute to the Christmas Flower Fund in honor or memory of someone, please click [here](#), print and fill out the form, and turn in to the church office.**



# Holiday Calendar

## **Sunday, November 27** - 1st Sunday of Advent

Worship Services at 8:45 and 11:00 AM  
Hanging of the Greens service at 5:00 PM in the Sanctuary  
Nursery provided. Reception following.

## **Wednesday, November 30**

Chamber Singers concert at 6:30 PM in the Sanctuary (see article above)

## **Sunday, December 4** - 2nd Sunday of Advent

Worship Services at 8:45 and 11:00 AM

## **Wednesday, December 7**

Christmas Program by our children and youth in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30pm.  
This will be our last WNL until 2017.

## **Sunday, December 11** - 3rd Sunday of Advent

Worship Services at 8:45 and 11:00 AM  
Special musical presentation by our John Knox Choirs at both services.

## **Wednesday, December 14**

No Wednesday Night programs

## **Sunday, December 18** - 4th Sunday of Advent

Worship Services at 8:45 and 11:00 AM ~ Christmas Joy Offering will be collected.

## **Wednesday, December 21**

No Wednesday Night programs

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

5:00 PM - A Family Christmas Eve Service in the Sanctuary  
5:45 PM - Christmas Banquet - Pre-paid envelopes will be available in the church pews beginning November 20. Please turn in your reservations by Dec. 21.  
7:00 PM - Our Traditional Christmas Eve Service- Sanctuary with Communion and Candle Lights  
11:00 PM - Casual Christmas Eve Service - Chapel

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

One Worship Service at 10:30 AM in the Sanctuary (no Sunday School)

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# THE WEEK AHEAD

## **Monday, November 28**

7:00 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast

## **Tuesday, November 29**

10:00 AM Quilters  
7:00 PM Volleyball  
Boy Scouts  
APNC Meeting

## **Wednesday, November 30**

10:00 AM Ladies' Prayer Group  
10:30 Staff Meeting  
5:45 PM Wed. Night Supper  
6:15 Bell Practice  
6:30 Chamber Singers  
7:20 Chalice Choir practice  
7:30 Chancel Choir practice

## **Friday, December 2**

5:30-9:00 PM PDO Parent's Night Out

## **Saturday, December 3**

5:00 PM Chin Church Gathering

## **Sunday, December 4**

8:45 AM Worship in Chapel  
9:45 Sunday School  
11:00 Worship in Sanctuary  
12:15 PM Called Session Mtg.  
1:30 PM Chin Church Worship  
3:00-8:30 Basketball practices  
4:30-7:00 Youth Group  
4:30-5:15 Kids' Choir practice

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

## November

- 24 - Susan Bracknell, Mat Moore
- 26 - Jim Bowman, Delores Brandon, Wes Popoloski, Kim Pitman, Mary Ellen Cain
- 27 - Joel Smith, Jake Flanagan
- 28 - Bob Nelson, Martha Meade, Natalie Glass, Sam Jackson, Owen Long
- 29 - Margaret Redmon, Sydney Jackson
- 30 - Katherine Howell, Turner Long

## Mailbox

Since this week is Thanksgiving and I'm focused on being grateful, I thought you should know how much my John Knox church family means to me. Your prayers, words of encouragement, and acts of kindness have truly sustained our family during Charlie's long seminary journey. You'll never know how much those prayers, encouragement, kindnesses have meant, and sometimes, they truly carried me through to the next day. I'll be forever grateful to Margaret Redmon for inviting me to John Knox so that I could meet my second family.

Happy Thanksgiving with love,

Heather Pratt



## By the Numbers

Attendance on November 20:

8:45 - 78

11:00 - 201

Weekly Expense Budget: \$17,827.00

Weekly Offering Received: \$16,345.35

Expense Budget YTD: \$837,869.00

Offering Received YTD: \$697,071.76

### First Gift

**2017 Stewardship and Mission Giving**

Pledges Received To Date: 170

Amount Pledged: \$668,712.00

*Please return pledge cards to church office as soon as possible. Thankyou!*

Please email all submissions for Steepetalk to [m.scott@johnknoxpres.org](mailto:m.scott@johnknoxpres.org). For Thursday publication, information must be received by Tuesday at 12 PM.

Edited by Mandy Scott  
John Knox Presbyterian Church  
35 Shannon Dr.  
Greenville, SC 29650  
864.244.0453  
[www.johnknoxpres.org](http://www.johnknoxpres.org)

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John Knox Presbyterian Church | 35 Shannon Dr., Greenville, SC 29615

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