



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

Advent Promise:

Joyfully Restored

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Philippians 4:4-7

[Click here to access this week's bulletin.](#)

Children's Christmas Pageant

Carriers of the Light

Sunday, December 16th
9:45 in the Sanctuary

Children's Christmas Pageant

Our children are presenting their Christmas pageant, "Carriers of the Light", this Sunday, December 16, and everyone is invited! The pageant will be performed during the Sunday School hour, so please join us in the Sanctuary at 9:45 Sunday morning as our children share the Christmas story with us. There will be light refreshments in the Fellowship Hall for everyone after the pageant. Everyone is welcome!



Angel Tree 2018

The Christmas season is upon us! This year John Knox will continue to support the Angel Tree mission in conjunction with Greer Relief. An electronic Amazon gift link can be found [here](#). You can still sign out traditional gift tags from our Angel Tree elves through the church office. Gifts are due to the church office on the morning of December 16th or you can have them sent directly to Greer Relief.

Questions? Contact

Betsy Turnbull, 293-2382 /

etturnbull83@gmail.com

Stevie Greene, 616-7430 /

steviecgreene@yahoo.com

Greer Relief, 202 Victoria Street, Greer SC 29651

Finishing Strong in 2018

The end of the year is close at hand, and our leaders and staff are working hard to complete our work for the year and plan for the year ahead. As we finish this year, here are things that each of us can do to strengthen the church's ministry.

Fulfill your 2018 commitment

Have you fulfilled your pledge for 2018? If you are not sure, feel free to call Caroline Bishop at the church for an update on your pledge status.

Consider extra giving

Many people choose to remember or honor loved ones with special gifts to the church at Christmas. Others plan significant donations to worthy causes at year's end. Some seek to maximize their tax savings by making sizeable gifts. This kind of giving makes a big difference to our ministry. Please consider John Knox Presbyterian Church with this kind of year-end, "above-and-beyond" giving.

Pledge for 2019

Our budget depends mainly upon *pledged* offerings. We cannot plan responsibly for ministry without these commitments. If you know that you want to support Christ's ministry through our church, please communicate that desire by submitting a pledge toward our work together.

Pray for John Knox

The financial work of our church serves and equips the greater, spiritual work to which we are called. Please join in asking God to enrich our life and direct our work together so that every aspect of our ministry glorifies the Lord we serve.



Stewardship Progress Report

2019 Pledge Cards Received: 161
2019 Pledge Card Value: \$729,554

YOUNG ADULT
Christmas Party

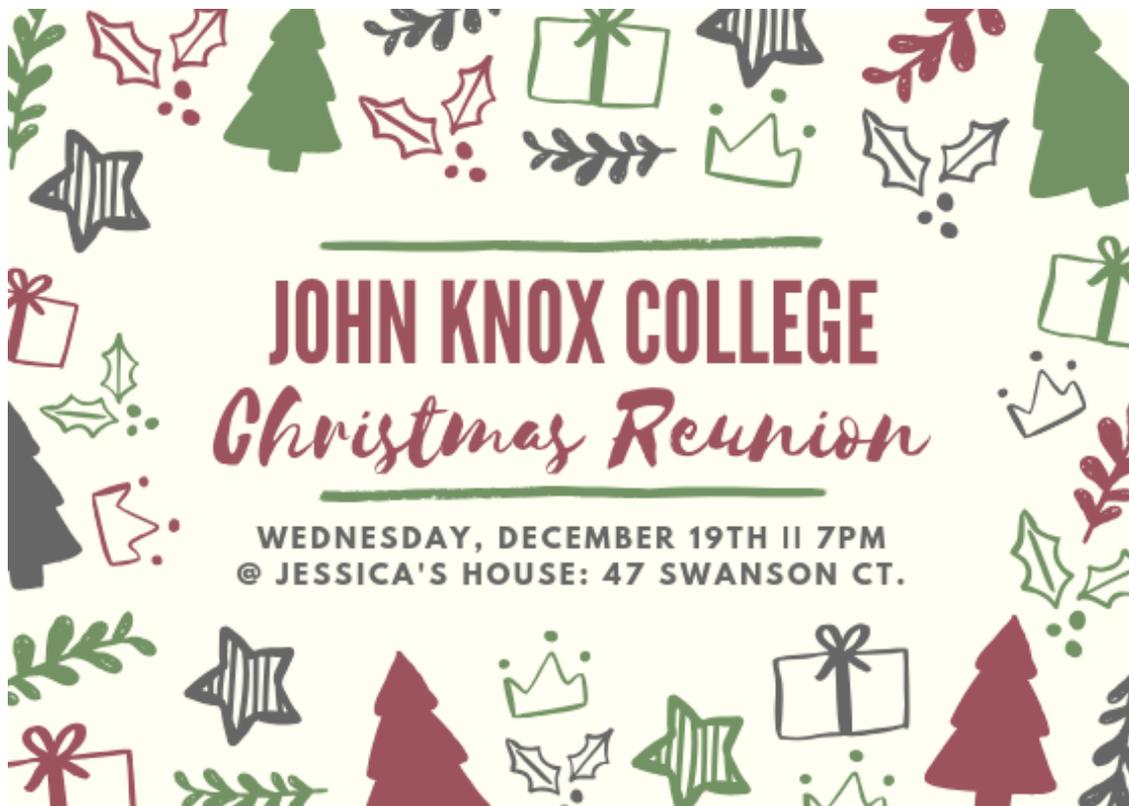
DECEMBER 13 | THE HOWELL'S | THURSDAY 6:30
207 HICKORY HILL LN.

Join us for a night of fellowship and laughter as we celebrate the Christmas season together!

**WEAR YOUR FAVORITE TACKY SWEATER!
TEA & CIDER WILL BE PROVIDED**

Young Adult Christmas Gathering

All Young Adults are invited to join us in celebrating the Christmas season on Thursday, December 13th at 6:30! Come dressed in your best Christmas sweater and enjoy appetizers and fellowship at the Howell's. Email Jessica (jmeggs@johnknoxpres.org) for more info!



College Christmas Reunion

The semester is almost over and we can't wait to have our college friends home! All college students are invited to Jessica's house on Wednesday, December 19th at 7pm for a chance to catch up with friends and enjoy some festive treats. Questions? Email or call Jessica! (jmeggs@johnknoxpres.org)



Christmas Flower Fund

Click [here](#) to access our Christmas Flower reservation form. Please submit to the church office or through the offering plate by December 16.

Service Opportunity: Transportation Team

One of the services your Nurture Committee provides to John Knox members is transportation, when needed. Rides are provided for church worship, church activities as well as for medical appointments. Currently we are looking

for volunteers who would be willing to be called upon for availability if a transportation need arises. If you would be willing to provide transportation for John Knox members and would like to be included on the list please contact Rich Falasco at 864-416-7043 or email at richndiane60@gmail.com or you can contact the church office.



Christmas Eve Fellowship

All are invited to come to the Fellowship hall between the 5:00 and 7:00 Christmas Eve worship services for cookies, hot chocolate, and hot cider. Spread your Christmas cheer and wish all a very merry Christmas as we celebrate our Lord's birth!

Volunteers are needed to bring cookies for our gathering. If you will be here Christmas Eve and can help by bringing 2 dozen cookies, please contact Laurie Davis by email or text so we know how much to purchase. Thanks and Happy Holidays everyone!

Laurie's phone: 430-8341

E-mail: davislaurie1030@gmail.com

**YOUNG AT HEART CHRISTMAS EVENT
CANCELLED DUE TO STORM**

**NEXT EVENT: YOUNG AT HEART /YOUTH
LUNCH ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 13**

The Lessons and Carols program at Daniel chapel on December 9 was cancelled due the winter storm. It was a great disappointment as we had tickets and there was a long waiting list. Unfortunately, the event will not be re-scheduled for this year. We will try again next year.

Put the YAH/Youth Lasagna Luncheon on your calendar for January 13 in the Fellowship Hall following the eleven o'clock service. This is always a fun filled event so don't miss it!

UNITED MINISTRIES

When I took your food donations to the United Ministries food bank today, there were several people hanging around waiting for a bag of food. Each person approached me and asked if I had cans of corned beef. Unfortunately I didn't and it was very obvious they were disappointed. I am thinking it may be a form of protein for them or the corned beef may be used for a pot stew. May I ask that each family pick up a couple of cans and bring them to church. I will be responsible for getting the corned beef to the food bank . Please help to feed God's hungry people.

Bless you,
Kathy Hopkins



Children's Ministry News

Parents' Night Out

It's time for Parents' Night Out and gingerbread houses! For families who are signed up, we will meet the children in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 tomorrow, Friday, December 14. Our nursery staff will be on the PDO Hall ready for any children 3 years old and younger. We will eat a pizza dinner together, and then we'll get started on our gingerbread houses. Parents, please remember to check the Sign-Up Genius page [here](#) to see what items we need for our gingerbread houses. We will end the evening with a Christmas movie in the Youth Center. Parents can pick up their children in the Youth Center at 8:30. Children are encouraged to wear their pajamas and join us for a fun and festive night with their friends!



NEWS

Christmas Party

This Sunday, December 16th will be our last Sunday Night of the year and we want to celebrate

Christmas with you! Join us for a night of games, holiday activities, and a sock exchange! Everyone is asked to bring a pair of WRAPPED socks (funny, festive, cozy, etc.) to participate in the exchange. We look forward to celebrating the season with you and ending 2018 on a high note!

Jr. Highs: 4:30-6

Sr. Highs: 5:30-7



JOHN KNOX YOUTH MINISTRY
INVITES YOU TO OUR

CHRISTMAS PARTY!

Find your best ugly sweater or holiday attire,
bring a fun pair of socks (wrapped) for our
exchange, and come ready to celebrate the
Christmas season with friends!

SUNDAY, DEC. 16TH
NORMAL YOUTH GROUP TIMES

Mailbox



It is that time of year for togetherness and gratitude. We have a lot to be thankful for at United Ministries. We are especially thankful for your food donations throughout the year. We are truly grateful knowing we can count on your support to keep food in our pantry all year.

This is the time of year when temperatures drop and more people seek our assistance. Through October, our Crisis Assistance Department has already helped almost 2,461 individual households and 4,602 family members with food, rent, utilities and medicine. Through October, we have raised approximately \$58,000 in food and have provided our participants \$54,000 in groceries to help stabilize their families. In our department, we rise by lifting other people.

Your support gives us the ability to help people face scarcity, the strength to deal with personal struggles and the hope of a better future.

Please let your congregation know how much your food donations mean to those we serve. Know that each person we help is very grateful and blessed by your food donation. Without you we could not carry out our mission to provide hopeful options, strong encouragement and a measure of stability to people finding themselves facing financial uncertainty.

A really big thank you again for all you do!

Johanne Puckett
Volunteer Food Coordinator
United Ministries

TOGETHER

MIDWEEK GATHERING

We will not meet in December but look forward to gathering Together again beginning on January 9, 2019!

Clerk's Report

The Session of John Knox Presbyterian Church met on Sunday, November 18, 2018 at 6:00 PM, in the Fellowship Hall for their regular monthly meeting. The following are some of the items discussed:

- Nancy Grigsby gave a brief update on the stewardship campaign. 2nd Monday pledges are behind 2017, but the number of new pledges is up. They will send a follow-up mailing out in early December.
- Nancy gave a brief update on the search for a new Chancel Choir Director and Interim.
- Sandra Moore advised that the PDO/Kindergarten has joined the Publix Partners shopping program.
- Susan Felton has advised that the Christmas Pageant will be on December 16th during the Sunday School Hour.
- The Family Mission Night was on November 9th and was a success, with about 45 children and their parents in attendance. They packed 41 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child.
- the next Parent's Night Out will be on December 14th.
- Rick Thatcher reported for CM&O that they have been working on the Guatemala Scholarship Program. So far, \$16,000 has been raised for the WALC and La Patria programs.
- Stevie Greene reported for Evangelism that they have been busy and welcomed five new members this morning.
- Steve Meggs said that Fellowship is working on the remaining 2018 programs for Together Wednesday.
- Game Night was on November 14th.
- Basketball season is underway.
- There was a reception for Lane Moore's retirement this morning.
- They are planning a reception for Charlie Pratt after his Ordination Service on 11/25.
- Cecil Kelley reported for M&W that Hanging of the Greens will be on December 2nd at 5 PM.
- M&W recommended and the Session has approved the wedding of Abigail Elizabeth Williams and Crayton Summers Culver on July 20, 2019.
- They are also looking for someone to lead the Hand-Bell Choir.
- Kitty Olson said that the Wednesday Night Meal Deliveries are going well, with 44 meals delivered since September.
- There will be articles in the Steeple Talk to recruit new Care Companions.
- Jeanne Peak gave an informative presentation on the Respite Care Ministry and her visit to Montgomery AL. The Committee asked for the Session's feedback and their approval to proceed with exploring a similar program here at J/K. The Session enthusiastically gave their consent.
- Miller McClintock explained the plan to address the Sanctuary water and drainage issues.
- He also explained the drainage problems along our border with Lake Forest Elementary School.
- The Gym Lighting project is complete. The Session offered their thanks to Caleb and Miller for their hard work.

Dick Powers
Clerk of Session

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

December

13 - Dorothy Watrous, Troy Tipton, Cooper Nyvall

14 - Sebastien Bertrans, Davis Dixon, Scott Dixon

15 - Beau Gailey

17 - Mills Grant, Jack Lewis

18 - Gram Grant

19 - Margaret Martin

Please email all submissions for Steepletalk to mscott@johnknoxpres.org. For Thursday publication, information must be received by Tuesday at 12 PM.

Edited by Mandy Scott
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