

Christ comes...

"A Christmas Thorn".....She was a real pain. I do not think that I have ever had a more cantankerous member in my entire ministry. She was always on my case about something. Gertrude Evans was my thorn in the flesh, but God used her in a very special way one Christmas. Tune in Sunday at either 9 AM or 11 AM to hear the tale about ol' Gerty as we continue our Advent Theme...."Christ Comes"

November 27..."To Unexpected Places"

December 4..."Using Unexpected People"

The scriptures are Isaiah 11:1-4a and Luke 1: 26-38.

Stewardship Update

As of this email, we have received \$716,500 in pledges toward our 2012 budget. We have received 41 new pledges which total \$73,390 and those who pledged last year have increased their pledges by 11% this year which is a gain of \$73,000. We still have over 40 people who made a pledge last year who have yet to make a pledge for 2012. These pledges, if made, can enable us to reach our goal. If you have not yet made a pledge, please do so this week by [emailing John Montague, our Business Administrator](#), so that we can finalize our budget for next year. We wish to thank everyone for their generous support of the ministry of Saint Andrews.

P.S. – 'Thank you!' to all who assisted with the decorating of the church last Saturday and to our readers, helpers and tree lighters during the 'Hanging of the Greens' service on Sunday night. Without the wonderful volunteers, none of that could have been accomplished. Many thanks from the Worship and Music Committee to ALL who make the evening (and decorating) so enjoyable!

And remember, it's not too late to pick up an Advent Devotional book this Sunday, written by the members of SAPC!

angel tree

Thank you to all those who took an ornament from our Angel Tree. Remember, all items are due to be returned UNWRAPPED but with by the tag by December 4th.

new class

Simply Christmas – Dec. 4, 11, 18 at 9:50am on Sundays in the Fellowship Hall. Could we celebrate Christmas in a way to bring joy, peace, and connection to the message of Christ? Join us as we trace the history of Christmas, the secular elements of holiday, and spiritually meaningful ways to celebrate. Through scripture and the sharing resources, participants will be encouraged to find traditions that focus on the true meaning of Christmas. (Please note: the Segue to the Sermon class will suspend while this class is ongoing.)

christmas joy!

Mark your calendars for our Christmas Joy! musical event, held on **Sunday, December 11th at 6pm**. Full of holiday music, both sacred and secular, this fun event is a relaxing and upbeat way to experience the season. Bring the kids, invite your friends, and come sing with us!

CHRISTMAS EVE

The 4pm service is designed for families with children. Lots of fun, lots of energy and anticipation!

At 5:45pm, the Praise Team is offering a special Christmas Eve concert – everyone is invited to attend!

"The Wonder of It All" is our Contemporary Christmas Eve service at 6pm. It is a lessons and carols service, complete with candle lighting. An infant and toddler nursery will be provided.

At 7:30pm, we will offer our Traditional Christmas Eve service. Beautiful carols, meaningful scripture, and candle lighting enhance this meaningful service. An infant and toddler nursery will be provided.

The opportunity to take communion is offered at 11pm Christmas Eve. This reflective service includes candle lighting, but no nurseries.

Poinsettias - This is the last Sunday to order poinsettias to be placed in the Sanctuary at \$10 each. Please [email Pat](#) and let her know if the poinsettia(s) you order are in honor, memory, or celebration of a loved one or special event.

We will hold a Congregational Meeting next Sunday, December 11th after the 11am worship service to elect Dennis Sullivan to fulfill an additional one year term on the Diaconate.

Children's Art - We are looking for children's art to enhance the bulletin covers during advent. If your child would like to submit art for the covers, please call the office (847-1913) for the form. We hope to use all that we receive – so we invite all children to participate.

Copies of our in-house Congregational Study are available at the Information Center and [online](#).

2011 Operating Budget Information as of November 22, 2011 – Actual contributions to budget were \$687,114, which is 85% of our total annual budget. Anticipated contributions to budget were \$681,884.

ADVENT craft instructions: [Find how to make the paper snowflake here.](#) To make the plastic ring snowflake, see the attached file. Very limited supplies are in the church office, so you may want to call before you stop by.



Join us on Facebook – Click on the blue square to check us out; we would love to have you as a part of our group! It's Saint Andrews Presbyterian Church – Raleigh. Post on our group page today!

www.sapc.com

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Need Pastoral Care? The number to call is 919-740-6038. In addition, our Prayer Team meets Wednesdays at 11:30am at the church.