

St. John's

Evangelical Protestant Church

December 2, 2012

Liturgical Color: Purple

8:00 a.m.

First Sunday of Advent

THE PRELUDE

Mary Stevens

ANNOUNCEMENTS *(please fill out attendance books, prayer cards and card requests located in the pew racks)*

Rev. Steve Wood

THE RINGING OF THE BELL AND LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

THE CHURCH IN PRAISE

+ADVENT HYMN No.132

Angels We Have Heard on High

Rev. J. Adam King

+ADVENT HYMN No.131

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

INVOCATION

Rev. Wood

MESSAGE IN SONG

Across the Sky

Chancel Choir

THE CHURCH IN FELLOWSHIP

WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS

Rev. King

+ADVENT FELLOWSHIP CHORUS No. 138 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

CHILDREN'S TIME WITH BROTHER STEVE

Rev. Wood

ADVENT HYMN No. 136

The First Noel

Rev. King

CONCERNS OF OUR CHURCH

Rev. Wood

HEARING GOD'S WORD

ADVENT SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 64 page 1161

Rev. John Richter

+ Gloria Patri

+ The Apostles' Creed

Rev. Wood

+ Prayer of Affirmation

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE

THE GIVING OF GOD'S TITHE AND OUR OFFERINGS

The Offertory

Dr. Allanda Small Campbell & Nathan Woodward

+Doxology

+Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Wood

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

THE ADVENT MORNING SERMON

Matthew 12:1-23 page 1514

Rev. Richter

THE LORD'S PRAYER

+BENEDICTION

+POSTLUDE

Mary Stevens

+ **Please Stand** **Acolytes:** Caleb Wood, Jordan Ray

Bell Ringer: John Owen Brown

December Ushers: Doug Glasscock, Dennon Compton, Stan Yarbrough, Ricky Willoughby

NOTE: Our children's offerings support the missions and ministries of St. John's.

Welcome to
St. John's Evangelical Protestant Church
Established 1874
Cullman's Community Church

Today @ 4:00 pm

St. John's Chancel Choir

Presents

Start at the Manger

Under the direction of Rev. J. Adam King

Special Guests Nathan Woodward and Dr. Allanda Small Campbell

Invite your friends and family
Pre-service music by St. John's Heritage Ringers
Doors open at 3:15pm

St. John's Church is.....

Rooted in the doctrines of the Protestant Reformation. *We believe we are saved by grace through faith in Jesus, that the Bible is the rule for Christian life and faith, and that the Good News of Jesus should be proclaimed in word and deed.*

Sacrament Celebrating. *We believe God ministers to the community of believers in unique and special ways through Baptism and Holy Communion.*

Liturgically Oriented. *We believe remembering the whole life of Christ is important for spiritual maturity. We follow the church calendar, celebrating seasons like Advent and Lent.*

Ecumenically Minded. *In the context of our heritage, we believe all those who call upon Jesus as Lord will share in his eternal blessings and so we welcome all believers who join us to participate fully in worship.*

WELCOME

Thanks for visiting with us today! Feel free to call one of the pastors, Rev. John, Rev. Steve, Rev. Adam or Ben, @ 734-0344 or check out our website (www.sjepc.com) to learn more about St. John's.

NURSERY

Nursery is available for newborns up to 3 yrs. of age at both worship services and Sunday School. Please see any usher or greeter this morning and they will direct you to the nursery.

FLOWERS

Flowers are placed on the altar today to the Glory of God and in Loving memory of Bill Marty by Faye Marty.

A white rose is placed on the Altar today for the baptism of Addison Kate Jones by St. John's Church.

SYMPATHY'S

Christian love and sympathy is extended to the family of Mrs. Loins Corley, sister of Bully (Theolene) Moon. Funeral services were conducted on Nov. 20, 2012 at Moss Service Funeral Home Chapel.

Christian love and sympathy is extended to the family of Mrs. Jackie Bauschka, daughter of Warren and Germie White and mother of Jodi Bauschka Ownbey. Funeral services were held November 24, 2012 at Moss Service Funeral Home Chapel.

Christian love and sympathy is extended to the family of Mrs. Marie Holmes, mother of Sherry (Gary) England. Funeral services were held on Saturday November 24, 2012 at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home Chapel.

Christian love and sympathy is extended to the family of Mr. Harold Mayo, father of Greg (Harriet) Mayo. Funeral services were held on November 27, 2012 at Moss Service Funeral Home Chapel.

BAPTISM

"The Lord is good to those whose hope is in Him, to the one who seeks Him." ~ Lamentations 3:25

Today we rejoice in the Sacrament of Christian Baptism of Addison Kate Jones, daughter of Tyler and Nina Jones in the 10:30 Service. Godparents are Brent and Cassie Bowen and Chase Crider. Grandparents are Cindy Jones and the late Frankie Jones, and Felton and Pam Hanners.

THANK YOU'S

“To My Church Family, Thank you for the many prayers, flowers and visits during the illness and death of my mother Marie Holmes. A special thank you to my Bible Class for all their love and support. It is very special to have such a good church family.” ~ Gary and Sherry England

THANK YOU to everyone who baked cakes for the Community Thanksgiving Meal!

Also, if you enjoy baking and would like to join the Pound Cake Ministry, you are welcome to join us. We provide pound cakes for Manna Ministries (a community meal outreach) at St. Andrews Church on the first and second Wednesday of each month. For more information contact Prue Hassell.

A big “**THANK YOU**” to Jerry and Patti Stidham for serving as our OPERATION SHOEBOX chairmen this year! Thank you for your love and dedication to our church and children around the world!

ADVENT

Derived from the Latin word *adventus* or "coming," Advent is a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Dr. Jeremy Stidham upon receiving the “Hospital Hero” award that demonstrates exceptional dedication to the health care field. Jeremy is an active member of the medical staff of CRMC, serving as the Chief of Internal Medicine and Chairman of the Medicine Department. Dr. Stidham is the newly appointed Medical Director for North Alabama Community Care.

BULLETIN BROUGHT

A bulletin was brought to us last week from Azalea City Church of Christ, Semmes, Al by Doug and Carole Lewey.

WOMEN'S GUILD DECEMBER MEETING

Women's Guild December meeting will be on Thursday December 6th. Refreshments will be the annual cookie tasting and provided by the Guild members.

POINSETTIAS

Poinsettia Sunday's in the Sanctuary will be December 16 and 23rd. If you would like to purchase a poinsettia in honor, in memory or in appreciation of someone, please fill out the form in your bulletin and return along with your payment to the church office. Poinsettias may be picked up after each service on December 23rd.

Poinsettias are \$20 each. All proceeds go to Strengthen Our Church. Only 40 to sell.

Make checks payable to: Strengthen Our Church and in the memo section put: Poinsettias.

NON-PERISHABLE FOOD AND PAPER GOODS DRIVE

CAN FOOD DRIVE! Cullman's domestic violence shelter, Harbor Haus, is in desperate need of non-perishable food. Harbor Haus is often full of abused spouses (both men and women suffer from domestic violence) and sometimes even the children are abused. Please donate non-perishable food items and paper goods from now until Christmas. Call Kim Spicer [256-339-8158](tel:256-339-8158) if you have any questions on how to help. Thank you for your support! Donation boxes are in the atrium and by the church office.

END OF THE YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS

Donations for the 2012 Tax year must be given to the church no later than 12/31/2012 or mailed to the church in an envelope postmarked no later than 12/31/2012. The church office will close at noon on 12/31/2012.

125th ANNIVERSARY ST. JOHN'S COOKBOOKS

Need a great gift idea for someone for Christmas? Or maybe need one for yourself? If so, copies of the St. John's 125th Anniversary Cookbooks (1874-1999) remain available for purchase for only \$20 each. Inside you will find many delicious recipes from church members and people from the community. All proceeds go to St. John's Music Ministry. Make checks payable to: St. John's Music Fund (Available in the church office). *We have some wrapped and ready for pick up in the church office. So drop by and pick up your gifts today!!*

BULLETIN MAILOUT

In accordance with our mailing permit for the USPS, there will not be a bulletin mailed out the last 2 weeks of December. Copies will be available in the church office.

Wooden Crosses

St. John's Women's Fellowship has a new order of Crosses made from the old magnolia tree in stock. These are suitable for either table top or wall hanging. Available at O.F. Richter and Sons. \$20 each.

CHUCKLE OF THE DAY

A minister waited in line to have his car filled with gas just before a long holiday weekend. The attendant worked quickly, but there were many cars ahead of him in front of the service station. Finally, the attendant motioned him toward a vacant pump. "Preacher," said the young man, "I'm sorry about the delay. It seems as if everyone waits until the last minute to get ready for a long trip." The minister chuckled, "I know what you mean. It's the same in my business."

CHURCH COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

Nominations are now open for the congregation to nominate Church Council persons. Nominations must be submitted in writing to the Church Council Secretary Kristi Guest, along with a signed permission form of the nominee. Nominations will remain open until ten(10) days prior to the Annual Meeting to be held on January 20, 2013. Nominations received to date for Church Council are: Mike Baker, Tim Richter, Jim Thompson, and Rusty Turner. Our new council members will be elected at the Annual Meeting on January 20, 2013.

DECEMBER 4th SASSY SAGES TRIP TO MRS. MARY BOBO'S RESTURARANT

Leave the church at 8:15am and return by 4:00pm
No breakfast stop on the way

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ADVENT SERVICE SCHEDULE

5:00pm Meal (Catfish, Green beans, roasted potatoes)
6:30pm Dr. Robert Smith (Beeson Divinity School)

PIONEER CLUB

Pioneer Club will not meet on Wednesday's during Advent. They will resume in January.

YOUTH

Pizza and drinks before the Advent Services in the Youth Center.
Then we will all go together to the Advent Service.

TUESDAY NIGHT SPECIAL- YOUNG ADULTS (ages 18-34)
SNACK—DEVOTION—FELLOWSHIP with God and one another.
6:00 pm Tuesday's—Youth Center (led by Wade Warren)
Come as you are for a relaxed time to hang out
Come and Just B!!

CONTRIBUTIONS

When making contributions to any fund other than the general fund (Strengthen Our Church (SOC), Music Fund, or Youth Fund, Women's Guild) please write a separate check made specifically to that fund.

GIFT GIVEN LAST WEEK

Strengthen Our Church (SOC)

...memory of Jackie Bauschka by Roy and Margaret Richter;
 ...memory of Marie Holmes by Roy and Margaret Richter;
 ...memory of Wilda Corley by Roy and Margaret Richter;

Mission Fund....

..honor of Jacob Ray for his 5th birthday by Cynthia, Scott, Jeb and Pierce Bartle;

Women's Guild / Whit's Place

...memory of Pauline Marie Holmes, by Jo Webb
 ...memory of Jackie Bauschka by Jo Webb;

Hospital: John Nelson, RC Phillips

Home:

ADVENT SCHEDULE

Dec. 2	4:00pm	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT Start at the Manger-Christmas Program presented by the Chancel Choir
Dec. 5	11:30am 12:30pm 5:00pm 6:30pm	Lunch (Chicken Dumpling Casserole, salad) Mid day Communion Service Meal (Catfish, Green beans, roasted potatoes) Dr. Robert Smith (Beeson Divinity School)
Dec. 9		SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Dec. 12	11:30am 12:30pm 5:00pm 6:30pm	Lunch-Chili Mid day Communion Service Meal (Chili) Chad Young (CRU Ministries)

Dec. 16 **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Dec. 19 11:30am Lunch-Vegetable Soup
12:30pm Mid day Communion Service
5:00pm Meal BBQ Baked Potato, Salad
6:30pm Jews for Jesus Hanukah Presentation

Dec. 23 **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Dec. 24 12:30pm Midday Candlelight / Communion Service
6:30pm Candlelight / Communion Service

Dec. 25 6:00am Dawn Watch / Communion Service
(Pastor Bob Kurtz and Rev. Jim Walker)

Dec. 30 8:45am Special Pancake Breakfast
*10:00am 1 Service only (Christ Hall)
(* A Sunday of the year where we can all fellowship together with a special pancake breakfast and then worship together as one church family.)

Advent Lunch Prices: \$5 per plate—Sorry Carry outs will not be available for lunch

To help us be good stewards of God’s Grace, please let us know if you plan to attend the luncheon meal.

ADVENT LUNCH RESERVATION: _____
(Name)

How many? _____

“LIVING FAITH”

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations.” Matthew 29:19

Reflections of Our Faithfulness:

Attendance	Nov. 25, 2012	
8:00	175	
10:00	84	
10:30	135	
Total:	394	
God’s People Gave Last Week:		\$14,203.33
Stewardship Giving (SOC):		\$ 482.00

Has your email address changed? If so and you are not periodically receiving church wide emails, please fill out your new email address on the attendance register this morning or email Karen your new address to: karen.hassell@sjepc.com

YOUTH NEWS & NOTES:

Wednesday's 6:00-7:00 pm
"Finding God" ...join us as we discover ways to grow closer to God.

Sunday's Fall Small groups. Contact Ben for times and places.

Sunday School 9:15 each Sunday Morning
Come join us on Sunday mornings as we march forward in our relationship with God.
**** Middle School (7th and 8th Grade) **High School (gr. 9-12)**

Coming


Dec. 27-29 Student Celebration

Join us as we hear Jeremy Camp, LeCrae, Toby Mac and Brett Younder Band performing and leading worship. \$75 plus cash for meals and spending money.

Money due December 12th

See Ben to sign up or for any questions benk@sjepc.com or call 256-590-2793

Want a copy of a recent sermon?



Audio copies are now available for download on the church website, or you can request a CD through the the office.

FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

Breakfast Serving time 8:45a.m. until 9:15a.m.

Sunday School begins at 9:15 am

Sausage Biscuit	\$1.00	Coffee	\$.50
Gravy Biscuit	\$1.00	Juice/ Milk	\$.50
Plain Biscuit	\$.50	Muffin or Danish	\$.50
Smoked Sausage Link	\$.50	Tater Tots	\$.50

Breakfast meal tickets are available for Sunday

Assisted Living:

Morningside of Madison: David Ballance;
Victorian Manor: Eloise Mauldin
Woodland Village: Agnes Johnson;
Falkville Nursing Home: Mildred Martin;
Rocky Ridge Retirement Living, B'ham.: Charlotte Newman

St. John's is A Caring Church

UPDATED PRAYER LIST

St. John's prayer list is renewed the first of each month. Please fill out a new prayer card with your individual requests each month and indicate clearly if you would like it published in the bulletin—otherwise it will remain on the Pastor's Prayer list only. Likewise as your prayer request needs to be removed from the list, please let us know that too. The Prayer lists are published in the bulletin as space allows each week.

CHURCH MEMBERS:

Agnes Johnson; ; David and Rachel Mayhall; Stubby Trimble; Mavous Speegle; Lanie Townson; David York; Pam Campbell; George and Bessie Scott; Jean Schenker; Theolene Moon, Bob Windsor; Dale Miller; Warren and Germie White;

EXTENDED CHURCH FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Myrl Dobbins; Bobby Livingston

Help us update our Military Prayer list. Please look over the list and see if your family member or friend has changed locations or has now arrived back at home.

Military Prayer List:

Chaplain Chris Hester—Naples, Italy;
CW4 James Williams—North, Little Rock, Ark; Col. Philip Clemmons, Jr.—Pentagon;
PFC Justin Williams—Ft. Stewart, Ga; Captain Kellie Scott Hyatt—Birmingham, Al ; Lt. Scott and Lt. Roz Love, Portsmouth, VA- US Navy; A1C Will Sapp, Tyndall, AFB Florida, USAF; Warren McGriff, Basic Training US Air Force Academy , Colorado Springs, Colorado; Sgt. Wayne Armstrong, Afghanistan; Sgt. Tony Parker, Air Force, Kandahar; John Lancaster, US Navy; Jason Beck, US Army, Afghanistan; 2nd LT. Derick Hallmark, 2D Striker Cavalry Regiment, Germany; PVT 2 Landry Hall, AIT Training-Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri; PVT2 Zac Hicks, Afghanistan; Sgt. Arron Wayne Cospers, US Army, Fort Pokes, La.; Sgt. Terry Smith-Afghanistan; Alex Whitlock, Fort Lee, VA- US Army; Sgt. David Hill, US Army Afghanistan; Adam Ramos – Corry Station, Pensacola, Florida; Derek Ramos – Ft. Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas

STAFF EMAIL ADDRESSES

Rev. Steve: steve.wood@sjepc.com

Rev. John: john.richter@sjepc.com

Rev. Adam: adamk@sjepc.com

Ben Karwoski: benk@sjepc.com

Regina Baker: regina.baker@sjepc.com

Gyzelle Warren: gyzellew@sjepc.com

Daniel Smallwood: daniels@sjepc.com

Karen Hassell: karen.hassell@sjepc.com

PLEASE EXCUSE OUR ACTIVITY!

When you notice any of the staff slipping out of 8:00 worship on Sundays, please know we are preparing for Sunday School, conducting rehearsals for the upcoming service, etc. If you see us on the move, please pray for us and for all of our worship services!

WHY ARE YOU SEEING OUR FACES IN 10:30???????????????

For the sake of our visitors, from time to time, snapshots of our ministerial staff will appear on the screen upon their first introduction in the worship service in Christ Hall.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:00-9:00 Worship- Sanctuary

8:40-9:10-Fellowship Breakfast

9:15-10:15 Sunday School

***10:00-11:00** Communion Service-Sanctuary

(*Note that this time does conflict with the Sunday school hour. Please understand if you intend to bring your children to this service they will miss this important time of Christian education.)

10:30-11:30 Worship-Christ Hall

EMAIL ADDRESSES

Please notify us when your email address changes by emailing karen.hassell@sjepc.com so you can receive the church wide email messages.

LIVE IT!! Living 659

It will Change your Life!!!

SENIOR PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE

Please remember to pray daily for your search committee and its members: Search Committee Members are: John Apel, Maria Schultz, Fred Bussey, Pam Farmer, Jim Walker, Kristi Guest, Billy Jackson, Sherry England, Hank Apel, T.J. Franey, Emily Durden and Karen Hassell.

HOW DOES ST. JOHN’S EXTEND A CALL FOR A NEW SENIOR PASTOR?

For only the third time in over forty years we will be calling a new Sr. Pastor to lead St. John’s.

After a Senior Pastor announces his retirement/resignation, the Church Council serves as, or appoints, a Search Committee. After establishing a vision for pastoral leadership (gifts, qualities, attributes, expectations, etc.) in accord with Article VIII of the Constitution, the position is announced through a variety of places (web sites, seminaries, etc.). Interested individual’s present resumes to be reviewed by the search committee.

When the Search Committee has selected the person they feel God has called to be the new Sr. Pastor, they (the Search Committee) present the candidate to the Church Council for approval and formal nomination to the Congregation.

Following the nomination, several opportunities will be made available for the congregation to get to know the candidate and his family. This process concludes with a sermon delivered during Sunday morning worship.

This process is done in accordance with our Church Constitution:

ARTICLE VIII, SECTION 7. *The Council shall nominate one candidate for Pastor to be voted upon by the Congregation. The Congregation shall consider only one candidate at a time and shall vote by ballot for his election or rejection. A Pastor is considered to have been elected if he is acclaimed by a two-thirds majority of those communicant members attending the Congregational meeting, provided a quorum is present. A quorum is said to be ten percent of the communicant members. (con't)*

A congregational meeting will be called to order before the first service on the day the prospective pastor preaches and adjourned after the last service of that day. A congregational vote, by ballot, will take place at the conclusion of each service on that day. Votes will be tallied and results announced following the last service.