

The Cross & Crown

December 2012



PRINCE GEORGE WINYAH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

301 Screven Street ♦ Georgetown, South Carolina 29440 ♦ 843-546-4358 or 546-4375

Dear Friends,

Can it be, Advent is already upon us? Indeed it is so. The four weeks of Advent begin this Sunday, December 2nd. This is our season of preparation for Christmas – not in the world’s way, with parties and gift buying and mailing cards and festive decorations, and, and, and – but in the church’s way of preparing: a short season of special devotion, of quieting our hearts and reflecting on our sin and need for a savior, and on God’s amazing, great gift to us of a Son, a Savior Who is Christ the Lord, God Incarnate, Immanuel, God with us. The Advent season has a second focus of preparation as well, preparation of our hearts for Christ’s return, when He comes “...again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.” [Nicene Creed, BCP p. 359] Again, our preparation is a thoughtful reflection on our lives and how well they reveal Jesus Christ’s life lived out through us, and whether we might want to make some changes considering that our Lord might return at any moment.

Because of the preparatory, contemplative nature of Advent, the Christian church has always resisted the tendency of our culture to start “celebrating Christmas” ahead of Christmas Day (in fact, now well ahead of Thanksgiving Day!). This resistance is not motivated by some dour, kill-joy attitude, nor by a wish to control, but solely, I pray, by a strong desire that Christians spend the necessary time in preparation so that we will experience the full impact of Christmas – the tremendous miracle of God’s grace, mercy and love in being born among us that He might die for us. Prepared hearts might well mean tears in our eyes on Christmas morning as the full impact of God’s love and His gift hit us.

To help us with preparation this year, we are offering an Advent devotional book – *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus*. It is a collection of twenty-two short, daily readings taking us from December 2 to December 24, with authors ranging from George Whitefield to Joni Eareckson Tada, from St. Augustine to Tim Keller (*Prodigal God* author). Please get a copy of this book if you don’t have it already. We have lots of free copies still available in the office – it is free, but you will find it of significant value if you will take a few minutes a day with it, let its authors speak to you, challenge you, encourage you. We plan to touch on its readings in our December sermons, we are using it as the Men’s Book Study book for December, we encourage all our small groups to use it for discussion in December, and as a resource for Advent family devotions.

We have much to prepare for these days – as our parish and diocese move forward into a new era, as our parish continues to move into our new vision, and as every one of us moves closer to the return of our Lord Jesus Christ. I pray that we might make this Advent a season of preparing our hearts in quiet devotion, reflection and prayer.

With much love,

PARISH NEWS

Birthdays —

Dec. 3	Vivian Powell
Dec. 4	Muff Boyd
Dec. 4	Edward Poci
Dec. 6	Tucker Hight
Dec. 6	Matthew Kopcho
Dec. 6	Betty Roberts
Dec. 7	Jean Barrow
Dec. 8	Rita Ahearn
Dec. 9	Bradley Cahill
Dec. 10	Janice Thomas
Dec. 12	Janet Williams
Dec. 15	Karen Lee
Dec. 16	Chuck Houseman
Dec. 16	Ernest Meyer
Dec. 17	Don Corinna
Dec. 17	Amy Downing
Dec. 17	Myles Starnes
Dec. 18	Briggs Ahearn
Dec. 18	Nell Doyle
Dec. 18	Rebecca Lammonds
Dec. 21	Perry Peace
Dec. 21	Christian Trotter
Dec. 21	Sydney Williams
Dec. 23	Lauren Baker
Dec. 24	Becky Mitchell
Dec. 24	David Morris
Dec. 25	Minnie Kennedy
Dec. 25	Mitchell Moon
Dec. 26	Alex Williams
Dec. 27	Pamela Mahany
Dec. 28	Challie Grimes
Dec. 29	Chris Cahill
Dec. 29	Luke Chassereau
Dec. 29	Eileen Starnes
Dec. 30	Liz Dawson
Dec. 31	Carolyn Baker
Dec. 31	Venus DeMello

Join Us Thursday Morning at 10 a.m....

for a peaceful and intimate time of fellowship and prayer which concludes with Communion. There is opportunity to receive prayer for healing as well as anointing with oil for those who wish it. Please consider making this service a regular part of your week. God has blessed us with His presence, and with miracles of healing at our rail.

Praying for Those Who are Ill or Homebound

Each Sunday, as part of our prayers, we name those in our church family who are unwell, recovering from illness or surgery, or who are homebound. We need to lift them up during the week also as we go about our daily lives. In your quiet time or devotional time with our Lord, please lift up in prayer to our Lord: *Eliza Jagger, Dick Manning, Loretta Dean, Caroline Stevens, Dianne Peace, Frances Palmer, and Ernie Abbott.*

Visitation

Paul and Matt continue to make home and hospital visits to our sick and elderly. Please call, or have a member of your family call and let us know if you would like a visit. Hospitals will no longer show us a list of their patients, so when you are admitted, please have someone call Prince George Church to let us know.

Parents-2-B

"Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you" (Jer. 1:5)

Please pray for our expectant mothers, their babies, and their families. Parents-2-B are Jennifer and Wiley Bell; Hosanna LaMancusa. If you know of any expecting Prince George families, please let us know so we can add them to our prayers.

Cursillo!

Cursillo is a great weekend held at Camp St. Christopher four times a year. The weekend is great fun with good food and fellowship, and most of all, time to experience God's love for you in a powerful way. Wherever you are in your Christian walk, *Cursillo* is an opportunity not to be missed. For more information, and names of people who have attended, contact Lauren Winslow or Paul Fuener at the church, 546-4358.

2011 Flower Chart

The 2011 flower chart is set up in the narthex. If you would like to donate altar flowers for a particular Sunday, please sign your name next to the desired date. Traditional altar flower donation is \$75.00 per Sunday.

Plantation Tours and Tastes, Prince George Winyah's prize-winning cookbook, is the perfect Christmas gift for mother, sister, friend, and even the men on your list. Not only does it have hundreds of recipes, but there is an entire section featuring original art work and narratives of our church together with Georgetown County plantations and town houses. The book is available at the church office during the week for \$30.00.

PARISH NEWS

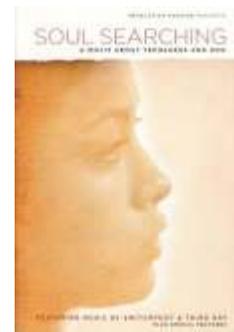
Adult Education

Coming Attractions: When we resume our normal Sunday schedule (January 6th) look for offerings on The Gospel of John, a book study of *Bad Religion – How We Became a Nation of Heretics* [a new book by Ross Douthat, New York Times columnist], and *Back To Basics* – a study of the essentials of the Christian faith.

Young Adult Education Series on Parenting: *Soul Searching*

10:10 am in the Panel Room until December 9th:

This is a new series of discussions that will be facilitated by our Assistant Rector, Matt Schneider, geared toward our young adult community, especially parents but all are welcome. We will begin by watching scenes from and discussing the documentary *Soul Searching: A Movie about Teenagers and God*. Although this film focuses on teenagers, its lessons are applicable to parents of children of all ages. Childcare will be available in the Bourne Building during this time.



Bishop's Visitation and Reaffirmation of Faith Sunday, December 16th

New members are joining us formally on Sunday, December 16th at 11:00 am, through Confirmation, Reception and Reaffirmation of faith, with Bishop Lawrence. Please make plans to join us for worship at 8:00, 9:00 or 11:00 am to hear the Bishop's message, and then come at 12:15 pm to the Parish Hall for a reception welcoming our new members. At the 11 am service, when the Bishop is finished praying for those joining the parish, he will call forward anyone else wishing to reaffirm their faith in Jesus Christ, or who would like him to lay hands on their head and pray for them. Please plan to be there!

Vestry Nominations Needed

Our annual meeting will be held **Sunday afternoon, January, 13th at 4:00 pm**. At this meeting we elect two wardens and three new vestry members and delegates to Diocesan Convention. The wardens and vestry of Prince George meet monthly to share in the spiritual leadership of the parish as well as to make financial and business decisions for the church, and to confer on matters of worship and program.

Each year at this time we request nominations from the congregation for the election of wardens and vestry to be held at the January annual meeting. The senior and junior wardens (Dr. Lee Jones and Tom Bellune) were elected in 2012 for one-year terms and may be re-elected for second terms, and they have both agreed to run for a second year. The vestry has nine members, with staggered terms of three years. This year Jase Felts, Walter McElveen, and Stephanie Oxner will rotate off the vestry; they also make up the nominating committee for the upcoming election.

Please prayerfully consider members of the church you believe would make good wardens or vestry members and submit their names to the nominating committee *no later than December 10th*. In order to allow for the publication of nominees' biographical information, and to ensure a level field at the Annual Meeting, no nominations will be accepted after that date and no nominations from the floor will be accepted.

PARISH NEWS

Home For The Holidays At Prince George

Please join the women of Prince George at 6:30 pm on Thursday, December 6th in the Parish Hall for our third annual festive evening of food, wine, and heavy hors d'oeuvres. If you have a Christmas craft you would like to share, please call Jennifer Crocker, 520-0594 by November 16th.

Please bring a friend!



ECW Bible Study Donations

After studying the book of James under the teaching of Beth Moore, our ladies decided to put their faith in action, in part by collecting contributions for Helping Hands (a local ministry to the poor and needy) and especially for babies. The photo is of some of the diapers, formula and other donations which we delivered to Helping Hands.



Christmas Day at Prince Frederick



What better way to begin this holiday than gathering for worship in beautiful Prince Frederick Chapel to give praise to the living God. The Rt. Rev. C. Fitzsimons Allison will lead us using the 1928 Prayer Book. The service begins at 10:30am in Plantersville.

St. Anne's Chapter of the ECW

St. Anne's, will meet on December 4, at 11:00 at Pat Stalvey's home, 1758 Marion St. in Kensington. (Please note the time change.) All ladies are welcome to join us each month on the first Tuesday. Come join us for great fellowship and great food.

See you there! Marilyn Sinclair

St. Anne's will NOT meet in January since the first Tuesday is New Years Day.

Cards For Sale

St. Anne's chapter of the ECW has Christmas cards with a picture of the interior of our church. We also have note cards with a picture of the exterior of the church. These are on sale in the church office. The Christmas cards are \$8.00 and the note cards are \$6.00 for 10 cards. Now is a great time to buy them.



Toys For Tots

The Marine Corps Toys For Tots program has begun and we look forward to our parish participation. All donations remain in Georgetown County. There is a Toy's for Tots box in the Parish Hall hallway. The last day for donations is **December 14th.**

PARISH NEWS



Ordination Service

*By the grace of God and with the consent of the people, The Right Reverend Mark Joseph Lawrence XIV Bishop of South Carolina will ordain **The Reverend Matthew Curtis Schneider** to the Sacred Order of Priests in Christ's One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church Saturday, December 15th, 2012, 10:00 am in the church.*

Your prayers and presence are requested. There will be a Reception following the ordination in the Parish Hall.

Donate to Prince George Preschool Scholarship fund for Christmas

Do you have that someone on your list who has everything and you have no idea what to buy? Maybe you just want to give something special to a loved one. WELL HERE IS A SUGGESTION WITH NO SHOPPING REQUIRED. Give a donation to our Prince George Preschool scholarship fund in honor of or in thanksgiving for that person. At the present time we have several children on a full or partial scholarship. Without this fund, these students would not have the opportunity to enjoy the wonderful program offered by our preschool. This is a gift that keeps on giving to these children. They will always treasure and remember their rewarding experiences here.

For more information contact Claire Jagger, our preschool director, at 545-9217 or drop by the preschool office in the Bourne building and leave your donation. Then you can just mail a card or wrap one up to give to that person. **TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN A CHILD'S LIFE!**

Advent Devotional

Prince George's Men's Ministry would like to offer 100 free copies of *Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus: Experiencing the Peace and Promise of Christianity* for the parish this advent season. Books can be picked up on in the Copy room.



Volunteers Needed to Help Move Tables & Chairs

The church is in need of a dedicated team of volunteers to help move tables and chairs for regular and special events in the Parish Hall. This would probably be a weekly commitment of about an hour's worth of work, and it is a small but very important way to help serve the mission of our parish. And many hands make light work! If this is something you are interested in doing, please contact Matt Schneider at 546-4358 or matt@pgwinyah.org.

For Men – Through the Week

Men's Tuesday Bible Study & Breakfast – meets every Tuesday at 7:00 am in the Parish Hall. Great food, warm fellowship, good discussion of God's word. All men are invited! Don't miss out!

Men's Book Study – meets Wednesdays at 7 am at Thomas' Café. We've read a wide variety of books which have stimulated our thinking and enriched our understanding of our faith and modern culture. Now, we're reading the advent devotional, *Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus: Experiencing the Peace and Promise of Christianity*. Guys, why not enjoy a **great breakfast, good fellowship**, and take a small step toward **living a holier life**. All men are welcome! Check with Paul or with Bob Manuel or George South for more information.

PARISH NEWS

Christmas Poinsettias and Wreaths 2012

Prince George Flower Guild invites you to contribute to our church's Christmas decorations and to remember and celebrate loved ones. The Guild will order **poinsettias for \$25 or evergreen wreaths for \$20**. The names of the persons remembered or celebrated will be published in the Christmas Service bulletin.

Please make checks payable to Prince George Church (*Please mark "flower guild" on memo line*). Fill in the form below and mail it, with your check to: Prince George Church, P.O. Box 674, Georgetown, SC 29442, or deliver it to the church office no later than **December 7th**.


requested

POINSETTIA

or

requested

WREATH



PLEASE PRINT

Name of Donor(s) as it should appear in the bulletin:

In Memory

Of: _____

In Thanksgiving

For: _____

Daytime Phone/email: _____

Messiah 2012

Beginning in 1965, under the leadership of Mrs. Elsie Blackwell Pollock and the Prince George Winyah Episcopal Church choir, Georgetown County has been blessed by an annual performance of **George Frederic Handel's Messiah**. Handel's masterpiece was written in 1741 and is divided into three sections following the Biblical narrative of the life and Gospel of Jesus Christ. This year's performance will include the first section, commonly referred to as the Advent/Christmas section, as well as favorite arias and choruses from the other two

sections of the oratorio. It will be presented on **Sunday, December 16, 2012 at 4:00PM at Winyah Auditorium** by the Elsie Blackwell Pollock Festival Choir, a newly established ecumenical ensemble which will carry on the legacy of Mrs. Pollock. This choir is formed by Prince George Church, Georgetown Presbyterian Church, and Holy Cross Faith Memorial Episcopal Church and will be under the direction of Mr. Michael Scott Giuliani, Director of Music at Prince George Church.

Mr. Giuliani and his family moved to Georgetown from the "windy city" of Chicago in August of this year. He holds a degree in piano performance from North Park University where he studied with Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Chorus pianist, Dr. Terree Shofner-Emrich, as well as choral composer and clinician, Dr. Rollo Dilworth. His wife, Agnes (*B.M. Violin Performance, Belmont University*), will also be involved in this performance as concertmaster of the accompanying chamber orchestra which is comprised of local musicians as well as those from the South Carolina Governor's School. Mr. Thomas Martin (*Director of Music, Georgetown Presbyterian Church*) and Mr. Brian Monroe (*Director of Music, Holy Cross Faith Memorial Episcopal Church*) are also heavily involved in bringing this event to fruition by coordinating logistical concerns, carrying out administrative duties, and rehearsing choirs, as well as contributing their instrumental and vocal talents to the performance.

Your favorite choruses from *Messiah* would not be complete without the beautiful interwoven arias and recitatives throughout the oratorio; completing the performance this year are soloists Dr. Patti Edwards (*soprano*), Mrs. Annette Medlin (*mezzo-soprano*), Mr. Jeremy Vause (*tenor*), and Mr. Brian Monroe (*Bass*). This is sure to be an event that you will not want to miss! Gather up your family and friends and meet us at Winyah Auditorium on Sunday, December 15, 2012 at 4:00PM for this very special community presentation.

Christmas Eve Children's Christmas Pageant

Parent's: please let Tracy Morris know if your child wants to be in the Christmas pageant at the 5:00 service on Christmas eve. Please call her, 545-5406 or e-mail her, tracypgp@yahoo.com. We will be having rehearsals on Sundays at 10:10 am, December 2nd, 9th and 16th.

Children's Ministry Christmas Party

This year our party will be held on Saturday, December 1st from 3:00 - 5:00 pm at the Fun Warehouse in Surfside. We will be leaving the church no later than 2:15 that day; the first 13 to RSVP can ride on the bus to Tracy Morris, 545-5406, tracypgp@yahoo.com. Please make plans to attend.

PARISH NEWS

Helping Hands of Georgetown: “Bringing Hope to the Despairing”

Outreach spotlight by Matt Schneider

Background info: One of my responsibilities at Prince George as your new Assistant Rector is handling the many requests we receive for financial assistance. You may not know this, but at least one person—and often more—come to our church offices each week requesting help to pay for anything from food, a hotel room, and utility and rent bills (this happens at most churches). My goal is not to simply say “yes we can” or “no we cannot” provide this help, but I want to be able to connect these people with local charities that frankly do a better job of helping them in the long run. This is how I learned about Helping Hands of Georgetown.

Did you know that Prince George Winyah was one of the 17 founding churches of Helping Hands? In fact, one of our parishioners, Zella Wilt (see picture bottom right), is a long-time board member, and Prince George contributes to the organization monetarily each year. Helping Hands was established in 1989 to better help Georgetown County residents in need by supporting one sole organization that determines adequate responses to those experiencing hardships or chronic generational poverty. Since then, Helping Hands has blossomed as an important local ministry. Most recently, they moved into a new state-of-the-art facility on Highmarket St. that was anonymously donated, allowing them to add new services while strengthening the good work they do.

Helping Hands helps county residents in situational crisis or chronic poverty through these programs: *food pantry, medical assistance, utilities assistance, emergency lodging, clothing assistance*, and more. Two new programs include a *hot shower* available to those who are homeless and an *emergency dental clinic* opening soon that will be staffed by local volunteer dentists—a much needed service. Many of Helping Hands recipients also give back by volunteering their time to the organization. Also good to know is that Helping Hands tracks all of their recipients so they can provide *case management* to move folks toward self-sufficiency.

Volunteering: Helping Hands could use more volunteers. If you are interested participating in this local outreach ministry, they especially need help with picking up food donations from local churches, assistance with processing applications for assistance, and help with organizing their food pantry and clothes closet. You can contact Helping Hands for more information about volunteering or making donations at (843) 527-3424, or you may speak to me (Matt) if you would like more information. If anything else, I hope you might consider making a visit just to see their new facility in action at 1813 Highmarket St. (across from the Ball & Que)!

Food drive this month: Finally, each December, Prince George hosts a food drive to help stock the Helping Hands shelves. I hope you will bring some of the following non-perishable items to the boxes in the Parish Hall this month: *rice, beans, meaty sauces and soups, peanut butter and jelly, crackers, canned meats, canned fruits and vegetables*, and baby items such



Celebrate the birth of our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ

Christmas Eve

- 5:00pm** - Christmas Pageant
Communion (Rite II)
Childcare available.
- 7:30pm**
Communion (Rite I)
Childcare available.
- 11:00pm**
Communion (Rite I)
Candle light

Christmas Day

- 10:30am** - Prince Frederick
Communion
Led by Bishop Allison

Note: Sunday Service times changed for two Sunday's only!

Sunday Dec. 23rd & 30th

- 8:00am** - Communion (Rite I)
9:00am - Breakfast, Parish Hall
10:30am - Rite II with Communion
(*Lessons & Carols 23rd only)



Youth Group Update

We had a excellent trip to York Place at the end of October. Our youth group stepped out in faith and reached out to the children of York Place. We started out by playing fun games with the children- our youth did such a great job connecting with the children of York Place. The next day we led a craft activity- pumpkin painting with prizes, and then led a small worship service centered around compline. After our time with York Place, we got to have a great afternoon at Carowinds, where everyone had a great time in the beautiful autumn weather. We are grateful to all of the youth for their hard work on this trip. We hope to do many more of these service projects, so if you have any recommendations, please let us know!

Please come out to our annual **Christmas Party** at the Pig Pen on Sunday, Dec. 9th from 5-8.

Peace, Jason and Chelsea



The youth raise \$500 for York Place at the Community Yard Sale put on by the Library! Pictured above: Carolyn Culbertson, Maddy Gates, and Jason Hamshaw.

Upcoming Events - Important Dates

Children's Min. Christmas Party	December 1	3:00 pm- Fun Warehouse, Surfside
St. Anne's Meeting	December 4	11:00 am, Pat Stalvey's Home
ECW Home For The Holidays	December 6	6:30 pm- Parish Hall
Youth Christmas Party	December 9	5:00 pm, Pig Pen, Windsor
Matt Schneider Ordination	December 15	10:00 am; church- reception to follow
Confirmation Sunday	December 16	11:00 am service, reception to follow, Parish Hall
Messiah	December 16	4:00 pm- Winyah Auditorium
Lessons & Carols Service	December 23	10:30 am, church (8 am, Rite I; 9 am, breakfast)
Christmas Eve Services	December 24	5:00, 7:30, and 11:00 pm
Christmas Day Service	December 25	10:30 am Prince Frederick
Office's closed	December 24-25	Merry Christmas!
Special Service Time	December 30	8 am, Rite I; 9 am, breakfast, 10:30 am, Rite II
Annual Parish Meeting	January 13	4:00 pm, Parish Hall



Prince George Winyah Episcopal Church

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www.pgwinyah.org

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The *Cross and Crown* is produced monthly by Prince George Winyah Episcopal Church. If you have information for an upcoming issue, please email your ideas or articles to the church office, church@pgwinyah.org.



EMERGENCY Numbers

(Clip and Save)

Paul Fuener	Rector	c) 340-7688	h) 527-0288
Matt Schneider	Assistant Rector	c) 833-9905	
Lee Jones	Senior Warden	c) 240-0230	h) 237-8849
Tom Bellune	Junior Warden	c) 833-4418	h) 546-4692
Michael Giuliani	Music Director	c) 773-458-8979	
Jason Hamshaw	Youth Minister	c) 860-2456	
Tracy Morris	Children's Minister	c) 520-6709	h) 545-5406
Church Office		843-546-4358	

Or Current Resident