



SHANDON
United Methodist

find your way

the **VOICE**

Joy is in our Blood

Sunday is the third Sunday of Advent. The third Sunday is traditionally known as, Gaudete, which is Latin for rejoice. The pink candle on the Advent wreath symbolizes joy in the midst of darkness as we wait for the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Meet Us at Shandon during this Christmas Season

Love Feast

Sunday, December 16
5:00 p.m.

Christmas Concert

Friday, December 21
7:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve

Monday, December 24
2:00, 5:00, 7:00 and
9:00 p.m.

*Find out more
on page 3.*

We need to be clear about what we mean by joy. Joy is not to be confused with happiness. The root word for happiness is *hap*, meaning chance as in happenstance or haphazard. Happiness depends on things going our way, whereas joy is based on the knowledge of the presence of God with us at all times. Joy is something we can celebrate even when things are not going our way, even in the midst of grief and sadness. Joy happens when God is present and people know it, which means joy can erupt in a depressed economy, in the middle of a war, in a hospital room or an intensive care waiting room.

While happiness is dependent on things going well in our lives, joy is not dependent on outward circumstances. As Frederick Buechner wrote, "God created us in joy and created us for joy, and in the long run not all the darkness there is in the world and in ourselves can separate us finally from that joy. Whatever else it means; I think it means that even when we cannot believe in God, even when we feel most spiritually bankrupt and deserted, God's mark is deep within us. We have God's joy in our blood."

For many people Christmas can be a difficult season. Life's circumstances interfere with our joy. But if you think you cannot celebrate this year, reflect on this poem by Ann Weems titled, *Kneeling in Bethlehem*.

Not celebrate? Your burden too great to bear?

Your loneliness is intensified during the season? Your tears seem to have no end?

Not celebrate? You should lead the celebration! You should run through the streets

To ring the bells and sing the loudest! You should fling the tinsel on the tree,

And open your house to your neighbors, And call them to dance!

For it is you above all others who knows the joy of Advent.

It is unto you that a Savior is born this day.

One who comes to lift the burdens off your shoulders,

One who comes to wipe the tears from your eyes. You are not alone, for He is born to you.

In the midst of the darkest places, joy can be found in the knowledge that we are not alone, that God is with us.

In Faith, Michael Guffee

***Shandon's ministers
and staff wish you a
very Merry Christmas
and a Happy
New Year.***

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YOU'RE INVITED SUNDAY

December 16 and 23

8:45 a.m. Traditional Worship

SERMON 16th: Rev. Josh McClendon

MUSIC: Covenant Choir

SERMON 23rd: Dr. Michael Guffee

MUSIC: Covenant Choir

Ushers 16th: John Hays 23rd: Bubba Hughes
Ambassadors 16th: Linda Girndt 23rd: Joy Stone

11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship

SERMON 16th: "The Hand of God on the Shoulder of the World,"
Dr. Michael Guffee

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 61:1-4

MUSIC: Chancel Choir

SERMON 23rd: Dr. Michael Guffee

MUSIC: Chancel Choir

Ushers 16th: Bill Deemer 23rd: Richard Beale
Ambassadors 16th: Nancy Mauterer 23rd: Charlie/Debra Rountree

11:05 a.m. LifeLine Worship

SERMON 16th: "The Hand of God on the Shoulder of the World,"
Dr. Michael Guffee

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 61:1-4

MUSIC: LifeLine Band

SERMON 23rd: Rev. Julie Songer Belman

Nursery Opens at 8:30 a.m.

8:45 a.m. worship	December 16	December 23
Crib	Caitlin Bruner	Jacquelyn Marsha
Toddler	Raven/Scott Gambrell	Patrick/Shannon Hudson
Two-year-olds	Staff	Doreen Rinehart
Three-year-olds	Staff	Staff
11:00 a.m. and 11:05 a.m. worship		
Crib	Allison/Jeff Crane	Whitney Delbridge
Toddler	Les/Carrie Rawl	Candler Rhodes
Two-year-olds	Jason/Karen Snyder	Billy/Mary Belvins
Three-year-olds	Staff	Stephanie/Richard Fowler

Adult Sunday School Join us at 9:45 a.m.

Acts 2:21 (Bruner221)

Chapel Bible Study-Not a Sunday School Class (Chapel):
"The Gospel of Mark"

Commitment (Knox205)

Foundation (Knox208)

Genesis (Knox214)

George Huggins (Knox209): Lewis Browning

Project: Killingsworth Home for Women

Growing Disciples (Knox201)

JOY (Bruner220): "Book of Romans," Harvey Allen

New Beginnings (Knox204)

New Generation (Bruner224): "Change the World," Deb Snow

Wesley Fellowship (WH): "One in Jesus Christ," Melanie Chu

The Voice is produced twice a month to keep you connected to Shandon.
Shandon United Methodist, 3407 Devine Street, Columbia, SC 29205
803-256-8383, www.shandon-umc.org.
Office hours: Mon-Thurs, 8:30 am-5:00 pm; Fri, 8:00 a.m.-1:30 pm

COMING UP AT SHANDON

Sunday: 8:45, 11:00 & 11:05 Worship; 9:45 Sunday School

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16 Luke 3:7-18

1:00 Epworth Boys Christmas Party - Youth Zone
3:00 Chancel Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary
4:00 Disciple II - Knox 209
5:00 Love Feast - Sanctuary
6:15 Choir Dinner - Player Hall

MONDAY, DECEMBER 17 Matthew 23:29-39

4:00 Basketball - Gym
5:30 Wesley Ringers - Bruner 201

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18 Matthew 12:30-37

12:30 Lunch Bunch - Player Hall (Pre-Lunch Fun: 10:00 PH)
4:00 Basketball - Gym

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19 Matthew 12:39-45

6:45 Bovotions (Sr Highs) - Bojangles on Devine
9:00 Disciple II - Knox 209
5:15 Wednesday Night Manna - Gym
6:00 Children's Choirs, Synago: Teen Studies - See Back Cover
7:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsal - Bruner 206

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20 Matthew 14:1-12

12:00 Wesley Fellowship Class Lunch - Player Hall
4:00 Basketball - Gym
6:30 Men's Meeting - Knox 209

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21 Luke 1:5-25

4:00 Basketball - Gym
7:30 Christmas Concert - Sanctuary

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22 Luke 1:26-38

8:00 Basketball - Gym

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23 Luke 1:39-55

2:00 Basketball - Gym

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24 Luke 2:1-20

2:00 Communion Christmas Eve Service - Sanctuary
5:00 Family Christmas Eve Service - Sanctuary
7:00 LifeLine Christmas Eve Service - Gym
9:00 Candlelight Communion Christmas Eve Service - Sanctuary

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25 Luke 2:8-20

MERRY CHRISTMAS. Church Office Closed

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26 Acts 7:55-8:8

Church Office Closed

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27 John 13:2-20

4:00 Basketball - Gym

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28 Matthew 18:1-14

4:00 Basketball - Gym

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29 John 2:1-11

8:00 Basketball - Gym

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30 Luke 2:41-52

9:45 Popcorn & A Movie - Player Hall
2:00 Basketball - Gym
4:00 Disciple II - Knox 209

MONDAY, DECEMBER 31 John 5:1-15

TUESDAY, JANUARY 1 Luke 14:16-24

HAPPY NEW YEAR. Church Office Closed

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2 John 6:1-14

6:45 Bovotions (Sr Highs) - Bojangles on Devine
8:30 P&K Staff Training - Player Hall
7:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsal - Bruner 206

THURSDAY, JANUARY 3 John 6:15-27

4:00 Basketball - Gym
6:30 Boy Scout District Committee - Conference Room

FRIDAY, JANUARY 4 John 9:1-12, 35-38

4:00 Basketball - Gym

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5 John 11:17-27, 38-44

8:00 Basketball - Gym

Join Us During the Advent/Christmas Season

LOVE FEAST

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16 at 5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Be a part of this annual celebration filled with beautiful music by the Chancel Choir and Orchestra and sharing bread, coffee and warm fellowship.

Childcare is available for ages three and under (Reservations required). Contact Heather Corley at Hdcorley123@yahoo.com.

The Love Feast has been an important part of the Methodist heritage in America and in England for over 200 years. Since apostolic times, Christians observed a common meal called “agape” from the Greek word, meaning, love. The custom was brought to America by the Moravians, and John Wesley introduced the Love Feast to the Methodists. The Love Feast continues as an important part of Christian worship.

Please bring non-perishable food items for Harvest Hope.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21 at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Experience inspiring Christmas music performed by Eddie Huss and Friends.

The concert will feature Classical and Christmas music and will include Eddie Huss and Annette Matthews, pianists, and Daniel Gainey, Anthony Chu, Lee and Dustin Ousley, vocalists. The Concert is free to everyone. An offering will be taken to benefit the Family Shelter. Family Shelter provides emergency food, shelter, resources, and hope to homeless families with children in the Midlands area.

CHRISTMAS EVE

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24

Inspiring services filled with the scent of greenery, beautiful music, glowing candlelight and warm fellowship.

Childcare is available for 5:00 and 7:00 p.m. for ages three and under (Reservations required). Contact Heather Corley at Hdcorley123@yahoo.com.

Traditional Communion Service at 2:00 p.m.

Family Service at 5:00 p.m. The Children’s Choirs will provide music for this service which will include a live nativity with animals and the traditional lighting of “glow sticks” to accompany the singing of “Silent Night.”

LifeLine Contemporary Service at 7:00 p.m. with a live nativity with animals and the LifeLine Band.

Communion and Candlelight Service at 9:00 p.m. A traditional service which includes a live nativity and music by the Christmas Choir.

NEW FLAT SCREEN TVS IN ADULT CLASSES

Adult classrooms now have new flat screens and DVD players. This equipment is certainly appreciated and eliminates requesting and moving cumbersome metal cabinets around. It is hoped that their availability will help broaden use of a variety of Christian Education resources, including the many excellent DVD studies in our library.

The purchase of the flat screens was possible through designated funds.

Doorways to God

WINTER STUDIES & SPECIALS

Registration Begins December 16!

Belonging most often comes before believing. It is the process of belonging that helps you get your beliefs. - Leonard Sweet

REGISTER in the Bruner hall, Dunn-Smith lobby, or on the Shandon web site. **Deadline:** a week prior to start date.

TUESDAY NIGHT SERIES – FAITH MEETS FAITH PART 3

January 22: Rev. Dr. Ronnie Brailsford, Sr.; Bethel AME Church

January 29: Sallie Prugh, Clerk, Religious Society of Friends; Quakers

February 5: Dr. Dick Lincoln; Shandon Baptist Church

SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR SPECIALS

Ways to Help the Children who call Epworth HOME – New Year, New Life!

Mitzie Schafer, Dir. of Development at Epworth; January 6 in Player Hall

For Young Adults & Younger Adult Classes: The Elusive Young “Stig-Weard” (Being a Steward)

Rev. Josh McClendon; January 13, 20, 27 in Knox 201

Methodist Matters

Rev. Julie Songer Belman; February 3, 10, 17 in Player Hall

Ways to Help the Family Shelter – New Year, New Life!

Rebecca Jacobson, Exec. Dir. of Family Shelter, February 24 in Player Hall

OTHER STUDIES & EVENTS

Themes of the New Testament

Alix Hay & Margaret Hays; Mondays, Eight Mondays January 14 - March 4, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Bible Stories Through New Eyes Part 2

Alix Hay & Margaret Hays; Three Mondays, March 11, 18, 25

The Book of Acts

Keith Phillips & Betty Ruff; Eight Mondays, Jan. 21-March 11, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

“Wild at Heart” Men’s Eight-Week Study

Begin January 28 week: Monday/Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. or Wednesday noon

Women’s Day Study (10 Thursdays)

Gessner Dunn: Women of the New Testament, January 17 - February 28;

Easter from the Backside, March 7, 14, 21

Experience Epworth! February 10 worship, tour, and lunch on campus.

Sponsored by our Connections Council for Shandon members who may want to be mentors.

Day Away Spiritual Retreat for Adults

Saturday, April 13, 9:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. – by bus to a beautiful nature setting/private home.

LUNCH BUNCH HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Lunch Bunch will not take place on December 25 and January 1. Join us good food and warm fellowship on January 8.



Discover God...Share with others...Have fun in faith... and Live-out being a Christian everyday—at home, school and play. Don't miss the adventure.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: December 16, 23 & 30. See you on Sunday at 9:45 a.m.

- Twos:** Jesus Is Born (Luke 1:31)
- Threes-5th Grade:**
 - December 16:** Mary and Joseph (Luke 1:26-38)
 - December 23:** Birth/Shepherds (Luke 2:1-20)
 - December 30:** The Wise Men (Matthew 2:1-12)
- 6th Grade:**
 - December 16:** Courage (Mary and Joseph)
 - December 23:** Celebrating (Jesus Is Born)
 - December 30:** Honoring Our Savior (Wise Men)

“POPCORN & MOVIE” SUNDAY (1st-5th grades): December 30

Elementary-aged children are invited to enjoy popcorn and a movie in Player Hall during the Sunday school hour on December 30. Sunday school teachers will be there to welcome students and serve them popcorn before the movie begins. Children will meet in Player Hall at 9:45 a.m. instead of going to their regular classroom.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION 2013

Our preparation sessions for Confirmation 2013 will begin in January. Sixth and seventh grade students who are interested in participating in this traditional preparation for church membership may contact Lesli Wood, Director of Children’s Ministries at lwood@shandon-umc.org for more information and registration.

WRAPPING PAPER TUBES

Please save your cardboard wrapping paper tubes for our Children’s Ministry activities. There is a collection bin next to the water fountain on the first floor of the Bruner Building. We will need 100 of these tubes for “Enter Jerusalem” in the spring. Thank you for your help.

SUPPORT SHANDON’S YOUTH: YOUTH FUNDRAISER

The Youth will be selling \$20 “coupon” cards to our congregation and the surrounding community at the end of November through December. The cards will be good for 1 year and each deal represented can be used once a day. Spread the word around! Each youth needs to sell at least 10 cards.



If you’re a 7th-12th grader – You’ll make REAL friends and have REAL fun, be able to ask REAL questions and get REAL answers, have a REAL voice and share REAL ideas, discover REAL faith and make a REAL difference. Get SMY REAL.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Join us at 9:45 a.m. in the Youth Zone.

SHARE GOD'S LOVE

Advent Offering

We will be receiving our Annual Advent Offering in support of Haiti Missions, Homeless and Harvest Hope. You can designate your offering to one of these missions. Undesignated offerings will be divided between these three important missions. Please make your offering by Christmas Eve, December 24.

Through your contribution to Shandon's Advent Offering to Haiti, Homeless and Harvest Hope, you can...

Haiti

Help provide medical supplies for the medical, dental, and eye clinics in Jeremie, Haiti.

Homeless

Help reduce homelessness in the Midlands and return homeless people in our community to meaningful lives.

Harvest Hope

Help provide food for the hungry in our community.

Use our "Share the Love Cards" to share God's love in an easy, yet meaningful way during this Christmas season.

For more information, be sure to take a look in your Advent Offering brochure.

JANUARY BOOK DISCUSSION

State of Wonder, by Ann Patchett

Tuesday, January 8

In State of Wonder, renowned author Ann Patchett (Pulitzer/Faulkner Award) continues her reputation for exciting and intelligent storytelling that is fluid, easy to absorb, but still profound. The values of her complex characters are beautifully dissected. Marina Singh is sent on a mission to the Amazon, to uncover the details about the death of her friend and fellow researcher with a pharmaceutical company. The suspenseful plot penetrates ethical issues, science, and realistically portrays the native Amazon tribes central to the story.

Book conversations always stretch our thinking about all kinds of life and faith issues. We laugh a lot and get to know each other on deeper levels. Anyone can attend any time. After the January 8 meeting, 7:00-8:00 p.m. in Bruner 221, we'll resume meeting on the first Tuesdays of the month. To be on the Shandon UMC Book Club mailing list, contact Anne Cox at acox@shandon-umc.org or 256-8383, ext 115.

February 5 book discussion: 11/22/63, by Stephen King.

A STEPHEN MINISTER CAN HELP

Are you lonely, out of sorts or just feeling low during this holiday season?

Stephen Ministers are here to help.
Contact a Shandon minister at 256-8383.

SHANDON PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN 2013-14 Registration Information

Deadline for Church Member Priority on Waiting List: December 31, 2012. Church members receive priority status for preschool and kindergarten enrollment for the 2013-14 school year only if the child's name is put on or confirmed on the waiting list prior to December 31. Registration for the 2013-14 school year will be held in February, 2013. To add/confirm your child's name to the waiting list by December 31, call the preschool office at 256-1498 or e-mail SUMPK@shandon-umc.org.

This is not for the new full-day and year-round program. For more information about this program, contact the preschool office.

CHURCH OFFERINGS

All church offerings for tax credit for 2012 must be brought to the church office by December 31. Offerings that are mailed to the church must be postmarked no later than December 31. Thank you for your contributions to our 2012 church budget supporting Shandon's ministry and programs.

Treasurer's Update

DECEMBER 9, 2012

ATTENDANCE

Sunday School	659
Worship	890

OPERATING BUDGET

December 2	December 9	Year-to-Date
Revenues	Revenues	Revenues
\$39,639	\$42,785	\$1,771,074
December 2	December 9	Year-to-Date
Expenses	Expenses	Expenses
\$112,073	\$14,050	\$1,854,144

THE FLOWERS AT THE ALTAR ON DECEMBER 16 are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Mr. and Mrs. Wade Fitzgerald Ward** by Harry, Jane, Michael Ward and Mary Beth and Grayson Lambert.

THE FLOWERS AT THE ALTAR ON DECEMBER 23 are given to the glory of God and in honor of the **volunteers and staff** who helped decorate the Sanctuary for the season.

THE FLOWERS AT THE ALTAR ON DECEMBER 30 are given to the glory of God and in honor of the **Shandon ministers and staff**.

MEMORIALS

IN MEMORY

Jessie Clement by Barbara Cobb, Julian & Cynthia Dew

Bo Mullis by Ann & Mason Gibbes

Cecilia Warren by Terri & Glenn Ammons

IN HONOR

Heather Corley & the Nursery Staff by Kate Jeffords

Eddie Huss by The Celebration Choir

The Fourth Grade Sunday School Teachers by Lucas Jeffords

The Kindergarten Sunday School Teachers by Libby Jeffords

Sinclair & Betty Lewis by MaryAnn & Jerry Frank Crews

Lee McDonald by Terri Blount Griffeth

Ann Philbeck by The Celebration Choir, MaryAnn & Jerry Frank Crews

Ann Philbeck & The Celebration Choir by Pat Rouse

Ann Smith by MaryAnn & Jerry Frank Crews

Bill & Joanna Walkup by MaryAnn & Jerry Frank Crews

HOSPITALS

Palmetto Health Baptist: Jim Hipp

Our ministers are on call for weekend emergencies. Contact the minister by calling our emergency beeper at 654-8973 and then entering your phone number.

In Memoriam

Mary Elizabeth Roddey

October 24, 2012

(Made aware of December 5)

Eldene Viola Bishop (Deanie) O'Neal

November 20, 2012

Senior Minister

Michael Guffee, Sr.

Minister of Evangelism and Outreach Ministries

Julie Songer Belman

Minister of Assimilation and Discipleship

Josh McClendon

Church Business Administrator

Michael Hart

Minister of Music and Arts Ministries

Eddie Huss

Director of Christian Education and Adult Ministries

Anne Cox

Director of Student Ministries

Travis Pearson

Director of Children's Ministries

Lesli Wood

Director of Preschool/Kindergarten

Bea Daves

Director of Kitchen Ministries

Timothy Scott

Director of Communications

Melanie Owen

Finance Administrative Assistant/Organist

Nancy Kelley

Administrative Assistant to the Senior Minister

Winifred Rodgers

Education Administrative Assistant

Samantha Apple

Administrative Assistant to Associate Ministers and Music

Debbie Rountree

Child Care Coordinator

Heather Corley

Sound Technician

Cindi Reid

Maintenance Supervisor

Bobby Douglas

Custodial Staff

Thomas Brunson, Eladio Cruz,

John Whetstone

Security

Wade Carlisle

Lay Leader

Jonathan Roquemore

Church Council Chair

Jan Bilton

Parish Nurse

Nancy Reynolds

Mission Statement

Shandon United Methodist Church gathers to worship God, nurture Christian faith, and go out into the world in mission.

Wednesday Night Manna

NO RESERVATIONS NEEDED

Good food, warm fellowship & activities for everyone.

SERVING: 5:15-6:15 p.m. in the gym

COST: \$5 adults/youth over age 12 \$2.50 children age 2-12 under age 2 eat free

DECEMBER 19: Pot roast, seasoned potatoes, green beans, spinach salad, dessert

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE: No Manna on December 26 & January 2. JOIN US ON JANUARY 9.

ACTIVITIES

- **Children's Activities & Bible Verses** for a prize: 5:30-6:00 p.m., gym (age 3-5th grade)
- **Second Helpings:** Most Wednesdays, 6:00-7:00 p.m., Player Hall
Simple ways to be of service. Set-up by a ministry area leader or staff member who needs help. Relax and enjoy talking with other church members while you make a big difference! Children not in choir are always welcome. Contact Anne Cox to reserve a Wednesday for your ministry area to receive help (e.g. make cards for homebound members, prepare mailings, UMW project, assemble care packages, sign birthday cards, idea swaps, appreciation to SS teachers, etc.)
- **Children's Choirs for K4-5th Grade:** 6:00-6:45 p.m., DuBose, 2nd fl.
- **Synago Bible Studies for Youth (6th graders, too):** 6:00-7:00 p.m., Youth Zone
- **Child Care for Infants-5th Grade:** 5:30-7:30 p.m. 2-years-old & under, Knox 106; 3- to 5-years-old, DuBose 105; 1st to 5th graders, 6:45-7:30 p.m., DuBose 105