

Harbor View Presbyterian Church Weekly Newsletter

Hope, Peace, Joy, Love.

The theme of this week in Advent is "Peace." In John 14:27, Jesus offers this to the disciples and to us, *"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."*

Do you find it difficult to find peace? During this season it seems some people are more giving and extending a bit more grace than the rest of the year, but some get wrapped up in the "culture" of Christmas.

Last Friday a few of us visited Mepkin Abbey in Monks Corner to see the Creche Festival. Creche is a French word for manger or crib, we know it as a manger scene. I don't know many places that are as peaceful as Mepkin Abbey. It is a community of Roman Catholic monks established in 1949 on the Cooper River. The Trappist monks devote their lives to prayer, spiritual study, work, and hospitality.

This year's theme was "In Wood and With Wood," which many creches came from around the world. It reminded me that the whole world celebrates this event.

The peace that Jesus leaves us is different from the calm of the world. It is a lasting gift of deep security found only through faith and the Holy Spirit. It is a gift not earned nor fleeting like the world's temporary circumstances.

By trusting and surrendering in Jesus we give our worries to Him which leads to peaceful thinking. Through prayer and study, we grow closer to His presence and the Holy Spirit. So, it is to know God through a relationship of understanding that gives us peace.

Philippians 4:7, *"And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus."*

Peace be with you,

Pastor Scott

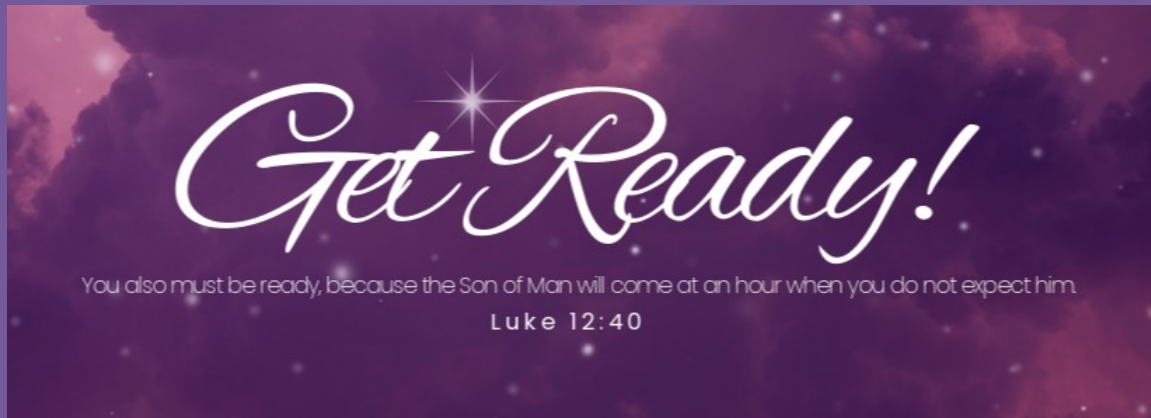


Is it significant that Jesus was visited by both shepherds and wise men?

Yes, because Jesus came to rescue all of humanity. When Jesus was born there were shepherds waiting outside with their sheep. They were poor, uneducated, and by Jewish law “unclean.” An angel appeared to them and shared the Good News that a savior was born, and they’d find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.

The wise men on the other hand were wealthy, well-educated, and followed a star that pointed to the King of the Jews. They traveled a long distance to see Him because they knew through Old Testament prophecies that He was the messiah and would be worshipped by kings.

What questions do you have?



If you have made your financial pledge for 2026, thank you. If you have not made your pledge, you can pledge online through the link below, you can contact the church office or stop by to pick up a pledge card. The Operations Committee has developed a budget, which Session will finalize based on these pledges.

When my partner in this endeavor, Mary Thornley, and I talked about all the things we are getting ready for, we also discussed the nature of stewardship, and how it’s not just a season, but a process. Constant care and development of our time, our talents, and our resources is required if we are to do the work of God’s church.

Thank you for what you have done, and what you are going to do in the future.

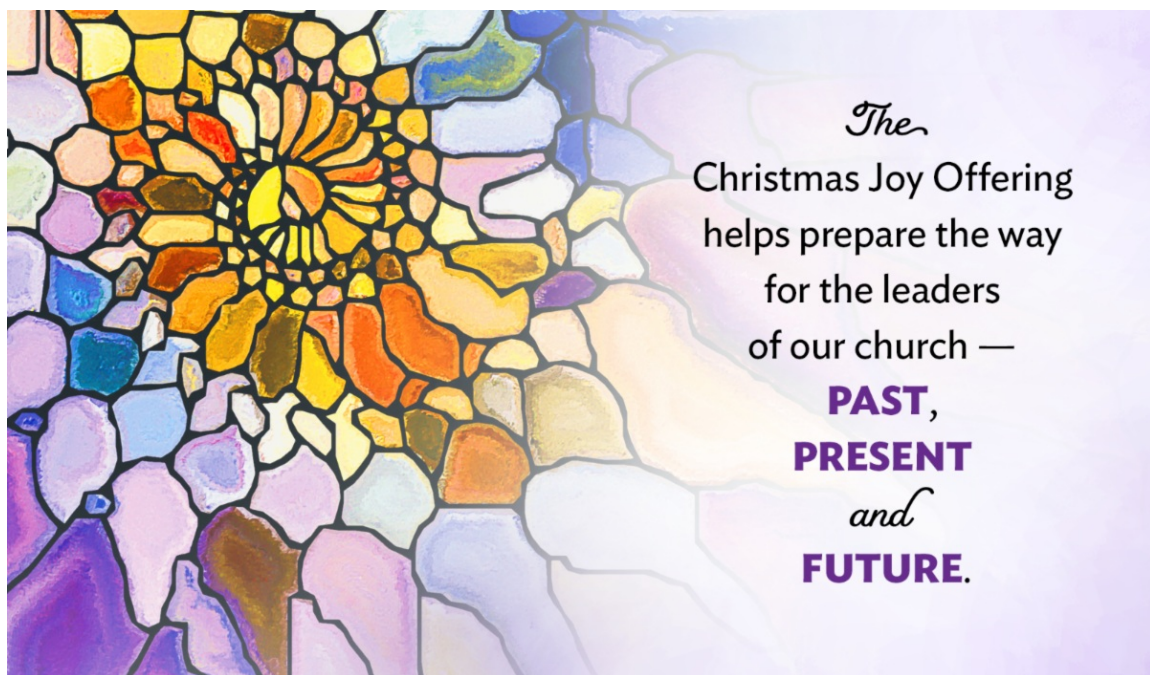
[Pledge online here](#)



Advent begins at the end of November! Please put the following dates on your calendars,

and invite your friends, especially those who are young and nimble and can climb ladders:
Saturday, December 13, 9:00am: Chrismon Tree (setting up the platform, putting the tree together, and decorating)

Saturday, January 10, 9:00am: De-Decking the Halls (taking everything down and putting it away)



Your gift helps smooth the path for current and retired church workers and their families in their time of need. We come together to support past, present, and future leaders, embodying God's perfect gift to us, Jesus Christ.

50% of your gifts make it possible for students to learn and grow in faith at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

50% of your gifts provide assistance for current and retired church workers and their families with critical financial needs.

We celebrate leaders like retired pastors, church workers and their families who have faithfully guided and led us. Our gifts restore hope and stability through the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions.



The distribution party is this **Saturday, December 13th at 12-2pm** in the Fellowship Hall . Thank you all so much!

Please join us for a special evening sure to bring us the spirit of Christmas!

You and your family are invited to join us at Harbor View Presbyterian Church on Sunday, December 14th at 5 p.m. for our annual church Outdoor Christmas Tree Lighting.



Children from our Early Care & Education Program and Creation Kids Club will join the adult choir for an evening of singing & tree lighting. Afterwards, stay for some (not so) hot chocolate and Santa will be here! Please wear your favorite Christmas sweater or outfit to join in the holiday spirit.



PW Morning Circle will meet on Tuesday, December 16th at 10 a.m. in the Beach Room. We will be focusing on joy and discussing Lesson 4, "The Prodigal Child, the Eldest Child, and the Devoted Parent." The scripture is Luke 15:11-32. Visitors are always welcome to join us. For more information and/or help with transportation, please contact Nancy Andrews.



This Advent and Christmas season, HVPC invites the purchase of poinsettias in memory of or in honor of friends and loved ones. The names of donors and those memorialized or honored will be displayed on the worship announcements for Sunday, December 21 and on Christmas Eve.

GREAT NEWS!! We were able to reduce the price to \$6 for each poinsettia. Return your dedication form to the church office or call 843-795-4072. Please take your poinsettia home after the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. *Thank you!*



This year's congregational donations to Thornwell were \$775.50. Thank you everyone for being so generous and thoughtful!



Thank you to person that donated the television for the narthex! We will get it hooked up as soon as we are able.

If you have any kitchen towels or table clothes that you took home to wash, please bring them back to the church.



Bible Study with Pastor Scott is on Wednesday at 6 p.m. in the Beach Room.

**** Please pick up your pledge envelopes in the narthex. ****



B. T. Bouton 12/14
Jimmy Rivers 12/17
Mickie Benton 12/20



The Greeters this Sunday morning are:

Rossie Webber, Becky Linnville



Coffee Fellowship Helpers in December:

December 14 - Sandra Bessent
December 21 - Sandra McNay
December 28 - OPEN

Nursery Volunteers



Nursery Volunteers in December:

December 14 - Nancy Parnelle
December 21 - Rossie Webber
December 28 - Sandra Bessent



Flowers for the Sanctuary

We encourage everyone to bring your own fresh flowers or silk arrangement. We now have the paper copy on the door in the hallway again.

Please use this link to sign up online [here](#) or use the sign up sheet in the hallway.

Prayer List

Harry Bishop, The Benton Family, Michele Jones, Gary & Brenda Gist, Harry Bishop (Susan Brown), Mike Shuler, John & Beverly O'Brien, Martha Blackwelder's sister (Gail Truluck), Jeff Switzer (Gail Truluck), Michael Floyd (Rhodine's son), John (Eric Phillip's father-in-law), Joan Loy, Lois Amos, The Stewart family, Becky Linnville, Shawn Ensley (Devon Gamble), Mitch Tyler (Monica Stevens), Rosemarie DeGroot, Steve Murray, Linda Burrell, Sue & Sarah Matthews, Sandra Russ, Sue Murner (Karen Lassiter), John Thomas, Cindy Dahl & Lynn Rivera (Nelson Springer), George Lavezzi, John & Betty DeVane, Mike & Wilma Deddish, Charles Truluck, The Woods Family.

Special Events:

December 13 - Chrismon Tree decorating at 9 a.m.

December 13 - Angel Tree Distribution Party in the Fellowship Hall at noon
December 14 - Outdoor tree lighting and carols with the ECEP children at 5 p.m.
December 16 - Presbyterian Women Morning Circle in the Beach Room at 10 a.m.
December 17 - Bible study in the Beach Room at 6 p.m.
December 17 - Bells Rehearsal at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary
December 18 - Singers Rehearsal at 6 p.m. in the Sanctuary
December 18 - Men's Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall at 9 a.m.
December 24 - Christmas Eve Service at 5:00 p.m.
December 25 - Christmas Day
January 1 - *cancelled Men's Breakfast
January 6 - Lunch Bunch at noon
January 10 - De-Decking the Halls at 9 a.m.
January 11 - Book Club in the Beach Room at 3:30 p.m.
January 13 - James Island Outreach Food Pantry Volunteer Team at 9-11:30 a.m.
January 15 - Men's Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall at 9 a.m.
January 15 - Backpack Buddies packing bags at 5:30 p.m. at JIO
January 16 - Backpack Buddies deliveries to local schools at 8 a.m.
January 24 - Men's steak dinner
February 12 - Backpack Buddies packing bags at 5:30 p.m. at JIO
February 13 - Backpack Buddies deliveries to local schools at 8 a.m.
February 14 - Oyster Roast at Truluck Island
February 27-March 1 - Women's Retreat at Camp St. Christopher
March 29 - Palm Sunday brunch
April 2 - Backpack Buddies packing bags at 5:30 p.m. at JIO
April 3 - Backpack Buddies deliveries to local schools at 8 a.m.
May 14 - Backpack Buddies packing bags at 5:30 p.m. at JIO
May 15 - Backpack Buddies deliveries to local schools at 8 a.m.
May 30 - Slide into Summer event
May 31 - 5th Sunday potluck
August 9 - Flapjacks, Backpacks, & Giving Back
August 30 - 5th Sunday potluck
November 7 - Fall Festival
November 29 - Consecration Sunday Brunch

Weekly:

Bible study on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. in the Beach Room **skip June, July, August*
Bells Rehearsal on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. **skip May, June, July, Aug*
Singers Rehearsal on Thursdays at 6 p.m. **skip May, June, July, Aug*
Coffee Fellowship
Flowers for the Sanctuary
James Island Outreach food delivery

Monthly:

Lunch Bunch at noon (first Tuesday) **skip June, July, August*
Art Journaling in the FH at 10 a.m. (first Saturday) **skip June, July, August*
PW Morning Circle in the Beach Room at 10 a.m. (third Tuesday) **skip June, July, August*
Backpack Buddies **skip June, July, August*
Men's Breakfast in the FH at 9 a.m. (first & third Thursday)
Book Club in the Beach Room at 3:30 p.m. (third Sunday)
James Island Outreach Food Pantry Volunteer Team at 9-11:30 a.m. (second Tuesday)



You may give online [here](#).
See a list of the HVPC Session members and email addresses [here](#).

“Sharing God’s Love with All”
- Mark 12:31

Mission Statement: Harbor View Presbyterian is a
*neighborhood church that fosters relationships
through worship and fellowship, spreads love*

