

New Covenant News

A publication of

CHURCH of the NEW COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH U.S.A.

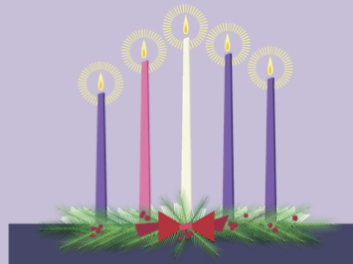
Volume 11 Issue 71

www.cncdoraville.org

December 2011

Advent 2011

at Church of the New Covenant



Opportunities to Make the Season Extra Special

Advent Worship Services

Each Sunday (Nov 27, Dec 4, 11, 18) 11:00 am

"Prepare ye the way of the Lord!"
Great Music ~ Meaningful Worship

Brown Bag Bible Studies

"Songs of Advent"

Dec 4th and 18th, after worship

Bring a lunch and join us!

Christmas Cantata

"Glad Tidings of Great Joy"

Sunday, Dec 11, 11:00 am

Join us for a reception afterwards

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Lessons and Carols

Saturday, Dec 24, 7:00 pm

Experience the joy and beauty of the Christmas Story

Christmas Morning Carols and Prayers

Sunday, Dec 25, 11:00 am

CHURCH OF THE NEW COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

3330 Chestnut Drive, Doraville, GA 30340

770-455-8117

www.cncdoraville.org

**Church of the
New Covenant
Presbyterian Church
(USA)**

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Doraville, GA 30340
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Office Hours: Tues-Thurs, 9:30 am-2:30 pm

Session Members

Class of 2014

Ann Grier
Stephe Koontz
Marcia Morley

Class of 2013

Marcia Jacobsen
Scott Johnson
John Wheeler

Class of 2012

Mimi Carroll
Emily Russ
Danielle Washburn
Carol Payne, Clerk of Session

Newsletter Submissions

New Covenant News is a monthly publication printed by Church of the New Covenant, PC U.S.A, Doraville, Georgia. If you have news you would like to share of upcoming events, please email or call the church office: newcovenantpcusa@bellsouth.net 770-455-8117. The deadline for monthly submissions is the **third Wednesday of the month.**

This Month at CNC

Lectio
Readings



Dec. 4	Isaiah 40:1-11 Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 2 Peter 3:8-15a Mark 1:1-8
Dec. 11	Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 Psalm 126 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 John 1:6-8, 19-28
Dec. 18	2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 Luke 1:46b-55 Romans 16:25-27 Luke 1:26-38
Dec. 25	Dawn: Isaiah 62:6-12 Psalm 97 Titus 3:4-7 Luke 2:(1-7) 8-20 Day: Isaiah 52:7-10 Psalm 98 Hebrews 1:1-4 (5-12) John 1:1-14

**A Weekday Prayer Service
is held every Wednesday
at noon in the parlor.**



CHURCH OF THE NEW COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH U.S.A.

Mission Statement

Adopted by the Session of Church of the New Covenant, February 28, 2009

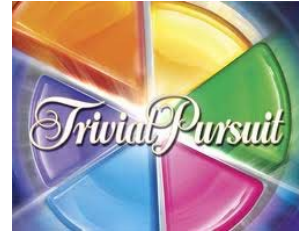
*The Church of the New Covenant exists to continue the earthly ministry of Jesus Christ: **serving God by serving others**, wherever and whoever you are. We do this by inviting people to join us in pursuing a deeper relationship with God, involving ourselves in the community, and investing our time, talent and treasure in this ministry.*

This Month



No Senior Lunch in December—See you January 19, 2012!

The activity for the Senior Luncheon for November was a special Senior Trivia Contest. The contest consisted of questions relating to old time tv shows, movies and a few Thanksgiving facts. All attendees did quite well in the contest.



Soup and drinks were provided with attendees bringing a sandwich for themselves. Thanks to the people who brought in those delicious desserts.

Those attending were: Bud and Claire Commins, Paul and Jennelle Robertson, Ralph and Jacque Wedd, Dean and Marcia Morley, Pat Bower, Mina Grier, Millie Ball, Donna Altman, Helen Palmour, Peggy Heinisch, Gretchen Turner, and Bill Beeson. Rick and Gail joined us for the luncheon portion of the program.



The congregation was blessed when our Pastoral Intern **Simone Adams** delivered her first sermon in October. We look forward to more, Simone!



Budget Report for October 2011



October Income
\$17,715

October Expenses
\$13,405

Surplus
+\$4,311

YTD Income
\$128,353

YTD Expenses
\$157,738

YTD Deficit
-\$29,385

Thanks to all for working on catching up your pledge in October. If you need to know your commitment status for 2011, please see Mandy Davis.

Newsletter DEADLINE

Deadline for the January issue of New Covenant News is **Wednesday, December 21.**

Presbyterian Women

Presbyterian Women will have our December 13th Circle meetings at our regular times: 10:00 am and 6:30 pm.

The 10:00 am Day Circle will enjoy an overview of Gail Brown’s visit to Thailand followed by an early lunch. Please **eat breakfast before you come and bring a covered dish** for our lunch together. Since we will not have our regular Bible Study that day, we will cover chapters 4 & 5 of our Bible Study at our January meeting.

Due to the bad weather we have had for the past two years, we will not have a joint gathering until March.



We will receive the **Angel Offering** at the December and January meetings. The Christmas Angel Gifts are a major source of charitable funds for people who have outlived their own financial resources and must now depend on our help.

PW will send **Valentine boxes** to family members of our congregation who are in college or in the armed services. We need your help! Please get the addresses of your loved ones to us ASAP! We don’t want to miss anybody!

Please give the information to Judy Cook (770-496-6367 or fjc@att.net)



2011-2012 PW Coordinating Team



- Moderator.....Judy Cook
- Secretary.....Marty Riviere
- Treasurer.....Milly Ball
- Diane Lindsay Circle Leader.....Kim Wright
- Louise Holladay Circle LeaderDonna Altman
- Morning Circle Bible LeaderRosemary Glenn
- Mission/Spiritual Growth.....Helen Palmour
- Historian.....Pauline Weaver
- Nominating Committee.....Jan Kepic & Eugenia Powell



Looking Ahead:

Tuesday, December 13 10:00 am & 6:30 pm Circle Meetings
 Tuesday, January 10



See PW Bulletin Board for more information.

Christmas Crafts with Kids

Gift-making festival

Saturday, December 10th
3:00-5:00pm

Make a gift!
Have a snack!
Have fun!

Church of the New Covenant
3330 Chestnut Drive
Doraville

www.cncdoraville.org



We Need YOU!!

We need help in all these areas:

- Greet kids, help them get organized, shepherd them
- Help kids make and wrap their gifts
- Serve kids a snack
(Thanks to Doraville Kiwanis for supplying snacks!)
- Help drive kids from /back to Cross Cultural Ministries.

See the sign up sheet in the pass-through or contact:
Ashley Pieper (adevore4120@yahoo.com) or
Ellen Herbert (elherb@att.net).



Socks & Skivvies Tree
for Clifton Sanctuary Ministries

Socks & Skivvies Tree

When arriving at Clifton, the homeless men are given new socks, tee shirts and underwear. To maintain a supply for newcomers is often a challenge.

We can help by decorating our tree with:

- new white crew socks (sizes 10 –13)
- new white short sleeve tee shirts (sizes M, L, XL and XXL)
- underwear (sizes M, L, XL and XXL)

(We are told that most of the men prefer cotton briefs).



These items may be placed on or under the tree in the parlor and will be delivered to Clifton in early January, 2012. Questions? Call Pauline or Bob Weaver at 770-938-1334.

More About Clifton...

In the winter of 1979, a homeless man died from exposure on the streets of Atlanta. It was at the same time that the members of Clifton Presbyterian Church, while engaged in a Bible Study on Isaiah 58 and Mathew 25:40, were wondering how they could respond. After much prayer and preparation, they took their vans and cars downtown and convinced three homeless men to come with them. They gave those three men hot food, a shower, and shelter in the sanctuary of the church. That was the beginning of Clifton Night Hospitality, the first faith-based emergency shelter in Atlanta. The ministry soon grew from serving three men to serving thirty.

Some time later, Northwoods Presbyterian Church member Bob Altman read of this 50-member congregation serving 30 men every night and was curious as to how that was possible. After meeting with Clifton pastor John Story and observing the shelter first-hand, Bob decided to present this opportunity for ministry to the congregation at Northwoods.

Bob designated a 3-month time of preparation and discernment and set about designing a Sunday School program to give the congregation the information they needed to decide whether this was something they wanted to be involved in. It was a big leap! The church at that time was not involved in any ministries of this type and both the folks at Clifton and the Northwoods congregation had some reservations about whether it was a good match or not. In the Sunday School classes, participants heard from people involved in the ministry. Questions of safety, practicality, resources were addressed, alongside questions of calling and responsibility.

You know the end of the story! Northwoods Presbyterian decided to participate in the mission, and when Northwoods and Christ Church became Church of the New Covenant, the ministry continued. Now, thirty years later, Clifton Night Hospitality still provides food and shelter for thirty men every night of the year. The men are also provided with counseling, case management, and they are taught the self-respect that they need to transition from homelessness to self-sufficiency. They are encouraged to seek employment and establish good habits for better health.

Church of the New Covenant continues to participate in this wonderful success story -- and you can help! Among the ways you can help are by making lunches on a Monday evening or serving dinner on a Saturday. Contact Bob Weaver, Pauline Weaver or Pat Bower to learn more.

The Clifton Night Hospitality

CNC members volunteer at the night shelter on the 3rd Saturdays of even months and all 5th Saturdays.

Please **contact Bob Weaver** at 770-938-1334 to learn more about how you can get involved in the overnight ministry at Clifton.

December Volunteers:

Dec. 17: Bob & Pauline Weaver
Dec. 31: Rick & Tedd Meinersmann
Jan Kepic & Sandy Bond

Sandwich Ministry at Clifton



Every Monday night, CNC volunteers make lunches for the men to take with them when they leave the shelter in the morning. If you would like to be part of the team to help with this important part of our ministry at Clifton, please **contact Pat Bower** (770-242-8249).

**"I tell you the truth, whatever you did for the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."
Matthew 25:40**

Opportunities



CROSS-CULTURAL
MINISTRIES

"Preach the Good News at all times, in all places, to all people. Sometimes use words." John Wesley

There are many ways you can be involved in providing a helping hand at Cross Cultural Ministries during the Christmas Season:

- December 17: "Las Posadas" (Christmas Story & caroling, followed by hot chocolate, food and fellowship.)
December 20: "Happy Birthday Jesus" party at Pearl Lane
December 21: "Happy Birthday Jesus" party at Shallowford Garden Apartments

You can help by providing items for the celebrations or by lending a hand before, during, and after these events.

For more information, go to the CCM website: ccmatlanta.org or talk to Ellen Herbert or Gretchen Turner.



Alternative Gift Market

Shop Like You Mean It! Let your holiday gift-giving make a difference. Choose from a wide selection of Fair Trade & environmentally-friendly gifts.

Saturday, December 3

10:00 am—3:00 pm

North Decatur Presbyterian Church
611 Medlock Road, Decatur



KIWANIS CLUB

The Kiwanis Club of Doraville is collecting pantry items (paper goods, canned goods, cleaning goods) for the Interfaith Outreach Home (IOH) here in Doraville. Each year we bring items to IOH for the holiday season as a service project to help those who are attempting to break the cycle of being homeless. If you would like to contribute, please bring items and place them in the box in the hallway marked "IOH" until **December 18th**. For more information on items that are needed, see http://iohome.org/help_wishList.asp or contact Cindy Williams (770-457-1225).

The **Doraville Kiwanis Club** meets
on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Tuesday evenings each month 6:30—7:30 pm in the large
classroom at CNC.

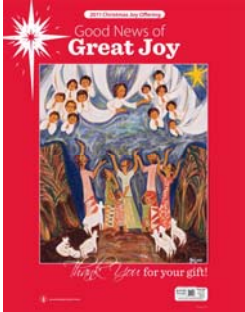


We are always looking for new members
to join us.

Interested? Contact Cindy Williams (770-457-1225) or Stephe Koontz (770-734-0409).

... Serving God by Serving Others ~

Christmas Joy Offering



For more than 70 years, Presbyterians have given generously at Christmas to support the unmet needs of families who have devoted their lives to the mission of the PC(USA). Today this Offering is shared equally by the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions, which provides critical assistance to Presbyterian church workers and their families, and Presbyterian-affiliated racial ethnic schools and colleges, which enable students to develop their gifts and find their calling. The Offering dates back to the 1930s, when the former Presbyterian Church in the United States began an offering to supplement inadequate retirement income and provide supplemental medical insurance for former ministers, missionaries, church workers, and their families.

Although its roots trace back many years, this special offering remains just as essential today. Equally important to the financial help provided is the spiritual benefit received. Again and again, the individuals and families helped by the Offering say that as crucial as the financial assistance is, that what really sustains them is the knowledge that the church is standing with them in their time of need.

The Christmas Joy Offering will be collected at CNC on December 11 and December 18 this year. Please give generously.



PRESBYTERY OF GREATER ATLANTA
EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT
A Multicultural Celebration of Christmas

"We Are One"

DECEMBER 11, 2011




Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church
1400 Killian Hill Rd., SW
Lilburn, Ga. 30047
6:00pm

Previous Participating Ministries

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Korean Community | El Nazareno |
| Korean Central | Radcliffe |
| The Jesus Hope Church of Georgia | Hillside |
| Rice Memorial | Children of Good Shepherd |
| New Life | College Park |
| New Life Miriam Dancers | Crossroads |

PLEASE COME AND JOIN US!!


Let's Get Together!

When & Where?	What?	Who's Invited?	What do I bring?
<p>Every Tuesday 7:00 pm</p> <p>Mellow Mushroom 1679 LaVista Road NE Atlanta</p> <p>Trivia starts at 7:30 pm</p>	<p>Pizza, fun, fellowship, and Team Trivia!</p>	<p>You!</p> <p>Bring a friend!</p>	<p>Cost of your meal</p> <p>Contact: Mandy Davis (404-556-9233) Ashley Pieper(4-519-1436) Scott Pieper (404-403-5352)</p>
<p>2nd Wednesday 6:30 pm</p> <p>CNC Parlor (December 14)</p>	<p>2nd Wednesday Supper</p> <p>Delicious and nutritious dinner, followed by a lively discussion.</p> 	<p>You!</p> <p>Bring a friend!</p>	<p>\$3.00 per person/ \$10.00 family max.</p> <p>No reservation required</p> <p>Contact: Rick (770-455-8117)</p>
<p>3rd Thursday 11:30 am</p> <p>Will not meet in December. See you January 19th!</p>	<p>Senior Luncheon</p>	<p>Everybody Who's Young at Heart!</p> <p>Bring a Friend!</p>	<p>Contact: Bill Beeson (770-842-9046) Gretchen Turner (770-414-8595)</p>
<p>4th Thursday (December 22)</p>	<p>Dinner at Monterrey</p>	<p>You!</p> <p>Bring a Friend!</p>	<p>Cost of your meal</p> <p>Contact: Scott Johnson (770-923-5047)</p>

❄️
NOEL HALLELUJAH
❄️
MERRY CHRISTMAS
❄️
HAPPY NEW YEAR
❄️

Noel Hallelujah Merry Christmas Happy New Year

CNC Facebook Fans



Facebook is an important tool that we can use to easily reach out to huge numbers of friends, family and neighbors. CNC Facebook Fans invited over 200 people to Dog Dayz in a matter of seconds last summer!

Please comment to postings, RSVP to events and invite friends to our events through Facebook. We have fantastic community events, concerts and special services throughout the year. Help us to demonstrate the vibrancy and spirit of this congregation online!

If you have questions please contact Scott Pieper, Ellen Herbert or Mandy Davis.



HISTORIC POLICY DECISIONS TO BE MADE

Our presbytery (the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta) has two very important policy decisions to make that will have significant impact on the relationships among our neighbor churches. The first policy we will consider is called “Gracious Separation,” which will specify the spirit and procedures for working with churches who wish to withdraw from our denomination. The second is “Flexible Governance,” which would create subdivisions within the presbytery in an attempt to preserve overall unity while creating separate means of governance within each group.

When our General Assembly (the national meeting of our denomination, the Presbyterian Church USA) met last summer, we made the historic decision to adopt what was then known as Amendment 10-A. This removed discussions of sexual orientation from our ordination standards. It was a major achievement in the long-running debate about whether a gay, lesbian, transgender or bisexual person should be blessed by the church to exercise God’s call to ministry.

Sadly, dissenting voices within our denomination still abound. Our presbytery is working to address this dissent in as grace-filled a manner as possible.

GRACIOUS SEPARATION

Many of the churches who opposed that decision are beginning to express the desire to leave our denomination. Such departures have occurred in the past for a variety of reasons. They are always painful, but they can sometimes be very contentious, especially around the question of who owns the property.

Our presbytery (The Presbytery of Greater Atlanta) will be voting December 1st on a policy called “Gracious Separation.”

The rationale supporting this resolution stated that it is easy to “emphasize the property trust responsibilities of Presbytery/synod oversight to the exclusion of the pastoral responsibility of caring for the congregations (members staying and leaving) and the responsibility of public witness to Christ with the larger body of Christ and the community and world.” Secondly, it was suggested that presbyteries should be consistent in communicating how they will respond to congregations seeking dismissal and that all parties should engage in a more grace-filled exchange. (*From the Handbook for the Dec. 1 meeting*)

FLEXIBLE GOVERNANCE

This proposal is being presented to the presbytery for a “first reading” on December 1st, to be voted on at a later date.

This proposal calls us to a moment of honesty as a presbytery and as a denomination. Behind the opposition and support of Amendment 10A, prior its passage, were differing and deeply held convictions about biblical interpretation and human sexuality and what it means to maintain the peace, unity, and purity of the church. With the passage of the amendment, these convictions have not disappeared. They are putting enormous strain on our continued common life as a denomination and our local life as a presbytery.

If we continue to govern ourselves as we have in the past, by debating and voting in a winner-take-all context, we are convinced that our separation from each other will only increase and our witness to Christ will be further compromised. We believe the church is called to work connectionally, in grace and peace, to further His Kingdom for today’s and for future generations.

To this end, we are called to a new mindset that invites us to approach our polity not as a set of rules but a description of our common life.

By creating a group of churches within the Presbytery (temporarily called PGA2) that has the power to ordain, we lessen the need for further debate about qualifications of ordination that relate to sexual orientation. In this way, we honor the will of the majority and pave the way for openly gay Presbyterians to be ordained, while, at the same time, preserving the freedom of conscience of those who would disagree. (*From the Handbook for the Dec. 1 meeting*)

+ + +

I don’t have room here to provide you with as much detail on these important decisions as you need, so I urge you to do two things:

- Read the documents. You can download the Handbook at <http://atlpusa.org/>
- Pray for our presbytery and our denomination, that the grace of Jesus Christ and his call to mission would prevail.

In Christ,
Rick

seminaries and churches together



for generations to come

Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary

Austin, Texas

Columbia Theological Seminary

Decatur, Georgia

University of Dubuque Theological Seminary

Dubuque, Iowa

Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary

Louisville, Kentucky

McCormick Theological Seminary

Chicago, Illinois

Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Princeton Theological Seminary

Princeton, New Jersey

San Francisco Theological Seminary

San Anselmo, California

Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary

Atlanta, Georgia

Union Presbyterian Seminary

Richmond, Virginia, and Charlotte, North Carolina

In covenant with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Auburn Theological Seminary

New York, New York

Seminario Evangelico de Puerto Rico

San Juan, Puerto Rico



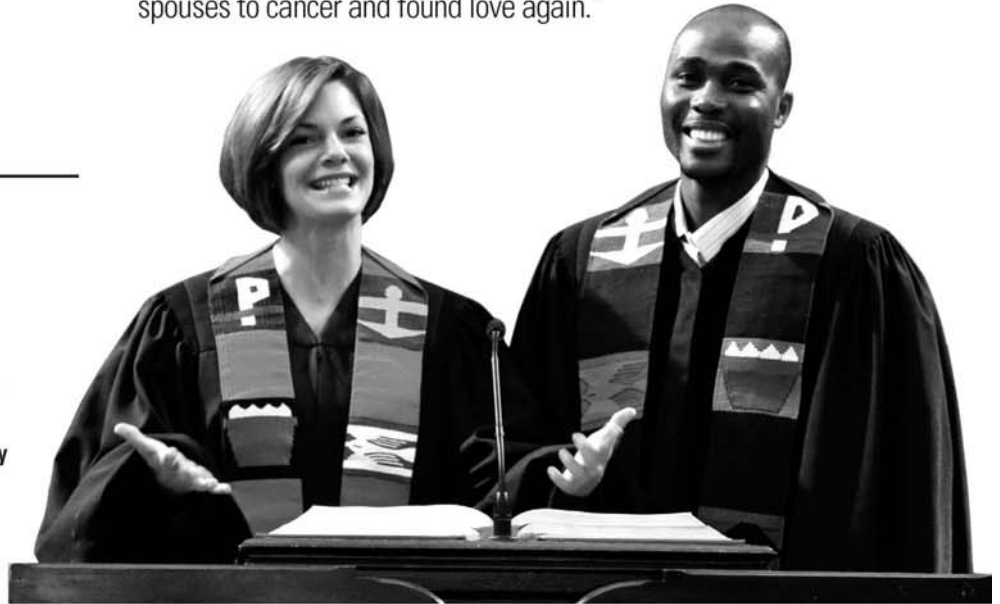
**General Assembly
Mission Council**



Quotes provided by Rev. Kelsy Brown, Altavista Presbyterian Church
Former Student Representative to Seminary Support Network

Developing church leaders

"Seminary prepared me well to face the joys and challenges of ministry. My first months were wonderful and exciting. I officiated at my first wedding for a couple who had lost both of their first spouses to cancer and found love again."



Preparing servant leaders

"I grieved with families, leading three funerals. I celebrated my first baptism with a young woman who wasn't raised in the church. We experienced Advent, Christmas, Lent and Holy Week together for the first time."

Support Theological Education TE 999999

"I know it is difficult, especially during a trying economy to raise funds for our seminaries. Thank you for your work, which has helped me, and will help others, to lead our churches in the Presbyterian Church, (U.S.A.)."

Thank You for your Support

"It is because of the money that helps fund seminary students that I am able to faithfully serve a PC(USA) church right now." Give Generously to Theological Education!

Give Generously to Theological Education!

www.pcusa.org/tefgive



Thanksgiving Luncheon

The 2011 CNC Family Thanksgiving Luncheon was held after worship on November 20th. It was reported that a good time was had by all and that nobody went home hungry!



(L-R) Milly Ball, Pat Bower



Jacque & Ralph Wedd, Jeff Davis



Suzanne (daughter of Pat Bower) & Marty Bruce



Celebrating the Abundance of God's Grace



(L-R) Stacey Adams, Kimberley Wright, Danielle Washburn, Jaime Wolfe



(L-R) Scott Pieper, Ashley Pieper, Mandy Davis, Jocelyn Davis, James Jordan

THE ATLANTA CONCERT RINGERS

**Under the direction of
Nationally-acclaimed composer & clinician
Kevin McChesney
& Alice Myers, Assistant Director**



Presents
BELLS OF BETHLEHEM







**Sunday, December 18, 3:00PM
Church of the New Covenant
3330 Chestnut Drive
Doraville, GA**

**\$10 Suggested Donations
Children 5 and under \$5**

**For details
www.TheAtlantaConcertRingers.org**

DECEMBER

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	Sunday Morning Schedule 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am Coffee Fellowship 11:00 am Morning Worship After Worship Youth Sunday School			1 9 am Aerobics 9:30 am Presbytery Meeting	2	3 9:00 am GALEO Graduation
4 	5 9 am Aerobics 7:00 pm Make lunches at Clifton	6 1:00 pm Crochet 7pm The Blend	7 9 am Aerobics Noon Prayer 6:30pm-Hndbels 7:45pm- Choir	8 9 am Aerobics	9	10 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal 3:00 pm Christmas Crafts with Kids
11 11:00 am Christmas Cantata 	12 9 am Aerobics 7:00 pm Make lunches at Clifton	13 10:00 am 6:30 pm PW Circles 1:00 pm Crochet 6:30 pm Kiwanis 7pm The Blend	14 9am Aerobics Noon Prayer 6:30pm-Hndbels 6:30 pm-Supper 7:15 pm-Discuss 7:45pm- Choir	15 9 am Aerobics No Senior Lunch	16	17 Evening Host Clifton
18 3:00 pm ACR Concert 	19 9 am Aerobics	20 1:00 pm Crochet 6:30 pm Kiwanis 7pm The Blend	21 9 am Aerobics <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> Noon Prayer 6:30pm-Hndbels 7:45pm- Choir	22 9 am Aerobics 6:30 pm Monterrey	23	24 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Service 
25 	26 9 am Aerobics 7:00 pm Make lunches at Clifton	27 Church Office Closed 1:00 pm Crochet 6:30 pm Kiwanis 7pm The Blend	28 Church Office Closed 9 am Aerobics Noon Prayer	29 Church Office Closed 9 am Aerobics	30 Church Office Closed	31  HAPPY New Year! Evening Host Clifton



Dec. 4—Megan Butcher
 Dec. 4—Mimi Carroll
 Dec. 4—Ashley Dryman
 Dec. 4—Jan Phelps
 Dec. 7—Ann Grier
 Dec. 9—Mary Martha Riviere
 Dec. 9—Milt Riviere

Dec. 12—Melissa Wilson
 Dec. 16—Ralph Wedd
 Dec. 20—Dean Morley
 Dec. 23—Rosemary Glenn
 Dec. 25—Milly Ball
 Dec. 26—Judy Cook
 Dec. 29—Suzanne Holton