

581 Seven Lakes Drive Seven Lakes, NC 27376 Mailing Address: 2125 Seven Lakes South West End, NC 27376 Phone: 910-400-5188 E-mail: citp10@7lakeschapel.com

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Paul's Ponderings...

The Angel's of Christmas

What images come to your mind when you first think of Christmas?

I think of the Christmas Eve that my Dad and older brother were trying to sneak my new bike into the living room and one of them accidentally hit the horn and I woke up and went running in to catch them red handed. I think of decorating the Christmas tree with my family and my Mom never being satisfied that we had done it just right. I remember my grandmother and aunts waiting outside our house until they saw the lights go on Christmas morning and then joining us for presents and brunch. I remember my other grandmother's mantle crowded with so many stockings for all the cousins that I wondered why it didn't crash to the ground.

Perhaps you remember sitting atop Santa's lap or watching your own children smile as they enjoyed that same tradition. Or, perhaps your fondest memory is singing "Silent Night" in a darkened sanctuary during the candlelight service on Christmas Eve. Whatever the images of Christmas we think of first, as Christians our imaginations do not take us far before images of angels appear in our minds. For



most, thoughts of Christmas almost always include gossamer winged angels appearing to Zachariah, Joseph, Mary, and the shepherds.

Truly, we cannot read the Christmas story, watch a Christmas pageant, or even walk through a department store during Christmas without encountering images of angels. Even when we sit back to enjoy an old Christmas movie like *It's a Wonderful Life* or *The Bishop's Wife* we find angels (Clarence and Dudley) playing central roles.

Angels are not unique to the Christmas story for they appear throughout the Bible, however their role as God's messengers of hope, peace, joy, and love make their words in the birth narrative of Jesus all we need to hear, heed, and claim in this season of Advent. So, through our *Angels* of *Christmas* Bible study, two Christmas movies, and our Advent Wreath Candle Lighting Liturgy, like Mary, we will ponder the messages of the Christmas angels in our hearts and we will see how the recipients of those messages responded and how we too might recognize and respond to the angels that I believe are still in our midst.

"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it." Hebrews 13:2





Patty and Jackie Madden, Phyllis Mahin, Jack Sealey, Mary Faas, Anthony Tuliano, Cynthia Peppe, Janet Hegeman, Ellie Lyons, Maggie Simmons, Dot Cantwell, Kathy Steele, Sabrina Levine, Chandler Steward, Mike Karnish, Laurie Stevens, Evangeline Caliandro, Little Daniel Auman, Koran Sanders, Val Scantlin, Joseph Rickards, Lou Mathews, Cami Thistles, Charlie Murray, Father Gary Sawtelle, Nick Benschoter, Angie Pinyan, and the people of Ukraine.

Prayers for Chapel Family:

Prayers for Chapel Friends:

George Hoffman, Bud Holzerland, Mary Kay Allen, Nancee Letter, Charles Hinson, Jane and Jeff Lowe, Dave Westerman, Meta Evans, Joan Tourt, Peggy Olson, Shirley Percival, Alicia Delong and JoAn Moses.





I hope each of you had a Happy Thanksgiving, sharing it with family and friends.

As we enter the Christmas Season and the final month of this Chapel year, I want to take a moment to thank the Board of Directors, all the teams and every volunteer that invested a single minute helping us have another wonderful year at the Chapel.

We have seen many new faces arrive and we face seen familiar faces depart. We shared our facilities with a variety of people and groups all serving God in one capacity or another.

We have added new members and valuable resources to our community which strengthen us as we grow our Chapel in the community.

We have celebrated new unions and the loss of others as our world follows the evolution of life in Gods eyes.

Once again, we have had the privileged to her Pastor Paul's sermons each week and when he is a way we have wonder guest pastors sharing their messages from God.

We have welcomed a new Chapel Administer, Susan Williams. She is a great asset to Pastor Paul and all of us. Welcome again to Susan.

We have mounted a new Board of Directors and cycled our team leadership that will be our leaders for the 2023 Chapel year. We are financially sound and greatly appreciate the generosity of all member and friends of the Chapel for your continued support.

The Chapel Cemetery has continued to be maintained and marketed though the efforts of Mike Barry who does an excellent job for each of us both with the cemetery but as our structure manager keeping our building and grounds safe and beautiful. Thank you, Mike, for all you do.

As your current year winds down, let us all look forward to our next Chapel year. We are embarking on the Chapel Growth Program we have talked about over the past year. It is time to implement this program to build the strength of our Chapel. We have worked hard with the communities assistance to set in place our Core Values. We are prepared now to move forward. We ask that each of you embrace this program and help us achieve the goals we will define in the months ahead.

During the Christmas season, we will celebrate the birth of Our Savior Jesus Christ. We will share wonderful times with our families and friends and feel the love of the





Lord all around us. Let's keep our hearts and minds open to helping those less fortunate during this time.

It has been my pleasure to stand as your President this year and I look forward to working with the Board next year to fulfill the needs and wants of the Chapel.

Cathy and I want to wish each and every one of you a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

George



Míssíon Team



The Chapel Mission Team is service 24 families this year in support of Christmas4Moore. Our 24 families include 61 individuals, who will be touched by the outpouring of your love and generosity through your giving, your time, and your talents. Each head of household will be given \$50 and each additional family member will be given \$15 in the form of a Food Lion gift card.

Gift Wrapping Party

The Gift-Wrapping Party for the gifts we are giving to our families will be held on Friday, December 9th at 10 am in the Fellowship Hall. Volunteers are asked to don their favorite Christmas attire and

BYOST!



Bring Your Own Scissors & Tape.



December 9th @ 10 am

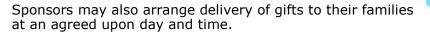
The Mission Team will have lunch catered for our Gift Wrapping Volunteers so please



let Tracy Olsen (910) 704) 604-7930 or Joyce Singletary (910) 512-7640 know if you plan on attending no later than Monday, December 5th. You can also call Susan at the Chapel (910) 400-5188.

Gift Pickup December 12th—15th

Gifts will be picked up the week of December 12th through the 15th in the Chapel Fellowship Hall from 10am - 2pm



The Mission Team has found that "Bike" bags make transportation of gifts for families much easier. "Bike" bags will be provided to assist with transportation of gifts.

Gift Boxes and Gift Tags are needed and donations are much appreciated.







Chapel Growth Program

As you all know earlier this year the Board of Directors began to work toward preparing the Board and the Chapel community for the implementation of a Chapel Growth Program.

For the past ten months we have studied, discussed and been preparing to begin this program in 2023. We are now ready to give you all a clearer picture of what the Chapel Growth Program is.

I am sure many of you have wondered about this as we came to you asking many questions about the Chapel. What did you want it to be? What were our Core Values? Do we need to grow, and more.

I am sure many of you are comfortable with the Chapel just the way it is and don't see the need to change anything. We should just keep on as we are.

On the other hand there are those that feel that growth is a positive thing and that the addition of new members with fresh ideas can be a stimulus for the Chapel. To that end, my comment is, yes, new ideas and fresh thoughts and complete openness is critically important to the future of the Chapel.

The Chapel has evolved over its life from a small chapel to a large Chapel, from a large active membership to a moderate membership. In each case we have always been about serving God in the best way possible.

Today we are a Chapel of adults all with the same objective, worshiping and serving God, each other and our fellow man. We will never change that objective. We only want to be able to share it with more people in our community. So we have born an infant Growth Program that needs to be nurtured, fed with ideas, embraced by everyone and worked hard to achieve our growth goals.

This is not a recruiting program, though the goal is to bring in new members. This is an "Attraction" program. There are hundreds of people looking for a new church home and we want to be their choice, but to accomplish that we must all embrace the program, say the same things, act in similar ways that are all in line with our Core Values and who we are as the Chapel community.





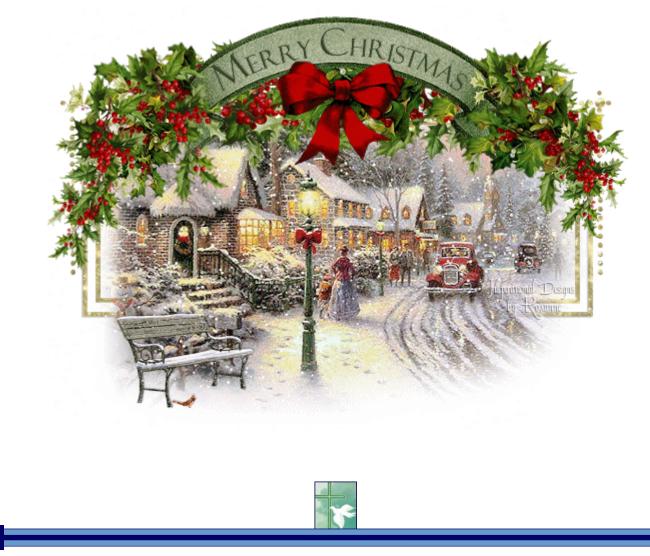
Chapel Chimes December 2022

We have worked with your help to identify who we are and what we want to be. Those of you that have participated in the Chapel Cafés have experienced that process. It has been extremely helpful. We will be conducting additional Chapel Cafés after the holiday. We will be having a virtual Café which will be a little different but will allow those of you that can't come to a live event to participate. We need as much input as we can get from as many participants as possible.

I will close here, hoping I have shed a little bit of light on the upcoming Chapel Growth Program. I will leave you all with this thought.

In your life, change happens every day. Some changes are small, others are quite large. We are all in a state of constant motion and that will never change. What we are embarking on are all good, positive changes. Not a big change, but rather a lot of small changes, that will grow us into a stronger, more robust Chapel, praising and sharing God with everyone.

Please Embrace The Day and Help us Build A Stronger Chapel in the Pines.





The December spotlight falls on Ed Burke!

Where are you from originally?

I was born in San Francisco, grew up in Hawaii and Northern California. I have been living in Europe most of my adult life.

How did you get to the Seven Lakes community and/or Chapel in the Pines?

We moved to Seven Lakes and noticed the beautiful Chapel every time we went through the gate. We tried a Sunday service and have stayed for 2 1/2 years.

What was your usual occupation?

Teacher - the last ten years I worked as a teacher of the deaf until I retired.

What part(s) do you sing?

Tenor

What was your first singing experience?

As a teenager, singing with friends at guitar get-togethers.

What other singing experience have you had, than church choir?

I played in a ceilidh band and sang Irish/Scottish traditional music, and sang with the oldest male voice choir in Wales, with 52 members.

What was your most meaningful singing experience?

Rehearsing with other male voice choirs to sing in the Royal Albert Hall, but I missed the concert due to an unplanned trip abroad.

Why do you choose to sing in the Chapel Choir?

To help bring music to the services and for the pure enjoyment of singing.

What is the best part of being in a choir?

Learning to blend voices, to listen to the parts.

What is your favorite style of music?

Nearly everything - folk, rock, big band, maybe not rap.

What is your favorite song?

Whiter Shade of Pale because I saw Procol Harum perform it in 1969, then saw Gary Brooker perform it at a New Years party in 2010 or so.

Do you play musical instruments? Guitar

What other activities do you enjoy? Motorcycle riding, swimming, and adjusting to NC life.

Thank you Ed, for letting us get to know you better!



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Choir Schedule Fall/Winter 2022

October October 2

October 23 *November* November 6

November 20

December December 1 (Thursday) December 11

December 17

December 18

December 24

World Communion Sunday Holy Communion Annual Congregational Meeting

All Saints Day Holy Communion Christ the King Sunday Chapel 46th Anniversary

A Service from Darkness to Light The Third Sunday of Advent/Joy Holy Communion Christmas Cantata Chapel in the Pines 5:00 pm Christmas Cantata Carthage United Methodist Church 5:00 pm Carols, Candles, and Communion



Usher Schedule

December 2022 — February 2023

Offertory – after you hand the plates back to Paul and he turns toward the alter, just turn and go to your seats.

December

1** Thu	14 pm D	arkness to Light – Gordon Zeller, Kathy Goodman
4 Sur	19 am Si	ue & Dick VanHorne, Dot Macdonald, Wendy Tetreault
11** Sur	19 am Pe	eggy & Bart Reuter, Leslie While, Lee Connelly
17** Sat	5 pm C	antata – Gordon Zeller, Kathy Goodman
18 Sur	19 am Ji	m Beck, Thalia Beam, Joyce Singletary, Gisela Danielson
24** Sat	4 pm C	hristmas Eve – RJ & Tim Peppe, Carole Faas, Lee Connelly
25 Sur	19 am M	arilyn & Jimmy McCaskill, Thalia Beam, Jim Beck

<u>January</u>

1	Sun 9 am	Marilyn & Jimmy McCaskill, Leslie While, Wendy Tetreault
8**	Sun 9 am	RJ & Tim Peppe, Sue & Dick VanHorne
15	Sun 9 am	Dot Macdonald, Thalia Beam, Cathy & George Norman
22**	Sun 9 am	Peggy & Bart Reuter, Gisela Danielson, Joyce Singletary
29	Sun 9 am	Jim Beck, Wendy Tetreault, Gordon Zeller, Kathy Goodman

February

5**	Sun 9 am	Sue & Dick VanHorne, Leslie While, Gisela Danielson
12	Sun 9 am	Marilyn & Jimmy McCaskill, Dot Macdonald, Carole Faas
		Cathy & George Norman, Joyce Singletary, Lee Connelly
		Ash Wednesday – Gordon Zeller, Kathy Goodman
	•	RJ & Tim Peppe, Peggy & Bart Reuter

**indicates choir performing



December 18

Please sign up on bulletin board outside the church office or call church office at (910) 400-5188 to let us know which Sunday you'd like to host.





If you are interested in volunteering to provide flowers for the chapel, please contact the office at 910-400-5188 or e-mail Susan Williams at citp10@7lakeschapel.com to have your name added to the Flower Sign-up List.

December	
12-4	Bob Dantzer
12-11	John Caggiano
12-18	Alice McPheeters
12-25	Tim & RJ Peppe
January	
1-1	Volunteer Needed
1-8	Volunteer Needed
1-15	Volunteer Needed
1-22	Volunteer Needed
1-29	Volunteer Needed

Back Pack Pals and Matthew 25:40 Programs

We Need Your Help—Please Donate as Often As You Can!

Backpack Pals

Juice Boxes, any flavor Pop Tarts, any flavor Peanut Butter/Cheese Crackers



<u>Mathew 25:40</u>

Capri Sun Juices, any flavor Pop Tarts, any flavor Chef Boyardee Micro Cups, in yellow and red Small Water Bottles Protein Bars, all flavors Fruit Cups Apple Sauce Cups

Schedule of Upcoming Events

Sunday-December 4

Wednesday-December 7

Friday-December 9

Friday-December 9 Sunday-December 11 9:00 am 2:00 pm 4:00 pm 5:30 pm 6:00 pm 10:00 am Christmas Gift Wrapping

> 6:00 pm 9:00 am

2:00 pm 4:00 pm

Friday-December 163:00 pmMonday-December 12 through Friday-December 16

Christmas Gift Distribution

Sunday-December 18

Saturday-December 24

9:00 am 2:00 pm 4:00 pm 4:00 pm

Candles Carols and Communion

Sunday-December 25

9:00 am The Nativity of the Lord

Sunday-January 1

9:00 am

Second Sunday of Advent Advent Afternoons Advent Afternoons—Online Chapel Choir Practice Christmas Cantata Rehearsal Mission Team

Movie "The Bishop's Wife" Third Sunday of Advent Chapel Board Meeting Advent Afternoons Advent Afternoons—Online Movie "It's A Wonderful Life" 10:00 am—2:00 pm

Fourth Sunday of Advent Advent Afternoons Advent Afternoons—Online Christmas Eve Service

Christmas Day

Epiphany of the Lord



Chapel Chimes December 2022



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Pastor

Reverend Paul James Chapel Administrator Susan Williams Choir Director Edward Lee Organist Tamara Lee



Board Members

Board of Directors - 2022

George Norman, President	genorman3@gmail.com	910-987-4664
Sue Barry, Treasurer	<pre>citp-treasurer@7lakeschapel.com</pre>	910-466-9100
Dick Van Horne, Secretary	rvanhorne6178@gmail.com	910-673-3123
Tracey Olsen Assistant Secretary	tolsen415@gmail.com	704-604-7930
Dot Macdonald	<u>dotjmac1957@gmail.com</u>	910-673-3866
Blue Baker	<u>bluebaker3@icloud.</u> com	910-783-5383
Bob Donaldson	rhdon138@gmail.com	910-466-9064
Jim Beck	<u>lotsaoaks@gmail.com</u>	910-673-5682

Chapel Staff and Contact Info

pastorpaulchapel@gmail.com	910-690-5529
citp10@7lakeschapel.com	910-400-5188
edhlee@icloud.com	910-695-6751
tamaraclee@icloud.com	910-690-7671

Church Office: 910-400-5188 Church Email: <u>citp10@7lakeschapel.com</u> Church Website: http://7lakeschapel.com



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* * * *	Decempion of the second					
	Decen	mber			2022	
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	тно	FRI	SAT
				1 Dly Advent Dev 4:00 Darkness to Light 7:00 AL ANON 7:30 Choir	2 Diy Advent Dev	3 Dly Advent Dev CLEANING
4 Dly Advent Dev 4 Second Sunday of Advent Chapel Choir Advent Afternog 2:00 and 4:00	ns	6 Dly Advent Dev Kiwanis 11-2 Bingo 5-10	7 Dly Advent Dev 5:00-6:45 pm First Bank Fin Wellness Prog 5:30 Chapel Choir 6:00 Cantata Reh.	2p-4p 7 Lks Garden 7:00 AL ANON 7:30 Choir	10a—2p Gift Wrapping Party MOVIE 6p The Bishop's Wife	9:30a-1p 7th Day Advent. Worship CLEANING
11 Dly Advent Dev Third Sunday of Advent Chapel Choir Advent Afternoons 2:00 and 4:00	12 Dly Advent Dev	10-2p Gift Distri	14 Dly Advent Dev 10-2p Gift Distri 5:30 Chapel Choir 6:00 Cantata Reh.	7:00 AL ANON 7:30 Choir	16 Dly Advent Dev MOVIE 4p It's A Wonderful Life	5:00 Christmas Cantata CLEANING
18 Fourth Sunday of Advent Chapel Choir Advent Afternoons 2:00 and 4:00	19 ^{Dly Advent Dev}	20 ^{Dly Advent Dev} Kiwanis Bingo 5-10	21 ^{Dly Advent Dev} 5:30 Chapel Choir	22 ^{Dly Advent Dev} Jan. Newsletter Deadline	23 ^{Dly Advent Dev} Church Office Closed	24Dly Advent Dev 9:30a-1p 7th Day Advent. Worship 4:00 Candles, Carols and Communion
25 The Nativity of The Lord	26 Church Office Closed	27	28 5:30 Chapel Choir	29	30	31

Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines

2125 Seven Lakes – South Seven Lakes, North Carolina 27376



O Come Let Us Adore Him

