

**Morning Worship Service 9:00 AM**  
**December 2, 2012**  
**First Sunday of Advent**

*Please adjust all electronic communication devices so as not to disrupt the service.  
If you need to leave the Sanctuary, please use the exits at the back.*

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Prelude**

*I Wonder as I Wander - arr. Mark Hayes*

*Let us quiet our hearts before the Lord.*

**Call to Worship**

*Hebrews 1:5-8*

**Leader:** For to which of the angels did God ever say, “You are my Son; today I have become your Father”? Or again, “I will be his Father, and he will be my Son”?

**People:** **And again, when God brings his firstborn into the world, he says, “Let all God’s angels worship him.”**

**Leader:** In speaking of the angels he says, “He makes his angels winds, his servants flames of fire.”

**ALL:** **But about the Son he says, “Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever, and righteousness will be the scepter of your kingdom.**

**\*\* Glorifying God in Song**

*Angels, From The Realms Of Glory*

Hymn #218

## **\*\* The Invocation**

### **\*\* The Apostles' Creed**

*“I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.”*

### **The First Scripture Lesson**

<sup>7</sup> How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, “Your God reigns!” <sup>8</sup> Listen! Your watchmen lift up their voices; together they shout for joy. When the LORD returns to Zion, they will see it with their own eyes. <sup>9</sup> Burst into songs of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. <sup>10</sup> The LORD will lay bare his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth will see the salvation of our God.

Isaiah 52:7-10

Leader: The Word of the Lord  
People: **Thanks be to God**

### **Musical Offering**

## The Confession of Our Sins

*“Almighty God, father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men; we acknowledge and confess our many sins; which we, from time to time, most grievously have committed; by thought, word, and deed; against thy divine majesty. We do earnestly repent; and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings—the remembrance of them is grievous unto us. Have mercy upon us; have mercy upon us, most merciful father; for thy son our Lord Jesus Christ’s sake; forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life; to the honor and glory of thy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## Assurance of Pardon

## The Second Scripture Lesson

<sup>1</sup>In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, <sup>2</sup>but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe. <sup>3</sup>The Son is the radiance of God’s glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. <sup>4</sup>So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.

Hebrews 1:1-4

**Leader:** The Word of the Lord  
**People:** Thanks be to God

*Christmas Canticles,*  
*A Cantata of Carols in Four Suites -*  
**Benjamin Harlan**

**Introit and Processional, Suite I: The Announcement**

Glory to God in the highest!

**O Come, All Ye Faithful**

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant.  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!  
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels.  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning,  
Jesus to thee be all glory given;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

**How Great Our Joy!**

While by our sheep we watched at night,  
Glad tidings brought an angel bright.  
How great our joy! Joy, joy, joy!  
Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!

**As Lately We Watched**

As lately we watched over our fields through the night,  
A star there was seen of such glorious light.  
All through the night, angels did sing,  
In carols so sweet of the birth of the King.

Then shepherds, be joyful; salute your new King,  
Let hills and vales ring to the song that ye sing.  
Blessed be the hour, welcome the morn,  
For Christ our dear Savior on earth now is born.

### **Ding Dong! Merrily on High**

Ding dong! Merrily on high in heaven the bells are ringing.  
Ding dong! Verily the sky is riven with angel singing.  
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

Even so here below, below let steeple bells be swinging,  
And wherever you may go, let priest and people singing.  
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

### **Joy to the World**

Joy to the World, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room, And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

### **Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!  
Peace on earth and mercy mild; God and sinners reconciled."  
Joyful, all ye nations rise; Join the triumph of the skies;  
With the angelic host proclaim: "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

## **The Third Scripture Lesson**

<sup>15</sup> The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Christ. <sup>16</sup> John answered them all, "I baptize you with water. But one more powerful than I will come, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. <sup>17</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." <sup>18</sup> And with many other words John exhorted the people and preached the good news to them.

Luke 3:15-18

Leader: The Word of the Lord  
People: **Thanks be to God**

**\*\* Offertory Hymn**  
*Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*  
Hymn #193

**\*\* Offertory Statement & Prayer of Dedication**

<sup>17</sup> I know, my God, that you test the heart and are pleased with integrity. All these things have I given willingly and with honest intent. And now I have seen with joy how willingly your people who are here have given to you. <sup>18</sup> O LORD, God of our fathers Abraham, Isaac and Israel, keep this desire in the hearts of your people forever, and keep their hearts loyal to you.

I Chronicles 29:17-18

**The Offertory**  
*Pastorale in F Major - J.S. Bach*

*PLEASE FILL OUT THE CONNECTION CARD IN THE BULLETIN  
TO INDICATE YOUR ATTENDANCE.*

**\*\* The Doxology**

(Hymn # 731)

*Children K4 – K5 may be dismissed to Children's Church.*

**The Message**  
*Rev. John K. Keen*  
*Senior Pastor*

**\*\* Glorifying God in Song**  
*What Child Is This*  
Hymn #213  
*(vs. 1 & 2, only)*

**The Words of Institution**  
**&**  
**The Sacrament of The Lord's Supper**

**\*\* Glorifying God in Song**  
*What Child Is This*  
Hymn #213  
*(v. 3, only)*

**\*\* Benediction**

**Postlude**  
*O Come, O Come Emmanuel* - Rudolph Moser

## *Welcome to Our Visitors*

We welcome you in the name of Christ! You can find more information about us on our website at [www.seminolepca.org](http://www.seminolepca.org). For questions or to share a prayer concern, call the office at 774-3881, ext. 700 or email us at: [church@seminolepca.org](mailto:church@seminolepca.org).

### **Deacons' Mercy Line (813) 774-3881, Ext. 744**

If you or someone you know is in need of assistance, please call this church phone extension; a deacon generally checks the line daily.

## SPC Family Matters



### **Poinsettia** ORDERS

**Poinsettias** - It's time to place your poinsettia orders! If you are interested in purchasing a poinsettia to decorate the Sanctuary, you may do so by filling out the red insert and placing the insert *along with your payment* in the offering plate. (**Important!** *If you are paying with cash, please place the insert with the money in an envelope, and mark the outside with the amount enclosed. If you are paying by check, please make a notation in the memo line that the payment is for poinsettias.*) The deadline for ordering is next Sunday, December 9.



**Congregational Meeting** - Please make plans to attend our annual congregational meeting on **Sunday, December 16, immediately after the morning worship service**. The purpose of this meeting is: 1) to elect new officers; 2) present the 2013 Church Budget to the congregation and entertain and address any questions not already answered previously; and, 3) to elect and seat/reseat trustees of the corporation. No other business will be discussed at this meeting (per our *Book of Church Order*).

## *Women's Ministry Announcement*

We are excited to announce an event  
the women of our church will not want to miss!

Ladies, you are enthusiastically invited to --

### *"Loving Relationships": A Women's Retreat*

Over the course of the retreat, we will be studying God's word to learn more about our Lord and Savior and what He desires from our relationships, especially the challenging ones. This will be almost 24 hours of fellowship, worship, rest and fun-- all dedicated to drawing closer to God and one another!

**When:** *Friday, February 22 - Saturday February 23, 2013*

**Where:** Dayspring Conference Center, Ellenton, Florida

The cost of the retreat (including 1 night's stay and 3 meals) will be between \$55-90, depending on the level of accommodation requested.

So Ladies, if you are interested or if you have any questions about the retreat, please contact Kelly Fernandez at 813-420-8662 or [kellyjfernandez@hotmail.com](mailto:kellyjfernandez@hotmail.com).

Formal registration will begin soon, but for now, your RSVP (even if tentative) will help greatly in planning the event.

Also, extra help is needed to plan fun activities and serve as retreat facilitators. (Any former camp counselors out there?) Please let Kelly know if you'd like in on the fun!

# **NEW YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES** **STARTING TODAY, DECEMBER 2**

## **High School - Apologetics 1: Taking Every Thought Captive**

*Teacher: Danny Dalton*

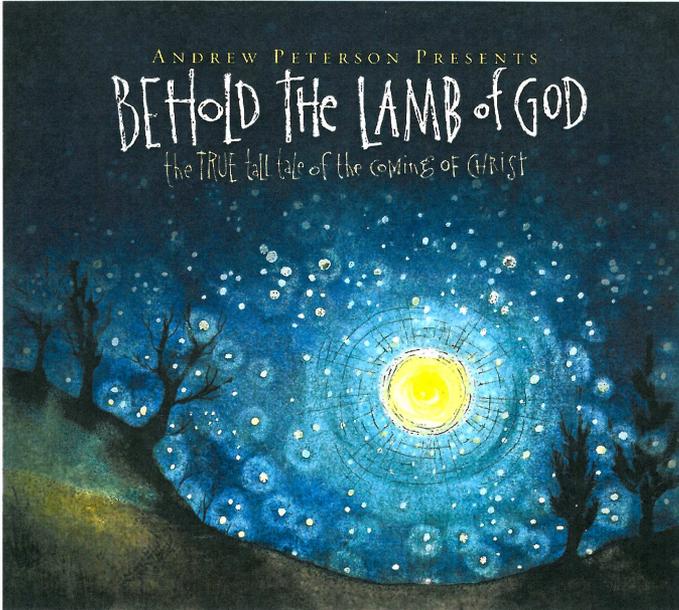
A number of years ago I told a family member that I was taking a class in apologetics. She instantly broke out laughing, thinking I was joking. “Apologetics! A whole class learning how to apologize? That’s hilarious!” Actually apologetics comes from the Greek word *apologia*, which means to defend oneself. As 1 Peter 3:15 tells us, every Christian should be ready to “*make a defense [apologia] to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence.*” This 11-lesson study of the book, *Every Thought Captive* by Richard Pratt, puts apologetics in down-to-earth language. In this course we will see that apologetics isn’t just for scholars and theologians, but is the privilege and responsibility of every believer. Therefore it is something for which we should prepare! We need to be ready to give a reason for our hope, yet always with gentleness and respect.

## **Middle School - The King Comes**

*Teachers: Steve Pothoven & Brian Waugh*

This Great Commission Publications curriculum surveys the life of Jesus, all from the perspective of Matthew’s gospel. It begins with his family tree, then moves to his birth and life of ministry. We will study some of his sermons, miracles, and parables, then conclude by studying his death and resurrection. Throughout the entire course we are asked in each lesson: “How do you respond to Jesus.” May this class lead you to love and trust Jesus more deeply.

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AND  
CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER, WINTER HAVEN PRESENT



## **Behold The Lamb of God**

A CHRISTMAS CONCERT EVENT FEATURING  
ANDREW PETERSON, WITH SPECIAL GUESTS  
MATTHEW PERRYMAN JONES, JILL PHILLIPS, ANDY  
GULLAHORN, ANDREW OSENGA, AND MORE!

**December 15, 7 pm**

**At The Polk Theatre**

**139 S. Florida Ave, Lakeland**

Tickets are \$5/person or \$10/person  
(\$10 ticket includes Andrew's new album: "Light For The Lost Boy")  
and are available at:

<http://tinyurl.com/Lakeland2012BTLoGTickets>

**For more information, contact Trinity Presbyterian Church  
at [trinity@lakeland.org](mailto:trinity@lakeland.org) or 863-603-7777.**

## Prayer Requests & Praise Reports

### Prayer/Praise:

- Larry Dickey – health & strengthening
- Kim Dostal (DIL of Judy Dostal) & Alan Dostal (Judy's husband)
- Servy & Raquel Fernandez – parents' health issues; Servy's new business
- Amarnath Boodoosingh – better employment

### Pray for our missionaries:

- Scott & Kathy Craig, MTW/Short-term Team Coordinators in Costa Rica
- Don & Judy Vander Ploeg, Wycliffe/JAARS; Papua New Guinea
- Dave Hawes, Navigators – training and development
- Jeff Lee, Reformed University Ministries @ USF

E-mail: [prayer-list@lists.seminolepca.org](mailto:prayer-list@lists.seminolepca.org)

## Christian Education – Adults, Youth, & Children

Class/Grade	Class Teacher(s)	Class Room
Ages 2-3 / Toddlers	Bev Thomson	#115
Ages 4-5 / K4-K5	Jane Lambers & Liz Hickerson	#109
Ages 6-7 / 1 <sup>st</sup> - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	Lisa Johnson & Laura Strickland	#105
Ages 8-10 / 3 <sup>rd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Therese McKenzie & Cathy Armstrong	#107
Jr. High / 6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Steve Pothoven & Brian Waugh	The Tower
Sr. High / 9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Danny Dalton	#101
Adult – Walden Class	Matthew McKenzie	#108
Adult – Church & Sacraments	Ben Lambers	#102
Adult – Esther	Joe DeNitto	Church Office

## ***Current Adult Classes***

### **Walden Class – Room 108**

*Teacher: Matthew McKenzie*

The Walden class is made up of folks of all ages, from young adult to those in their late eighties. From a group such as that you may well imagine the range of perspective the discussions take. This class is a Bible study class, open to class discussion, questions, and comments. We study Old Testament as well as New testament books. The length of time (weeks) to complete a Study depends on the class participation and the discussion level generated by a particular text. We do keep a schedule, but are open to the leading of God's Holy Spirit and follow where scripture leads. If this sounds like your kind of Bible study then by all means come and join us. Our worship service is conducive to the study of solid spiritual food, the encouragement to practice what we learn and to follow the leading of Micah 6:8: "To act justly, To love mercy, To walk humbly with our God". The Walden class meets in each Sunday morning from 10:45 to 11:45 with greetings, prayer for the needs of God's people, and Bible study. Come join us, you are most welcome!

### **Theology 401: The Church and Sacraments - Room 102**

*Teacher: Ben Lambers*

This is the fourth of four classes as we study the Westminster Confession of Faith. We will cover chapters #25-33 discussing topics such as, "What does it mean to be a member of the church?" "What are the Sacraments?" "How do the Sacraments effect my faith?" "What is church discipline?" "What happens to Christians when they die?" and "What exactly is the Last Judgment?" Do you have a biblically informed answer to these questions? Come join us as we conclude our study of the best summary of Sacred Scriptures teachings. *(Please note, attendance at prior Westminster Confession classes is not required to benefit from this session.)*

### **Esther – Church Office**

*Teacher: Joe DeNitto*

Come and join Joe DeNitto as he leads us through the book of Esther. This book tells the story of a Jewish woman who became queen of Persia and thwarted a plan to commit genocide against her people. Though God is not mentioned specifically even once, his providential care and covenantal presence saturates the entire book. This teaches us that the hand of God is active in all our circumstances. Nothing is merely a coincidence. God is the sovereign Ruler of the universe and we can be assured and comforted that His plans will not be moved by the actions of mere men.

## This Week at SPC ~ December 2 - 8

**SUNDAY:** Morning Worship, 9:00 am  
Fellowship Time, 10:15 am  
Sunday School, 10:45 am  
  
MS/HS Youth Group, 5:30 pm  
@ Luther Tower (on campus)

**TUESDAY:** Session Meeting, 7 pm

**WEDNESDAY:** Choir Practice, 7:30 pm



**December 16:** Congregational Meeting

**December 24:** Christmas Eve Service, 6 pm



### SEMINOLE AT WORK AND WORSHIP

Last Sunday's Attendance: 131

Last Sunday's Offering: \$7,873.87

*For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what he does not have. 2 Cor. 8:12*

# Volunteers

## *Children's Worship Volunteers*

	<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Helper</u>	<u>Banner Bearer</u>
Today:	Andrea Cawley	Kate Melendi	Kathryn White
Next Week:	Tami Pothoven	Shannon Pothoven	Julia White
Dec. 16:	Kelly Melendi	Kourtney Melendi	Nora Fernandez

*Children's Church for children in K4/K5 meets in Room 109.*

## *Coffee Volunteers*

### *Coffee Volunteers*

Today:	Brian Waugh
Next Week:	Andy Thomson
Dec. 16:	Steve Strickland

# December Birthdays & Anniversaries

## Birthdays

Anna Claire Lambers 12/3	Judy Wildeboer 12/20
Alex Fernandez 12/10	Lesley McKenzie 12/20
Jared Frail 12/12	Bryson Pothoven 12/22
Abby Johnson 12/15	Joey Hickerson 12/23
Pat Bardin 12/16	Eva White 12/24
Dave Bardin 12/17	Grace Morton 12/26
Chris Kladakis 12/17	Hannah Johnson 12/27
Jane Lambers 12/20	Andrea Cawley 12/31

## Anniversaries

Tom & Andrea Cawley 12/20
Dave & Pat Bardin 12/29