

Queen Anne after composing for her the *Utrecht te Deum (We Praise Thee, O God)* performed in 1713. In July 1717 Handel's *Water Music* was performed repeatedly on the River Thames for the king and his guests.

As time went on, Handel, once a sought-after composer, began to lose his popularity with his audiences who were changing with the times to more modern and more comical musical plays. They lost interest in his more formal approach to music. He started receiving indifferent responses from the public and eventually they withdrew support for him and his music completely. Handel, worn out and faced with financial problems and with the threat of debtors' prison, decided to leave England to return to his home of Germany. Before he left, Handel had one final concert series to benefit local hospitals in Dublin, Ireland in 1741. This concert series presented his new oratorio, *Messiah*. Handel wrote the *Messiah* score very quickly and intensely, completing it in 24 days. He poured himself into this oratorio which he thought was to be his last composition. This score was so successful that his musical career sprang to life once again.

Handel divided the *Messiah* into three parts containing different scenes:

Part I: The Annunciation: Scene 1: The prophecy of Salvation, 2: The prophecy of the coming of the Messiah, 3: Portents to the world, 4: Prophecy of the Virgin Birth, 5: The appearance of the Angel to the shepherds, 6: Christ's miracles

Part II: The Passion: 1: The redemptive sacrifice, scourging, and agony on the cross, 2: Christ's death and Resurrection, 3: His Ascension, 4: God discloses His identity in Heaven, 5: The beginning of evangelism, 6: The world and its rulers reject the Gospel, 7: God's triumph

Part III: The Aftermath: 1: The promise of redemption from Adam's fall, 2: Judgment Day, 3: The victory over death and sin, 4: The glorification of Christ.

While Handel's compositions include 42 operas, 29 oratorios, more than 120 cantatas, numerous trios, duets, arias, and chamber music, a large number of ecumenical pieces, and 16 organ concerti, it is *Messiah* that is most known and remembered throughout the world, especially during the Christmas season. While I cannot know his heart, I find it interesting that when Handel stopped trying to be "popular" and focused his composition on The Ultimate Truth in Scripture, he realized the most success. I pray that as our choir sings seven of the choruses from *Messiah* it will bless you this Christmas season.

In His Service,
Elizabeth Guest, Music Director

CHURCH INFORMATION

Website: www.secondpca.org
Telephone: Office (864) 232-7621

Fax: (864) 232-7622 * Email: info@secondpca.org
Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Information Centers: Church Services information 1 * Directions 2
Hospital Information 3 * Upcoming Events 4 * Church Directory 5 * Monthly Activities 6

Church Services: Sunday: Sunday School - 10:00 AM

Morning Worship - 8:30 and 11:00 AM * Evening Worship - 6:00 PM

Wednesday: Supper - 5:45 PM * Prayer Meeting and Bible Study - 6:45 PM

Radio Broadcast: Sundays, 9:00 AM, Station WLFJ 660 AM

Upcoming Events

Dec. 12	Congregational Meeting to elect Deacons and receive and support the 2011 budget
Dec. 12	Messiah Presentation at the evening service
Dec. 13	Young At Heart Christmas Luncheon
Dec. 13	Session Meeting
Dec. 14	WIC Circles
Dec. 15	Christmas Supper and Caroling Downtown
Dec. 16	Rivertree Singers at Second
Dec. 18	Jr. High Christmas Party at the Martins
Dec. 19	The Lord's Supper at the evening service
Dec. 21	College Class Christmas Party at the Shaws
Dec. 22	No Wednesday night activities
Dec. 22	Sr. High Christmas party at the Gambles
Dec. 23-27	Church Office Closed
Dec. 24	Lessons and Carols
Dec. 29	No Wednesday night activities
Dec. 30-31	Church Office Closed

New Baby

Congratulations to Gabe and Callie Fluhrer in the birth of their daughter, Anna Abigail on December 2, 2010. Anna weighed 5 pounds, 2 ounces. Both mother and daughter are doing well. We are thankful for the Fluhrer family and pray the Lord's blessings on their new arrival.

Music Notes

- ◆ Attention Parents: There will be no Wee Worship this Sunday, December 12, due to the Messiah presentation. Please keep your children with you for this special service.
- ◆ Wee Worship and covenant Choir will be singing on Christmas Eve at the Lessons & Carols service. Please have them arrive by 5:15 pm to rehearse. Thank you, Elizabeth.

Treasurer's Report

November 2010 & YTD Financial Status

	Actual		
	November 2010	YTD 2010	YTD Budget
Offerings	67,549	787,568	821,333
Outlays:			
Operating Expenses	62,936	639,974	674,252
Mission Disbursements	14,427	122,024	133,374
Total Outlays	77,364	761,998	807,626
Net Offerings (Outlays)	(9,814)	25,571	

Offerings in November were \$67,549 and expenses were \$77,364. Offerings for November were less than the monthly budget by \$7,118. YTD 2010 offerings are \$70,738 more than YTD 2009. To meet the 2010 budget, offerings for December need to be \$108,432, which is slightly less than December collections for 2009. The current projection is that the entire 2010 budget of \$896,000 is expected to be spent. If you have any questions, please contact Pat Holbrook or David Rainey.

Congregational Meeting

There will be a congregational meeting at 9:55 am in the sanctuary on December 12, to elect Deacons and to receive and support the 2011 budget. Immediately following the congregational meeting there will be a joint Sunday School class for all communicant members. Visitors will meet in the Chapel with Pastor Spears.

2011 Offering Envelopes

2011 offering envelopes are in the process of being prepared. If you or your children currently do not have offering envelopes and would like to receive them in 2011, please contact the church office, ext. 18. The Diaconate ask that all members use offering envelopes.

Young At Heart

The Young At Heart Christmas Luncheon will be Monday, **December 13** (not December 20) at 11:45 am in the Fellowship Hall. A special catered Christmas lunch will be \$7.00 per person payable at the door. Make your plans to join us as we enjoy good food, fellowship, and Christmas carols.

Year-End Contributions

Just a reminder that to obtain a 2010 charitable contribution deduction for income tax purposes, contributions must be received by the church no later than December 31.

Christmas Supper/Caroling Downtown

Our churchwide Christmas dinner will be Wednesday, December 15, at 5:45 pm in the gymnasium. Following supper we will walk downtown for Christmas caroling.

Perry Correctional Christmas Outreach

Second Church is sponsoring a dorm for Christmas and will orchestrate a Christmas program where each inmate receives a Bible, hygiene bag, and a meal. The Gospel will be preached and hymns of praise sung. The actual Christmas program will be held at the prison on Saturday, Dec. 11th. If you are interested in singing in a small choir or otherwise participating in the distribution of the food and hygiene items, please see Bill Watkins (304-4737).

All Wednesday night activities are cancelled for December 22 and December 29.

Christmas Poinsettias: Deadline-December 12

If you would like to purchase a Poinsettia in memory or honor of someone, please fill out the form below and leave it in the church office. (Please do not put in the offering plate.)

I would like to purchase _____ Poinsettia (s) at \$10.00 ea. Total: _____
In honor of: _____
In memory of: _____
Given by: _____
(Name) _____ Telephone # _____

Church Calendar

Sunday, December 12

8:30 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**
 9:50 AM Children's Chapel
 9:55 AM **Congregational Meeting to Elect Deacons and receive and support the 2011 budget followed by Joint Sunday School for Jr. High through Adults**
 10:00 AM **SUNDAY SCHOOL** (for 6th grade and under)
 11:00 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**
 5:30 PM Prayer in the Chapel for the Congregation and Officers
 6:00 PM **EVENING WORSHIP**
Selections from Handel's Messiah by the Adult Choir
Invite family and friends

Monday, December 13

11:45 AM Young At Heart Christmas Luncheon
 6:30 PM Session meeting
 7:00 PM Sr. High Girls' B'ball game at J. Knox
 8:00 PM Sr. High Boys' B'ball game at OLR

Tuesday, December 14

10:00 AM WIC Circle 1 meets at the church
 10:00 AM WIC Circle 3 meets at the home of Grace Cooley
 11:30 AM WIC Circle 5 Christmas Lunch at the church.
 6:00 PM Evangelism Explosion training
 7:00 PM WIC Circle 2 meets at the home of Tammy Looper
 7:00 PM WIC Circle 4 meets at the home of Christa Pomerlyan

Wednesday, December 15

5:45 PM **CHRISTMAS DINNER FOLLOWED BY CAROLING DOWNTOWN**

Thursday, December 16

9:30 AM WIC Precepts Bible Study: Hebrews 2

Friday, December 17

6:30 AM Men's Bible Study

Saturday, December 18

8:30 AM JC Boys B-ball game at OLR
 8:30 AM I-Mites B-ball game at W. Pres I
 9:30 AM JB Girls' B-ball game at 4th Pres.
 10:30 AM WIC Shower for Julia Holman
 10:45 AM Mites B'ball game at W. Pres. I
 11:30 AM JC Girls' B'ball game at 4th Pres.
 12:30 PM Midget Boys' B'ball game at OLR
 Jr. High Christmas Party at the home of the Martins

Operation Christmas Child

Thank you to all who filled shoe boxes for Operation Christmas child. We had 33 much appreciated boxes.

Remembering One Another

Remember in prayer this week the following member.
 Also, send her a note of encouragement.

Mrs. Sara Edwards
3 Ila Court
Greenville, SC 29611

The Second Presbyterian Church

105 River Street
 Greenville, South Carolina 29601-2537

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**WORSHIP AT SECOND
 THE LORD'S DAY
 DECEMBER 12, 2010**

MORNING WORSHIP
 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

KING OVER ALL

Psalm 47

Hymns: 195, 179, 73

Anthem:

Away In A Manger

Rev. Richard D. Phillips preaching

EVENING WORSHIP

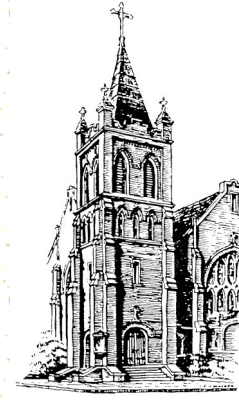
6:00 PM

Selections from Handel's Messiah

Please invite family and friends to share

in this special service to the glory of God.

«Title» «First Name» «Last Name»
 «Address Line 1»
 «Address Line 2»
 «City» «State» «ZIP Code»



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The Second Presbyterian Church

Corner of River and Rhett Streets
 Greenville, South Carolina

December 6, 2010

Letter From The Music Director Handel's Messiah

KING OF KING AND LORD OF LORDS! These words have inspired many for hundreds of years as they do us now in this Christmas season. This phrase is found in several different places throughout scripture; I Timothy 6:15, Revelation 17:14, and Revelation 19:16. It is a powerful statement of Jesus Christ's supreme authority over all other kings and lords of the earth and is found repeatedly in Handel's *Messiah*, from which our choir will be offering selections on Sunday evening, December 12.

George Frederic Handel was born in Halle, Germany on February 23, 1685, the same year as other musical greats Johann Sebastian Bach and Domenico Scarlatti. From an early age, Handel had a strong propensity towards music but his father, a surgeon, said that no one would ever make money, let alone a career, with music and insisted he study law. With help from an uncle, Handel sneaked a clavichord into the attic of his house and taught himself to play while his family slept. Shortly thereafter, George Frederic and his father traveled to the neighboring town of Weissenfels to the castle of Duke Johann Adolf I. Handel crept to the organ and started to play. The duke, upon hearing him urged Handel's father to allow young Handel to study music. His father agreed as long as he continued to study Law as well. From that point forward Handel not only pursued instrument studies but also studied harmony and counterpoint, analyzed sheet music scores, learned to work fugue subjects, and composition. He flourished in his lessons in musical composition and keyboard technique under Friedrich Wilhelm Zachow and in his organ lessons from the organist of the Lutheran Marienkirche. Handel was so skilled that sometimes he would take his teacher's place as organist for services.

In 1702, George Frederic Handel succeeded in getting an appointment as the organist at the local Protestant cathedral in Halle. After only a year there, Handel became dissatisfied and in 1703 moved to Hamburg accepting a position as violinist and harpsichordist in the orchestra of the opera house. His fascination with opera developed and he began to write Italian opera. In 1706 Handel moved to Italy to continue his opera composition and to accept musical work from the wealthy Medici family. While in Rome in 1707, Handel composed sacred music for the Roman clergy because opera was temporarily banned in the Papal States. In 1710, Handel became Kapellmeister (chief musician and composer) to the German prince George, Elector of Hanover (who would become King George I of Great Britain in 1714). Handel decided to settle permanently in England where he received a yearly income of £200 from