

The Cross & Crown

January 2012



PRINCE GEORGE WINYAH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

301 Screven Street ♦ Georgetown, South Carolina 29440 ♦ 843-546-4358 or 546-4375

Dear Friends,

Despite the great joy of Christmas, and the reality that in Jesus Christ God has (in the words of Isaiah 9:3-4) broken from off our backs the yoke, the burden and the rod of sin and death, it is still a fact of life that we struggle to live in that reality. In fact, as Isaiah said, we once walked in darkness and dwelt in a land of deep darkness, and now we have seen the great light, the Lord Jesus. Yet sometimes we still seem to live in the dark, in the shadows. We have the sadness of our losses – virtually all of us have either experienced a significant loss this past year, or are close to someone who did. We suffer from anxiety or depression – many of us have the constant pressures of lack of work and/or inadequate income; we worry about our children and their children, about our marriages and friendships, about our health, about our church, our country, the economy, the future. In short, sometimes the reality of our salvation in Christ from sin and death is overwhelmed by the reality of our finite, trouble-filled existence. For many of us, the “holiday season” paradoxically is a season of sadness and stress which the joy of Christmas does not manage to dispel.

I want to encourage us with a reminder that our Lord was a man of sorrows and familiar with suffering; that we do not have a savior who skipped the losses, pressures, sorrows and battering of this life, but one who suffered everything life can throw at us. He grew up in conditions we call poverty, having none of the conveniences we take for granted. He faced every temptation we face, and worse. He apparently lost His earthly father at a young age, His siblings thought He was deranged; He spent a lot of time alone. As a grown man He had friends for a short season, but most rejected Him and at the end they all deserted Him. He was persecuted undeservedly, He lost His job, He endured sham trials and was executed for crimes He did not commit. To top it all off, His Heavenly Father abandoned Him at His moment of greatest need.

Now, I am not saying, “Jesus did it – so can you,” or “Buck up! His suffering was worse than yours.” Not at all. I am saying that He lived a fully human life among us and because He suffered as we do, because He knows the worst of this life, He is able to help us – in fact He strongly desires to help us – not just to survive our sorrows and losses, but to persevere through them with His presence and comfort, and to come out better people, better Christians, stronger in our faith, and able to help others who suffer – able to comfort others with the comfort we have received. He does not promise that we will avoid the losses and pain of this life – He promises to go through them with us, to comfort and console, and, if we'll let Him, to use those hard things to help us become more like Him.

I pray for us all that this year ahead will be better than the last, filled with joy and success, and free from losses and sorrows. But if instead it is like every other year, I pray that we will each find the Lord's comfort, consolation and direction in the midst of this life, and allow Him to use our pain to His glory and the welfare of His people.

With love in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paul".

Christmas Thanks! We were overwhelmed with your generosity this year – in the many gifts and cards you sent, in the many, many ways you stepped in to serve in the parish, and in your generous Christmas gift for us. We are greatly blessed to be able to serve here at Prince George, and we thank you with all our hearts for your kindness, love and support. Paul & Becky

PARISH NEWS

Birthdays —————

January 1 Denise Delatte
January 2 Laura Gates
January 4 Laura Meyer
January 6 George Asnip
January 6 Mary Galphin
January 8 Frank Beattie
January 8 Mary Clark
January 8 Margaret Oliphant
January 13 Logan Trotter
January 14 Tom Winslow
January 16 Martha Allison
January 19 Mark Rogers
January 20 Marty Tennant
January 21 Mary Brown
January 22 Peter Mitchell
January 23 Chuck Larson
January 26 Patou Mclsaac
January 27 Martha Harper
January 28 Peter Dubay
January 28 Arthur Geer
January 29 Jane Rowland
January 31 Aleene Miller
January 31 Esther Temple
January 31 Lauren Winslow

Women's Monday Noon Bible Study

This study meets every Monday at 12:00. All women of the parish and their guests are welcome to attend at any time. For more information, contact Martha Allison, 546-5350.

St. Anne's

Meets Tuesday, Jan. 3rd at 10:00 am in the Parish Hall. All women of the church are invited.

Confirmation

Dec. 4th: Nathan Gates, Carson Myers, Delacy Rowland, George South, Jr., Christian Trotter

Received

Dec. 4th: Linda Abate, Paul Delatte, Denise Delatte, Irmgard Taylor

Reaffirmed

Dec. 4th: Edward Pocai, Barbara South

Baptism

Dec. 11th, Lillian Boyle Cromartie, daughter of Lori and Brad Cromartie

Join Us Thursday Morning at 10 a.m....

for a peaceful and intimate time of fellowship and prayer which concludes with Communion. There is opportunity to receive prayer for healing as well as anointing with oil for those who wish it. Please consider making this service a regular part of your week. God has blessed us with His presence, and with miracles of healing at our rail.

Praying for Those Who are Ill or Homebound

Each Sunday, as part of our prayers, we name those in our church family who are unwell, recovering from illness or surgery, or who are homebound. We need to lift them up during the week also as we go about our daily lives. In your quiet time or devotional time with our Lord, please lift up in prayer to our Lord: *Eliza Jagger, Ann Evans, Dick Manning, Mary Easley, Lauretta Dean, Caroline Stevens, Carolyn Bowen, Glynn Alexander, Ed Grant, Olga and Ernie Abbott, and Cathy Kearise.*

Visitation

Paul continues to make home and hospital visits to our sick and elderly. Please call, or have a member of your family call and let us know if you would like a visit. Hospitals will no longer show us a list of their patients, so when you are admitted, please have someone call Prince George Church to let us know.

Parents-2-B

"Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you" (Jer. 1:5)

Please pray for our expectant mothers, their babies, and their families. Parents-2-B are Leigh and Jason Boan, Brandi and Jeb Benson, Chelsea and Jason Hamshaw. If you know of any expecting Prince George families, please let us know so we can add them to our prayers.

Cursillo!

Cursillo is a great weekend held at Camp St. Christopher four times a year. The weekend is great fun with good food and fellowship, and most of all, time to experience God's love for you in a powerful way. Wherever you are in your Christian walk, *Cursillo* is an opportunity not to be missed. For more information, and names of people who have attended, contact Lauren Winslow or Paul Fuener at the church, 546-4358.

PARISH NEWS

Implementing the Vision

The second Sunday of the new year (Jan. 8th) during the 10:10 AM Adult Education time, we will be developing our plan to implement the new vision for Prince George. Key to the success of our new vision will be the active involvement of our congregation in general, along with leadership from several members. We will discuss the role of individuals who will participate in an immersion experience of study, prayer, and ministry. We will also discuss the seven "Coordinator" positions described in the vision. Finally, we will discuss the various ideas under each of the 5 emphases (learning, loving, worshiping, serving and proclaiming) to determine our initial priorities. While these are turbulent times in our society and in the Episcopal Church, these are also exciting times at Prince George. The opportunity to become more of a learning, loving, worshiping, serving and proclaiming church and to feel more powerfully the presence of the Holy Spirit in our midst is exhilarating. Join us as we seek to become more of what Jesus wants for His Church in our community!

Annual Parish Meeting

Our annual meeting will be held Sunday afternoon, January, 22nd at 4:00 pm.

Come prepared to vote on whom the Lord is calling onto the Vestry and for positions of Sr. and Jr. Wardens, and as delegates to Diocesan Conventions and to hear reports on the life and ministry of the Parish.

Adult Education: January 15, 2012 - February 19, 2012

40 Days of Love is designed for small group discussion. Rick Warren teaches that learning to love God and others is to be our highest goal, our greatest aim, our first priority, our deepest aspiration, our strongest ambition, our constant focus, our passionate intention, and our dominant life value. The more we learn how to love authentically, the more we become like Jesus. The study relates directly to the Vision Statement for Prince George Winyah Episcopal Church which emphasizes being a "Loving Church." Rick Warren's *Purpose Driven Life* was one of our most popular adult education programs, so *40 Days of Love* promises to be another engaging opportunity to grow in our faith and in our outreach to others.



Supper Clubs

Thank you for your enthusiastic response to Supper Clubs at Prince George. Our fall groups have come to an end and this is a great time to sign up for spring groups which will begin in February. You will be put into groups of about 8-10 people and each group should try to meet at least three times per season. If you'd like to sign up for a group, please call Lauren in the church office, 546-4358.

PARISH NEWS



December 4th Confirmands and Sponsors:

Thomas Rowland, Jane Rowland, Delacy Rowland, Linda Abate, Jason Hamshaw, Denise Delatte, Paul Delatte, Irmgard Taylor, Christian Trotter, Irene Trotter, Logan Trotter, Laura Gates, Edward Poci, Nathan Gates, Gary Gates, Barbara South, George South, Bishop Lawrence, Ben Hamshaw and Paul Fuener.

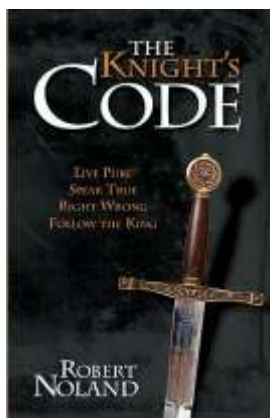


Messiah



What a beautiful way to worship! From the beautiful candlelit church, through the overture (featuring our very own string section, made up of the whole Gates family), the various choruses sung by our excellent choir, the solos sung by our own soloists (Sarah Blamire, Jason Hamshaw, Joe Nooft and Jeremy Vause), our amazing Junior Choir (with soloists, Susanna Blamire, Carolyn Culbertson, Maddy Gates, Jed Mackey, Delacy Rowland, Thomas Rowland, and Gloria Tennant) the sense of God's presence, the closing Hallelujah chorus sung by nearly everyone in church, to the wonderful mulled wine reception. Thank you to all the choir members, Jim Calk for playing the harpsichord and Drew and Joey Pittman for the wonderful trumpet. Thank you kitchen helpers for the reception and especially Jonathan Blamire for pulling all of this together.

Men's Ministry update



The **Christian Men's Conference** will be held at St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center on Seabrook island. We expect a large turnout this year and need to get everyone signed up ASAP. This guest speaker is Robert Noland, author of *The Knight's Code* (www.theknightscode.com).

FR Ron Greiser of

Resurrection is this year's chaplain. The conference vision is "Empowering men to be spiritual leaders in their homes, churches and communities".

Please contact Lee Jones, Lauren or Paul to let us know if you are interested.

For Men – Through the Week

Men's Tuesday Bible Study & Breakfast – meets every Tuesday at 7:00 am in the Parish Hall. Great food, warm fellowship, good discussion of God's word. All men are invited! Don't miss out! Startin *Galations* in January.

Men's Book Study – meets **Wednesdays at 7 am** at Thomas' Café. We've read a wide variety of books which have stimulated our thinking and enriched our understanding of our faith and modern culture. Guys, why not enjoy a **great breakfast, good fellowship**, and take a small step toward **living a holier life**. All men are welcome! Check with Paul or Jon, or with Peter Mitchell or Harry Oxner for more information.

PARISH NEWS

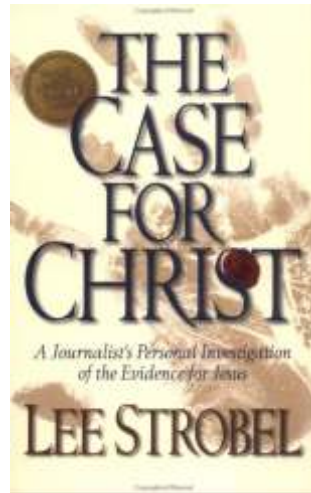
Women's ECW Bible Study

The Case for Christ – Lee Strobel

Is there credible evidence that Jesus of Nazareth really is the Son of God?

For many there has been little question, that Jesus is who He says He is in the Bible. But others have questions about the veracity of His claims and the truth of the Bible itself. It is helpful for everyone if we are able to enter into those discussions with some clarity and understanding of the evidence.

Retracing his own spiritual journey from atheism to faith, Lee Strobel, former legal editor of the Chicago Tribune, cross-examines several experts who are recognized authorities in their own fields. Strobel challenges them with questions like:



- How reliable is the New Testament?
- Does evidence for Jesus exist outside the Bible?
- Is there any reason to believe the resurrection was an actual event?

Strobel's tough, point-blank questions make this DVD study a captivating, and riveting quest for the truth about history's most compelling figure.

What will our verdict be in "The Case for Christ?"

7 sessions, commencing:

Tuesday January 10, 2012, 6:30pm, Rectory

Wednesday January 11, 2012, 9:30am, Parish Hall
Nursery available for the Wednesday sessions.

Thank You For Supporting Our Charities!

Your generosity has helped many people in need.

Don Corinna was delighted with the quantity of toys we collected for *Toys for Tots*. Don is a former Marine and works on this campaign every Christmas season.

Tracy Morris is very appreciative of those who participated in the Angel Tree giving. She had a wonderful response and is delighted that many children will have a wonderful Christmas because of your giving hearts.

We also had a great collection for Helping Hands. Area churches are assigned two months each year to help stock their food pantry. Well done, good and faithful servants!

Your Special Music

I am very happy to discuss playing something in honor of someone / celebration of an event or maybe just something you really like. This could be either on a Sunday or during *Midday Musical Moments* on a Wednesday. I also like to hear about hymns and worship songs that are special to you.

Jon Blamire

MERE ANGLICANISM

Coming to St. Philip's Church, Charleston, **January 19-21**, this great annual conference features speakers of international reputation including: Bp. Michael Nazir-Ali; Bp. Mark Lawrence; The Most Rev'd Benjamin Kwashi, Diocese of Jos; The Rev'd Dr. Richard Turnbull, Principal, Wycliffe Hall, Oxford; The Rt. Rev'd Richard Chartes, Bishop of London; the Very Rev'd Dr. Justyn Terry, dean of Trinity School for Ministry, and many others, addressing the history, present and future of Anglicanism. This will be a great, conference which we are blessed being able to attend with relative ease and low cost. Visit www.mereanglicanism.com/events.htm, for more information.



YOUTH NEWS

Confirmation Class 2012

For those interested in having their child confirmed, we have a year long program starting in February. Please let me know if you or your child would like to be confirmed. I will be sending letters out to students of eligible age, usually those currently in 7th grade or above. Jason

Love In The New Year

"You only love God as much as you love the person you love the least." Dorothy Day, the co-founder of the Catholic Worker Movement in 1933 made this profound statement.

Let's just stop right now and think about that quote. As we come to a new year and make new resolutions this is one that could transform our lives. When we turn to the issue of love and wanting to love others more, I doubt anyone would disagree. We know in our hearts that God is love and that he showed great love in dying on the cross for our sins, but it is difficult to quantify something that is so subjective. But God seems to link His love very deeply with our love for others- so much so that in 1 John 4:7-8 it says that the one who does not love others does not know God. Take this quote from Matthew 5, "If you love only those who love you, what reward is there for that? Even corrupt tax collectors do that much. If you are kind only to your friends, how are you different from anyone else? Even the pagans do that. But you are to be perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect." So we are to love as God loves. Now to bring you into the emotion of this statement, let me show you a modern day comparison between Rome and Israel. The Roman tax collectors can be likened to this: Imagine a terrorist group takes over America, and in order to fund themselves, they enlist some Americans to squeeze the people for money and gave them the power to take money off of the top of the taxes for themselves, at the threat of death or putting children and whole families into slavery. Jesus says even they know how to love their families. There is no blessing or reward in that. And Jesus says, you are no different from that person if your love looks the same as theirs. He says that anyone who isn't a Christian knows how to do that. Christian love is like love from the Father in heaven which is not limited to those who love him. But what does that look like?

God's love is declared in Christ. You probably have John 3:16 memorized. We know how God loved the world. He sent his son to die, and he loved the whole world this way- every sinner was so loved by God, that he sent his son to die for them. Are you starting to see the picture? I imagine that the Holy Spirit has already laid on your hearts those people that you find it most difficult to love- the people you find it most difficult to imagine dying for. Yet, with them, we all are unlovely. We all were in darkness, and in darkness evil perpetuates without this Love that stops the continual downward spiral into death. It is there that God rescues us from the sins for which the only punishment could be hell. And if he rescued us from such grave sin, and if we truly know God's love for us, how can we not seek that love for others?

Jesus compares the sins we commit against each other to a tiny speck compared our sins against God- or a million dollars compared to a few paper notes. Christian love is not easy by any means. It is not something we are capable of on our own. It requires that we know God, and in knowing God, there is a transformational work that rips out the unloveliness in our hearts, and gives us the heart of Christ instead.

Loving perfectly in this broken world is painful, and often looks exactly like Jesus as his body was executed and his emotions were pushed to the extreme test. Jesus went through Hell, and payed a great price for you and for the people you struggle to love. The deeper the wound that you face, the greater the work of the cross needs to be for you to have the freedom to love. And loving doesn't necessarily mean trust. We are to be wise as we give to those that are outside of our normal scope of vision. Your prayer may simply be, "I can't forgive alone. But help me, Lord, to love perfectly." Or it may be, "Open my eyes and my heart to live a life that isn't just like a tax collector."

So I encourage you this year, to see with new eyes and to feel with new emotions-to sympathize with Christ and to love as God loves.

"You only love God as much as you love the person you love the least." Dorothy Day



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>8am - HE I 9am - Breakfast, Parish 10am - HE II</p>	<p>Offices Closed 12pm - Women's Bible</p>	<p>10am - St. Anne's 3:45pm - Youth Sonic 5:30pm - Youth Bible Study</p>	<p>7am - Men's book Study 12pm - Midday Musical 4pm - Jr. Choir</p>	<p>10am - Healing Service 7pm - Sr. Choir Practice</p>		<p>2pm - Youth Hangout</p>
<p>8am - HE I 9am - HE II 10:10am - Adult Ed: Vision 11am - HE-II 5:15pm - Life Group- Sr.</p>	<p>12pm - Women's Bible</p>	<p>7am - Men's Bible Study 3:45pm - Youth Sonic 5pm - Vestry Meeting 5:30pm - Youth Bible Study 6:30pm - ECW Bible Study</p>	<p>7am - Men's book Study 9:30am - ECW Bible Study 12pm - Midday Musical 4pm - Jr. Choir</p>	<p>10am - Healing Service 7pm - Sr. Choir Practice</p>		<p>2pm - Youth Hangout</p>
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<p>8am - HE I 9am - HE II 10:10am - Adult Ed/ 11am - HE-II 4pm - Annual Meeting @</p>	<p>12pm - Women's Bible</p>	<p>7am - Men's Bible Study 3:45pm - Youth Sonic 5:30pm - Youth Bible Study 6:30pm - ECW Bible Study</p>	<p>7am - Men's book Study 9:30am - ECW Bible Study 12pm - Midday Musical 4pm - Jr. Choir</p>	<p>10am - Healing Service 7pm - Sr. Choir Practice</p>		<p>8am - Mere Anglicanism</p>
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Bishop Nazir-Ali, November 13th

Last month we had the honor of hosting Bp. Michael Nazir-Ali, retired Bishop of Rochester (England) and our Diocese's Visiting Bishop for Anglican Communion Relationships, and one of the most highly respected and well-known bishops in the Anglican Communion. Bp. Michael led an Adult Education forum at 10 am, where he spoke about the issues facing the Communion today, and then responded to our questions. He preached at our 11 am service, and on Monday traveled to Camp St. Christopher where he led our annual clergy conference.

Upcoming Events - Important Dates

Lessons & Carols Service	January 1	10:00 am, church (8 am, Rite I; 9 am, breakfast)
Vision Implementation Sunday	January 8	10:10 am, Parish Hall
Annual Parish Meeting	January 22	4:00 pm, Parish Hall



Prince George Winyah Episcopal Church

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The *Cross and Crown* is produced monthly by Prince George Winyah Episcopal Church. If you have information for an upcoming issue, please email your ideas or articles to the church office, church@pgwinyah.org.



EMERGENCY Numbers

(Clip and Save)

Paul Fuener	Rector	c) 340-7688	h) 527-0288
Dave Starnes	Senior Warden	c) 543-5614	h) 527-1692
Andy Crocker	Junior Warden	c) 340-5348	h) 520-0594
Jon Blamire	Music Director	c) 833-7653	
Jason Hamshaw	Youth Minister	c) 860-2456	
Tracy Morris	Children's Minister	c) 520-6709	h) 545-5406
Church Office		843-546-4358	

Or Current Resident