



THE VOICE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF SHANDON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

December 2025 | Volume 66, Issue 11

BRINGING OUR BEST TO JESUS THIS CHRISTMAS

"On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother;
and they knelt down and paid him homage.
Then, opening their treasure chests,
they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh."

Matthew 2:11



Rev. Smoke Kanipe

Senior Pastor

skanipe@shandonumc.org

The wise men did not fully understand who Jesus was—the Messiah of Israel, the Son of God, the Son of Man, etc. But from their study of the stars and planets, they knew that a great king was being born. And so they traveled hundreds of miles—a journey that would have taken weeks—to offer gifts to this new king. And these were no run-of-the-mill gifts bought at the Bethlehem Walmart. The wise men gave baby Jesus gold, frankincense, and myrrh—the best of the best.

Isn't it interesting how things have gotten turned around over the years? Jesus doesn't get gifts at Christmas — WE DO. LOTS OF GIFTS. Recent surveys estimate that the average American spends about \$1,000 on Christmas gifts. That means that as a nation, we spend between \$300 billion to \$ 400 billion on Christmas gifts... for ourselves. AND IT ISN'T EVEN OUR BIRTHDAY!

How much are you planning on spending on Christmas presents this year? And how much are you planning to spend this Christmas on birthday presents for Jesus? Can you imagine if the average American were to give \$1,000 this Christmas to a church, a food bank, a homeless shelter, or some other charity? Wouldn't that warm Jesus' heart? **After all, IT'S HIS BIRTHDAY!**

Grace and peace,

Smoke



THANKS-LIVING

Thank you for your generous support of our Annual Thanksgiving Food Collection. Your donations in worship, along with the Fourth Grade Sunday School Class collecting food and the Genesis Class contributing toward turkeys, all came together to help FIRE provide groceries and turkeys to families in need.

See your generosity in action by scanning the QR code or watching FIRE's Thanksgiving video:
youtube.com/watch?v=cxFjVfDj3rg



Memorials and Honorariums

IN MEMORIAM

In Loving Remembrance of Shandon UMC Members...

Thomas "Tommy" Wayne Sanders

April 8, 1946 - November 6, 2025

In Memory of Bill Cox

Clelia P. Moore

In Memory of Russell Herring

Carolyn and Eric Holgate

In Memory of Larry Kirkland

Clelia P. Moore

In Memory of Jay Latham

Clelia P. Moore

In Memory of Joe Lawrence

The Information Technology and Bridge

Management teams at SCDOT

George Huggins Upper Room Sunday

School Class

Donna and Chuck Lawrence

Nancy and Warren Mauterer

Clelia P. Moore

Saundra and Albert E. Sharp

Mikel C. Smith

Penny and Jamie Spell

Deanna and Charlie Suggs

The Watts Family

In Memory of William L. Pope

Lucy Coleman

In Memory of Tommy Sanders

Claire and Frank Manning

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Walkup

In Memory of Gene Starr

Clelia P. Moore

In Memory of Jim Wood

Clelia P. Moore

Glenda Wood

In Honor of Anne Boyle

JOY Class

In Honor of Garrett Bradshaw

The Posey Family

In Honor of Smoke Kanipe

Peggy Lawrence

In Honor of Gardner Long

Anne Cox

In Honor of Bill Walkup

Kevin and Rami McCutchen

FLOWERS at the ALTAR

Sunday, December 28

The flowers at the altar are given in loving memory of **Marion and Rachel Knox** by Barbara Cobb.

POINSETTIAS TO HONOR A LOVED ONE

During the first three Sundays of December, poinsettias will be used to decorate our worship spaces throughout Advent and the Christmas season.

Each year, we place poinsettias in our worship spaces to honor and remember our friends and loved ones. If you would like to honor or remember someone this holiday season, please fill out the Poinsettia Order Form located in your pew and place it in the offering plate. You can also complete the form online at shandonumc.org/events. The cost is \$15, and **the deadline is Wednesday, December 3.**

The list of those honored will be published in the Christmas Eve bulletins.



CHRISTMAS AT SHANDON

As we prepare our hearts for the Advent season, we invite you to join us for the many celebrations and worship opportunities that make Christmas at Shandon so special. Mark your calendars and share in the joy of this meaningful season together.

HANGING OF THE GREENS

Sunday, November 30 – 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Traditional services in the Sanctuary
Music by the Celebration Choir and Wesley Ringers Handbell Choir

USC CONCERT CHORUS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Friday, December 5 – 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Free and open to all.

CHANCEL CHOIR & ORCHESTRA CHRISTMAS MUSIC

Sunday, December 7 – 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services in the Sanctuary
Music by the Chancel Choir and Orchestra

SWEET ADVENT CANDY CRÈCHE EVENT

Sunday, December 7 – 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The Children and Family Ministry Team invites families to a fun-filled evening as we create a Candy Crèche—a nativity scene made entirely from candy! This family-friendly event welcomes everyone, and a nursery will be provided for infants through 2-year-olds with reservations. More information and registration: shandonumc.org/events

ST. NICHOLAS AND CHERUB CHOIRS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Wednesday, December 10 – 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

CONNECTIONS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Friday, December 12, at 11:30 a.m. in Player Hall

Adults 65 and older are invited to dress in their most festive holiday attire and join us for a fun-filled afternoon of holiday games (with prizes), musical entertainment, and a buffet lunch. Please RSVP by Tuesday, December 9, to Susan Curran via email (scurran@shandonumc.org) or text (803-466-1344) with your name and the number of guests attending.

EDDIE HUSS AND FRIENDS 14TH ANNUAL BENEFIT CONCERT

Sunday, December 14 – 4:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Featuring Bradley Fuller, Kipp Gill, Annette Matthews, Owen Connolly, and Eddie Huss. This concert will benefit Camp Kemo at Prisma Children's Hospital. Camp Kemo provides fun, medically safe, and therapeutic psychological services for families and patients navigating childhood cancer and blood disorders.

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Thursday, December 18 – 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

If you or someone you know is experiencing sorrow or a challenging time during the holiday season, join us for a candlelight service of support and encouragement.



O Come Let Us Adore Him

FAMILY CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Sunday, December 21 - 4:00 p.m.

Children and their parents are invited to join us for Christmas Caroling on Sunday, December 21, at 4:00 p.m. (Optional: arrive at 3:30 p.m. in Player Hall to make a simple ornament to give to the homes we visit.) We'll meet in the church parking lot at 4:00 p.m. to travel by bus or caravan to the homes of Shandon members for a joyful evening of singing familiar Christmas favorites, no rehearsal needed. Please sign up in advance at shandonumc.org/events. Questions? Contact Cari at ctreece@shandonumc.org.



CHRISTMAS EVE SCHEDULE

Wednesday, December 24

- 2:00 p.m. Communion Service
- 4:00 p.m. Child-Friendly Service with Live Nativity
- 6:00 p.m. Child-Friendly Service with Live Nativity
- 9:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion Service — Sanctuary

Please join us for one of our child-friendly Christmas Eve worship services at 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. Please plan to enjoy the live nativity on the front lawn of the church, 20 minutes after the 4:00 p.m. service and 20 minutes before the 6:00 p.m. service.



2025 ADVENT OFFERING

Although this year has presented challenges for many of us, it has been particularly difficult for our neighbors who face food and housing insecurity. As we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ, let us spread the love of Christ through our Advent Offering as we give generously to the following organizations:

- Haiti Missions
- Homeless No More
- Habitat For Humanity

MAKE YOUR GIFT ONLINE: Visit shandonumc.org/give and select **Advent Offering** from the list of funds.

Text-to-Give: Text 73256 and enter SUMC. You will receive a return text with a link to complete your gift.

MAKE YOUR GIFT BY CHECK: Make checks payable to Shandon UMC, 3407 Devine Street, Columbia, SC 29205. In the memo line, write **Advent Offering**.

GIFT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT CARDS:

You may honor someone special with a gift to our Advent Offering. Gift Acknowledgement Cards are available to let them know a donation has been made in their honor. Cards can be picked up from the cabinet in the Bruner Building hallway or outside the worship spaces.



Missions in Haiti



HOMELESS NO MORE
putting families first



Central South Carolina
Habitat
for Humanity®

BE PART OF THE LIVE NATIVITY ON CHRISTMAS EVE!

Help bring the Christmas story to life—complete with live animals! We're seeking volunteers to portray nativity characters during one of two shifts on Christmas Eve:

- During and after the 4:00 p.m. Child-Friendly Service
- Before and during the 6:00 p.m. Child-Friendly Service

Available roles:

- Wise Men (adults) & Servants (children) – great for a parent and child
- Shepherds – 1 adult/youth and children
- Angels – 1 adult/youth and children

Participants will process down the sanctuary aisle during their portion of the Christmas story and remain at the front of the sanctuary. Each group will also spend about 20 minutes outside with the animals either before or after their assigned service.

Important: Parents are responsible for supervising their children at all times while they are volunteering. Adults are welcome to volunteer alongside their children.

Sign up at shandonumc.org/events. Roles are limited and will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

Advent begins on November 30. Be sure to pick up your Advent devotional, which includes six short reflections and questions for both children and adults to guide us through the Advent and Christmas season. A supplemental coloring page booklet is also available to take home.. Each of the devotions includes the following:

- Suggested scripture to read
- A reflection that is geared toward youth and adults
- A shorter reflection on the scripture for children
- Questions for children
- A "Going Deeper" section with questions for all ages
- Optional coloring pages

Both Advent Devotionals and Coloring pages are available at the sanctuary and LifeLine entrances. Pick up one or both today.

SHANDON UNITED METHODIST PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN 2026-27 REGISTRATION INFORMATION

The deadline for church member priority on the waiting list is December 31, 2025.

Church members receive priority status for enrollment for the 2026-27 school year only if the child's name is added to or confirmed on the waiting list before December 31, 2025.

If you would like to add your child's name to our waiting list, please visit our website at sumpk.org to complete the form by December 31, 2025.

To confirm your child's name is on the waiting list, please call (803) 256-1498 by December 31, 2025. Registration for the 2026-27 school year will be held in February 2026.



MANNA REFRESHED - DECEMBER MENU

Join us for Manna Dinner on Wednesdays from 5:00–6:00 p.m. in Player Hall—a weekly chance to share a good meal and connect with your church family. Pre-order at shandonumc.org/manna; meals are \$9 for adults and \$4 for children, and childcare is available in the gym from 5:30–7:30 p.m.

- **December 3:** Make your Own Breakfast Sandwich - Eggs, Turkey Sausage, Canadian Bacon, Whole Wheat English Muffins, Grits, Fruit, Homemade Biscuits, and Yogurt Parfait with Homemade Granola.
- **December 10:** Grilled Greek Chicken, Roasted Red Potatoes, Sauteed Green Beans, Cucumber Salad, Mixed Green Salad, Homemade Bread, Fruit, and Dessert.

The Kid's Meal for December is chicken fingers, clementine, and yogurt

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

All men are invited to join us on Thursday, **December 18**, from 7:30-8:15 a.m. in Player Hall for our Men's Prayer Breakfast. Chef Tim will be providing his usual delicious full breakfast, which will be followed by a short program led by Gene Watts. Please join us and bring a friend to be filled with food, fellowship and faith.

BOOK CLUB MEETING

The Shandon UMC Book Club meets on the third Thursday of each month. Our next meeting is **Thursday, December 18**, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in Room 224 on the second floor of the Bruner Building. We are reading *Beaver Girl* by Cassie Premo Steele. Newcomers are welcome, and our selections span a wide range and are chosen six months at a time. To receive reminders, email Gera Singletary at davegera4@icloud.com.

VOLUNTEER TAX PREPARERS NEEDED

The Cooperative Ministry is recruiting volunteers for the 2026 tax season to assist in preparing free tax returns for individuals and families with incomes of \$67,000 or less. Volunteers serve seniors, people with disabilities, and neighbors who speak limited English. No prior tax experience is required, as all necessary training is provided. This is a meaningful local mission opportunity with ten convenient sites across the Columbia area. If you want to make a real difference for a family this tax season, consider volunteering. For more information, please email vita@coopmin.org or visit coopmin.org/vita.

STEPHEN MINISTRY - STRENGTH IN SUFFERING?

Our culture celebrates standing strong alone, but that is not how God designed us. In Genesis 2:18-22, God shows that we are created for a relationship with Him and with one another. Real strength in hard seasons comes from God and the support around us. As the holidays approach, Stephen Ministers are here for you. Please reach out to Rev. Smoke Kanipe, (803) 256-8383 or skanipe@shandonumc.org if you need care.



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

Through warm fellowship, spiritual growth, and dedicated service, women of all ages are invited to grow in Christ, support each other, and care for others through local and global missions. The Shandon United Women in Faith is composed of nearly 150 women of all ages, with four Circles and a Youth Circle that meet regularly during the school year. New members are always welcome.

Augusta Beckman Circle

Player Hall at 3:00 p.m. on December 8, 2025
(Meets on the Monday after the first Tuesday.)
Contact: Diane Bruner, (803) 609-0891

Mary Campbell Circle

Player Hall at 6:00 p.m. on December 9, 2025
(Meets on the second Tuesday of the month.)
Contact: Angie Moore, (803) 261-4464

Naomi & Ruth Circle

Committed Disciples Classroom (Knox) at 6:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month.
Contact: Sara Roberts Ruzensky, (803) 280-0558

Susanna Wesley Circle

Meets at 6:00 p.m. at rotating locations on the second Tuesday of the month.
Contact: Jennifer Davis, (803) 920-6527



The Augusta Beckman Circle met to create coastal-style magnolia décor using oyster shells and driftwood.

READING PROGRAM: "NURTURING FOR COMMUNITY"

All members of circles, Shandon UMC, and guests are invited to join United Women in Faith and Betty Neal on **Monday, January 12, 2026**, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. in Player Hall for a discussion of *The Woman* by Kristin Hannah. The book is available on Amazon.

UPDATE ON ALLEN FUND SCHOLARSHIPS

The Allen Fund's bylaws state that scholarships may only be awarded up to the amount the fund earns in a given year. With the scholarships granted in June 2025, we have reached the fund's projected annual earnings. Because of this, the Allen Fund will need to pause additional scholarship awards until the fall semester of 2026.

As you consider year-end giving, we invite you to consider a gift to The Allen Fund. Your support helps grow the fund, enabling us to continue providing scholarships to Shandon members, Epworth students, and children of Methodist foreign missionaries supported by our church. Make checks payable to Shandon UMC and write "Allen Fund" on the memo line or give online at shandonumc.org/give by selecting "Allen Christian Education Fund."

MISSION OPPORTUNITY IN GUATEMALA

Healing Guatemala is a nonprofit organization based in the US that aims to provide physical, social, and spiritual healing to those living in Guatemala. It is operated by the Rev. Dr. Luke Rhyee, a pastor in the South Carolina Annual Conference. Medical and construction teams are needed. If you are interested in learning more about this mission opportunity and joining a United Methodist Volunteers in Mission (UMVIM) team, please contact Jennifer Parker at jpclemsongirl@gmail.com or Sue Haddock at Ksuehaddock@gmail.com. Tentative trip dates are April 20-30, 2026, so don't delay!

PATH TO MEMBERSHIP - TAKE THE TREK

TREK, Shandon's new member path, is a three-session journey designed to help you connect with others who are new to Shandon, explore our campus, and learn more about the Christian faith and the United Methodist Church. Along the way, you'll also discover opportunities to serve and to be supported as you grow in your faith. For more information about TREK, please contact Rev. James Grubb at jgrubb@shandonumc.org. Childcare is available. Sign up at shandonumc.org/trek.

January 2026 TREK Course Schedule

Sunday, January 11, 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, January 25, 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, January 28, 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

MOBILE MAMMOGRAPHY VAN

The Prisma Health Mobile Mammography Van will visit Shandon UMC again on **Tuesday, January 6**, in our parking lot across Devine Street. They have been offering this invaluable opportunity to the women of Shandon for over twenty years. It is easy, convenient, and very possibly life-saving! Please call (803) 434-9100 to make your reservation. Be sure to specify the date and the location—Shandon United Methodist, and please bring an ID and your insurance card. We look forward to seeing you there. If there are questions, please call Margaret Hays at (803) 331-8356.

SUPPORT OUR 2026 BUDGET!

To date, we have received 234 pledges totaling \$2,076,477 in support of our 2026 budget.

Thank you to all who have pledged! If you have not yet submitted your pledge, you can mail in your Commitment Card or visit shandonumc.org/pledge.



STEWARDSHIP: Thank You For Your Faithfulness!

GIFTS - OPERATING BUDGET

Month of October 2025		Year-To-Date 2025	
Revenues:	\$233,121	Revenues:	\$2,387,233
Expenses:	299,048	Expenses:	2,715,713
Net:	\$(65,927)	Net:	\$(328,480)

WAYS TO GIVE

- 1 IN PERSON**
Give during service or during office hours
- 2 ONLINE**
shandonumc.org/give
- 3 REALM APP**
Find Realm Connect in the app store
- 4 TEXT**
Text 73256 and enter SUMC

QUESTIONS? Contact nprobst@shandonumc.org

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN

Join us Sunday mornings at 9:45 a.m. as children grow in faith and explore God's Word together.

December Sunday School lessons

- **2 & 3 year olds:** Bible story & songs
- **3rd grade:** Overview of the Bible/Bible skills
- **4K-2nd, 4th-5th:** Christmas from the Gospels
- **6th grade:** All I Want for Christmas/Gold, Frankincense & Myrrh



POPCORN & MOVIE

On **Sunday, December 28**, the children's "Popcorn and Movie" will also feature Bible Bingo during the Sunday school hour in Player Hall for our 4-year-old to 5th-grade children.

SAFE SANCTUARY REMINDER OF THE MONTH

Children through 5th grade should not walk alone on campus. They should be escorted by an adult or a youth (6th grade or up). This includes leaving during worship, Manna, or any other activities.

METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP (MYF)

Methodist Youth Fellowship is the place for 7th through 12th graders to fellowship, play games, and grow in their relationship with Christ. We usually meet on Sundays, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Zone at church. However, please refer to our schedule below for special events and to see what we have planned for each night.



December 7: Advent Craft Night for MYF. Join us for dinner, a short Bible study, and a special Christmas craft activity. We will meet from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Zone.

December 14: MYF Christmas Party! Invite a friend to join us for games, dinner, and a gift exchange at our annual Christmas party. We ask each student to wear their Christmas pajamas and bring a wrapped or bagged gift to exchange. The gifts should cost \$10 or less. The party will be from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Zone.

December 21: MYF out for dinner at Groucho's on Forest Drive. Join us for dinner at Groucho's from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Students should bring money for their meals.

December 28: We will not meet for MYF on December 28. We will celebrate the new year together on January 4.

WINTER 2026 DOORWAYS CLASSES

Look for it! Don't miss out! That's right, it's time to register for a 2026 Winter Doorways class. Beginning the week of January 4, 2026, we will offer 12 Bible Study classes covering an array of topics, available during the day and after work, with a variety of teaching styles. Registration is available at shandonumc.org/events.



Course Schedule

GriefShare

Leaders: Susan Brant and Hunter Griffin

Book: Materials supplied at the first class for a \$20 donation

When: Sundays, 2:30–4:30 p.m., January 18 – April 19 (13 weeks)

Room: Path Finders Classroom, Knox 214

Childcare: Yes

Loss brings deep grief. If you need a safe place to talk through sadness, loneliness, fears, anger, regrets, or questions for God, this group offers support and guidance from Shandon's Stephen Ministers.

The Chosen – Season 1

Leaders: Julie Allen and Ashley Brantley

When: Mondays, 6:00–7:30 p.m., January 5 – February 23 (8 weeks)

Location: Home of Ashley Brantley

Curious about *The Chosen*? Want a study without homework? Enjoy watching all 8 episodes with a small group of women, followed by thoughtful conversation. A light meal is provided each week. Maximum 10; waiting list available.

The Chosen – Season 2

Leaders: Linda Foy and Sue Haddock

When: Mondays, 6:00–7:30 p.m., January 5 – February 23 (8 weeks)

Location: Home of Linda Foy

Continue the journey through Season 2. Whether you're watching for the first time or returning to notice new details, you're welcome. Maximum 15; waiting list available.

Monday Men's Group – A Journey Through the Gospels

Leader: James Grubb

Book: Bring your Bible

When: Mondays, 6:00–7:00 p.m., January 5 – March 23 (12 weeks)

Room: Player Hall

Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John—the Gospels. Each book speaks to us in different ways, and all show us the life and teachings of Jesus. Join other men as Pastor Grubb takes you on a journey through the first four books of the New Testament. Come explore and learn together while building community with others.

Forgiving What You Can't Forget

Leader: Tiffany Anderson

Book: *Forgiving What You Can't Forget* by Lysa TerKeurst, ISBN: 0718039874, Study Guide: ISBN: 031014647X

When: Mondays, 6:15–7:15 p.m., January 5 – February 9 (6 weeks)

Room: Foundation Classroom, Knox 209

Homework: Read the Introduction and Chapters 1–2

Learn a biblical approach to forgiveness and how to quiet the emotional triggers that keep you stuck.

Prayer Group

Leader: Lilla Ann Briggs

When: Tuesdays, 10:00–11:00 a.m. (ongoing)

Location: Zoom

Join a weekly prayer gathering to lift up concerns and support one another. For the Zoom link, email Lilla Ann at forigivento@gmail.com or call (803) 260-0765.



**Questions or help
deciding which class is
just right for you?**

Call Ruthie Taylor
(803) 318-7484.

Simply Living Well

Leader: Lesli Wood

Location: Lesli's home; limited to 10 women

Book: Resources provided at the first meeting

When: Tuesdays, 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m., January 13 – February 24 (7 weeks)

Explore what it means to “live well” through faith, nutrition, movement, purpose, and community. Each week includes a simple plant-based meal and an invitation to reflect on life habits.

Lessons from a Tree Farmer

Leader: Ruthie Taylor

Book: Bring your Bible

When: Wednesdays, 10:30–11:30 a.m., January 14 – March 4 (8 weeks)

Room: Wesley Hall

Dig into eight agricultural scriptures and learn practical lessons from God the Gardener—green thumb not required.

Ruth and Esther

Leader: Terry Goodfellow

Book: *Ruth & Esther*, LifeChange Bible Study, ISBN: 0891090746

When: Wednesdays, 6:00–7:00 p.m., January 21 – March 4 (6 weeks; skipping Ash Wednesday)

Room: Foundation Classroom, Knox 209
Childcare is available.

Study two courageous women whose faithfulness played a role in God's larger plan.

Iron Sharpens Iron – A Journey Through the Gospels

Leader: James Grubb

Book: Bring your Bible

When: Wednesdays, 6:00–7:00 p.m., January 7 – March 25 (12 weeks; skipping Ash Wednesday)

Room: Game Room, Youth Zone
Childcare is available.

Men's group study through the Gospels with Pastor Grubb, sharing conversation and community.

When Women Pray

Leader: Katie Dalenburg

Book: *When Women Pray* by T.D. Jakes, ISBN: 1546015582

When: Thursdays, 10:00–11:30 a.m., January 8 – March 26 (12 weeks)

Room: Parlor

Explore the stories of ten faithful women and the power of prayer in shaping lives and communities.

Matchless: The Life and Love of Jesus

Leader: Lilla Ann Briggs

Book: *Matchless* by Angie Smith

When: Thursdays, 3:00–5:00 p.m., January 8 – March 26 (12 weeks)

Location: Home of Lilla Ann Briggs

Discover the mission, message, and miracles of Jesus, whether you are new to faith or have walked with Him for years.

Behind the Scenes of the New Testament

Leader: Smoke Kanipe

When: Monthly Thursdays, 6:00–7:00 p.m.

Room: Knox 209

Book & Homework: Read each book before the month's class

Dive into the everyday lives of ordinary people in the New Testament world through historical fiction. Attend any session that interests you.

- **January 22:** *A Week in the Life of a Roman Centurion*, ISBN 0830824626
- **February 19:** *A Week in the Life of a Greco-Roman Woman*, ISBN 0830824847
- **March 19:** *A Week in the Life of the Fall of Jerusalem*, ISBN 0830851739
- **April 23:** *A Week in the Life of Ephesus*, ISBN 0830824855

*Ask and it will be given to you; seek and
you will find; knock and the
door will be opened to you.
Matthew 7:7*





Shandon Around the Carolinas: Our Student Ministry spent the weekend at Ridge Haven in Brevard, NC, for their annual fall retreat, and our Connections Ministry enjoyed a festive day at the Southern Christmas Show in Charlotte, NC.

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Security:
Cedrick Finney, Lisa Gibbs, Tori Gregg, Michael White

Maintenance:
Jim Morrow