

# PROCLAIM



Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous works among all the peoples! - 1 Chronicles 16:24

A Newsletter of Christ Chapel

Issue 1, Volume 1

November 27, 2005

## Welcome to Christ Chapel's newsletter.

Welcome to the first issue of *Proclaim!* Our new church newsletter will keep you informed about upcoming events and issues so you can stay connected with all that is happening at Christ Chapel.

With each newsletter, you will be able to read my monthly column. Also, Pastors Thomas and Pete will have special items related to our music and youth ministries as well as Elder and Trustee updates along with many other special features. Each issue of *Proclaim* will be available as an e-newsletter (send us your e-mail address!) or copies will be available in the church foyer.

It is fitting that the first issue is released during Advent. Advent is a sacred season in the life of the church. As we look back in awesome wonder at the first coming of Christ, we are also encouraged to look ahead in eager expectation for His stunning return.

Advent is intended to be a season of reflection. However, the hectic pace that has become all  
~ Continued on page 3 ~



## Dr. Ravi Zacharias to speak at Christ Chapel on Saturday, Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>

Christian apologist and lecturer Dr. Ravi Zacharias will be speaking on "Navigating with Absolutes in a Relativistic World" at Christ Chapel on December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7 p.m.

Dr. Zacharias and his organization, Ravi Zacharias International Ministries, Inc. are distinctive in their strong evangelistic and apologetic approach. Their intentions are to touch both the heart and the intellect of the thinkers and opinion-makers of society with the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

In his weekly radio broadcast, *Let My People Think*, Dr. Zacharias powerfully mixes Biblical teaching and Christian apologetics in programs that explore issues such as life's meaning, the credibility of the Christian message and the Bible, the weakness of modern intellectual movements, and the uniqueness of Jesus Christ. *Let My People Think* airs on WEZE 590 AM at 5:00 a.m. on Saturday and 7:30 a.m. on Sunday.

Dr. Zacharias' notable array of public appearances include addresses at the United Nations, the National Day of Prayer in Washington D.C, the writers of the peace accord in South Africa. He has also spoken in numerous universities including Harvard, Princeton and Oxford.

We have received a strong response from people throughout New England that plan to attend the December 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting, so **we recommend that you plan to arrive early.**

## Christ Chapel Holiday Service Schedule

Veritas Academy Christmas Pageant  
Friday, December 9  
6:30 p.m.

Sunday School Christmas Pageant  
Sunday, December 18  
6:00 p.m.

Lessons and Carols  
Sunday, December 11  
5:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve  
5:00 p.m.

Elisabeth von Trapp  
in Concert  
Tuesday, December 13  
7:00 p.m.

Christmas Day  
10:00 a.m.

New Years Day  
10:00 a.m.





# Why Advent? ~ Pastor Thomas



The season of Advent is a time of preparation for Christmas. Observance of the Advent season dates from the sixth century in Gaul. Its observance in the church of today offers meaningful opportunities to give attention to the great proclamation "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:14) and the assurance it brings that God has entered into human history through the incarnation of the Son.

At its core, Advent is a season of waiting. Its purpose is to cultivate our awareness of God's actions -- past, present, and future. During this season we reflect on God's kingdom from two standpoints: that of Jewish hopes for renewal, fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ, and that of the mission of the Church in contemporary society as we await Christ's second advent. As we journey through the season of Advent we hear the prophecies of the Messiah's coming addressed to us as those who wait for Christ's second coming. In Advent we heighten our anticipation for the ultimate fulfillment of all Old Testament promises, when the wolf will lie down with the lamb, death will be swallowed up, and every tear will be wiped away. In this way, Advent highlights for us the larger story of God's redemptive plan.

A deliberate tension is built into our observance of the Advent season. Christ has come, and yet not all things have reached completion. As we remember Israel's waiting and hoping and give thanks for Christ's birth, we also anticipate His second coming at the end of time. For this reason Advent began as a penitential season, a time for discipline and intentional repentance in the confident expectation and hope of Christ's coming again. The Advent season includes the four Sunday preceding Christmas. Our worship on these Sundays is designed to help us learn to better live in the tension that exists between celebrating and hoping.

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**As we journey through the season of Advent we hear the prophecies of the Messiah's coming**

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## Lessons and Carols

*December 11th at 6:00 p.m.*



As has been our custom for many years, Christ Chapel will offer *A Festival of Eight Lessons and Carols* on Sunday, December 11 at 5:00 p.m. Led by our own 40+ voice Chancel Choir, this specially designed service provides an excellent opportunity to share the Christ of Christmas with those who may not yet have come to full awareness of who He is and why He came to earth. God has been gracious in gifting our church with a very dedicated group of choristers, and their ministry and message in song is a blessing that should be shared freely with our community at large.

The program for this service will include a mixture of familiar and new Christmas music with pipe organ and piano accompaniment. Those in attendance will join in singing many of the glorious carols of the season that never fail to warm the heart. Choral anthems include compositions by Praetorius, Handel, Mendelssohn, John Rutter, and others. All are welcome for this inspiring holiday presentation. Refreshments will be served following the program, and childcare for infants and toddlers will be provided.

## Sunday School

### Christmas Pageant

*December 18th at 6:00 p.m.*

The students of our Sunday School will present their Christmas program, *Pictures of Christmas* on Sunday, December 18 at 6:00.

Students in each of our classes from the toddlers right up to the Sr. High School will share the Christmas story in word and art. As each class shares its portion of the Christmas story in narration and song, art work that they have created to illustrate the various segments of the Christmas narrative will be displayed on the large screen above the choir loft.

You and your family will not want to miss this special service of celebration and praise and the chance it provides to see how God is working in the lives of our students.

## Youth Ministry News & Notes



I just finished checking weather.com for the temperatures in Nashville this weekend (Nov. 18th - 20th). The bad news is the highs are only going to be in the 50s. The good news is I'll still enjoy a time of renewal and personal growth at the National Youth Specialties convention. Youth Specialties is probably the biggest name in youth ministries, and they will have some of the nations top youth speakers, worship leaders, and Christian bands. Another neat thing about this weekend for me personally will be that I get to attend it with my good friend and colleague in youth ministries Brad Peterson from Oosterville Baptist. By the time you are reading this I will have long since returned, but feel free to ask me how it went. I have no doubt I'll have a good report for you.

December promises to be an exciting time for the youth as we celebrate the reason for the season with the following activities.

- \* December 10th - 6th annual Christmas Coffee House co-hosted by Yfest and our youth group.
- \* December 11th - The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe Matinee
- \* December 21st - Christmas Party

May the Lord grant all of us a peaceful Christmas time as we all pause to rejoice in the birth of our Savior and Lord.

*Grace & Peace,* Pastor Pete Axelson

## Overcoming Fear and Discouragement



*This is the title of a winter quarter adult bible study series that Rev. Thomas Crumb will begin teaching December 4th at 9:45 a.m. This Sunday school class will focus on studies from the book of Nehemiah.*

Our world is filled with fear and discouragement. As believers we need to learn how to be modern-day Nehemiahs if we intend to avoid absorbing these all too prevalent and extremely toxic emotions and attitudes. Nehemiah faced overwhelming challenges and conflicts yet he did not succumb to fear and discouragement. As we study and discuss his life circumstances and character, we will be strengthened, renewed, and challenged to model his extraordinary example of faithfulness and constant obedience to God's Word. From Nehemiah's ability to face extreme, enemy opposition, we will learn how to grow our faith as we increasingly depend on God's resources to accomplish His purposes for us.

### ***Becoming a Contagious Christian Study Continues***

Pete Axelson will continue his LifeBuilders Sunday School class on "Becoming a Contagious Christian" through December 18th.

## Welcome to ***Proclaim!***



*(continued from page 1)* too common has the power to crowd out such reflection. There is much we feel that needs to be done - decorating the home, finding the perfect gift, baking all kinds of goodies - but the most important thing is to assume a posture of worship.

Those who missed the arrival of the Majestic Visitor that holy night missed Him not because of deliberate malice or neglect. They missed Him because of the busyness of their routine. I am afraid little has changed since that first Christmas. So before you are distracted by the clanging cymbals of our culture, slow down and invite the Lord to renew your heart in worship.

Throughout the month of December all of our services are intended to cultivate an adoring heart. I am looking forward to the joyful celebration of Lessons and Carols by our choir on the 11th, the always charming Christmas pageant led by our children on the 18th and the holy anticipation that captivates us on Christmas Eve.

Christmas in New England is a special time of the year. Lisa and I are so grateful to be able to celebrate the birth of our Savior with you - our Christ Chapel family. May the glory of Christmas fill your lives and homes as you keep your gaze upon the One who came veiled in flesh as incarnate deity.

*Merry Christmas!*, Pastor Paul

**...before you are distracted by the clanging cymbals of our culture, slow down and invite the Lord to renew your heart in worship.**



# Be Part of *Proclaim!*

Interested in being part of Christ Chapel's *Proclaim* newsletter?

Do you have ideas you'd like to share or material you'd like to contribute?

We want to hear from you! While we may not be able to incorporate all ideas and submissions, we'd very much appreciate your input!

Simply return this form indicating what area(s) you'd be interested in serving to the office. We'll be in touch with you soon!

## For more information on events and happenings at Christ Chapel

Visit our website:

[christchapelcapecod.org](http://christchapelcapecod.org)

Send and email:

[cchapel@direcway.com](mailto:cchapel@direcway.com)

Call our office: 508-420-1200

or Fax: 508-420-3341

## Yes! I'd like to be part of *Proclaim!*

*Here is how I would like to help:*

- Take Photos - new members and events
- Interview new members and write new member profiles
- Write a testimony
- Write an article
- Write a ministry profile
- Write a book review
- Write a music review
- Suggest a column or feature
- Copying and assembling
- Proofreading
- Other ideas or suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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## CHRIST CHAPEL

1980 25th Anniversary 2005

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## *Proclaim!*

Holiday Edition, 2005

*Declare His glory  
among the nations,  
His marvelous works  
among all the peoples!*

~ 1 Chronicles 16:24