



# Reflections

## “Christmas & Isaiah” *By Stefano Mugnaini*

As the world pauses to celebrate the holidays—some to celebrate the birth of our Savior, some to lose themselves in a glut of shopping and decorating—let us reflect on the significance of Jesus Christ.

He is not the god of buying and selling, nor did he come that we might decorate trees and exchange gifts. He came that we might have life, and that more abundantly. Let us remember this, celebrate it, proclaim it on Christmas, and throughout the year. The significance of the Christ is perhaps best explained by the 53 chapter of Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup> Who has believed our message?

And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

<sup>2</sup> For He grew up before Him like a tender shoot,

And like a root out of parched ground;

He has no stately form or majesty

That we should look upon Him,

Nor appearance that we should be attracted to Him.

<sup>3</sup> He was despised and forsaken of men,

A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief;

And like one from whom men hide their face

He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.

<sup>4</sup> Surely our griefs He Himself bore,

And our sorrows He carried;

Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken,

Smitten of God, and afflicted.

<sup>5</sup> But He was pierced through for our transgressions,

He was crushed for our iniquities;

The chastening for our well-being fell upon Him,

And by His scourging we are healed.

<sup>6</sup> All of us like sheep have gone astray,

Each of us has turned to his own way;

But the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all

To fall on Him.

<sup>7</sup> He was oppressed and He was afflicted,

Yet He did not open His mouth;

Like a lamb that is led to slaughter,

And like a sheep that is silent before its shearers,

So He did not open His mouth.

<sup>8</sup> By oppression and judgment He was taken away;

And as for His generation, who considered

That He was cut off out of the land of the living

For the transgression of my people, to whom the stroke was due?

<sup>9</sup> His grave was assigned with wicked men,

Yet He was with a rich man in His death,

Because He had done no violence,

Church Office : 843-556-1792

Church Fax: 843-556-6085

Email: church@essexvillage.org

Website: www.essexvillage.org

### Schedule of Services

Sunday

Class: 9:00 am

Worship: 10:00 am

Worship: 6:00 pm

Wednesday

7:00 pm



**For the Record  
Week of 12-16-07**

**Communion &  
Baptismal Garments**

**Program of  
Worship**

- Ava Bullard*
- Helen Embry*
- Mark Embry*
- Scotty Hall*
- Mildred Inabinett*
- Leonard McNeill*
- Lois Ott*

Bible Classes: 72  
 AM Worship: 117  
 PM Worship: 51  
 Wednesday Evening: 63  
 Contribution: \$3,613.00

**Prepare Communion:**  
 Christine Herman

**Baptismal Garments:**  
 Faye Spence

**Elder of the Month:**  
 Howard Streets 766-7727

**Announcements:**  
 Howard Streets

**Song Service:**  
 Roddy Akers

**Opening Prayer:**  
 Eddie Haselden

**Communion:**  
 Jim Lamm

**Sermon:**  
 Stefano Mugnaini

**Closing Prayer:**  
 Arnold Walden



**We Are Praying For...**

- Military**
- Robert Bagley*
  - Kristopher Black*
  - Adam Bowles*
  - Chris Branham*
  - Adam Carlucci*
  - Russell Coble*
  - Barry Collins*
  - James Dalton*
  - Mark Fiorey*
  - Ellis Flenoid*
  - Steven Hilton*
  - Michael Hilton*
  - Matthew Lemieux*
  - Katie McCaskill*
  - Kevin Mitchell*

**Nikolas** is in remission but will undergo chemo for two years and has a long road ahead. Nik is the nephew of Angela Noyes.

**Dixie Akers**, Royce's sister-in-law, is now at home on medication to dissolve the 4 blood clots she has from her last surgery. Please send cards to 204 Edney Ridge Road, Greensboro, NC 27408.

**Mike Allen**, preacher for Chesapeake Church of Christ, has bone cancer. Gary Moody has requested prayers for him.

**Durwood Collins, Sr.**, Durwood's father, is at home recuperating.

**Maxine Doll** had a pacemaker put in and has other health problems. Maxine is Pam Ragland's mother.

**John Donan**, Norma's cousin, has terminal bladder cancer.

**Dennis Flatley**, a friend of Jim Lamm, is currently undergoing chemo to treat his cancer.

**Duke Gregory**, Doris & Janie's brother, is being transferred to an assisted living rehab hospital. Please send cards to G. Duke Gregory Moses Care Hospital, McMinnville, TN.

**Wesley Hahn** is in need of prayers for his health and employment. His mother is a close friend of Faye Spence.

**Clara Haselden** is in Roper Hospital recuperating from surgery. She was diagnosed with cancer and will undergo chemo treatments.

**Debra Langford**, sister-in-law of Carl Bowles, had a stroke. Debra lives in Georgetown.

**Nell McIntire** has cancer and is the sister of Lois Ott.

**Margaret Mills**, a member of Cairo Church of Christ, had a heart attack.

**Melissa Murray** is being treated for cancer, please keep Melissa and her family in your prayers.

**Lauren Parker**, a friend of Gin-

nie Streets, has cancer and is not doing well.

**John Price**, friend of Faye Spence, has cancer and is in stage 4. Faye has requested prayers for him and his wife, Pat.

**Candice Spence**, needs our prayers for health problems and is the granddaughter of Chuck & Faye.

**Marcia Steckel** is undergoing chemo for breast cancer. Marcia is a friend of Sharon Rush.

**John Torres**, Johnny Murray's brother-in-law, has cancer and is not doing well.

**Verdie Whitson** has been released from the hospital and is in Trinity Rehab Center.



***Thanks for  
praying!***

## Here's What is Happening...

### Nursery

We have an attended nursery for anyone that has a need for one. If you would like to help with the nursery, please see Louise Rogers.

### Baby Shower

There will be a baby shower for Shelli Mugnaini on Saturday, December 29th from 11:00 am until 2:00 pm at the home of Michelle Porter. If you plan to attend, please sign the sheet on the bulletin board. Michelle will need the names of those attending to leave at the gate for your admittance. For more details please see Michelle or Sandy.

### Southeastern Children's Home

Thanks to your generous contri-

butions, we were able to brighten Kayla & LaQuan's Christmas.

### Bible Bowl

Bible bowl teams have formed, but there's still room for you. We will begin our group studies on the first Sunday in January from 1-5. Come check us out. We eat supper together at 5. If you'd like to provide a meal and/or eat with us, see Sandra Dee.

### Food Pantry

Due to the holidays, the food pantry is low. If you would like to contribute to the pantry we could use the following items: peanut butter, jelly, canned meats and vegetables. Thanks to everyone for making this work possible.



*Happy Anniversary!*

12/31

Ron & Christine

Herman



Please remember in your prayers those traveling during the Christmas holiday.

## “Christmas & Isaiah” continued...

<sup>10</sup> But the LORD was pleased

To crush Him, putting Him to grief;

If He would render Himself as a guilt offering,

He will see His offspring,

He will prolong His days,

And the good pleasure of the LORD will prosper in His hand.

<sup>11</sup> As a result of the anguish of His soul,

He will see it and be satisfied;

By His knowledge the Righteous One,

My Servant, will justify the many,

As He will bear their iniquities.

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, I will allot Him a portion with the great,

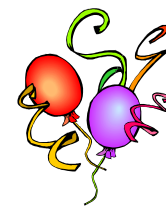
And He will divide the booty with the strong;

Because He poured out Himself to death,

And was numbered with the transgressors;

Yet He Himself bore the sin of many,

And interceded for the transgressors.



*Happy Birthday!*

12/23

Lisa Swindall

12/29

Eric Zinc

## **Bulletin Board**

### **Youth Rally**

When: January 26, 2008

Theme: One Goal No Limits

Speaker: Craig Shackelford of Middleton, Tennessee

Where: St. Andrews Road Church of Christ in Columbia, SC

### **Revival/ Gospel Meeting**

When: January 6th - 9th

Theme: God's Plan Is Great for 2008

Speaker: Michael Griggs of the Azalea Drive Church of Christ

Where: Church of Christ in St. Stephen, SC

### **ELDERS**

Larry Casbeer	795-0429
Howard Streets	766-7727
David Wakeland	766-3601

### **MINISTER**

Stefano Mugnaini	329-3704
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### **DEACONS**

Rick Porter	556-2679
Activities	
Jim Lamm	556-6756
Benevolence	
Lloyd McLawhorn	556-6709
Worship	
Roddy Akers	559-3565
Song Service	
Larry Polutta	795-5266
World Bible School	
Bill Ragland	556-6711
Building Maintenance	
Hilton Googe	766-4670
Lynn Smallwood	766-8579
Grounds	
Eddie Haselden	767-5511
Financial	
Durwood Collins	869-4199
Youth Activities	

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**Essex Village Church of Christ**  
**736 Savage Road**  
**Charleston, SC 29414**