



SHANDON
United Methodist

find your way

the **VOICE**

December 19, 2010

Volume 47, Number 38

DARKNESS & LIGHT – HEARTBREAK & HOPE

**Sunday, December 19
5:00 p.m., Sanctuary**

For many, Christmas is a bittersweet time and does not bring the joy that's advertised on TV or in greeting cards.

Join us for this meditative worship service that makes time for remembering, sharing our hurting places with God, and preparing our hearts for the coming of Christ. If you have experienced heartache or hard times this year, join us for this Longest Night Service.

CHRISTMAS EVE

Friday, December 24

Celebrating God's gift of love and hope.

Join us for inspiring services filled with glorious greenery, beautiful music, glowing candlelight, live nativity and warm fellowship.

See page 3 for services.

A "New Song"

As I was entering a local coffee shop last week (okay, it was Starbucks!), a guy was coming out wearing just a tee shirt and shorts. It was 41 degrees! I must have given him a startled look, because he blurted out, "It was warm yesterday!"

A lot of us dress for the weather from the day before. Much of the time we plan for and worry about things that have already happened. It is so much easier to look at the past than to try to figure out what the future is going to be. We know what happened yesterday. What's going to happen today is anyone's guess. We don't all live in the past, but we certainly live by the past. Of course we do. It's easier to see where we've been than to try to figure out where we need to go.

However, God lives by the future.

I love the passage in Isaiah 43, where God expresses a gentle frustration at our proclivity to see only the things that have already happened. If we need the message to be more explicit, in the preceding verse, God tells us, "Forget the former things. Do not dwell on the past!"

We miss the point if we read the Bible as only stories about the past. Don't read the Bible solely to figure out what is past. Read the Bible to figure out today and tomorrow. The Bible shows how God guides our present and our future.

Psalms 96 says, "Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth. Sing to the Lord, Bless God's name; tell of God's salvation from day to day. Declare God's glory among the nations, God's marvelous works among all the peoples. For great is the Lord."

The birth of Jesus at Christmas is a "new song." It is a promise of Hope, Love, Joy and Peace for this world for today and tomorrow. I hope that we remember to sing a new song all the days of our lifetime: to embody as witnesses the glory of God in all that we say, do and think.

Look! Christmas is coming! Will you see it? Look for it! Wait for it! Welcome it! And make room for it.

Grace and Peace,
Rev. Julie Songer Belman

3407 Devine Street

Columbia, SC 29205

www.shandon-umc.org

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E-M office@shandon-umc.org

YOU'RE INVITED, SUNDAY

December 19

8:45 a.m. Worship

SERMON: "What Are you Dreaming About?,"

Rev. Songer Belman

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 1:18-25

MUSIC: Schola Cantorum, Chancel Choir, Wesley Ringers

Acolytes 19th: Katherine Kristinik, Ashley Stone

Ushers 19th: John Hays

Ambassadors: 19th: Joy Stone

11:00 a.m. Worship

SERMON: "What Are you Dreaming About?," Dr. Guffee

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 1:18-25

MUSIC: Schola Cantorum, Chancel Choir, Wesley Ringers

Acolytes 19th: Copeland Hanshaw, Parker Hanshaw

Ushers 19th: Bill Deemer

Ambassadors: 19th: Charlie/Debra Rountree

11:05 a.m. LifeLine Service

SERMON: "What Are you Dreaming About?," Dr. Guffee

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 1:18-25

MUSIC: LifeLine Band

Nursery Opens at 8:30 a.m. December 19

8:45 a.m. worship

Crib Whitney Delbridge

Toddler Staff

Two-year-olds Lauren/Montague Laffitte

11:00 a.m. and 11:05 a.m. worship

Crib Bo/Joy Ivester

Toddler Frank/Patty Lundy

Two-year-olds Lisa Sumner

WORSHIP SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26

Combined Traditional Worship: 10:00 a.m.

LifeLine Contemporary Worship: 10:00 a.m.

Adult Sunday School Join us at 9:45 a.m.

Lesson Topics for December 19

No Sunday School on December 26

Aldersgate (Bruner221): "Advent"

Chapel Bible Study-Not a Sunday School Class (Chapel):

The History of the New Testament

Commitment (Knox205): "Advent," Bo Ivester

Foundation (Knox208): Project: Epworth Children Basketball

Game on December 29

Genesis (Knox214): Mike Penland

George Huggins (Knox209): "I Will Be With You," Lewis Browning

Project: Killingsworth

Good Will (Bruner223): "The Mission of the Servant," Bill Heath

Growing Disciples (Bruner108)

JOY (Bruner220): "Christmas Celebration," Harvey Allen

New Beginnings (Knox204): "4th Advent Sunday: How Do I Love

Thee?," Steve Carter

New Generation (Bruner224/225)

Recharge (Knox201): "Advent," Kellerd Kissam

Wesley Fellowship (WH): "The Mission of the Servant,"

Melanie Chu

CR=Conference Room

WH=Wesley

PH=Player Hall

COMING UP AT SHANDON

Sundays: 8:45, 11:00 & 11:05 Worship; 9:45 Sunday School

Sunday, December 19

Matthew 1:18-25

9:50 New Member/Inquirer Class - CR

1:00 Brittnee Siemon Recital - WH

3:00 Basketball - Gym

5:00 Longest Night Service: Darkness and Light - Sanctuary

7:00 Basketball - Gym

Monday, December 20

John 1:14-18

8:00 Men's Bible Study - PH

9:30 Women's Small Group - Knox 204

5:30 Finance Committee - Bruner 216

6:30 Disciple III - Knox 209

7:00 Tricia Meadors Recital - WH

Tuesday, December 21

John 3:1-8

10:00 Lunch Bunch Activites - WH

6:00 Staff Parish Relations - CR

7:30 Marcus Shields Concert - WH

Wednesday, December 22

John 3:9-21

No Activities Scheduled

Thursday, December 23

John 5:19-29

No Activities Scheduled

Friday, December 24

Luke 1:1-20

2:00 Communion Service - Sanctuary

5:00 Family Service - Sanctuary

7:00 LifeLine Service - Dunn-Smith Ministry Center

9:00 Candlelight Communion Service - Sanctuary

Saturday, December 25

Luke 2:8-20

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Sunday, December 26

Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

No Sunday School

10:00 Combined Traditional Worship - Sanctuary

10:00 LifeLine - Dunn-Smith Ministry Center

Monday, December 27

John 13:2-20

Church Office Closed for Christmas Holiday

Tuesday, December 28

Matthew 2:13-18

Church Office Closed for Christmas Holiday

Wednesday, December 29

John 4:7-15

No Activities Scheduled

Thursday, December 30

John 7:53-8:11

No Activities Scheduled

Friday, December 31

John 8:12-19

No Activities Scheduled

Saturday, January 1

Matthew 25:31-46

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Shandon's ministers and staff would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

And a special thank you for all of your thoughtful words and wonderful treats.

The church office will be closed Monday and Tuesday, December 27 and 28 and Monday, January 3.

The next issue of *The Voice* will be January 9 mailed on January 5. Be sure to visit our website at www.shandon-umc.org



Lighting the Way

LOVE ♦ HOPE ♦ PEACE ♦ JOY

Join us Christmas Eve

Friday, December 24

“What Do You Want For Christmas?,” Luke 2:1-20

TRADITIONAL COMMUNION SERVICE at 2:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

FAMILY SERVICE at 5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Sharing the Christmas story with narration, costumes, familiar carols and music by the Children’s Choirs. Also features a live nativity with animals and the lighting of “glow sticks” to accompany the singing of “Silent Night.”

LIFELINE CONTEMPORARY SERVICE at 7:00 p.m. in the Dunn-Smith Ministry Center

Sharing the Christmas story with music by the LifeLine Band. Features a live nativity.

COMMUNION AND CANDLELIGHT SERVICE at 9:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

A traditional service with candlelighting and music by the Christmas choir. Features a live nativity.

Childcare available, 5:00 & 7:00 p.m., 3 & under. Reservation required. Contact Jenny at triplejtj@mailbox.sc.edu

Epiphany Sunday

Sunday, January 2 at 8:45 and 11:00 a.m.

Join us as we remember the journey of the wisemen and their gifts to Christ as we focus on giving ourselves to God.

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

Sunday, December 26

We will not have Sunday school on December 26. Please join us for Traditional Worship at 10:00 a.m. and LifeLine Worship at 10:00 a.m. (note special times)

ADVENT OFFERING: REACHING OUT AND HELPING OTHERS IN NEED

Please make your offering by Christmas Eve, December 24 in support of Homelessness in the Midlands, Haiti Missions and Habitat for Humanity. You can designate your offering to one of these missions. Undesignated offerings will be divided between these important ministries.

BE RESPECTFUL WHEN PARKING

When parking for church activities please be respectful of our neighbors. Please do not block their driveways and be sure not to park against a yellow curb. We have good neighbors and we can understand their frustrations when their driveway is blocked or when we park at the yellow curbs. Remember the Bible teaches us “to do unto others as we would have them do unto us.” Thanks

“Growing Through Divorce” Support Group

To assist people who are approaching divorce or who have divorced, Shandon United Methodist Church offers a support group that begins on January 19 and continues for eight consecutive Tuesday nights, 6:30-8:30 p.m. The sessions allow people to begin letting go of painful feelings and to affirm a new sense of self worth. Friendships are developed in a supportive environment.

Topics for discussion come from Jim Smoke’s book, *Growing Through Divorce*. Group facilitators are caring individuals who have been divorced a good while and moved on to positive directions. A \$14 fee is payable to SUMC at the first session.

Open to anyone, pre-registration is necessary and on a first come, first served basis until the group is filled. Groups also begins on the second Tuesday of June and October. Contact staff member Anne Cox by January 13 at 256-8383 ext. 115 or acox@shandon-umc.org.

NEW CD MINISTRY

Shandon will soon replace the at-home audio tape ministry with an at-home CD ministry. Tapes will continue to be offered while supplies last, so please mark your Tape Request Form “CD” if you would prefer to get a CD of the service. Once tape supplies are depleted only CDs will be offered. Contact Mary Green Kearsse or Karen Daves at 256-8383, or kdaves@shandon-umc.org if you have questions. Mary Green also has information available about the digital audio book services offered by the South Carolina State Library.

THANKS TO OUR SHANDON FAMILY!

The youth traveled to Hollywood, SC to deliver presents and supplies to the 78 families our congregation adopted. We can’t thank you enough for the love and support you showed to these families that our near and dear to our hearts. They always look forward to our visit and we love spending the afternoon with them. Our free flea market was a huge success as well. We thank you for all you did to help these 325+ people in the Petersfield community. Love, Shandon Youth



Going Green

Tips from Shandon’s Green Team

Air Pollution in Your Home Can Make You Sick!

One of the biggest threats to your well-being isn’t visible to the naked eye. Pollution in your home is often two to five times higher than it is outdoors according to the EPA. The air in your house contains pollen, mold, and ozone that leach in from the outdoors, as well as pet dander and pollutants from household cleaning products. Exposure to indoor pollution can cause allergies, severe asthma, and cardiovascular and respiratory problems. **Here are a few steps you can take to reduce the problem.**

- Crack a window or two a few minutes each day can be quite helpful in reducing indoor pollution. Opening up windows when it is cold outside sounds costly. But sealing a house too tightly doesn’t allow the entry of new oxygen nor the escape of carbon dioxide.
- Take boxes that have been stored in the attic or basement outside to clean off the dust before taking them in the house. Think about a N95 dust respiratory mask (available at drug stores) before you head to the attic or basement.
- Turn exhaust and ventilation fans off as soon as they have done their job.
- Stop burning candles, especially the ones inside large jars, which tend to send even more particulates into the air.
- Check and replace dirty filters in your heating system and dryer.



SUNDAY SCHOOL: December 19. See you on Sunday at 9:45 a.m.

Twos: Jesus Is Born. (“You will name him Jesus.” Luke 1:31)

Threes - 5th Grades: Baby Jesus Is Born (Luke 2:1-20)

Please note that Sunday school classes will not be held on December 26, but we look forward to seeing you in worship that day at 10:00 a.m.

“LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME....” MATTHEW 19:14

During this Advent season as we prepare our hearts to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, we look forward to children joining families for special services of worship and events. Nurseries are provided for infants through 3-year-olds for Sunday morning services of worship and Sunday school. Please note that nursery classes are also available for other special worship services when parents make reservations. Reservations and questions regarding nursery classes may be directed to our Childcare Coordinator, Jenny Triplett, at TRIPLETJ@mailbox.sc.edu.

2011 – A NEW YEAR WITH NEW OPPORTUNITIES

Keep an eye out for new opportunities for elementary-aged children beginning on the afternoon of January 9. These monthly opportunities for elementary-aged children will include Bible stories, songs, games, and art activities. Registration information will be emailed and snail mailed to children’s homes the week after Christmas.

ADULTS IN ACTION

Join us for fun, social and inspiring activities

WEIGHT WATCHERS – NEW TIME. NEW PROGRAM. NEW YEAR.

JOIN US AND INVITE FRIENDS! STARTS IN JANUARY.

If you’re interested, contact Karen Daves or Mary Green Kearsse at 256-8383 or email kdaves@shandon-umc.org by the end of the year.

LUNCH BUNCH Tuesdays, 12:30 p.m. in Player Hall. Cost is \$5.00 for lunch.

For lunch reservations, call the church office at 256-8383 by 12:00 p.m. on Monday of each week.



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE 9:00 P.M.

Looking for youth who want to be a part of the special Live Nativity at 9:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve. This is a very special tradition. If you and your family plan on attending this service, please plan on helping. We need angels, Mary, Joseph, wise men, angels and more! Please see Meredith to save your spot.

CHRISTMAS BREAK

Be sure to continue reading emails and checking facebook over the school holidays for special “pop up” activities. Lunch, dinner, movies, etc!

Preview Doorways to God

2011 WINTER STUDIES AND SPECIALS!

Advent is a time of preparation for more than Christmas Day. Think about which study groups or special programs could draw you closer to God and the abundant life that Christ offers.

REGISTER between December 26 - January 16 (or a week prior to the start date): in the Great Hall or gym lobby on Sundays, in the Education Office on weekdays, or at www.shandon-umc.org. Study books will be out, for preview and purchase by participants. Watch for the mailer and descriptions in *The Voice*.

Wednesday Manna Studies and Programs

- **Anger – Dealing with a Powerful Emotion in Healthy Ways:** *Leaders: Irene & Rob Tyson*
5 Wednesdays: January 26, February 2, 9, 16, 23 in Player Hall. Gather 5:45-6:00 p.m. Study 6:00-7:00 p.m.
- **Jesus' Death and Resurrection:** *Bible Study with Rev. Julie Songer Belman*
3 Wednesdays, 6:00-7:15 p.m.: March 16, 23, and 30 in Player Hall
- **Film Viewing & Discussion: *Resurrection, A Search for Answers* (ABC):** *Facilitator: Rev. Julie Songer Belman*
Wednesday, April 13, 6:00-7:15 p.m., in Player Hall
- **SUMC Book Club – Organizational Meeting**
Wednesday, January 5, 6:30-7:45 p.m. in in the Parlor, Betty Bruner Building
- **Hereafter Film Discussion:** *Facilitators: Anne Cox & others*
Wednesday, March 16, 6:00-7 p.m. in Knox 209

Other Group Studies

- ***The Power of a Positive Mom:*** *Facilitators: Paige Haas, Katherine Draffin, Julie Benoit and others*
Wednesdays, January 19 - May 25, 9:15-11:15 a.m., in the Parlor
- ***Enough – learn financial practices and the lifestyle encouraged in the Bible:*** *Leaders: Michelle & Troy Roberts*
5 Sundays: January 23 & 30, February 13 & 27, March 6 in Knox 209
Meet & Greet 5:15-5:30 p.m. Study 5:30-6:55 p.m.
- ***From Bible Phobia to Bible Fan – for those with no prior Bible study:*** *Leader: Ruthie Taylor*
4 Sunday mornings, 9:45-10:45 a.m., January 23 & 30, February 6 & 13 in Knox 201
- ***Life After Death – A Study in Faith and Reason:*** *Leader: Dick Pregnall*
3 Tuesdays, 6:15-7:30 p.m., March 22, 29, April 5 in Knox 209
- ***Women's Thursday Study– Having a Mary Spirit:*** *Leader: Gessner Dunn*
January 20-May, 10:00-11:30 a.m. in the Parlor.

Question about Doorways? Contact Anne Cox at acox@shandon-umc.org or 256-8383, ext. 115

A NEW SUMC BOOK CLUB!

Organizational Meeting - January 5 from 6:30-7:45 p.m. in the Parlor

Many people in our congregation are already excited about a SUMC Book Club. It's a perfect way to expand your friendship network at church. If you enjoy interesting conversation and sharing viewpoints, the stories and characters in books always provide great subject matter. Our faith and beliefs can easily enter the discussions. At this first meeting, we'll have fun and set our regular meeting time, format, and process for choosing books. Bring your book ideas and make a New Year's resolution to join the SUMC Book Club! Contact Anne Cox to be on the Book Club mailing list at acox@shandon-umc.org or 256-8383, ext. 115.

IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION INFORMATION

Contributions to the church must be postmarked by December 31, 2010 in order to be tax deductible for 2010. The church finance office will also be open until 5:00 PM on December 31, 2010 for those who would like to drop off their contributions.

SHANDON PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN

2011-12 REGISTRATION INFORMATION

**Deadline for Church Member Priority on Waiting List:
December 31, 2010**

Church members receive priority status for preschool and kindergarten enrollment for the 2011-12 school year only if the child's name is put on or confirmed on the waiting list prior to December 31. Registration for the 2011-12 school year will be held in February, 2011. To add/confirm your child's name to the waiting list by December 31, call the preschool office at 256-1498.

Marcus and Lucinda Shields
Invite Music Lovers to Join Them for
A WINTER RECITAL

Tuesday, December 21 at 7:30 p.m. in Wesley Hall
Featuring two song cycles, Liederkreis, Opus 39
by Robert Schumann and
Winter Words by Benjamin Britten.

In Memoriam

Elouise Livingston Burns
November 27, 2010

Paula Crosby Mayfield
December 5, 2010

Treasurer's Update

DECEMBER 12, 2010

ATTENDANCE

Sunday School	550
Worship	812

OPERATING BUDGET

December 5	December 12	Year-to-Date
Revenues	Revenues	Revenues
\$42,617	\$63,476	\$1,858,386
December 5	December 12	Year-to-Date
Expenses	Expenses	Expenses
\$33,577	\$17,214	\$1,919,669



Imagine...
completing the journey

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Amount pledged	\$3,730,232
December 5 receipts	\$671
December 12 receipts	\$130,543
Receipts-to-date	\$3,395,689

THE FLOWERS AT THE ALTAR ON DECEMBER 19 are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Mr. and Mrs. Wade Fitzgerald Ward, Sr.** by Harry, Jane and Michael Ward and Mary Beth and Grayson Lambert; and in loving memory of **Bill Edens** by Jason Edens and family.

THE FLOWERS AT THE ALTAR ON DECEMBER 24 are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Rubelle Catherine and Owen Shell Tudor, John William McNeely, Jr., Cecilia Hutto and Joseph Daub and Bryan Hutto McNeely** by Donald and Leah Tudor.

THE FLOWERS AT THE ALTAR ON DECEMBER 26 are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Baxter and Ethel Davis, Bill and Anne Tuller and Martine Tuller** by Craig and Mary Davis; and in loving memory of my father, **Bobby Aughtry** by Lynn Aughtry.

MEMORIALS IN MEMORY

John Beckler by Mary and Tracy Wilbur
Eloise Bradham by Mary and Tracy Wilbur
Betty Bruner by Lotte and Richard Kherlopian, Mary and Tracy Wilbur
Verdanna Craig by Bill, Adelaide, Creighton and Ashleigh McMaster, Donna and Curt Rone
Betty Kershaw by Allan and Kathryn Spence
Carlee McClendon by Mary and Tracy Wilbur
Buddy Nidiffer by Bill, Adelaide, Creighton and Ashleigh McMaster, Mr. and Mrs. John R. Jordan
Marion Smith by Jud and Annie
Lee Williams by Mary and Tracy Wilbur

IN HONOR

Kathy Lentz by The Louise Munnerlyn Circle
Sinclair and Betty Lewis by Ann Ready Smith
Jean Miller by Ann Smith
Ann Smith by Kay and Johnnie Jordan
Bill and Joanna Walkup by Ann Ready Smith

SYMPATHY

Dinah and Phil Cook on the death of Dinah's father Eddie Helms on November 23; and to grandson James.
Fran and Beth Rametta on the death of Fran's grandmother Pala Eichenbush on December 9 in Fort Myers, Florida.
Tom and Winna Ellis on the death of Winna's sister, Armin.
Jerol and Betty Coleman on the death of Betty's brother-in-law, Everett Aho, December 10.

BAPTISM

Samantha Grace Blevins (7/6/10), daughter of William Wesley Blevins and Mary Epperson Blevins December 12.

HOSPITALS

Lexington: Marjorie Waddell

Our ministers are on call for weekend emergencies. Contact the minister by calling our emergency beeper at 654-8973 and then entering your phone number.

Senior Minister

Michael Guffee, Sr.

Minister of Evangelism and Outreach Ministries

Julie Songer Belman

Minister of Visitation and Older Adult Ministries

Mary Green Kearse

Church Business Administrator

Michael Hart

Director of Music and Arts Ministries

Timothy Hein

Director of Christian Education and Adult Ministries

Anne Cox

Director of Youth Ministries

Meredith Gammon

Director of Children's Ministries

Lesli Wood

Director of Preschool/Kindergarten

Bea Daves

Director of Kitchen Ministries

Timothy Scott

Director of Communications

Melanie Owen

Finance Administrative Assistant/Organist

Nancy Kelley

Administrative Assistant to the Senior Minister

Winifred Rodgers

Education Administrative Assistant

Samatha Apple

Administrative Assistant to Associate Ministers and Music

Karen Daves

Child Care Coordinator

Jenny Triplett

Sound Technician

Cindi Reid

Maintenance Supervisor

Bobby Douglas

Custodial StaffWillie Brown, John Whetstone,
Eladio Cruz**Security**

Harriet Davenport

Lay Leader

Josh Daniels

Church Council Chair

Jan Bilton

Parish Nurse

Nancy Reynolds

Mission Statement

Shandon United Methodist Church gathers to worship God, nurture Christian faith, and go out into the world in mission.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MANNA ON BREAK

December 22-January 5

No Supper Reservations Needed!

*Join us each Wednesday for warm fellowship, good food, and activities for everyone!
It's a great time to see old friends and make new ones.*

Wednesday Night Manna runs from September 8-April 27,
with breaks on November 24, December 22-January 5, and April 6.

SERVING: 5:15-6:15 p.m. in the Gym**COST:** \$5 adults/youth over age 12 \$2.50 children age 2-12 under age 2 eat free**ACTIVITIES**

- **Children's Activities & Bible Verses for a Prize:** Before 6:00 p.m., gym (age 3-5th grade)
- **Trackers for 4th & 5th Grade Boys:** 6:00-6:45 p.m., DuBose 202, 2nd fl.
- **Children's Choirs for K4-5th Grade:** 6:00-6:45 p.m., DuBose, 2nd fl.
- **Synago Bible Studies for Youth (6th graders, too):** 6:00-7:00 p.m., Youth Zone
8th Grade Synago: 7:15-8:00 p.m., Off Campus
- **Child Care for Infants-5th Grade:** 5:15-7:30 p.m. 2-years-old & under, Knox 106;
3- to 5-years-old, DuBose 111; 1st to 5th graders, 6:45-7:30 p.m., DuBose 111
- **Adult Studies/Programs:** Between 6:00-7:30 p.m. Pre-register, but walk-ins are welcome!
- **Choir Pick-up:** After 6:45 p.m. and by 7:30 p.m., DuBose 111, 1st fl.

Shandon Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and Friday, 8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.