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PHOTOS ABOVE COURTESY GENESIS CONSTRUCTION



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Top left/clockwise: The steeple and bell. A simple altar. A period fixture converted for electrical use. Floors of Long Leaf Heart Pine. Colonial-style, hand-molded bricks. Pews made of wood recovered from 9-11.

function as they allow convenient access to the outdoors. From the chapel's interior, visitors enjoy inspiring views of the May River through an enormous rear window. Approximately 1,250 square feet of Long Leaf Heart Pine, reclaimed from the Piedmont Mill in Piedmont, S.C., comprise the chapel's stunning floors. The lighting fixtures are period gas fixtures, circa 1880-1900, which have been converted for electrical use, and the doors feature restored LCN closers (invented by L.C. Norton in 1877). The chapel's energy efficient walls are insulated with 6,120 pounds of Cellulose R-28, a natural material that offers protection while supporting Palmetto Bluff's sustainable resource initiative. An old-style, hand-seamed copper roof, which was secured with 200 pounds of copper nails, adds interest and elegance. And while at first glance they may not appear out-of-the-ordinary, the chapel's pews were handcrafted from 3,000 pounds of refurbished Antique Heart Pine which was acquired from a New York City building which was destroyed during 9-11.

The Chapel at Palmetto Bluff maintains a serene and unassuming presence on the May River, but it is a structure which is truly "divine by design." – Blanche L. Tomaszewski

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