


HYATTSTOWN CHRISTIAN CHURCH NEWS

December, 2007 Volume 5 Issue 12

 If someone you know is in need of prayer or spiritual care please call the pastor, an elder, or one of our associate ministers. We cannot help if we do not know of a need or concern.



DECEMBER

Worship-- 9am & 11am



- December 2** -Advent begins
Hanging of the Greens
ONE SERVICE 10am
Followed by our congregational meeting,
Lunch, and decorating for the season.
- December 12** - Special Board meeting
7:30 (details inside)
- December 16** -Christmas Cantata
At both services
- December 23** -Christmas Sunday
- December 24** -Christmas Eve Candlelight
services 7pm & 11pm

We're on the web!
www.hyattstownchristianchurch.org

The Pastor's Page

December 2007 Volume 5 Issue 12



This is certainly the best time of the year at Church. This because we make special efforts between now and Christmas to produce the most beautiful worship and music for the entire year.

Its also because we have special opportunities to review our prayers and beliefs concerning the gift of Jesus Christ.

There will be private special memories to help this focus. Many of will have special memories to share. I remember when my mother tearfully explained to me that my high school ring would not be possible that Christmas. We simply could not afford it. I accepted that reality and didn't even think about it anymore.

Of course, on Christmas morning, the last things we open are in the stockings, an orange, a box of candy, pencils, a new toothbrush, that sort of thing. You can image how I felt when there was one more little box in my stocking. Of course, it was my City College high school ring!

What a dazzling Christmas surprise.

There is so much pagan material in this season that it becomes more and more difficult to recognize the Christ in his own birthday.

Remember a gift for him this year, as we contribute to needy children at Clarksburg Elementary School. as we make our Outreach Offerings, and as we discover other ways to center on the needs of the very poor. If you have nobody in mind, you may give a gift to the Pastor's discretionary fun. We have used it quite a bit recently.

God bless you as you receive the gift of Christ, and God bless you also, as you share His love with the poor.

God Bless. *+ Terry*

Rejoice... It's Christmas



Adult Education Opportunities

Wednesday Morning Bible Study — 9:30-11am Led by Pastor Reister

Monday Evening Bible Study— The pastor is also leading the Evening Bible Study from 7:30-8:30pm.



THERE IS ALWAYS ROOM FOR YOU TO JOIN US.

Useful Information

Pastor Terry Reister:

Office: (301) 831-8184

Home: (301) 831-8679

Spiritual Formation:

Lorenzo York (301) 831-4305

Biblical Studies:

Jim Cole (301) 706-7404

Music:

Philip A. Day, Jr. (301) 693-3887

Barb Lang (301-)829-2527

Board Chair:

Hugh Howard (301) 831-8643

Vice-Chair: Andy Blair (301) 216-2746

Board Secy:

Debbie Flook (301) 695-2678

Trustees Chair:

Eddie Flook (301) 695-2678

Treasurer:

Pierrette McIntire (301) 607-4242

Financial Secy:

Bob Turman (301)620-7570

Christian Service:

Pat Griffith (301) 972-1316

Barb Dangler (301) 668-4194

Education/Celebration:

Chair: Janet Reister (301) 831-8679

Property Chair:

Eddie Flook (301) 695-2678

Outreach/Stewardship:

Doris Horman (301) 662-8740

Newsletter:

Teresa Hearl (301) 682-7360

Tkhearl@comcast.net SEND NEWS!!

DISCIPLES WEB SITES TO REMEMBER:

Hyattstown Christian Church:

www.hyattstownchristianchurch.org

Christian Church Capital Area Disciples of Christ:

www.cccadisciples.org

Disciple of Christ National website:

www.disciples.org



(Our Camp Starfish was front page on the national website in October! Check out our national website. You can sign up for free email newspaper from Disciples News Service at www.disciples.org .)

Liturgical Schedule — also posted on bulletin board inside front door

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			<p>We are Honored to Serve at The Table of the Lord</p> 
9 am Worship	Deaconate	Elders	
Nov 25/ Dec 2	Frank Hearl	Mark Pierson	
Dec 9/ 16	Sarah Duke	Sharron Smith	
Dec 23/ 30	Dana Reitman	Beth Sweeney	
Jan 6/ 13	Andy Blair	Debbie Blair	
11 am Worship	Deaconate		Elders
Nov 25/ Dec 2	Sandy Law	Gail Knott	Stacey Wilson
Dec 9/ 16	Joe Reister	Walt Moore	Sharon Turman
Dec 23/ 30	Chuck McIntire	Joe Reister	Walt Moore
Jan 6/ 13	Barb Dangler	Martha Cooley	John Wilson
Liturgist	9 am Worship	11 am Worship	Scripture
Dec 2	Gail Howard (10am)		Matthew 24: 36-44
Dec 9	Debbie Flook	Pierriette McIntire	Matthew 3: 1-12
Dec 16	Debbie Blair	Chris Moore	Matthew 11: 2-11
Dec 23	Frank Hearl	Sandy Law	Matthew 1: 18-25
Jan 6	Doris Horman	Hugh Howard	Matthew 2: 13-23

December Birthdays

Dec 3- Artye Hellner
 Dec 4- Janet Reister
 Dec 10- Angela Flook
 Dec 10- Chris Moore
 Dec 12- Peggie Hatton
 Dec 20- Lorenzo York

Please say a
 special prayer for
 these people on
 their special day!

Dec 22- Hugh Howard
 Dec 24- John Metz
 Dec 25- Sharon Turman
 Dec 28- Frank Roys



December Anniversary

Dec 24- Roger and Dana Reitman

**Two helpings of Amahl and the Night Visitors.
It's a Christmas classic!**



The Frederick Camerata Presents:

Amahl and the Night Visitors



Menotti's Christmas classic portrays the story of a young crippled boy who meets three traveling kings. It is the story of a miracle.

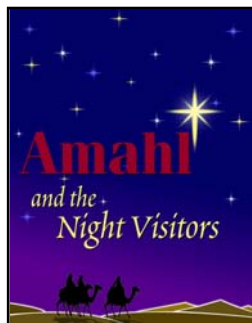
Dates: Friday, November 30
and Saturday December 1

Time: 8:00 pm

Location: The Frederick Arts Center
on Market St. across from the Weinburg.

Adults \$10 * Children and Seniors \$5

Contact: Phil Day 301-693-3887



**DAMASCUS THEATRE COMPANY
PRESENTS**

an evening of holiday music
culminating with the feature
one-act production of
"Amahl and the Night Visitors"

Join the cast as we Follow the Star . . .



Performance Dates: Dec. 6, 7, & 8 7:30 pm
at the Damascus United Methodist Church
9700 New Church Street, Damascus, MD 20872

Opera by Gian Carlo Menotti

Directed by Ron Stalbaum

Produced by Stephanie Bonte-Lebair and Barbara Lang

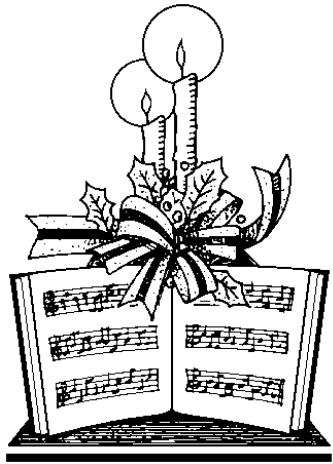
By arrangement with G. Schirmer, INC. publisher and copyright owner.

Tickets: Adults - \$15 · Students/Seniors - \$12 ·

Children 10 & Under - \$10

CALL 301-253-6210 TO RESERVE TICKETS

Visit www.damascustheatre.org for more information



Hyattstown Church Christmas Cantata December 16

The Hyattstown Church Choir will offer their Christmas Cantata on Dec 16 at both services. The J.S Bach Cantata No. 142 will be sung in English. The message is as follows:

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given

On your birthday Lord we offer homage with humble heart, grateful sacrifice we proffer. Here dejected, here apart seeking everywhere to find you. Close to my heart to bind you, I myself as offering bring.

Thy name, Thy power be praised with singing and joy. Thy name be exalted with thanks.

Jesu thanks to you be given. Jesu praise and thanks be shown. On my path your grace has fallen, fair the lot to me now given. Mine you are, my only home.

Emmanuel, how far alas is my shortcoming. How mean alas is even my best well doing. But weak and failing as I now confess my weakness, I bow the knee to your own meakness. My tongue yet faintly praiseth, while you my spirit raiseth.

Jesu praise to you forever. My salvation you have sealed. Lord, be here at hand to bless me never then can sin distress me, for my sins are fully healed. Jesu praise to you forever. My salvation you have sealed.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Bach's Cantata is uplifting and joyful. We hope you will be in church on December 16 to share this music.



NEWS In the PEWS

Dear Friends,

We're looking forward to the **Advent/Christmas** season in Hyattstown. We'll be decorating the sanctuary & exterior of the Church for the season on Sunday. We've passed out most of the Advent devotional booklets for families & teens along with the Advent table cards & lots of tealight candles. Phil Day & the choir have been busily rehearsing & will present their cantata during morning worship on Sunday, December 16. On Monday, December 24 we'll celebrate the birth of the Prince of Peace with 2 Christmas Eve candlelight communion celebrations at 7:00pm & 11:00pm.

On the Road Again: Bob Turman joined his daughter Lian in a week-long drive across the country as she moved from Connecticut to California. **Chuck McIntire** is back home from San Francisco for a few weeks. Chuck & **Pierrette** spent Thanksgiving in the Outer Banks with her parents & her brother's family. **Andy, Debbie, Meghan & Ben Blair** traveled to the Boston suburbs for Thanksgiving with Debbie's parents & her sisters' families. **Sharron & Bill Smith** are back in Seattle visiting with grandson Myles & will be there through the New Year. Their new place in Urbana will finally be ready in January.

Good News: Robin & Jonathan Davis' son **Bryce** participated in an East Coast drum line competition in Pennsylvania & his group brought home the championship trophy. **Sharron & Bill Smith's** son **Kevin** & his wife **Stephanie** found out they will be having a girl early this spring. Kevin will be back from Iraq well before the birth. **Frank & Teresa Hearl** are going to be grandparents again -daughter Heidi & son-in-law Randy are expecting in June. **Gail Howard** directed a beautiful production of *The Ashgirl* at Poolesville High School in November. **Phil Day** is directing the Frederick Camerata's production of *Amahl & the Night Visitors* the end of November in downtown Frederick. **Teresa Hearl, Becky DeLameter, Kelly DeLameter, Frank Roys, Theresa Roys & Peggie Hatton** are in the production. **Gail Howard** is doing the staging/blocking & **Joe Reister** is working on set construction. A week later, **Barbara Lang** is producing the Damascus Theatre Company's version of *Amahl & the Night Visitors* at a Damascus church.

Please remember these friends in your prayers: **Cherry King, Hannah Matlock, Artye Hellner, Doris & Norman Horman, LaQuita Huntzman, Ginny Pierson & Lt. Kevin Smith.**

Grace & peace,





Right now, donations of **shampoo and/or conditioners** are needed for residents of Hope Alive, any size. Deliver your items to Hyattstown Christian Church. Barb Dangler will take them to Hope Alive.

Donations for upkeep and paid staff are always needed. If you wish to make a monetary donation it can be mailed to:

Hope Alive, PO box 140, Sabillasville, MD 21780.

Donations of adult clothing are not being accepted as storage space is not available. Donations of **children's clothing** are being accepted. Donations of household supplies such as **cleaning supplies, paper towels, Kleenex, toilet tissue, etc** are always needed. If you wish to make a donation of supplies please call first. Volunteers are needed for many jobs. If you have a skill you would like to share please call Donna Gorgol at 301-241-4005.



Poverty Doesn't Expect Visitors

Dana's photographs will be on display at the Delaplaine Art Center in November under this very moving title. This is from information posted on their website.

Dana Appleton Reitman

November 3- December 21

Reception: November 3, 3-5 PM

Dana Reitman's current work is the result of living and traveling for the past four years in Malawi,

Africa, one of the poorest countries in the world. While there she took photographs and collected stories from women who live in rural villages. These photographs depict the dignity, the difficulty, the poverty, and the beauty of village life in a small African country.



The Delaplaine Art Center

Open Daily 9 am – 5 pm, Sunday 1 pm – 4 pm | 40 South Carroll Street | Frederick, Maryland 21701 | Phone: 301.698.0656

We are called to Prayerful Consideration.

So many good causes. We are so blessed. Hyattstown Christian Church offers many ways for us to give. We must prayerfully consider how we are called to do the work of Christ in the world.



Here are some of the ways we serve. Our gifts to Malawi is direct help for a hurting people. Our Christmas gift to the Clarksburg Elementary School is a direct help to children in our community. We donate time, money, and goods to Hope Alive. Time and money that we give to Feed the Hungry bless those who come for meals at the Frederick Rescue Mission. We are ministering to children at Camp Starfish. And there are other causes. Special offerings help our denomination build churches, compassionately help persons in need, and contribute to education through camps and regional meetings. We are called to individual missions as well. That mission may be intercessory prayer or building a church. One of our congregants helps build homes in Mexico.

Yes, we are often asked to give. And we are richly blessed to be able to answer the call in our own way. **Christianity is not passive.** In our church we look to nurture our individual needs and challenge ourselves to look outward. Each of us has God-given gifts to use. God grant you grace and peace as you consider your contribution of money, time and prayer.



Hallelujah



Special offering for Clarksburg School Children

In late November & early December every year we collect money for a *local* concern- the needy children at nearby Clarksburg Elementary School. Clarksburg principal Sunny Lee, teachers, counselors & staff select children who need help & then they make purchases with the monies we provide. 100% of this offering goes to benefit the children. In recent years, we have given over \$1,000.00 to this special *local* cause. Please mark your checks: Clarksburg School.

Charitable Thoughts:

The new Pension Protection Act of 2006 contains an important change for charitable contributions. Effective as of tax year 2006, all “deductions for charitable donations of cash gifts (by cash or check) must be backed up by a bank record or a letter from the charity. If you rely on a letter, it must include the organization's name as well as the date and amount of the contribution. (Under prior law, such substantiation was required only for gifts of \$250 or more.)” The annual Statement of Giving provided by HCC’s Financial Secretary in mid-January satisfies this requirement.



(Bob Turman shared this info with us. Thanks!)

If you have updates for the address and birthday database PLEASE tell Teresa Hearl or better yet, email her at TKHearl@comcast.net I am missing a lot of birthdays and anniversaries. If I miss yours please let me know and write it down for me.



If you have News from the Pew, call Janet or see her in church. Our church family cares and keeps you in their prayers!



News from Kevin and Stephanie Smith

Hi everyone,

Kevin & I have more exciting news---we're having a girl! I was suspicious it was a girl based on an ultrasound I had about 2 months ago, but I had my official anatomy scan today that confirmed it. We are very excited, especially Kevin. Now he is going to have 2 females to drive him crazy! The baby looks great and already weighs 1 lb 4 oz, which my OB says makes her a "chunky little monkey". I'm blaming that on Kevin's genes. Many of you have asked and we did register on the Target.com baby registry. Just type in our name and our list will pop up, but be careful b/c there is another steph & kevin smith so make sure you pick the list w/ baby due in March. There aren't many clothes on the list b/c we've already started getting hand-me-downs from our friends w/ baby girls. Gotta love good friends. Before anyone asks--no we have not picked out a name yet. We do have a list of a few we like, but are going to keep it a secret until the baby is born (so Mom stop trying to get Richard to get the name out of me). In other news, Kevin is doing well. He is over 50% done w/ his deployment and is tired of eating w/ plastic silverware. The Marine Corps Birthday is Nov 10th and the guys will be celebrating w/ a special dinner. Hope this finds everyone well.

Love, Steph & Kevin

From our Church Board Chairman

This is to notify all the current Board Officers, Deaconate, Elders and Trustees of a called board meeting for Wednesday evening at 7:30pm on December 12, 2007 in the church fellowship hall.

As you all should know by now, Terry will be retiring in July of this next year (2008). As a result of this we will need to decide how and when we want to begin a search for a new minister. I have talked with Lari Grubbs (our Regional Minister) about the search process we should consider. He has agreed to meet with our Board at this meeting to get us all started with information as we begin our search committee work. Bob and Sharon Turman have volunteered to lead the search committee. If you would like to serve on the Search committee please let me know. Debbie Flook has agreed to lead the 'celebration of service' effort. She too would like to have volunteers join her efforts. There are guidelines and assistance we can follow for our search and our celebration of service— with help from our Regional Minister. Please note that Lari will be on a three-month sabbatical beginning January 1, 2008. There are many options we should consider as we plan for a ministerial change; There is no one 'right way' to proceed. All paths will lead towards the same goal. Interim Ministers are available on fairly short notice in this geographical area, so we don't need to feel that we'll be 'without ministerial leadership'. The 'usual' transition from one minister to another involves an interim minister who, as a part of his/her calling, also helps direct the search. Another guideline is to basically 'do nothing' til the current minister leaves and then work this whole process under the leadership of an 'interim' minister. We do, however, have several churches in the Capital Area who are not waiting until their current minister retires to begin work through their 'search' committees. I would appreciate your considered thoughts and prayers as to how we want to proceed in these matters. In talking to Lari Grubbs, he suggested I begin with the Elders and Officers to come up with a considered plan of action in this (these) matters.

Thanks, Hugh

HOLIDAY CONCERT

The Frederick Children's Chorus (of which Ellen Pierson is a member) is having their annual Holiday concert at Clarksburg High School on Saturday Dec. 8th at 7:30 PM. Tickets will be available at the door and are \$10 for adults and \$5.00 for students and seniors. Snacks and drinks are available as well. This is a great show to help kick off the Christmas season and all are welcome to join us!





RING IN THE SEASON ADVENT BEGINS!

SUNDAY - DEC 2 Congregational Meeting, Lunch, & Hanging of the Greens*

Our annual congregational meeting to approve the budget for 2008 & elect officers will be held on Sunday, December 2nd after service.

Lunch follows- Bring 1 or 2 dishes to share. Drinks will be provided.

We need lots of help to decorate the sanctuary & the exterior of the Church for the Advent-Christmas season.

**Dress for decorating!*

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(See Luke 2:1-16)

12-22-2004

WHEN CHRISTMAS PLAYS COLLIDE









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12-22-1999

I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT MARY ... THIS IS
THE FOURTH ONE OF THESE 'CHRISTMAS CARD'
THINGS THAT WE'VE GOT THIS WEEK ALONE,
IT MUST BE SOME NEW CRAZE

December 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Hanging of the Greens	3 7:30pm Bible	4	5 9:30am Bible	6	7	8
9 9 & 11 Worship	10 7:30pm Bible	11	12 9:30am Bible	13	14	15
16 Cantata 9 & 11 Worship	17 7:30pm Bible	18	19 9:30am Bible	20	21	22
23  Christmas Sun-	24 7:30pm Bible	25  Christmas	26	27	28	29
30 9 & 11 Worship	31 7:30pm Bible					



Great progress was made toward finishing the choir loft, with special thanks to Kayla and Angela for priming the rails.



It's always good to see Lorenzo. He needs our prayers as he works to finish his Dr of Ministry dissertation. Let's encourage him as he encourages us.



Our Organ Dedication Service was wonderful. The music was top quality, and the cake was delicious!



Notice the beautiful rail on the choir loft.

Hyattstown Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Rev. Terry Reister
26012 Frederick Rd
Hyattstown MD 20871
Phone: 301-831-8184
Email: wftreister@earthlink.net



Peace And Goodwill

WELCOME!

Worship with your church family this Sunday. Our doors are open and you are always welcome in God's house. We look forward to seeing you.

