

HYATTSTOWN CHRISTIAN CHURCH NEWS

January 2007 Volume 5 Issue 1

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.



JANUARY

Jan 9 - Tuesday 7:30pm- Board Meets

Jan 13 - Saturday- Feed the Hungry 4:30pm

Jan 20 - Saturday- Men's Breakfast 7:30-9:00am

Monday nights - Bible Study 7pm

Wednesday mornings - Bible Study 9:30am

Happy New Year!

THE PASTOR'S PAGE

January 2007 Volume 5 Issue 1



TODAY I HAVE THE DATES FOR CAMP STARFISH 2007. They will be August 5 through August 8, Monday through Wednesday. The fact is that we have never been so excited about this camp. Last year we had such a great adventure, with the most congenial and helpful staff anyone could imagine. The folks that make this camp for the children of inmates so spectacular are incredible. We have the best leadership possible, and we cover everything from arts and crafts nature hikes, to story telling in a superb way.

Last year we had Kathy Matthew's from Upper Montgomery County government, and she was especially effective as a role model for these great children.

Because of the greater interest in Starfish, we have been advised to expect more children this year. Our absolute limit is thirty children, and we would need many more volunteers if we reach that number. Its clear that we must have adequate supervision for this event.

Check your calendars and reserve these dates if you can. This should be a wonderful Christian opportunity this summer. We will plan a meeting early in 2007 to begin the planning for the third Camp Starfish. Let us know if you will be willing to help this year. Other capital; Area Disciples will be invited to assist.

This is one of our most visible efforts to be more of an externally focused congregation. We are very grateful for those who have made this effort so effective.

+ Terry



January 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>1</i> 7pm Bible Study	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i> 930-11am Bible Study	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>7</i> 9 & 11 Worship	<i>8</i> 7pm Bible Study	<i>9</i> 7:30 pm Board Meets	<i>10</i> 930-11am Bible Study	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i> 4:30 Feed the Hungry
<i>14</i> 9 & 11 Worship	<i>15</i> 7pm Bible Study	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i> 930-11am Bible Study	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i> 8-9 Men's Breakfast
<i>21</i> 9 & 11 Worship	<i>22</i> 7pm Bible Study	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i> 930-11am Bible Study	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>
<i>28</i> 9 & 11 Worship	<i>29</i> 7pm Bible Study	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i> 930-11am Bible Study			

Liturgical Schedule — also posted on bulletin board inside front door

			
9 am Worship	Deaconate	Elders	
Jan 7/ 14	M Pierson	R Davis	
Jan 21/ 28	T Hearl	G Pierson	
11 am Worship	Deaconate		Elders
Jan 7/ 14	B Dangler	L Huntman	B Turman
Jan 21/ 28	S Law	W Moore	B Sweeney
Liturgist	9 am Worship	11 am Worship	Scripture
Jan 7	Frank Hearl	Beth Sweeney	Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22
Jan 14	Debbie Blair	Gail Howard	John 2: 1-11
Jan 21	Sharron Smith	Sharon Turman	Luke 4: 14-21
Jan 28			Luke 4: 21-30

January Birthdays



Jan 15— Philip A. Day, Jr
 Jan 16— Brenda Yankaskas
 Jan 26— Diana Covell

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

If you have updates for the address and birthday database PLEASE tell Teresa Hearl or email her at TKHearl@adelphia.net



I am missing a lot of birthdays and anniversaries. If I miss yours please let me know.

If you have pictures of church activities or members of our church family doing exciting things, please send them to Teresa Hearl at TKHearl@adelphia.net or see her in church.

<p>Useful Information</p> <p>Pastor Terry Reister: Office: (301) 831-8184 Home: (301) 831-8679</p> <p>Spiritual Formation: Lorenzo York (301) 831-4305</p> <p>Biblical Studies: Jim Cole (301) 706-7404</p> <p>Music: Philip A. Day (301) 693-3887 Barb Lang (301-)829-2527</p> <p>Board Chair: Hugh Howard (301) 831-8643</p> <p>Vice-Chair: Andy Blair (301) 216-2746</p> <p>Board Secy: Debbie Flook (301) 695-2678</p>	<p>Trustees Chair: Eddie Flook (301) 695-2678</p> <p>Treasurer: Pierrette McIntire (301) 607-4242</p> <p>Financial Secy: Bob Turman (301)620-7570</p> <p>Christian Service: Pat Griffith (301) 972-1316 Barb Dangler (301) 668-4194</p> <p>Education/Celebration: Chair: Janet Reister (301) 831-8679</p> <p>Property Chair: Eddie Flook (301) 695-2678</p> <p>Outreach/Stewardship: Doris Horman (301) 662-8740</p> <p>Newsletter: Teresa Hearl (301) 682-7360 Tkhearl@adelphia.net SEND NEWS!!</p>
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FEED THE HUNGRY **Saturday at 4:30pm**



At the Frederick Rescue Mission on All Saints St. We are known as the “Lasagna church” to those who come for a meal. Serving at this meal gives us a greater appreciation for the many physical blessing we have, and helps out some of our hungry neighbors. Join us to gain a new perspective.
For more info call Barb Dangler 301-668-4194

Dates for 2007
Jan 13 April 21 August 18 November 17

Men’s Breakfast Schedule for 2007

What is Men’s Breakfast? We meet, we eat, and talk. That’s fellowship! Typically, Men’s breakfast is the Saturday morning before Feed the Hungry, but January came so quickly that we missed our opportunity to announce this in advance. So, we will have Men’s Breakfast the Saturday morning after Feed the Hungry this month. Cooking 7:30a.m. Eating 8:00 a.m. — 9a.m.



**DISCIPLES
MEN**

Dates for 2007
Jan 20 April 14 August 11 November 10

One Small Change

Happy New Year! Do you have a list of New Year resolutions? Maybe you have one big resolution. Here's the big question: Is this year's list the same as last year's list?

Some of you may successfully achieve all of your goals, most of us do not. Oh, we all have such good intentions. Every year we enthusiastically tackle our ambitious lists. By February or March we half-heartedly plow forward or quit. Why is it so much easier said than done? There is a saying "If you keep doing what you're doing, you'll get what you have."

Are we all doomed to failure? No, no, no. We just need to make the changes necessary to progress toward our goals. We know the desired end result but can be overwhelmed planning the attack.

Consider adopting this saying during January. "**One Small Change.**" Make a small change to progress toward your goal. Sometimes you have to make that same small change over and over until it becomes a habit. Change is not often comfortable, but if the goal is worthy, so is the effort.

Perhaps, like many of us, you wish to become svelte as a model or as fit as an athlete. Your "One small change" may be to say no to HoHo's. Once you tackle your HoHo addiction, maybe you could consider setting the TV remote across the room. Difficult, yes, but it could help you start toward that mental picture you had on January 1.



So many of our goals are measurable that we often fail to consider the intangible. Have you set your spiritual goals for the year? Just as we need to exercise our bodies to become fit, we must exercise our minds to fully use and develop our spiritual selves. What are your spiritual goals? Do you plan on reading more scripture? Focusing on outreach? Letting go of resentment? Using your prayer-time more effectively? Whatever it is, make "**One Small Change**" today!

From Teresa's "Back of the Bulletin" collection



THE DEVIL MAY BE THE FATHER OF ALL LIES,
BUT THIS SCALE IS THE UNCLE

Live for today but hold your hands open to tomorrow. Anticipate the future and its changes with joy. There is a seed of God's love in every event, every circumstance, every unpleasant situation in which you may find yourself.

Barbara Johnson

Charitable Thoughts:

The new Pension Protection Act of 2006 contains an important change for charitable contributions. Effective for 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.



This is repeated from last month, Thanks again for the info from Bob T

The Disciples of Christ logo

The chalice and St. Andrew’s Cross, symbol of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) was adopted by the church’s 1971 General Assembly. The logo is comprised of a red chalice, with the white cross of St. Andrew superimposed. The choice of a chalice (communion cup) reflects the centrality of the Lord's Supper in our worship, and our commitment to remembering that Jesus' life was given for the redemption of all. The chalice is red, which symbolizes vitality, spirit, and the sacrificial blood of Christ. The cross of St. Andrew is X-shaped, as tradition relates how Andrew did not feel worthy to be crucified on the same form of cross as Jesus. This cross is white, to represent the purity of spirit of one willing to follow Jesus. The Cross of St. Andrew, national cross of Scotland, focuses attention on the Presbyterian roots of the Disciples. St. Andrew has been identified with the laity and with evangelism, both of which have been prominent Disciples’ emphases.





NEWS In the PEWS

Dear Friends,

Our Advent & Christmas celebrations this year were great experiences for the senses. We could see the lovely decorations, the lush red velvet pew bows, the soft twinkling clear lights & all of the candles everywhere. We were able to smell the fresh cut greenery in the advent wreath. And we heard the beautiful music presented by our choir. Director of music Phil Day led two beautiful cantatas that featured many of our choir members in solo parts. Thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make this such a wonderful season for the Church!

Christmas cards from faraway: We received lovely cards & notes from **Earl & Kathy O'Dell** now back in Texas, **Betty Jane (BJ) Loeb** - Connecticut, & **Dean & Miriam Ponder** (featuring a great photo of toddler son **Noah**) at home in South Carolina.

Over the river & through the woods -even some travels across The Pond: **John & Stacey Wilson** were joined by children **Kristopher, Geoffrey & Allyssa** & more than 20 other friends & family members on a memorable week long trip to Ireland over the holidays. The rest of our Church family & friends stayed a little closer to home. **Paul & Terri Leone** spent Christmas in California with Paul's family. Texas was the destination for **Phil Day** as he has enjoyed a month long trip to visit his sister at her winter home. **Frank & Theresa Roys** also journeyed to Texas to visit friends. **Marian Meyers** said she had a wonderful trip to the midwest where she got a chance to catch up with family & friends. **Hugh & Gail Howard** stopped off in Blacksburg, Virginia to visit son Charles before driving on to the Atlanta area where they visited a dear friend. **Brenda & Kurt Yankaskas** took children **Christopher, Michael & Julie** to see family in New Jersey. **Bill & LaQuita Huntzman** spent the holidays at their home in the mountains of North Carolina.

News: The **Disciple Youth** spent a balmy, sunny December Sunday at Adventure Park in New Market where they drove go karts & played laser tag. **Sharon & Bill Duke** have

finished renovations to their home in New Market. **Cherry King** has gotten everything moved into their new place at the Duke's home, & they are all waiting for **Jerry** to come home from the hospital. **Eddie & Debbie Flook** were proud when son Steven announced at the service Christmas Eve morning that he & Suzanne were having another baby this coming summer. An ultrasound changed everything -now they're expecting twins! That will make 6 grandchildren for Eddie & Debbie.

Graduate Students & College Students:

It's nice to see our students over the holidays. **Jeff Covell** finished his first semester of medical school & **Jay Covell** is in graduate school. They bought a townhouse together & both attend the University of Kentucky in Lexington. **Phillip York** completed a successful first semester at Marietta College on Ohio. **Kevin Moore & Alyssa Wilson** were home from studies at the University of Maryland. **Kyle Davis** was glad to be home from Penn State. **Angie Flook** spent the holidays home from Shepherd University. **Jessi Moore & Kevin Elkins** were on a break from James Madison in Harrisonburg, Virginia. It was especially good to see **Felicia Dolan-Wilson** again. She's completed another semester at

FCC. And **Stephanie Smith** is beginning her final semester of medical school in Baltimore! Her rotations this term will take her to Florida (clinic duties at a Navy base) & Western Maryland (practicing rural medicine).

Set another place at the table: Many in our Church family welcomed family & friends for the holidays. **Sharron & Bill Smith** had a house full, with grandson Miles (along with Mom & Dad) visiting Maryland for the first time from the West Coast. Son **Kevin** made it home too & got to spend some precious time with his wife **Stephanie** (one more semester & they'll be at their new home together!). **Debbie & Andy Blair**, along with **Meghan & Ben** welcomed Debbie's parents Don & Patricia Isaacs from Massachusetts. Lian Turman came from Connecticut to spend a week at home in Ijamsville visiting parents **Bob & Sharon Turman**. Clara Moore was here from Harrisonburg, Virginia to see son & daughter-in-law **Walt & Chris Moore**. The Moore's also enjoyed having **Chris'** dad Bill Masters who traveled here from West Virginia. **Pat & Harry Griffith** brought Pat's mom for a quick visit from West Virginia. **Pierrette & Chuck McIntire** hosted her parents Perry & Kaye White who were here from their home in North Carolina's Outer Banks.

People to remember in prayer: Artye Hellner, Norman & Doris Horman, Hannah Matlock, Jerry & Cherry King, LaQuita & Bill Huntman, Rev. Lari Grubbs & Dr. George Schaffer.

Grace & peace,
+Janet

P.S. Milestone

Dr George Schafer is proud to say that he has been a member of the DOC for over 50 years. He is not able to attend often but thinks of our church fondly.

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



THE BACK PEW - Jeff Larson

She did what? Oh dear, oh my! You dog.. unbelievable!!

hush, hush, whisper whisper

BULLETIN
 welcome to Grace Church

food poisoning at potluck
 pastor's death
 high stakes
 rook ring
 Elder Al
 others only 4.50
 dog barked

<http://thebackpew.com>

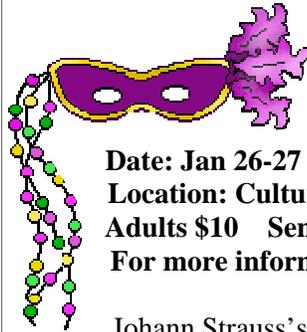
Bulletin readings are way up ever since Grace Church of CheeseGrater WI added a gossip column.

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Thanks to Pam Winn 09-13-2008

SHOULD PROBABLY START PREACHING TO THE CHOIR AGAIN





**The Frederick Camerata presents...
Die Fledermaus (Revenge of the Bat)**

Date: Jan 26-27 & Feb 2-3

**Location: Cultural Arts Center, 15 West Patrick Street,
Adults \$10 Seniors and Children \$5**

For more information call Phil Day: 301-693-3887

Johann Strauss's comic operetta, die Fledermaus has enchanted audiences since 1874. A comedy of errors centers around the affairs of Gabriel von Eisenstein and his wife Rosalinde. The plot involves practical jokes, disguises, and trickery, all served with champagne. Melodic and entertaining, this operetta is a delight.

Several of our members sing in the Camerata, or assist the group backstage. Come and enjoy!

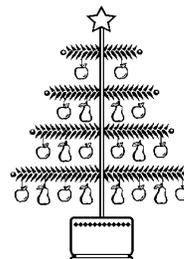


Friends and Families got together on Christmas Eve.



SNAPSHOTS **By Dana Appleton Reitman**

Is there someone in the congregation you would like to know more about? Is someone you know involved in something really interesting? Do *you* want to tell your story? Please call or email Dana Appleton Reitman. 301-846-0654 or dareitman@verizon.net
(note from editor-Don't be nervous, Dana makes it easy, and we have a lot of interesting people in our congregation)



Christmas in Malawi



Our gifts were useful. I got a sling-shot to chase monkeys out of the garden, and a panga (a machete), an all-around useful tool.

When we went to Malawi in 1993 we were allowed to take 2 bags for each member of the family; everything we would need for the year had to be packed into 8 suitcases. We packed sheets, pots and pans, clothes and shoes, tennis racquets and tennis balls. We did not pack anything for Christmas, though I have since read about a woman who was foresighted enough to pack a few wrapped presents for her young son when her family left the U.S. on a Fulbright.

The first Christmas we spent in Malawi Colin and Carter were 6 and 3 years old. Not having a Christmas tree to decorate or stockings to hang was unthinkable. One missionary friend lent us some extra Christmas stockings. The boys hung them from the mantle above our only heat source, the fireplace in our living room. Peggy Wilks, my missionary friend from Namikango Mission, let me cut down a Christmas tree out at the mission. It was a rangy cedar which we stuck in a bucket of rocks to keep upright. For ornaments we hung little paper things Colin

had made in school, soda bottle caps which I had punched holes in with a nail, and pinecones which we had picked up in the forest. Everything was hung with sewing thread. We also strung popped maize.

Christmas Day we were invited to dinner with some English and South African friends. A man had come around our house some days after Thanksgiving with a live turkey for sale. I hastily called my friend Mrs. Paddy and asked her if I should buy it. She said yes, and that after I had killed and dressed it I could bring it to her house where she would store it in their freezer until Christmas. Since I have never killed anything I have ever eaten except a fish, I made the man who brought it

around kill and dress it. He took the poor doomed thing down into the bottom of the yard, the cook took him a big bucket of hot water, and he proceeded to do the deed. The boys watched on in horror. That may have been when the seeds of vegetarianism were planted in Carter's mind.

I don't remember much else about that Christmas except for two indelible memories. We had a woodcarver carve some dinosaurs for the boys as gifts. Two were supposed to be triceratops but something was misunderstood in the explanation and they don't have the frill behind their heads. Nevertheless, the carvings were loved, and are still treasured as keepsakes from that year. The second memory was after Christmas dinner when everyone was singing carols. I was shy of singing and didn't sing along. When our host noticed he demanded that I sing- a solo. Figuring I would never see this fellow again in my life I stood up and belted out the first song I had learned as a child, "You Are My Sunshine." I think the glass of South African sparkling wine with dinner gave me the courage.

As dona (boss-lady) and bwana (boss-man) Roger and I were expected to give gifts to everyone who worked for us. On the good advice of my friend Mrs. Paddy we gave everyone items they would or could never buy for themselves: jars of nice jam and peanut butter, large quantities of cooking oil, tea, powdered milk, sugar, washing soap, bath soap, skin cream and so on. We also gave everyone a chicken- killed and dressed (but not by me!) and ready to cook.

Christmas in 2003 in Malawi was different. The boys were no longer small, a tree and stockings would not be missed. A very thoughtful friend had sent me a big box of decorations from the U.S. in October. Among them were some green and red plastic ball ornaments from Wal-Mart. I hung them off of the window valances in our living room with sewing thread and they looked wonderful. Christmas Eve, our 19th wedding anniversary, we had our dear friends the Gibbs over for dinner. The next day, after attending Christmas service at the Anglican Church, we spent the day with more friends, this time eating at a fancy restaurant on the Zomba Plateau, my favorite place on Earth.

Since I have yet to spend Christmas in the village in Malawi I asked a couple of my Malawian friends to share what Christmas was like for them when they were growing up.

One friend told me, "The end of the year holidays in Malawi are the equivalent of Thanksgiving here; it is traditionally when families get together. Those who work in far away places travel to be with their family."

"My father came from a large family.



The boys played tennis after church and before Christmas dinner.

My grandmother was a very strong woman who helped to keep the family together. Because of what she did, my uncles still live together in the village.

“At Christmas, everyone would travel to the village and Grandmother would select a bull to slaughter in celebration. My dad and his brothers had a joint business of a grocery store, and also raised cattle. The whole family would indulge in this great feast. My family always shared their evening meals together, every single day. The older men would eat together in one place; the ladies would share their meal usually at my grandmother's house. Everyone brought their sima and dende (Chitumbuka for maize porridge and side dish); the younger unmarried men would eat separately. This meant that each house made dishes of sima and dende, one for each group.

”When Grandmother selected the bull, it was the men and boys who would slaughter and dress it. Because my father worked in different places, I moved in and out of the village. When I lived there I learned how to slaughter and dress a bull. However, I could never eat anything that I saw getting killed or dressed! I still won't. When I go home, my mother makes sure I don't see the chicken, goat or any other animal they want to slaughter for me.

“On my last visit to Malawi, my mother asked my cousins to slaughter a goat for me. She told them they shouldn't let me see it, but they neglected that and I would not eat any of the meat. I had gone to the village with my father-in-law, so I gave him all of the meat to take home to Lilongwe where he lives.

”When I was younger, kids would go around caroling from house to house on Christmas Eve and people would either give them money - just a few tambalas- or candy, like what people do here in the U.S. on Halloween. I don't know the origins of that, but I think it has something to do with Christianity”

My good friend Robert Chirwa also sent me some of his recollections of Christmas in the village:

“First, there is no gift opening on Christmas morning, although there are gifts given. The parents usually give their children new clothes to wear on Christmas day.

”Before Christmas Day parents would either save money or find extra work. The aim was to buy special-more-expensive food for Christmas Day. Choirs would have special rehearsals. Young people would form groups and plan parties. In the village the money for those parties was



At Christmas dinner we opened "poppers" which had goofy items such as this paper crown Roger was told he had to wear.

raised by working in other people's gardens.

”By Christmas Eve everybody is ready; new clothes were bought; food, such as rice, chicken, beef, and cookies was bought. Drinks such as Fanta and Coca-Cola were purchased. In the evening the choir sings at the church from 8 p.m. until Jesus is born at midnight. Many people go to listen to the choir sing. In the morning most people take a shower/bath and wear their new clothes to church.

”After church the party begins. Families or groups of young people have dinners eating food that they eat only once a year. Late afternoon there are dances. These may be traditional dances at the village square or boom-box music in young people's homes. Many people just go out to see all the festivities. Of course some people will be drunk. There may even be a fight or two.

“Christmas in Malawi is during the rainy season. That is why I am always dreaming of a rainy 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 7:00-8:30pm.



THERE IS ALWAYS ROOM
FOR YOU TO JOIN US.

Liturgists Wanted



If you would like to serve as liturgist please tell Pastor Reister. You don't have to be a member, you only have to want to read the scripture on Sunday morning.

Still Available

The holidays are over but we continue to sell items from Malawi, and our church Cookbook. These are always great gifts, or use them yourself.

See Dana Reitman for beautiful handmade wooden items from Malawi.

See Barb Dangler or Teresa Hearl for Cookbooks full of yummy recipes.



Hyattstown Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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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.

