

Epiphany Pageant: Instead of a Christmas Pageant this year, we will have an Epiphany Pageant celebrating the journey of the wise ones during worship on January 3. This will be an interactive event requiring minimal rehearsal. Children age 4 through junior high who are able, will practice for the pageant next Sunday, December 20, during the Sunday School hour. We will hold one final rehearsal/rep time on January 3 during the Sunday school hour for any children or youth who are interested in participating. There is no requirement to come to the rehearsal on the 20th in order to participate on January 3. If you have any questions please contact Karen Haynes or Michelle Burkholder.

Community Café: HMC is scheduled to serve Community Café on Monday, January 4, 2016. The signup sheet is on the bulletin board. Please remember those less fortunate in our communities during the holiday season.

Nursery: Childcare is provided for children ages newborn through three years old.	
 Assistive Listening Devices are available. Please ask an usher for assistance.	
Church Listserv: To add or change your email address, please email Jake Short. Facebook: Hyattsville Mennonite Church.	
Church Staff Schedule: The church office is closed on Mondays. <i>Cindy</i> will be available Tuesday through Friday. <i>Michelle</i> will be available Tuesday and Thursday. <i>Jake</i> will be in the office Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday.	
Cynthia Lapp, Pastor Michelle Burkholder, Associate Pastor Jake Short, Administrative Assistant Kelly Heatwole, Treasurer Christian Yoder, Congregational Chair Nancy Gehman, Pastorate Chair	clapp@hyattsvillemennonite.org mburkholder@hyattsvillemennonite.org jshort@hyattsvillemennonite.org kelly.j.heatwole@gmail.com christian.yoder@gmail.com ngehman@verizon.net
Prayer Cards: If you want to share a prayer request in writing rather than verbally during the service, please use the space below, tear out this box, and place it in the prayer card box on the table in the foyer. Members of the Pastorate hold your joys, concerns, and sharings in prayer, both those shared verbally during the service and in writing.	
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Hyattsville Mennonite Church

A Christ-centered welcoming church committed to peace & justice.

4217 East-West Highway,
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 301-927-7327
 www.hyattsvillemennonite.org

Vol. 63 December 13, 2015 No. 15

9:30—Sunday School 11:00—Worship Service

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

HWB – *Hymnal: A Worship Book* (blue)

STJ – *Sing The Journey* (green) STS – *Sing The Story* (purple)

Prelude

Praising

Call to Worship Jonathan Miller
 Leader: Sing aloud, O people, shout out your worship in a loud voice!
**People: God takes away the judgment against us;
 There is no need to fear disaster.**
 Leader: The Lord our God exults over us with gladness;
 singing loudly as on a day of celebration.
**People: God delivers us from all that oppresses us,
 changing our shame into praise.**
**All: Rejoice! For God is our strength and our might
 and has become our salvation.**

Hymn: HWB 114 – *In thee is gladness* Eric Stoltzfus

Confessing

Confession
 Lighting the Advent Wreath Angie Wiens, Rosie Campbell
 Hymn: STJ 109 – *There is more love somewhere*

Hearing the Word

A Time for Children Sandra Plett

Messiah by Georg Friedrich Händel
Part I: Christmas

1-3 Isaiah 40: 1-5 Keith Swartzendruber
 4 *And the glory* Congregation
 5-7 Haggai 2:6-7, Malachi 3:1-3 Keith Swartzendruber

8 *Behold a virgin shall conceive* Kelly Heatwole
 9 *O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion* Kelly Heatwole
 Congregation
 10-11 *Isaiah 60:2-3, Isaiah 9:2* Keith Swartzendruber
 12 *For unto us a child is born* Congregation
 14 *There were shepherds abiding the field* Cindy Lapp
And lo! The angel of the Lord came upon them Cindy Lapp
 15 *And the angel said unto them* Cindy Lapp
 16 *And suddenly there was with the angel* Cindy Lapp
 17 *Glory to God* Congregation
 18 *Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion* Joanne Gallardo
 20 *He shall feed his flock like a shepherd* Kimberly Schmidt

Responding

Responses to the Message
 Sharing of Joys and Concerns
 Praying Together

The Work of the Church
 Advent Partner Community Larry Watson, Reunion D.C.
 Greeting our Guests
 Announcements

The Ministry of Giving
 Children's Offering
 Offertory Janet Peachey
 Prayer of Dedication

Sending

Hymn: *Hallelujah (chorus)* from Händel's *Messiah*
 Benediction

TODAY	NEXT WEEK
Greeter: Benjamin Graber	Mark Nord
Ushers: Dorothy Leissa, Brad Leissa	Cheryl Fish-Parcham, Timothy Platt
Nursery: Alice Bender, Zsófia Tószegi	Krysta Hawkely, Becca Walawender
Worship Arts: Meryt McGindley	Sara Person

TREASURER'S REPORT

Offering – \$9,756	Attendance – 133
Amount needed each week – \$5,752	Amount under budget – \$3,246

Scripture for next Sunday, December 20:

Micah 5:2-5a; Psalm 80:1-7; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-55

CALENDAR

Tues. 12/15—Pastorate, 7:15 p.m.
 Sun. 12/20—Advent IV; Cynthia Lapp preaches.
 Mon. 12/21—Longest Night service, 7:30 p.m.
 Thurs. 12/24—Christmas Eve service, 5:00 p.m.
 Sun. 12/27—Christmas I; storytelling during worship; no Sunday School.
 Sun. 1/3—Epiphany Sunday; Children and Youth pageant.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fellowship Meal Today: All are welcome to the Christmas themed fellowship meal after the worship service.

Visuals for Advent 2015: The theme for Advent this year is “Freedom Bound.” Visually we are exploring this theme through images of various pathways. Freedom means different things to each person, likewise, the journey towards freedom takes on many forms. We never know what the pathway of that journey will be like or what might be encountered. You are invited to step into a visual journey of pathways this Advent season, both in the sanctuary and around the building. Each week more paths will be added to the display at the front of the church to continue to broaden and challenge our ideas about pathways to God's freedom. “Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.” - Psalm 25:4

Advent Offering: This year's Advent offering will go to “Reunion DC,” an interfaith community in Washington intent on “dismantling mass incarceration through relationship and commitment,” and whose goal is 0% recidivism. As their website notes, “the most significant indicators of successful re-entry from incarceration are available to us immediately: Relationship. Community. Friendship. Healing. Reconciliation. Matters of the heart and spirit.” Reunion believes there is a better way to address crime, justice, and brokenness than the present system. These new possibilities are only available as we learn together to be communities of redemption and love. You can read more about the organization and its activities at: <https://sites.google.com/site/reunionwwcw/>.

Longest Night Service: On December 21st at 7:30 p.m., please join in a service honoring the darkness and sorrows that accompany the light and joy of the Christmas season. The service will include poetry, instrumental music and space for silence. It will be a time of reflection, meditation, and inspiration to carry you through the longest night.

Meals: Meals are being provided to Katrina and Beuford for the next few weeks. Please sign up at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090449afa8283-meals1>. If you would like to provide a meal but cannot transport it, please email [redacted] and we can work to coordinate delivery.

