

an internship this semester at Mennonite Central Committee U.S. Washington Office. I am starting work January 11 and still haven't been able to find housing. I would prefer to live with a family or someone so as not to be by myself for the four months I will be in D.C. Please let me know if you know anyone who might be willing to let me stay with them at a low cost. I can be reached at: [REDACTED], or it is also fine to email Rachele Lyndaker Schlabach at: [REDACTED].

Meals: Meals are being organized for Daron and Kirstin Showalter as they welcome Marie. They live close to the church. Please use this link to sign up: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090449afa8283-meals2>. Thanks! If you would like to provide a meal but cannot transport it, please email [REDACTED] and we can work to coordinate delivery.

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 Thursday. <i>Michelle</i> will be available Tuesday. <i>Jake</i> will be in the office Wednesday.	
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,
 Hyattsville, MD 20782
 301-927-7327
www.hyattsvillemennonite.org

Vol. 63 December 27, 2015 No. 17

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 Zsófia Tószegi

Praising

Call to Worship (from Psalm 148) Jonathan Miller

Leader: Praise the Lord, sing praise all the heights!

People: Praise God, sun and moon.

Sing praise, all you shining stars!

Leader: Praise God, all the earth. Sing praise, all fruit trees and hills!

People: Praise God, all you animals.

Sing praise, creeping things and flying birds!

All: Young men and women alike, old and young together,

Let all that has life and breath praise God!

Hymn: HWB 210 – *Good Christian friends, rejoice* Cecilia Lapp Stoltzfus

Confessing

Affirmation of Faith (adapted from Bruce Prewer)

We believe in a Living God

who is directly involved in the affairs of the world.

We believe that God chooses the meek and the poor

where the rich and the proud seem to rule.

We believe in the incarnate Word,

leaping in a woman's womb, cradled in poverty.

We believe in Jesus, son of Mary, Son of God,

who came among us in weakness,

that we might come to know the profound strength

available to common people

who turn to God in trust and with love. AMEN

Lighting the Advent Wreath
Hymn: HWB 204 – *Gloria*

Joel Nord, trumpet

Parent Child Dedication

Marie Silje Showalter, daughter of Daron & Kirstin Docken Showalter

Prayer of Blessing

Congregational Response: HWB 791

Hymn: HWB 194 – *Away in a manger*

Hearing the Word

A Time for Children

Sandra Plett

Scripture Reading:

Colossians 3:12–17

Message: ***Freedom Bound: Sharing Stories***

Christian Yoder

Wyatt Feeler

Zsófia Tószegi

Hymn: STS 28 – *Holy Child within the manger*

Christmas Carol Selections

Responding

Responses to the Message

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Praying Together

The Work of the Church

Greeting our Guests

Announcements

The Ministry of Giving

Children's Offering

Offertory

Prayer of Dedication

Sending

Hymn: HWB 201 – *Hark! The herald angels sing*

Benediction

Scripture for next Sunday, January 3:

Jeremiah 31:7-14; Psalm 147:12-20; Ephesians 1:3-14; John 1:(1-9), 10-18

CALENDAR

Sun. 1/3—Epiphany Sunday; Children and Youth pageant.

Mon. 1/4—Community Café.

Sun. 1/10—Cynthia Lapp preaches.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

Upcoming Sunday School Schedule: There will be no Sunday School for kids or youth on Jan. 3.

Visuals for Advent 2015: This year's Advent theme is "Freedom Bound." Visually we are exploring this theme through images of 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. You can read more at: <https://sites.google.com/site/reunionwvcw/>.

Hospitality Opportunity: My name is Rebecca Babirye. I am a 26-year-old Ugandan woman who just graduated from Wheaton College and will be doing

TODAY

Greeter: Sara Fretz-Goering

Ushers: Amy Whittington, Marc Friesen

Nursery: Wyatt Feeler, Jeanette Stoltzfus

Worship Arts: Kristin Sampson, Becca Walawender

NEXT WEEK

Peter Goering

Karen Minatelli, Nelson Steelberg

Zsófia Tószegi, Peter Sabath

Judy Nord

TREASURER'S REPORT

Offering – \$4,567

Amount needed each week – \$5,752

Attendance – 130

Amount under budget – \$3,831
