


From the Treasurer: Please note that there are only three Sundays, including today, remaining in 2016, the third of which is Christmas day. As of 12/8, we need to collect \$27,460.48 before the end of the year to reach our budgeted offering goal. Please check your pledge balance and make your best effort to fulfill it by the end of the year. If you don't know your outstanding pledge balance, please contact treasurer Kelly Heatwole at [REDACTED]. Thank you for your joyful giving to HMC!

Christmas Eve Offering: Our Christmas Eve service offering will go to Mennonite Central Committee's (MCC) ongoing relief efforts in Haiti following the destruction done by Hurricane Matthew.

Queer Spirituality Retreat at Rolling Ridge: This retreat is happening the weekend of Feb. 3-5, 2017. This is a weekend for LGBTQ+ folks to connect in community and in nature. Join us for rest and reflection, hiking and eating, and simply being together in sacred space. It will be led by Michelle Burkholder and Annabeth Roeschley.

Muslim Liberation Theologies Learning Session: On Thursday, December 15 at 7:00 p.m., join Sarah Thompson of Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT) for a conversation on her exploration of Critical Muslim Studies: Decolonial Struggles and Liberation Theologies. Sarah spent the summer in Granada, Spain in a course dedicated to this work. The conversation will be hosted by Annabeth Roeschley. Join in person or via Skype. RSVP: [REDACTED].

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. Cindy will be available Tuesday through Friday. Michelle will be available Tuesday and Thursday. Jake will be in the office Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.	
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Hyattsville Mennonite Church

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

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Vol. 64 December 11, 2016 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

Mira Grieser

Praising

Call to Worship (from Isaiah 35)

Jonathan Miller

Left: The wilderness and the dry land will be glad,
the desert will rejoice and blossom;

**Right: Like the crocus it will blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with singing.**

Left: They will see the glory of YHWH, the majesty of our Creator.

Right: Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees.

Left: Say to those who are of a fearful heart,

“Be strong, do not fear! Here is your Creator come to save you.”

**Right: Then the eyes of the blind will be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;**

Left: Then the lame will leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

Right: Waters will flow in the wilderness, and streams in the desert.

**Together: And the people of YHWH will return to Zion with singing;
they will be filled with everlasting joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing will flee away.**

Hymn: HWB 14 – *Come, we that love the Lord*

Eric Stoltzfus

Confessing

Confession

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Doris Bartel & Su Flickinger

Hymn: STS 13 – *Sing we a song of high revolt*

Hearing the Word

A Time for Children

Scripture Reading:

James 5:7-10

Matthew 11:2-11

Message: ***Wait With Joy***

Hymn: HWB 318 – *Joy to the world*

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 604 – *Jesu, joy of our desiring*

Benediction

Sandra Plett

Janet Reedy

Stan Reedy

Cynthia Lapp

CALENDAR

Sun. 12/11—Advent III; Cynthia Lapp preaches; fellowship meal.

Thurs. 12/15—Trustees, 7:00 p.m.

Sun. 12/18—Advent IV; Messiah sing-along.

Sat. 12/24—Christmas Eve service, 5:00 p.m.

Sun. 12/25—Christmas Day service; no Sunday School.

Sun. 1/1—Christmas I; joint service with UPCoB; no Sunday School.

Sun. 1/8—Epiphany; fellowship meal.

Sat. 1/14—Safe Congregations training: “Stopping Sexual Harassment”.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fellowship Meal Today: All are welcome to come make a joyful noise and celebrate the season together at the fellowship meal immediately following the worship service today.

Advent Worship Arts: A Kaleidoscope of Sound and Color. During Advent, worship arts is experimenting with visual and auditory experiences to explore the theme “Wake, Watch, Wait”. Listen for the sounds of clanging gongs, cymbals, and bells each week as we progress from a cacophony of sounds to a solitary bell on Christmas morning. Visually you will see a kaleidoscope of color wheels make their way across the front of the sanctuary meeting in the central banner by Christmas Eve. In each of these journeys we invite you to be awakened, watching and waiting for the shifting landscape of sounds and color to come into focus as we anticipate the celebration of the in-breaking of God's love in the world through the embodiment of Christ in Jesus.

Advent Offering: Congregations United for Compassion and Empowerment (CUCE) sponsors the Prince George's Plaza Day Center, located at University Christian Church on Adelphi Road. Open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:00-6:00 p.m., it provides space for guests to do laundry, take showers, get a hot meal, and receive job and housing counseling. There is also the opportunity to give materially to the Day Center in this season. If you would like to donate socks, or medium, large, XL, or XXL boxer shorts or long underwear, these would be gratefully accepted by the Center. You can place them unwrapped under the Christmas tree in the foyer. Thank you for your generosity.

Adult Education: We continue our series on prayer. On December 18, Katrina Toews will conclude the series with movement as prayer. All are welcome. Note: there is no Sunday School for any age on December 25 and January 1.

Wedding Congratulations: Congratulations to Tabitha Gingerich & Keith Swartzendruber, who were married here at HMC yesterday.

TODAY

Greeter: Cheryl Fish-Parcham

Ushers: Mark Nord, Richard Brown

Nursery: Dorothy Leissa, Jim Rice

Worship Arts: Jake Short

NEXT WEEK

Mary Jo Schumacher

Amy Whittington, Karen Minatelli

Dorothy Leissa, Yahtyng Sheu

Sara Person

TREASURER'S REPORT

Offering Last Week – \$14,278

Attendance – 128

Weekly Goal – \$5,852

Lectionary scripture for next Sunday, December 18:

Isaiah 7:10-16; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-25
