

Meal for Day Center in January 2018: Each Tuesday and Thursday the PG Plaza Day Center provides lunch for 35-40 people. During the school year, the meals come from University of Maryland. In January and the summer, local congregations provide meals. HMC is providing and serving the meal on Tuesday, January 16 at 2:00 p.m. If you are willing to serve and/or provide food, please contact: CLapp@hyattsvillemennonite.org.

New HMC Women's Group: Sophia's Table, an HMC group for women of all ages, is forming. A presentation/discussion format will include a broad range of topics and will meet monthly, beginning Saturday, January 27. Your ideas, input, and participation are welcomed. Contact Sandra Plett or Janet Reedy for more information, and more details are coming after the holidays.

Save The Date: Hospitality Night will be Sunday, January 28, 2018. This is an evening of fun and fellowship when we gather in homes to share a meal together. Please mark your calendars and plan on participating in this great event. More details will follow in the New Year.

A Christmas Carol: Wolfpack Theater Company presents *A Christmas Carol* at First Baptist Church of Hyattsville on 42nd Ave. This adapted version of the Dickens classic features a Warm Nights family; Warm Nights is the shelter program HMC hosts one week a year, and is organized by CCSI. Performances are Dec. 8-10 and Dec. 15-17 at 8:00 p.m., with matinees at 2:00 p.m. on Saturdays Dec. 9 and 16. Tickets and more information is available at: <https://wolfpacktheatrecompany.webconnex.com/AChristmasCarol2017>.

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 and Friday.	
Cynthia Lapp, Pastor	clapp@hyattsvillemennonite.org
Michelle Burkholder, Associate Pastor	mburkholder@hyattsvillemennonite.org
Jake Short, Administrative Assistant	jshort@hyattsvillemennonite.org
Kelly Heatwole, Treasurer	kelly.j.heatwole@gmail.com
Kathleen Zook, Congregational Chair	kathleen.zook@gmail.com
Sandra Plett, Pastorate Chair	saundraplett@gmail.com



Hyattsville Mennonite Church

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

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Vol. 65

December 10, 2017

No. 15

11:00—Worship Service

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

HWB – *Hymnal: A Worship Book* (blue)

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

Prelude

Juan Hernández

Praising

Call to Worship

Jonathan Miller

Leader: We gather as pilgrims on a journey of faith.

Left: We come, seeking your presence as we travel the way.

Right: We come, seeking your light to shine a way in our darkness.

All: Shine in our hearts, O God with the light of your love.

Make your presence known through Jesus. Amen.

Hymn: STS 14 – *Prepare the way of the Lord* Cindy Lapp

Lighting Advent Wreath: Isaiah 40:1-11 Stoltzfus-Feeler Family

Händel's *Messiah*: "Comfort ye my people" Eric Stoltzfus, tenor

Händel's *Messiah*: "Ev'ry valley shall be exalted" Mira Grieser, piano

Confessing

Confession

Hymn: HWB 176 – *Comfort, comfort, O my people*

Hearing the Word

A Time for Children

Sandra Plett

Scripture Reading:

Mark 1:1-8

Elham Eftekhary

Message: ***Stories from the Path***

Anne Sedda Confer,

Melanie Friesen, Neal Friesen, Joe Fritsch

Hymn: STJ 2 – *Hamba nathi (Come, walk with us)*

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: STS 4 – *Rejoice, rejoice, the Savior comes*
Benediction

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fellowship Meal Today: All are invited to and welcome at the Christmas-themed fellowship meal immediately following the worship service.

Advent and Christmas Giving Opportunities: Our monetary Advent offering this year will go to the small local group Acupuncturists Without Borders, which is offering free treatments to recent immigrants, refugees, and neighbors in need in Hyattsville and Silver Spring. We will also be supporting the Prince Georges Plaza Day Center with gifts of long underwear, t-shirts (L/XL) socks, boxer shorts (L/XL). Thanks for your generosity supporting our neighbors.

Advent Worship Arts: Worship arts during Advent includes a continuation of the creation of the collage panels we started at retreat. For the next several weeks there will be one panel with tissue paper and glue sticks in the foyer. You are invited to take a few moments to glue some of the tissue paper squares onto the panels. There are no rules! Just glue the pieces on how you see fit. The following week the panel will move to the banner up front, which will grow as we wait for Christmas. During retreat we saw how these separate panels connected to each other in a horizontal way. As the panels come together up front, we will watch as the connections form from above to below as we wait for the celebration of God's breaking into the world. May It Be So!

Barnyard Bash: Drop by the church between 3:00-7:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 16, to participate in a seasonally inspired barnyard bash! We will be making animal costumes for use in the Epiphany Sunday impromptu pageant. We will also be decorating the tree, playing games, eating treats, and generally celebrating the festiveness of the Advent season. [Spontaneous caroling may break out if the Spirit moves!] All ages are welcome!

Longest Night Service: HMC will host a Longest Night service on Thursday, December 21, at 7:00 p.m. This will be a quiet and meditative service to contemplate the mystery and gifts of darkness.

Sunday School and Adult Education: Join us at 9:30 a.m. at UPCoB when we finish the series on Christmas traditions in other countries. All are welcome. There will be no Sunday School for any age on Dec. 24 and Dec. 31.

Sunday School Experiment: Starting in January, we will have Sunday School only on the first three Sundays of each month. The fourth Sunday will be another activity, separate from UPCoB, at HMC. This will give Sunday School teachers a break and hopefully encourage families to attend Sunday School more consistently on the first three Sundays of the month. We will evaluate this over the summer. Stay tuned for information on fourth Sunday activities.

TODAY

Greeter: Herb Reed
Ushers: Elham Eftekhary, Marc Friesen
Nursery: Alice Bender, Dorothy Leissa
Worship Arts: Claire Noël-Miller

NEXT WEEK

Sara Fretz-Goering
Keith Swartzendruber, Amy Whittington
Laurel Macondray, Meadow Platt
Kristin Sampson, Becca Walawender

TREASURER'S REPORT

Offering Last Week – \$5,390 Weekly Goal – \$5,638
Attendance Last Week – 111

Lectionary scripture for next Sunday, December 17:

Isaiah 61:1-11; Psalm 126; I Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28

CALENDAR

Sat. 12/16—Barnyard Bash at HMC, 3:00–7:00 p.m. (see announcement)

Sun. 12/17—Advent III; Michelle Burkholder preaches.

Thurs. 12/21—Longest Night service, 7:00 p.m. (see announcement)

Sun. 12/24—Advent IV; Christmas Eve; Cindy Lapp preaches;
no evening service.

Sun. 12/31—Christmas I; service of carols and stories.

Sun. 1/7—Epiphany; intergenerational Epiphany pageant.
