

board in the foyer, or contact Jake Short for more information. Thank you for taking time to helping those less fortunate in our community during this busy holiday season.

**Adult Education in January:** Join us for our annual adult education Bible study in January. Wyatt Feeler will be leading a 3-part discussion series on Paul's first missionary journey and its immediate aftermath, as recounted in Acts 13-15. Come join us as we talk about sorcerers, Greek gods, broken friendships and councils – not to mention the many issues raised by the beginning of Christian missionary endeavors.

**Syrian Christmas Cards:** Many thanks to all who participated in the Syrian Christmas card exchange. We received cards back this week, and they are available to read on the table in the foyer, with a few addressed to specific people at HMC; you are welcome to take the card addressed to you.

**Winter Outerwear Needed:** Kim McClain is looking for winter outerwear for Juan's teenage sisters, who will visit from Honduras; they arrive December 30 and will stay through January 17. They are 15 and 19-years-old, and both a size women's extra small and between a 6 and 7 shoe (if anyone has winter boots). If you can help, contact Kim: [REDACTED]

**Meditation Group:** You are invited to join a meditation group that meets biweekly on Fridays at 3:00 p.m. at University Church of the Brethren. This is a joint meeting that includes HMC and UPCoB attendees. Please contact Mary Jo Schumacher [REDACTED] for further information.

<b>Nursery:</b> Childcare is provided for children ages newborn through three years old.	
 Assistive Listening Devices are available. Please ask an usher for assistance.	
<b>Church Listserv:</b> To add or change your email address, please email Jake Short. <b>Facebook:</b> Hyattsville Mennonite Church.	
<b>Church Staff Schedule:</b> 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
Sarah Hall Aguila, Treasurer	sarah.hall.aguila@gmail.com
Wyatt Feeler, Congregational Chair	wyatt.feeler@gmail.com
Mary Jo Schumacher, Pastorate Chair	trwmjs@comcast.net



# 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

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Vol. 66 December 16, 2018 No. 16

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9:30—Sunday School      10:30—Fellowship Time      11:00—Worship Service

**GATHERING FOR WORSHIP**

HWB – *Hymnal: A Worship Book* (blue)

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

*Our theme during Advent is “Nurture in the Journey.”  
The sanctuary has been transformed into a gathering tent,  
a shelter in the waiting, with our focus this morning on joy.*

Prelude Mira Grieser

**Praising**

Call to Worship: Philippians 4:4-7 Sara Fretz-Goering

One: Rejoice in the spirit of God always. I will say it again:

**All: Rejoice, and be happy.**

One: Let your gentleness be evident to all.

**All: The Lord is very near. Do not be anxious about anything.**

One: But if there are needs, open yourself to God

with prayer and thanksgiving.

**All: And the peace of God which transcends all human**

**understanding will be a shelter for your hearts and minds**

**in Christ Jesus. Rejoice!**

Hymn: HWB 184 – *Hark! the glad sound* Cindy Lapp

Lighting the Advent Candle: Zephaniah 3:14-20 Stan Reedy &

Janet Umble Reedy

Congregational response:

One: For the Word of God in Scripture,

**All: For the Word of God among us;**

**For the Word of God within us;**

**Thanks be to God.**

Hymn: HWB 604 – *Jesu, joy of man's desiring*

## Confessing

### Confession

One: Loving God, in this time we come openly to pray, to meditate, to confess, to ask guidance.

**All: In this time, we come searching for truth and help in understanding the world which we live.**

One: May we learn strength that comes in vulnerability and trust in your spirit of Love.

**All: May we learn to be sanctuary to one another with arms open wide, hands outstretched.**

One: Once again, help us to understand that it is in giving that we receive.

**All: And it is in receiving that we learn how to be grateful and full of the joy of Christ's grace.**

Hymn: *Sanctuary Song*

## Hearing the Word

Hymn: STS 16 – *Joy before us*

Time for Children

Penny Russell

### **Living the Story: An Impromptu Christmas Pageant**

STS 124 – *My soul cries out* (v. 1, 2)

HWB 191 – *O little town of Bethlehem* (v. 1)

HWB 194 – *Away in a manger* (v. 1, 2)

HWB 197 – *Angels we have heard on high* (v. 1, 2)

HWB 212 – *O come, all ye faithful* (v. 1, 4)

HWB 318 – *Joy to the world* (v. 1, 2)

## 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: STJ 13 – *My soul is filled with joy*

Benediction

## TODAY

*Greeter:* Mary Jo Schumacher

*Ushers:* Glen Gehman, Nancy Gehman

*Nursery:* Mary Hershberger, Dave Kraybill

*Worship Arts:* Kristin Sampson

## NEXT WEEK

Peter Goering

Brad Leissa, Dorothy Leissa

Wyatt Feeler, Jeanette Stoltzfus

David Conrad

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Offering Last Week – \$

Advent Offering – \$

Weekly Goal – \$5,863

Attendance Last Week – 150

## Lectionary scripture for next Sunday, December 23:

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

## CALENDAR

Thurs. 12/20—PG Plaza Day Center meal.

Sun. 12/23—Advent IV; Cindy Lapp preaches.

Sun. 12/24—Christmas Eve service, 5:00 p.m. (see announcement).

Sun. 12/30—Christmas I; Michelle Burkholder preaches.

Sun. 1/6—Epiphany; Michelle Burkholder preaches.

Mon. 1/7—Community Café (see announcement).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Christmas Eve Service:** On December 24 at 5:00 p.m., we will hold our annual Christmas Eve service of lessons and carols! This service is full of music and Scripture as we gather together to celebrate the birth of Christ. Contact Michelle Burkholder if you wish to participate in the service.

**Pre-Worship Christmas Activities:** There will be no Sunday School on December 23 and 30. Instead, these activities will be available:

- Dec. 23 at 9:30 a.m., Cindy Lapp will lead a drop-in choir in some new pieces that could potentially land in the new hymnal. Location will be in the sanctuary.
- Dec. 23 at 10:00 a.m. in the HMC Fellowship Hall, all ages are welcome to participate in Carols and Treats. Does your family have a favorite seasonal carol you like to sing? Do you know carols from other cultures/in languages other than English? Bring along some holiday treats (sweet or salty welcome) to share and your favorite carols to sing together before worship; there will also be a hot cocoa and toppings bar!
- Dec. 30 at 10:00 a.m. in the HMC Fellowship Hall, all ages are welcome to gather for a time of informal fellowship and treats before church.

**Community Café, January 7, 2019:** HMC is scheduled to serve at Community Café on Monday, January 7, 2019. Please sign up on the bulletin

## *Advent & Christmas Announcements*

**Advent Worship Arts:** The worship visuals during this Advent season focus on the theme of *nurture in the journey* as chosen by HMC Council and Pastorate for the year. The journeys of Mary and Joseph, and the wise ones are familiar to us. We are conscious of the many people who undertake perilous journeys to escape danger, such as the caravan of migrants from Central America. Some journeys are physical or geographical in nature; some encompass a route to spiritual change or transformational justice. What visually represents nurture in such journeys? The cloth draped from the arched support beams conveys the shelter of a tent over our heads as we gather together, providing a nurturing space for reflection and support. The banners express a night sky thick with stars, which in the ever-darkening days of mid-winter in the northern hemisphere, might provide illumination, inspiration or direction.

**Advent/Christmas Offering:** Our Advent/Christmas offering will go to our work with DMV Sanctuary Congregation Network, an interfaith network of congregations in the DC/MD/VA region that provides support and solidarity to neighbors, friends, and family who fear being detained, deported or profiled. In the face of hate and discrimination, our faith calls us to show love, compassion and hospitality. A primary focus for the Network is Deportation Defense. This includes advocacy, community organizing, fundraising, family support, media outreach and communications. Network members accompany people to ICE check-ins, legal hearings and congressional visits; hold Defend Your Rights trainings; host people who are at risk of deportation; support congregations that are hosting; and press cities and states to get ICE out of schools, jails and courts and to end all policies that racially profile and over-incarcerate people of color. As an active member of the Network, HMC has already contributed significant time and energy to these activities. We are also called on to raise financial support for the Network's activities. **HMC has a goal of raising \$5,000 through our Advent offering to support this work.** The DMV Sanctuary Congregation Network needs to raise an additional \$50,000 in the next two months to hire one more part-time organizer. Thus, besides our congregational offering, we also invite anyone who may be interested in this cause to reach out to your personal networks to invite them to donate via an online giving platform here: <https://give.faithinaction.org/team/DMV>. Please contact Doris Bartel or Cindy Lapp if you have questions.

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