

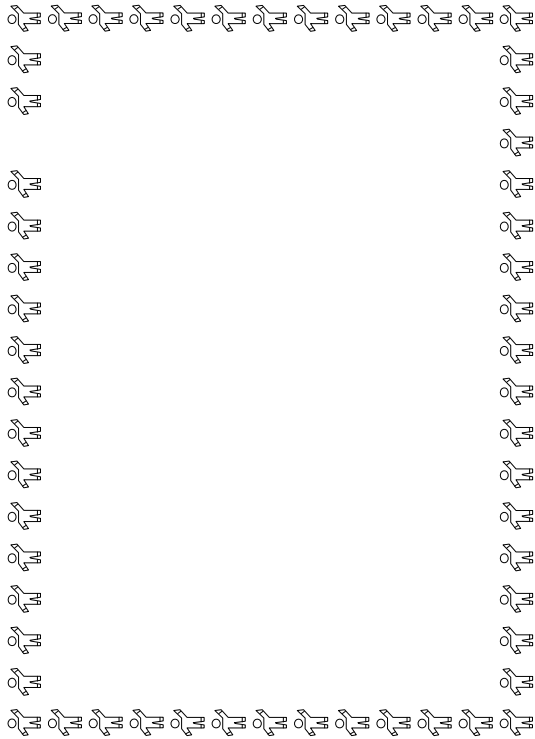
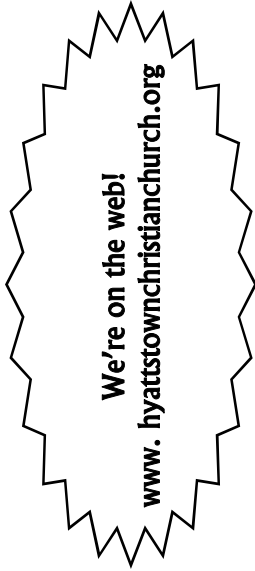
**Hyattstown Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)**

Rev. Terry Reister
26012 Frederick Rd
Hyattstown MD 20871
Phone: 301-831-8184
Email: wfreister@earthlink.net



WELCOME!

Worship with your church family this Sunday. Our doors are open and you are always welcome in God's house. We look forward to seeing you.



HYATTSTOWN CHRISTIAN CHURCH NEWS

December 2006 Volume 4 Issue 12

If someone you know is in need of prayer or spiritual care please call the pastor, an elder, or one of our associate ministers. We cannot help if we do not know of a need or concern.



DECEMBER

Worship Services Sunday 9am & 11am
Sundays at 10 am - **Choir Practice**



ADVENT BEGINS
December 3rd

Cantata -both services
After second service- Our
Congregational meeting,
Lunch, & Hanging of the Greens



Christmas Cantata



CHRISTMAS EVE
December 24

10am — ONE MORNING SERVICE
7:30 pm & 11:00 pm —
Candlelight Communion Services



THE PASTOR'S PAGE

December 2006 Volume 4 Issue 12



Every Christmas brings an opportunity and a mystery. When the first Christmas came after my father died, we were in the middle of dividing our

Baltimore house into two apartments.

We still slept upstairs, but we had to unlock the door to get into downstairs where the kitchen and living room were. Clay was already out of the house, staying at McDonah Military Academy.

On Christmas Eve, I stole my Mom's key to the first floor, and Clay's also. I put all three keys in my shoe, and went to bed. I was going to disprove these silly lies about the red elf. It was bunk, and I was about to prove it.

The next morning I led the sad procession to the first floor. I proudly opened the front door to prove my theory, and....there it was... the decorated tree with all the gifts below it. I was wrong about Santa, he had come... and I was delighted.

Later that day, my Mother observed me looking at the broken window on the back porch. She explained that after a search, my brother broke into the downstairs so that his little brother could have one more mysterious Christmas.

When I was in High School, my mother carefully explained that she could not afford to buy my High School ring in time for Christmas. It would have to wait till summer. I took it very well, summer was not that long away, after all.

On that Christmas morning, we exchanged gifts, and went at last to the stockings. There in the toe of my stocking was a funny looking little box. Inside was my High School ring!

Lucy Reister instilled within me a sense of expectancy at Christmas.

I still retain it.

I expect to sense a renewal in all of us as the birth of Jesus Christ comes more and more into focus. And that is exactly what Advent will do for us.

+ Terry



"The Pyramids and the Sphinx in Egypt were just unbelievable. In Greece the Parthenon and the antiquities were just breathtaking. The highlights of Russia were all the beautiful castles and the Hermitage."

Close to home Pat volunteers at the Mercy Clinic which serves the uninsured in Montgomery County. She also goes to the Senior Center to take blood pressure, and she volunteers at the Soup Kitchen with HCC.

Griff grew up in the Methodist Church and Pat grew up in the Disciples Church. When she first moved here Pat worked a lot of nights so her schedule was not conducive to going to church a lot.

"After I retired we started looking around for a church. We happened to see this one and we came and I returned to the Disciples," Pat said.

Pat is currently an Elder; she also helps at Camp Starfish, the Pontiac Show and the Church Bazaar/Yard Sale every year. When I asked what they liked best about HCC they said "The closeness of the people. It's like a small family. There's lots of opportunity to get involved if you want to."

Special offering for Clarksburg School Children

In late November & early December every year we collect money for a *local* concern- the needy children at nearby Clarksburg Elementary School. Clarksburg principal Sunny Lee, teachers, counselors & staff select children who need help & then they make purchases with the monies we provide. 100% of this offering goes to benefit the children. In recent years, we have given over \$1,000.00 to this special *local* cause.

Please mark your checks: Clarksburg School.



metropolis! We have a big garden at our house. We have herbs, vegetables and flowers," Pat said.

Pat and Griff have also traveled extensively in their retirement. They have visited 35 countries! When I asked what some of the highlights were Pat exclaimed "Oh! China, the Great Wall! When we went the first time in the '80's everybody rode bicycles and there was a little two lane road to The Great Wall. The second time we went in 2002 everybody had cars and that road was a big four lane highway; they have really come a long way."

Another place Griff and Pat particularly liked was New Zealand. "The people were so nice, and the scenery was beautiful," Pat said, and Griff agreed.

I asked them if they had ever thought about RV-ing. "No. We went camping once. That was a disaster! A girlfriend of mine had a camper and they invited us to go camping with them on Chincoteague Island. We thought that would be o.k. They guys slept in the camper and the girls had the tent. In the middle of the night there was a big thunderstorm!" And Griff added "It was so hot in that trailer, too. Ooof!" "We got up the next morning, had breakfast and said 'Adios!'" Pat laughed. Pat grew up camping, but attended 4-H camps with nice cabins, and did not sleep in small tents during thunderstorms!





The ongoing joke is that Griff married Pat for this car, but we all know better!

Pat and Griff are going to Italy in the spring of 2007. They have been to Italy several times, this time they are going to the southern part. Some of the other places they have been are Portugal, Spain, Egypt, Russia, Greece and the Caribbean Islands.

December 2006




Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9 & 11 Worship <small>Cantata, Meeting, Lunch, & Hanging of the Greens</small>	4 7pm Bible Study	5	6 930-11am Bible Study	7	8	9
10 9 & 11 Worship	11 7pm Bible Study	12	13 930-11am Bible Study	14	15	16
17 9 & 11 Worship	18 7pm Bible Study	19	20 930-11am Bible Study	21	22	23
24 -10am service 7:30 & 11pm Candlelight Service	25 	26	27	28	29	30
31 9 & 11 Worship New Year's Eve						

Liturgical Schedule — also posted on bulletin board inside front door

9 am Worship	Deaconate	Elders	 Single Elders for Second Service
Dec 3 / 10	A Blair	D Blair	
Dec 17	E Flook	H Howard	
Dec 24	D Reitman	S Smith	
Dec 31	T Hearl	F Hearl	
Jan 7/ 14	M Pierson	R Davis	
11 am Worship	Deaconate		Elders
Dec 3 / 10	S Law	M Cooley	C Moore
Dec 17	G Knott	P McIntire	J Seaman
Dec 24	J Reister	L Huntman	B Huntman
	W Moore	M Cooley	J Reister
Dec 31	B Yankaskas	P McIntire	S Wilson
Jan 7/14	B Dangler	L Huntman	B Turman
Liturgist	9 am Worship	11 am Worship	Scripture
Dec 3	Hugh Howard	Bob Turman	Luke 21: 25-36
Dec 10	Gail Howard	Sarah Duke	Luke 3: 1-6
Dec 17	Debbie Blair	Pat Griffith	Luke 3: 7-18
Dec 24			Luke 2: 1-20
Dec 31			Luke 2: 41-52

December Birthdays




Dec 3 Artye Hellner
 Dec 4 Janet Reister
 Dec 10 Chris Moore
 Dec 12 Peggie Hatton
 Dec 13 Kalista Brown

Dec 20 Lorenzo York
 Dec 22 Hugh Howard
 Dec 25 Sharon Turman

December Anniversary

Dec 24 Roger & Dana Reitman



Please say a special prayer for these people on their special day!

Maryland in 1964 to work as a nurse at the National Institutes of Health. She received her undergraduate as well as graduate degrees from the University of Maryland. She worked at NIH for 31 years.

"NIH was so great because patients received state of the art care at no cost", Pat said. "You didn't have to worry about the patients paying for anything. Everything is available for the care of the patients. Most of the patients were so grateful to be there, and we had patients from all over the world."

Pat started out in the Cancer Institute and then moved to the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute. She was a staff nurse, then went into administration and ended up a clinical specialist. In between she had a research position. As a clinical specialist she helped open a bone marrow transplant unit. "None of us knew about transplants so we all had to learn."

After growing up on that farm Griff joined the Air Force in 1953 and was in for eight years. I asked him where he was stationed. "I started out in Geneva, New York, went to Cheyenne, Wyoming; from there I went to Albuquerque, New Mexico, then I went to Indian Springs, Nevada where they did all the atomic testing. From there I went to Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland. Then I went to BW8 in Greenland, Arctic Circle; I went there twice. After I was discharged I went to work at NIH in 1962 as an operating engineer." "And that's where we met", chimed in Pat.

I asked how they met. "We met through my room-mate" Pat answered. "We used to play tennis at the apartment complex where I lived. We have been married 35 years; and Griff has just become a great-grandfather last week!"

Griff said, "I have one son, one grandson and one granddaughter, and one great-grandson. They all live in Virginia."

Griff has been retired twenty years and Pat has been retired ten years. They moved to their home in Germantown in 1972. "We bought there when there were still dairy farms all around us. We had to go to Gaithersburg to go grocery shopping. Now Germantown is a

SNAPSHOTS By
Dana Appleton Reitman

Is there someone in the congregation you would like to know more about? Is someone you know involved in something really interesting? Do *you* want tell your story? Please call or email Dana Appleton Reitman. 301-846-0654 or dareitman@verizon.net (note from editor-Don't be nervous, Dana makes it easy, and we have a lot of interesting people in our congregation)



Pat & Harry Griffith

Pat and Harry (Griff) Griffith and I met in the children's classroom to talk and yes, we sat on those teeny-tiny chairs! The melodious sounds of Phil's piano playing and the lovely voices of the choir floated up the stairs as we spoke.

Griff was born on a tobacco farm in Southern Maryland. When I asked him what town he said Bristol, which is a small town off of Rt. 4 on the way to Prince Frederick. We commiserated over the huge amount of growth in that area. I told him it has been years since I have seen a Luna moth down there. Saturnidae are attracted to the tobacco flower. While we understand the dangers of smoking and the need to find other crops to grow for a livelihood, we still mourn the loss of the idyllic countryside, the old tobacco barns, and I in particular consider the proliferation of "McMansions" all across Calvert and Anne Arundel Counties an eyesore. There are so many species we just don't see much of anymore due to loss of habitat.

Pat is from a town in West Virginia; Weirton is on the Ohio River and about 40 miles from Pittsburgh. Pat said that she was an only child and that Griff has a brother. She also said that her mother, who is 90 years old, still lives in Weirton, she still drives and she still plays cards, too!

Pat attended a three year nursing school in Pittsburgh then moved

COOKBOOKS

Don't forget that our cookbooks are for sale.
\$10 for over 200 great recipes.
Finish your Christmas list with the HCC Cookbook
See or call Barb Dangler or Teresa Hearl



Our deepest sympathy is extended to Beth Sweeney & Joyce Cook in the death of the Rev. Robert Cook. Beth's parents Bob & Joyce Cook have been involved in our Church for more than a year. They moved to Maryland from Florida to be closer to family. Prior to his retirement Rev. Cook served a church in the Capital Area. A local memorial service will be held in the Chapel of Homewood at Cruiland Farms on Tuesday, December 12th, 2:00pm, 7407 Willow Road, Frederick.

Useful Information

Pastor Terry Reister:
Office: (301) 831-8184
Home: (301) 831-8679
Spiritual Formation:
Lorenzo York (301) 831-4305
Biblical Studies:
Jim Cole (301) 706-7404
Music:
Philip A. Day (301) 693-3887
Barb Lang (301)-829-2527
Board Chair:
Hugh Howard (301) 831-8643
Vice-Chair: Andy Blair (301) 216-2746
Board Secy:
Debbie Flook (301) 695-2678

Trustees Chair:
Eddie Flook (301) 695-2678
Treasurer:
Pierrette McIntire (301) 607-4242
Financial Secy:
Bob Turman (301)620-7570
Christian Service:
Pat Griffith (301) 972-1316
Barb Dangler (301) 668-4194
Education/Celebration:
Chair: Janet Reister (301) 831-8679
Property Chair:
Eddie Flook (301) 695-2678
Outreach/Stewardship:
Doris Horman (301) 662-8740
Newsletter:
Teresa Hearl (301) 682-7360
Tkhearl@adelphia.net SEND NEWS!!


If you have updates for the address and birthday database PLEASE tell Teresa Hearl. I am missing a lot of birthdays and anniversaries. If I miss yours please let me know.



If you have pictures of church activities or members of our church family doing exciting things, please send them to Teresa Hearl at TKHearl@adelphia.net or see her in church.

2006 Christmas Special Offering

GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN



"God sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. We saw his Son and are now telling others about him"
 - 1 John 4:14 (CEV).

Give generously to support the ministry of your Region.

DISCIPLES MISSION FUND This special offering, part of whole church mission, is received and distributed for Disciples through the Church Finance Council.

The Christmas Special Offering hits home -the Christian Church Capital Area directly benefits from your contributions. What we give goes to *OUR* region. Monies contributed help fund the administrative program of the CCCA, as well as a variety of regional programs that benefit youth, laity & clergy. For more information speak to Hugh Howard, our incoming treasurer for the Region, or the Pastor. Mark your checks: Christmas offering or CCCA. Please give generously to show your support for *OUR* region.

THE BACK PEW - Jeff LARSON

Now let me get this straight.. the son of God will be born in a stable?.. Get out of town!



http://thebackpew.com

You can imagine the buzz around the coffee maker in Heaven.. when it was learned God's plan for salvation for mankind. **Luke 1:25^{1/2}**

POSTPONED—
 **Die Fledermaus**

The show did not go on. . . . in Sept, but it will, on:
 Jan 27-28 & Feb 2-3

And mark your calendars for the Frederick Camerata's Classical Christmas Concert on Dec 10 at Ft Detrick.

Several of our members sing in the Camerata, or assist the group backstage.



REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT GCI, INC.



Thanks to Dad Hengeveld (See Luke 2:1-16)

12-20-2000

'JESUS, WONDERFUL COUNSELOR, MIGHTY GOD, EVERLASTING FATHER, PRINCE OF PEACE' IS A BIT LONG FOR THIS FORM ... YOU MIGHT WANT TO JUST USE 'JESUS'



Philippians 2: 5-11

© VERBENA 05.12



Ben plays flute

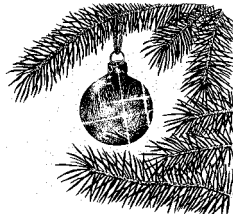
Happy moments,
praise God.
Difficult moments,
seek God.
Quiet moments,
worship God.
Painful moments,
trust God.
Every moment,
thank God.



Beautiful twins
Kayla and Angela



Smile! God loves you



Hmm, I think my wife is
wearing glitter today.
Very festive!



Charitable Thoughts:

The new Pension Protection Act of 2006 contains an important change for charitable contributions. Effective for tax year 2006, all “deductions for charitable donations of cash gifts (by cash or check) must be backed up by a bank record or a letter from the charity. If you rely on a letter, it must include the organization's name as well as the date and amount of the contribution. (Under prior law, such substantiation was required only for gifts of \$250 or more.)” The annual Statement of Giving provided by HCC’s Financial Secretary in mid-January satisfies this requirement. (Thanks for the info Bob T)



Holiday Events



Damascus Theater Company
presents

A Holiday Extravaganza
Saturday Dec 9
at 7:30 pm
**Damascus Performing Arts
Center.**

The program includes
dance numbers, a broad
variety of
holiday music, and
an appearance by Santa Claus!
For more information

See or Call
Barb Lang
(301) 829-
2527



The Frederick Camerata
presents

Christmas Classics
Sunday Dec 10
at 4 pm
Fort Detrick Chapel
(bring picture ID to show at main
gate on 7th St)



Concert selections
include:

Four Poulenc Motets
Select Messiah Choruses
Traditional Carols

You are cordially invited to celebrate
the season with us. For more
information
See or Call Phil Day
(301) 693-3887





NEWS In the PEWS



Dear Friends,

We welcomed **Kurt Yankaskas** officially into the Church this past Sunday. He has been a regular worshipper at the 2nd service with his family, active in the mens group & has been the guiding force in all of the updates to our sound system.

On Sunday we handed out separate Advent devotional books for families, children, 'tweens & teens along with Advent table cards & candles. Advent begins on Sunday, December 3rd. We will have lunch after the 2nd service & then we'll decorate the sanctuary & the exterior of the Church for the holiday season. Please join us, volunteers always welcome!

Farewell: **Earl & Kathy O'Dell** returned to their home in Houston after Earl's long term assignment with Bechtel in Frederick. Earl is glad to retire so he can stay home for more than a week at a time. We hosted a

social hour to say goodbye & presented them with a framed drawing of Hyattstown. We will miss them!

News: **Barbara Lang** took a week long trip home to Minnesota where she spent time with her children, grandchildren, family & friends.

Christopher & Michael Yankaskas were thrilled that their hockey team took 2nd place in tournament playoffs.

Gail Howard has completed her fall play at Poolesville High School & is getting ready to start auditions for her spring production, "Hello Dolly!" Gail is taking a week to visit her sister in Georgia.

Bob & Sharon Turman's daughter Lian visited earlier in November.

Frank & Teresa Hearl welcomed family for Thanksgiving & an early Christmas.

Joe Reister won 2 tickets to a recent Washington Wizards game & enjoyed nearly-courtside seats by the Wizards' bench.

We heard that **Angie Flook & Alyssa Wilson** will be graduating from their respective universities in May 2007. Angie begins her student teaching in January.

Youth News: The Disciple Youth have almost completed their study of the history of our denomination. Once that is done, they will have several sessions about the Bible where they will learn about translations, transliterations, Bible resources, methods of studying the Bible & more. Before Christmas the Youth are planning a trip to play laser tag in New Market.

People to remember in

prayer: Artye Hellner, Norman & Doris Horman, Hannah Matlock, Jerry & Cherry King, Bill Huntman, Rev. Lari Grubbs & Dr. George Schaffer. Grace & peace,
+Janet

Adult Education Opportunities

Wednesday Morning Bible Study — 9:30-11am Studying James

Monday Evening Bible Study— The pastor is also leading the Evening Bible Study from 7:00-8:30pm.

Theology Study Group — Our Bonhoeffer Theology study group is meeting on alternate Saturdays. Call Janice Seaman for info. 301-831-6231

THERE IS ALWAYS ROOM FOR YOU TO JOIN US.



RING IN THE SEASON

ADVENT BEGINS!

SUNDAY - DEC 3 Choral Cantata- Congregational Meeting, Lunch & Hanging of the Greens*

The choir and other members of the congregation will welcome the Christmas season with music at both services.

Our annual congregational meeting to approve the budget for 2007 & elect officers will be held on Sunday, December 3rd after the 2nd service.

Lunch follows- sandwiches, chips, drinks & dessert \$4.00/person or \$10.00/families of 3 or more

We need lots of help to decorate the sanctuary & the exterior of the Church for the Advent-Christmas season.

*Casual Sunday

