



# December

## Worship-- 9am & 11am

**December 6 - Annual Congregational Meeting after each service.** (to approve the 2010 budget and elect Elders and Deacons)

**December 13 - SINGLE SERVICE 10 am**  
10am- Choir Cantata  
11am- Farewell lunch for Phil Day  
3pm- Frederick Camerata's final concert

**December 20- Cookie Exchange after 11am service.**  
(Secret Sisters begin- more info inside)

**December 24- 7:30pm (Thurs)**  
**Christmas Eve Service**

**December 25- Celebrate Christ's birth**



Contact information for  
Rev. Lisa Kay Comingore Smith  
Cell phone: **240-529-8004**  
Church phone: **301-831-8184**  
Email: **SL87DF@hotmail.com**

## THE PASTOR'S PAGE



The darkest nights of the year are upon us and Christmas marks the time of the year when there is a change in the rotation of the sun. Around the time of Christmas we know the days will get longer. We know this because the calendar and

the science and our experience tell us that. But we don't always notice the change right away. Just as we suddenly looked out the window and noticed it was darker earlier, so will we notice that the days are getting longer, not right away, but sometime in the future (probably January). For many people, these dark nights and dreary days affect their moods and the contrast of their moods to the pressure to buy and sing and be happy can make it even worse. Some people need the happy Christmas music to combat the pressure, and for some it is too jarring a contrast.

There is a true balance of humanity that faith needs to take into consideration. It does no one any good to ignore the realities of life in order to promote a sense of false Optimism, because we don't want to risk being blind to those moments when we are called to be aware of the wisdom that God offers us to be courageous. But there are truly moments when, for the sake of Serenity, we need to hang on to hope to get us through those moments of darkness when we cannot see. Please keep these people in your prayers.

We know that soon we will celebrate the birth of a child who will shake up the world with his guidance to God, but we aren't there yet. We don't want to rush ahead and start too soon, for then it isn't so real and special when the time actually comes! This is the typical contrast that a Pastor has to deal with during Advent. It isn't quite Christmas yet, we are still in the preparation phase. Preparing the way, as John the Baptist did, isn't

always happy, fluffy Pollyannaish. Yet sometimes, to quote Auntie Mame, “We need a little Christmas – right this very minute,” to get us through the darkest days. So do we sing Christmas music in Advent or not?

I chose the Hymns for Sunday according my sermons so I can’t promise anything, but I will try to slip a few Christmas Hymns in this Advent, if they fit the theme of the service. Why should the Malls have all the fun? However, if we don’t sing enough Christmas Hymns during Advent, I beg you to practice patience; we will sing Christmas Hymns on Christmas Eve and all during the Christmas and Epiphany seasons!

**Shalom, Rev. Lisa Kay Comingore Smith**



### Schedule for Advent Moments



Date	9 am	11 am
11/29	Howards	Wilson/Stickerods
12/6	Flooks	Piersons
12/13	(10 am) DeLameters	
12/20	Dukes	Blairs
12/24	(7:30 pm) Smiths	



### Wednesday Morning Bible Study

The Theological Reflections Group that meets on Wednesday mornings from 9:30 – 11:00 will begin a new book on November 18<sup>th</sup> and continue for 12 weeks. We have chosen Eckhart Tolle’s Book, “The Power of Now”. It is a highly spiritual book reflecting various disciplines. We will be reading his writings with the Bible as our foundation. If you want to join us, please contact Pastor Lisa.



**Liturgical Schedule — also posted on bulletin board inside front door**

			
<b>9 am Worship</b>	<b>Elders</b>	<b>Deaconate</b>	
Dec 6/ 13	Gail Howard	Andy Blair	
Dec 20/ 27	Ginny Pierson	Sarah Duke	

*NOTE: Elders are also serving as Worship Leaders*

<b>11am Worship</b>	<b>Elders</b>	<b>Deaconate</b>	
Dec 6/ 13	Chris Moore	Barb Dangler	Martha Cooley
Dec 20/ 27	Bob Turman	Walt Moore	Sandy Law

The Pastor is reading the sermon scripture  
Liturgists read the Epistle and Gospel selections.

<b>Liturgist</b>	<b>9 am Worship</b>	<b>11 am Worship</b>	<b>Epistle/ Gospel Scriptures</b>
Dec 6	Debbie Blair	Randy Loy	Luke 1:68-79 Philippians 1: 3-11 Luke 3: 1-6
Dec 13	Teresa Hearl		Isaiah 12:2-6 Philippians 4: 4-7 Luke 3: 7-18
Dec 20	Beth Sweeney	Stacey Wilson	Psalm 96 Titus 2: 11-14 Luke 2: 1-14(15-20)
Dec 27	Bill Duke	Janice Seaman	Psalm 148 Colossians 3:12-17 Luke 2:41-52

**December 6--**  
**Annual Congregational Meeting** after each service to approve the 2010 budget and elect Elders and Deacons.



## Calling All Creative People!



## Come join the Banner Renewal Committee!

A banner not only enhances the beauty of its surroundings, but it can also motivate and inspire, as well as call attention to specific topics or events in the life of the Church. We would like to form a group to create and/or renew our banners and alter paraments for worship and special events.

We want to give everyone who is interested the opportunity to contribute to this ministry. If you like to create or sew, please join us. If you'd like to contribute but do not feel called to create, consider becoming a "Banner Booster" to help us fund our work. Donations can be given to our Treasurer and marked "For Banner Renewal."



For more information on this ministry or to join, please contact:  
Becky DeLameter

### December Birthdays

Dec 10 - Chris Moore  
Dec 12- Peggie Hatton  
Dec 20- Lorenzo York  
Dec 22- Hugh Howard  
Dec 22- David Smith  
Dec 25- Sharon Turman

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



### December Anniversary


Dec 24- Roger & Dana Reitman



<p><b>Useful Information</b>  <b>Hyattstown Christian Church</b>  Office: (301) 831-8184  Our Pastor:  Rev Lisa Smith (513-560-8123)  Email: SL87DF@hotmail.com</p> <p>Music:  Philip A. Day, Jr. (301) 693-3887  Barb Lang (301-)829-2527</p> <p>Board Chair:  Hugh Howard (301) 831-8643</p> <p>Vice-Chair: Andy Blair (301) 216-2746</p> <p>Board Secy:  Debbie Flook ( 301) 695-2678</p> <p>Trustees Chair:  Eddie Flook (301) 695-2678</p>	<p>Treasurer:  Pierrette McIntire (301) 607-4242</p> <p>Financial Secy:  Bob Turman (301)620-7570</p> <p>Christian Service:  Pat Griffith (301) 972-1316  Barb Dangler (301) 668-4194</p> <p>Education/Celebration:  Barbara Lang (301)-829-2527</p> <p>Property Chair:  Eddie Flook (301) 695-2678</p> <p>Outreach/Stewardship:</p> <p>Newsletter:  Teresa Hearl (301) 682-7360  Tkhearl@comcast.net SEND NEWS!!</p>
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**DISCIPLES WEB SITES TO REMEMBER:**

Hyattstown Christian Church: [www.hyattstownchristianchurch.org](http://www.hyattstownchristianchurch.org)  
Christian Church Capital Area Disciples of Christ:  
[www.cccadisciples.org](http://www.cccadisciples.org)  
Disciple of Christ National website:  
[www.disciples.org](http://www.disciples.org)

 **OUR ELDERS**

For Disciples, the ministry of the laity has always been central to who we are. Since the beginning Elders have presided at the Lord's Supper, visited the sick or those in special need, and offered oversight to the work and life of the congregation. Elders often assist the pastor. We are excited to work with Rev. Smith as she gets to know us. If there is a spiritual need, please don't hesitate to call. If we don't have the answer, we will find someone who does.

**Board Chair:**

<b>Hugh Howard 301-831-8643</b>	Chris Moore 301-414-5493
Bill Duke 301-329-2460	Ginny Pierson 301-865-3750
Debbie Flook 301-695-2678	Frank Roys 240-357-0989
Pat Griffith 301-972-1316	Janice Seaman 301-228-2357
Teresa Hearl 301-682-7360	Sharron Smith 301-699-0135
Gail Howard 301-831-8643	Bob Turman 301-620-7570
Randy Loy 301-829-4593	Sharon Turman 301-620-7570

### **GIFTS that GIVE**

The Malawi Committee wants to remind you that we still have several beautiful hand-carved items for sale that make great stocking stuffers and unusual gifts! Items include pens (\$10) magnets (\$5), key fobs (\$8), a few letter openers (\$12) and carvings of the facade of our beloved church building! Even if



your giftee doesn't attend HCC they might enjoy an "Old Timey" church ornament! All "prices" are suggested donations. Every cent goes back to Malawi. We have bought needy people clothes, fertilizer, roofs for their huts, doors and locks, and food. We have paid school fees and bought school supplies. We helped pay for emergency surgery for someone who had a bleeding ulcer. We have also made donations to Malawi Children's Village.

Please go to <http://www.malawichildrensivillage.com/index.html> to check out their work.

If you have any questions about our work in Malawi please talk to someone on the committee: Pierrette McIntire, Dana Reitman, Debbie Flook, Janice Seaman or Sharron Smith. See either Pierrette or Dana after church service if you want one of these lovely items, or call Dana any time: 301-846-0654.

Thank you for all of your support! -dana

### **HCC Member News**

If you have member news, Tell Barb Lang at church or email Teresa at TKHearl@comcast.net Share a picture if you can.



### **Food Pantry**

Frederick's Food Pantry, where we Feed the Hungry, is still running low. We have a box in the foyer to collect non-perishable goods. Barb Dangler has volunteered to deliver them to the Food Bank.

### **Hope Alive**

A list of items needed at Hope Alive is in the donation box near the front door of the church. Ask Barb Dangler if you have questions.

**YOU CAN  
HELP!**



*Cookie Exchange  
December 20*



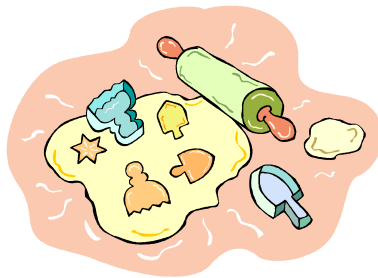
*We will be having a  
Christmas cookie exchange  
after the 11 am service.*



*Please let Barbara Lang  
know if you are interested  
in participating so we can get the  
final details planned! The HCC*



*Women will also be drawing  
names for "Secret Sisters"  
during the Cookie Exchange.*



*Have a  
blessed*



*Christmas*



Hyattstown Christian Church Women



## Announcing: Secret Sisters

Like Secret Santa, but all year long! All the ladies of the church are invited to participate in this ministry of caring and sharing with our sisters in the church. If you wish to participate, you will be given a "sister's" name. About once a month, over the next year, you can send your "sister" a small, thoughtful (under \$5.00) secret gift or note or card to let her know that someone is thinking about her. You can include her in your prayers—how wonderful to know that someone prays for you! We will be keeping our sisters a secret until the end of next year, where we will have a big "Reveal" celebration and then, if we wish, choose names for the next year!

Guidelines:

1. Keep your sister's name a secret—even from your other sisters! Let it be fun to try and guess who your benefactor is! You can leave clues with each gift, if you choose, to enhance the fun!
2. Each monthly gift should cost no more than \$5.00. Remember, it's the thought that counts!
3. The final, year-end gift, given at the big "Reveal", should be NO MORE than \$10.00.
4. Gifts for your sister may be left in the sanctuary or in the Upper Room, with a tag identifying who the recipient is, to help keep the secrecy!
5. Have fun and enjoy getting to know your sister! You may be the instrument God has placed in this person's life to give them the encouragement they need right when they need it. "A word spoken in due season, how good it is!" Proverbs 15:23. The rewards can be immeasurable.

**Please fill out an information form at church to participate.** We will exchange names at the Cookie Exchange on December 20. If you are unable to attend but wish to participate, let us know and a name will be chosen for you.

**Christmas Eve Service-**

**December 24 at 7:30 pm**

The Christmas Eve service theme will be Candlelight, Christmas Carols, and Communion.

**REMINDER:** Readers are needed for the service. Please let Pastor Lisa know if you would like to participate. (Volunteer now and avoid the draft!)



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<sup>1/2</sup>**





Under the direction of  
Philip A. Day, Jr.  
Presents

## A CEREMONY OF CAROLS

By Benjamin Britten  
With Harp accompaniment

Date: ——— Sunday December 13, 2009

Location: ——— Hyattstown Christian Church

Time: ——— 3 pm

Suggested Donation: ——— \$10 per family

*NOTE: This will be Frederick Camerata's final concert.*



### Capital Area Prayer Calendar



You are invited to participate in the Capital Area Prayer Calendar by offering a prayer each day for the listed congregation or Capital Area mission during the week listed.

#### December 2009

Nov. 29-Dec.5 United Christian Parish, Reston, VA

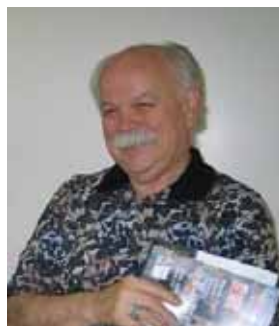
Dec. 6-12 Springfield Christian Church, Springfield, VA

Dec. 13-19 Antioch Christian Church, Vienna, VA

Dec. 20-26 Lari Grubbs, Regional Minister & Regional staff/volunteers

## **A Fond Farewell**

I have procrastinated long enough in telling you my future plans. On November 21, I received an offer for my house which I had been trying to sell since September. I had two previous buyers that had talked to me without a realtor, which I thought were going to work but, alas, I thought I would be in Frederick for the complete year. After both of these offers fell through because of lack of funds, I decided to go on and list it with my friend, Mary Lynne Thomas. She and her broker put up their signs up to sell on Friday the 19<sup>th</sup>, and by Saturday the 20<sup>th</sup> I had four potential buyers. It turned out that the first one, who called on Friday evening, came back on Saturday at 1:00. He brought back his wife at 5:00 pm and made an offer. I accepted it, and have a closing on December 30, 2009. The good news is that I got my asking price- no bargaining.



I am very excited about all of this. This has been in my life plan since I first moved to Frederick in 1987. I had planned that in 2010 I would retire and do some things I have always wanted to do. Consequently, the concert on December 13 will be the last concert of the Frederick Camerata. As I look back, we have done some monumental things. All have been very good. I feel I have been richly blessed with this group of fine singers and people.

I have had a wonderful experience during my membership at Hyattstown Christian Church. I will miss you all, but it will be a welcome rest from my many responsibilities. I have always spent hours trying to involve every one who wanted to participate in music in a fair and judicious way.

I have enjoyed my work with Gail Howard as an artist and friend. She always kept the Camerata in line for reasons of doing things that would make sense theatrically with opera and song.

I will be spending October thru April in Texas, and I will be buying a condo in Des Moines, Iowa to spend the rest of my year. As most of you know, I graduated from Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa, and have many college friends still in that area. Being from Iowa originally, I have many, many relatives in that area. I have a sister that lives there also. I don't plan to retire and sit around in a rocking chair. I have many books that I have put off reading until I have time. I want to learn some new music. No doubt, I will get involved in some kind of music making in my new environment.

As soon as I get settled and have my addresses available, I will let you know. I consider you all good friends. I hope you will keep in touch with me. You're always welcome at my abode either in Texas (South Padre Island) or in Iowa (home of the great Iowa State Fair)

Warm Regards to you all and a fond farewell,

The Maestro (*Phil*)



**December 13- Single service at 10 am.**

The Chancel Choir will be offering an **Advent Cantata** during the morning worship service. The service will be followed by fellowship and lunch to say farewell to Phil Day who is retiring and moving out of the area.

**HCC CHANCEL CHOIR** has rehearsals from 10 to 10:30 am each Sunday and will be participating in both worship services during Advent. After Dec 13, we will miss the leadership of Phil Day, but now Barb Lang has wonderful plans for us. We look forward to praising the Lord through music with her. Everyone is invited to come and make a joyful noise unto the Lord!



# Bits & Pieces



November was busy for our church family. So many travelers over Thanksgiving! Meghan Blair and Peter DeLameter came home. Frank and Theresa Roys had a houseful-- 17 people! Frank and Theresa Roys' daughter Danielle is engaged.

Frank and Teresa Hearl had 6 grandchildren and 5 dogs in their home that weekend. The Hearl's also had a great trip to Puerto Rico. The Duke family celebrated and learned his brother's family is expecting a baby. Barb Lang spent time with her mother and new grandbaby in Minnesota. The Flook family was together. Also, Debbie Flook spent a weekend out of town with her sisters. Robert Howard is now home with Gail and Hugh. Family gatherings abounded in November. We had several visitors in church, too. Turkeys were eaten and most of us came away stuffed. We are blessed indeed!

Some members of our church family have struggled with the flu. Louise Jones is in the hospital with complications from the flu. Bob and Sharon Turman also had the flu but are better now. 'Tis the season-- for flu! Flu season lasts til May. CDC says - wash your hands, cover your coughs, and stay home if you are ill. Marian Meyers and Gail Howard are recovering from cataract surgery. Norm Horman is having health issues, too. We are still concerned for the Reister family as Terry returns home to continue his recovery. Janet has a torn meniscus in her knee and needs surgery, too. We're glad that health care providers are visiting the Reister residence during the day. Sad news for the Smith family. Their 18yo cat passed away. Lorenzo York is back in the area, we hope to see him soon.

Ben Blair's academics are going well. Yea, Ben!

Phil Day's house has been sold, which means that he will be relocating to South Padre Island in Texas. His last day with us is Dec. 13. We will miss you, Phil.

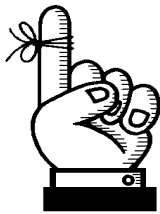
**Lord, be with us as we pray:**



*Thank you for our many blessings, Lord. Be with our church family as we face life's challenges. You know the concerns of our hearts, Lord. We have friends and family who need your presence in their lives. We pray for all those who need your peace and healing; guidance for our church leaders; resolution for victims of prejudice, violence or disaster; and wisdom for our world leaders. We pray for peace. We are humbled by the magnitude of your grace. Thank you for the gift of Jesus Christ. Hear our prayers, O Lord.*

**Amen**

## **Announcements**



### **ADVENT DEVOTIONALS**

Booklets are in the Upper Room and in the foyer by the front door. We encourage everyone to use them for your spiritual reflection and renewal during this Advent season.

### **HELP DECORATE OUR NEW TREE!**

Each family is encouraged to bring an ornament to decorate the beautiful new Christmas tree.

### **CHRISTMAS CARDS**

In lieu of sending cards out to individual families, each church family is invited to bring a Christmas card to church and post it on the bulletin board in the hallway outside the Upper Room.

### **DONATIONS FOR CLARKSBURG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

We will again be collecting monetary donations that will be contributed to the school where the teachers and staff will use the money for coats, shoes, etc. that will be distributed to students who need these items. Donations will be accepted through Sunday, December 13. Please mark "Clarksburg Elementary School" on your check.



## Hyattstown Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Rev. Lisa Kay Comingore Smith  
26012 Frederick Rd  
Hyattstown MD 20871  
Phone: 301-831-8184

