
THE SPIRE

Hiss United Methodist Church

8700 Harford Road • Baltimore, MD 21234



Advent: Past, Present, and Future

Advent is the time of year in which we are called to prepare ourselves for the coming, or "adventus" of the Messiah. I confess that I've sometimes found the notion of Advent a little confusing. How can one look forward to the "coming" of someone who arrived 2000 years ago?

Here is how I do it. I remember that though Jesus came, lived, died, rose, and ascended some 2000 years ago, that did not bring his "coming" to an end. Jesus continues to come into the world by entering through our lives as we continue to surrender our selfish will to his selfless grace. Jesus comes into our lives not by force, but by invitation, and as that happens, Jesus continues to become "incarnate" (in the flesh) in us as we begin to live and love like him. Once Jesus comes into our lives and begins to transform us into his likeness, he then begins to come through us and into the lives of those around us. From this perspective, Jesus' "adventus" isn't something that happened once 2000 years ago. It's something that happens all the time!

This year, I'm looking at Advent as something more than simply a time to remember a child being born 2000 years ago. This year I'm looking at Advent as a time to remember the Messiah wants to come to me today, and come through me and into the world around me in my daily living. I challenge you to do the same this Advent season.

Pastor Tim

Tending the Flock



December Birthdays

1st Kunle Onalaja
2nd Larry Honeycutt Earlene Cryser
2nd Rebecca Maurer
3rd Lisa Harris Ryan Miller
3rd James Hollifield Joseph Esbrandt
4th Joy McCorkle Paul Krause
5th Janet Nelson
6th David McCorkle
7th Pattie Ann Lamp Carrie Ann Robbins
8th Justine Serra Gail O'Connor Adam Wise
9th Holly Gifford
10th Doug Chenoweth Jessica Forbes
11th Benjamin Salah Ian Lamp
11th Nathan Moyer Juliana Moyer
12th Sally Cartwright Donna Holste
12th George Weitzel, Jr.
13th Sharon Beares Elva Venzke Vincent Lassahn
14th Karen Zissimos Ty Porcella Frederick Artes
15th Dorothy Filling Beverly Bartlett
15th Donna Grueninger Jacob Bennett
16th Brian Hanlon Dan Artes Katelyn Pellicot
17th Lois Artes
18th Laura Spears
19th Jennifer Rauscher
20th Olaide Onalaja George Klein Kristen Weitzel
20th Wayne Wurzbacher Terry Jones Jr.
21st Erika Babikow Freddy Kabasele-Kalonji
22nd Fred Neagul Ilunga Pembamoto Garrett Witts
23rd Robert Seymore Hunter Bennett
24th Anne Myers Robert Aichroth Samantha Nale
25th Jo Ann Dreier
26th Dale Lassahn
27th Uzoma Chikwere Alison Flagg
28th Sharon Tonelson
28th Jane Phillips
28th Cassie Artes
28th Kristin Handley
29th Alice Bell
29th Karen Dressel
29th Elizabeth Siskey
29th Meagan Serra
29th Mutaba Pembamoto
30th Mackenzie White
31st Theresa McGuire

December Anniversaries

14th Kenneth and Jane Tilton
30th Dan and Cassie Artes



January Birthdays

1st Joanne Zacharko Mary Creamer
1st Richard Aurite Kayla Smith
2nd Dorothy Schmidt Sarah Duplan
3rd Karen Hasenei Kathi Michael
5th Joseph Maurer Heather Porcella
6th Lawrence Birmingham
6th Maryjane Edwards Diaz Dylan
7th Ronald Miller
7th Marc Miller Michele George
8th Glender Jenkins Gladys Dawson
9th Norman Whiteley James Tillett
9th Carl Stroup Fatie Seya
9th Justin Kihn Ben Lounsbury
11th Vivian Scheetz Boye Onalaja
12th Tabitha Cousler Katie Whitney
12th Kyra Harrow Harper Tilton
13th Jessica Fritz
14th Mary Floyd
15th Cheyenne Lamp
16th Elaine Weitzel Betty Thornton
17th Wilma Brenner Courtney Mitchell
17th Cloe Kidd
18th Barbara Zufall Dan Beres Beth Ringger
18th Jessica Dowell Taylor Dowell
19th Mary Miller Crystal Tang Esther Gifford
19th Kyrie Robertson Maxwell Gifford
20th James Heywood, Sr. Stephen Byan Jr.
20th Robert Fletcher Jennifer Serra Weller
20th Katherine Seymore
21st Sue Crue Dorothy Heywood Jeff Fritz
21st Gloria Holsclaw Busola Onalaja Aijibola
21st Emily Smiley
22nd Nathalie Pembamoto
23rd Constance Lassahn
24th Blair Sebree Aaron Larson
26th Ruth Needer Walter Cayce
26th Griffin Piotrowski
27th Donna Robinson Stuart Fennekohl
27th Tim Dowell Andrea McClain
27th Alyssa Sturm
28th Susan Berger Tom Johnson
30th Whitney Kidd Obianuju Chikwere
31st Mary Lee Harry Twardy

January Anniversaries

4th Phyllis and Don Wiley (1958)
5th Barbara and Bill Zufall
11th Donna and Ken Witts (1975)
12th Doris and Charles Daughaday
20th Elaine and George Weitzel (1962)
24th Sarah and Sean Reese (2009)



BAPTISMS

Hiss welcomed into the family of Christ through holy baptism on Sunday:

November 2, 2014, Frederick James Artes, son of Dan and Cassie Artes, grandson of Lois Artes and nephew of Joel and Rachael Artes.

BIRTHS

We welcome into the family of Christ, **Caleb Andre Duplan**, born October 21st to loving parents, Sarah and Bernie Duplan, grandparents Robin and Allen Spears and Aunt Laura and Uncle Rob Spears. Caleb was born at 1:45am . He weighed 10lbs 8 oz and was 22 inches long.

We welcome to the family of Christ, **Camden Matthew Comstock**, born October 30th to loving parents, Beth and Matt Comstock, proud grandparents, Len and Linda Buckheit and Happy Aunt, Uncle and Cousins, the Moyer family. Camden weighed 7 lbs. 6 oz and was 21 inches long.

Our Christian love and sympathy is extended to



Joe Wilson and Family

following the loss of his father, **Dennis Wilson, Sr**, who passed away on September 28, 2014.

Robert Spears, Allen and Robin Spears and family following the loss of their wife, mother and grandmother, **Kathleen Spears**, who passed away on October 3, 2014.

Amy Rohrs and Family following the loss of her mother, **Birdie Young**, who passed away on October 9, 2014.

Tom and Mandi Bird and daughter, Lindsey Bird, following the passing of Tom's Mother, **Margarita Bird**.

Hildegard Owens and family on the passing of their husband and father, **James Owens**, on October 20, 2014.

Rosalie Maurer and Family following the loss of her brother, **Frank Pasta**, who passed away on November 3, 2014

Hugh Conner and Family following the loss of his wife, Theresa Coady Conner on November 5, 2014

Our Love & Prayers Go Out to...

Our Members in Personal Care Homes

- Wilma Brenner (Dulaney Valley Ass't)
- Gladys Dawson (Masonic Home)
- Emma Evans (Oakcrest Care Center)
- Marian Holmes (Long View Nursing)
- Emily Howard (Edenwald)
- Ruby Kirkpatrick(Oakcrest Care Center)
- Margaret Laing (The Maples)
- Mary Lee (Glen Meadows Care Center)
- Gerry Lewis (Glen Meadows Care Cent.)
- Joan Loss (Oakcrest Care Center)
- Alberta Linthicum (The Haven)
- Verna Martin (Brightview)
- William Miller (The Lighthouse)
- Ruth Needer (Masonic Home)
- Ed Orth (Autumn Assisted Living)
- Barbara Owings (Assisted Living)
- Shirley Schafer (Masonic Home)
- Kenneth Tilton, Sr. (Stella Maris)
- Gilbert Wurzbacher (Charlotte Hall)
- Barbara Zufall (Genesis Loch Raven)



For Members at Home

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Dora Bowman | Linda Lassahn |
| Beverly Buck | Jost Miller |
| Gerry Capecci | George Nelson |
| Anna Cecil | Sam Orofino |
| Barbara Clayville | Bill Schmidt |
| Mildred Dreier | Dot Schmidt |
| Marilyn Fiorenza | Mary Seeley |
| Gail Fischer | Charles Shelley |
| Robert Frederick | Robert Snyder |
| Dorothy Gandini | Jo Steele |
| Barbara Goettner | Lois Goodman |
| Dorothy Heywood | Father Ray |
| Jean Hicks | Bill Zufall |
| Wes Johnson | |



United in Marriage

Hiss extends congratulations to **Lori Elgert and Adam Fabiano** who were united in marriage on October 19, 2014. Officiating at the service was Rev. George Weitzel, Jr. The bride's parents are **John and Julia Elgert**.



The Christmas Story
By Tom Fettke and
Thomas Grassi
Presented by the
Chancel Choir on
Sunday, December 21st
at 9:30



Advent Workshop

Saturday, December
13th 1-4 pm in
Fellowship Hall.
All are welcome!



**CROSSROADS STILL NEEDS YOUR
HELP!**

Cross Roads needs the help of all who enjoy this time of fellowship to help keep it open and running. Without your help we may need to cut back to just coffee and tea on Sunday mornings between the services. Families can join together to set up, clean up and bring refreshments. Groups within the church family are encouraged to help out as well. It takes about 1 hour of your time to set up and clean up. Coffee will be made each Sunday by Scott Becker. Paper supplies will always be there for you to use. If we all work together this valuable mission can be a success. Consider signing up today! There is a place on the Hiss web site to sign up directly or you can contact Michelle or Janey at the church office. Feel free to contact me as well with any questions. Elizabeth Siskey, Chair Evangelism and Communication Committee.

Thank you for Hiss United Methodist Church's gift of \$40,000 made on October 20, 2014 to Habitat for Humanity of the Chesapeake.



We are so grateful that the Hiss community felt called to walk with us on this path toward a world where everyone has a decent place to live.

With the recent merger of Habitat for Humanity of the Chesapeake and Sandtown Habitat we will be better equipped to meet the ever-increasing demand for safe, decent and affordable housing. Together we have built or rehabilitated over 700 homes since 1982 and look forward to continuing to serve Anne Arundel, Baltimore and Howard counties as well as Baltimore City. Because of your support, this year another 40 families in Central Maryland will be celebrating their first holiday season in their very own homes!

As parents strive to provide a stable and promising life for their families, Habitat for Humanity of the Chesapeake's mission has become increasingly important over the last several years. With expectations for economic and population growth in our region, coupled with a growing need for affordable housing, our current plans to significantly increase the number of homes built annually are absolutely vital. Individuals like you help to expand Habitat's capacity to revitalize communities across our region.

Thank you again for helping to steward the church's generous gift. As you celebrate 175 years of worship and service together, know that your community is reflecting God's love far beyond the walls of the church.

Sincerely,
Mike Posko
Chief Executive Officer

December-January Calendar of Events

Brunch on Us 10am-Noon Every Saturday

Wednesdays December 3, 10 and 17—Advent study in room 208

Saturday, December 6 9:00-11:30 Breakfast with Santa

Monday, December 8—7:00pm Stephen Minister Open House in room 208.

Alternative Gift Market—items on sale November 30th, December 6th, December 7th

*Saturday, December 13 Noon Advent Workshop
Sunday, December 14 Sunday School Pageant 9:30 worship service*

Monday, December 15— 6:30pm Prayer Team Open House in room 208

Saturday, December 20 9-12 Christmas Cantata rehearsal

Sunday, December 21—9:30 Christmas Cantata

Wednesday, December 24—noon, 7:00 and 11:00 pm Christmas Eve worship service

Sunday, December 28—No Sunday School

Saturday, January 31 8:30-4:00pm—One Day Women's Retreat at Hiss Church

Hiss Welcomed 5 New Members on 11/9/14:

Linda Botsch—8514 Willow Oak Rd. Parkville, MD 21234; 410-668-3258; linda.botsch2303@gmail.com

Shawn Healey— 3113 Hiss Ave. Parkville, MD 21234; 410-661-4363; irishhealey@gmail.com

Tom Healey—3113 Hiss Ave. Parkville, MD 21234; 410-661-4363; hvactomh@verizon.net

Marcy Sortino—26 Stoneway Pl Nottingham, MD 21236; 410-227-2109; marcy_sortino@verizon.net

Mike Sortino—26 Stoneway Pl Nottingham, MD 21236; 410-530-9002; mrbaltimore82@yahoo.com



Christmas Poinsettias

We are now taking orders for poinsettias which will be placed on the altar to enhance our Sanctuary during the Christmas Eve Services, December 24th. If you would like to order a poinsettia, please fill out this form and put it in an envelope marked Poinsettias and place it in the offering plate or mail it to the church office as soon as possible. The cost is **\$8.00** for a 6" potted plant. All orders must be placed by **Monday, December 1st**. **SORRY, BUT WE CANNOT ACCEPT ORDERS AFTER THIS DATE.** All orders should be accompanied by cash or check. All **checks** should be made **payable to HISS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**. Please do not remove plants until after Christmas Eve Worship Services.

Name _____

Phone No _____ EMAIL _____

Plants Ordered _____ Amount Enclosed (\$8/plant) _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

From the Parkville Senior Center: Adopt-A-Senior for the Holidays



The Adopt-a-Senior drive is back as we bring holiday cheer to several local seniors and senior led families in need. These seniors have been identified as in considerable need by our Community Outreach and Home Team staff members. Stop by the Center for a list of requested items and gift wrapping guidelines. By the way, the gifts are a surprise for the recipients! Our center community always responds with amazing generosity, let's show our holiday and community spirit again this year!



Donate now until December 10th!



Saturday, December 6th

9:00 am to 11:30 a.m.

HISS CHURCH FELLOWSHIP HALL

TICKETS: \$8.00 per person

\$32.00 for a household of 4 or more

Breakfast will be 9 -10:30 am

Craft making and photos

with Santa begins at 10 am.

Breakfast will be: Pancakes, sausage, fruit, mini-muffins, and drinks.

Saturday, December 6th 9:00am-12:30pm

Sundays, November 30th and December 7th

between worship services in Crossroads



When you purchase your alternative gift, you will receive a description of your gift and a card for you to send to the recipient of your gift. All gifts will help those in both the local and worldwide communities.

A market will also be available to purchase (fair trade) beautifully handcrafted items to support the artisans who created them in other parts of the world. Look for jewelry, scarves, Christmas items, etc...

Local and worldwide projects are: Hiss Church's Brunch on Us and annual Manna House cook-out, 17th Anniversary Mission Project Habitat for Humanity in Baltimore City, Manna House, St. Vincent DePaul Society, Blankets and More, and Board of Child Care.

Elegy For A Mind Lost

By: Jessica Fritz



The boathouse of her mind lies still
on motionless water.

Rot of age feasts upon its gnarled wooden boards.

Dusty fishnet memories once woven by
experienced hands hang faded on rusted hooks.

Creeping deadly frost of Dementia
ices slowly over the roof until it silences clear
thought altogether.

Once, rarely twice, a crimson fish
splinters through the dormant water and
melts away the ever encroaching winter.

The waters churn and the nets sway,
only to ease helplessly back into the cold.

An observer passes by and wonders,

How could this decaying shell
have once been my grandmother?



Wifi is offered at various locations around the church. The Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall and parts of the Education building(closer to the office) have the best coverage. It is setup for general web-browsing and should not be used for streaming high quality video in order to ensure enough capacity for everyone. To connect, choose HISS-GUEST and enter hisswifi as the password. If you have any questions, please email Ed Heiger - ehieger@yahoo.com.



Income: Church poor box	\$2063.00
Hiss church	3500.00
Gifts	190.00
Memorials	50.00
Holiday food donations	628.00
	\$6231.00

Expenses: Utilities	\$1898.00
Rent	980.00
Charitable Donations	650.00
	\$3528.00

Pantry:

31 families were helped with utilities and 20 were helped with rent. We served 110 families, 308 individuals, but we are preparing to serve 250-300 for the next two months. Turkeys have been ordered and groceries are due in. Thanks to your great support, we'll be in fine condition to help all to have a happy Holiday! Still need more families to adopt a family to share the Christmas with a new dress , pair of new shoes, toys , games. Call me 410-665-0918 and let me match you with a family that will be happy because you cared to keep CHRIST in CHRISTMAS!



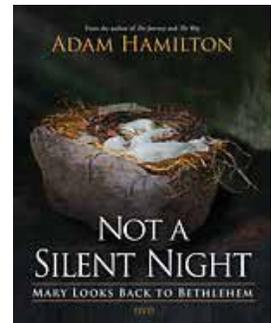
You've heard of Black Friday and Cyber Monday, and maybe you've also heard of a new global initiative that follows these days that have become such a huge part of our holiday season. It's called #GivingTuesday, and it seeks grassroots support of non-profits and worthy causes. It's not only about refocusing holiday spending, but it is also such a wonderful way to raise money, resources and awareness for our organization.

UMVIM, SEJ exists to train and equip volunteers to get the most of their short-term mission experience, and to connect these volunteers with viable projects that are making a huge impact on our world. Your help with #GivingTuesday empowers us to see Christian Love in Action.

Not only will 100% of your donation go directly to the ministry of UMVIM, SEJ, but every dollar donated on #GivingTuesday will be matched!

An Advent Study: *Not a Silent Night* by Adam Hamilton

Imagine Jesus from Mary's point of view—proud of her son, in awe of his gifts and mission, guided by love for him as a person and so much more. In this book, Adam Hamilton begins at the end, with Mary at the crucifixion and resurrection; travels back in time as she witnesses his life and ministry; and ends at the beginning, with the Christ child born in a stable, Mary's beautiful baby. This year, experience Advent and Christmas with Mary.



**Wednesdays December 3, 10 and 17 at 7:00
In room 208**

A One Day Women's Retreat on

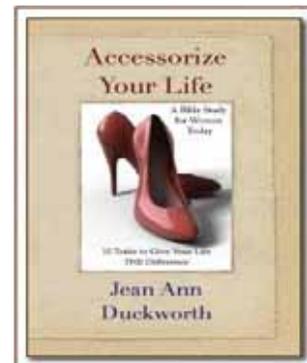
Saturday, January 31, 2015

8:30 am—4:00 pm

In Crossroads

Continental Breakfast and Lunch Included

Cost \$ 30



Accessorize Your Life: 10 Traits to Give Your Life the Difference

By Jean Ann Duckworth

Led by Betty Thornton



Let the Celebration Begin!

CELEBRATING 175 YEARS!

Join the Celebration!

THE FOOTSTEPS BEFORE OURS

By Nancy Trueheart

In this year of celebration of Hiss United Methodist Church being in existence for 175 years it certainly causes many thoughts to pass through our minds. That many years ago people gathered together to share their love of God and their intent to support each other in pursuing their passion for the Word of God. They were excited. They were motivated. They were brave. Gathering together in small groups to discuss their dreams and plans of how this journey would unfold took tremendous commitment. Praying and asking the Lord to show them the steps to follow was similar in many ways to the Israelites journey in the desert trying to find their way to a new promise land.

Faith is one great element that glued them together. They had faith that they were doing the right thing. They had faith that their love of the Lord was something they needed to share with others. They had faith that by teaching a community about God and his undying love for all mankind they might make our town, our city, our state and even our world a little bit brighter. Filling people's hearts with the one ingredient Our Lord Jesus taught so consistently-LOVE.

Teaching and learning to love one another; to support and uphold each other; to be of service to people whether they share your particular spiritual beliefs or not. They paved a pathway of golden stepping stones for themselves and future generations. Follow these golden stepping stones of love and you will grow and flourish in life. Show others how wisdom and patience can coexist in a very troubled world.

Yes, you will be rejected by many. You will be mocked by many. You will be misunderstood by many, but you were called to be a voice to the world. You were called to follow the wisdom and compassion of a higher authority. You were called to love the unlovable.

If your message only reaches 1 out of 500 that's okay. You made a difference to that one person. You followed the footsteps that came before ours in traveling along a path that is often rocky and misunderstood. You stood in your truth. We never know when, or if, our actions, deeds and lives make an impact upon someone. But the one who matters knows. He knows if you've offered that drink of water to a stranger. He knows if you've shared your time and attention just to listen to someone who is facing a difficult situation. He knows if you've prayed in your heart, even briefly, for someone you've passed on the street who appears troubled. He sees the footsteps you've left behind for a new generation to follow.

We don't need accolades or credit for our good deeds to be written in a newspaper or touted across television. That doesn't matter one bit. We just look forward to the peace within our hearts that comes from knowing we've done our best to understand that the greatest thing you will ever learn is just to love and be loved in return. Those are the footsteps we want to leave for the next 175 years of Hiss United Methodist Church.

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Michelle Hurley
Janey Snyder

VISION STATEMENT

Loving God, Loving All, Changing Lives...Join the Journey!

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Hiss Church is to invite people into a loving relationship with God and with *all* through the sharing of our faith, our ministries, and our resources.



Hiss Fellowship Hall

The trustee chairperson, Mardy Peters, asked me to develop a plan and budget to renovate the Fellowship Hall about August of 2011. I interviewed the users like Linda Miller for the Son's Spot, various scouting groups, and considered the various events and uses. I created elevations of each wall to illustrate how all the radiators and pipes would be concealed but remain accessible. Once a plan and budget was developed and approved in concept we waited for available funds. Well, that took a while, so it was decided to split the project into two phases. Phase I would be the ceiling work with Phase II the mill-work and walls to follow later.

In June of 2013, the trustees approved the new ceiling, bulkheads, and lighting. Norman Whiteley and Roy Chenoweth did a lot of the work with help from Robert Whiteley, Paul Krause, Bob Schaffer, while George Wright and Dave Benjamin helped and painted the new bulkheads that covered one of the main heating pipes.

Phase II was funded in March of 2013. There were still a lot of details to be determined and all the finishes still needed to be selected. Materials needed to be ordered. Volunteers needed to be lined up and to finally organize the project. Roy Chenoweth would oversee the project and coordinate the volunteers. The project started in Roy's work shop to fabricate the custom radiator covers from maple that is a hard wood as well as heat tolerant with help from Paul Krause. They made the countertop as well. Mike Chenoweth and Norman Whiteley hung the stock cabinets with Roy and help from Scott Becker, George Wright, Dave Benjamin, and Carl Stroup. Framing with drywall was installed to each side of the windows in order to conceal all the remaining pipes that lead up to the auditorium radiators. That work and the spackling were completed by most of the crew that had formed. Mardy Peters and Mary Macreadie kept everyone well fed each day when lunch time rolled around in addition to all the painting they did. Painting was performed all through the project by the crew above, Bob Schaffer, and Pastor George Weitzel. Pastor Tim Dowell came to the rescue to reroute the wiring that was relocated to the new cabinet and he spackled too. Danny Pembamoto helped Roy with the new cork board and trim. An outside contractor was awarded the job to fabricate and install the new solid surface windowsills and trim which was about one quarter of the budget. Mardy and Phyllis Pitarra ordered the fabric and created the custom window treatments to finish off the room. Custom hardware was needed and Roy answered the call. Robin Spears stopped in to help Mardy and Roy with the drapery installation for the scout board. Phyllis and Roy installed all the draperies at each window. I cannot thank everyone enough for their hard work and dedication to the project. The work of volunteers saved thousands of dollars in contractor fees which allowed this project to happen. It is the dedication and willingness to help that allows trustees to accomplish so much. Thank you to everyone along the way over the last four years that led to the completion of the fellowship hall renovation the week before the 175th anniversary celebration.

Thank you to all,

Doug Chenoweth, Trustee Chairman

The newest members of the Hiss Church family:



Botsch, Linda: 8514 Willow Oak Rd., Parkville, MD 21234; 410-668-3258; linda.botsch2303@gmail.com; DOB-2/27 Linda is a mother to one daughter and grandmother of two children and is joining Hiss as an associate member. She attends the 8:00 service because she works the night shift at Franklin Square Hospital as a receptionist/PBX operator. She enjoys swimming, caving and hanging out with her big brother who is a Methodist minister in Mt. Airy. Welcome Linda!

Healey, Tom: 3113 Hiss Ave., Parkville, MD 21234; 410-661-4363; hvactomh@verizon.net; DOB-12/24 Tom is the husband of Shawn and dad to Maggie. He and his family attend the 9:30 service and Tom is interested in Missions at Hiss. He joined the crew this past Saturday working down on McCabe Ave. with the Habitat for Humanity group. He is a First grade engineer team leader at GBMC and enjoys working on home projects and spending time with his family. Welcome Tom!



Healey, Shawn: 3113 Hiss Ave., Parkville, MD 21234; 410-661-4363; irishhealey@gmail.com; DOB-7/27 Shawn is the wife of Tom and mom to Maggie. She attends the 9:30 service with her family and is interested in being an usher/greeter. Shawn is a student at CCBC and expects to graduate in May with a degree in General Studies. She enjoys helping people and spending time with her family. We thank her for helping us pass out a “kiss from Hiss” at the Parkville Fair with her daughter, Maggie, this year. Welcome Shawn!



Sortino, Marcy: 26 Stoneway Place, Nottingham, MD 21236; 410-227-2109; marcy_sortino@verizon.net; DOB-9/24 Marcy is the wife of Mike and sister-in-law of Jean Sortino. She attends the 9:30 service and is interested in serving in the Administrative area of Hiss Church, such as finance, staff parish or trustees. She is a bookkeeper during the week and is active in doing fundraisers with her Ravens Nest. Welcome Marcy!

Sortino, Mike: 26 Stoneway Place, Nottingham, MD 21236; 410-530-9002; mrbalti-more82@yahoo.com; DOB-3/26 Mike is the husband of Marcy and brother of Jean Sortino. He attends the 9:30 service with his family. He is interested in Missions and has worked with our Habitat for Humanity crew in Baltimore. Welcome Mike!

Hiss is a Stephen Ministry congregation!

People Who Need Care . . .

Receive quality, Christ-centered, confidential care for their hurts and needs

Find hope, healing, and a new sense of self-worth through the support of a Stephen Minister

Know they are remembered and supported by their congregation in times of personal difficulty

If you know of someone who is hurting, physically or emotionally, Hiss has trained Stephen Ministers, who are ready and willing to help. Call the Church office and talk to Janey if you or someone you know might benefit from a Stephen Minister.

Stephen Ministers have received many blessings from serving as a Caregiver

Since 1975, more than 600,000 Christian men and women from all walks of life have trained and served as Stephen Ministers. Most became a Stephen Minister as a way to help others who were hurting—but they quickly discovered that God blesses them in amazing ways in return.

“Stephen Minister training taught me not just how to be a caregiver, but how to live life in a new way—being Christ to other people. It’s an awesome blessing to be used by God to bring hope and healing to someone else. I am humbled.” Mike, a Carpenter from Kennesaw, Georgia

In January, Hiss is planning to begin a class to train new Stephen Ministers to add to the Hiss Team. We invite you to attend our Stephen Minister Open House on Monday, December 8th at 7 pm in room 208.. Come and learn about us and meet the present team of Stephen Ministers. We will be offering some light refreshments (Christmas goodies) for those in attendance. All are invited to attend. If after joining us that evening, you feel called to this ministry, please contact Janey to let her know of your intentions. You will then receive an application to complete and specific information about the upcoming classes.

Contact Janey Snyder: office@hisschurch.org or phone 410-668-5665



Trunk or Treat on October 26, 2014
A big thank you to all who made it a success!!





Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, and serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. Romans 12:11 – 13 (NRSV)

Prayer is forever changing us. It forever changes the ordinary man or woman and makes them extraordinary. The power of prayer forever changes us by drawing us nearer to God, focusing and refocusing, changing and molding, transforming us slowly into His likeness in the process.

Reverend Charles Spurgeon, saw great results in his ministry, thousands came every Sunday to hear him preach. The whole country side was affected by his ministry. One day someone came and visited what was known as Spurgeon's Tabernacle and asked Rev. Spurgeon, "what is the secret of your great ministry?" Rev. Spurgeon replied, "I can show you the secret, meet me at the Tabernacle on Sunday morning." That Sunday, the visitor met Rev. Spurgeon and he took him to a trap door behind the pulpit, as he lifted it, it opened into a room. Beneath the platform over 100 people gathered and were praying for their church as Spurgeon would preach that day. He said pointing to the 100 people seated in the room that, my friend, is the secret to ministry! Rev. Max Lucado has said; "that when we work, we work, but when we pray it is God alone who works."

I firmly believe that our church can be mightily transformed. We can reach our fullest potential, but it will only come through the power of prayer, through men and women covenanting together to meet together for prayer. I am praying that God would give us as many people who feel called.

Would you be one of them? Would you covenant to service in prayer for your pastor and your church? Would you spend time in prayer for your own circle of family, friends, and coworkers? Would you please consider lifting up the covenant people of Hiss United Methodist Church and your community throughout the week? Remember when we work, we work, But when we pray, it is God alone who does all the work. It is God alone who neither tires nor sleeps (Psalm 121:4).

Come to our open house December 15, 2014 at 6:30 pm in room 208 for food, fellowship and prayer.

Thomas Meyer

Coordinator, Storming Heaven Payer Team

EMAIL: stormingheaven@earthlink.net

thank
you!

Thank you for your prayers and cards that brought comfort at this time of sorrow.

Love, Rosalie Maurer

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your contribution.

The mission of Manna House is to offer assistance and support to the homeless, poor and needy of Baltimore with services contributing toward their independence.

I invite you to visit us to see firsthand what we do with your generous donation and to afford us the opportunity to personally thank you for your support of the poorest among us.

With heartfelt thanks,

Saleem Gauhar

Executive Director

