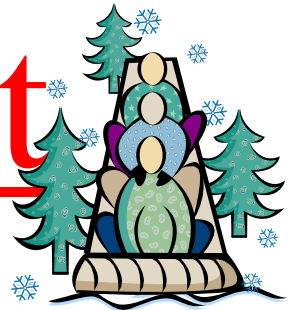


Hunt's Memorial United Methodist Church



The Point



December 2012 – January 2013

West Joppa
& Old Courts Roads
P.O. Box 332
Riderwood, MD 21139

Phone:
(410) 339-7770
Fax:
(410) 339-7790

pastor@huntsunc.org

office@huntsunc.org

www.huntsunc.org

Staff

Rev. Gary
Sheffield-James
Pastor

Beth Woody
Secretary

O. J. Spikes
Music Director

Jim Holford
Praise Leader

Service Schedule

9:00 AM
Praise Worship

10:00 AM
Traditional
Worship

10:00 AM
Sunday School

Hunt's Church
Preschool

www.huntschurchpreschool.com

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:
“The virgin shall be with child and will give birth to a son,
and they will call him Emmanuel” – which means,
“*God with us.*” (Matthew 1:22-23 NRSV)

Friends,

Will you and I receive any Christmas ‘presence’ this year?

Abba Hillel Silver, the mysterious poet of the Middle Ages, exclaimed:
“*I have sought thy nearness, with my whole heart have I called upon thee,
but when I went forth to find thee, I found that thou hadst been seeking me.*”
The faith pilgrimages of both the Hebrews and the followers of Jesus of the
way rested on the understanding of a God who searches for us. Conversely,
it’s often in our own frantic search that we miss the real thing.

Advent and the Christmas season are times to gather with family and
friends, shop for the people on our gift-giving list, and participate in our
own unique traditions passed down to us by previous generations. Yet
overwhelmed with to-do lists, we often forget about the **TO-BE** side of
ourselves. The **TO-BE** side of who we are is about our spiritual nature.
The true celebration of Christmas unfolds in receiving, believing and being
in God’s gift of presence. On that night so long ago, Mary gave birth to a
son who was given the name Emmanuel, meaning “*God with us.*”

Our best gift this year will not come from shopping on Black Friday or
Cyber Monday; nor will we find it placed behind the store window. In the
midst of intense commercialism of Christmas, we are apt to lose our focus.

The late Porter Routh, a religious writer from Texas, told this true story
that happened to one of his friends in the decade of the seventies.

His friend decided to take a tour at the Smithsonian in Washington,
DC. Just as she arrived, she recognized Mrs. Lyndon Johnson, widow of
the former president, entering the museum with her two grandchildren.
Several times during the morning she listened as Mrs. Johnson explained
an exhibit to her grandchildren.

Finally, they came to the exhibit that showed the evening gowns worn by the wives of the presidents on inauguration day. She listened with great interest as Mrs. Johnson told her grandchildren about the dress on the wax figure representing “*Lady Bird*” Johnson.

A man with a camera interrupted the story by asking Mrs. Johnson and her grandchildren to “*please move over so I can take a picture of Mrs. Johnson.*” The camera buff took a shot of the wax figure and went happily on his way, not knowing the opportunity he had missed.

It’s sad that the photographer in this story was content to have an ‘*image*’ when he could have experienced the real thing.

Will you and I receive any Christmas ‘*presence*’ this year? In our incessant need to rush through the holidays you and I are called to stop, look, and listen. God is seeking us. Eugene Peterson, in **The Message**, expresses it this way in the prologue of John’s Gospel: “*The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood. We saw the glory with our own eyes, the one-of-a-kind glory, like Father, like Son, generous inside and out, true from start to finish.*” (John 1:14).

Christmas is about God’s search for us. Let us not miss the real ‘*presence*’ of the season.

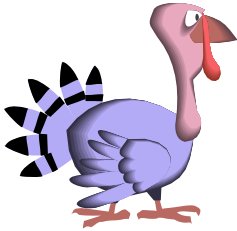
Grace and Peace,
Gary



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
December						1 Sr. High Camping Trip
2 ADVENT 1 Communion 9:00 am Praise Service 10:00 am Traditional Service 10:00 am Sunday School 11:10 am Handbell Rehearsal 2:00 pm Pickersgill 3:30 pm Girl Scouts ----- NO Sr. High	3 Noon & 7:00 pm Bible Study 8:30 pm AA	4 10 am & 7 pm Advent Study 7:30 pm Praise Band	5 10:00 am Casserole Pick Up 12:30 pm AA	6 7:30 pm Choir	7 7:30 am Men's Fellowship 11:30 am Funhunters <i>Friendly Farm</i> <i>Restaurant</i> 8:30 pm AA	8 9:00 am Women's Fellowship Breakfast at Jody Waters' Home
9 ADVENT 2 9:00 am Praise Service 10:00 am Traditional Service 10:00 am Sunday School 11:10 am Handbell Rehearsal 5:30 pm Sr. High Progressive Dinner	10 Noon & 7:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Trustees (Agapé House) 8:30 pm AA	11 10 am & 7 pm Advent Study 7:30 pm Praise Band	12 12:30 pm AA 7:00 pm Finance (Agapé House)	13 7:30 pm Choir	14 7:30 am Men's Fellowship 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	15 Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10 am - Noon
16 ADVENT 3 9:00 am Praise Service 10:00 am Traditional Service Cantata 10:00 am Sunday School 11:10 am Handbell Rehearsal 6:30 Sr. High Caroling	17 8:30 pm AA	18 10 am & 7 pm Advent Study 7:30 pm Praise Band	19 12:30 pm AA NO Church Council Meeting	20 7:30 pm Choir	21 7:30 am Men's Fellowship 8:30 pm AA	22
23 ADVENT 4 9:00 am Praise Service 10:00 am Traditional Service 10:00 am Sunday School 11:10 am Handbell Rehearsal ----- NO Sr. High	24 <i>Office Open</i> <i>9 am to Noon</i> Services: 5 pm 9 pm 11 pm NO AA Meeting	25 Christmas Day <i>Office Closed</i>	26 12:30 pm AA <i>Office Closed</i>	27 7:30 pm Choir	28 7:30 am Men's Fellowship 8:30 pm AA	29
30 9:00 am Praise Service 10:00 am Traditional Service 10:00 am Sunday School 11:10 am Handbell Rehearsal ----- NO Sr. High	31 New Year's Eve 8:30 pm AA					

MANY THANKS TO KELLY and MEREDITH

The success of this year's turkey dinner is due to the excellent leadership of Kelly Terrell. Great job, Kelly! Kelly brought along Meredith Miller to head up the dining room. Kudos to Meredith for supervising a smooth running dining room! In addition to heading up the turkey dinner, Kelly and Meredith are senior high counselors. Hunt's Church is fortunate to have these fine young women.



TURKEY DINNER SUCCESS

I'd like to thank everyone who helped to make this year's dinner another success! I appreciate everyone who volunteered for this event in any and all capacities! A lot of new people came out to volunteer this year which was great to see! I'd also like to thank everyone who came out to enjoy this meal and for everyone who spread the word to friends and family.

We served close to 500 meals, making this year another wonderful time of fellowship for our church and our community.

Thank you for your support in keeping this Hunt's Tradition a mainstay year after year! -- *Kelly Terrell*

BAKERS GALORE!

Thank you to all you fine bakers for the turkey dinner. We had an incredible array of goodies to sell. And sell, we did!!

Trish Funderburk



Casserole Ministry

There are now 14 individuals signed up to receive the monthly recipe and cook as they are able for the designated pick up day. Casseroles in the Hunt's freezer will be delivered to Grace Fellowship, the central delivery site, by 10:00 a.m. on pick-up day which is usually the first Wednesday of the month.

If you have any questions, please see me or check the bulletin board by the drinking fountain.

Thank you, *Nell Kirby*

Women's Fellowship Breakfast

The December breakfast will be held on Saturday, December 8th at 9:00 a.m. in the home of Jody Waters (622 Goucher Avenue, Lutherville, MD). All ladies are invited. If you would like to participate in the "Yankee Swap" gift exchange, bring a wrapped gift in the \$5 range. If you have any questions, please contact Jody Waters at 410-252-1503.

Jody has also arranged some "special holiday treats" this year! She has purchased lovely holiday decorations that will be available for you to take home to enhance the beauty of your home. Jody is only making one request. With a loving heart filled to the brim with Christmas joy, she is requesting that you make a financial contribution to the Hunt's Church Preschool in exchange for the "special holiday treat" decorations.

HUNT'S MISSIONS

If anyone has an idea or would like more information on any project, please contact Melissa Regan at melissa.regan2@gmail.com.

November Report– THANK YOU to the congregation for your support and donations:

- 1 – 74 Complete Thanksgiving bags and three additional bags of other food for ACTC
- 2 – \$722 for ACTC (Special Offering in November)
- 3 – \$550 for UMCOR to help those affected by Hurricane Sandy

December Missions –

1 -- The Special Offering in December (Advent) supports both the summer Sr. High Youth Group mission to repair homes in Western Maryland during **Camp Hope** and the **Baltimore County Christian Workcamp** during which homes are repaired throughout Baltimore County.

Note, the 30th annual Baltimore County Christian Workcamp will be held the week of July 21, 2013. The next planning meeting is on January 23, and the annual Christmas dinner is on Dec. 10. Contact Steve Lippy for more information.

2 -- Donations for our six sponsored children overseas via **ChildFund International** -

Hunt's assists with the schooling and living conditions of six children abroad through ChildFund International. Continuing our annual tradition, there will be a Christmas tree in the church vestibule during Advent on which you can hang a card after placing a donation for ChildFund International in the offering plate. Check the bulletin board for new pictures and letters from Mary, Emmanuel, and Rossel! As part of our church's sponsorship, each of the children has been sent \$15 as a Christmas gift. Contact Melissa Regan for more information.

3 – **A New Mission: Cookie Drive for the Earl's Place Resolution Run on Jan. 1**

One of the new missions that came out of our missions brainstorming and discussions in the fall was to give some support to Earl's Place. Earl's Place is a transitional housing program in Baltimore which provides affordable housing and supportive services to formerly homeless

men who are recovering from substance abuse. They have a 5K run on Jan. 1 to raise money and awareness and have a tradition of providing homemade cookies to the runners afterwards.

- If you bake cookies this Christmas season, consider baking an extra dozen or two for this event!

- If you have a party and have leftover cookies, consider saving them for this event!

There will be a labeled plastic bin for them in the coat closet through Sunday, Dec. 30. Cookies will be collected every Sunday and frozen for the event so you can bring them in any Sunday.

4) Christmas Present Project – see information from the Mid Highs

The next missions meeting will be Wednesday, Jan. 9, 2013 at 7 p.m.

Everyone is welcome!

Dear Hunts Family:

I was worried that we would not have many Thanksgiving Baskets this year but again, you outdid yourselves. We increased our food donations (74 bags), 3 bags of miscellaneous items and \$722 in cash which will go a long way in helping clients of the center.

I find this part of the job very difficult. By the end of the two weeks I have gorilla arms, all stretched out from toting bags:

from the church, to my car,

from my car, to my house,

from my house, to my car

from the car to the ACTC.



I do work out but this activity does me in (more aches and pains than I normally have).



When we got to the drop off, we were met by clients (who are giving back to those that help them) and the volunteers who devote countless hours to this local service project. That is when I feel good and grateful for this mission.

My sister (who will be visiting) and I have signed up to give out the baskets. It is fun to see how many folks show up to give out the food that has been collected. It is a happy time for the volunteers and the recipients.

Many thanks to Robert and Cynthia Sparks who also loaded and unloaded bags from their car. They were a tremendous help again this year.

Thank you all for your generosity and continued support of this mission.

Pat Barkdoll

THANK YOU

We would like to thank all of you for the many prayers, cards, expressions of sympathy, and funeral home visits at the death of Randy Lippy (Steve's brother). We are blessed to be a part of the Hunt's family – which is indeed our second family....We would like to thank Pastor Gary for his visits to Gilchrist Hospice and for doing the funeral service.

--- Steve and Mary Ellen Lippy ---



Candles and Carols is a candlelight Advent journey that celebrates the traditional themes of hope, peace, joy, and love, culminating in the birth of Christ. Featuring insightful narrations on the wisdom of ancient scripture and its relevance in our lives as 21st century worshipers, as well as elegant piano accompaniment with lush harmonies interwoven, this piece of music is truly unique. An Advent candle is lit before each carol is sung, providing a visual symbol of the journey from darkness to light. From the sparse-almost ethereal-*Call to Light* to the rich and peaceful *Light of Christ*, this tasteful cantata will be something truly special.



We hope you will join us for the experience during our 10 o'clock worship service on December 16th to meditate on the true meaning of this season through music.



HUNT'S FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR 2012 THROUGH OCTOBER

Following are Hunt's Operating Expenses and Income for 2012 through October. Operating income includes regular offering and donations, payments to the church by our preschool, and income from community groups. Operating expense includes monies for items such as staff salaries, property maintenance and utilities, Christian education, and conference apportionments. Not included are monies donated or spent for missions, memorials, our preschool, or other special funds.



Income	\$ 285,587
Expense	<u>282,055</u>
Net	\$ 3,532



It is very important for all of us to stay current with our pledges. Our church relies on your ongoing generosity to meet its operating expenses. A convenient way to make your donations is through electronic giving, available through the Hunt's website.

If you have any questions about this information, including getting started with electronic giving, please contact Nathan Derr or Linda Keatts.

On behalf of the Finance Committee, I would like to thank all whom have pledged their contribution for 2013. Thus far we have received 59 pledges totaling \$190,197. For those whom have not yet pledged, we encourage your participation in helping us attain our stewardship goal of 77 pledges!



Nathan Derr, Finance Chairman



SENIOR HIGH NEWS

We've had a great start to our 2012-2013 year! We welcomed in 11 new members! We enjoyed a chilly cabin camping trip this year the first weekend in December and are gearing up for our winter activities, including the progressive dinner, caroling, volunteering at a soup kitchen and our annual sub sale fund raiser!



USHERS: During the 10 o'clock service in December:
Jerry Cooper and David Young

LAY READERS:

	<u>9:00 service</u>	<u>10:00 service</u>
December 2	Paul Junkin	Lloyd Schubert
December 9	Ann Gallant	Matt Bayne
December 16	Howard Lin	-----
December 23	Jody Waters	Chris Ely
December 30	Marcia Conlin	Kathy Lang

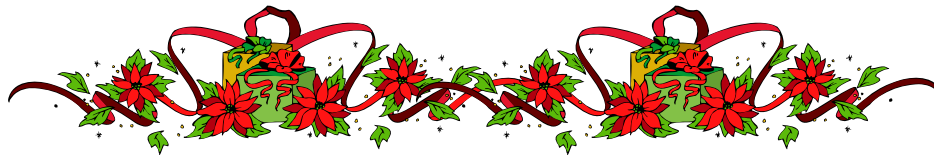
LAY READERS:

	<u>9:00 service</u>	<u>10:00 service</u>
January 6	Margie Anne Bonnett	P.J. Boyle
January 13	Ann Gallant	Nathan Derr
January 20	Jim Foster	Dan Funderburk
January 27	Pam Schlott	Robert Sparks



Red Poinsettias for the Sanctuary on Christmas Eve

(Deadline for orders is Sunday, December 9)



Number of Plants (red only) _____ @ \$13.00 each = \$ _____

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

In thanksgiving for _____

By _____



In lieu of a Poinsettia plant, please make my contribution to the Mission Fund: \$ _____

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

In thanksgiving for _____

By _____

Place the completed form in the offering plate or mail to the church office.
(P.O. Box 332, Riderwood, MD 21139)

Poinsettias can be taken home after the last service on Christmas Eve.



*Fill a box with gifts
and a child's heart with joy!*



Help bring joy and happiness to needy elementary school kids in Baltimore City!

- Fill a shoe-box with little toys, games, school supplies, personal hygiene items, etc.
- Complete a gift-tag identifying the intended gender and age of the recipient
- Put the tag in the box and place the box in the Christmas Present Project container in the church entrance hall

If preferred, a monetary donation (\$20 can fill 2 boxes) is always appreciated.

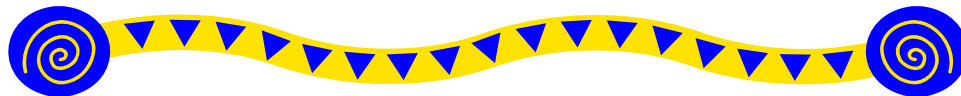
Checks should be made payable to Hunt's UMC.

In the "memo" section please write: MID-HIGH CHRISTMAS PROJECT

Your financial gifts may be placed in the collection plate
and the Mid-Highs will do the shopping for you. It's that easy!

Your gift boxes and financial donations are needed by DECEMBER 9th please.

THANK YOU, *Hunt's Mid-High*



WONDERFUL JOB AVAILABLE

Who: Director Needed

What: Vacation Bible School 2013

Where: Hunt's Church

Why: To Bring Children Closer to God

When: One Week In Late June

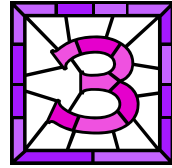
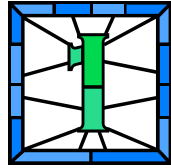
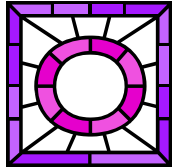
How: Jen Brown Will Guide You

Call (410) 825-0226 or Email

jbrown30@bcps.org



January



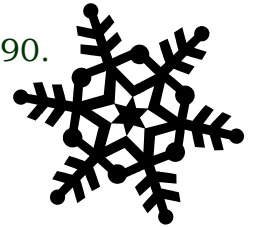
ODDS & ENDS



INCLEMENT WEATHER

In the case of inclement weather, please listen to WBAL Radio AM 1090.

A decision will be made by 7:30 a.m. on Sunday morning as to the church holding services that day.



Hunt's Church Preschool registration has begun

for the 2013/2014 school year! Church members receive priority, but it is important to register soon so that we can reserve a spot for your child. Please contact Laura at Hunt's Church Preschool ---- 410-296-3500.

Promote RECYCLING as a PAID INTERN with Baltimore County's Bureau of Solid Waste Management, Recycling Division!

We have multiple openings for internships, starting between late December 2012 and spring 2013. Prospective interns should be able to work *at least* a total of 120 hours. Internships have lasted from 2 months to 4 years. **For best consideration, please apply (details below) by Monday, December 3, 2012.**

The Bureau accepts resumes and cover letters, on an ongoing basis, from motivated, talented individuals with an interest in promoting recycling and waste prevention. **Applicants should have strong research and writing skills (if interviewed, a writing sample will be required).**

As paid Baltimore County employees (\$8/hour to start), our interns:

- Gain purposeful work experience in an office environment
- Apply and develop skills in research, writing, public relations, marketing, video production, data analysis and/or other areas
- Provide input and receive feedback as part of a team promoting recycling, waste prevention, and best solid waste management practices
- Learn more about how local government works
- Work flexible schedules customized to academic, job, and other commitments
- Improve future employment prospects
- May become eligible for permanent County jobs

For further information on the internship program, including testimonials, go to www.baltimorecountymd.gov/recycling.

If this internship program seems like a good fit for you, why “waste” any more time? Become a part of a proud tradition (88 interns since 1991)!

Submit a resume and cover letter to Clyde Trombetti, Public Information Specialist, via e-mail (ctrombetti@baltimorecountymd.gov). Resumes should include GPA (grade point average), and cover letters should mention month/time of day availabilities *to the extent known*. For more information, call 410-887-3188.

**Not a candidate for such an internship?
Please pass this information on to others who might be interested!**



Blue Christmas Service

Blue Christmas Worship – Wednesday, December 19th (7:30 p.m.) at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church (1609 Kurtz Avenue, Lutherville). Please join your brothers and sisters in Christ for our annual community Blue Christmas service. The service is sponsored by the churches of Lutherville – Havenwood Presbyterian, Grace Lutheran, Hunt’s Methodist, St. John’s Methodist, Holy Comforter Episcopal, Edgewood Methodist, and St. Paul’s Lutheran. Our worship is intended to be a time when we can – with others – acknowledge and surround with prayer and song the “blue” feelings we may have in the holiday season. For many who have lost a loved one or who are alone this can be a very difficult time of year. We gather to celebrate the promise of Christmas that God is with us not just in joys but also the sorrows and challenges of our lives and to experience God’s comfort, healing, and hope. Please join us.

A Bit of Trivia

This year, December has 5 Saturdays, 5 Sundays, and 5 Mondays.

This only happens once every 824 years.



NEW ONLINE CAREGIVER CENTER

Those who provide care for people who are living with Alzheimer's disease and dementia face many challenges. That's why the Alzheimer's and Dementia Caregiver Center was created. It is a "one-stop shop" for all of the tools, resources and information that caregivers need throughout the course of the disease.

You'll learn how to deal with the fact that Alzheimer's gradually diminishes a person's ability to communicate – and how to deal with it. That someone with Alzheimer's doesn't have to give up the activities that he or she loves. And why those living with Alzheimer's may not remember familiar people, places or things in the later stages of the disease.

From insurance to Medicare, a living will to guardianship, the online Caregiver Center will help you put financial and legal plans in place now. It will also help you find additional support from your local Alzheimer's Association chapter, support groups, online message boards and e-learning workshops.

Plus, you'll have the opportunity to join ALZ Connected (alzconnected.org), a social networking community where people with Alzheimer's, caregivers and others can receive advice. You'll also be able to use Alzheimer's Navigator (alzheimersnavigator.org), an online assessment program that helps caregivers and people with dementia evaluate their needs and connect with local resources.

Visit the new online Alzheimer's and Dementia Caregiver Center at alz.org/care.

Hunt's Memorial United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 332
Riderwood, MD 21139

*Address Service
Requested*

