

NEW MARKET UMC NEWSLETTER FOR JANUARY 2011

If you happened to go to our local Walmart early in the morning of December 26th you would have noticed that every last vestige of Christmas had been taken down and removed. The decorations were gone, what lights there had been - taken down, and the Christmas aisles emptied (actually moved back to the overflow space by Lawn and Garden). Within hours Valentine's day was appearing all over the store. On TV the Christmas movies and shows disappeared (except for the Hallmark channel). It was clear that for some folks Christmas was over until next year.

On the other hand our celebrations in church linger with Christmas awhile. The scripture readings continue with the extended story of Jesus birth. In our house the Christmas tree will stay up until it becomes a true fire hazard. Last year, at our house, one crèche set remained up the entire year!

There are some who see Christmas simply as an excuse. An excuse to make money, an excuse to have a party, an excuse to take some time off, an excuse to reunite with folks who we shouldn't be waiting a year to reunite with. Then there are those who see in Christmas the celebration of an event that has changed the world, changed our lives, and has brought a permanent, not seasonal change, to the whole of reality.

John's gospel proclaims "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory . . . And from His fullness have we all received, grace upon grace." The Word which became flesh in Christ Jesus never left, remains with us still. The grace of Christ Jesus didn't remain with us for a season to be packed away with the lights and ornaments till next year. Even though the outward decorations may disappear the grace of God born into our world on Christmas remains with us even now and forever.

I've heard people say that Christmas is the season for giving and that Christmas is the season for celebrating peace on earth. I say that since the Word became flesh, dwelt among us, and came to stay, that every day is a time for giving, a time for making peace and establishing good will between people. Or, put another way, the season of Christmas began 2011 years ago and it has never ended.

Don't allow Christmas to simply be an excuse. Allow "the Word that became flesh and lived among us" live with you and dwell in your heart; not just for a season, but forever.

Grace and Peace, Pastor Mike

DID YOU KNOW?

Every Wednesday evening at 7:00pm we hold a Bible Study in the kitchen of the Ed. Bldg. All are welcome to attend.

Every Wednesday evening at 8:00pm in the Sanctuary and every Thursday evening at 7:00pm in the kitchen of the Ed. Bldg we hold prayer groups. All are welcome to attend.

For more information on these and all other church events please contact the office at 301-865-3530.

THANK YOU

CHRISTMAS THANKS

I want to thank everyone who helped decorate the Church at Christmas: Carolyn McMahan, Patty Robinson, Ed Stephen, Mike and Julie Grenier, and especially the members of Boy Scout Troop 628 and their parents.

Also, a HUGE thanks to Mike, Lisa, Laura, and Greg Gaver of Gaver Tree Farm for all of our fresh greens. Year after year, they generously donate wreaths, garlands, and greens for our window candles which all make our church look so special during the Christmas season.

Thank you so much. God bless.

Barbara Stephen
Altar Guild

- 4 Trustee's meeting 7pm schoolhouse
- 5 Bible study 7pm
Prayer & Meditation group 8pm
- 6 Intercessory prayer group 7pm
Choir 7:30pm
- 9 Outreach committee planning meeting &
Informal potluck lunch after church
- 11 UMW Circle of friends 11:30am
SPRC meeting 7pm schoolhouse
- 12 Bible study 7pm
Prayer & Meditation group 8pm
- 13 Intercessory prayer group 7pm
Choir 7:30pm
- 15 Family Game night/Crockpot cook off
6:30pm
- 17 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 18 Church Council meeting 7pm schoolhouse
- 19 Bible study 7pm
Prayer & Meditation group 8pm
- 20 Intercessory prayer group 7pm
Choir 7:30pm
- 25 Outreach committee meeting 7pm
Newsletter deadline
- 26 Bible study 7pm
Prayer & Meditation 8pm
- 27 Intercessory prayer group 7pm
Choir 7:30pm



Service Opportunities

A date is being arranged for members of NMUMC to serve a meal at the Frederick Rescue Mission. The Rescue Mission serves breakfast to about 125 homeless and low income folks every day. Lunch is served to around 225 people and dinner is served to 25 men who are part of a residential program there. Volunteers must be at least 12 years old and we can take a team of no more than ten servers. January 19 is the tentative date. Which meal we serve will be determined by those who participate. If you are interested, please e-mail the church office and let us know which meal you would like to serve.



OUR MISSION FOR JANUARY IS HOPE ALIVE

Founded in 2002, Hope Alive, Inc. is a non-profit, non-denominational Christian ministry serving homeless women and children. Located in rural Sabillasville, Maryland, Hope Alive can accommodate up to 25 individuals. Because a safe and stable home is only one step in breaking the cycle of homelessness, Hope Alive offers a four-phase program and comprehensive support services to address the issues at the root of each family's homelessness. Hope Alive's resident families can stay for up to two years while learning new skills and working toward self-sufficiency.

Hope Alive's foundation of Christian faith and love, their strong emphasis on children's services, and their "whole person" approach to recovery in a loving home environment make Hope Alive unique.

The residence encompasses more than 9,700 square feet and includes 12 fully furnished bedrooms, 13 bathrooms, large kitchen and dining room, shared living spaces, and quiet areas.

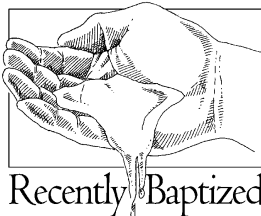
The Joshua Center, an adjacent 4,000-square-foot building that was once a horse barn, is home to their children's ministry, skills training center, computer lab, volunteer work space, and staff offices.

The property's 13 acres ensure plenty of open spaces-including a playground and, in the near future, a prayer garden, walking path, children's gardens, picnic areas and ball fields-for recreation and relaxation

Hope Alive serves women and children who are experiencing homelessness. Family homelessness is a reality in Frederick County. In order to stay off the streets, women and children are sleeping in cars, staying in motels, or living in unstable, temporary housing situations. As one of only two homeless shelters serving families in Frederick County, Hope Alive receives phone calls for services every day. Although they are providing more than 500 bed-nights per month (one bed-night = one person per bed per night), they can only meet a fraction of the need.

The personality and character of every home is defined by those who contribute to it, making home full of caring, compassion, and healing. Hope Alive's home is more than bricks and mortar; it is infused with the love and support of all who contribute.

Our January mission is Hope Alive. Your support can help to give homeless families a brighter future. Please give generously, and spread the word about Hope Alive's mission and how others can help.



Kaden Thomas Koch & Charlie David Koch were baptized on December 26, 2010.

THIS & THAT!

Choices - we are confronted with choices every day - should I do this or that, should I say this or that- should I believe this or that. At the beginning of the year many make a choice to change their lifestyle like slowing down or get moving, pray more, cut back on calories, stop smoking, be kinder, don't spend so much, exercise more, and the list goes on. Unfortunately, for many, their New Year's resolutions don't succeed but we can always make the choice to try again and we don't have to wait for the new year to start.

I have made some really bad choices in life but thank God He has delivered me through them and still loves me. That is why I love Him so!

Jesus made the choice to come to earth to give us a chance, but it is up to us to make the choice to accept Him. I wonder if our choices help someone else have a chance. One choice we can all make is to forgive as we have been forgiven.

Happy New Year to all! Marilyn Brooks



Sunday School

The Youth Sunday School class has resumed its study of young people from the Bible with Extreme Faith. Join us at 9:45 and bring a friend. If any parent would like to help out with snacks for our class, please e-mail the church office. .



Fellowship time- 9:15- 9:45am

Sunday School- 9:45- 10:45am

Worship- 11:00am (Nursery available)



FOR JANUARY

Howard Selby	1/3
Leslie Fauconnet	1/10
Thomas Crandall	1/11
Rodney Miller	1/17
Glenn Beard	1/22



Do you like working with younger kids? Do you have ideas for crafts, games, songs or stories that little ones would enjoy? Then plan to be a helper during our Valentine's Parents' Night Out. This event will be on Saturday, February 12th from 5:00pm-9:00pm in the schoolhouse. We could really use your help to make this community outreach event as much fun for the kids as possible. Please e-mail the church office if you would like to serve.

MESSAGE FROM THE LAY LEADER

Blank Slate

The holidays are really a great time of year for me. Yes, they are crazy busy with getting ready for everything, but it is a good type of busy. What a wonderful way to end the year with the celebration of the birth of Jesus with friends and family.

On the other hand, the New Year brings mixed feelings for me. I get a bit maudlin about the passing of time and another year slipping away. However, I also get excited because it is a new beginning. All the things I did not get done in the previous year, I now have the opportunity to get done in the New Year.

I am going to lose weight, be more organized, donate more time to church activities and just be a better person in general. For some reason the turning of the date from one year to the next unlocks all the possibilities of what I can easily accomplish. Then before you know it, it is spring and then summer and then wham! – It is the holiday time again and I have not accomplished half of what I wanted to do.

The important part of the above statement is that I did accomplish the other half. It is natural for all us to want to improve and be better at whatever we do. We can put all kinds of pressure on ourselves to make that happen, and then if we miss just one goal we feel like we have failed.

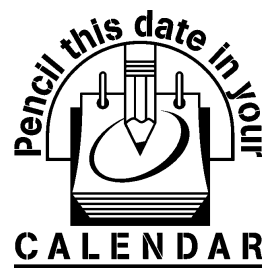
So in this coming New Year, sure go ahead and make all those resolutions and concentrate on the successful results, versus the not so successful ones. Our Lord, Jesus Christ had disappointments and did not accomplish everything he wanted to in his lifetime, but just look at what he was successful at bringing about in this world!

So use your “Blank Slate” at the beginning of this year and surge forward or take baby steps, I don’t care how you do it, but plan to move in a positive direction to take care of yourself and your family, support your church, community and country, The key is to always keep trying, it is what Jesus did and I believe, it is what he would expect from us.

Acts 2: 25-26 ...’I know the Lord is always with me. I will not be shaken for he is right beside me. No wonder my heart is filled with joy and my mouth shouts his praises! My body rest in hope.’

God’s Blessing on you all and Happy New Year,
Patty Robinson

-Lay Leader



There will be an Outreach Committee 6 month planning meeting held on Sunday, January 9, 2011 after the 11:00 service. We will also be having an informal potluck lunch and all church members are welcome to attend.



Wednesdays, starting February 2 to continue for 4 weeks until February 23, 2011 – Beginning Ballet Classes.

Leslie Fauconnet, an experienced ballet instructor, will be offering a class for girl’s ages 6 to 10, in the preliminaries of ballet. Students will learn floor exercises to improve flexibility and strength, loco motor exercises to work coordination and musicality, elementary port de bras and improvisation. The class will be held from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm in the Education Building at Rt.874 and North Alley and is free of charge. Please register online at www.newmarketumc.com or call the church office at 301-865-3530 to have a registration form mailed. What a great opportunity to open up the world of dance for your daughters and at no cost!

**LAY LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE REPORT*****

Council Chair-
Lay Leader-Patty Robinson
Lay Member to Annual Conf.-Richard Riley
SPRC Chair- Richard Riley
Trustee Chair-Scot Morrow
Finance Chair-Tim Summers
Treasurer-Rita Crandall
Financial Secretary-Sue Wood
Recording Secretary-Patty Robinson
Membership Secretary-Cathy Gamble
Youth Coordinator-Julie Grenier
Coordinator of Communications-Cathy Gamble
Family Ministries Coordinator-Susan Summers
Outreach chair-Phil Gamble
Church & Society Missions-Mary Lou Bernota
Sunday School Superintendent-Leslie Fauconnet
UMW Circle of Friends-Thelma Gesling
UMW Evening Circle-Melinda McCollum
Member at Large-Mabel Heider

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Chair-Tim Summers
Treasurer-Rita Crandall
Financial Secretary- Sue Wood
Trustee Chair-Scot Morrow
SPRC Chair-Richard Riley
Council Chair-

SPRC COMMITTEE

Class of 2011-MaryLee Matthews
Barbara Zimmerman
Class of 2012-Marilyn Brooks
Susan Summers
Matt Plasket
Class of 2013-Sharon Riley
Gene Myers
Dave Gaver

BOARD OF TRUSTEE”S

Class of 2011-Coy Price

Roger Van Laan

Brian Rudge

Class of 2012-Scot Morrow

Mike Grenier

Class of 2013-Sharon Riley

Gene Myers

Dave Gaver

COMMITTEE ON LAY LEADERSHIP

Class of 2011-Carolyn McMahon

Mabel Heider

Class of 2012-Cat Lugez

Joan Price

Class of 2013-

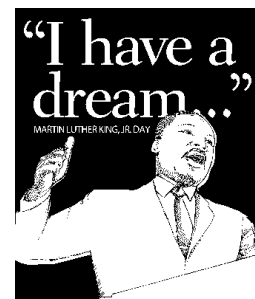
ALTAR GUILD

Communion Stewards-Joan Price

Mabel Heider

Flowers-Barbara Stephen

*****PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS LIST IS STILL BEING PERFECTED AND THERE ARE VACANCIES WHICH WE ARE WORKING ON FILLING.**



THANK YOU

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I want to thank everyone who helped decorate the Church at Christmas: Carolyn McMahon, Patty Robinson, Ed Stephen, Mike and Julie Grenier, and especially the members of Boy Scout Troop 628 and their parents.

Also, a HUGE thanks to Mike, Lisa, Laura, and Greg Gaver of Gaver Tree Farm for all of our fresh greens. Year after year, they generously donate wreaths, garlands, and greens for our window candles which all make our church look so special during the Christmas season.

Thank you so much. God bless.

Barbara Stephen
Altar Guild



There is a new flower chart in the back of the church. Please consider signing up for altar flowers for the upcoming year. The cost is \$36.00 and is due by the week you are signed up for. Please put whether it is “in honor of” or “in memory of” when you fill in the chart. If you would like something special to be printed in the bulletin, please contact the office at the beginning of that week.

