   In the name of Christ, we welcome this season of Advent. Like a child, Christ comes, but only after a long season of preparation. As we approach that holy night once more, we discover the essence of that birth in Bethlehem so long ago.

Soon we will experience the hope, love, joy and peace as we hear familiar scripture and sing beloved carols. The church, dressed in its finery, waits for children and adults alike, to take their places as the story unfolds once more…

In a recent children’s sermon, I carried the box of treasure I often use as I share the story of the three travelers, the kings, the wise men. The children were very excited as we talked about the possibilities of the treasure inside the golden box. Ultimately we talked about the treasure that we are, especially to God.

Over these last months, in small group study and in our time of worship together, we have talked about our treasure: our time, our money and our effort, especially as these relate to the community of faith called Glyndon United Methodist Church. We considered our many blessings and how we might share the gifts that God has given us: our talent, our abilities and our finances.

In the life of the church, we are grateful for the many gifts we are given, for the financial support through tithes and committed giving, and for unwavering service to God through missions. Today I would ask you to examine your treasure: your time, your finances and your energy. Your church needs your support more than ever. If you can serve in a new way, please talk to Kathy Rittler or Pastor Jeannie. Perhaps you are a high-energy person! We’d love to help you discover your giftedness. If you can give financially, you might want to honor or remember someone special in your life, or simply extend your giving as the year comes to a close using the Advent envelope in your box.

As we consider the treasures of the three travelers, what gift might *you* bring to the newborn King?

May all the blessings of Christ be yours,

Pastor Jeannie

**GLYNDON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH STAFF**

Rev. Jeannie Marsh, Pastor

Kathy Anderson, Music Director

Laura Oneto, Coordinator of Children & Youth Ministries

Robert Talbert, Custodian

THE CHALLENGER

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### LOVE.PRAY.SERVE.

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Worship



# The Common English Bible

Worship

**November 30 First Sunday of Advent**

Morning Glory Worship (8:45a)

Traditional Worship (9:30a)

Sunday School (9:30a)

Traditional Worship (11:00a)

**December 7 Second Sunday of Advent**

Morning Glory Worship (8:45a)

Vespers (11:00a)

**December 14 Third Sunday of Advent**

Men’s Communion Advent Breakfast (6:45a) – Dew Hall

Morning Glory Worship (8:45a)

Second Sunday Celebration-Meet in the Sanctuary (9:30a)

Sunday School (9:30a)

Traditional Worship (11:00a)

*Please bring in hats, gloves and scarves for the women and children of Sara’s Hope, a local shelter.*

**December 19 Holiday Cabaret (7:00p) Dew Hall**

**$10 per ticket to support the roof fund**

**December 21 Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Morning Glory Worship (8:45a)

Traditional Worship (9:30a)

Sunday School (9:30a)

*Join us in Dew Hall at 10:30am to sing Happy Birthday to Jesus*

Traditional Worship (11:00a)

**December 24 Christmas Eve**

Family Candlelight Service (7:00p)

Children’s Choir, Peacebringers, Youth Choir

**Sounds of Christmas (10:30p)**

**Candlelight Service (11:00p)**

Chancel Choir

**December 25 Merry Christmas!**

**December 28 First Sunday After Christmas**

Morning Glory Worship (8:45a)

Family Worship (10:00a) Music by the Candlelighters

\*\*\*No Sunday School

# SEASON OF ADVENT

Mission

**Mission Spotlight:** FOOD PANTRY **Reisterstown UMC**

**DID YOU KNOW?**

The Reisterstown United Methodist Church has a Food Pantry that has been open for 2 years! They serve the Reisterstown, Owings Mills, Glyndon and Finksburg areas.  They are currently providing food for an average 225 families per month! On November 1st, they served 51 families in 3 hours.  In the month of October, they served 242 families.  **They have seen a 20% increase since this time last year.**   Many that they are serving are the working poor.  Many others are elders who cannot survive on social security.  The need is definitely cross culture.

Clients must show ID to prove residence and may receive a bag of non-perishable food once a month and (1) cold bag. They can also come in as needed to get Panera Bread (from the Hunt Valley Panera), Wawa’s items, and clothing.

**Each bag contains**: **Each cold bag contains:**

Baked beans Macaroni and cheese 2 sticks butter

Cereal Pasta and sauce 6 Eggs

Canned Fruit Rice 2 Yogurt

Canned soup Peanut butter and jelly Meat (if they have it)

Can ravioli/chili type food Tuna

Canned Vegetables

**Each client can also pick from the shelf one toiletry/cleaning product** (such as laundry detergent, liquid dish soap, deodorant, toothpaste, paper towels, toilet paper, shampoo) And one miscellaneous food item (such as crackers, vegetable oil, mayonnaise, ketchup, juice)

**They do not want to take any donations away from other non-profits such as the Crisis Center.**  **Their** **goal is to work together as a community to help those in need.** They are partners with the Maryland Food Bank and receive meat donations from the Westminster Rescue Mission. They work with Alpha Pregnancy Center, the Crisis Center, Reisterstown Baptist Church (soup kitchen 3rd Saturdays), and Sarah’s Hope.

**HOW CAN YOU HELP?**

1. **Consider running** a non-perishable food drive or toiletry items/cleaning supplies drive at your work, school, health club, etc. and donate the items to the Reisterstown UMC Food Pantry.
2. **VOLUNTEER** –at the food pantry on **Wednesdays from 5:45 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. or Saturdays from 8:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.** **They need bread baggers, food baggers, client assistants, clothing sorters.**
3. The FIRST SATURDAY of every month, they serve a community lunch from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. They are in need of servers, cooks, and people to clean up.
4. Other volunteer needs include people to contact local businesses for financial donations.

Please contact Lani Hoffmann [Lani05@verizon.net](mailto:Lani05@verizon.net) or via cell after 2:00 p.m., 443-996-9375; if you are interested in volunteering or hosting a food drive please let Pastor Jeannie or someone from the Missions Committee know that you are supporting this important mission in our community.

*In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”*

*Acts 20:35*

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Acolytes

Children & Youth

Christmas Vespers Program

**SAVE THE DATES!**

**February 6-8, 2015**

Due to recent donations,

we will be able to lower the cost of ROCK

to $100 per person.

Please see Laura ASAP to reserve your spot.

# ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **December** |  |
|  | **9:30 am** | **11:00 am** |
| **12/07/2014** | **----------** | **Vespers** |
| **12/14/2014** | Madeleine Wroe | Marco Romeo |
| **12/21/2014** | Justin Stranger | Sam Clements |
| **12/24/2014** | **7:00 pm**  **Family Christmas Eve**  Jack Clements |  |
| **12/28/2014** | **10:00 am**  **Family Worship**  **Julia Connor** |  |
|  |  |  |
|  | **January** |  |
|  | 9:30 am | 11:00 am |
| **01/04/2015** | Martha Kaestner | Luca Romeo |
| **01/11/2015** | Megan Nash | Grace Parks |
| **01/18/2015** | Shannon Parks | Ben Clements |
| **01/25/2015** | Jack Clements | Marco Romeo |

# CHRISTMAS VESPERS PROGRAM

“The Shine Man”



Sunday, December 7th at 11:00 am

# ROCK

Glyndon UMC has hosted an Advent Communion breakfast for the men (and sons of all ages) of all of the surrounding community churches for over 55 years. The Breakfast this year will be held on Sunday, December 14, 2014 at 6:45 AM. The Rev. Jeff Paulson from Pleasant Hill UMC will be the speaker. To make it possible, we need the help of a few more of our men in the planning, food pick up and preparation, cooking, serving, setup, and cleanup. None of these things will take much time if we have a small group of men willing to help. The food needs to be picked up during the week ahead, food preparation happens on Saturday morning, and the rest on Sunday morning. No experience or expertise is necessary. There will be a planning meeting in November - date to be announced. If you would like to help in some way, or would like to know more about the breakfast, contact Chuck Bradley (410-833-5590) or Bob Rittler (410-239-8147). If you cannot help, we hope you will be able to attend. If you have a son, bring him along. The hour may seem to be too early, but the unique fellowship you will experience with fellow Christian men of the community is worth a little lost sleep.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Peggy Sindall  Broadmead B-4  1381 York Road  Cockeysville, MD 21030  443-578-8399 | Hilda Mummert  267 Frederick Street  Hanover Hall #115  Hanover, PA 17331 |
| June Pearce  325 E. Timonium Road  Timonium, MD 21093 | Doris Shaneybrook  144 Westminster Pike  Reisterstown, MD 21136 |
| Elizabeth Christhilf  c/o Mrs. Anne Dancu  1325 Murex Drive  Naples, FL 34102  (239) 272-2583 | Ruth Wilson  13114 Old Hanover Pike  Reisterstown, MD 21136 |
| Alice Wolfgang  c/o Connie Wolfgang  12930 La Rochelle Circle  Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410 |  |

The offering envelopes for 2015 will be in the lobby on December 14, 2014.

Please know that many of the envelope numbers have changed as we have reduced

the number of envelopes purchased.



**Glyndon United Methodist Homebound Friends**

***Please remember our friends with cards and calls!***





# OFFERING ENVELOPES

*Congregational Care*

Finance

*Men’s Advent Communion* *Breakfast*

# MEN’S ADVENT BREAKFAST

# Connecting with our

# Preschool Staff

My name is Terri Dotterer and I’m the teacher for the Twos class this year at Glyndon United Methodist School. I was born in Baltimore and grew up in Westminster, Maryland. I graduated from University of Maryland- College Park in 2006 and married my husband Mike shortly thereafter. After college, I joined the AmeriCorps, working mainly in the DC public schools and hosting a Saturday service learning program for middle school students. Afterwards, I worked for two years as an acceleration/reading teacher and service learning and leadership coordinator at The Crossroads School, a public charter middle school in Baltimore City. Last December, I finished graduate school at Loyola University. One day, when my children do not rule my sleep schedule, I plan to go back to teaching full full time in the city.

I currently live in Reisterstown with my husband, Mike and two children, Nathan and Amelia. Nathan is an independent five year old who loves building, reading, and playing the cello. Amelia will be three years old on December 30. She loves art, going to school, and doing anything with her big brother. Mike is a software engineer and I am primarily a stay-at-home mom. I enjoy knitting, sewing, and running. I am on the steering team of a MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) group in Catonsville. My family and I are members here at Glyndon United Methodist Church, usually attending the 9:30 service.   
 I’ve learned a great deal in my first few months as the Twos’ teacher. First, adolescents and toddlers have similar logic, but they are both tremendously more capable than we give them credit for being. Also, I get that over-the-top excitement when teaching even the littlest people. There’s no difference between tutoring a high school senior or watching my Twos say grace before snack. They’re learning, and I get the pleasure of helping. This is Nathan’s third year at Glyndon United Methodist School, and Amelia’s first year. I am continuously impressed with the love and support my fellow teachers have given my children, as well as every child here. The teachers' attention to details and fresh perspectives have actually made me a more patient and confident mom to my two children at home. G.U.M.S. is a hidden gem and I'm enjoying my first year here.



# THE FABULOUS FOUR’S

The Fabulous Four’s collected canned goods at Thanksgiving to share with our friends at the Community Crisis Center.

*GLYNDON*

*United Methodist PRESCHOOL*

Church-School Partnership

**Presentation by Jan Bradley on October 23, 2014 (Laity Sunday)**

Last year at GUMC’s Charge Conference, the District Superintendent challenged us to adopt a school. At that time, it was perhaps a little surprising. However this concept remained in the minds of several of us attending the meeting. This year at the Church Conference, we were again challenged by the District Superintendent’s question to us. She asked everyone “what is one new thing you are willing to try this year to be more of God’s Presence in the Neighborhood?” The answer we gave her was the vision to create and participate in a Church- School Partnership. There are many different ways to engage with and serve a local public school. We invite you to consider this new ministry, to pray about it and to join in the efforts. It is important to note that we are not going into a school for church purposes, but going with a spirit of servanthood to help the school with its needs.

This Church-School Partnership has been established and operational in many communities in Maryland, Virginia, Georgia, and Tennessee. Its relevance and impact upon the life of the church has been endorsed by, the Lewis Center for Church Leadership of the Wesley Theological Seminary. It has provided seminars and extensive resources for local churches to use.

Already, here in our own community, for two years Reisterstown UMC has been partnering with Cedarmere and Glyndon Elementary Schools. Some members of GUMC are helping Reisterstown Elementary School through the Woman’s Club of Glyndon in their School Project providing for children or families’ special needs. So we decided to seek out Timber Grove Elementary School, based on the fact that 46% of the students receive reduced or free lunches. This figure is high but not high enough for the school to qualify for receiving support with Title 1 Federal Funding. More than likely, there exist special needs and hardships for a portion of the school families at Timber Grove. (The State average for elementary school receiving reduced or free lunches is 42 %.)

As John Wesley said “the world is your parish”…so of course is our community. Do we really know our community, does the community know us? By this partnership, the church can reach the community; bringing help for problems or improving the life of a child, or a family. Through the

Church-School Partnership, a church becomes relevant and vital in the community. Our efforts of sharing love, compassion, interest and justice for others are all rooted in our love for God and love of our neighbor, as Christ commanded us to do. So children matter and schools matter. This concept is discussed in the resources from the Lewis Center for Church Leadership, specifically a DVD titled, Engaging Local Schools. I urge everyone to watch this DVD and read the printed short essays available, such as” 50 Ways to Engage Local Schools “. The quality of education has a direct impact on a child’s quality of life and future prospects. Education is an investment in the future, especially for a child in poverty.

We must talk about poverty; yes ...there is poverty right here in our local area. Research, online at city-data.com and About.com, shows there are 900 households or 2550 people in this area that have income below the poverty level. The federal standard for poverty is $23,850 a year for a family of 4. There is great need all around us. This Church-School partnership can help families who are homeless or living at a poor level of income. We can find our neighbors in need and do our part to help in so many different ways. These ways don’t necessarily involve only financial assistance.

As described in the resources previously mentioned, besides providing school supplies, food and clothing, if needed, to the school children, partnership churches have established the following commitments and programs to schools:

* Helping students succeed with tutoring, mentoring, reading program and testing preparation.
* Supporting and affirming the work of teachers with appreciation gestures, help in stocking classroom supplies, volunteering.
* Supporting parents and families by helping them with learning the English language, translating, basic literacy, attending parenting classes, getting to school for parent conferences /meetings, help in child care.
* Advocating for the public school.

And there are many more other ways to serve through this partnership ministry. These opportunities can be for the individual, a small group, or

a larger group to become involved, using our time and talents. What are your gifts and talents? How can you help our neighbors? Our talents are meant to be shared to serve others. So as we listen for God’s direction in this ministry, keep our mission statement PRAY, LOVE, SERVE in your mind and heart and be a Follower of Jesus.

To quote from “The 50 ways to Engage Schools” essay, the last suggestion is: “Expect transformation! By engaging local schools, churches can build bridges of hope within their community that can lead to stronger schools and stronger churches.”

The first step will be to meet with the Principal of Timber Grove Elementary and ask him what the school’s needs are. Usually the Principal is keenly aware of specific problems of the children and families and what is needed. We will then offer our help which will be beyond what is already being provided by public or private agencies or organizations. We do not want to

duplicate services or assistance. We will be guided by the stated needs from the school rather than deciding ourselves what the assistance should be.

**Update: October 23rd**

Because Kristen Bergstrom’s daughter, Schuyler attends Kindergarten at Timber Grove Elementary, Kristen was able to make an initial inquiry for arranging the meeting with the Prinicipal, Mr. Paul Scott. It was suggested that a letter of introduction be emailed to Mr. Scott and to the Guidance Counselor, Ms Brumfield. A letter was sent by email to both people on Wednesday, November 26th. We, Kristen Bergstrom, Pastor Jeannie and I have requested to meet with both Mr. Scott and Ms Brumfield to learn about what specific needs are present at Timber Grove Elementary School. We will keep the congregation informed as this ministry is forming.

The DVD, Engaging Local Schools, is being shown during the Morning Glory worship time. It is also being shared with interested viewers. If interested, see Jan Bradley.