

EASTON CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

DECEMBER, 2022 PEACHBLOSSOM PRESS NEWSLETTER

Mission Statement

"Sharing the love and blessing of God with all."



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"So...Why Advent? Why Christmas?"

It is uncertain as to when the celebration of Advent was first introduced in the Christian Church. Some sources say that Advent began on November 11 (St. Martins Day) at some time in the 5th century in the form of a six week fast leading to Christmas. Advent was shortened at some stage in the sixth century, and the fasting was later no longer observed. Advent is a time to reflect and prepare for Christmas, similarly to how Lent is in preparation for Easter. Purple is historically the color of Advent because it reflects fasting and it's the color of royalty, to welcome the new born King, Jesus. It also celebrates the anticipation of the return of Christ the King in his second Advent.

Christmas truly is one of the most wonderful times of the year. For many of us there are Christmas parties, decorating our cozy homes, sharing gifts and sending Christmas greetings. Unfortunately, we sometimes get lost in the season and forget the real reason for celebrating Christmas. Most people can tell you the reason behind Christmas, that is has something to do with the birth of Christ. However, that's usually the extent of their knowledge or perhaps they have lost sight of this in their busyness in preparing for Christmas. So...why do we truly celebrate Christmas traditions? What is it's true meaning?

I believe the really true meaning of Christmas is "love" found in John 3: 16: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believed in him shall not perish but have eternal life." The true meaning of Christmas is the celebration of this incredible act of love. God loved His own and provided a way...the only Way...for us to spend eternity with Him.

As we prepare for the coming of the Christ child, let us keep in mind this wonderful gift God has given to us.





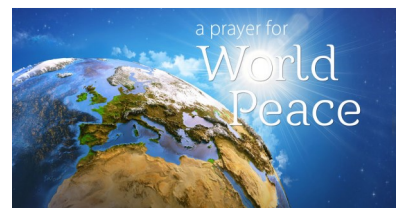
- 1 Gene Hagenberger
- 2 Tony Fluharty
- 4 Rica Denlinger
- 7 Jim Foreman
- 8 Karter May Mullikin
- 12 Ashley Ward
- 14 Jennifer Carrion
- 15 Camryn Phillips, Ed Wildasin, Jimmy Fike, Genna Ulrich
- 16 Margie Ridenour
- 17 Sue Ann Brockson, Todd Lyons
- 18 Bradley Hughes
- 19 Christa Crannell, Ruth Ann Smith
- 20 Karen Tarr, Ronnie Miller, John Banghart
- 21 Billy Schnaitman, Jr.
- 22 Kenny Ball, Michael Schwaninger, Nora Quidas, Luke Carrion
- 23 Eve Langley Correa, Charles Wooters
- 24 Mabel Kinsey, Mark Miller, Justine Foxwell, Carolyn Lane
- 26 Betty Schwaninger
- 27 John Stichberry III
- 28 Taylor Ann Jacobs
- 29 Wendy Faulkner
- 30 Megan Timms
- 31 Robert McGee



- 2 Gene & Diane Walbridge
- 4 Larry & Kathy Fike
- 23 Derek & Brynn Keller
- Mike & Nina Jacobs
- 28 Mark & Tracy Lednum
- 31 John & Mischelle Nalley

Our Prayer List

Please pray especially for the following individuals and their families: for those who have contracted COVID-19, for health care workers, and for government and civic leaders who are seeking the best way forward, for our District, for all those who have been affected economically, for Camp Mardela and administrator Jennifer Summy, the family of Alan Kieffaber, the family of Bobby Hopkins, Jeff Shehan, Bruce Butler, Scott Baynard, Bonnie Langford, Sandra Showell, Loretta Lohr, Stacey Geisel, Lyla Taghipour, Ruth Gunn, Amelia Mitchell, Kevin Mitchell, Charlie Willis, Holly Jones, Adele Pogue, Crystal Windsor, Brenda (a friend to Terri Tarr), Maggie Hegedus, Caitlyn Bussey, Theresa, (co-worker of Terri Tarr), Doris Schwaninger, John Evans, Wyatt Ewing, Kathy Spurry, Lillian Sefcik, Richard Scott, Billy Harding, Annabel Young, Larry Fike, Alan Segar, GraceWay CoB, Nancy Scheffler, Roger Plagge, John Nalley, Dee Candel, Lois Schall, Natalee Jones, continuous prayers for our church family in Nigeria, continued prayers for Comfort Amos, Emerson Fike, Katelyn Howard. Pray for leaders & people that are working towards peace. **Please phone or email the church office to add or remove persons on our prayer list.**



**Monday-Saturday
3:00—4:00 P.M.**

**TRINITY CATHEDRAL
EASTON, MD**

**For more information, please
contact Bruce Butler.**

Offering and Attendance for November

Attendance	31	34	46	32	143
	11/6/22	11/13/22	11/20/22	11/27/22	Totals
<u>Distributions</u>					0.00
<i>General (06)</i>					
Envelopes	3,160.00	1,910.00	950.00	2,190.00	8,210.00
Loose Change/Cash	0.00	0.00	5.00	0.00	5.00
Total Before Prepaid Tithes	3,160.00	1,910.00	955.00	2,190.00	8,215.00
Prepaid Tithes	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dale	3,160.00	1,910.00	955.00	2,190.00	8,215.00
<i>Other Income (06)</i>					
<u>Building Use</u>					
Washington St. Rent	1,700.00				1,700.00
Harrison St. Rent		1,500.00			1,500.00
					0.00
Totals	1,700.00	1,500.00	0.00	0.00	3,200.00
<i>Special Offerings (07)</i>					
Building/Memorial	75.00	4,700.00			4,775.00
In Kind					
Cats Meow	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.00	5.00
Totals	75.00	4,700.00	0.00	5.00	4,780.00
Totals	4,860.00	3,410.00	955.00	2,195.00	11,420.00

Year end giving needs to be made by January 8, 2023. Also, if anyone would like to discontinue receiving church envelopes, please let Lee Ann or Judy know asap!!!

Leadership Team Meeting

The next Leadership Team meeting will be held Monday, December 5 at 1:00 p.m.



Camp Mardela News—from Jen Summy, Camp Administrator

Camp Mardela News Camp Mardela News from Jen Summy:

- ♦ **There are several copies of Camp Mardela's newsletter "The Lane"** in the narthex.
- ♦ **We've reached 75% of our mattress fundraiser goal!** We are starting to place the final orders and hope to have all new mattresses for the cabins by January of 2023! We need \$2,000 to finish the job. If you're interested in supporting this fundraiser, send a donation at www.campmardela.org/donate or send a check to P.O. Box 460, Denton, MD 21629.
- ♦ **Sights & Sounds of Christmas at Camp** to look forward to this Winter! We plan on having two dates this year on December 10th and December 17th from 5 to 8 PM. This is our 2nd Annual Sights & Sounds event - with double the days, double the decorations, and double the holiday spirit! We are asking for churches to contribute by donating a decorated tree to the Christmas Tree Silent Auction that will be hosted both nights of this event. We could also use donations of baked goods for the food stand, and we will need 10-12 volunteers for each weekend (admissions, silent auction, kids crafts, hay ride, etc). Admission to this event is \$5 per vehicle, but if you sign up to volunteer, you can come in for free. Please contact campmardela@gmail.com if you are interested in volunteering. Visit www.campmardela.org/sights-and-sounds-of-christmas-22 for more information.
- ♦ **Archive Day - Camp Mardela - January 7th - 10am-5pm:** Join us for a day of reminiscing and celebration. In preparation for the 75th Anniversary events, we will work on organizing the archive we have, planning these events, and brainstorming activities and presentations. If you are interested in helping with anniversary planning in any capacity, join us at Camp Mardela on this day to help us get ready to celebrate! Visit www.campmardela.org/75th-anniversary for all of Camp Mardela's anniversary information.
- ♦ **Scrip Fundraiser:** We are still running our Scrip fundraising program! Order gift cards through Scrip and Camp Mardela gets a percentage of the sales. Register and order cards at www.shopwithscrip.com. Contact campmardela@gmail.com for the registration code or any other questions.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support for camp and its ministry. It is greatly appreciated and we continue to see the fruit of Camp ministering in the lives of people.

Special dates in December

- Second Sunday of Advent, *December 4, 2022*
- Third Sunday of Advent, *December 11, 2022*
- Fourth Sunday of Advent, *December 18, 2022*
- First day of winter, *December 21, 2022*
- Christmas Eve, *December 24, 2022*
- Christmas Day, *December 25, 2022*
- New Year's Eve/Watch Night, *December 31, 2022*

Special Music for December

December 4 Choir
December 11 Ellen Wile
December 18 Joy Miller



Volunteer Opportunities

Interested in Serving as Worship Leader

We're always looking for new people to share their gifts! It doesn't take a lot of time--just a bit of preparation and a willingness to serve. If you would like to join this team of volunteers or want more information, please contact the church office or Marlena Groves (Nurture Chair).

NSC Food Pantry

Let's not forget that food prices keep going up! When we pay attention to our local, national and international food needs, we are reminded that people suffer from food insecurity all around. If we do not share of our bounty, others go hungry. Let us give, so others may live. Any non-perishable food items with good "best if used by" dates are accepted. **Consider bringing in your non-perishable items when church re-opens.**

Talbot Interfaith Shelter

The 2022 Talbot Interfaith Shelter (TIS) volunteer list is available for sign-up. Please take the time and look to see where you can spare a few hours of your time every month. Any questions, please contact Norma Trax. **Our next date is December 19, 2022. If you are interested in providing a meal, please sign-up in the narthex.** Two volunteers will be needed for (three) two hour shifts (8:00-11:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. and 2:00-5:00 p.m.) Please sign-up in the narthex or call the office.

Neighborhood Service Center

Please contact Marilyn Neal, if you are interested in volunteering at the center. Their phone number is 410-822-5015.

Serving the month of December

	12/4/2022	12/11/2022	12/18/2022	12/25/2022
Message	Jody Gunn	Terry Thomas	Christmas Memories	No church service
Worship Leader	Kevin Wile	Lynn Butler	Wanda Baynard	
Head Usher/ Sound	Leroy Miller	Leroy Miller	Leroy Miller	
Deacons on Call	Jane Marshall & Anne Harvey	Leroy & Sharon Miller	Ron & Elisa Miller	John & Norma Trax
Special Music	Choir	Ellen Wile	Joy Miller	
Flowers	Advent Wreath	Advent Wreath	Advent Wreath	



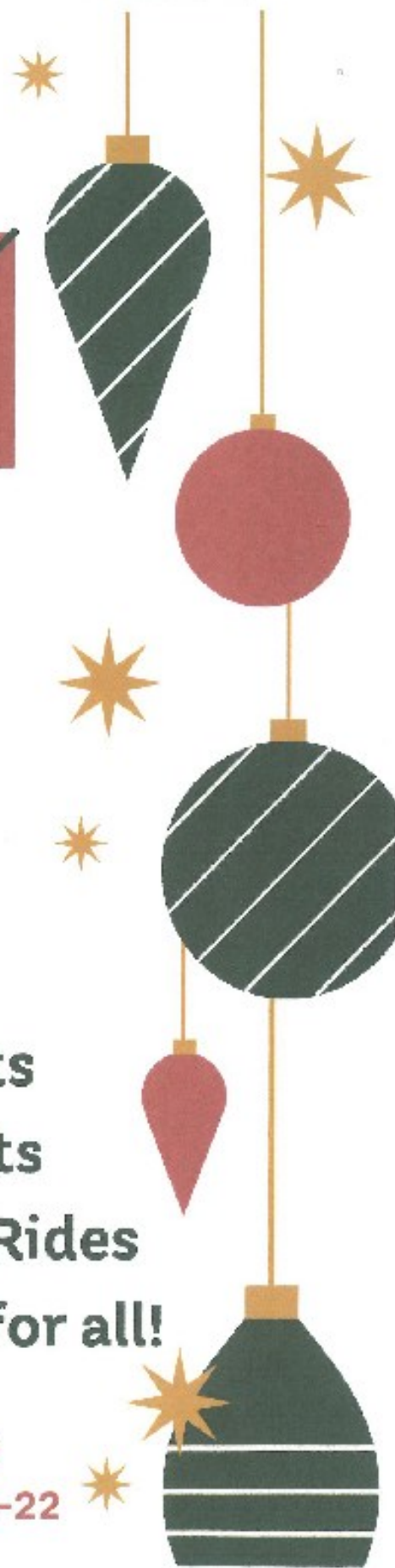
Dec. 10 & 17, 2022
5pm-8pm

Sights & Sounds of Christmas

\$5 admission

- Kids Crafts
- Live Music
- Tree Auction
- Lights
- Treats
- Hay Rides
- Fun for all!

301 DEEP SHORE RD, DENTON, MD
CAMPMARDELA.ORG/CHRISTMAS-22





Mid-Shore Community Band

Presents



Sounds of the Season

*A Free Concert of Christmas Music
(Donations gratefully accepted toward the
Star Democrat Brighter Christmas Fund)*



December 11 - 6:30 PM
St. Mark's UMC

Tidewater Singers

Ellen Wile, Artistic Director

Born This Day!



A Christmas choral collection of traditional and original carols, spirituals and folk songs from the 15th through the 21st centuries.

Friday, December 16

7 pm at the Oxford Community Center

free admission

Sunday, December 18

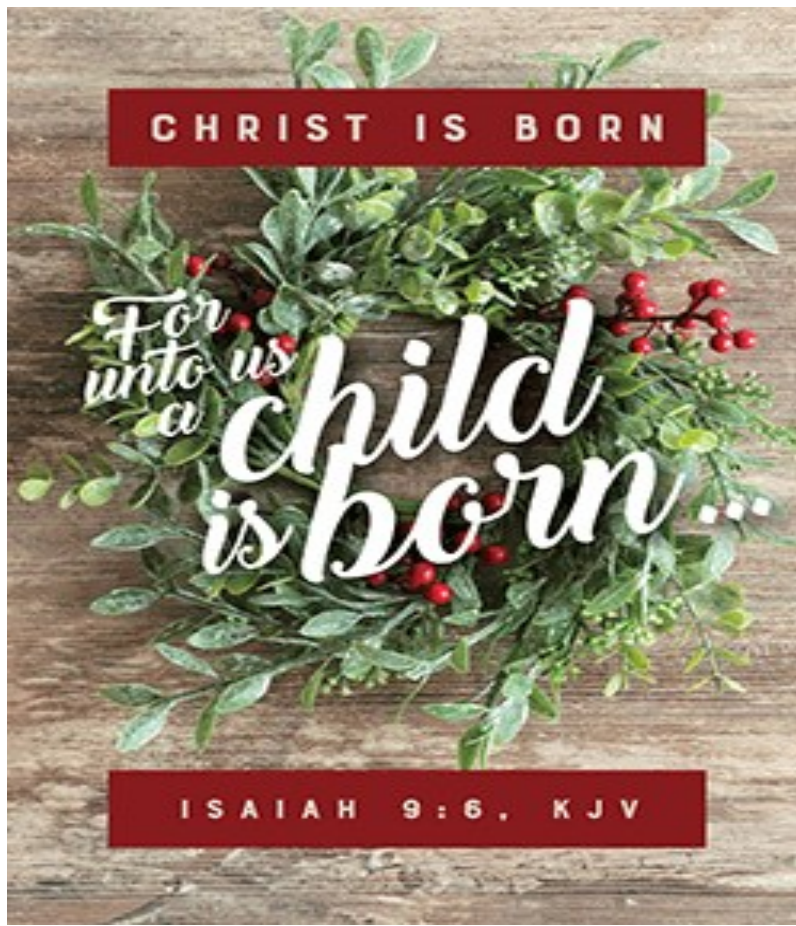
4 pm at Christ Church, Cambridge

Part of the Christ Episcopal Church Concert Series. Admission \$15 at the door



*Funded in part by the Maryland State Arts Council
and Talbot Arts*





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