



Unity-Washington & Wesley
United Methodist Church
December 2011 Newsletter

A Faithful Waiting

*Luke 3:1-6 "The voice of one crying in the wilderness:" Prepare the way of the Lord.
(Verse 4)*

Advent is about the future, God's future, and for the coming of his kingdom into our presence.

The early Church expected an early return of their Lord- in a few days, months or years! Many Christians in the 21st century have adopted a life and a faith in which the future lies outside the boundaries of their vision. For some, life exists only in the moment. Any sense of expectation has been lost in the passing of the years, and so we wait without expectation. Others who are waiting are losing patience, even with God. They have pressed ahead on their own.

Elie Wiesel, in his novel *Dawn*, creates two characters who make a pact to 'wrest the Messiah from the chains of the future....to force God's hand.'" They move forward with the conviction that the Kingdom can be seized and ushered into existence by their own efforts. It's an aggressive approach to waiting.

There is another way of waiting. We wait in knowing that if God has not come....it may be that we are not ready. I think that Advent is born out of the kind of waiting that recognizes that for God's future to break out upon us, we must be transformed. We must open ourselves to be remade by God, and at work within us, that we are in the process of becoming a new creation.

John the Baptist appears on the scene with "the voice of one crying in the wilderness." Prepare yourselves for the coming of the Lord, he tells the people. Look inside your hearts and let the crookedness be straightened and let the roughness be made smooth. You cannot force God's hand.

You cannot set the time for the coming of the Savior. Ready yourselves. Already he is coming, so let our lives bear the fruits of his coming.



In Ministry Together,
Glenn H. Lyburn

MYF News



The Reason for the Season!

God has blessed us in so many ways. We have to remember each day what God has given us. Pastor Glenn asked us to make a list what you are thankful for. If you do so, you might be surprised at how blessed you really are.

The Youth Rally!

January 6-8th, 2012, we will be heading to Ocean City for the weekend! 27 kids and 9 adults have signed up and we are looking forward to a great time with loads of fun!!! We will be joining 4000 other Christians in fellowship to listen to Brit Nicole sing and Reggie Dabbs preach to us. Please pray for our safe travels.



More Important Dates!

The Sunday School Christmas Program **December 11th** at, 7pm.

The Toy shop on **Dec. 16th** We are asking for donations of new or gently used toys, games, children's coats, shoes, or boots. Please have the items to church by Monday Dec. 12th. Thank you for your support.

Christmas Caroling **December 18th**, 1pm cover dish lunch, 2pm leave for Caroling.

December 25th, No Sunday school but we will have Church at 10:30 and birthday cake for Jesus afterwards.

Laser Tag MYF Christmas Party with Reids - Grove UMC **Dec. 30th**. Meet at Church at 7pm.

Reminder: Volleyball Practice Tuesday and Friday Nights at North Dorchester Middle school gym, 6 to 8pm Games start January and they will be played in Seaford DE.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

WORDS FROM WESLEY UMC

The Wesley UMC Adult Choir presented their monthly worship service at Genesis Health Center in Seaford DE on Sunday afternoon, November 20th. The choir was missing a few members, but the large group of residents in attendance seemed to enjoy the Thanksgiving program. Our soloist, Calvin provided two selections in anticipation of the coming season of Advent. The following comments are from that program.

HOW TO OBSERVE THANKSGIVING

*Count your blessings instead of your crosses ;
Count your gains instead of your losses.
Count your joys instead of your woes ;
Count your friends instead of your foes.
Count your smiles instead of your tears ;
Count your courage instead of your fears.
Count your full years instead of your lean ;
Count your kind deeds instead of your mean.
Count your health instead of your wealth ;
Count on God instead of yourself.*



Unity-Washington Local Mission Fund Sue Davis

Would you be interested in contributing to a charity where 100% of your gift goes to help people in our area? No administrative costs, no wondering if the goods reach the people who need them; just absolute confidence that you are lending a helping hand in Christ's name? The Unity-Washington Local Mission Fund gives you that opportunity.

The fund was started in 1996 when the trustees of Unity-Washington received the proceeds from the sale of a house in Rehoboth Beach which was bequeathed to them by William Bell. I remember the Administrative Council (we called it that back then) discussing what it meant to have the money to be left to the trustees. We decided Mr. Bell must have intended for the funds to go toward the upkeep of the church property so we used most of the money for that purpose. We were very appreciative of the help that money provided to use but we also decided that we needed to tithe on the entire amount and dedicate that money to others who needed a little help.

Mr. Billy Wilson was the first chairperson of the Local Mission Fund Committee. He turned that job over to me in 2004. He said it was time for someone else to have the fun of being on the front line of sharing the gift. Since that time I have discussed requests with the other members of the Committee, Debbie Sherman, Russ Stevens, and Debbie Stafford, and have discovered what Mr. Billy meant about the fun of being on that front line.

Over the years we have helped local congregations with their building and renovation needs but most of our funds have been used to pay fuel bills, mortgage payments, medical or educational expenses, repair roofs, or help a family care for a member who is ill. We knew we did not have enough money in the Fund to solve world hunger or provide anyone with ongoing support. Our joy has been to step in and take a little of the pressure off for a family who was struggling.

The Local Mission Fund has received gifts from a couple of the saints in our congregation who have passed on before us and from a Saturday Fair or two. Even so, after 17 years of giving a little here and a little there the Fund has \$2,600 remaining. If you would like to make a donation that will stay local, give help where needed and be sure someone knows they are seeing the love of Christ through His church I invite you to donate to the Local Mission Fund. Checks can be made out to Unity Washington with the name of Local Mission Fund on the memo line. Three church treasurers have dealt with the extra book keeping and I don't think any of them have minded a bit!

Upcoming Events

December 5- 7:00pm **Worship Committee Meeting**

December 8 – 6:30pm – **Mary Martha Circle Christmas Dinner** at the Georgia House in Laurel, DE. The cost is \$20 per person, reservations and money are due to Sandy Thomas by Sunday, December 4th.

December 11 – 7:00pm – **Sunday School Christmas Program** in Fellowship Hall. Refreshments will be served following the program.

December 12 – 7:00pm – **Trustees Meeting**

December 13 – 6:00pm - **Wesley Christmas Dinner** at Pizza King

December 16 – **Toy Shop** at the Hurlock Elementary School. We are asking for donations of new or gently used toys, books, games, children's coats, shoes or boots. Items may be brought to the church starting Monday, December 12th to Friday December 16th. Thank you for your support!

December 18 – 1:00pm – **Caroling**, we will start with a covered dish lunch and pack backpacks with cookies and fruit to visit the sick and shut-ins in the community. Anyone interested in donating cookies or money to buy fruit, please see Debbie Sherman. Also, if you have a name you would like added to our list of those to be visited, call the office (943-3222). Everyone is welcome to come join in this special event!

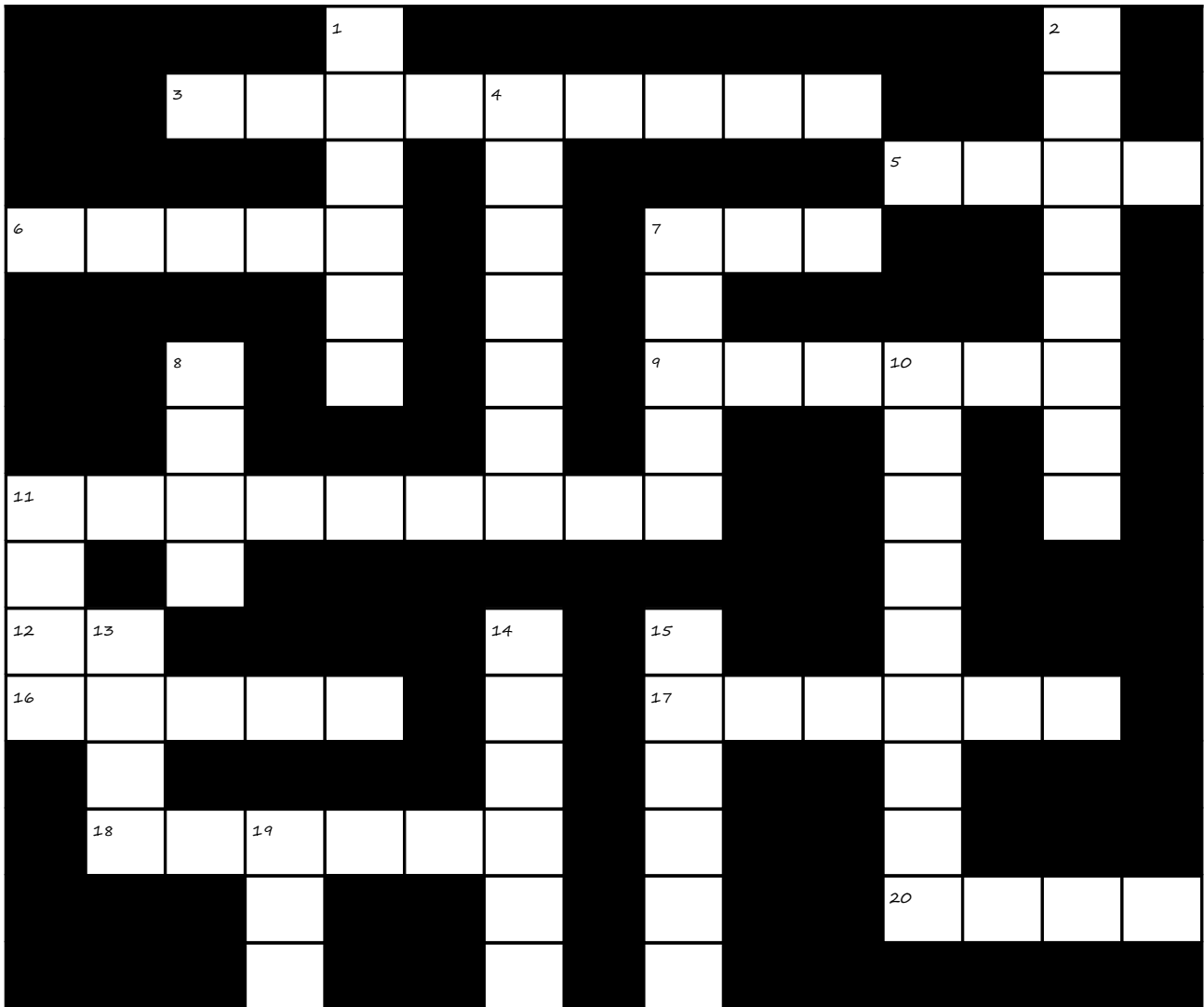
December 24 – 7:00pm – **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.**
10pm-11pm **Silent Communion** in the Sanctuary

December 25 – 10:30am – **Christmas Morning Service** - No Sunday School. After service we will have Birthday Cake



Christmas Crossword Puzzle #2

Medium Level



Across

- 3. 25th December
- 5. White flakes from the sky
- 6. Jolly man in a red suit
- 7. "I bring you good news of great ___"
- 9. Place where you find a manger
- 11. Visited by the angels
- 12. Some families put __ angel at the top of their tree
- 16. "Once in _____ David's City"
- 17. Heavenly host
- 18. Decorations on Christmas trees and houses
- 20. Wise men

Down

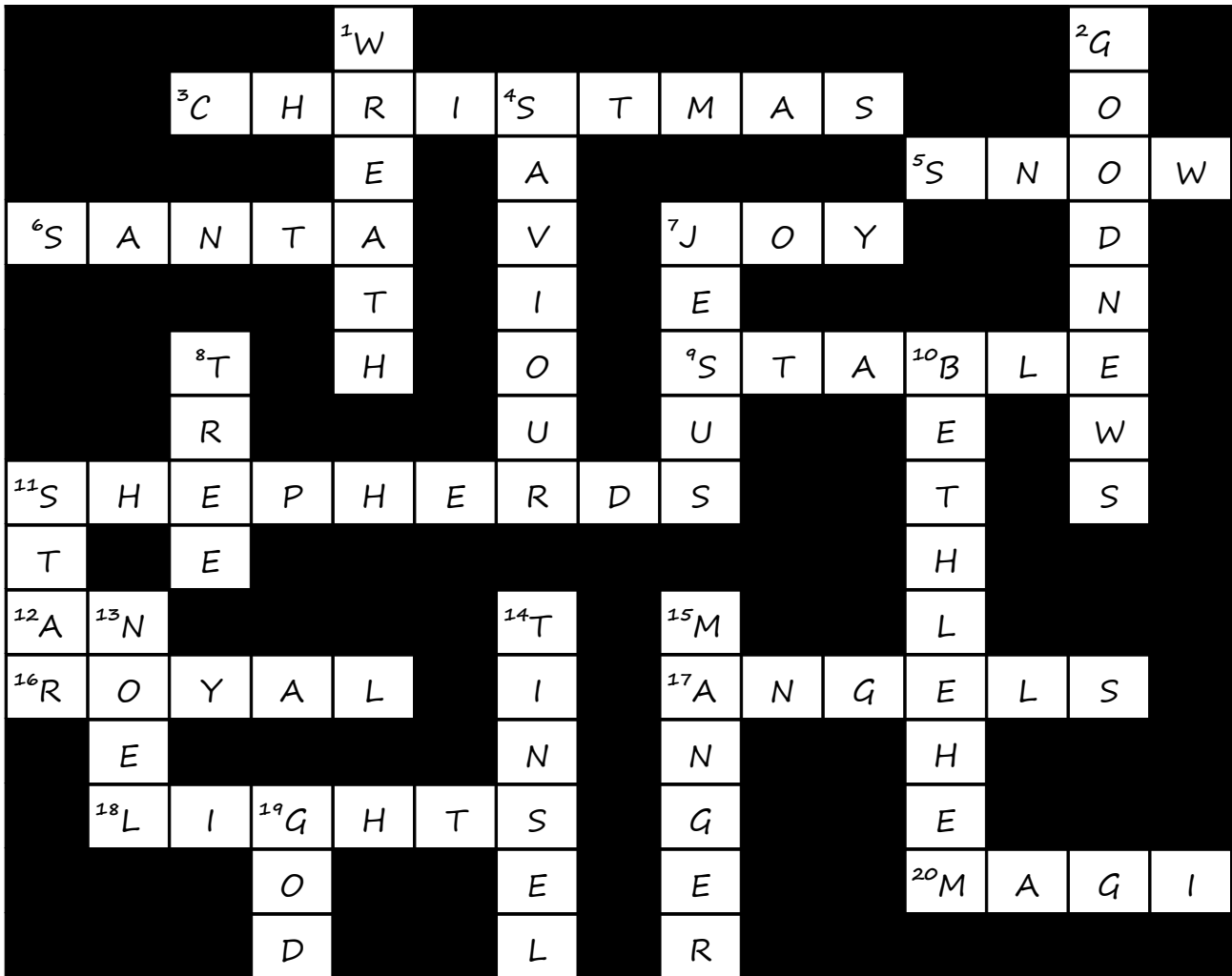
- 1. Decoration for a door
- 2. Angels told the shepherds the _____ of Jesus' birth
- 4. Jesus, our Lord and _____ (English spelling)
- 7. The baby who was born
- 8. Many families put gifts under it
- 10. Town where Jesus was born
- 11. Common decoration at the top of a Christmas tree
- 13. "The First _____"
- 14. A Christmas decoration
- 15. Jesus was placed in a _____
- 19. Jesus is the Son of _____





Christmas Crossword Puzzle #2 (Answers)

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Long Term Prayer List

Please call Debbie at the office 410-943-3222 or email UWUMC@yahoo.com for changes to prayer list

Adeline Mock
Alice Bennett
Anne & David Ball
Annette Smith
Betty Nagel
Beverly Morris
Brad Brown
Brenda Basham
Brenda Coulbourne
Brittany Prager
Bunky Bell
Carol Bramble
Carroll Pinkett
Carroll Sneed
Cate Cordrey
Chris Foxwell
Christine Wands
Daniel Murray & Family
David Jones
Dick Wilson
Donald Jones
Donna Ball
Dorotha Hallowell
Dorothy Jones
Eddie Lankford
Eileen Jones
Ellie Everton

Ferguson Gemeny, Jr
Gary Sheets
George Sherman
Howard Blake
Ivy Sherman
George Sherman
Howard Blake
Ivy Sherman
Jackson Bradley
James McMillan
Janet Womach
Janice Moore
Jean Bramble
Jean Knodle
Jeanne Johnson
Joanne Dayton
John Jones
Jean Hollowell
Joyce Watson
Julie Lowry
Larry & Marsha Kile
Leonard Gadow
Lisa Short

Lloyd & Joan Fooks
Louise Neal
Margaret Jones
Marlene Ervin
Megan Smith
Merritt Pritchett
Mimi Brown
Nancy McCulley
Olivia Nossick
Roberty Stafford
Roy Ruark
Ronnie Nichols
Samantha Wright
T.J. Hess, Jr.
Terry Kokochak
Traci Kimball

Sympathy List

Shirlee Collins
Robert Wilson
Ralph Shulke



Out Reach Idea for December

Take some cookies and a card to some shut-ins



December Birthdays

- 1 Sawyer Campen
Michaela Smith
Charlotte Williams
Gillian Stafford
- 2 Lois Ann Pinder
Pat Green
Richard Collins
- 4 David Bramble
Cathy Collins
Dorothy Jones
Frank Wilson
- 5 Charlie Powell
- 6 Kim Adams
- 7 Amy Hopkins
Hope Lowry
Jodi Elliott
- 8 Cartney Jarrell
- 9 Richard Lowry
- 11 Jerry Laberie
Melanie Diggs
Bill Naugle
Savanna Nossick
- 13 Kelli Anne Bostic

- 13 David Howell
- 14 Jenna Smith
- 16 Doug Scott
Vicki Willey
- 17 Jack Stafford
Bill Tull
- 18 Dal Mann
Martha Mills
- 19 Lake Wilson
- 21 Kathy Holecheck
- 22 Cathy Lamphere
- 23 Kathy Powell
John Windsor
- 24 Scott Eberspacher
James McMillan
- 25 Alice Fooks
Christopher Wheeler
- 27 Nicholas Thomas
Alicia Wright
- 29 Bill Hopkins
- 30 Jo Mills
- 31 Chad Alan Bennett

December Anniversaries

- 2 Marcia and Nick Parks
- 9 Cathy and Richard Collins
- 10 Cathy and John Wheeler
- 13 Suzanne and Ralph Tyndall
- 15 Sarah and James Jensen
- 16 Carol and Don Proctor
- 29 Cindy and Ted Eberspacher
Ashley and Rhandy Massey
Cathy and Jon Stafford
- 31 Elsie and Richard Jones



December 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 10:00AM – 2:00PM Nearly New Shop
4 8:45 Wesley - Communion 9:30AM - Sunday School 10:30AM – U-W Worship 6:00PM - MYF	5 7:00PM – Worship Comm Meeting	6	7 6:00PM – 7:00PM-Child Choir	8 7:00PM – 8:00PM – Mary Martha Circle Dinner	9	10 10:00AM – 2:00PM Nearly New Shop
11 8:45 Wesley 9:30AM - Sunday School 10:30AM – U-W Worship 7:00PM – Sunday School Christmas Program	12 7:00PM – Trustee Mtg	13 6:00PM – Wesley Christmas Dinner Pizza King	14	15	16 6:00PM – 8:00PM – Toy Shop Hurlock Elementary School	17 10:00AM – 2:00PM Nearly New Shop
18 8:45 Wesley 9:30AM - Sunday School 10:30AM – U-W Worship 1:00pm Covered Dish - Caroling	19	20	21	22	23	24 7:00PM – Candlelight Service 10:00pm-11:00pm Silent Communion
25 10:30AM – U-W - Worship (No Sunday School)	26	27	28	29	30	31 7:00pm MYF – Laser Tag