

# Pleasant Times

November & December 2012

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## It is already November!

To me it seems that winter is here when we reach November. Almost all of the leaves are off of the trees in the woods – but there are still some hardy ones – especially the white oak trees – that retain most of their dried leaves throughout the winter. Ann and I are some of the few people that we know who actually enjoy winter – the time for the snow and cold – the time for the beautiful winter sky especially at sunrise. Winter can be a time of relaxation and waiting. We have a large stock of seasoned firewood – generously donated by our woodlot. Winter is a time of rest before the busyness of spring.

In **November**, we will finish up our current Stewardship series – *Committed to Christ: six steps to a generous life*. It is in this series that we are examining the various aspects of what a generous life can become once we are really committed to Christ. Through Prayer and Bible reading and Worship – we begin to experience again just what new life in Christ is all about. A life filled with hope and direction – a life filled with love and purpose. But, as all of us know, commitment means responsibility and accountability. For the rest of November we will be examining the last three aspects of commitment – Witness, Financial Generosity and finally Mission. I know that we are being stretched by this stewardship series – but being committed to Christ pulls us out of our comfort zone.

I would like to alert you to several opportunities that your church is providing to you.

**Advent** – the period of anticipation of the coming of the Christ Child begins on Sunday December 2<sup>nd</sup>. As part of the Sunday worship service, I will be focusing on Bonhoeffer's book – *God is in the Manger*.

It is my desire to be able to share with you new insights into the miracle of the birth of Jesus – which has had an historical impact upon the world. I have a copy of the book and if you would like to look at it please contact me.

Sunday **December 16<sup>th</sup>** will be a special day – this will be the time when new members are brought into the church. If you are interested in joining the church, please contact me.

The Candlelight worship service for Christmas Eve, **December 24<sup>th</sup>**, will be held at 7PM. Please invite your family and friends to help celebrate the birth of Jesus. We are looking forward to a special children and youth presentation.

Finally, I am looking at an interesting new book for 2013 --- “The Story” This is the Bible written in narrative form. The book goes from the beginning to the end of the Bible – but the way the book is written allows us to get new insights into the Bible without all the chapter and verse and difficult languages of any of the Bibles. Several members have already reviewed the book and find it interesting and challenging.

God's blessings – see you in worship!

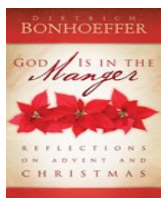
*Dick*

### Upcoming Worship Schedule

- December 2nd - **Advent begins**  
and Holy Communion  
"God Is In the Manger" starts
- December 9th - **Second Sunday of Advent**
- December 16th - **Third Sunday of Advent**  
New Members Sunday
- December 23rd - **Fourth Sunday of Advent**
- December 24th - **Christmas Eve**  
Candlelight Service at 7:00 p.m.
- December 30th - **Celebration of Jesus' birthday**

### Beginning Sunday, December 2nd

Pastor Dick will be using sharing with us from God's Word and a new book titled,



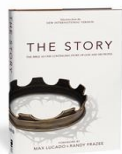
**"God Is In The Manger"**  
by Dietrich Bonhoeffer

If you would like to see the book contact Pastor Dick..

### Coming Soon .....

#### "The Story"

During the Sunday morning worship service.



### UMW News.....Vola Osborn

Thanks to all who helped us during bazaar. We couldn't have done it without you.

The United Methodist Women will hold their annual Christmas dinner at the home of Leuvene Merryman on Dec. 4th at 6:00 p.m.

You can purchase flavorings for your holiday baking needs from Sharon or Vola. There will be a UMW planning meeting in January 2013 at noontime.

Dear Men:

The men of Glyndon United Methodist Church are pleased to again extend an invitation to the men of your church to join them at the **Annual Men's Advent Communion Breakfast**. This will be held on **Sunday, December 9, 2012 at 6:45 a.m. in Dew Fellowship Hall, at the rear of the Glyndon United Methodist Church on Butler Road, Glyndon, MD.**

There will be a short meditation, preceded by breakfast. The morning fellowship will conclude with Communion.

we would appreciate hearing from you with an approximate number of attendees for planning purposes. Please call Jennifer in our church office (410-833-2033) with this information **by Friday, December 7, 2012.**

Sincerely, Rev. Jeannie Marsh, Pastor

### "Maryland Sings"

Annual Christmas program  
at Reisterstown United Methodist Church,  
in Asbury Hall

**on Saturday, December 8 at 5:00 p.m.**

The concert will feature performances by local ensembles The Show Time Singers, Coram Deo Men's Ensemble, The Johnson Male Chorus, and Heart of Maryland Chorus, as well as the singers of Maryland Sings and the Chancel Singers of the Reisterstown United Methodist Church. Tickets are \$10 per person, and a portion of the proceeds will be used to help a local family in need this holiday season. Tickets must be purchased in advance by calling 410-526-7241. For more information, see

**[www.marylandsings.org](http://www.marylandsings.org)**

**Pew Bible Dedication**

In Honor \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_

We will use a pre-approved bookplate and it will be inserted into the Bible.

Cost \$25 per Bible

**Please fill out and return to the office with your check.**



**Our church has adopted two families for Christmas and you can help us make their Christmas merry & bright!**

1. Choose angel(s).
2. Purchase the gifts. **if clothing please ask for a gift exchange receipt.**
3. Wrap and attach the angel tag to the package.
4. **Return to church by Dec. 16th.**

**Donations of Wal-Mart gift cards or \$20. cash would also be appreciated!**

**Thanks for being an angel!**

**New Members Class**

On December 16, during the 10:30 a.m. worship service, We will welcome new church members into Pleasant Grove UMC.

**Contact Pastor Dick - Revwrh@gmail.com if you are interested in joining church –ASAP.**



**Only \$6.50 each**

At last after considerable expense of time and effort the 2012 Pleasant Grove Cookbooks are ready for purchase. This fundraiser is chocked full of great recipes and the cost of \$6.50 goes to support the church.

When you think of gift giving this year, think of giving a cookbook to your family friend neighbors and oh yes, yourself!

Please contact Sharon to purchase yours today as they are flying off the shelf rapidly. As the late Julia Child used to say,

**"Bon Appétit!"**



**Christmas will soon be upon us.**

Beginning with Advent on

Dec. 2, 2012

Pleasant Grove will be preparing for the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**Christmas Worship will be held on**

**Mon., December 24th at**

**7 PM with Candle lighting.**



Order your Poinsettias

**the deadline for the ordering of Poinsettias is November 25th  
at a cost of \$9.25 per pot.**

**(IF YOU'RE JUST GETTING THIS NEWSLETTER AND NEED TO ORDER AFTER NOV. 25TH PLEASE CONTACT HELEN BY DECD. 1ST.)**

If you would like to order a poinsettia someone please fill out the form give it to Helen along with your money

**In Honor of** \_\_\_\_\_

**In Memory of** \_\_\_\_\_

Orders may also be placed by calling Helen at

**410-429-5080**

or by email to: **ledbug2001@yahoo.com.**

Flowers will be available for pick up after the Christmas Eve service.

### **Sunday School**



How blessed we are at Pleasant Grove to have two committed Sunday School teachers for the boys & girls who come on Sundays to learn the Bible stories and to meet Jesus! The children are using a fun, interactive program called Know, Proclaim, Serve!

Teachers Crystal Bittle and Sara Taylor could also use some helpers. A substitute teacher for each of them would be so appreciated. It would make it possible for them to stay for worship sometimes.

### **The Big Question Class**

**Every other Sunday Miss Helen leads the Big Question Class for our Youth.**

**In this class they look closer at questions they have like.... God ?**

**What does Trinity mean? Who is Jesus?**

**Using The Bible, Interactive programs on the computer and science experiments we have fun going deeper into a meaningful faith-filled relationship. Currently some of our students are preparing to join church.**

### **YOUTH GROUP**

**There is also a new and exciting youth group being led by Tanya Gaspard.**

**Calendar:**

- November 25** UM Student Special Sunday & Poinsettia orders due!  
**November 29** Spirit & Spice Bible Study 10 AM - Noon & Choir rehearsal 7 p.m.  
**December 2** Holy Communion 10:30 AM Worship  
**December 4** UMW Christmas Dinner at Leuvene Merrymans home at 6:00 p.m.  
**December 6** Spirit & Spice Bible Study 10 AM - Noon & Choir rehearsal at 7 p.m.  
**December 12** Trustees Meeting 7 p.m.  
**December 13** Spirit & Spice Bible Study 10 AM—Noon & Choir rehearsal at 7 p.m.  
**December 18** Administrative Board Meeting 7 p.m. (tentative)  
**December 24** Christmas Eve Candle light Worship 7:00 p.m.  
**December 27** Spirit & Spice Bible Study 10 AM—Noon & Choir rehearsal at 7 p.m.  
**December 30** Worship 10:30 a.m.

**Let's Celebrate .....Birthdays****Happy November Birthday to:**

- |         |              |         |                   |
|---------|--------------|---------|-------------------|
| Nov. 5  | Art Smith    | Nov. 18 | Wesley Gaspard    |
| Nov. 10 | Joe Tracey   | Nov. 18 | Georgianna Harvey |
| Nov. 12 | Pat Scarlett |         |                   |

**Happy December Birthday to:**

- |         |                   |         |                 |
|---------|-------------------|---------|-----------------|
| Dec. 7  | Helen Kemp        | Dec. 19 | Sarah Schriefer |
| Dec. 10 | Ruth Warren       | Dec. 20 | David McElroy   |
| Dec. 11 | Fred Schaefer     | Dec. 21 | Kelly Schaefer  |
| Dec. 16 | Jennifer Sterling |         |                 |

**Happy Wedding Anniversary to our lovebirds .....****Fred & Linda Schaefer - November 11****Ann & Dick Harden - November 18th—51st Wedding Anniversary****Bob & Doris Kirkland - December 1**

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*Joy to the World*

