

Haymarket Herald

December 2023



The Gospel of Mark

Celebrate the Birth of Christ during Advent

Beginning this Sunday, December 3, we will all celebrate the season of Advent, focusing on the coming of our Savior Jesus Christ. During the month of December, we will focus on the following themes:

December 3	Hope
December 10	Peace
December 17	Joy
December 24	Love

Then on Christmas Eve, we will join in a 5:00 p.m. service which will culminate in the candlelight singing of “Silent Night,” recalling the special night when Jesus was born in Bethlehem.

From Advent through Easter, I will be preaching through the Gospel of John, so I hope you will devote some of your personal Bible reading to that wonderful gospel. John does not give any details about the actual birth of Jesus, but instead considers how God answered the hopes of his people by coming to earth in human form: “The Word became flesh, and made his dwelling among us” (John 1:14).

As we always do, the church will fill the season of Advent with many Christ-focused activities, and I hope you join in as many of these as possible. More details are given later in this newsletter, but allow me to highlight a few of the ways we will celebrate Advent:

- Each Sunday in worship a different family or group of HBC members will light the Advent Wreath.
- We will assist expectant mothers through Christmas tributes which will go to benefit a wonderful ministry – “Carried to Full Term.”
- We will provide gifts to children of families in need through “Angel Un-Trim-A-Tree.” We will also provide food boxes to families in need of extra food.
- We will remember those who have died in recent years during our Service of Remembrance on Sunday December 10 at 3:00 p.m.
- Ken Trammell will lead our choir to present the joyful message of Christ’s birth through the Christmas Cantata, “A Thrill of Hope,” on Sunday morning, December 17.
- We will present the “Living Nativity,” complete with live animals and the singing of our choir on Wednesday, December 20.
- We will conclude Advent with two services on Sunday, December 24 – Sunday morning at 11:00 a.m. and the candle-light service at 5:00 p.m.

Let God fill your hearts with the joy of Christ this Christmas season!

In Christ,
Pastor Mark



DEACONS BENCH

Fear Not

Are you afraid of anything? I've been afraid of "things that go bump in the night" since watching *The Wizard of Oz* when I was eight years old. Rarely did I sleep in my own room as a child. Instead, I found comfort in the top bunk of my brother's room. I lived with my parents until I was 17; in college I had a roommate. When I got married, I had a husband at home with me, and later two sons. Years passed and the children left home and in 2018 I found myself alone after my husband died. After Owen's death, my son invited me to stay with him for a while; I ended up staying ten months because I was uncomfortable being alone in my own home at night. Unfortunately, a couple of movies I watched as an adult are stored away in my memory, and they resurface from time to time causing me to be fearful. In 2019, I moved into a new house and neighborhood, and I asked my elderly father to come live with me. I was no longer alone. The darkness of night no longer had an effect on me. All that changed in September 2022 when my dad passed away. A couple of weeks after Dad died I went upstairs to bed and was paralyzed with fear because I knew someone was in my house. At the time, I thought of running next door to my neighbor's house or driving to my son's to seek refuge even though it was after midnight. As you guessed, there wasn't anyone in my house. It was all in my head. I knew running away wasn't the answer. If I didn't get my fear under control what would I do the subsequent nights? In that moment God reminded me of this verse from Philippians 4:8 which says, "Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy – **meditate on these things**". Instead of listening to the enemies lies, I needed to step out in faith and turn my anxiety and fears over to God. I had to trust him to take care of me. I asked the Lord to give me peace, keep me safe and allow me to sleep peacefully throughout the night. God answered my prayer and continues to answer my prayers every night. I believe my reliance on God will help me through uncertain days ahead.

Some individuals might not feel afraid of being alone at night in their home like me, but many have other fears and anxieties. Many people today are fearful and unsure of what is happening in our country and world. We are witnessing an acceleration of evil all around us. Our world is upside down. Where can people turn for guidance and reassurance? God has given us his word to show us his love and how we can have a personal relationship with him because of what Jesus did for us on the cross. We learn how to live and how to treat others by reading and studying the Bible. God's word also reveals what the future holds for this earth. The study of prophecy tells us what to expect before Christ's return and to not be fearful when chaos is happening all around us. In Dr. David Jeremiah's book Where Do We Go from Here? he writes, "But the Lord still has the whole world in His hands, so we must never fear." At any moment, Jesus Christ will descend from heaven for His people. We haven't long to wait. But until then, we need to understand what the age requires – and we need to do what the Lord commands. Don't be fearful, and don't let the times overwhelm you. This world will not end in rubble, but in His return! Our risen and exalted Lord Jesus Christ, our enthroned Savior – **He knows the way forward.**

Sarah Martin
Deacon of the Month

Welcome New Members

“Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God” Romans 15:7



Jackie Cafferty joined our church on Sunday, November 19th. She comes to us as a previously baptized believer in the Lord Jesus Christ.



Virgil Hudson joined our church on Sunday, November 26th. He comes to us as a previously baptized believer in the Lord Jesus Christ.



Joi Canavan joined our church on Sunday, November 26th. She comes to us as a previously baptized believer in the Lord Jesus Christ.



VBS DIRECTOR NEEDED

HBC is still looking for a VBS Director! In order for planning to begin, we need someone to step up to take the lead, work with our Children's Committee, and delegate the workload by establishing an expanded volunteer pool. This job cannot be done solo. Having a team to help carry the load is key. It takes a village, and our congregation is full of gifted individuals and untapped potential. There are also several people with experience that would be happy to assist the director. **The Vacation Bible School (VBS) Director role needs to be filled no later than the end of this calendar year!** Our children are worth the effort, and we need to make it happen! Please talk to Karen Frazier or Pastor Mark if you are interested.



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The rush of the holiday season begins! Many activities are already noted on our calendars. May we pause now and remember the Reason for the Season and "Be Still and know that I am God".

We have just started our new study on the Book of Daniel. We are excited about this study. In our world today and the culture we live in, we need to remember that God Is In Control. A quote from our study "God works in the intimate details of Daniel's life, equipping, encouraging, and empowering Him to live under terrible circumstances. But God also works in the grand scheme of history, unveiling some mysteries while keeping others veiled, but all the

while reassuring us that He is in control and that no matter how bad things seem around us, we need never to worry because He is working it all together for good." Come and join us in this study of Daniel!

Merry Christmas to all! May you and your families have a wonderful holiday.

Blessings from Bernie



WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP OUTING

Our December luncheon comes early this month, **MONDAY, DECEMBER 4th**. This is our Annual Christmas Party and will be at my home!

This luncheon is one you do not want to miss! We have a large potluck, fun games, prizes, most festive attire prize, and a white elephant gift exchange! Even if you don't attend our weekly bible study, but have been wanting to check us out... This would be a great way to get to know us!

Clear your calendar for that day and plan to have a wonderful time with us! If you would like to attend and have not yet signed up, please contact me directly so that I can save you a seat. It's always a full house!

Car pooling is available. We will meet in the church parking lot and leave at 10:30 a.m.

Host: Jackie Fletcher
Address: 7588 Coopers Hawk Drive
Warrenton, VA 20187
Cell: (540) 422-6196
Home: (540) 347-6629
Email: fletcherjax@aol.com



LOVE OFFERINGS

The Deacons are sponsoring a “Love Offering” for church staff on Sunday, December 10th and 17th. Contributions can be given to any Deacon listed in the bulletin or placed in the offering plate. Please be sure to indicate “Love Offering” on your check or envelope. Also you can designate your offering to particular staff members if you so desire.

The Deacons



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Thanks so much to everyone who filled shoe boxes this year. As a church, HBC donated 49 shoe boxes. The HBC Preschool and Kindergarten filled 159 boxes. Thanks especially to Johnno Cain and Dan Valentine who helped transport the HBCPK shoe boxes to Gainesville United Methodist Church on November 14th and to Jim Jinks who assisted in loading the HBC shoe boxes on November 19th. Be sure to pray for your boxes as they make their way around the world.

Paul Sellers
Missions Committee



SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

While we celebrate the hope, peace, joy, and love of the Advent season, let us remember the many individuals and families who are experiencing grief that only grows more intense over the holiday season.

We will be holding our Annual Service of Remembrance on Sunday, December 10th at 3:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

This service is an opportunity to remember what has been lost and seek comfort in the grace and peace of Christ.

Please consider sharing this service with a family member or friend who might be in need.



“A THRILL OF HOPE”

Music Director, Ken Trammell and the special Cantata Choir are excited to present the Christmas Cantata, “A Thrill of Hope” during our worship service on Sunday, December 17th at 11:00 a.m. We hope you will join us for this special event.



HBC CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS

The Town of Haymarket is selling ornaments that are a replica of Haymarket Baptist Church. The ornaments are \$20.00 each and will be available for sale after services on Sunday in the overflow room until our inventory runs out. You can also purchase ornaments through Pastor Mark at (703) 268-1883.



OUTREACH COMMITTEE WELCOMES YOU TO JOIN US!

The Outreach Committee once again this year will have a table at the Haymarket Christmas Craft Bazaar with local crafters. The event is on Saturday, December 9th from 2-6 p.m. Please stop by the HBC table and help us greet some of our new neighbors in Haymarket. We can always use extra hands to help with the children's craft we have to give out. It is always a fun event to attend!

Wednesday, December 20th, the Outreach Committee will be supporting the annual HBC Living Nativity. The petting zoo along with a real camel, sheep and several other animals that everyone

loves to hug will be there. The petting zoo starts at 5:30 p.m. and the Christmas Story will start at 6:30 p.m. This is such a special event and I think you will find it to be very inspirational with the Shepherds, Angel, Wisemen, Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus. It is all outdoors and we will have hot chocolate to help keep you warm! Please invite friends and neighbors.

“For to us a child is born” Isaiah 9:6

The Outreach Committee



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN PRE-SCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN?

Dear Church Family,
The Holy Season is here – We just LOVE Christmas at the preschool! There is so much joy and excitement in the hallways – loads of glitter, fun snacks, parties, fun songs, crafts galore – and each classroom has their own small nativity to learn the real reason we celebrate Christmas! The birth of baby Jesus! We will be hosting 6 Christmas programs on December 13th and 14th at a variety of times. We look forward to having parents join us in the sanctuary as their children tell the story – from the shepherd's perspective, the Kings, or the angels! We will be singing Away in a Manger, Angels We Have Heard on High, and many other wonderful songs – there's nothing like sharing Christmas with children, and we adore it!

I wanted to let you know that the preschool 4 year olds were able to donate 159 boxes to Operation Christmas Child this year. The children really begin to understand that they can be a helper, even at such a young age. Our 2 and 3 year old students brought

over 272 items in to help the church food pantry as they prepare baskets for the needy in our community. And coming up in mid-December our Kindergarten students will support Lottie Moon Missions – with funds they earn by doing chores at home. It is important that children learn the value of giving, and that other people are precious and we can serve and help!

We will be looking forward to attending the Live Nativity – this has been something that student families return to again and again – and I love that they keep coming back, making the HBC Live Nativity a family tradition! Thank you for doing this event!

May you all enjoy a festive holiday season, stay healthy and welcome the new year with those you love! We'll be gearing up for 2nd semester after Christmas break, and all the fun that winter brings – you know, many are hoping for snow!

Merry Christmas!

With love from your Preschool Family at HBC,
Mrs. Laurie Frasz
HBCPK Director

NewsLetter
DEADLine

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Do you have a church article for the newsletter or photos you have taken at church events that you would like to share in the newsletter? Please let us know! You can contact Pastor Mark or Laura in the church office at (703) 754-8546 or you can submit your articles and/or photos by email to Laura at laura@my-hbc.org. All submissions need to be submitted by the 3rd Monday of the month for the following month.



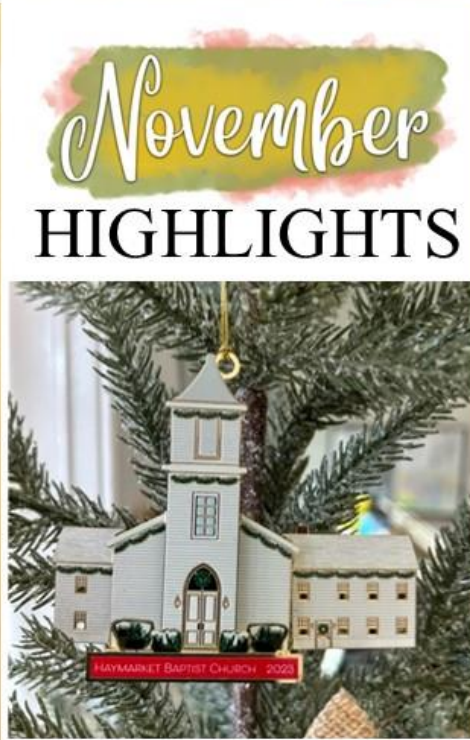
WORSHIP FROM HOME

Are you unable to make it to church because of illness, transportation, or something else? Are you aware that every Saturday we email the bulletin and prayer requests to everyone and supply a link so that you can watch the service from home on your computer?

If you aren't receiving the email, please contact the church office at (703) 754-8546, so that we can add you to our email list.

If you are unable to attend and would prefer a paper copy of the bulletin each week, please call the office and we would be happy to set that up for you.





THE 2023 SEASON OF ADVENT

Sunday, December 3 – Sunday, December 24

Advent is a season where we, as a church, prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ. It is a season of waiting, a reminder of how long God's people waited for the Messiah to be born. Advent begins on Sunday, December 3 and concludes on Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24 with the arrival of Emmanuel ("God with us"). Advent Devotional Books are available in the overflow room.

As a congregation, Haymarket Baptist Church participates in Advent both in Sunday Worship and multiple service opportunities throughout the season.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath – Beginning with the first Sunday of Advent, December 3, we will light candles in worship each Sunday, corresponding with the Advent themes of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love, culminating with the lighting of the Christ candle on Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24.

White Christmas, Sunday, December 3 – While we continue to donate items to Jane's pantry throughout December, we will celebrate the HBC tradition of White Christmas on Sunday, December 3. Please bring canned or boxed goods wrapped in white paper on that Sunday to bring forward during the worship service.

Christmas Tributes and Memorials, December 3-20 – The congregation is invited to make monetary donations in memory or in honor of a loved one. Tributes this year will be given to *Carried to Full Term*. Tributes can be made beginning Sunday, December 3 and concluding on Wednesday, December 20.

Angel Un-Trim-A-Tree, December 3-17 – HBC will be providing Christmas gifts for children of families in need. To sign up to provide a gift, go to <https://link.my-hbc.org/AngelUntrimATree>. This link is live, but we are still waiting on requested gifts so please keep checking back! Gifts will be due back by Sunday, December 17. If you know of a family in need of assistance, please let Edith know at oakwoodfarm@hotmail.com.

Town of Haymarket Christmas Tree Lighting, Saturday, December 9 – On Saturday, December 9, from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. HBC will be hosting a craft table at the Town of Haymarket Christmas Celebration and Holiday Tree Lighting.

Service of Remembrance, Sunday, December 10 – The Service of Remembrance will be held Sunday, December 10 at 3:00 p.m. Recognizing that the holiday season can be particularly difficult for those experiencing grief, this service is an opportunity to remember what has been lost and seek comfort in the grace and peace of Christ.

Christmas Cantata, Sunday, December 17 – “A Thrill of Hope” Christmas Cantata will be a part of the worship service on Sunday, December 17. What a wonderful way to celebrate the Joy of Christ's birth with the leadership of the HBC choir!

Living Nativity, Wednesday, December 20 – The Living Nativity program will be held on Wednesday, December 20. There will be a petting zoo from 5:30 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. and then the program of the reenactment of the birth of Jesus will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve Candlelight and Communion, Sunday, December 24 – Please join us for Christmas Eve worship at 5:00 p.m.

Christmas Food Baskets – If you are aware of a family in need of assistance, please let Edith know at oakwoodfarm@hotmail.com.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <div>December 2023</div> 						
Key to Abbreviations IP – In Person Z – Zoom H – Hybrid (Zoom & In Person)						
3 Advent Begins 8:00 Deacon Meeting ^{IP} 9:30 Sunday School ^H 9:45 Deaf Ministry ^{IP} 11:00 Worship ^H – Dr. Olson 11:15 Children's Sunday School ^{IP} 6:00 Sign Language ^{IP}	4 11:00 Women's Fellowship Luncheon ^{IP} 7:00 Church Council ^H	5 4:30 Advanced Sign Language ^{IP}	6 5:30 Fellowship Meal ^{IP} 6:00 Bible Study & Prayer Meeting ^{IP} 7:00 Cantata Choir Rehearsal ^{IP} 7:45 Choir Rehearsal ^{IP}	7	8	9 8:30 Men's Bible Study ^{IP} 2:00 Haymarket Christmas Celebration
10 9:30 Sunday School ^H 9:45 Deaf Ministry ^{IP} 11:00 Worship ^H – Dr. Olson 11:15 Children's Sunday School ^{IP} 3:00 Service of Remembrance ^{IP} 6:00 Sign Language ^{IP}	11 10:00 Women's Bible Study ^H	12 4:30 Advanced Sign Language ^{IP} 6:30 Stewardship Meeting ^H	13 5:30 Fellowship Meal ^{IP} 6:00 Bible Study & Prayer Meeting ^{IP} 7:00 Cantata Choir Dress Rehearsal ^{IP}	14	15	16 8:30 Men's Bible Study ^{IP}
17 9:30 Sunday School ^H 9:45 Deaf Ministry ^{IP} 11:00 Worship ^H – Dr. Olson 11:15 Children's Sunday School ^{IP} 6:00 Sign Language ^{IP}	18 10:00 Women's Bible Study ^H	19 4:30 Advanced Sign Language ^{IP}	20 5:30 Living Nativity – Petting Zoo ^{IP} 6:30 Living Nativity ^{IP} 7:00 Choir Rehearsal ^{IP}	21	22 Deadline for January Newsletter	23 8:30 Men's Bible Study ^{IP}
24 Christmas Eve 9:30 Sunday School ^H 9:45 Deaf Ministry ^{IP} 11:00 Worship ^H – Dr. Olson 11:15 Children's Sunday School ^{IP} 5:00 Christmas Eve Service ^H	25 Christmas Church Office Closed	26 Church Office Closed	27 Church Office Closed	28 Church Office Closed	29 Church Office Closed	30
31 9:30 Sunday School ^H 9:45 Deaf Ministry ^{IP} 11:00 Worship ^H – Dr. Olson 11:15 Children's Sunday School ^{IP}						

SERVING THE LORD THROUGH THE CHURCH IN DECEMBER 2023

DATE	SECURITY OFFICERS	USHERS	CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS	NURSERY WORKERS	FLOWER COMMITTEE	CHURCH GREETERS	BIRTHDAYS
Dec 3	Randy Anderson	Brad Young (captain) Dan Valentine Wayne Pritchler	Christy Wisor Leslie Pritchler	Heather Bayol Carol Valentine	Karen Frazier	9:15 a.m. Brenda Sellers 10:15 a.m. Karen King Sherri Busick	Dec 3 Grace Payne Dec 5 Betty Jean Payne, Charles Riddle Dec 14 Debbie Swindall, Heather Bayol, Carol Valentine Dec 15 Susan Kaczmarek Dec 16 Sherri Busick, Barbara Blizzard Dec 18 John Pross, Hana Pross, Laurie Frasz, Jake Wisor, Lisa Osborne Dec 22 Jim Jinks, Lynda McVeary, Mason Elkins Dec 23 Irma Getty Dec 25 Lowell Parkes Dec 26 Giselle Kilby Dec 27 Bob Coffey Dec 28 Edith Kennedy Dec 29 Lindsay McNeil, Trudi Grab Dec 30 Jaime Larios
Dec 10	Randy Anderson	John Burke (captain) Keenan Bayol Jason Hudson Bernice Pearson	Joannie Duckett Amber Terrant	Heather Bayol Carol Dixon	Trudi Grab	9:15 a.m. Dottie Swain 10:15 a.m. John Burke Wanda Leap	
Dec 17	Randy Anderson	Jan Gray (captain) Jim Hardin Bob Coffey Jed Atkinson	Taylor Lambert Jessenia Porras	Heather Bayol Ty Arrington	Dinah Thompson	9:15 a.m. Melissa Baker 10:15 a.m. Ernestine Meyer Carol Valentine	
Dec 24	TBA	Marvin Gray (captain) Paul Sellers Johnno Cain	Sarah Martin Susan Kaczmarek	Heather Bayol Amber Terrant	Cheryl Cox	9:15 a.m. Linda Hankey 10:15 a.m. Linda Olson Trudi Grab	
Dec 31	Randy Anderson	(captains) Brad Young John Burke Jan Gray Marvin Gray	Missy Baker Eleanor Bouch	Heather Bayol Linda Olson	Sue Copen	9:15 a.m. Melissa Baker 10:15 a.m. Bob Coffey Cyndy Coffey	

DEACON OF THE MONTH FOR DECEMBER

Sarah Martin (703) 743-4959

**HBC Phone: (703) 754-8546 ~ Email: haymarketbc@my-hbc.org
Web: my-hbc.org ~ 14800 Washington Street, Haymarket, VA 20169**

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HAYMARKET BAPTIST CHURCH
PO BOX 182
HAYMARKET, VA 20168

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED