

Mt. Hope Community Presbyterian Church

It is our mission to fulfill the Great Commission of Christ! (Matt.28-19-20)

Advent Sunday — November 29, 2009 – 11:00 a.m.

**Those who are able, please stand*

Please be respectful of those worshipping around you! If you must talk, exit to the narthex!

THE PEOPLE GATHER...

Please sign and pass the Ritual of Friendship pad!

If you have a prayer request, fill out a blue card and pass it toward the center aisle!

Silent Preparation for Worship “Creator of the Stars of Night”

Mrs. Arnel Montgomery

Bringing In the Light of Christ

The Acolytes

Welcome/Recognition of Visitors/Special Events

Pastor Carmen Cox Harwell

Lighting of the Advent Candle

The Acolytes

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

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(Please stand)

** Call to Worship (Psalm 95.1-3,6-7)*

Miss Jessica Brandon

L: “O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation!

P: [We] come into His presence with thanksgiving; [we] make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!

L: For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods...O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

All: For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.” Let us worship the Lord our God!

***Hymn of Praise**

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

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***Invocation and The Lord’s Prayer**

Miss Brandon

God of grace and glory, pour out Your power so that we can hear and do what Your Word commands. Touch us in this sacred hour, and let the presence of Your Spirit linger with us throughout the coming week. Give us the grace to receive what Your Spirit has to say to Your church and to us, for our hope is in You, the One who is “**Our Father...**”

(You may be seated)

TO CONFESS OUR SIN...

Call to Confession (Psalm 32.5-6a)

Elder Bill Tis

The Psalmist reminds us that if we acknowledge our sin to God, if we do not hide our iniquity, but confess our “*transgressions to the Lord,*” the Lord will “*forgive the guilt of [our] sin. Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to [God,]” in silence,* as we acknowledge and confess our transgressions against the Lord...

Kyrie

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

Page 403, v3

Assurance of Pardon

Lamentations 3.31-33

Pastor Carmen

TO TEACH OUR CHILDREN...

The Children’s Chat

Trustee Myrna Hiller

(Following the Chat, all children 7 & under
may leave to attend “Children in Worship” downstairs)

TO PRESENT OUR FINANCIAL OFFERINGS WITH GRATITUDE...

Offering Call (Numbers 18.25-27,29)

Miss Brandon

“Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: ...When you receive from the Israelites the tithe that I have given you from them...you shall set apart an offering from it to the Lord, a tithe of the tithe. It shall be reckoned to you as your gift...Out of all the gifts to you, you shall set apart every offering due to the Lord; the best of all of them is the part to be consecrated.” Let us prepare to offer “*the best*” of our tithe and financial gifts to the Lord.

Offertory

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”

The Chancel Choir

(Please stand)

***Doxology**

“Glory Be to the Father”

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***Prayer of Dedication**

Elder Tis

(You may be seated)

TO HEAR THE WORD...

(Please pass your Prayer Request cards toward the center aisle)

Hymn of Preparation

“This Little Light of Mine”

*This little light of mine / I’m gonna let it shine (3x)
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.*

*Hide it under a bushel? No! / I'm gonna let it shine (3x)
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.*

*Let it shine around the world / I'm gonna let it shine (3x)
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.*

<u>New Testament</u>	<u>John 12.44-50</u>	Pastor Carmen
<i>The Sermon</i>	<i>“Who Sent You?”</i>	Pastor Carmen
<i>A Moment for Reflection</i>	<i>“Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella”</i>	Mrs. Montgomery
<i>Prayers of the People</i>		Pastor Carmen

AND TAKE THE WORD OUT IN PEACE!

(Please stand)

Hymn of Departure** ***“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates” Page 8

***Taking the Light of the Christ-Child into the World** The Acolytes

***Charge & Benediction** Pastor Carmen
(Please do not leave the sanctuary until the worship leaders have recessed!)

Postlude** ***“Sonata in D Major” Mrs. Montgomery

Welcome to Mt. Hope! We are blessed by your presence this morning! We invite you to come and worship with us as often as you can, and join us in ministry! Please know that the doors of God’s church and the hearts of His people here are always open to you!

Your children are loved and welcomed at Mt. Hope! We provide a nursery for infants and toddlers up to age 4. Please ask an usher for directions to the nursery. Also a cry room is located at the rear of the Sanctuary for your convenience.

Worship kits are available in the *Kids’ Korner* of the Narthex and must be returned following worship.

Our worship services are recorded: <http://www.mthopechurch.org/Welcome.html>.
Click on *recordings*. Thank you! Elder Eric Schramm.

Our vision for fulfilling Christ's Great Commission is that, by **praying without ceasing**, God will enable us to: **develop** relevant studies of God's Word; **go out & reach out** to our neighbors in the spirit of service & Christ-like hospitality; **model** the blessings that come when we cheerfully give our tithes & offerings; **celebrate** often our life together in Christ, and; **worship & give thanks** to God as we witness our children & their families loving & serving God & His people!

Please pray for, call, and send a card to our sick & shut-in members:**

Virginia Ayres, Ernie & Margie Baur, Irene Bender, May Bourne, Carolyn Griffith, Helen Faye, Hilda Kerr, Betty McKelvey, Bob McKnight, Lou Sanabor, Annabell Scott, Melba Seaman

***** For additional information such as phone numbers, e-mail or addresses please contact the church office.***

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Sanctuary Flowers are given by Shirley Kerchner in honor of those who are unable to be with us in worship.

Our Weekly Financial Stewardship: needed each week=\$4,058; received last week = \$2,785; difference= \$-1,273.

Today's Young Children in Worship story is "The Prophet" led by Elder Betty Ann Tis and assisted by Allie Dick and Corey Williams.

Anniversary Wishes to John and Debbie Dick (12.5)

Thanks to the Mission Ministry for providing for fellowship time today! Fellowship for next Sunday will be provided by the Children's Ministry.

TODAY in the Multi-Purpose Room, there will be a video and demonstration on the proper use of the AED. All are invited to attend, but for the sake of our members and visitors, all officers, ushers, teachers, and Health Ministry Team members are *strongly* encouraged to attend! It is well-worth your time!

Tuesday's Together will return on Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2010 at 5:30p! Enjoy the holidays!!

New Members' Classes!!! If God has placed it on your heart to join us in ministry at Mt. Hope, or if you're just interested in what we "Presbyterians" are all about, come to this class: Tue. Dec. 8th and Tue. Dec. 15th at 630p in the Conference Room! Please contact Rita (412-793-0227) and let her know you'd like to attend!

Used Book Donations: Eric Tans and Margaret Tassaro will be traveling to Mwanza, Tanzania this Dec. to visit Eric's parents, who work with the Christian Reformed World Relief Committee. They have requested we bring young adult books for people interested in learning English. They request 10-12 gently used books of relatively easy reading level. According to Eric's mom, "Books are like gold in Tanzania." Please contact us if you have any questions: Margaret Tassaro ** Thank you!

Zumba Gold and Zumba Classes will resume on Wednesday, Dec. 9th at 6:00p and 7p respectively. If you have not attended Zumba at Mt. Hope you are missing out on great music, laughter, fun, (and of course exercise)! Plan to start coming on Dec. 9th!

Mt. Hope's Holiday Tea: Saturday, Dec. 12th 12:30-3p. Tickets (a \$12 donation) will be available in the narthex after worship today, and advance reservations are necessary. We have plenty of seating so plan to attend and enjoy an afternoon of fun, fellowship, tea, and delicious goodies. As in the past, men are welcome and we will have a "Men's Table" for all of you fellows to enjoy a wonderful afternoon!

Your **Worship & Music and Christian Education Ministries** are presenting this year's **Christmas Pageant**, "Listen to Christmas," on Sun. Dec. 20th at 5p. A reception will be held after the pageant. Please plan to attend, support and enjoy our children and adults who are participating in this presentation. If you are interested in participating or helping in any way, please contact Elders Doris Kuhn** or Betty Ann Tis**.

Calling All Instrumentalists and Vocalists! If you would like to perform throughout the Advent and Christmas season, please contact our Min. of Music, Jenifer Geibel**.

Continue to bring your non-perishable food items to the church every 4th Sunday, so that we can help "feed the hungry" as Jesus commanded every day of the year!

The Flower Chart Notebook for 2009 is in the Narthex. 1 arrangement - \$15.00; 2 - \$30.00. Contact Elder Doris Kuhn**.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

TODAY...the **Penn Hill Baptist Church** (323 Hulton Rd.) is presenting a **Christmas Cantata at 7p.** Please come out and join us!

The Plum Creek Presby. Church has a live outdoor nativity scene! **The Worship & Music Ministry** is organizing a group to attend on Sun., Dec. 6th at 6p. If you are interested in attending, and would like to carpool, please contact Amy William** and plan to meet at the church at 5:15p. Thank you!

What is going on in Penn Hills? To find out, log on to www.pennhills.org.

What is going on in our Presbytery? Log on to www.pghpresbytery.org to find out!

Men's and Women's Shelter basket in the narthex for contributions! Thank you!

The Penn Hills Service Assoc. continues to be thankful for your generous support!

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Save the Date: Tue. Dec. 22nd - 5th Annual NEED Workforce Diversity Internship Fair – Highmark, Inc. (Fifth Ave. Place).

Large corporation located on the North Shore is seeking **Receptionist/Administrative Support Assistant**. Qualified applicants please send a cover letter, resume, and salary requirements to: PJ Dick/Trumbull – Attn: HR Dept. – P.O. Box 98100 – Pgh, 15227

THIS WEEK AT MT. HOPE

Wed.	Dec. 2	10a	The Morning Word Study	MP Room
		8p	Narcotics Anonymous	JK Hall
Thu.	Dec. 3	730p	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Fri.	Dec. 4	6p	Bell/Beasley Wedding Rehearsal	Sanct./MP Room
Sat.	Dec. 5	1-9p	Bell/Beasley Wedding/Reception	Sanctuary/JK Hall
		2p	Gamblers' Anonymous	MP Room

LOOKING AHEAD IN 2 WEEKS...

Tue.	Dec. 8	630p	New Members' Class	Conference Room
Wed.	Dec. 9	1030a	The Morning Word Study	MP Room
		6p	Zumba Gold Dance Class	MP Room
		7p	Zumba Dance Class	MP Room
Sat.	Dec. 12	1230p	Holiday Tea	JK Hall
		2p	Gambler's Anonymous	MP Room
Sun.	Dec. 13	after worship	<u>All Officers Dinner</u>	MP Room
Mon.	Dec. 14	630p	Session Meeting	MP Room
Tue.	Dec. 15	630p	New Members' Class	Conference Room
Wed.	Dec. 16	11a-2p	<u>Office Christmas Party!</u>	Office

LOOKING AHEAD IN THE YEAR...

Sun.	Dec. 20	5p	Christmas Pageant	JK Hall
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Mt. Hope Community Church, Presbyterian, USA

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email: mthope@mthope-church.org **website:** mthopechurch.org

Rev. Carmen Cox Harwell, Pastor

Mrs. Jennifer Geibel, Minister of Music

Mr. Dan Hadzima, Custodian

Mrs. Rita Hardin, Administrative Assistant & Clerk of Session
