

The Pathfinder

November/December 2012

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.” - Luke 10:27

PASTOR’S LETTER

Dear Brothers and Sister in Christ,

Grace to you and peace from almighty God and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace, God’s freely given, unmerited favor, is the core of the gospel message and to our faith. Peace, a Greek translation of shalom, is God’s ordering of the world and all the relations in it that gives us a sense of completeness with nothing missing and nothing broken.

On Sunday November 4, 2012, at 11 a.m., we will have our All Saints worship service here at Deer Park. We will gather together in celebration of the saints of God who were with us last year whom God has called home. Their journeys completed, their time ended, their witness assured, they now rest from their labor. A representative from their family will light a candle for each saint who has gone before us. Let us come together to remember their work and celebrate their service in Christ. Let us give thanks to God for their time among us. Let us by faith acknowledge their presence with all the company of saints as we too journey to that final gathering of all God's saints. Let us then, in faith, stand and give witness to Christ's promise of

everlasting life. There will be a fellowship meal after the worship service in the hall.

Autumn is in full swing and so are our Adult Sunday School class and Bible study. The Adult Sunday school class meets at 9:45 a.m. and they are doing a study about faith from the Book of Hebrews and the Book of Acts. Our evening Adult Bible Study is on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. and we have been engaging in an intensive Disciple series Bible Study entitled, Disciple II, *Into the Word, Into the World*. This is taking us through an intensive study of Genesis, Exodus, Luke, and Acts and how we can take what we learn from this study and apply it to giving a better witness and testimony out in the world we live in. Anyone who is interested in the Sunday school class can contact either Kathy Ryan or me and if you are interested in the Disciple Bible Study you can contact me @ 443-520-2571 or jerrygautcher@yahoo.com.

As the season of Advent begins on Sunday December 2, 2012 and we move into Year C of the lectionary cycle, we will read through Luke's gospel, hear the stories and proclamations of the prophets, and spend considerable time in the epistles of Galatians, Colossians, I and II Timothy, and II Thessalonians. Every Advent begins the same way, with a focus on the end times to come. The readings this year move backward in time from the final end (week 1) to the promise of a messenger to prepare the way (week 2), then forward in time to the message of that messenger (week 3), and finally to the conception of Jesus (week 4).

Advent then gives way to the long-expected Savior of the world being born to us in a stable. God’s gift of grace and unconditional love wrapped not in foil with ribbons and bows, but in swaddling strips of cloth and laid in a manger. The wonderful miracle of Christmas gives us the opportunity to rejoice and to be

especially thankful for the blessing of God being with us, for us, and reconciling us.

Many Blessings,
Pastor Jerry Gautcher

**DEER PARK WELCOMES NEW
MINISTER**

A Luncheon was held in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, August 26, 2012 to welcome Pastor Jerry Gautcher who was appointed to Deer Park Effective July 1st. Pastor Jerry comes to us from Salem-Baltimore Hispanic Church where he served for two years.

Fern Jett was in charge of decorations and after learning Pastor Jerry was a carpenter selected the fitting theme “Carpenters Side By Side – Jesus and Pastor Jerry will help us build and grow”. Decorations including small tools loaned by Dieter Stierhoff, Dave Grimes, Harry Schafer and Harry Swan adorned the Hall. Thanks to Fern and her staff. Thanks to Betty Roach who coordinated the Luncheon and all persons who prepared the delicious food.

WELCOME PASTOR JERRY --- we look forward to sharing many enjoyable experiences with you.

NOTE: Fern would like to take this opportunity to express her appreciation to everyone for their assistance over the years. She especially wants to acknowledge the untiring efforts of Dave Grimes who has worked with her on all projects. Regardless of how exhausting the assignments (and some were certainly challenging), his skill and patience enabled him to always produce high quality items. Dave is extremely talented and we are glad he is willing to share these talents with us.

NEWS BRIEF

Deer Park Church and Changing Peoples Lives (an outreach program of the Church) shared a Booth at the Reisterstown Festival September 8th with Church members volunteering their services throughout the day. Games and prizes were offered, Church literature and gift bags containing items appropriate for both children and adults were distributed. It was a fun-filled and successful day despite having to close early due to stormy weather. Special recognition is given to Mark and Michelle Sholund and Diana LeDonne for the expertise shown in coordinating this project.

Thanks to all for a job well done!

Susan Kreft won First and Second Place Ribbons at the Maryland State Fair for her counted cross-stitch entries. She is extremely talented and we are proud of her accomplishments.

The changing of the seasons was celebrated by nearly 30 CPL foster families at the annual picnic on September 16th held at Northwest Regional Park. Members of the Deer Park United Methodist Church joined in the fun and helped to make the picnic possible through donations of food and funds. The church will also be sponsoring a Christmas Open House for CPL’s foster families on December 2nd in the fellowship hall.

MILESTONES REACHED

Congratulations to Ian Marron as he celebrates his 13th birthday on December 27th. Enjoy the day and your teenage years.

REMINDERS

ATTENTION! Daylight Saving Time ends November 4, 2012. Be sure to set your clocks back one hour before going to bed on the 3rd and regain that hour of sleep lost in March.

*May all the joy and gladness
Of Thanksgiving Day be yours –
The hope, the peace, the deep content,
God's love that long endures,
The loving care that He bestows
Each step along life's way –
May these, His truest blessings,
Be yours Thanksgiving Day.*

*Have a Wonderful
Thanksgiving!*

PLEDGE LETTERS – Letters will be mailed soon requesting that you provide an estimate of the 2013 giving. This information is vital as we need to know the expected 2013 financial support in planning and budgeting for the coming year. The financial status of our Church is at a very critical point, so please give this your very careful thought and return the "Estimate of Giving" card promptly. Thank you for supporting Deer Park.

POINSETTIAS – Anyone interested in placing a poinsettia on the Altar at Christmas in memory of or in honor of a loved one, please contact Betty Roach at 410-526-7239. The cost is \$9.00 each and orders must be placed by December 2, 2012. Make checks payable to "Deer Park

United Methodist Church" and mark "Poinsettias".

CRISIS CENTER – Don't forget to bring your non-perishable food donations to Church on Sunday or mail a check to the office (Deer Park U.M. Church and mark "Crisis Center"). With the holidays and the winter months approaching the demand for community services through the Reisterstown Crisis Center will probably increase. Let's all join together to make the holidays happier and the coming cold months more comfortable for those who are less fortunate.

COMING EVENTS

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Our 8th Annual Christmas Bazaar will be held Saturday, November 17, 2012 from 9:00 A.M.

to 3:00 P.M. Holiday items and decorations, white elephant treasures, baked goods and lunch food will all be available. Also, vendors will be present with a variety of products to select from. Mark your calendar for this date, stop by, shop and make this a successful event for Deer Park.

HANGING OF THE GREENS AND "SOUPER SUPPER"

Plans are underway to decorate the Sanctuary for the Advent Season on Saturday, November 24, 2012. The "Hanging of the Greens" Service will begin at 5:00 P.M. followed by a "Souper Supper" in Fellowship Hall. Everyone is asked to bring one or more cans of vegetables and Bruce Ryan will "cook-up" a tasty pot of soup for all to enjoy.

CHRISTMAS FAMILY

On Sunday, December 2, 2012 from 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. we will host an Open House for the group "Changing Peoples Lives". We would

like for each person to receive a gift so we are asking for donations of small, unwrapped presents or money that staff will be able to purchase items. Gifts should be given to Diana LeDonne at least one week in advance of the activity. Please be as generous as possible in making this a special day for this group. Should you have questions, please contact Betty Roach at 410-526-7239.

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

The Christmas Luncheon will be held on Sunday, December 16, 2012 at 12 Noon in Fellowship Hall. Each person is asked to bring a covered dish or dessert. There will be a gift exchange for all interested. Males should bring a gift for a male and females for a female. The cost of the gift should be \$5.00, and it should be wrapped and marked "male" or "female".

Christmas Hush

**May the quietness of
Christmas,
The calm and holy hush
Of that first advent season,
Still our Christmas rush.**

**May our memories of the
manger**

**Reassure us, ease the stress
Of troubled hearts in troubled
times**

**With His peace and quietness.
Kay L. Halliwill**

John 1 The Word Became Flesh

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was with God in the beginning. ³Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴In him was life, and that life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

SICK AND SHUT-INS

Our thoughts and prayers are with the following and all others who are experiencing health problems at this time. Let's remember them with a card, call or visit.

Alice Basler
Vera Gamber
Bud Gosnell
Beulah Hall
Owen and Doris Millirons
Parker Morrell
Chad Morris
Miriam Reter
Karlie Roach
Ellis Tinkler

CONDOLENCES

Deepest sympathy is extended to the families and friends of the following persons who passed away recently.

Jean Doreen Binkley
Rev. Basil B. Day, Jr.
Elaine P. Frederick
Elsie C. Schmitt Knight
Grace Whitcraft Royer
G. Vernon Warrington, Jr.
John Upton Warner, Jr.

CALENDER OF EVENTS

November 2012

Sunday School at 9:45 A.M.
Worship Service: 11:00 A.M

- 4 – Daylight Saving Time Ends
- 4 – All Saints Day
- 4 – Holy Communion
- 6 – Bowling – 5:00 P.M.
- 7 – Bible Study 7 P.M.
- 10 – “Breakfast Bunch” – Martha and Mary’s – 9 A.M.
- 11 – Veterans Day
- 11 – Church Council Meeting – 12 Noon
- 13 – Bowling – 5 P.M.
- 14 – Bible Study – 7 P.M.
- 17 – Christmas Bazaar – 9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.
- 21 – Bible Study 7 P.M.
- 22 – Thanksgiving Day
- 24 – Hanging of the Greens and “Souper Supper” – 5:00 P.M.
- 28 – Bible Study – 7 P.M.

December 2012

Sunday School – 9:45 A.M.
Worship Service – 11:00 A.M.

- 2 – Holy Communion
- 2 – Open House – Christmas Family – 1:00 – 5:00 P.M.
- 8 – “Breakfast Bunch” – Martha and Mary’s – 9 A.M.
- 9 – Deadline “Pathfinder” News – January February 2013 Issue
- 12 – Women’s Meeting – 10 A.M.
- 16 – Christmas Luncheon – 12 Noon
- 24 – Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service – 7:00 P.M.
- 25 – Christmas Day

November Birthdays

- 6 – Megan Gass
- 6 – Tammy Moran
- 8 – Christine Burgan
- 9 – Jim Gass
- 10 – Cindy McCauley
- 12 – Terry Roach
- 13 – Vera Karpushova
- 28 – Deborah Sofranko

December Birthdays

- 3 – Margaret Davies
- 4 – Joseph Joy
- 8 – Deanna Miles
- 9 – Vance Summerhill
- 10 – Victoria Trcka
- 16 – Charlene Cofiell
- 16 – Amanda Morris
- 16 – Tammy Roach
- 19 – Tasha Nelson
- 25 – Brooke Thompson
- 27 – Sally Grimes
- 27 – Ian Marron
- 27 – Margaret Bowers
- 28 – Matthew Michael

November Anniversaries

- 22 – Mark and Jennifer Shelhamer
- 24 – John and Deborah Millirons

December Anniversaries

- 19 – James and Wilma Lundy
- 19 – Jesse and Janet Walker

**Deer Park United Methodist Church
6107 Deer Park Road
Reisterstown, Maryland 21136**

Return Service Requested

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Pastor: Reverend Jerry Gautcher
Editor: Margaret Bowers
Assistant: Kathy Ryan