



# AUMC WITNESS

*Our Mission: Love God, Love Neighbor, Serve the World*

Annandale United Methodist Church  
6935 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA 22003  
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*Ministers:*  
*Rev. Clarence R. Brown*  
*Rev. Eduardo Carrillo*  
*Rev. Cynthia Johnson-Oliver*  
*Dr. Paul Y. Shin*

Vol. 8 No. 25



*We are a Stephen Ministry Church*

*December 6, 2011*



## AN EVENING IN DECEMBER

**Wednesday, December 14**

**7:00 p.m. ~ Sanctuary**

This concert is our gift to the congregation from the Music Ministry here at Annandale. Come and hear both vocal and instrumental music as we celebrate the season with music of the past and present.

## A BRETHERN CHRISTMAS

**Sunday, December 18**

**6:30 p.m. ~ Sanctuary**

Once again, we welcome Brethren as they bring us tidings of comfort and joy. Music of Rutter, Whitacre, Helvey and Berkey will fill the sanctuary as they take us on a musical journey with traditional songs of old to songs from our most contemporary composers. Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door.



*The Lord Is Near*

## *Continued Preparation...The Lord Is Near!*

The Advent Season is now about half-way completed and with each day our anticipation of the Christ Child grows stronger. Each week we have been challenged to prepare for the coming of Christ and here at Annandale part of our preparation is the many service and concert opportunities that are offered along the way. Here are those events that will lead us to the manger...

### CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

**Sunday, December 11**

**8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Worship Services**

Come and see the Christmas story through the eyes of our children. Our sanctuary will be filled with stars, angels, shepherds, wisemen and the Holy Family.

### NOEL

**Tuesday, December 13**

**7:00 p.m. ~ Sanctuary**

The Youth Choruses of the Fairfax Choral Society bring good tidings to all of you as they present an evening filled with the sounds of the season. Our Christmas Concert, Noel!, will include a wide array of styles and genres. Works by Cable, Debussy, Elgin, Rutter, Victoria and others will fill the air as we celebrate this joyous time of year. Tickets are \$16 for adults and \$8 for students.



### HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

#### **Christmas Eve Services - "The Lord Is Near"**

**Saturday, December 24**

**4:00 p.m.**

**Family Service**

*A service focused on the children*

**7:00 & 11:00 p.m.**

**Candlelight Communion Services**

*(childcare provided at 4:00 and 7:00 p.m.)*

#### **Christmas Day Service - 10:00 a.m. ONLY!**

**Sunday, December 25**

**10:00 a.m.**

**Carols and Scripture Service**

*One combined service for the WHOLE church family! Come and enjoy the carols and scripture as we celebrate the coming of the Christ Child. Also, bring your favorite breakfast casserole or brunch item to share with the church family in Wright Hall after our time of worship together.*



# THANK YOU

*Grace and peace in the name of our Savior.*

It is hard to believe that we have come to the end of another year. It seems these days that the longer I live, the faster time goes. This has been a year of growth, and yet there is so much promise ahead.

Before anything else, I would want to say a word of thanks to many: Susan Clarke, Tom Rose, Tammy Rapp, Gloria Rothman, Justin Dean, Bill Iwig, Harry Day, Steve McCoy and a host of others. These are persons who are concluding three year terms of service on our Administrative Committees and have given tremendous service in stewarding our ministry in the not so glamorous, behind the scenes kind of work that many would rather avoid. My deep thanks to all of you.

Then I would like to thank those who are coming onto those committees to continue the work that allows us to make a difference in this community and the world. You are too many to name here, but please know that you have my thanks as well.

We have done great things on many fronts: average attendance is up; giving is up; the number of baptisms is up; the number of professions of faith is up. All the indicators of congregational health are good. This is not due to my efforts, but to yours, and I am thankful.

I pray that your "holy" day season will be rich and full of meaning. I also pray that you will continue to seek and find ways to be of committed, covenantal service to God which will result in an abundance of thanksgiving to God. I look forward to being a partner in that service during an even more eventful 2012.

Yours for a Vital Witness to Christ,

Clarence



## POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS

To place a poinsettia in the sanctuary in honor or memory of a loved one on Dec. 18, please complete the form below and return it to the church office with your check for \$10.50 per plant **by Sunday, Dec. 11.**

**Please use a separate form for each plant ordered.**

*No telephone orders will be accepted.*

Make checks payable to AUMC.

Poinsettia given by: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

In memory/honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

- (Check one)  I will take poinsettia  
 Use poinsettia for shut-ins

## ST. NICK'S WORKSHOP

Saturday, December 10

You are invited to be a part of a special holiday celebration for children and families. A light kid-friendly lunch will be provided followed by some simple craft activities and a chance to visit the Youth Secret Santa shop where children can purchase gifts for their families. Get your picture taken with Santa, hear the Godly Play lesson about St. Nicholas, "the Santa that all the other Santas came from." So get in the spirit of Christmas by being part of the celebration.



### *A Brethren Christmas*

Sunday, December 18, 2011

6:30 p.m.

Annandale UMC



Tickets on Sale NOW!  
\$10 in advance ~ \$15 at the door



# OUR CHURCH *family*

## *Our Sympathy*

Family and friends of Dick Savage.

Becky Lynch and family on the death of her brother.

Harry Day and family on the death of his aunt,  
Gladys Langmead.

### UMW PECAN SALES - 2011 NEW CROP NUTS

Time to stock up for holiday gifts and baking and help support the UMW's mission projects. 16 oz Mammoth Pecan Halves, \$10; 16 oz Extra large pieces including some halves \$10; 12 oz Gift bags of chocolate covered pecans \$10; 12 oz English Walnuts \$9 gift ready. Pecan's will be sold during Sunday coffee hours until all are gone.

**Call Evie for orders or to reserve a case of 24. 703-256-2905.**

*Thank you for supporting our mission projects.*

### SEARCHING FOR THE PERFECT GIFT?

#### Don't miss Children's Ministries Living Gift Market

Honor someone in your life by giving a gift of an animal through

HEIFER PROJECT INTERNATIONAL to help a hungry family feed themselves.



**TWO SUNDAYS ONLY!**



After both worship services on Dec. 4 and 18.



### NOTE FROM FINANCE OFFICE:

If you are using the pew envelopes, please put your full name on the envelope.



### AUMC'S OWN BOY SCOUT

**TROOP 150** will be holding its annual Christmas wreath sale on Sunday mornings, November 20 - December

11. This is the troop's only fundraiser each year, and your support is very much appreciated. All funds go toward camping trips, Scout events, and troop equipment. Thank you!

# Thank You

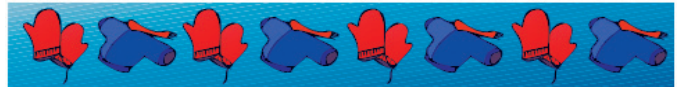
*How sweet the 13 seasons have been at Wednesday Night Together from its inception to my final year in 2011. I can't remember being part of a finer group of members at AUMC. Many, many thanks for all of you who shared those years together at WNT. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,  
Mark Hinkle.*

**WNT WILL RESUME IN JANUARY 2012!**

**CHURCHWIDE DINNER SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10 HAS BEEN CANCELLED!**

### HELP THE HOMELESS THIS WINTER.

AUMC has again partnered with Bailey's Crossroads Community Shelter to provide a safe, warm place for local homeless men and women this winter. We will be opening our doors as one of several "overflow sites" and providing space in the Media Center on designated nights. Our December schedule is: Dec. 8, 9, 10, 20, 21, 27 and 28. If you can help with setup in the evenings or cleanup in the mornings, please contact Jay Morris at jmorris55@verizon.net or 703-924-1919. We will also be hosting the homeless in January and March.



### COLLECTION ITEMS NEEDED FOR HYPOTHERMIA RESPONSE

In support of our homeless guests who will be staying with us during the hypothermia response, we will be collecting the following items:

**SOCKS, LONG UNDERWEAR, HATS, GLOVES SCARVES, \$5 GIFT CARDS FROM MCDONALDS OR BURGER KING ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED AS WELL.**

The cards give a homeless person a "legitimate" reason to be in the restaurant, particularly on days with the day shelters are closed. Items can be delivered to the box at the hypothermia board in the atrium. Gift cards should be given to a member of the missions committee or left in the church office.

## MINISTRY MEETINGS

Tues., Dec. 13	Finance	7:00 p.m.	Room 303
Tues., Dec. 13	Missions	7:00 p.m.	Room 302
Tues., Dec. 13	Caring	7:30 p.m.	Room 303
Tues., Dec. 20	Church Council	7:30 p.m.	Room 302

## LECTIONARY TEXTS

**December 11, 2011, Third Sunday of Advent:** Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11, Psalm 126 (UMH 847), 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24, John 1:6-8, 19-28

**December 18, 2011, Fourth Sunday of Advent:** 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16, Luke 1:47-55 (UMH 199) Romans 16:25-27, Luke 1:26-38

## AUMC WITNESS

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## WEEKLY VOLUNTEERS

### DECEMBER 11, 2011

**Outreach Greeters:** (8:30) R. Hampton (9:30) B. Brown (10:30) W. Ward, R. Smith

**Greeters:** Youth

**Fellowship Hour Hosts:** Education

**Acolytes:** (8:30) TBD (11:00) TBD

**Crucifers:** (8:30) TBD (11:00) TBD

**Ushers:** (8:30) J. Clarke, A. Cogswell, S. Fleming; (C) B. Brown; (11:00) S. Fleming, C. Perdue, B. Summerson (C) P. Adams

### DECEMBER 18, 2011

**Outreach Greeters:** (8:30) S. Fleming, D. Abdulle (9:30) D. Ruhter (10:30) W. Ward

**Greeters:** Phoebe/ Lydia Circles

**Fellowship Hour Hosts:** SPRC

**Acolytes:** (8:30) TBD (11:00) TBD

**Crucifers:** (8:30) TBD (11:00) TBD

**Ushers:** (8:30) S. Fleming, S. Groves, T. Lank (C) S. Nkesi (11:00) G. Rothman, R. Smith, R. Witkowski (C) R. Gordon

## NEXT DEADLINE

Dec. 9 is the deadline for the Dec. 20 Witness which covers Dec. 25 & Jan. 1

# SAVE THE DATE!

## HAPPY WANDERERS

Thursday, December 15

Union Station at this Christmas Season is aglow with lighted Christmas Trees, a Model Train Collection that goes around and around, shops that show their most appealing apparel and restaurants that are awaiting your selections. Everything is there to make an interesting trip for the Happy Wanderers. Please call Hilda, 703-532-3016 to reserve a seat on the bus.

## AUMC IS INDEED A MISSION CHURCH FOR GOD.

The entire Kairos Prison Mission Team wishes to express their appreciation for the congregation's support of the November 10-13 weekend at Greensville Correctional Center. Your thoughts, prayers, hand drawn placemats, and over 1,000 DOZEN home made baked cookies contributed to the 42 participants finding their way to the cross of Jesus. Some were Muslims, some were other non-believers, and some were Christians. We went into the prison with 29 men, including 4 clergy, from our Northern VA Team. God blessed us as well as the inmate residents. It was a miraculous weekend where many tears were shed by participants asking Jesus for forgiveness of themselves and others. The participants asked us to thank you for your love, support and especially for the cookies ... a participant said, "I came for the cookies but found unconditional love and the forgiveness of Jesus" .... Blessings to you all !

*Your AUMC Kairos Prison Ministry Team: Rev. Clarence Brown, Bill Iwig, Rachel Jones, Pam Jones, Alice Snitzer, Frank Svenson, Tina Svenson, Frankie Svenson Jr, Dan Evans, Nancy Evans, Michele McGaffic, Steve Kinner, Emily Punter, Julie Kinner, Pat Sherfey, Jay Morris, Debbie Strickland and Steve Reynolds ... and still growing !!! .....*

If you would like to be notified when we have funerals for AUMC members, please send an email to [drogerson@annandale-umc.org](mailto:drogerson@annandale-umc.org) or call the church office, 703-256-8330. An email will be sent when the arrangements are final.