

Hi-Lites

Lois Bradford, Editor

VOLUME 7 ISSUE 12

DECEMBER, 2009

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Families Adopted for Community Christmas

Community Christmas has matched our church with two families with young children and a senior citizen family consisting of an elderly mother with a special needs adult daughter.

Family #1 consists of a single mother with two boys. The older boy is 7 years old while his baby brother is 4 months old. Family #2 includes a single mother with two girls—one girl is 5 years old and the younger girl is 3 1/2 year old. Both families need food for their Christmas dinners, toiletries, cleaning supplies, paper products and toys and clothing for the children.

The senior family needs food for their Christmas dinner, household items, clothing and paper products.

See Christmas, pg. 2



UMW Christmas Tea is December 12

All Hayes Memorial Women are invited to a Christmas Tea, 11 a.m. on December 12 at the church. The menu includes hors d'oeuvres, chicken salad croissant, soup, dessert. A violin and cello duet will provide Christmas music for your entertainment. Please join us in fellowship. This is sponsored by the UMW Executive Committee and there is no charge.

HAYES MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CHRISTMAS SEASON EVENTS

SECOND CANDLE OF ADVENT

December 6

Service of Holy Communion
Contemporary Worship 8:30 a.m.
Traditional Worship 10:30 a.m.

December 12

U.M. Women's Christmas Tea
in Fellowship Hall at 11 a.m.

THIRD CANDLE OF ADVENT

December 13

Contemporary Worship 8:30 a.m.
Traditional Worship 10:30 a.m. with
Special Choir Christmas Music

FOURTH CANDLE OF ADVENT

December 20

Contemporary Worship 8:30 a.m.
Traditional Worship 10:30 a.m.

THE CHRIST CANDLE

December 24

Contemporary Candlelight Worship
5:30 p.m.
Traditional Candlelight Worship 7 p.m.



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• SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *UMW Christmas Tea is December 12*
- *Donations needed for Community Christmas*
- *Poinsettias can be purchased for \$9.00*
- *Christmas Eve worship services are at 5:30 and 7:00 p.m.*
- *UMW 2009 Reading Program forms due by December 20*
- *Volunteer needed to care for our flower beds next year*
- *Youth Club expanding to accept kids age 4 to 18*

FROM PASTOR DENISE...

Many people after the big Thanksgiving dinner start counting the days until Christmas. Television commercials count down the twenty-five days until Christmas with movie classics. Stores advertise their big discounts, and people begin decorating their homes inside and out with lights, greenery, and lots of bright red bows.

With all the hustle and bustle, many of us forget the power and beauty of Advent. It should be a time where we pray and read the Bible to prepare for the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The Advent candles and greenery are symbols of light and life in the midst of winter and its bare trees and darkened skies.

As I began preparing myself for the power and beauty of this Advent season, I came across a blessing that I modified to work on the beauty of Advent in the hearts of God's people here at Hayes Memorial.

Lord, your church joyfully anticipates your coming as Savior. Enlighten our hearts to see and hear and feel Your presence and power as you dispel the ignorance of sin and

disobedience. Pour out on us your blessings and light the candle of love within our hearts. As your people, may the light of love within us bring forth the splendor of the King of Kings.

Pastor Denise

***Preparing for Worship
December, 2009***

Dec. 6 - "Anticipating the Advent"

Luke 1:68-79
Reclaiming the excitement of Advent.

Dec. 13 - "No Long Faces Allowed"

Philippians 4:1-9
Unshakable joy, supernatural peace, and a holy mind-set.

Dec. 20 - "Mary's Song"

Luke 1:39-56
People were waiting and wondering.

Dec. 24 - "The Time Has Come"

Luke 1:39-56
Prophetically aware of the unborn Messiah.

Dec. 27 - "Do We Believe in Promises Anymore?"

Acts 2:29-47
God's promises are realistic.

Christmas, cont'd. from pg. 1

Two posters list the items requested by our adopted families. Post-a-Notes are attached to the poster. If you choose to purchase something on the poster, please remove the Post-a-Note and sign the square on the poster underneath.

Please bring the items unwrapped to the church by Sunday, December 20 with the Post-a-Notes attached to them. The items will be distributed at the fairgrounds on Wednesday, December 12.

If you have any questions or would like to help, please contact Marie Zimmerman at 419-334-9469, Carolyn Geiger at 419-332-8680, or Jerry Hassen at 419-332-0843.

This is our third year for adopting families for Community Christmas. The Missions Team has appreciated everyone's generous support of our Community Christmas families in the past, and we look forward to this year's event.



**Poinsettia
Sale Has
Begun**

The United Methodist Men are selling pink, white and red poinsettias. The cost is \$9.00. See Mike Geiger to make an order before December 7. Phone: 419-332-8680.

Volunteer Opportunity: We are looking for someone to take over the care of our church flower beds next year. John and Millie Singer are retiring after years of faithful, dedicated service and sharing of their expertise.

FINANCIAL REPORT

	<u>October 2009</u>	<u>October YTD 2009</u>	<u>Projected for November, 2009</u>
Income	26,169.01	187,077.73	14,523.00 (thru 11/15)
Expenses	20,683.31	189,551.63	21,869.00 Includes current month's apportionment
		Previous months' O/S apportionment	<u>25,750.98</u>
NET	5,485.70	(2,473.90)	47,619.98 Estimated expenses to pay everything

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

December 3

Mr. Al Errett, 1135 Hickory St.
Mr. Richard Glass, 1029 White Ave

December 4

Elliot Hogan, 2258 Woodmont Dr.
Bethany Wagner, 1011 Christy Blvd.

Erick White, 2400 Buckland Ave.

December 5

Mrs. Opal Britenburg, 1966 Martin Avenue

December 9

Mrs. Patty McCormack, 1319 Cherry Street

December 10

Mrs. Joan Cooley, 3045 SR 412

December 11

Calum Siler, 2311 Buckland Ave.

December 12

Mrs. Anna Dymond, 540 N. Brush St., Apt. 2

Amanda Wildermuth, 2557 Cherry Ridge Drive

December 13

Mrs. Carolyn Geiger, 320 E. Cole Road

December 14

Mr. Jay Baker, 1521 Arrowhead Dr.
Cole Druckenmiller, 419 S. Wayne Street

December 15

Mrs. Susan Krumnow, 824 Cleveland Avenue

Alyssa Schwochow, 726 Savannah Trail, Medina, OH 44256

Mr. Robert White, 2400 Buckland Avenue

December 16

Mrs. Marian Flickinger, Valley View Healthcare Center, 825 June St.

December 17

Mr. Kurt Weissinger, 1410 Elmhurst Lane

December 18

Mrs. Donna Shively, 1874 County Road 59

December 19

Tatum Diedrich, 808 Castalia Rd.

December 20

Mrs. Bettie Cenkus, 550 Michaels Road, Apt. 1

Mr. Gary Druckenmiller, 419 S. Wayne Street

Mrs. Carolyn Johnson, 3650 Fangboner Road



December 22

Mrs. Barbara Brooks, 1600 Ell Dr.

December 23

Mrs. Beverly Barr, 3916 County Road 147, Vickery, OH 43464

Mrs. Mary Berryman, 1612 Smith Road

December 25

Alexis Hasselbach, 3149 Co. Rd. 106, Lindsey, Ohio 43442

Mrs. Stephanie Hetrick, 376 State Route 523

December 26

Jeffrey Draeger, 921 Oronoco St., Alexandria, VA 22314

Mrs. Marjorie King, 1636 Arrowhead Drive

Mrs. Janice Smith, 2000 Martin Ave.

December 27

Ceara Barr, 3854 County Road 247, Vickery, Ohio 43464

December 30

Mr. Timothy Cox, 1803 Tiffin Rd.

December 31

Mr. Gary Pollock, 1223 Tucker Rd.
Mr. Alan Stull, 414 St. Joseph St.

DECEMBER WEDDING



ANNIVERSARIES

2nd - Jim & Evaden Mason

6th - Robert & Judy Cooper

9th - Eric & Amy O'Brien

10th - Alan & Lauri Franks

24th - Warren & Alta Leemaster

29th - Craig & Edie Stull

George & Karen
Weissinger

Robert & Ann Woolf

30th - Tim & Cheryl Bolton



Dear Friends at Hayes Memorial U. M. Church,

Thanks so much for your thoughtful get well card. It made me feel much better to know you've been thinking of me. I had a complete hysterectomy on August 6 and came home on August 11. I had such good care from the doctors and nurses at Toledo Hospital and from Bernie and our children and grandchildren. I felt God's presence with me all the way.

Bernie and I have decided we're a little too old to travel as much as we used to, so will have to depend more on the phone now. If any of you get over this way, we'd be glad to see you or hear from you. We're in and out a lot, but don't go much farther than Wauseon, Defiance, or Toledo right now.

May God bless and keep you all,

Love,

Bernie & Janice Haas
527 Fairlawn Drive
Archbold, Ohio 43502

Pumpkin Roll Project Report

A heartfelt thanks is extended to all the volunteers who graciously helped make the Pumpkin Roll Project a success and who also filled the hours with fellowship and friendship.

After baking and selling 308 pumpkin rolls, the pumpkin roll crew profited over \$2,000 for missions.

This project could not have been completed without the hard work of all the following church men and women:

Alamar Arriaga, Helen Arriaga, Barb Batesole, Jenny Beal, Martha Belch, Betty Burr, Sharon Cain, Phyllis Chambers, Marilyn Clark, Daun Diedrich, Dan Diedrich, Carol Dixon, Jim Draeger, Sophia Draeger, Larry Franks, Carolyn Geiger, Jim Humburg, Katie Humburg, Carolyn Johnson, Joe Johnson, Myrtle Koch, Eve Mason, Patty McCormack, Bertie Minich, Christina Pollard, Sue Rutherford, Asa Sabiers, Barby Sadler, Ellie Shaull, Donna Shively, John Singer, Millie Singer, Roger Stout, Ruth Ann Stout, Emily Wacker, Jeanne Warren, Nancy Wright and Peggy Zinkand.

Co-chairs: Sue Franks
Karen Sabiers

UMW Bake Sale Very Successful

The UMW Bake Sale held on Election Day was a huge success. The final total is still being tallied, but thus far we earned \$1,047.00. Thank you to everyone who brought in the delicious goodies. A special thank you to Jeanne Warren for all her wonderful canned goods. We have a few jars of her pickle relish left, but that's all.

The Bake Sale could not have run as smoothly without the help of all our wonderful workers. They are Jim Draeger and Mike Geiger (who worked the 6:30 to 8:30 a.m. shift), Sophia Draeger, Nancy Wright, Youlanda England, Phyllis Chambers, Betty Burr, Sandy Schemmer, Jane Stout, Phyllis Growel, Marty Belch, Daun Diedrich, Sue Rutherford, Donna Shively, and Kay Enderlin. Larry Franks and Dan Diedrich helped set up tables.



The Youth Club on Wednesday nights from 6:00-7:30 p.m. is going strong! We had a couple of Wednesday nights with over 40 kids in attendance, and we are now expanding our age group to accommodate even more kids. We will now be accepting children starting at age 4 and all the way through age 18. Even if your child turns 4 years old halfway through our Youth Club season, you are more than welcome to bring them.

Just a reminder: If Fremont City Schools do not have school on Wednesday, then our Youth Club will not be meeting. Also, our t-shirt design competition is completed, and Abbi Hasselbach was the winner with her GOT GOD? design.

The youth have upcoming events including an overnight for the middle school-aged kids, ice skating, Kalahari, Journey's, and a movie night!

The Hispanic Outreach Ministry at Hayes Memorial

The goal of the Hispanic Outreach Ministry at Hayes Memorial is to provide material assistance as well as spiritual awareness to the impoverished local and migrant Hispanic population in our area. The program was started in 2004 when the Religion and Race Committee, who was already providing some services to local migrant community, received an Hispanic Ministry Grant from the UMC Maumee Watershed District for \$5,000. A year later another grant was obtained from the UMC West Ohio Conference for \$32,083. A third grant (UMC National Plan Grant) has been awarded to the program beginning in 2007 for \$3,038. All three grants have been renewed over the years including funding for 2010, but the Outreach Program has not received significant increases in funding over the six-year period. The program also is supported by the generosity of our congregation through donations of supplies and the "Loose Change" program recently started by Mrs. Arriaga.

The program serves the areas of Seneca, Wood, Ottawa and Sandusky counties and operates under its director, Mrs. Alamar Arriaga. Her office serves as a resource room for Hispanic families providing food and clothing as well as informational, educational, spiritual and referral services. Although the program is aimed at our local and migrant Hispanic population, it will also serve any individual/family in need upon request.

In the five years of existence, the program has provided food, clothing, diapers, translation services, transportation vouchers, first aid classes, Spanish/English

See Outreach, pg. 7

On Top of Heaven's Roof

by John C. Moor

"The Christmas After"

If I had been paying more attention, I would've noticed that something was wrong, but it was 5 p.m.—the off-ramp of the day when everything merges into one lane of bumper-to-bumper chaos.

The kids were in the kitchen prowling for food and attention while I was trying to find the recipe for that night's meal. Mom came through the back door as she usually does just about every day. In one arm she cradled the daily newspapers; in the other, she clasped her black purse, which she typically pushes behind the swinging door that separates the kitchen from the family room.

I must have said "hi" as she passed through, but I don't remember. It wasn't until the kids were out of the kitchen and back at the controls of their video games and the misplaced recipe was located beneath a thick pile of bills and junk mail, when I glanced into the family room and saw Mom sitting right in the middle of our couch.

She still had her coat on, and she pressed her purse close to her chest like a drowning person might a life preserver. She leaned forward, hovering between getting up and staying put.

She looked at the TV, but she wasn't really watching it. Her clear-blue eyes stared at something beyond our 19-inch screen. Something sad was playing out its story silently and poignantly in her mind.

Then, she sighed.

"What's the matter, Mom?" I asked, stepping through the door into the family room.

"Oh, I don't know," she said with weak disgust. It just doesn't feel much like Christmas this year.

"Because of Mary Ann?"

She nodded and gripped her purse a bit tighter.

Mary Ann had been her friend—*our friend*—and next-door neighbor for over 50 years. They had worked at the same factory together—Mom on the production floor and Mary Ann in the office—and had shared the same circle of friends who celebrated birthdays, picnics and weekly Saturday-night potlucks together.

In fact, Mom lived in the house that Mary Ann and her husband Don had lived in before building a new home on the empty lot beside it. That was 47 years ago. I was two-years old. Don died in 1982, not long after my wife Marty and I were married, and Mary Ann went on for 21 more years, alone in her house but right next door to her closest friend, my mom.

But last year shortly after Thanksgiving, she became ill, grew weak and was taken to the emergency room where my wife and I found her asleep in a bed attached to a heart monitor that was emitting a steady stream of quick 'beeps' while a plastic tube pushed pure oxygen up her nose. In a nearby chair, mom looked on.

As I gripped Mary Ann's thin hand and watched medical machines doing more to keep her alive than her frail body could, I remembered the tablecloth we had each of our guests sign on Thanksgiving. They were asked to write down what they were thankful for. In a shaky, child-like scrawl, Mary

Ann had written: I am grateful to be alive.

Now she was barely that.

Mom moved in closer and rested her hands on the side bars. "Mary Ann," she said softly. "Oh, Mary Ann."

Mary Ann and Don had been a part of our Christmases since we moved into their old house. Early every Christmas morning, when it was still dark out, I would wait anxiously in our downstairs bedroom until Mary Ann and Don would throw on heavy coats over their pajamas and make the chilly trek across the driveway to our back door. They would enter carrying a steaming cup of coffee in one hand and a Polaroid instamatic camera loaded with a fresh flashcube in the other. Only then was I permitted to come out of the bedroom and have at it with my gifts.

Afterwards, we'd make our way back over to their house where we would have our second Christmas. Before leaving, Mary Ann always needed to take two pictures. One of me holding a dime-store copy of *The Night Before Christmas* that she bought for 25-cents when I was two-years old. The other was a picture of my mom and me kissing beneath a plastic mistletoe that hung from the threshold between the kitchen and the living room.

Even after Don died and Mary Ann spent several succeeding Christmases in Florida, she always made sure that the laundry basket full of gifts she left at her house for us to open on Christmas morning included the book. A few years back, she decided she could no longer make the long drive south and

was once again a part of our Christmas mornings.

As we huddled around her bed in that emergency room, though, we all sensed that Mary Ann would not make it to the next Christmas. But she rallied, and after a few days in the hospital, she was admitted to a nursing home where she spent her Christmas and celebrated another new year. In fact, she told my mom during one visit in March that she was feeling well enough to come home.

Then, as quick as that, her lungs began to fill with fluid, and it was hard for her to breathe. Mom got an urgent call from the hospital and phoned to tell me she was going there to be with her. I couldn't get away because of the kids, but I called Marty and told her she needed to get there. And she did. Just in time.

When the phone rang, Marty said simply, "Mary Ann's gone."

Her passing knocked Mom off kilter. She couldn't run right next door anymore and talk and watch TV and discuss the local happenings reported on in the local paper. Even when Mom's brother, my uncle, and his wife moved into Mary Ann's house, it wasn't the same.

Mom baked her cookies, put up her tree, bought the gifts, but the purpose and the spirit seemed to be missing.

Then one day as I was looking through a handful of mail, I came across something that made me stop and smile. It was a card from *Reader's Digest* announcing that my subscription that Mary Ann got me every Christmas had been renewed. The card read, Season's Greetings from Mary Ann.

A warm shiver washed through the length of my body

and pooled in my heart. It was the same feeling I got once when a friend told me a story about finding a picture of his deceased father on the front door of his home. It had snowed that day, yet there were no footprints leading to or away from the door. Somehow, it seems, the picture had just appeared.

That night I could hardly wait to show Mom the card from Mary Ann. I placed it in her hands and watched as she studied it, dutifully beginning at the top, a bit perplexed why I wanted her to read a generic Christmas card from a magazine. But when she got to the bottom, her faced creased into a bright smile and she leaned back into the couch as if she was very satisfied. "Oh, that Mary Ann," she said. "She remembered."

From that point on, Mom seemed to find her bearings along with her Christmas spirit, which brought her and us through that first Christmas after. I know there are those out there who would be more than happy to tell Mom and me that there is a reasonable explanation for the card, just as my friend would later find out that a friend of his family had found the photograph of his father and left it on the front door. . .before it had started to snow.

But I would like to think otherwise. I would like to think that Christmas is a conduit for miracles, a time when the extraordinary wishes that lie deep inside all of us travel from that which we can only hope for, to that which is actually possible.

At least it did for us.

On that Christmas after, Mary Ann somehow found her way back to remind us of the power of friendship and the infinite distance it is willing to travel.

Outreach, cont'd. from pg. 5

language and Bible studies, camp visits, referrals to other social/legal agencies, assistance at the Fremont Food Pantry, informational pamphlets in Spanish, and Sunday church services in Spanish. The program also sponsors Fiesta Day and Taste of Home and participates in the Farm Worker's Recognition Day organized by Rural Opportunities, Inc. The Outreach Ministry also works with the Ohio Migrant Education Council, the Texas Migrant Council, Angie's Angel Daycare, Job and Family Services, the Fremont Community Health Center, Share and Care, and the Catholic Outreach Ministry.

The Outreach Ministry is supervised by Pastor Denise. Mrs. Arriaga receives a monthly statement of income and expenditures from the church treasurer and is required to have receipts for items purchased or a request form for any service to be purchased. Pastor Denise has the responsibility of approving all expenditures of funds, and those funds can only be used for the Outreach Program. Salary, benefits and various office expenditures are a portion of the funds while the remaining monies are used to support the various activities and services.

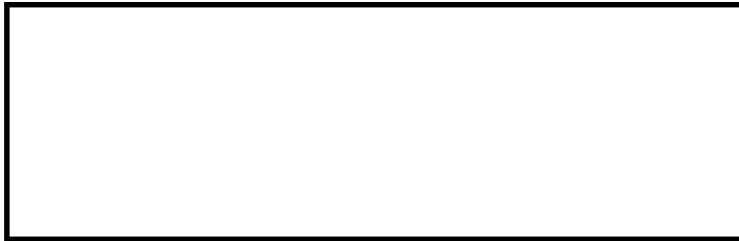
Given the success of the program over the last five years, it is the position of the Religion and Race Committee to continue the program at Hayes Memorial. If you have any questions or concerns about the Hispanic Outreach Ministry, please call Joe Johnson (332-0908) or Carol Dixon (332-9517) or Alamar Arriaga (334-2605). Joe and Carol are the co-chairs of the committee in 2010 and welcome your input.

HAYES MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1441 Fangboner Road
Fremont, Ohio 43420

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**UMW Reading Program—
2009**

Attention all UMW members who have been reading this year. All completed forms listing the books you read this year must be turned in to Kay Enderlin by December 20. A new reading list and a chance to see all the new books will be available at the UMW Christmas breakfast on Saturday, December 12.



Our Sympathy goes out to the family of **Pamela Warren** on her death October 31, 2009 and to the family of **Margaret Drown** on her death November 9, 2009.

Pam joined the former Hayes United Methodist Church in April, 1972, was a very active church member and currently played in our Handbell Choir. Her funeral service was held November 5, 2009 at the church with burial at Union Cemetery in Gibsonburg, Ohio.

Margaret joined the former Memorial United Methodist Church in 1958 and was a member of their Loyal Workers and also the Friendship Sewing Club of Hayes Memorial Church. Her funeral service was held November 13, 2009 at Keller-Ochs-Koch-Mason Funeral Home with burial at Oakwood Cemetery.

Denise Y. Turpin, M. Div., Pastor
Church Phone: 419-334-2605
Fax: 419-334-2606
E-mail: hmumc@hayesmemorialumc.org

Web Sites:

Church—www.hayesmemorialumc.org
District— www.maumeewatershed.org
Conference—www.westohioumc.org

*Centered in Christ, we will extend God's Word
of Love to all.*

GREETERS

- Dec. 6** - Dennis Hasselbach
- Dec. 13** - Jane Stout
- Dec. 20** - Charles Eberhardt
- Dec. 24** - Kirby Ehemann
- Dec. 27** - Phyllis Eberhardt

USHERS

- Dec. 6** - Dennis Hasselbach, Jane Stout, Charles & Phyllis Eberhardt
- Dec. 13** - Steve Root, Herb & Nancy Wright, Lee & Jean Havens
- Dec. 20** - Carl Hahn, Barb Kennedy, Betty Burr, Kathy Beck, Mike Geiger
- Dec. 24** - Kirby Ehemann, Mike Geiger
- Dec. 27** - Barb Batesole, Jim Humburg, Eve Mason, Cody Bowman, Kirby Ehemann
Door Man - Roger Stout