

**Mt. Hope Community Presbyterian Church**

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

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**Christmas Sunday — December 20, 2009 – 11:00 a.m.**

*\*Those who are able, please stand*

*Please be respectful of those worshiping 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 “He Shall Feed His Flock”***

*Arnel Montgomery - vocalist and Min. Jennifer Geibel - Piano*

***Bringing in the Light of the Christ-Child***

*The Acolytes*

***Welcome/Recognition of Visitors/Special Events***

*Pastor Carmen Cox Harwell*

***Moment –for–Ministry: Nominating***

*Elder Bill Tis*

***Lighting of the Advent Candles “Peace, Joy, and the Christ Candle”***

*The Liturgists*

***“It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”***

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*(Please stand)*

*\* Call to Worship (Isaiah 52.7-10)*

*Trustee Judy Garcea*

**L:** *“How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, ‘Your God reigns.’”*

**P:** *Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sights they see the return of the Lord to Zion.*

**L:** *Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted His people, He has redeemed Jerusalem.*

**All:** *The Lord has bared His holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.” And in response, we have gathered to worship and proclaim the glory of the Lord our God!*

***\*Hymn of Praise***

***“It Came upon a Midnight Clear”***

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***\*Invocation and The Lord's Prayer***

Trustee Garcea

Spirit of God descend upon us as we worship You in this hour. Allow Your presence to fill us anew with Your peace...the peace of Christ which passes all understanding... and the joy of knowing that we are never alone! May Your peace and Your joy rest and rule in our hearts, our minds, our lives, and Your world. We pray in the name of our Prince of Peace who taught us to pray, "***Our Father...***"  
(You may be seated)

**TO CONFESS OUR SIN...**

***Call to Confession*** (Psalm 51.1-5)

Miss Sydney Nury

King David confessed to the Lord, "*Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against You, You alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in Your sight, so that You are justified in Your sentence and blameless when You pass judgment. Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.*" Likewise, **in silence**, let us confess to the Lord our transgressions, and plead for Him to cleanse us from our sin.

***Kyrie***

***"Breathe on Me, Breath of God"***

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***Assurance of Pardon***

**Isaiah 54.7-8, 10**

Pastor Carmen

**TO TEACH OUR CHILDREN...**

***The Children's Chat***

Mr. Denny Chisnell

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

**TO CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM...**

***Alexander Patrick Krah***

**TO PRESENT OUR FINANCIAL OFFERINGS WITH GRATITUDE...**

***Offering Call*** (Exodus 23.15c)

Trustee Garcea

God has commanded that we bring an offering to Him, for He said, "*No one shall appear before Me empty-handed.*" Therefore, let us present our financial tithes and offerings to the Lord with hands and hearts that are grateful!



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

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**Our worship services are recorded:** <http://www.mthopechurch.org/Welcome.html>.

Click on *recordings*. Thank you! Elder Eric Schramm.

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**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!

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**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, Pearl Hicks, 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.**

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THANKS to the Flower Ministry** for decorating the sanctuary with red & white poinsettias for Christmas!

**Today's Young Children in Worship** story is "The Magi" led by Helene Mauser and assisted by Jan Chisnell and Allie Dick.

**Birthday Wishes** to Trustee Bill Haley who is celebrating today!

**Thanks to the Nominating and Fellowship Ministries** for providing for fellowship time today! Fellowship for next Sunday will be provided by the Personnel Ministry.

**Blood Pressure Sunday is TODAY!** No pre-registration or appointment is necessary! Simply stop today and register at the desk across from the Office immediately after worship, have a seat and get your blood pressure checked by one of our Health Ministry nurses.

**TODAY**, our **Worship & Music and Christian Education Ministries** are presenting this year's **Christmas Pageant**, "Listen to Christmas," at 5p in John Knox Hall! Come with family and friends and enjoy a wonderful evening of Christmas Joy and fellowship!

**Congregational Meeting: First Call!** All members are urged to be present on Sun. Dec. 27<sup>th</sup> for a brief meeting to approve Pastor Carmen's Terms of Call for 2010. Thank you!

**Our deepest condolences** to the family of Robert Baur who is the son of Ernie and Margie Baur following his death 2 weeks ago.

**Elizabeth McKelvey** wishes to thank everyone who sent cards or called during her absence from worship due to blood pressure and knee challenges. Thank you and God bless you all!

**Thank You** to those who donated books ! We look forward to sharing them with the Tanzanians we meet! -Eric Tans and Margaret Tassarò

**Please pick up your Giving Envelopes** in the Narthex!

**Zumba Gold and Zumba Classes** will resume Wednesday, Jan. 6th 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 the new year healthy by joining us Jan. 6th<sup>th</sup>!

**Continue to bring your non-perishable food items** to the church every 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday, so that we can help “feed the hungry” as Jesus commanded every day of the year!

**The Flower Chart Notebook for 2010 is in the Narthex.** 1 arrangement - \$15.00; 2 - \$30.00. All Sundays in January are available! Contact Elder Doris Kuhn\*\*.

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**COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

**What is going on in Penn Hills?** To find out, log on to [www.pennhills.org](http://www.pennhills.org).

**What is going on in our Presbytery?** Log on to [www.pghpresbytery.org](http://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!

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**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

**Enterprise Rent-a-Car** is seeking applicants for entry-level Management Trainee opportunities. To apply go to [www.go.enterprise.com](http://www.go.enterprise.com).

**Prudential Insurance Co. of America** is seeking a Prudential Financial Services Associate—a sales position selling insurance and financial products and services. Contact Cindy Cavallucci, Diversity Relationship Manager at [cynthis.cavallucci@prudential.com](mailto:cynthis.cavallucci@prudential.com).

**Assist. Director, Alumni Reunions** – position #6380. Go to [www.cmu.edu/job](http://www.cmu.edu/job) and submit a cover letter and resume.

**W. L. Mellon Society Gift Officer** – position #6381. Go to [www.cmu.edu/job](http://www.cmu.edu/job) and submit a cover letter and resume.

**Dir., Corporate Development and Student Programs** – position #6382. Go to [www.cmu.edu/job](http://www.cmu.edu/job) and submit a cover letter and resume.

**Nationwide Insurance Company** has two openings: Associate Agents/Producers and Agency Owner Training Program. Go to [www.nationwide.com/careers/career-opportunities.jsp](http://www.nationwide.com/careers/career-opportunities.jsp) or contact agency recruiter John Choma-570-574-2215\*\*

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**THIS WEEK AT MT. HOPE**

<b><u>TODAY</u></b>		5p	<u>Listen to Christmas Pageant</u>	JK Hall
Wed.	Dec. 23		<b><u>Office Closed (until Tue. Dec. 29<sup>th</sup>)</u></b>	
		8p	Narcotics Anonymous	JK Hall
Thu.	Dec. 24	7p	<b><u>Christmas Eve Service</u></b>	Sanctuary
Sat.	Dec. 26	2p	Gamblers Anonymous	JK Hall

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**LOOKING AHEAD IN 2 WEEKS...**

Sun.	Dec. 27	after worship	<b><u>Congregational Meeting</u></b>	Sanctuary
		after meeting	<u>Reception for New Members</u>	MP Room
Wed.	Dec. 30		<b><u>Office Closed (until Tue. Jan. 5<sup>th</sup>)</u></b>	
Sun.	Jan. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	after worship	<u>Dismantling-of-the-Greens</u>	All over!

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**LOOKING AHEAD IN THE NEW YEAR...**

Tue.	Jan. 5	5p	Tues. Together Mtg.	Betty Ann Tis'
Sun.	Jan 10	930a	Sunday School Resumes	All Over!
Tue.	Jan. 12	530p	<u>Tuesday's Together returns!</u>	All over!
Wed.	Jan. 13	10a	<u>The Morning Word Study returns!</u>	MP Room

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**Mt. Hope Community Church, Presbyterian, USA**

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**Rev. Carmen Cox Harwell, Pastor**

**Mrs. Jennifer Geibel, Minister of Music**

**Mr. Dan Hadzima, Custodian**

**Mrs. Rita Hardin, Administrative Assistant & Clerk of Session**