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NEWS FROM THE HUB AND THE HILL



VOLUME 13

NUMBER 1

JANUARY 2020

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18 , we will have a Pot Luck after worship in the Fellowship Hall following the Congregation Annual Meeting. Please bring a favorite dish to share..



CHOIR PRACTICE
 Choir practice is on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 – 8:30.

Speaking of singing...

The next **COMMUNITY HYMN SING** will be Sunday, January 19, 2020 at Epiphany Episcopal Church, 424 Garden St. starting at 6:00 p.m. All are invited to attend and bring a finger food to enjoy with each other afterwards.

The Crestview Session will meet on Monday, January 13. It will be held in the choir room at 6:30 p.m. Please have your reports submitted by Friday, January 10, at 12pm.



JUBILEE CIRCLE
 Will meet Thursday, January 16, at 11:00 am in the Fellowship Hall.



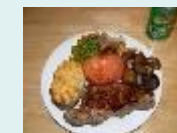
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SPECIAL DATES

January 1, 2020 New Year Day	January 16, Jubilee Circle
January 5, Epiphany Sunday	January 19 Annual Congregation Meeting
January 12, Congregational Life	
January 13, Session	
January 14, Men's Dinner	January 20, MLK Celebrated

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP DINNER

This will be held on Tuesday, January 14, at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Men, see Louis Becker to sign up. Steak, baked potato, salad and dessert all for only \$12!



CONGREGATIONAL LIFE will meet on Sunday, January 12, in the fellowship hall after worship.

THE MINISTER'S MUSINGS...

The echoes of the Christmas celebration are still ringing through the heavens. What wonderful celebrations we had in our two congregations!

The Living Nativity was another success this year. The Traditional Service of Lessons and Carols went beautifully. Christmas Eve Candlelight and Communion Services touched a number of hearts.

And now, we are on the cusp of a new year. As you know many people make new year's resolutions to attempt to improve some aspect of their life. Some resolve to exercise more, eat less, attend church regularly, read the Bible faithfully.

Whatever it is you may resolve to do, please heed this recommendation – do it in small, achievable steps. One major reason new year's resolutions fail is because people set before themselves to large of a goal.

While the end goal is admirable, it usually takes a great deal of effort to attain that goal. Anything new takes time to take effect. And, usually, anything new is going to be fraught with mistakes, failures, and setbacks. When these occur, it is easy to simply give up.

But, when you set yourself small, achievable steps, you can celebrate all along the way. A mistake or setback won't be as devastating if you miss a

small goal, and you will still have the desire to keep trying.

Here is an example: You say you want to lose weight and eat better. Set yourself a goal of one pound a week. You go about this by not spending money a couple days a week on anything you might normally purchase as a snack – say donuts (a personal weakness of mine).

And instead of spending that money, you can resolve to give that money to the ministries of the church in addition to your regular offering. This way, you can feel good about: one, not eating snack food, two, giving more as an offering to God, and three, losing weight in the process.

For many years I have heard the phrase “fake it until you make it.” I never cared for that phrase. It has only made sense to me in recent months.

Sometimes in order for change to take place, one needs to behave as though... you are more generous, more loving, more compassionate. It may not be a natural state of being. However, when you “act as though you are,” eventually it becomes the normal way of doing things.

So this year, what gradual change will you make?

Sursum Corda,
Mark

LIVING NATIVITY 2019

Just to take a moment to say a huge Thank You! to all those who helped make this year's Living Nativity such a great success.

The setting up was completed in near record time. Thanks go to Pat Shew who donated over 400 battery operated candles for the luminaries. This cut the set up time tremendously.

The cookies and other finger foods were absolutely delicious, tantalizing the taste buds. The decorations, inside and out, were fabulous. And our actors were on par with any of those on or off Broadway.

Thanks also go to the crew that helped with the parking lot. Your patience with confused guests on where to go and where to park (and how to get around the road closures) was greatly appreciated.

Special thanks go to the City of Laurel Hill for their invaluable assistance with road closures and safety measures, as well as to the Laurel Hill Volunteer Fire Department who kept a firetruck on hand in the unlikely event of an emergency, and to Mrs. Martel, principal at Laurel Hill School for her gracious help. Also thank to those who provided the miniature pony and cute little lambs!

Next year, December of 2020 will mark the 10th anniversary of our congregations hosting the Living Nativity. Plans (already) are being kicked around for this to be a special event for this milestone presentation.



JANUARY
Birthdays

JANUARY
Anniversaries

- 4 **Riley Barton**
- 4 **Drew Campbell**
- 5 **Jessie Williams**
- 11 **Cynthia Hall**
- 20 **Carolyn Ward**
- 20 **Trecia Chedister**
- 21 **Elaine Courtney**
- 25 **Madge Fountain**
- 29 **Erin Barton**
- 29 **Bobby Barton**
- 29 **Jo-An Williams**

No Anniversaries this month

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATIONS

On Sunday, January 19, 2020 our two congregations will hold their annual meetings. This will provide the opportunity to reflect on this past year, our joys, successes, frustrations, and flops. We will have the opportunity to review the 2020 budget, vote on the pastor's terms of call (salary package) and explore where we believe God is leading us in the coming year. A congregation nominating committee will be elected by the Crestview congregation as is done each year.

As the corporations, we will also elect corporate officers to be listed as part of our incorporated status requirements.

The Laurel Hill congregational meeting will begin at 9:00, followed by a regular worship service.

The Crestview congregational meeting will begin following 11:00 worship. Once the meeting is concluded, folks are invited to make their way to Fellowship Hall for a pot luck luncheon.

Worship Leaders for January

Laurel Hill	Crestview	Head Usher Crestview
5 Henry Givens	Greg Machmiller	Hayden Graham
12 Celia Broadhead	Ron Ballard	
19 Brian Hughes	Remy Kublik	
26 Tracy Curenton	Jeff Clack	

SOME WONDERFUL MEMORIES OF CHRISTMAS 2019



January 2020



	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	SatSun
			1 	2	3	4
5 Epiphany Sunday Communion	6	7	8 Choir Practice 7:00 pm	9 Bible Study (6:30 pm FH)	10 Soup Kitchen 11:00am FH	11
12	13 Session 6:30 pm Choir Room	14 Men's Dinner 6:30 pm FH	15 Choir Practice 7:00 pm	16 Jubilee Circle 11:00am (FH)	17 Soup Kitchen 11:00am FH	18
19 Annual Congregation Meeting Pot Luck 12:30 FH	20 	21	22 Choir Practice 7:00 pm	23 Bible Study (6:30 pm FH)	24 Soup Kitchen 11:00am FH	25
26	27	28	29 Choir Practice 7:00 pm	30 Bible Study (6:30 pm FH)	31 Soup Kitchen 11:00am FH	