

# Springdale Communicator

"Taste & See that the Lord is Good!"  
(Psalm 34:8)

December 20,  
2009

Vol. 16  
Issue 39

## Remember in prayer:

- Krista Miller  
(preparations for Middle East cross-cultural trip);
- Joyce Showalter  
(cataract surgery on Dec. 23);
- Nelson & Joan Burkholder;
- The family of Ralph Weaver.



The *Communicator* is a weekly newsletter of the Springdale Mennonite Church, 170 Hall School Road, Waynesboro, VA, 22980, 540-949-8945 (Office) 540-932-1862 (Prayer & Info.)

In these weeks before Christmas, we join with people around the world in preparing to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior. The theme for our Advent worship services is "Coming to Jesus." During this time, we will be exploring the identity of the One for whom we wait: the Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. This is Jesus Christ, Emmanuel, the God-Who-Is-With-Us!



To prepare for our service next Sunday, please reflect on Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 148; Colossians 3:12-17.

## Tending Our Faith Community

If you would like to contribute towards the purchase of **gifts for the children** living in the community of our El Salvador sister church, you can still do so today. Place checks (payable to Springdale with "El Salvador" in the memo line) or designated cash in today's offering.

### Christmas Activities:

- If you purchased a poinsettia, please give cash or checks (payable to Springdale) to Nancy Stoll (\$8.50/each).  
- Our **Christmas Eve Candle-light Service** will begin at 7:30 p.m. this Thurs., Dec. 24, and will include Christmas hymns, selections by the choir, and dramatic readings. Also, **newborn kits** will be collected during this service. Content lists are in the literature rack.  
- Next Sun., Dec. 27, there will be a **continental breakfast** at 9 a.m., with the **worship service** beginning at 10:00. *There will be no Sunday School that morning.*

Mark & Sarah Schloneger & family will be **out of the area** December 24-31. Pastoral care concerns during this time should be directed to a member of the Pastoral Care Team.

Items for next Sunday's **newsletter** should be given to Nancy Stoll by Wednesday morning of this week.

In case of **inclement weather**, check your email, the church Prayer & Information Line (932-1862) or WHSV TV3 for information about cancellation of church services & activities.

On Sun., Jan. 10, our congregation will celebrate our **covenants with God and each other** through communion, footwashing & reaffirming our membership vows. Everyone is invited to participate as we celebrate our unity in Christ!

office@springdalemennonite.org  
www.springdalemennonite.org

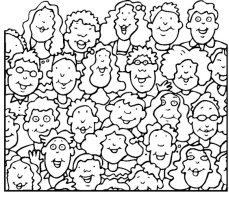
The Finance & Facilities Commission is calling a **congregational meeting** on Wed., Jan. 13, 6:30 p.m., regarding the **church's water system**. Committee findings will be presented and there will be time for questions and feedback. There will be a meal that evening beginning at 5:30.

If you have information about a **missing Peavey bass guitar amplifier head** (the top part w/the control knobs), please contact *Bruce Swartz or Logan Martin*. It has a white plastic guitar pick holder on the front.

**Menno Bucks Café** will be held this morning; then, after a holiday break, the café will be open again starting January 10.

**Congregational Meeting** minutes (Oct. 18) are under the church mailboxes.

## Youth: Giving, Sharing, Learning



**Today:**  
No evening youth meetings

**Thurs., Dec. 24:** Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (7:30 p.m.)

**Jan. 10:** JMYF/MYF Progressive Dinner

## Notes and Correspondence

We have received the following note from *Kate Myers* of MCC's Global Family Program: "We very much appreciate the sponsorship your Sunday School children provided . . . for the girls at the

*Shanti Rani School in Bangladesh. The sponsorship support . . . gives the girls the chance to receive an education without putting an impossible burden on the family. Blessings to you as you, the*

*church, and the Sunday School children minister to others with needs."*



### Items on the Bulletin Board:

- Christmas Eve services at Weavers M.C. and Park View M.C.;
- Shenandoah Valley Bach Festival concert & dessert reception, Jan. 17, in Bridgewater;
- Stewardship University at Springdale, March 20, 2010.

## Embracing Our Broader Community

Next Sun., Dec. 27, is Springdale's monthly opportunity to **sing with the residents** at Stuarts Draft Christian Home. Please be there at 9:30 a.m. if you can help.

Check the bulletin board for information about an **interactive live nativity experience** in Afton, today, 4-9 p.m., and Dec. 21-22, 6-9 p.m.

The final two **performances of DoveTale**, the Christmas story performed by Ted & Company TheaterWorks, will take place at EMHS on Dec. 22 and 23, at 7:30 p.m., and is appropriate for all ages. Advance reserved tickets are available by calling 540-833-6710. General admission tickets will be available at the door. All tickets are \$10.

There will be an **eight-week marital enrichment workshop** starting Jan. 12 at EMU. *Kristy Koser* from Horizons Counseling will lead the workshop: "*Hold Me Tight: Seven Conversations for a Lifetime of Love.*" The workshop will include time for couples to practice conversation skills. More information is available in the literature rack.

### Music and Worship Leaders'

**Retreat** at Laurelville is January 8-10. Gather together with those who are passionate about leading others in worship. You will enjoy quality workshops, resource sharing, fellowship with like-spirited individuals, and opportunities to create worshipful music. Visit [laurelville.org](http://laurelville.org) or call 800-839-1021 to register.



**VA Menn. Missions Note:** Christmas time offers special opportunities for sharing the Gospel in places where there are few believers. Pray for workers in these places that Jesus is lifted up in the celebrations and His light is seen.

Check the bulletin board for information regarding "**Financial Peace University**," a 13-week small group study focusing on beating debt, building wealth, and learning to give. The first class begins January 11 at VMRC.

There is information on the bulletin board regarding a number of **upcoming events** in Harrisonburg:

- A support group for separated & divorced persons;
- A six-session "Defeating Anxiety" class;
- A class on "Becoming Financially Wise";
- A four-session "Marriage Maintenance" seminar.