



**The Messenger  
Of  
Hyde Park Community United Methodist Women  
DECEMBER 2011 ISSUE**

Dear friends,

This will be my last letter to you in the *Messenger*. At our Christmas Unit meeting held on December 7th, I passed the "gavel" to our new president, Nancy McOwen.

I want to use this space to tell all of you how honored I have been to serve as your president for the last four years. I have been supported by wonderful women who served in various capacities on the boards; and I have certainly been supported by each and every one of you with your service - whether it was working at the rummage sale; serving at a funeral receptions; baking cookies; participating in UMW Sunday; or any of the other myriad tasks that have come our way. I am especially grateful for your prayers that have kept UMW alive and well and looking toward the future.

We have a new president and a new board that is committed to serving our organization. We have circle leaders who are excited about continuing our service to missions here in Cincinnati and further afield - helping women, children and youth. God has blessed us.

I wish each of you a wonderful and blessed Christmas holiday season and a happy and healthy New Year.

In Christ's name,

Janet

# Update on Nast Trinity

Roxanne Hamilton

During the 1800's, German immigrants streamed into Cincinnati. Leaders in the Methodist Church saw the need to minister to these newcomers and in 1835, German immigrant William Nast was appointed to serve as pastor for a congregation of German immigrants in Over the Rhine. Out of this beginning grew Nast Memorial Church which merged with Trinity Church in 1958. The name of the new church reflected the combined congregations, Nast Trinity.

Our church has a long history of connection to Nast Trinity, but in 2007, that involvement deepened. In July, Pastor Dave Weaver received a ¾ time appointment to serve at Nast, remaining in pastoral service at HPCUMC as well. Nast became an Awaken the City partner congregation and part of HPCUMC's Community Ministries. Many initiatives are underway there.

## Spiritual Growth

- **Sunday morning worship**—Services led by the Nast Gospel Praise Band are a blended style, casual, lively, welcoming and uplifting. Attendance has increased to 50 or more worshippers each week.

- **Stay for Study**—Adult classes after worship are offered seasonally to strengthen faith development and promote friendship among attendees.

## Outreach to Children

- **Saturday Hoops**—Offered to boys and girls 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade every Saturday, January through March at Over the Rhine Recreation Center. The children develop a connection on the basketball courts, are encouraged in their faith through the church, then prepared to serve in the community.

- **Dribblethon**—Each May, Race Street is blocked off for street basketball. The children demonstrate their skills and there are tournaments with trophies. Local college basketball players attend and sign autographs. There are also faith testimonies, Bible distributions and prayer. Typically, 300 people are attracted to this family friendly event.

- **Vacation Bible School**—Awaken the City interns and mission oriented youth groups provide workers and leadership for this June session of fun, faith development, and friendship.

- **Summer Camp**—In partnership with Pleasant Vineyard Ministries, Nast sends over 75 children from Over the Rhine for a free week at camp the last week of July.

- **Sponsorships**—50 children each year have the use of the Over the Rhine recreation center due to Nast sponsorships.

## Community Service

- **Meals Ministry**—For more than 25 years, meals have been offered to community members in poverty or experiencing homelessness. Currently, Sunday morning breakfast and Sunday evening dinner are offered. About 500-600 meals are served each Sunday through the regular support of many United Methodist churches, including HPCUMC, and other community service organizations.

In addition to these initiatives, other special events occur throughout the year. Upcoming events include a children's Christmas party on December 10<sup>th</sup> that will include a visit from Santa Claus and the opportunity to make ornaments, decorate Christmas cookies, sing carols, see a Christmas clown and puppets, and enjoy a pizza lunch. A family Christmas Eve service (5PM) will include special music and carols, scripture reading and candle lighting, and gifts for all. Christmas Day worship service (10AM) will be offered as well.

The Methodist Church, through Nast, has had a presence in Over the Rhine for more than 175 years. As the church and community face change, let us follow the example of William Nast in ministry to residents of the inner city, supporting Pastor Dave and the Nast Trinity congregation and demonstrating the love of God in the community.

Thank you to the Rev. Dave Weaver for help with this column. Historical information from the Nast Trinity website.

## YEEHAW! CIRCLE NEWS



The Naomi and Lydia Circles met on November 16 in the Welcome Center and enjoyed some tasty treats provided by Shirley Garn, Gerry Googins, Becky Piercy and Yvonne Adams. Following the social time, an interesting and inspirational program was presented by David Adams, board member, Karen Bishop, Director of Admissions and Sister Madeleva Kraus, Pastoral Minister from the Madonna Manor Retirement Center. Their presentations included the history of the manor, description of available services and the spiritual environment of the community.

The combined circles have donated six books to the church library in honor of Johanna Swords for her years of service to UMW and HPCUMC.

The Ruth Circle wishes to thank everyone who helped with the Unit dinner! There were a lot of volunteers doing set-up, serving, clean-up and cooking. Also, a big thank you to the Grace circle who provided center pieces, salad and had a lot of volunteers helping too. Laura Tuzun was a joy to work with and Mary Compston's food was delicious.

The next meeting will be on December 14th at 6:30 in the Welcome Center. Everyone needs to bring wrapped gifts for the children at the Wesley Education Center and 1 or 2 dozen cookies for the Wesley staff. Karen Bruner and Peggy Groenke will be the co-hostesses. Merry Christmas to everyone!

The Joy Circle will be meeting on Thursday evening, the 15th of December at the home of Georgann Bates for the Christmas pot luck. After dinner, there will be a short business meeting and then wish each one a blessed Christmas as we head for home.

The Circle of Grace is December 17th meeting and is at the home of Lucinda Hurst, 3325 Stettinius Avenue, 45208. There will be a small book study as Kim Kramer shares a devotion from a book she is reading and Missy Minghetti will share the *History of Christmas* from a book she is reading. The circle will also have an "optional" Christmas cookie exchange. Please bring 2 dozen to swap.

The next meeting will be Friday, January 20th in the Social Hall from 9:30-11:30am where they will begin planning for the 2012 Graceful Afternoon Tea Party.



UMW District:

Pledge	\$ 7,500.00	
Member Recognition	80.00	
Gift to Missions	300.00	
Gift in Memory	50.00	
World Thank Offering	50.00	
Prayer and Self-Denial	<u>142.00</u>	<u>8,122.00</u>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>(8,634.48)</u></b>
-		
<b><u>BALANCE - November 30, 2011</u></b>	-	<b><u>\$ 7,747.15</u></b>

HPCUMC United Methodist Women

January through November, 2011

<u>Account</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Net</u>
PLEDGES- Members	\$ 7,087.00		\$ 7,087.00
PLEDGES-Members at Large	1,420.00		1,420.00
RUMMAGE SALE FUNDRAISER - Magnets/Shirts	6,502.93 606.00	(73.56) (952.00)	6,429.37 (346.00)
SALAD TASTERS LUNCH	895.00	(326.06)	568.94
RECEPTIONS MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS	650.00	(377.15)	272.85
DONATIONS	425.00		425.00

**INTEREST INCOME**

<b>UNIT MEETING MEALS</b>	597.00	(336.00)	261.00
<b>UMW Programs/Honorariums</b>		(100.00)	(100.00)
<b>COFFEE</b>		(15.00)	(15.00)
<b>SUBSCRIPTIONS/Study Materials</b>		(84.58)	(84.58)
<b>PRINTING,COPYING,PAPER</b>		(449.69)	(449.69)
<b>CHILD CARE</b>		(288.00)	(288.00)
<b>BULK MAIL,CARDS, POSTAGE</b>		(187.52)	(187.52)
<b>GIFTS FOR CUSTODIANS BANK CHARGES/Deposit Slips</b>			
<b>UMW DISTRICT:</b>			
<b>PLEDGE</b>		(7,500.00)	(7,500.00)
<b>SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP</b>		(80.00)	(80.00)
<b>GIFT TO MISSIONS</b>	300.00	(300.00)	-
<b>GIFT IN MEMORY THANK OFFERING</b>		(50.00)	(50.00)
<b>PRAYER &amp; SELF DENIAL</b>	142.00	(142.00)	-
<b>LOCAL MISSIONS:</b>			
<b>Quilting Group Nast Trinity</b>		(417.43)	(417.43)
<b>CURRENT INCOME/EXPENSES</b>	<b><u>\$18,624.93</u></b>	<b><u>\$(11,728.99)</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 6,895.94</u></b>

<b>12/31/2010 Adjusted Bank Account Balance</b>	<b>\$ 8,651.21</b>
<b>Less: Mission donations (2010 Funds)</b>	<b><u>(7,800.00)</u></b>
	<b>\$ 851.21</b>
<b>Add: 2011 Net Income</b>	<b><u>6,895.94</u></b>
<b>11/30/2011 Bank Account Balance</b>	<b><u>\$ 7,747.15</u></b>



## *2012-2014 UMW Bluebook (directory)*

*Please check your old Bluebooks for any suggestions, changes or updates for the new upcoming 2012-2014 UMW Bluebook which should be ready at the beginning of the year.*

*Contact: UMW Directory Editor Irene Hess*

*Phone: 859-331-4991*

*Email: [ihess7@aol.com](mailto:ihess7@aol.com)*



### **December Changes for UMW Members**

-  
**Change of addresses:**

**Ruth Davis**

2401 Ingleside Avenue, #7B  
Cincinnati, OH 45206

**Herb and Johanna Swords**

Frasier Meadows Retirement Community  
350 Ponca Place Apt. 265  
Boulder, CO 80303

**Bettye Mistak**

127 Brixworth Lane, #3  
Nashville, TN 37205

**A new winter yoga session will be starting Tuesday, Jan. 10<sup>th</sup>. The class is on Tuesday mornings from 9:30 – 10:45 a.m. in The Little Theater. Yoga is a wonderful way for people of all ages and fitness levels to stretch, build strength in their muscles and relieve stress from everyday life. You do not need to have any previous Yoga experience. All fitness levels welcome!**

**Wear comfortable clothes and bring a yoga/exercise mat.**

**If you have any questions contact Kim Kramer at [kkramer1@fuse.net](mailto:kkramer1@fuse.net) or 469-6799.**



## A MESSAGE FOR THE NEW UMW BOARD

The first board meeting of the new year and with the new board will be held on January 4th at 1:00 PM in Nancy McOwen's home, 2940 Observatory Avenue. This will be a dessert meeting and one that will set the calendar for 2012. Please RSVP to Nancy by phone or email by January 2, 2012.

**HYDE PARK COMMUNITY UMC  
1345 GRACE AVENUE  
CINCINNATI, OH 45208**

**UMW Officers: 2012 – 2013**

(All addresses are in Cincinnati, unless noted otherwise)

### BOARD OFFICERS

**President:** Nancy McOwen [TBMcOwen@fuse.net](mailto:TBMcOwen@fuse.net)  
2940 Observatory Ave., 45208  
871-0197

**Vice President:** OPEN

**Secretary:** Janet Zeigler [jbzeigler1@gmail.com](mailto:jbzeigler1@gmail.com)  
3553 Royal Stewart Court, 45245  
943-7661

**Treasurer:** Janet Woeste [jwoeste@hotmail.com](mailto:jwoeste@hotmail.com)  
3573 Kroger Avenue, 45226  
871-1182

**Assistant Treasurer:** Karen Malone [krmalone@mindspring.com](mailto:krmalone@mindspring.com)  
  
6213 Kenwood Hills Drive, 45227  
  
272-3407

**Nominations:** To be determined at a later date.

**Program Resources:** Roxanne Hamilton [rocky103167@aol.com](mailto:rocky103167@aol.com)  
  
1194 Apple Hill Road, 45230  
231-3159

### MISSION COORDINATORS

**Spiritual Growth:** Unit Meeting Devotions –  
(Divided among three) Mary Pearce [mnbpearce@fuse.net](mailto:mnbpearce@fuse.net)  
  
6135 Wasigo Drive, 45230

231-4197

Bible Study –  
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6609 Spindlewick Lane, 45230  
386-8620

Ash Wednesday –  
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3519 Zumstein Avenue, 45208  
871-7059

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and Social Action:

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321-8047  
  
731-4123

## **CIRCLE LEADERS**

**Naomi and Lydia:**

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232-0957

**Ruth:**

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**Dianna Dixon**     [ddixon29@cinci.rr.com](mailto:ddixon29@cinci.rr.com)  
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**Grace:**

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1875 Berkshire Club Drive, 45230  
513-231-1855

## **A MERRY CHRISTMAS STORY**

I remember my first Christmas adventure with Grandma. I was just a kid.

I remember tearing across town on my bike to visit her on the day my big sister dropped the bomb: "There is no Santa Claus," she jeered. "Even dummies know that!"

My Grandma was not the gushy kind, never had been. I fled to her that day because I knew she would be straight with me. I knew Grandma always told the truth, and I knew that the truth always went down a whole lot easier when swallowed with one of her "world-famous" cinnamon buns. I knew they were world-famous, because Grandma said so. It had to be true.

Grandma was home, and the buns were still warm. Between bites, I told her everything. She was ready for me. "No Santa Claus?" she snorted...."Ridiculous! Don't believe it. That rumor has been going around for years, and it makes me mad, plain mad!! Now, put on your coat, and let's go."

"Go? Go where, Grandma?" I asked. I hadn't even finished my second world-famous cinnamon bun. "Where" turned out to be Kerby's General Store, the one store in town that had a little bit of just about everything. As we walked through its doors, Grandma handed me ten dollars. That was a bundle in those days. "Take this money," she said, "and buy something for someone who needs it. I'll wait for you in the car." Then she turned and walked out of Kerby's.

I was only eight years old. I'd often gone shopping with my mother, but never had I shopped for anything all by myself. The store seemed big and crowded, full of people scrambling to finish their Christmas shopping.

For a few moments I just stood there, confused, clutching that ten-dollar bill, wondering what to buy, and who on earth to buy it for.

I thought of everybody I knew: my family, my friends, my neighbors, the kids at school, the people who

went to my church.

I was just about thought out, when I suddenly thought of Bobby Decker. He was a kid with bad breath and messy hair, and he sat right behind me in Mrs. Pollock's grade-two class. Bobby Decker didn't have a coat. I knew that because he never went out to recess during the winter. His mother always wrote a note, telling the teacher that he had a cough, but all we kids knew that Bobby Decker didn't have a cough; he didn't have a good coat. I fingered the ten-dollar bill with growing excitement. I would buy Bobby Decker a coat!

I settled on a red corduroy one that had a hood to it. It looked real warm, and he would like that.

"Is this a Christmas present for someone?" the lady behind the counter asked kindly, as I laid my ten dollars down. "Yes, ma'am," I replied shyly. "It's for Bobby."

The nice lady smiled at me, as I told her about how Bobby really needed a good winter coat. I didn't get any change, but she put the coat in a bag, smiled again, and wished me a Merry Christmas.

That evening, Grandma helped me wrap the coat (a little tag fell out of the coat, and Grandma tucked it in her Bible) in Christmas paper and ribbons and wrote, "To Bobby, From Santa Claus" on it. Grandma said that Santa always insisted on secrecy. Then she drove me over to Bobby Decker's house, explaining as we went that I was now and forever officially, one of Santa's helpers.

Grandma parked down the street from Bobby's house, and she and I crept noiselessly and hid in the bushes by his front walk. Then Grandma gave me a nudge. "All right, Santa Claus," she whispered, "get going."

I took a deep breath, dashed for his front door, threw the present down on his step, pounded his door and flew back to the safety of the bushes and Grandma.

Together we waited breathlessly in the darkness for the front door to open. Finally it did, and there stood Bobby.

Fifty years haven't dimmed the thrill of those moments spent shivering, beside my Grandma, in Bobby Decker's bushes. That night, I realized that those awful rumors about Santa Claus were just what Grandma said they were -- ridiculous. Santa was alive and well, and we were on his team.

I still have the Bible, with the coat tag tucked inside: \$19.95.

May you always have LOVE to share,  
HEALTH to spare and FRIENDS that care...

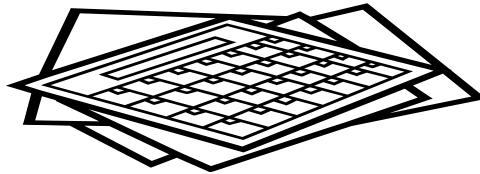
And may you always believe in the magic of Santa Claus!





**UMW Messenger Deadline:**

**January 6, 2012**



**Mark Your Calendars!**

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**Jan. 4**

**Board Meeting at Nancy McOwen's home**