

**THE ORIGINAL**

**CHRISTMAS  
ALBUM**

1. ZECHARIAH'S SONG OF FAITH

2. THE ANGELS' SONG OF PEACE

3. MARY'S SONG OF TRUST

4. SIMEON'S SONG OF HOPE

NON-PROFIT ORG  
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CINCINNATI, OHIO  
PERMIT NO. 2331

**Hyde Park**  
COMMUNITY  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
1345 Grace Ave.  
Cincinnati OH 45208  
513-871-1345

# Advent

Dear Friends in Christ,

There's a song in the air!

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus, the Christ, whose love transforms our lives, we hear beautiful songs of Christmas everywhere we go.

This Advent, join us as we go back to the "Original Christmas Album" to remember the songs of the people who were present the first Christmas:

- Zechariah, whose song of faith helped to prepare the way for the birth of Jesus.
- The Angels, whose joyful song broke through the Bethlehem skies as they announced the coming of the Prince of Peace.
- Mary, who sang a simple song of trust as she responded with obedience to God's call upon her life.
- Simeon, whose song reminds us of the salvation of our God and the hope that is ours through the coming of Christ.

This season of the year people are very open to invitations from their friends, family members, coworkers, and neighbors to join them in worship. The music and joy of the season will lift your spirits and will inspire your guests. Invite someone new to join you, to share this season of hope, love, joy, and peace.

This season is also a time to celebrate the birth of the Christ-Child by giving a gift to the reason for the season: Jesus. It is a perfect time to share our blessings with our mission partners who extend the love of Christ to those in need of hope and healing.

May God richly bless you this season as you respond to God's gift of Jesus with a compassionate heart and a song of joy!

In Christmas Joy,  
Cathy and Doug Johns  
Senior Pastors



## Join us for Worship in Advent!

Hyde Park Community  
Sundays, 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.

Over-the-Rhine Community  
Sundays, 9:30 a.m.

**Sunday, November 29**  
"The Original Christmas Album:  
Zechariah's Song of Faith"  
Luke 1:67-79

**Sunday, December 6**  
"The Original Christmas Album:  
The Angels' Song of Peace  
Luke 2:13-14

**Sunday, December 13**  
"The Original Christmas Album:  
Mary's Song of Trust"  
Luke 1:46-56

**Sunday, December 20**  
"The Original Christmas Album:  
Simeon's Song of Hope"  
Luke 2:25-35  
Service of Lessons and Carols

You are invited to participate in a church wide book study during Advent. The theme of the study is "The Original Christmas Album." Books are available in the Welcome Center, online at [hydeparkchurch.org](http://hydeparkchurch.org) or by contacting the church office.

# Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship

4:00 p.m.\*

Families of all ages gather to experience the Christmas Story at Hyde Park Community United Methodist Church, led by our children as liturgists and the Joy/Sunshine Choirs. The Rev. Doug Johns will provide the message.



5:30 p.m.

Celebrate Christmas at Over-The-Rhine Community Church, 1310 Race Street, the downtown location of Hyde Park Community United Methodist Church. The Christmas Celebration will be led by Pastor Ian and the Gospel band.

6:00 p.m.\*

A service celebrating the birth of Christ Jesus with Holy Communion at Hyde Park Community United Methodist Church. The Rev. Dave Weaver will share the Christmas message and Chris Schaljo will lead the music.

8:30 p.m.\*

Pre-service music, featuring the Cathedral Choir and the Canterbury Brass, begins at 8:30 at Hyde Park Community United Methodist Church. The service celebrating the birth of Christ Jesus begins at 9:00. The Rev Dr. Cathy Johns will provide the message.

11:00 p.m.

A service celebrating the birth of Christ Jesus at Hyde Park Community United Methodist Church featuring the Wesley Choir. The Rev. Dr. Cathy Johns will provide the message.

**\*Childcare provided**



## Poinsettias

Poinsettias will decorate both the Hyde Park and OTR locations on Sunday, December 20th. Poinsettias may be taken home on Christmas Eve. Cost: \$12.00 per poinsettia. To order, contact the church office, 871-1345. The deadline to order is Monday, December 14th.

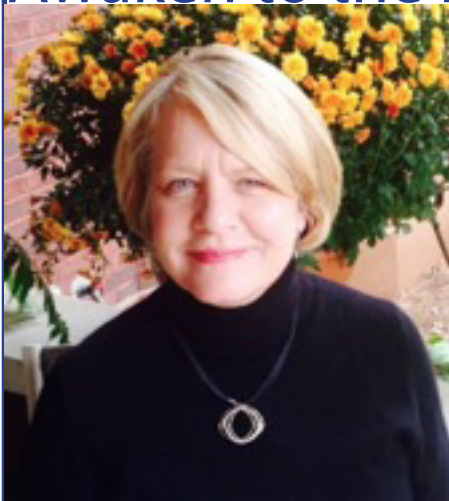
# Awaken to the Never-Ending Birth of God

An Advent Quiet Reflection Experience

Saturday, December 12, 2015 from 8:30am - 2:30pm

Retreat Leader: Linda Reynolds, M.ED., M.A.

RSVP by Dec. 6 for Childcare; by Dec. 10 to guarantee lunch. To register, please call or email Lisa Foley in the church office at (lfoley@hpcumc.org, 513-871-1345). The cost of the retreat is \$10.00 and includes lunch.



## Children's & Family Ministry

Contact the Director of Children's & Family Ministry,  
Sara O'Connor at 513-979-8181 or [soconnor@hpcumc.org](mailto:soconnor@hpcumc.org).

### Life Explorers (5th and 6th graders) Christmas Party

*Come and invite a friend to a special birthday party for Jesus on Friday, December 4th from 7:30-9:30 pm.*

5th and 6th graders are invited to come to a birthday party for Jesus. We will meet at the Fun Factory in Norwood for a fun evening of friends, skating, pizza and cupcakes. We will also celebrate Jesus' birthday. Cost: \$8/person – which includes admission, skate rental, and all you can eat pizza & drinks. Please RSVP to Sara O'Connor at [soconnor@hpcumc.org](mailto:soconnor@hpcumc.org) by Sunday, November 29.

### Family Christmas Mission Project

*Serve as a family at Wesley Chapel Saturday, December 12th 12:00-3:00 pm.*

Looking for a fun way to serve together this Christmas season? One of our ministry partners, Wesley Chapel, has invited our children and their families to serve the children at Wesley Chapel. We will meet at HPCUMC and carpool to Wesley Chapel and present a fun and easy Christmas "cardboard testimony" with four of the nativity characters. Children and families will have the opportunity to dress the part for the nativity story and have fun acting the parts. Please let me know if you or your child would like a part. We will be serving lunch, Christmas cookies, and making a manger scene with each child at Wesley Chapel for them to take home. You won't want to miss this fun time of serving and sharing the message of Christmas with others! Mark your calendars for Saturday, December 12th from 12:00-3:00 pm. Please save toilet paper and paper towel rolls for this event. You can drop them off in the Children's Ministry office up until the day of the mission project. Please RSVP to Sara O'Connor at [soconnor@hpcumc.org](mailto:soconnor@hpcumc.org) by Sunday, December 4, and mention if your family or child would like a part in the Christmas cardboard testimony.

# Student Ministry

Contact the Director of Student Ministry, Ken Miller, at 513-979-8279 or [kmiller@hpcumc.org](mailto:kmiller@hpcumc.org)

## Rothenberg Gifts Service Night

**Sunday, November 29th from 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm**

One of HPCUMC's ministry partners is the community elementary school in Over-the-Rhine, Rothenberg Preparatory Academy. We partner with Rothenberg to help tutor, provide encouragement, provide thanksgiving baskets, and Christmas gifts for the 5th and 6th graders. On Sunday, November 29th, our youth fellowship students will select a child, purchase a gift, and wrap the gift for one of the 5th and 6th graders at Rothenberg. Please bring \$20 to youth fellowship on the 29th to purchase the gift for the student you select.

## Confirmation Parents Luncheon

**Sunday, December 6th at 11:00 am in the Little Theater**

If you have a student who is interested in exploring confirmation we will have an informational lunch meeting at 11:00 am in the Little Theater on Sunday December 6th. This is a free lunch, but please RSVP to [kmiller@hpcumc.org](mailto:kmiller@hpcumc.org) by November 29 if you plan on attending.

## Christmas Festival of Lights at the Zoo

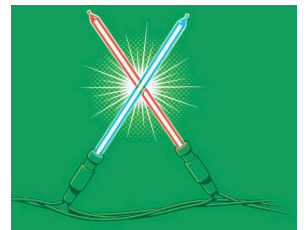
**Sunday, December 6th from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm**

We will meet at the church at 4:00 pm and return around 8:00 pm. Please bring \$18 for your zoo ticket and money for a meal or snack while at the zoo.

## Star Wars the Force Awakens Weekend Movie Outing!

**Sunday, December 20th from 5:30 pm to 10:00 pm**

We will meet at the church at 5:30 pm for dinner and then go to Oakley Cinema. We have group tickets reserved. Please bring \$14 for the movie. We will be back at the church at 10:00 pm. *Parents this film is rated PG-13 for action, adventure, and fantasy. Please use your judgement in determining if this film is appropriate for your child.*



# Senior Adult Ministry

## Second Thursday

Our 2nd Thursday group will meet on Thursday, December 10 at 10:00 am in the Little Theater for donuts, coffee and fellowship. At 10:30 am Rev. William Patterson will lead a program called, "A Man Called Jesus - The Gospels Side by Side." The program will present a new and different look at the life and teachings of Jesus through the use of drama, art, music, and seeing the gospel story as told by the four gospel writers.

## First Friday Niters

Our First Friday Niters will have a Christmas ham dinner on Friday, December 4th at 7:00 pm in the Refectory. Following dinner we will move to the Sanctuary to listen to *The Four Leads*, an award winning babershop quartet from Cincinnati.

# Community Ministry

We celebrate relationships in the community this Christmas by sharing God's love in service with others. Below are a few ways you can make a difference in our community and around the world.

## Madisonville Education and Assistance Center

(MEAC) Choice Pantry serves families and individuals in Madisonville and the surrounding areas. Donations of new items for all ages for the Happy Holiday Shop are always needed – clothing, household items, small household appliances, games, and toys. Donations may be brought to MEAC on Saturday, December 5 from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. Contact [carolyn.moseley@fuse.net](mailto:carolyn.moseley@fuse.net) to help serve clients of MEAC during any of the following days and times:

### MEAC Marketplace Serving Opportunity:

Monday, November 30: 12:00 pm (Noon) – 5:00 pm  
Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday, December 1-3: 9:30 am – 3:30 pm

### Happy Holiday Shop Serving Opportunity:

Tuesday, December 8: 9:30 am – 3:00 pm  
Wednesday, December 9: 2:30 pm – 7:30 pm  
Thursday, December 10: 9:30 am – 3:00 pm

### Secret Santa Shop Serving Opportunity:

Friday, December 11: 2:30 pm - 5:00 pm

## Christmas Gifts for Rothenberg

Join our Children's Ministries, Youth Ministries, HPCUMC Preschool, and HPCUMC Rothenberg mentors as we provide Christmas gifts for the children at

Rothenberg Preparatory Academy. Take a tag off of the tree in the Welcome Center and mark your name down on the sign out sheet. Please return your gifts to Sarah Putman in the main office by December 6. For more information, please contact Sarah Putman at or 871-1345 or [sputman@hpcumc.org](mailto:sputman@hpcumc.org).



Saengerfest has a long tradition in Cincinnati. Enjoy music of the season during this multi-venue music festival in Over-the-Rhine.

December 4: HPCUMC Choir performs at 7:00 & 8:00 pm. The OTRCC Gospel Band performs at 9:00 & 10:00 pm at OTRCC. December 5: Concerts at 5:00, 6:00, 7:00, & 8:00 pm. Tickets can be purchased at [christmassaengerfest.com/tickets/](http://christmassaengerfest.com/tickets/).



## Alternative Gifts

Is there a person in your life who already has everything? A person who is really hard to shop for? A special teacher who might appreciate something other than a new desk trinket? Consider the Alternative Christmas Gift opportunity.

The Alternate Christmas Gift opportunity is to make a donation that will support Bishop Palmer and the West Ohio Conference's Imagine No Malaria initiative. A \$10 donation will provide a mosquito bed net that will save the lives of two children in Africa.

If you would like to participate in Alternative Christmas Gifts this year, stop by the Welcome Center between worship services beginning November 29 or come to the church office during normal business hours. Your donation can be made out to Hyde Park Community UMC with Imagine No Malaria written in the note section. Your generous gift will be receipted with a card that can be given to the people in your life for whom alternative gifts are the perfect solution to the problem of what to buy.





# Global Outreach

Dear Members and Friends of Hyde Park Community UMC,

Merry Christmas! As the Christmas season approaches and begins to ascend into full swing merriment, we would like to invite you to partner with us, in the spirit of giving, to support the Global Outreach ministries that we have here at our church.

We have a strong history of faithfully providing for our global partners in meeting the various needs that they have. We invite you to prayerfully seek in giving an extraordinary gift this Christmas season to the Global Outreach Ministry Partners at Hyde Park Community UMC.

In giving to our Christmas offering for Global Ministry Partners, you will be supporting:

The Samara United Methodist Church and the Volga District of Eruasia Central Conference, Russia – through our relationship with Samara UMC, we assist the church in achieving its vision of being a dynamic and growing church meeting the physical and spiritual needs of those living in their community.



United Methodist Churches in Chemnitz, Freiberg, Plauen, and Augustusburg, Germany – the ministry in all of these former East Germany cities includes tearing down and restoring church buildings in order to begin ministries of healing, education, and leadership development in the areas where they find themselves.

Faith Academy, Haiti – The Faith Academy was started by a Haitian Christian, Fanfan Janvier. The school educates and feeds over 300 children a day. Education in Haiti is not free, but through the assistance of friends and churches like HPCUMC in the USA, the school can charge a nominal fee. Because of your financial support, many children who would not be able to receive education otherwise are not only learning but receiving a substantial meal each day as well.



**The Henry's in Asia Minor** – missionaries to Asia Minor serve the community by providing energy, refueling, healthy boundaries and joy to others who have joined the mission field in Asia Minor.



**The Henderson Settlement and Red Bird Mission, Kentucky** – both of these partners seek to meet the needs of those in poverty in



rural Appalachia, Kentucky. The Henderson Settlement seeks to provide for basic needs (education, housing, food, clothing, jobs, etc) through God's love. The Red Bird Mission School has educated and shaped the faith of children from families of coal miners and loggers from three different counties.



Our specific goal for providing for the needs of all of our Global Ministry Partners is \$60,000. With your generous support we will provide leadership training, education for those in poverty, supplies and staffing resources for health needs, as well as training and care for those who need support.

You can make your donation to the Global Ministry Partners by writing your check to Hyde Park Community UMC. Please use the enclosed envelope or mark your check Christmas Global Offering. Bring it with you to church or mail it to the church office. To provide the most assistance to our partners, we will use your gift where it can do the most good by combining it with the gifts of others to fulfill the mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Your faithfulness in giving above and beyond this Christmas season may save the life of a person in Africa from malaria, enhance the lives of children in Haiti, provide a Christ-centered place of worship amidst predominantly atheistic surroundings in Russia and Germany, or help to maintain the health and wellness of Americans who have followed God into full-time missions in Asia Minor. Keep Christ at the center of your Christmas and into the New Year. Join us and be a part of making a difference.

In Christ,

Rev. Doug Johns & Sarah Putman

Co-Senior Pastor/Community Ministry & Global Outreach Ministry Assistant