



## Advent and Christmas

*Watching...Longing...Waiting...*

by The Rev. Dr. Russell C. Sullivan, pastor

One of my favorite poets, Ann Weems, penned these words about the Advent season:

The world waits in December darkness  
for a glimpse of the Light of God.

Even those who snarl "Humbug!"  
and chase away the carolers  
have been looking toward the skies.

The one who declared he never would forgive  
has forgiven,  
and those who left home  
have returned,  
and even wars are halted,  
if briefly,  
as the whole world looks starward.

In the December darkness  
we peer from our windows  
watching for an angel with rainbow wings  
to announce the Hope of the World.

Watching ... longing ... waiting – those are "Advent words," and they express what is often in our hearts. We yearn for healing and wholeness. We wait for the day when suffering and pain will be finished. We desire justice for the poor and the disadvantaged. We long for the Holy to break into our ordinary living. We long for Christmas.

Please note the worship and special offerings designed to answer our deep Advent longings.

**First Sunday of Advent**, December 3 – At 8:45 a.m. we enjoy the delicious Advent Breakfast prepared by Sue

### IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

December 2	Advent Breakfast Setup (9:15 a.m.)
December 5	Hanging of the Greens (5:30 p.m.)
December 16	Poinsettia Setup (9:15 a.m.)
December 17	A Festival of Carols
December 19	Trustees
December 20	Longest Night Service
December 24	Advent IV (10:00 a.m.) Christmas Eve (6:00 and 11:00 p.m.)
December 25	The Nativity of Christ (Merry Christmas!)

For a complete calendar, please visit  
[www.pinestreet.org](http://www.pinestreet.org)

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and Mike Hogarth. I will be preaching at 10:00 a.m. My title is “Longings,” and my text is Jeremiah 33:14-16.

**Hanging of the Greens**, Tuesday, December 5, at 6:00 p.m. – Join your church family for dinner and decorating of the church. It’s a lovely evening for all.

**Second Sunday of Advent**, December 10 – I will be preaching that morning on the subject of “Advent Questions.” The text will be Malachi 3:1-4.

**Third Sunday of Advent**, December 17, at 10:00 a.m. – During worship our choir will perform “A Festival of Carols,” a modern “lessons and carols” that combines newly composed selections with classic carols. Following worship plan to stay for the Christmas Tea in Fellowship Hall.

**Longest Night Service**, Wednesday, December 20, at 7:30 p.m. – The Christmas Season is not always joyful. Many people feel sadness around the holidays. This beautiful, contemplative service helps us hear Christ’s voice in the midst of our longest nights.

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**, December 24, at 10:00 a.m. – Our parish associate, the Rev. Heather Sigler, will be preaching. (There will be no church school that morning.)

**Christmas Eve** – Worship at 6:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. – Communion and candle lighting will take place at both services.

Advent and Christmas bring great joy, delight, and meaning. Keep looking starward!

## Boyd Memorial Center Turns 100: 1916 – 2016

*Part IX – What Is Happening Today at Boyd*

by Kenneth C. Hays, *Church Historian*

I have chosen to end this series on the history of Boyd Memorial Center by highlighting the activities of Downtown Daily Bread (DDB) and the Adult Learning Center (ALC) that take place today on a daily basis. The following is a walk-through of the three floors and what is happening on each.

### **Lower Level / Basement:**

DDB kitchen for food preparation; DDB dining room with tables and chairs; refrigeration and freezer units; food storage areas; shower facilities; offices for counseling services; 55 lockers; clothing room; mail delivery service for 250; client telephone service; washer and dryer and client laundry tokens; monthly haircuts; food vouchers; bus passes; photo identification resources; veteran assistance

### **First Floor / Main Level:**

Computers for ALC evening classes; privacy cubicles/carrels; classroom for English as a Second Language; meeting space for Alcoholics Anonymous; office and meeting spaces for professional use and client counseling; tutoring and class instruction in life skills for DDB clients; staff kitchen

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**Upper Floor / Gymnasium:**

Drop-In-Center with 30 cots for clients to rest, socialize, and connect to the services of counselors and social service agencies – open daily 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; kitchen (renovated in 2009) used for coffee and snacks service in the Drop-in-Center; cell phone charging stations; Emergency Night Shelter with 30 beds open December 1 – March 31, daily from 7:30 p.m. – 6:00 a.m.; office space for outside agencies; food and paper goods storage.

To help you further understand the scope of Pine Street’s ministries, here are a few numerical statistics:

- 2,400 meals served each month
- 900 pounds of produce grown, harvested, and donated by volunteers
- 175 bus passes distributed each month
- 30 haircuts each month
- 100 food vouchers distributed each month
- 100 clients served by counselors each day
- 250 clients receive their mail at DDB each week
- 10 laundry clients each week
- 60-90 Drop-in-Center daily attendance
- 30-35 volunteers each week

The entire Boyd Center is being utilized by Downtown Daily Bread and the Adult Learning Center – both mission projects of Pine Street Presbyterian Church in partnership with the community. Community participation includes 20 churches and synagogues, UPMC, Pinnacle, Tri-County OIC, Salvation Army, Crisis Intervention, and Case Management Unit.

I recently had the privilege to tour the building, and I came away very impressed and in awe of the programs and services offered and taking place in the Boyd Center. Every inch of that 101-year-old red brick building is being used for mission and caring for the hungry, homeless, and many people in need of help and assistance in some way. I admit that I became overwhelmed with a great emotion at seeing so many people – volunteers and professionals alike – giving their time and energy in helping those many clients who come through the doors of the Boyd Center.

I believe that Mr. John Yeomans Boyd, who bequeathed the money to Pine Street Church for the building, would be very pleased to see it being used in such great service to the community 101 years later. We, the members of Pine Street Church, need to continue to support Downtown Daily Bread and its expanded ministry, including the Adult Learning Center. You have to see what is happening at Boyd to believe it and rejoice in this ministry. Thanks be to God for all of it.

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# The Emergency Night Shelter at Downtown Daily Bread

by Anne Guenin, *Director, Downtown Daily Bread*

Downtown Daily Bread is set to open an emergency night shelter for up to of 30 men each evening from December 1, 2017, through March 31, 2018. It will operate daily from 7:30 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. and will be staffed by paid night managers and volunteers. Volunteers are being recruited to work in the evenings from 7:00 p.m. to 10 p.m., in teams of two, to assist the Night Shelter Managers as clients arrive for the evening. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Linda Gzehoviak, Director of Development for Downtown Daily Bread. A review of all policies and procedures will be provided for all volunteers.

As this is a new program meant to meet an emergency need in our community, Downtown Daily Bread is seeking funding for the following:

<b>SALARY - NIGHT MANAGERS</b>	<b>\$35,000</b>
<b>CUSTODIAL</b>	<b>\$ 5,000</b>
<b>MAINTENANCE AND UTILITIES</b>	<b>\$ 5,000</b>

As winter is upon us, Downtown Daily Bread is in need of the following:

1. Men's Jackets and Coats
2. Men's Sweaters – L, XL, XXL
3. Men's Gloves – L, XL
4. Turkeys and Hams
5. Salt, Pepper, Garlic Salt, Lawry's Salt

**Downtown Daily Bread is always in need of donations for its general operations. Please consider a cash donation. If you would like to volunteer, contact Linda at (717) 238-9304 ext. 105. Visit [www.downtowndailybread.org](http://www.downtowndailybread.org) for more information. Thank you!**

## Upcoming MAPS Events

**December 17 at 10:00 a.m.**

*A Festival of Carols* featuring the Pine Street Chancel Choir

The service of worship will feature the Chancel Choir singing Joseph Martin's inspired new setting of *A Festival of Carols*, which has been described as "overflowing with tuneful praise." The service combines readings, anthems, and carols, including *Once in Royal David's City; O Come, All Ye Faithful; Of the Father's Love Begotten; Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus; Silent Night; In Dulci Jubilo; Angels We Have Heard on High* and many more! A festive Christmas Tea will follow the service.



**December 24 at 11:00 p.m.**

*Christmas from Around the World* featuring the Pine Street Chancel Choir

The Chancel Choir will lead the popular candlelight Christmas Eve service, featuring music from across the Christian tradition, including selections from the Orthodox Slavonic, Germanic, French, and other repertoires, reminding us of the world-wide celebration of Christmas. Holy Communion will be served. All are welcome.

**Concerts in the Winter-Spring of 2018**

**February 11 at 3:00 p.m.**

*Bravo, Bravissimo!* featuring baritone Jonathan Hays

**March 18 at 3:00 p.m.**

*Welcome Home* featuring the Lebanon Valley College Concert Choir

**Lenten Recitals every Tuesday in Lent at 12:15 p.m.** followed by a light lunch

**May 19 at 7:00 p.m.**

*Organ Spectacular* featuring Peter Richard Conte (Wanamaker Grand Court Organist) and flugelhornist Andrew Ennis

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# Giving Tree 2017: Let the Light Shine

by Laura Messner

As Christmas approaches, remember to shine a ray of light on those less fortunate by participating in the Pine Street Giving Tree. Gifts should be returned on December 3 and 10.

**Community Check-Up Center** in Hall Manor provides compassionate medical care to low-income families. Encourage reading by donating gently-used children's books. No wrapping, please.

**HELP** (a program of Christian Churches United) provides one-time assistance to those needing fuel oil, with payment directly to the heating vendor. Checks should be made out to HELP.

**A Family in Need** (referred by the Harrisburg Center for Peace and Justice) is Jasmine and her four young children. Jasmine needs diapers, as well as winter clothing for two boys (sizes 7 and 5T) and two girls (sizes 2T and 18 months). Clothing may be gently used! All gifts for this family should be wrapped or bagged.

**Delta Community** provides transitional housing for single-parent families trying to break the cycle of poverty. Please wrap or bag any gifts for Delta Community.

If you ever volunteered to mentor students at the **Adult Learning Center**, you know the rewards of helping those who struggle to better themselves. You can support the ALC by providing items displayed in the Gathering Place.

**Downtown Daily Bread** is doing a small gift give-away to provide a bit of Christmas spirit to its clients. On December 17, after their noon meal, clients may choose some gifts, such as snack bars, hand warmers, and personal care items. Samples of desired gifts are at the Giving Tree tables. Please, no wrapping.

If you have any questions regarding the Giving Tree, please contact Laura Messner at [llmessner@yahoo.com](mailto:llmessner@yahoo.com) or (717) 364-5808.

## Doing Good – Lowering Taxes

As hard as it is to believe, the end of 2017 will soon be upon us. There are ways to support Pine Street Church and potentially lower your federal income taxes. Here are a few simple ideas to consider:

- If you are older than 70 ½, you may direct a distribution of up to \$100,000 from your individual retirement account directly to the church. You are not required to include

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the distribution in your taxable income, and you do not claim a charitable deduction on your federal income tax return.

- If you own publically traded stocks, exchange traded funds, or certain mutual funds, you may transfer ownership of them to the church and obtain a charitable deduction based on the fair market value on the date of transfer.
- If you own a life insurance policy with cash value that you no longer need, consider transferring ownership to the church. You will be entitled to a charitable deduction based on the value of the policy on the date of the transfer.
- Simplicity is sometimes best. A cash gift to the church – writing a check – is an easy way to make a gift.

Exact tax savings depend on your personal situation, and you should consult your personal tax advisor to determine those savings. Bear in mind that gifts must be made in 2017 to create an income tax deduction for 2017. Checks mailed in 2017 do count as 2017 contributions, even if the check is received after the end of the year.

## Year End Giving

*It's Not Too Late!!*

Please consider completing your 2017 pledge prior to the end of the year. Checks may be placed in the offering plate on Sundays, or mailed to the church. In order to count as a 2017 contribution, the postmark must be on or before December 31.

As you are reviewing your year-end giving, please also consider donations to Downtown Daily Bread, the Adult Learning Center, Stephen Ministry, and Music at Pine Street. These are Pine Street's outreaches to the community, and all members of the church benefit from strong, well-funded ministries.

Finally, if you have not returned your 2018 Estimated Giving Card, it's not too late!! Call the church office or Anne Guenin 717-238-9304 ext. 108 if you have any questions about your contributions.

## Thank You Corner

Thank you to Stevi Sharp for her leadership of the Extending God's Love Core Ministry Team. Stevi is leading many team projects and inspiring mission every day. She is reaching out and connecting members of our community to mission at Pine Street. The staff of the church and Downtown Daily Bread are very thankful for her efforts.

Thanks to everyone who made the November Music at Pine Street concerts such a success.

**Pine Street Presbyterian Church**  
310 N. Third Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17101

PERIODICALS  
POSTAGE PAID  
AT HARRISBURG, PA 17105

www.pinestreet.org | (717) 238-9304

<b>Friday, December 1</b> Psalms 84; 148 Isa. 24:14-23 1 Peter 3:13-4:6 Matt. 20:17-28	147:12-20 Amos 4:6-13 2 Peter 3:11-18 Matt. 21:33-46	Matt. 23:1-12	<b>Wednesday, Dec. 20</b> Psalms 50; 147:1-11 1 Sam. 2:1b-10 Titus 2:1-10 Luke 1:26-36	<b>Tuesday, December 26</b> Psalms 116; 146 2 Chron. 24:17-22 Acts 6:1-7 Acts 7:59-8:8
<b>Saturday, December 2</b> Psalms 63; 149 Evening: Pss. 125; 90 Micah 7:11-20 1 Peter 4:7-19 Matt. 20:29-34	<b>Friday, December 8</b> Psalms 102; 148 Amos 5:1-17 Jude 1-16 Matt. 22:1-14	<b>Thursday, December 14</b> Psalms 18:1-20; 147:12-20 Amos 9:1-10 Rev. 2:8-17 Matt. 23:13-26	<b>Thursday, December 21</b> Psalms 18:1-20; 147:12-20 2 Sam. 7:1-17 Titus 2:11-3:8a Luke 1:39-48a (48b-56)	<b>Wednesday, Dec. 27</b> Psalms 34; 147:1-11 Prov. 8:22-30 1 John 5:1-12 John 13:20-35
<b>Sunday, December 3</b> <i>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent</i> Psalms 24; 150 Amos 1:1-5, 13-2:8 1 Thess. 5:1-11 Luke 21:5-19	<b>Saturday, December 9</b> Psalms 90; 149 Amos 5:18-27 Jude 17-25 Matt. 22:15-22	<b>Friday, December 15</b> Psalms 102; 148 Hag. 1:1-15 Rev. 2:18-29 Matt. 23:27-39	<b>Friday, December 22</b> Psalms 102; 148 2 Sam. 7:18-29 Gal. 3:1-14 Luke 1:57-66	<b>Thursday, December 28</b> Psalms 2; 147:12-20 Isa. 49:13-23 Isa. 54:1-13 Matt. 18:1-14
<b>Monday, December 4</b> Psalms 122; 145 Amos 2:6-16 2 Peter 1:1-11 Matt. 21:1-11	<b>Sunday, December 10</b> <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</i> Psalms 24; 150 Amos 6:1-14 2 Thess. 1:5-12 Luke 1:57-68	<b>Saturday, December 16</b> Psalms 90; 149 Hag. 2:1-9 Rev. 3:1-6 Matt. 24:1-14	<b>Saturday, December 23</b> Psalms 90; 149 Jer. 31:10-14 Gal. 3:15-22 Luke 1:67-80 or Matt.1:1-17	<b>Friday, December 29</b> Psalms 96; 148 2 Sam. 23:13-17b 1 John 1-13 John 2:1-11
<b>Tuesday, December 5</b> Psalms 33; 146 Amos 3:1-11 2 Peter 1:12-21 Matt. 21:12-22	<b>Monday, December 11</b> Psalms 122; 145 Amos 7:1-9 Rev. 1:1-8 Matt. 22:23-33	<b>Sunday, December 17</b> <i>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent</i> Psalms 24; 150 Amos 9:11-15 2 Thess. 2:1-3, 13-17 John 5:30-47	<b>Sunday, December 24</b> <i>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent</i> Psalms 24; 150 Isa. 60:1-6 Gal. 3:23-4:7 Matt. 1:18-25	<b>Saturday, December 30</b> Psalms 93; 149 1 Kings 17:17-24 1 John 1-15 John 4:46-54
<b>Wednesday, December 6</b> Psalms 50; 147:1-11 Amos 3:12-4:5 2 Peter 3:1-10 Matt. 21:23-32	<b>Tuesday, December 12</b> Psalms 33; 146 Amos 7:10-17 Rev. 1:9-16 Matt. 22:34-46	<b>Monday, December 18</b> Psalms 122; 145 Gen. 3:8-15 Rev. 12:1-10 John 3:16-21	<b>Monday, December 25</b> <b>Nativity of Jesus Christ / Christmas Day</b> Psalms 2; 145 Micah 4:1-5; 5:2-4 1 John 4:7-16 John 3:31-36	<b>Sunday, December 31</b> <i>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas</i> Psalms 98; 150 1 Sam. 1:1-2, 7b-28 Col. 1:9-20 Luke 2:22-40
<b>Thursday, December 7</b> Psalms 18:1-20;	<b>Wednesday, Dec. 13</b> Psalms 50; 147:1-11 Amos 8:1-14 Rev. 1:17-2:7	<b>Tuesday, December 19</b> Psalms 33; 146 Zeph. 3:14-20 Titus 1:1-16 Luke 1:1-25		