



# NewsNotes

**Christ Congregational Church, United Church of Christ**  
A Just Peace and Open and Affirming Church  
Becoming an Anti-Racist Church

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## Dancing Through Advent

May Hope, Peace Joy and Love be yours as we dance through the season of Advent towards Christmas. We invite you to worship with us this Sunday and on Christmas Eve.

### **Sunday, December 20**

Two services of worship at 9 AM and 11 AM  
*Worship includes the Chancel Choir, Chapel Choir and Orchestra  
Presentation of "A Festival of Carols" by Joseph Martin*

### **Christmas Eve Services**

Thursday, December 24

5:00 PM

Christmas Eve Nativity Service for All Ages  
(Details below)

9:00 PM

Traditional Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols

10:00 PM

Reunion and Reception

## Be part of the 5 PM Christmas Eve Nativity Service on Christmas Eve

Everyone is invited to worship and participate in the Christmas Story. Costumes will be available in Room 207 after the 11:00 worship service on Sunday morning, December 20; first come, first served. Or you can make your own costume – Magi (wise men and women), Angels, Shepherds and Animals – cows, lambs, donkeys and any other creature that you imagine may have been at the nativity. If you have friends and family from out of town, invite them to bring their own costume or pick one up for them before hand. There will be lots of adult volunteers to help you know what to do and when it is your turn to come forward and join the nativity on Christmas Eve.

## Join the Winter Weekend Fun!

Same Location, New Fee Structure! President's Day weekend (February 12-15, 2009)

Looking for the perfect winter break? Check out **Winter Weekend!** It's a warm wintry gathering of friendly folks in a cozy environment, held again this year with the good people at the Washington Ethical Society. Past attendees rave about this annual tradition. It's a great place and time to relax and socialize, with sing-alongs, board games, ping-pong and crafts. There's sledding and tubing down the big hill outside the main lodge, and cross-country trails right outside your door. In short, there's plenty of fun for grown-ups and kids alike.

For between \$100 and \$140, you can spend 2 or 3 nights in a heated cabin with hot water showers, with hot and hearty meals served in the main lodge. (You can even pack your own bag lunches for a day on the slopes!) Children aged 3 to 5 pay a reduced rate (between \$55-\$75 depending on your length of stay). Children under 3 are free, and all snacks and a Saturday night square dance with live band and caller are included!

This memorable getaway will take place at the Camp Soles YMCA, not far from Somerset PA, overlooking a picturesque lake among wooded hills in south central Pennsylvania. That's about 3-1/2 hours from the DC area, but only minutes from Seven Springs and Hidden Valley ski resorts, several state parks, and the town of Somerset. It's hard to imagine a better way to spend a long winter weekend. Feel free to invite your friends, neighbors, or relatives; all are welcome!

Sign up early to pick your cabin and bunkmates. To register, fill out a form available in the Church lobby.

To reserve space, full payment must be received by January 22, 2009. Reservations are on a space available basis. Reservations are fully refundable before January 22. Cancellations between January 22 and 28 will receive a 50% refund, but only if your space can be filled. **AFTER JANUARY 28, THERE WILL BE ABSOLUTELY NO REFUNDS.** For more information, contact Anne Nicotera (240-669-8141 or [anne.nicotera@comcast.net](mailto:anne.nicotera@comcast.net)).



## Thank You ~

Thanks for the Thanksgiving contributions. Shaw Community Ministry wants to thank those at CCC who contributed to its annual Thanksgiving basket project. Included in this expression of gratitude is Cub Scout Pack 275 which gave Shaw Community Ministry all of the Thanksgiving-related items gathered during the scouts recent food drive in nearby neighborhoods. This year Shaw Community Ministry collected enough money and packaged goods to provide 150 baskets and gift cards for turkeys to residents of Lincoln-Westmoreland Housing I and II in the heart of the Shaw neighborhood. This area of DC is full of people struggling against poverty, crime and educational challenges. Having a good Thanksgiving Day helps.

## What Happens at CCC When It Snows?

### *Will there be worship services on a snowy Sunday morning?*

In the event of a weather emergency, or other unexpected event on Sunday mornings, a decision will be made by 7:00 AM as to whether or not to cancel Sunday services. For updates on church cancellations: Tune in to radio station WTOP news (103.5 FM, 103.9 FM, or [wtopnews.com](http://wtopnews.com)); call the CCC Event Line at (301) 585-4640, ext. 333; or go to the CCC Web Site at [www.cccsilverspring.org](http://www.cccsilverspring.org). Note: If you call the church and can reach no one - not even the voice answering machine – that is an indication that there is no electricity in the church. The church phones do not work during a power outage.

### *What about evening meetings and events during the week?*

If other church activities are cancelled because of weather emergencies or other unexpected events, the leader or coordinator of these activities is responsible for making the decision or not to cancel and for contacting the participants to let them know about the cancellation. The event leader or coordinator is also responsible for letting participants know when the event is rescheduled. Morning notice should be given for evening groups. If board meeting night is cancelled, board chairs are responsible for rescheduling their individual meetings as needed.



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED