



The Red Door

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

December 2017

A Word from Our Rector

234 N High St
Hillsboro, OH 45133



See John if you are interested in Boar's Head tickets for the Dress Rehearsal. I am working on securing 15 for the event. First come, first served!

Something Holy is happening this month. The Earth and all Creation is aware of the rumble of Heaven. A Child is born to save the world. Happens every year. And we are reminded that our God gave us the gift of Holiness. The gift looks like light.

It's hard to imagine a December without Christmas. We are moved by the idea that a baby, simple and small, can make everything right in the world. But that baby can.

Who is the light of the world except God's Son? Not you? Remember this; "I cannot see in darkness. God's Son is the only light. Therefore, if I am to see, it must be through Him. I have tried to define what seeing is, and I have been wrong. Now it is given me to understand that God is the light in which I see. Let me welcome vision and the happy world it will show us."

Yes, something Holy is about to happen. The

Light of the world is coming into our midst and we will forever be changed. Holy Christmas. Holy Birth. Holy Light.

Rev. Judi+



St. Mary's
Episcopal
Church

2017-2018

Music at
St. Mary's
Concert Series

234 N. High Street
Hillsboro, Ohio



CHRISTMAS CONCERT
presented by
Southern State Singers

December 3, 2017
3:00pm

A Christmas Reflection

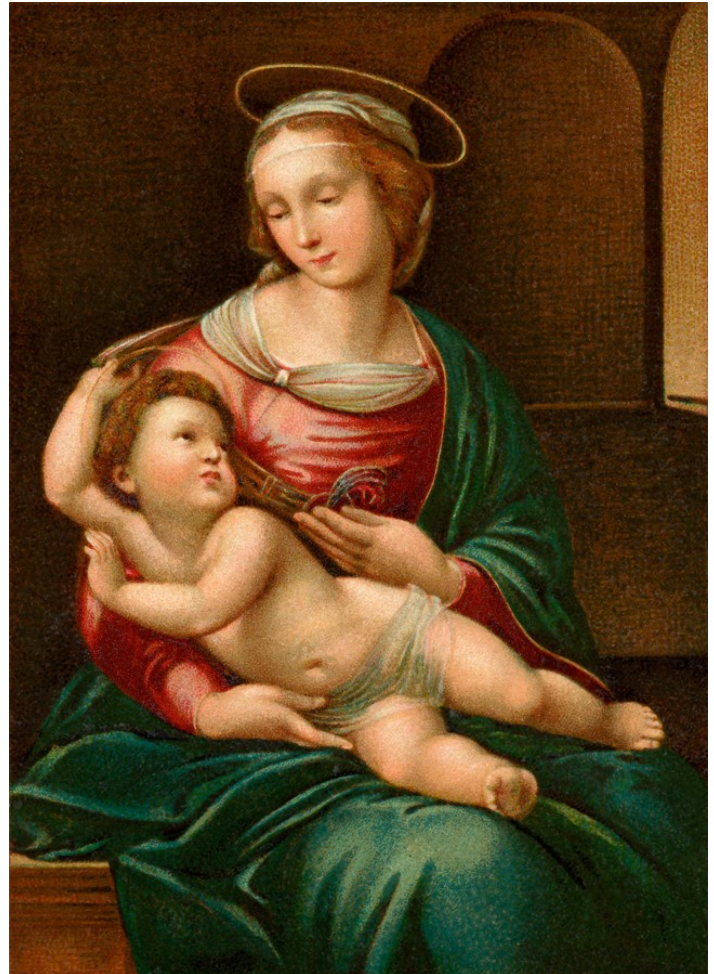
“For from Him and through Him and to Him be the glory forever.” Romans 11:36

God's glory is His goal. All things operate for the purpose of bringing glory to God. He didn't make His creation first and foremost for us, but rather for His own pleasure and glory. Our highest purpose is to glorify God.

To that purpose God sent His only Son to teach us about God, to show us how to treat one another, and to love, respect, honor and worship Him for all He has done. We are to reflect Jesus in our thoughts, words and deeds so that others can see Jesus within us to bring Him glory.

God knew all along that baby Jesus would grow into the Savior of the world. What a magnificent plan! Thank you, God!

Karen Vlaskamp



Serving Schedule for DECEMBER

DEC	LECTOR	CHALICE	SUNDAY SCHOOL	ACOLYTES & CRUCIFER	USHERS	COFFEE HOUR	INTERCESSOR
3	Connie Reynolds	Carolinn Shibley		Larry Wiley Dallas Harner	Peggy & Larry Addington		Sandy Ferrell
10	Sandy Ferrell	Bob Lowell		Carol & John Joy	Larry Wiley Robert Harner		Lynn Lowell
17	Jim Heathcote	Connie Reynolds		Bob Lowell Larry Wiley	Carolinn Shibley Deanna Flinn		Karen Vlaskamp
24 10am	Jim Heathcote	Carolinn Shibley		Larry Wiley Bob Lowell	Carol & John Joy		Betty Heathcote
24 7pm	Sandy Ferrell	Connie Reynolds		Larry Wiley Dallas Harner	Andrea Harner Robert Harner		Deanna Flinn
31	Jim Heathcote	Sandy Ferrell		Larry Wiley Bob Lowell	Peggy & Larry Addington		Lynn Lowell

▶ December 2017

San = Sanctuary
 LH = Lacy Hall
 TR = Telfair Room
 CR = Conference Room

Sun **Mon** **Tue** **Wed** **Thu** **Fri** **Sat**

1 2
 7:00pm AA LH 5:00pm 4H Meeting LH

3 4 5 6 7 8 9
 10:00am HEII SAN 2:00pm Rector's Study CR 10:00am Well Wishers TR 10:00am Well Wishers TR 7:00pm Women's AA TR 7:00pm AA LH
 3:00pm MASM 5:00pm TOPS LH 12:00n Healing Service 12:00n Healing Service 6:00pm ADVENTURE 6:00pm ADVENTURE Peace



10 11 12 13 14 15 16
 10:00am HEII SAN 2:00pm Rector's Study CR 10:00am Well Wishers TR 10:00am Well Wishers TR 7:00pm Women's AA TR 7:00pm AA LH
 5:00pm TOPS LH 5:00pm TOPS LH 12:00n Healing Service 12:00n Healing Service 6:00pm ADVENTURE SME

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24 25 26 27 28 29 30
 10:00am HEII SAN 2:00pm Rector's Study CR 10:00am Well Wishers TR 10:00am Well Wishers TR 7:00pm Women's AA TR 7:00pm AA LH
 7:00pm Christmas Eve Svc 5:00pm Soup's On

31
 10:00am HEII SAN

Memories are powerful things. They can take us back 60 years in the blink of an eye. Those associated with holidays are often some of the most vivid and powerful.

Simply putting up a Christmas tree is one chore which evokes memories for me. I've never understood folks who find joy in having a blue Christmas tree covered in brand new monochromatic ornaments. Where is the joy of reliving Christmases past? To my thinking, even memories of less than spectacular Christmases past are better than the aforementioned tree! Where are those family memories wrapped up in decorations handed down through generations?

For me, memories start with a paper star, handmade by my mother and my great aunt, Ethel Williamson. There is only one of them left—it was dipped in paraffin and decorated with something resembling mica chips. Of course, directions for making such stars is found on the internet, sans the bit about dipping in paraffin and the mica chips.

Then, there's the plastic replica of Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer. It was made in Japan, probably in the late 1940s or early 1950s and has hung on the tree every year since then. Undoubtedly, it came from the dime store and probably cost 10 or 15 cents, but it's very dear and is traditionally the last ornament I remove from my tree.

As the years have gone by and I was fortunate to have been able to travel a good bit for my job, I added ornaments which I'd purchased on my travels. There's the three-masted sailing ship from Key West,

the Native American mother and child from Arizona, the bunch of grapes glass ornament from the Sonoma Valley, the cable car from San Francisco, the little wooden Santa Claus who wears a lei and has a sign reading, "Mele Kalikimaka" from Hawaii, as well as a little hula dancer. There are the very small straw hat from Guadeloupe, the little Dutch ceramic shoes from St. Maarten, the silk oriental shoes from Seoul, Korea, the small wooden reindeer and elf from Finland, the little pottery ornament from the Hallelujah Pottery just outside Sewanee, Tennessee as well as another pottery ornament from Beer-sheba, Tennessee. The list goes on and on. Those are my memories, my history and I preserve and treasure them.

During my childhood, Christmas was always very special, as I am sure it was for most of you. My grandparents were farm people and seemed very old to me when I was a child. I so well remember their Christmas tree. It was a small cedar tree cut on their farm, with a simple wooden holder made by my grandfather. They had the old series lights which were the type where if one burns out, the string doesn't light. Their ornaments, I am afraid I don't remember. Quite possibly, some of those I put on my tree now came from them.

Christmas traditions create memories. Such as an annual visit to Krohn Conservatory in Cincinnati to see the nativity with live animals. Knowing that it was put up and
(continued next page)

MY LOVE OF CHRISTMAS

By Loraine Kay Kidd

The holiday season is upon us
As we hustle through the crowd.
The Christmas Spirit fills our hearts
As happy children cry out loud.

Christmas lights are blinking brightly
While the shoppers rush about.
Children giving lists to Santa
Making a promise not to pout.

All this goes with Christmas
To which we all have a part.
But the joy of these I like best
Is the Love of Christmas in my heart.

Written by the mother of Joellen Bradford,

taken down each year impressed me as a child. To see the attention to detail to make it seem that the barn had been standing in that place for centuries, to see a tree made of poinsettias and the natural decorations covering a huge Christmas tree! To visit downtown Cincinnati and see Fountain Square decorated (the old Fountain Square that sat in the middle of Fifth), the fantasy world of Shillito's windows, the special hubbub of shopping downtown, followed by a meal at Frisch's Mainliner on the way home.

Am I living in the past? I think not....I'm just finding comfort and joy in the way things used to be—my personal history which I choose to preserve.

What is your personal history? Do your children know it, as well as those personal Christmas memories of their own? Take some time this busy season and put down on paper those things that you remember of your childhood Christmas. If you know *your* parents' Christmas story, preserve it for your progeny by writing it down. Collect photographs of Christmases past and include them with your story. You may want to put all of this in some format to present to each of your children, nieces or nephews. If you think that your Christmas memories are nothing special or memories which are painful, remember that, good or bad, it is your history and preserving and telling it often helps to put them all into perspective.

Perhaps this is all something which you've been thinking about and considering, but just keep putting off. It's time to stop thinking and begin doing. PRESERVE YOUR HISTORY NOW!

John Glaze

Monday at 2 pm is our *A Course in Miracles* bible study. Meets in the Conference Room in the CEC Room.

ADVENTure with the Lutherans will begin on Wednesday December 6 @ 6pm.

Dec 6: @ Peace Lutheran, Simple Supper and worship at 6 pm

Dec 13: @ St Mary's, Simple Supper and worship at 6 pm

Dec 20: @ Peace Lutheran, Simple Supper and worship at 6 pm.

December 24th is a Sunday. The schedule for the day is:

10 am Advent Four Holy Eucharist worship

7 pm Christmas Eve Family Service with candle light.

There will be no Christmas Day service. Please spend time with your families!

Santa Claus gifts for the needy. Our tree will be put up in Lacy Hall where you can take a paper ornament with the name and idea for gifts. Our one family has 6 children and we have not heard from the school for the other needy family but we will by the time the tree is up. As before, you will take an ornament, buy the gift as suggested on the paper ornament, wrap it and bring it in by Friday, December 15th. Remember to write the name of the child on a tag on the outside of the gift.



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Church
2017-2018

Music at
St. Mary's
Concert Series

234 N. High Street
Hillsboro, Ohio




A St. Mary's Christmas

17 December—3:00pm

With Musicians from St. Mary's
Jennie Harner, Lynn Lowell, John Glaze

The Red Door

St. Mary's Episcopal Church
234 N. High St.
Hillsboro, OH 45133



A GREAT CHRISTMAS PRESENT

In December of 1884, Margaret Rives King sent a letter offered to provide St. Mary's with a new organ in memory of her brother, Dr. Edward Rives.

"Hoping that my desire to memorialize one so dear to me will find response in your hearts."

Edward Rives was a native of Virginia and grew up in Cincinnati. He met and married Marie Thompson, daughter of James Henry and Eliza Jane Trimble Thompson.

Until 1884, it is not known for sure what type of instrument was used to accompany congregational singing. It has been assumed that a melodeon was used. We do know that in the Vestry minutes of Jan 9, 1882, it is stated that F. Read was appointed as a committee of one to dispose of the old organ. What this organ was will most likely never be known.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church Information

St. Mary's Episcopal Church
234 N. High St Hillsboro, OH 45133
937-393-2043

The Diocese of Southern Ohio
The Rt. Rev. Thomas E. Breidenthal, Diocesan Bishop
The Rev. Judi Wiley, Rector

Rev. Judi is available by arrangement at all times.
Mobile: 937-205-4292
E-mail: revjudi.wiley@gmail.com

WEB SITE: www.stmaryshillsboro.church

SUNDAY WORSHIP and SUNDAY
SCHOOL 10:00 am

WEDNESDAY HOLY EUCHARIST with
HEALING PRAYERS: 12:00 noon