

we also will be celebrating the birth of Jesus with a drama called “A Traditionally Untraditional Christmas Pageant.” Make sure to put this special night on your calendar, and to invite your friends and family! The service will begin at 7:00 pm.

EPIPHANY CHILDREN’S STORY SERIES ON JANUARY 10 AND 17

To celebrate the magi's visit to Jesus during Epiphany, Pastor Paula will read Henry Van Dykes' classic *The Fourth Wise Man* to our children over the course of two Sundays. This story follows the fourth wise man, who never arrives at the manger to worship Jesus because of a series of “mishaps.” Everyone will appreciate this meaningful tale of the man who spends his entire life trying to find the Messiah. (Plus, there will be a little surprise for the children at the end.)

THE EAST ALCOVE INFORMATION GALORE!

Check out the table and the new bulletin boards (which are still in process, I must admit) in the east alcove for all kinds of helpful and interesting information. You'll find a copy of our denominational magazine, *Messenger*; copies of *World Ark* from Heifer Project International; information on Manchester College and Brethren Volunteer Service; newsletters, fliers, and magazines from various agencies or organizations in the Church of the Brethren; SERRV catalogs; Brethren Press catalogs; and much, much more. Feel free to take something home if

you see something of interest, and simply return it when you're done.

December Calendar

Sunday, Dec. 6 – Community Advent Service at 6 p.m. with Pastor Paula preaching. This will be held at the UCC Congregational Christian Church in Hagerstown. Please come support Paula with your smiling faces and your prayers as she brings a message to the ecumenical community!

Sunday, Dec. 13 – Our annual Christmas Ornament Exchange Party at Jon and Marcia Stout’s at 6 p.m. Please bring a covered dish to share; and come prepared for lots of laughs and hilarity as we open wrapped ornaments -- and then steal them away from one another! (Everyone who brings an ornament will get to take one home – it just might not be the one you want!)

Sunday, Dec. 20 – Important Christmas Pageant rehearsal after worship. Lunch will be provided, and then we will rehearse in the sanctuary. This will be our only rehearsal for the pageant, so please plan to stay if you are participating.

Thursday, Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve Service at 7 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 25 – Merry Christmas!

Saturday, Dec. 26 through Wednesday, January 6 – Pastor Paula will be on vacation. In the event of an emergency or crisis, please call one of the deacons: Dan and Carol Goar; Leland and Beverly Nicholson; Brad Bowman; Jon and