

Weekly Update

November 29, 2023

Please join us on Sunday for Holy Eucharist.

The First Sunday of Advent
December 3, 2023
8 am & 10 am*

Celebrant: Reverend Victoria Pretti

If you are unable to worship in person, please join us on Youtube.

*To view the livestream service please click the link below.



This week at

St. Martha's



Wednesday, November 29th

- Choir practice at 7 pm

Thursday, November 30th:

- St. Martha's Hybrid Book Club from 3 - 4 pm in the parish hall. This month's book is "Dusk, Night, Dawn", by Anne Lamott. If you would like to attend by Zoom please contact [Rick Legeer](#).

Friday, December 1st:

- Stitch and Sketch from 10 am to 1 pm in the parish hall. We have knitters, painters, quilters and many other crafters who gather to stitch, craft and socialize. All are welcome.

Sunday, December 3rd

- Book Study will meet between services in the parish hall, 9 - 9:45 am. With the start of Advent, they will begin a new book, "Essential Mystic Prayers", by Thomas McPherson.

Monday, December 4th:

- Yoga at 9:30 am in the parish hall. \$8 drop in. Bring your own mat, blanket, block and/or strap. Some will be available.

Tuesday, December 5th:

- Bible Study at 1 pm in the parish hall. Once again, there is no need to bring a Bible as they will be using the Prayer Book to study Psalms.
- Card Ministry meeting at 2:15 pm in the parish hall.
- Yoga at 5:30 pm in the parish hall. This is a beginner's class starting with the basics for anyone new to yoga or just looking for a gentle practice. \$8 drop in.

Wednesday, December 6th

- Men's Discipleship Group will meet at 8 am in the conference room.
- Seashell Ringers practice at 1 pm.
- Choir practice at 7 pm.

Upcoming Events



HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR

Sat, Nov 18 • 9 AM - 2 PM

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA CLAUS

Sat, Dec 2 & Sun, Dec 3 • 9 - 11 AM

A VERY MERRY TEA LUNCHEON WITH SANTA

Wed, Dec 13 • 12 - 3 PM



35268 Homestead Way, Lewes, DE • camparrowhead.net

CAPITAL RINGERS PRESENTS 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

All concerts begin at 4 pm

Saturday, November 25

Bethel United Methodist Church, Lewes

Sunday, November 26

Nobles Pond Clubhouse, Dover

Saturday, December 2

Asbury United Methodist Church, Salisbury

Sunday, December 3

Avenue United Methodist Church, Milford

Saturday, December 9

Conley's United Methodist Church, Lewes

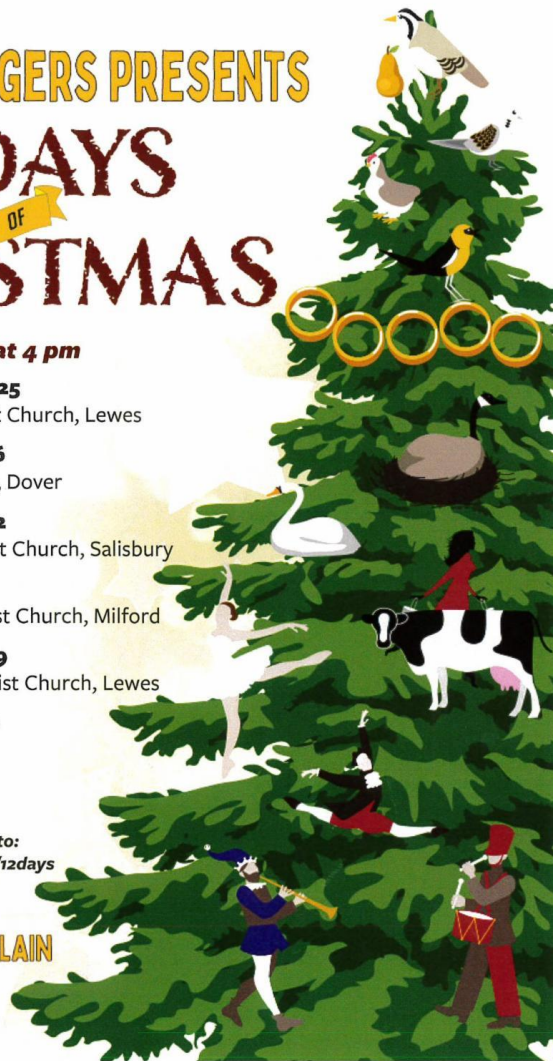
Sunday, December 10

Ross Mansion, Seaford



For ticket info, go to:
capitalringers.org/12days

KEVIN B. CHAMBERLAIN
Artistic Director



The Southern Delaware Chorale will be performing, **“A Candlelight Concert: Midnight Mass,”** featuring such pieces as Messe de Minuit by Charpentier, Wilmington, a Christmas Anthem on the text “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing!”, O Nata Lux by Thomas Tallis, Go Tell it on the Mountain arranged by John Rutter, Christmas Day by Gustav Holst, audience sing-alongs and more! Our two Lee Mitchell Scholarship winners, Gina Garcia Perez and Caliana Velasquez will perform solos as well.

The concert will take place at Epworth United Methodist Church , 19285 Holland Glade Road, Rehoboth Beach on **Friday, December 1, 2023** at 7:30 P.M. and **Saturday, December 2, 2023** at 3:00 P.M. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased online at www.southerndelawarechorale.org, Children under 18 are free. Tickets will be available at the door! Credit cards, checks and cash are accepted. Hope to see you there!



**Christmas Cookies,
Baked Goods
and
Book Sale**

**ST. MARTHA'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9
9 AM TO 1 PM**

**117 MAPLEWOOD ST.
BETHANY BEACH**

Meet Me at The Manger



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2023—2:00 PM

**INSIDE THE BUILDING KNOWN AS THE TABERNACLE
ON THE GROUNDS OF BETHANY BEACH CHRISTIAN
CHURCH**

(ACROSS FROM BETHANY BEACH TOWN HALL)



FOR ALL AGES



SCRIPTURE READINGS



CAROLS

(Music provided by St. Ann's Contemporary Music Ensemble)

**SPONSORED BY THE CHURCHES
OF THE SOUTHEAST SUSSEX MINISTERIUM**



Click [here](#) for form. Copies are available in the parish hall as well.



Mariner's Bethel Live Nativity

Friday, December 15th, 2023

6-8:00 pm



"But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ, the Lord.'"

Luke 2:10-11

The wondrous Live Nativity - the story of the Birth of Jesus Christ - will be presented through Scripture and carols, 3 times throughout the evening, at 6 pm, 6:40 pm & 7:20 pm.

Enjoy hot cocoa, Christmas cookies, and singing around a cozy fire, while watching the story of the first Christmas come alive.
(This event will be held indoors in inclement weather.)

For more information, call 302.539.9510



Mariners Bethel
Global Methodist Church Ocean View, Delaware

81 Central Avenue, Ocean View, DE
www.MarinersBethel.org



Outreach



Outreach is giving Christmas gifts to students from Phillip Showell, John Clayton, and Selbyville Middle Schools who otherwise may not have anything. If you would like to participate in giving a gift to a child, take an Angel from our tree and sign your name to the sign up sheet. Gifts for Showell need to be returned by Dec. 10th. The gifts for Clayton and SMS may be returned by Dec. 17th. Gifts can be wrapped or placed in a gift bag with the Angel tag on the gift or bag.

Announcements

ADVENT IS ALMOST HERE, 2023

As shocking as that may sound, Advent begins this Sunday, December 3rd. With the arrival of Advent, it is time to start thinking about Christmas and Christmas flowers.

Flowers to decorate our beautiful church for Christmas are given each year by parishioners as a way to honor or remember a person or event. The cost varies according to the particular plant, but averages about \$25. Any donation is just fine. There are designation forms available in front of the office, one will be included with this Sunday's worship booklet, and one will be mailed to you also.

Christmas flowers will remain in the church for Christmas and for the Sunday after, December 31, 2023. You are encouraged to take home a plant on that day after the 10 o'clock service.

In addition to Christmas flowers, we are looking for volunteers to help with the Greening of the Church which will take place after the 10 o'clock service on December 17th. Volunteers, both men and women, will decorate our indoor wreaths and hang them on the windows of the nave. We will also hang the outdoor wreaths, put electric candles in the windows and hang the big swag above the altar. There is a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall or you can call Pat Long, 302-539-3021, to volunteer, OR you can just show up. Many hands make light work.

We will also appreciate your help on December 31st when the wreaths and decorations will be taken down and stored away.

Thanks to all for your help during this very busy Advent season.

Maggie's 7th Annual

Winter Coat Drive

**Donation deadline:
December 31st**

Drop-off Locations:

Selbyville Public Library
11 S Main St, Selbyville, DE 19975

Frankford Town Hall
9 Main St, Frankford, DE 19945

Coldwell Banker
89 Atlantic Ave, Ocean View, DE 19970
1131 S Salisbury Blvd, Salisbury, MD 21801
12207 Coastal Hwy, Ocean City, MD 21842
6405 Coastal Hwy, Ocean City, MD 21842

Next Step Learning Center
2 Church St, Selbyville, DE 19975

Millsboro Lanes
213 Mitchell St, Millsboro, DE 19966

My goal is to collect over 300 new or unused coats, hats and gloves for the less fortunate. All given will be donated to those in need in Sussex County.



**Need us to pick up?
Call: (302) 542-1464**

**Please
Donate**

A New or Unused Coat
to Help the Less
Fortunate to Keep
Them Warm

For more information:

Email: bdupont8yahoo.com

Facebook: Maggie's Coat Drive

A donation container is located in front of the office. If you have any further questions, you can reach out to Mimi Dupont. Maggie is Mimi's granddaughter.



Are you 72 or older? Have you lost the ability to fully deduct charitable contributions because you no longer itemize federal income tax deductions? Do you make donations to St. Martha's regularly? If you answered yes to these questions, you may want to consider making a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). A QCD is generally a non-taxable distribution made directly by the trustee of your IRA to St. Martha's or other qualified charities. A QCD reduces your Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) and thereby reduces taxes. If you are receiving a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from your IRA, a QCD can be used to satisfy the RMD. Please consult your tax advisor or tax return preparer to determine if a QCD could benefit you.

Stewardship Update

As of date	Amount Pledged for 2024
9/17/2023	\$25,300
9/26/2023	\$72,820
10/7/2023	\$87,660
10/12/2023	\$102,000
10/17/2023	\$147,120
10/24/2023	\$162,160
10/31/2023	\$172,090
11/5/2023	\$186,370
11/13/2023	\$196,430
11/20/2023	\$197,930
11/28/2023	\$200,430

Pledgers who:	Number
Increased their pledge	25
Pledged the same	45
Decreased their pledge	9
New pledgers	13
Totals	92

Thank you to everyone who has submitted a pledge card so far. They continue to trickle in, and every added pledge helps and is very much appreciated.