



2018 Tuesday Advent Luncheons at St Marks United Methodist Church

900 Washington Street East, Charleston, WV, 25301
Pastors: Anne and Mark Pruett-Barnett

Theme: Familiar Songs of Christmas

The carols we have chosen for this Advent Luncheon series all have a common thread of the Civil War in some way, shape, or form. West Virginia was the only state to have formed because of the Civil War. "It Came upon the Midnight Clear" has been called the first great American Christmas carol. It is possible that this carol was the precursor of two generations of carol writing in the United States. In 1863, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote the poem "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day." (Hymn Tune: 1872). And in 1868, Phillips Brooks wrote "O Little Town of Bethlehem" which is the only American carol to exceed "It Came upon the Midnight Clear" in international popularity.

~ notes from *Songs of Christmas and the stories behind them* by Tommy and Renee Pierce, Copyright 2008 Cliff Road Books, Inc.

December 5

Theme: "It Came upon the Midnight Clear"

Speaker: Angela Jones

Musicians: Angela Jones, *flute*; Craig Hinchman, *piano*

December 12

Theme: "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Speaker: Barry Ball

Musician: David Williams, *piano*

December 19

Theme: "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day"

Speaker: Krysta Rexrode Wolfe

Musician: Julie Janisch, *vocalist*

Schedule for Luncheons:

Luncheons prepared by Anita Ellis, Becky Britton, Drema Beverley, Norma Parker

12:05 Welcome and Prayer (People get lunch)

12:20 Musician(s)

12:30 Speaker

12:50 Singing of carol

12:55 Dismissal