

Barratt's Chapel & Museum

1780

The Independence Hall of American Methodism

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Charles Moyer playing our new Yamaha piano

Music Sounds Better at Barratt's

For the past two years we have been searching for a piano to replace the old upright piano which has served Barratt's Chapel for many years. The upright piano began to have problems, was difficult to move, and was too high for accompanists to see over during concerts and weddings.

We mentioned in our newsletters in 2009 that we were looking for a new piano and thanks to the generous contributions from some of our "Friends," we were recently able to purchase a slightly-used Yamaha studio piano. The piano was beautifully preserved and needed a new home. Because of its size and ease of movement, the piano can be set in the front center where it will be more convenient for musicians and the sound will better project throughout the entire Chapel.

The old upright piano, which still plays and has been tuned yearly, is available for a new home. If interested, please contact the curator. **THANK YOU "FRIENDS"**

PRESERVING HISTORY AT BARRATT'S CHAPEL ... One Piece at a Time

Barratt's Chapel Museum has recently purchased a large format book scanner, which will allow the staff to make digital copies of historical records. Many of our local churches have records which go back to the 19th and even 18th centuries. These records often contain information that is important not only to the local congregation but also to genealogists and historians of Methodism in general. Understandably, congregations want to keep their own records, but church offices may not be in a position to follow archival storage procedures. In smaller congregations historical materials may even be kept in a member's home. Even with the best of intentions, it is possible for valuable records to be lost or damaged. Also, the materials are not easily available to researchers.

With the new scanner the staff of Barratt's can offer a service to local churches of digitizing their important records. The original records would stay with the local church, but a digital copy would be kept and made available in the Peninsula-Delaware Conference Archives located at Barratt's Chapel Museum. Copies of the digital file can easily be made to share with anyone who wants one. This both preserves the historical materials and makes them easily accessible.



Curator Barb Duffin scanning a page from a pre-Civil War register of the Easton Circuit on temporary loan to the Museum from St. Mark's Church, Easton, MD.

BISHOP JOHNSON WELCOMES CONFIRMANDS

On March 12, for the second year in a row, Bishop Peggy Johnson invited confirmation classes from all over the Peninsula-Delaware Conference to a special event at Barratt's Chapel. Over 300 young people attended either the morning or afternoon session. They were welcomed by Bishop Johnson and all four District Superintendents, as well as the curator and members of the Commission on Archives and History, had an opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge of Methodist history by answering questions and winning small prizes, heard the bishop speak about what she does as a bishop and about the importance of confirmation, sang, and received communion. A particular highlight of the day was a surprise visit from "Harriet Tubman" (aka Rev. Dianne Henry), who spoke about her adventures leading escaping slaves from the Delmarva Peninsula to freedom in the North in the days before the Civil War.



"Harriet Tubman" speaking to confirmation classes

PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT



What a Great Looking Sign!

Have you noticed the beautiful new sign on the chapel lawn? We tried a temporary sign for a few years, but it did not look good and the letters would blow away. Our thanks go to Joe Mandes, who did the masonry work, and Tupp Signs. Working together, they were able to get all the clearances and permits to build this beautiful sign. It was made in a style to match the brick wall, but instead of using shingles on the top there were special concrete sections made to be more lasting than shingles. We also thank Joe Mandes for including in the price of the sign a new stairway to replace the old ladder going down to the furnace room beneath the chapel. We had wanted to do this for some time, and it will make it much safer for maintenance workers.

DOCENT VOUNTEERS NEEDED

We are seeking a few individuals to train as volunteer docents for the Chapel & Museum. If you think that you might be interested, please contact the curator.

E-MAIL:

If you would like to be on the Barratt's email list, drop us a note to barratts@aol.com



Easter Vigil Concert

Saturday, April 23, 7 p.m.

Organized by composer John Thompson



←←←←← Hutch for Sale

The Museum has a beautiful solid wood hutch for sale. When the Museum building was constructed in the 1960s, part of it was designed to be a furnished apartment for a resident curator. The building has long since been remodeled so that this space is now used for library, reading room, workroom, and curator's office. A few pieces of the original apartment furniture still remain. The hutch is of high quality and in good condition, but it is taking up needed space in the reading room. We are asking \$500, although other offers may be considered. Contact the curator.

NOTE: Checks for Friends of Barratt's may now appear on your bank statement as payments to Wesley College. Please be assured that the funds are, as always in the past, being applied to the operating expenses of Barratt's Chapel Museum.

BECAUSE YOU CARE

YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____ Phone No. _____

Your gift will benefit the continuous use of the Chapel in the work of ministry, focusing on the past, the present, and the future. A minimum contribution of \$20 will entitle you to annual membership in Friends of Barratt's.

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| \$1,000 _____ | \$250 _____ | \$50 _____ |
| \$ 500 _____ | \$100 _____ | Other _____ |

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO BARRATT'S CHAPEL.

ALL GIFTS TO BARRATT'S CHAPEL AND MUSEUM ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.