



***Bryn Mawr
Presbyterian Church***

December 18, 2016
8:00 a.m., Chapel
Fourth Sunday of Advent

Welcome to BMPC

NEW HERE? We are pleased that you have joined us as we gather to worship God and continue our Advent journey toward Christmas. Our programs are open to all and you are invited to participate according to your interests. Questions? Contact DonnaBarrickman@bmpc.org, ext. 8809.

TO ASSIST YOU DURING WORSHIP: Large print bulletins and hearing assistance devices are available; ask an usher. Children's bulletins with crayons may be found near the main entrance.

TODAY'S SCHEDULE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH:

Childcare: 7:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Ed. Bldg. Rm. 102

Children age 2 to PreK: 10:00 a.m. classes, Ed. Bldg.

Grades K- 5: 10:15 a.m., classes, Ed. Bldg.

(10:00-10:15 a.m. families worship together in the Sanctuary)

If this is your first Sunday, please accompany your child to the Ed. Bldg.

Grades 6 - 12: 10:00 a.m., Youth Gathering, Gym;

10:15 a.m., Grade Groups & Confirmation, Ministries Center

GETTING CONNECTED. Please fill out the Fellowship Register as indicated during worship to let us know that you were here, to provide or update your contact information, and to identify yourself to others in your row so that you may greet each other after worship. To keep informed about our activities, subscribe to BMPC eNews by adding your email address to the Fellowship Register. Visit our homepage, www.bmpc.org, for links to ministry-specific newsletters and our Facebook and Instagram pages.

JOIN US FOR FELLOWSHIP. Stop by the Ministries Center Court for a cup of coffee between 8:00 - 10:00 a.m. and for refreshments and fellowship after the 10:00 a.m. worship service. Families with young children are invited to gather for refreshments in the Education Building Lobby after Sunday School.



"I am the resurrection and the life."

Marjorie Starr Frazier ~ December 11, 2016

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Kellen A. Smith

Please fill out the Fellowship Register at the end of your pew.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Courtenay Willcox

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

One: Ask for a sign of the Lord your God. Let it be as high as the heaven!

All: You may be weary, but your God is not.

One: Look, the young woman is with child, and she shall bear a son.

All: His name shall be Emmanuel, God with us.

One: His name shall be Emmanuel, God with us.

All: Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

One: We hear the promise of the prophets that a day is coming when God will send a sign. We hear the promise, but sometimes we forget that Emmanuel is God with us, now and forever. We light this candle to help us see that God's promise is here. We light these candles so that we might walk in the light of the Lord.

† HYMN 348

Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

HELMSLEY

CALL TO CONFESSION

AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

O Lord in whom we trust,

We confess that our fears have caused us to choose paths
that lead us away from your promises.

You have come to make your home in us,
sending your Son, Emmanuel,
and still we turn away in fear.

Forgive our lack of faith and soften our resistance,
that we may welcome your holy presence
and live in its light, hopefully and joyously.

A moment of silence for personal reflection and confession.

† Please stand, if able.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Sing out, my soul. Sing out, my soul. Sing out and glo - ri - fy the Lord who sets us free.

Sing out, my soul. Sing out, my soul. Sing out and glo - ri - fy the Lord God!

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HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Courtenay Willcox

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 7:10-16 (*p. 636 in pew Bible*)

Courtenay Willcox

SECOND LESSON Matthew 1:18-25 (*p. 1 in pew Bible*)

Agnes W. Norfleet

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

The Light of Emmanuel, God with Us
Fourth in Advent Series *Christ, Be Our Light!*

Agnes W. Norfleet

† **HYMN 144**

In the Bleak Midwinter

CRANHAM

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Kellen A. Smith

You are invited to come forward, using the center aisle, to partake of the Lord's Supper by intinction (dipping a piece of bread into the cup); return to your seat using the side aisle.

Gluten- and casein-free elements are on the center table.

You are invited to bring your morning offering to the offering plates when you come forward.

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION AND THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*in unison*)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Agnes W. Norfleet

† HYMN 119 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing MENDELSSOHN

† SENDING AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

POSTLUDE

Worship Notes

ASSISTING WITH COMMUNION

Elder Courtenay Willcox

USHERING

Tom Willcox

ADVENT SERMON SERIES

The sermon series during Advent, *Christ, Be Our Light!*, explores the themes of readings from both the Prophet Isaiah and the Gospel of Matthew: the light of hope, peace, holiness and Emmanuel, God with us. As we light the candles of the Advent wreath each week, we pray also that the light of God will grow in us and emanate from us.

BULLETIN COVER

Detail from Presentation in the Temple
© 2015, John August Swanson | Eyekons

10:00 a.m. Service

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of
Lore Kephart

RECEIVING THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Margot Jean Bassett, daughter of Jennifer and Trevor Bassett

GREETING AND HOSTING

Members of the Personnel Committee

Special Events During Advent

YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY. Today, Dec. 18, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m., Arnold's Family Fun Center, Oaks. Join Pastor Kellen for a joyful night of laser tag and go-karts. \$15/person includes dinner.

A WEE CHRISTMAS. Tues., Dec. 20, 3:00 p.m., Sanctuary. Designed for children ages 2 - 5 and their families, this special retelling of the Christmas story allows our youngest members to hear and participate in the story of Jesus' birth. Guests are welcome! MaryRichards@bmpc.org, ext. 8811.

LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE. Wed., Dec. 21, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary. This special service acknowledges the darkness we experience even during this festive season. Scripture readings, the singing of carols, a brief meditation by the Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet, and a time of prayer to lift our yearnings for healing and wholeness are intended to lead us from the darkness into light. BeckyHoy@bmpc.org, ext. 8806.

CHRISTMAS EVE YOUTH ALUMNI RECEPTION. Sat., Dec. 24, 9:30 p.m., Witherspoon Parlor. Worship on Christmas Eve is made even more special by seeing friends who grew up at BMPC and are back for the holidays. We welcome all former youth after the 8:30 p.m. and before the 11:00 p.m. worship services. AmyBauer@bmpc.org, ext. 8821.

Christmas Eve Worship Services

CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE. 4:30 p.m., Sanctuary. Family Service with Nativity Tableau (infant and toddler childcare available without reservations in the Ed. Bldg.). Carol sing preceding at 4:15 p.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION SERVICE. 8:30 p.m., Sanctuary. Candlelight Service with Communion and Sermon by the Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet (childcare available without reservations in the Ed. Bldg.). Prelude begins at 8:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS. 11:00 p.m., Sanctuary. Candlelight Service of Lessons & Carols with Sermon by the Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet. Prelude begins at 10:40 p.m.

One combined Sunday service at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary on Christmas and New Year's Day.

Today

LAST DAY: ADVENT GIFT MARKET. 11:00 a.m. - noon, Ministries Center Court. As a community, let us celebrate God's gifts to us by sharing with others. Order at the AGM table today after worship or online at www.bmpc.org > Outreach > Advent Gift Market. Deadline for online orders: Wed., Dec. 21. Marian Chitester, mmcthistle@verizon.net.

FULLERTON BIBLE STUDY: GOSPEL OF MARK. 11:15 a.m., Fullerton Room. The Rev. Dr. Paul MacMurray walks us through this Gospel that gives us the essence of Jesus' life and ministry. CarolSchmidt@bmpc.org, ext. 8819.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM: PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE. 11:15 a.m., Witherspoon Parlor. The idea of religious freedom runs counter to most of history. What are the origins, present contours, and global prospects for a robust and just practice of religious freedom? Led by Dr. Jon Pahl, LTSP. CarolSchmidt@bmpc.org, ext. 8819.

Upcoming

CAREGIVER WORKSHOP. Sat., Jan. 7, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., The Main Line Adult Day Center. The center, located on our campus hosts a free caregiver workshop. Registration required. Pam Barton, bartonp@mladc.org or call 610-527-4220.

Announcements

2017 STEWARDSHIP. As we prepare for all that Christmas brings to our homes, let us not forget our church home. It is not too late to pledge for 2017! We need your financial support in order to advance and foster the mission of BMPC through its programming, staff, education, activities and worship. In the pew envelopes, by mail or online you may share your gifts. SarahMiciek@bmpc.org, ext. 8817.

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING. Gifts to the Christmas Joy Offering, one of four Special Offerings of the PC(USA), provide assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need, and develop our future leaders at Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges. Envelopes are in the pews or note "Christmas Joy" on the memo line of your check or at <http://specialofferings.pcusa.org/christmasjoy.html>

WALKING THE LABYRINTH DURING ADVENT. The Story Path Labyrinth is in our Chapel during Advent for prayer and meditation. The labyrinth is open on Sundays from 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. A weekly written reflection is available. info@middletoncenter.org, 610-525-0766.

ART EXHIBIT. On view through Sun., Jan. 1, in our Conference Room and Witherspoon Parlor. The colorful and varied works of art by traditionalist Mary French to the more illusional art of Maria Schneider represent different techniques and materials and are available for purchase as holiday gifts. StephanieSpeakman@bmpc.org, ext. 8836.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS BOOKS. The Rev. Rachel Pedersen has suggested several children's books that are available for purchase at the Book Center in the Court of the Ministries Center. During the week, the key is available at the Reception Desk. Kat MacMurray, KatRMac2@gmail.com.

Caring & Sharing

FROZEN TURKEY AND HAM COLLECTION. Bring frozen turkeys and hams for the holiday season to the freezers in the Ministries Center for our Hunger Committee to deliver to families in need. CarolSchmidt@bmpc.org, ext. 8819.

OUR BROTHER'S PLACE. Sat., Dec. 31, 10:15 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.; meet at Our Brother's Place, 907 Hamilton St., Philadelphia. Volunteers are needed to serve lunch at this homeless shelter. Pam Haynes-Walsh, haynes-walsh@comcast.net, 610-667-0972.

VOLUNTEER FOR A REFUGEE SUPPORT TEAM. Volunteers may sign up to support a local refugee family. Teams include: housing, furnishings, food/shopping, medical, transportation, employment, education, finance, clothing, and friendship. A member of the BMPC Refugee Action Committee is available during Café in the Court to help choose the best team for your interests and skills. Sign up to volunteer via email: florence.zeller@gmail.com.

HOSPITAL INFORMATION. Due to current privacy laws, it is more difficult for our pastors to know when BMPC members have been admitted to a hospital. Call the church office at 610-525-2821 if you or any one you know is hospitalized, and let us know if and when you volunteer at any local hospitals.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE WITH OUR PASTORAL CARE OFFICE. Provide rides for older adults, meals to those recuperating, prayer shawls for those in need of prayer, or visits to the homebound. LorieBenovic@bmpc.org or ext. 8833.

NEED A RIDE? We can help you with some of your transportation needs. For rides to medical appointments call Lorie Benovic, ext 8833. Volunteer drivers welcome.

SUPPORTING OUR TROOPS. Please pray for Freida Kaniuka's grandson in the Armed Forces. If you have a loved one serving in the Armed Forces, contact Janney Ryan, janneyryan610@gmail.com.

This Week's Calendar

*For more information, visit our website at www.bmpc.org,
call the church office, or contact communications@bmpc.org.*

Today, December 18, 2016

- 7:45 a.m. Childcare, Ed. Bldg. Rm. 102
8:00 a.m. **Worship with Communion, Chapel**
8:45 a.m. Sunday Morning Discussion Group, Conference Room
Filling the Well (for women), Ed. Bldg. Rm. 104
Art @ 9, Ed. Bldg. Rm. 201
10:00 a.m. **Worship with Baptism and Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary**
Sunday School for ages 2 - 4, Ed. Bldg.
Grades K - 5 begin worship in the Sanctuary
Youth Gathering (Grades 6 - 12), Gymnasium
10:15 a.m. Sunday School for Grades K - 5, Ed. Bldg.
Youth Grade Groups and Confirmation, Ministries Center
11:00 a.m. Cafe in the Court, Ministries Center
Fellowship for Families, Ed. Bldg.
Advent Gift Market Sales, Ministries Center Court
11:15 a.m. Religious Freedom: Past, Present, and Future, Witherspoon Parlor
Fullerton Bible Study: Gospel of Mark, Fullerton Room
Tintinnabulators, Fine Arts Center
4:00 p.m. Youth Christmas Party, Arnold's Fun Center

Monday, December 19, 2016

- 9:30 a.m. Dance Fit, Gymnasium

Tuesday, December 20, 2016

- 9:00 a.m. RePose Yoga, Gymnasium
10:30 a.m. Tai Chi, Gymnasium
11:00 a.m. Carol Jean Wright Kollevoll Memorial Service and Reception, Chapel
11:30 a.m. Parkinson's Disease Support Group Luncheon, Congregational Hall
1:00 p.m. Dance for Parkinson's Disease, Gymnasium
3:00 p.m. A Wee Christmas, Sanctuary
7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 19 Committee Meeting, Conference Room

Wednesday, December 21, 2016

- 9:00 a.m. Walk for Life: Walk More, Live Better!, meet at BMPC's Back Parking Lot
- 9:30 a.m. Dance Fit, Gymnasium
- 10:00 a.m. Women's Coffee Cup Bible Study, Gloucester Room
- 11:00 a.m. Marjorie Starr Frazier Memorial Service, Chapel
- 4:45 p.m. Christmas Eve Dress Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Dinner, Congregational Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Longest Night Service with Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary
- 8:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir, Fine Arts Center

Thursday, December 22, 2016

- 10:00 a.m. Artists' Gathering, Gloucester Room
- 11:00 a.m. William H. Wilson Interment & Memorial Service, Sanctuary

Friday, December 23, 2016

No activities scheduled for today.

Saturday, December 24, 2016

- 7:00 a.m. Saturday Morning Men's Group, Converse House Parlor
- 4:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Family Service, Sanctuary
- 8:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship with Communion, Sanctuary
- 9:30 p.m. Youth Alumni Reunion, Witherspoon Parlor
- 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service of Lessons & Carols, Sanctuary

Sunday, December 25, 2016

- 10:00 a.m. Single Worship Service with Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary
The Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet will preach.
Holiday Worship Together - No Sunday School

Worship Staff

Agnes W. Norfleet, Pastor

Rebecca Kirkpatrick, Associate Pastor for Adult Education and Mission

Rachel Pedersen, Associate Pastor for Children and Family Ministry

Kellen A. Smith, Associate Pastor for Youth, Their Families and College Ministries

Richard Wohlschlaeger, Interim Associate Pastor for Senior Adults & Pastoral Care

Jeffrey Brillhart, Director of Music and Fine Arts

Edward L. Landin, Assistant Director of Music

Contact Information

Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church

625 Montgomery Avenue, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

(Phone) 610-525-2821

www.bmpc.org (for program information, calendar, and staff directory)

[Facebook.com/BrynMawrPC](https://www.facebook.com/BrynMawrPC) • [Instagram.com/Bryn Mawr PC](https://www.instagram.com/BrynMawrPC)

24/7 Answering Service for Pastoral Emergencies: 610-525-2821

Main Line Adult Day Center: 610-527-4220

The Middleton Center: 610-525-0766 • info@middletoncenter.org

The Weekday School (Preschool): 610-525-2821, ext. 8840