



Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church

December 25, 2016
10:00 a.m., Sanctuary
Christmas Day

Welcome to BMPC

NEW HERE? We are pleased that you have joined us as we gather to worship God and celebrate the birth of Christ. Our programs are open to all and you are invited to participate according to your interests. Questions? Stop at our information alcove to the left of the main exit or contact DonnaBarrickman@bmpc.org, ext. 8809, during the week.

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 (infants - age 5): 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., Ed. Bldg. Rm. 102

Grades K- 12: Holiday Worship Together - No Sunday School

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 refreshments and fellowship after the worship service.

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE

Improvisation on
"The Little Drummer Boy"

Jeffrey Brillhart

WELCOME

Kellen A. Smith

† **CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Arise, shine; for your light has come,

All: And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

One: Lift up your eyes and look around.

**All: Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill
and rejoice.**

One: We are called to be attentive to the light of God's love.

All: Let us receive God's light and reflect it to the world.

† **HYMN 134**

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

**CALL TO CONFESSION
AND LITANY OF CONFESSION**

One: Give thanks to God for the light has come:

**All: A light in a dark stable, a light for somber lives,
a light which shines in every place, the light of eternal truth.**

One: Give thanks to God for the truth has come:

**All: The life of God in a newborn child, life vulnerable and precious,
life which conquers death's power,
the new life of the Kingdom of God.**

One: Give thanks to God for the royal reign has come:

**All: A Prince who brings peace, a Monarch who brings healing,
a Servant who shares our weakness, a gentle King whose name
is Love.**

One: Lord Jesus Christ, whose coming sets us free,

**All: Forgive us for any resistance to receive you fully,
and let your light shine in us, your truth change us,
your life renew us, that we may worship you as the Holy Child
of Christmas and the Crown of Heaven.**

A moment of silence for personal reflection and confession.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

† GLORIA PATRI (Hymnal 581)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

Children are invited to come forward for the Children's Moment.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rachel Pedersen

SENDING HYMN 141 On This Day Earth Shall Ring

PERSONENT HODIE

Please remain seated as children return to their parents.

FIRST LESSON

Hebrews 1:1-4 (*p. 218 in pew Bible*)

Kellen A. Smith

ANTHEM

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly
Sanctuary Choir

arr. David Willcocks

Infant holy, Infant lowly, for His bed a cattle stall; Oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the Babe is Lord of all. Swift are winging angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing, Christ the Babe is Lord of all. Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new; Saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true. Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow, Christ the Babe was born for you! Christ the Babe was born for you!

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 2:1-11 (*p. 2 in pew Bible*)

Agnes W. Norfleet

SERMON

The Story that Never Ends

Agnes W. Norfleet

† HYMN 132

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

IN DULCI JUBILO

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

† **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*in unison*)

Rebecca Kirkpatrick

Jesus came as a child
born of a woman as is every child,
yet born of God's power as was no other child.
He lived as a Jew among Jews.
He announced to his people
the coming of God's rule of justice and peace on earth.
We believe that the coming of Jesus
was itself the coming of God's promised rule.
Through his life, death, and resurrection
he initiates the relationship between God and the human race
that God always intended.

~ from A Declaration of Faith

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The Little Drummer Boy
Sanctuary Choir

Harry Simeone

'Come,' they told me, 'our newborn King to see; our finest gifts we bring to lay before the King; so to honor Him when we come.' Baby Jesu, I am a poor boy too; I have no gift to bring that's fit to give our King. Shall I play for you on my drum? Mary nodded, the ox and lamb kept time; I played my drum for Him; I played my best for Him. Then He smiled at me; me and my drum.

*Please fill in the Fellowship Register at the end of your pew;
pass it down your row and back again.*

† **DOXOLOGY** (Hymnal 606)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

† **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

† **HYMN 113** Angels We Have Heard on High GLORIA

† **BENEDICTION WITH CHORAL RESPONSE** Agnes W. Norfleet

POSTLUDE Improvisation on “Joy to the World” Jeffrey Brillhart

Worship Notes

GREETING AND HOSTING

Deacons

PLAYING THE CARILLON

Alan Willoughby

BULLETIN COVER

Detail from Nativity

© 2015, John August Swanson | Eyekons

***There is one Sunday service on New Year's Day
at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary.***

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.

YOUTH SUMMER TRIP EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION. Deadline for early bird pricing is January 31 for Camp Kirkwood. For more information about the High School Mission Trip to Crownpoint, New Mexico, the Middle School Mission Trip to Broad Street Ministries, or Camp Kirkwood, search "Summer Camps and Mission Trips" at www.bmpc.org. AmyBauer@bmpc.org, ext. 8821.

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. StephanieSpeakman@bmpc.org, ext. 8836.

Upcoming

HORIZONS BIBLE STUDY. Wed., Jan. 4, 10:30 a.m., Rosemont Presbyterian Village Ballroom. The Rev. Richard Wohlschlaeger leads our study of *Who is Jesus? What a Difference a Lens Makes*, Chapter 5. Joyce Malott, okf405@erols.com, 610-525-4469.

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.

Y-GROUP (FOR MOTHERS OF YOUNGER CHILDREN). Tues., Jan. 10, 9:15 a.m., Main Kitchen. Make casseroles to support our Hunger Committee in feeding our hungry neighbors. AmyBarrickman@gmail.com.

THE PROBLEM OF ISLAMOPHOBIA: TOOLS FOR ALLIES. Sundays, Jan. 15 and 22, 11:15 a.m., Witherspoon Parlor. Professor Hibba Abugideiri of Villanova University discusses the history of Islamophobia in the West (Europe & US), the dangers and provides evidence we can use to create bonds of fellowship. CarolSchmidt@bmpc.org, ext. 8819.

URBAN SUBURBAN BOOK GROUP. Tuesday, Jan. 17, noon, Converse House Parlor. Discussion of *Underground Girls of Kabul* by Jenny Nordberg. Edelen Carroll, carrollvirgo@verizon.net.

Save the Date

DEACONS' ANNUAL BLOOD DRIVE. Mon., Jan. 30, 1:00 - 7:00 p.m., Congregational Hall. Volunteers are needed to donate blood and assist with scheduling appointments. Sherri Shields, ShieldsS1@email.chop.edu or 610-449-3351.

Caring & Sharing

VOLUNTEER AT OUR BROTHER'S PLACE. Sat., Dec. 31, 10:15 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.; meet in the Ministries Center Court. Volunteers are needed to serve lunch at this homeless shelter in Philadelphia. Pam Haynes-Walsh, haynes-walsh@comcast.net, 610-667-0972.

DAYS OF SERVICE. This year we offer three opportunities to serve with various projects. Mark your calendar for Saturdays, Jan. 28, Feb. 4 and 11. Participate in all or just one. Watch for details in January.

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. Sign up to volunteer via email: florence.zeller@gmail.com.

HELP FIGHT HUNGER. Your contributions to the white hunger envelopes in the pews provide food for emergency food cupboards, homeless shelters, and hunger relief organizations. Dave Hastings, dhast99@yahoo.com.

SHARE 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.

SERVE WITH OUR PASTORAL CARE TEAM. 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.

SUPPORT 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.

Ongoing Weekly Opportunities

FILLING THE WELL WOMEN'S GROUP. Sundays, 8:45 a.m., Ed. Bldg. Library. This weekly class for women discusses Lauren Winner's book *Mudhouse Sabbath: An Invitation to a Life of Spiritual Discipline*, which explores the connections between Jewish and Christian practices of faith. PeggyHermann@hotmail.com.

SUNDAY MORNING DISCUSSION GROUP. Sundays, 8:45 a.m., Conference Room. The Rev. Dr. Paul MacMurray leads an exploration of the Gospel of Thomas. CarolSchmidt@bmpc.org, ext. 8819.

WOMEN'S COFFEE CUP BIBLE STUDY. Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m., Gloucester Room. The Rev. Rachel Pedersen leads our study. Topic: Paul's understanding of Community and Love in 1 Corinthians. MaryRichards@bmpc.org, ext. 8811.

MEN'S STUDY GROUP. Meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month, 10:00 a.m., Converse House Parlor. Led by the Rev. Paul MacMurray, this group reads books dealing with biblical and theological study. Men of all ages invited. AmyBauer@bmpc.org, ext. 8821.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS. 5:30 - 7:00 p.m., resuming Jan. 4, Congregational Hall (food served until 6:45 p.m.). Enjoy fresh, healthy meals prepared by Chef Ruth; \$8 adults; \$5 children/students. Menus available on our homepage and at the Reception Desk or call the church office. DonnaBarrickman@bmpc.org, ext 8809.

BMPC MEN'S GROUP. Saturdays, 7:00 a.m., Converse House Parlor. Men of all ages are invited for fellowship and lively discussions. Lee Comer, 484-524-8271.

CHOIR REHEARSALS. "Wednesdays Together" program for grades K-5 from 4:45-5:45 p.m. led by Edward Landin and the Rev. Rachel Pedersen, followed by Youth Chorale for grades 6-12 from 6:00-7:00 p.m. Intergenerational handbell choir: Sundays, 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. (ability to read music required). Singing for Life: Thursdays, 9:30-10:45 a.m. Sanctuary Choir: Thursdays, 7:00-9:00 p.m. StephanieSpeakman@bmpc.org, ext. 8836.

FITNESS AND FELLOWSHIP. All are invited to Dance Fit (aerobics and strength training), Repose Yoga, Senior Exercise Class and Tai Chi classes held weekly in our gym. For more information, search "Fitness and Fellowship" at www.bmpc.org. AmyBauer@bmpc.org, ext. 8821.

Ongoing Monthly Opportunities

WALK THE LABYRINTH IN PRAYER. First Tuesday of each month (second Tuesday in January), 11:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m., Congregational Hall. Experience this ancient symbol and prayer form. info@middletoncenter.org, 610-525-0766.

HORIZONS BIBLE STUDY. First Wednesday of the month, 10:30 a.m., Rosemont Presbyterian Village. The Rev. Richard Wohlschlaeger leads our study of *Who is Jesus? What a Difference a Lens Makes* by Judy Yates Siker. Joyce Mallott, okf405@erols.com.

CARILLON TOUR. Second Sunday of the month, 11:05 a.m., Choir Loft. Come see the instrument that welcomes you to worship and sends you out. Meet in the Choir Loft following the postlude to climb the tower stairs and see the bells. Rob Mygatt, Rob.Mygatt@gmail.com.

DIMENSIONS IN LITERATURE. Third Tuesday of the month, 1:30 p.m., Fullerton Room. A group for book lovers of all ages and interests. Eric Johnson and guest speakers lead thoughtful and informative discussions of diverse book selections from ancient to modern classics, best sellers, biographies, histories, and more. EricThorJohnson@gmail.com.

BIBLE FOR BEGINNERS. See BMPC's online calendar for dates, 7:00 p.m., Gloucester Room. Study of the Bible on a Thursday evening led by the Rev. Rebecca Kirkpatrick. Using the book *The Bible from Scratch*, this class surveys the basics of the New Testament. Each month we explore the themes and significance of one book of the New Testament, seeking to understand how it connects both with our faith and the larger story of scripture. People of all experience levels are welcome to join the group. Anita Ayengar, aciyengar@gmail.com.

Y-GROUP. See BMPC's online calendar for dates for our programs for mothers and caregivers of children of all ages. Amy Barrickman, ygroupbmpe@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 25, 2016 - Christmas

- 9:30 a.m. Childcare, Ed. Bldg. Rm. 102
10:00 a.m. **Worship with Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary**
Holiday Worship Together - No Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Cafe in the Court, Ministries Center

Monday, December 26, 2016

Church Office Closed: *For pastoral emergencies, call 610-525-2821.*

Tuesday, December 27, 2016

- 1:00 p.m. Dance for Parkinson's Disease, Gymnasium

Wednesday, December 28, 2016

- 9:30 a.m. Dance Fit, Gymnasium
10:00 a.m. Women's Coffee Cup Bible Study, Gloucester Room
No Wednesday Night Dinner this week.

Thursday, December 29, 2016

- 10:00 a.m. Artists' Gathering, Gloucester Room
11:00 a.m. Senior Exercise Class, Gymnasium
7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 19, Gymnasium

Friday, December 30, 2016

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

Saturday, December 31, 2016

- 7:00 a.m. Saturday Morning Men's Group, Converse House Parlor
10:15 a.m. Serving Lunch at Our Brother's Place, meet at Ministries Center Court

Sunday, January 1, 2017 - New Year's Day

- 10:00 a.m. Single Worship Service with Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary
The Rev. Kellen A. Smith 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