



***Bryn Mawr
Presbyterian Church***

December 14, 2014
8:00 a.m., Chapel
The Third Sunday of Advent

Welcome to BMPC

Lord, Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

VISITING TODAY? Please sign the Fellowship Register at the end of your pew and introduce yourself to a pastor after the service. Our programs are open to all and we invite you to participate according to your interests.

TODAY'S SCHEDULE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH (*see signs in building entrances for room assignments*).

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

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

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

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

10:30 a.m., Grade Groups in the Ministries Center

Children's bulletins with crayons may be found near the main doors. Nursery care with electronic pagers is available in our Ed. Bldg.

As we gather for worship, please silence your cell phone and prepare your heart and mind for the worship of God.

Worship Notes

THE FLOWERS in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Maurice L. Clancy.

THE CARILLON will be played today by Bob Holmes.

GREETING AND HOSTING TODAY are Presbyterian Women's "Holy Leisure" participants, who gather monthly in members' homes on Friday evenings. Join them at Café in the Court to enjoy refreshments and fellowship.

ASSISTING WITH THE SERVICE today is Elder Jen Bowers.

RECEIVING THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM at the 10:00 service is Penelope Ann Freeman, daughter of Megan and Chris Freeman. Assisting will be Elder Karen Dunkman, and representing the children of BMPC, Hadley Mardis.



GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Nicole Duran

(Please fill in the Fellowship Register at the end of your pew.)

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

Jen Bowers

One: We wait for the one who is Emmanuel, God with us.

**All: Saint and sinner, famous and forgotten,
we wait together for the promised one.**

One: Draw close and see that the King is coming.

All: The night is long, but the day is drawing near.

One: We light this third candle; see how the light has grown?

The people waited, generation to generation, waiting for the promised one.

**All: The light shines in the darkness
and the darkness did not overcome it.**

† HYMN 2

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

CALL TO CONFESSION AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

Creator God, we praise you for your love that comes to us, unworthy though we are. You are Emmanuel, God with us, and you have entered into our humanity in the person of Jesus. Forgive us for the ways we fail to accept your abiding love, and for the ways we withhold our love from others. Give us grace to be less judgmental and more accepting. Give us courage to see the face of Christ in the people around us who also yearn for your holy presence, and help us be the hands and heart of Christ among those in need. May our lives testify to your love for the world.

(A moment of silence for personal reflection and confession.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

† Please stand, if able.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *(please remain seated)*



In the Lord I'll be ev-er thank-ful; in the Lord I will re-joice! Look to God; do not be a-
fraid. Lift up your voic - es; the Lord is near. Lift up your voic - es; the Lord is near.

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HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Jen Bowers

FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 33:14-16 (*p. 738 in pew Bible*)

Jen Bowers

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 1:1-6, 17-25 (*p. 1 in pew Bible*)

Agnes W. Norfleet

One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Family Reunion with Matthew
(Third of four: *Christmas Tour of Gospel Homes*)

Agnes W. Norfleet

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

† HYMN 36

In the Bleak Midwinter

CRANHAM

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Nicole Duran

You are invited to come forward, using the center aisle, to partake of the Lord's Supper by intinction (dipping a piece of bread in 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 baskets 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 14** Savior of the Nations, Come NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND

† **SENDING AND PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

POSTLUDE

The Seasons of Advent and Christmas

CHRISTMAS CAROLING. Today, 3:30 p.m., Rosemont Presbyterian Village. Children, families, and individuals of all ages are invited to carol for the residents. Meet inside the main building entrance next to the lobby, off the lower parking lot.

CHRISTMAS “ANGEL” GIFTS. Today is the deadline to deliver gifts (5-8 per child) for those served by theVillage. Contact: BmpcAngels@gmail.com.

ADVENT GIFT MARKET provides an opportunity to make contributions to some of our amazing mission partners in honor of a loved one. Our shopping list includes local, national, and global concerns with which our church has on-going relationships; donations are available in a wide range of prices starting at \$2.00. See the sales table in the Ministries Center during Cafe in the Court after worship for more details.

ADVENT STUDY: EXPERIENCE THE KINGDOM. Wednesday, Dec. 17, 6:45 - 8:00 p.m., Witherspoon Parlor, led by the Rev. Rachel Pedersen. Experience and participate in the kingdom of God at this gathering after our Wednesday night dinner. All ages are welcome! Contact: MaryRichards@bmpc.org, ext. 8811.

DECK THE HALLS. Help our Flower Committee decorate the church with boughs of holly, wreaths, poinsettias, and greens on Thursdays in December or on Sat., Dec. 20. Contact: Louisa Mygatt, LMygatt@gmail.com.

ANNUAL YOUNG ADULT CHRISTMAS PARTY. Thurs, Dec. 18, 7:00 p.m., Pastor Kellen’s Manse (127 Radnor St.). A holiday gathering for young adults in their 20s and 30s. Contact: KellenSmith@bmpc.org, ext. 8822.

LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE. Sun., Dec. 21, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary, the Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet, preaching. While many of us bask in the holiday spirit of good cheer, the season of Christmas can be a difficult time for others. This service offers comforting and hopeful scripture readings, the singing of carols, a brief meditation, and an extended time of prayer to lift to God our yearnings for healing and wholeness for ourselves and the world. Join us, and invite someone for whom you think this service might be meaningful, as we place our concerns for ourselves, those we love, and the world, in the hands of our compassionate God. If you are unable to be with us on Christmas Eve, this is also a lovely, contemplative evening service of singing carols and listening for the “light and life to all He brings, risen with healing in his wings.”

CHRISTMAS EVE YOUTH ALUMNI RECEPTION. Wed., Dec. 24, 9:30 p.m., Witherspoon Parlor. Join others who grew up at BMPC and are now back home for the holidays. All are encouraged to attend!

Announcements

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE. We are 91% fulfilled in our 2015 campaign, but we need participation from those who have not yet pledged. Please consider pledging now and sharing your gifts with BMPC. You may fill out a card (found in the pew rack), pledge on-line, or call the church office.

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING. This special offering during Advent is an opportunity to give generously to those who devoted their lives to the mission of our denomination when they retire or face challenging life circumstances. The Christmas Joy offering also promotes the educational programs of ethnic schools and colleges. Search “Christmas Joy Offering” at www.bmpc.org.

FIBER ARTISTS EXHIBIT. A colorful display of quilts, art quilts, and wearables designed by twelve fiber artists from the Delaware Valley are available for viewing and purchase in the Ministries Center through Jan. 5. More info: StephanieSpeakman@bmpc.org, ext. 8836.

VISIT OUR BOOK CENTER. BMPC’s Book Center, located in the Ministries Center, is open after worship and on weekdays 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. *Christmas Day in the Morning* by Pearl S. Buck is filled with beautiful illustrations and makes a great gift for a child (\$12). Contact: [Kat MacMurray, KatRMac2@gmail.com](mailto:KatMacMurray@gmail.com).

CALLING ALL ARTISTS. Create the design for BMPC’s 2015 Day of Service T-Shirts. Email your one-color design (PDF or JPEG) by December 20, or place original pen and ink illustrations in Carol Schmidt’s mail slot. Winner’s name will be included on the shirt and two runners-up will receive gift certificates. Contact: CarolSchmidt@bmpc.org, ext. 8819.

NEW HYMNALS. Purchase our new Presbyterian Church U.S.A. hymnal (\$20 each) in honor of or in memory of friends and loved ones. Names of honorees and donors will be printed on special book plates. Visit the hymnal table in the Court or contact Susan Joseph, bibliothekar@gmail.com.

Adult Gatherings and Spiritual Enrichment

“FILLING THE WELL” WOMEN’S GROUP. Sundays, 8:45 a.m., Ed. Bldg., Room 101. Meet with other women for faith-based discussions and fellowship — a chance to “fill your well” after a week of giving to others. Nicole Duran leads the discussion of the book *Practicing Our Faith* by Dorothy Bass. Women of all ages and stages of life welcome. Childcare available without reservation. Contact: PeggyHermann@hotmail.com.

CARING AND CRAFTS. Monday, Dec. 15, 9:15 a.m., Gloucester Room. Knitters gather to make scarves, prayer shawls, mittens and hats for residents at theVillage. Contact: Maryalice Stoltzfus, 610-527-3909.

GREAT DECISIONS. Tues., Dec. 16, 2:30 p.m., Rosemont Presbyterian Village. Marilyn Irwin leads monthly discussions about global issues based on the Foreign Policy Association briefing books and DVDs. This month’s topic: Game-changing Defense Technology. Contact: Marilyn Irwin, marwin@aol.com.

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

BIBLE STUDIES AND BOOK DISCUSSIONS

- **The Story of the Jews.** Today, 8:45 a.m., Conference Room, led by the Rev. Dr. Paul MacMurray. After viewing 20 minutes of the PBS series presented by British Historian Simon Schama, discuss the program. Contact: CarolSchmidt@bmpc.org, ext. 8819.
- **Bible Basics: Isaiah.** Today and Sunday, Dec. 21, 11:15 a.m., Gloucester Room, led by the Rev. Dr. Nicole Duran. Consider how this influential and poetic book understands justice, prophecy, and the Messiah, and how it continues to influence Christianity. Contact: CarolSchmidt@bmpc.org., ext. 8819.
- **The Birth Narratives in Matthew and Luke.** Today, 11:15 a.m., Conference Room, led by the Rev. Dr. Paul MacMurray. Advent is the time to revisit the story of Christ’s birth and discuss its background and meaning. Contact: CarolSchmidt@bmpc.org., ext. 8819.
- **Couples Bible Study.** Sundays, 8:45 a.m., Ed. Bldg., Room 206. Open to couples of all ages. Discuss the book *The Zimzum of Love: A New Way of Understanding Marriage* by Rob and Kristen Bell. Contact: Barbara Heaton, BarbHHeaton@gmail.com.

- **College Bible Study.** Wednesdays, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m., Congregational Hall. Enjoy fellowship and a free catered meal followed by a scripture-centered conversation about how selected verses apply to our lives at this time. RSVP: Courtenay Willcox, MCWillcox@gmail.com, 610-506-1708.
- **Women's Coffee Cup Bible Study.** Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m., Gloucester Room. The Rev. Rachel Pedersen leads our study of *Christ's Beginnings in the Four Gospels*. Bring your Bible; supplementary materials provided. Contact: MaryRichards@bmpc.org, ext. 8811.
- **Men's Study Group.** Meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in Converse House Parlor. Led by the Rev. Paul MacMurray, this group reads books dealing with biblical and theological study. Men of all ages invited. Contact: AmyBauer@bmpc.org, ext. 8821.

Children, Youth, and their Families

InstaCHRISTMAS: NEW YOUTH GATHERING SERIES. Today and Sun., Dec. 21, 10:00 a.m., Ministries Center. It was the moment that changed the world, the instant that everything shifted - the moment Jesus was born. This Advent, youth and their friends are invited to prepare to celebrate Christmas with a new two-week series.

YOUTH CHRISTMAS BOWLING PARTY. Sun., Dec. 21, 3:30-5:30 p.m. Join Pastor Kellen at Wynnewood Lanes for an evening of bowling and fun. \$15/person includes dinner, shoes and bowling. RSVP by Dec. 19 to AmyBauer@bmpc.org, ext. 8821.

ART@9. Sundays, 8:45-9:50 a.m., Ed. Bldg., Room 201. Class provides nurture, fellowship and craft/creative time for children age 3 to grade 5 whose parents are attending BMPC classes. Contact: MaryRichards@bmpc.org, ext. 8811.

YOUTH SKI TRIP TO STOWE, VT. Fri., Jan. 16 - Mon., Jan. 19. This year we'll enjoy beautiful Stowe, VT and nearby Mt. Mansfield for our ski trip. The Round Hearth Lodge will accommodate us with hot chocolate and a hot tub after a full day on the slopes. On skis or board, it will be a great time and friends are welcome. \$499 register by Jan 5. Contact: AmyBauer@bmpc.org., ext. 8821.

Local and Worldwide Outreach

ASSIST WITH INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK. IHN guests will arrive Dec 21 and stay until Dec. 28. If you are able to assist by preparing and serving dinner or spending the night, contact Tim Bickhart, timbickhart@verizon.net, 610-446-1294.

Help Fight Hunger

- **Frozen Turkey and Ham Collection.** Bring frozen turkeys and hams to the freezers in the Ministries Center; the Hunger Committee will donate them to needy families in our area during the holidays.
- **Prepare Casseroles.** Sat., Dec. 20, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. A family-friendly event to make nutritious casseroles for delivery to Philadelphia area food cupboards and homeless shelters. Contact: Sandie Nicholson, sandiekev@verizon.net.
- **Hunger Envelopes.** Your contributions to the white hunger envelopes in the pews provide food for emergency food cupboards, homeless shelters, and hunger relief organizations.
- **Food Baskets** are located in the Narthex and the Chapel entrance. Please consider bringing a non-perishable food item to worship each Sunday to help stock local emergency food cupboards.

This Week's Calendar Highlights

To see a full listing of ALL upcoming activities and meetings, visit our website: www.bmpc.org

Sunday, December 14, 2014

- 8:00 a.m. Worship with Communion, Chapel
10:00 a.m. Worship with Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary
 The Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet will preach.

Infant and Toddler Childcare, Ed. Bldg., Room 102, 7:45-11:15 a.m.

- 8:45 a.m. Art @ 9, Ed. Bldg.
 "filling the Well" Women's Group, Ed. Bldg.
 Couples Bible Study, Ed. Bldg.
 The Story of the Jews with Simon Schama, Conference Room
10:00 a.m. Youth Gathering, Gym
 Sunday School Ages 2, 3 & 4, Ed. Bldg.
10:15 a.m. Sunday School, K-3rd Grade, Ed. Bldg.
10:30 a.m. Youth Grade Groups, Ministries Center
11:00 a.m. Cafe in the Court, Ministries Center
 Fellowship for Families, Ed. Bldg. Lobby

- 11:15 a.m. Birth Narratives in Matthew & Luke, Conference Room
Bible Basics: Isaiah, Gloucester Room
Youth Chorale, Fine Arts Center
- 3:30 p.m. Caroling at Rosemont Presbyterian Retirement Village

Monday, December 15, 2014

- 9:15 a.m. Caring and Crafts, Gloucester Room
9:30 a.m. Dance Fit, Gymnasium

Tuesday, December 16, 2014

- 8:30 a.m. Tuesday Morning Study Group, Converse House Parlor
9:00 a.m. RePose Yoga, Gymnasium
10:30 a.m. Tai Chi, Gymnasium
12:00 p.m. Parkinson's Disease Support Group Luncheon, Congregational Hall
2:30 p.m. Great Decisions, Rosemont Presbyterian Village

Wednesday, December 17, 2014

- 9:30 a.m. Dance Fit, Gymnasium
10:00 a.m. Women's Coffee Cup Bible Study, Gloucester Room
Weekday School Christmas Pageant, Sanctuary
5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Dinner, Congregational Hall
6:00 p.m. Student Serve Meeting, Loft
6:45 p.m. Advent Study - The Kingdom of God, Gloucester & Witherspoon Rooms

Thursday, December 18, 2014

- 9:00 a.m. Thursday Morning Prayer Group, Converse House Parlor
9:30 a.m. Artists' Gathering, Gloucester Room
10:00 a.m. Memoir Writing Class, Fullerton Room
2:30 p.m. Caregivers Support Group, Converse House Parlor
3:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Pageant "Drop in" Rehearsal, Sanctuary
7:00 p.m. Young Adults Christmas Party, Pastor Kellen's Manse

Friday, December 19, 2014

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

Saturday, December 20, 2014

- 7:00 a.m. Saturday Morning Men's Group, Converse House Parlor
8:30 a.m. Casserole Blitz, Main Kitchen

Sunday, December 21, 2014

- 8:00 a.m. Worship with Communion, Chapel
10:00 a.m. Worship with Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary
The Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet will preach

Worship Staff

Agnes W. Norfleet, Pastor

Nicole Wilkinson Duran, Supply Pastor for Adult Education, Outreach,
and Worldwide Ministries

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

S. Katherine Shealy, Choir School Director

Edward Landin, Assistant Organist

Contact Information

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

[Facebook.com/BrynMawrPC](https://www.facebook.com/BrynMawrPC) • [Twitter.com/BrynMawrPres](https://twitter.com/BrynMawrPres)

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

Main Line Adult Day Center: 610-527-4220

The Middleton Center: 610-525-0766 • JoyceKrajian@bmpc.org

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