



***Bryn Mawr
Presbyterian Church***

December 7, 2014
8:00 a.m., Chapel
The Second 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-3: 10:15 a.m., classes in the Ed. Bldg.
(10:00- 10:15 a.m. families worship together in the Sanctuary)

Grades 4-12: Worship Together Sunday, Sanctuary

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 George C. and Esther Ann McFarland.

THE CARILLON will be played today by Brian Middleton.

GREETING AND HOSTING TODAY are representatives from our Hunger Committee. Join them at Café in the Court to enjoy refreshments and fellowship.

ASSISTING WITH THE SERVICE today is Elder Bill Black.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS JOINING TODAY AT 10:00 a.m.:
Catherine Boman; Andrew & Jennifer Navarro; Pete & Sara Nicholas; Sue Sheaffer; and Dan & Judy Sherry.



GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Rachel Pedersen

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

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

Bill Black

One: Come, let us praise the one who created all things.

All: Let us sing to the one in whom we find life.

One: Let us worship the word who was made flesh that we might live.

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

One: We light this candle because God, who created all things,
never left us and gives light to show us the way.

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

† HYMN 9

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

CALL TO CONFESSION AND

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

God of light, who shines in deepest darkness, we hear you calling us out of hopelessness into hopeful expectation. We confess that we are afraid of following your light because it leads us into the places where you need us: where people are hurting, where fears abide, and where human need seems bigger than our ability to respond. Forgive us, and help us to seek your light in dark places, where your grace abides. And guide us to be the children of light you have called us to be for the sake of the world.

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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 voice - es; the Lord is near. Lift up your voice - es; the Lord is near.

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HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Bill Black

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 61:1-6 *(p. 691 in pew Bible)*

Bill Black

SECOND LESSON

John 1:1-8; 14-18 *(p. 91 in pew Bible)*

Agnes W. Norfleet

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

SERMON

By the Light of John
(Second of four: *Christmas Tour of Gospel Homes*)

Agnes W. Norfleet

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

† HYMN 4

Creator of the Stars of Night

CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Rachel Pedersen

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 12

People, Look East

BESANCON

† SENDING AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

POSTLUDE

The Season of Advent

ADVENT WORKSHOP FOR FAMILIES. Today, 11:00 a.m., Congregational Hall. A festive open-to-all event with hands-on fun and fellowship for all ages.

LESSONS AND CAROLS. Today, 4:00 p.m., Sanctuary. Bells and choirs, scripture lessons and carols capture the excitement of Advent and the wonder of Jesus' birth, making for a spirited and spiritual start of the Christmas season. Tickets: \$10 adults; \$5 students. Contact: StephanieSpeakman@bmpc.org, ext. 8836.

PRIME TIME ADVENT PARTY (for singles and couples age 50+, with reservations). Today, 6:00-8:00 p.m., home of Barbara Hauptfuhrer in Wayne.

ADVENT GIFT MARKET projects may be ordered in the Ministries Center Court today from 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon and on subsequent Sundays through Dec. 21. To learn more about the projects and to download an order form, visit the church's website, www.bmpc.org. As a community, we celebrate God's gifts by sharing with others through this program.

PROVIDE CHRISTMAS "ANGEL" GIFTS. Sponsor a child or family served by theVillage. You will receive a name and wish list of new items; deliver gifts (5-8 per child) to collection boxes in the Ministries Center or Ed. Building by Dec. 14. Contact: BmpcAngels@gmail.com.

ADVENT STUDY: EXPERIENCE THE KINGDOM. Wednesdays, Dec. 3-17, 6:45 - 8:00 p.m., Witherspoon Parlor, led by the Rev. Rachel Pedersen. Experience and participate in the kingdom of God at these gatherings after our Wednesday night dinners. All ages are welcome! Contact: MaryRichards@bmpc.org, ext. 8811.

Y-GROUP CHRISTMAS GIFT EXCHANGE (for mothers and caregivers of children of all ages). Thurs., Dec. 11, 6:30 p.m., home of Sharna Liggett. Bring a gift (\$25) to swap with friends and an appetizer, drink, or dessert. RSVP: Sharna Liggett, SLiggett@me.com.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING. Sun., Dec. 14, 3:30 p.m., Rosemont Presbyterian Village. Children, families, and individuals of all ages are invited to carol for the residents. 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.

LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE. Sun., Dec. 21, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary. A simple service of carols, comforting and hopeful scripture, a brief meditation, and an extended time of prayer to lift to God our yearnings for healing and wholeness for ourselves and our world.

Announcements

THANK YOU TO THE MANY MEMBERS WHO HAVE ALREADY PLEDGED FOR 2015. The Stewardship Committee is so grateful for the support thus far that we wanted to share a few updates with you. We have 58 members that have increased their pledge by \$1,000 or more and 50 brand new pledges! We are 87% fulfilled in our 2015 campaign. Please consider pledging now and sharing your gifts with BMPC. For those who have not yet pledged, you may fill out a card (found in the pew rack), pledge on line, or call the church office.

FIBER ARTISTS EXHIBIT. A colorful display of quilts, art quilts, and wearables designed by twelve fiber artists from the Delaware Valley will be available for viewing and purchase in the Ministries Center through Jan. 5. A “Meet the Artists” reception follows this afternoon’s Advent Lessons and Carols. More info: StephanieSpeakman@bmpc.org, ext. 8836.

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 20’s and 30’s. Contact: KellenSmith@bmpc.org, ext. 8822.

CHRISTMAS EVE YOUTH ALUMNI RECEPTION. Wed., Dec. 24, 9:30 p.m., Witherspoon Parlor. Worship on Christmas Eve is made even more special by seeing those who grew up at BMPC and are now back home for the holidays. We welcome back all former youth to join old friends between the 8:30 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. service. All are encouraged to attend!

VISIT OUR BOOK CENTER. BMPC’s Book Center, located in the Ministries Center, is open after worship and on weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. We have a great selection for various interests and ages at very reasonable prices. Stop by to browse for Christmas gifts. Contact: Kat MacMurray, KatRMac2@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 hymnals (\$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, bibliothekarin@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.

SEARCHING FOR STILL WATERS: AN EXPLORATION OF LOSS AND GRIEF. Sat., Dec. 13, 10:00-11:30 a.m., Middleton Center. Ongoing support group for those coping with the loss of a loved one, whether recent or many years ago. All welcome. Contact: info@MiddletonCenter.org, 610-525-0766.

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.

BIBLE STUDIES AND BOOK DISCUSSIONS

- **Bible Basics: Isaiah.** Sundays, Dec. 7, 14 and 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.** Sundays, Dec. 7 and 14, 8:45 a.m. and 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.
- **College Bible Study.** Wednesdays, 6:00 - 8 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.
- **Couples Bible Study.** Sundays, 8:45 a.m., Ed. Bldg., Room 206, Open to couples of all ages. Using the book *The Zimzum of Love: A New Way of Understanding Marriage* by Rob and Kristen Bell. Contact: Barbara Heaton BarbHHeaton@gmail.com.

- **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.
- **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.

Children, Youth, and their Families

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC MISSION TRIP INFO MEETING. Today, 11:15 a.m., Witherspoon Parlor. Parents of current 8th-12th graders are encouraged to come to hear about the mission trip planned for our youth in July, 2015. Contact: AmyBauer@bmpc.org, ext. 8821.

InstaCHRISTMAS: NEW YOUTH GATHERING SERIES. Sun., Dec. 14 and 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 2-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.

Local and Worldwide Outreach

OUTREACH GRANTS AVAILABLE. Do you know of an organization that is serving West Philadelphia and/or Presbyterian-related that would benefit from a grant from BMPC? Applications are available at www.bmpc.org >Outreach>Grants. Submit to CarolSchmidt@bmpc.org by December 13, 2014.

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 John Heard, JohnHeard76@gmail.com, 610-623-7140.

Help Fight Hunger

- **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.
- **Frozen Turkey and Ham Collection.** Bring frozen turkeys and hams to the freezers in the Ministries Center; the Hunger Committee will donate to them to needy families in our area at holiday time.
- **Serve Lunch.** “Breaking Bread at Broad Street Ministry”. Sat., Dec. 13, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Carpool from BMPC to serve lunch to homeless men and women at BSM. Contact Pam Haynes Walsh, haynes-walsh@comcast.net, 610-667-0972.
- **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.

This Week's Calendar Highlights

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

Sunday, December 7, 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. The Birth Narratives in Matthew and Luke, Conference Room
 Art @ 9, Ed. Bldg.
 “Filling the Well” Women’s Group, Ed. Bldg.
9:00 a.m. Session Meeting to Receive New Members, Gloucester Room
10:00 a.m. Sunday School, Ages 2, 3 & 4, Ed. Bldg.
 Worship Together Sunday (Grades 4-12 remain in worship)
10:15 a.m. Sunday School, K-3rd Grade, Ed. Bldg.

- 11:00 a.m. Cafe in the Court, Ministries Center
 HS Mission Trip to Dominican Rep. Info Mtg, Witherspoon Parlor
 Advent Craft Workshop, Congregational Hall
- 11:15 a.m. Birth Narratives in Matthew & Luke, Conference Room
 Bible Basics: Isaiah, Gloucester Room
- 4:00 p.m. Advent Lessons and Carols, Sanctuary
- 5:00 p.m. Art Exhibit Reception, Conference Room
- 6:00 p.m. Prime Time Advent Party, *Off Campus*

Monday, December 8, 2014

- 9:30 a.m. DanceFit, Gymnasium

Tuesday, December 9, 2014

- 9:00 a.m. Repose Yoga, Gymnasium
- 10:30 a.m. Tai Chi, Gymnasium
- 1:30 p.m. Parkinson's Disease Support Group, Witherspoon Parlor
- 4:30 p.m. Upward Basketball Evaluation Night, Gymnasium

Wednesday, December 10, 2014

- 9:30 a.m. DanceFit, Gymnasium
- 10:00 a.m. Women's Coffee Cup Bible Study, Gloucester Room
 Men's Study Group, Converse House Parlor and Library
- 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 Room

Thursday, December 11, 2014

- 9:00 a.m. Thursday Morning Prayer Group, Chapel Meeting Room
- 9:30 a.m. Artists' Gathering, Gloucester Room

Friday, December 12, 2014

- 9:30 a.m. DanceFit, Gymnasium

Saturday, December 13, 2014

- 7:00 a.m. Saturday Morning Men's Group, Converse House Parlor
- 10:00 a.m. Searching for Still Waters - Bereavement Group, Middleton Center

Sunday, December 14, 2014

- 8:00 a.m. Worship with Communion
- 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

Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church

625 Montgomery Avenue, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

(P) 610-525-2821 • (F) 610-525-9476

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