

Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2011

10:00 AM, SANCTUARY

CHRISTMAS DAY



“Behold, I bring you good news of great joy for all the people;
for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior,
who is Christ the Lord.”

~ Luke 2:10, 11

Order of Worship

As we gather for worship, some prepare by greeting each other with words of peace, others with meditation and prayer. Please be respectful of how those around you prepare. Kindly refrain from taking photos or videos and please silence cell phones.

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE Improvisation on *Mary's Child* Jeffrey Brillhart

WELCOME Jacqui Van Vliet

CALL TO WORSHIP Kellen Smith

One: Christ is born!
All: **Let us give him glory!**
One: Christ has come down from heaven!
All: **Let us receive him!**
One: Christ is now on earth!
All: **O earth, sing to the Lord! O nations, praise him in joy!**
One: Let us worship God!

† **HYMN 22** Angels, from the Realms of Glory REGENT SQUARE

CALL TO CONFESSION AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*in unison*) Kellen A. Smith

God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came among us a child -- a light shining in darkness. We confess that we have not always welcomed the light, or trusted good news to be good. We have closed our eyes to glory in our midst, expecting little, and hoping for less. Forgive our doubt and renew our hope, so that we may receive the fullness of your grace and live in the truth and joy of Christ the Lord.

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Kellen A. Smith

† **GLORIA PATRI** (*in unison*) (*Hymnal 579*)

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 Jacqui Van Vliet

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 52:7-10 (*p. 683 in pew Bible*) Kellen A. Smith

ANTHEM What Child Paul Lohman
(See *Worship Notes* section for text.)

SECOND LESSON Luke 2:1-20 (*p. 58 in pew Bible*) Sherri Hausser

SERMON *Good News of Great Joy* Sherri Hausser

† **HYMN 29** Go, Tell It on the Mountain GO TELL IT
(Please remain standing for the Affirmation of Faith.)

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

† **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*in unison*) Jacqui Van Vliet

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit

he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

~from The Nicene Creed

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

OFFERING Jacqui Van Vliet

OFFERTORY ANTHEM The Little Drummer Boy arr. Harry Simeone
(See *Worship Notes* section for text.)

† **DOXOLOGY** (*in unison*) (*Hymnal 592*)

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (*in unison*) Kellen A. Smith

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.

† **HYMN 40** Joy to the World! ANTIOCH

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE Sherri Hausser

POSTLUDE Improvisation on *Tempus Adest Floridum* Jeffrey Brillhart

† Please stand, if able.

❖ Worship Notes ❖

ANTHEM

What Child

Paul Lohman

What Child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping? This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary! Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding? Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading. This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary! So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king to own him. The King of kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone him. This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; Joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

OFFERTORY ANTHEM The Little Drummer Boy arr. 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.

Born in the Night, Mary's Child

Born in the night, Mary's Child, a long way from Your home;
Coming in need, Mary's Child, born in a borrowed room.
Clear shining light, Mary's Child, your face lights up our way;
Light of the world, Mary's Child, dawn on our darkened day.
Truth of our life, Mary's Child, you tell us God is good;
Yes, it is true, Mary's Child, shown on your cross of wood.
Hope of the world, Mary's Child, you're coming soon to reign;
King of the earth, Mary's Child, walk in our streets again.

It Is Not Over

It is not over,
this birthing.
There are always newer skies
into which
God can throw stars.
When we begin to think
that we can predict the Advent of God,
that we can box the Christ
in a stable in Bethlehem,
that's just the time
that God will be born
in a place we can't imagine and won't believe.
Those who wait for God
watch with their hearts and not their eyes,
listening
always listening
for angel words.

~ Ann Weems, *Kneeling in Bethlehem*



"I am the resurrection and the life."

Marguerite "Greta" Woodbury ~ December 17, 2011

Bob Holmes will play the carillon following the service.

Due to HVAC construction, parking in back is limited.
Those who are able to walk across the street comfortably
are encouraged to park in the Harcum College lot.

If you are an elder or deacon

interested in serving communion at the 8 a.m. service
please contact

Bill Matthai, William.Matthai@uphs.upenn.edu or 610-668-1842
or
Anita Iyengar, aniye@comcast.net or 610-645-6044.

Pastor's Brown Bag Bible Study,
which normally meets at noon on Tuesdays,
will reconvene on January 3, 2012.

Hearing devices are available for your use. You will find them in a black case on the shelf in the Narthex. Take an instruction card to learn the simple steps to turn on the device and plug in the earpiece. Large print resources are available for you at the same location.

Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church Clergy and Staff

MINISTERS

All the members of the church

PASTORAL STAFF

The Rev. James L. Carter, D.Min.; Interim Pastor, Head of Staff

The Rev. R. Charles Grant, D.Min.; Associate Pastor
for Senior Adults and Pastoral Care

The Rev. Sherri A. Hausser, M.Div.; Associate Pastor for Adult Education,
Outreach, and Worldwide Ministries

The Rev. Kellen A. Smith, M.Div.; Associate Pastor for Youth, Their Families
and College Ministries

The Rev. Jacqui Van Vliet, M.Div.; Pastoral Associate
for Congregational Life and Family Ministries

The Rev. Joanne Shum Fong, M.Div.; Pastoral Resident 2010-12

The Rev. Louisa Watkins Umphres, M.Div.; Pastoral Resident 2010-12

PROGRAM AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Rebecca Alleva, Acting Youth Activities Director

Donna Barrickman, Director of Communications and Membership

Carolyn Jervis Beitmann, Director of Children's and Family Ministries

Lorie Benovic, Care Manager

Jeffrey L. Brillhart, Director of Music and Fine Arts

Patsy Cole, Director of the Weekday School

Pete DiRocco, Director of Facilities and Maintenance

The Rev. Joyce R. Krajian, M.Div.; Director of the Middleton Center

Pam Lloyd, Executive Assistant to the Senior Pastor

Ketti Jane Muschler, Director of BMPC Choir School

Joanne Solarz, Executive Director of Operations

David Van Houten, Ph.D.; Transition into Ministry Program Director

Jane Wilber, Assistant Director of Children's and Family Ministries

The Rev. Robert C. Murphy, M.Div.; Parish Associate

Sue Gibbons, Shared Ministries Coordinator

The Rev. Eugene C. Bay, D.Min.; Pastor Emeritus

The Rev. Margaret Anne Fohl, D.Min.; Associate Pastor Emerita

The Rev. George E. Hollingshead, Jr., D.Min.; Associate Pastor Emeritus

The Rev. David B. Watermulder, Th.M., DD.; Pastor Emeritus

625 Montgomery Avenue, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

Office Phone: 610-525-2821

Office Fax: 610-525-9476

Website: www.bmpc.org

Main Line Adult Day Center: 610-527-4220

The Middleton Center: 610-525-0766; mail@middletoncenter.org

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



The Week of December 25, 2011 - January 1, 2012

MERRY CHRISTMAS! We are glad you have joined us to celebrate the birth of the Christ child, God's gift to the world. We encourage you to keep the message of the season close to your heart both today and in the weeks to come. We hope you will return often in the New Year!

WE WANT ALL TO FEEL WELCOME HERE, so please greet one another after worship. If you need assistance, you may ask an usher or anyone wearing a nametag.

LOOKING FOR A CHURCH HOME, or interested in learning more about us? Meet our staff and become better acquainted with our Reformed beliefs, our denomination, and our sense of Christian ministry at our orientation on Sun., Feb. 5. For more information, contact DonnaBarrickman@bmpe.org, ext. 8809.

BMPC ONLINE: Check our website, www.bmpe.org, for our church calendar, pastors' columns, sermon files, newsletters and more. To receive our electronic newsletter, BMPC eNews, subscribe via our website or add your email address to the fellowship register when it is passed.

CHRISTMAS DAY & NEW YEAR'S DAY

TODAY, SUN., DEC. 25: One service only, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary. The Rev. Sherri Hausser will preach. All ages remain in worship for the entire hour.

NEXT WEEK, SUN., JAN. 1: One service only, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary. The Rev. Louisa Watkins Umphres will preach. All ages remain in worship for the entire hour.

DID YOU KNOW:

...that BMPC is a leading force in the creation and ongoing support of Broad Street Ministries (BSM), a Presbyterian ministry established in 2005 that is supported spiritually, financially and organizationally by a combination of committed individuals, along with local, regional and national entities? BSM "cherishes

creativity, fosters and nurtures artistic expression, extends inclusive hospitality and works for a more just world through civic engagement." Involvement includes: Sunday evening worship and weekly Bible study that reach out to the unchurched; No Barriers Community Dinners; the 315 South Homeless Café extended to those who fear entering shelters, and several arts and cultural events. The Outreach Council and the Eugene Bay Fund have been primary contributors to this critical support agency.



STEWARDSHIP STORIES

WHY WE GIVE

WEEKLY CALENDAR:
December 25, 2011 - January 1, 2012

Sunday, December 25, 2011 - Christmas Day

10:00 a.m. *Worship with Senior Choir in the Sanctuary*
The Rev. Sherri Hausser will preach.

10:00 a.m. Children and Youth in Worship. No Church School.

Monday, December 26, 2011

Office closed in celebration of the Christmas holiday.
For pastoral emergencies, call the church office: 610-525-2821

Tuesday, December 27, 2011

10:00 a.m. Coordinating Team, Pastors Conference Room
1:30 p.m. Parkinson's Disease Support Group, Conference Room & Converse House Mtg. Room

Wednesday, December 28, 2011

No Events Scheduled.

Thursday, December 29, 2011

11:00 a.m. Torah Study, Main Line Reform Temple

Friday, December 30, 2011

No Events Scheduled.

Saturday, December 31, 2011 - New Year's Eve

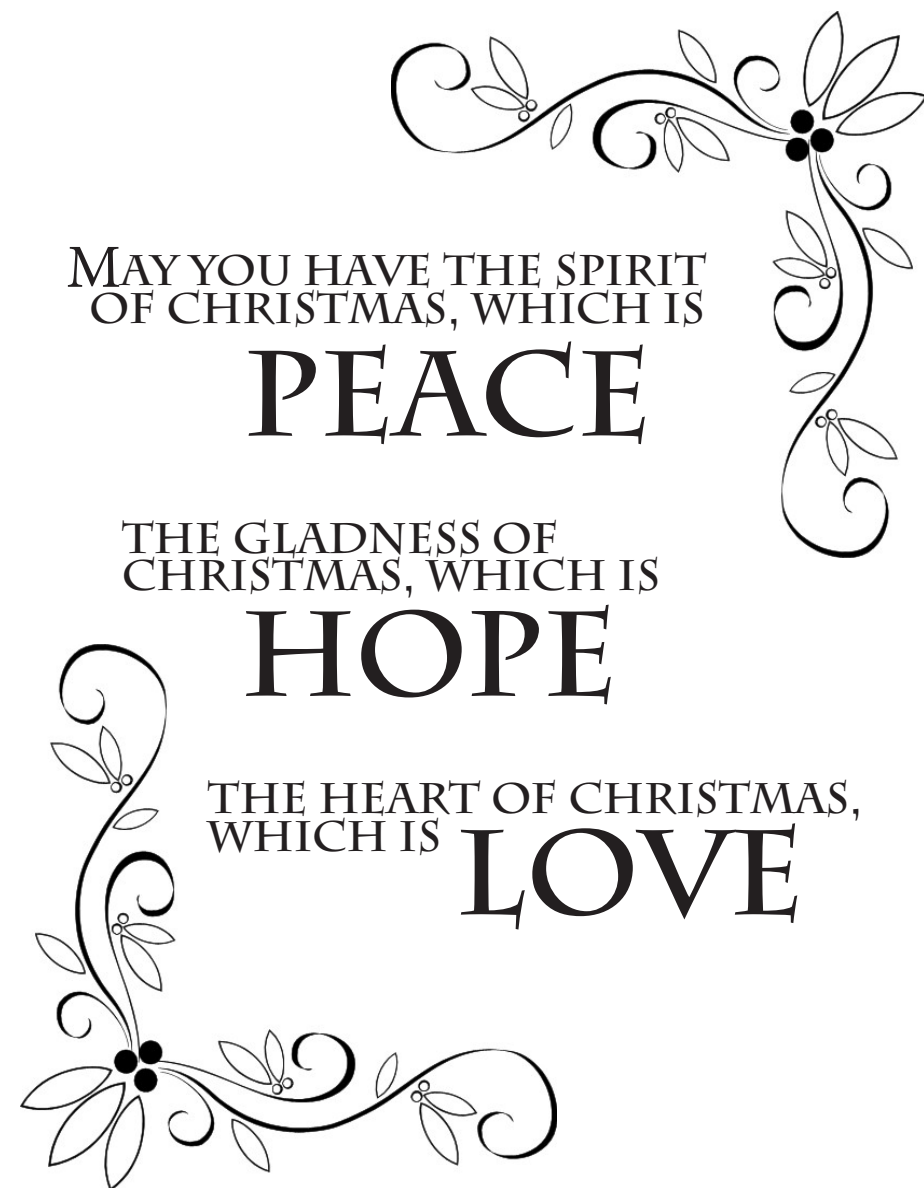
7:00 a.m. Saturday Morning Men's Group, Converse House
Porch & Library

Sunday, January 1, 2012 - New Year's Day

10:00 a.m. *Worship with Senior Choir in the Sanctuary*
The Rev. Louisa Watkins Umphres will preach.

10:00 a.m. Children and Youth in Worship. No Church School.

CHILDCARE INFO/RESERVATIONS other than on Sunday morning, contact childcare e-mail: childcare@bmpe.org or childcare line: 610-520-8850. Nursery care with electronic pagers is available in our Education Building.



Christmas Outreach

Opportunities to help others during this holiday season

OUR BROTHER'S PLACE. Sat., Dec. 31. Volunteers needed to serve lunch at Our Brother's Place, a homeless shelter, 907 Hamilton St., Philadelphia. Contact: Pam Haynes Walsh, haynes-walsh@comcast.net, 610-667-0972.

DONATE FROZEN TURKEYS AND HAMS. Please bring frozen turkeys and hams to the freezers in the Ministries Center during the

holiday season for donations to needy families in our area.

CASSEROLE BLITZ. Sat., Jan. 21, 8:30-10:30 a.m. Join us for this family-friendly event where we prepare nutritious casseroles to be delivered to Philadelphia-area food cupboards and homeless shelters. Contact: Bob Weber, b2mw@aol.com, 610-519-9966.

THE SEARCH FOR BMPC'S NEXT PARISH NURSE is now underway. This part-time position offers competitive compensation and the church's benefits package (retirement, medical and dental); PA lic RN required; 5 years nursing experience preferred. If you know someone who would be a good fit for this position, encourage them to send inquiries and their resume to PNSearch@BMPC.org

The Book Center and Library

DEVOTIONS FOR BASEBALL FANS: *Steal Away* (\$8) and *Intentional Walk* (\$9) by Hugh Poland. Little known facts and stories about many of the "heroes" of the game that will draw you nearer to Jesus, the greatest hero. The Book Center in the Court is open following services and on weekdays from 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Key available at the Reception Desk.

HELP THE CONVERSE HOUSE LIBRARY. Clean out your DVD collection and donate the ones you've seen to our Library.

Sunday Adult Education

A CASE FOR GOD BOOK DISCUSSION. Sundays, Jan. 8-29, 8:30 a.m., led by the Rev. Dr. Paul MacMurray.

VISIT FAITH COMMUNITIES IN WEST PHILADELPHIA. Sun., Jan. 8, 10:15 a.m.-2:15 p.m. Tour White Rock Baptist Church. Attend service, reflect and ask questions with community members. For more information: www.interfaithcenterpa.org/involved/gateway-reg.php

OUR STORIES, MUSLIM STORIES, AND GOD'S STORY. Begins Sun., Jan. 15, 11:15 a.m. Popular facilitator Dr. Jon Pahl returns to lead a study of how Christians, Muslims, and Jews share in being "people of the book." Where do our stories intersect and where do they diverge?

Adult Weekday Classes

PREACHER'S BROWN BAG BIBLE STUDY. Tuesdays, noon, Conference Room. Bring your lunch and discuss the sermon text with the preaching pastor for the following Sunday. This group will NOT meet on Dec. 27 but will

reconvene on Jan. 3, when Dr. Carter will lead the group.

WOMEN'S COFFEE CUP BIBLE STUDY. Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m., Converse House Meeting Room. Discuss *Getting Involved with God: Rediscovering the Old Testament* by Ellen F. Davis. Book available in The Book Center. Sponsored by Presbyterian Women (PW); led by the Rev. Louisa Watkins Umphres. This group will NOT meet on Dec. 28 but will reconvene on Jan. 4.

TORAH (OLD TESTAMENT) STUDY OF JOEL. Thursdays, 11:00 a.m., led by Rabbi Franzel, Main Line Reform Temple, Wynnewood. BMPC Contact: Phoebe Sheftel, pasheftel@comcast.net, 610-526-1802.

Congregational Care

WALKING GROUP. Wednesdays, 9:00 a.m.; meet in BMPC back parking lot. Contact: LorieBenovic@bmpc.org, ext. 8833. This group will NOT meet on Dec. 28 but will reconvene on Jan. 4.

Middleton Center

For information about support groups, events, counseling services, spiritual direction, or the events below, contact the Rev. Joyce Krajian at 610-525-0766 or mail@middletoncenter.org, or visit our website: www.middletoncenter.org. Calls are confidential; scholarships available.

WALKING THE LABYRINTH IN PRAYER. Tues., Jan. 3, 11:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m., Congregational Hall. Join others in this ancient symbol and prayer form. The theme for the month of January is *Prayer*. A printed prayer reflection will be available.

SEARCHING FOR STILL WATERS: AN EXPLORATION OF LOSS AND GRIEF. Sat., Jan. 14, 10:00-11:30 a.m., Middleton Center. This ongoing support group

is for those coping with the loss of a loved one, whether recent or many years ago. Led by David Reed and Mary Joan Walheim. No cost. New and previous group members welcome.

Children & Family Ministries

NO CHURCH SCHOOL today or Sun., Jan. 1. Children may remain in worship with their families in the Sanctuary.

ART @ 9. Sundays, 9:00-9:50 a.m., Rm. 201, Ed. Bldg, for children ages 3 and older (No class Dec. 25 or Jan. 1). Nurture, fellowship and craft/creative time for children whose parents are attending BMPC classes.

BLINK: BMPC (love + inspire + nurture) Kids. To welcome children into our faith community and embrace them on their spiritual journeys, we invite children K-5 to begin worship with their families at the 10:00 a.m. service, Sanctuary.

REMINDER TO PARENTS: To help your children feel more welcome and "at home" during worship, children's Bible storybooks and age-specific children's bulletins with crayons may be found in the Narthex and in the Transepts. Please feel free to use these during the service, returning the Bible storybooks and crayons as you leave.

Youth Ministries, Grades 6-12

YOUTH-IN-WORSHIP today and Sun., Jan. 1. in the Sanctuary.

CONFIRMATION CLASS begins on Sun., Jan. 8, 10:00 a.m. Meet Pastor Kellen and fellow confirmands in the Gym.

SUMMER CAMP AND MISSION TRIPS 2012. Register now for youth summer trips! Return registration form and \$100 deposit for each trip to Amy Bauer. Forms and information about

trips are available online: www.bmpc.org/youth/summer/summer.html

FOR MORE INFORMATION about Youth opportunities, check our website: www.bmpc.org/youth

Presbyterian Women (PW)

TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY to get to know fellow church women by becoming involved in PW. Current team vacancies include Moderator Elect and Communications Coordinator. Interested? Contact: Pam Haynes Walsh, Haynes-walsh@comcast.net, 610 667-0972.

HORIZONS BIBLE STUDY. Wed., Jan. 4, 10:30 a.m., Rosemont Presbyterian Village Ballroom, led by the Rev. Charles Grant. *Confessing the Beatitudes* by Margaret Aymer, Chapter 5. Contact: Joyce Malott, okf405@erols.com, 610 525-4469.

DIMENSIONS IN LITERATURE. Tues., Jan. 17, 9:30 a.m., Converse House Porch. Discuss *Hungers of the Heart* by Richard Watts with Eric Johnson. The work offers a spirituality that attempts to free people from the bonds of organized religion while retaining the core of religious tradition. Contact: CarolSchmidt@bmpc.org, ext. 8819.

Y-Group

A PW group principally for women with elementary school-aged and younger children, but all women are welcome. Contact: JenniferHuth@comcast.net

CHILDCARE AVAILABLE for all events at the church. Reserve three days in advance: childcare@bmpc.org, 610 520-8850.

Y-GROUP MONTHLY MEETING. Tues., Jan. 10, 9:15 a.m., Congregational Hall and Kitchen. Prepare casseroles

for shelters in Philadelphia. Contact: JenniferHuth@comcast.net

Y-GROUP BOOK GROUP. Tues., Jan. 24, 7:30 p.m., at home of Sarah Burke. Discussion of *Mrs. Kimble* by Jennifer Haigh. Contact: Sarah.M.Burke@comcast.net

Outreach

EUGENE C. BAY FUND. This fund was established to support projects and programs that enhance the lives of residents of urban areas of Philadelphia, especially West Philadelphia and the community of Chester. Please encourage organizations that would qualify to submit a proposal by Jan. 31 to CarolSchmidt@bmpc.org, ext.8819. Details at www.bmpc.org/ECB.htm

MARK YOUR CALENDAR. The Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service will take place on Sat., Jan. 21. Contact: CarolSchmidt@bmpc.org, ext. 8819.

Hunger Committee

THANK YOU. The Hunger Committee thanks everyone who contributed in any way this past year to its mission of feeding the hungry. Your donations are crucial to the ability of the Hunger Committee to fulfill its goals.

HUNGER ENVELOPES. Your contributions in 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 church Narthex. Please consider bringing a can to worship each Sunday.

HUNGER FACT. Food insecurity means one's limited ability to secure adequate and nutritious food for an active and healthy lifestyle.