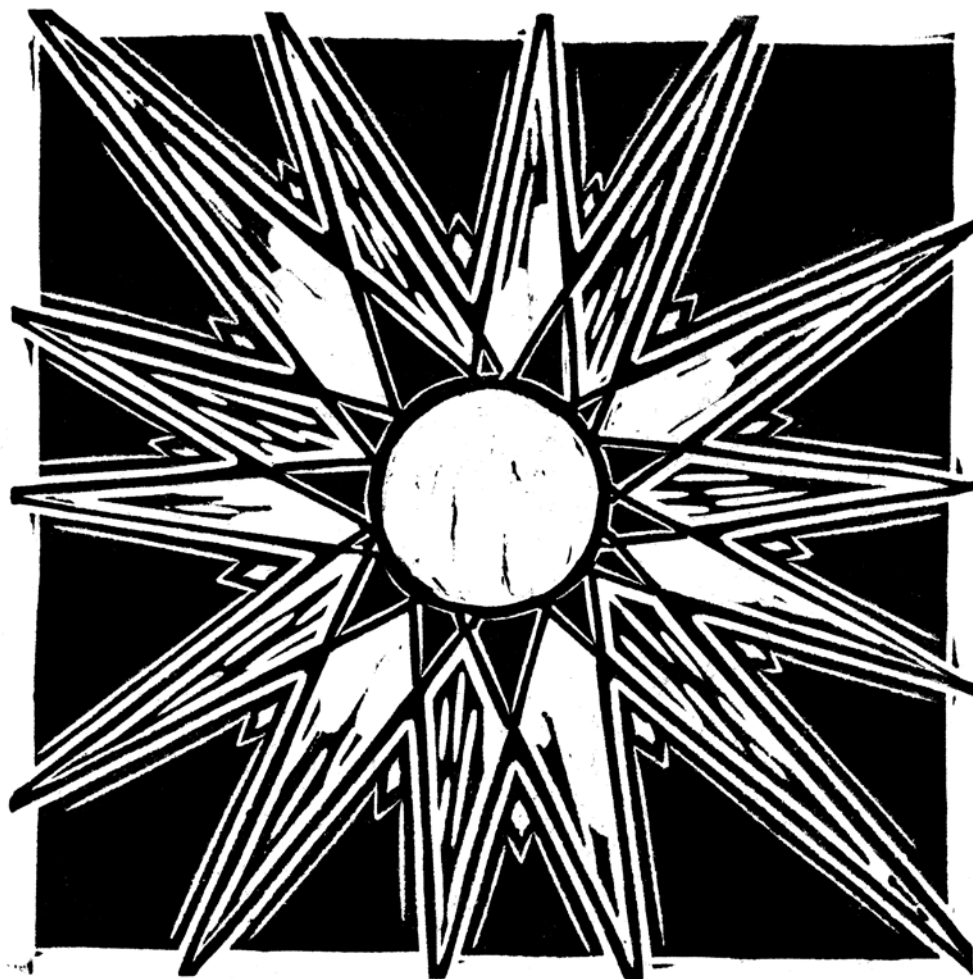


Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2009, 8:00 A.M., CHAPEL
FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS



"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly."

Colossians 3:16

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.

Prayer cards may be filled out and brought forward during communion.



PRELUDE	Improvisation	Jeffrey Brillhart
CALL TO WORSHIP		James Carter
† HYMN 23	Angels We Have Heard on High	GLORIA
COMMON CONFSSION	(in unison)	James Carter
<p>O God, in the beginning you spoke, and creation was born, the object of your loving care. In the fullness of time you spoke, and the Word became flesh, Jesus, gift of your love. Forgive us earthbound creatures, feeble in faith, empty of hope, lacking in love. We have not searched for signs of your love in the world or trusted your good news to be good. We have failed to praise your Son's birth and refused his peace on earth. We have expected little and hoped for less. Forgive us and renew in us the desire to watch and wait and once more hear the glad story of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.</p> <p>(A moment of silence for personal reflection and confession.)</p>		
ASSURANCE OF PARDON		
† HYMN 22	Angels, from the Realms of Glory	REGENT SQUARE
SCRIPTURE LESSONS	Psalm 148 (page 582)	James Carter
	Colossians 3:12-17 (page 201)	Susan Sytsma Bratt
SERMON	Present Hope	Susan Sytsma Bratt
† HYMN 47	Still, Still, Still	STILL, STILL, STILL

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER James Carter

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

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

You are invited to come forward, using the center aisle, to partake of the Lord's Supper. Please break off a piece of bread, dip it in the cup and return to your seat, using the side aisle. If you prefer gluten- and casein-free bread, please partake from the center table. If you desire to be served in your seat, please raise your hand to alert an usher.

MUSIC AT COMMUNION Improvisation Jeffrey Brillhart

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
AND COMMON PRAYER

† HYMN 38 **It Came Upon the Midnight Clear** CAROL CMD
(verses 1,4)

† HYMN 30 **Born in the Night, Mary's Child** MARY'S CHILD

BENEDICTION Susan Sytsma Bratt

POSTLUDE Improvisation

† *Those who are able, please stand.*

❖ Worship Notes ❖

Today marks the first Sunday of the Christmas season which extends through January 3. Marking Christmas as a season helps us both to enter into the meaning of the incarnation more fully than celebrating a single day and to focus on additional Scripture texts that explore the meaning of Christmas beyond the familiar words of Luke 2. Remembering and claiming the incarnation involves much more than the sentimentality of seeing a cute, mild-natured baby in the manger. Celebrating Christmas brings a vision of God's glory and the Kingdom of God to the fore.

As you ring in the New Year and make resolutions, may this present hope reorient you to let go of self-absorption and consumerism and allow hope to reorder our lives toward forgiveness and generosity.

~ Reflections on Christmas by Dr. John Witvliet from
The Worship Sourcebook

Cover Art: Sun of Righteousness

Throughout the Old and New Testaments symbolic references to light abound. Jesus Christ is referred to as the bright morning star, the light of the world, the sun of righteousness. The imagery of the sun, in its life-giving yet blinding way, captures the awesomeness of God, a mystery we cannot grasp. This design captures the piercing rays of the sun which penetrate the dark.

~ Art work and explanation by Elizabeth Steele
Halstead from Visuals for Worship



The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of god and in loving memory of
LORE KEPHART



HELPING HANDS ARE AVAILABLE before the 11:00 a.m. service every Sunday in both the east and west driveways near the portico entrances to greet those who may need assistance disembarking from vehicles.



HUNGER ENVELOPES found in the pew backs may be placed in the offering plates.



ALAN WILLOUGHBY will be playing the carillon following this morning's worship services.



Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church Clergy and Staff

MINISTERS

All the members of the church

PASTORAL STAFF

James L. Carter, D.Min.; Interim Pastor, Head of Staff
Sherri A. Hausser, M.Div.; Associate Pastor for Adult Education, Outreach, and Worldwide Ministries
Robert M. McClellan, M.Div.; Interim Associate Pastor for Youth and their Families, College Ministries
Susan B. Rice, M.Div.; Associate Pastor for Congregational Life
Christopher (Kit) Schooley, D.Min.; Interim Associate Pastor for Senior Adults and Pastoral Care
Graham Ford, M.Div.; Pastoral Resident 2008-10
Susan Sytsma Bratt, M.Div.; Pastoral Resident 2008-10
Elizabeth Lovell, M.Div.; Pastoral Resident 2009-11

PROGRAM AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Donna Barrickman, Membership Director
James A. Batt, Associate Director of Fine Arts Ministries
Carolyn Jervis Beitmann, Director of Children's 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
Karen Dunkman, Director of the Middleton Center
Lindsey Evans, Youth Activities Director
Kathy Kreider, Parish Nurse
Pam Lloyd, Executive Assistant to the Senior Pastor
Sandy Martin, Young-In-Arts Program Director and Fine Arts Music Assistant
Joanne Solarz, Executive Director of Operations
David Van Houten, Transition into Ministry Program Director
Jane Wilber, Assistant Director of Children's Ministries



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



Eugene C. Bay, D.Min.; Pastor Emeritus
Margaret Anne Fohl, D.Min.; Associate Pastor Emerita
George E. Hollingshead, Jr., D.Min.; Associate Pastor Emeritus
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
The Middleton Center: 610.525.0766; 11
The Weekday School: 610.525

Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2009, 10:00 A.M., SANCTUARY
FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS



“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.”

Colossians 3:16

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.



PRELUDE Improvisation for Christmas
Jeffrey Brillman, Organist
Peter Volpert, Cellist

CALL TO WORSHIP Graham Ford

† **HYMN** 23 Angels We Have Heard on High **GLORIA**

COMMON CONFSSION (in unison) Graham Ford

O God, in the beginning you spoke, and creation was born, the object of your loving care. In the fullness of time you spoke, and the Word became flesh, Jesus, gift of your love. Forgive us earthbound creatures, feeble in faith, empty of hope, lacking in love. We have not searched for signs of your love in the world or trusted your good news to be good. We have failed to praise your Son's birth and refused his peace on earth. We have expected little and hoped for less. Forgive us and renew in us the desire to watch and wait and once more hear the glad story of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

† **GLORIA PATRI** (Hymnal 22: verse 4)
All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son. Evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in one. Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ the newborn King.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Susan Rice

† **HYMN** Go Now Children, With our Blessing

Go now children with our blessing, to love and serve the Lord. May God bless you, may God guard you. May the light of God shine upon you, and may God be gracious to you. May the presence of God be with you. May the presence of God be with you, and give you peace.

FIRST LESSON Psalm 148 (page 582) James Carter

ANTHEM Noel We Sing Robert DeCormier

Angels of the Lord they came from heavens singing, called the shepherds by name while the bells were ringing; Told the shepherds where they lay, Jesus Christ was born today. Noel we sing. Christ is born a King. Leave your ewes and leave your rams; leave the watch you're keeping. Leave your sheep and leave your lambs on the hillside sleeping. Rise up, shepherd; follow me to the manger lowly. To the manger straight they came, singing praises to His name; thus they did adore Him, echoing their sweet amen of Christ is born in Bethlehem. Trumpets sound and angels sing, join in celebration; to us all good tidings bring of a new creation. For today a Child is born: Jesus, son of Mary.

OUR COMMON LIFE AND MINISTRY James Carter

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Go Tell It On the Mountain John Work
Senior Choir Women

Go tell it on the mountain over the hills and everywhere! Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born! While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Saviour's birth. Down in a lowly manger our humble Christ was born, and God sent us salvation, that blessed Christmas morn. Go tell it on the mountain over the hills and everywhere! Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

† **DOXOLOGY** (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.

SECOND LESSON Colossians 3:12-17 (page 201)

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON Present Hope Susan Sytsma Bratt

† **HYMN** 47 Still, Still, Still STILL, STILL, STILL

COMMON PRAYER Graham Ford

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.

† **HYMN** 38 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear CAROL CMD
(verses 1,4)

† **HYMN** 30 Born in the Night, Mary's Child MARY'S CHILD

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN Susan Sytsma Bratt

POSTLUDE Noël Claude Daquin

† *Those who are able, please stand.*

❖ Worship Notes ❖

THIS MORNING THE TABLE HAS BEEN SET WITH PITCHER, CUP AND PLATE even though we are not celebrating the sacrament of communion together. These visual symbols of the sacrament remind us of the core meaning of our Eucharistic life, a life of thanksgiving for who we are in Christ. May these symbols speak to us of our hunger for Christ who feeds us at this table and who invites us all to receive God's grace.



Today marks the first Sunday of the Christmas season which extends through January 3. Marking Christmas as a season helps us both to enter into the meaning of the incarnation more fully than celebrating a single day and to focus on additional Scripture texts that explore the meaning of Christmas beyond the familiar words of Luke 2. Remembering and claiming the incarnation involves much more than the sentimentality of seeing a cute, mild-natured baby in the manger. Celebrating Christmas brings a vision of God's glory and the Kingdom of God to the fore.

As you ring in the New Year and make resolutions, may this present hope reorient you to let go of self-absorption and consumerism and allow hope to reorder our lives toward forgiveness and generosity.

~ Reflections on Christmas by Dr. John Witvliet from
The Worship Sourcebook



The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of god and in loving memory of
LORE KEPHART



HELPING HANDS ARE AVAILABLE before the 11:00 a.m. service every Sunday in both the east and west driveways near the portico entrances to greet those who may need assistance disembarking from vehicles.



HUNGER ENVELOPES found in the pew backs may be placed in the offering plates.



ALAN WILLOUGHBY will be playing the carillon following this morning's worship services.



Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church Clergy and Staff

MINISTERS

All the members of the church

PASTORAL STAFF

James L. Carter, D.Min.; Interim Pastor, Head of Staff
Sherri A. Hausser, M.Div.; Associate Pastor for Adult Education, Outreach, and Worldwide Ministries
Robert M. McClellan, M.Div.; Interim Associate Pastor for Youth and their Families, College Ministries
Susan B. Rice, M.Div.; Associate Pastor for Congregational Life
Christopher (Kit) Schooley, D.Min.; Interim Associate Pastor for Senior Adults and Pastoral Care
Graham Ford, M.Div.; Pastoral Resident 2008-10
Susan Sytsma Bratt, M.Div.; Pastoral Resident 2008-10
Elizabeth Lovell, M.Div.; Pastoral Resident 2009-11

PROGRAM AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Donna Barrickman, Membership Director
James A. Batt, Associate Director of Fine Arts Ministries
Carolyn Jervis Beitmann, Director of Children's 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
Karen Dunkman, Director of the Middleton Center
Lindsey Evans, Youth Activities Director
Kathy Kreider, Parish Nurse
Pam Lloyd, Executive Assistant to the Senior Pastor
Sandy Martin, Young-In-Arts Program Director and Fine Arts Music Assistant
Joanne Solarz, Executive Director of Operations
David Van Houten, Transition into Ministry Program Director
Jane Wilber, Assistant Director of Children's Ministries



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



Eugene C. Bay, D.Min.; Pastor Emeritus
Margaret Anne Fohl, D.Min.; Associate Pastor Emerita
George E. Hollingshead, Jr., D.Min.; Associate Pastor Emeritus
David B. Watermulder, Th.M., DD.; Pastor Emeritus

Large print resources and wireless hearing aids are available at both services. Ask an usher for assistance.

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
The Middleton Center: 610.525.0766; 1
The Weekday School: 610.525

BMPC DEACONS ANNUAL BLOOD DRIVE.

Monday, January 25, 1:00 – 7:00 p.m., Congregational Hall. Volunteers are needed to donate blood products and to assist with scheduling appointments. Contact: Cynthia (Cinch) Rugart, 610-527-7005.

BMPC ANNOUNCES A CALL FOR PROJECT PROPOSALS FOR EUGENE C. BAY FUND.

This fund was established to support projects and programs that enhance the lives of residents of urban areas of Philadelphia, with a preference for West Philadelphia and Chester. It favors projects or programs that:

- hold promise of systemic change.
- contain a significant self-help component.
- enhance the physical, emotional, educational and spiritual lives of children.
- encourage personal transformation and provide opportunities for urban and suburban residents to work and grow together.

Submit brief project descriptions (two-page maximum) by February 15, 2010 to CarolSchmidt@bmpc.org.

Adult Education

HOW GOOD DO WE HAVE TO BE? BY HAROLD S. KUSHNER.

The author that brought us *When Bad Things Happen to Good People* brings us a book offering a new understanding of guilt and forgiveness described as “a wise, lucid, and important contribution to men and women of all faiths.” \$12 in The Book Center located in the Ministries Center. Open Sundays following services and on weekdays, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Adult Sunday Classes

NEW SERIES OF CLASSES BEGINS JANUARY 10:

One at 8:00 a.m., two at 9:30 a.m., and one at 11:00 a.m.:

EARLY MORNING STUDY GROUP.

8:00 a.m., Conference Room, led by the Rev. Dr. Paul MacMurray. Group will meet briefly on January 3 to decide the next book to be discussed. No meeting on January 10. Next session will begin on January 17 and books will be available to purchase at class.

PRAYING MY LIFE AND LIVING MY PRAYER.

9:30 a.m., Conference Room, led by the Rev. Marcus Pomeroy, former pastor of Central Baptist Church, Wayne and Spiritual Director at the Middleton Center. This class will explore how the work for social justice and the life of contemplative prayer are

reflected in the lives of Jesus, Thomas Merton, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Dorothy Day and Archbishop Oscar Romero. First session will be on January 17.

SEX AND SALVATION.

9:30 a.m., Witherspoon Parlor, led by Dr. Jon Pahl. How can Christians find a way to both a healthy sexuality and a clear sense of what it means to be saved by grace through faith – and then to live like people who actually believe it? Co-sponsored by the Adult Education and Youth Councils.

BIBLE STUDY: GOSPEL OF JOHN.

11:00 a.m., Conference Room, led by the Rev. Susan Rice. The Gospel of John points us directly to a divine Jesus reminding his readers that his story is grounded in God’s creative purpose that starts with the creation of the world and leads to the advent of Christ in the world. Join us for this in-depth study. For an overview of this Gospel join us for “First Wednesday.”

Adult Weekday Classes

“FIRST WEDNESDAY” – ADULT CLASS:

OVERVIEW OF THE NEW TESTAMENT - JOHN.

Wednesday, January 6, 2010, 6:30 p.m., Witherspoon Parlor, led by the Rev. Susan Rice. The Gospel of John points us directly to a divine Jesus reminding his readers that his story is grounded in God’s creative purpose that starts with the creation of the world and leads to the advent of Christ in the world. A more in-depth class on John will be held on Sunday mornings, 11:00 a.m., beginning January 10.

“SECOND WEDNESDAY” EVENINGS – SCIENCE

AND SPIRIT LECTURES WITH METANEXUS

INSTITUTE. Wednesday, January 13, 7:30 p.m., Congregational Hall. “The Economics of Religion and the Religion of Economics” presented by William Grassie, PhD. This lecture will explore three questions: 1) how do religions impact economics in various social and historical situations in the world; 2) what happens when we apply economic models to understanding religions in what is increasingly a global marketplace for religious ideas and practices; 3) in what sense can economics itself be understood as a “religion?”

PREACHERS’ BROWN BAG BIBLE STUDY.

Beginning Tuesday, January 5, noon – 1:00 p.m., Conference Room. Bring a lunch and study scripture with the coming week’s preacher (usually Dr. Carter.) This is a great way to enrich your worship experience.

LAY-LED BIBLE STUDY. Wednesday, January 6, 10:00 a.m., Fullerton Room, led by Elinor Snyder. Join this informal, welcoming study group that meets on Wednesdays (except 2nd Wednesday). Contact: Emily Parkin, emparkin@yahoo.com, 610-664-8380.

TORAH (OLD TESTAMENT) STUDY OF EZEKIEL.

Thursdays, 11:00 a.m., led by Rabbi Franzel, Main Line Reform Temple, Wynnewood. Come for a single session or as often as you like. BMPC contact: Phoebe Sheftel, pasheftel@comcast.net, or 610-526-1802.

Children's and Family Ministries

SATURDAYS AT ST. BARNABAS.

Saturday, January 9, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Mission opportunity for families at St. Barnabas Mission, a transition shelter for women and their children. Adults and children ages 3 and older will visit the children for activities and snacks. We’ll meet at the BMPC parking lot. Info: Genevieve.McCormack@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY POTLUCK SUPPER GROUP (ON

CHOIR PRACTICE DAYS).

2nd, 3rd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, 5:30 p.m., Witherspoon Parlor and Gloucester Room. Join other families to share a meal you bring, do homework and build community. Questions: Kikimc@verizon.net.

Congregational Life

YOGA CLASSES resume after the holidays.

MIDDLETON CENTER

FOR MORE INFORMATION about support groups, special events, counseling services or spiritual direction, contact Karen Dunkman, 610-525-0766, or mail@middltoncenter.org, or visit our website: middletoncenter.org. All calls are confidential and scholarships are available.

CAREER COUNSELING will resume on Tuesday, January 5, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. No cost.

TOOLS FOR LIVING WITH CANCER: Tuesday, January 12, 7:00 p.m., Converse House Parlor. This monthly group is designed to provide peer support and information. Led by Barbara Foxman, LSW. No cost. Drop-ins welcome, but reservations are requested, 610-525-0766.

Outreach Council

CONGREGATION-WIDE HANDS-ON DAY OF SERVICE ON MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY.

Monday, January 18, West Philadelphia. Join with The Other Carpenter repairing/painting homes. No experience or skills required! Choose morning (9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.) or afternoon (1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.). Both crews will meet for lunch at 12:30 p.m. Sign up at the Outreach kiosk in the Ministries Center or contact CarolSchmidt@bmpc.org or ext. 8819.

URBAN SUBURBAN BOOK GROUP.

Tuesday, January 19, Witherspoon Parlor, 7:00 p.m. This month’s selection: *Lest Innocent Blood Be Shed* by Philip Hallie. The story of the French village of Le Chambon during WWII and the faithful Christians who worked to save around 5,000 Jews from Nazi troops. Available in The Book Center.

Presbyterian Women

Y-GROUP BOOK CLUB MEETING. Tuesday, January 19, 7:30 p.m., home of Kathy Stevens, 101 North Lane, Gladwyne. We will discuss *People of the Book* by Geraldine Brooks. Contact Kathy if you’re able to attend: kpstevens@comcast.net.

COFFEE CUP BIBLE STUDY. Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m., Witherspoon Parlor, led by the Rev. Susan B. Rice, offered weekly. The book is available at the church office for \$8. Questions: SusanRice@bmpc.org or 610-525-2821, ext. 8810.

Youth

OPTIONAL CONFIRMATION WORKSHOP to help Confirmation students with their projects. Gloucester Room, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

CONFIRMATION CLASS WHIF EXPO.

Session views projects presented by the Confirmands. Ministries Center’s Court, January 10.

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY. Sunday, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. Join fellow youth in discussion, Bible studies and fellowship events.

Middle School youth meet 1st Sunday of the month, High School youth meet 2nd Sunday. Next meetings: Middle School Small Group meets on January 10. High School Small Group meets on January 17.

SUNDAY SCHOOL. Youth-in-Worship through January 3; classes resume January 10.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT YOUTH MINISTRY, contact Youth Activities Director Lindsey Evans, www.bmpc.org/youth.htm.

Christmas Caring and Sharing

*Opportunities to help others
in this holiday season*

WEPAC HAS AN IMMEDIATE NEED FOR EDUCATIONAL BOARD GAMES: gently-used games such as chess, checkers, vocabulary games or any other games helpful for youth. Leave by the book collection boxes in the Court or in the Education Building.

CHILDREN’S BOOKS STILL NEEDED TO REOPEN LIBRARIES. WePAC plans to continue reopening six more school libraries in West Philadelphia with the help of volunteers. We need gently-used books for pre-K through young adults. Please bring donations to the box near the Ministries Center’s main entrance or to the Education Building. Information: Sue Gibbons, 215-779-9359, or Sue@wepac.org.

Homeless Task Force

IHN Training will be held on Saturday, January 9, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.,

Gloucester Room. To attend or for further information, contact Sue White-Herchek at IHN, 610-277-0977.

Hunger Task Force

BASKETS ARE NOW LOCATED IN THE CHURCH NARTHEX AND CHAPEL entrance to receive donations of canned foods which will be delivered to emergency food cupboards in Philadelphia and Chester. Will you consider bringing a can to worship every week to help those in need?

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE WHITE HUNGER ENVELOPES in the pews go directly for food in emergency food cupboards, homeless shelters, and hunger relief organizations. Please give generously to those who are hungry.



☪ A Message About 2009 Contributions ☪

FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO BE INCLUDED IN 2009, checks must be dated on or before December 31, 2009, and either delivered to the church or postmarked on or before December 31, 2009. According to IRS regulations, if the church receives a check in January 2010 that has a January 2010 postmark, we are required to include this contribution in 2010, even if the check is dated in 2009.

Please pick up your 2010 Offering Envelopes in the Court today. If you have questions or would like to receive offering envelopes for 2010 and have not requested them, please contact SarahMiciek@bmpc.org in the Finance Office or 610-520-8817.



WELCOME TO BMPC! We hope the message of Christmas provides a sense of hope and peace as you face a new year. We encourage you to make a habit of worshiping with us in the coming weeks. May God's blessings be upon you and yours in 2010.

We want all to feel welcome here, so please greet one another after worship. If you are new to us, stop at the Welcome Center to the left of the main entrance. All are invited for refreshments in the Ministries Center after the 10:00 service.

If you need assistance, ask an usher or anyone wearing a nametag. Nursery care with electronic pagers is available in our Education Building.

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 membership orientation on Saturday, February 6, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Childcare is available with advance notice and lunch will be served. For more information or to register, indicate your interest on the fellowship register or contact Donna Barrickman, 610-525-2821, ext. 8809, or DonnaBarrickman@bmpc.org.

BMPC ON-LINE: Visit our website, www.bmpc.org, to check the church calendar, listen to sermons, and get news and updates. To subscribe to our weekly BMPC Enews, contact LydiaHaas@bmpc.org.

Today, December 27

- ◆ **8:00 a.m. Worship with communion in the Chapel.**
The Rev. Susan Systma Bratt will preach.
- ◆ **10:00 a.m. Worship with Senior Choir in the Sanctuary.**
The Rev. Susan Systma Bratt will preach.
- ◆ **Childcare** for infants and toddlers, Education Building, 7:45 – 11:15 p.m.
- ◆ **Church School**, ages 2 – grade 12, 10:00 a.m., following **BLINK** (Ks – grade 5) in the Sanctuary.
- ◆ This week please pray for the 10 college students attending a College Conference in Montreat, NC from January 2-5.



See calendar for more listings.

Weekly Calendar: December 27, 2009 – January 3, 2010

Sunday, December 27

- 10:00 a.m. Children and Family Ministries Birthday party for Jesus, Congregation Hall.
- 10:00 a.m. Youth in Worship.
- 10:00 a.m. Church School, Rainbows (age 2 by 9/1/09) – Lambs (age 4 by 9/1/09), Education Building.
- 10:00 a.m. BLINK: K – 5th graders begin worship with families in Sanctuary.
- 10:15 a.m. K – 5th grade classes proceed to Congregational Hall with teachers/shepherds with dismissal from Education Building.
- 11:00 a.m. No Art-at-11 today due to worship schedule change.

Monday, December 28

- 9:30 a.m. Cardio Fitness, Gym, Carol Haldy, 610-525-6765.

Tuesday, December 29

No events scheduled.

Wednesday, December 30

- 9:00 a.m. Senior Adult Walking Club, back parking lot (weather permitting), Kathy Kreider, 610-525-2821, ext. 8832.
- 9:30 a.m. Cardio Fitness, Gym, Carol Haldy, 610-525-6765.
- 10:00 a.m. Women's Coffee Cup Bible Study, Witherspoon Parlor..

Thursday, December 31

- 8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer Group, Chapel Meeting Room, Chapel.

Friday, January 1 ~ New Year's Day

The Church office is closed. If you have a pastoral emergency, please call 610-525-2821.

Saturday, January 2

- 7:00 a.m. BMPC Men's Group, Converse House Parlor.

Sunday, January 3

- 8:00 a.m. *Worship with communion in the Chapel.*
The Rev. James Carter will preach on John 1:10-18
- 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. *Worship with Senior Choir in the Sanctuary.*
The Rev. James Carter will preach on John 1:10-18
- Childcare for infants and toddlers, Education Building, 7:45 – 12:15 a.m.*
- 8:00 a.m. Adult Class: Early morning study group, Conference Room.
- 9:30 a.m. Church School, Rainbows (age 2 by 9/1/09) – Lambs (age 4 by 9/1/09), Education Building.
- 9:30 a.m. BLINK: K – 5th graders begin worship with families in Sanctuary.
- 9:30 a.m. Optional Confirmation Workshop, Gloucester Room.
- 9:30 a.m. Youth in Worship
- 9:45 a.m. K – 2nd grade classes meet in Education Building.
- 9:45 a.m. 3rd – 5th graders remain in worship for the hour.
- 11:00 a.m. Art-at-11 for age 3 and older, Room 201, Education Building.

As of December 22, 2009 ...

The graphs below represent BMPC's current and anticipated pledges for the year. Pledge online at www.bmpc.org/bmpcpledge.htm or pick up a card in the Sanctuary Narthex.



As of December 22, 2009 we received 635 pledges amounting to \$1,967,557.00.

