

Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2011

8:00 AM, SANCTUARY

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



...The voice of one crying out in the wilderness... proclaimed,
"I have baptized you with water;
but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

~ from Mark 1:3, 7-8

Order of

Worship

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

As we gather for worship, we encourage you to spend time in prayer and reflection.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

R. Charles Grant

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

Holy is the Lord

Hal Hopson

All sing three times:



CALL TO CONFESSION

R. Charles Grant

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

R. Charles Grant

O promised Christ:

We are a world at war; our peace depends on your coming.

We are a sinful people; our pardon depends on your coming.

We are full of good intentions but weak at keeping promises;

our only hope of doing God's will is that you should come
and help us do it.

Lord Christ, Word made flesh, our world waits

for your peace, for your pardon, and for your grace.

Even so: come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

R. Charles Grant

† CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *(sing twice)*

Canon (A) (B) Jacques Berthier, 1979



LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Joanne and Bill Hanna

One: Prepare the way of the Lord.

We light this candle in love,
the love that Jesus, our Savior, has for us.

All: **Prepare, then, the way of the Lord.**

HEARING THE WORD

*We approach God's Word prayerfully, trusting that as Scripture is read and proclaimed,
our hearts and minds will be opened to transformation and inspiration by the Holy Spirit.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Kep Kephart

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 40:1-11 (p. 667 in pew Bible)

Kep Kephart

PSALTER

Psalm 85: 1-2, 8-13

All sing at the cantor's cue:



SECOND LESSON

Mark 1:1-8 (p. 34 in pew Bible)

Joanne Fong

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

SERMON

The Road Not Taken

Joanne Fong

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

We respond to God's word with thanksgiving and prayer.

*As we come forward to celebrate communion, we are invited to place offerings of prayer cards
and monetary gifts in the baskets located at the front of the Sanctuary.*

† HYMN 5

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

PICARDY

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

R. Charles Grant

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

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joanne Fong

AND PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Paul Burgmayer, Chair

† HYMN 409

Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice

ABERYSTWYTH

† SENDING AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

Joanne Fong

One: The peace of Christ be with you. All: **And also with you.**

POSTLUDE

† Please stand, if able.

❖ Worship Notes ❖

Patient Trust

Above all, trust in the slow work of God.
We are quite naturally impatient in everything
to reach the end without delay.
We should like to skip the intermediate states.
We are impatient of being on the way to something
unknown, something new.
And yet it is the law of all progress
that it is made by passing through
some stages of instability--
and that may take a very long time.
Only God could say what this new spirit
gradually forming within you will be.
Give Our Lord the benefit of believing
that his hand is leading you,
and accept the anxiety of feeling yourself
in suspense and incomplete.

~ Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

For An Exile

When you dream, it is always home.
You are there among your own,
The rhythm of their voices rising like song
Your blood would sing through any dark.

Then you awake to find yourself listening
To the sounds of traffic in another land.
For a moment your whole body recoils
At the strange emptiness of where you are.

This country is cold to your voice.
It is still a place without echoes.
Nothing of yours has happened here.

No one knows you,
The language slows you,
The thick accent smothers your presence.

You sound foreign to yourself;
Their eyes reflect how strange you seem
When seen across a cold distance
That has no bridge to carry
The charisma in which your friends
Delight at home.

Though your work here is hard,
It brings relief, helps your mind
In returning to the small
Bounties of your absence.

Evening is without protection;
Your room waits,
Ready to take you
Back like some convict
Who is afraid
Of the life outside.

The things you brought from home
Look back at you; out of place here
They take on lonely power.

You cringe at the thought
That someone from home
Might see you now here,
In this unsheltered room.

Now is the time to hold faithful
To your dream, to understand
That this is an interim time
Full of awkward disconnection.

Gradually you will come to find
Your way to friends who will open
Doors into a new belonging.

Your heart will brighten
With new discovery,
Your presence will unclench
And find ease,
Letting your substance
And promise be seen.

Slowly, a new world will open for you.
The eyes of your heart, refined
By this desert time, will be free
To see and celebrate the new life
For which you sacrificed everything.

~ John O'Donohue, *To Bless the Space Between Us, A Book of Blessings*

We invite you to share your gifts and talents
in leading worship during the 8:00 a.m. service.
You may serve in a variety of ways, from welcoming others as an usher,
reading prayers or scripture, serving communion,
to providing special music or sharing other artistic gifts.

If you are interested in ushering,
contact Phoebe Sheftel, pasheftel@comcast.net or 610-526-1802.

If you are an elder or deacon interested in serving communion,
please contact
Bill Matthai, William.Matthai@uphs.upenn.edu or 610-668-1842
or
Anita Iyengar, aniyiye@comcast.net or 610-645-6044.

❖
If you would like to participate in other ways
or explore how you might participate,
contact Louisa Watkins Umphres, louisaumphres@bmpc.org
or 610-525-2821, ext. 8828.

❖
Deacon Kep Kephart
is assisting with communion.

❖
The schedule calls for our 8:00 a.m. worship service
to remain in the Sanctuary throughout Advent.

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

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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

Marie-Claire Higgins, Parish Nurse

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Pam Lloyd, Executive Assistant to the Senior Pastor

Ketti Jane Muschler, Director of BMPC Choir School

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625 Montgomery Avenue, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

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❖
Main Line Adult Day Center: 610-527-4220

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10:00 AM, SANCTUARY

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



...The voice of one crying out in the wilderness... proclaimed,
"I have baptized you with water;
but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

~ from Mark 1:3, 7-8

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 Creator of the Stars of Night arr. Moklebust
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel arr. Sherman
Tintinnabulators

WELCOME R. Charles Grant

CALL TO WORSHIP Joanne Fong

One: Let us hear what you will speak, O God,
for you will speak peace to your people.

All: **Surely your salvation is at hand for those who fear you,
that glory may dwell in our land.**

One: Yea, God will give what is good
and our land will yield its increase.

All: **In God's righteousness let us worship,
that we may walk in the Lord's way.**

† **HYMN 5** Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence PICARDY

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES Mary M. Hodgkinson & Liz Chesick
representing the IHN ministry at BMPC

One: Prepare your hearts to receive the peace of the world.

All: **Our hearts are open, we welcome him with joy.**

Family: Jesus said: "I am the light of the world; anyone who follows me
will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Family: Why do we light two candles?

Family: We light two candles as a sign of the coming light of Christ.
Advent means coming. We are preparing ourselves for the days
of hope and peace as foretold by the prophet Isaiah, Chapter 2,
verse 4: "The nations shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up
sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore."

Family: As we light two candles, let us prepare for the coming of the
Christ child, gift of peace for all the world.

All: **Let us walk in the light of the Lord!**

CALL TO CONFESSION AND

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*in unison*) Joanne Fong

O God of forgiveness, with our tongues we speak evil against our
sisters and brothers. By our actions, we disobey your commandments.
Hostility is bred through our suspicion and envy; anger continues in
spite of Christ's peace. You open our eyes to his righteousness, yet
we remain blind to the truth of his reconciling presence. Forgive our
deliberate misuse of your mercy, and in Christ hear our prayer.

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Joanne Fong

† **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 Jacquie Van Vliet

ANTHEM "He Shall Feed His Flock" from *Messiah* G. F. Handel
St. Cecilia Girl Choir and St. Andrew Boy Choir
(See *Worship Notes* section for text.)

SENDING HYMN Go now, Children, with our Blessing
(See *Worship Notes* section for Sending Hymn.)

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 40:1-11 (*p. 667 in pew Bible*) Joanne Fong

SECOND LESSON Mark 1:1-8 (*p. 34 in pew Bible*) James L. Carter

SERMON *Something to Proclaim About* James L. Carter

† **HYMN 3** Comfort, Comfort You My People PSALM 42
(Please remain standing for the Affirmation of Faith.)

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

† **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*in unison*) R. Charles Grant

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and
in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy
Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was
crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he
rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the
right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come
to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy
catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the
resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

~The Apostles' Creed

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

OFFERING AND PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT R. Charles Grant
Paul Burgmayer, Chair

OFFERTORY ANTHEM As the Dark Awaits the Dawn Christopher Aspaas
(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*) Joanne Fong

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 409** Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice ABERYSTWYTH

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE James L. Carter

POSTLUDE Prelude in e minor J.S. Bach

† *Please stand, if able.*

❖ Worship Notes ❖

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.

ANTHEM “He Shall Feed His Flock” from *Messiah* G.F. Handel
 St. Cecilia Girl Choir and St. Andrew Boy Choir
 He shall feed his flock like a shepherd; and he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young. Come unto him, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and he shall give you rest. Take his yoke upon you, and learn of him; for he is meek and lowly of heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM As the Dark Awaits the Dawn Christopher Aspaas
 As the dark awaits the dawn, so we await your light. O Star of promise, scatter night, loving bright, till shades of fear are gone. As the blue expectant hour before the silvering skies, we long to see your day arise, whole and wise, O lucent Morning Star. As the moon reflects the sun until the night’s decrease, may we your healing light release, living peace, holy dawn. Shine your future on this place, enlighten every guest, that through us stream your holiness, bright and blest; come dawn, O Sun of grace. We await your light.

Patient Trust

Above all, trust in the slow work of God.
 We are quite naturally impatient in everything
 to reach the end without delay.
 We should like to skip the intermediate states.
 We are impatient of being on the way to something
 unknown, something new.
 And yet it is the law of all progress
 that it is made by passing through
 some stages of instability--
 and that may take a very long time.

Only God could say what this new spirit
 gradually forming within you will be.
 Give Our Lord the benefit of believing
 that his hand is leading you,
 and accept the anxiety of feeling yourself
 in suspense and incomplete.

~ Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God
 and in loving memory of
 Lore Kephart



Brian Middleton 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.



Our 8:00 a.m. Sunday Worship remains in the Sanctuary.
 The schedule calls for the service
 to return to the Chapel after Advent.

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, aniiye@comcast.net or 610-645-6044.



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.

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Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church

Our Common Life



The Week of December 4 - December 11, 2011

WE WELCOME YOU TO BMPC on this second Sunday in Advent. As we come together in worship, we are reminded of the meaning and the miracle of the Christmas season. We encourage you to keep God's message of love and hope close to your heart in the days to come.

MEMBERS, be sure to greet those who are worshipping near you, as your smile and warm welcome go a long way in making others feel comfortable. We invite our guests to stop at the Welcome Center to the left of the main doors to learn more about us. At 11:00 a.m., all are invited for fellowship and refreshments in the Court of the Ministries Center.

ARE YOU A "REPEAT VISITOR" WITHOUT A CHURCH HOME? Enrich your experience of Advent by joining our community of faith. Membership orientation is today in the Ed. Bldg., Room 101, 8:45 a.m.-noon, followed by lunch. Walk-ins and inquirers are welcome. New members will be received next Sun., Dec. 11, at 9:00 a.m. Contact: DonnaBarrickman@bmpc.org, x8809.

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

ADVENT AT BMPC

ADVENT GIFT MARKET (AGM). Sundays through Dec. 18, 11:00 a.m., Ministries Center Court. Learn more about the gift projects and download an order form at www.bmpc.org. As a community, let us celebrate God's gifts to us by sharing with others through this program.

ADVENT STUDY: EXAMINATION OF THE BIRTH NARRATIVES. Today & Dec. 11, 8:30 a.m., Conference Room. Led by the Rev. Dr. Paul MacMurray. Observe the similarities and differences in Christ's birth stories between the perspectives of Matthew (Jewish/masculine) and Luke (Gentile/feminine).

ADVENT CRAFT WORKSHOP & SUPPER. Today, 3:30-6:00 p.m., Congregational Hall. Fellowship and fun for all ages. Family Ministries will sponsor festive craft projects that children can make for a nominal charge; Youth Group (grades 6-12) will make holiday ornaments for their Presbyterian Children's Village "Christmas Angel" family. Pasta supper at 5:00 p.m., free-will offering.

PRIME TIME ADVENT PARTY (FOR SINGLES AND COUPLES OVER AGE 50). Today, 6:00-8:00 p.m., home of Bob and Barbara Hauptfuhrer, 602 Old Eagle School Road, Wayne. Bring an unwrapped gift for boy or girl, infant to 18 years. \$10/person, payable at the door (includes hors d'oeuvres and beverages).

"CHRISTMAS LIGHT" CONCERT. Sun., Dec. 11, 4:00 p.m., Sanctuary. Celebrate the season with a concert of Christmas favorites sung by the Senior Choir with the Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia. Tickets: \$10 for adults; \$5 for children 18 & under. Contact: StephanieSpeakman@bmpc.org, ext. 8836.

SPECIAL SERVICE FOR THOSE WHO ARE GRIEVING AT CHRISTMAS. Sun., Dec. 18, 11:15 a.m., Chapel. Holidays can be difficult for those who are mourning a loss or struggling with challenges of body or spirit. Service will include special music, prayer, readings from scripture, a service for healing and wholeness. All are welcome to this "safe and quiet haven for all who mourn."

DID YOU KNOW:

...that session, the trustees and the BMPC Foundation board have agreed to continue to reduce our dependence on the Foundation as a source of annual operating funds, to ensure its long term viability?



WEEKLY CALENDAR: December 4 - December 11, 2011

Sunday, December 4, 2011

8:00 a.m. *Worship with Communion in the Sanctuary*
The Rev. Joanne Fong will preach.

10:00 a.m. *Worship with Senior Choir in the Sanctuary*
The Rev. Dr. James Carter will preach.

Childcare for infants and toddlers, Ed. Bldg., Room 102, 7:45-11:15 a.m.

8:30 a.m. Adult Class: Advent Study, Conference Room
8:45 a.m. Membership Orientation Part I, Ed. Bldg., Room 101
9:00 a.m. Sunday Choir School, Fine Arts Center
9:00 a.m. Art @ 9 for age 3 and older, Ed. Bldg., Room 201
10:00 a.m. BLINK: Grades K-5 begin worship with families in Sanctuary
10:00 a.m. Church School for children age 2 (by 9/1/2011) - PreK, Ed. Bldg.
10:00 a.m. Middle School Sunday School, Ed. Bldg., Room 205
10:00 a.m. High School Sunday School, Ed. Bldg., Room 204
10:15 a.m. 3rd-5th graders remain in Worship for the entire hour
10:15 a.m. Grades K-2 classes meet in Ed. Bldg.
11:00 a.m. Advent Gift Market, Ministries Center Court
11:15 a.m. Adult Class: *Is This All There Is?*, Conference Room
11:15 a.m. Membership Orientation Part II, Ed. Bldg., Room 101
12:00 p.m. Gateway to Religious Communities, Sikh Gurdwara of Philadelphia
3:30 p.m. Advent Craft Workshop and Supper, Congregational Hall
6:00 p.m. Prime Time Advent Party, Off Campus

Monday, December 5, 2011

9:00 a.m. Tai Chi, Middleton Center
4:00 p.m. Environmental Justice Committee, Conference Room
7:00 p.m. Nominating Committee, Pastors Conference Room
7:30 p.m. Pastor Nominating Committee, Converse House Mtg. Room
7:30 p.m. Recovery International, Converse House Porch & Library

Tuesday, December 6, 2011

7:00 a.m. Stewardship Meeting, Conference Room
8:30 a.m. Tuesday Morning Study Group, Converse House Mtg. Room
11:00 a.m. Labyrinth, Congregational Hall
12:00 p.m. Preacher's Brown Bag Bible Study, Conference Room
1:30 p.m. Parkinson's Disease Support Group, Conference Room, Converse House Mtg. Room
6:50 p.m. Tutoring Program, Ed. Bldg.
7:00 p.m. Deacons Meeting, Converse House Porch & Library, Converse House Mtg. Room
7:30 p.m. Career Counseling, Conference Room
7:30 p.m. Interfaith Thanksgiving Wrap-up Meeting, Ministries Center Court

Wednesday, December 7, 2011

10:00 a.m. PW Coffee Cup Bible Study, Converse House Mtg. Room
10:30 a.m. PW Horizons Bible Study, Rosemont Presbyterian Village Ballroom
12:00 p.m. Senior Club Lunch, Congregational Hall
4:00 p.m. Carol Choir, Fine Arts Center
4:00 p.m. Jubilate Ringers, Fine Arts Center
5:00 p.m. Beginners Choir, Fine Arts Center
5:00 p.m. St. Andrew Boy Choir, Fine Arts Center

5:00 p.m. St. Cecilia Girl Choir, Fine Arts Center
5:00 p.m. Weekly Wednesday Dinner, Congregational Hall
5:30 p.m. High School Bible Study, Conference Room
5:30 p.m. Middle School Bible Study, Congregational Hall
6:30 p.m. Youth Chorale, Fine Arts Center
6:50 p.m. Tutoring Program, Ed. Bldg.
7:30 p.m. Tintinnabulators, Fine Arts Center

Thursday, December 8, 2011

7:30 a.m. Major Gifts Meeting, Pastors Conference Room
8:30 a.m. Thursday Morning Prayer Group, Converse House Porch & Library
11:00 a.m. Torah Study, Main Line Reform Temple
7:00 p.m. Young Adults Coffee & Conversation, Saxby's in Haverford
7:00 p.m. Senior Choir Vespers Rehearsal, Sanctuary
7:30 p.m. Y Group Christmas Gift Exchange, Off Campus

Friday, December 9, 2011

9:30 a.m. Singing for Life, Fine Arts Center

Saturday, December 10, 2011

7:00 a.m. Saturday Morning Men's Group, Converse House Porch & Library
9:00 a.m. Vespers Dress Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Sunday, December 11, 2011

8:00 a.m. *Worship with Communion in the Sanctuary*
The Rev. Louisa Watkins Umphres will preach.
10:00 a.m. *Worship with Senior Choir in the Sanctuary*
The Rev. Dr. James Carter will preach.

Childcare for infants and toddlers, Ed. Bldg., Room 102, 7:45-11:15 a.m.

8:30 a.m. Adult Class: Advent Study, Conference Room
9:00 a.m. Sunday Choir School, Fine Arts Center
9:00 a.m. Art @ 9 for age 3 and older, Ed. Bldg., Room 201
9:00 a.m. Session Meeting/New Members, Congregational Hall
10:00 a.m. BLINK: Grades K-5 begin worship with families in Sanctuary
10:00 a.m. Church School for children age 2 (by 9/1/2011) - PreK, Ed. Bldg.
10:00 a.m. Middle School Sunday School, Ed. Bldg., Room 205
10:00 a.m. High School Sunday School, Ed. Bldg., Room 204
10:15 a.m. Grades K-5 classes meet in Ed. Bldg.
11:00 a.m. Advent Gift Market, Ministries Center Court
11:15 a.m. Adult Class: *Is This All There Is?*, Conference Room
4:00 p.m. Youth Group, Congregational Hall
4:00 p.m. "Christmas Light" Concert, Sanctuary

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

Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church | 625 Montgomery Avenue, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010
Phone: 610-525-2821 | Fax: 610-525-9476 | Website: www.bmpc.org

Advent Outreach

Opportunities to help others during this Christmas season

ANGEL GIFTS. Provide holiday gifts for those served by the Presbyterian Children's Village. For names & wish lists of the 20 children and 4 families who haven't yet been sponsored, contact Betty Wu, efwu01@gmail.com, 610-449-8059. Gifts are due in the collection bins in the Ministries Center by Dec. 11.

BMPC WILL HOST HOMELESS FAMILIES for the Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN) during the week of Dec. 11. Volunteers needed to help at the St. John Neumann Convent House for dinner (6:00-8:30 p.m.) and for overnight (8:30 p.m.-6:00 a.m.). Contact: Barbara.Heaton@obermayer.com, 610-667-2197.

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING. This special offering is designated by the General Assembly of our denomination, the PC (USA). Collected during Advent, it supports the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and student scholarships at Presbyterian-related racial/ethnic schools and colleges.

OUR FLOWER COMMITTEE rearranges the altar flowers each Sunday from 11:00 a.m.-noon in preparation for their delivery to the sick or bereaved. If you would like to be on the 2012 rotating schedule, contact: Jane Acton, actonup1@gmail.com, 610-649-5254.

SHARE BASKETS. Mon., Dec. 19, 10:00 a.m., SHARE, 2901 West Hunting Park Ave., Philadelphia. Volunteers needed to load dinner boxes into the vehicles. Contact: Schaunel Steinnagel, SSteinnagel@presbyphl.org, 215-242-1400, ext. 308.

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

FROZEN TURKEYS AND HAMS. Please bring frozen turkeys and hams to the freezers in the Ministries Center for donations to needy families in our area during the holiday season.

create more joy and peace in our lives through presentations, exercises, reflection and discussion. Sponsored by the Middleton Center.

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 next Sunday.

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

Congregational Care

REPOSE YOGA. Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00-10:15 a.m., Church of the Redeemer,

Parish House Assembly Room. Donations accepted for hunger fund. Contact: kcgagnier@verizon.net, 610-520-2595.

WALKING GROUP. Wednesdays, 9:00 a.m.; meet in BMPC back parking lot. Contact: MarieHiggins@bmpc.org, ext. 8832.

HOSPITAL INFORMATION. Due to current privacy laws, it is more difficult for BMPC pastors to know when our members have been admitted to a hospital. Call BMPC at 610-525-2821 if you or anyone you know is hospitalized, and/or let us know if and when you volunteer at any local hospitals.

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.

TAI CHI DROP-IN CLASSES. Mondays, 9:00 a.m., Middleton Center, Room 201. This 90-minute moving meditation complements all styles of exercise. Benefits include stress reduction, arthritis management, and balance and coordination enhancement. Cost: \$15/class.

WALKING THE LABYRINTH IN PRAYER. Tues., Dec. 6, 11:00 a.m., with final walk at 7:15 p.m., Congregational Hall. Join in this ancient symbol and prayer form. Theme for December: Advent Joy. Live Celtic harp music from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Non-walkers may come and listen; printed prayer reflection available.

PARENTING ON THE MAIN LINE. Tues., Dec. 6, 7:00 p.m., Main Line Reform Temple. Part of an ongoing series on positive parenting. Sponsored by the Middleton Center and Main Line Reform Temple. Discussion topic: Stressed Out, led by Don McCown, MSS, LSW. Free and open to the public. For more info: www.parentingonthemainline.com

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

Senior Adults

SENIORS CLUB LUNCH. Wed., Dec. 7, noon, Congregational Hall. Program: The Haverford Notables. Bring a bag lunch; coffee and sweets provided. All welcome. Contact: AmyBauer@bmpc.org, ext.8821.

Young Adults

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION. Thurs., Dec. 8, 7:00 p.m., Saxby's in Haverford. Join us every other Thursday to chat Bible, theology, and life in general. No prep, no pressure... just show up! Contact: LouisaUmphres@bmpc.org, ext. 8858.

Children & Family Ministries

ART @ 9. Sundays, 9:00-9:50 a.m., Rm. 201, Ed. Bldg, for children ages 3 and older. 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.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING. Wed., Dec. 14, 6:30 p.m., Rosemont Presbyterian Village. Join in this annual tradition of caroling for the residents of the retirement home. Meet at the church for Weekly Wednesday Dinner at 5:00 p.m.; leave for Rosemont at 6:15 p.m.; carol from 6:30-7:30 p.m. RSVP (suggested by not required): JaneWilber@bmpc.org, ext. 8813.

Youth Ministries, Grades 6-12

SUMMER CAMP AND MISSION TRIPS 2012. Register now for youth summer trips! Return registration form and \$100 deposit for each trip to Rebecca Alleva. Forms and information about trips are available online: www.bmpc.org/youth/summer/summer.html

CONFIRMATION PARENT/STUDENT MEETING. Sun., Dec. 11, 11:15 a.m., Ed. Bldg., Rm. 205. Join the Rev. Kellen Smith to review the spring Confirmation class schedule and get an overview of the program. If you're in 8th grade and have not yet signed up, you can bring your registration form to the meeting. Refreshments will be provided.

SWELL WORSHIP SERVICE & CHRISTMAS PARTY. Sun., Dec. 18, 4:00-6:00 p.m., Congregational Hall. Join the Rev. Kellen Smith for a contemporary worship service for all ages with special music from the Youth Chorale; dinner to follow. A free-will offering will be collected; all are encouraged to bring a non-perishable item to donate to the food cupboard.

CHRISTMAS EVE ALUMNI RECEPTION. Sat., Dec. 24, 9:30 p.m., Converse House Parlor. Calling all college students! Make worship on Christmas Eve even more special by seeing friends who grew up at BMPC and are now back home for the holidays. All former youth are welcomed to join old friends after the 8:30 p.m. service & before the 11:00 p.m. service.

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL on Sun., Dec. 25 or Sun., Jan. 1. Please worship with your families in the Sanctuary.

Fine Arts

"CHRISTMAS LIGHT" CONCERT. Sun., Dec. 11, 4:00 p.m., Sanctuary. See details on cover.

Presbyterian Women (PW)

COFFEE CUP BIBLE STUDY. Weds., 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.

HORIZONS BIBLE STUDY. Wed., Dec. 7, 10:30 a.m., Rosemont Presbyterian Village Ballroom, led by the Rev. Charles Grant. Discuss *Confessing the Beatitudes* by Margaret Aymer, Chapter 4. Contact: JoyceMalott,okf405@erols.com, 610-525-4469.

Y Group

A PW group principally for women with elementary school-aged and younger children, but all Presbyterian Women are welcome.

CHILDCARE AVAILABLE FOR ALL EVENTS AT THE CHURCH. Reserve three days in advance: childcare@bmpc.org or 610-520-8850.

Y GROUP MONTHLY MEETING. Tues., Dec. 13, 9:15 a.m., Congregational Hall. Join Pilates Instructor Kelly Bride for a Pilates class.

CHRISTMAS GIFT EXCHANGE. Thurs., Dec. 8, 7:30 p.m., home of Gen McCormack. Enjoy this Y-Group tradition; bring \$15 gift. Contact: Karen Gardner, kgardner01@comcast.net or CandaceBalch@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 you feel are appropriate to submit a proposal by Jan. 31 to CarolSchmidt@bmpc.org, ext.8819. Details at www.bmpc.org/ECB.htm

Hunger Committee

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. Please give generously for those who are hungry.

The Book Center and Library

CHRISTMAS DEVOTIONALS: *The Journey, A Season of Reflections* by Adam Hamilton; *God is in the Manger: Reflections on Advent and Christmas* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer; *Meditations for Advent and Christmas* by James Clark, and many more. 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.

VISIT THE CONVERSE HOUSE LIBRARY Pick up a good read for that plane trip to visit family!

Sunday Adult Education Classes

IS THIS ALL THERE IS?: FINDING THE MORE IN EACH DAY. Today & Dec. 11 & 18, 11:15 a.m., Conference Room, Ministries Center. Leah Brecher-Cohn, LMFT, MA, MS, will examine personal issues and explore methods to