

# *Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church*

Sunday, August 27, 2023 | 8:00 a.m., Chapel

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost



# WELCOME

## **NEW HERE?**

We are pleased that you are joining us as we worship God this morning. We invite you to introduce yourself to one of our pastors following the Worship Service. All of our programs, ministries, and opportunities for mission are open to everyone. Come join us!

## **LIVESTREAMED CHURCH SERVICES**

In addition to in-person worship, the 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship Service is available to watch on our livestreaming page:

[www.bmpc.org/livestream](http://www.bmpc.org/livestream) For your convenience, the service also will be posted on our Worship Services page on Monday.

## **CHILDCARE AND SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Childcare is available on Sundays from 7:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for children ages six months and older. See Sunday School class information on this page. Please contact Pastor Rachel, [RachelPedersen@bmpc.org](mailto:RachelPedersen@bmpc.org) or Childcare Coordinator Erika Henry at [childcare@bmpc.org](mailto:childcare@bmpc.org) with any questions.

## **WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTER**

Subscribe to our BMPC eNews by visiting our website: [www.bmpc.org](http://www.bmpc.org)

## Today's Schedule

### **Childcare (infant - age 5)**

7:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Ed. Bldg., Rm. 101

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### **Worship with Summer Choir**

10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

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### **Worship Together Sunday Grades K-12**

10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

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### **Stories Through Art Exhibit**

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Art Gallery, Ministries Center

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### **Evening Worship with Blessing of Backpacks**

5:00 p.m., Sanctuary

# GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME

Leigh DeVries

## † CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God's love is vast like the ocean.

**All: Let the love of God fill this place!**

One: God's Spirit is as close as our very breath.

**All: Let the Spirit of God fill this place!**

One: God's glory surrounds us.

**All: Let the praise of God's people fill this place!**

## † HYMN 366

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRODOL

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Loving God, you give us all that we need; today we ask for your mercy. Forgive us for the ways we have harmed our neighbors and ourselves: for the things we have done, for the things left undone, for the words we have spoken and for the words we have withheld. Forgive us and teach us a new way. Be in our words and actions so that we might reflect your love to the world.

*A moment of silence for personal reflection and confession.*

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*Sung twice.*

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high est!

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

## HEARING THE WORD

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Jennie Jacobson

**FIRST LESSON**

Romans 12:1-8 (*pg. 161 in pew Bible*)

**SECOND LESSON**

Exodus 1:8-2:10 (*pg. 48 in pew Bible*)

Rachel Pedersen

**One:** The Word of the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God.

**SERMON**

*According to the Measure*

Rachel Pedersen





“I am the resurrection and the life.”  
Dr. Heatly D. Sebring ~ August 20, 2023

## **WORSHIP NOTES**

### **RECEIVING THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM AT 5:00 PM**

Charles Scott Penick  
Son of Emily & Chris Penick

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### **SANCTUARY FLOWERS**

Given to the glory of God and in honor of the  
60th Wedding Anniversary of Sally and John Nelson

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### **ASSISTING WITH COMMUNION**

Jennie Jacobson, Deacon

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### **USHERING**

Keith Brinks

# **Announcements**

**PRAYER PARTNER MINISTRY.** The Prayer Partner Ministry connects members of our church through prayer. Adults pray for six to eight children or youth throughout the year, and prayer partners will have the opportunity to connect through special events and programs. You may sign up online: <https://bit.ly/PrayerPartners2023> or email [RachelPedersen@bmpc.org](mailto:RachelPedersen@bmpc.org) with questions.

**CHURCH OFFICER NOMINATIONS.** Please submit your recommendations by Sun., Sept. 17 for Elders, Deacons, Trustees, and Nominating Committee Members-at-Large for 2023-2024 via the nominating form: <https://bit.ly/BMPCNominationForm>. Paper copies of the nominating form are available in the Narthex and at the Reception Desk in the Ministries Center. Candidates must be members for at least two years, faithfully participate in the worship and program life of the church, and regularly contribute to the church.

**STORIES THROUGH ART EXHIBIT.** An exhibition of paintings from the personal collections of the BMPC staff, supported with descriptions of how and why the pieces were acquired. The exhibition closes on Mon., Sept. 4. The art gallery is open from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 9:00 a.m. to noon on Sunday.

## **Today**

**EVENING WORSHIP WITH BLESSING OF BACKPACKS.** 5:00 p.m., Sanctuary. School is just around the corner! Bring your backpack and join us for a special Backpack Blessing during the first Evening Worship service of the season. Evening Worship continues on the first Sunday of the month: Oct. 1, Nov. 5, Dec. 3, Jan. 7, Feb. 4, March 3 and April 7.

## **This Week**

**EDUCATION BUILDING WORKDAYS.** Wed., Aug. 30, 10:00 a.m.-noon, and Thurs., Aug. 31, 5:00-7:00 p.m. Come help get the Education Building ready for Sunday School. Projects include putting together furniture, organizing supplies, painting, and more. All skill levels welcome! [MaryRichards@bmpc.org](mailto:MaryRichards@bmpc.org)

## **Next Sunday**

**SANCTUARY CHOIR AUDITIONS.** Sept. 3, 11:00 a.m., Choir Loft. The BMPC Sanctuary Choir is inviting new members to sing during the upcoming 2023-2024 season. Perhaps you have participated in Summer Choir or you have been using your voice to lead hymns among the congregation. If you are interested in joining, please come up to the choir loft following the postlude today or Sept. 3 to learn about this leadership opportunity and audition. If you are a parent of a young child, childcare is available at the church from 7:45 a.m. to noon each Sunday. [EdwardLandinSenn@bmpc.org](mailto:EdwardLandinSenn@bmpc.org)

## **Upcoming**

**YOGA206 BONE BOOST CLASS.** Begins Wed., Sept. 6, 9:30 a.m., Gymnasium. This is an all-levels mat and chair yoga class focusing on bone strength with safely-adapted poses. Geared to persons proactive about strengthening their bones due to diagnosed bone loss. Participants, age 50+, must be able to safely sit on and rise from a mat. Class runs through Oct. 18. Email [YOGA206@icloud.com](mailto:YOGA206@icloud.com) for registration information.

**RALLY DAY.** Sun., Sept. 10, 11:00 a.m., Education Building Lawn. Join us for worship at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary and then stay to enjoy food, fellowship, and activities on the lawn. All are welcome; bring a friend!

**DANCE FOR PARKINSON'S CLASS.** Begins Tues., Sept. 12, 1:00 p.m., Gymnasium. Our Dance for Parkinson's Disease (PD) class is open to those living with PD and their care partners. This session runs through Dec. 12. For more information, contact [CarolCherry@bmpc.org](mailto:CarolCherry@bmpc.org) or visit <https://bit.ly/BMPCFitness>

**MEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP.** Second and fourth Wednesdays, starting Sept. 13, 10:00 a.m., Converse House Parlor. All men are welcome to join this study and discussion group. In Justo and Catherine Gonzalez' book, *Heretics for Armchair Theologians*, these noted church historians introduce readers to important early church figures whose teachings were denounced by the church as heresies. Dr. Joshua Yoder will lead this group. To register and purchase the book, contact [MonicaDevane@bmpc.org](mailto:MonicaDevane@bmpc.org)

**SACRED THREADS.** Thursdays, Sept. 14-Oct. 5, 7:00 p.m., via Zoom. Led by spiritual director Betty Wright-Riggins, the sessions will focus on Anne LaMott's book, *Help, Thanks, Wow: The Three Essential Prayers*. LaMott explores prayer through examples, musings and humor. Register: [KikiMcKendrick@bmpc.org](mailto:KikiMcKendrick@bmpc.org)

**SUNDAY DISCUSSION GROUP.** Sundays, starting Sept. 17, 8:30 a.m., Cannon Room, and via Zoom. Join us for a thoughtful and comprehensive reflection on the New Testament: From Beginning to End. In troubled times we need to be grounded in the way we have chosen to live our lives together. The Rev. Dr. Paul MacMurray leads this longstanding class which has a discussion format. Please note that homework will be required. Contact Paul MacMurray at 610-935-7582 for more information.

**FILLING THE WELL.** Sundays, starting Sept. 17, 8:45 a.m., Children's Library, Ed. Bldg. All women are welcome to join this longstanding Sunday morning class. This fall we will spend time reflecting on portions of Don Fisher and Tom Allender's classic book, *God Loves an Unmade Bed: Spirituality for the Imperfect*. In the book they share how God is always present, especially in the midst of the messes and struggles of life. For information and to receive a copy of the book, contact [RebeccaKirkpatrick@bmpc.org](mailto:RebeccaKirkpatrick@bmpc.org)

**DIGGING DEEPER.** Sundays, Sept. 17-Nov. 5, 8:45 a.m., Gloucester Room. This eight-week study will be guided by the book, *Whence and Whither: On Lives and Living*. In this collection of essays on death and the meaning of living, funeral director, poet and National Book Award finalist Thomas Lynch has an uncanny knack for writing about death in ways that are never morbid, always thoughtful, often humorous, and quite moving. The Rev. Dr. Franklyn C. Pottorff will lead this class. For more information and to receive a copy of the book, contact [FranklynPottorff@bmpc.org](mailto:FranklynPottorff@bmpc.org)

**THURSDAY DISCUSSION GROUP.** Thursdays, Sept. 28-Oct. 26, 10:00 a.m., via Zoom. Led by the Rev. Rebecca Kirkpatrick, we will spend five weeks discussing the classic book, *Turn My Mourning into Dancing: Finding Hope in Hard Times* by Henri Nouwen. In this collection of some of Nouwen's unpublished writings, he focuses not only on how we can survive hard times but on how we can live fully in the midst of them and beyond. To register and purchase the book, contact [AliciaFranklin@bmpc.org](mailto:AliciaFranklin@bmpc.org)

## **Caring and Sharing**

**CASSEROLE BLITZ.** Sat., Sept. 16, 8:30 a.m., Ministries Center Kitchen. Join us to make casseroles and friends at the Hunger Committee's Casserole Blitz! Enjoy this family activity (children over age 5) as you get to know BMPC folks you haven't met before and support a good cause while working with others to prepare casseroles for area shelters. Fall dates: Oct. 21, Nov. 18 and Dec. 16. Sign up: <https://bit.ly/Blitz-RSVP>

# **Calendar**

## **Sunday, August 27**

7:45 a.m. Childcare (Birth-Kindergarten), Ed. Bldg., Rm. 101  
8:00 a.m. **Worship with Communion, Chapel**  
10:00 a.m. **Sunday Worship with Summer Choir, Sanctuary and Livestreamed Service on [www.bmpc.org](http://www.bmpc.org)**  
Worship Together Sunday for Grades K-12, Sanctuary  
11:00 a.m. Atrium Cafe, Atrium  
5:00 p.m. **Evening Worship with Blessing of Backpacks, Sanctuary**

## **Monday, August 28**

No Events Scheduled.

## **Tuesday, August 29**

10:30 a.m. Tai Chi (Hybrid), Gymnasium

## **Wednesday, August 30**

No Events Scheduled.

## **Thursday, August 31**

11:00 a.m. Artists' Gathering, Fine Arts Center

## **Friday, September 1**

No Events Scheduled.

## **Saturday, September 2**

7:00 a.m. Saturday Morning Men's Group, Converse House Parlor

## **Sunday, September 3**

8:00 a.m. **Worship with Communion, Chapel**  
10:00 a.m. **Sunday Worship with Summer Choir, Sanctuary and Livestreamed Service on [www.bmpc.org](http://www.bmpc.org)**  
The Rev. Leigh DeVries will preach.

## **Fall Events at BMPC**

**Rally Day** – Sunday, September 10

**Sunday School Resumes** – Sunday, September 10

**Youth Kickoff** – Sunday, September 17

**Adult Education Classes Begin** – Sunday, September 17

**Evening Worship with Blessing of the Animals and**

**Tookany Creek Bluegrass Band** – Sunday, October 1, 5:00 p.m.

**Community Forum with Amanda Tyler** – Monday, October 9, 7:00 p.m.

**Theologian in Residence with the Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston** – October 28-29

## **150th Anniversary Celebration Events**

### **Church Birthday Party**

Saturday, October 14, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Ed. Bldg. Lawn. Celebrate the church's birthday with cake, fun mission project, games for children and families, and fellowship!

### **Celebration of Former Pastors**

Saturday, October 14, 5:00 to 6:00 p.m., Ministries Center Court. This informal open house will honor former BMPC clergy and their families.

### **150th Anniversary Dinner**

Saturday, October 14, 6:00 p.m., Congregational Hall. This dinner will be RSVP only. Featuring the premiere of the BMPC anniversary video.

### **Organ Concert**

Saturday, October 14, 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary. Philippe Lefebvre, principal organist of Notre Dame Cathedral, Paris, will perform.

### **Sunday Worship Service**

Sunday, October 15, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary. This service will feature music by the Sanctuary Choir, who will be singing a newly-commissioned anthem by Norwegian composer Kim André Arnesen in celebration of BMPC's 150th anniversary, with a sermon by the Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet.

## **Worship Staff**

**Agnes W. Norfleet**, Pastor

**Leigh DeVries**, Associate Pastor for Youth & Their Families

**Rebecca Kirkpatrick**, Associate Pastor for Adult Education & Mission

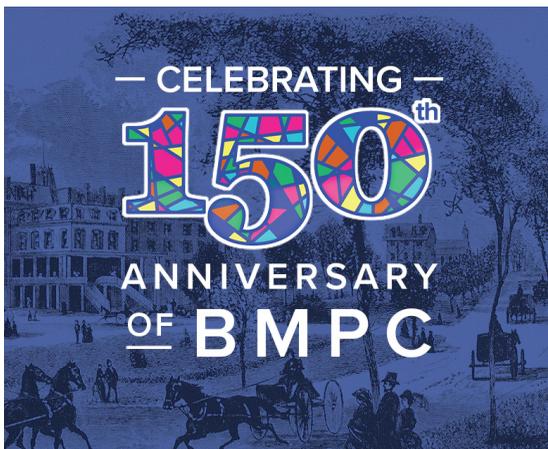
**Kirby Lawrence Hill**, Interim Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care & Senior Adults

**Rachel Pedersen**, Associate Pastor for Children & Family Ministry

**Franklyn C. Pottorff**, Associate Pastor for Congregational Life & Stewardship

**Jeffrey Brillhart**, Director of Music & Fine Arts

**Edward Landin Senn**, Assistant Director of Music



## **Contact Information**

Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church  
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[www.instagram.com/BrynMawrPres](https://www.instagram.com/BrynMawrPres)

[www.twitter.com/BrynMawrPres](https://www.twitter.com/BrynMawrPres)

[www.youtube.com/user/brynmawrpres](https://www.youtube.com/user/brynmawrpres)

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

The Middleton Center: 610-525-0766 • [info@middletoncenter.org](mailto:info@middletoncenter.org)

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