



Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church

Sunday, September 10, 2023 | 8:00 a.m., Chapel

Fifteenth 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 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 or Childcare Coordinator Erika Henry at childcare@bmpc.org with any questions.

WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTER

Subscribe to our BMPC eNews by visiting our website: www.bmpc.org

COVER IMAGE

Sketch of the burgeoning Bryn Mawr village from the viewpoint of the train station. Note the newly built Keystone Hotel (now the Baldwin School) on the left and the original BMPC chapel on the right.

Today's Schedule

Childcare (infant - age 5)

7:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Ed. Bldg., Rm. 101

Worship With Sanctuary Choir

10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

Sunday School Classes

Age 2 - PreK

10:00 a.m., Education Building

Grades K - 5

10:00 a.m., Worship in Sanctuary

10:15 a.m., Education Building

Youth Gathering

10:00 a.m., Gymnasium

Stories Through Art Exhibit

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

Art Gallery, Ministries Center

Rally Day

11:00 a.m., Front Lawn

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Rebecca Kirkpatrick

† CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We come not simply to a sanctuary, but into the presence of God.

All: We come in our need and bring with us the needs of the world.

One: We are carried by our faith and stand in the face of doubts.

All: We come with our hopes and with our fears,

One: We come as we are, because it is God who invites us to come,

All: And it is God who promises a holy welcome;

One: It is God who promises never to turn us away.

† HYMN 645

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

MIT FREUDEN ZART

CALL TO CONFESSION

AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Loving God, we have heard your promises of abundant life and have been afraid to believe them. We have heard your summons to follow and we have failed to be faithful to your calling. We have heard how you bless the church with the power of your Spirit and a spirit of unity, and yet we look for the things that divide us one from another. Forgive us, O God, and free us to be a community of blessing, spreading the gospel in word and deed. Empower us anew to be good stewards of your promises, your summons and our call to faithfulness.

A moment of silence for personal reflection and confession.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls and bid re - sent - ment cease. Then,
by your mer - cy rec - con - ciled, our lives will spread your peace.

HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rob Stoy

FIRST LESSON

Psalm 47 (*pg. 518 in pew Bible*)

SECOND LESSON

Philippians 1:1-11 (*pg. 196 in pew Bible*)

Agnes W. Norfleet

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Joy in Partnership

Agnes W. Norfleet

The Joy of Being Christ's Church, First in Series

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Rebecca Kirkpatrick

You are invited to come forward, using the center aisle, to partake of the Lord's Supper by intinction (dipping a piece of bread into the cup); return to your seat using the side aisle. Gluten- and casein-free elements are on the center table.

You are invited to bring your offering when you come forward.

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.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Agnes W. Norfleet

† HYMN 761 Called as Partners in Christ's Service

BEECHER

† SENDING AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

WORSHIP NOTES

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Given to the Glory of God and in celebration of the Marriage of
Johncarlo Pecorari and Emily Apathy

ASSISTING WITH COMMUNION

Rob Stoy, Deacon

USHERING

Tom Hays

†

“I am the resurrection and the life.”

Robert E. Bergen ~ August 31, 2023

Announcements

150TH ANNIVERSARY CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT. Join in celebrating BMPC's 150th Anniversary by purchasing this newly-created Christmas ornament featuring our renovated church property. Designed and crafted by Wendell August Forge, this ornament is a beautiful way to celebrate the past and the future of our congregation. Ornaments will be on sale for \$20 each on Sundays, Sept. 10 and Oct. 15 following worship.

BMPC AT 150: FAITHFUL ENGAGEMENT IN A CHANGING WORLD. Sun., Sept. 17 through Sun., Oct. 29, Art Gallery. This exhibit offers glimpses of the church's history through the changing realities of society and culture. The 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. For information, please contact MFA@bmpc.org.

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.

Today

RALLY DAY. 11:00 a.m., Ed. Bldg. 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!

This Week

LABYRINTH WALK. Mon., Sept. 11, 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m., Ed. Bldg. Lawn. All are invited to walk the labyrinth in prayer and remembrance of 9/11.

KikiMcKendrick@bmpc.org

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 or visit <https://bit.ly/BMPCFitness>

YOGA206 BONE BOOST CLASS. Wednesdays through Oct. 18, 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. Email YOGA206@icloud.com for registration information.

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

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

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>

Next Sunday

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's 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

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

YOUTH FALL KICKOFF. Sun. Sept. 17, 10:00 a.m., Gymnasium. Join us for our annual fall Youth Kickoff! Families will learn about upcoming programs, meet youth volunteers, complete waivers and informational forms for the year, and enjoy fellowship with other youth families throughout the church!

Upcoming

FORAGING AND REMOVING INVASIVE SPECIES IN URBAN ENVIRONMENTS WORKSHOP. Mon., Sept. 18, 7:00 p.m., Congregational Hall. Co-hosted with Bethel AME Church, join us for an evening with Temple professor Robert Kuper who will discuss foraging, how to identify invasive/exotic plants, and how to remove invasive species in our area. Dinner will be provided. RSVP: AliciaFranklin@bmpc.org

THE LEGACY OF LOCAL MISSION. Sun., Sept. 24, 11:15 a.m., Congregational Hall. We are honored to host the Rev. Eustacia Marshall, pastor of New River Presbyterian Church, who will help us celebrate the rich legacy of BMPC's 25-year commitment to West Philadelphia as well as invite us alongside her congregation as they lead us in a new moment for Presbyterians in West Philadelphia. New River Presbyterian is a merger of First African Presbyterian Church, Calvin Presbyterian Church, and Church of the Good Shepherd. Through innovative ministries, intentional engagement, and a vision for hope and hospitality in the community, Rev. Marshall will help us imagine how we might be involved in this next season of mission in the city.

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

SINGING FOR LIFE CHOIR RESUMES. Thursdays, Oct. 5 to Dec. 7, 9:30 a.m., Fine Arts Center. The Singing for Life Choir is open to anyone 55 years or older. Cost is \$75. If you or anyone you know is interested in joining this choir, contact the Music & Fine Arts Department at MFA@bmpc.org by Mon., Oct. 2.

Caring and Sharing

HUNGER COMMITTEE CELEBRATION FOOD COLLECTION. Sun., Sept. 24. As we celebrate our longtime commitment of addressing food insecurity, the Hunger Committee invites the congregation to bring non-perishable donations to the Narthex on Sun., Sept. 24 before worship. Donations will be distributed among six of our local partners. Suggested donations include: cold cereals, spaghetti sauce, canned meals, soups (particularly hearty ones), peanut butter, jelly, canned tuna and chicken, canned vegetables, canned beans, canned fruit and applesauce (or cups), macaroni and cheese, crackers (saltines or Ritz), instant oatmeal (packets), granola bars, single-serving snacks, bottled salad dressings, mayonnaise (smaller-sized jars preferred). Grocery bags will be available in the Narthex. AliciaFranklin@bmpc.org

Calendar

Sunday, September 10

7:45	a.m.	Childcare (Birth-Kindergarten), Ed. Bldg., Rm. 101
8:00	a.m.	Worship with Communion, Chapel
8:45	a.m.	Art @ 9, Ed. Bldg., Rm. 102
9:55	a.m.	Sunday School Ages 2s, 3s, and Pre-K, Ed. Bldg.
10:00	a.m.	Sunday Worship with Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary and Livestreamed Service on www.bmpc.org
10:15	a.m.	Sunday School K-5th Graders, Ed. Bldg.
11:00	a.m.	Rally Day, BMPC Campus

Monday, September 11

10:00	a.m.	Labyrinth Walk, Ed. Bldg., Front Lawn
4:00	p.m.	Environmental Justice Committee Meeting, Cannon Room
6:00	p.m.	Foundation Board Meeting, Cannon Room
7:00	p.m.	Peacemaking Committee Meeting, Gloucester Room

Tuesday, September 12

9:00	a.m.	Repose Yoga (Hybrid), Gymnasium
10:30	a.m.	Tai Chi (Hybrid), Gymnasium
7:00	p.m.	Session Meeting, Fullerton Room

Wednesday, September 13

9:30	a.m.	Yoga206 Bone Boost Class, Gymnasium
10:00	a.m.	Men's Study Group, Converse House Parlor
4:45	p.m.	Wednesdays Together, Chapel
5:45	p.m.	Youth Chorale, Chapel
6:30	p.m.	Handbell Choir, Fine Arts Kitchen

Thursday, September 14

11:00	a.m.	Artists' Gathering, Fine Arts Center
7:00	p.m.	Sacred Threads: <i>Help, Thanks, Wow</i> , Virtual
7:30	p.m.	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Fine Arts Center

Friday, September 15

No Events Scheduled.

Saturday, September 16

7:00 a.m. Saturday Morning Men's Group, Converse House Parlor
8:30 a.m. Casserole Blitz, Congregational Hall

Sunday, September 17

8:00 a.m. **Worship with Communion, Chapel**
10:00 a.m. **Sunday Worship with Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary and
Livestreamed Service on www.bmpc.org**
The Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet will preach.

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. Pre-paid reservations are required. Tickets \$20. Featuring the premiere of the BMPC anniversary video. Go to <https://bit.ly/150Dinner> or scan the QR code for registration.



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, which 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.

Fall Events at BMPC

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: The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston – October 28-29

Worship Staff

Agnes W. Norfleet, Pastor

Leigh DeVries, Associate Pastor for Youth & Their Families

Rebecca Kirkpatrick, Associate Pastor for Adult Education & Mission

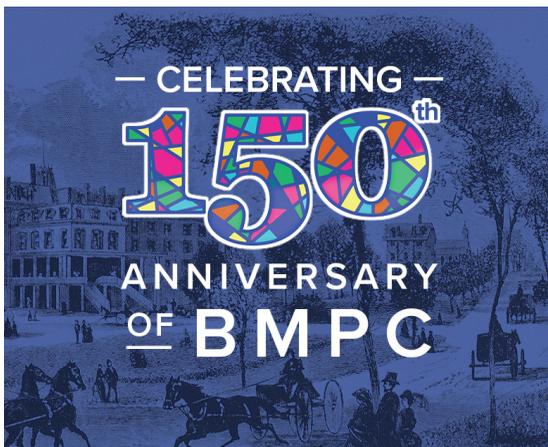
Kirby Lawrence Hill, Interim Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care & Senior Adults

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

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610-525-2821 • www.bmpc.org

www.facebook.com/BrynMawrPres

www.instagram.com/BrynMawrPres

www.twitter.com/BrynMawrPres

www.youtube.com/user/brynmawrpres

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

The Middleton Center: 610-525-0766 • info@middletoncenter.org

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