

Advent Gift Market



BRYN MAWR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church

2017 Advent Gift Market

Dear Church Family and Friends,

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church Advent Gift Market. Throughout the years, the BMPC AGM has provided an opportunity for you to do your Christmas and holiday shopping in a very special way. By participating in this creative giving program, you can choose unique holiday gifts for family members, friends, co-workers, teachers, babysitters, and anyone else that you wish to honor, while aiding those persons in need locally, nationally, and globally.

BMPC Councils and Committees have chosen many worthy projects, which highlight the work that some of our current Mission Partners are doing. This catalog offers information about the partnerships, and how your gift will impact the work that they do.

With each donation, you will receive an insert card informing your family and friends that a gift has been given in his/her honor, along with a description of the charitable project you have chosen. The insert can be included in your own greeting card, or you can purchase cards especially produced for the AGM by our Visual Arts Committee of the Fine Arts Council. This year's cards include images from artist Valerie Craig's *Twilight*, and Dennis McNeil's *Freedom*.

Join us at our opening Market Festival in Congregational Hall in the BMPC Ministries Center on Sunday, November 19, between 11:00a.m. and 12:30p.m., where representatives from the various committees and councils will be present to answer questions about the chosen mission projects.

You can shop the Advent Gift Market that opening Sunday, or in the BMPC Ministries Center Court any of the following Sundays in Advent after the 10:00a.m. worship, through December 24. In addition, order forms may be mailed or dropped off at the church during the week allowing for pickup in the Ministries Center the following Sunday. Orders for pickup may also be placed **online at www.bmpc.org**.

Your generosity will make a big difference in the lives of people who need our help around the corner and across the globe.

Wishing you peace and joy this Advent Season!

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This year's AGM highlights the strength of our partnerships locally and around the world. More than half of this year's featured partners have been working with BMPC for over 10 years. As we recognize the legacy of mission at BMPC, we hope you will help us celebrate our partnerships, both old and new. The length of each partnership is highlighted with a wreath symbol throughout the catalogue.



West Philadelphia Alliance for Children



Sponsored by
Adult Education
Council

The West Philadelphia Alliance for Children (WePAC) was born at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church in 2003-04. WePAC addresses early childhood literacy by re-opening formerly closed Philadelphia School District public elementary school libraries, and staffing them with skilled volunteers, donated resources, and reading enrichment activities. WePAC programs operate free of charge to our partner schools and to the Philadelphia School District. No other group in Philadelphia is systematically reopening and operating school libraries, many of which have been nonoperational for decades due to budget cuts. At this time, approximately 95% of Philadelphia public elementary schools do not have a functioning library. Today WePAC runs 13 school libraries and serves 4,500 students every week throughout the school year. Many WePAC students qualify for free or reduced lunch, and the median household income is below \$20,000; many students have no books in their homes.

Gift #1 - 2 Children's Books - \$10.00

Gift #2 - 4 Children's Books - \$20.00



Broad Street Ministry



Sponsored by
Board of Deacons

Broad Street Ministry (BSM) is a Christian community that honors creativity in all it pursues, strives to extend hospitality intentionally to each and all, and works tirelessly for a more just and compassionate Philadelphia. BSM is a faith community which follows the call of Jesus to heal those who hurt, feed those who hunger, and speak up for those whose voices are silenced. Each year BSM provides thousands of meals, a mailing address, clothing and social service referrals to hundreds of hungry, homeless and needy Philadelphians. Broad Street Ministry hopes to have its mission, its values, and its commitments shaped by the rich cultural context in which it is located along the Avenue of the Arts in Center City Philadelphia. This gift will help support the work of BSM's Hospitality Collaborative by providing personal care items for the homeless and needy guests.

Gift #3 - Personal Care Items - \$5.00



The Middleton Center



Sponsored by
Board of Deacons

The Middleton Center is a specialized ministry housed at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church. Opened in 1999, it welcomes people from all backgrounds, beliefs and faiths who desire to enhance the connections between body, mind and spirit. Through counseling, educational programs, spiritual direction and support groups, The Middleton Center helps people to recognize their strengths and to develop skills needed to improve the quality and fullness of their lives.

Your gift will go toward counseling scholarships for individuals, couples, children, adolescents, and families, thereby supporting our members and those in the community who are experiencing financial hardship.

Gift #4 - Counseling Session Scholarship - \$25.00



Presbyterian Disaster Assistance



**PRESBYTERIAN
DISASTER
ASSISTANCE**
OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance enables congregations and mission partners of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to witness the healing love of Christ through caring for communities adversely affected by crises and catastrophic events. Funding enables immediate responses to national and international disasters, such as hurricanes, fires, tornados, flooding, and earthquakes. This gift will provide a cleanup bucket/supplies for communities cleaning up from hurricane destruction, and will aid and offer hope to disaster survivors and those in need.

Gift #5 - Clean Up Bucket/Supplies - \$25.00

Sponsored by

Children and Family
Ministries Council

Urban Tree Connection



The Urban Tree Connection (UTC) works with residents of West Philadelphia's Haddington neighborhood to develop community-driven greening and gardening projects on vacant land. The aim is to cultivate community leadership, improve community health, and develop a local sustainable food system. Over the past 25 years, UTC has redeveloped 29 vacant lots, totaling more than 86,000 square feet of land for communal growing and gathering, sustainable food production and distribution, and multigenerational health and wellness education. This includes their three quarter acre urban farm – Neighborhood Foods Farm, which produces over 10,000 pounds of produce annually. UTC has been at the forefront of urban farming and land reclamation movements in Philadelphia, helping pioneer key tools for legal reclamation of abandoned properties.

Sponsored by

Environmental
Justice Committee

Gift #6 - Gardening Tools - \$10



Common Ground



Common Ground is an initiative between the Environmental Justice Committee and the Property Committee of Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church, to prioritize sustainable and eco-friendly management of the church campus. Common Ground continues to develop indigenous garden beds and landscaping that seeks to beautify the neighborhood through the use of local plants and easily maintained landscaping. Common Ground advocates for the non-use of herbicides and insecticides on the church campus, and seeks to create an environment outside of the buildings that reflects the beauty of God's creation.

Sponsored by

Environmental
Justice Committee

Gift #7 - One Perennial - \$15



BMPC Hunger Ministries



Sponsored by
Hunger Committee

The Hunger Committee's mission is to help as many of the area's hungriest neighbors as possible through the active support of 22 local food cupboards and shelters. This is accomplished by direct financial support as well as through other means, such as supplying nourishing casseroles. Philadelphia now has one of the highest poverty and hunger rates in the country. Because society's safety net is contracting, these food agencies are a vital part of the fight against hunger in Philadelphia.

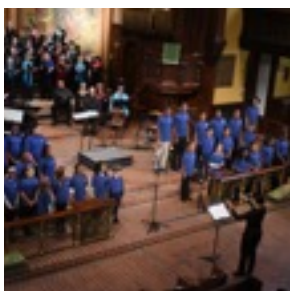
Gifts will support the BMPC Hunger Committee's mission to feed the hungry in the greater Philadelphia area as well as supply ingredients for a nutritious casserole prepared at a Hunger Committee Casserole Blitz.

Gift #8 - Food for a Local Family- \$5.00

Gift #9 - Casserole Ingredients - \$10.00



Singing City Children's Choir



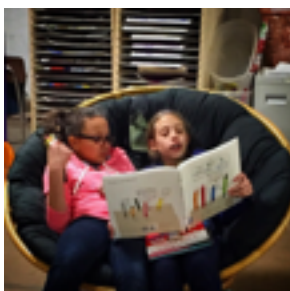
Sponsored by
Music and Fine
Arts Council

The Singing City Children's Choir (SCCC) provides children in West Philadelphia and Germantown a learning experience that teaches collaboration and mutual respect, develops God-given musical talent, and brings joy to the community and themselves. Established in 2003 as an outreach program of the Fine Arts Program at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church, SCCC is a choral music education organization, shaping the future by making a difference in the lives of children through musical excellence. Directed by Emily Sung, SCCC is open to children in grades 4-8 and is designed to provide a rich and rewarding musical experience for each child. The children study and perform a variety of music from simple unison songs, to gospel, to contemporary musical literature and global folk music. Gifts will support the purchase of music and folders for choir members.

Gift #10 - Music and Folder for Choir Member - \$15.00



Beacon Presbyterian Church



Sponsored by
Music and Fine
Arts Council

Beacon Presbyterian Church is a neighborhood faith community located in the Kensington section of Philadelphia. With the self-defined core values of *Adventure, Creativity, Conversation, Collaboration*, and being *Local*, Beacon works through faith, art, and storytelling to strengthen the community, its children and neighbors. In Beacon's own words: "We believe that creative expression and storytelling provide unique avenues for individual and community transformation and growth. We offer space for creative expression weekly through after school programs for children and youth, community events for all ages, meals centered around social justice organizing, and an open, welcoming worship service."

Gift options help provide art supplies for the after-school studio program fostering creativity and conversation with children.

Gift #11 - Art Supplies - \$15.00



BMPC Tutoring Program



The Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church Tutoring Program brings together 65 elementary school children from North Philadelphia and an equal number of high school students from the western suburbs. A popular community service option for local teens and adults for over 50 years, the Tutoring Program takes place at BMPC on Tuesday nights, when each child is paired with a high school tutor who makes a commitment to provide weekly one-on-one help with reading and writing skills. In addition to working toward academic goals, the program helps children and tutors grow in self-confidence, learn about each other's worlds, and develop friendships. Children in this program are often at BMPC until 8p.m. , and without receiving a meal, they may not have dinner.

Sponsored by
Outreach Council

Gift #12 - Dinner for a Child in the Program - \$5.00



Turning Points for Children



The West Philadelphia-based E³ Youth Opportunity Center helps some of the highest risk youth in Philadelphia develop the skills, supports, and self-esteem necessary to attain academic success, enter the work world and become productive citizens. E³ stands for Education, Employment and Empowerment. Services include basic literacy instruction, GED classes, college and SAT preparation, college introductory trips, cooking, typing, music production, photography, job readiness classes, paid internships, job placement, life skills classes, health education, parenting education, fitness instruction and structured recreational and social activities. All classes are taught and facilitated by certified instructors or trained professional staff.

Sponsored by
Outreach Council

**Gift #13 - A Wallet for a Student
in the E3 Program - \$15.00**



Mothers in Charge



In 2016, 230 Philadelphians were killed by gun violence, a tragically repetitive pattern year after year. Some of these deaths were the consequence of being in the wrong place at the wrong time or a case of mistaken identity by someone seeking revenge. Families left to cope with the aftermath are not just affected by the immediate trauma, but they carry the burden for the rest of their lives.

For the last 10 years the Peacemaking Committee has sponsored a day of rest and renewal from grieving the death of a loved one lost to violence for Mothers In Charge. a violence prevention, advocacy, education and intervention organization. Each year, the program focuses on *spirituality* - suffering and hope - and *creativity* - relief and renewal. One participant wrote, "Thanks for the awesome day. It was a joy to see the tears of the mothers turn into laughter. It was a true testimony that good fellowship can ease the pain and we can smile again and lay aside our burdens. Thank GOD for the relief."

Sponsored by
Peacemaking
Committee

Gift #14 - Respite for Families Retreat \$5.00



Heeding God's Call to End Gun Violence



Sponsored by
Peacemaking
Committee

Illegal handguns cause devastating impacts on innocent children and adults in many communities. T-shirt memorials naming each victim, his or her age and date of death stand as moving testimony to the consequences of these crimes. Sponsored by Heeding God's Call to End Gun Violence, an interfaith group, these memorials have been effective at galvanizing faith communities across Pennsylvania to stop this calamity in our neighborhoods. We know this can work. We have the proof in Philadelphia. Committed faith leaders and congregation members stood in witness in front of a gun shop notorious for selling guns to straw purchasers, guns later used to kill and maim. As a result of their efforts, this gun shop was closed and charged by the US Attorney with providing false documentation on purchases. This gift will purchase one T-shirt for the memorial and raise a voice to God's call to "not be overcome by evil, but to overcome evil with good."

Gift #15 - Memorial T-Shirt - \$20.00



theVillage



Sponsored by
Presbyterian
Women

Many children entering care at theVillage arrive with only the clothes on their backs. Funding for clothing varies greatly by county and program, and often takes several weeks to start. A modest allowance from theVillage to buy needed clothing not only provides for a basic human need but also boosts the child's self-esteem during a very stressful transition. Your gift shows these vulnerable children that someone cares about them.

TheVillage is a dynamic nonprofit organization providing vital services to children and families impacted by trauma. It exists to prevent child abuse and neglect and, when they occur, to heal their impact. The role of theVillage is to build healthier families. This in turn, leads to more stable communities. TheVillage offers a wide range of programs and services.

Gift #16 - Socks or Underwear for a Child - \$5.00

Gift #17 - Shirt or Pants for a Child - \$15.00



Refugee Support Ministries



Sponsored by
Refugee Support
Team

In response to the devastating worldwide crisis of more than 65 million refugees (over half are children under the age of 18), BMPC is partnering with Bethany Christian Services to help resettle a family on the Main Line. As we wait for the flow of refugees to begin again, our efforts are directed to helping refugees living in this area. They face significant financial, employment, and educational challenges.

Many refugee children are undereducated because opportunities in their previous locations were limited or nonexistent. They are highly motivated students. By helping to purchase inexpensive school supplies such as ABC cards, color and shape cards, math facts flash cards, and educational games, students are enabled to take the first steps necessary to learn and write the ABC's and to remember basic math facts.

Gift #18 - School Supplies - \$10.00



Main Line Adult Day Center



Sponsored by
Senior Adult
Council

The Main Line Adult Day Center at Foerderer House is located on the grounds of Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church. Participants are affected by a variety of chronic illnesses such as Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, heart conditions, diabetes, MS, and brain injury. The program offers opportunities for socialization and engagement in therapeutic activities, according to ability. Health monitoring is conducted by an on-site nurse who collaborates with participants, families and other health care providers. Caregivers are provided with respite, knowing their loved ones are in compassionate hands, and that they can rely on partnership with the staff.

Gift #19 - Hot Lunch for a Participant - \$4.00

Gift #20 - Scholarship Assistance - \$20.00



Beyond Borders



Sponsored by
Worldwide Ministries

Beyond Borders creates a safe space for adults to talk about child slavery using a curriculum called **Education is a Conversation (ESK)**. Neighbors spend 22 weeks gathering together to share stories and having in-depth dialogues about corporal punishment, sexual abuse and child slavery, among other topics. In this interactive and transformative exploration, participants learn to educate, raise awareness, create public accountability and change the way people think about the rights of children. Upon completion, participants become **Child Rights Activists** in their neighborhoods. Since 2010, Beyond Borders has trained more than 3,000 Child Rights Activists in urban neighborhoods throughout Port-au-Prince.

**Gift #21 - Training Materials for
Three Child's Rights Activists - \$20.00**



NESSL - Refugee Schools in Lebanon



Sponsored by
Worldwide Ministries

Since 2015 the National Evangelical Synod of Syria and Lebanon (NESSL) has empowered its Presbyterian congregations in Lebanon to address the overwhelming refugee crisis in the Middle East. Building upon their long educational traditions, schools have been created to provide basic elementary education for Syrian and Iraqi refugees living throughout Lebanon. Many of the children in these schools have not received any formal education since the refugee crisis began over eight years ago. Reaching out into the local refugee communities, these schools are also able to provide community connections, medical care, food support and genuine human connections.

Gift #22 - Lunch for One Week for a Child - \$20.00



BMPC Youth Ministries & Urban Mosaic



Sponsored by
Youth Ministries
Council

Urban Mosaic arose in response to the frightening reality of the urban slum explosion. This organization mobilizes and equips slum residents in Mexico City to become change agents who transform their communities. The “signs” of transformation start small but grow in magnitude as an interconnected mosaic of projects amplifies change through individuals and families into the broader community. The backbone of this work is done by a team of community organizers who spend each day working in the slums to identify leaders, and connect what can often be disconnected communities of struggling families. July 22 - 28, 2018, 24 BMPC high schoolers (grades 9-12) and adult leaders will work with Urban Mosaic to lead a Vacation Bible School (VBS), and serve as construction volunteers throughout the week.

Gift #23 - VBS Supplies - \$1.00

Gift #24 - Youth Scholarships - \$30.00



2017 Advent Gift Market Greeting Cards



The BMPC Fine Arts Council Visual Arts Committee has chosen artwork for two styles of greeting cards that will be available for purchase this year: Artist and BMPC member Valerie Craig's *Towards Evening*, and Dennis McNeil's *Freedom*, donated by the Visual Arts Committee to BMPC's permanent art collection.



2017 Advent Gift Market Order Form

Orders may also be placed
online at www.bmpc.org

	Description	Price	Quantity	Total
Gift #1	West Philadelphia Alliance for Children - 2 Books	\$10.00		
Gift #2	West Philadelphia Alliance for Children - 4 Books	\$20.00		
Gift #3	Broad Street Ministries - Personal Care Item	\$5.00		
Gift #4	Middleton Center Counseling Fund - Scholarship	\$25.00		
Gift #5	Presbyterian Disaster Assistance - Clean Up Bucket/Supplies	\$25.00		
Gift #6	Urban Tree Connection - Garden Tools	\$10.00		
Gift #7	Common Ground - One Perennial	\$15.00		
Gift #8	Hunger Ministries Food Aid - Food for Local Family	\$5.00		
Gift #9	Hunger Ministries Food Aid - Casserole Ingredients	\$10.00		
Gift #10	Singing City Children's Choir - Music and Folders	\$15.00		
Gift #11	Beacon Presbyterian Church - Art Supplies	\$15.00		
Gift #12	BMPC Tutoring Program - Dinner for one Student	\$5.00		
Gift #13	Turning Points for Children - Wallet for Children in E3 Program	\$15.00		
Gift #14	Mother's In Charge - Respite for Families Retreat	\$5.00		
Gift #15	Heeding God's Call to End Gun Violence - Memorial T-Shirt	\$20.00		
Gift #16	theVillage - Socks or Underwear for a Child	\$5.00		
Gift #17	theVillage - Shirt or Pants for a Child	\$15.00		
Gift #18	Refugee Support Project - School Supplies for Local Children	\$10.00		
Gift #19	Main Line Adult Day Center - Hot Lunch for Participant	\$4.00		
Gift #20	Main Line Adult Day Center - Scholarship Assistance	\$20.00		
Gift #21	Beyond Borders - Training Materials for Child Rights Activists	\$20.00		
Gift #22	NESSL - Lunch in Refugee Schools for one week for one Child	\$20.00		
Gift #23	Youth Mission Trip - VBS Supplies for Mission Trip	\$1.00		
Gift #24	Urban Mosaic - Youth Mission Trip Scholarships	\$30.00		

Subtotal

Name _____

Freedom Card

\$1.00

Phone () _____

Towards Evening

\$1.00

Pack of 12 Cards (Freedom)

\$12.00

_____Cash _____Credit Card

Pack of 12 Cards (Towards Evening)

\$12.00

_____Check (Payable to BMPC)

Vintage Cards (Pack of 12)

\$6.00

_____Filled _____Unfilled

Donations

_____Paid _____Unpaid

Grand Total

Pick up next Sunday? _____Yes _____No

Mail to:

Advent Gift Market

Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church

625 Montgomery Ave, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

Orders may also be placed online at www.bmpc.org



625 Montgomery Ave
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

Advent Gift Market



BRYN MAWR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Celebrating 25 years of Alternative Giving