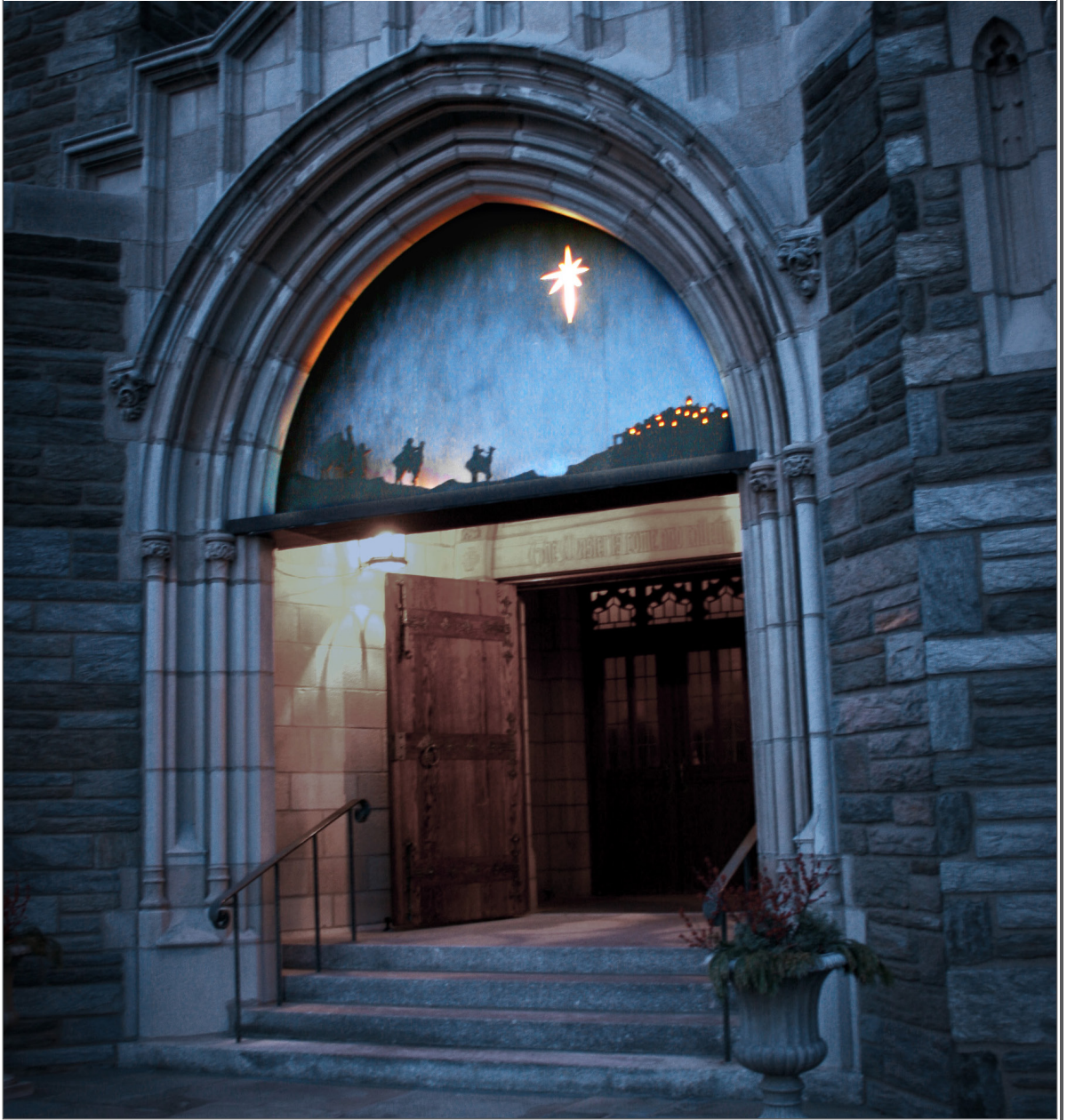


Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church

Sunday, November 27, 2022 | 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary
First Sunday of Advent



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 outside the Sanctuary doors following the Worship Service. All of our programs, ministries, and opportunities for mission are open to everyone. Come join us!

COVID-19 GUIDELINES

Given the rise in cases due to the Delta variant, masks are now required for both fully vaccinated and unvaccinated people inside church buildings. Masks are not required for outdoor spaces. Please maintain physical distance inside, and be mindful that we are an intergenerational community and that while COVID vaccines are now available for children ages five to 11, some children may not have been vaccinated.

LIVESTREAMED CHURCH SERVICES

In addition to in-person worship, the Sunday Worship Services are available to watch live at 10:00 a.m. on our live-streaming page: www.bmpc.org/livestream. For your convenience, the service also will be posted on our Worship Services page on the following day.

CHILDCARE AND SUNDAY SCHOOL

Childcare is available on Sundays from 8:00 a.m. to noon 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 Rebecca Kellich at childcare@bmpc.org with any questions.

WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTER

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

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.

Sunday School Classes

Age 2 - PreK

10:00 a.m., Ed. Bldg.

Grades K - 5

10:00 a.m., Worship in Sanctuary

10:15 a.m., Ed. Bldg.

Youth in Worship

10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

Atrium Café

11:00 a.m., Atrium

Advent Gift Market

11:00 a.m., Atrium

BMPC Members

Art Exhibit

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.,
Art Gallery, Ministries Center

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE

Pastorale

César Franck

WELCOME

Rachel Pedersen

ADVENT INTROIT O Lord, How Shall I Meet You VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

O Lord, how shall I meet you, how welcome you aright?
Your people long to greet you, my hope, my heart's delight!
O kindle, Lord most holy, a lamp within my breast,
To do in spirit lowly all that may please you best.

Please stay seated during Advent Introit.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Doug and Margaret Stay

One: People of faith, watch for the coming of God in full glory.

All: We are called to ready ourselves and live expectantly.

One: Today we begin our Advent journey to Bethlehem.

All: Remembering God's people of ages past who hoped for a Messiah,

One: We light the candle of hope in celebration of the Christ who came.

All: We look toward that promised day when Christ will come again.

One: May this tiny flame hold back the darkness,

All: And lead us forward in hope to God's glorious light.

† HYMN 367 Come, Ye Thankful People, Come ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

CALL TO CONFESSION

AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*in unison*)

Merciful God, you come to us as light in darkness, but we fail to see how you have shown the way of discipleship. You call us to goodness, and we wander toward the bitterness that divides us from one another. Forgive our lack of focus on the things that really matter. Redirect us toward your ways of justice and peace, that we might be a beacon of light in the world.

A moment of silence for personal reflection and confession.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SUNG RESPONSE On Those Who Sit In Darkness

MERLE'S TUNE

On those who sit in darkness the sun begins to rise, the dawning of forgiveness up on the sinner's eyes. God guides the feet of pilgrims along the paths of peace. O Bless our God and Savior with songs that never cease!

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rachel Pedersen

SENDING 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.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Brian K. Ballard

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

ANTHEM

“And the Glory” from Messiah

G.F. Handel

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together;
For the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

SECOND LESSON Matthew 1:1-6, 15-17 (*pg. 1 in pew Bible*)

Agnes W. Norfleet

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Through Darkness
Journey to Bethlehem Advent Series

Agnes W. Norfleet

† HYMN 87

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

GENEVAN 42

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*in unison*)

Leigh DeVries

Jesus came as a child,
born of a woman as is every child,
yet born of God's power as was no other child.
He lived as a Jew among Jews.
He announced to his people
the coming of God's rule of justice and peace on earth.
We believe that the coming of Jesus
was itself the coming of God's promised rule.
Through his life, death, and resurrection,
he initiates the relationship between God and the human race
that God always intended.

~ from *A Declaration of Faith*

PASTORAL PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Lost in the Night

Hal H. Hopson

Lost in the night do the people yet languish, longing for morning the darkness to vanquish, plaintively sighing with hearts full of anguish. Will not day come soon? Must we be vainly awaiting the morrow? Shall those who have light no light let us borrow, giving no heed to our burden of sorrow? Will you help us soon? Sorrowing wanderers, in darkness yet dwelling, dawned has the day of a radiance excelling, death's deepest shadows forever dispelling. Christ is coming soon! Light o'er the land of the needy is beaming; rivers of life through its deserts are streaming, bringing all peoples a Savior redeeming. Come and save us soon! Lord, come soon!

† DOXOLOGY

GREENSLEEVES

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.
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

† PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Brian K. Ballard

† HYMN 104

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

† BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

Agnes W. Norfleet

POSTLUDE

Savior of the Nations, Come

J.S. Bach

†

"I am the resurrection and the life."

Madeleine L. Fisher ~ October 16, 2022

Elia Buck ~ November 18, 2022

WORSHIP NOTES

RECEIVING THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM AT NOON

Delaney Grace Lowell

Daughter of Jen & Matt Lowell

William Stanton Good

Son of Meredith & Rob Good

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Given to the glory of God and in memory of Stephen Paul McConnell, Sr.

PLAYING THE CARILLON

Rob Mygatt

MUSIC NOTES

2022 marks the bicentennial of César Franck (1811-1890), the most significant composer of organ repertoire during the 19th century. During the month of November, preludes and a few postludes have highlighted some of his most admired and performed works, including the complete *Trois Pièces*, as well as other selections from the *Six Pièces*, and the monumental *Choral III*. These works are particularly wedded to BMPC's Rieger organ as the voicing of the pipework captures the timbres that were so important and influential to Franck's organ works: the warm foundations, the delicate oboe, as well as the mysterious *Voix Humaine*, the organ's attempt to imitate the human voice.

Announcements

LOOKING FOR A CHURCH HOME? Mondays, Dec. 5 and 12, 7:00 p.m., Witherspoon Parlor. Consider learning more about being in community here by attending our “Discover BMPC” classes which will give you an opportunity to become acquainted, ask questions, and learn more about our church, our Presbyterian heritage, and our mission. Inquirers welcome. Contact the Rev. Frank Pottorff at 610-525-2821 or via email: FrankPottorff@bmpc.org.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS. Contributions may be given in three categories for listings in the Christmas Eve bulletin: “In memory of,” “In honor of” or “In celebration of (marriage, retirement, birth, baptism).” Forms are available in the Ministries Center, in the Sanctuary, or online: www.bmpc.org/flower-donations. Monies received are used year-round for our floral decorations and Deacons’ flower ministry. Deadline: Next Sunday, Dec. 4. SarahMiciek@bmpc.org.

ADVENT GIFT MARKET. 11:00 a.m., Atrium. AGM representatives will be in the Atrium after worship to process orders. Online orders also may be placed via the AGM website: www.brynmawragm.com.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY. We are looking for volunteers to serve at our reception desk on the ground floor of the Ministries Center during weekdays. This position serves as a minister of first impressions, helping to answer phones and welcome guests who visit our campus or church offices. To learn more, please contact Liz Ellis, LizEllis@bmpc.org.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS CHOIR FOR CHRISTMAS EVE! Family and friends are invited to rehearse and learn a simple setting of “Ding, Dong! Merrily on High” to sing together with both the Children’s Choir and Youth Chorale at the 4:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Family Service. Open to siblings, parents, college students home from school, and more! Please contact Edward Landin Senn to express your interest or ask any questions: EdwardLandinSenn@bmpc.org.

This Week

ADVENT HARPSICHORD RECITALS. Tuesdays, Nov. 29, Dec. 6, 13 and 20, noon, Sanctuary. Featuring Gabriel Benton, Silvanio Reis, Kathleen Scheide, Anna Kislitsyna, Alexandr Kislitsyn and Torsten Frasn performing free 30-minute recitals on BMPC’s William Dowd harpsichord.

FALL YOGA206 BONE BOOST SESSION. Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m., through Dec. 21, Gymnasium. Geared to persons proactive about strengthening bones or those with bone-loss medical conditions. Participants age 50+ must be able to safely sit on and rise from a mat. Cost: \$91. COVID-19 vaccination required. YOGA206@icloud.com.

QUIET PRAYER IN ADVENT. Wednesdays, Nov. 30, Dec. 7 and 14, 7:00 - 7:45 p.m., Middleton Center, Room 200. Amidst the busyness of the Advent season, this is a time for contemplative guided prayer which will include Scripture readings, space for reflection, and a time of communal silence. Caring Ministry team members and Deacons will lead these sessions. KikiMcKendrick@bmpc.org.

ADVENT STORY PATH LABYRINTH. Walking a labyrinth during Advent, which begins on Nov. 27, provides a meaningful way to journey to Bethlehem. The small labyrinth is open daily during Advent, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m., Saturday, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., and Sunday, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. in the Chapel. An Advent labyrinth booklet is available.

MARTIN E.P. SELIGMAN'S *THE HOPE CIRCUIT*. Fri., Dec. 2, 12:30 p.m., Congregational Hall. Join one of the brightest minds and most influential psychologists of our time, Martin Seligman, for an open Q&A about his book, *The Hope Circuit: A Psychologist's Journey from Helplessness to Optimism*. The book is required reading for this class and can be found on Amazon. This event is hosted by Main Line School Night and is complimentary to BMPC members. To register, call 610-687-0460.

Next Sunday

UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN: ADVENT, ISAIAH AND OUR JEWISH NEIGHBORS. Sundays, Dec. 4, 11 and 18, 11:15 a.m., Fullerton Room. Drawing upon the insights from Tyler Mayfield's book, *Unto Us A Child is Born: Advent, Isaiah and our Jewish Neighbors*, the Rev. Rebecca Kirkpatrick and Rabbi David Straus, former senior rabbi at Main Line Reform Temple, will lead a three-week conversation about the different historical and theological understandings of the most iconic passages from the Book of Isaiah. RebeccaKirkpatrick@bmpc.org.

LIVE NATIVITY AND ADVENT WORKSHOP. Sun., Dec. 4, 4:00 p.m., Front Lawn. Dress for the weather and experience the Christmas Story, meeting live animals and actors while creating ornaments and simple gifts to share. MaryRichards@bmpc.org.

EVENING WORSHIP. Sun., Dec. 4, 5:00 p.m., Sanctuary. Join us for our monthly intergenerational worship service as scripture is read and carols are sung during the busy season of Advent. Musical leadership will be provided by the Children's Choir and the Youth Chorale. The Rev. Frank Pottorff will preach.

Upcoming

RAINBOW REINDEER GAMES. Sun., Dec. 11, 11:30 a.m., Gymnasium. All youth (grades 6-12) are invited to join in the fun, games, and color powder shenanigans we have planned for our Rainbow Reindeer Games this year! To register, visit <https://bit.ly/Rainbowgames>. LeighDeVries@bmpc.org.

MESSIAH SING-IN. Sun., Dec. 11, 3:00 p.m., Sanctuary. Lift up your voices with the Singing City Choir and the BMPC Sanctuary Choir as we sing choruses from this timeless oratorio. Featuring Elizabeth Weigle, soprano; Valerie Haber, soprano; Nicholas Provenzale, baritone; Misoon Ghim, mezzo-soprano; and Siddhartha Misra, tenor; and Nate Zullinger, conductor. Tickets are \$21 for adults and \$11 for students and may be purchased through the Singing City Choir website: <https://bit.ly/BMPCMessiah>.

LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE. Wed., Dec. 21, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary and via livestream. This contemplative worship service is for anyone yearning for comfort amid personal grief and hope for a more peaceful world. A meditation by the Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet will be accompanied by prayer, the singing of carols and lighting candles to lead us through darkness toward healing and wholeness. A labyrinth on the Education Building Lawn invites walkers following the service, weather permitting.

CHRISTMAS EVE YOUTH ALUMNI PARTY. Tues., Dec. 24, 6:00 p.m., Youth Lounge. Worship on Christmas Eve is made even more special by seeing those who grew up at BMPC and are now back home for the holidays. All are encouraged to attend! LeighDeVries@bmpc.org.

ADD THIS SPECIAL EVENT TO YOUR 2023 CALENDAR! Sun., Jan. 8, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary and Atrium. Join us in celebrating Jeffrey Brillhart's 40 years of service to BMPC during the 10:00 a.m. worship and a reception in the Atrium following the service. At noon a luncheon also will be served in Congregational Hall to celebrate Jeff's four decades; very limited seating is available at \$20 per person. RSVP deadline: Dec. 18. Contact PatrickHowley@bmpc.org or EdwardLandinSenn@bmpc.org for details.

Caring and Sharing

CHRISTMAS ANGELS. Share the spirit of Christmas by adopting a family or sponsoring a child (three to five gifts per child). Gift cards in \$25 increments from Target, Walmart, Amazon, Five Below, Marshalls/TJ Maxx, ShopRite, and Best Buy are preferred. If you wish to buy a gift, you may sponsor a child's Christmas, https://bit.ly/BMPC_Xmas_Angels_2022, buy a general gift for a child (Legos, toiletry sets, Rubik's Cubes, makeup, cards and card games, board games, fidget toys, basketballs or footballs, remote controlled cars), or purchase from Gemma's Amazon Wish List: <https://bit.ly/GemmaNeeds>. Gift cards and unwrapped gifts need to be delivered to the church by next Sunday, Dec. 4. Betty Wu, BMPCAngels@gmail.com.

CASSEROLE BLITZ. Sat., Dec. 10, 8:30 a.m., Ministries Center Kitchen. Join us in making casseroles and friends at the Hunger Committee's Casserole Blitzes! Enjoy this family activity (children over age 5) as you support a good cause while working with others to prepare casseroles for area shelters. RSVP: <https://bit.ly/casserole-rsvp>.

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING. Supporting past, present and future leaders! A Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s, this Offering distributes gifts equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges that serve communities of color. The Assistance Program provides critical financial support to church workers and their families. Look for offering envelopes in the pew holders on Dec. 11 and 18, or note "Christmas Joy" on the memo line of your check.

Calendar

Sunday, November 27

7:45	a.m.	Childcare (Birth-Kindergarten), Ed. Bldg., Rm. 101
8:00	a.m.	Worship with Communion, Chapel
8:30	a.m.	Sunday Morning Discussion Group, Cannon Room
8:45	a.m.	Filling the Well, Ed. Bldg., Children's Library
9:00	a.m.	Art @ 9, Ed. Bldg., Rm. 102 Sunday School, Virtual Advent Gift Market, Congregational Hall
10:00	a.m.	Sunday School Ages 2, 3, and Pre-K, Ed. Bldg., Rm. 101 Worship with Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary, and Livestreamed Service on www.bmpc.org Youth in Worship, Sanctuary
10:15	a.m.	Sunday School K - 5th Grade, Ed. Bldg.

11:00	a.m.	Atrium Café, Atrium Family Fellowship, Ed. Bldg. Lobby Advent Story Path Labyrinth, Children's Chapel
12:00	p.m.	Baptism Service, Chapel

Monday, November 28

No Events Scheduled.

Tuesday, November 29

8:30	a.m.	RePose Yoga, Gymnasium
9:15	a.m.	Y-Group Coffee and Advent Workshop Prep, Ed. Bldg., Rm . 102
10:30	a.m.	Tai Chi, Gymnasium and Virtual
12:00	p.m.	Advent Harpsichord Recital Series, Sanctuary
1:00	p.m.	Dance for Parkinson's Class, Gymnasium

Wednesday, November 30

10:00	a.m.	Coffee Cup Bible Study, Cannon Room Yoga206 Bone Boost, Gymnasium
4:45	p.m.	Wednesdays Together, Sanctuary
5:30	p.m.	Wednesday Night Dinners, Congregational Hall
5:45	p.m.	Youth Chorale, Fine Arts Center
6:30	p.m.	Handbell Ensemble, Fine Arts Center
7:00	p.m.	Outreach Committee Meeting, Cannon Room Quiet Prayer for Advent, Middleton Center, Room 200

Thursday, December 1

9:30	a.m.	Singing for Life, Fine Arts Center
10:00	a.m.	Thursday Book Group, Virtual
11:00	a.m.	Artist's Gathering, Fine Arts Center
6:00	p.m.	Refugee Support Committee Meeting, Witherspoon Parlor
7:00	p.m.	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Fine Arts Center

Friday, December 2

10:00	a.m.	Senior Adult Council Meeting, Virtual
3:45	p.m.	Hanscom McMullan Wedding Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Saturday, December 3

7:00 a.m. Saturday Morning Men's Group, Converse House Parlor
11:00 a.m. **Audrey Ingram Memorial Service, Chapel**
4:00 p.m. **Hanscom McMullan Wedding, Sanctuary**

Sunday, December 4

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

Worship Staff

Agnes W. Norfleet, Pastor

Brian K. Ballard, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care & Senior Adults

Leigh DeVries, Associate Pastor for Youth & Their Families

Rebecca Kirkpatrick, Associate Pastor for Adult Education & Mission

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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www.facebook.com/BrynMawrPres

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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