

West Philadelphia Mennonite Fellowship
Sunday, December 17, 2017, 9:00 AM

Worship Leader: Carey Davis

Song Leader: Amy Hochstetler

Children's Storyteller: Christine Waanders

Musician: Tim Schellenberg

Preacher: Pastor Lorie Hershey

Call to Worship

Opening Prayer

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Hymn

Scripture: Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11

Passing the Peace of Christ/Welcome of Visitors

Offering

Special Music - Choir

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Announcements about the life of the Church

Children's Time

Hymn

Scripture: Psalm 126, Luke 1:46b-55

Sermon "The Growing Reign of God"

Confessional response

Hymn(s)

Benediction

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adult Sunday School: "Spirituality for Social Justice: hints from the Life and Writings of Paulo Freire." Drick Boyd will be talking about how our spirituality can be shaped and can shape our efforts for social justice. He will be drawing insights from his new book: *Paulo Freire: His Faith, Spirituality and Theology*.

Congregational meeting today, following Sunday school in the lower level of the church. The deacons will present a budget proposal for 2018 and HRC will present Matt MacNeill as candidate to join HRC. Childcare and snacks will be provided.

Worship Participation Survey: The Worship Committee would like to know what ways your gifts and abilities would enhance our worship services. You can take the survey on our website, under the resources tab. The results are posted on the password protected part of our website.

Our Giving Project this year, for Advent, will benefit the Locust St. home of Redemption Housing. There are 2 large bookcases that are looking to be filled. Donate any new or secondhand books that you think the residents of the house would enjoy. Board games and card games for adults are also welcome, as well as any non-perishable food.

A thank you to Tim Schellenberg for creating our Advent wreath this year in the German tradition! The center globe-like structure is from our series on mental health. The ribbons tied on represent us as individuals, whether frayed, worn, or strong, connecting to one another around the light of Christ. Leaving room for space when needed, and for Christ's light to shine beyond ourselves.

Calvary Center for Culture and Community (CCCC) has been officially recognized as a Zone of Peace from the Religious Leaders Council of Greater Philadelphia. Pastor Lorie was part of the interview process with other Calvary representatives. Zones of Peace is part of the Interfaith Center of Greater Philadelphia and is a call to people of faith to stop violence by creating zones of peace in their communities that are "free from fear, filled with respect, and marked by deeds of kindness." For more information go to interfaithcenterpa.org/zones-of-peace

Watch Night for Racial Justice: An Evening Jazz at the Cathedral to Benefit POWER. December 31: In a new initiative inaugurated in response to the racist violence and injustice over the past year, the Philadelphia Episcopal Cathedral (19 South 38th Street, 19104) will host a New Year's Eve event. The event celebrates the tradition of "Watch Night" which began on New Year's Eve 1863 in black churches throughout the nation awaiting the announcement of the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1864. Family friendly and begins at 4pm with Jazz performances and interfaith Watch Night service at 7pm. Donations will be accepted at event for POWER and the Cathedral table ministries.

The teachers at Comegys have 4 swag stations at the school to promote infection control and self care. They provide hand sanitizer, spray deodorant, travel size stick deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, socks, gloves, and lotion for students as needed. Your donation helps. A box for donations will be provided during the offering until Jan. 7. event, visit mcc.org/service-day.

Join in our neighborhood Christmas Eve service with Calvary United Methodist, Dec. 24th @ 7 pm. This is an evening of light, lessons, and carols. Children are welcome. If you would like to participate by ushering, reading Scripture, or building the nativity scene, contact Pastor Lorie. This year's offering will go towards purchasing solar powered energy for rural Puerto Rican communities.

There will not be nursery on Sunday, December 24. There will not be Sunday school on December 24th or 31st.

Please bring Christmas treats to share during snack time on December 24th and 31st.

New Attenders small group is rescheduled for Sat Jan 13 around 5:30 pm at Sheldon and Brenda Rich's home. See Pastor Lorie if interested in attending.

You are invited to a Christmas Eve open house at Tony and Kathie Sauder's home 4818 Beaumont Ave after the service at church on Sunday December 31. There will be light refreshments - you are welcome to bring finger foods to share.

Ted and Co. are interested in bringing *Discovery: A Comic Lament to Philadelphia*. This show stars Ted Swartz, owner/creative director of Ted & Company Theaterworks, and Michelle Milne. *Discovery* weaves through time and geography, from Europeans "discovering" the New World to the Kansas wheat fields and pipelines of the present, offering both comic and challenging glimpses into the absurdity of white settler oppression of Indigenous Peoples and the land we live on. For more information, go to tedandcompany.com. **If you are willing to be on a team to make this a reality, talk to Pastor Lorie.**

2017 Offering Report
Weekly Offering goal: \$3,320
December 10 giving: \$4,790
Year-to-Date Goal: \$162,904
Year-to-Date Actual: \$157,004

We welcome all people

of any ethnicity, race, gender identity, age, sexual orientation, status, physical or mental ability or condition.



Today

Greeter: Elizabeth

Usher: Linford

Nursery: Shelley C, Alex E B, Victor, Maya

Snack: Carey Davis

Coffee/Tea: Tim & Carol Martin Johnson

Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24

Worship Leader: Anne Yoder

Song Leader: Tim Martin Johnson

Children's Storyteller: Drick Boyd

Musician: Jeff Knightly

Greeter: Sylvia

Usher: Jim

Nursery: None

Coffee/Tea: Cynthia Boyd

Sunday, December 31

Worship Leader: Brent Hershey

Song Leader: Peter Horst

Children's Storyteller: Linda Esh

Musician: Jeff Knightly

Greeter: Linda Esh

Usher: Mel Esh

Nursery: Brendon G, Carol B, Isaiah, Micah

CHURCH CALENDAR

January

6: 10am Worship Committee meeting

10: 7pm Church Council meeting

13: 5:30pm New Attenders Small Group

OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK

Lorie

Monday: 10am-3:30pm

Tuesday: 10am-2:30pm

Thursday: 11am-3pm

Friday: 10am-1pm

Dorianna

Tuesday: 9:30am-1:30pm

Wednesday: 8am-12:45pm

Thursday: TBD

Friday: TBD

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Preschool

(ages 3 - 4)

Where: Preschool room

Teacher: Christine Waanders

Helper: Rosa Wyse

Primary Class

(Kindergarten - 2nd grade)

Teacher: Bryan Geib

Helper: Nancy Geryk

Middler Class (grades 3-5)

Where: large classroom of gym

Teacher: Jim Kurtz

Junior Youth Class (grades 6-8)

Where: Samaritan rm. above CUMC office

Teachers: Sarah Rody & Alex E B

Senior Youth Class (grades 9-12)

Where: 2nd FL above WPMF office

Teachers: Thomas Leischner

NURSERY CARE

Nursery care is provided for children (infants - 3 yrs/48 mon) starting after Children's Time in our worship service. Two adults and a youth helper supervise. No nursery care is provided during Sunday School. The nursery is located on the lower level of the building, past the women's bathroom.

MINISTRY COORDINATORS

Adult Education Sherri Michalovic & Anne Yoder

C. Council Chair Tim Martin Johnson

Church Retreat Laurie Callan

Fellowship Meal Daniel Vader & Jeff Knightly

FMC Lay Delegate Drick Boyd

Greeters Jim Kurtz

Nursery Carol Buhrman

Small groups Joe Syzdek

Snack Carol Buhrman

Sunday School Linda Esh & Sarah Rody

Sr. Youth SS Thomas Leischner

Worship Committee Tim Martin Johnson

Youth Sponsor Sarah, Ken, Rosa, & Nathan

Mentor Coordinators Angelina Host & Marcy Zimmerman

Our Child Protection Policy can be found on our website and our library.

SMALL GROUPS

Dream Group

Sheldon Rich: shrich54@gmail.com

Lectio Divina

Sheri Magness & Brenda Rich:

brenrich53@gmail.com

Men's Monthly Breakfast

Matt MacNeill: mrmacneill@gmail.com

Togetherring

Alex & Amanda Esh Bouwman:

aaeshbouwman@yahoo.com

New Attenders Small Group

Lorie Hershey: lorie@wpmf.org

Supper, Sharing, and Study group

Angelina: angelina.rose.horst@gmail.com

Contemplative Prayer group

Chris P: chrispetersen66@yahoo.com

Exploring Retirement Group

Elizabeth Hamilton:

eghamilton1@verizon.net

CONTACT INFORMATION

Website: wpmf.org

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Pastor: lorie@wpmf.org

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Laurie Callan

Amanda Esh Bouwman

Nick Lordi

Mark Michalovic

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Bryan Geib

Lenny Thompson

Rebecca Weber

Human Resources Committee:

hrc@wpmf.org

Tim Martin Johnson

Elaine Shenk

Caring Team: caringteam@wpmf.org

Carol B, Cynthia C, Laurie C, Carol MJ

Bulletin cover by Brenda Rich.



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B. Rich