

**West Philadelphia Mennonite Fellowship
Sunday, December 31, 2017, 9:00 AM**

Worship Leader: Brent Hershey
Song Leader: Peter Horst
Children's Storyteller: Linda Esh
Musician: Anne Yoder
Reflections: Brenda Rich, Ethan Tan

SINGING

CALL TO WORSHIP

SINGING

PASSING THE PEACE/INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING/SINGING

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

CHILDREN'S TIME

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:22-40

REFLECTIONS

Brenda Rich
Ethan Tan

SONG OF RESPONSE

CLOSING HYMN

BENEDICTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There is no Sunday school today.

Please bring Christmas treats to share during snack time through December 31st.

Matt MacNeill was affirmed as a member of the Human Resources Committee at the congregational meeting on December 17th. Matt will complete the open HRC term which ends in May 2018 and then begin a three-year term through May 2021.

The proposed 2018 budget was approved at the congregational meeting. It includes an increase in offering giving and expenses from the 2017 budget of about 4%.

Church Council has received a formal response from the Franconia Conference board concerning our congregational decision about same-sex marriage. The letter affirms the current conference position and process. Copies of the letter are available from the church office and from Tim Martin Johnson, Church Council chair.

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 **National Campaign for a Peace Tax Fund (NCPTF)** will hold a gathering for Pennsylvania residents interested in supporting The Religious Freedom Peace Tax Fund Act of 2017, H.R. 1947. Malachy Kilbride, Executive Director of NCPTF, will speak at **Akron Mennonite Church** at 2:00 pm on Sunday, December 31.

Monday, Jan. 15th, 1-4:30 pm POWER is hosting "A People's Call to Action Rally and Teach Ins" with the MLK DARE coalition. After a year of resistance, this MLK Day we will begin building a stronger people's movement to work for racial justice and opportunity for all. Join us at 1:00 pm for the rally and 2:30 for the teach-in. Dobbins High School, 2150 W Lehigh Ave, Philadelphia PA 19132

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.

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.**

Carmela Libre: Grant Asylum to Mother & Children in Sanctuary at Church of the Advocate. Stop the deportation of Carmela and her four children.

Carmela and her family were issued a family order of deportation after their asylum petition was denied. They came to the U.S. fleeing the violence of the U.S.-backed drug wars in Mexico, which claimed the lives of three of their closest family members and led to physical assault of Carmela and her oldest daughter. Carmela and her children have taken Sanctuary in Church of the Advocate. Sign the petition by visiting: sanctuaryphiladelphia.org

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.

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.

Pastor Lorie is on vacation Dec. 25-Jan 1. If you have pastoral care needs please contact one of the Elders. For administrative questions contact Dorianna.

Dorianna will be on vacation January 5-8. Please have all announcement to Dorianna by Thursday, January 4.

2017 Offering Report	
Weekly Offering goal:	\$3,320
December 24 giving:	\$3,688
Year-to-Date Goal:	\$169,401
Year-to-Date Actual:	\$164,620

We welcome all people

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



Today

Greeter: Linda Esh

Usher: Mel Esh

Nursery: Brendon G, Carol B, Isaiah, Micah

Coffee/Tea: Elaine Shenk

Sunday, January 7

Worship Leader: Anne Yoder

Song Leader: Drick Boyd

Children's Storyteller: Sarah Rody

Musician: Elaine Shenk

Greeter: TBD

Usher: TBD

Nursery: Sylvia H, Carey Davis, Ezra, Emma

Coffee/Tea: Kathie Sauder

Sunday, January 14

Worship Leader: Laurie Callan

Song Leader: Mark & Sherri Michalovic

Children's Storyteller: Christine Waanders

Musician: Tim Martin Johnson

Greeter: TBD

Usher: TBD

Nursery: Dorianna Lordi, Kathie S, Toby, Chloe

Snack: Brent & Lorie Hershey

Coffee/Tea: Jim Kurtz

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: TBD

Tuesday: TBD

Thursday: TBD

Friday: TBD

Dorianna

Tuesday: TBD

Wednesday: 8am-12:45pm

Thursday: 9:30am-1:30pm

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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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 Mary Wetherbee.



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