

Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church
420 Cedar Lake Road, Minneapolis,
MN 55405

November/December, 2011



Christmas Eve Worship

We will be celebrating Christmas Eve with a candlelight service at 7:30 pm. Please plan to bring the entire family and celebrate the season at this warm and joyous service. The offering at the Christmas Eve Candlelight service will go to the Deacon's Fund

A Word from the Worship Committee about Christmas Day

This year Christmas day falls on a Sunday. Normally we have worship here every Sunday because it is the center of our life together as a community of faith. However, we do not traditionally have worship on Christmas day, instead we worship on Christmas Eve with choir, candle light and many members helping lead the service. This year the worship committee recommended to the Session that we continue with our traditional Christmas Eve Service which would lead into a day of sabbath on December 25th. The Session agreed with the recommendation so we will not have our regular worship service here Christmas day. We encourage everyone to join us at 7:30 on Christmas Eve as we celebrate the birth of Christ. We hope that December 25th will be a day of rest, reflection and celebration.

If you have questions please contact Laura, chair of the worship committee.

December 18 is the Christmas Pageant!

Mark your calendars and invite the family! The Christmas pageant is scheduled for December 18 during the 10:30 service. Practices will be held during Sunday School, December 4 and from 10:00a.m.- 12:00 Saturday morning, December 17. All the kids are encouraged to participate. Pageant directors are Tanyia and Kristin: Please direct questions to them. Joy to the World!



Hanging of the Greens

It's time for the annual tradition of decorating our church building and Sanctuary for the Advent and the Christmas season. There will be hot cider, treats on the table, Christmas Carols in the sound system, and plenty of fun for kids and adults alike!

**Saturday, December 3rd at
9:00AM.**

See you there!



Bryn Mawr Church Cookbook Still Available for Holiday Gifts!

The Bryn Mawr Church cookbook is full to the brim with wonderful recipes that will be sure to make your holidays smell and taste even better! They also make wonderful Christmas presents or hostess gifts. Remember that all proceeds go to the building fund to pay down our mortgage—all those benefits for only \$20 each! Please contact Lisa to arrange a purchase, or tap me on the shoulder in church some Sunday.

Santa Night at St. Anne's Place: **Wednesday, December 21st at 6pm**

This is our annual holiday event at St. Anne's Place homeless shelter for women and their children. It is a night of lots of activity with a special appearance by Santa!

We help the children meet and photo op with Santa; shop and wrap holiday gifts for their mom; and make crafty picture frames for their Santa picture. Please consider volunteering and see the sign-up sheet.

Contact Heather with any questions.

St. Anne's Sponsor-A-Family

After families move from St. Anne's, their resources are limited. During the holidays, our congregation sponsors families that lived at St. Anne's during the past year. We provide gifts from their wish list. As in previous years, look for family wish lists posted in the hallway and consider signing up for one person or for an entire family, shopping for their 'wish' items, and delivering them to church. They will then be bundled, tagged and delivered to St. Anne's for distribution to the families.

St. Anne's also has a gift program for families currently living at St. Anne's. They create a holiday store where family members can shop for each other. The items needed for this program need to be new and unwrapped. They will be collected at church and delivered to St. Anne's Place for their store. Look for a list of sample items posted in the hallway. You may already have a few items around your home that would be appropriate.

Items will be due December 11

Contact Nicole with any questions and listen for upcoming announcements.

March to Honor the Homeless

The 27th Annual Homeless Memorial March and Service will be held on December 15, 2011. This event honors people who have died while homeless in Minnesota and calls our attention to the need for stable housing for all – individuals, youth, families, children, veterans, people who are disabled and people who simply cannot make ends meet.

Please consider attending the March and Memorial which begins at 5:00 p.m. at the Hennepin County Government Center, 3rd Avenue and 5th Street South. The March proceeds to Simpson United Methodist Church where a Service of Remembrance begins at 6:30 (corner of 1st Avenue and 28th Street). A Community Meal follows on the lower level of the Church at 7:00. All are welcome.

For more information contact Laura or visit the website for Simpson Housing Services at www.simpsonhousing.org.

Mission Possible Prayer Calendar

The Mission Possible Team has created a prayer calendar so that we can focus special prayers on a different mission program each month. We invite you to specially remember the following in your prayers:

- for **November**, our **neighborhood schools**: Anwatin Middle School and Bryn Mawr Community School;
- for **December**, **St. Anne's Place**, the North Minneapolis homeless shelter for women with children;
- for **January**, **Clearwater Forest**, the Presbytery camp where so many of us have created special memories.

BMPC Clearwater Winter Retreat **January 7-9 - Leaning Tree Lodge**

Join your Bryn Mawr family and friends for a weekend of playing games, doing puzzles, eating good food, relaxing, worshipping, listening to the ice crack under your feet, seeing the stars, throwing snow balls, going skating and sledding and many more fun activities.

Please hurry and make your reservations and plan to have a great time at Clearwater Forest.

Reservation must be made and paid by Sunday December 12th.

Reservations are non-refundable.

Please send your check to BMPC attn: Wendy or give directly to her.

Questions: call Wendy

Rooms \$120 for the weekend

Breakfast \$3.00/person x 2 day=\$6.00

Lunch \$8.00/person x 1 day=\$8.00

Dinner \$8.00/person x 1 day=\$8.00

Breakfast

All pay for breakfasts except children 2 and under
Lunch and Dinner:

Children 5 and under are free for lunch and dinner
and Children 6-11 are ½ price.

Please fill out registration form, available at church
or on the BMPC web site

Scholarships are available for Rooms

Join Adult Education

December 4, 11 and 18 for discussions of our presidential candidates' religious faith beliefs. As we read articles from the press, we will examine what clues there are about their world views, and influences on their policy positions:

- * How do our faith beliefs influence our policy positions;
- * how do we discuss the differences that emerge in our political "discourse?"

Thank you for your Peacemaking Offering

Our special Peacemaking offering was a great success, with total donations of \$988. These funds will go to support peacemaking efforts around the world, including those of the Nonviolent Peaceforce (the recipient of the local portion this year). Thank you for giving peace a chance!

Game Night

The plan is to bring back BMPC Game night during the winter months. Watch for future announcements about time and place. Think of the games you want to share.

Order a Poinsettia

Consider ordering one to decorate the church for Advent and Christmas Eve, and take it is yours to take home for Christmas. Order forms are by the office door.

Thank you for volunteering!

Sunday, November 27

Greet/Offering: N. Blankfard & K. Beveridge

Coffee Hour:

Sunday, December 4

Greet/Offering: B. Kerr, P. Johnson

Coffee Hour: D. and E. Goulet

Sunday, December 11

Greet/Offering: J. Hooker & D. Goodwyne

Coffee Hour: Kadwells

Sunday, December 18

Greet-/Offering: B. Becker & L. Kadwell

Coffee Hour: Wendy, Lisa, Betsy & Robbie

Saturday, December 24

Christmas Eve Service,

Greet/Offering: N. Blankfard & K. Beveridge

Important Dates

November 27	First Sunday of Advent
December 3	Hanging of the Greens
December 4	Second Sunday in Advent Pageant Practice, 9:30 a.m.
December 11	Third Sunday in Advent Pageant Practice, 9:30 a.m.
December 17	Pageant Practice, 10 a.m.
December 18	Fourth Sunday in Advent Children's Pageant
December 25	Christmas Eve Worship, 7:30 p.m.

