

WELCOME TO THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHESTNUT HILL!

**PLEASE SILENCE ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES
BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF WORSHIP.**

Resources for those with special needs are available. Speak with an usher for assistance.

If you are a visitor and would like to meet the ministers, take a tour of the church, ask some questions, or go to coffee hour, please speak with an usher.

If you need a ride to church, please call the church office at 215-247-8855.

If you need pastoral care, please speak with one of the ministers or call the church office.

If you need child care, a nursery for infants and children through age 2 is available before worship in the Strouse building; children age 3 and older should accompany parents to worship and join in the Children's Moment, after which they will be dismissed for the Church School Gathering. Bags with coloring pages and crayons are available in the narthex; please return the bags after the service.

In case of an emergency, there are three exit doors behind you in the narthex. If you are sitting near the front of the sanctuary, use the door near the lectern.

In case of a medical need, please alert an usher – first aid supplies and a wheelchair are available.

SOULS SHOT: PORTRAITS OF VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE

The show has moved out of Widener Hall and is now on exhibit at the Old City Jewish Arts Center and will be on view throughout December. For more information: <https://www.ocjac.org/>.



CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24, 2017

4:30 p.m.

Family Service of Lessons and Carols

9:30 p.m.

Benjamin Britten's *A Ceremony of Carols*
for harp and women's voices

10:00 p.m.

Service of Lessons and Carols
with the Gallery Choir



Narthex News

December 17, 2017

CHURCH SCHOOL AT A GLANCE			
12/17/2017	Room	Teacher	Topic
Birth - 2 Year Olds	Room 101	Ms. Debbie and Ms. James	God's Care
Pre-K (3-4 Year Olds)	Room 211	Sharyn Walker and Emilyanne Shelley	Godly Play
Kindergarten-Grade 1	Room 205	Linnea Johnson and Rebecca DePasquale	Advent III
Grade 2-3	Room 208	Karen and Bob Bausman	Advent III
Grade 4-5	Room 209	Beth Lutz and Nicole Huertgen	Advent III
Grade 6-7	Youth Room	Brian Russo	Review/ Christmas Lesson

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

JR. HIGH YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Sunday, December 17: 5:00 – 6:30 pm: White Elephant Exchange and Caroling to Members

Sunday, January 7: 5:00 – 6:00 pm: Regular Youth Group, meet in Brian's office

SR. HIGH YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Sunday, December 17: 5:00 – 6:30 pm: White Elephant Exchange and Caroling to Members

Sunday, January 7: 11:30 am – 12:30 pm: Theology and Pretzels, Iron Hill Brewery

THE CHURCH GATHERED

2ND HOUR @ PCCH

Third Sunday in Advent, Sunday, December 17, 11:30 am, Widener Hall

Carol Sing with PCCH Orchestra and Cookie Exchange

Join us after worship for our annual carol sing with orchestra. Bring your instruments and your singing voice! Remember to bring Christmas cookies to share.

THE LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE

Sunday, December 17, 3:00 pm, Burleigh Cruikshank Chapel

The joy of the Christmas season sometimes deepens the pain of loss, illness, and loneliness. Sparkling Christmas lights lengthen the shadows of grief for those who have lost family or friends to death. Maybe the death happened this year; maybe decades ago. The heart still has an empty place. Amidst the joy of this season, there is also a space for lament. Join us as Cindy and Austin lead a simple service in the chapel for any in the church (friends outside the church, too) who would be helped by a time of quiet reflection, carols, scripture reading, prayer and remembrance. Roses will be given to you when you arrive and you will be invited to place a rose in the vase on the table. You are welcome to name a particular sadness, to share the name and remembrance of a loved one who has died, or simply to place the rose in the vase without words.

FIRST PCCH FAMILY GAME NIGHT – MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Saturday, January 20, Time to Be Determined, Widener Hall

The Church Life Committee will provide pizza and soft drinks and we are asking all attendees to bring their favorite board games for an evening of fun. Attendees may bring other hors d'oeuvres, salads, desserts, and beverages of their choice. More details to come.

PCCH ON-LINE PHOTO DIRECTORY

Have you had your photo taken for the on-line directory yet? If not, please see a member of the church life committee or any staff member who will be happy to take your photo individually or as a family group. If it is more convenient during the work week, you can even stop at the church office and get your photo taken any Monday through Thursday from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm. If you would like to look at the on-line directory, please contact the church office for the password.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

CHRISTMAS GIVING OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT OUR MISSION PARTNERS

ACHIEVEABILITY CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Due Today, December 17, and placed under the big Christmas Tree in Widener Hall

GIFTS FOR PIHN FAMILIES

Due Today, December 17, and placed under the Christmas Tree in the Reception Room

STOCK THE PANTRY TO HELP WEST KENSINGTON MINISTRY

Please consider support of our Christmas giving initiative to West Kensington Ministry. This Christmas, our goal is to "Stock the Pantry." We hope to provide a financial gift to the ministry so that they can have the ability to acquire culturally appropriate canned goods and items for church community meals. It has been a tough year for this ministry, most recently they experienced a murder, steps from their door. Their needs are great. Please consider a cash gift in increments of \$10.00 amounts. Receipts will be provided at the time of contribution. Please open your heart to this effort. ♥ Laura Brobyn is the contact person, brobynlaura@gmail.com.

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE FOR YOUTH MISSION

The congregation has a unique opportunity to help support the Youth Mission Trip to Houston, Texas from June 25 to June 29, 2018. **There are only 12 paper ornaments remaining** on the Christmas tree next to the piano in Widener Hall. Each ornament will have a supply and cost. Members are encouraged to take an ornament off the tree, with the intent to then mail the ornament back to the church with a check for the respective supply and cost. (Please DO NOT purchase the actual item listed on the ornament!) Members can have a tangible investment in the trip; such that when they watch the forthcoming mission trip video, they will be able to visually see just where, and how far, their contributions went. Please make the check payable to PCCH with 2018 Youth Mission Trip on the memo line. Address the envelope ATTN: Brian Russo.

2018 PLEDGE ENVELOPES FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN

If you requested pledge envelopes for 2017, they are available for pick up today in Widener Hall. Children's pledge envelopes are also available for pick-up today in Widener Hall.

If you would like a book of pledge envelopes and did not request them, please call the church office.

2017 TAX REMINDER

To be able to deduct donations and pledge payments made to PCCH for 2017, funds must be dated December 31, 2017 and hand-delivered to the church office no later than Tuesday, January 2, 2018 OR postmarked December 31, 2017 if mailed. All gifts of stock need to be received by the church by December 31, 2017.

2018 MEMORIAL FLOWERS

Would you like to memorialize a loved one or give thanks to God as you celebrate a wedding anniversary or celebrate the birthday of your child or grandchild? Consider donating the flowers in the chancel on a Sunday morning. The available Sundays for 2018 are April 15, July 1, and August 12. If you are interested, please contact the church office.

OUR BROTHER'S PLACE

Next Sloppy Joe Pick-up Date is Wednesday, December 27

The Social Witness Committee would like to offer special thanks to all members who continue to help with our outreach at the OBP Shelter. We will continue to provide dinner on the fourth Sunday of each month, but will no longer send volunteers to serve. **We continue to need monthly donations of sloppy joes** (simple recipe: brown two pounds of ground beef or turkey, add a can of Manwich sauce, freeze flat in a Ziploc bag and bring to the freezer in the Church kitchen.). **We are hoping to have some Christmas cookies for the men this month. If you are planning to make Christmas cookies, please make an extra dozen or so and bring to the church office before December 27. We will happily accept bakery cookies as well.**

FACE TO FACE

Next serving dates are Saturday, December 23 (No more volunteers needed for this date, thank you!); Saturday, February 17; and Saturday, March 31 (These upcoming dates are all holiday weekends, when volunteerism is low but the need is still great. Please consider signing up for one or more of these dates sooner rather than later to ensure that we cover these needs.)

The Social Witness Committee is happy to inform the congregation that our service at Face to Face is doing extremely well. All are welcome to join us. Face to Face is a well rooted, well managed community service organization located in Germantown, just 15 minutes from church. It provides various services to area residents. Face to Face also provides them with meals—and this is where PCCH is helping out. There is a sign-up sheet on the table below the Social Witness bulletin board outside the church office. Those who would like to involve themselves in this service opportunity should contact Emily Camp-Landis (camplandis120@yahoo.com) or Melissa Montgomery (melissamon70@yahoo.com).

THE CHURCH SENT OUT

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY DIAMOND PARK PROJECT

Saturday, January 13, 2018; Saturday, February 10, 2018 from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm
PCCH has been asked to provide six volunteers to return to work on Diamond Park. If you are interested or just want to learn more, contact Brian Russo (brusso@chestnuthillpres.org) or Mark Conti (marksconti@gmail.com). No special skills are needed but volunteers must be at least 16 years old. Please see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside the church office.

CENTER ON THE HILL ... *the place for active adults*

To register for these programs, unless otherwise indicated, please call Leslie Lefer at 215-247-4654 or email llefer@chestnuthillpres.org

CENTER CLASSES WILL RESUME ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2018.

THE WINTER NEWSLETTER LISTING ALL NEW CLASSES WILL BE AVAILABLE NEXT WEEK.

YEAR-END MISSION GIVING

Dearest and Most Generous Flock,

Two years ago, for the first time in recent memory, your pledges covered ALL of our 2016 mission and ministry. Your pledges for 2018, if they continue at a pace, will do the same.

However, in 2017, we slipped back. To “balance” the budget, the session included \$24,000 in expected extra income for mission. While some of that has been raised through the Harry Potter Festival (\$2500) and the Music and Arts Festival (\$2500), we still need to give an additional \$19,000 to meet our mission tithe.

While I am not in the so-called 1%, I do own stock and that stock has appreciated this year. I imagine some of you also own stock. I am giving another \$1000 on top of my tithe to meet this challenge and I am asking each of you to do what you are able before the end of the year.

On the Sundays of Advent, the Social Witness Committee will be at a table to receive checks or to swipe your credit card. The church office can also receive appreciated stock. I will report, each Sunday, where we are in relation to our goal.

While the Social Witness Committee cannot make final decisions on the distribution of funds until they know what we have to give, these are the mission partners supported by our tithe. Many of these are also mission partners supported by your volunteer hours:

- Youth Mission Trip (the youth usually raise the majority of funds themselves)
- Heeding God’s Call to End Gun Violence
- Ceasefire PA plus another group that sends grief counselors to schools
- Medical Benevolence Fund (provides medical equipment to overseas mission)
- The Village (formerly Presbyterian Children's Village)
- Presbytery Mission Budget
- Covenant Network (works for inclusiveness in the PCUSA)
- Broad Street Ministry (our church helped found this ministry)
- Refugee Resettlement (an ecumenical coalition supporting a student from Syria)
- Dawn’s Place (a safe house for women and girls escaping human trafficking)
- Philadelphia Interfaith Hospitality Network (shelters homeless families in churches)
- Whosoever Gospel Mission (outreach to poor and homeless in Germantown)
- Germantown Avenue Crisis Ministry (another ministry we helped found)
- Our Brother's Place (where your Sloppy Joes go)
- ACHIEVEability (education-based transitional housing)
- Centurion Ministries (legal aid for wrongly incarcerated on death row)
- West Kensington Ministry (partner in Philadelphia Presbytery)
- Freedom School (summer program with First Presbyterian in Germantown)
- POWER (a community organizing group working on health, public education and more)

Thank you in advance!

Cindy

THIS WEEK AT PCCH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

9:00 am	Gallery Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
10:00 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
10:15 am	Church School (Strouse)
11:00 am	Church School Sings (Chapel)
11:15 am	Fellowship (Widener)
11:30 am	Carol Sing and PCCH Orchestra (Widener)
3:00 pm	Longest Night Service (Chapel)
5:00 pm	Crossing Concert/Reception (Sanctuary/Widener)
5:00 pm	Jr. & Sr. High Youth Fellowship
8:30 am	Small Group Gallery Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

6:15 pm	Yoga (Melcher)
6:30 pm	MALT Website Design Class (Room 1&2)
7:00 pm	PhiloMusica (Widener)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

6:30 pm	Girlchoir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
6:30 pm	CY Finance Committee (Harris)
7:15 pm	Royal Scottish Country Dancers (Chapel)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

7:00 am	Rotary (Widener)
9:00 am	PreSchool Holiday Show (Widener)
11:00 am	Bible Study (Harris)
6:45 pm	Feldenkrais Class (Harris)
7:00 pm	Crossing Dress Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
8:00 pm	Summit Group (Room 3&4)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

6:30 pm	Cub Scouts (Widener)
7:00 pm	Gallery Choir (Sanctuary)
7:30 pm	Boy Scouts (Widener)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

9:00 am	Organ Practice (Sanctuary)
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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

9:30 am

Flower Guild (Sanctuary)

NEXT WEEK AT PCCH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

9:00 am
10:00 am
10:15 am
11:15 am
4:30 pm
9:30 pm
10:00 pm

CHRISTMAS EVE
Gallery Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Worship (Sanctuary)
Church School (Strouse)
Fellowship (Widener)
Christmas Worship and Pageant (Sanctuary)
Christmas Eve Music Prelude (Sanctuary)
Service of Lessons and Carols (Sanctuary)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

**CHRISTMAS DAY
OFFICE AND CENTER CLOSED**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26

OFFICE AND CENTER CLOSED

2017 Operating Fund Summary

The Budget & Actual Financial Standing: November 30, 2017

	Our Projections for the Year	Where Should We Be Today	This is Where We Are Today	Here is the Difference
	2017 Annual Budget	2017 YTD Budget	2017 YTD Actual	2017 Variance
Congregational Response *	\$751,558	\$686,928	\$614,456	(\$72,472)
NOTE: Current Member 2017 Pledges	\$659,000	\$614,167	\$530,457	(\$83,710)
NOTE: Plate Offering (Annual Pledges & Offerings)	\$25,000	\$22,917	\$31,931	\$9,014
Endowment Draws (Our Invested Funds Available)	\$120,162	\$111,382	\$125,692	\$14,310
Other Sources of Funds	\$107,400	\$102,450	\$128,053	\$25,603
Our Total Sources of Funds	\$979,120	\$900,760	\$868,201	(\$32,559)
Our Expenses & Mission Outreach (This is How We Use the Funds)	\$979,120	\$823,204	\$874,592	\$51,388
DIFFERENCE	\$0	\$77,556	(\$6,391)	(\$83,947)

- > For 2016, we were behind in pledge collections by ~ \$34,815
- > YTD For 2017, we were behind in pledge collections by ~ \$83,710
- > Please keep you pledges up to date.
- > Unfulfilled pledges from previous years are also still welcomed anytime.

Did You Know? Your PLEDGES help to repair our church, pay utilities, among other expenses.

Did You Know? Your PLEDGES are the backbone of the budget for PCCH each year!

Did You Know? Your PLEDGES are the heart of our mission giving for PCCH each year!

Mission Outreach includes: Germantown Av. Crisis Ministry; Habitat for Humanity, PIHN & others!

Germantown Avenue Ministry -

This ministry is crucial in helping underprivileged families in our area. We donate to 100+ families that receive holiday food baskets and we continue to lead food collection drives for this organization as well as mission giving.