

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.



Christmas Flowers

A Meaningful Way to
Remember Loved Ones

On Christmas Eve the sanctuary will be overflowing with beautiful flowers and greens of the season in celebration of Christ’s birth. By donating to the Christmas Flower Fund, you can remember your loved ones as always. You can also highlight a special family event like a birth or anniversary, or give to the Flower Fund in thanksgiving for a special person, for grandchildren, or in honor of programs you love about our church (for example Music and the Arts, The Mission Trip, or Center on the Hill.) Names of those being honored will be listed in the Christmas Flower Sunday bulletin (12/18/16), the Christmas Eve bulletin (12/24/16) and the Sunday after Christmas bulletin (12/25/16).

**Please submit your names to the church office by
Wednesday, December 13.**

Your dedication is...

- In honor of _____
- In thanksgiving for _____
- In celebration of _____
- In memory of _____

Amount Donated _____

In the past we have suggested a donation of \$25 for those wishing to remember a loved one on these Sundays. That amount is not covering our cost. Rather than simply raising the suggested amount, we are trusting your generosity as well as hoping that more in the congregation will take this occasion to lift up someone or some ministry that has been important to them.

Given by: _____

THANK YOU FROM THE SOCIAL WITNESS COMMITTEE

Thank you for your response to our Thanksgiving food drive for Germantown Avenue Crisis Ministry. Through your generosity, they had 62 bags of food, 27 turkeys and \$225 in donations to help make Thanksgiving more meaningful for Germantown families and individuals in need.

Your response is greatly appreciated!

Narthex News

December 3, 2017

THE CHURCH GATHERED

2ND HOUR @ PCCH

First Sunday of Advent, Sunday, December 3, 11:30 am, Widener Hall

Join us for an intergenerational Advent Workshop in Widener Hall. The Church Life Theater outing to 1812 Production's *This is The Week that Is* will follow at 2:00 pm

2ND HOUR @ PCCH

Second Sunday of Advent, Sunday, December 10, 11:30 am, Widener Hall

All Church Brunch and Rehearsal for Christmas Eve Family Service Pageant

While the children are having their Christmas Eve Pageant rehearsal in the sanctuary, we will enjoy a brunch to include hot turkey sandwiches, salad and dessert treats with side dishes provided by you. Please see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside the church office where you can sign up to bring potato salad, coleslaw, deviled eggs, or fruit salad. The children will get their brunch and then head to the sanctuary for the rehearsal. Any questions please contact Karen Bausman ksbausman@yahoo.com or the church office.

ALL CHURCH CAROLING PARTY

Wednesday, December 13, 6:00 pm

We will gather in the church parking lot and then carpool to sing at the home of members. After caroling we will end the night at Cindy's home for a light supper. All ages are welcome! Please see the sign-up sheet on the office bulletin board.

CHURCH SCHOOL AT A GLANCE			
12/3/2017	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	Jennifer Miller and Clara Hocking	Godly Play
Kindergarten-Grade 1	Room 205	Allison DeCaro and Rebecca DePasquale	Advent I
Grade 2-3	Room 208	Page Pendse and Sarah Wright	Advent I
Grade 4-5	Room 209	Elise Hocking and Mark Bernstein	Advent I
Grade 6-7	Youth Room	Cassie Paulk	John the Baptist

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

CHRISTMAS EVE PAGEANT SIGN-UP

All children are invited! If you wish to participate in the Christmas Eve Pageant on December 24 at 4:30 pm, please see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside the church office. **TODAY IS THE LAST DAY TO SIGN UP.** There will be a mandatory pageant rehearsal on Sunday, December 10 immediately following worship. Any questions please see either Austin Shelley or Brian Russo or contact the church office.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

CHRISTMAS GIVING OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT OUR MISSION PARTNERS

ACHIEVEABILITY CHRISTMAS GIFTS

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

We have committed to providing gifts for 25 children served by Achieveability. Church members can sign up for one or more children and get their specific wishlists at coffee hour. Members should spend approximately \$50 on each child. Presents need to be delivered to church wrapped by Sunday, December 17 and placed under the big tree in Widener Hall. Beth Vaccaro is the contact person, bethnellvaccaro@gmail.com.

GIFTS FOR PIHN FAMILIES

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

Our mission partner PIHN works with many families in addition to those who they shelter. The families they serve are working to ensure their Christmas is filled with joy as well as some gifts under the tree, without sacrificing paying the rent or other basics. We have committed to give up to 10 gifts to PIHN's families this year. See the Social Witness table in coffee hour to sign up and for more details. Liz Podraza is the contact person, lizpodraza@gmail.com.

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 paper ornaments hanging 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.

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.).

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).

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

THE CHURCH SENT OUT

PIHN ON THE HILL – HOLIDAY SHOPPING WITH A PURPOSE!

Sunday, December 10, 12:00 pm—5:00 pm

Philadelphia Interfaith Hospitality Network is spreading some holiday cheer! Shop for the holidays at participating stores while sharing 10%-20% of your purchase with our neighbors experiencing homelessness. Stores include: Artisans on the Avenue; Bohemian Pink; Chill on the Hill; J. McLaughlin; Ten Thousand Villages; Tavern on the Hill; Mango; Quelque Chose; Windfall Gallery; Threadwell and Iron Hill Brewery. Shoppers will be wined, dined and entertained throughout the day!

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.

WITH OUR NEIGHBORS

HOLIDAY READINGS AND CAROLS

Friday, December 8, 7:00 pm, FREE Concert

New Covenant Church, 7500 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia

A family program of holiday songs and readings celebrating unity, joy, peace and the spirit of the season. This free concert features: New Covenant Church Voices of Praise, Teen Voices of the City Ensemble; and The Singing City Children's Choir. Tickets are free at Eventbrite.com.

PIFFARO ES IST EIN ROS: A GERMAN RENAISSANCE CHRISTMAS

Saturday, December 16, 7:30 pm, in the Sanctuary. Tickets \$29, www.piffaro.org

THE CROSSING AT CHRISTMAS

Sunday, December 17, 4:00 pm Lecture in the Chapel; 5:00 Concert in the Sanctuary.

Tickets \$35, www.crossingchoir.com

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

DECORATING THE CENTER CHRISTMAS TREE WITH OUR PRESCHOOL KIDS

Tuesday, December 5, 10:00am -11:00am, Free

Please join the church Pre-schoolers as they decorate our Center on the Hill Christmas tree with ornaments that they hand-made especially for our tree. We'll have a great time helping the kids hang the ornaments and join in a few holiday songs. If your kids and grandkids are all grown up, you won't want to miss this cute tradition! Please contact Leslie Lefer at 215-247-4654 or llefer@chestnuthillpres.org to sign-up for this fun holiday celebration.

A SIMPLE GUIDE TO OVERCOMING LONELINESS DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON

Tuesday, December 5, 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm, Free

The holiday season can be a very lonely and overwhelming time for many seniors. Group exercise classes can help build camaraderie and combat loneliness. However with the winter weather upon us, getting out of the house can be difficult. Join us for this informative discussion on how to improve your mood (via the release of endorphins) through easy exercises and activities that anyone can do within the comfort of their own home.

CENTER ON THE HILL HOLIDAY PARTY

Thursday, December 14, 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm, \$12.00 per person in advance (\$15.00 at the door) PRE-REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT REQUIRED BY THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7th. Contact Leslie Lefer at 215-247-4654 or llefer@chestnuthillpres.org to make your reservation.

The New Horizons Senior Glee Club, an award-winning ensemble of 40 singers and instrumentalists, will make their long awaited return to headline our annual community Holiday Party. The concert titled "A Philadelphia Christmas" will be followed by delicious desserts and beverages. Join us for all the holiday festivities! Desserts will be served post-performance.

THIS WEEK AT PCCH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

	LORD'S SUPPER
9:00 am	Gallery Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
10:00 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
10:15 am	Church School (Strouse)
11:15 am	Fellowship (Widener)
11:30 am	2 nd Hour Advent Workshop (Widener)
3:00 pm & 6:00 pm	Girlchoir Winter Concert/Reception (Sanctuary/Widener)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4

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

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5

6:30 pm	Girlchoir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
6:30 pm	CY Board Meeting (Melcher)
7:00 pm	Zentangle Class (Room 3&4)
7:15 pm	Royal Scottish Country Dancers (Chapel)
7:30 pm	Deacons Meeting (Harris)
7:30 pm	Scouts District Meeting (Room 1&2)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6

7:00 am	Rotary (Widener)
11:00 am	Bible Study (Harris)
5:30 pm	Girlchoir Rehearsal (Choir Room/Sanctuary)
6:45 pm	Feldenkrais Class (Harris)
8:00 pm	Summit Group (Room 3&4)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7

10:30 am	Outdoor Gardeners (Widener)
6:30 pm	Cub Scouts (Widener)
7:30 pm	Boy Scouts (Widener)
7:45 pm	Gallery Choir (Choir Room)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8

9:00 am	Organ Practice (Sanctuary)
6:30 pm	Crossing Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

9:00 am	Girlchoir Rehearsal (Sanctuary/Choir Room)
11:00 am	Crossing Rehearsal (Chapel)
2:30 pm	Crossing Rehearsal (Chapel)
3:30 pm	Crossing Reception for Members (Chapel)

NEXT WEEK AT PCCH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

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	2 nd Hour Brunch (Widener)
11:30 am	Pageant Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
1:30 pm	Crossing Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

THIS WEEK AT CENTER ON THE HILL

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4

9:30 am	Sketching and Drawing Class (Room 1&2)
12:30 pm	Bridge Game (Reception Room)
2:00 pm	Qigong (Room 3&4)
2:15 pm	Gentle Therapeutic Yoga (Harris)
2:30 pm	French Conversation (Room 1&2)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5

9:30 am	Watercolor Class (Room 1&2)
10:00 am	Decorating the Center Christmas Tree (Lobby)
1:30 pm	Overcoming Loneliness at the Holidays (Harris)
3:00 pm	Zumba Gold (Room 3&4)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6

10:00 am	Beginning Tai Chi (Room 3&4)
11:15 am	Tai Chi Level III (Room 3&4)
11:30 am	Bridge Game (Room 1&2)
12:00 pm	Wednesday Diabetes Workshop (Room 5)
12:30 pm	Tai Chi Level II (Room 3&4)
2:30 pm	Golden Yoga (Harris)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7

9:00 am	PCCH Bridge Group (Room 1&2)
9:00 am	Qigong (Harris)
10:00 am	Bridge Game (Room 5)
10:30 am	Meditation (Harris)
1:00 pm	Individual Medicare Counseling (Room 1&2)
1:30 pm	Dream Circle (Room 1&2)
4:00 pm	Zumba Gold in a Chair (Room 3&4)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8

9:30 am	Yoga with Attitude (Harris)
10:00 am	Scrabble (Room 5)
11:00 am	Private Mah Jongg Group (Room 1&2)
11:30 am	Yoga, A Chair and You (Harris)
1:00 pm	International Folk Dancing (Room 3&4)
1:00 pm	Mah Jongg Open Play (Room 5)
2:30 pm	Golden Yoga (Harris)