HAPPENING AT PCCH

ACHIEVEABILITY TOY DRIVE

Help brighten the holidays by providing gifts to children in West Philadelphia. This year PCCH is committed to providing gifts for sixty children through ACHIEVEability. Sign up to fulfill a child's wish during coffee hour today, November 29. ACHIEVEability requests that you spend $50 per child. Gifts should be placed under the Christmas Tree in Widener Hall or next to the stage if the tree is not up yet. All gifts must be dropped off by Sunday, December 6, 2025 and should be wrapped and labeled with the child's name and child ID. Please contact Beth Vaccaro, 215.764.7213 or bethnellvaccaro@gmail.com, with any questions.

MILNER ARCHITECT MEETING—CHILDREN'S & YOUTH MINISTRY

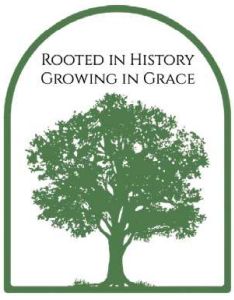
We want to know what you want! Join us on Sunday, December 6 at 11:30 a.m. for an important information-gathering meeting with Milner Architects. Bring your thoughts, observations and wishes for how our building could better serve our Children's and Youth ministries. Youth in grade six and up are invited to attend, and childcare will be provided for those in grade five and below.

MISSION GIVING THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Our congregation is proud to provide financial support for a number of local mission partners. These organizations provide food, shelter, guidance, support, and more to our neighbors around the region. Our year-end gifts help our partners sustain their vitally important work, and help us to fulfill our commitment as a Matthew 25 congregation, seeing the face of Jesus in the faces of our neighbors in need. If you would like to help us increase our support of partner organizations at the end of this year that has been difficult for so many, please write a check to PCCH with "Mission Giving" in the memo line, or choose "Mission Giving" from the fund dropdown menu on Church Center.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Saints of PCCH: Thank you to everyone who has already made a pledge for 2027! If you have not yet made a pledge, you can mail your pledge card to the church, drop it in the offering plate during worship, or simply email our Church Administrator Rachel Cline. We encourage those who made a pledge for 2026 to fulfill it before December 31. Online gifts should be made via Planning Center. Contact Rachel Cline with questions.



Bible Study	Women's Circle	Men's Fellowship	Theology on Tap
December 2, 10:30 a.m. Harris Room	December 15, 10 a.m. Reception Room	December 3, 2 p.m. Reception Room	December 17, 7:30 p.m. The Stotesbury
Ellen Williams Hensle Mark 1:1-8	Taylor Slaughter praetextem@gmail.com	Ron Rising 203.206.7299	Emily Chapdelaine 812 E Willow Grove Ave



Breakfast
With Santa

Saturday, December 5

Seating opens at 10 a.m.

Families
$40 in advance
$50 at the door

Adults
$15 in advance
$20 at the door

Children
$10 in advance
$15 at the door

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

Date	Godly Play (age three—kindergarten)	Growing in God's Love (first—second grade)	Christian Studies (third—fifth grade)	Follow Me (sixth—eighth grade)
11/29	**Buddy Storm** and **Zach Cline**	**Mallory Becker** and **Vincent Rota**	**Anna Storm** and **Linnea Johnson**	**Emily Chapdelaine**

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our Sunday School program (for children age three through grade five) begins with a brief opening in the chapel, after which the children are divided by age into three classes. For more information about our Sunday School classes and children's music programs, please scan the QR code.

YOUTH GROUP UPDATE

Youth Group will meet tonight from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Service Sundays are scheduled for the third Sunday of the month. All youth grades six through twelve are welcome at these, and special youth events, whether their families are members or not! Please contact the Rev. Emily Chapdelaine with any questions.

CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH MUSIC UPDATE

Joyful Noise, our Children's Choir (age three through grade five) will rehearse today from 11 a.m. to 11:40 a.m. in the chapel. New singers and drop-ins are always welcome.

Youth Choir (grades six through twelve) will rehearse today from 11:40 a.m. to 12:30 p.m in the chapel. Youth Choir typically does not meet on the third Sunday of each month to engage in community service with the Youth Group. New singers and drop-ins are always welcome.



CENTER ON THE HILL

If you have time in your day, we have something fun for you to do! Open Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Friday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. New online content is posted Monday through Thursday at 12 p.m. on our programs page. Scan the QR Code for more informaiton.

The Center on the Hill will be closed Thursday, November 26 through Friday, November 27 for the Thanksgiving Holiday. We will reopen for regular hours on Monday, November 30.

Upcoming Classes and Events
Registration for Fall activities and classes is open. Registration is required for all activities and classes. Call 215.247.4654 or email msaavedra@chestnuthillpres.org to register.

SUPPORT THE CENTER ON THE HILL!
This season we are asking you to help make it possible for us to continue offering our excellent programming at little or no cost to our participants. Any amount you can give today will help with some of the ever-increasing programming costs and ensure we can continue to offer the excellent activities you have come to expect. $20 would help us offer cooking classes and lectures at a minimal rate. $50 would enable us to have art activities and luncheons at an affordable price. $100 makes it possible to schedule special events and bus trips to destinations of interest around the region without having to pass the full cost down to those attending!

To donate:
by credit card—scan the QR Code or visit: https://tinyurl.com/COTHdonation.
by check—write your check to "PCCH" with COTH Donation" written in the memo line. Checks should be mailed to: The Center on the Hill, 8855 Germantown Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19118.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

HEALTHY HOLIDAY COOKING
Thursday, December 3, 11 a.m., *$10*
Learn how to make sweet and savory recipes for your next holiday dinner or get together. You'll learn how to make Spinach and Feta stuffed mushrooms along with a Mixed Berry Crisp in this fun interactive class. You will also get to sample these delicious dishes as well!

NW PHILLY ARTISTS HOLIDAY SHOW AND MARKETPLACE OPENING RECEPTION
Friday, December 4, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., *free*
Original paintings, photography, drawings, greeting cards, jewelry, hand crafted candles, ceramic mugs and more by the center's own NW Philly Artists will be on display and for sale. A reception on Friday, December 4, including delicious, homemade treats will create a festive gathering sure to provide holiday fun and a unique shopping experience. This exhibit and sale is open December 4 through December 18, Mondays through Saturdays 10 a.m to 4 p.m. No appointment needed.

HAPPENING HERE THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, November 29	**First Sunday of Advent**
Fellowship	Widener, 11 a.m.
MONDAY, November 30	
Sketching and Watercolor class	room 1&2, 10 a.m.
Tai Chi group	room 3&4, 10:15 a.m.
Table Games—open play	room 5, 12 p.m.
Trivia game	Harris, 1 p.m.
WaterMedia Level Two class	room 1&2, 1:30 p.m.
Qigong class	room 3&4, 2 p.m.
TUESDAY, December 1	
Meditation Practice group	Harris, 9:30 a.m.
Sketching and Watercolors class	room 1&2, 10 a.m.
Mah Jongg—open play	room 5, 12:30 p.m.
Healthy Bones class	Widener, 1 p.m.
Voices of Route 66 talk	Harris, 1:30 p.m.
Healthy Bones class	Widener, 2:15 p.m.
Deacons' meeting	Harris, 6:30 p.m.
WEDNESDAY, December 2	
Beginning Tai Chi class	Widener, 10 a.m.
PCCH Bible Study	Harris, 10:30 a.m.
Rummy Tiles—open play	room 5, 10:30 a.m.
Continuing Tai Chi class	Widener, 11:15 a.m.
Bridge—open play	room 1&2, 11:30 a.m.
Intermediate Tai Chi class	Widener, 12:30 p.m.
Staff meeting	reception, 1 p.m.
Intro to Interior Design class	Harris, 1:30 p.m.
Golden Yoga class	Widener, 3 p.m.
Ping Pong—open play	Strouse, 3:15 p.m.
Social Witness Committee meeting	room 1&2, 7:30 p.m.
AA meeting	Harris, 8 p.m.
THURSDAY, December 3	
Qigong class	Harris, 9 a.m.
Painters group	room 1&2, 9:30 a.m.
Healthy Holiday Cooking class	Kitchen, 11 a.m.
Movement class	room 3&4, 11 a.m.
French Conversation group	room 1&2, 1:30 p.m.
Mah Jongg MLE group	room 5, 1:30 p.m.

Men's Fellowship group	reception, 2 p.m.
Aging in Place group	Harris, 2:15 p.m.
FRIDAY, December 4	**Pageant Sign Up Deadline**
Yoga with Attitude class	Harris, 9:45 a.m.
Scrabble—open play	room 5, 10 a.m.
Yoga, A Chair, and You class	Harris, 11:30 a.m.
International Folk Dancing class	room 3&4, 11:10 a.m.
December Art Show and Sale reception	COTH Hallway, 4 p.m.
Sober and Out meeting	Harris, 7 p.m.
SATURDAY, December 5	
Breakfast with Santa	Widener, 10 a.m.
Piffaro concert	Sanctuary, 7:30 p.m.
SUNDAY, December 6	
Worship	sanctuary, 10 a.m.
Fellowship	Widener, 11 a.m.
Milner Architect Meeting—Children and Youth Mininsty	room 3&4, 11:30 a.m.

The Colors of Advent

As we move through the church year, liturgical colors orient us to the season and engage our sense of sight in worship. We use red at Pentecost for the fire of the Holy Spirit, white and gold to celebrate the joy of Christmas and Easter, and green for the growth that comes in Ordinary Time. This year we are joining many other churches in moving to blue for Advent. Blue represents the color of the predawn sky and inspires us to look for the promised light of Christ, which comes to change the night into day. Further, using blue for Advent differentiates this season of expectation from the season of Lent, when we use purple to symbolize penitence. You will also notice a pink candle in the Advent wreath. The pink candle is for the third Sunday of Advent, when we celebrate Christ coming into the world to bring us JOY! This tradition is known as Gaudete Sunday (gaudete means "rejoice!" in Latin) and is shared by Christians across denominations.



Friends,

While I am only beginning my fourth week at Germantown Avenue Crisis Ministry, the dedicated support of PCCH is very clear to see! In the new year, after the Advent and Christmas seasons, I look forward to meeting your congregation and getting to further connect with your generous spirits. Until then, please know of my sincere gratitude for your goodness to our mission and our neighbors.

Over the course of four days last week, our team assembled more than 300 Thanksgiving baskets to distribute, which was largely made possible due to your generosity! Over firty-five volunteers came to assist us in unloading donations, packing baskets, and distributing them to our community, fourteen of them from PCCH. If you are interested in partnering with us in the future, please email info@crisisministry.org – we would love to have you join us!

Amid the busyness of the holiday season, there are three simple ways you can support GACM:

- Keep an eye out for our end-of-year annual appeal: coming the first week of December, which will be shared via social media and email.
- Follow us on social media: we want to increase our following to reach more people and widen our network of partners in mission. Facebook: @gacmphilly /Instagram: germantownavenuecrisisministry
- Help us update our records: we are in the process of updating our data management system, so we want to collect accurate contact information of folks who want to be connected to our mission. Scan the QR code to complete the quick contact form.

May this Advent season whisper new graces to your hearts, and may you rest assured of our gratitude at GACM for you. I look forward to meeting you in 2027!

Peace,
Olivia Sharkey
Executive Director
Germantown Avenue Crisis Ministry



Christmas Flowers

A MEANINGFUL WAY TO REMEMBER AND CELEBRATE

During the Christmas season our sanctuary will be filled with beautiful flowers and greenery. We invite you to make a donation in support of the Christmas Flower Fund.



With your gift you can:

- Remember loved ones
- celebrate a birth, anniversary, union or other special event
- offer thanksgiving for those who are special to you
- honor our PCCH programs

The names of those to be honored will be listed in the bulletins on Christmas Eve and the Sunday after Christmas.

If you would like to make a donation of flowers in the name of someone special, please complete this form and return to the church office no later than Sunday, December 20.

Name(s) of contributor(s)

_____

Please Select One:

- ☐ In loving memory of
- ☐ In honor of
- ☐ With thanks for

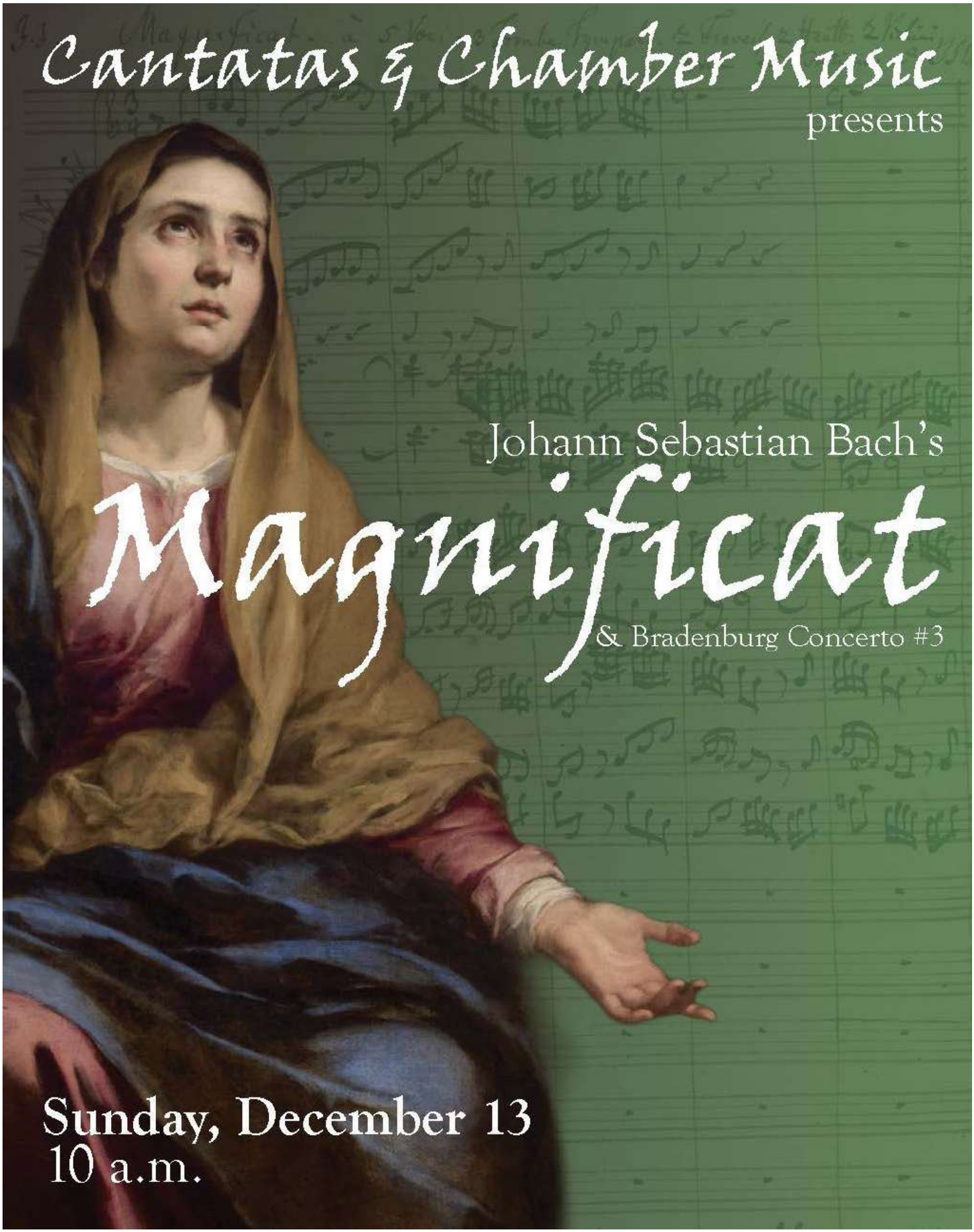
Names of those to include in the bulletins:

_____

_____

_____

Suggested minimum donation is $40. Payments made by check should be made payable to "PCCH" with "Christmas Flowers" in the memo line.


Cantatas & Chamber Music
presents
Johann Sebastian Bach's
Magnificat
& Bradenburg Concerto #3
Sunday, December 13
10 a.m.