

# **THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH**

## **CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

### **CHURCH SCHOOL**

*Every Sunday at 9:30 a.m.*

**Log onto our website at <https://www.chestnuthillpres.org/>** and click on the Church School button at the top of the page.

Church School begins at 9:30 a.m. every Sunday prior to worship for children of all ages. We would love to have the adults tuning in to pay attention to what we do in church school—often a purely behind the scenes venture. The sessions continue to be available on the website.

### **YOUTH GROUP**

*Sunday, November 22: Senior High (8th—12<sup>th</sup> Grade), Firepit Night at the church.*

## **THE CHURCH IN COMMUNITY**

### **WALKING IN FAITH: STEWARDSHIP 2021**

This Sunday, November 22, is Stewardship Sunday. Come to the church for “Drive-Through” pledging, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. (before worship) *or* 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m. (after worship). You may drop your pledge card off in a socially-distanced way and receive a treat and thank you gift. You are also encouraged to bring shelf-stable food items for our mission partners. We hope to see you on Sunday as we continue “Walking in Faith.”

### **SECOND HOUR LIVE (ON ZOOM)**

*November 22 at 11:00 a.m.: Big Worship Questions, 2*

Right as COVID came, we were in the middle of a very engaging series on how and why we worship the way we do. We gathered nearly 25 questions for further discussion. On these two Sundays, John Wilkinson will lead us through a consideration of *some* of them: the way we celebrate communion, passing of the peace, Apostles’ Creed vs. other affirmations, use of lectionary, Lord’s Prayer translation, etc. Come join us for this lively and interactive conversation. Here is the link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86312882088?pwd=ZUdESFhEdXZLWkQwU1hYNUc1bTB2UT09>

### **ADVENT RETREAT**

*Saturday, December 12, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, (via Zoom)*

“The Gifts of Christmas” led by John Wilkinson

Join us as we reflect on the promises of Advent and Christmas through prose, poetry, music and art. RSVP at 215.247.8855 or [ecarpenter@chestnuthillpres.org](mailto:ecarpenter@chestnuthillpres.org) by December 10 to receive Zoom link and retreat materials.

### **ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES**

Wednesday – Bible Study, 12:00 noon, Facebook Live (Returns December 2)

Friday – Morning Prayer, 7:30 a.m., Facebook Live (Returns December 4)

Visit our website [www.chestnuthillpres.org](http://www.chestnuthillpres.org) and our Facebook page regularly for updates and events. Let us know if you have prayer concerns.

## THE CHURCH IN SERVICE

### SOULS SHOT EXHIBITION

*November 1, 2020—January 15, 2021*

Widener Hall, Free and open to the public.

Visiting hours: Monday–Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. or by appointment.

*Calling the church office 215-247-8855 ahead is recommended. Safety protocols must be followed: masks must be worn, visitors must stay at least 6 feet apart, occupancy numbers will be limited.*

The Souls Shot Portrait Project pairs fine artists with families and friends of victims of gun violence. The artists create portraits using diverse approaches and emphasize the individuality and uniqueness of the victims portrayed. The exhibition is a truly moving tribute. Please join us for this powerful experience. Questions: [soulshotportraitproject@gmail.com](mailto:soulshotportraitproject@gmail.com)

### PIHN VIRTUAL EMPTY BOWL EVENT

*Sunday, November 22, beginning at 6:00 p.m.*

Philadelphia Interfaith Hospitality Network (PIHN) and Arcadia University cordially invite you to the 2020 Empty Bowl Dinner. As PIHN's signature event and favorite of the Northwest Philadelphia region, the Empty Bowl Dinner combines the warmth of community and a hearty meal for the purpose of raising support of our mission. **This year's dinner will be hosted virtually on Zoom**, as we navigate the execution of the Empty Bowl Dinner under the social distancing guidelines put in place by the CDC. However, the virtual Empty Bowl will feature children's activities, The 2020 Empty Bowl Dinner Cookbook, raffles, a silent clay-artist auction, and the gifting of a beautifully restored car to a PIHN family. To register visit <https://www.givegab.com/campaigns/empty-bowl-dinner>

### WALK OF THE HOLY FAMILY IN THE SPIRIT OF LAS POSADAS

*Saturday, December 12, 4:30 p.m.*

Commencing at Christ Ascension Lutheran Church, 8300 Germantown Avenue PCCCH will join with area churches in a Christmas event that raises critical funds for the Philadelphia Interfaith Hospitality Network (PIHN) to support homeless families in our community.

Las Posadas a traditional Latin American festival that commemorates the journey of Mary and Joseph as they seek shelter to welcome the birth of the baby Jesus.

The walk commences at *Christ Ascension Lutheran Church* (8300 Germantown Avenue) and concludes at *St. Paul's Episcopal Church* (22 E. Chestnut Hill Avenue) with numerous stops at businesses along Germantown Avenue. The walk is approximately 6/10 of a mile and is suitable for all ages. Walkers will wear masks and travel in small groups to maintain social distancing. Join us as a walk-a-thon fundraiser, create a team of walkers with church friends, or simply participate by making a donation of your choice. To learn more about the event and how to take part visit <http://philashelter.org/index.php/news-and-events/walk-of-the-holy-family/>

### THE FACE TO FACE SANDWICH BRIGADE MARCHES ON!

Last month we had such an *amazing* congregational response—nearly 200 sandwiches and lunch bag items—to Face To Face's request to supply its food-insecure clients, that we have signed on for several more dates. Mark your calendars to join the next sandwich brigade on **Thursday December 16**; details to follow. In the meantime, we are collecting shelf-stable items for the lunch bags: granola bars, packets of nuts, fruit cups or applesauce, bottled water, sandwich size Ziploc bags, and paper lunch bags. Drop these off in the Reception Room at your convenience.

In addition to in-home sandwich-making, we will be looking for a few volunteers to help assemble the lunch bags that Thursday evening, and to transport them to Face to Face on Friday morning. Questions? Contact Beth Vaccaro ([bethnellvaccaro@gmail.com](mailto:bethnellvaccaro@gmail.com)) or Suzan Willcox ([sewillcox@comcast.net](mailto:sewillcox@comcast.net)).

### **SUPPORTING ACHIEVABILITY AT CHRISTMAS**

This holiday season, PCCH has committed to collecting gifts for 40 children participating in the Achievability program. **ACHIEVEability**, works to permanently break the generational cycle of poverty for low income, single parent, and homeless families through higher education, affordable housing, supportive services, community and economic development, and accountability. Every year, ACHIEVEability provides holiday gifts to children in West Philadelphia that would otherwise go without—and this year will be no exception. ACHIEVEability has made the process both safe and easy for us to give this year. After Thanksgiving, we will receive Amazon wish lists for each child we will sponsor. Congregation members can choose to deliver gifts to PCCH or have them sent directly to ACHIEVEability. Please be on the lookout for more details about how to sign up to sponsor a child. You may go ahead and let Beth Vaccaro know that you would like to participate at [bethnellvaccaro@gmail.com](mailto:bethnellvaccaro@gmail.com) and she will get you a wish list when we receive information from ACHIEVEability.

### **RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE UPDATES AND FALL SCHEDULE**

During the three blood drives in September the Red Cross collected 84 units of blood which will help up to 252 hospital patients in the area. Our contact at the Red Cross is very grateful for our support and many donors have expressed gratitude for a local donation site. Future blood drives:

- Friday, December 11 — 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

If you can volunteer to greet potential donors, take their temperature, and check them in using the Red Cross computerized system, please email Liz Podraza at [lizpodraza@gmail.com](mailto:lizpodraza@gmail.com).

If you would like to be a blood donor, go to [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and search for Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill using the zip code 19118. You must have an appointment to donate; no walk-ins can be accepted, but appointments may be made the day of the drive.

### **THE CENTER ON THE HILL**

The Center on the Hill is returning to activities offered and streamed **ONLINE ONLY** for people to participate in or watch from home. New online content, such as virtual tours, fitness videos, art lessons, recorded presentations and more, is also posted Monday—Thursday at Noon on our programs page here: <https://www.chestnuthillpres.org/center-on-the-hill/programs/> The links and schedule for upcoming online events can also be found there.

#### **Upcoming events and classes in-person and online:**

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED for online participation in real time.**

*Recorded versions are posted on our programs page in the days following the event.*

## **Managing Your Grief over the Holidays**

*Monday, November 23, 12:30 p.m.—1:30 p.m., Free*

*Presented online and by phone.*

The death of someone we love is difficult in itself. The expectations of the holiday season compounds that difficulty. Now, add the challenges with grieving amidst a pandemic. Come and be part of a practical presentation surrounding the topic of grief and the holidays.

## **The Healthy Brain**

*Thursday, December 3, 11:00 a.m.—12:00 noon, Free*

*Presented online and by phone.*

**Brain Health and Heart Health** are very similar but most of us do not think about brain health. Age and health are often dependent on your genes but lifestyle choices can help to maintain both a healthy body and brain. The discussion will include tips to enhance brain health and what you can do now to support a healthy brain.