



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2021

Second Sunday of Advent

Worship Schedule: 10 AM

In person and livestreamed

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper and Good Samaritan
Offering

Worship lead by The Rev. Nona Holy

OFFICE STAFF

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS!](#)

Pastor's Ponderings

The Rev. Nona Holy

Advent has begun and with it comes the lighting of the candles on the Advent wreath. This year I've asked members of several small groups in the congregation to light the candles thinking it would be good to see one another's faces and also to serve as an invitation to every LBPC member as the ministries and missions of the church continue. There is a place for you to connect, or reconnect.

Because the life of faith is a life lived in connection, in relationship. We journey in community – even in our most isolated, lonely times, we are never truly alone. And so these small communities within the larger congregation serve as symbols for us of the power of friendship, relationship, and community. They remind us of the truth that we carry the Christ light for each other.

As we continue our journey through the weeks of Advent, how can you bear the light of Christ into someone's life this season?

By speaking the truth in love?

By bringing hope into a situation that seems stuck, overwhelming, beyond help?

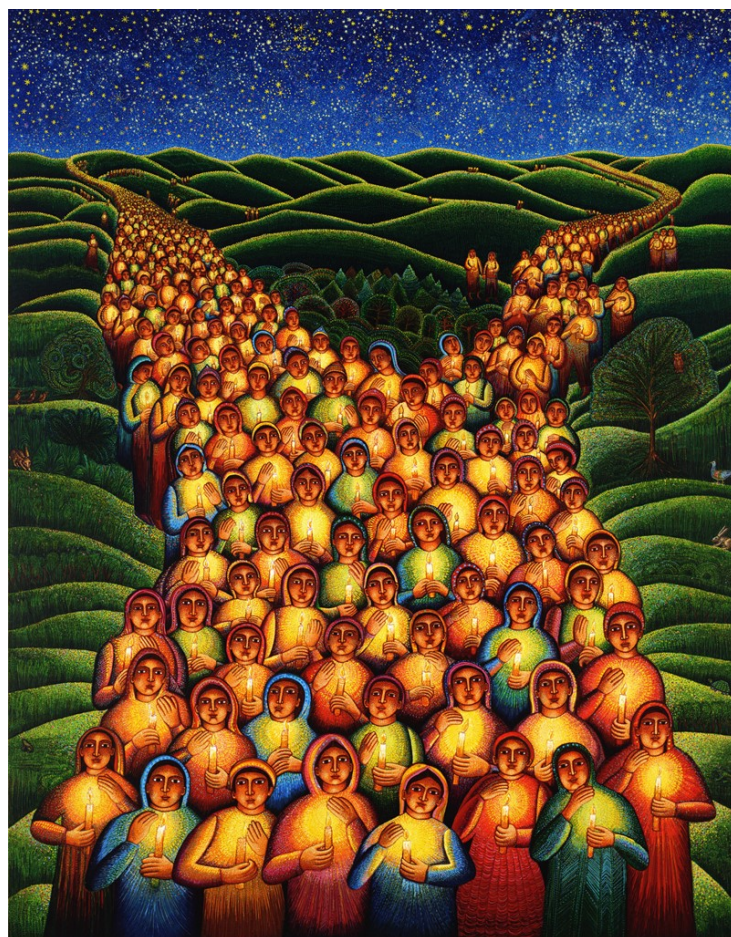
Through the grace of forgiveness or reconciliation?

By finding the courage to bring your own self within the circle of that light, to sit with and acknowledge your own need for healing?

As the light of Advent symbolically grows each week in the candles on the wreath, may the nearing light of Christmas increase in your hearts and in your life and may you shine with warmth, hope, peace, and love as a blessing to those around you.

Peace, be well –

Pastor Nona



JOYS AND CONCERNS FROM NOVEMBER 28, 2021

Our pastor's contact information can be found on the front page of this newsletter. Pastor Holy is available for conversation and prayer. Also, please continue to share your joys and concerns with us so that we may continue to support each other in specific prayer requests.

Joys and concerns may be submitted to the office via email or by phone. We check messages regularly.

Please let us know of answers to prayer – so that we can give thanks to God!

We express our joy and gratitude to the representatives from the Missions Committee who lit the first Advent candle in yesterday's worship service. Thank you, Joan, Judy, Carol and Joanna!

Thank you to Betsy Coons for providing a bounteous fellowship feast on Sunday!

We continue to pray for those in our congregation who are suffering from injury and illness.

We lift up those who are facing this holiday season after having lost friends and loved ones.

We pray for our communities and our country in the wake of continued violence, unrest, and uncertainty.



2021 FINANCIAL UPDATE

Year to Date Total Giving 2021:	\$224,776
Budgeted Giving 2021:	\$244,249
2022 Pledged Giving:	\$73,864
2022 Budgeted Giving:	\$210,000

WORSHIP LINKS

November 28, 2021

"Pilgrim Journey"

◇ [Audio/Video link](#)

◇ [Bulletin/Liturgy link](#)



LOWER BRANDYWINE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SEASON OF ADVENT

NOV 23 ECUMENICAL THANKSGIVING 7:00 PM

SHOWING OF THE ECUMENICAL THANKSGIVING SERVICE IN THE LBPC SANCTUARY FOLLOWED BY A RECEPTION IN THE SOCIAL HALL. OFFERING BENEFICIARY IS THE ALS PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER.

NOV 28 1ST SUNDAY IN ADVENT 10:00 AM

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP AS WE LIGHT THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE SYMBOLIZING *HOPE*.

DEC 5 2ND SUNDAY IN ADVENT 10:00 AM

WE LIGHT THE SECOND CANDLE IN THE ADVENT WREATH SYMBOLIZING *PEACE*, AND CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER. A PANCAKE BREAKFAST BENEFITING THE YOUTH SUMMER MISSION TRIP WILL FOLLOW.

DEC 12 3RD SUNDAY IN ADVENT 10:00 AM

WE LIGHT THE THIRD CANDLE SYMBOLIZING *JOY*. DR. DONNA BEECH AND THE LBPC SR. CHOIR PRESENT THEIR CHRISTMAS CANTATA, 'GLORIA,' BY VIVALDI.

DEC 19 4TH SUNDAY IN ADVENT 10:00 AM

WE LIGHT THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE SYMBOLIZING *LOVE*. CHILDREN AND YOUTH RETELL THE CHRISTMAS STORY IN, "AN IMPROMPTU CHRISTMAS PAGEANT."

DEC 24 CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE 5:00 PM

COME CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF THE CHRIST CHILD IN THIS TRADITIONAL SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS! WE LIGHT THE *CHRIST CANDLE* AND THEN SHARE IT'S LIGHT WHILE WE SING, "SILENT NIGHT."

LOWER BRANDYWINE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW



Our next LIFT meeting is Thursday, December 2nd at 6:00 PM. Then, MARK YOUR CALENDAR...Thursday, December 16th we will meet for a special Christmas celebration dinner. Time and location to be announced. Stay tuned! Also, Urban Promise is slowly sending us their families' Christmas wish list. We'll schedule a time for shopping and wrapping at our next meeting.



Who loves pancakes?? Then you don't want to miss the LIFT pancake fundraiser following worship on **Sunday, December 5th**. Everyone is welcome! Donations are gratefully accepted and help fund the youth mission trip to Woonsocket, RI in July 2022.



LET'S CELEBRATE! The Major family will be hosting a Christmas party for the LBPC children on Sunday, December 19th following the worship service. For more information, please contact Miss Candace at candacesmithevents@gmail.com



The Missions Committee would like to remind everyone that the deadline for turning in Walmart gift cards to support the families of the Refuge is December 15th. Need a reminder? Grab a tag off the giving tree in the social hall. Gift cards may be submitted to the office or dropped in the offering plate.



One of the most powerful things that Christians claim is that God saw the great needs of the world and offered a perfect gift in response, a gift that brought God and humanity closer together—Jesus Christ—Emmanuel—God with Us. The Christmas Joy Offering reflects that God *is* with us, through the generous gifts that support church leaders among us, retired, present and future, who have pointed us to God. We offer our gifts during this Advent Season to the Christmas Joy Offering because God shows us the power and importance of being together, of “being with.”

The Christmas Joy Offering will be collected on Sunday, December 19th.



Join us Sunday, December 12th as the Sr. Choir presents Vivaldi's 'Gloria' for this year's Christmas Cantata!



Christmas Pageant

THEN—come back on Sunday, December 19th as the children present 'An Impromptu Christmas Pageant.' **Bring your children, grandchildren, neighbors! Anyone who wants to participate is welcome!**

IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW



Please consider making a gift to Lower Brandywine Presbyterian that tells the story of your hope in Christ. Each will is unique and must be structured to fit the needs and estate plans of the individual in accordance with the laws of the state in which they live. For this reason, you should consult a lawyer to assist you in drafting your will and estate plan. Our Presbyterian Foundation Ministry Relations Officer (MRO) can guide you through this important giving process:

For more information visit: <https://www.presbyterianfoundation.org/wills-legacy-giving/>



Please remember to advise Linda Natali at finance@lowerbrandywine.org of your donation, so that we may credit your giving account promptly.

For more information about Qualified Charitable Distributions, check out the Internal Revenue Service Publication 590-B, “Distributions from Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs)” or speak with your tax advisor.

CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 29TH—DECEMBER 12TH

Start Date	Start Time	Subject
11/29/2021	7:00 PM	Session
	7:00 PM	Al-Anon
	7:00 PM	Al-Ateen
12/01/2021	12:00 PM	Al-Anon
	7:30 PM	Senior Choir Rehearsal
12/02/2021	12:30 PM	Brown Bag Bible Study
	6:00 PM	LIFT
12/05/2021		Second Sunday in Advent
		Sacrament of the Lord's Supper and Good Samaritan Offering
	8:00 AM	Adult Topical Study via ZOOM
	9:00 AM	Adult Bible Study
	10:00 AM	Worship Service (In-Person and Livestreamed)
	11:00 AM	Fellowship: LIFT Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser
12/06/2021	10:30 AM	Staff Meeting
	7:00 PM	Al-Anon
	7:00 PM	Al-Ateen
12/07/2021	12:00 PM	Richard Rohr Small Group (ZOOM)
12/08/2021	12:00 PM	Al-Anon
	6:30 PM	Senior Choir Cantata Dress Rehearsal
12/09/2021	12:30 PM	Brown Bag Bible Study
12/12/2021		Third Sunday in Advent
		Christmas Cantata
	8:00 AM	Adult Topical Study via ZOOM
	9:00 AM	Adult Bible Study
	10:00 AM	Worship Service (In-Person and Livestreamed)
	10:15 AM	Children's Sunday School
	11:00 AM	Fellowship

December 2021 Readings

Second Sunday of Advent—December 5

Malachi 3:1–4

Luke 1:68–79

Philippians 1:3–11

Luke 3:1–6

Third Sunday of Advent—December 12

Zephaniah 3:14–20

Isaiah 12:2–6

Philippians 4:4–7

Luke 3:7–18

Fourth Sunday of Advent—December 19

Micah 5:2–5a

Luke 1:46–55 or Psalm 80:1–7

Hebrews 10:5–10

Luke 1:39–45 (46–55)

Nativity of the Lord / Christmas—December 24

Christmas Eve 10-Dec

Isaiah 9:2–7 12-Dec

Psalm 28-Dec 96:1–13

Titus 2:11–14

Luke 2:1–14 (15–20)

First Sunday of Christmas—December 26

1 Samuel 2:18–20, 26

Psalm 148

Colossians 3:12–17

Luke 2:41–52

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

12/1 Jason Casper
 12/3 Holly Middleton
 12/4 Judy Thorpe
 12/5 Betsy Ernst
 12/5 Patrick Lannon
 12/6 Hilary Faulkner
 12/7 Jane Cantera
 12/10 Dee Beech
 12/12 Crystal Bennett
 12/12 Glee Mark
 12/12 Alan Senegeto
 12/13 Barbara Walsh
 12/14 Megan McGraw
 12/16 Betty Brendle
 12/16 Christa Kaiser
 12/16 William Kaiser
 12/18 Barbara Bowker
 12/19 Fabiola Balderas-Castro
 12/20 Ann Major
 12/28 Patricia Dewey
 12/31 T. Jonathan III Jackson

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

12/10 David & Daphne Robertson
 12/12 Thomas & Francine Craven
 12/28 Denis & Heather Gomez

Keep up with the latest news from the PCUSA and the NCP (New Castle Presbytery) by subscribing to one of the many available e-newsletters. There is so much happening in our denomination beyond our walls! Learn more about how other Presbyterians are responding to the needs of our world. Follow the links below to subscribe:



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