



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2021

First Sunday of Christmas
Worship Schedule: 10 AM
In person and livestreamed

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[CHECK OUT OUR CALENDAR OF EVENTS!](#)

OFFICE STAFF

Bridge Pastor, Nona Holy	pastor@lowerbrandywine.org cell: 302-299-9077
Office, Becky Kennedy	lbpc@lowerbrandywine.org
Finance, Linda Natali	finance@lowerbrandywine.org
Cemetery, Jason Casper	cemetery@lowerbrandywine.org

Pastor's Ponderings

The Rev. Nona Holy



JOYS AND CONCERNS FROM DECEMBER 19, 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 Children’s Sunday School who lit the fourth Advent candle in yesterday’s worship service. Thank you, Daniel Smith, Cooper Coats, Gibson Major, Jacob Lippard and Candace Smith.

We offer prayers for Donna Beech’s sister who suffered an injury in a fall over the weekend.

Candace Smith wishes to thank LBPC for the lovely flowers and all the love and support provided to her and the Smith family during her recovery from surgery.



2021 FINANCIAL UPDATE	
Year to Date Total Giving 2021:	\$240,683
Budgeted Giving 2021:	\$244,249
2022 Pledged Giving:	\$150,204
2022 Budgeted Giving:	\$210,000

WORSHIP LINKS

December 19, 2021

◇ [Audio/Video link](#)

◇ [Bulletin/Liturgy link](#)



ANNOUNCEMENTS

IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW

LOWER BRANDYWINE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

Christmas Eve, Friday, December 24, 2021
5:00 PM
Nursery care available
Face masks are kindly requested

We are delighted to worship together on Christmas Eve once again! Please join us, in-person or via livestream, for our annual service of Lessons and Carols. We joyfully welcome back Phil and Marilee Calabrese as they join the worship consort for a pre-service concert at 4:30 PM, followed by the worship service which begins at 5:00 PM. This traditional worship service will conclude with the lighting of candles and singing of Silent Night.

This will be a wonderful evening for the entire family! Nursery care will be available for our youngest visitors.

In order to provide the safest possible setting for all, we kindly ask that those in attendance wear a face mask. If you do not have a facemask, one can be provided for you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW

CHRISTMAS WEEK OFFICE SCHEDULE

In order that our staff get a much needed break, office hours for the week between Christmas and New Year's will be limited, and there will be no Messenger published. Voicemail and emails will be monitored remotely as always.

Monday 12/27—Closed

Tuesday 12/28—Closed

Wednesday 12/29—9 to Noon

Thursday 12/30—9 to Noon

Friday 12/31—Closed

What a joy it was to watch the children's 'Impromptu Christmas Pageant' in yesterday's service! A very special thank you to the children and their families as well as Candace Smith, Marti Coats, and Donna Beech for their leadership!



With grateful hearts, the Missions Committee and LIFT would like to offer a huge THANKS to the congregation of LBPC for their very generous support throughout the year, and especially during the Christmas season. Your donations to the Giving Tree provided over \$3000.00 in gift cards to the Refuge. With a pledge of matching funds from another donor, many families at the Refuge will receive the help they need. Also, LIFT was able to provide Christmas gifts to four families that are connected with Urban Promise of Wilmington. Funds to provide these gifts were provided by you! Thank you!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW



Leave Gifts to Benefit Lower Brandywine Presbyterian

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:

[Olanda Carr, Jr. 5141 Sharon Rd, Charlotte, NC 28210 olanda.carr@presbyterianfoundation.org](mailto:olanda.carr@presbyterianfoundation.org)

Legacy Options You can leave a gift to your church in the following ways: • A bequest in your will • Retirement plan beneficiary • Life insurance beneficiary • Proceeds from the sale of real estate or property • Other ways that suit your situation.

Consult with an attorney or professional advisor before making changes to your estate plans.

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



Did you know that you can contribute to LBPC with a stock contribution or electronically through our website? Visit the Giving tab on our website to see how!

Stock Transfers – inform your investment company to send the transfer to Fidelity Investments. Our DTC is 0226, Account **272-118389**.

If needed – Fidelity Investments – 4001 Kennett Pike Ste. 120, Greenville, DE 19807, our Account Executive is Daniel Glazer 302-428-3776 ext. 78869.

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

Donations of Required Minimum Distributions from Retirement Accounts

Did you know that you can make a donation of all or a portion of the Required Minimum Distribution from your retirement account to tax exempt charities, such as Lower Brandywine Presbyterian Church and your donation will be tax exempt?

Here's how it works. If a person is at least age 70½, they must take at least a minimum distribution from their IRA or incur a penalty equal to one-half of the otherwise required minimum distribution amount. They may take more than the minimum at their discretion. These individuals may instruct their IRA account manager to distribute any amount of their choosing to one or more tax exempt charities such as Lower Brandywine Presbyterian.

When that is done, it is considered to be a tax-exempt contribution. Lower Brandywine would acknowledge to the giver the receipt of that contribution from their IRA. Also, this contribution is tax exempt even if the individual does not itemize deductions for income tax purposes because the IRA account manager would not identify this to the IRS as reportable income in accordance with the tax code.

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

DECEMBER 20TH—JANUARY 2ND

DON'T FORGET! Poinsettia dedications will be accepted until TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21ST. A link to the order form may be found [HERE](#). You may also contact the church office at lbpc@lowerbrandywine.org or 302-658-2326 to submit your dedication. Checks should be made out to LBPC with "poinsettias" notated in the memo line. You may take your poinsettias with you following the service on Christmas Eve, or leave them to adorn the sanctuary for the remainder of the season.

Start Date	Start Time	Subject
12/20/2021	10:30 AM	Staff Meeting
	7:00 PM	Session
	7:00 PM	AI-Anon
	7:00 PM	AI-Ateen
12/21/2021	12:00 PM	Richard Rohr Small Group (ZOOM)
12/22/2021	12:00 PM	AI-Anon
	7:30 PM	Senior Choir Rehearsal
12/24/2021		Church Office Closed
	5:00 PM	Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols
12/26/2021		First Sunday of Christmas
	10:00 AM	Worship Service (In-Person and Livestreamed)
12/27/2021		Church Office Closed
	7:00 PM	AI-Anon
	7:00 PM	AI-Ateen
12/28/2021		Church Office Closed
12/29/2021	12:00 PM	AI-Anon
12/31/2021		Church Office Closed
01/02/2022		Second Sunday of Christmas
		Sacrament of the Lord's Supper and Good Samaritan Offering
	10:00 AM	Worship Service (In-Person and Livestreamed)

Mask Guidelines for Christmas Eve Service

*We are excited to once again welcome extended family, children, grandchildren, and visitors to our Christmas Eve service this year! Because we anticipate a larger gathering, and with Covid cases on the rise again, **we are asking ALL to wear masks to the service, regardless of your vaccination status.** Out of love and compassion, we want to keep everyone safe. Masks will be available from the ushers if you forget.*

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

Isaiah 9:2–7
 Psalm 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 Carla 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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Lower Brandywine Presbyterian Church

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