



BMPC window

Black Mountain Presbyterian Church monthly newsletter

December 2023



Heaven & Nature Sings

HOLLY JOLLY

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1

5:00p - Look for the BMPC bus parked at White Horse

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

- 8:45a FirstLight Worship
- 9:45a Faith Formation Classes
- 10:00a Family Worship
- 11:00a Sanctuary Worship
- 5:30p Advent Workshop for Families

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

- 8:45a FirstLight Worship
- 9:45a Faith Formation Classes
- 10:00a Family Worship
- 11:00a Sanctuary Worship
- 3:00p Soup and Caroling at Highland Farms

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

- 8:45a FirstLight Worship
- 9:45a Faith Formation Classes
- 10:00a Family Worship
- 11:00a *City of Hope* Cantata (Tom Fettke)

CHRISTMAS EVE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

- 11:00a Lessons and Carols
- 3:00p Children and Families Worship
- 7:00p Candlelight and Communion
- 9:00p Candlelight Worship



DECEMBER

Many other groups meet here, but mostly BMPC events are reflected on this calendar.

Sunday M T W Th F S

Thank you to everyone who turned in pledges for the 2024 Generosity campaign! We are grateful!

Holly Jolly

Friday, December 1, 5:00 p.m.

Stop by and see the Welcome & Hospitality team for hot chocolate, cider, a Christmas photo booth, music, and fellowship!

2
9:30a Yoga w/ Bounty & Soul

3
8:45a FirstLight
9:45a Faith Formation
10a Family Worship
11a Worship
2p Handbells
5:30p Advent Workshop with young families

4
1p Earth Care Book Study
2:15p Earth Care Team

5
PW Circles meet see page 7
1:30p Staff Mtg
6p Women's AA Mtg
7p Prophets

6
11:30a Fellers Lunch
4p Play Practice
6p Tai Chi
6:00p Youth
6:30p Joy Circle
7p Choir Rehearsal

7

Deadline for the January Window newsletter Friday, December 15

8

9
8-10a Breakfast with Santa
9:30a Yoga w/ Bounty & Soul

10
8:45a FirstLight
9:45a Faith Formation
10a Family Worship
11a Worship
3p Soup and Caroling

11
1p Earth Care Book Study

12
1:30p Staff Mtg
5:30p Girl Scouts
6p Women's AA Mtg
6:30p Lydia Circle
7p Prophets

13
11:30a Fellers Lunch
4p Play Practice
6p Tai Chi
6:30p Youth
7p Choir Rehearsal
8p Mens' Prayer Group

14
6p Mens' Group
7:30p Moms' Group

15
11:30a Weekday School Christmas Program
5:30p Youth Christmas Party

16
9:30a Yoga w/ Bounty & Soul
11a Choir Rehearsal

17
8:45a FirstLight
9:45a Faith Formation
10a Family Worship
11a Worship
2p Handbells
4p Route 45

18
1p Earth Care Book Study
6:30p Staff Christmas Party

19
1:30p Staff Mtg
6p Women's AA Mtg
7p Prophets Rehearsal

20
11:30a Ol' Fellers Lunch
4p Play Practice
6p Tai Chi
7p Choir Rehearsal

21

22

23
9:30a Yoga w/ Bounty & Soul

24 Christmas Eve
11a FirstLight
3p Children and Family Worship
7p Candlelight and Communion
9p Candlelight Worship

25
CHRISTMAS
Church office closed

26
Church office closed

27
11:30a Ol' Fellers Lunch

28

29

30
9:30a Yoga w/ Bounty & Soul

31
11a Love Feast

Join us for a special **Love Feast** in the fellowship hall on December 31. Cinnamon rolls and apple cider will be available as we sing Christmas hymns and celebrate God's love incarnate!

Christmas Eve Play Practice

Play Practice for our Children and Family Christmas Eve service will be on Wednesday afternoons in December from 4:00-5:30 p.m. Children ages four years old and up are welcome to participate in the Nativity play as liturgists, musicians, and more. The service will be on Sunday, December 24, at 3 p.m.



Soup and Caroling

Sunday, December 10, 3:00 p.m.

Sing carols and brighten the season for our friends at Highland Farms. Bring your family and friends. We will meet at the church at 3 p.m., or at Highland Farms at 3:15 p.m. Then we will return to the church for soup, bread, and dessert. Please visit bmpcnc.org to sign up for the soup you will bring.

Potluck and Advent Workshop for children, youth, and their families

Sunday, December 3, 5:30 p.m.

We will gather for dinner so bring a dish or two to share. Then we will have an Advent Workshop to decorate ornaments and make Advent Wreaths, Christmas countdown chains, and Christmas cards for our friends at Givens Highland Farms!





BMPC YOUTH FUNDRAISER
BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Enjoy Breakfast and Support our Youth Group

**SATURDAY
 DECEMBER 9TH**
 BLACK MOUNTAIN
 PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 8:00AM - 10:00AM

Ticket: \$10 adults \$8 children
 TICKET INCLUDES: ALL YOU CARE TO ENJOY
 BREAKFAST - PANCAKES, BACON, EGGS,
 JUICE, COFFEE AND OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE
 YOUR PICTURE WITH SANTA

For more information:
KATIE@BMPCNC.ORG
 OR CALL: 828-669-2725

ALL ARE WELCOME!

YOUTH

The youth have been busy with more service projects. We had our Rake and Run, prepared dinner for the Costello House in Asheville, and partnered up with SVCM for Feed A Family. **Thank you to everyone for your generous donations to make it possible to provide 30 families a Thanksgiving dinner.** We also enjoyed Gelly Ball at Adventure Zone and Jolie Atkins was kind enough to share her time and talent with our group. **Thanks to Jolie!**

- SUN 3 SVCM Christmas Shopping 2-5pm**
- WED 6 Small Groups 6-7:30pm**
- SAT 9 Breakfast with Santa 8-10am**
- SUN 10 Soup & Caroling 3-5:30pm**
- WED 13 Small Groups 6-7:30pm**
- FRI 15 Christmas Party 5:30-7:30pm**
- No Youth Group – December 17 through January 3**

RAD! Wednesdays returns Wednesday, January 10.

Registration opens Wednesday, December 13. This is a weekly program for children four years old through sixth grade to learn Bible stories through drama, art, music, and games. The church bus will pick-up at BMP, BME, and ArtSpace. Our winter session will run until March 6. We will not meet on Ash Wednesday, February 14.



All 6th-12th graders are welcome to join us for any and all activities.

from Columbia Seminary

A Pedagogical Manifesto in the Face of Climate Disruption *(Vantage, Summer 2023)*

Climate scientists, who are distressed that they have been defeated in teaching climate science, explaining the urgency, and calling the public to action, have asked pastors and church people to join them in this enormous task. Scientists speak the language of charts, graphs, and statistics, while church people are fluent in the language of morality, ethics, truth, and justice. Now Columbia Seminary is joining the effort.

In May Columbia's faculty unanimously adopted a manifesto, which says they teach many courses focused on caring for the earth, and "our faculty are committed to preaching, teaching, and leading in the fight for environmental justice." They emphasize that "ignoring how climate disruption is undermining the flourishing of life is tantamount to theological and pedagogical malpractice."

The faculty commits to do the following within and beyond the classroom, "in the face of impending ecological collapse:"

- To educate ourselves regarding the best science on climate change and other "man-made" crises;
- To teach across our respective disciplines with acute awareness of the mounting damage done to God's creation;
- To embrace the disciplines of grief rather than despair, and of hope rather than optimism, over the incalculable loss of life and livelihood among all species in the face of climate disruption and habitat destruction;
- To respond to the voices of human beings and communities most endangered by pollution and rising sea waters caused by fossil-fuel based industries;
- To teach and lead in action and activism, advocating for environmentally-focused policies and dismantling cultural norms that have for centuries been grounded in white supremacy, (neo) colonialism, and patriarchy.

We welcome the Advent season with a poem by Joyce Rupp that creates a beautiful metaphor from the natural world.

A Welcoming Nest

Looking high into winter trees

I see the distant nests

Cradled in arms of branches.

Nests: Round, full of warmth,

Softness in the welcoming center,

A circle of earth's tiny goodness,

Flown from the far corners,

Patiently pieced together,

And hollowed into a home.

Nests: awaiting the treasures of life,

Simple, delicate dwelling places

From which song will eventually echo

And freedom of wings give flight.

Advent has been on my mind.

Prepare the nest of the heart.

Patch up the broken parts.

BMPC Solar Panel Report energy captured in October, 2023

Energy captured from the sun: **2,110 kWh**

Money saved at 11 cents per kWh: **\$232**

CO2 saved from going into the atmosphere:

1,709 pounds

Duke energy bill 9/9-10/9, 2023: **\$1,403.45**

(total electric bill for church building, church house, and parking lot lights)

One generation shall praise **THY** works to another. Psalm 145:4

In 1997 the Session of Black Mountain Presbyterian Church established the Endowment Fund to provide members and friends an opportunity to extend their stewardship beyond their lifetime. For 26 years our church has been the beneficiary of so many who shared a HOPE for the future of our church.

During this season of hope your Endowment Board is sharing how your Endowment Fund has been able to sustain and strengthen BMPC through the grants we've been able to award. In just the past three years more than \$100,000 in grant awards have allowed us to engage with our community, to act boldly and compassionately to show God's love. These grants have enriched our worship, supported our children and youth, made major property repairs and distributed funds to our mission partners!

In 2021 your Endowment Fund awarded nine grants totaling \$22,335.50. These grants kept our church moving forward and serving our congregation and our community even in a time when we were not worshipping in person.

Will you accept the challenge in Psalm 145:4 and praise the Lord's work to the next generation and beyond? Will you be part of the HOPE for the future of our church and its work?

The one most important thing you can do right now is include Black Mountain Presbyterian Endowment Fund in your will and estate planning. As Pastor Mary Katherine said in her sermon on November 26, we are called to be "stewards of hope."

Your Endowment Board

Gayle Petty-Johnson Moderator, Libba Fairleigh, Rosie Johnson, Jim McDonnell, Tanner Pickett, Liz Riley, John Snell

Hollins Property Fund

\$4,500 to cover a portion of the costs related to replacing two HVACs / \$3,230 for bell tower signage

Music and Worship Fund

\$1,960 for Eric Wall's work during our transition to a new director of music / \$1,339 AV equipment for live streaming of our worship services

McCoy and Walker Funds

\$8,283.50 for the Weekday School operations

Christian Education Fund

\$583 to support Holly Jolly community outreach, \$2,500 for youth leadership

The Discretionary Fund

\$1,000 for training materials for confirmation and new members

IN 2022 16 GRANTS TOTALING \$45,832.99 WERE AWARDED

McCoy and Walker Funds

\$8,170.40 for Weekday School operations, playground

Hollins Property Fund

\$1400 for repairs to driveway, \$1,000 repairs to sanctuary HVAC / \$6,000 a portion of a new range for the kitchen

Mission Fund

\$3,000 a portion of a lift gate for Bounty & Soul truck

Hobson Fund

\$5,000 for Guatemala mission trip scholarships for youth

BMPC Presbyterian Home Fund

\$2,593.89 for new computers

Music and Worship Fund

\$1,680.16 for new outdoor chairs for worship

Discretionary Fund

\$1,015.21 for community outreach / \$7,210.10 support for Mary Katherine's sabbatical / \$2,079.91 medical equipment AED and epipens / \$3,000 a portion of the costs of a new gas range / \$573.97 new flat screen TV for renovated church house

Faith Formation

\$908.22 for children's Bibles / \$2,201.13 diecut machine and folder

IN 2023 NINE GRANTS TALLING \$33,486.06 WERE AWARDED

Discretionary Fund

\$2,079.23 for HVAC repairs education wing / \$8,000 for a portion of the costs to replace the old / unsafe blinds in the Education Wing (Weekday School) / \$2,763.39 for Hospitality to purchase and install a commercial coffeemaker

Christian Education Fund (Faith Formation)

\$3,238.32 balance of the costs of the blind replacement / \$2,283 for drainage repairs to playground

Music and Worship Fund

\$2,365 for maintenance of the piano in the sanctuary

McCoy and Walker Funds

\$8,475.01 for the Weekday School

Hollins Property Fund

\$6,386.11 for furnishings and blinds for the parlor

December birthdays

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| 1 Erin Van Note | 9 Suzanne Alexander | 25 Glenda McDaniel |
| 3 Martha Jane Petersen
Elizabeth Mailander
Mike Salmon
Emily Carter | 10 Ron Vaughan
11 Cayden Bemis
Charlie Wilson
Barbara Brinson | 26 Susan McElrath
Adeline West
Gayle Mudge
28 Gene Schimpf
Debbie Dunn
Luisa Cullen |
| 4 Sally Richardson | 14 Jim Poling | 29 Chris Mailander |
| 5 Teresa Owen
Wilson Davis | 16 Sheryl Schlegelmilch | 30 Ken Kelly
Freya Hall |
| 6 Annie Hall
Frank Cappelli | 18 Lisle Garrity | 31 Anna Banzhoff
Russ Spiller
Ellen Phillips Smith |
| 7 Carolyn Konnert
Carrie Coward | 19 Scott Watson Burns
Jack Williams
Sheila Ellington
Stacy Hana | |
| 8 Savannah Lindsey | 24 Micah Davis | |

Extended Communion

If you have been unable to get to church lately and would like Communion brought to you or a family member – just let your deacon or a pastor know! BMPC is bringing back a program of extending the sacrament on Sundays that we celebrate Communion. When requested, deacons will make an appointment for that day (or another day if more convenient) and you will be served by intinction in your home. We understand if you have been unable to gather with us in person, but we miss you! Contact your deacon or a pastor if you would like the Lord's Supper and it will be a privilege to bring it to you.



You can add information to your profile in our database, Realm, at any time and find phone numbers and addresses of your BMPC friends. Contact Brittany or Sam for help with this. If you prefer a paper copy of the directory, stop by the church office.



Presbyterian Women

Circles meet

Tuesday, December 5

Dorcas

10:00 a.m. Church House

Esther

10:30 a.m. Karen Smith
144 Lake Eden Road

Naomi

3:00 p.m. Church House

Priscilla

10:00 a.m. Church House

Ruth

1:30 p.m. Highland Farms
Cypress Room in the Lodge

Wednesday, December 6

Joy

6:30 p.m. CR2

Tuesday, December 12

Lydia

6:30 p.m. Church House

For more information, contact:
Barbara Brinson (716) 307-9054
Ann Wilde (713) 851-5418

***Putting faith in action
is what we do!***

www.presbyterianwomen.org



BLACK MOUNTAIN Presbyterian Church

117 Montreat Road, PO Box 39
Black Mountain, NC 28711
828-669-2725 Fax: 828-669-2727
www.bmpcnc.org

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BLACK
MOUNTAIN, NC
Permit No. 36

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
Monday through Friday
9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.



an Earth Care Congregation



BMPC Child Protection Policy
providing a safe environment for children & youth



MATTHEW 25

Koinonia Class

Sundays, December 10 and 17
9:45-10:45 a.m. in CR1

Lewis Galloway
Advent and Christmas Scriptures
*What's in the gospels
and what's not!*

A Time of Preparation

Wednesdays, 6:00-7:00 p.m. in CR1
December 6, 13, and 20

Anita Kruz will lead participants in
the essential movements of Tai Chi.
These classes will develop and go
deeper on Wednesday nights
during the winter.

