



Phillips Memorial Baptist Church  
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(c)1-206-459-0881

November 2023

## *Our Faith Connections*

Dear PMBC Family,

I just took a bag of knitted scarves, generously donated by one of our neighbors, downstairs to add to the Hope Circle Holiday Bazaar stash. My own sewing table and canning shelves are covered with bazaar donations in progress (funny how the year passes so much faster than the projects I planned to make!). The bazaar sign is posted out front and I know from talking to shoppers last year that some of our neighbors really look forward to this event.

I have had the image in my mind lately of PMBC as the “sanctuary of Eden Park” ... a community and space where folx are invited to experience and feel included in Christian community in a safe and welcoming way. The bazaar does some of this work in welcoming folx to come and celebrate the season and many lovingly crafted and curated goods. Our work on being welcoming and affirming to our LGBTQIA+ siblings does this as well. The music concerts Martha brings to our sanctuary opens our space up to, and shares, our beautiful instruments with the community, most often free of charge. Music is one of the great gifts the Church can give - where else can folx hear the swelling sounds of an organ in a peaceful and safe place *for free*?

As I consider what it means to be the Sanctuary of Eden Park, here are some questions to ponder as we head into the holiday season: How might we increase our radical welcome of our neighbors? How will our neighbors know they are welcome in this space, and in this community, if we don't invite them? Whom can I invite to participate in this beautiful thing God's Spirit is doing here at Phillips?

Friends, as we head into our next season, may the Holy Spirit continue to meet us and guide as we serve as the hands and feet of Christ here in Eden Park and around the world,

Blessings,

Pastor Amy

## **“Grow One” Stewardship Campaign**

Our “Grow One” campaign kicked off on October 22nd, with our financial secretary, Peter Chatellier, sharing about his own spiritual growth in areas of stewardship and inviting us to join in considering how each of us can “grow one” step (or more) towards tithing of our time, talents, and resources. You have received a letter from our stewardship committee outlining some of the many things your giving supports here at PMBC, nationally, and globally. Stewarding our resources generously is part of being a Christian disciple, and we are asking that you are open to how the Spirit is guiding you toward generosity!

As part of the “Grow One” campaign, we will have a commitment Sunday, with pledge cards available, on Sunday, November 12th.

## **Interfaith Thanksgiving Service**

Sunday, November 19th at 3:00 p.m.

Woodridge Congregational United Church of Christ  
30 Jackson Road  
Cranston, RI

Pastor Amy will be participating in the service.

## **Save the Dates for Advent!**

- **Family Devotionals:** This Advent, PMBC is encouraging folks, individuals, or families, to use the Salt Project's *The Dawn Chorus: An Advent Devotional on the Wonder of Birds* to help guide your Scripture reading through the season of Advent. Printed devotional books will be available in the narthex on Sunday, November 26th.



## Thank you!

*Thank you for your thoughtful and generous gifts for pastor appreciation month! I feel truly blessed by you all. The children made me such beautiful garden art - which you can all see on display in the sanctuary narthex. The beautiful pewter chalice will grace our communion services for many years to come. My favorite florist roses light up my house. And your generous donations are now gracing my office floor with a beautiful Turkish rug and helping Vija and me see the grandparents at Christmas. Truly, you have encouraged and blessed me beyond measure.*

*Pastor Amy*



NOTICE OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETING to be held immediately following worship service on Sunday, November 19th, for the purpose of:

1. voting to become a "welcoming and affirming church"
2. voting on become affiliated with AWAB
3. voting on the ballot for Election of Officers, Cabinet Liaisons and Committee Members
4. approving the budget



**Join Us in Person or for On-line Worship  
Sundays at 10:00 am**

**Remember services are held every week on Zoom too. Click "Join the Meeting!" below.**

Recordings of services are posted on YouTube.

## **Worship Planning and Arrangements**

Phillips Family,

I can't believe we're heading into November, and soon we'll be into Advent. We are making plans for a joyous holiday season.

As we enter Advent, we will be looking for four sets of families who would like to do our Sunday morning Advent readings. As always these folks would do our readings for the week and light each candle as required. It's a great time to step forward and lead a portion of worship for our family. Please see any deacon so we can help choose a week that would work.

We will again be having a Christmas Eve service on Thursday, December 22nd as well as a regular service on December 24th. Anyone interested in helping on either of those again, please let us know.

Jeff Damrad

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## **Christian Education**

Our Fall session of Bible studies and Sunday School classes will conclude on November 26th.

Looking ahead to Advent, starting on December 3rd we will have a children's worship and activity time following the Children's Story part of the service each Sunday.

Kathy McKinney

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## **Mission Education and Projects**

Baptist International Ministries has served members globally, along-side many local partners. For over 200 years missionaries have served in seventy countries, sometimes with local partners. The list of countries and projects, some long-lasting, is very long! People of all ages are served: medical supplies in Nepal and Thailand; education for children of Syrian refugees in Lebanon; education for Ebola orphans; clean water for the Dominican Republic and Nicaragua; various helps for displaced persons in Ukraine; education for children, Congo. Plus many more! We will collect our gifts for World Mission Offering the last two weeks of November.

In case you were wondering...yes we will help the Salvation Army Christmas Angel Tree program. Watch for the Christmas tree in the Narthex, select a family for whom you would like to shop (maybe 2-4 families would get together to sponsor each family in need). We also encourage you to place your own Christmas card on or near the tree to all the congregation from you, thereby saving postage!

" A successful life is not measured by what you have,  
but by what you GIVE."  
- anonymous

Diana Litterick

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## Hope Circle

### Holiday Bazaar

Requesting cookie dough, homemade favorite cookie, or store bought kind. Include directions for baking and please store in Fellowship Hall kitchen refrigerator before Monday, November 13th. Saturday or Sunday would be good days to bring in pre-made dough.

Dates pending:

Nov. 7 Bazaar meeting Zoom 7:00 p.m.

Nov. 13 Baking cookies for Bazaar 9:30 AM. Volunteers Needed!

Nov. 13-17 Set up merchandise

Nov. 17 Bring in bake items to sell at bake table

We also need volunteers on Friday and Saturday ... as well as items for the bake table. Homemade bread loafs, pies, brownies, fudge, relishes, jams, etc.

If available - contact Diane Steele 401-941-6729.

Thank you

Bazaar Committee



## Music Ministry

### **November Rehearsal Schedule for Children and Youth:**

11/5 Chime Choir

11/12 Ring & Sing

11/19 No Rehearsals

11/26 Ring & Sing

Organist Assistant for November is Linnea Perkoski on November 19th.


### **KEYBOARD COLLAGE CONCERT 2**

Everyone is invited to attend the **Keyboard Collage Concert 2** on Sunday, November 12th, at 3:00 pm, in our Phillips sanctuary. This concert will feature CCRI keyboard faculty members Martha Sobaje, Jacob Stott, John Norigian, and Audrey Kaiser. They will perform a variety of selections on the organ, harpsichord, and piano. There will be a reception in the Trickett Parlor immediately following the concert, with goodies baked by Ruthie Moran. This concert is free and open to the public.

# Keyboard Collage Concert 2


Music from the 16th to 20th Centuries

Dr. Martha Sobaje, *organ*  
 Jacob Stott, *harpsichord*  
 John Norigian, *piano*  
 Dr. Audrey Kaiser, *piano*



A Joint Faculty Concert  
**Keyboardists from the  
 Community College of Rhode Island**  
 November 12, 2023  
 3 p.m.  
**Phillips Memorial Baptist Church**  
 565 Pontiac Avenue, Cranston, RI 02910  
 (401) 467-3300, ext. 3

Reception to Follow  
 for more information: [mhsobaje@ccri.edu](mailto:mhsobaje@ccri.edu); [akkaiser@ccri.edu](mailto:akkaiser@ccri.edu)



COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF RHODE ISLAND

## **MESSIAH WITH MANDOLINS**

L'Esperance Mandolin Ensemble joins with the CCRI chorus, chamber singers, and Coro Amante (CCRI Alumni chorus) to present the Christmas section of Handel's **Messiah** in our Phillips sanctuary on Sunday, December 3rd, at 3:00 pm. Tickets are \$20 online, and \$30 at the door. For further information or to purchase tickets, go to: <https://lesperancemandolin.com/event/messiah-with-mandolins/>

## **CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

All of our Phillips Ensembles; Children's Chime Choir, Ring & Sing Choir, JOY Praise Team, Chancel Singers, Bass Clef Carolers, and Sanctuary Ringers, will present this year's annual **Candlelight Christmas Concert** on Sunday, December 10th, at 6:30 pm. This year marks the 30th of these concerts. A reception in Fellowship Hall will follow the concert.

Freewill offering ~ open to the public



## Daily Lectionary Bible Readings

(11/24/22 - 11/29/23)

This daily Bible reading list has two series, complementary and semi-continuous. American Baptist Churches USA has used either series. If you are not sure which to use, follow the complementary series.

If anyone wishes to have a printed copy mailed to you, please contact the church office.

Here is the internet address/link:

<https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/daily.php?year=A#id1>



*November 2, Thursday - 7:00 p.m.*

Deacon's Meeting (Zoom)

*November 7, Tuesday - 7:00 p.m.*

Hope Circle Meeting – Holiday Bazaar

*November 11, Saturday - 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.*

Food Drive

*November 12, Sunday*

Grow One Sunday

*November 12, Sunday - 3:00 p.m.*

Keyboard Collage Concert 2

*November 13, Monday - 9:30 a.m.*

Hope Circle Baking for Holiday Bazaar

*November 13-17*

Setup for Holiday Bazaar

*November 18, Saturday, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.*

Holiday Bazaar

*November 19, Sunday*

Congregational Business Meeting

*Sundays (following worship)*

Coffee Hour in the Trickett Parlor

*2nd Sunday - Each Month (following worship)*

Building & Grounds Group Mtg.

*Tuesdays - 1:00 p.m.*

Knitter's Group meets in the Trickett Parlor

You don't have to knit - just join us for a lively exchange of ideas

*Tuesdays & Fridays - 7:00 p.m.*

AA Group Meeting – Fellowship Hall

*Wednesdays - 7:00 p.m.*

Bible Study on Zoom (no bible study on 11/22)

*Thursdays – Music Rehearsals*

6:15 p.m. – 7:00 pm	JOY Praise Team
7:00 p.m. – 8:00 pm	Chancel Singers
8:00 p.m. – 8:30 pm	Sanctuary Ringers

*Memorial Poinsettias*

*During this Christmas season, we will continue our custom of decorating the sanctuary with Memorial Poinsettia plants. Folks can purchase Poinsettias in honor of a loved one.*

*Information and order forms will be sent in a future bulletin.*



**Dinner, Death & Dialogue**  
**Sunday, November 5 5:00-7:00 p.m.**  
**ABCORI Conference Room**

Death is not most people's favorite conversation topic. In fact, today Americans as a group don't want to talk about death at all.

But since death is one of the few givens all humans share, doesn't it make sense to find ways to break through the discomfort and talk openly and honestly about it?

Dinner, Death & Dialogue will provide an opportunity to do just that in a setting where there are no wrong answers, no off-limit questions, or no judgment about differing beliefs.

For details and a downloadable flyer, click [here](#).



## **2023 Fall Webinar Series** **Be Strong, Be Courageous**

### [The Power of Persistent Prayer](#)

Thursday, November 9, 2023, at 8:30 PM EST

Speaker: Lisa Murray, Vice President of Prayer, Baptist Women of North America (BWNA)

### [Finding Strength to Lead Using God's Gifts](#)

Thursday, November 30, 2023, at 8:30 PM EST

Speaker: Jessie Bandaru, Director of Dietary in the healthcare and hospitality industry



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