

THE TIDINGS

APRIL 2015



GOOD NEWS FROM

BROWN MEMORIAL
PARK AVENUE 
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ALIVE IN THE CITY AND THE WORLD
www.brownmemorialparkavenue.org

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HIGHLIGHTS FROM YOUTH SUNDAY

BY REV. TIMOTHY HUGHES, ASSOCIATE PASTOR
tim@browndowntown.org

YOUTH SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2015

I was so proud of our high school youth and their worship leadership this Youth Sunday. I continue to be inspired and encouraged by their energy and creativity. This year our service was themed around the Transfiguration (Matthew 17), which



is a theologically complex text. Our two preachers, Olivia Liang and Jackson Mills, spent hours studying and processing the Scripture before delivering powerful sermons about the beauty of mountaintops and the courage it takes to leave them.

Our liturgists wrote their own prayers and liturgy, using the Biblical text as their inspiration. Our music team worked to choose hymns and special selections that reflected the themes of the service. Many thanks to Doug and Rebecca Adams, who agreed to build a five-piece communion table that the youth assembled and disassembled during the opening and closing hymns. Thanks as well to our Sunday School teachers who helped to plan and lead the service.

It was an honor to officiate and serve communion alongside our youth. Our liturgy spoke to communion as a sacrament of the past, present, and future. The future of our church was well-represented on March 1, 2015!



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BROWN MEMORIAL TUTORING PROGRAM UPDATE

Did you know there is a vibrant program taking place four days a week right here on the 3rd floor of the Education Building?! That's right, we are currently tutoring 76 children from 3 neighboring Baltimore City public schools – Mount Royal Elementary/Middle, John Eager Howard Elementary, and the Baltimore Montessori Public Charter School! Each of these deserving students is paired with a devoted volunteer tutor who, working with a carefully constructed individualized education plan, will help the child achieve success in reading. This year, in addition to reading instruction, our theme is The Seven Continents. We've had a great time exploring through books, artifacts,



pictures, and food the various cultures of the world. Currently, we're in Africa! It's never too late to get involved. If you would like to join us in this worthwhile and fulfilling endeavor, please contact Martha Socolar, the Program Director, and find out how you can help. Call 410-523-1542, ext. 17. No experience is necessary! The only requirement is a love of children and a desire to make a positive difference in a child's life.



Meditation Circle

Please join us for a time of silence and community **every Sunday, 9:00-9:30 in the Church House**. All are welcome. Using a few words or an image to bring us to a place of stillness, we sit together in a circle of meditative quiet, ending with prayer. Through stilling our minds and opening our hearts, we find community with one another and with God. For more information or to be added to an email list for the Meditation Circle, please contact June Fletcher-Hill at fletcherhill@msn.com or 410-367-0995. Plan to arrive a few minutes before 9:00 as we begin our time together right at 9:00.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM YOUTH SUNDAY

continued from page 1

The BMPA Youth lead all aspects of the worship service, including the liturgy, sermons, music, and communion, on Sunday, March 1, 2015, under the capable

direction of Associate Pastor Tim Hughes. The communion table, that could be assembled and disassembled, was constructed by Doug and Rebecca Adams.

Photos by Susan Saudek



SOARING EAGLES LEARNING CAMP – MISSION AT WORK IN THE WORLD!

MANDATORY STAFF TRAINING **JUNE 21ST 6:30 – 8:30 PM**

The Soaring Eagles Learning Camp will be operating for the 4th year!!! The Youth Group from the Church of the Reconciliation in Chapel Hill, North Carolina will be joining Brown Memorial members and friends once again to run the SELC. Mr. Hewitt, Principal of Eutaw-Marshburn Elementary, is very grateful for the blessing that SELC is for his students and their families. Just recently Mr. Hewitt gave the OK for the addition of a rising 6th Grade camper group that will be learning about robotics and keeping engineering journals. Their week will culminate in a SumoBot competition! The lower grade campers (rising 1st through rising 5th) will have Math Games, Hands on Science, Art, Reading/Creative Writing/ Book Nook and Technology stations to enjoy. The four days of camp will culminate with a Family Day lunch

and time for the campers to share what they have been learning about with their families.

SELC HELP NEEDED!!!!

Staff – Counselors are still needed and youth may apply – rising 8th grade and up.

Meals – Sponsor and serve a breakfast or lunch for SELC.

Good Job Prize Table – 1 or 2 folks needed to help campers at lunch time as they choose their Good Job prizes each day.

Family Day Lunch – Folks needed to shop, make sandwiches and set up and serve the lunch - a team of 2 – 4 folks would be great!

Brown Memorial Book Drive – Donate new or gently used books for the SLEC Book Nook.

Contact Chrystie Adams at 443-474-2200 or cladams22@verizon.net to volunteer for a staff position or a helping position.

COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

If you are an active member of a committee or small group at Brown, expect to receive an invitation this month from your committee/group leaders to begin using Church Community Builder (CCB), our new web-based church management



software. Throughout the winter, BMPA's staff underwent training on the new database system and entered all of the data (names

and contact information) for our church members and friends. Now we are entering the second phase of launching CCB – having test groups use it. CCB is not only a central location where we can store all of our church member/friend data, it is also built to be a relational database where members of the church can login, update contact information, download profile photos, share skills and interests, sign-

up for groups, interact with groups, view the church calendar and event needs, and check giving history and statements. CCB is a secure database that is only accessible by members and friends of the church who are given a login. Currently, during the testing/launch phase, a private URL is being used for the CCB database. Eventually it will be accessible from a “members only” page on BMPA's website. In May, we plan to launch CCB church-wide by giving login credentials to all church members and asking everyone to explore the site and update and customize their profile information. The staff is committed to helping members feel at ease with the database, and to demonstrating how intuitive CCB is to use. We will schedule several help sessions after worship and during the week for those needing extra assistance learning how to use CCB. Look for more information ahead about our CCB launch next month. If you have any questions, contact Communications Manager, Jennifer Michael, at jmichael@browndowntown.org, or at 410-523-1542, ext. 25.

A LOOK AHEAD – CHORAL ANTHEMS FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL

BY MICHAEL T. BRITT, MINISTER OF MUSIC
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“BLEST ARE THE EYES THAT HAVE NOT SEEN YOU” – FRED GRAMANN



A native of Washington State, Fred began his early organ studies with Dr. Edward Hansen of Seattle. He won the student organ competition sponsored by the Seattle Chapter of

the American Guild of Organists while still in high school. While earning a bachelor's degree in organ performance at Syracuse University, he won first prize in the 1972 Ft. Wayne National Organ Competition and was awarded the Arthur Poister Prize for Outstanding Organist for four consecutive years.

From 1972-75 Fred studied organ in Paris, France, with Marie-Claire Alain and spent one year working with organist and composer Maurice Duruflé. Fred earned a master's degree in organ performance at the University of Michigan during the 1975-76 school year. He returned to Paris in 1976 as Director of Music at the American Church in Paris.

“O PRAY FOR THE PEACE OF JERUSALEM” – HERBERT HOWELLS

Herbert Howells was born in Lydney, Gloucester on 17 October 1892. He showed a keen interest in composition early in his life and, at the age of eighteen, became a pupil of Herbert Brewer, Organist of Gloucester Cathedral. In 1912 he was awarded a scholarship to the Royal College of Music and studied under Charles Villiers Stanford, Walter Parratt, Charles Wood and C. Hubert Parry.

Unlike his close friend and mentor, Ralph Vaughan Williams, Howells never collected or made direct use of folk songs. His move away from secular to sacred music after Hymnus Paradisi (1938) continued into the 1940's with a series of compositions setting mass texts and canticles, most notably the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis from the Anglican Evensong service.

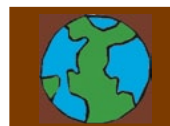
During his lifetime he was awarded a Collard Life Fellowship (Worshipful Company of Musicians), CBE (1953) and in 1972 was made a Companion of Honour. Herbert Howells died in London on February 23, 1983, at the age of 90.

“THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD” – THOMAS MATTHEWS

Thomas Matthews was born at Utica, New York, April 1, 1915. At the age of 8, he sang under Norman Coke-Jephcott recently arrived from Coventry Cathedral. At 17 he assisted Coke-Jephcott at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York. In 1936, he accepted the post of Organist/Choirmaster at St. Martin-in-the-Fields (Chestnut Hill) in Philadelphia.

During WWII Dr. Matthews conducted the famous Blue Jacket Choir. After the war he served on the Northwestern University School of Music faculty and was director of music for Seabury-Western Theological Seminary. He founded the North Shore Illinois Chapter of the AGO. In 1960, Dr. Matthews moved to Tulsa where he became Trinity Church's Organist/Choirmaster. While in Tulsa, he founded the music department at Holland Hall School, served on the faculty of the University of Tulsa, and supervised the design and installation of the IV/82 Moller which continues to serve the greater Tulsa community. Dr. Matthews composed over thirty published anthems before he passed away on April 10, 1999.

AN INVITATION FROM THE GLOBAL MISSION COMMITTEE



The Global Mission Committee would like to welcome the congregation to join them in a small group study using the book and study guide *When Helping Hurts. (How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor and Yourself)* It's not too late to join in the final discussions:

**Unit 4 – Joining God's Work – Sunday,
April 26th**

Materials will be provided. Please mark your calendars with these dates and join us in the Church House after worship. Feel free to bring some food to share. Please contact Grace Peng if you have any questions: grace.cy.peng@gmail.com.

BEHIND THE MUSIC

BY ELLEN CARTER COOPER

David Bielenberg has a fantastic bass voice and he could be concertizing throughout this country and abroad. Why doesn't he then? David prefers to perform behind the stage. His occupation as a performing arts manager is an essential job for a concert to take place.

Since David's father was a Lutheran minister (now retired), all of this youngster's kindergarten through twelfth grade education was in the Lutheran Parochial Schools of Baltimore. He remembers very clearly that when his dad was pastoring a church in Arbutus, Michael Britt (our minister of music) was a regular visitor to practice on the church's organ.

David disclosed that his first serious encounter with music did not occur at a Lutheran church or school. Instead, he was a boy soprano at St. David's Episcopal Church in Roland Park. Of course, he continued to sing after his voice changed.

After graduation from high school, David traveled to New York where he attended NYU. He majored in music, and his minor was business administration. David's budding talents were put to use as an intern at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. After graduation he was hired by the church as a marketing manager.

Subsequently, David was employed in Connecticut and Washington, D.C. While working in the District in 2003, he met Greg Trimble. Tired of traveling between D.C. and Baltimore, David moved to Baltimore. The couple married in 2014.

These days, David is a freelancer. His major focus is as the



David Bielenberg

performing arts manager for the Bach Concert Series. His duties include promotion, ticket sales, fundraising, and managing the budget.

Greg and David live in Bolton Hill. They both enjoy gardening and their dog, a Springer spaniel. They are quite involved in activities in the community. Rachel Cunningham (our

director of Christian education) and Sandra and Roger Fink (a retired minister) all influenced David to join Brown Memorial.

This quiet, affable man noted that he was drawn to BMPA because it is such "a welcoming community." The music impressed him, also. He hopes that the church will continue to expand its membership and remain progressive in its outlook. David's commitment to the church is rock solid. He not only occasionally sings bass in the chancel choir, but he is a newly elected elder.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS



04/03	Drew Johnston
04/03	Ruskin Nohe-Moren
04/03	Kathryn (Kitty) Ward
04/05	Andy Johnston
04/06	Hannah Bobango
04/06	Shannon Bobango
04/06	Devi Deane-Polyak
04/06	James Schuman
04/07	George Bareford
04/07	Liz Bowie Fesperman
04/07	Jacob Schindler
04/07	Xandr Zabel
04/08	Rachel Aaron
04/08	Larry Fletcher-Hill
04/11	Sarah Egan
04/11	William Egan
04/11	Lucille McCarthy
04/11	Jeanne Thomas
04/12	Ernest Imhoff
04/12	Grace Todd
04/13	James Wagner Cavallon
04/15	Rhys Abernethy
04/15	Annika Brockman
04/15	Karoon Peng Armand
04/17	Kathy Graning
04/18	Dever Cunningham

04/18	Sheldon Lebowitz
04/19	Barbara Cates
04/19	Johanna Schindler
04/20	Mary Mashburn
04/22	Greta Finney
04/22	Elijah Simpson-Sundell
04/23	Michelle Zabel
04/24	Ethan Franctovich
04/24	Gareth Everett Reiman
04/24	Ben Waldron
04/25	Reddy Finney
04/25	Clementine Hensley
04/25	Amy Schmickel
04/26	Chloe Linnea Cheseldine
04/26	Kenna Emerick
04/27	Andrew Foster Connors
04/29	Muriel Callaman
04/29	Fredericka (Freddie) Courpas
04/29	Susan Saudek
04/29	Jean Savina
04/29	David Schmickel
04/30	Katherine Egan
04/30	Lisa Polyak

Note: If you wish to have your birthday listed in The Tidings, please contact Sharon Holley, church secretary, at 410-523-1542, or via e-mail at Sharon@browndowntown.org.

FROM THE PAST

BY ELLEN CARTER COOPER

A friend, Mrs. Louise Owens, discovered a tract in a book that belonged to her grandfather, entitled *Bible Characters*. She noticed that it was written by Rev. John McDowell of Brown Memorial and passed it on to me. Rev. McDowell was the pastor of Brown Memorial from 1915-1921.

Rev. McDowell's remarks apparently were written for soldiers serving in World War One. He wrote in "What God Says to His Soldiers" about the "Abiding Comrade:"

"Jesus Christ is just such a Comrade. He knows us, our temperament and our temptations. He believes in us, our possibilities and our promises, and He loves us with a love stronger than sin and death."

For the complete text of this tract, now brown with age, see Julie Hanks or Karen Nelson who are members of the History Committee. They would appreciate any memorabilia related to BMPA that you find, also.

GIFTS OF STOCK

The giving of Stocks or other Securities, which have appreciated in value, may provide a tax advantage to you, the donor.

If you would like to make a gift to the church in this manner, please provide the following information to your broker.

DTC #0235

RBC Wealth Management

A/C #313-81881

Account Name – Brown Memorial Park Avenue Presbyterian Church

Contact: Geoffrey Brent or Lisa Vetter

Phone Number: 410-316-5319

Please also inform Sharon Lucas, our Financial Administrator: slucas@browndowntown.org

APRIL RESPONSIBILITY SCHEDULES

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

For an itemized list of Responsibility schedules at BMPA, please click on this link: <http://www.browndowntown.org/index.php?s=backstage>

If you would like to participate in one of the areas of responsibility, please contact Sharon Holley at (410) 523-1542 or via email at sharon@browndowntown.org.

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Laura McConnell, Graphic Designer.

Send contributions by the 15th of each month to edccooper58@hotmail.com.

APRIL 2015 AT BMPA*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29 MARCH PALM SUNDAY Meditation Circle 9:00 a.m. Palm Sunday Procession 9:45 a.m., Choir Warm-Up 9:45 a.m.-10:45 a.m. Service of Worship 11:00 a.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal 12:20 p.m.-1:20 p.m.	30	31 Staff Meeting 10:00 a.m. Taizé Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.	1 APRIL Midweek Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Ecumenical Worship Service – City Temple Baptist 12:00 p.m.	2 Meditation on the Hill AA Meeting 5:30 p.m. Maunday Thursday Soup Supper and Service 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.-9:15 p.m.	3 Good Friday Tenebrae Service 7:30 p.m.	4 Easter Sanctuary Decorating 10:00 a.m.
5 EASTER SUNDAY Sunrise Service – Federal Hill Park 6:00 a.m. Choir Warm-Up 9:30 a.m.-10:45 a.m. Service of Worship 11:00 a.m.	6 Window Tour with Lois Zanol 1:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.	7 Staff Meeting 10:00 a.m. Membership Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m.	8 Window Tour with Lois Zanol 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Midweek Bible Study 10:30 a.m.	9 Meditation on the Hill AA Meeting 5:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.-8:45 p.m.	10 Feasting in Faith 6:30 p.m.	11 Service Honoring Maurice Murphy 2:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.
12 Meditation Circle 9:00 a.m. Education Hour, Choir Warm-Up 9:45 a.m.-10:45 a.m. Service of Worship 11:00 a.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal 12:20 p.m.-1:20 p.m. Children's Choir Rehearsal 12:20 p.m.-1:20 p.m.	13	14 Staff Meeting 10:00 a.m.	15 Midweek Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Tutoring Commission Meeting 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.	16 Prayer Shawl Ministry 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. Meditation on the Hill AA Meeting 5:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.-8:45 p.m.	17	18
19 Meditation Circle 9:00 a.m. Education Hour, Choir Warm-Up 9:45 a.m.-10:45 a.m. Service of Worship 11:00 a.m. Tiffany Series Concert Honoring Spencer Hammond 4:00 p.m.	20	21 Staff Meeting 10:00 a.m. Session Meeting 7:00 p.m.	22 Midweek Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Midtown Academy Talent Show Dress Rehearsal 3:30 p.m.	23 Meditation on the Hill AA Meeting 5:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.-8:45 p.m.	24 Midtown Academy Talent Show Staff Rehearsal 1:00 p.m. Feasting in Faith 6:30 p.m.	25 PFLC Interviews 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
26 Meditation Circle 9:00 a.m. Palm Sunday Procession 9:45 a.m. Choir Warm-Up 9:45 a.m.-10:45 a.m. Service of Worship 11:00 a.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal 12:20 p.m.-1:20 p.m.	27	28 Staff Meeting 10:00 a.m.	29 Midweek Bible Study 10:30 a.m.	30 Meditation on the Hill AA Meeting 5:30 p.m. Atrium Association Annual Meeting 6:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.-8:45 p.m.	1 MAY Midtown Academy Talent Show Staff Rehearsal 1:00 p.m. James David Christie Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.-8:45 p.m. Midtown Academy Talent Show 5:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.	2 Session Retreat 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. James David Christie Rehearsal
3 Meditation Circle 9:00 a.m. Education Hour, Choir Warm-Up 9:45 a.m.-10:45 a.m. Service of Worship 11:00 a.m. Tiffany Series Concert 3:00 p.m.	4	5 Staff Meeting 10:00 a.m.	6 Midweek Bible Study 10:30 a.m.	7 Meditation on the Hill AA Meeting 5:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.-8:45 p.m.	8 Feasting in Faith 6:30 p.m.	9

* For a more detailed and up-to-date BMPA Calendar, please go to <http://www.mychurchevents.com/calendar/calendar.aspx>.