



**BROWN
MEMORIAL
PARK AVENUE**

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Good News from Brown Memorial Park Avenue
Presbyterian Church

Tidings

OCT/NOV 2017

Reformation Preaching Series

October 31 marks the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther nailing the 95 theses to the door of the Wittenberg Church, the beginning of the Protestant Reformation. Brown Memorial will begin a four-part preaching series on October 8 with topics shaped by Reformation themes.

October 8

"The Priesthood of All Believers"

October 15

"The Word"

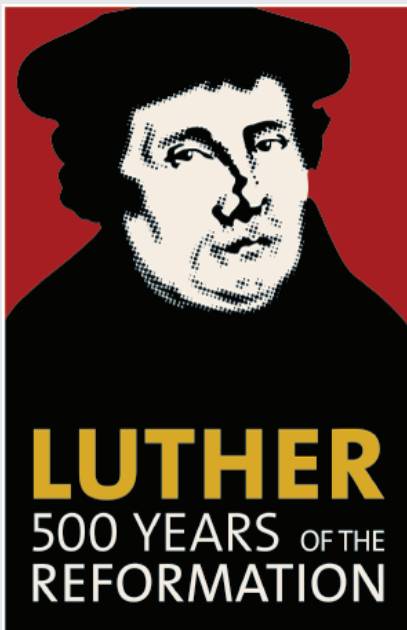
Guest preacher McKenna Llewellyn

October 22

"The Polemic Against Idolatry"

October 29

"Reformed and Always Being Reformed"



Pastor's Reflections

Creating Space for Diversity in Our Fellowship

by **Andrew Foster Connors**, Senior Pastor

Howard Thurman, in *Jesus and the Disinherited*, says that he noticed a rise in "overt expressions of color prejudice" in the early days of WWII. "Hating is something of which to be ashamed unless it provides for us a form of validation and prestige. If either is provided, the immoral or amoral character of the hatred is transformed into positive violence." [1]

First published in 1949, the book is shockingly apropos to the present moment. Thurman takes a careful look at the origin of hate. "Hatred often begins in a situation in which there is *contact without fellowship*" (my italics). Reading Thurman's chapter on hatred, it strikes me that we all have much to learn. While it's important that we continue to condemn the racism and anti-Semitism that we've seen in Charlottesville and on the rise across the United States, Thurman encourages us to take a look at our own



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Associate Pastor Search. Work begins on filling this role. See page 6.

New Members. Read why they chose Brown Memorial. See page 8.

Zap, Bam, Zowie. Tutoring Program has a super hero theme. See page 10.

Make Managing Committees Easier. Use CCB "Groups." See page 11.

Pastor's Reflections

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lives for those places where we may have “contact without fellowship.” There, Thurman says is the seedbed for hatred.

Of course, risking fellowship necessarily opens yourself up to the possibility of misunderstanding another, or of being misunderstood. One of the first parts of organizing training in BUILD (Baltimoreans United in Leadership Development) is the necessity of suspending judgment about what we think we know about other people, refusing to stereotype another regardless of race, station, position or power. Saul Alinsky, the godfather of this kind of broad-based organizing started his work in the “back of the yard” in Chicago. As a Jew organizing among working class white and black people, he developed a stomach for expressions of anti-Semitism and racism. He believed that when people knew each other face to face, prejudice would begin to crumble.

Tracing the architecture of hate, Howard Thurman argues that contact without fellowship leads to an “unsympathetic understanding which tends to express itself in the exercise of ill will.” That ill will, he says, is what leads to hate which, paradoxically, is an expression of righteous indignation from the vantage point of the one who wields it. And yet, Thurman argues, hate not only injures those on the receiving end of it—it destroys the inner life of the hater as well.

What’s troubling about Thurman’s book is that the antidote to this kind of hate is not a simple posture to “resist.” Thurman argues passionately that Jesus brings down the whole system of enemy-making itself. He brings it down by loving the very people who he has every right to hate.

What is necessary, Thurman argues, is the creation of a space for “the privileged and the underprivileged to work on the common environment for the purpose of providing *normal experiences of fellowship*” (my quotes). This, he argues, is a primary calling of the Church.

One of the many blessings of our congregation is the striving that we continue to undertake toward that very goal: creating a community where people of diverse backgrounds, situations, ethnicities, sexual identities, ages and disabilities can encounter each other in normal experiences of fellowship. It used to be thought that the church’s mission was only about what we can do for other people outside the church. The more the church becomes disentangled from the power structures of our past, the more I see how mission is also about the kind of community that we become. One way to continue to measure our faithfulness is to ask the question—where have we created spaces where diverse people are encountering normal experiences of fellowship? And where do we need to grow? ♦

[1] Howard Thurman, *Jesus and the Disinherited*, (Boston: Beacon Press), 1996, pp. 64-88, (first published in 1949 by Abingdon).

Cover Photo: This is a scene from Brown Memorial's chancel stained glass window designed by Wilbur Burnham depicting people from all races and walks of life worshipping at the feet of Christ.



andrew@browndowntown.org



@pulpit

RALLY DAY 2017

Sept. 10 was our back-to-church celebratory day. Education classes resumed, worship opened and closed with bagpipe music, and we enjoyed a picnic on the church front steps. Andrew Foster Connors received the following message from a new visitor that day:

"Your beautiful church service was definitely the highlight of my weekend ... What a beautiful space, beautiful bagpipes and music, and warm and welcoming congregation. I feel like I've been looking for your church my entire life. Thank you for offering it."



Construction Corner

An update on our renovation projects.

by Betsy Nix

The construction project continues to move along, although much of the progress is taking place behind the scenes. We expect work to start on the Fellowship Building the first week in January 2018. In the meantime:

Bolton Hill Nursery has vacated the second floor. Every Sunday, the adult confirmation class is meeting in one of the former BHN classrooms—a taste of things to come once the renovations are finished.

The Brown Memorial Tutoring Program has relocated to the Church House third floor. In October, the students and tutors will start their year. They've packed up many boxes to go into storage.

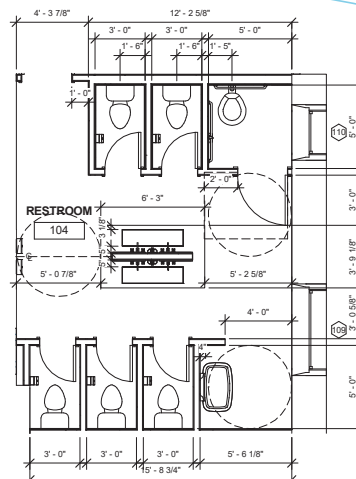
Work begins on the South Tower. Once all of the city permits are secured, Marani, our construction firm, will start shoring up the interior of the South Tower and renovating the staircase. They will cover the entrance to the tower from the narthex with barriers to keep dust out of the sanctuary. Once the work begins, we will shift the rocking chairs and bookshelves to the north side of the sanctuary, just to be especially careful of our young families.

Decisions are being finalized for the renovations. The Construction Committee has worked with Murphy & Dittenhafer, our design firm, to refine the plans and finishes for the Fellowship Building. You can see the most

recent floor plans and renderings in the hallway between the courtyard and the Fellowship Hall and on the second floor.

Plans evolve for a 21st century washroom. One of the top priorities of the renovation is to include more toilets on the first floor of the Fellowship Building. In the new washroom we will have five regular toilets, one ADA accessible stall, and a private baby changing area. After a suggestion from some of Brown's youth and thoughtful discussion within the construction team, we have decided to designate the new bathroom as gender neutral. The stalls will have floor-to-ceiling walls, doors that go down to the floor for increased privacy, and a double sink will stand in the middle of the room. You will be able to find private single toilet rooms with interior sinks in the bride's room and on the second and third floors.

Teams are forming for packing parties. In an effort to make the construction project as environmentally friendly as possible, the construction team is working with Details Deconstruction, A Humanism Social Enterprise (www.details.org), to repurpose material in the Fellowship Building. Workers from Details will come through the building in December to organize the salvage process where nonprofits collect the wood, doors, appliances, and cabinets they can use. Marani will start demolition of



① ENLARGED PLAN - FIRST FLOOR RESTROOMS - PRES.
1/4" = 1'-0"

Bathroom floorplan.

anything that remains the first week of January. That schedule means that we need to pack up the kitchen and the storage closets during November. Look for announcements from CCB to join a work crew. ♦

Construction Update & Lunch Sunday, Oct. 29, After Worship

The construction committee and the design/build team will be available after church on the last Sunday in October to discuss logistics of the project, which should last about nine months. The Construction Team welcomes your comments and suggestions.

Kitchen Pack-up

Sat. Nov. 18, 9 a.m.

Sun. Nov. 19, 12:30

(pizza provided)

Help us pack up the kitchen in preparation for the Fellowship Building renovation.

Construction Committee:

George Brown, Betsy Nix, David Nyweide, Rachel Cunningham, Erika Brockman, Charles Reichelt

UPCOMING EVENTS

For the most up-to-date calendar information, visit browndowntown.org



Small Groups Kick-Off Lunch Oct. 8

Mark your calendars: Our Small Groups Campaign kicks off over lunch on **Oct. 8**. The congregation has been divided into several small groups which will be announced during the kick-off. Small groups will then have a chance to meet briefly to decide how their group would like to function. We'll have some suggestions for groups but also want any group to feel that they can design their own gatherings, keeping two simple guidelines in mind—meet four times between Oct. 8 and Dec. 10, and include prayer as a part of each gathering. Out of town Oct. 8? No worries, someone from your group will be in contact with members who cannot attend the kick-off lunch.

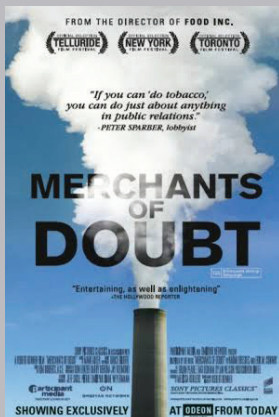


Brown Memorial Woodbrook Homecoming Oct. 22

Some of our newer members may not know that between the late 1950s and 1980, Brown Memorial operated as one church in two locations—our Park Avenue location and a location at 6200 North Charles Street in Baltimore County. A church vote created an amicable split between the two, and the churches became Brown Memorial Park Avenue and Brown Memorial Woodbrook.

This fall, Brown Memorial Woodbrook is merging with Govans Presbyterian, and has invited those with historical connections to Brown Memorial Woodbrook to attend their 10:30 a.m. worship service **Oct. 22**. Those who don't want to miss our worship service that day are invited to join them for lunch following our services. They also invite us to send in memories and photos to photos@bmwpc.org.

Additionally, Brown Memorial Woodbrook is hosting a "Farewell to the Holtkamp Pipe Organ" concert **Nov. 26, 3 p.m.**, featuring organists Kathie Metz, Margaret Budd, John Walker and Michael Britt.



Screening: Climate Change Film Nov. 5, 3 p.m.

Members of the new Brown Green Team have organized a free screening of "Merchants of Doubt," a 2014 documentary that exposes highly orchestrated PR efforts to debunk climate change in order to protect corporate profits. As one reviewer noted, "You leave, as you do any good muckraking documentary, both fascinated and enraged."

After the screening in the Sanctuary, join a panel of climate scientists and environmental journalists to further explore climate change issues and discuss ways to promote church- and community-based efforts to protect the environment.

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Advent Wreathmaking Dec. 3

Our annual advent wreathmaking event takes place the first Sunday of Advent, **Dec. 3**, before the education hour (9 a.m.) and after worship (noon).

We provide the wreaths, greens and candles and suggest bringing gloves and clippers. A \$10 per wreath donation is appreciated to help us cover our costs.

More details about all of our Advent services and activities—including information about our Christmas pageant and our Christmas Eve lessons, carols and candlelight service—will be mailed to the congregation in November.



Tiffany Series Concert Dec. 10

The Tiffany Series presents the first event of its 2017/18 season on **Dec. 10** with an evening concert at 7 p.m. featuring a Baltimore Symphony Orchestra brass quintet and Michael Britt on organ.

The first half of the program will feature a traditional brass and organ program, followed by holiday pops/jazz tunes.

The Tiffany Series also has two events planned for the spring. An organ concert with Carol Williams takes place April 15 at 3 p.m. A concert on May 6 at 7:30 will feature the music of Francis Poulenc and include his "Gloria" sung by our Chancel Choir, with Natanya Washer, soprano soloist. Guest organist will be Eric Plutz, University Organist at Princeton University.

Climate Change Film
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PANELISTS:

- **Tom Pelton** environmental journalist and host of "The Environment in Focus" on WYPR
- **Laura Foster**, atmospheric chemist from Johns Hopkins University
- **Joelle Novey**, Executive Director of Interfaith Power and Light
- **McKay Jenkins**, environmental journalist and Director of Environmental Humanities at University of Delaware
- Remarks by **Jodi Rose**, Executive Director of Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake

This event is sponsored by Brown Memorial, in partnership with Memorial Episcopal and Corpus Christi churches. For more information about the event or the new Brown Green Team, please contact McKay Jenkins at mckay@udel.edu.



Associate Pastor Search

by Andrew Foster Connors, *Senior Pastor*

The Session has been laying the groundwork for an Associate Pastor search which we will launch as soon as the Presbytery gives us the green light. The Session will nominate a committee to be voted on and approved by the entire congregation at a meeting that will be called as soon as we are authorized to do so.

With input from the staff, the Session is proceeding to look for an Associate Pastor with oversight and accountability for the entire educational program of Brown Memorial with specific responsibility for youth programming. The Associate Pastor will assist the Senior Pastor in preaching (8-12 times per year), plus overall pastoral leadership. This is essentially the position that was created after the departure of Emily Proctor, combining two associate pastor positions into one. It is essentially the same position that Tim Hughes Williams has occupied for the last several years.

We anticipate the search will take 7-12 months. The Presbytery has the ultimate responsibility for establishing the relationship between the pastor that we call and the congregation. As such, they will appoint a liaison to our Session to guide us along the way. When we issue a call, the person will be interviewed and approved by the Presbytery's "clearance committee." If the candidate is to be approved for ordination, the entire Presbytery will examine the candidate's fitness for ministry prior to that person becoming a pastor at Brown Memorial.

The position calls for an individual with three or more years of experience, though we have had good experiences with individuals graduating from seminary with other life, educational or professional experiences to round them out. We will work hard to generate a diverse applicant pool, consistent with Brown's values and our continued need to expand our congregation's diversity. Though we have not appointed a committee and the search has not yet begun, it is not too early to pray for our church and for this process. Pray for the Session as they deliberate over who God may be calling for this important work. ♦

Session News & Notes

The Session took the following actions or received these reports since the previous *Tidings*:

• **Tim Hughes Williams staff transition update:** Pastor Foster Connors is working with the Presbytery Committee on Ministry (COM) to work out details on the pastoral transition. We cannot form an Associate Pastor search committee until Presbytery has granted us permission to do so.

• **Brown Memorial Woodbrook transition update:** The Brown Memorial Woodbrook Session is constructing a columbarium on the property of Govans Presbyterian Church. All cremains in the Woodbrook columbarium will be moved. We anticipate some Woodbrook members will request space in our Columbarium, which will be available to them at the member rate. Brown Memorial Woodbrook is having their silver tea service appraised with the intent to sell the property and share the proceeds between the two congregations. Peggy Obrecht is handling an appraisal and will report to Session. Church records at Brown Memorial Woodbrook will be sorted and either archived (storing them at the Presbyterian Historical Society in Philadelphia is being considered) or tossed. David Bielenberg will coordinate document review with the History Committee. Volunteer helpers welcome.

• **Approved the Trustees' spending request** to repair wood windows (\$39,500) and to install a commercial-grade fire detection system (\$9,800) in the Church House.

— From Laura Urban, Co-Clerk

UPDATE: Baltimore Youth Organizing Project

by Tim Hughes Williams, *Interim Youth Group Coordinator*

Many of you supported the Baltimore Youth Organizing Project (BYOP) over the past two years with your prayers, presence and financial support. BYOP was created as a youth response to the Baltimore Uprising—an opportunity for young people to build relationships, build power and ask for justice from their elected officials through constructive channels.

On behalf of Brown Memorial, I partnered with Gwen Brown (BUILD) and Rebecca Nagle (No Boundaries Coalition) to create BYOP. We offered a six-week community organizing class for Sandtown youth for three summers, hiring several classes of youth to serve as year-round organizers. We also eventually hired Samirah Franklin, a phenomenal young woman from the Penn-North Community, to serve as lead youth organizer. The young people teamed up with youth from

Brown and across the city to build a strong agenda for recreation centers, youth jobs and after school funding. We successfully got commitments from every candidate for mayor to honor their agenda during the 2016 mayoral election.

The past six months were spent meeting with Mayor Pugh to hold her accountable to her promises. BYOP held an assembly with the mayor in April 2017, attended by 18 youth from Brown. This initiated a prolonged fight with the mayor to restore after school funding—a commitment the mayor made when running for office, but failed to keep in her proposed 2018 budget.

In June, after multiple meetings, local and national media coverage, and the strong support of City Council, the mayor relented and allowed the after school funding to be restored. It was a huge win for BYOP and youth across the city. We are very proud of BYOP and the

youth at Brown who participated in this effort.

This summer, BUILD and No Boundaries decided to continue their youth organizing efforts in two different programs, which will remain allied with each other. No Boundaries hired a new team of young people who will focus on organizing youth in Central West Baltimore. BUILD will continue to focus on citywide issues and will work to build a citywide youth team. While BYOP will no longer exist as an entity, both organizations remain committed to working together to amplify youth voices in our city.

If you are a youth (ages 14-24) or adult who is interested in learning more or participating in future youth organizing work, please contact either Rebecca Nagle (rebecca.nagle@gmail.com) or Gwen Brown (browngw83@gmail.com). ♦

Music Notes

Orchestra Concert Oct. 22, 3 p.m. to Benefit Hurricane Relief Efforts

The Tiffany String Orchestra—comprised of musicians from Peabody—is holding a concert at Brown Memorial Oct. 22 at 3 p.m. to benefit victims of the recent hurricanes. Suggested donations (\$15 adult/\$10 students) will be accepted at the door, with all proceeds going to the American Red Cross. The program will feature works by Elgar, Mendelssohn and Grieg.

Silent Film & Organ Concert Nov. 3, 7 p.m. to Benefit Capital Campaign

Enjoy a silent film comedy classic in the Sanctuary—the 1923 film "Our Hospitality," starring Buster Keaton, on Nov. 3 at 7 p.m. An original organ score by our Minister of Music, Michael Britt, will accompany the film. Come hear our Skinner pipe organ become a "Mighty Wurlitzer!"

Admission is by suggested donation at the door—\$15 for adults and \$25 for families. All proceeds benefit Brown Memorial's Capital Campaign which is raising funds for the church's facility renovations.

Welcome New Members

by Andrew Foster Connors, *Senior Pastor*



Judson Arnold

Judson grew up in Bolton Hill and his parents are Brown Memorial members Kathy and Nathan Arnold. Judson is a prosecutor with the Baltimore City State's Attorney's Office. He is excited to be part of a church that is "paying attention to the problems that plague the city/world." He and Anne Fallon are getting married here Dec. 23.



Anne Fallon

Anne began attending Brown with Judson's family. Since then, Brown's inclusive, exuberant celebration of faith has become a bright spot in Anne's spiritual journey. She is excited to be part of a community

that is encouraging the deepening of our relationship with the God of our understanding.



Micaela d'Avilar

Micaela has worked as a nurse at Johns Hopkins Hospital for three years. She is originally from Southern Maryland where she grew up in the Southern Baptist Church. She was really impressed when she first came to Brown with how we are involving the youth in just about everything.



Jim Ashton

Jim grew up Baptist in a very conservative environment in the Midwest. He had left the church until he found a Presbyterian church

that reframed his understanding of what church could be. He is a historian working on his PhD at Johns Hopkins University. The things he loves about Brown are our social conscience, great music and preaching. Jim and Micaela d'Avilar are excited to take this step of joining the church together.



Mike and Deondra Asike

Deondra and Mike met each other while in the service. Deondra was an Air Force anesthesiologist; Mike an Army doctor (he is now a gastroenterologist at Greater Baltimore Medical Center). We prayed for Mike while he was overseas a few years ago. Deondra is the daughter of two ministers—Baptist and Pentecostal. She

went a non-denominational route until marrying Mike in 2012. Mike grew up Roman Catholic in Pennsylvania but left the church when many of the scandals were taking place. He and Deondra have found common ground at Brown Memorial. Their biggest priority in finding a church was finding a place where they could worship together. They both enjoy the wide variety of music and the diversity of our church.



Erin Powell

Erin grew up Presbyterian and loved it. Her father is a former PC-USA minister and she never thought about not being a Presbyterian. What she loves about Presbyterian

churches is the greater inclusion of women, the space that we make for children, and our social mission. Her children, Frank and Brady, were baptized at Brown on July 23.



David Lascu

David came to Baltimore more than 13 years ago to be an academic dean at a small college. He was born Catholic but left the church. He was walking down the street one day in Federal Hill and saw the rainbow flag and eventually became a Presbyterian. He is joining by letter of transfer from Light Street Presbyterian Church, where he served on Session, including as clerk for two years. ♦



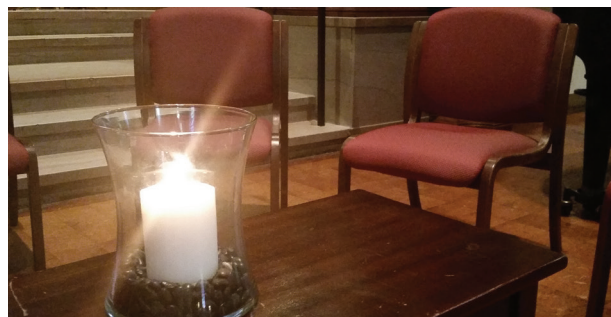
Interested in Church Membership?

Do you attend Brown but haven't officially become a member? Do you know someone who might be interested in joining our church community? Andrew Foster Connors is conducting Inquirer's Classes on **Oct. 22, 29 and Nov. 5 at 9:45 a.m.** in his office on the Church House second floor. The curriculum includes Presbyterian history and polity, Brown Memorial's history and missional commitments, plus the meaning of church membership, the way we organize ourselves as a church, and how to get involved. Let Andrew know if you are coming (andrew@brown-downtown.org).

Thursday Evening Prayer

On any Thursday evening when you walk into the Sanctuary at 5:15 or so, especially after a busy day, you notice an immediate sense of calm and peace. At the front, just before the stairs, is a circle of chairs and a lit candle, inviting you to sit, to pause, to drink in peace and the beauty of the space and of the deepening evening.

At 5:30, with several people sitting in the circle, the weekly Prayer Service begins. Prayers are read from prayer cards as well as shared from the hearts of those in attendance. It is a simple service of praying for those who are sick or dying or struggling in any way, for the deep woes of our city and the world, and for all the ways in which we are thankful and hopeful.



After 30-40 minutes, the service ends with the praying aloud of the Lord's Prayer. Then chairs are put away and we move on to what is next in our busy lives, feeling grateful for this quiet space and for the community we share with each other and with those for whom we have prayed. The door to the sanctuary is open to anyone who wants to attend.



October Birthdays

10/01	Brantley Davis
10/03	Bill Wilson
10/04	Nicholas Forward
10/07	Katie Artes
10/07	Hannah Munds
10/09	Bill Bishai
10/09	Jennifer Michael
10/11	Will Fletcher-Hill
10/11	Diane Schaming
10/12	Gayle Barney
10/12	Darin Crew
10/12	Amalie Nohe-Moren
10/14	Anne Holland
10/15	Jayne Mauric
10/16	Daryl Plevy
10/17	Cal Jackson
10/17	Jackson Setty
10/18	Paul Dagdigian
10/19	Hedley Abernethy
10/20	Hannah Murphy Buc
10/21	Matias Calderon
10/21	Julia Christen Luljak
10/21	Peter Christen Luljak
10/21	Matt McNabney
10/23	Paul Fletcher-Hill
10/24	Yani Robinson
10/24	William S. Ryan
10/24	Caitlin Schneider
10/25	Jeremy Snyder
10/26	Deondra Asike
10/28	Nadia Hensley
10/28	Sue Hughes
10/31	Juliette Hanks



To have your birthday listed in the *Tidings*, contact Sharon Holley, church secretary, 410-523-1542, or Sharon@brown-downtown.org.

Tutoring Corner

SUPER HEROES ARE COMING TO A TUTORING PROGRAM NEAR YOU!

by Lisa Hoffberger

Each year, the Tutoring Program creates teaching focus around a central theme. Last year, Birds chirped their way into our students' weekly literacy lessons. Before that, our first- through fifth-graders enjoyed studying the Continents and Music. The theme for the 2017-18 school year is **SUPER HEROES!** And we know we are soon to find they come in all varieties: **SUPER STUDENTS. SUPER TUTORS. SUPER SUPPORTERS.**

Starting on October 9, tutors and students will reunite with each other, and with their books and other hands-on reading resources. Imagine the explosive energy over the course of the first week when each of eight squads of students will ascend three flights of stairs to the Tutoring Program's smaller, temporary quarters in the Church House to hear that they can be **SUPER HEROES** all year long, while their usual space in the Education Building is being transformed!

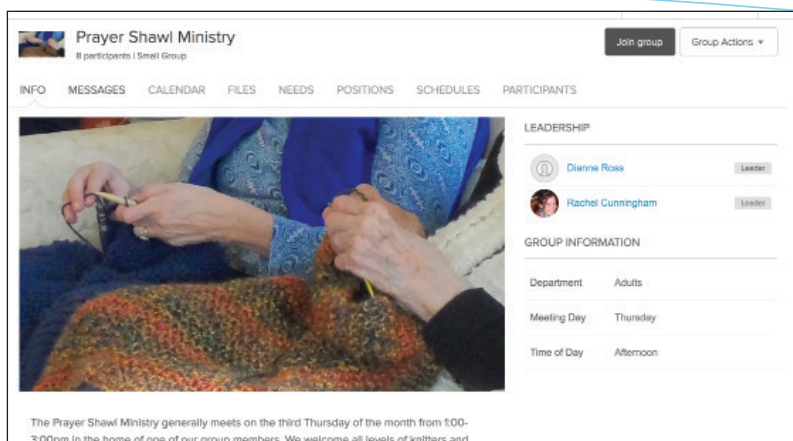
Right away, our **SUPER HERO** theme will be activated to trigger attributes designed to boost self-esteem and the learning powers of our **SUPER STUDENTS**—attributes such as character, hard work, civility and skills of kindness. Our **SUPER TUTORS** will immediately spark their expert nurturing skills and stunning patience along with heaps of admiring affection. On top of that, the program is blessed with **SUPER SUPPORTERS**, who have already joined in with brave and extraordinary gifts, especially needed during this school year to help bolster our annual budget, with the added weight of moving and storage expenses.

You too can be a **SUPER HERO**. Stop by for a visit to try on one of our "capes," any Monday through Thursday morning or afternoon. Or visit our website at browntutoring.org where you can click to volunteer and support this miraculous, life-altering educational experience for struggling young school children in our community.

This tutoring year will be nothing short of amazing, astounding and astonishing, one that is already yielding marvelous results! Join in to help crush the threat of illiteracy. **ZAP, BAM, ZOWIE AND KAPOW! ♦**



For more information about the Tutoring Program, visit browntutoring.org



Managing Groups & Committees in CCB

by Jennifer Michael, *Communications Manager*

Since Brown Memorial launched its internal website CCB—or Creating Connections at Brown—two years ago, many of our member leaders have discovered the advantages of using it to manage their groups. The Brown staff has created pages on CCB for all of Brown's groups and committees and assigned leaders to these groups—if we've missed anyone's group, let us know.

CCB's groups feature has two primary advantages. First, it advertises your group to the rest of the congregation. CCB is a central location where members can search and find a group matching their interests (groups either allow you to automatically join through CCB, or send a request to the group's leader to join). Each group homepage has space for a photo and description of the group, and lists group leaders' names and meeting times.

Secondly, CCB makes managing a group easier for a group's leader. For example, leaders can send a message to the group with the click of a button; upload files for members to easily find and review on their own time; post meetings to the group's calendar; and list all the participants in a group for the leader and other members of the group to see. Group leaders can also create "Needs," which essentially allows group participants to sign up for a task. For example, if a group is sponsoring a reception after church, the group leader can create a "Needs" form that lists all the food items needed, and group members can sign-up for what they plan to bring.

We asked a few Brown members to share what they like about managing or using groups in CCB, and here is what they said:

Elizabeth Reichelt: "CCB makes communicating with our Brown BUILD team extremely easy. We are able to send out communications and create volunteer sign-ups with a few easy clicks. I also love using the app on my iPhone for quick access to phone numbers and email addresses."

Anne Heuisler: "As clerk of session I posted year-to-date minutes, dockets, guidelines, and special reports and then enjoyed having all that information conveniently at hand. For BUILD I post group emails announcing action opportunities and use responses to tally projected attendance."

Barbara Francis: "Without CCB I would be befuddled. I use it often to find folks' phone numbers and addresses, to check if I have a service committee, to review what the groups are doing, or refresh my recollection as to who is that person. It is one of my bookmarks and so it is very easy to access."



For group leaders needing help with CCB, contact Jennifer at jmichael@browndowntown.org. Login: <https://browndowntown.ccbchurch.com>.



November Birthdays

11/01	Anne Heuisler
11/02	Andrew Hughes
11/04	Michaela Murphy-Buc
11/05	David Mock
11/05	Alex Reichelt
11/07	Barbara Cook
11/07	Chase Hoffberger
11/09	Miranda Hall
11/10	Lily Shields
11/11	Daniel Flores
11/11	Spencer Scaglione
11/12	Kate Foster Connors
11/13	Warner Brockman
11/14	Jonathan Hensley
11/14	David Luljak
11/16	Betsy Nix
11/16	Dave Urban
11/17	Jamie Cunningham
11/18	Amel Hannah Brown
11/18	Jason Murphy Buc
11/18	Shirley Parry
11/18	Bert Schmickel
11/19	Luther A. Clark
11/19	Willard Graves
11/19	John Walker
11/20	Kevin Cross
11/20	Bonnie Schneider
11/20	Jennifer Rakowski
11/21	Claire Inglesby
11/23	Marcos Calderon
11/24	Patrick Riorda
11/25	Beth Gregory
11/25	Deborah Richardson
11/26	Peter Jackson
11/28	Luke Inglesby
11/29	Eva McNabney
11/29	Carolina Mills



BMPA Calendar

*Alive in the City
and the World*

Meditation Circle, 9:45 a.m.
Education Hour, 9:45 a.m.
Worship, 11 a.m.

TEXT MESSAGE ALERTS

Keep your phone number **and phone carrier information** up-to-date in CCB to receive text messages about last minute worship or activity schedule changes.

Every Sunday, "MOTHRAA"

Meditation on the Hill Reading Alcoholics Anonymous, 6 p.m. Church House parlor. A meditation/AA big book study style meeting open to anyone, regardless if identifying as an alcoholic.

Every Wednesday, Bible Study,

10:30-11:30 a.m. Church House. Join us for this topical bible discussion.

Every Thursday, Prayer Service,

5:30-6:15 p.m. A time of prayer, worship and community in the Sanctuary.

Every Thursday, Meditation on

the Hill, 5:30 p.m. Church House Parlor. An open Alcoholics Anonymous meeting.

Oct. 8, Small Groups Kick-off Pot-

luck, 12:30 p.m. Assembly Room. *Details on page 4.*

Oct. 10, Theology on Tap, 7:30-9:30

p.m. Tavern on the Hill, 900 Cathedral St. Casual discussion on theological topics. Contact Chip at cmorganriegel@gmail.com for more info.

Oct. 19, Nov. 16, Prayer Shawl

Ministry, 1-3 p.m. Enjoy support and fellowship while making prayer shawls for those in need. October meeting is at Carol Graves' home; the November meeting is at Dianne Ross' home. Contact rossinbalt@verizon.net.

Oct. 22, 29, Nov. 5, Inquirer's Classes, 9:45 a.m., Church House.

Details on page 9.

Oct. 22, Congregational Meeting,

After Worship. Sanctuary. New officers will be elected during this brief meeting

Oct. 22, Orchestra Concert to

Benefit Disaster Relief, 3 p.m., Sanctuary. *Details on page 7.*

Oct. 22, Sunday Night Live!,

5:30-8 p.m. Assembly Room. A monthly gathering of youth grades 5-12 from Brown Memorial, Memorial Episcopal and Corpus Christi for dinner, games and group discussions on topics related to God, the Bible, or current events. No RSVP needed.

Oct. 28, Doors Open Baltimore

at Brown, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Our Sanctuary will be open for this city-wide event. Learn more: doorsopenbaltimore.org.

Oct. 29, Construction Team

Report & Lunch, 12:30 p.m. Assembly Room. *Details on page 3.*

Nov. 3, Silent Film & Organ Con-

cert, 7 p.m. Sanctuary. *Details on page 7.*

Nov. 5, Climate Change Film &

Panel, 3 p.m. Sanctuary. *Details page 4.*

Nov. 12, Potluck and Opioid Epi-

demic Discussion, 12:30 p.m. Assembly Room. Scott Nolen from the Open Society Institute will discuss drug addiction and Baltimore's opioid epidemic.

Nov. 18 & 19, Kitchen Pack-up,

Kitchen. *Details on page 3.*

Dec. 3, Advent Wreathmaking, 9

a.m. Assembly Room. *Details on page 5.*

Tidings

*Good News from Brown
Memorial Park Avenue
Presbyterian Church*

1316 Park Avenue,
Baltimore, MD, 21217.
410.523.1542.

browndowntown.org

Andrew Foster Connors,
Senior Pastor

Jennifer Michael,
Editor

Have an idea for something to include in the Tidings? Email Jennifer Michael, jmichael@browndowntown.org. Due dates this year: Dec. 1 (Jan./Feb. issue), Feb. 10 (Mar./Apr. issue), Apr. 10 (May/June/July issue)

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