

Expressions

A Newsletter for the Congregation of Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church

Again and Again: We're Invited In

I grew up in the Baptist church. Baptists observed Good Friday, but we did not observe the season of Lent. However, during my freshman year in high school, my aunt and her friends decided to give up alcohol for Lent. I decided to join in solidarity with them by giving up Wrigley's Double Mint Chewing Gum. Our fast started on Ash Wednesday and ended on Good Friday.

It would be many years before I learned that Lent ended on Easter Sunday, not Good Friday! The reason my aunt and her friends broke their fast on Good Friday was because her job gave all the employees half the day off, so my aunt and her friends got together at my aunt's house for a celebration lunch and to break their Lenten fast together.

Since I had done so well with my gum fast, the following year I gave up sweets. And so, it continued, again and again, with me giving up more and more things each year. During the years of no sweets, my best friend and I would carry little red boxes of raisins to get us through the "temptations" of sugar cravings. But in the end, it began to feel more like a test of my willpower rather than my reliance on or connection to God.

Over the years I came to understand that Lent was about more than giving up things of little consequence, especially since as soon as Lent was over, I went back to eating the same things I had given up. In 1990, as Ash Wednesday approached, I was feeling distant from God. Since I had not been praying regularly, I decided to commit to saying my prayers every night on my knees. Ash Wednesday started off as usual, but that afternoon, I received a phone call to tell me that my father had had a stroke and was at the VA Hospital. He never regained consciousness and died three days later. I felt that the Holy Spirit had invited

me to my Lenten prayer commitment which not only helped me get through that difficult time but has continued to help me to this day.

"From where will my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth."

While "getting right with God" is important, I have continued to grow in my understanding that my faith journey is also about being in right relationship with others. Our pre-Lenten reflections on Micah 6:8 and Isaiah 58:1-14 remind us that our spiritual journey is more than a personal and private experience. We are reminded that there is also a connection between our worship and the socio-political. When we are truly sincere in our piety in worship—love God, it will be reflected in our actions toward our neighbor—love neighbor. With God's help may we hear the Spirit's call during Lent and by God's grace may we *live* Lent long after these forty days are over.

May it be so for you and for me.

Lenten Blessings,

Denise



Lenten Worship

Sunday Worship Schedule

8:30 a.m. | Covenant Hall

10:30 a.m. | Sanctuary and online

March 1

Second Sunday of Lent

Communion

Preaching: Pastor Jong Lee

March 8

Third Sunday of Lent

Music Sunday

March 15

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Preaching: Pastor Denise Diaab

New Members Join

March 22

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Confirmation Sunday

Preaching: Pastor David Gray

March 29

Palm Sunday

Preaching: Pastor David Gray

Easter Flower Sign-Ups

Last Day: March 22

Help adorn our sanctuary with
flower donations this Easter.

Purchase your Easter azaleas, lilies, and hydrangeas for \$25/plant. To place your order, a sign-up sheet can be found in the Narthex or [click here](#). You may also contact Bie Fox, Susan Vanderver, or anyone else on the Flower Guild.

Each plant purchased comes with a dedication that will be printed in the Easter Sunday bulletins.

April 2

Maundy Thursday

Preaching: Pastor Denise Diaab
7:30 p.m.

April 3

Good Friday

Preaching: Pastor Denise Diaab
Noon and 7:30 p.m.

April 5

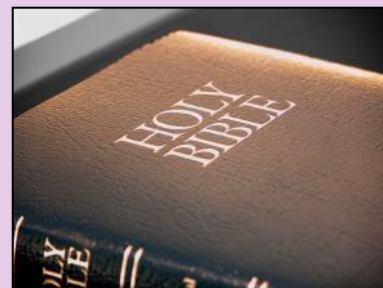
Easter Sunday

Preaching: Pastor David Gray
Identical services at 9:15 and 11:15 a.m.

Bible Study on Zoom March 4, 11, 18 and 25

Bible Study continues this winter. Join us by Zoom 2:00 p.m. to discuss scripture with Pastor David and or Pastor Denise. You do not need to be a member of Bradley Hills to attend our Bible Study classes. Everyone in the community is invited! Whether you enjoy participating or simply wish to listen in, all are welcome.

Contact Kristen Abbott at the Church Office for the Bible Study Zoom link.



Easter

At Bradley Hills

Sunday, April 5



SERVICES AT
9:15 AM & 11:15 AM

Message by Pastor David Gray

WITH BRASS AND CHOIR

HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY

March 29

8:30 & 10:30 am
(In-person & Online)

MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 2

7:30 pm
(In-person)

GOOD FRIDAY

April 3

12:00 pm
(In-person)
7:30 pm
(In-person & Online)



Mission

Sign Up to Provide a Meal | For many years Bradley Hills has fed the hungry through a ministry with shelters for those who would otherwise be homeless.

We have partnered with Interfaith Works to provide dinner once a month to Becky's House, a shelter for eight women and Lon's House, a home for eight men both located in Rockville.

Sign-ups are now open for 2026.



Sign up to provide a meal
at Becky's House:



Sign up to provide a meal
at Lon's House:



Distribute Groceries in Anacostia

Help Is Needed the Third Saturday Each Month!

BHPC is proud to support Faith Presbyterian Church's monthly "Feeding Families" project. The demand is now higher than ever for families in the church's neighborhood.

Up to 4-5 BHPC volunteers help Faith's team from 9:00-10:40 am, rain or shine.

Volunteers pack 60 grocery bags at the church in Anacostia and distribute them on the church property. Adults, families and teens are welcome.

Sign up on Sign Up Genius or send an email to Joan Burns, BHPC liaison to Faith Presbyterian Church.



Smart Sacks

An opportunity for the whole family! Join us immediately after the 10:30 service to assemble the sacks, which will go to area families in need. We also need volunteers to help set up before the assembly. Set-up volunteers need to be able to do some lifting. We are also looking for volunteers to deliver food during the week to public schools. Delivery volunteers need to do some lifting as well.

Interested in joining the Smart Sacks team? Contact Elaine Henderson or Jim Kettler during the Smart Sacks assembly time after the 10:30 a.m. service.



Learning at Bradley Hills

Adult Education

March 1 | Penny Clark: The Supreme Court, Lower Courts, and the Challenges in the Current Administration

Administration: The relationship between the Supreme Court and Lower Courts, particularly the relationship between the judicial and administrative branches of government. Bradley Hills member Penny Clark is a retired attorney whose 44-year career included arguing employee benefits cases before the United States Supreme Court. She served as a law clerk to Associate Justice Lewis F. Powell Jr. of the United States Supreme Court from 1974 to 1975 - one of the first dozen women to clerk at the U.S. Supreme Court.

March 8 | How might our dreams help us grow spiritually?

Rev. Geoff Nelson, author of “Dreaming in church” will present a conversation about our dreams, how they might help us understand ourselves and help us become ever more faithful in our life with Christ. Geoff will be open to discuss Biblical dreams, psychological insights about dreams, and a variety of other dream related concerns that might arise from the class. Join us and learn more about your dreams and your faith. Rev. Geoff Nelson, Doctor of Ministry, is a retired Presbyterian pastor, from Whittier, California. He is also a trained spiritual director, labyrinth facilitator and received his D. Min. degree for running dream groups in churches. His book, “Dreaming in Church” is available through Amazon and the publisher, Wipf & Stock.

March 15 | Courtney Shea: What good are polls to the country? Can we trust them?

Drawing on 20 years of experience in survey research, Courtney Shea will discuss the role of public opinion polling in society. She will describe recent changes in how polls are conducted, along with their strengths and weaknesses. Courtney will address the causes of polling errors in recent elections and provide a behind-the-scenes look at how major news organizations use polling to explain vote results on election night. Courtney Shea is the Vice President of Methods and Innovation at Pew Research Center and has been a member of Bradley Hills since 2022. She is responsible for the design of Pew’s surveys, data science projects, and methodological research and development. She has also served as an Election Night Analyst for NBC News since 2008. Prior to joining Pew, she designed surveys for ABC News/Washington Post, U.S. Department of Labor, Centers for Disease Control, and the U.S. Air Force.

March 22 | David Renwick An Explosive Mix: 1. Warring Cultures & Culture Wars in Jesus’ Time

A Fast-paced Historical Survey of 350BC-AD100. With the remarkable military campaigns of Alexander the Great (356-323BC), Greek culture (as with American culture today throughout the world) spread across the Ancient Near East transforming local cultures. By the 1st century BC, another great power was on the rise: Rome, whose republic collapsed just before the birth of Jesus (lessons for us today?), and whose expanding empire under the first emperor, Augustus, crushed all opposition, but created peace throughout the Mediterranean world. While military resistance to such power was futile, both cultural attraction and resistance were in active tension with both Greece and Rome in Judea in the 1st centuries BC and AD - the time of Jesus.

March 29 (Palm Sunday) | David Renwick An Explosive Mix: 2. Political Religious Groups of Jesus’ Time

In the time of Jesus, the descendants of Abraham were by no means a cohesive single group. Many were living in various places within the ancient world (following their 6th century deportation to Babylon); and even within the Holy Land they had splintered into various groups. These groups, each had different theological and political perspectives that, notably, included differences with regard to defiance or compromise with foreigners from Greece and Rome, as well with regard to views of the significance of their own Temple in Jerusalem. All of this would come to a head in AD 66 with the outbreak of a full blown revolt against Rome, ending in the destruction of the Jerusalem Temple. But who, if any, within Judaism would survive the storm? Judeans? Galileans? Priests? Scribes? Sadducees? Apocalyptic Groups? The Dead Sea Community at Qumran? Pharisees? The followers of a messianic claimant, Jesus, who seemed to have been at odds with pretty much every group of any standing? David Renwick, Pastor Emeritus, National Presbyterian Church, Theologian in Residence, Vienna Presbyterian Church. Dr. Renwick retired in 2022, having served for eleven years as Senior Pastor of The National Presbyterian Church, Washington, DC. David currently serves as chair of the board of Friends of Forman Christian College, in Lahore, Pakistan and is a visiting professor at Forman (summer of 2025, and upcoming, 2026), teaching Biblical Theology in the Masters program.

JOIN BY
ZOOM!



When: 9:15-10:15 a.m.

Where: Lounge

Childcare will be provided.

Music

A Note from Paul

We journey through the season of Lent with songs that sustain our faith. This month, the Chancel Choir will lead a special music Sunday on March 8 focused on the Songs of Ascent from the book of Psalms. As David shared in his sermon several weeks ago, this portion of the psalter (no. 120-134) was traditionally prayed by pilgrims journeying to Jerusalem for religious festivals. The rocky, vulnerable mountainous landscape made for many physical and spiritual challenges, and the Psalmist praises God for the gift of community, cries out to God for support in distress, and gives gratitude for the sustaining, sheltering presence of God. Rather than offer one larger work, the service will include choral anthems by composers across the centuries that invite us to experience the emotional range of the Psalms. There will also be lots of congregational singing and readings of poetry and scripture.

The Director of Music Ministry search team is a hard-working, organized group and they begin to audition candidates early this month. Please continue to pray for them as they discern who is called to serve this community in the years ahead.

Now is the time to plan for spring Friends of Music concerts. We're delighted to welcome several world-class artists to finish the season in April and May. Invite a friend or music-lover to join you and share the joy of beautiful music in a beautiful space.

May God sustain you as you journey through Lent, friends, and may the songs we share in community be a balm and inspiration in these challenging days.

Upcoming rehearsals:

Chancel Choir | Every Thursday from 7:30-9:30 p.m.; sing regularly in worship

Bradley Ringers | Rehearse on Saturday, March 21 at 2 p.m.; ring on Sunday, March 22

Alleluia Singers | Rehearse every Sunday from 11:45-12:15 p.m.; sing on Palm Sunday, March 29

Lantern Chorale | Rehearse every Thursday from 5:45 -6:30 p.m.



Make a Joyful Noise! Join a Children's Choir



Alleluia Singers | Pre-K to 2nd Grade
Select Sundays after worship from
11:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Lantern Chorale | 3rd-8th Grade
Select Thursday evenings from
5:30-6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.



Friends of Music

Individual Tickets: \$40 adult | \$30 student | \$15 child (under 15 years)
Get \$5 off when you advance purchase individual tickets.

For more info and to purchase a subscription or tickets, go to
www.BradleyHillsChurch.org/concerts

The Love Triangle: Music and Letters of Johannes Brahms and Robert & Clara Schumann

Saturday, April 18, 2026 | 7:30 pm

Alon Goldstein, *piano*

Join acclaimed pianist **Alon Goldstein** for an intimate exploration of one of classical music's most compelling love stories.

Interweaving passionate piano works with excerpts from personal letters, this program reveals the emotional and artistic bonds between Robert and Clara Schumann and Johannes Brahms.

From Schumann's poetic *Fantasiestücke* to Brahms' tender

Intermezzi, each piece offers a glimpse into a world where music and emotion are inseparable.



Goldstein, a Steinway Artist and recipient of the Johns Hopkins Society of Scholars award, has performed with leading orchestras worldwide and is renowned for his musical intelligence and dynamic personality. His innovative programming and artistic vision have made him a favorite with audiences and critics alike throughout the United States, Europe, and Israel.



American Brass Quintet

Saturday, May 16, 2026 | 7:30 pm

The **American Brass Quintet** is internationally recognized as one of the premier chamber music ensembles of our time, celebrated for peerless leadership in the brass world. "The most distinguished" of brass quintets (*American Record Guide*), ABQ has earned its stellar reputation through its celebrated performances, genre-defining commissioned works, and an ongoing commitment to the education of generations of musicians.

The *New York Times* wrote that "among North American brass ensembles, none is more venerable than the American Brass Quintet." Join The American Brass Quintet in concert to experience their unparalleled legacy in the brass field firsthand.

Children, Youth, and Families

Church School

We are excited to be a part of your family's spiritual formation, and we hope you will join us at Church School each Sunday and for our special events! During the 10:30 worship, children ages 3-5th grade are invited to head upstairs for Church School.



The poster features the text "BRADLEY HILLS' YOUTH TRIPS" in large, colorful, 3D-style letters. To the right is an illustration of a person with blue hair, wearing a red shirt and green pants, in a dynamic pose. Below the main title are three trip options, each with a QR code:

- Massanetta: (Middle School)** July 7-12
- Montreat: (High School)** July 11-18
- High School Mission Trip:** June 21-26

At the bottom of the poster, it says "Balance due by March 30, 2026".

Sign-up and place your deposit for each trip by **March 8!**

Balance due by March 30.

Scholarships are available.

Chaperones are needed. Interested? Reach out to the trip lead below.

Questions?

Montreat: Cliff Ty (cliffy@aol.com)

Mission Trip: Jan Kang (jan.kang@gmail.com)

Massanetta: Kim Brinkman (ksbrinkman@gmail.com)



Stewardship

Processing Fees for Contributions Made on Realm

Many BHPC members have embraced electronic giving through Realm, and the church relies on automated gifts that arrive regularly, even when folks are away or worshipping online. This resource is convenient, but it comes at a cost.

BHPC pays a processing fee for every contribution made through Realm. When you use a credit card, the fee is typically 2.84%. For ACH transfers from a bank account, the fee is only 0.9%.

When we contribute through Realm, we are automatically invited to increase our contribution to cover the processing fee. That additional amount counts as a charitable contribution for tax purposes but is not counted toward our pledge.

In 2025, BHPC's total processing fees amounted to \$9,680. Donors paid \$4,354, leaving the church to pay

\$5,326. The church would love to spend this money on our crucial ministries and programs. We can help make this happen in two ways:

- Increase our contributions on Realm to cover the processing fee whenever possible. Then the church receives the full amount we intended to give.
- If that isn't possible, use an ACH bank transfer rather than a credit card. Then the processing fee is less than one third of the fee for credit cards.

Also, when you set up a recurring gift in Realm (for example, \$200 each month), that gift will not be automatically updated in subsequent years to reflect a new pledge amount. If you have increased your pledge from 2025 to 2026 (and if so, we thank you!), please remember to change the recurring gift that you set up in Realm to correspond to the new pledge amount.

And, as always, please know that BHPC is grateful for all of your gifts and pledges and thanks you for covering the church's processing fees when you can.

Inter-Congregational Partnership

Annual Report and Update Interfaith Refugee Family Support Initiative

Interfaith Refugee Family Support Initiative started 2025 with \$6229 and ended the year with \$18,673. Two members each from BJC and BHPC have volunteered in 2025.

In April, 2025 our 3 congregations (BHPC, BJC and MIIC) hosted an emergency fundraising campaign after the administration abruptly cut financial support for refugee families. We raised \$36,523. \$13,323 was donated to HomesNotBorders (some members donated directly) for emergency rent support and food distribution later in the year when SNAP benefits were cut. \$2875 to SHC, for educational support for women and children and also emergency food support for their clients. We have had long standing relationships with these nonprofit organizations who serve refugees with hands on support.

At the beginning of 2025 the Interfaith Refugee Initiative began partnering with volunteers from Temple Micah to support an Afghan family of 7 who live in Prince Georges County. The Sayedi/Reshta family arrived in December 2024, after subsisting in Pakistan for 3 years without being able to afford schooling for their 3 school age children. The family has had many needs. We were able to: provide initial rent support: tutoring for the children: access job training for the mother through Emma's Torch; help the father and one son find jobs; drive to and support them during many medical appointments and 2 surgeries; help them access public benefits and much more. We reimbursed the International Rescue Committee (IRC), their resettlement agency, for the cost of their airline tickets to the US of \$6076 and paid \$2740 for the Civil Surgeon medical exams for five family members. These exams are required as part of the application process for their Green Cards which IRC is handling. They are required to apply for Green Cards after a year in country even though the government has stopped processing applications. Temple Micah is paying the Green Card application and legal fees.

In addition, some funds were used to provide one-time help for several refugee families that members of MIIC, BJC and BHPC were helping informally. We are still in touch with families and individuals we helped over the past nine years and provide support when requested.

The need is enormous and we plan to continue using remaining funds to help where we can. Despite suspension of most refugee admissions and supports, some refugee families with Special Immigration Visas (SIV) were still coming in and are being helped to find housing and get started by organizations such as HomesNotBorders and KindWorks and informal groups such as us.

Refugee Shabbat 2026

Friday March 13 at 7:30 p.m.

Bethesda Jewish Congregation invites BHPC members and their extended circles to join us for Refugee Shabbat on Friday March 13 at 7:30 p.m. in Covenant Hall. At this special service we will reaffirm our shared commitment to welcoming the stranger and standing with the immigrant community. This event is coordinated at synagogues nationally by HIAS, an international Jewish non-profit organization that provides humanitarian aid, legal protection, and resettlement services to refugees, asylum seekers, and forcibly displaced people worldwide, regardless of their faith or ethnicity.

Guest speaker: The Rev. Anne E. Derse of St. John's Norwood Episcopal Church

Oneg with refreshments and conversation to follow the service.


MAQAAME IBRAHIM
 ISLAMIC CENTER

YOU ARE INVITED TO

Ramadan

INTERFAITH IFTAR

Join us for an evening of community, reflection and fellowship as we come together to break our fast.


MARCH

SATURDAY **7** 5:30 -7:30 PM

MEMORIAL HALL, 6601 BRADLEY BLVD., BETHESDA, MD 20817

RSVP By March 1, 2026
<https://evite.me/3Pq5TESNCF>




ICPC Book Discussion

THE BOOK OF JOY

Lasting Happiness in a Changing World

By Dalai Lama & Desmond Tutu


Read the book and come share your thoughts

MARCH 24

7:00 PM

Covenant Hall,
6601 Bradley Blvd.,
Bethesda, MD 20817

Use QR Code or RSVP to
icpc6601@gmail.com



Updates from the Inter-Congregational Partnership Committee (ICPC)

Voices Among Us: Every day, ordinary people in our community are showing up in extraordinary ways to support refugees

On February 16 the ICCP hosted a gathering featuring members of the MIIC, BJC and BHPC: Speakers included:

Airokhsh Faiz (MIIC) who has been helping Afghan refugees by providing needed household items, food, driving lessons and most of all hope that they can rebuild their lives in this country.

Larry Johnson, founder of Bridge the Gap 501(c)(3) who discussed his work buying or getting donations of serviceable used cars, fixing them up, getting them inspected and registered, and then giving them to refugee families (at times asking for a contribution to the expense), assuring that they are in a financial position to afford the on-going expenses of owning a car before taking them to the DMV to get the car registered in their name.

Brigitte Burgett (BHPC) who reported on the activities of the Interfaith Refugee Family Support Initiative that was started more than 9 years ago as a response to the world-wide refugee crises.

Evelyn Ganzglass (BJC), who reported on the current status of refugees and invited us to action in three broad areas:

Advocate for national, state, and/or county-level action to support immigrants. This work could involve e-mail, phone, and/or letter-writing campaigns to national, state, and local officials, and attendance at hearings, rallies, and vigils. Contact BJC's Gary Sampliner gsampliner@gmail.com if you are interested in participating.

Continued on following page.....

Help Immigrants with the challenges of resettling in our community through the following organizations:

- You can join the New Neighbors Interfaith Alliance (NNIA), <https://nnia-maryland.org>. The NNIA is an all-volunteer organization supporting immigrants through long term support and emergency assistance in Montgomery County through dedicated volunteer teams. New volunteers and donations are always welcome.
- The MIIC is partnering with NNIA during Ramadan 2/25-3/20 to collect toys and household items for families NNIA supports.
- Volunteer or support organizations like HomesNotBorders <https://www.homesnotborders.org> or Solutions in Hometown Connections <https://www.shconnections.org>
- Donate or sell an older car to Larry Johnson which he will then provide to a refugee family and get a tax deduction through his non-profit. Email Brigitte Burgett bkburgett@gmail.com and she will connect you.

Resist Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) actions by engaging in one or more of the following actions:

- Help people understand their rights.
- Document abuses, taking videos, preventing or moderating abuses by witnessing what is happening.
- Accompany immigrants to court hearings and immigration offices to support immigrants and witness what is happening. Questions? Contact Evelyn Ganzglass eganzglass@gmail.com

**Interested in watching the February 16
ICPC gathering, *Voices Among Us?* Scan
the QR code!**



Leadership Change at the ICPC

Judy Ozone, beloved co-chair of the ICCP for several years is moving to Minnesota next month. The ICCP is hosting a farewell gathering for its members and friends for July 3/21 2-4 pm in the lounge. Please contact Evelyn if you would like to join eganzglass@gmail.com.

MIIC Ramadan Drive for Household Items for NNIA Refugee Families | Feb 25 - March 20

Except for pillows, we take used items in good condition as well as new items. Please leave your donations in the MIIC donation bin in the hallway near Covenant Hall/Gathering Space at 6601 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, MD 20817.

- irons
- electric kettles
- pressure cookers and instant pots (but no rice cookers or crockpots)
- large baking sheet for Afghan bread
- pots & pans
- multi-part serving dishes for nuts and dried fruit
- sheet sets, blankets, comforters - size queen or twin
- cribs, crib sheets, baby blankets, baby towels
- new pillows
- rugs, preferably 9x12 or larger
- vacuum cleaners
- mops, buckets, cleaning supplies
- shower curtains and hooks
- towels, especially bath size
- shoe racks for front door

MIIC Ramadan Eid 2026 Toy Drive | Feb 24 to March 15

Our goal is to donate toys for 140 children (ages newborn to 11 years) and \$25 Amazon gift cards for 60 children (ages 11 and up) from refugee families in Montgomery County. We are partnering with New Neighbor Interfaith Alliance (NNIA) for this initiative.

Bring a new, unwrapped toy (for ages 0 to 11 years) to 6601 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, MD 20817 and place in the Ramadan Eid Toy Drive bin in the hallway beside Covenant Hall/Gathering Space.

You may also make a cash donation to purchase \$25 Amazon gift cards for children ages 11 and up. Please specify 'Toy Drive' in the note.

Debit or credit card to www.miicbethesda.org/donate

Venmo: @MIIC-Treasurer

**Call MIIC at 240-277-5432
if you have any questions.**

Zelle: 240-277-5432

Statement on Hate-Based Graffiti at Local School

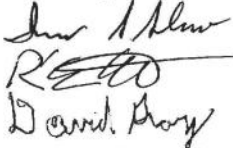
Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church, Bethesda Jewish Congregation, and the Maqaame Ibrahim Islamic Center—spiritual siblings that share sacred space at 6601 Bradley Boulevard in Bethesda—decry the recent Islamophobic and anti-Palestinian graffiti incident at nearby Walt Whitman High School. Hate-based graffiti does nothing to solve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Indeed, such animosity stands in contrast to the values of understanding, cooperation, and valuing differences that are hallmarks of our faith traditions and our shared experience working together.

We believe our county educational and civic leadership must continue to take the safety and well-being of Muslim students seriously, as we and others have asked leaders to support Jewish students following previous antisemitic incidents. We thank our county officials for their leadership as they continue to support Muslim students in our area, enhance a broader understanding of the value of appreciating people of different backgrounds, and elevate the importance of honoring our shared humanity.

The inter-congregational partnership amongst our three congregations is a living example that people of different faiths, backgrounds, and points of view can dwell together in peace and understanding. We do not agree on everything, but we respectfully acknowledge our differences and we celebrate our commonalities.

We pray for a better future for all who live in our county, nation, and world: one of peace, harmony, justice, and understanding amongst all peoples. May our interfaith partnership serve as a beacon of hope for all.

Sincerely,



Imad-ad-Dean Ahmad, Maqaame Ibrahim Islamic Center

Rabbi Eric Abbott, Bethesda Jewish Congregation

Rev. David Gray, Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church



New Member Class

Pastor David will lead a class for those interested in finding out more about Bradley Hills or membership. He'll also fill you in on the many offerings here and how you can get involved. New Members join March 15.

Looking to Connect?
Want to Explore Membership?
March 1 & 8 | Library
Lunch and Childcare Included

Contact Pastor David at david@bradleyhillchurch.org



Thank You from Mary Hickey's Family

On behalf of Mary's family, near and far, I offer our profound thanks and gratitude to Mary's Family of Faith at Bradley Hills. During Mary's illness, and since her passing, we have received, from you, many thoughtful cards and notes, phone calls and texts, emails, many hugs, and several wonderful meals provided by Bradley Hills. Our family offers many thanks to Bradley Hills, the Pastors and our wonderful staff, for helping us during these recent difficult weeks. Thank you also to our wonderful Deacons for helping us to have such a splendid gathering of Mary's family and friends during the reception following her Memorial Service. It is here in Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church, where Mary really liked to be, with her friends, her fellow volunteers-in-service, and her Family of Faith. She now rests among us, smiling, I am sure. Thanks be to God for Bradley Hills.

- Corky Hickey, for Mary's Family

Bradley Hills Nursery School

March winds will blow so many fun activities into our classrooms:

- Stone Photography will be here to capture all the adorable smiles of our little ones.
- To celebrate St. Patrick's Day, classes will be busy building leprechaun traps and hunting for gold. The leprechauns always like to sneak into our classrooms and turn chairs and toys topsy turvy and rush out dropping glitter and gold.
- Brackets with Bradley Bear - March Madness Parents' Group Fundraiser. Pick your favorite teams and follow the fun. All proceeds support our wonderful Parents' Group.
- Annual hearing and speech screenings-early intervention is key.

We welcome warmer temperatures and the day all this ice finally melts away. We will talk about how this change of season impacts us all (people, animals, bugs, and trees). It is our favorite time of year!

As the seasons change, so too will the BHPCNS leadership team be changing. Liz Sobrino, BHPCNS' Director since 2013, has announced that the 2026-2027 school year will be her last year with the preschool. BHPC is grateful to Liz for her many years of leadership and expertise and to George Petrides for chairing the search committee for the new Director. If you would like to be a member of the search committee, or know a potential candidate for the position, please reach out to George at gpetridesjr@gmail.com.



Connect with Others

Join the Visiting Team | Are you looking for a way to serve Christ and build relationships? Please consider joining the visiting team. We are a ministry of connection and presence. We meet monthly for training and to provide each other mutual support. Our mission is to share Christ's love by visiting one person once a month. Please reach out to Jennifer Kline jemnkline0329@gmail.com (614-802-9537) or Pastor, Denise Diaab for more information. Denise@bradleyhillchurch.org. (301-365-2850)



Bradley Hills commissioned the Elder and Deacon Class of 2029.

Elders | Sara Todd, Matt Brown, Jeffrey McCreight, Tamae Wong and Will Biggs (Youth Elder)

Deacons | Betsy Scroggs, Venus Masselam, John Shea, Rich Harper, Eloise Scribner (Youth Deacon) and MacKenzie Owens (Youth Deacon)

Happy March Birthdays

1 Mar Tommy Stauffer	Rachel Alderton	Charley Graff	Spenser
Sarah Perry	Alex Cope	16 Mar Neil Imus	Easterbrook
2 Mar Gregg Easterbrook	10 Mar Lauren Meyer	Peyton Brown	Tambra Chambers
Jan Kang	Joal Bennett-Stenzel	17 Mar Oliver Snow	24 Mar Carol Dorsey
3 Mar Quinn Scribner	Braden Silverman	18 Mar Nadia Schmiedigen	Erin Miller
4 Mar Teague Hopkins	11 Mar Alvin Stenzel	Carolena Moya	Kim Brinkman
Lizanne Stafford	Aurora Williams	19 Mar Bie Fox	Ryan Stark
5 Mar Zacary Behsudi	12 Mar Annabel Hunter	Rosie Sedgwick	Maggie Grobowski
6 Mar Jack Bennett	Jean Sutton	20 Mar Abby Imus	25 Mar Eric Sutton
David Pritchard	Claire Busch	Jane Mahoney	26 Mar Karen Greenberg
Stephanie Nealer	Amanda Kiell	Simon Timm	27 Mar Lily Bello
Lillian Reed	Una Lannon	21 Mar Chuck Weir	28 Mar Camille Caldera
7 Mar Kevin Guerrero	13 Mar Maya Cunningham	Daniel Mahoney	Jack Winslow
Brian Lokker	Walker Dunbar	Danny Roberts	Chloe Winslow
Sean Owens	14 Mar Chris Kallas	Farid Beltran	Allie Coffey
8 Mar Jane Hatchett	Cindy Geer	Patrick Brown	Jonathan Howard
Elizabeth Inati	Barbara Thompson	Marcia Reutershan	Clara Galvin
Hunter Smith	Lisa Wilson	Hugh Javers	29 Mar Boyd Adams
9 Mar Lucas Moya	Steve Potashnik	22 Mar Matt Brown	Jennifer Kline
Norma Parker	15 Mar Meredith Miles	Charles Williams	James Reutershan
Shayna Liu	Lucy Spagnolo	23 Mar Sally Fowler	

Photos & Announcements

Items for the April 2026 BHX should be sent to **Kristen Abbott** at kristen@bradleyhillchurch.org by 3/15.

Did We Miss Your Birthday?

Email **Kristen Abbott**,
Office Manager, at kristen@bradleyhillchurch.org
so we can celebrate with you.



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Office Hours: Tues. - Thurs. 9 am to 4 pm; Fri. 9 am to 1 pm

If you would like to stop receiving a paper copy of the BHX, please email or call [Kristen Abbott](mailto:kristen@bradleyhillschurch.org) at kristen@bradleyhillschurch.org | (301) 365-2850. Copies of the BHX are also available in the Narthex.