

Arch Street United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

55 North Broad Street

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107

(corner of Broad & Arch Streets)

Telephone: 215.568.6250 | Fax: 215.568-2256

www.archstreetumc.org



Sunday December 14, 2014 11:00 AM Service

Senior Pastor, Reverend Robin Hynicka

Visitation Pastor, Reverend Reinhard Kruse

Deacons, Reverend David Brown, David Krueger

Deaconess, Darlene Di Domineck

Music Director - 8:30 am, Reverend Dolores Farinre-Carey

Guest Musician- 11:00 am, George Grace

Secretaries, Anne McCormick/Cathy Minecci

Sextons, Russell Whaley/Devon Goodwin/

Joe Kalil/Toni McIlwaine, LaDonna Cuffee

SUNDAY WORSHIP 11:00 AM

December 14, 2014

3rd Sunday of Advent

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "Prelude on a Carol" melody by Denizot arr. Boely

GATHERING AS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

CHORAL INTROIT "Lead Me, Lord" Wesley

CALL TO WORSHIP

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #203 "Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

*OPENING PRAYER

*RESPONSIVE PSALM 126 page 847 (response # 2)

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Let us offer one another signs of reconciliation and love.

CLAIMING OUR HOPE

LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

The Candle of Joy Bill Gatewood and Rick Taylor
#211 "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (Verse 3)

SCRIPTURE READING

Juanita Campbell Ford

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24

CHORAL ANTHEM

"E'en So Lord Quickly Come" Manz

Peace be to you and grace from Him.

*Who freed us from our sins, Who loved us all and shed his blood
That we might saved be.*

Sing Holy, Holy to our Lord, The Lord, Almighty God,

Who was and is to come; Sing Holy, Holy, Lord!

Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell there in,

Rejoice on earth, ye saints below, For Christ is coming soon!

E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, And night shall be no more;

They need no light nor lamp nor sun, For Christ will be their All!

*GOSPEL LESSON John 1: 6-8, 19-28

SERMON “Always Working” Reverend Robin M. Hynicka

***HYMN # 2092** (The Faith We Sing Hymnal) “Like a Child”
(During the singing of the hymn, worshippers are invited to approach the altar)

SILENT MEDITATION

PASTORAL PRAYER

AFFIRMING OUR MISSION

CHORAL OFFERTORY

“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus” Wesley/Prichard

OFFERTORY RESPONSE #94 Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,

Praise God all creatures here below;

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***HYMN # 670** “Go Forth for God”

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** “God Rest You Merry” arr. Held

The Lord your God is in your midst, rejoicing over you with gladness, renewing you in love. I will bring you home and restore your fortunes, says the Lord.

[Here relight the first two Advent candles.]

In this new light we give thanks to the Lord.

With joy you will draw waters from the wells of salvation.

We will rejoice in the Lord always.

We light a third candle to reveal the pathway to faithfulness.

[Here light the third candle.]

As a covenant people we will seek to live in the joy of the Lord.

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Worship Leader: Cathy Simpson

Greeters: Barbara Williams and Raymond Wilson

Nursery Attendant: Mark McNeill

Printed on 30% recycled paper

Calendar

December 14th to December 26th, 2014

- SUN** 12/14 8:00 Worship Service, Chapel
9:45 Children's Sunday School
9:45 Adult Sunday School
9:45 Choir Rehearsal
11:00 Worship Service, Sanctuary
12:20 to 3 Deaconess Darlene, Sanctuary
12:30 Children's' Christmas Play, Chapel
1:00 UMW Meeting
1:00 Sacred Places Open House/ Photography Exhibit, Narthex
2:00 Unity Fellowship Church Service
5:30 Grace Café Devotions
6:00 Grace Café
- MON** 12/15 1:00 Tea & Talk, Chapel
5:30 AA, Nichols Hall
- TUE** 12/16 12:00 Hour of Power, Sanctuary
- WED** 12/17 5:30 AA, Nichols Hall
- THU** 12/18 5:30 AA dinner, Chapel
- SUN** 12/21 8:30 Worship Service, Chapel
9:45 Children's Sunday School
9:45 Adult Sunday School
9:45 Choir Rehearsal
11:00 Worship Service, Sanctuary
12:20 to 3 Deaconess Darlene, Sanctuary
12:30 Get Acquainted Time
2:00 Unity Fellowship Church Service
5:30 Grace Café Devotions
6:00 Grace Café
- MON** 12/22 1:00 Tea & Talk, Chapel
2:00 The Brilliance, Sanctuary
5:30 AA, Nichols Hall
- TUE** 12/23 12:00 Hour of Power, Sanctuary
- WED** 12/24 5:30 AA, Nichols Hall
7:00 Candlelight Service, Sanctuary
- Merry Christmas
- THU** **12/25** **8:00 AM Christmas Breakfast for our Homeless Neighbors**
5:30 AA, Nichols Hall
- FRI** 12/26 **Church Closed**

Be sure to visit our Web site (www.archstreetumc.org) and check out our events calendar!

WHAT'S HAPPENING



Historic Sacred Places Tour Today

Local places of worship are joining together to create a Sacred Spaces Open House tour. Thirteen participating congregations will open their doors to visitors **Today, from 1 to 4 PM.**

Congregants and church leaders will be present to answer questions about the architecture and history of their building, and to provide information about communal activities. Refreshments, music and tours are offered at many locations.

All participants in this **free, self-guided tour**, sponsored by Center City Residents Association, will receive a **tour map**, as well as historical/architectural descriptions of each facility. Arch Street UMC will be one of the stops on this tour. George Grace will be performing.

Children's Christmas Play

Come to the Chapel after the 11:00 service to see our Children's Christmas Play, "*Into the Woods.*" It is a short story about a little Christmas miracle.

Joy, a Photography Exhibition

Temple University's Aperture Agency will have photographs on display in the narthex until **December 19th**. The photographers will be on hand to discuss their work **today, Sunday, December 14th** from **1-5 PM**. Refreshments will be provided.

United Methodist Women Meet Sunday December 14th to celebrate Advent

You are invited to join us even if you have never heard of the United Methodist Women and are not sure what they are up to or who they are. Everyone is welcome. We plan to attend the Youth's Christmas play, immediately following the 11 am Worship service, and the United Methodist Women will meet immediately after that! There will be a brief presentation in the chapel on the *Choose PA Wind* campaign.

This is a chance to focus on Advent rather than the "busyness" of Christmas, and to take a few minutes to share your hopes and prayers this Advent season with other women in the church. The United Methodist Women's Julie Taylor reminds us that

"This is a season not of Hallmark cards and department store sales, of red and white clad Santas and greenery hung in every space, of holiday parties and shimmering lights, but a season of reminder that the church year began with a teenage girl, donkey travel, barn lodging and a helpless baby.

May our minds see all that is around us draped in the context of materialism while our souls translate it into that which is immeasurably valuable, like joy and love and peace. On this day we pray for children. We pray for those long awaited and those suddenly blessing us. We pray for those who are loved and wanted and for those who are met with anxiety. Forgive us that we sometimes abstain from the hard work required to make this world a better place for all children. Forgive us for being caught up in our own selfish pursuits and not noticing that needs exist around us even if they are not the reality in our own home. Forgive us if we do not seek to do all we can to care for the children in our family, the children of our community, the children of our nation, the children of our world ... because they all belong to us and we to them."

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

On **Wednesday, December 24th** at **7 PM**, there will be an extended prelude of Christmas music. The Candlelight Service will begin at **7:30 PM**. The music and the candlelight set the tone for welcoming God's grace provided in the birth of the baby Jesus.

Christmas Day Breakfast

The United Methodist Men of Arch Street UMC are sponsoring a delicious breakfast and warm fellowship with homeless neighbors on **Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25th**. We again expect about 600 people to be served. Volunteer hosts and hostesses, servers and especially cleanup crew are needed. If you would like to take part in this event, please contact the Church office at 215-568-6250 or add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Chapel office. Hosts, hostesses and servers must arrive at the church before 8AM. Clean-up crew will be needed at 11AM.

Bring on the Spirit!

If you took a gift tag for a refugee: **DO NOT WRAP THE GIFT BUT PLACE IT IN A RECYCLABLE SHOPPING BAG ALONG WITH THE GIFT TAG.** *The gifts must be brought to the church by next Sunday, December 21 at the latest.* Thank you.

Student Run Emergency Shelter

In partnership with the Student Run Emergency Shelter Program and Project Home, ASUMC will welcome up to 30 men to sleep overnight in Nichols Hall. The goal is to assist the guest to make the transition from homeless to permanent housing. Students from several area colleges and universities volunteer to serve a light supper, share in community building activities and provide support and assistance. If you are interested in learning more about this program, please contact the church office (215) 568 6250.

Grace Café

Grace Café (ASUMC's outreach to folks currently without homes) will be open **every Sunday** until June 28, 2015. After a brief period of faith-sharing this evening, those gathered will enjoy a home-cooked meal prepared by Kim Walsh and friends. There are lots of openings for hosts to bring food and prepare a meal for about 200 people. If you know of a group that would like to assist in this important mission, please have them contact the church office at 215-568-6250 or Darlene DiDomineck at ddidominick@epaumc.org. Greeters, servers and clean-up crew are needed and always welcomed.

We Need Your Help

This winter promises to be very, very cold. Please bring new or "gently used" blankets, sweatshirts & hoodies to church. Darlene DiDomineck will distribute them to our friends who need them.

PLEASE HELP THOSE IN NEED THIS WINTER!!

Provide a Warm Welcome to Refugees

Winter is coming and refugees arriving from warm countries need hats, mittens, scarves, gloves and socks. Please bring these **NEW** items to church for Margaret to bring to the Nationalities Service Center.

A Look at Our Faithfulness

Combined attendance for **Sunday, December 7, 2014** was 145 and 185 for Grace Café. Your tithes, gifts and offerings help ASUMC make a difference in our community. Thank you.



Adult Sunday School

All those interested in reading, reflecting on and discussing the Bible passages in preparation for the next week's sermon are invited to meet in the Chapel at **9:45AM today**. Readings for **December 28, 2014** are Isaiah 61: 10- 62:3; Psalm 148; Galatians 4: 4-7 and Luke 2: 22-40.

Children's Sunday School

Sunday School for all children will be held between Services at **9:45AM**. Primary and Early Elementary years will meet with Dottie Wells in Nichols Hall, Room G. The Nursery is open for all infants and toddlers from 8AM – 12:30PM. If you would like to assist with Sunday School, please contact the church office (215) 568 6250 or speak to Pastor Robin.

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUPS

Our small groups are ending this week until early next year. We hoped to gather the groups together for a pot luck this week but it has been postponed because of our search committee meeting for a new music director.

The Group Leaders are:

Lea Booth, Lea.m.booth@gmail.com

Warren Cederholm, gables@gablesbb.com

Danielle DiLeo Kim, Ddileokim@yahoo.com

Cathy Simpson, catactsimpson@gmail.com

Wilhelmina Young, Thecatalyst212@aol.com

Here Ye Hear Ye!

Here at Arch Street UMC we would love to hear you **read scripture** at the 8:30 or 11:00 services. If you are interested, please indicate it on your card or call the church office at 215-568-6250.

Support Angela Navarro in Her Fight against Deportation

If you were in church last Sunday, you heard Robin share the story of Angela Navarro in his sermon, *Always Awake*. For anyone who was not there and to remind those who were, Margaret has documented Angela's story and a handout is available today.

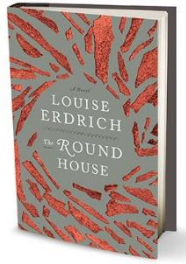
As a member congregation of the New Sanctuary Movement of Philadelphia, Arch Street has pledged to support Angela and her family in several ways.

- We need to pray for her and her family.
- We need to sign petitions urging that she not be deported.
If you have not already signed the petition to stop Angela's deportation, please do so today. You can sign a paper petition after church at the table outside of the church office or the one in the narthex. Or you can sign the petition on line at this link: bit.ly/LetAngelaStay.
- We need to support her financially to make up for her loss of income.
Arch Street needs to raise \$165 a month to contribute. Can you make a donation and a pledge today?
- We need to share her story with others and increase public awareness and support.
Please share Angela's story with everyone you know.

Please stop by the table outside the church office or the one in the narthex to sign up to help today. Questions? Contact Margaret Harris at margaretharris@me.com.



TODAY is the last day to order Christmas flowers !!!



Read Louise Erdrich's *The Round House* over the holidays & come talk about it on Sunday January 11th!

The Round House by Louise Erdrich is a terrific book. I absolutely loved it. But don't just take my word for it. *It* won the National Book Award for fiction and rave reviews from the critics. *The Round House*, transports readers to the Ojibwe reservation in North Dakota. It is an exquisitely told story of a boy on the cusp of manhood who seeks justice and understanding in the wake of a terrible crime that upends and forever transforms his family.

Riveting and suspenseful, Erdrich's *The Round House* is a page-turning masterpiece of literary fiction—at once a powerful coming-of-age story, a mystery, and a tender, moving novel of family, history, and culture.

It is a good read and a page turner but there are 317 pages to turn, so do not wait until January 10th to start unless you are a really really fast reader. It is available on Kindle and I (Margaret Harris) will have copies at church every Sunday until they run out.

We will have a book discussion immediately after the 11 am Worship Service on **Sunday January 11th!** Questions? Email me at margaretharris@me.com

Garage parking coupons are available from the Chapel office only for those who show their Convention Center parking ticket.

“May God be gracious to us and bless us and make His face to shine upon us.” Psalm 67: 1





PRAYER CONCERNS

Prayers of Healing for: *Dorothy Hurley, David Taylor, Kevin Malone, Dolores Farinre-Carey, Doloris Shephard, Charlene Arcila, Catherine McDuttie, Floretta Richerson, Margaret Smith, Beth Ann Kelly, Felipe Velazquez, J. J., Mr. Franco, Skylar, John Johnson, David Harris, Len Metzler, Justine McNeill, Loretta Wootten, Mary Allen, Emily Jenson, Marsha Wittman, Jenny Jakacki, Laura Massey, Steve Whaley, Nuwoo Gbarbea, Tim Brazelton, Diann Rollins, Weslia Hynicka, Joan Wood, John Moore, James Williams, Oscar Allen, Anthony Mastrando, Inez Barrett-Otey, Diana Amey, Casey Edwards, Temple Joiner, Ann Gennaro, Mark Fischer, Ida Bristoe, Maureen Norman, Jeanne Kostenbader, Donald Lathrop, Pamela Thomas, Rev. James Pittman, Sandra Parker, Allen Goodwin, Marion Dabney, Patricia Pape, Yazid Jones, Carl Davis, Evelyn Tinsley, Ernie, John Tucker, Lou Brooks, Rob Koob, Jada Bascom, Minerva Clark, Vanessa & Yaddy Sellers, Nakia Rimmer, Don Allen, Anna Cole, Christopher Browne, Betty Flowerree, Troy McColley, Barton Burke, Thomas Onorato, Roy Samuel Layden, Dorothy Eady, Molly Villafane, Pamela Maupin, Mary Reece, Celestine Justin, Louis Harrigan, Amy Durfee West, Mayra Malonada, Mary Smith, Sheldon Nixon, Althea Sea, Dennis Murphy, Dumis Randolph, Chris Siemes, Joanne Ferreri, Rosemary Schier*

Prayers of Encouragement for: *Jeff, Charles and David, Shalia DeShields, Rev. Brett Charsky, Lea Booth and family, the Hearn family, Anthony Eugene Smith and his mother, Christina, Donna Bateman, Rashida Bryant, Shelly Folks, the Thompson/Norman family, Calvin Smith, Jr., John Kitterell, Deborah Seely, Caroline Lopopolo, Alexander Grant, Lynn Jamison, Lonnie Minor, Anana Tinnhé, Laura Harrigan, Anna Burton, Glenda Cooke, Connie Knight, Rick Taylor, the Robertson family, Dorothy Watson and family, the family of Lunette Ellis, for Joe, Rich, and Elaine Jenson and family*

Prayers of Protection for our service people and those living in parts of the world under conflict. And, please pray for those who are hungry, ill, displaced, or living in poverty because of natural and human-made disasters, and for the workers who minister to them.

ARCH STREET UMC VISION

Arch Street United Methodist Church will be a welcoming Christian community that inspires openness, understanding, healing and reconciliation both within the congregation and in the community-at-large.

ARCH STREET MISSION STATEMENT

Arch Street United Methodist Church's mission is to love God and neighbor by nurturing individuals on their spiritual journeys, encouraging creativity in faithful service, strengthening relationships and promoting justice.

GOD'S TABLE IS OPEN TO ALL.

THERE'S ROOM AT THE TABLE FOR YOU.

Arch Street United Methodist Church is a community of faith-keeping and faith-seeking people who embrace diversity in our congregation and community, and affirm the dignity and worth of every person as created in the image of God. We celebrate and give thanks for all of the gifts of God among us. Our welcome knows no boundaries, whether of age, racial or ethnic background, gender, sexual orientation or gender identity, economic or marital status, or physical or mental ability. We welcome all to share in the ministry, fellowship, and blessings of full participation as members of Christ's body.



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on your smart phone.**

Parking is available at the Convention Parking Garage (13th & Arch Streets) for those attending Arch Street UMC services. Please stop at Chapel office.