

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 7, 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

mountain made low." The glory of the Lord shall be revealed; All people shall see it together. The mouth of the Lord has spoken it. Comfort, comfort my people; Proclaim the promise of the Lord: His name shall be called Emmanuel!

***GOSPEL LESSON** Mark 1: 1-8

SERMON "Always Open" Reverend Robin M. Hynicka

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

I believe in Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only child, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; He ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

CONCERNS AND PRAYERS

Brief intercessions, petitions, and thanksgivings will be prayed by the Pastor. To each of these the choir and the congregation will sing the response, "Come, Lord Jesus."

INVITATION

Christ our Lord invites to the table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

After you have received communion find your way to the tree in the back of the sanctuary. Choose a Chrismon to be hung on the tree and also pick a gift tag or two or three. In the next few weeks, purchase the gift item on your tag. 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 Sunday, December 21 at the latest.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Merciful God,

**We confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have failed to be an obedient church.**

**We have not done your will,
We have broken your law,
We have rebelled against your love,
We have not loved our neighbors,
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.
Forgive us, we pray.
Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

SILENT MEDITATION

Leader: Hear the good news:

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;
That proves God's love toward us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: **In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**

Leader and people: **Glory to God. Amen.**

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

As forgiven and reconciled people,
let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

CHORAL OFFERTORY "Emmanuel, Emmanuel" McGe

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel.

God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel

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!

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

TAKING THE BREAD AND CUP

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The musical setting on pages 23-24

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, God Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

You formed us in your image, and breathed into us the breath of life.

When we turned away, and our love failed, Your love remained steadfast.

You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is The One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

Your Spirit anointed Jesus to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people. Jesus healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners.

By the baptism of his suffering, death and resurrection you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

On the night in which Jesus gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, Jesus took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Does this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts

in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit, make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Child Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

BREAKING THE BREAD

Because there is one loaf,
We, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.
The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.
The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

SENDING FORTH

*HYMN # 202 "People Look East"

***DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING**

Go forth in peace.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
Amen.

***POSTLUDE** “Good Christian Men, Rejoice” Traditional arr. Held

The light of hope has awakened our spirits. A voice cries out in the wilderness,
“Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight.” *Renew in us your
covenant, O God, that we may be ready for the dawn of your salvation.*

We light a second candle to bring light to every darkness, and to guide us in the
way of peace. *With gratitude for your light, O God, we will prepare to welcome
a new birth of your love.*

Full participant with the Christian copyright license, inc. #715930



Worship Leader: Nicola Jefferson

Greeters: Shirlee Chambers and Bryan Sieber

Nursery Attendant: Joyce Mojher

Printed on 30% recycled paper

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

*“May integrity and uprightness preserve me, for I wait for Thee.”
Psalm 25: 21*



Calendar

December 7th to December 17th, 2014

SUN	12/7	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 1:00 New Members Class, 2 nd fl. conf. rm. 2:00 Unity Fellowship Church Service 5:30 Grace Café Devotions 6:00 Grace Café
MON	12/8	1:00 Tea & Talk, Chapel 5:30 AA, Chapel 7:00 Freedom Band Practice
TUE	12/9	12:00 Hour of Power, Sanctuary 7:00 Trustee Meeting
WED	12/10	5:30 AA, Chapel
THU	12/11	5:30 AA, Sanctuary 7:00 Diversity Group, Sanctuary
FRI	12/12	6:00 Advent Fellowship
SAT	12/13	12:00 Eliza Shirley Christmas Party 2:00 Photography Exhibit 7:00 Freedom Band Concert
SUN	12/14	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 Children's' Christmas Play 12:30 UMW Meeting 1:00 Sacred Places Open House/ Photography Exhibit 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, Chapel 7:00 Freedom Band Practice
TUE	12/16	12:00 Hour of Power, Sanctuary
WED	12/17	5:30 AA, Chapel

WHAT'S HAPPENING



New Members Class Today

Are you interested in finding out more about Arch Street Church, and what it means to be a United Methodist? Our **New Members** class will be held **today, Sunday, December 7th at 1:00 PM** in the 2nd floor Conference Room.

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.

Advent Fellowship

Join Rev. Hynicka for an **Advent Fellowship Pot Luck** for the whole family on **Friday, December 12th at 6PM**. It will be an evening of fun, food and imagination as we **prepare** for the Children's Play. Bring a covered dish and lots of joy. RSVP to Robin or the church office.

robin@archstreetumc.org or 215-568-6250.

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 Toni McIlwaine and members of Holy Ghost Headquarters. 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.

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 21, 2014** are 2 Samuel 7: 1-11, 16; Luke 1: 47-55; Romans 16: 25-27 and Luke 1: 26-38.



Our Annual Christmas Party for the Eliza Shirley House Children

If you like Christmas treats, riotous games led by Robin, a visit from Santa and happy children, please come or donate to the annual party for women and children who are currently without a home of their own. We can use home baked treats and donations of money in whatever amount you can give. As usual, gifts for the children will be donated by members of Covenant United Methodist Church in Springfield, PA and Margaret Harris. We also need volunteers to set up and help out during the party. The party is from **1:30 to 3:30 PM** on **Saturday December 13**. Set-up starts at 11:30. Come for an hour or the whole time. Please contact Betsy Connor at 267-243-4995 or betsyfconnor@gmail.com.

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.

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.

A Look at Our Faithfulness

Combined attendance for **Sunday, November 30, 2014** was 131 and 212 for Grace Café. Your tithes, gifts and offerings help ASUMC make a difference in our community. Thank you.

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.

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

Joy, a Photography Exhibition

Temple University’s Aperture Agency will have photographs on display in the narthex from **December 13th-19th**. Admission is free and the photographers will be on hand to discuss their work on **Saturday, December 13th** from **2-4 PM** and **Sunday, December 14th** from **1-5 PM**. Refreshments will be provided on those days.

Historic Sacred Places Tour

Local places of worship are joining together to create a Sacred Spaces Open House tour. Thirteen participating congregations will open their doors to visitors **Sunday, December 14th 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.

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."

Free Concert

All are invited to attend *Starry, Starry Night*, Philadelphia Freedom Band's annual concert. It will be held at Arch Street UMC on **Saturday, December 13th from 7-8:30 PM.**

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.

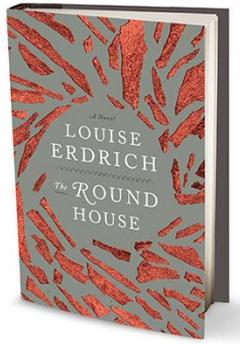
Please stop by the table outside the church office or the one in the narthex to sign up to help today. Questions? Contact Margaret Harris at margaretharris@me.com.

Sing THE MESSIAH

Saturday, December 27th, 5 PM Wharton Wesley UMC

If you like singing the Messiah, this is for you! Bring your Schirmer edition of the *Messiah* and show up at the church (54th and Catharine Streets, Philadelphia, PA 19143). We are hoping for 500 voices. Parking is available. For more information, call 215-472-4634.

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



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

Note: The Native American Indian Awareness Group will not meet this month.

Next Sunday, December 14th is the last day to order Christmas flowers (see green insert)!



PRAYER CONCERNS

Prayers of Healing for: *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.

*Loide Santos's sister, **Maria Eugenia Almeida e Sousa**, passed away on Monday, November 24th after a long illness. Maria was 75 years old. The Santos family would like to thank everyone for their prayers over the years.*

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.



**Please scan this QR code
to make a secure donation
to Arch Street UMC
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.