

Arch Street United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

55 North Broad Street

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107

(S. E. corner of Broad & Arch Streets)

Telephone: 215.568.6250 | Fax: 215.568-2256

www.archstreetumc.org



December 6, 2015
8:30 AM Service

Senior Pastor, Reverend Robin Hynicka

Visitation Pastor, Reverend Reinhard Kruse

Deacons, Nikki Kelley Kleinberg, David Krueger,

Deaconess, Darlene Di Domineck

US2, Rachel Ternes

Music Director, Adam Haines

Secretaries, Carla Brickhouse, Anne McCormick

Building Supervisor, Frank Jones

Sextons, Russell Whaley/Devon Goodwin/

Joe Kalil/Toni McIlwaine,/LaDonna Cuffee

SUNDAY WORSHIP 8:30 AM

December 6, 2015

2nd Sunday in Advent

PRELUDE

OPENING STATEMENT

PRAISE SINGING “Angels from the Realms of Glory”
“Hark! The Herald Angel Sing”
“Emmanuel, Emmanuel”

OPENING PRAYER

LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE

One: There is a voice crying out in the wilderness.

All: **Prepare the way of the Lord!**

Scripture Lesson: Luke 1:68-79

One: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Praise be to You, O Christ.**

One: This Advent, we remember how God works in the lives of families. John, the child of Zechariah and Elizabeth, has been given a name and mission by the Holy Spirit; to prepare the Lord’s ways and to teach people of God’s salvation and forgiveness of their sins. In the naming of John the Baptist, his mother and father gave witness to the people around them.

Advent can also be a time to celebrate families and communities who nurture us to do bold things to spread God’s love and to promote peace and justice. In the Philippines, countless families and communities work together in the ways of peace. Come, Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace.

One: Merciful God, break open upon us your light and love.

All: **So, we become your faithful witnesses wherever we go, whatever we do.**

One: Out of the wilderness and challenges in life, we cry out to you.

All: **You know us by name; you give us purpose and mission in life.**

One: In hopeful anticipation,

All: **We will wait upon the Lord.**

LIGHT THE SECOND CANDLE

One: Come, Lord Jesus.

All: Come to brighten the darkest corners of the world.

HYMN #211 "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (Verse 2)

WELCOME TO ARCH STREET & PASSING OF THE PEACE

JOYS & CONCERNS

SILENT PRAYER

REGISTRATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY "Rise Up, Shepherd and Follow"

SCRIPTURE READING Dottie Wells
Malachi 3:1-4
Philippians 1:3-11

SPECIAL MUSIC "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus"

GOSPEL Luke 3:1-6

SERMON "The Messenger" Reverend Robin Hynicka

COMMUNION "Taste and See"

CLOSING HYMN "There is Power in the Blood"

POSTLUDE

Devices for the hearing impaired are available in the Chapel office.

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

8:30 am Guest Music Director: Cheryl Roebuck

Worship Leader: Cathy Simpson

Nursery Attendant: Guy McNeill

Advent Wreath Litany written by the Rev. Greg Henneman, serving as a Church & Community Worker assigned as HEAL director, Church for All People in Columbus, Ohio.

*Learn more and support his ministry at: www.umcmmission.org/ghenneman
(advance #3022046)*

Follow his blog: lookedwithcompassion.wordpress.com

*Permission granted to reproduce for use in local church or home worship.
(YearC)*

Calendar

December 6, 2015 to December 14, 2015

SUN	12/6	8:30 Worship Service, Chapel 9:45 Children's Sunday School 9:45 Adult Sunday School 9:45 Choir rehearsal, choir loft 11:00 Worship Service, Sanctuary 12:20 to 3 Deaconess Darlene, Sanctuary 2:00 Unity Fellowship Church Service 5:30 Grace Café Devotions 6:00 Grace Café
MON	12/7	1:00 Tea & Talk 5:30 AA, Nichols Hall 6:30 Charge Conference
TUE	12/8	12:00 Hour of Power, Sanctuary
WED	12/9	2:00 Small Group Mtg., Conf. Rm. 6:00 AA, Nichols Hall 6:30 Native American Indian Awareness Grp.
THUR	12/10	5:00 Diversity Group, Chapel 5:30 AA, Nicholas Hall 6:00 Community Forum
SAT	12/12	2:00 Eliza Shirley Christmas Party, Nichols Hall
SUN	12/13	8:30 Worship Service, Chapel 9:45 Children's Sunday School 9:45 Choir rehearsal, choir loft 11:00 Worship Service, Sanctuary 12:00 Get Acquainted Time, Chapel 12:20 to 3 Deaconess Darlene, Sanctuary 2:00 Unity Fellowship Church Service 5:30 Grace Café Devotions 6:00 Grace Café
MON	12/14	1:00 Tea & Talk 5:30 AA, Nichols Hall 7:00 Freedom Band rehearsal

Please see the events page on our web site: www.archstreetumc.org
for the full calendar of happenings.

WHAT'S HAPPENING



Receiving New Members

This morning, immediately following Pastor Robin's sermon, Arch Street will receive new members through transfer from other United Methodists churches. With open arms we welcome the following new members: Abel Wediondo Adungy, Magumbu Chritelle, Robert Piper, Daniel Seekins, and Rachel Ternes.

Charge Conference

This year's all church conference is scheduled for **Monday, December 7th at 6:30** here at Arch Street UMC. All church members are invited to attend. The Staff Parish Relations Committee will meet with the District Superintendent Dr. Rev. Anita Powell at 6:15 PM



Eliza Shirley Children's and Mom's Christmas Party

This year's event will be held Saturday, **December 12th from 2 – 4pm**. It's not too soon to get excited about the party we throw for our neighbors on Arch Street. For over a decade our church has helped make the holidays brighter for these families currently without a home of their own. If you would like to help with decorating, set up refreshments, donate home-baked cookies or cupcakes, stay for the party to join in the games (very riotous--led by Robin), and help Santa hand out presents, please contact Betsy Connor at betsyfconnor@gmail.com or 215-232-7186.

Arch Street UMC Christmas Concert



Please join us on Sunday, December 20 at 2 PM for a concert of piano and cello, featuring our director of music Adam Haines and cellist Agnes Klein. The concert will include festive music as well as classical works. We ask that you bring a coat to donate, to help keep our members of Grace Cafe warm during the winter.



Small Bible Study Groups

The Bible Study Groups have been meeting since October and most have completed the 7 week series. However, each group is welcome to adapt or extend the schedule to meet their specific needs. For more information on each group, especially concerning the rest of 2015, please contact the group leaders:

Robin Hynicka - robin@archstreetumc.org
Sarah Herman and Jessica Strom - Sherman2@eastern.edu
Warren Cederholm & Don Caskey - gablesbb@outlook.com
Wilhelmina Young - Thecatalyst212@yahoo.com
Molly & Khoi Dang - molly.dang@hotmail.com

The Bible Study sessions for the Winter 2016 season are scheduled to begin the week of February 7, 2016 and continue through the week of March 20, 2016. The basic format is centered on the passages of scripture used in Sunday worship; however each group is free to develop their own agenda and set of activities. The conveners will provide the space, time and support for folks to share what really matters. "What really matters to your heart?" is the leading question.

Grace Café News

Grace Café offers dinner for our homeless friends this evening. After a brief period of faith-sharing this evening, those gathered will enjoy a home-cooked meal prepared by Swarthmore UMC this evening. 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 Deaconess Darlene DiDomineck at darlene.didomineck@gmail.com

POWER Outage? Not At All.

So many of Arch Street Church's members have responded to the many calls for support over the last few years for Philadelphians Organized to Witness, Empower and Rebuild (POWER). You have made phone calls to voters and knocked on their doors, donated money, visited legislators in their offices in City Hall and in Harrisburg, showed up at rallies and marches, participated in religious services for racial justice, and walked in the largest MLK parade in the country (to name a few POWER actions).

If you have been wondering why your help hasn't been requested lately and have been thinking that the organization responsible for wage increases and real hope for public education is on vacation, you will be glad to know that POWER is in a very active process of reflecting and renewing. While so much has been done, and POWER is now a recognized force for moral justice in the city and state, we can do better.

With help from an outside contractor and input from hundreds of POWER members (including from our church) a top to bottom appraisal is underway. A new board structure is being implemented. We are taking a hard look at organizational issues of race and gender. A need for better communication in all aspects has been acknowledged.

Last week new city councilwoman Helen Gym was the featured speaker at POWER's annual fundraiser. Mayor-elect Jim Kenney was there too and said he expects us to keep up the pressure on him to stay on track on the issues that matter to us.

So while we are not pounding the pavements, calling, attending workshops and meetings as intensely as a few months ago, our work has not stopped and won't stop until Philadelphians are working, wages allow for a life of dignity, and our children are offered an education equal to that of children in wealthy suburbs.

Thank you for your past help and in advance for your future efforts. If you would like more information from select POWER committees, please contact Nancy Megley at 215-749-2392.

Sunday School

All those interested in reading, reflecting on and discussing the Bible passages used in each week's sermon are invited to meet in the Chapel every Sunday at 9:45am. The scripture readings for today's class are Zephaniah 3:14-20, Philippians 4:4-7, and Luke 3:7-18. The readings for NEXT week are Micah 5:2-5a, Hebrews 10:5-10, and Luke 1:39-45.



Place a Chrismon on the Christmas tree and provide a gift of hope for a refugee

Throughout the world, the topic of discussion the past month has been who is going to accept refugee families to live in their midst. As usual we can feel proud that Arch Street Church has been ahead of the game. If you remember we were doing something about this for a few years now. It has been a topic of United Methodist Women book study, we have supported a refugee family living in a Philadelphia Church and we have been tuned into the topic in many a sermon. Last year's gift giving for Advent was for refugee families that are relocating to the Philadelphia area. We have even maintained a house for an immigrant family, which by the way was sold this year.

These refugees are men, women and children whose home countries are in situations that have forced them to leave due to violence, war, or persecution just because of their ethnicity, politics, or religion. Refugees are driven from their homes and communities by factors outside their control. Many have lived in refugee camps in a second country for a long time; the average time in refugee camps is 17 years. We've seen pictures of these as of late on the television news shows. The refugees cannot return to their home country because violence and persecution continues and even worsens daily. There are over 16 million refugees around the world. A few of the lucky ones are given the opportunity to build new lives in the United States, and each year hundreds arrive in Philadelphia and are resettled by the Nationalities Service Center. These people are not undocumented. They have been given permission to come to America by the U.S. State Department.

Usually they arrive with nothing but the clothes on their backs so often they are clothes not suitable Philadelphia's climate as they may come from the tropics or desert. They are given very little financial assistance and are expected to support themselves almost immediately. They even have to pay back the cost of the airfare from the refugee camp to America. Imagine arriving in a new country where you do not know the language or culture, where you have no friends or family, and you must go right out to find work in order to survive in this foreign land. We can make it a little easier on them this holiday season by providing a warm welcome to some of these brave and resilient newcomers.

*After you have received communion at the altar rail, turn behind you to the front pew. Choose a Chrismon to decorate the tree, attached will be a gift tag of an item needed by one of the refugees. Place the Chrismon in the usher's basket, but **KEEP the tag attached.** Over the next two weeks you will want to purchase the specific item and bring it with you to church by Sunday, December 20th. **DO NOT WRAP THE GIFT! PLACE IT IN A HEAVY DUTY RECYCLABLE SHOPPING BAG (preferably cloth) ALONG WITH THE COLOR CODED GIFT TAG,***

(The color helps us separate the gifts and get them to the proper family) You will see from the tags that the refugees are from around the world—Iraq, Honduras, Congo, Mauritania, Nepal, Bhutan, Burma, Afghanistan, Eritrea, Liberia, the Sudan, Ethiopia, and Cameroon. These are men, women, children, and small babies who have fled their home and come to Philadelphia to begin a new life hopefully free from danger.

The gifts will be distributed to the families by the staff at the Nationalities Service Center (NSC), our neighbor at 1216 Arch Street. Thank you to the many that have helped with the NSC Thanksgiving dinner headed up by our own Margaret Harris and lovingly prepared by Marge Donnelly. NSC is a nonprofit organization that has been helping immigrants and refugees since 1921. It has been Margaret Harris' great privilege to teach English as a Second Language classes there for over 25 years. NSC is the biggest refugee resettlement agency in the Delaware Valley. The staff of case managers has chosen items their refugee families most need.

As we celebrate the birth of Christ, we remember that Jesus himself was a refugee while still an infant, when his parents fled to Egypt to save his life. We certainly would not want to leave the holy family shunned and desolate. What if by chance there is a holy family among the refugees coming to our doorstep. "Whatever you have done to the least of these...you have done to me."

Please open your hearts this Advent to provide hope, joy and encouragement to the refugees in our midst, our new neighbors and friends. To learn more about helping these families in many other ways, contact Margaret Harris through the church office. It promises to be a rewarding experience.

Warren and Don

United Methodist Men explore “The Hidden Spirituality of Men”

During the 2015-2016 seasons, the United Methodist Men will explore the lessons contained in the book *The Hidden Spirituality of Men* by Matthew Fox. The book explores the question: Why do men hide their deepest feelings and spiritual insights? Among the reasons discussed are the following:

- Many men carry wounds inside they would rather forget or put aside than admit are there.
- Men don't know how — and are not trained — to deal with their anger and outrage in healthy ways.
- Men sometimes work so hard that they do not have time or space for exploring their hearts.

Pastor Robin will work closely with the United Methodist Men on this project. Please speak to Pastor Robin about getting a copy of the book. Meetings are the first Saturday of the month at 10AM.

A Look at Our Faithfulness

Combined attendance for **Sunday, November 29, 2015** was 120 and for Grace Café, 219. Your tithes, gifts and offerings help ASUMC make a difference in our community. Thank you.

#BlackChurchesMatter GoFundMe Campaign

The inspiring and powerful witness made by the folks of the Emanuel AME Church in the face of tragedy at the hands of blatant racism has moved us to say loud and clear that #BlackChurchesMatter. Additionally, we need to say louder and clearer that Black Churches in the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church matter. The Urban Commission and Metro Ministries of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference have sponsored a [GoFundMe campaign](#) to support these churches and the work they do to spread a message of peace and racial equality in their communities. [DONATE NOW.](#)

Giving Arch Street Church a Facelift

"many hands make light work"

A group of people is forming at Arch St, who enjoy working on cosmetic projects around our church. We would be in consultation with our amazing building supervisor, Frank Jones, and meet once or twice a month to work on a very focused cosmetic project. One project, done well, at a time. Interested? Contact: **Marge Donnelly** donnely_386@msn.com



PRAYER CONCERNS

Prayers of Healing for *Pat Taylor, Deanna Cottom, Kathleen Stewart, D. Nicholas Tyrone Christy, Virgil Watson, Roxy Setzer, Jim Griscol, , Leo Gatewood, Gloria Young, Russell Whaley, Tanya Graves, Frank Lexa, Cheryl Roebuck, Dorothy Hurley, David Taylor, Dolores Farinre-Carey, J. J., Mr. Franco, Skylar, John Johnson, Len Metzler, Loretta Wootten, Evelyn Tinsley, Emily Jenson, Marsha Wittman, Jenny Jakacki, Laura Massey, Steve Whaley, Nuwoo Gbarbea, Tim Brazelton, Diann Rollins, Joan Wood, James Williams, 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, Marion Dabney, Patricia Pape, Yazid Jones, 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, Mayra Malonada, Sheldon Nixon, Althea Sea, Dumis Randolph, Joanne Ferreri, Rosemary Schier, Margaret Smith, Carla Kelley*

Prayers of Encouragement *Darnaby Family, Bailey Family, Nate Parther, Grace, Jeff, Charles and David, Rev. Brett Charsky, Anthony Eugene Smith and his mother, Christina, 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. 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.



**Please scan this QR code
to make a secure donation to Arch Street UMC
on your smart phone.**

Parking

*Garage parking coupons are available from the Chapel office **only** for the Convention Center self-park next door. You must show your ticket and give your name at our office to receive your coupon./*



2015 Christmas Flower Orders

Christmas Flowers will beautify the Sanctuary and Chapel on **Dec. 20th, Christmas Eve and December 27th**. To order, complete all information below and return to the church office, with your payment, (make checks payable to *Arch Street UMC* -memo for "poinsettias") by the deadline, **Sunday, December 15th**.

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CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

___ \$15 per plant (12+ blooms) \$_____

___ instead of flowers, please accept my donation of
\$_____

Presented by:

Your name: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Please print clearly

___ I will take my flowers after Dec. 27th service.

___ No, Please give them to a home-bound person.