

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
March 6, 2016
11:00 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 11:00 AM

March 6, 2016

Fourth Sunday in Lent

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CHORAL INTROIT "How Can I Keep From Singing"

CALL TO WORSHIP

OPENING HYMN #384 "Love Divine, All Love Excelling"

*OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE "Sweet, Sweet Spirit"

Let us offer one another signs of reconciliation and love.

*There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,
And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;
There are sweet expressions on each face,
And I know they feel the presence of the Lord.*

Refrain:

*Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove
Stay right here with us, filling us with your love;
And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;
Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived;
When we shall leave this place.*

CLAIMING OUR HOPE

SCRIPTURE READING

Nancy Megley

Joshua 5:9-12

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

CHORAL ANTHEM Jubilate in Bb C Villers Stanford

***GOSPEL** Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

SERMON “Reconciliation for Real” Reverend Robin Hynicka

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

I believe in God, Almighty, 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 God, 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.

HYMN #140 “Great is Thy Faithfulness”

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.

OFFERTORY HYMN #2055(TFWS) "You Are My Hiding Place"
arr. Haines

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE #94**

*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. Do 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.

CLOSING PRAYER

Let us all pray:

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 #545** “The Church’s One Foundation”

***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** Andante con moto Flor Peeters

* *Please stand, in body or spirit*

*Full participant with the Christian copyright license, inc. #715930.
Devices for the hearing impaired are available at the Chapel office.*



Worship Leader: Cathy Simpson

Greeters: Shirlee Chambers and Bryan Sieber

Nursery Attendant: Samantha Nigrelli

Calendar of Events

March 6, 2016 to March 13, 2016

SUN	03/06	8:30 Worship Service, Chapel 9:45 Adult Sunday School 9:45 Children's Sunday School 9:45 Choir rehearsal, choir loft 1:00 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	03/07	1:00 Tea & Talk 5:30 AA, Nichols Hall 7:00 Freedom Band rehearsal
TUE	03/08	12:00 Hour of Power, Sanctuary
WED	03/09	12:00 Lenten Service 1:00 Bible Study Wilhelmina Young-2 nd Fl Conf. Rm. 6:00 AA, Nichols Hall
THUR	03/10	5:00 Diversity - Chapel 5:30 AA, Nicholas Hall
FRI	03/11	5:30 POWER mtg., Chapel
<u>SUN</u>	<u>03/13</u>	8:30 Worship Service, Chapel 9:45 Adult Sunday School 9:45 Children's Sunday School 9:45 Choir rehearsal, choir loft 1:00 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

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

WHAT'S HAPPENING



ONE
GREAT
HOUR
OF
SHARING

For more than 70 years, UMCOR has brought hope and solidarity to communities both at home and abroad.

Together, we reach children, families and communities who have experienced devastation in the wake of disaster. There will be a special envelope in your bulletin. Please use it to give generously.

BLACK VOICES FOR JUSTICE

No doubt this series and the various speakers have stirred souls, raised questions; elicited deep emotions; caused concerns and challenged comfort levels. **This Sunday**, after the 8:30 and 11am services, everyone is invited to process all of the above in an atmosphere of sacred conversation. Pastor Robin will lead a process and conversation that will provide the opportunity for forthright sharing. Issues and insights, thoughts and feelings, ideas and concerns shared will lead to greater understanding and personal and organizational growth. Please make it a priority to join this conversation.

Arch Street United Methodist Church

invites you to join us for our 2016

Noon Lenten Series

This is the 91st consecutive year for the Lenten Series and the theme and sub-themes for the remaining services are:

“THE CROSS SETS US FREE!”

Wednesday, March 9: “Free to be of the Spirit or to be of the World”
The Reverend Scott McDermott

Wednesday, March 16: “Free to have Life and to Live Forever”
The Reverend Truman Brooks

Wednesday, March 23: “Free to be Chosen and Free to Choose”
The Reverend Janice Puliti

All of the Lenten Services will begin with an extended musical prelude at 12 Noon, with the liturgy beginning at 12:15pm. The services are designed to conclude on or before 12:50pm.

Free parking is available in the Convention Center Parking Facility (yellow signs) which is the multi-level parking garage right next to the church on Arch St. Please be advised that Arch Street is one way going west. The church will provide a parking voucher that you will use when you exit the garage.

Everyone is welcome to join this Lenten journey and encouraged to bring family members, friends and co-workers. If you have questions or need more information please contact us at secretary@archstreetumc.org.

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 Isaiah 43:16-21, Philippians 3:4b-14, and John 12:1-8. The readings for NEXT week are Isaiah 50:4-9a, Philippians 2:5-11, and Luke 22:14-23:56.



Holy Week Schedule

Palm/Passion Sunday: March 20

8:30 and 11 AM and 5:30 PM Worship services
10 AM Palm Sunday Procession to
City Hall begins outside the Chapel entrance.

Wednesday, March 23rd noontime service

Thursday, March 24th Maundy Thursday, 7PM, Chapel
Scripture Reading, Songs, Candlelight and Holy Communion

Friday, March 25th Good Friday
-Noon to 2:30pm in the Sanctuary “The Seven Last Words”
-Stations of the Cross, 5:00 to 6:00pm, Sanctuary
a self-guided Meditation

Easter Sunday, 6:30 am, Sunrise Service in Love Park
8:30 am in the Chapel, Resurrection Worship
11:00 am in the Sanctuary
5:30 pm in the Sanctuary
6:00 pm Grace Café Community Dinner

Central District Clergy and Missionaries serving in Cross Racial/Cross Cultural Appointments!

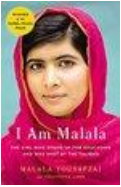
We are hosting a part two to the CR/CC appointment training that was held last October and would love for you to join us! You do not need to have attended the training in October, however, this event will build on topics discussed during the October training. If you are interested in serving as an Intercultural Conversations Trainer for the Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference then this training is also for you!

The Annual Conference will cover the cost of clergy, missionaries and up to 3 members of your congregation to join you. Additional participants are \$10 per person. The training will take place on **Saturday, April 23rd** from 9AM-4PM at Royersford UMC (380 Church St, Royersford, PA 19468).

Space is limited so, please register by **April 10, 2016**. The registration link is: <https://epaumc.churchcenteronline.com/registrations/events/19946>



2016 Calendar of Events



Sunday March 13th: UMW meeting and book discussion of I am Malala by Malala Yousafzai. (UMW reading program category: Leadership)

Sunday, April 10: UMW Meeting

Sunday May 1: (We are meeting a week early to avoid Mother's Day) and General Conference (which is May 10-20 in Portland, Oregon).

Book discussion of Just Mercy: a story of justice and redemption by Bryan Stevenson. (UMW Reading Program category Social Action).

Sunday June 5th: This is a week early to avoid the annual Pride March. Book discussion of Dreamers: An immigrant generation's fight for their American Dream by Ellen Truax.

In the summer we will have a potluck supper and then in September we will resume with a book discussion of The Underground Girls of Kabul.

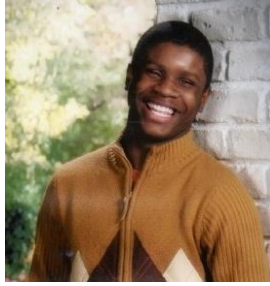
Book Signing with former Arch Street pastor Reverend Cole

There will be a book-signing party for the 3rd edition of Wisdom's Feast, co-written by Susan Cole, Marian Ronan, and Hal Taussig, on Saturday, April 9th at 2:00 in the Chapel. The congregation is invited to celebrate this event. The book was originally published in 1989, and served as a backdrop to some of the early days of Rev. Cole's pastorate at Arch Street UMC.

A Look at Our Faithfulness

Combined attendance for Sunday, **February 21st, 2016** was 105 and for Grace Café 203. Your tithes, gifts and offerings help ASUMC make a difference in our community. Thank you.

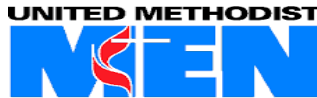




A loss of a beloved young man

Montae Fulton, the only son of our secretary, **Carla Brickhouse**, was a victim of gun violence on Saturday night. Our hearts and prayers go out to Carla and family. The funeral was held on Thursday, February 25th at 11:00 AM at Masjid Muhammad of Philadelphia. A memorial fund has been established at Arch Street in Montae's memory with proceeds going to his mother. Please make checks out to Arch Street UMC and put *Montae Memorial* on the memo line. Thank you in advance for your kindness and support for Carla at this very difficult time.

*"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."
Matthew 5:4*



UM Men's Meeting and Book Discussion

During the 2016 season, 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.

The United Methodist Men meet on the first Saturday of the month at 10AM for breakfast in Nichols Hall. Please make arrangements to attend these informative and educational discussions.

Easter Flower Garden



On Easter Sunday the front of the sanctuary will be blanketed with the beautiful flowers of Easter and Spring. If you would like to order a plant for the Sanctuary Flower Garden, please complete the form below and attach payment (checks made payable to Arch Street UMC,) and place in the offering plate or return form to the office. Please order no later than Sunday, March 20th.

✂.....

EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

I wish to order _____ Easter Plants @ \$12 each

_____ lilies _____ hyacinths _____ tulips _____ daffodil

_____ instead, please accept my donation of \$_____.

Presented by,

Your name:

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

_____ I will take my flowers after the service.

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

Possible changes ahead in our districts and conference

Three years ago the possibility of decreasing our number of districts from six to four was considered and that possibility is being considered again.

The rationale for downsizing the number of districts is financial. We continue to receive less money from our churches in Connectional Ministry Fund apportionment giving; and fewer churches are paying in full their billed funds for clergy pension and health benefits and for property and liability insurance. In addition, many churches have not fulfilled their pledges toward the capital campaign to fund Pre-1982 pensions, and the recent revision of the mortality tables, weak financial market conditions, and lower interest rate assumptions will increase our unfunded liability. Meanwhile, more churches have closed, more churches are going part-time, and less money is coming in each year. We simply have to consider ways to live within our means so that we are able to pay our bills, fulfill our obligations to our retirees and not continue to raise apportionments.

The cabinet is currently working on a model for reconfiguring the conference into four districts.

The conference treasurer, the district superintendents and I will be visiting every district during the month of April to show the map of the proposed plan and to get suggestions and answer questions. The date and district location is Tue. April 5, 2016 – 7:00 pm – First UMC in Phoenixville (**Central**).

Lay and clergy are invited to these gatherings and anyone can attend the meeting which is most convenient.

Following these question and feedback sessions, we will consider the proposed configuration design further and make any necessary modifications. The final draft will be presented at our Annual Conference June 16-18, 2016. It will not be voted on until our Adjourned Session of Conference on Saturday, October 1, 2016. If we vote to decrease the number of districts, it will not go into effect until July 1, 2017.

The jurisdiction's overall membership has dropped below the prescribed number needed to maintain nine episcopal areas.

An appeal to postpone this downsizing until 2020 is being made to the Interjurisdictional Episcopacy Committee, which will meet at General Conference May 15, 2016. If the appeal is not granted the Eastern PA and Peninsula Delaware conferences that make up the Philadelphia Episcopal Area will be split and each become part of two other episcopal areas with different partner conferences.



PRAYER CONCERNS

Prayers of Healing for *Ann Bishton, David Ellison, Rev. James Pittman, Evelyn Tinsley, Pat Taylor, Constance James, Deanna Cottom, D. Nicholas Tyrone Christy, Virgil Watson, Roxy Setzer, Jim Griscol, 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, Emily Jenson, Marsha Wittman, Jenny Jakacki, Laura Massey, Steve Whaley, 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, 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, Carla Kelley*

Prayers of Comfort: for our secretary, *Carla Brickhouse*, on the death of her son *Montae Fulton*, the family of *Nancy Wang Cheng*

Prayers of Encouragement: for *Floretta Richerson, 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., 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*