

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



April 24, 2016 **10:30 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 10:30 AM

April 24, 2016

Fifth Sunday of Easter

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT "Medley on I Love you Lord"

*OPENING PRAYER

HYMN # 393 "Spirit of the Living God"

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY "Dream of Hope" Robert Schumann

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!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*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.

Screening of "An Act of Love"



Thank you for joining us today for the film screening and discussion on LGBTQ inclusion in The United Methodist Church.

This screening is presented in partnership with Reconciling Ministries Network and the team behind the film "An Act of Love."

Learn more at rmnetwork.org/itstime and anactoflovefilm.com.

*HYMN # 383 "This is the Day of New Beginnings" vs 1, 5

*CLOSING PRAYER



*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: Alice Ming and Raymond Wilson

Nursery Attendant: Guy McNeill



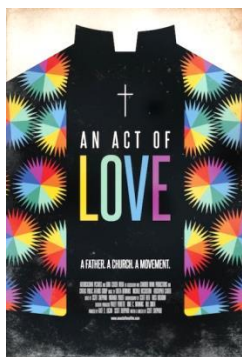
Calendar of Events

April 24 2016 to May 1, 2016

- SUN** 04/24 8:30 Worship Service - Chapel
9:45 Adult Sunday School
9:45 Children's Sunday School
9:45 Choir rehearsal, choir loft
10:30 Worship Service, Sanctuary
11:00 Screening of "An Act of Love"
12:30 Get Acquainted Time, discussion & dialogue
12:20 to 3 Deaconess Darlene, Sanctuary
2:00 Unity Fellowship Church Service
5:30 Grace Café Devotions
6:00 Grace Café
- MON** 04/25 1:00 Tea & Talk
5:30 AA, Nichols Hall
7:00 Freedom Band rehearsal
- TUE** 04/19 12:00 Hour of Power, Sanctuary
- WED** 04/20 6:00 AA, Nichols Hall
- THUR** 04/21 5:00 Diversity - Chapel
5:30 AA, Nicholas Hall
- SUN** 05/01 **Broad Street Run**
8:30 Worship Service, Chapel
9:45 Adult Sunday School
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** 05/02 1:00 Tea & Talk
5:30 AA, Nichols Hall

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

WHAT'S HAPPENING



Today's Service is at 10:30 AM instead of 11
Featured at 11 will be the movie "AN ACT of LOVE"

This award winning film follows Rev. Frank Schaefer who was put on trial in the United Methodist Church for officiating his son's same-sex wedding.

Marriage equality is the law in all 50 States, but the U.S.'s 2nd largest protestant denomination is still sharply divided on this issue. This film is a strategic and important tool that elevates the conversation about LGBTQ rights in the United Methodist Church. In May 2016, at the denomination's General Conference, there will be another chance for the rules of the UMC to change and allow for ordination of LGBTQ clergy and for same-sex marriage within the Church. This film was created with this critical turning point in mind. Simply put, this film is designed to reach as many Christian communities - liberal, conservative and everywhere in between - as possible. The conversation about LGBTQ rights within religious communities has often caused pain and division. This film brings all sides together to see the human side of this debate through the stories of those who have had to deal with the real consequences of their community's stance on this issue.

A discussion and dialogue will follow at our Get Acquainted Time.

Help bring about an LGBT inclusive UMC

WE NEED AS MANY PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE to bring about an LGBT inclusive United Methodist Church, so will you please SIGN UP before General Conference in three weeks as "Individual Reconciling United Methodists?" Do so by going to <http://bit.ly/RUMPerson> and registering right away.

YOUR OWN ACT OF LOVE:

GET INVOLVED WITH RECONCILING MINISTRIES NETWORK

- Become a Reconciling United Methodist by joining as a member at rmnetwork.org/join to receive all communications - especially General Conference-related announcements and needs.

- "Like" us on Facebook: facebook.com/rmnetwork

Follow us on Twitter: @rmnetwork

Follow us on Instagram: @rmnetwork

- Share your story on the RMN blog! Send your story of being LGBTQ in The UMC, becoming an ally, or why you believe it's time for change to blog@rmnetwork.org with a photo & a short bio.

- Send a letter to your delegate telling them why "It's Time" to vote for full inclusion at General Conference. Visit rmnetwork.org/itstime for more information.

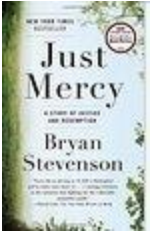


What's going on in the Serenity House Neighborhood?

The People's Garden is a place for neighbors of all ages to play, rest, grow and harvest fresh fruits and vegetables, organize, learn, and build community. Over the past year, North Philly neighbors, Serenity House, and other community members have been collaborating and organizing to transform a vacant lot into a community garden. We dream of a garden where neighbors could find nutritious food in the midst of a food desert, peace and safety in the midst of a city fraught with violence, and local pride and self-determination in a neighborhood threatened by disinvestment and displacement. Please support this ministry by going to: www.crowdrise.com/archstunitedmethodistchurc which will help the purchase of seeds, seedlings, soil, tools, a rainwater collection system, food and supplies for work days, tuition for gardening education, and transportation of supplies. After you donate, please sign up for occasional email updates at: goo.gl/pnPJ87 and come visit The People's Garden to see how you've helped our plants and our community flourish!



2016 Calendar of Events



Sunday May 15: (We are meeting a week LATE to avoid Mother's Day). **What's the book about?**

A powerful true story about the potential for mercy to redeem us, and a clarion call to fix our broken system of justice—from one of the most brilliant and influential lawyers of our time.

Bryan Stevenson was a young lawyer when he founded the Equal Justice Initiative, a legal practice dedicated to defending those most desperate and in need: the poor, the wrongly condemned, and women and children trapped in the farthest reaches of our criminal justice system. One of his first cases was that of Walter McMillian, a young man who was sentenced to die for a notorious murder he insisted he didn't commit. The case drew Bryan into a tangle of conspiracy, political machinations, and legal brinksmanship—and transformed his understanding of mercy and justice forever.

JUST MERCY is at once an unforgettable account of an idealistic, gifted young lawyer's coming of age, a moving window into the lives of those he has defended, and an inspiring argument for compassion in the pursuit of justice.

Sunday June 5th: This is a week early to avoid the annual Gay Pride Day Parade. No book discussion.

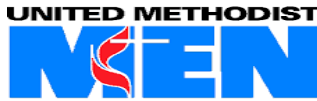
Friday, June 24th: UMW Annual Potluck at Margaret's, 6PM All women of the church are welcome. Call or email Margaret (215-568-2206 or margaretharris@me.com) with any questions.

NO meeting in July

Sunday, August 7th: Book discussion of Dreamers: An immigrant generation's fight for their American Dream by Ellen Truax.

A Look at Our Faithfulness

Combined attendance for Sunday, **April 17, 2016** was 116 and for Grace Café 218. Your tithes, gifts and offerings help ASUMC make a difference in our community. Thank you.



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

POSTPONED:

ASUMC Member and Economist Harold Glass Presents:

The special Get Acquainted Time "Is Wealth and Income Inequality Really as Great as Bernie Sanders Asserts?" has been postponed. A date will be announced in the near future.

Grace Café

Grace Café (ASUMC's outreach to folks currently without homes) is open **every Sunday** until July 3rd. After a brief period of faith, those gathered will enjoy a home-cooked meal hosted by Amanda Janes. There are still openings in May and June 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 ddidomineck@epaumc.org. Greeters, servers and clean-up crew are needed and always welcome.

POWER

POWER is launching a listening campaign as a first step in a new drive called "Live Free", our effort to address mass incarceration. We need to hear the stories of those living close to the pain. If you have a story of your own or a family member with any experience with the bail, jail, or prison system that you are willing to share in a private one on one conversation, contact our organizer Nicholas O'Rourke: norourke@powerphiladelphia.org. Listening is a key first step to any successful campaign.

Below is a list of dates of planned actions around POWER's goals of Economic Dignity, LiveFree (addressing mass incarceration), and quality education for all Pennsylvania's school children.

Please consider which events you can make time for. High numbers of participants are important in drawing attention to our causes and changing the minds of our leaders and legislators!

April 29, 7:00 PM at New Vision UM Church, 3259 N. Broad St.: POWER's Live Free Strategy Team (addressing mass incarceration) will host a "Stop-and-Frisk Town Hall" with Mayor Kenney and Police Commissioner Richard Ross.

This is our chance to demand a full explanation about a reported change in the mayor's promise to end this practice. Mayor Kenney, in an address to POWER before the election, asked us to hold him accountable and we will. A large group of committed citizens will make an impression. Please join us.

Stay tuned for details on May POWER events. Please watch this space and visit the POWER website: powerinterfaith.org for more information on above events. Questions? Please contact Pastor Robin, Betsy Connor (215-232-7186) or Nancy Megley.

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: Acts 16:9-15, Revelation 21:10, 22-22.5, and John 14:23-29. The readings for NEXT week are Acts 16:1-34, Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21, John 17:20-26.

Possible changes ahead in our districts and conference

A letter from Bishop Peggy Johnson

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.

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 conference



PRAYER CONCERNS

Prayers of Healing for: *Carla Brickhouse, Pete Lattanzio, Helena & Jackie Yorke, Mrs. Bowman, 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 Encouragement: for *Louis Darnaby, 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*