

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
May 1, 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

May 1, 2016

Sixth Sunday of Easter

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "Prelude in F" JS Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP

OPENING HYMN #723 "Shall We Gather at the River"

*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.

*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

Acts 16:9-15

Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5

CHORAL ANTHEM "Over My Head"
African American Spiritual

*GOSPEL John 14:23-29

SERMON “Presently Prepared” 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 #79 “Holy God We Praise Thy Name”

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, and 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 “Emerald Green”

***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 #103** *“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”*

***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** *“Hispanic Praise “*

** 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: Guy McNeill

Calendar of Events

May 1, 2016 to May 8, 2016

- 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
7:00 Freedom Band rehearsal
- TUE 05/03 12:00 Hour of Power, Sanctuary
- WED 05/04 6:00 AA, Nichols Hall
6:00 Community Forum
- THUR 05/05 5:00 Diversity - Chapel
5:30 AA, Nicholas Hall
- SUN 05/08 *Mother's Day*
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



Community Forum Community Mixtapes: Songs that Remind Me of You



What songs remind you of those you love, or how you love? Are those songs sweet to hear? Painful to hear? Both? Submit one or two of your love songs for a community mixtape around the theme "songs that remind me of you," by April 30 (deadline flexible), and come listen to the mix tape **May 4th at 6pm in the Chapel** for about one-hour in a commercial-free community forum. A modest dinner will be provided, all are welcome, and dance or rest is encouraged. Songs can be submitted at www.mysticsinmedicine.org.



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!

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](https://www.facebook.com/rmnetwork)

Follow us on Twitter: @rmnetwork

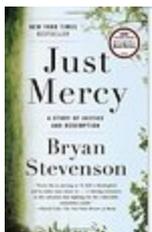
Follow us on Instagram: @rmnetwork

- 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.



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 brinkmanship—and transformed his understanding of mercy and justice forever.

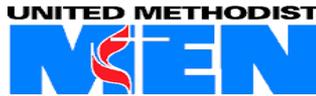
JUST MERCY is at once an unforgettable account of an idealistic, gifted young lawyer's coming of age, a moving window into the lives of those he has defended, and an inspiring argument for compassion in the pursuit of justice.

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.



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

New Freedom Theatre presents the world premier "The Ballad of Trayvon Martin"

A poetic docudrama with music, inspired by the tragic event of Trayvon Martin's death.

I would like to create a group of people to attend on May 21 at 3:00pm. Tickets are \$20. Please contact Cathy Simpson at 215 735 6787 or

email: catactsimpson@gmail.com if you would like to attend!

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 Lydia Munoz 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.

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 16:16-34, Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21, John 17:20-26. The readings for NEXT week are Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31, Romans 5:1-5, and John 16:12-15.

A Look at Our Faithfulness

Combined attendance for Sunday, **April 24, 2016** was 107 and for Grace Café 203 Your tithes, gifts and offerings help ASUMC make a difference in our community. Thank you.

Thank you to Arch Street UMC

Carla Brickhouse and The Fulton family would like to thank everyone at Arch Street who has helped them through this very difficult time. Carla thanks you for your continued comfort, support, and understanding.

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: Cheryl Roebuck, *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*

