

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



December 4, 2016
8:30 AM Service

Senior Pastor, Reverend Robin Hynicka

Visitation Pastor, Reverend Reinhard Kruse

Deacons, Nikki Kelley Kleinberg,

David Krueger,

Deaconess, Darlene DiDomineck

US2, Rachel Ternes

Music Director, Adam Haines

Secretaries, Carla Brickhouse, Anne McCormick

Building Supervisor, Frank Jones

Sextons, John Buzby, Devon Goodwin,

Toni McIlwaine, Russell Whaley

PRAISE AND WORSHIP SERVICE

December 4, 2016

2nd Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE

PRAISE SINGING “Together We Serve”
“Blessed Quietness”
“Here I Am ”

OPENING PRAYER

LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE

One: God of steadfastness and encouragement:

All: You stand with those who wait in anticipation for justice.

One: Your heart is with the Water Protectors, our siblings at Standing Rock;

All: May our hearts be with them also.

One: There are voices crying out in the wilderness;

All: Open our ears to hear them.

One: There are prophets telling of your coming;

All: Open our ears to hear them.

One: Your children are calling for justice and peace;

All: Open our ears to hear them.

One: May you find repentance in our hearts,

All: And the fruits of true repentance in our lives and actions.

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

All: Protect us and all those who witness to your will in the face of oppression.

One: In hopeful anticipation,

All: We will wait upon the Lord.

LIGHT THE SECOND CANDLE

One: Come, Lord Jesus.

All: Come, illuminate Your Way in 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 & GIFTS

OFFERTORY

ALL SAINTS DAY LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE

SCRIPTURE READING

Dottie Wells

Isaiah 11:1-10

Romans 15:4-13

SPECIAL MUSIC "Hark the Herald Angel Sing"

GOSPEL Matthew 3:1-12

SERMON "Why am I at the Table?" Reverend Robin Hynicka

COMMUNION

CLOSING HYMN "Soon and Very Soon"

**During the singing of the hymn, the congregation will form a circle of light in memory of all those saints who inform our lives and inspire our faithful witness in the world.*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Go Now in Peace"-

Calendar of Events

December 4 to December 12, 2016

- SUN** 12/4 *Second Sunday of Advent*
8:30 Worship Service, Chapel
9:45 Adult Sunday School
9:45 Adult Choir Rehearsal
11:00 Children's Sunday School
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** 12/5 1:00 Tea & Talk
5:30 AA, Nichols Hall
- TUES** 12/6 12:00 Hour of Power, Sanctuary
- WED** 12/7 6:00 AA, Nichols Hall
- THUR** 12/8 5:00 Diversity Group
5:30 AA, Nichols Hall
- SAT** 12/10 2:00 Eliza Shirley Christmas Party, Nichols Hall
- SUN** 12/11 *Third Sunday of Advent*
8:30 Worship Service, Chapel
9:45 Adult Sunday School
9:45 Adult Choir Rehearsal
11:00 Children's Sunday School
11:00 Worship Service, Sanctuary
12:00 Get Acquainted Time, Chapel
12:00 United Methodist Women, 2nd fl. Conf. rm.
12:20 to 3 Deaconess Darlene, Sanctuary
1 to 4 Sacred Places Tour of Church
2:00 Unity Fellowship Church Service
5:30 Grace Café Devotions
6:00 Grace Café
- MON** 12/12 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

WHAT'S HAPPENING

happenings.



Holiday Gifts for Refugees

This year the Nationalities Service Center (NSC) has welcomed a record number of refugees to the Philadelphia area. If you were lucky enough to be at the NSC Thanksgiving celebration, which took place at Arch Street Church on Saturday November 19th, you got a chance to meet some of these wonderful new members of our community. In the aftermath of an election in which immigrants and refugees were frequently blamed for every social problem by the President-elect, it is more important than ever that we welcome and support our new neighbors. One way we can do this is by buying some things they need to help them as they rebuild their lives here.

We will be collecting holiday gifts for refugees again this Advent season. **This Sunday, December 4th**, you will have the opportunity to choose a gift to buy for a newly arrived refugee. These gift items have been identified by NSC staff as things these families really need or want. We will have a collection of small cards with a description of the requested item on each card, such as "coat for Syrian girl, size 3T" and an identification number, such as # 4. Take the card for the gift you wish to purchase. After purchasing the gift, bring the gift along with the original card in a bag to the church by **Sunday, December 18th**. Do not wrap the present since we need to be able to identify the gifts. Questions? Ask Margaret Harris, 215-568-2296 or margaretharris@me.com. *Thank you.*

Robeson County Church Needs OUR Help

The Robeson County Church and Community Center in Lumberton, NC was under water due to flood waters from the Lumber River. The Center and the people that work there are well known to Arch Street UMC. For the last eight years, **ASUMC Youth** have traveled to Lumberton and Pembroke NC to work alongside local leaders on various church and community improvement projects. The Center is the heart and soul of working with the poor of Robeson County – the poorest county in NC. The United Methodist Church is the driving force behind the Center's work. In a conversation, with Pastor Kelly (local leader), he stated that funds and volunteers are desperately needed to clean up and restore the Center so they can resume and upgrade service. The **ASUMC Youth** are so close to this NC community and ask for your help. Pastor Robin has set a stretch goal of \$8,000 to be raised before Christmas. Gifts can be made to this special cause in honor or in memory of loved ones. Please use the special offering envelope inserted in the bulletin. Checks should be made out to Arch Street UMC with the words **Flood Relief** on the memo line.



Children's Christmas
Party!

Next Saturday, December 10th, from 2 to 4 PM we will celebrate Christmas with our neighbors from the Eliza Shirley shelter. Please mark your calendar to help us set up (any time from 10AM on) and/or help at the party. We also love to get homemade cookies or cash donations to buy food and decorations. It is always fun to watch the children playing games (led by Pastor Robin) and choosing toys. Please call Betsy Connor at 215-232-7186 to help.

A Look at Our Faithfulness

Combined attendance for last Sunday, November 27th was 139 and Grace Café was 188. Your tithes, gifts and offerings help ASUMC make a difference in our community. Thank you.

Center City Sacred Spaces

Free Open House Tour

Next Sunday, December 11th from 1-4 pm,

For those who walk by our neighborhood's houses of worship but have yet to view their splendid interiors, join [CCRA's self-guided tour](#)

which can be commenced at any of twelve participating congregations each of which will have a map and booklet describing tour stops. The participating congregations opening their doors to the public are:



Arch Street Presbyterian Church, 18th & Arch

Arch Street United Methodist Church, Broad & Arch

First Presbyterian Church, 21st & Walnut

First Unitarian Church, 22nd & Chestnut

Holy Trinity, Rittenhouse Square, 19th & Walnut

Liberti Church and First Baptist Church, 17th and Sansom

Lutheran Church of the Holy Communion, 21st & Chestnut

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Locust St. btwn 16th and 17th

St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church, 20th & Locust

The Shambhala Meditation Center, Sansom St. btwn 19th and 20th

*Tenth Presbyterian Church (2:15-4pm), 17th & Spruce

*Trinity Memorial Church (1-3 pm) 22nd & Spruce

A Place for Javier

We welcomed Javier Flores Garcia in to safe sanctuary at Arch Street to prevent his deportation to Mexico. This is a moment in history and a precious opportunity to do something prophetic and faithful. Javier will be living at ASUMC. We will make provisions for family, friends and supporters to visit throughout his stay with us. Javier was the breadwinner in the family. If you would like to assist his family please donate to any of the three organizations indicating your donation is to go to his family.

<http://sanctuaryphiladelphia.org/get-involved>

<http://vamosjuntos.org/>

<http://archstreetumc.org/>



The Arch St. United Methodist Women invite you to join us. You do not have to be a member of Arch St. UMC.

The United Methodist Women invite everyone to join them on December 11th for two important discussions:

We will meet in the second floor conference room immediately after the 11 am Worship Service. Our meeting will focus on:

- 1) A discussion of the book, The Underground Girls of Kabul by Jenny Nordburg (a discussion that was postponed from November)
- 2) Reflections on the Advent Study: Silence and other surprising invitations of Advent by Enuma Okoro.

Here are details about both subjects:

The Underground Girls of Kabul by Jenny Nordburg.

An investigative journalist uncovers a hidden custom that will transform your understanding of what it means to grow up as a girl. In Afghanistan, a culture ruled almost entirely by men, the birth of a son is cause for celebration and the arrival of a daughter is often mourned as misfortune. A *bacha posh* (literally translated from Dari as “dressed up like a boy”) is a third kind of child – a girl temporarily raised as a boy and presented as such to the outside world.

The Underground Girls of Kabul is anchored by vivid characters who bring this remarkable story to life: Azita, a female parliamentarian who sees no other choice but to turn her fourth

daughter, Mehran, into a boy; Zahra, the tomboy teenager who struggles with puberty and refuses her parents' attempts to turn her back into a girl; Shukria, now a married mother of three after living for twenty years as a man; and Nader, who prays with Shahed, the undercover female police officer, as they both remain in male disguise as adults.

At the heart of this emotional narrative is a new perspective on the extreme sacrifices of Afghan women and girls against the violent backdrop of America's longest war. *The Underground Girls of Kabul* charts their dramatic life cycles, while examining our own history and the parallels to subversive actions of people who live under oppression everywhere.

United Methodist Women's Advent Study

Traditionally when we think of the Advent story Mary, Joseph and the angel Gabriel come to mind, but in the Gospel of Luke, Elizabeth and Zachariah are the first two people we meet. This year we will approach the Advent story a little differently by starting with their story.

Join the United Methodist Women as we read *Silence and Other Surprising Invitations of Advent*. These reflections will help center us during this busy season. We will gather on **both December 11 and January 8th** for a time of discussion of our experience.

Please join us for this time of reflection. Books will be available from Margaret Harris after the 11:00 am service.

Questions? See Margaret Harris.

margaretharris@me.com or 215-568-2206

Grace Café NOW Open

Grace Café (ASUMC's outreach to folks currently without homes) is open **every Sunday** through the end of June. After a brief period of faith, those gathered will enjoy a home-cooked meal hosted by Swarthmore UMC.

We are thankful for Tonight's meal. There are still 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 gracecafe Philly@gmail.com. Greeters, servers and clean-up crew are needed and always welcome.

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 scriptures readings for today's class are Isaiah 35:1-10, James 5:7-10, and Matthew 11:2-11. The readings for NEXT week are Isaiah 7:10-16, Romans 1:1-7, and Matthew 1:18-25.



2016 Christmas Flower Orders

Christmas Flowers will beautify the Sanctuary and Chapel on **Christmas Eve and January 1st**. 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 18th.

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CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

\$10 per 6+ blooms \$15 per 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 January 1st service.**

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



PRAYER CONCERNS

Prayers of Healing for: *Luca, Max Northouse, Russ Alexander, Pat Taylor, Alma Dopson, Cynthia Dupree, Marion Ambrose, Mrs. Mastrando, Chris Whaley, Sarah Rowe, Mat Hearn, James Hearn, Zeke Sanders, Geraldine Bradley, Bill Gatewood, Michael Bowman, Jazzy, Helena & Jackie Yorker, Mrs. Bowman, Ann Bishton, Rev. James Pittman, Evelyn Tinsley, Constance James, Deanna Cottom, D. Nicholas Tyrone Christy, Virgil Watson, Jim Griscol, Gloria Young, Russell Whaley, Tanya Graves, Dorothy Hurley, 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, 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: *Prince Chinedu Onyeneke, Pat Taylor, Steven Whaley, Qing-Song Chen, 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, Anana Tinnhé, Laura Harrigan, Rick Taylor, the Robertson family, Dorothy Watson and family, for 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 the number on your ticket and give your name at our office to receive your coupon.*