

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 10, 2017

8:30 AM Service

Senior Pastor, Reverend Robin Hynicka

Deacons, Reverend Nikki Kelley Kleinberg,

Reverend David Krueger,

Deaconess, Darlene DiDomineck

US2, Carmen Francesco

Music Director, Adam Haines

Secretaries, Anne McCormick, Charlie Meyers

Building Supervisor, Frank Jones

Sextons, Devon Goodwin, Russell Whaley,

John Buzby, Toni McIlwaine, Joe Kalil



Musician: James Dell'Orefice

Worship Leader: Remone Mundle

Nursery Attendant: Guy McNeil

PRAISE AND WORSHIP SERVICE

December 10, 2017

2nd Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE Instrumental

PRAISE SINGING

- | | |
|------|-----------------------------------|
| #519 | “Lift Every Voice and Sing” |
| #211 | “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” |
| #383 | “This Is a Day of New Beginnings” |

OPENING PRAYER

WELCOME TO ARCH STREET & PASSING OF THE PEACE

JOYS & CONCERNS

SILENT PRAYER

REGISTRATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

SCRIPTURE READING Russ Alexander

Isaiah 40:1-11

2 Peter 3:8-15a

SPECIAL MUSIC #234 “Oh Come All Ye Faithful”

***GOSPEL LESSON** Mark 1:1-8

SERMON “Waiting and Hastening” Reverend Robin Hynicka

CLOSING HYMN #473 “Lead Me, Lord”

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE #207 “Prepare the Way of the Lord”



Calendar of Events

December 10th to December 17th

SUN	12/10	8:30 Worship, Chapel 9:45 Adult Sunday School. 2 nd fl. 9:45 Choir Rehearsal, choir 11:00 Worship, Sanctuary 11:00 Children's Sunday School 12:20-3 Deaconess Darlene 12:30 United Methodist Women 1:00 Christmas Concert 2:00 Unity Fellowship Serv, Chapel 5:30 Grace Café Devotions <i>6:00 Grace Café</i>
MON	12/11	1:00 Tea & Talk 5:30 Diversity, Nichols Hall 7:00 Band
TUES	12/12	12:00 Hour of Power, Sanctuary 6:30 Unity Bible Study
WED	12/13	6:00 AA, Nichols
THUR	12/14	5:00 Diversity, Chapel 5:30 AA, Nichols Hall
SAT	12/16	10:00 United Methodist Men
SUN	12/17	8:30 Worship, Chapel 9:45 Adult Sunday School. 2 nd fl. 9:45 Choir Rehearsal, choir 11:00 Worship, Sanctuary 11:00 Children's Sunday School 12:20-3 Deaconess Darlene 2:00 Unity Fellowship Serv, Chapel 5:00 Grace Café Caroling 5:30 Grace Café Devotions <i>6:00 Grace Café</i>

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

WHAT'S HAPPENING

The Christmas Concert Is Today

December 10th | Sanctuary | 1pm | Music Director: Adam Haines

Today at 1:00pm *Adam Haines* will present a Concert of Organ and Piano works and Trumpeter *Ethan Wolfe*. The recital will conclude with a time of caroling accompanied by *The Arch Street Choir*. We ask the Arch Street Community to use this opportunity as an outreach to the broader community.



Welcome to Grace Café!



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 sharing, those gathered will enjoy a home-cooked meal hosted by volunteer groups. *200 people attended last week's Grace Café*. Today's dinner is provided by donations previously given and prepared by volunteers and staff. 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 and Carmen Francesco at gracecafephilly@gmail.com. Greeters, servers and clean-up crew are needed and always welcome.

A Look at Our Faithfulness

Combined attendance for last Sunday December 3rd was 99. Your tithes, gifts, and offerings help ASUMC make a difference in our community. Thank you.

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 61:1-4, 8-11, 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24, and John, 1:6-8, 19-28. Readings for NEXT week are 2 Samuel 7:11, 16, Luke 1:47-55 (UMH 199), Romans 16:25-27, Luke 1:26-38, Isaiah 9:2-7, Titus 2:11-14, and Luke 2:1-20.

Do You Need Help After Hurricane Maria?

Go to the City of Philadelphia Temporary Disaster Assistance Services Center. It's located at 167 W Allegheny Avenue (Corner of Allegheny/Mascher St) they are open from Monday to Friday from 9AM to 3PM).

How we can help:

- Register for FEMA Individual Assistance or check status of application
- Connect to city services
- Identify recovery resources

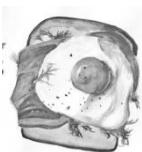
What you need to bring:

- Your address in Puerto Rico
- Social Security Number
- Current mailing address and telephone number

L●O●K in Your Bulletin for Two Important Inserts



Christmas Garden order forms are available in each bulletin. Our yearly tradition of beautifying our Sanctuary with the gift of Poinsettias and also bringing them to our homebound is back. If you are interested in participating please fill out the form and return it no later than the 3rd Sunday of this month on December 17th



Arch Street UMC will hold their traditional breakfast on Christmas Morning breakfast on December 25, 2017. If you would like to volunteer please fill out the form in your bulletin. Volunteers are a vital part of running the yearly breakfast and your support is appreciated.



“This Year Will Be a Year of Justice”

Those words are the theme for the **“Watch Night for Racial Justice”** on New Year’s Eve at the newest POWER congregation, Philadelphia Episcopal Cathedral. Just reading those words makes it seem possible. Not that all injustices in education, healthcare, jobs, the criminal justice system, and climate change will be righted, but undoubtedly POWER’s work will build barricades against destructive and divisive forces and move steadily on the path to a “city of opportunity that works for all” (POWER’s unofficial rallying cry).

The Watch Night will be **“An Evening of Jazz to Benefit POWER.”** At 4:00 PM the music will start, featuring vocalists, pianists, a drummer, and the Clef Club Student Ensemble. A prayer service starts at 7:00 PM. No advance tickets are required. A free will offering will be taken at times throughout the evening. The cathedral is at 19 South 38th St. (University City), Philadelphia.

It sounds like a wonderful way to see in the New Year, and of course to meet other POWER members.

For more information please see the event poster on the bulletin board outside the chapel office.

Coming this week—If you are interested in helping to build a new Health Care Working Group in POWER, please go to the calendar on the POWER website (powerinterfaith.org) and click on December 11th, the next meeting.

Please contact Betsy Connor (betsyfconnor@gmail.com, 215-232-7186), Nancy Megley (nmegley@msn.com, 215-574-8320), or Wilhelmina Young (thecatalyst212@yahoo.com, 215-227-4034) with questions and watch the bulletin board near the chapel office for POWER news.

Arch St. United Methodist Women's Calendar

UMW Calendar

Arch Street United Methodist Women (UMW)

Schedule 2017-2018 Calendar

We usually meet in the second floor conference room of Arch Street UM Church on the second Sunday of the month, but there are several exceptions to this schedule so please check the calendar below to be sure of the dates. Everyone is welcome.

UMW Meets Today: lunch at 12pm in the conference room and Christmas Concert at 1pm.

Today: A third opportunity to sign up to buy gifts for refugees in both worship services.

Sunday, December 17: Collection of Advent gifts for refugees after church.

2018 DATES OF UMW Meetings:

Sunday, January 14

Sunday, February 11

Sunday, March 11

Sunday, April 8

Sunday, May 6, a week early to miss Mother's Day

Sunday June 10

UMW Assembly May 17-20, Greater Columbus Convention Center

Columbus, OH Early bird registration until November 30: Cost is

\$295 UMW Priority issues: Maternal and child health, Climate justice, Mass incarceration, Economic Inequality. Darlene, Carmen, Margaret and Wilhelmina are going! Don't you want to join us?

Go Caroling on Sunday December 17th

Remember how much fun it was to go caroling as a kid? Well, now you can do it again! We've decided to go caroling on the steps of Arch Street UM Church on Sunday December 17th beginning at 4:30pm! We hope to be joined by both the Arch St. Choir and the Grace Cafe Choir. Later we'll

go inside and join the Grace Cafe Worship Service and Grace Cafe dinner. We will have songbooks and song sheets so you don't have to worry about not remembering all the verses to your favorite hymns. We hope you can join us and invite your friends. Everyone is welcome! Questions, ask Margaret (215-568-2206 or margaretharris@me.com)

Holiday Gifts for Refugees: Take a card today to buy a gift!

This year has been a frightening time for immigrants and refugees, as the U.S. has chosen to turn its back on the thousands of people seeking safety from war, persecution, and violence. Nevertheless, the Nationalities Service Center (NSC) has continued to welcome refugees to the Philadelphia area, and to protect and help those who are already here... If you were lucky enough to be at the NSC Thanksgiving celebration, which took place at Arch Street Church on Saturday November 18, you got a chance to meet some of these wonderful new members of our community. Now 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 rebuild their lives here.

We will be collecting holiday gifts for refugees again this Advent season. From Sunday, November 26 and for the next two Sundays, 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. Margaret and other volunteers will be at the doors as you exit the sanctuary today with a collection of postcards with a description of the requested item on each card. These items will be specific 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, and sign a sheet so that we can have a record of who is purchasing what. **After purchasing the gift, bring the gift along with the original card in a bag to the church by Sunday December 17th.** Do not wrap the present since we need to be able to identify the gifts. Questions? Ask Margaret Harris, 215-568-2206 or margaretharris@me.com



Unique Ideas for Your Holiday Gift-Giving

Are you stumped about what to give a loved one this Christmas? Maybe they don't need another pair of shoes or another tie. Maybe they do not need anything! Consider giving them (or you!) a tax-deductible gift that will provide a once-in-a-lifetime experience and support our ASUMC ministry! We are about to embark on a \$250,000 façade repair program. These gifts will help us fund the program. Here are our suggestions:

1. \$25. Receive a piece of stone that was removed from the façade during the repairs.
2. \$50. Group guided tour of the Spire from the inside.
3. \$1,000. Group guided tour of the part of the Arch Street façade reached from scaffolding, approximately 50 feet above the sidewalk.
4. \$5,000. Ride in the crane basket and touch the cross at the top of the Spire, approximately 220 feet above the sidewalk!

Note that gifts 3 and 4 would be ideal for someone who is concerned about heights, to help them change to having an appreciation for heights.

Why are we asking?

As stewards of God's building, one of our Trustees' duties is to protect public safety. One aspect of this duty is a City of Philadelphia requirement. For any building that is over 60 feet tall and constructed prior to 1950 (this means ASUMC), we must submit a report indicating the condition of the entire façade (the exterior surface) of the building.

In August 2017, after a two-day inspection, the Trustees received a draft report from the engineering firm we hired. Their findings are that three jobs must be performed prior to issuance of their final report:

1. The three-decorative masonry architectural details on the Arch Street side ("Finials") must be removed;
2. The Spire requires a hands-on inspection that can only be performed from a 250-foot crane;
3. Several other items separate from the two items above, identified during the August inspection, must be repaired;

The Church Council accepted the Trustees' recommendation that we invest approximately \$250,000 in these projects. The investment will be funded by a loan secured by the ASUMC endowment. The planning work has begun, and we hope physical work will begin in January 2018.

Assuring the safety of the building is not a one-shot deal. It requires an investment in continual maintenance. We will need an ongoing program to assure the continued safety of the façade into the future. This is true not only because of our duty as stewards of the public safety, but because we must provide the same report to the City of Philadelphia every 5 years from now on.

We learned a lesson from the outcome of the planning and construction off the parking garage next door. Nothing is impossible with God. If we truly come from a perspective that puts the Kingdom of God first, and earnestly and patiently explain our needs, God will send the things, people, and resources to make our dreams a reality.

Maybe He wants to work through you! Please support this project with your donations (as described above, or in any amount you wish) and prayers. Your contribution should be marked "Façade repair fund." We intend to pursue other sources of funding for this work. Thank you for your support! Please contact Russ Alexander or any of the Trustees with any questions.

Puerto Rico Hurricane Relief

A new conference disaster response appeal number has been established to help our friends, the Methodist Church of Puerto Rico, recover from Hurricane Maria. Please make checks payable to the **Eastern PA Conference and indicate** "Fund #0345PR-Puerto Rico Hurricane Relief." Meanwhile, our conference's Latino Commission and member churches are collecting and sending numerous supplies to Puerto Rico to address urgent identified needs.



Purple or Blue: What color is your Advent?



When I go to various churches on Sundays during the season of Advent I always ask the pastors, “Do you wear purple or blue stoles?”

In recent years we have seen the color blue more and more, in addition to the traditional purple.

According to www.umc.org “The Christian year has two cycles: the Christmas Cycle (Advent-Christmas-Epiphany) and the Easter Cycle (Lent-Easter-Pentecost).

“Within each cycle are a preparatory season symbolized by the color purple and a festival season symbolized by the color white. After each cycle there is an ordinary time of growth symbolized by the color green.

It goes on to say that the color purple represents both royalty and penitence, while blue symbolizes hope. Purple and blue are both acceptable colors to use during Advent.

(“Why are there different colored altar cloths?”)

Upon further examination, I found that the shade of blue for Advent is often a deep, dark blue. It is like the color of the predawn sky just before the sun rises. It brings with it the meaning of expectation and anticipation of the coming of the Messiah.

Other sources remind us that the color blue is associated with the Virgin Mary. She is depicted in the color blue in many of the icons and religious art images of the past. (www.stpaulsivy.org “Why Blue for Advent”)

The season of Advent is all of this and much more. We prepare for Christmas with times of self-reflection and repentance; but we anticipate the celebration with much preparation, like we do when a special visitor comes to our home.

We revere the newborn Christ as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Our humble Savior came to serve and give his life for our sins so that we might know the promise of life everlasting in heaven. With the dawn of his coming, all of creation will be filled with his glory.

May you have a purple-blue Advent and teach well the meaning of the season to those who may only be with you at your churches during this time of the year. The most important color to wear is love, which is the fulfillment of Christ’s mission for the world and “which binds everything together in perfect harmony.” (Colossians 3:14)

From Bishop Peggy A Johnson’s Blog
<http://bishoppeggyjohnson.blogspot.com/>



HEALTHY COOKING WORKSHOP

Join us for a free healthy cooking workshop that includes:

- Low-cost cooking Ideas**
- Nutrition Tips**
- Food Tastings**
- Giveaways!**

When: Every Other Tuesday

Dates: November 7th and 21st,

December 5th and 19th

Time: 1:30-2:30PM

Where: The Serenity House

1209 W. Lehigh Avenue, Philadelphia

Cost: FREE

For more information please contact: Chalise Saunders

Email: cсаunders@thefoodtrust.org

Phone: 267-658-4148



This material was funded by USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) through the PA Department of Human Services (DHS). This institution is an equal opportunity provider.





PRAYER CONCERNS

Prayers of Healing for: *Debbie DeShields Michael Adams, Owen Brazelton, Rick Taylor, Holly McVaughn, Bill Witman, Laura Dragon, Joyce Mojher, Bill Hilley, Anna Burton, Jonathan Legg, Lisa Lore, Max Northouse, Pat Taylor, Cynthis Dupree, Mrs. Mastrando, Chris Whaley, James Hearn, Michael Bowman, Jazzy, Helena & Jackie Yorker, Mrs. Bowman, Ann Bishton, Rev. James Pittman, Evelyn Tinsley, Constance James, 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, 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: *William McCormick and family on the death of his mother, The family and friends of Michael Canon, Anna Burton, Marge Donnelly and family, Mat Hearn, 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, 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, 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.*

