**JULY/AUGUST 2023** 

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# **Dear Market Square Beloveds,**

I've decided to be okay with something that I haven't previously been okay with. I've always been an avid reader. I used to read one book at a time, straight through, beginning to end. I thought that people who read differently were weird, perhaps even immoral. (I'm joking about that, sort of.) But my reading habits have changed over the past decade. Now I read a lot of books at one time and sometimes I might take a few years to finish a book and occasionally I never finish or at least I haven't yet. I have been known to skip ahead or even skip around. I do this with fiction and non-fiction alike. And I'm at peace with it.

That peace may seem like a small thing, but being at peace when we notice that things are different isn't always easy. Adjusting to change in ourselves, in those

we love, in just about anything we love is hard. We live in a time of accelerated change which often causes us to hunker down and resist or find one size fits all solutions to problems we perceive around us. Sometimes we look for places that we never want to see change because *everything else* is changing. We look for a safehaven or sanctuary to get away from change. And sometimes we seek that in the church insisting, "Change cannot happen here!"

But the church will and must change, too. Because we serve a living God who is constantly doing something new. We shouldn't seek change for change's sake but to listen to and respond to a God who loves us and desires to guide us in living faithfully as the body of Christ. Because of summer and the circumstances of my own life as I lead you, we're getting off to a slow start with our discernment process, but that's okay, too. God's longing will be revealed to us when God is ready and when we're ready. The session continues to meet over the summer, and we'll continue to communicate with you through the newsletter. I'm grateful for their work and to Jonelle Darr for highlighting session activity for you each month. The



Pastor Kim Wadlington

Trustees and Deacons are also hard at work and ongoing Trustee work is highlighted in this newsletter, too (page 2). We'll have other means of communication in the future as the need arises.

In a new book I just picked up, there is a "Blessing for Being Open to Change." I highly recommend this book, *Good Enough: 40ish Devotionals for a life of imperfection* by Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie. The blessing they offer is a good one for us at any time, but especially as we embark on a season of discernment, asking, "God, who are you calling us to become? Where is Christ's presence active among us? Where is the Holy Spirit leading us?" Bowler and Richie write:

"Blessed are we, the ones who have just discovered that others might not look at things the way we do – and maybe they have a point. Just maybe.

Blessed are we, the newly wrong, chuckling over how much it hurts to be chastened a little. Blessed are we realizing that our fixes for others might actually be mirrors to hold up first for ourselves. And blessed are we, seeing that You, Lord, desire our good above all, we give You our worship and praise through our readiness to pivot according to Your direction.

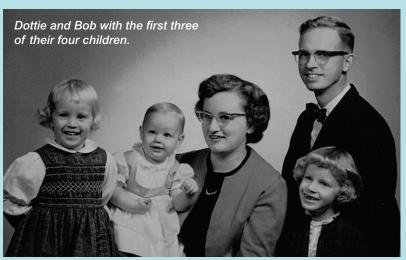


Our hearts are soft, our ears open. Speak, Lord, of the change You desire to write into our life stories as they unfold. For we are gently becoming aware that knowledge will not be the basis for our understanding of how life goes. Love will. *Amen.*" (page 218)



Join the Deacons on August 13th for a special Dottie Hotchkiss Coffee Hour in celebration of Dottie's 90th birthday on August 9.





#### **Board of Trustees**

Following is one of a series of articles about the work of the Board of Trustees and its committees.

"The Board of Trustees shall manage the business and financial affairs of the church, subject to general supervision by the Session": A deceptively simple prescription for a sometimes complex task.

There are presently fourteen trustees and four committees of the Board, as well as a Treasurer, Secretary and Vice President. Occasionally, the Board seeks non-trustee church members to assist in committee work. The committees (and their chairs) are: House (facilities) (Phyllis Mooney); Investment (John Dame); Safety & Security (John Dickinson; and Budget (Carlin Wenger.) This will focus on the House Committee.

Phyllis Mooney energetically leads very engaged and skilled committee members in matters as diverse as historic restoration to interior capital maintenance, renovation, or decoration. Funding for smaller projects is budgeted annually; more costly projects require Session approval.

Phyllis's approach for the committee is systematic: identify building needs; assess and prioritize their impact and benefit; factor in fiscal constraints; and seek needed decisions from the Board. MSPC's facilities are well-maintained, but new maintenance "needs" crop up regularly. Consequently, the committee's work is in a state of nearly constant review and revision.

Congregation members can help the committee stay on top of needed work by alerting Nancy Sheets if you perceive a facility problem – no matter how small you may think it is.

Nancy will either alert custodial staff or, if the problem is not janitorial, the House Committee. This will allow the committee to "connect the dots" if one problem leads to another and, just as importantly, maintain records of problems and actions for future knowledge is.

The Safety and Security Committee has been very active, very quickly since John Dickinson was appointed chair. Next *Marketplace* we'll tell you more!

Tom Darr

# Next *Marketplace* Deadline: Sunday, August 13

Please email articles and photos to Nancy Sheets and Kari Hultman: sheets@marketsquarechurch.org and khultman@comcast.net

## **Worship Schedule June 2023**

Our English language worship services are livestreamed from our sanctuary every Sunday morning at 11:00 a.m. and can be viewed on our homepage. A live audio-only broadcast of the service is available on radio stations 960 AM and 102.9 FM as well as through the radio button on our church website **www.marketsquarechurch.org**. If you miss the Sunday morning audio broadcast, a rebroadcast is available on the front page of our website under the "Past Services" tab beginning late Sunday afternoon and then can be accessed there throughout the week.

Korean language sermons are posted on the Korean Ministries YouTube channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCH6wErNFfDWz41-3DHUMzHg

	July 2 – 5th Sunday after Pentecost		
9:30 a.m.	Korean Language Worship in the Chapel		
44.00	The Reverend Ki Nam Lee preaching		
11:00 a.m.	English Language Worship in the Sanctuary		
	The Reverend Kim Wadlington preaching The Sacrament of Holy Communion		
	The Sacrament of Hory Communion		
	July 9 – 6th Sunday after Pentecost		
9:30 a.m.	Korean Language Worship in the Chapel		
	The Reverend Ki Nam Lee preaching		
11:00 a.m.	English Language Worship in the Sanctuary		
	The Reverend Kim Wadlington preaching		
	July 16 – 7th Sunday after Pentecost		
9:30 a.m.	Korean Language Worship in the Chapel		
	The Reverend Ki Nam Lee preaching		
11:00 a.m.	English Language Worship in the Sanctuary		
	The Reverend Allison Smith preaching		
	July 23 – 8th Sunday after Pentecost		
9:30 a.m.	Korean Language Worship in the Chapel		
	The Reverend Nam Gil Roh preaching		
11:00 a.m.	English Language Worship in the Sanctuary		
	The Reverend Allison Smith preaching		
	July 30 – 9th Sunday after Pentecost		
9:30 a.m.	Korean Language Worship in the Chapel		
3.00 a.m.	The Reverend Ki Nam Lee preaching		
11:00 a.m.	English Language Worship in the Sanctuary		
	The Reverend Kim Wadlington preaching		
9:30 a.m.	August 6 – 10th Sunday after Pentecost  Korean Language Worship in the Chapel		
5.50 a.iii.	The Reverend Ki Nam Lee preaching		
11:00 a.m.	English Language Worship in the Sanctuary		
	The Reverend Kim Wadlington preaching		
	The Sacrament of Holy Communion		
August 13 – 11th Sunday after Pentecost			
9:30 a.m.	Korean Language Worship in the Chapel		
0.00 a.iii.	The Reverend Ki Nam Lee preaching		
11:00 a.m.	English Language Worship in the Sanctuary		
	The Reverend Kim Wadlington preaching		
,	August 20 12th Sunday offer Pentagest		
9:30 a.m.	August 20 – 12th Sunday after Pentecost  Korean Language Worship in the Chapel		
5.50 a.III.	The Reverend Ki Nam Lee preaching		
11:00 a.m.	English Language Worship in the Sanctuary		
	The Reverend Allison Smith preaching		
	August 27 – 13th Sunday after Pentecost		
9:30 a.m.	Korean Language Worship in the Chapel		
	The Reverend Nam Gil Roh preaching		

English Language Worship in the Sanctuary The Reverend Kim Wadlington preaching

11:00 a.m.



# Our Church Family

#### **Deaths**

- Cheryl Galan's father, George Q. Downes III, died on June 2.
- Cindy Bendroth's mother, Carolyn, died on June 6.
- Michael Shedwick Williams, Virginia's husband and Tom's brother, died on June 19. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, July 1, at 11:00 a.m. at Matinchek Funeral

Home (Middletown). Pastor Kim Wadlington will officiate.

#### **Graduations**

- Carryn Queeley-Gibson (article below).
- Jenelle Smeltzer (pictured) at right) graduated from Strayer University with a Bachelor's degree in **Business Administration with** a focus in Accounting.



# Market Square Helps Sponsor Harrisburg Juneteenth Celebrations

Find us on the banner (above) and know that we've contributed to a joy-filled, education-packed Juneteenth Celebration in Harrisburg. Thanks as well to Kevin Burrell and the Anti-Racism and Social Justice Task Force for the contribution of their time and effort to organize events for the celebration.

https://theburgnews.com/in-the-burg/liberation-celebration-juneteenth-hbg-festival-returns-to-commemorate-holidayshowcase-black-culture-art

Here are stats from Dr. Kimeka Campbell acknowledging the church's efforts:

We had over close to 1000 people registered for the weeks' events. We had 200 people between morning and evening for the conference. We had 20 people for TOPIX Tuesday. We had 130 people for Black Performance arts and music showcase. We had over 180 signed up for Saturday night. We had about 215 signed up for Sunday. And it ALL went amazingly well.

Thanks to the church for their support!

## Congratulations to Carryn Queeley-Gibson!

She recently graduated from Norfolk State University with a B.A. in Psychology, Magna Cum Laude. She is moving soon to Hampton, VA, and has accepted a 3rd grade teaching position at the Hampton City Schools. Please keep her in your prayers; Carryn is the granddaughter of Market Square's long time beloved Sexton, the late Jim Queeley. Congratulatory cards may be sent to her via her mother Carlette's address until July 15: 2432 Adrian Street, Harrisburg 17104. In lieu of a graduation party, Carryn has set up registries for her new apartment in Hampton and for her future classroom.

Her Amazon registry (classroom) is here:

https://www.amazon.com/registries/gl/guest-view/OP7XY2FKUXVF and her Walmart (apartment) registry is here: https://www.walmart.com/registry/ER/74281fde-ae95-405c-9527f1e70b9be464



# Dear friends,

Happy Summer! I trust that you are finding time for rest and relaxation this summer. All ensembles are currently enjoying their vacation from weekly rehearsals. If you love singing and cannot commit to the Sanctuary Choir, I invite you to join us for the Summer Choir. Its schedule is listed below. We gather at 9:30 a.m. in Geneva Hall on the listed Sundays, and learn the music for worship. It's easy and fun! If you love singing, you should consider joining us! You do not need to RSVP ahead of time; simply arrive at 9:30 that morning and I promise you'll have a great time.

In July, in place of the Gathering Hymn, we are going to welcome the return of the hymn sing! We will sing two or three hymns during this time each week in worship. Think about some of your favorite hymns and be ready to call out their numbers!

In late August, our Sanctuary Choir is going to visit the Kirkridge Retreat and Study Center for our choir retreat. We are looking forward to our time together which will include fellowship time, rehearsing for the upcoming season, enjoying time and nature, and more! If you are interested in becoming a member of the Sanctuary Choir, now would be a great time to join. Then you can join us for the choir retreat where you'll get to know many choir members and get



**Tyler Canonico** *Minister of Music* 

a head start on the upcoming music. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you are interested.

The September edition of *The Marketplace* will include our return dates, the Arts on the Square season lineup, and more exciting news! ①

I hope you have a restful and fun summer!

Peace and love, Tyler

#### Music Schedule for July:

- Sunday, July 2 Timothy Lupia, tenor
- Sunday, July 9 The Summer Choir
- Sunday, July 16 Bill Stowman, trumpet
- Sunday, July 23 The Summer Choir
- Sunday, July 30 Eric Fung, piano

#### Music Schedule for August:

- Sunday, August 6 The Summer Choir with Ellen Hunt at the organ
- Sunday, August 13 Ruth Hunter, harp
- Sunday, August 30 The Summer Choir
- Sunday, August 27 Jonathan Walker-Vankuren, tenor



# Consider Being A Silent Witness At The Central PA Pride Festival

With the increase in anti-LGTBQIA+ legislation and expression around the country, we are working to ensure that we create a safe and positive environment for our attendees, non-profits, entertainers, and vendors. Part of this work includes ensure we have a sufficient volunteer base to support the work of the Silent Witness Peacekeepers Alliance (SWPA). The SWPA has worked with Central PA Pride for several years now by providing a visual barrier between those choosing to protest Pride and those joining us in celebrating Pride. The SWPA uses non-violent, non-confrontational methods to create this shield of rainbow umbrellas and trained peacekeepers. We are hoping to contribute to the work of the SWPA by providing the organization with a large amount of volunteers to serve in this role.

The mission to keep peace and present a safe and supportive environment aligns with the core values of many religious organizations and may also align with your own. All Silent Witness Peacekeepers are trained at a 2-hour training in early July by the SWPA's leading training team. Silent Witness Peacekeepers are expected to volunteer for two 1-hour shifts during Pride on July 29th (however, those wishing to be trained that cannot volunteer are allowable as space allows).

If you or someone you know might be interested, please complete the linked Google form (or forward this email to the appropriate contact to complete the form). This form is not a commitment at this time, but rather a way for us to schedule trainings that are likely to work for those interested in helping out.

https://forms.gle/VYRob518bsEbuxpJ8



Stop by the MSPC booth at the Pride Festival on July 29th and pick up one of these cool stickers!

Click below for more information about the Festival. https://centralpapride.org/event/pride-festival-of-central-pa-2023/



#### Three More Facts on CO2

as Action Comme The Ecology Action Committee read The World's Littlest Book on Climate - 10 Facts In 10 Minutes about CO2, a 28- page book written by M. Nelson, P. Tans, and M. Banks and supported by The Chautauqua Institute. This book describes the science of climate change in a concise and approachable manner. To share with you this important information about how human actions reshape the planet, we planned a series of newsletter articles highlighting these ten facts. This is the third of that series.

#### To recap Marketplace May and June EAC articles, these are the first five facts:

- 1. Carbon Dioxide (CO2) is on the rise and steadily increasing. The current level of CO2 has risen from 280 ppm (parts per million) to 417 ppm in 2022.
- 2. CO2 acts as a blanket by trapping heat which is critical to our having warmth to survive, but too much can be a bad thing.
- 3. The increase of CO2 in the atmosphere is caused by human activity, especially digging up fossilized carbon and burning it.
- 4. It has been over 100 years since scientists realized that something in our atmosphere was causing a greater level of warmth than would be expected from just the sun's rays alone. Today, measurements of CO2 are conducted all over the world. The "official" CO2 level is measured in a laboratory at Hawaii's Mauna Loa, in the middle of the Pacific, a very precise source location.
- 5. A major challenge today is the fact that CO2 stays for a long time in the environment, cycling between the atmosphere, oceans, and plants. There are still about 40% of the 1911 Ford Model T emissions in today's atmosphere, over 100 years later.

#### 6. YOUR CLIMATE FORECAST: Warm Today Hot Tomorrow

We can feel our climate getting warmer – think of it as 3 periods.

1) By the beginning of 20th century Earth had already warmed a little less than 2% F from extra CO2 emissions. About 87% of all cumulative excess CO2 emissions have taken place between 1950 and 2020. In the past such changes have taken place over thousands of years. This change in the earth's atmosphere is taking place overnight in geologic terms. The years 2015 to 2020 have been the 6 hottest years of recorded global temperatures.

<< At left. Pastor Kim and her daughter Priscilla staff the MSPC booth at last year's Pride Festival.

>> At right, Pastor Kim's dog Luna was a big draw to the MSPC booth!



2) Hotter years are yet to come. The extra heat retention from the cumulative CO2 emission from the last several decades have "baked in" even greater warming and are projected to add another 2 to 3 degrees to

global temperatures by 2050.

3) The engines of our global economy have a large and growing base of fossil-fuel burning cars, jets, and coal-fired power plants. The economic life of many of these machines is 10 or 20 years, and more for power plants. So, we can expect continued CO2 emissions at current levels into 2040 even with efficiency gains and renewable energy sources.

7. HONEST ICE: The Great Melt

So far, the Earth's surface has only warmed a little less than 2% F. It does not feel all that much warmer. Sure, there are more extreme heat waves and massive forest fires, but how do we know that this is different?

Ice does not lie. Ice needs freezing cold. Ice is the true measure of atmospheric cold. Across the globe, ice is in clear retreat and this shrinking ice is one of the most visible signs of our warming planet. The Great Melt is happening in our lifetime, and it can be seen from space.

#### 8. A HOTTER PLANET: More Extinctions

The gravest risks from a warming planet lie in the disruption to major ecosystems as well as the threats to vulnerable human populations around the world. The human cost is visible in the suffering and tragedy of climate refugees.

The consequences of this heat are already visible in the natural world around us. Increasingly global heat poses a large and growing threat to wild species and to the integrity of ecosystems. Adding extreme heat threatens to cook ecosystems, notably in species most sensitive to temperature such as those in the Arctic and coral reefs. Think about Australia's Great barrier Reef-Massive Coral Die Offs brought on by acidification and higher temperatures.

Ecologists are increasingly convinced that ecosystems will suffer loss and degradation as the planet heats and extreme weather events become more common. Without insects and other pollinators, well over half our food crops could not be grown. Wild plants, animals, and microbes provide the genetic library that leads us to cures for many of our illnesses and to fill our dinner tables. In a direct economic sense, we bank on a stable and temperate climate for our prosperity.

The next issue of Marketplace addresses the last two facts, 9 and 10, about CO2. If you wish to borrow a copy of this pamphlet or have further discussion, please reach out to me or another member of EAC.

**Barbara Pennell** 

# Stewardship

YTD Actual Pledges: \$212,840 YTD Budget: \$193,750 Surplus: \$ 19.090

# **Lunch and Learn**

Join the Reverend Allison R. Smith after worship on July 9 in Geneva Hall for a Lunch and Learn gathering. Her topic is *the Sacrament of Baptism*. The Education Committee will provide sandwiches from Subway. Please let Nancy in the church office know if you're coming.

# Session Activities — May 2023 Activity Update

By Jonelle Darr, Clerk of Session

Market Square's Session is responsible for the church's mission, governance, and programs.

Pastor Kim Wadlington moderates the Session. Current Ruling Elders may serve up to two consecutive, three-year terms.

#### **Mission Study and Transition Planning**

1. Discussed outcomes from the March 2023 officer's retreat and how to continue the group's discernment regarding the priorities that were identified that day. Session has agreed to enter into enter into a discernment process to establish more clarity and focus for Market Square's ministries.

#### Personnel

- 2. Approved a Covenant of Agreement with the Reverend Anne M. Ross to serve as a part-time (10-15 hours per week) Pastoral Assistant for Congregational Care at Market Square Presbyterian Church, effective May 17, 2023. Her responsibilities include to:
  - a. Work with the Head of Staff and Associate Pastor to visit the sick and infirm in homes, rehabilitation facilities, or other care facilities:
  - b. Visit with congregation members by phone when unable to visit them in person;
  - c. Celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper on a regular basis with those unable to attend worship;
- 3. Learned that Pastor Kim's husband, the Reverend Derek Wadlington, accepted the position of Chaplain at Muskingum University (Ohio). His work will begin August 1, 2023. Pastor Kim said that she would honor her commitment to Market Square to serve as interim head of staff until such time that she believes her work with Market Square has been completed. Her goal will be to help the church get its Pastor Nominating Committee's work underway. (Her current contract with Market Square ends November 30, 2023). She and Derek will be living in two different places while she serves as interim head of staff. She noted that this makes it clear that she does not intend to apply for Market Square's permanent head of staff position.

#### Worship, Music and Arts

4. As requested by Minister of Music Tyler Canonico, approved spending \$700 from the Lou and Russell Drane Memorial Music Fund for Manor Winds' participation in worship on Sunday, June 25, 2023. Background: The Drane Music Fund is used for special music for services of worship, or for special music occasions, reflecting the donors' love of music in the classical tradition. This fund is under the auspices of the Worship, Music, and Arts Committee (WMAC). However, in keeping with its January 2023 Session meeting decision, Session considers these types of requests unless the WMAC is convened, and a timely decision can be made. As of March 31, 2023, the fund balance was \$14,542.49.

#### **Organizational**

- 5. Approved the Congregational Meeting minutes for April 23, 2023. At the meeting, Dave Arnold, Janet Bargh, Wendy Shearer, Phyllis Smith and Donna Wenger were elected as at-large members of the 2023 Nominating Committee.
- 6. Received a thank you note and personal donation from Ann Van Dyke for the church's work to prepare and print programs for Harrisburg's Heeding God's Call to End Gun Violence Awareness Day. Nancy Sheets provides this event support.
- 7. Learned that Market Square's 2023 Session and Congregational meeting minutes, and registers of members (including ordained elders, deacons, deaths, baptisms, membership rolls, etc.) were reviewed and approved by the Presbytery of Carlisle without exceptions on April 29, 2023.

The Session will meet again on June 20, 2023 for its regular monthly Session meeting.

As of May 16, 2023, there were 474 active members on the church roll. If you have any questions about Session activities, you may talk with me, a Session member, or one of our Pastors.

Terms Expiring in 2023	Terms Expiring in 2024	Terms Expiring in 2025
Morgan Dame (Youth – 1 yr. term) Cindy Bendroth (1st term) Jack Galan (2nd term) Wil Henninger (2nd term) Dale Laninga (1st term) Dave Lehman (1st term) Steve McMullen (2nd term)	Sandy Bell (1st term) Kevin Burrell (1st term) Keith Camilli (1st term) Andrew Hunter (1st term) Jane Murray (1st term) Jong Hwan Yi (2nd term)	George Blashford (1st term) Beth Freeman (1st term) Jonelle Darr (2nd term) Theresa Elliott (1st term) Beth Hager (1st term) Nancy Snyder (2nd term)

#### AFGHAN REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT PROJECT

Note: This report is being sent to all Market Square and Pine Street Presbyterian Church members who have volunteered to help our Afghanistan families. Individuals from the ISC and others interested in the project are also on our mailing list.

To review status, currently we help the Afghanzada family living in Mechanicsburg and the Azizyar family living in Grantham. We will also be helping the Popal family once they obtain satisfactory housing.

#### **Afghanzada Family:**

We were shocked mid-month to receive an email from our basic contact, Parwiz, stating the family is moving to Virginia. The shock was because there was no prior indication, and their one-year condo lease (which Market Square co-signed) runs through November 30, 2023. After a thorough review and discussion of their rental lease (which included pointing out all the legal pitfalls of lease default) we learned the family, upon reconsideration, will live out the lease term in Mechanicsburg and not default. Whew!!! Collectively we breathed a sigh of relief! We've tried to get an explanation for this action and learned very little. Parwiz said the move was "unexpected" and relates to their extended family in Virginia. We also think the move has been brought about by their difficulties in the job market. We found that currently four of the five adult males in the family are out of work. We've been helping them in resume writing (their original resumes were basically unsatisfactory from the standpoint of a potential employer). We've also given them job leads and a lead with a West Shore job placement firm. Looking at their resumes we find ample experience in warehouse work (Pepsi and Home Depot in Carlisle), but their terms of employment tend to be very short (2-5 months). We've tried to find an answer to this in discussions with Parwiz and case worker Jamal, with no success. IF ANYONE READING THIS NEWSLETTER HAS IDEAS ON HOW TO HELP THIS FAMILY IN JOB PLACEMENT, PLEASE CONTACT AUDREY OR MYSELF.

#### **Azizyar Family:**

Work with this family continues to be a success story. With help from volunteer Dale Laninga and his spiffy pickup truck we delivered a very nice patio set of metal table and chairs courtesy of the Wilsons of Pine Street. Seat cushions and an umbrella came on May 20 courtesy of donors from Market Square and Pine Street. A window AC unit donated by a Pine Street member has been

delivered and installed with a second unit (Pine Street donor) delivered on May 27. Two small laptops for the children's schoolwork courtesy of the Pine Street Mission Committee were delivered May 20. Another new laptop from a friend of the Messiah University School of Education had been previously delivered. The English teaching in their home which had been done by School of Education students from Messiah is suspended during the summer. ESL classes that Roqia has been taking weekly at Immanuel Church in Mechanicsburg also are on summer suspension. We thank volunteer Anne Ross for transporting Roqia and her neighbor to classes at Immanuel along with going above and beyond the call of duty to transport Roqia and friends on shopping trips along with some trips to medical clinics. We have tried, without success, to get Roqia into ESL classes at Bible Baptist Church in Shiremanstown through the summer. But with three school-aged youngsters off school and at home, along with a newborn, Roqia taking classes during the day away from the house just didn't work. We will work with the School of Education at Messiah and Immanuel Church in the Fall to ensure that Rogia and Azizullah continue to be immersed in English learning. In my face-to-face contacts with the family, I certainly note improved English usage. And their three schoolaged youngsters act as wonderful interpreters! In a rather spirited discussion with dad Azizullah and eldest son Rohid on May 20 I learned that school in the United States is 100% better than what they experienced in Afghanistan. One of the prime reasons...corporal punishment appears to be common there. Rohid emphatically said his school here is so much better. That was nice to hear.

#### **Popal Family:**

Work with this family continues to be on hold until they obtain satisfactory housing. After housing is obtained and the family is settled our plan is to meet the family and assess needs.

Thanks to all our volunteers for your involvement and help in this important outreach to our Afghan families. A big THANK YOU for your suggestions, contributions, and offers of needed items. Our volunteers make this entire effort possible, and we are grateful!

**Roger Olson**, *co-chair*. Market Square Presbyterian Church housedoctr@hotmail.com

**Audrey Light**, *co-chair*. Pine Street Presbyterian Church Alight206@comcast.net

# Krisfund's 60th Anniversary Celebration



Join us on **August 19-20** to celebrate Krislund's 60 years of camping (1963 to 2023)! Saturday will include open activities for the community, a silent auction, time for fellowship, and, of course, delicious food and fantastic music. Come enjoy a hay ride, the adventure course, swimming, etc. (All for FREE)! The event is open to the public until 3:00 p.m. Activities after 3:00 p.m. are intended specifically for alumni, volunteers, and donors. If you love Krislund or want to learn more about Christ's little valley, join us for the 60th Anniversary. For more information and to register, see the link below.

https://krislund.org/alumni/

# Where Is God in the 21st Century? by Ron Poorman

The expression, "this isn't your grandparents' church" would pretty much describe where we are in our faith lives today. There is much about the church in the time of our grandparents that is no longer operative. The role of women in the world, belief about divorce, the fluidity of gender roles, the ordination of women to office in the church, acknowledgement of people of color as victims of slavery, the widespread antisemitism and racism in American life, a woman's right to choose whether to have children, sexual abuse of children and adults...the list could go on. The point is that the church, faith of any kind, and participation in organized religion are not the norms of our society any longer. The church must speak about these issues in a way that expresses faith and action. And faith and action must align.

Even before the 1500th anniversary of the Reformation, Phyllis Tickle and many others who examined and studied the movement of the church over centuries recognized that there had been a shift in the church's place in the world; that new place is *Post Christendom*. This reality means that the Christian church no longer holds a place of dominance over other religions, culture, and governments of the world. A talk about this must wait for another day, but the empty spaces we see in our church pews reflect this reality. This acknowledgement means that it is more important than ever that the church speak frankly to those who are listening or it will die.

This brings us to my topic: How does the church present itself to its members and those who live on the edges of its world. The old theology is stretched thin. To speak to the present-day audience, we must embrace new expressions of what a Christian journey might look like. Many hymns in the latest Presbyterian hymnal, *Glory to God*, are very current in their thinking and language because hymnal committees take care to include songs that express a faith that resonates with changes in biblical scholarship and what we know about the realities of science, human life, and nature today. The *Glory to God* hymnal, created by the Presbyterian Church (USA) in 2013, has over 800 hymns. Fifty percent of those hymns are expressions of faith not included in the prior hymnal published by the church in 1990 and are new to some of us.

There is a hymn included in both the 1990 and 2013 editions of our hymnal that I believe expresses the mission of the church for the present day. That hymn is "God Is Here." The text was written by Fred Pratt Green in the 1970s, a mere fifty years ago. It is sung to the tune *Abbot's Leigh*, written by Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907-1901).

Let's take a look at Green's text to see how he shows us how we can recognize God's presence and suggests our required action as followers of Christ. Green's answer to the question "Where is God in the 21st Century" is: God is here.

#### God Is Here\*

(Key elements in bold print)

God is here! As we your people Meet to offer praise and prayer, May we find in fuller measure What it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the world around us, All our varied skills and arts Wait the coming of the Spirit Into open minds and hearts.

Here are symbols to remind us Of our lifelong need of grace; Here are table, font and pulpit; Here the cross has central place. Here in honesty of preaching, Here in **silence**, as in speech, here, in **newness** and renewal, **God the Spirit comes to each.** 

Here our children find a welcome In the Shepherd's flock and fold; Here as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old. Here the servants of the Servant Seek in worship to explore What it means in daily living To believe and to adore.

Lord of all, of church and kingdom, In an age of change and doubt, Keep us faithful to the Gospel; help us work your purpose out. Here, in this day's dedication, All we have to give, receive; We, who cannot live without you, We adore you! We believe!

Green's modern text shifts our focus from that of an interventionist God to an observant one. He suggests that our praise and prayer is to be used not to create outcomes but to look for what it is that we share of Christ in our lives. Christ in us is the outcome. He goes on to say that our skills and arts are for us to use in bringing the Holy Spirit deep into ourselves.

Table, font, and pulpit—the symbols of the faith—are with us in each worship experience to remind us of our need for grace and of the centrality of Christ's sacrifice on our Christian journey. Further, in growth and renewal we open ourselves to the Holy Spirit within us. We are the shepherds and the flock at the same time, where all are welcome, young and old alike, people of all worldly conditions. Communion sustains us and helps us to understand the connection between our worship lives and our ordinary lives. We explore what it means to believe and to love.

Green is certainly aware of the difficulty, in the church and the larger world, of being faithful to a gospel which is challenged by change and doubt. He asks us to consider what it means to fulfill Christ's (and God's) purpose for our lives. In each day's work and living, we give all that we can give toward that future.

For the message and practices of Jesus and the church to be meaningful to a present-day world, they must resonate with a present-day people. Word and deed must be understood by people surrounded by technology, mis-information, selfishness, loneliness, forever wars, prejudices of all kinds affecting all people, and even the indifference of the church itself in the face of our individual struggles to find community in this world.

We must not only speak of tolerance but live it. We must not only talk about our love for each other but love it. We must not only talk about preserving the earth but cultivate it. We must not only bring believers into our fold but show them how to be in it. We must not only speak of being a community but build it. We must not only... you fill it in.

Finally, we cannot fully live without loving God and our neighbor, whoever they may be.

Here is a hymn link for "God Is Here." https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QbkNXq71iis

\*Words © 1979 Hope Publishing Company, 380 S Main Pl, Carol Stream, IL 60188

## **Restoring Lincoln Cemetery**

I was never comfortable around or at cemeteries. My family didn't have a tradition of visiting forbearers' final resting places on Memorial-day or other holidays. Cemeteries were connected to goodbyes and sadness for me. Through my conversations with Rachel Williams, the coordinator of Lincoln Cemetery I learned that these were very likely the only public green spaces available to African Americans before the creation of municipal parks (and probably after as well). They were places where you picnicked, reminisced and celebrated family. As she and I planned the restoration activity for Saturday, May 20th, I got to hear more than just the story of her family and why she began this work. I learned about celebrated residents of Harrisburg, their contributions to life here and the restoration work done or planned for their monuments.

As I listened to the stories and read the names, that's a tradition at Lincoln—you read the names of the individuals before you start working on their burial place—the feelings I previously held were gone. I felt humbled by the lives led by these individuals and their aspiration to improve the lives of their own families and of those families that came after them. There were generations of individuals buried in what are called "cradle" graves which are basically cement frames around several members of a family. The cradle grave I worked on was partially under the soil—about a foot to a foot and half of it. After around two-hours of frustrated but careful scraping, trowelling and watering, the hidden edge of the cradle grave I worked on emerged. I felt connected to a large caring community including living allies who made lunch and allowed us to hook hoses onto their property to draw water for our work. I was surprised at the absence of my former feelings and look forward to future times to learn and restore.

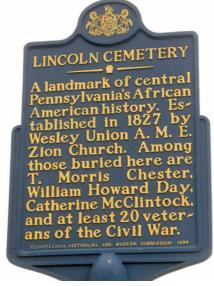
Here is link to learn more about Lincoln Cemetery: https://lincolncemetery.org/index.php/about-soal-savingourancestorslegacy/

#### Kevin Burrell and Cindy Bendroth



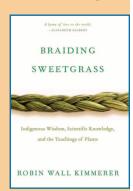






#### REFORMED READERS

How, in our modern world, can we find our way to understand the earth as a gift again, to make our relations with the world sacred again?



In her best-selling book Braiding

Sweetgrass, Robin Wall Kimmerer weaves together a series of stories "meant to heal our relationship with the world." These stories draw upon Kimmerer's indigenous wisdom, scientific knowledge, and her own personal life to inspire people to live with respect, gratitude and love for the land, the plants, and all of life, which she sees as nature's gift to us.

Kimmerer is an acclaimed writer having received the John Burroughs Medal for nature writing for her book *Gathering Moss*. She is also a mother and grandmother, a scientist, a professor and a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation

Her writing is accessible and lyrical, filled with sensory descriptions. In a chapter called the "The Gift of Strawberries" she concludes: "A great longing is upon us, to live again in a world made of gifts. I can scent it coming, like the fragrance of ripening strawberries rising in the breeze." And in another chapter writing about "Asters and Goldenrod," she tells readers, the New England Asters are not "the pale domesticates of the perennial border, the weak sauce of lavender or sky blue, but full-on royal purple that would make a violet shrink."

While our news sources relate daily the increasing costs of climate change, Kimmerer's book is not about the many losses happening in the natural world. It is instead an evocation of the bounty, the generosity of our Earth Mother. With that recognition it is hoped we can come to recognize the gifts of all earthly life with gratitude, love, and care.

You are invited to read and discuss *Braiding Sweetgrass* in Market Square's October Reformed Readers. Please watch for a date to be announced in the September *Marketplace*. Copies of Kimmerer's book will be in the church library.

**Elizabeth Terry** 

#### THERE IS NO DIVINE DICTIONARY

There is much fuss and focus on language these days. And the backlash gets more and more absurd and pointless. As I write this, one of the most recent incidents involving language is a Christian university that fired two employees for not following the school's email signature guidelines on pronouns. The school code forbade using the parenthetic preference. Specifically, these employees signed their names and followed that with the parenthetic (he/him or she/her)<sup>i</sup>. I am speechless!

There is no divine dictionary. Language is a human artifice! We humans make up the words we use to converse, describe, and record all of our daily interpersonal contact. **There is NO divine dictionary**. Not only do we determine what the sounds we make mean, we also change what that meaning is over time. And, more significantly, we speak a myriad of languages.

The use of language is one with which people have wrestled for eons. Throughout the Biblical accounts, there runs the theme of what language is and means. The creation story begins it—Adam (which means in Hebrew literally "earth"). For some readers of the creation story this means that, unequivocally, God made MAN first and then woman, and forever after that is the hierarchy. Not only that, but that there was—at the beginning—just one man and then one woman. (I confess, it made me as a teen wonder where the spouses for Cain, Abel and Seth came from.)

I grew up being instructed never to swear...because the Ten Commandments instruct to NOT take "the Lord's name in vain." That was interpreted to mean that SAYING the Lord's name was a sin. However, as I matured, I came to understand that "taking the Lord's name in vain" doesn't mean not SAYING God or Jesus Christ. It means do not allege something that is false and then swear that it is "the God's truth." There are more Biblical instructions on how language is to be used, many of them in the "thou shalt NOT" approach.

Early in my work career, I taught English composition and literature at a local Christian college. Not surprisingly, there was a strong expectation that our speaking would reflect the values of the college...in other words, no swearing. One day, when I went to my campus mailbox to collect the mail, I misdialed my access number. I was in a hurry and frustrated and as soon as I misdialed, I let out a loud **DAMN**. I quickly and furtively looked around and was relieved that no one had seen or heard me. Whew! But it did inspire me to craft a lesson on language for my students.

Here's the short version of that lesson. I would write these two words on the board at the front of the class: *WOMAN* and *HUSSY*. Then, looking at one of the female students, I asked—how would you feel if I called you a *HUSSY*. Predictably, she bristled a bit. Then, I substituted *WOMAN*—and that was OK. I then explained—the word HUSSY is an abbreviation for HOUSEWIFE. So rather than be the negative word it has become today, several hundred years ago, it had a descriptive and neutral meaning. Then—I would make my point: there is NO divine dictionary; words mean only what we have agreed in our social contract they mean.

Another quick illustration. When our son was a young boy, he came home one day and asked, with a quizzical look on his face, what does the word F\*\*\* mean? He had seen it written on a sidewalk and was puzzled. First, I said—well, it's a sort of bad word that people say or write when they want to insult people. But then I paused and said, literally it means to "make love." (Understand—he was not quite at the age of learning about the proverbial "birds and bees",

so I toned it down a bit.) He looked at me wonderingly and asked "Then, why is that a bad word." Good question, son. So again, my point, there is no divine dictionary!

We are in something of a sea-change of thinking about language. Words get thrown about these days—and the clear intent is to denigrate someone. How did WOKE get to be a "bad thing"? Isn't the opposite, if you're not WOKE, that you're ASLEEP?

We create language. Sure, there are times when depending on context and company, some words are best left unsaid. And, of course "labels" are short-hand ways of describing a thing, a place, an idea, a person, and so on. Sometimes those labels are laudatory and sometimes defamatory.

But when we begin to use words as cudgels, metaphorically hitting each other over the head, then we sully the gift that language is. Words used well, used lovingly, used descriptively, used wisely can help all of us—to understand each other, to learn about who and what we are, to encourage, to comfort...and on and on.

"Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer." ii

"Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things." <sup>iii</sup>

#### **Donna Wenger**

'Their given names were sufficiently unusual to not be immediately identified as male or female names—Shua...and Raegan. So, including "he/him" or "she/her" was a solution for them. They were tired of having mail misdirected to them, and the parenthetic designation of pronouns helped that. And for that, they were fired. "Psalm 19:14 NRSV

Read PennLive's recent article about the Mary Lou Dallam Fund, written by Dr. Joyce M. Davis:

https://www.pennlive.com/opinion/2023/06/one-woman-knew-books-are-the-key-to-overcoming-the-vestiges-of-slavery-oppression-and-inequality-social-views.html



# A Journey of Discovery

When I was approached about creating banners for Market Square Presbyterian Church to use during Ordinary Time, my first question was about the size of the space where the banners would hang. Learning of the generous amount of space available for the installation, I decided that I would make four separate banners of equal size. They would not completely fill the space, but would be large enough to make an impression and of a size that would challenge me as I made them.



The next step was to determine the content or theme of the banners. I turned to the lectionary. After reading various scriptures, I discovered that Matt. 13:1-8 provided four distinct parts that could each form the subject of a banner. I decided to use this scripture, the parable of the seeds.

The technique I used to create the banners gives a feeling of stained glass. The batik fabrics provide clear colors and motion in their patterns and designs. I used the qualities of the individual fabrics to enhance the subject of each banner. I also added applique pieces for details specific to each banner. All of the sewing on the fronts of the banners was done by machine, with the exception of the beads in panels 1 and 4. I sewed the beads on by hand. The binding was attached to each banner by machine, but was sewn in place on the back by hand.

The color for the Church during Ordinary – or ordinal – Time is green. I used a great deal of green in the banners for two reasons. First, to match the seasonal color, and second, because the landscape or setting for this parable is much more meaningful to viewers in Central Pennsylvania if the landscape feels familiar. Although each banner is a separate vignette, the fabrics and the motif of the path carry through all four panels to unite them in telling the parable.

As I worked on this project, my understanding of what the banners could mean evolved, as if the banners spoke to me as I made them. We often speak of life as a journey or say we are following a path in life. The path in the banners may be seen as the life of a single person, going through different stages of life and faith. There are ups and downs, times of greater or lesser faith, and the path leads through those times.

Although I had in mind a specific scripture as the inspiration for these banners, I realized that other scriptures might also be meaningful to observers. Psalm 23 comes to mind, with a path through trials but also a time of abundance. Psalm 121 could also be relevant, looking to the hills for comfort and protection. One could perhaps even see the road to Emmaus, with or without the symbolism of individual details in the banners, where the final banner shows the abundance found in the disciples' recognition of Christ.

It is my hope that everyone who views these banners will find something that resonates with them. I believe that art allows more than one interpretation, and a viewer may not see the scripture that inspired me. I will be delighted if this is so with these banners.

#### Gloria McPherson bio:

Gloria McPherson is a retired United Church of Christ minister. She lives in New Bloomfield, in Central Pennsylvania. McPherson is a fiber artist who enjoys using fibers in a variety of ways. She learned to knit at age 8 from a family friend, and continues to enjoy knitting and crocheting. She discovered rug hooking a few years ago, and recently added punch needle to her repertoire. She also weaves using a Saori loom. She is a long-time quilter, beginning to focus on art quilts since her retirement. In her art, McPherson focuses upon color and abstract designs to convey meaning. She uses color and pattern in fabrics to enhance her quilted work.

Look for Rev. MacPherson's work to be featured as an Arts on the Square exhibit this fall! Meet her and see her work at an opening reception slated take place in Geneva Hall on Sunday, October 15 after 11:00 a.m. worship.



# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The following were welcomed into membership at MSPC on June 24. They will be recognized in worship on July 2.



# Caleb Stelle and Julie Bernatowicz Stelle

(they will be married on July 1) 311 S. River St, Apt. 2 Harrisburg, PA 17104 cstellemusic@gmail.com jbernatowicz7@gmail.com

Dr. Bill and Alison Malcolm 2338 Forest Hills Drive

Harrisburg, PA 17112 alisomoor@yahoo.com

#### Market Square Presbyterian Church 20 South Second Street Harrisburg, PA 17101

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

Kimberley D. Wadlington, Interim Pastor / Head of Staff wadlington@marketsquarechurch.org

**Allison Smith**, Supply Associate Pastor smith@marketsquarechurch.org

Ki Nam Lee, Pastoral Supply for Korean Ministries kinlee21c@gmail.com

The Reverend Jennifer McKenna, Spiritual Director

Tyler A. Canonico, Minister of Music canonico@marketsquarechurch.org

Nancy D. Sheets, Ministry Support Administrator sheets@marketsquarechurch.org

Michelle Sheaffer, Financial Administrator sheaffer@marketsquarechurch.org

**Anne M. Ross**, Pastoral Assistant for Congregational Care amross0611@gmail.com

M. Amin Salaam, Custodian

Ollie W. Silver, Sunday Sexton / Events Staff

Lizzie Camilli, Nursery Caregiver

James D. Brown, Pastor Emeritus

Ellen Hunt, Minister of Music Emerita

Peter Yardley-Jones, Artist-in-Residence

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**PAID** 

Harrisburg, PA Permit No. 273



The annual church picnic will be held on Sunday, September 17, at 12:30 p.m. at Negley Park in Lemoyne.

This year, we will meet at the Lower Pavillion where there is ample parking.



#### **Sunday Services**

Korean Language Service—9:30 a.m. in the Chapel. Sermons on YouTube (link on the church website's Worship page).

English Language Service—11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary. Broadcast live on the radio (link on the church website's Homepage) and livestreamed on the Homepage and the church's YouTube channel.

The 11:00 a.m. service is broadcast on WHYL 960 AM, 102.9 FM, and posted later in the day on our website: www.marketsquarechurch.org.





#### **OUR MISSION**