

# The Marketplace



DECEMBER 2022

Ph: (717) 257-1270 | Fx: (717) 257-1283 | [www.marketsquarechurch.org](http://www.marketsquarechurch.org)

## Dear Market Square Beloveds

Newsletter deadlines being very firm this month because of the coming Thanksgiving holiday, I'm writing this cover letter in an in-between time. The end of Tom's pastorate hasn't quite yet come but it will be here in seven days. Right now, we've heard Jim Brown's sermon as our Pastor Emeritus and we're anticipating our celebration of Tom and Lori's ministry to be held next Sunday. At this moment, after worship on Sunday, November 13, there is an air of anticipation in the church, certainly mixed with a large degree of sadness. When Tom brought me into his office this morning to show me that he's already largely cleaned it out to be ready for me, it sunk in a little deeper that this is really happening, that Tom is really retiring.

Because of all that, I appreciated Jim Brown's sermon all the more for its reflection and direction for us. Jim reflected on the two things that are constants at Market Square Presbyterian Church. First, God's tender hesed for each of us and for the church. Hesed, in Jim's words is, "mercy and grace, steadfast love, unmerited grace that sends us on our way, over and again, when we have the eyes to see it, the ears to hear it." It is by this love that we are gathered together to worship. It is by this love that we are supported and strengthened. It is by this love that we are called and sent out into the world.

Jim also reflected on the continuity between his pastorate and Tom's which points to the mission and ministry of the congregation. Through our mission statement, the work of the church has continued apace over the last several decades and will continue into the future, no matter who is your pastor. It continues because it



**Pastor  
Kim Wadlington**

is the work to which you have discerned God is calling you and it is the work to which you give your hearts over and again in so many ways. I see the church, all of you, doing so as I watch the way you provide hospitality and warm meals and financial gifts which help to secure housing and provide basic necessities for those in need. I hear you doing so as you as you sing God's praise in worship, as you share ways to advocate for the environment, as you have the difficult conversations needed to become an anti-racist congregation, and as you pray for and with one another during difficult times.

Each of you reading this is a vital part of this body of Christ, called here to worship and be strengthened, then sent out by grace over and again into the world that God loves. By this we are bound together, by hesed and by God's mission for Market Square Church. I am honored to be your Transitional Senior Pastor and a part of leading you into a future built on this solid foundation.

Jim ended today's sermon this way, "Bound together in a beloved community centered on Christ you have heard and seen things that many prophets and kings overlook. You've had a splendid decade. Celebrate your hearts out and then carry on, doing justice, loving kindness, and walking humbly with your God." By the time you read this, we'll have celebrated Tom and Lori, we'll be carrying on our mission, and we'll be taking our first steps into the future God has in store, born on the wings of God's hesed love, sent by grace over and again. Thanks be to God!

**KDW**



## To Everyone At Market Square,

I want to thank all of you from the bottom of my heart for the support you've offered me while I've been under care and seeking ordination and since beginning a new call at the Presbyterian Church of Okemos in August of this year. I cannot tell you how much it's meant to me to have the support of your congregation. When I came to you all one day before Seminary move-in day and you were willing to accept me with open arms into your congregation, I was so struck by your loving support. It was such a healing balm, especially after some less inclusive experiences in another church and presbytery. That care sustained me through Seminary and it was so meaningful to me that you all were willing to check in with me and offer me financial support along the way. It always seemed to come just at the right time. Thank you so much for paying for my first pulpit gown. It means so much to me to be able to put on a vestment that connects me to Market Square and my roots in the Harrisburg area. Paul said it best in his opening words to the Philippians when he wrote, "I thank my God every time I remember you." This is how I feel about MSPC—I'm overjoyed by you and so grateful for you. Thank you for EVERYTHING.

With love,  
**Rebekah Anderson**

**Next Marketplace Deadline: Sunday, December 11**

Please email articles and photos to Nancy Sheets and Kari Hultman. [sheets@marketsquarechurch.org](mailto:sheets@marketsquarechurch.org) and [khultman@comcast.net](mailto:khultman@comcast.net)

## Blue Christmas Worship Service

Saturday, December 17 at 4:00 p.m.

"It's the most wonderful time of the year..." until it's not. The truth is that many people struggle silently through the Advent and Christmas seasons. It can be a painful and difficult time for a myriad of reasons. This service is designed to give space for grief, longing, and honest acknowledgment of pain during a time that we're often expected to be especially happy and full of cheer. We plan a sanctuary worship service that is quiet and contemplative. Piano will accompany our hymn singing, there will be opportunities for silent reflection, and artistic expression to feed our souls. We welcome those who have need of this service and those who simply wish to be of support to anyone who is struggling this season.

And if you have people in your life who are struggling this season, don't presume that you know what they need. In her book, *A Weary World*, Kathy Escobar suggests, "the best thing you can center on is being a person of presence, just being with others without answers, judgment, or perceived solutions." She suggests that "being direct and open is usually appreciated" and these three simple questions offer a good place to start your efforts to support them:

- How can I be a good friend to you during this season?
- What helps you or brings a little relief?
- What hurts you?

She further suggests that "many people don't know what they need when they're hurting but they know what offers a little relief and what causes more pain." No matter where you are emotionally this season, a Blue Christmas Service may be just what you or someone you love needs. Please join us.

Escobar, Kathy. *A Weary World: Reflections for a Blue Christmas*. West Minster John Knox, 2020.

KDW

## ADULT FORUM IN DECEMBER

(The Adult Forum meets Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in Geneva Hall on the Fourth Floor. Childcare is available during the Forum. A broad array of topics is presented and discussed in the Forum – biblical and theological, social justice, the arts, the life of the Christian in the world, etc. There always is time for interaction with the day's presenter(s) and thus the Forum is a wonderful opportunity to nurture the faith Christ gives to us as we live together toward the Beloved Community. Please join us!)

### DECEMBER 4– NO ADULT FORUM TODAY – BISTRO PREP UNDERWAY

### DECEMBER 11 – CAN PRESBYTERIANS LOVE MARY?

Jesus' mother Mary was scurried out of sight and out of mind by the Reformers, but does she need to stay there? Learn why we should be thinking more about Mary and why it's not only okay for Presbyterians to do so but a good idea too! A panel discussion moderated by Trum and Michelle Simmons with members and friends of Market Square raised in the Roman Catholic Church.

**DECEMBER 18 – TYLER CANONICO** leads a Forum on Advent hymns with history, origin stories, and lots of singing. If any of your favorites didn't make it into worship this year, there may be an opportunity to request them!

### DECEMBER 25 – NO ADULT FORUM TODAY MERRY CHRISTMAS!!



## Power Interfaith Rally

Market Square Church friends Shirley and Steve Ericson at the POWER Interfaith rally intended to give voice to the power of inclusion, freedom and justice, and expressing resistance to White Christian Nationalism.

Photo taken by Kim Wadlington at a time when participants were asked to join hands with those around them.

## Worship via radio and livestream on Christmas Eve

Christmas Eve worship will be broadcast live from our sanctuary beginning at 11:00 p.m. The broadcast 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](http://www.marketsquarechurch.org).

We will also livestream worship beginning at 10:30 p.m. with the Sanctuary Choir Christmas voluntary music.

The livestream is available to church members by clicking on the link in the "Church Members Info" section of the church website (with prior admittance by the webmistress).



## Meet Yara Meqbil

**Meet Yara Meqbil**, 21, in her second year of medical school in Al Quds University, and determined to make a difference for her family and the Palestinian people. Yara is currently doing her clinical rotations on days when it is safe enough for her to leave her family's home to travel to the hospital. The escalation of violence in the West Bank - driven by the Israeli occupation, settler violence and the increasing resistance of Palestinians to the many years of Israeli domination - results in daily hardship for Yara and her family.

Education remains the key for Yara and her siblings, as is true for most Palestinians. Aware of her keen intellect and her desire to earn her degree, as well as the lack of the family's resources, the congregation of Market Square Church and friends have been working together to cover the tuition and living expenses for Yara's second semester. Funds are being funneled through the Palestinian Education Fund of the Peacemaking Committee. We applaud Yara's dedication as we have followed her older brother, Yazan, for seven years in achieving his bachelors degree at Goshen College in molecular biology and biochemistry, and more recently in receiving his doctoral degree at Purdue University.

Margee Kooistra





## Intertwined: a faith community

### **MSPC Session,**

Thank you for your support of Intertwined, the new worshipping community to which I've been called. Last Sunday was our first worship gathering at City Island, and I was pleased to include the font and tray you gifted me in the worship space. I am also grateful for your financial gift, which I am using to extend our online reach; that drew in a young family who attended on Sunday. Thank you for your continued support.

**Kevin Long**



Julie Dibble, Director of Evangelism and Outreach at the Newberrytown Church of God, delivering items her church put together for Market Square's homeless ministry.

## Stewardship

YTD Actual .....	\$386,000
YTD Budget .....	\$387,500
Deficit .....	\$ 1,500



## Worship and Preaching Schedule December 2022

Our English language worship services are broadcast live from our sanctuary every Sunday morning at 11:00 a.m. The broadcast 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](http://www.marketsquarechurch.org). If you miss the Sunday morning live broadcast, the 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.

Livestreaming of the 11:00 a.m. service also is available to members who are unable to be present in the sanctuary by clicking on the link in the "Members Only" section of the church website (with prior admittance by the webmaster). An edited version of the service will be available later that day for the general public on the Market Square YouTube channel at: [bit.ly/3EmRODi](https://bit.ly/3EmRODi)

Korean language sermons are posted on the Korean Ministries YouTube channel: [bit.ly/3hXLL0x](https://bit.ly/3hXLL0x)

### **December 4 – 2nd Sunday in Advent**

- 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 Kimberley D. Wadlington preaching  
The Sacrament of Holy Communion  
Market Square Bistro will follow worship

### **December 11 – 3rd Sunday in Advent**

- 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 Kimberley D. Wadlington preaching

### **Saturday, December 17 at 4PM – Blue Christmas Service**

- 4:00 p.m. Quiet and Contemplative Worship in the Sanctuary  
Led by the Reverend Kimberley D. Wadlington and  
Minister of Music, Tyler Canonico  
*For more information, see article on previous page.*

### **December 18 – 3rd Sunday in Advent**

- 9:30 a.m. Korean Language Worship in the Chapel  
The Reverend Gil Nam Roh preaching
- 11:00 a.m. English Language Worship in the Sanctuary  
The Reverend Kimberley D. Wadlington preaching  
*The Christmas Joy Offering will be received, see page 10 for more information.*

### **Saturday, December 24 – Christmas Eve**

- 5:30 p.m. Prelude Music rung by the Market Square Ringers
- 6:00 p.m. Pop-up Pageant in the Sanctuary with candle lighting
- 10:30 p.m. Choral Prelude sung by the Sanctuary Choir
- 11:00 p.m. Candlelight Festival Service with Christmas Sermon  
The Reverend Kimberley D. Wadlington preaching

### **December 25 – Christmas Day**

- 9:30 a.m. Korean Language Worship in the Chapel  
The Reverend Ki Nam Lee preaching
- 11:00 a.m. A Service of Lessons and Carols  
The Reverend Kimberley D. Wadlington preaching

Dear friends,

How can it be this time of the year already?!? It doesn't seem possible to me! Time has flown by so quickly this year and the holiday rush is now upon us! The music ministry is quite busy, as you can imagine, but we are enjoying preparing the music for all the services and concerts for this month.



Our annual **Carols by Candlelight** will be held on **Sunday, December 11 at 4:00 p.m.** The choir, accompanied

by an orchestra, will present Vivaldi's exciting "Gloria" and Randol Bass' holiday spectacular "Feast of Carols." The audience will be invited to join in on the carol singing and candle lighting. There will be readings and other anthems, and it will certainly be a beautiful evening! This has become a favorite of many, and I hope to see you with us on December 11th!

The Market Square Ringers have been busy preparing a ton of seasonal music. We are trying to schedule a performance at Bethany Village – we loved going there every year (before Covid) and sharing a concert with the residents and friends. Fingers crossed we'll be allowed back this year. 😊

Christmas Eve promises to be both exciting and beautiful. The Market Square Ringers will provide a thirty-minute prelude, beginning at 5:30 p.m. for the 6:00 p.m. service. We will have a pop-up pageant, candle lighting, and lots of carol singing! Then, the Sanctuary Choir will provide a thirty-minute choral prelude, beginning at 10:30 p.m. for the 11:00 p.m. Candlelight Festival Service. Hear the Christmas story, sing carols with us, enjoy the beauty of the candlelit Sanctuary, and ring in Christmas morning with us! We are having worship on Christmas Day at 11:00 a.m. The Sanctuary Choir will be providing music for our service of lessons and carols.

There's a lot happening! I look forward to seeing everyone quite a bit this month. 😊

Happy Advent and our journey to the birth of Jesus!

Peace and love,  
Tyler



#### Sanctuary Choir Repertoire for December:

December 4 (Advent II) – "On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand" by Hal Hopson and "The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came" by Anthony Prower

December 11 (Advent III) – the Sanctuary Choir will be "off" this morning in preparation for their concert. A guest ensemble will be joining us in worship.

December 18 (Advent IV) – "Magnificat in B-flat" by Charles Villiers Stanford and "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" arranged by Trevor Manor

December 24 and 25 – you're going to have to come to church and find out! 😊



**Tyler Canonico**  
Minister of Music

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11 ▪ 4:00 P.M.**

*Sponsored by the Carole DeSoto Foundation*

**MARKET SQUARE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
20 South Second Street ▪ Harrisburg

**Vivaldi's Gloria, Bass' Feast of Carols and other Christmas favorites**  
performed by The Sanctuary Choir, soloists, orchestra, and organ  
Audience carol-singing and candlelighting  
TYLER A. CANONICO, CONDUCTOR

**Tickets are free but required. Download at [www.marketsquarechurch.org/concerts](http://www.marketsquarechurch.org/concerts).**  
Parking is provided by the church in the adjacent and connected public Market Square Garage.  
The church is completely accessible. For more information: [canonico@marketsquarechurch.org](mailto:canonico@marketsquarechurch.org)

**[www.marketsquarechurch.org](http://www.marketsquarechurch.org) ▪ [www.facebook.com/artsonthesquareMSPC](https://www.facebook.com/artsonthesquareMSPC)**



## Anthems and applause - a note from the choir

The congregation has recently responded with applause to several of the choir's anthems during the Sunday service. We are deeply gratified by your support. Thank you!

On the other hand, we consider ourselves as contributors to worship in the same way that the ministers and liturgists contribute, not as performers in a concert hall. To us, most of the time applause after an anthem feels the same as applause would feel after a sermon or a prayer.

Singing in a service IS prayer to us. It transcends our ordinary lives and understandings, and we want it to do the same for you. We see our role as an inseparable element of a unified worship service, something different than a concert performance. More often than not, we have the sense that applause after an anthem, while well-intended, dispels the spiritual connection that we are hoping to achieve.

The music needs space and time to settle into our inner selves.

There are exceptions to everything, and we know that on occasion applause after an anthem - something exuberant, or when the children sing - feels just right. We also admit that the choir often joins in enthusiastic applause after the postlude, with the exception of certain services or contemplative pieces. Because the postlude comes after the benediction and signals our return to the world, to us this feels different from applause after our anthems.

So, with the deepest gratitude we can convey, we individually and as a choir thank you for your expressions of appreciation for our contributions - but we ask that you consider conveying them after the service. As a member of the choir put it recently, sometimes silence is the best response.

**The members of the Sanctuary Choir**



*The MSPC staff met at El Sol (a Mexican restaurant in Harrisburg) during Tom's last week and enjoyed a final luncheon with Tom and Lori.*

## AFGHAN REFUGEE FAMILY RESETTLEMENT PROJECT

*October, 2022 Monthly Report*

**Note:** This informative report is being sent to all Market Street and Pine Street individuals who have volunteered to help in this outreach.

**STATUS.** We have been working to help the Afghanzada family since August. This family consists of mother and father, two sons both in their 20s, one daughter age 16, and two nephews both in their 20s. Another Afghan refugee family, the Azizyar family has just been assigned to us by the International Services Center. This additional family assignment was agreed to by the Pine Street Afghan Volunteers and the Peacemaking Committee of Market Square. The Azizyar family consists of father and mother, son age 9, daughter age 7, son age 5. The mother is pregnant. On 10/31/22 the family moved from New Cumberland to Grantham (home of Messiah University) and currently is getting settled into their new home. We have yet to meet this family and assess needs but from initial information there is no question needs for transport and learning English will exist. Our volunteers will finally have the opportunity to work with the family face-face and learn what refugee resettlement is all about. We will be in touch with our volunteer roster detailing specific needs after we have had the opportunity to meet the family. Stay tuned!!

The following comments relate only to the Afghanzada family:

**HOUSING.** The family has had walk-thru inspections of three properties: 25 W. Keller Street, 2123 Quail Hollow Road, and 14 White Oak Boulevard; all properties are in Mechanicsburg. School districts have either been Mechanicsburg or Cumberland Valley (daughter Sadia is enrolled as a freshman in Mechanicsburg). The family lost 25 W. Keller to another tenant; the landlord of 2123 Quail Hollow said he would not rent to a family of 7 adults, and White Oak Blvd had only one full bathroom which was not acceptable to the family. The big problem is finding something with adequate space and bedrooms at an affordable price. That price point for the family is \$1,800/month. Market Square Session at its October

18 meeting agreed to co-sign a rental lease and this eliminates a big hurdle in obtaining a rental apartment or home. Our search continues using Realtor.com, Zillow.com and apartments.com. If any volunteer sees a possibility at any one of these sites or other real estate sites, please let us know so we can check it out. The basic requirement is 3 bedrooms with some additional space in a finished basement or loft or 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, monthly rental \$1,800, Mechanicsburg area or West Shore preferred.

**ENGLISH LEARNING.** In-home instruction from 2 volunteers for the mother, Mahtab Gul, continues.

**JOBS.** Afghanis are hardworking people. The men continue to work in lower paying jobs. We are not aware of any problems in this area.

**TRANSPORTATION.** Again, we do not know of any problems in this area. The family does have two cars for transport to work, shopping, medical appointments, etc.

**COMPUTERS/IPHONES/IPADS.** To our knowledge, family needs in this area have been satisfied.

**A FINAL NOTE.** November is a month where we are very much tuned into giving thanks...for friends, family and loved ones, for the freedoms we enjoy and take for granted, for the material possessions we have in abundance. The families from Afghanistan we are helping to assimilate into our culture came here not by choice but to save their lives...think about that! We are thankful we now have the opportunity to help these individuals.

**Roger Olson**, co-chair, Market Square Church  
housedoctr@hotmail.com. (717)571-0124

**Audrey Light**, co-chair, Pine Street Church  
Alight206@comcast.net. (717)649-7068

## For Children

As the church enters the Advent season, we'll draw inspiration from both the beautiful imagery found in Isaiah's beloved visions and the Christmas story. So too will our children explore these lessons in Sunday school during the worship hour. Drawing on Isaiah's powerful imagery of swords turned into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks, our children will explore and imagine a world of peace, something for which many children long. Continuing on the 2nd Sunday of Advent with Isaiah, children will hear about the peaceable kingdom and that it will be a little child who leads people to it. It's another powerful message enabling them to become peacemakers in their own right.



In the 3rd and 4th weeks of Advent, children will hear about Mary and then Joseph. With Joseph they'll learn and explore the word, "Emmanuel" God with us and discuss how that's as true today as it was for Joseph and Mary.

And finally, with Mary they'll begin to explore justice and compassion. These can be hard concepts for children to grasp but they have a definite understanding of fairness, and they know when things are "right." They'll hear again how Jesus is the one who comes to set all things right and they'll explore what it looks like to share that good news with other people the way Mary shared with Elizabeth. Accompanying all these good lessons are crafts and songs that engage and add to the fun!

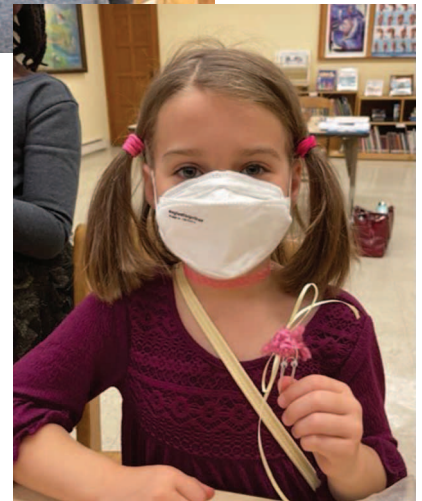
At the end of a year, I'm grateful to all those who have taught Sunday school this year. You've all given our children the most precious gift, your time and your wisdom. Children remember their Sunday school teachers and I know they'll look back on these days with you with fondness!

KDW



*Eliana (left)  
and Tressa  
(below) with  
their paperclip  
friends!*

Please note that there will be no Sunday School and no nursery care on Sunday, December 25 or Sunday, January 1. Children are welcome in our sanctuary worship on both days and all other days too!



On Christmas Eve at 6:00 p.m., families with children are invited to join our flash pageant in the sanctuary. We'll hear the Christmas story from Luke's gospel, sing favorite carols, and any who wish to participate in our creative retelling are welcome to do so!

## Youth Group

In Youth Sunday school this past month, we focused in part on secular and sacred holidays exploring ghosts and spirits on Halloween and then the Communion of Saints on All Saints Day. There has been a proliferation of ghost hunting shows on television in the last decade and several of us adults remember being scared out of our wits by movies like *Poltergeist* or worse, *Amityville Horror*, so we wanted to explore those frights and fears from a faith-based perspective. We also looked at the way ghost hunting shows are dramatized to make them scarier, and the way ghost hunting has been monetized for tourism. In the end, we acknowledged that there's a lot we don't understand but that we draw comfort from the sure and certain knowledge that every created being belongs to God no matter what.

Exploring the Communion of Saints led students to thinking about today's saints in our lives and in the world. We also asked them to think about what kind of legacy they wish to leave for those who will remember them, whether it's leaving this church or their high school in a few years or leaving this earthly plane many years hence, other people remember who and how we were with them. You should know that our youth care deeply about issues that are also important to this congregation, and they are informed by the ways you all live out your faith too. You are also among the communion of Saints who forms their faith!

In the month to come we'll be exploring Advent themes with an arts curriculum that enables us to get creative while we talk about our hopes and dreams in light of our incarnate God, about any fears that hold us back from trusting God's promised future, and about all those people in our lives and in the world in whom we see the image of God and from whom we learn about God's love.

Please hold our youth in prayer as they navigate busy lives. Fall is full of school plays, bands performances at football games, as well as dance competitions, sports, schoolwork, college applications, and more. We'll be looking to gather for fun when schedules are clearer!

KDW



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## Jesus, Mary, Joseph ... and Health Disparities

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Jingling bells, over consumption, seeking peace...Advent is upon us. This late pre-Christmas afternoon finds me as usual at the end of another day of interrupted retirement ambling down Paxton St. to make the right turn onto Cameron to get home as expeditiously as possible. I pass 19th, 18th 17th and a bunch of other streets that could get me there too albeit with a ramble through South Allison Hill. The irony is not lost that while I have chosen to accept a temporary position working with ideas of justice, diversity, equity and inclusion, I have less than zero interest in taking one of these other streets to explore a part of Harrisburg very relevant to what I came out of retirement to do. Fast forward to another afternoon and I indeed choose to take one of these earlier turns off of Paxton Street. The streets are narrow due to cars parked on either side though there are children darting around them playing; I wonder about their safety and the exhaust from so many cars. Waiting at a traffic signal I see the care one homeowner or renter took with plants and paint to create a welcome entrance onto their property. But the house is sandwiched between one showing signs of a fire and two others marked for demolition and look to have been for a while. I pass a lot with rusted appliances and a mattress. As the signal changes I muse about a tidy green space for play or just quiet to replace the properties past salvage. As the traffic advances to the next block, I notice a couple of convenience stores. I wonder if I would find enough on their shelves to make a balanced dinner for tonight with what was available. As I leave I think about the Hamilton Health facility nearby and wonder what proportion of health issues they treat residents for directly result from living in South Allison Hill.

*(Taken from research published by the National Institute of Health)*

Chronic stress, a long term form of stress, derives from unending feelings of despair/hopelessness, as a result of factors such as poverty, family dysfunction, feelings of helplessness and/or traumatic early childhood experience (APA, 2011). Chronic stressors

associated with health disparities include perceived discrimination, neighborhood stress, daily stress, family stress, acculturative stress, environmental stress and maternal stress (Djuric et al, 2010; NIH, 2011).

In a longitudinal study with African American women, long-term poverty and family stress were strongly associated with less physical mobility and cognitive functioning at older ages (Kasper et al, 2008).

### *(Additional facts about health disparities)*

- There is a disproportionate mortality rate for black women in childbirth.
- Black Americans are 25% more likely to die of cancer than whites.
- Black people are 3 - 5 times more likely to die of COVID.
- Prostate cancer kills twice as many black men as whites.

Dale Laninga, the Anti-racism Task Force, and I hope you have found this most recent of our articles sufficiently thought-provoking to explore some of the issues it raises. We invite you to join some of the individuals who participated in the PCUSA *Facing Racism* Lenten study, individuals from the *Difficult Discussions about Race* training, Dale and me for lunch in the Knox Room on December 18 from 12:15 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. We look forward to your thoughts on the article; we hope to explore why we think the findings above exist and discuss what could be done to change the outcomes. Dale will also share some of his rich experiences in the community as individuals engage and thrive amidst challenges. Please contact Nancy Sheets to let us know you are coming so we have an accurate head count for lunch. We look forward to hearing from you.

**Kevin Burrell**

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## THE ROOM FOR THE INNER WAY

*"I AM PRACTICING. ADVENT. REALLY PRACTICING. Paying attention. Giving in to the season in ways that wash over me, seep into me, bring me back home to a place I may never have been.*

*Like a child this year, I have a just-opened sense of these days.*

*I am, for the very first time, not counting down. Not ticking off days and errands to run like a clock wound too tightly.*

*Instead, I am counting in a whole other way. I am counting, yes, but the thing that I'm doing is making count each one of the days.*

*I am counting the days in a way that takes time. That takes it and holds it. Savors it."*

—Barbara Mahany, in *Slowing Time*

Can we leave the hurry and bustle of Christmas activity to feel the

spirit unfolding within and around us and our communities? What would it be like to really practice this time of Advent, to really pay attention, to remember the stories and hopes that nurture, prepare, and connect us?

Come, practice Advent in the Room for the Inner Way each Sunday in this season of remembrance and anticipation. Prayer and poetry, sound and silence, meditation and movement, reflection and relationship and our Advent wreath will serve as guides to explore and share the meanings of this sacred season for us personally and communally.

The Room for the Inner Way is a place of prayer, practice, contemplation, and connection each Sunday following Adult Forum from 10:35 - 10:55 on the 4th floor of the church. We will be meeting during Advent on November 27 and December 4, 11, and 18.

All are invited and welcome to come.

**Elizabeth Terry**



## ARTS ON THE SQUARE GALLERY

Geneva Hall, 4th Floor

### Last chance!

Kelly Curran's evocative paintings will be on display through Sunday, December 11.

### Save the Date

Next opening exhibit reception:

Sunday, January 15, 12:00 noon, Geneva Hall

Featuring paintings by Carol Mayer and photographs by Jim Whetstone.

Contact Beth Hager 717-903-3307 or bahager@earthlink.net with questions.



## Bit Players at Christmas

by Donna Wenger



On December 21, 1969, a church in Harrisburg opened its doors for Sunday worship. Since this was the Sunday before Christmas, the church was festively adorned—twinkling lights, smell of pine in the air, joyful sounds of church goers who were happily gathering in anticipation of the season. What they did not know was that they were about to experience a mini-drama illustrating the true meaning of Christmas—the meaning it is so easy to forget when we get caught up in the lovely trappings of sight and sound, and yet forget what Christmas really is.

It was on this Sunday, December 21, that a small crisis occurred. This church, which still stands, was some 20 blocks from the center of town, situated on a main street, and it drew many happy parishioners. They may have been somewhat inwardly focused—something so easy to be—but still it was a magnet for all manner of people.

That Sunday, an unkempt, ill-clothed, less than clean man came wandering in. He asked one of the greeters for help. Perhaps taking quick assessment of his seedy appearance, she pushed him aside, intent on her duties of welcoming and greeting people coming to church. Next, the seedy man encountered one of the more senior church members. That member too pushed the man aside, saying—you'll have to see the pastor, but he's busy right now.

After being rebuffed a few more times, finally, the man in need encountered the pastor. Now, it was just time for church to begin. The church bells had been rung, the congregation was seated, the organist was readying to play a prelude. SO, the pastor who was donning his robe temporized and asked the man if he could wait around until after church. With that last brush off, the seedy needy man left the church and went back out into the winter cold.

Something about the pathos of that moment struck the pastor. As it happened one of the carols selected for the service that day was "Oh Little Town of Bethlehem." Whatever the pastor had planned to preach got shelved, and instead he began speaking and quietly recited the well-known words of the carol. He slowly read through the first verse . . .

O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by;  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.

As he concluded those words, he just paused for what seemed an eternity and then he said—yet in the dark streets shineth the everlasting Light . . . **OR DOES IT?**

Well, the church sat in complete silence. And it was a guilty silence.

Then when as a congregation we sang the carol, it was all we could do to choke out the words:

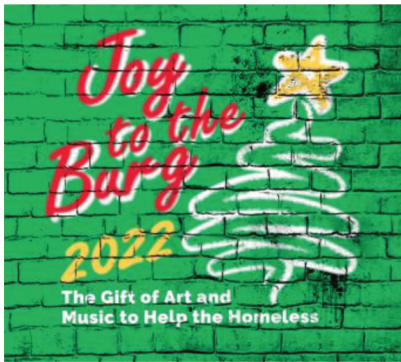
How silently, how silently,  
The wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of His heav'n.  
No ear may hear His coming,  
But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive Him, still  
The dear Christ enters in.



Sometimes we encounter the Christ Child just as we are rushing around getting ready to announce his coming. Or just as we are greeting members and friends of the church, or just as we are getting ready to preach the word about the good news.

The moment of grace that Sunday was that the pastor redirected his words to make us connect the words we sang with our actions. Of course, we would much rather focus on a helpless newborn baby. We would much rather listen to singing angels. We would much rather ogle mysterious visitors bearing gifts than deal with just one of the bit players of Christmas.





# Joy To The Burg 2022 is Coming!

## Music

**More Artists! More Songs! More Excitement!**

In 2022, we formed a partnership with the  
*Central PA Music Hall of Fame* as our music curation

partner. This deepened our reach of performers and genres. The result: 33 songs from the area's best artists including **The Badlees, Stuart Malina, Steve Rudolph, No Last Call, Shea Quinn, The Jellybricks feat. Glenn Hamilton, Greg Platzer, Dandy, Susquehanna Chorale, Corina Rose, Seasons, Tony Wayne, Leap of Faith, Amma Jo, Canaan's Land**, and more! Also, this Christmas we'll introduce a new feature song, co-written in Nashville by Grammy Award winner Phil Madeira with our very own Steve Schwartz, performed by Central PA's **Peter Rogan: A Home For The Holidays**.

## Art

**Joy To The Burg adds Greeting Cards!** *Susquehanna Art Museum* joined hands as our new Artwork Curation Partner, producing a set of 8 greeting cards from area visual artists **Carol Scott, Stephen Michael Haas, Ross Tyger, Janice Hagstrom Bailor, Brad Gebhart, Nora Carreras, Andrea Minick Rudolph, and Lori Sweet**. *A new way to spread joy this holiday season to benefit our neighbors facing homelessness!*

## Events

**Back and better than ever: our one hour TV special on ABC27 and a full day of live music at The Englewood in Hershey.** TV special will feature 6 songs as well as highlighting the greeting card project and the impact Joy To The Burg is having on homelessness locally. Then, on December 11, celebrate with a full day of live music at the The Englewood in Hershey. A three-hour easy listening brunch will be followed by a five hour music extravaganza featuring an all-star lineup of Joy To The Burg artists. Get your tickets for these special holiday events!

## Impact

**From 2019-2021, Joy To The Burg raised over \$93,000 to support our neighbors facing homelessness** in Harrisburg and surrounding communities through the work of Christian Churches United's Street Outreach Team. In 2019, proceeds from Joy To The Burg funded the start of a new women's winter shelter. In 2020 and 2021,

proceeds helped expand men's and women's shelter operations during the pandemic, grew street outreach work (food, laundry, help to find housing, etc.) and sustained people in long-term housing after leaving the street. Over 400 people on the street have been provided 6,000+ nights of sleeping in a warm bed with staff support, while 75 people have been assisted to obtain and maintain long-term housing.

[www.JoyToTheBurg.com](http://www.JoyToTheBurg.com)



### Joy To The Burg 2022 Details

#### The Album

- ◇ Release Date: Nov. 3, 2022
- ◇ Digital Download Album  
(no physical CD this year)
- ◇ Suggested Donation \$20

#### The Greeting Card Set

- ◇ Release Date: Nov. 3, 2022
- ◇ Packaged Set of 8 Cards
- ◇ Suggested Donation \$15

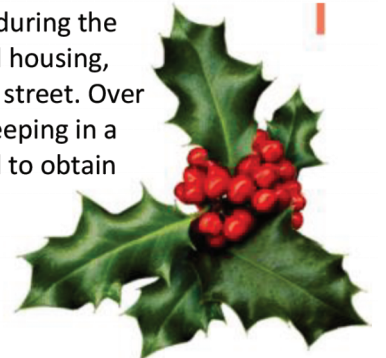
*Album and Greeting Card Set  
available at area retailers and  
[joytotheburg.com](http://joytotheburg.com)*

#### TV Special

- ◇ Date: Dec. 8, 2022, 10am
- ◇ Live on ABC27, one hour of  
music, art and impact

#### Live! At The Englewood

- ◇ Event Date: Dec. 11, 2022
- ◇ Brunch Show 10am-1pm
  - ◇ Tickets: \$25 (includes  
brunch)
- ◇ Concert 3pm-8pm
  - ◇ Tickets: \$35
- ◇ Tickets on sale Nov. 3, 2022  
at [englewoodhershey.com](http://englewoodhershey.com)





## Christmas Joy Offering

The Christmas Joy Offering will be dedicated on **Sunday, December 18**. The CJO provides assistance to current and retired church workers and their families in their time of need, and develops future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

Thanks in part to support from this Offering, church workers can receive critical financial assistance to support them through life's challenging circumstances. These generous actions bear witness to our faithful response to God's charge to love one another as Christ commanded.

- \$1.1 million of gifts from 2021 are being used to provide critical financial support and grants for current and retired Presbyterian church workers in their times of need.
- Income supplements from the BOP helped nearly 278 individual recipients, assisting retired church workers and surviving spouses with the means to provide for themselves.
- Housing supplements from the BOP helped more than 227 individual recipients remain in their homes, afford assisted living, or long-term care.
- Emergency Assistance Grants from the BOP helped more than 246 individual recipients facing times of great financial need or uncertainty due to unforeseen circumstances.

The PC(USA), with its historic commitment to higher learning, has long promoted education and leadership development through the establishment and support of Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Our future church leaders of color can receive much-needed assistance while they discover and pursue their professional goals at these schools and colleges. Your gifts allow these ministries to continue — sustaining a tradition Presbyterians have carried out for nearly 140 years.

- \$1.1 million of gifts from 2020 are being used to provide education and leadership development skills at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.
- Many of the students attending Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color are the first in their families to enroll in higher education.

### THE CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING SUPPORTS THESE INSTITUTIONS

- Menaul School Albuquerque, NM [menaulschool.com](http://menaulschool.com) • Most diverse private high school in the Albuquerque area. Students from 15 - 20 countries are represented each year and the majority of students self-report identifying with minority ethnicities. Ranked best Christian High School and 5th best private school in New Mexico by Niche ([niche.com](http://niche.com))
- Presbyterian Pan American School, Kingsville, TX [ppas.org](http://ppas.org) • 100% of graduates are accepted into colleges and universities in their home countries or in the United States • Welcomes a diverse international student body, with 26 countries represented in the last 25 years
- Stillman College Tuscaloosa, AL [stillman.edu](http://stillman.edu). Stillman has been selected a College of Distinction for 2019-20 and 2020-21 and 2021-22 for Christian Education, Teacher Education, Support of the Military and Veteran Students, Preparing Business Leaders, and Equity and Inclusion ([collegesofdistinction.com/school/stillman-college](http://collegesofdistinction.com/school/stillman-college)). Stillman's student population is 87% first generation in college.

You may make donations to this Special Offering, one of four that Presbyterians support annually, via check (with "Christmas Joy" in the memo line) or through the online giving section of the church's website. Thank you for your generosity.

### Our Church Family

Jane Hiller's sister, Pearl L. Dunkleberger, died on October 9.

Robb Whitmoyer's cousin, Joseph Bolton, Jr., died on October 29.

Justin Fleming won his election at the PA State House (105th District).

Congratulations to Dr. Jamie Caffier who successfully defended her doctoral dissertation recently.

Congratulations to Elder Andrew Hunter who was recently named a USCAA Soccer All-American and an Academic All-American. Andrew is a goalie for Central Penn College.

*At right:  
Boy Scout Pack  
and Troop 223 in  
Dauphin. They  
had a food drive  
and donated 50  
boxes which  
equates to  
approximately  
1500 pounds of  
food to MSPC's  
food pantry.  
Our shelves  
are full!*





# Have an Earth-friendly Christmas!

by Janet Bargh and Elizabeth Terry

## DECORATE WITH THE EARTH IN MIND

### Trees

- Freshly cut trees are more eco-friendly (and more fragrant!) than artificial.
- Even better than a cut tree is to purchase a tree with a root ball for planting.
- You can have a small tree, such as a Norfolk Pine, that will be with you all year.
- Coming to a tree farm near you someday: renting a live tree. (You can do this now if you live in London, San Francisco, or Los Angeles.)
- After Christmas send your cut tree to your township's Yard Waste Recycling Center.

### Decorations

- Use solar lights for outdoor displays.
- Use LED lights inside. Newer LED lights come in warmer colors, are more break resistant than incandescents, and easier to install with bulbs that do not detach.
- Use a fresh wreath with seasonal natural foliage and adornments. Avoid wreaths with plastic accessories and glittery decorations which are non-sustainable and potentially harmful to birds and wildlife.
- Collect pine cones and make a display of them in a clear container.
- Lay fragrant evergreen boughs on the mantle or window sills.

## REDUCE WASTE

### Packaging/Cards

- Limit the paper and packaging you use. Use cardboard or paper that will biodegrade, can be used again, or is made of recycled paper. Try brown paper or fabric. Use twine or hemp for a sustainable bow and add a twig of rosemary or pine.
- Select cards made of recycled paper or bamboo and vegetable based dyes.

### Food

- Use real china, silverware, and glasses instead of throwaways to eliminate the amount of waste sent to the landfill.
- Reduce food waste. Plan for your shopping and stick to your list. Plan to use leftovers or freeze them.

## TRAVEL WITH THE EARTH IN MIND

- Select eco-friendly airlines when you travel, including Delta, Jet Blue, and United. Delta, which purchases carbon offsets and allows its passengers to do so, has banned single use plastics from its food service. Jet Blue has a younger and more environmentally friendly fleet and also makes it easy for customers to purchase carbon offsets. United Airlines uses biofuels, which cut emissions by 60%.

## SPEND TIME TOGETHER

- Go out with family and/or friends for an Annual Christmas Day Bird Count in your neighborhood.
- Take a Family/Friends Nature Hike.
- Do a Nature Restoration Activity: plant a small tree together; clean up a natural area.
- Decorate a tree for the birds: seed bells, suet, pine cones with peanut butter, seed trays.

## BUY LESS

- Think about gifts of a service that would be appreciated or enjoyed: a massage, a house cleaner, a babysitter.
- Remember an experience can make a green and memorable gift: a ticket to show or concert, a museum membership, a yoga class.
- Prepare edibles from the kitchen: cookies, jams, salsa.
- Give gifts that are handmade or even used.
- Give a donation to a social service or animal welfare group in the person's name: some ideas are include Compassion Action Network of CCU Harrisburg, the World Food Program, Covenant House, Nature Conservancy or Wolf Sanctuary of PA.
- Choose clothing made from organic cotton, hemp, or even recycled plastic and wallets made from cork.
- Select an insulated water bottle made from sugarcane or shatterproof glass.

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

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

**Kimberley D. Wadlington**, Transitional Senior Pastor  
wadlington@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

**Sean Meara**, Sexton  
espresso sean@gmail.com

**Ollie W. Silver**, Sunday Sexton / Events Staff

**Lizzie Camilli**, Nursery Caregiver

**Justin Greene**, Parking Attendant

**James D. Brown**, Pastor Emeritus

**Ellen Hunt**, Minister of Music Emerita

**Peter Yardley-Jones**, Artist-in-Residence

Nonprofit Organization  
U.S. Postage

**PAID**  
Harrisburg, PA  
Permit No. 273



Dinner with Jim and Nina Brown on November 13, 2022.

## 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 YouTube  
([link on the church website's Members Info page](#)).

**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](http://www.marketsquarechurch.org).**



## OUR MISSION

TO PROCLAIM AND LIVE THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST BY WELCOMING FRIEND AND STRANGER ALIKE INTO OUR DIVERSE AND INCLUSIVE FAMILY OF FAITH REGARDLESS OF RACE, CLASS, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY AND EXPRESSION, OR WORLDLY CONDITION OF ANY KIND AS WE CELEBRATE OUR GIFTS, WORK FOR JUSTICE, PEACE, AND A SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT, REACH OUT IN MISSION, AND WITNESS TO GOD'S TRANSFORMING LOVE.