

Dear Market Square Beloveds

At this point I'm eight days into helping my parents move. (If you are doing the math of when I'm writing compared to when newsletter articles are typically due, you know that I've received A LOT of grace and patience from Kari Hultman who beautifully puts our newsletter together each month!) The move has gone well, my parents' new home is about 93% unpacked and the old home is almost ready for its next phase of ownership too. Family systems being what they are, we're all doing pretty well relating to each other also. That's not to say there haven't been moments, you know those kinds of moments, when recurring unhealthy patterns rear their ugly heads because everyone is stressed or tired or even because you haven't done the difficult work of understanding the family patterns and making new ones. I won't bore you with the details of some of our unhealthy patterns, but I've been thinking a lot about family systems these days. I think it's helpful for us to think about them together too, because the church is also a system.*

I alluded to this in the *Beacon Light* video a few weeks ago, but I think the concept is worth explaining in greater detail. To think systems is to think in a unique way. It is to look at the relationship between parts and to recognize that nothing really exists independently, only in relationship to something else. A system is an inseparable whole, a collection of parts which interact with each other to function as a whole. "A farm is a system: what is good for the water is good for the ground; what benefits the ground, benefits the plants; what is good for plants is good for animals; what benefits animals benefits people; what is good for people is good for the air; what benefits the air benefits the water. A farm is a complex, mutually influenced relationship of water, soil, plants, animals, people, and air."

When you have a system of people, such as a family or a church, Dr. Bowen calls this an emotional system and the same concepts apply. One part of the system, a person, can't be understood apart from the rest of the whole. One person's behavior influences another person's and vice versa. So, if you want to understand the whole system, you can only do so by looking at larger and larger wholes within the system, not by breaking down the parts into increasingly smaller parts. Systems thinking says that you can only begin to understand a person and their behavior by looking at the person within their family, within their community, within their nation, etc. People will also act differently within different systems. Have you ever known someone that you really like to be with when you are in a certain group of people but struggle to enjoy when you're with a different group?

There are several reasons that all of this is important. When we understand ourselves to be part of a system, whether it's a family or a church, we can begin to examine our own behavior and ways of acting within the system. Reactions (quick and often defensive



Pastor
Kim Wadlington

emotionally driven behaviors) and responses (chosen thought out behaviors) are natural to everyone in a system. The more we can examine a system and who we are in it, the less likely we are to be reactive in that system and the more likely we are to be responsive, making the whole system healthier.

Additionally, when problems arise, as they invariably do in systems of every kind, addressing the problem looks different when thinking in a systems way than it does when thinking in a separate parts way. When addressing a problem in separate parts thinking, it's easy to assume that a problem belongs to an individual, that it is within one particular part only. When you think systems, you see that problems belong to the whole system and are between parts or in many cases all parts of the system.

After the earthquake in Turkey, I heard an interesting interview on BBC radio between the radio host and an official in the Turkish government. The host asked something like, "Would stricter adherence to building codes have lessened the impact of the earthquake?" The government official, probably not wanting to be blamed for what happened said, "There is nothing that could have been done to lessen the impact of the earthquake; the problem is that there should never have been a city built here in the first place." This is a classic example of cause and effect thinking which is symptomatic of separate parts thinking. It made me feel quite hopeless, because of course you can't go back and revisit the decision to build the city! But perhaps the people of Turkey will, in time, look at the system that allowed building codes to be overlooked and the ways the parts of that system (engineers, construction workers, government officials, etc.) interact and how that system fits within the culture of the country and of the region of the world, etc. It's a bigger job and more difficult work, but it's the only way a different path can be forged.

In time, the congregation will begin a search for a new installed head of staff. When that person is called and installed, they will become a part of the system of the congregation. The work we do during the interim time to understand the system and where necessary make changes to the system, will be to the benefit of the whole system and everyone in it. That takes all of us.

*The pioneer of systems thinking is Dr. Murray Bowen.

You can read more here:

<https://www.thebowencenter.org/introduction-eight-concepts>
I'm also informed by and using some material from *Healthy Congregations*, an organization dedicated to creating a stronger church and which uses Bowen Family Systems thinking as its core principal. You can read more about that here:

<https://www.healthycongregations.com/>
(KDW)

Next Marketplace Deadline: Sunday, March 12

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



**Pastor
Allison Smith**

Transportation Help

One of the many ways that our Board of Deacons provides care for the Market Square is by attending to the transportation needs of our congregation. If you are in need of transportation whether it be to attend Sunday worship services and church events, or to make it to doctors' appointments, the Board of Deacons is here to help. The Deacons would like to encourage anyone who may have transportation needs to contact Nancy Sheets in the church office by calling (717) 257-1270 ext. 10 or send her an email at sheets@marketsquarechurch.org.

Nancy will help to connect you to a deacon in your area who can offer a ride. We pray that this help will alleviate stress, offer connection, and help meet daily needs.

(ARS)

Lenten Study

Begins on February 26 at 9:15 a.m.

If you are interested in going deeper with study and reflection through the season of Lent join us at 9:15 on Sunday mornings in Geneva Hall starting on Sunday, February 26. Each Sunday in lent we will examine a text from the lectionary using the spiritual practices of Lectio Divina and Visio Divina. Lectio Divina is a practice of slow contemplative reading that engages the imagination and all 5 senses in exploring the scripture. We prayerfully trust that the Holy Spirit is at work helping us to pay attention to what we're noticing and guiding our reflections. Visio Divina is a similar practice that engages a piece of visual art. For our purposes we'll be using artwork from various artists who have created pieces inspired by a lectionary passage for each week of lent through A Sanctified Art. Together we will go deeper through prayer, reflection, sharing, and a closer look at the historical and narrative context of these passages. It is my prayer that this time will be spiritually nourishing and fulfilling for all who attend! (ARS)

Staff Notes

Now that we've welcomed some new staff members to Market Square, we want to let you know when we're all typically available and what are our days off. Please do call ahead if you plan to drop by the church to be sure that the person with whom you wish to speak is there!

- Interim Head of Staff and Senior Pastor, Rev. Kim Wadlington, is available Sunday through Thursday and is off on Friday and Saturday. Kim's day off may flex during this season of helping her parents.
- Supply Part-time Associate Pastor, Rev. Allison Smith, is at the church on Tuesdays and Thursdays until 1:00 p.m. and Sundays typically until 3PM.
- Minister of Music, Tyler Canonico, is available Sunday through Thursday and is off Friday and Saturday.
- Ministry Support Administrator, Nancy Sheets, is at the church Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Financial Administrator, Michelle Sheaffer, is at the church Monday through Thursday and is typically available from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Church Sexton, Jarreu Carter, is at the church Sunday and then Tuesday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. He is off on Mondays and Saturdays.



Welcome, Jarreu!

On Tuesday, February 7th, we extended an offer of employment in the church Sexton position to Jarreu Carter, and he accepted. If you were in attendance at worship on Sunday, February 12th, you were introduced to him.

Our description of the Sexton's position begins with the statement that the responsibility of the Sexton/Custodian is "to keep the facilities clean and functioning smoothly in support of its multiple uses as a place of service and mission, as well as a house of worship."

After reviewing 35 resumes, we interviewed six individual candidates. After those initial interviews, three were selected for second round interviews, and thereafter we met with Jarreu a third time to further discuss the position and his interest in it.

Jarreu is 37 years of age, currently single, and has a daughter 7 years of age. He lives in Susquehanna Township. He moved here from New York several years ago at the suggestion of a cousin – seeing that living expenses in this area are significantly lower. His work experience over the past ten years has been in various positions including building upkeep and custodial work in commercial, personal care and institutional settings, most recently at Ecumenical Retirement Communities here in Harrisburg. His work experience includes maintenance work that should equip him to do minor plumbing, electrical, mechanical and carpentry things as they arise around the church.

He is attracted to our position because it offers a position that can provide better economic stability and security for his family and appears to be a good fit with his experience and skills. He also liked the people he met here during the interview process.

Jarreu has begun his orientation to MSPC, its facilities, its people and its programs. His designated work week is 40 hours in duration, distributed across four weekdays (8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Tuesday through Friday) and Sunday. In the chain of authority over his work, Kim Wadlington is at the head; Nancy Sheets is an important coordinator of schedules and a prioritizer of programmatic work for the Sexton's attention. The House Committee of the Trustees will engage with him on a range of things, and, will develop a close working relationship on facilities maintenance and repair issues as they emerge. Please recognize that the learning curve for understanding the facilities, the members, and the programmatic activities of MSPC is fairly formidable.

Please welcome and be supportive of our new employee as the opportunities arise.

David Lehman

Worship and Preaching Schedule March 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. 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 "Church Members Info" section of the church website (with prior admittance by the website administrator). 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

Korean language sermons are posted on the Korean Ministries YouTube channel: bit.ly/3hXLL0x

March 5 — 2nd Sunday in Lent —

Seeking: *How do we begin again?*

- 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
Focal Scriptures: John 3:1-17 | Genesis 12:1-4a
The Sacrament of Holy Communion

March 12 — 3rd Sunday in Lent —

Seeking: *Will you give me a drink?*

- 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
Focal Scriptures: John 4:5-42 | Exodus 17:1-7

March 19 — 4th Sunday in Lent —

Seeking: *Who sinned?*

- 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
Focal Scriptures: John 9:1-7 | John 9:8-41

March 26 — 5th Sunday in Lent -

Seeking: *Can these bones live?*

- 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 Kim Wadlington preaching
Focal Scriptures: John 11:1-45 | Ezekiel 37:1-14

Seeking

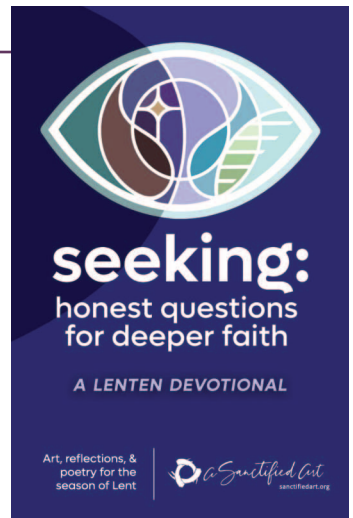
In our English language worship services during Lent, we're focusing on the theme *Seeking*, using material from the creative team at *A Sanctified Art*. Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity, one of the co-creators reflects on the theme this way:

When I hear the term 'seeking' used within a faith context, I automatically think of the famously-quoted adage, 'Seek and ye shall find' (Matthew

7:7). This verse is often used to perpetuate a transactional, fairytale faith: if you just try harder or pray harder, then what you want will be granted to you. I wish more than anything that life and faith would operate within a predictable, merit-based system of seeking and finding, asking and receiving. However, you and I both know this isn't reality. Instead, I hope to live a seeking faith, a faith that is ever-growing, adaptive, resilient, and filled with awe. We are now in the third year of a societal overhaul in which many of our disparities, vulnerabilities, and differences are more exposed. This chapter of life has most likely unearthed big, honest questions—about your purpose, your faith, your identity, your future. And so, this Lent, we invite you to bring those big questions to God. We invite you to engage in the spiritual practice of seeking, staying curious, porous, and malleable. Like Nicodemus, can you let go of what you used to know in order to begin again? Like the Samaritan woman at the well, will you let yourself be fully seen? Like Mary at the empty tomb, can you recognize God's resurrection when you encounter it?

— Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity, Founder, Creative Director

I appreciate Rev. Garrity's take on seeking and her acknowledgment of the countercultural nature of "living a seeking faith." I'm hopeful that each of the stories we hear this Lent will lead us into ever deepening encounters with God and with one another. May you have a holy, vulnerable, and awe filled Lent!



Our Church Family

Deaths

Sandy Bell's niece, Debbie Anderson, died suddenly on February 5.
Gladys Mumper died on February 9 at the age of 101.

Stewardship

January Pledge	\$61,600
January Budget	\$38,750
Surplus	\$22,850

*Daylight Saving Time Begins
Sunday, March 12, at 2:00 a.m.*

Dear friends,

As I am writing this article, we are approaching Ash Wednesday. We begin our journey through Lent on Ash Wednesday – the day we receive ashes marked on our forehead, symbolizing both death and repentance. I love the season of Lent! As I journey through Lent, I strive to have longer prayer time, more time for silence, and time to clear my head and be open for what God wants to say. And of course, I do love music in the minor mode! Kim, Allison, and I have been planning to create what will be a meaningful season. We hope you will journey through Lent with us.

I am selecting a new setting of the Sanctus for us to sing in worship. I hope you will join me in the Sanctuary on **Sunday, March 5 at 10:50 a.m.** to learn this setting. My goal in providing this time before worship, is for us to learn the new setting so that in the worship service we can focus on the text and its meaning, rather than focusing on the notes. The **Market Square Ringers** will participate in worship twice this month. On Sunday, March 12, they will ring a beautiful piece by Fred Gramann titled, "Passacaglia in C Minor, and on Sunday, March 26 they will ring a lovely setting on "Here I Am, Lord" by Daniel Schutte. As always, the **Sanctuary Choir** has a variety of anthems scheduled for the month and they will begin preparations for Holy Week and Easter.

Our Artist-in-Residence Peter Yardley-Jones will be with us in worship on Sunday, March 19. We created the Artist-in-Residence position back in 2019, not too long before the world shut down. An Artist-in-Residence is like a Theologian-in-Residence. Peter Yardley-Jones is the Director of Music and Organist at the Swiss Church in Covent Garden and this position connects Market Square to the Reformed Church in London. Peter typically schedules a concert or two in the States, and prior to returning home to the United



Tyler Canonico
Minister of Music

Kingdom, he participates in worship here. On Sunday, March 26, internationally known organist Isabelle Demers will be in worship with us. She will be the scheduled artist for the afternoon recital (see below) and she expressed that she'd like to participate in worship with us. It will be wonderful sharing the bench with two great musicians this month!

Arts on the Square has created a miniseries for the month of March titled, **Sundays at Four!** We want to share our beautiful instrument, the J. Nedra Schilling Pipe Organ, with our membership and our community. We strive to have a varied program year, and thus we wanted to create a miniseries which would allow us to showcase our incredible instrument and four world-class organists. Please see the poster on the next page for details about each concert. Each artist will provide a varied program! Please feel free to contact me if you need more information. I hope to see you on these Sunday afternoons 🌞

Peace and love,
Tyler

Sanctuary Choir Repertoire for March:

March 5 (Lent II) – "God So Loved the World" by John Stainer and "I Will Lift Mine Eyes" by Jake Runestad

March 12 (Lent III) – "Since By Man Came Death" from *Messiah* by George F. Handel and "Sicut Cervus" by Giovanni Palestrina

March 19 (Lent IV) – "The Blind Man" arranged by William Grant Still and "Amazing Grace" arranged by Michael McCarthy

March 26 (Lent V) – "Dry Bones" arranged by Tom Fettke and Thomas Grassi and "Agnus Dei" by Thomas Morley

Simply Prayer

Praying

*It doesn't have to be
the blue iris, it could be
weeds in a vacant lot, or a few
small stones; just
pay attention, then patch*

*a few words together and don't try
to make them elaborate, this isn't
a contest but the doorway*

*into thanks, and a silence in which
another voice may speak.*

—Mary Oliver in *Thirst*

The church I grew up in did not encourage "patching a few words together" for prayer. We had set prayers. When you were given a penance for your sins, for example, it was so many "Our Fathers" and so many "Hail

Marys." This gave the impression, at least to me, that formal prayers were the "right way" to pray even if they really didn't express what was in your heart.

Mary Oliver's poem helped free me from my old notion of prayer, as have the many comments about prayer and the prayers I hear from members of Market Square, most of whom have grown up in Protestant traditions. Though we may use a set prayer during worship, like the Lord's Prayer, personal prayers seem important in members' lives outside of worship.

If you would like to be inspired in your own prayer life, join us in the Room for the Inner Way during the month of March. Each week a different Market Square member will share a bit of their prayer life as well as a prayer close to their heart that they will pray with us. There will be time for silent



reflection, and we hope for participants to share as well.

Sunday, March 5: Kevin Long
Sunday, March 12: Kevin Burrell
Sunday, March 19: Anne Ross
Sunday, March 26: Jennifer McKenna.

Please come to the Room for the Inner Way from 10:35 - 10:55 and hear the thoughts and prayers of these session leaders.

Elizabeth Terry



arts
ON THE
Square
Market Square
Presbyterian Church

Sundays at Four

Market Square Presbyterian Church

20 S. Second Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101

Concerts take place each Sunday at 4:00 p.m.

on the IV/83 J. Nedra Schilling Organ/Orgues Létourneau Opus 136.

On March 5, **Rhonda Sider Edgington**, director of music and organist at Hope Church in Holland, Michigan, will play. A native of central Pennsylvania, she teaches organ at Calvin University in Grand Rapids and performs regularly across the United States, both as a soloist and as part of the Great Lakes Duo (organ and trumpet) and Thunder & Wind (organ and percussion).

On March 12, **Tyler A. Canonico**, minister of music and organist at the host church and sub-dean of the Harrisburg Chapter AGO, will perform. A graduate of the University of Alabama, he is organist for the Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra and music instructor and director of the College Choir at Lebanon Valley College, Annville, Pennsylvania.

On March 19, **Peter Yardley-Jones**, a graduate of the University of Glasgow and organist of the Swiss Church, Covent Garden, London, will play. Yardley-Jones has performed solo recitals at many of the UK's most prestigious venues, including St. John's College, Cambridge, and has made several concert tours in the United States.

On March 26, the final performer in the series will be **Dr. Isabelle Demers**, born in Québec and a graduate of The Juilliard School. Dr. Demers is the newly-appointed associate professor of organ at McGill University in Montréal and an internationally-known recitalist, having appeared throughout Europe, Oman, Australia, New Zealand, the United States, and Canada.



For more information, visit www.marketsquarechurch.org

www.facebook.com/artsonthesquareMSPC

Parking is provided by the church in the adjacent public parking garage.



Arts on the Square is pleased to open its next exhibit at Market Square Presbyterian with an opening reception from 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 19, 2023. The exhibit features paintings by Harrisburg artist/portraitist Irene Appleyard and will be on display in Geneva Hall through Sunday, May 28, 2023.

The opening reception will introduce Irene's work to the congregation and the public. Also featured at the event will be Market Square Presbyterian's Shawl Ministry as "Artists of the Day" and music by Gwen Lehman on piano.

Irene Appleyard attended Punahou School in Honolulu, Hawaii. She has a B.A. in English Literature from Chatham College in Pittsburgh, Pa., and a diploma in Fine Arts from the York Academy of Arts. She continued her portrait studies at The National Academy of Design and The Art Students' League in New York City. Irene has taken intensive portraiture and watercolor courses from several nationally prominent artists, including Everett Raymond Kinstler, painter of several America presidents. She has received acclaim as an award winner at the Washington Society of Portrait Artists in Washington, D.C., the National Academy of Design, the Art Association of Harrisburg and the York Academy of Arts.

Irene's Market Square exhibit will include examples of her sensitive and captivating portraits as well as landscape and still life paintings, several of which were inspired by her travels to the state of Maine. "By taking off from my subject or enhancing it or capturing its essence," says Irene in her artist's statement, "I like to create art that is 'alive' and not too finished, giving my viewers beauty and pleasure through 'painterly,' not photographic work."

Irene is a long-time resident of Harrisburg, raised her family here, and is a member of St. Stephen's Episcopal Cathedral.

Market Square Presbyterian's Shawl Ministry is a relatively new group, having begun in the midst of the pandemic. Debbie Olson is the ministry's founder and leads about 10-12 church members and friends who gather in the Youth Room for a devotional fellowship on Saturdays once a month to knit shawls. These lovely, artistic works are made with love and compassion to provide comfort and care to church members and others who may be going through illness and other challenging times. Members of the Shawl Ministry will be on hand at the March 19 reception to demonstrate their craft and tell about their outreach.

Featured pianist Gwen Lehman is a long-time Market Square Church member who is well-known as an expert musician, member of the Sanctuary Choir, and former singer and past president of the prestigious Susquehanna Chorale. She currently serves on the Market Square Presbyterian Board of Trustees.

Arts on the Square presents three or four exhibits annually in Geneva Hall to showcase creativity and artworks by church members, friends, and special guests. Receptions are hosted by Ashley and Joe Robinson. Beth Hager is the Exhibits Coordinator for Arts on the Square (bahager@earthlink.net).

Arts on the Square exhibitions are sponsored this season by John K. Robinson in memory of his sister, Rachel Robinson Bair.

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*Photo portrait of
Irene Appleyard
by Beth Hager*



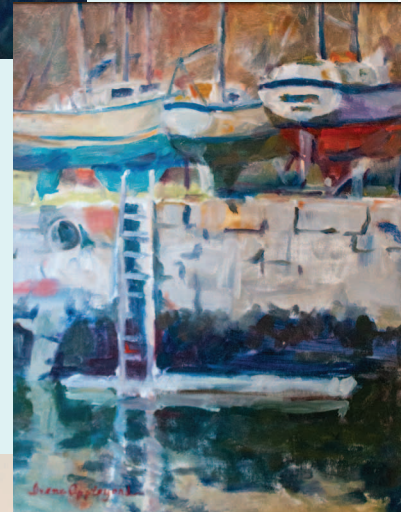
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*"Ann Johnson,"
oil on canvas*



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*"Rockport Cove,"
oil on canvas*



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*"Nathan
Williams,"
oil on canvas*





▲ ▲ ▲ ▲ Members of Market Square Presbyterian's Shawl Ministry, left to right: Dottie Hotchkiss, Louise Poorman, Rev. Sandy Strauss, Debbie Olson, Wendy Shearer, Barbara Pennell, Karen Gelnett, Nancy Sheets, and Cindy Bendroth (kneeling).

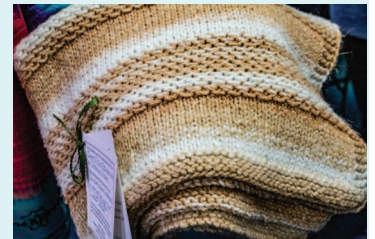
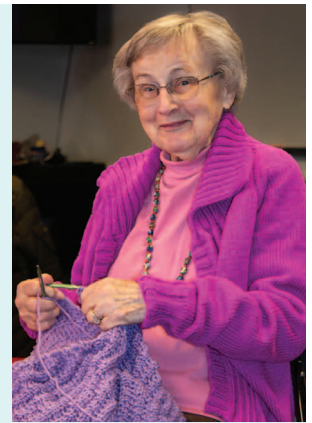
Shawl Ministry photos by Beth Hager.



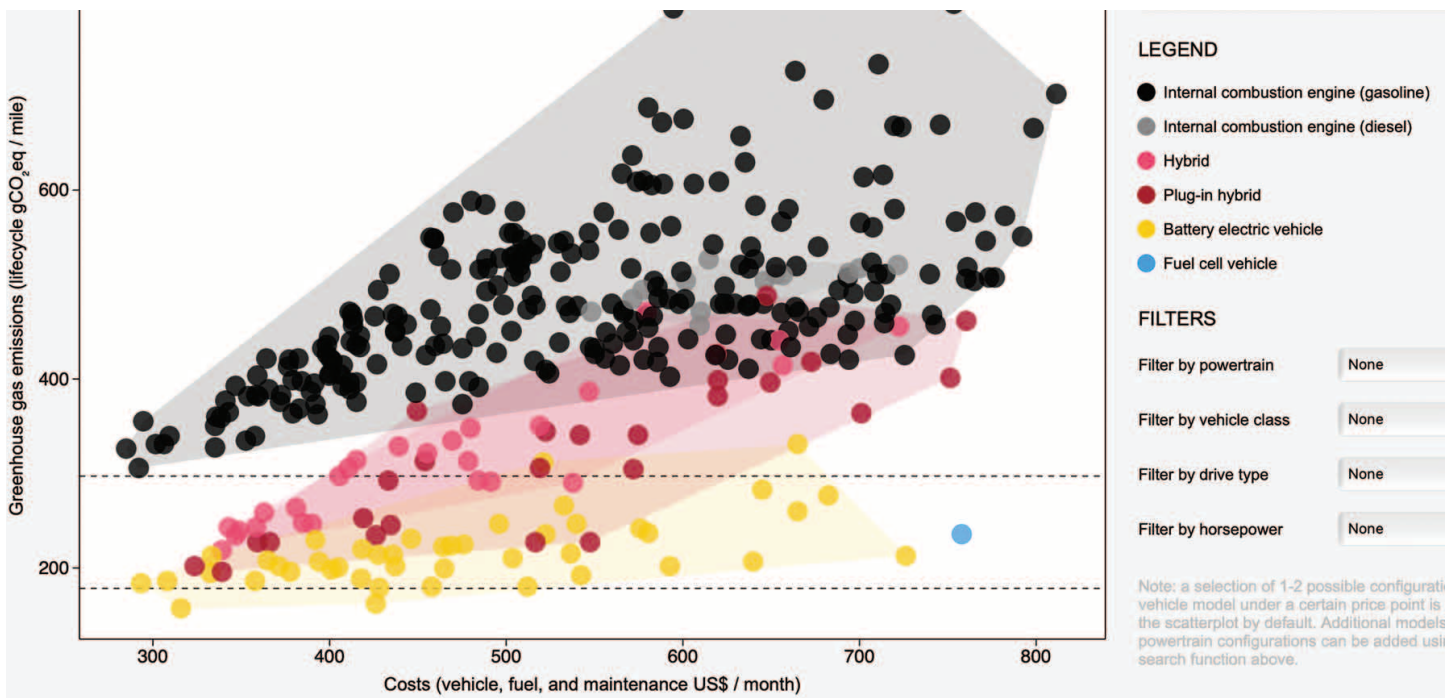
Above: Shawl Ministry founder/leader Debbie Olson and group member Cindy Bendroth during a blessing of finished shawls.

Above right: Dottie Hotchkiss knitting on a Saturday with the group.

Right: One of the completed shawls.



Time for a new vehicle?



If you have a garage (or other place to plug in) and you're in the market for a car, now is a great time to consider an EV or plug-in hybrid! The Inflation Reduction Act has increased tax incentive opportunities for purchasing a car that plugs in, to include used vehicles. And references like <https://carboncounter.com> demonstrate that EVs and plug-in hybrids not only significantly reduce the greenhouse gas emissions that harm our neighbors, but also are among the least-expensive to own.

A variety of models are available, from small coupes to full-sized pickups and minivans. They're quieter than fuel-combustion cars, more reliable, and allow you to leave your home each day with a

full "tank" of fuel. Plus you can skip visiting the gas pumps, denying funding to the fossil fuel companies whose practices poison our air and rivers, cause respiratory disorders in children, lead to cognitive disorder in adults, and otherwise threaten the well-being of future generations.

There's a lot of disinformation about electric vehicles, but the Ecology Action Committee is here to help. Let us know your questions about EVs (or other ecology-related matters), and we'll be happy to do the research and share what we learn in a future edition of the *Marketplace*.

Kevin Long

On Calling a Pastor: February Transition Period Update

Market Square's Session continues the work that defines our transition from one installed pastor/head of staff (The Rev. Thomas A. Sweet) to a new installed pastor/head of staff.

In a Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) booklet entitled *On Calling a Pastor*, the author says:

The transition between pastors is a valuable time for congregations. It is an opportunity to reflect on your congregation, its community context, and its ministry in the present and future. It may also provide the opportunity to experience different styles of pastoral leadership and to work on particular issues facing the congregation. The session, the presbytery, and the Pastor Nominating Committee (once it is elected) work together to make the transition time constructive.

Some of Session's January activities were devoted to transition period activities:

- It held a special meeting with our liaison to the Presbytery of Carlisle, Pastor Tony Lorenz, to discuss the ministry that Market Square had together with Pastor Sweet.
- It also agreed to meet with the Board of Trustees and Board of Deacons in late March to begin completion of the mission study that is required by the Presbytery of Carlisle before a Pastor Nominating Committee may be elected. The mission study will build upon the Mission Assessment Project (MAP) survey that was conducted last year. Dame Leadership, working in conjunction with Interim Pastor/Head of Staff Kim Wadlington, continue to lead the church in this work.

More information about the Session's January activities will be available in the monthly *Marketplace* newsletter. At this time, Session expects a Pastor Nominating Committee may be elected in 2024.

Session Activities – January 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. Members are:

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)

In January 2023, Market Square's Session agreed to:

Mission Study and Planning:

1. Hold a special Session meeting on January 31, 2023 to meet with Pastor Tony Lorenz, chair of the Carlisle Presbytery's Commission on Ministry, to complete an exit interview. Background: The Presbytery of Carlisle requires that an 'exit interview' be conducted following the dissolution of a pastoral relationship. The interview allows Session to reflect on the ministry that the pastor and congregation had together. It is also one of the steps in the process of 'closure' in the relationship between the congregation and its former pastor. Finally, an exit interview helps inform the congregation's future direction for ministry, especially as its next pastor is called. Pastor Lorenz has been appointed as Market Square's liaison to the Presbytery during its pastoral transition period.

2. Use funds from the Health Allen Mission Fund for several Market Square Session members to attend a Mission Insite meeting to obtain demographic research. Background: Market Square agreed to piggyback on demographic research Pine Street Presbyterian Church purchased from the Synod of the Trinity. The research provides statistical information for a five-mile geographic radius of Pine Street/Market Square. This will help inform the church's mission study and search for a new pastor.

3. Meet on March 25, 2023 with the Board of Trustees and Board of Deacons to begin its Mission Study as required by the Presbyterian Church USA. Background: A Mission Study is a holistic assessment of the church's ministry. It helps the church answer these questions:

- Who Are We?
- Who is God calling us to be?
- Where is God calling us to go?

The answers to these questions will enable Market Square to have a clearer picture of itself so that it can discern what type of pastor is needed.

The Mission Study will also help Session to communicate clearly about Market Square's needs when it forms its Pastor Nominating Committee in 2024 to begin looking for the church's next pastor.

The Mission Study will build on the Mission Assessment Project (MAP) survey that was circulated last year. Dame Leadership continues to lead the church in this work.

Committees and Programs:

- 4.** Hold Worship, Music, and the Arts Committee meetings at the recommendation of the Chair and the pastor.
- 5.** Suspended Adult Forum for the month of February.
- 6.** Combined the church's three separate Education Committees (Children's, Youth, and Adult) into a single Education Committee, to be chaired by Cindy Bendroth and Keith Camilli.

The Session will meet again on February 21, 2023 for its regular monthly Session meeting

As of January 17, 2023, there were 467 active members on the church rolls. If you have any questions about Session activities, you may talk with me, a Session member, or Pastor Kim Wadlington.

Peacemaking Contributions to Palestinian Needs

For the second year the World Mission Committee designated \$1700 for the Peacemaking Committee to support Palestinian needs. There are five organizations we voted to send \$340 each. Peacemaking thought the congregation would be interested in knowing about the organizations we supported.

1. Noor Women's Empowerment Group (Noorweg)

This is a grassroots independent project by and for women from Aida and al-Azreh refugee camps (Bethlehem, Palestine) who have children with disabilities and/or are solely in charge of their families. The women came up with the idea of offering traditional cooking classes to raise funds for their children's needs. While in Palestine I had the pleasure of attending one of the cooking classes led by a woman named Islam, who leads the women's meetings and is an excellent Palestinian cook/teacher. Islam's son has cerebral palsy; she found there were no services available for any of the children with disabilities so she organized a group of mothers. They were able to empower each other by joining their resources and buying supplies for their children in bulk for example. The women have published a little cookbook of their Palestinian recipes. The women were able to pool their resources and open a school for disabled children that serves several hundred children in the refugee camp. It is inspiring to see what the women have done in such a difficult setting.



2. Dar Al-Kalima College of Arts/Culture,

toward student scholarships. Dar al-Kalima University is the first institution of higher education in Palestine focused on the performing arts, visual arts, and cultural heritage. The university's founders believe in the importance of the arts to raise cultural and social awareness and to develop a vibrant and active civil society. Many DAK students rely on scholarships to complete their education. I visited the beautiful modern campus and met with several talented students. The President Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb has said "Our aim is our people who admire stars, will dare to look up and dream, to believe in goals to strive for, and develop a new sense of hope, community, beauty and faith."



3. Seraj Library Project establishes libraries as cultural and community centers in Palestine. I have not been there but Margee Kooistra learned about them from a friend who is on the board. Seraj has opened twelve libraries in Palestine as of 2023. Ten of them are smaller children's libraries in small villages. The last two to open are larger and staff is also being provided. The cultural Center in Birzeit is in an old Palestinian home with six rooms around an open courtyard. Each room houses a different aspect of the center...tutoring, a children's library, a small café and a gathering place and meeting rooms. The Storytelling Center in Kufr Aqab is a rather large renovated home. The city of Kufr Aqab is now overcrowded. So a village of 1500 has grown to over 100,000 with no cultural offerings except the library. It is adjacent to Jerusalem, but on the other side of the dividing Wall and it takes a permit to get through the checkpoint.

4. American Friends of Parents Circle/Family Forum

—The Parent's Circle/Families Forum is a joint Israeli-Palestinian organization made up of more than 600 bereaved families. Their common bond is that they have lost a close family member to the conflict. But instead of choosing revenge, they have chosen a path of reconciliation. These bereaved members, armed with the credibility of their loss and the uncommon path they have chosen, have opened a crack of the psyche of a hardened populous. They have begun to stir an awareness about the conflict that transcends history and politics. For many, it is the first time they have seen "the other side" as human. Members of the organization speak in schools and other public places.

They organize an Israeli-Palestinian Joint Memorial Day Ceremony bringing out several hundred thousand people. Several of us have met members of the organization on Zoom meetings and heard their stories and attended the Memorial Day Ceremony online.

5. Sindyanna, non-profit organization of Israeli and Palestinian women producing olive oil and other food products, promoting Fair Trade, enhancing Israeli-Arab cooperation, creating economic opportunities for Arab women and assisting local growers and producers. Both Margee Kooistra and I have visited the co-op and were inspired by these women. You can actually order olive oil on Amazon from this organization.

Jennifer McKenna



Top left: Islam is in charge of the cooking class to raise money for their school for disabled children.

Above: Sindyanna.

Bottom left: A student sculpture about breast cancer.

Below: Entrance to Dar Al-Kalima College.



SACRED DUST

One of my first summer jobs, when I was in college, was cleaning houses of people who had vacation homes along Lake Erie. In fact, after my first summer of working in a home, I was **not** asked to return. And when I inquired WHY, among other reasons the answer was that I didn't dust thoroughly enough. Okay. Not my favorite thing. BUT...

There is a Christian liturgical symbolism to dust that makes it sacred. We are now in the season of Lent, which begins with Ash Wednesday. It was not until we had been members at Market Square for some time that I experienced my first Ash Wednesday service. I grew up in a church tradition that did not emphasize the liturgical church calendar, so I came to Ash Wednesday services later in my worship experience.

The first several years we were members, Market Square did not hold an Ash Wednesday service. When James Brown came as pastor, he began the Lenten season with an Ash Wednesday service. One particular aspect of the service moved me incredibly. I did not believe I could be so moved, yet I was.

The high point of an Ash Wednesday service is the imposition of ashes upon one's forehead.

Pastor: *What is your name*

Me: *Donna.*

Pastor: *Donna, remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return.*

Such a simple exchange of words, as the

sign of the cross is drawn in ashes on your forehead.

In effect, the minister has just said—you are going to die.

And what is the reaction of people as they receive this sentence?

I watched people as they received this cross of ashes. Watched them as the pastor drew this small simple symbol of suffering on their foreheads. I watched them close their eyes, as if in prayer, or keep their eyes open, looking with clarity into the eyes of the pastor before them.

And I saw person after person murmur "thank you."

That's what moved me.

Thank you.

Now, you might think that smack of mortality would be depressing—but it's not. I find it reassuring. I am dust.

I find myself thinking about the endless cycle of life that dust encompasses. Even after we perish and return to dust, from that dust new life emerges. Some people hear that statement—you are dust and to dust you shall return—and despair.

Not me. I hear that and think—how wonderful: Dust from the beginning of time still encompassing cells from the beginning of time, and continuing on into the everlasting forever. The instant impulse

might be to cringe at the mortality. But remember this—there is an *immortality* to dust.

Two wonderful poems which use DUST as such a symbol.

IN FAITH OF RISING

by X. J. Kennedy (1929 --)

When all my dust lies strewn
Over the roundbrinked ramparts of the world
I can be gathered, sinew and bone
Out of the past hurled
Delaylessly as I
Flick thoughts back that replace
Lash to dropped lid, lid to eye,
Eye to disbanded face
No task to His strength, for He
Is my Head—Him I trust
To stray the presence of His mind to me
Then cast down again
Or recollect my **dust**.

EVEN SUCH IS TIME

by Sir Walter Raleigh (1552 – 1618)

EVEN such is time, that takes in trust
Our youth, our joys, our all we have,
And pays us but with earth and **dust**;
Who, in the dark and silent grave,
When we have wandered all our ways,
Shuts up the story of our days:
But from this earth, this grave, this **dust**,
My God shall raise me up, I trust.

Donna Wenger



Exploring the World of Prayer

We cannot separate our prayer life from our outer life. Our inner life leads to what might be called sacred activism, a term inspired by Howard Thurman. This month reflect on ways we see in the Bible God's sudden and unexpected appearance. (For example in the appearance to Moses to go lead his people from slavery, the appearance to Mary, the Pentecost account all of which led to dramatic changes.) Reflect on your own life. Has God ever shown up suddenly with an invitation or a commission for you? I recently learned about an African American woman named Dr. Prathia Hall who was an activist in the civil rights movement, a pastor and scholar. She embodied the inner and outer-facing life. As you spend time in prayer do you feel invited to learn more about or engage in certain areas of justice work? Have you experienced an unexpected call that you have not attended to? Have you asked God, the Spirit/your inner knowing to light the path forward? I would love to talk to any of you about your reflections. I am happy to meet you at church or talk on FaceTime. Feel free to email me at revjim@gmail.com. Peace to you on the journey!

Reverend Jennifer McKenna



MSPC collected over 70 bags of food that were distributed by the ISC in the food pantry, located in Fellowship Hall.

Prayers for Peace for Palestinians and Israelis

The human consequences of the recent Israeli election resulting in increased violence in the West Bank have become all too real to those from Market Square Church who spent time with the Meqbil family in the summer of 2007. Our then pastor, Jim Brown, and his wife Nina led a 12-day pilgrimage in Israel and the West Bank, which included Elizabeth and Jim Terry, Sandy Morris and Greg Gable, myself and others. We were welcomed into Jamal and Saddiya Meqbil's modest home with their five children for a traditional Palestinian meal and hospitality. All around us were the enormous Israeli settlements built on confiscated Palestinian land that now overwhelm and encroach on the homes of Jamal and his brothers' which they had built for their families some years before.

A recent email from Jamal explained "this new Israeli government supplied the settlers with weapons and are giving orders to the army to kill Palestinians without hesitation." Jamal also explained the Israeli soldiers have started



demolishing homes in Area C where the Meqbils live. *"All time we are afraid and thinking about the kids when they go to school, very afraid about our house, maybe in any moment the Israeli army will demolish it. We have nothing to do, only pray and ask God to save us."*

Since the recent election, Israel is now under the control of an ultra-nationalist coalition of partners. Israelis have taken to the streets in response to the far right agenda, including weakening the judiciary and the media, increased discrimination against the LGBTQ community, and other repressive measures. As well as intensifying the oppression of Palestinians, the annexation of the West Bank is accelerating along with the increasing suppression of Palestinian humanitarian organizations.

B'Tselem, the Israeli Center for Human Rights states on its website that "Settler violence = State violence." Its website also claims that *Israeli's regime of apartheid and occupation is inextricably bound up in human rights violations. B'Tselem strives to end this regime, as that is the only way forward to a future in which human rights, democracy, liberty and equality are ensured to all people, both Palestinian and Israeli, living between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea.*

Those caught up in this ongoing Holy Land horror count on our prayers and our support.

Margee Kooistra for the Peacemaking Committee

JANUARY, 2023 REPORT

AFGHAN REFUGEE FAMILY RESETTLEMENT PROJECT

Note: This informative report is being sent to all Market Square and Pine Street individuals who have volunteered to help our Afghanistan families and to individuals who are interested in the status of the families.

Afghanzada Family

The family seems to be well settled into their townhouse after moving December 1 from their very small apartment. Our volunteers have donated many items of furniture including beds and mattresses, a sectional sofa, a large desk, miscellaneous kitchen items, lamps, a rocking chair. We facilitated getting these items from the donors to the townhouse. As of January 31, we know of no unmet needs of this family when considering English learning, jobs, housing, schooling, transportation.

Azizyar Family

Because of a communication breakdown between the family and our efforts, a meeting was held at the ISC on January 26. Dr. Phuong

appointed two additional case managers to serve as backups and additional resources should we not be getting responses as needed. He also directed one of the new case managers to set up a meeting that includes Roger and Audrey to reevaluate family needs. One item that was accomplished for the family in January was their submission of a list of wanted household items to the charity, New Digs. The list included such items as tables, chairs, rugs, kitchen paraphernalia, bedding, towels, clothes washer and clothes dryer, small kitchen appliances. When New Digs advises those items are available for pick up at their Mechanicsburg warehouse, our volunteers will be involved in picking them up and delivering them to their apartment in Grantham. We are awaiting a tentative pickup date from New Digs.

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Audrey Light, co-chair, Pine Street Church
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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

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Join us for ***The Princess Bride*** on Friday, March 3. Hosted by Dr. Jamie Caffier, the film, with subtitles, will be screened in Geneva Hall at 7:00 p.m. Snacks and drinks will be offered and a discussion follows the screening.

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.



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.