

# The Marketplace

SEPTEMBER 2025

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



**Dr. Bruce Humphrey**  
Bridge Pastor

"How can I say thanks for all the things you have done for me? To God be the glory." These words from an old popular Christian song by Andrew Crouch not only represent my prayer of thanksgiving for calling me to serve at Market Square, but also my appreciation for how this congregation has blessed me. Just as I hope a couple of my thoughts and perspectives might have encouraged you to grow in Christ, I need to let you know how your influence on me has helped me grow as well.

You have influenced me to become more participative in my resistance to injustices. For years I have led Bible studies and book discussions addressing anti-racism, anti-poverty, and social justice topics. But this congregation helped me step up my personal participation in resistance marches. Prior to coming to Market Square I had only attended one anti-poverty march in front of the state capital. Through this last year I have attended seven or eight marches wearing my clerical collar and representing the voice of Christians speaking truth to power.

I had never heard of International Service Center prior to coming here. Now I enthusiastically support their refugee ministries. My wife and I have added them to our list of non-profits we support. I believe ISC is the most transformational ministry of Market Square. I am much more aware of refugee struggles and able to use my voice and position as an ally.

Finally, I can't speak highly enough about how wonderful this church staff is. Having worked in larger and smaller churches with a variety of staffs, I can assert that the healthy, high-trust dynamics of this staff are exceptional. I particularly want to thank David Volkman for his servant-hearted leadership, his sense of humor, and his ability to keep the daily stresses of ministry minimal. I have loved being with this ministry team! To God be the glory!

[marketsquarechurch.org](http://marketsquarechurch.org)

Bridge Pastor Bruce

FAITH • COMMUNITY • COMPASSION • JUSTICE • SERVICE

## C • H • A • N • G • E • S

This year my star word was *change*. When I saw it I thought "NO!" No more change! I've had enough change, I'm ready to stand still, to grow roots deep into the earth, to become like a building that will stand for a thousand years or more.

The past few years have been full of change for me personally as my family grows. The life of Market Square Church has also been full of change. Together this community has said goodbye to pastors, welcomed new pastors, and prepared for the day when a new installed pastor would come; we've welcomed new members and baptized babies, we've seen others join the Church Triumphant and grieved their passing.

Now the time to welcome Pastor Stan is finally here! We are crossing what teacher and poet John O'Donohue would call a threshold. We've arrived at the end of our preparation and now we cross the threshold and enter this new time of ministry with the leadership, guidance, and wisdom of Pastor Stan.

But what I've learned from that little paper star that has stared up at me from the corner of my desk all year is that as much as I long for stillness and permanence, it turns out change doesn't stop when we cross the threshold into a new season. Teddy is going through a space phase and as I read books to him about the solar system, and the Milky Way I can't help but reflect on the way that even the things that seem most permanent to me are changing, forming, reforming, and flying through space at incredible speeds. There is nothing in the universe that is truly still.

And so my prayer for Market Square is that we find balance as we move through all the changes together.

As we welcome Stan may we have grace and understanding as he navigates a big change.

As we enter this new season in the life of Market Square Church may we find flexibility, joy, and peace as we float on the breath of the Spirit.

May we find grounding and stability when the change is disorienting or exhausting.

May we trust that the triune God surrounds us in the Holy dance through which the whole wide constantly moving universe lives and moves and has its being.

Pastor Allison

### Stewardship

YTD Actual: .....\$267,200  
YTD Budget: .....\$280,000  
Deficit: .....(\$12,800)

## Let's welcome Stan and Leslie!

### Sign up to attend a small social gathering.

Our new Welcome Task Force is planning for a series of social events to help Rev. Jenkins (Stan) and his wife, Rev. Leslie Mott, get to know us individually - and vice versa. Stan has happily agreed and suggested Sunday afternoons.

Several members have volunteered to provide a simple lunch (such as sandwiches and cookies), or dessert and coffee depending on the time of day - or any variation on these themes) - for a small group of parishioners and Stan and Leslie, between 8 and 12 people total, per event.

**Some events will take place at members' homes, and some will take place in the church.** Those in the church will occur shortly after the 11:00 a.m. service concludes. Those in parishioners' homes will take place on Sunday afternoons. The timing and nature of the home gatherings is at the discretion of the hosts, as long as the event ends some time in the afternoon. The only agenda is fun and fellowship!

At press time, we are finishing up the process of securing 8 hosts. As soon as that's done, we'll provide a list of hosts, dates, and locations so that every member has the opportunity to sign up for the event of their choice.

**Watch for bulletin announcements in the very near future with the information you'll need for choosing and reserving your spot for an event.** The church picnic for all members on September 7 will kick things off, followed by the monthly Korean lunch on September 14. The smaller events for which you can sign up will take place between September 21 and November 23.

Task force members besides myself are Wendy Shearer, Robb Whitmoyer, Marianne Flickinger, Gwen Lehman, and Ray Davis. If you have questions, ask any of us. And be on the alert for sign-up information, coming soon!

**Sally Harris, Chair, Welcome Task Force**



## Adult Forum

### September 7

The Ecology Action Committee will focus on the impact Pennsylvania's energy use has on the world. *More on page 8.*

### September 14

The Ecology Action Committee will discuss pollinators, their value, and their needs. *More on page 8.*

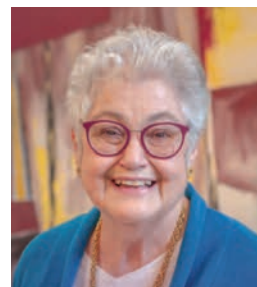
### September 21 and 28

Art historian Susanna Bede Caroselli will teach us about the early debates over how and whether to create images of God and Christ. Together we'll explore the early visual images that resulted.

**Pastor Allison Smith**



Susanna Bede Caroselli is an art historian, trained at Brown (A.B.) and Johns Hopkins (M.A., Ph.D.). She has been a curator, editor, and professor at the Frick Collection (NYC), Detroit Institute of Arts, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, University of Southern California, and Yale and Messiah Universities.



She was appointed Henry Luce Fellow of Scripture and Visual Arts at Boston University and Visiting Scholar at Episcopal Divinity School (Cambridge, MA). She is the author of books and articles on medieval and Renaissance art and architecture and a frequent speaker on art and religion for both academic and general audiences.



We are excited to announce that Sidney Dame began as our new Nursery Caregiver on Sunday, August 10. Sidney has participated with Market Square's youth for many years and is excited to take an active role in caring for the young ones who come to worship on Sunday morning. Market Square's nursery provides care for little ones from infant to 5 years old during our 11:00 a.m. worship service. If you see Sidney around the church, make sure to congratulate her on her new role!

**Next Marketplace Deadline: Sunday, September 14**

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

## SEPTEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Our English language worship services are livestreamed from our sanctuary every Sunday morning at 11:00 a.m. The Livestream button is at the top of the homepage of our website which links to our YouTube Livestream channel. Click on the date you wish to watch. Previous services are also available there. [www.marketsquarechurch.org](http://www.marketsquarechurch.org)

Korean language sermons are posted on the Korean Ministries YouTube channel: <https://shorturl.at/NcYFw>

### September 7: 13th Sunday after Pentecost

- 9:30 am Korean Language Worship in the Davis Chapel  
The Reverend Ki Nam Lee preaching
- 11:00 am English Language Worship in the Sanctuary  
The Reverend Allison R. Smith preaching  
Sacrament of Holy Communion  
Genesis Sunday with Ministry Fair and Picnic

*Let's wear our name tags!*

It takes a while for any new minister to learn everyone's names. Let's help Rev. Jenkins by making a special effort to wear name tags on Sunday mornings throughout the fall. Blank tags and pens are on the table by the south door in the narthex.

### September 14: 14th Sunday after Pentecost

- 9:30 am Korean Language Worship in the Davis Chapel  
The Reverend Ki Nam Lee preaching
- 11:00 am English Language Worship in the Sanctuary  
The Reverend Stanley Jenkins preaching  
Sacrament of Baptism

### Harmony Walk

***Celebrating Unity in our Diversity***

September 14, 2025 at 3:00 p.m.

### September 21: 15th Sunday after Pentecost

- 9:30 am Korean Language Worship in the Davis Chapel  
The Reverend Nam Gil Roh preaching
- 11:00 am English Language Worship in the Sanctuary  
The Reverend Stanley Jenkins preaching

Harmony Walk, a celebration of cooperation among religions in the Harrisburg area, starts at the entrance to Goodwin Memorial Baptist church and ends at Hadee Mosque. The walk brings together people of many faiths in harmony and peace. The walk route includes Jewish, Christian, and Islamic houses of worship. At the church entrance, walkers will be greeted by faith leaders, and at each stop a leader will speak of the value of cooperation and harmony among religions.

### September 28: 16th Sunday after Pentecost

- 9:30 am Korean Language Worship in the Davis Chapel  
The Reverend Ki Nam Lee preaching
- 11:00 am English Language Worship in the Sanctuary  
The Reverend Stanley Jenkins preaching  
Arts on the Square kickoff with Gallery Reception and Organ Concert

People of all religions, and those of no specific faith are invited. Parking is available at Goodwin Memorial and at the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. In case of rain, the program will be held at Goodwin Memorial Baptist Church in the Family Life Center (behind church and across alley). A light dinner will be provided by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community at the end of the walk.

**More info:** Rev. Cynthia Mara [interfaithcenter@juno.com](mailto:interfaithcenter@juno.com) or Behzad Zandieh [bzandieh@hotmail.com](mailto:bzandieh@hotmail.com)

## ISC's Refugee Support Services Activity Report For the month of July 2025

Approximately three-quarters of the ISC's funding comes from government sources, and all of it is currently at risk. In the coming federal fiscal year starting on October 1, 2025, our reduced ISC team will have to tighten our belts and try to serve as many needy refugees as we possibly can.

As desperate refugees continue to come to our doors, the ability of our diminished staff to serve them will depend largely on the continued support of ISC's wonderful community volunteers like you - our most precious partners-in-mission.

As we move forward, it is certain that we will encounter formidable challenges. However, for the ISC, what remains constant are our humanitarian values and commitment in serving the disadvantaged and underprivileged people of the world. Since 1976, ISC has served as a lifeline for refugees of all national origins, offering critical support to help them thrive in their new homeland.

By the Grace of God, we hope that with the valuable support of our community volunteers, the ISC will be able to continue to provide not only essential services but also a place where needy refugees can find safety, dignity, and the support they need to rebuild their shattered lives.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Phuong N. Truong**, Executive Director, ISC

The ISC's entire monthly report may be found here: <https://shorturl.at/Pohl3>







**Tyler Canonico-Dilley**  
Minister of Music



# Music Notes

Dear friends,

It is once again that time – time to begin a new program year! Vacations are wrapping up, kids are heading back to school, activities are resuming, Sunday School resumes, and music ensembles resume! I am looking forward to Genesis Sunday (September 7) when we welcome Rev. Stan Jenkins, resume Sunday School, the choir returns to

worship, we have the Ministry Fair, and then enjoy fellowship time together over a meal. What a day it will be! I hope you plan on being with us on Genesis Sunday.

The Sanctuary Choir had its annual retreat at the end of August and has since resumed rehearsals on Thursday evenings from 7:15 to 9:30 p.m. The Market Square Ringers will resume rehearsals on Thursday, September 11 from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. Have you considered joining the choir or the bell choir? Now is a perfect time to begin! Simply give me a call or shoot me an email and I will be glad to chat with you about your involvement in our music ministry. Don't be shy! 😊

Arts on the Square Gallery kickoff is scheduled for Sunday, September 28. Immediately following worship, I hope you will join us in Geneva Hall for our opening reception of the Art Gallery. Our first exhibit is a collaboration between well-known Harrisburg artists Jonathan Frazier and Carrie Wissler-Thomas. Their collaboration

exhibit, *Along the River and Beyond*, features evocative paintings of the Susquehanna, New Orleans, Gettysburg, Scotland, and France. Then at 4:00 p.m., I hope you will return for what will be a top-notch organ recital given by my friend Alcee Chriss III. Alcee is the Assistant Organist at Trinity Wall Street in New York City and is an outstanding musician. His concert will mesmerize you! I hope you will join us for what will be a great day at Market Square!

Peace and love,

**Tyler**

## Sanctuary Choir Repertoire for September:

September 7 (Genesis Sunday) – “Ain’-a That Good News” by William Dawson and Bonnie Duckworth’s “Dear Lord and Father of Mankind”

September 14 (14th Sunday after Pentecost) – “See What Love” from *St. Paul* by Felix Mendelssohn and “Sheep and Lamb May Safely Graze” by Johann Sebastian Bach

September 21 (15th Sunday after Pentecost) – Bob Chilcott’s “Be Thou My Vision” and “How Firm A Foundation” arranged by Alice Parker

September 28 (16th Sunday after Pentecost) – “Poor Man Lazrus” arranged by Jester Hairston and “In Paradisum” from *Requiem* by Gabriel Fauré



Join Our Outstanding Choir



# ALCEE CHRISS

Sunday,  
September 28  
4:00 p.m.

Alcee Chriss III,  
Organist

MARKET SQUARE  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
20 S. Second Street  
Harrisburg

Suggested Donation \$15

Complimentary parking in the  
adjacent Market Square Garage

Details at [artsonthesquare.net](http://artsonthesquare.net)

"A splendid program of  
unusual and varied  
repertoire..."

– American Record Guide

**arts**  
ON THE  
*Square*  
Market Square  
Presbyterian Church





## From the Trustees

Never has there been such consternation than that caused by the recent appearance of a pigeon in the sanctuary. Rest easy! It and all 3 of its co-religionists nesting in the belltower are gone.

In brief, the visitor arrived in the sanctuary a day or two early for that week's service. As welcoming as Market Square is, s/he was particularly unwelcome that Sunday during the Rev. Stan Jenkins' candidate service and sermon.

Thanks to truly dedicated work by Facilities Manager Sean Meara, the pigeon was largely sequestered in a ceiling space on Saturday night and the service was incident free. It turns out that the belltower had become a sanctuary for several pigeons. A professional firm was called in to seal it from this occurring again and to clean up well, you know.

As I understand it, "our" pigeon walked unscathed out the atrium doors on Monday morning. Rev. Bruce Humphrey noted that in his 40 years of ministry this was a first for him. And Stan, by the way, knew of the pigeon's presence before taking the pulpit. Our new senior pastor is intrepid!

Of further excitement, I can report that the exterior restoration work should be completed no later than the end of September. Looking at the exterior without scaffolding reveals masonry of truly skilled men and a woman that will ensure we are weather tight for decades to come. (We are also being careful to ensure that our roofs of slate and rubber are in good shape.)

Finally, there remain many capital and maintenance repairs that are underway or listed for action when possible. By the time of publication, I hope the elevator will be long back in service. As the familiar phrase goes, "We are awaiting parts" to restore our otherwise solidly performing elevator to service.

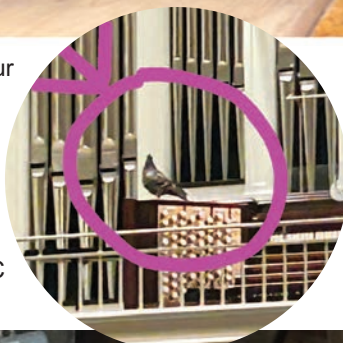
**Tom Darr**



Above and below are some before-and-after photos of our bell tower, aka the pigeon Airbnb.

If you haven't read about Coo-rinthians, our wayward pigeon who revealed that there was an avian haven above our sanctuary, be sure to read our social media post about his grand entrance. <https://shorturl.at/MSv5o>

And, while you're there, be sure to like and follow the MSPC Facebook page if you haven't already!





## Along the River & Beyond: Landscapes by Jonathan Frazier and Carrie Wissler-Thomas

Sunday, September 28 – Sunday, December 14, 2025



Arts on the Square Gallery will open its 2025-2026 exhibit season at Market Square Presbyterian Church on Sunday, September 28, 2025, with a new show featuring landscape paintings by well-known Harrisburg artists Jonathan Frazier and Carrie Wissler-Thomas.

"Along the River & Beyond" will be on display through Sunday, December 14, 2025, in Geneva Hall gallery space on the 4th floor and in the 1st floor atrium adjacent to the sanctuary.

Landscape paintings by Jonathan and Carrie explore favorite and familiar places, and their individual styles are quite complementary. Jonathan is long noted for his landscape focus on the natural world as well as the built environment. Carrie, however, was originally known for figurative oil paintings, but since 1997 she has turned to creating lyrical and shimmering landscapes of the Susquehanna River and of Scotland, where she and her husband travel annually. Jonathan's landscapes also resonate with vibrant color, balancing between representational and impressionistic. For "Along the River & Beyond," his works will include recent oil paintings from New Orleans, the Susquehanna River, and Gettysburg.

A native of Dillsburg, Pa., Jonathan studied at the Maryland Institute, College of Art (MICA) and Kutztown University where he received a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Studio Art. He began exhibiting with the popular Harrisburg area "Seven Lively Artists" group in the 1990s and has had work in competitive juried shows at numerous galleries, including The State Museum of Pennsylvania; the Suzanne H. Arnold Gallery, Lebanon Valley College; Washington County Museum of Fine Art, Hagerstown, MD, and the Delaplaine Art Center, Frederick, MD. Jonathan is also known as a regional performing musician on voice, keyboard, guitar, Native American flutes, percussion, and hulusi, among others.

Carrie is a longtime arts leader and innovator in the region, having served as the Executive Director of the Art Association of Harrisburg since 1984. In 1988 she founded Harrisburg's annual Gallery Walk, the city-wide celebration of fine arts venues that she

continues to organize. A graduate of Hood College, she holds a Master's degree from Temple University. Carrie has held over 35 solo exhibitions, and her paintings have appeared in many group exhibitions throughout central Pennsylvania. Her works are included in the collections of The State Museum of Pennsylvania, Cozen O'Connor Attorneys in Philadelphia, and Lebanon Valley College, as well as Borthwick Castle and The Port Charlotte Hotel in Scotland. In 1991 Carrie was the recipient of The Distinguished Service to the Arts Award, and in 2005 the recipient of The Arts Advocate Award, both in Harrisburg.



Jonathan Frazier and Carrie Wissler-Thomas. Photo by Beth Hager.

Arts on the Square Gallery presents three exhibits annually at Market Square Church 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 Gallery.

Arts on the Square Gallery exhibitions are sponsored in 2025-26 by John K. Robinson in memory of Rachel Robinson Bair.

For info contact: Beth Hager, Arts on the Square Exhibits Coordinator, [bahager@earthlink.net](mailto:bahager@earthlink.net)

### *A Quiet Saturday Retreat*

**Saturday, October 25, 2025 • 9:00 am – 12:30 pm • Market Square, Geneva Hall**

*"Quiet on the inside of us makes us happier, healthier... more peaceful people." Matt Mikkelsen*

Join Rev. Anne Ross and Elizabeth Terry for time away from the demands and distractions of daily life. For our retreat Geneva Hall will be transformed into a space for rest and renewal. This tranquil morning will feature learning embodied spiritual practices to cultivate awareness and calm the mind. Some examples of embodied spiritual practices you may experience include movement with breath, *lectio divina*, prayer, listening to poetry, or participating in mini-creative projects. Times of rest will definitely be a part of the retreat.

*If you have a Yoga mat or Futon for resting, please bring it. Refreshments will be provided.*  
Questions? Contact Anne Ross ([amross0611@gmail.com](mailto:amross0611@gmail.com)) or Elizabeth Terry ([eterryyoga@gmail.com](mailto:eterryyoga@gmail.com)).

**RSVP to Nancy Sheets ([sheets@marketsquarechurch.org](mailto:sheets@marketsquarechurch.org)) by October 17.**

# Ecology Action Committee Line-Up for September Adult Forum

## Mark Your Calendars!

The Ecology Action Committee (EAC) is hosting two Adult Forums in recognition of the 2025 Season of Creation. The theme of this year's Season of Creation is **Peace with Creation**. To celebrate this season, please mark your calendars and plan to attend these valuable forums.



On **September 7**, from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m., the Adult Forum will focus on the impact Pennsylvania's energy use has on the world. Rob Altenburg (pictured at right), Senior Director for Energy and Climate, will provide updates on proposed legislation to address Pennsylvania's clean energy future and give participants suggestions for supporting this legislation. Come and learn about some exciting opportunities for Pennsylvania.



On **September 14**, the EAC will discuss pollinators, their value, and their needs. Did you know that one third of our food is the result of pollination? Come and learn what you can do to help prevent the loss of bees, birds, and butterflies, and their fascinating relationship with the world around us. —**Janet Bargh**



## The Buzz About Bees: Small Creatures, Sacred Work

As we continue our care for creation and our commitment to environmental justice, it's worth turning our attention to the wellness of bees.

Bees are more than just busy insects, they are vital pollinators, playing a key role in the health of our ecosystems and the food we eat. **Nearly 75% of flowering plants and about 35% of the world's food crops depend on pollinators like bees.** Without them, many fruits, vegetables, nuts would disappear from our tables.

Yet bees are in trouble. Habitat loss, pesticide use, climate change, and disease have led to alarming declines in bee populations worldwide.

As caretakers of the earth, we can respond by planting native flowers, avoiding harmful chemicals in our gardens, supporting biodiversity, and advocating for policies that protect pollinators and their habitats.

Caring for the smallest among us is a reflection of the divine love we're called to embody. May we learn from the bees—working together, nurturing life, and creating good health for our planet.

**Barbara Pennell**



## Fun Facts about Bees

- **All WORKER bees are FEMALE.** This includes foragers, builders, guards, and nurses.
- The males have only one job—to mate with the queen—and are called drones; they can't even feed themselves. You might think the males have it made, but think again. As soon as the weather starts getting cold, the females push them out of the hive and "shut the door."
- Forager bees sometimes fall asleep in flowers at the end of the day, exhausted from a hard day's work. (See photos at right)
- On average, one worker honeybee produces about 1/12 (*that's one twelfth!*) of a teaspoon her entire life (lifespans are 4-6 weeks in summer, 4-6 months in winter). That means, one 16 oz. bottle of honey was produced by more than 1,100 bees. Remember that next time you use honey; it's precious stuff.

**Kari Hultman**





## Thank you

The Community of Faith at Market Square was the perfect place for the celebration of our 70th Wedding Anniversary. Our son, Scott, along with Nancy Sheets, understood our love for this community and knew that we would want the community to celebrate with us.

Thank you, members and friends, who honored us by your presence that day. Your individual remarks to us during the reception were gracious and humbling. Your cards were so carefully chosen with meaningful thoughts.

Kudos to the Deacons for their care, preparation and implementation of the reception.

Your applause in the sanctuary when Bruce announced our 70th was overwhelming.

Our son remarked later "that is real community."

Yes, That is why we drive 100 miles round trip to be a part of "that community". It is special!

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!  
Peace through Love, **Peggy and Judd McConnell**



## Our Church Family

### Deaths

- Nancy Besch died on August 13. Her memorial service will take place on Saturday, September 6 at 3 pm, with a visitation one hour prior. Here's a link to her obituary:  
<https://www.myers-baker.com/memorials/nancybesch/5626981/index.php>
- The beloved grandson and nephew of Tom and Anna Johnston, and Sara Johnston, died a few days after his 28th birthday. If you'd like to see photos and memories of Andrew, please go here:  
<https://www.kudoboard.com/boards/kX3m3M71>
- Barb C, a stalwart volunteer for our ministry to the unsheltered, lost her mother on August 14. Her obituary is here:  
<https://www.sandersmortuary.com/obituary/Jane-Cawley>
- Keith Camilli's Aunt Marlene Camilli died on July 22.
- Joe Martin's last surviving sibling David died on July 14.
- Suzanne Arthur, wife of former MSPC Interim Pastor Bill Arthur, died on July 6 in South Carolina.
- Vernon Laninga, Dale's brother, died on July 17, five days after his 91st birthday.
- Tim Sukay's brother Dave died on July 65 at the age of 90.
- Suzanne Klinedinst's sister Nancy Good died on June 27.
- Melinda Ormsbee Cree's brother-in-law Cory Bair died on June 26 at the age of 33.

### Celebrations

- Judd and Peggy McConnell celebrated 70 years of marriage on August 19. The deacons provided a reception for them following worship on August 17.

## Genesis Sunday Events

We're excited to be approaching Genesis Sunday —September 7, the kickoff of our new church program year!

This special day will mark the return of education classes for all ages, the choir's return to worship, and the celebration of a new pastoral ministry.

### After the 11:00 am Worship Service

- **Ministry Fair in Geneva Hall** – Explore the many ways to get involved in our church community by connecting with committees, task forces, and other groups.
- **Church Picnic & Reception for Stan** in Fellowship Hall at 12:45 pm (approximately) – Come enjoy great food and fellowship with Stan, his wife Leslie, and our church family. The main dish will be provided; please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

If your last name begins with **A–L**, please bring a **dessert**.

If your last name begins with **M–Z**, please bring a **salad or side dish**. (Sign-up sheet available in the atrium, or contact Nancy by phone or email with your specialty dish.)

We look forward to a day of worship, learning, celebration, and community together at Market Square on Genesis Sunday!

# Session Activities: February 2025 Update

By Jonelle Darr, Clerk of Session

Market Square's Session is responsible for the church's mission, governance, and programs. Pastor Stan Jenkins will begin moderating Session after he arrives. Current Ruling Elders may serve up to two consecutive, three-year terms. Active 2025 Elders are:

Terms Expiring in 2025	Terms Expiring in 2026	Terms Expiring in 2027
George Blashford (1 <sup>st</sup> term)	Cindy Bendroth (2 <sup>nd</sup> term)	Sandy Bell (2nd term)
Beth Cate-Freeman (1 <sup>st</sup> term)	Kristin Cassell (1 <sup>st</sup> term)	Betsy Cobb (1st term)
Jonelle Darr (2 <sup>nd</sup> term)	Dale Laninga (2 <sup>nd</sup> term)	Andrew Hunter (2nd term)
Theresa Elliott (1 <sup>st</sup> term)	Dave Lehman (2 <sup>nd</sup> term)	Steve McMullen (1st term)
Beth Hager (1 <sup>st</sup> term)	David Volkman (1 <sup>st</sup> term)	Lana Walmer (1st term)
Nancy Snyder (2 <sup>nd</sup> term)		

A complete list of all church officers and committee members is available on the church website's Members Only section.

In July 2025, Session held a joint board meeting with the Deacons, Trustees, Pastor Nominating Committee, Pastors, and Bridge Operations Manager. Updates on the activities and achievements of each group or individual since the beginning of 2025 were heard. The group also discussed how to welcome and integrate the Reverend Stan Jenkins and his wife the Reverend Leslie Mott into the life of the church. Each group was congratulated on their hard work during this extended transition period. The staff were also thanked for their leadership and dedication. Dave Volkman was given kudos for the incredible gift of time and talent that he has given to the church as a volunteer Building Operations Manager.

In August, Session's activities included:

## Worship

1) Approved the baptism of Catherine Margot Boyer on September 14, 2025. She was born on September 5, 2023 and is the daughter of Jared and Elsa Boyer. The Rev. Allison Smith will officiate.

2) Re-authorized the Organ Scholar position for the 2025-2026 academic year on the same terms as the current year, funding having been provided by a donor-designated gift. Background: Ethan Draper will serve as Organ Scholar for the nine month period beginning September 2025 and continuing through May 2026.

## Christian Education

3) Learned that Market Square will combine its Sunday School classes for youth with Pine Street Presbyterian and Grace United Methodist churches this fall. About twelve youth from all three churches are currently eligible to participate.

## Faith and Justice

4) Agreed to dedicate 25% of the annual Peace and Global Witness offering to the International Service Center. (This is the amount that the Presbyterian Church (USA) permits churches to retain for local purposes.) The remaining funds will support the Presbyterian Church (USA)'s peacemaking, reconciliation and global witness ministries. The offering will be collected on October 5, 2025.

## Membership

5) Recognized the death of Ruling Elder Nancy Adams Besch who died on August 13, 2025. She joined Market Square on June 4, 2000, having been ordained an elder in 1992. A memorial service will take place on Saturday, September 6, at 3:00 pm in the sanctuary and will be officiated by the Reverend Anne M. Ross.

6) Received three new members on August 3, 2025:

- Christian Alander (7472), by profession of faith
- Jeff Dershem (7473), by profession of faith
- Joyce Kieffer (7474), by profession of faith

7) Received an update on the Sessions' project to contact 65 inactive members. To date:

- 14 people asked to be kept on the membership rolls;
- 16 people have been removed from rolls; and
- 35 people are still in the process of being contacted.

Session members hope to complete making calls by the end of August.

8) Authorized Pastor Anne Ross to form new Covenant Groups as needed.

9) At their request, removed the following people from church membership:

Lori Fisher, Sue Kauffman, Michael Mumper, Juliet Smeltzer

10) Due to their lack of response and inactivity, removed the following people from church membership:

Jana Beecham, Megan Given, Kimberly Kessell

11) Due to a lack of contact information and inactivity, removed the following people from church membership:

Eric Battisti, Sarah Battisti, Robert Bucher, JoAnn King-Brown Oliver (Jim) Kohl, Rebecca Thoroughgood, Donald Walker, Kimberly Walker

## Facility

12) Authorized the expenditure of \$19,391 from the Investment Fund to supplement the previously approved appropriation by Session for Phase 2 of the exterior renovation. Background:



Additional stone and bricks were needed to address worse than anticipated problems on the church's Blackberry and River Street façades. (It was noted that the façade's brick is actually two bricks thick, thus some damage could not be seen when the original estimates were prepared.) Additional painting was also included.

13)Authorized the expenditure of up to \$3,500 to BioOne from the Ellie Allen Fund for the Homeless to clean church property from human waste and trash left overnight by homeless individuals so that Witmer Construction can continue its work in a safe, clean environment. Background: Human waste was found nearly every morning creating a health and safety issue for Witmer Construction workers (stopping Witmer's work for several days.) BioOne services: Clean and sanitize areas affected by human waste. Areas will be treated with sanitizer and enzymes, and then washed down with high pressure water. Exterior stairway handrails will be sanitized. Cleaning will occur Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

14)Authorized the expenditure of up to \$7,239 from the Carl Petersheim Music Fund to clean the sanctuary pipe organ following infestation of pigeons in the bell tower and sanctuary.

### Personnel

15)Agreed to hire Sidney Dame as a nursery childcare provider. She will begin August 10, 2025. She replaces Lizzie Camilli who is now attending college.

As of August 19, 2025, there were 363 members on the church membership rolls. If you have any questions about Session activities, you may talk with me, a Session member, or one of our Pastors.



## WEST BANK

—Margee Kooistra

Below is an email that arrived from a younger brother of Yazan Meqbil—Amro, 17—who just graduated from his high school in the West Bank. While the entire West Bank is a very dangerous place for all, their community of Beit Ommer is especially dangerous as it is now surrounded by three huge Israeli settlements so Israeli soldiers are ever present day and night. In this message, Amro refers to the loss of his best friend, his first cousin and his next door neighbor Abdul Ramen, who was standing by innocently when he was killed two years ago by an Israeli sniper from some distance. This is not uncommon and no IDF soldier tends to be held accountable. The impact on Amro continues to be understandably profound; but Amro, having passed his final exams under the circumstances, is all the more heroic and remarkable - and no less important as most of the Meqbil kids have always been at the top of their classes. His message brings home what those living in the West Bank deal with every day and night; parents Jamal and Saddiya take turns sleeping at night so one of them remains watchful; twice their home has been invaded by large groups of soldiers, and as Amro explains, it remains a constant fear. The focus remains on Gaza, as it should, but we cannot forget the everyday hell that the West Bank is as well for Palestinians.

From: [jamalforpeace@yahoo.com](mailto:jamalforpeace@yahoo.com)

I hope you are all well. I would like to inform you that my high school results were released yesterday, and thank God I passed, with a GPA of 70.3. I thank God always and for everything, but I am not at all satisfied with my grade. It was a very difficult year, and it is one of the years I wish I could erase from my memory. I faced problems concentrating and sleeping. Also, during the war and missile attacks, I was unable to study properly. Most nights, soldiers would roam the neighborhood, and I would lie awake, fearing they would raid our house and arrest me. They used the method of arresting high school students this year to damage their future. Since the martyrdom of my lifelong friend and cousin, Abdulrahman, at the beginning of the war, my life has completely changed. I have begun to take neurological medication. This medication has altered my appearance, and I have gained a lot of weight as a result. I expect it played a major role in the concentration problems I suffered from last year. Abdulrahman's result was supposed to be released with mine. We had dreamed together and planned for our future together, but yesterday I received the result alone. I know that I should be satisfied and proud that I succeeded under these circumstances, but I cannot control my feelings.

<< Friday, September 26, 6:30 pm



*Hotel Rwanda*, starring Don Cheadle, Sophie Okonedo, Nick Nolte, and Joaquin Phoenix.

*"In 1994, as his country descends into madness, five-star hotel manager Paul Rusesabagina sets out to save his family. However, when he sees that the world will not intervene to stop the massacre of minority Tutsis, he finds the courage to open his hotel to over 1,200 refugees. Now, with a rabid militia at the gates, he has only his wits and words to help keep them alive another hour ... another day..."*



# This Past Summer



## Pridefest

A big thank you to everyone who helped set up, tear down, and staff the MSPC booth at Pridefest this past July. It was a huge success! And thanks to Johnny G. who brought with him 400 (that's FOUR HUNDRED!) tiny Jesuses. Every single one found a forever home. Joe and Ashley brought their dog, which is always a draw. And hundreds of stickers and postcards were handed out to people who stopped by our booth.

- Christian A.
- Ken B.
- Beth F.
- Johnny G.
- Kari H. and Nancy S.
- Carol H.
- Alix M.
- Joe and Ashley R.
- Trum and Michelle S.
- Phyllis S.



## Archives Committee

Archives Committee members Cindy Bendroth (chair) and Nancy Sheets traveled to Philadelphia this summer to deposit a number of old newsletters with the Presbyterian Historical Society. Soon, we'll have a link for you to enjoy those old newsletters but in the meantime, check out this blast from the past (far right). In this newsletter article, one of our currently serving elders seems delighted in her youth group class.



## Pax Christi Harrisburg

In August, Pax Christi Harrisburg Presented: *Shane Claiborne* — "*Another World is Possible*" in commemoration of the 80th anniversary of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings. Pax Christi Harrisburg and numerous co-sponsors hosted an evening with Shane Claiborne, nationally known speaker, activist, and best-selling author.

Shane Claiborne is a leading voice in the movement for peace and justice. He is the founder of The Simple Way in Philadelphia and heads up Red Letter Christians, a community living "as if Jesus meant the things he said."





## Interfaith Pilgrimage

Pastor Kevin Long

# A Day Of Action Celebrating The Power Of Clean Energy.



Sun Day

September 21, 2025

City Island • Harrisburg • 3pm

I'm writing to invite you to participate in an interfaith pilgrimage in Harrisburg this coming September. This will be a local event that is part of the GreenFaith nationwide SUNday campaign. GreenFaith (<https://greenfaith.org/>) is an international, interfaith group that champions climate justice. The SUNday campaign (<https://greenfaith.org/faiths-4-climate-justice-sun-day>) is intended to celebrate solar and other renewable energy sources.

The event in Harrisburg will consist of a walk from City Island to different locations downtown. At each stop, an individual will offer a reading and/or prayer associated with that stop. My hope is that the readings and prayers will be written and offered by leaders from different traditions.

### **Here are a few of the planned stops and sample topics for readings:**

- Susquehanna River - thanks to our creator and the abundance the river represents
- Rachel Carson Building - gratitude for those whose work helps preserve creation
- A bank location - prayer that major banks would increasingly favor funding renewable energy projects instead of dirty energy
- State capitol - gratitude to those legislators who have championed renewable energy, and a challenge to those who have hindered its adoption
- PennFuture - site of some of the only rooftop solar panels in downtown Harrisburg and an organization that helps citizens who champion clean energy

- Houses of worship that promote eco justice

\*\*\*\*The wearing of clerical/religious attire representing your tradition is encouraged.\*\*\*\*

### **There are several ways to be involved besides participating in the pilgrimage:**

- Share the event with people from your faith community (see graphic above left)
- Volunteer to write (and/or read) a reading and/or prayer for the pilgrimage
- Sign on to a letter to our legislators (available on the day of the event) encouraging them to protect our natural resources and support solar energy
- Become a partner\*

\*Becoming a partner means your organization/congregation will be listed on a handout provided to each participant at the event. (Please provide the name of your organization, a one-sentence description, and your URL.)

**Saturday, September 21, 3:00 p.m.**

**City Island (near foot bridge)**

**Registration link:**

<https://shorturl.at/Ers4C>

(Registration encouraged but not required)



[marketsquarechurch.org](https://marketsquarechurch.org)

FAITH • COMMUNITY • COMPASSION • JUSTICE • SERVICE

## The Streets of Harrisburg

by Jim Terry

*How can you tell me that you're lonely and no one  
loves you in this land?*

*Come walk with me through the streets of this old city,  
and I'll show you things to help you understand.*

*See that old man push his shopping cart on wheels?  
It holds everything he owns and whatever he can steal.*

*See the young girl with the little boy in tow?  
Tonight they'll sleep together in a place that no one knows.*

*See that young man slumped on the church steps there?  
Everybody knows, but does anybody care?*

*See the old woman sitting in the park?  
That bench will be her bed when everything is dark.*

*How can you tell me that you're lonely and no one  
loves you in this land?*

*Come walk with me through the streets of this old city  
and I'll show you things to help you understand.*

Inspired by *The Streets of London* by Ralph McTell, and  
dedicated to all the unhoused people in Harrisburg who  
are just trying to do the best they can.

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

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

**Stan Jenkins, Pastor**

jenkins@marketsquarechurch.org

**Allison R. Smith, Supply Associate Pastor**

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**Ki Nam Lee, Pastoral Associate for Korean Ministries**

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**Anne M. Ross, Pastoral Assistant for Congregational Care**

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**James D. Brown, Pastor Emeritus**

**Jennifer McKenna, Spiritual Director**

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**Sean Meara, Facility Manager**

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**Benjamin Perez, Homeless Ministry Coordinator**

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**Jose Maldonado, Custodian**

**Steve Jackson, Parking/Events Staff**

**Art Miles, Community Breakfast Resource Person**

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

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**Newman Stare, Audio Visual Technician**

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**Andrew Hunter, Sound/Livestream Technician**

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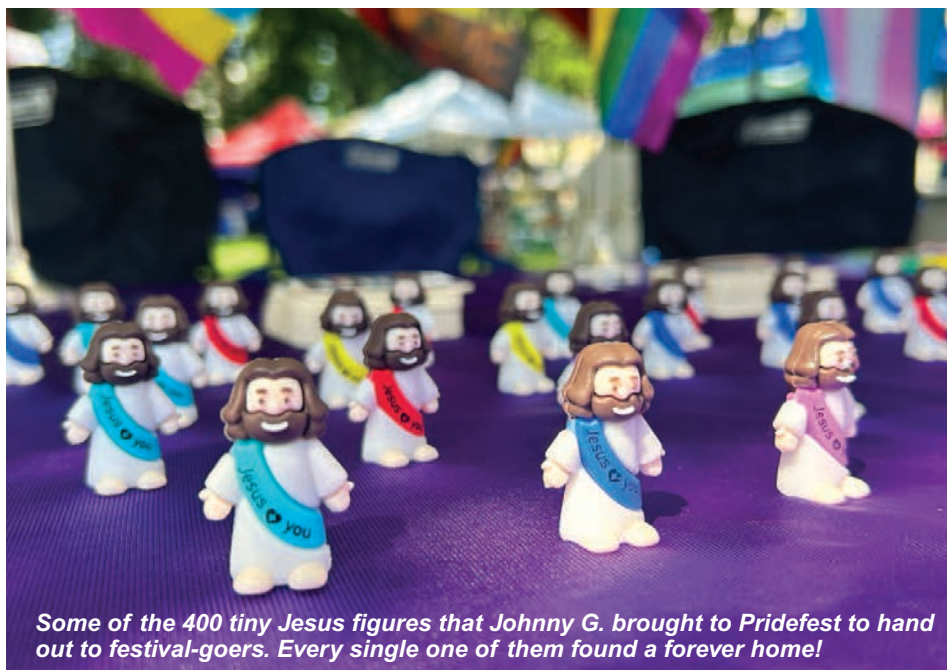
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Harrisburg, PA

Permit No. 273



*Some of the 400 tiny Jesus figures that Johnny G. brought to Pridefest to hand out to festival-goers. Every single one of them found a forever home!*

## Sunday Services

Korean Language Service—9:30 a.m.  
in Davis Chapel.

Sermons on YouTube  
(*link on the church website's  
Worship page*).

English Language Service—11:00 a.m.  
in the sanctuary.

The service is livestreamed on our YouTube  
channel <https://shorturl.at/xeBHi>

The button for the livestream is at the  
top of the homepage of 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.