



MARKET SQUARE
Presbyterian Church
A Beacon of Hope on the Square

THE Marketplace

FEBRUARY 2026 | 717.257.1270 | marketsquarechurch.org

Call to Action!

When the powers that be try to divide people, it is the duty of the church to both bear witness to the possibility of unity in diversity, but more importantly, **to practice this unity**. Likewise when the powers that be declare violence and war, the church must bear witness and practice peace. Accordingly, in light of the recent administration-led violence in Venezuela, Minneapolis, and wherever the vulnerable have been demonized and oppressed, the Downtown Churches of Harrisburg have planned a **Pilgrimage of Peace for Wednesday, February 4 at 3:00**.

Gathering together with churches of diverse traditions and backgrounds, Protestants and Catholics, high church and low church, we will proclaim that there is a better way. Starting at **Market Square** we will walk together, stopping at **Salem UCC, Zion Lutheran, Soldier's Grove, Grace United Methodist, St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Cathedral, and Pine Street Presbyterian**. At each stop there will be a brief scripture reading, silence and prayer.



Rev. Stanley Jenkins
Pastor, Head of Staff

We've invited the press, not to advertise our piety, but to bear witness that a different way is possible and the way of the powers that be is not inevitable. Violence and authoritarianism, war and demagoguery do not have to be our fate. We can resist. If churches of different traditions can come together, then all people of good will can come together, regardless of creed, color, origin of birth, or who we love. Together we can stand and work together to build the Beloved Community.

All are invited! Spread the word! Bring your friends!

What: Pilgrimage of Peace

When: February 4, 2026, 3:00 PM

Where: Starting at Market Square Presbyterian Church

Peace Pilgrimage

Join faith leaders and other champions for peace as we offer a unified response to the forces of conflict and violence.
Stopping to share a scripture reading, silence, and prayer.

All are Welcome to Participate

Meet at: Market Square Presbyterian Church

(20 S 2nd St, Harrisburg)
February 4th at 3:00PM



Salem UCC

Zion Lutheran Church

Soldier's Grove

Messiah Lutheran
Church



St. Patrick's Cathedral

Grace UMC



End of Pilgrimage:
Pine Street Presbyterian Church

Violence and authoritarianism, war and demagoguery do not have to be our fate.
We can resist.

Pilgrimage of PEACE



Rev. Allison Smith
Supply Associate Pastor
scriptural topics.

Lunch & Learn

February 1: If early mornings are not your thing, join us following worship on the first Sunday of each month from October to May to share a light lunch and a robust conversation about theological and scriptural topics.

Adult Forum

February 1: Learn more about the slaughter of the Conestoga

In worship on December 14 Pastor Allison commemorated that anniversary of the horrible slaughter of the Conestoga by a group of Presbyterians from our region known as the Paxton Boys. Allison will share more about this event, the context of Pennsylvania in the 1760s, and what we have to learn from the events that followed that helped to normalize genocide against Native Americans.

February 8: What I learned on the Southern Border

In early May 2022, Joanne Castner visited El Paso, TX and Juarez, MX with a group sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas and the St. Columban Mission for Justice, Peace and Ecology. This immersion trip allowed her to see first-hand what is happening with immigration at the US-Mexico border and how individuals and community advocacy groups are supporting those in need.

In this updated program, entitled "Welcoming the Stranger?", Joanne will tell about her trip. She will share what she learned about the root causes of immigration and why people flee their homelands despite the danger and uncertainty, and how our country's policies towards immigration have changed in recent months.



Joanne is an associate with the Sisters of Mercy. She is a spiritual director, having completed Cranaleith Retreat Center's Spiritual Direction Formation program in Philadelphia, PA in September 2023. She earned a BA in English/Education from SUNY Albany, an MS, Ed.S. in Counseling and Student Personnel from SUNY Albany and an M.Ed. in Educational Administration from Millersville University.

February 15: Lenten Study Begins - The Journey from the Transfiguration to the Cross to the Empty Tomb - Elders Kevin Burrell, John Dame, and Pastor Allison

Together we'll take a deep dive into the Scriptures that will be preached on in worship during the season of Lent. This study will be in the same format as the weekly Bible Study has been. It will focus on deep listening to one another, exploring the way the stories of scripture interact with, inform, and hold meaning for our lives and experiences. Together we'll walk with Jesus from Transfiguration Sunday through the Empty Tomb in a way that feeds our spirits, opens our minds, and inspires our actions! John and Kevin will be sharing more about this type of study in worship in the coming weeks.

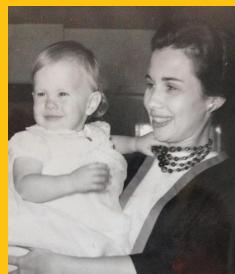
Our Church Family

Deaths

- Paul Marchetti, a close family friend of Tim Sukay and Mary Ann Bedard, died on December 22.
- Kathy Williams' husband, Patrick Martin, died on January 7. A memorial service will be held at Market Square at a later date.
- Rev. Allison Smith's uncle, Jack McKay, died on January 21.

Birthdays

- Marty Tornblom turns 90 on February 7! At right is a photo of Marty and daughter Nancy (Snyder)



Photos from the Arts On The Square Gallery opening on January 18: Faces and Places Photos by Beth Hager, gallery coordinator.



LVC exchange students from Brazil performed at the reception.

Worship Schedule for February 2026

February 1: Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

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
Rabbi Michael Pollack preaching
Sacrament of Holy Communion

February 8: Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

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 J. Jenkins preaching

February 15: Transfiguration of the Lord

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

February 18: Ash Wednesday

6:30 pm Worship in the Davis Chapel
Sacrament of Holy Communion
Imposition of Ashes
The Reverends Stanley J. Jenkins and Allison R. Smith

February 22: First Sunday in Lent

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 J. Jenkins preaching



Music Notes

Dear friends,

Happy New Year! I hope your year is off to a grand start! February 1 is the Fourth Sunday after Epiphany and the Sanctuary Choir is going to share two new anthems in worship. The first is Tom Trenney's arrangement of the hymn, "For Everyone Born" which is a moving setting accompanied by piano and cello. The second anthem is Craig DeAlmeida's "The Beatitudes" and he neatly sets this familiar text. The following Sunday, February 8 is the Fifth Sunday after Epiphany and we're going to "take it to church!" with Keith Hampton's "True Light." Sunday, February 15 is Transfiguration of the Lord and the music for the morning will share the beauty of Christ's dazzling transformation.

Ash Wednesday is on February 18 and this year we're planning to hold the service at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel. Our focus is going to be on the imposition of ashes and celebrating communion together. I hope you will join us for this Holy service as we begin our journey into Lent.

Our next Arts on the Square program is on Sunday, February 15 at 4:00 p.m. We are hosting the one and only Howard University Gospel Choir! The choir was founded in 1968 and is the first collegiate choir of its kind in the world. For almost five decades, the Choir has been a premier ensemble, performing Gospel music in a wide variety of venues in and around the Washington area, across the nation, and in more than 20 countries in Europe and the Americas. You can purchase tickets at

<https://shorturl.at/NvX6C>

or with me. Tickets are: \$30 Preferred Seating, \$25 General Admission, \$15 Student Price (ID required), \$10 Children (10 and under), and as always, if that isn't in your budget for the month, please speak to me and we'll make it work. This is going to be a special and fantastic concert! I really hope to see you there!

Peace and love,
Tyler



Tyler Canonico-Dilley
Minister of Music & Organist

Sanctuary Choir Repertoire for February:

February 1 (4th Sunday after Epiphany) – "For Everyone Born" arranged by Tom Trenney and Craig DeAlmeida's "The Beatitudes."

February 8 (5th Sunday after Epiphany) – "True Light" by Keith Hampton and "The Light of the World" by Andrew Carter.

February 15 (Transfiguration of the Lord) – "This Is My Beloved Son" by David Evan Thomas and Jeremy Filsell's "The Transfiguration."

February 18 (Ash Wednesday) – Terre Johnson's "Create in Me" and "Dust I Am" by Mark Miller

February 22 (First Sunday in Lent) – "Jesus, So Lowly" by Harold Friedell and Kenneth Dake's "Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley."

Session Activities: January 2026

Cindy Bendroth, Clerk of Session

Market Square's Session is responsible for the church's mission, governance, and programs. Rev. Stan Jenkins moderates the Session. Current Ruling Elders may serve up to two consecutive, three-year terms. The January activities included:

Membership

Removed the following people from church membership: Paul Hajjar, Karissa Bonawitz, Patrick Bonner, Robert Bonner, Melinda Cree, Wanda Hand, Dale Hoke, Gail Hoke, Marguerite Kohl, Laura Mumper, Ray Shearer, Andrew Steffen, Jake Thiessen, Karen Williams, and Patrick Williams.

Funds

Designate committees to be responsible for recommend the use of the following funds to the Session:

- Arts on the Square Committee - Arts on the Square Fund
- Minister of Music - Arlene Hershey Music Fund, Baker Easter Music Fund, Bell Choir Fund, Choral Scholars Fund, Christmas Music Memorial Fund, Lou and Russell Drane Memorial Music Fund, Special Music Fund
- Homelessness Task Force of Faith and Justice as recommending possible uses to Faith and Justice - Eleanor Allen Fund for the Homeless, Market Square Homelessness Initiatives Fund
- Poinsettia/Lilly Fund- the Financial Administrator will use to pay for any unpaid flowers remains and recommend to Session that remaining funds be transferred to the Abiding Memorial Fund.

STEWARDSHIP

2025 Actual \$456,262

2025 Budget \$480,000

Deficit -\$ 23,738

Although 2025 pledge revenue fell short of expectations, we remain optimistic and forward-looking as we step into 2026. We ended the year on a strong note, consistently exceeding 100 unique donors each month—a remarkable accomplishment that coincides with Stan's arrival and the renewed energy he has brought to our community.

We also celebrated the successful completion of the Masonry Restoration Project, an important milestone in caring for our historic campus. And while our investments closed the year with a slight decline, it is encouraging to note that without regular draws—and the necessary expenses of both the RRR and Masonry projects—our portfolio would have reflected a gain of \$925,640, a positive indicator of long-term financial health.

After six years of faithful commitment, we concluded our Restore Renew Rejoice Campaign with outstanding success. This achievement, like so many others, was made possible by the generosity and dedication of our community. Without our generous donors, Market Square could not continue its meaningful work.

We are deeply grateful for your support throughout the year—thank you for sustaining Market Square's mission and ministries.

Michelle Sheaffer, Financial Administrator, Market Square Presbyterian Church, 717-257-1270 x17

Organization

Elected Cindy Bendroth as Clerk of Session. Designated new chairs for Session committees: Worship - Lana Walmer; Archives - Cindy Bendroth; Arts on the Square - Beth Hager; Nominating Committee - Steve McMullen; Education - Barb Jewett; Faith and Justice-Dale Laninga; Outreach and Marketing - Andrew Hunter; Anti-Racism - Beth Cate-Freeman; Ecology Action - Debbie Olson; Homelessness/Unhoused - Dale Laninga; Peacemaking - Jen McKenna.

As of January 20, 2026 there were 339 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.

Re-Imagining Planned Giving



Over the coming months, we'll be re-energizing our planned giving program. Before we begin, we want to broaden our vision of what planned giving really is. Most of us see it as a gift of some of our assets that we plan in the future, usually after we are no longer using them, usually after our lifetime. It's much better than that: For most of us, its reality is that it is the most transformative gift to our mission that most of us can ever make.

It's much better. It's not what you expect. Watch for upcoming factoids to bend your ideas of what planned giving is and who makes planned gifts. Let's start with the most common perception!

ASSUMPTION: Planned Giving is only for wealthy people.

ANSWER: True or False? (Find out next time!)

A Nation of Immigrants

By John Taylor

As we celebrate the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, it may be time to refamiliarize ourselves with the nation's founding document – the entire document, not just the part about all men being created equal with the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

The declaration also listed a number of grievances which the American colonists had against the British king, George III, including his restriction on the number of non-British immigrants entering what soon would become the United States.

“He (the king) has endeavoured to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migration hither, and raising the condition of new Appropriations of Lands.”

So wrote Thomas Jefferson during that steamy hot Philadelphia summer of 1776, words that would eventually form part of the declaration adopted by the Continental Congress on July 4.

So what was the issue? The colonists, many of whom already were calling themselves Americans rather than British, saw open borders and population growth as a key to economic expansion. However, this could only occur with an influx of settlers from other countries, such as Germany, France, Spain, the Netherlands, and Scandinavia.

Indeed, foreign immigration has been a major source of population growth and cultural enrichment throughout our history. All Americans can trace their ancestry to immigrants from elsewhere except for a small percent of what we call American Indians or Native Americans.

Today, the United States has more foreign-born immigrants than any other country, more than 53 million, or 16 percent

of our total population. Two-thirds of those allowed into the U.S. are either the relatives of American citizens or family-sponsored. Most of the rest are let in because of their job skills or because they are refugees fleeing war or oppression.

Research suggests that immigration is on the whole beneficial to the nation's economy. Moreover, immigrants are less likely to commit crimes than native-born Americans. Also, first- and second-generation immigrants are more easily assimilated into American culture than is the case in most other Western countries.

Nevertheless, the economic, social and political aspects of immigration have caused controversy over the years regarding such issues as ethnic balance, job security, settlement patterns, impact on upward mobility, voting behavior, and crime.

Still we remain, in the words of President John F. Kennedy, a "nation of immigrants." As James Madison said during debate over the adoption of our constitution: "That part of America which has encouraged immigration has advanced most rapidly in population, agriculture and the arts."

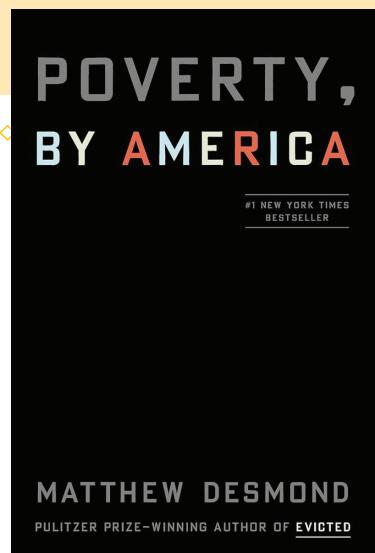
And in 1795, President George Washington said in a thanksgiving prayer for the nation: We **"beseech the kind Author of these blessings...to render this country more and more a safe and propitious asylum for the unfortunate of other countries."**

Finally, these words inscribed on the Statue of Liberty: ***“Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, the wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me. I lift my lamp beside the golden door!”***

Additional Educational Opportunity

Poverty by America by Matthew Desmond presents poverty as we know it in America as a choice that we've made. Desmond highlights the ways Americans have consistently voted for policies that lead to poverty even when that doesn't align with their stated values. The good news is when we are aware of these patterns it's possible to choose differently. This book can help us dig deeper into what it means for our church, as a Matthew 25 Church to work for the eradication of systemic poverty. ***This Lent we'll have an opportunity to read this book together as a church culminating with a discussion time and luncheon on March 22.***

If you'd like a copy of the book get in touch with Nancy in the church office (sheets@marketsquarechurch.org) to get a copy.



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ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

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Dr. Bob Ross presented the adult forum on January 25 via Zoom. Dr. Ross is a tenured professor at Point Park University and the Rev Anne Ross' son. Here are some links he shared during the class.

PJN's website: <https://thepjn.org/>

Donate to PJN: <https://thepjn.org/donations>

Contact PJN: info@thePjn.org

Preview the Kairos Palestine II study guide:
<https://shorturl.at/5HE7v>

Overture on recognizing the genocide in Gaza:
<https://www.pc-biz.org/search/3001425>

Overture on embarguing Israel: <https://shorturl.at/va2Hi>

PC(USA) policies/actions related to Palestine/Israel: <https://thepjn.org/pkusapolicies>

Learn more about Palestine/Israel: <https://shorturl.at/7ZSq7>

January 25, 2026 Market Square PC slides: <https://shorturl.at/6Qf4f>



Sunday Services

Korean Language Service—9:30 a.m.
in the 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/xeBH1>

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