THE Marketplace

MARKET SQUARE
Presbyterian Church
A Beacon of Hope on the Square

NOVEMBER 2026 | 717.257.1270 | marketsquarechurch.org



Rev. Stanley Jenkins
Pastor, Head of Staff

As the leaves start changing, the days get shorter, and ever more strange things get flavored with pumpkin spice, I inevitably turn my thoughts to family. Thanksgiving is just around the corner and this year, as with pretty much every year since I've been ordained, my own family will be scattered. My sister lives in Mexico and my mother is in Idaho. Once more, we won't be able to share a family feast.

I wonder how many of you are far from family, or perhaps estranged? I'm grateful that Leslie and I will spend Thanksgiving with her twin brother. That's one of the reasons we decided to leave Michigan: to be closer to family. But it does make me feel sad, especially after losing my father last year on Thanksgiving, that my own family will not be able to be together.

It does highlight for me, however, just how grateful I am to have a church family. Growing up we were always far away from our relatives, so the church was always our extended family. I am thankful for Market Square and I am thankful for being a part of God's family scattered across the world. I'm mindful of Jacob's cry in the book of Genesis, "Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!" Wherever God is, there is home.

Leslie and I wish you all a blessed Thanksgiving! Thank you for letting us be part of your church family.

STEWARDSHIP

We continue to be blessed by the generosity of our congregation and supporters. As we enter the fall season, total pledges for 2026 have reached **$388,220**, which is tracking slightly ahead of budget. We are deeply grateful for this strong response and for the faithful commitment of so many donors.

While this is encouraging news, we must remain mindful of our overall **2026 pledge goal of $500,000**. In recent years, pledge income has fallen short of budget projections, making every commitment especially important as we move toward year-end.

If you have not yet fulfilled your pledge, or if you are considering making a gift, we encourage you to do so. Every pledge, regardless of size, plays a vital role in supporting the ministries and mission of our church.

Thank you for your continued generosity, faithfulness, and support. Together, we are making a meaningful difference, and we are grateful for each and every donor who helps sustain our ministry.

Michelle Sheaffer, *Financial Administrator*

Congregational Meeting

To elect church officers for 2027

The session has called a congregational meeting following the 11 am worship service on Sunday, **November 15, 2026**. The purpose of the meeting is to elect church officers to serve in 2027 and to elect members of the 2027 Nominating Committee.

Harvest Pie Sunday November 22



Calling All Bakers!

Share your signature pie with us on November 22! Join us following worship for a little fellowship and a lot of homemade deliciousness as we gather to enjoy a wonderful variety of pies.

Bringing a pie? Please drop it off in the atrium before worship. Someone will be there to take care of your delicious contribution until it's time to dig in!

We can't wait to see (and taste!) what you bake!



Rev. Allison Smith
Supply Associate Pastor

Visio Divina

The practice of Visio Divina is a newer one for me and it has taken some getting used to. I tend to connect more readily with words than images, and I imagine that's the case for many of us Presbyterians! That said, although this practice has been a stretch for me, it has also been deeply meaningful.

It comes to us originally from the Eastern Orthodox tradition and is traditionally done using the beautiful icons that come out of that tradition like the one shown here. That said, the practice is now used by people of many different denominations and using artwork of various different styles.

If you'd like to try it the first step is to find a piece of artwork. You could choose a traditional icon, or simply type a story, or person from scripture into a search engine and do an image search to see if there's anything that strikes you.



Holy Trinity, Hospitality of Abraham by Andrei Rublev

To begin your prayer, find a quiet place, sit calmly and quietly with the art before you and take some deep breaths calming your body and noting that God's presence is with you now. You may begin by reading the scripture on which the art is based or simply placing the image in front of you and beginning to look at it. Pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, ask that the Spirit would open the eyes of your heart to see beyond the surface of the image. When you are ready, gaze upon the artwork in front of you. Notice any details that stand out to you. Take the image in slowly, gently allowing your eyes to move over the image, taking in color, shape, texture. Notice what emotions are stirred in your heart. Don't try to make meaning, instead approach the art with curiosity and openness. As you continue to gaze spend time looking at the image as a whole, and also going deeper noticing small details and paying attention to where your eyes are drawn. Notice what seems most important to you about the image and wonder what you are learning about where God is calling you and how you might be invited to respond. You can spend a few moments talking to God about this or remain in silence simply receiving God's loving care. When your prayer time is at an end become aware of your gratitude for all God is doing and has done, and any new vision you have gained in your prayer time. Return your gaze to the room around you.

This Advent we'll be having an online Advent retreat throughout the season. Each week we'll have Visio Divina practice you can participate in. Keep an eye out in the bulletin and *The Beacon Light* for more information about the online retreat!



Share the Love!

Don't forget to "Like" Market Square on Facebook and Instagram! There you'll find lots of updates on church events and happenings, as well as clips from worship services, inspiring quotes, and the occasional bit of hilarity. :)

You're Invited!

THE Beacon Society
Market Square Presbyterian Church

Annual Celebration Breakfast

Join us for the Annual Beacon Society Celebration Breakfast Saturday, November 7, from 9:00–11:00 a.m. at Dame Leadership (350 Poplar Church Road).

Free parking is available next to the entrance, and an elevator provides access to the Dame Leadership office.

Enjoy a light breakfast as we:

- **Share updates on the Beacon Society and Endowment Fund.**
- **Review the current uses of the Endowment Fund.**
- **Hear Rev. Stan Jenkins present "A Mission Vision for the Endowment Fund."**

Please RSVP to Nancy Sheets so we can plan for breakfast and seating. *We look forward to seeing you on November 7!*

Session Update - September/October 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 2026 Session:

Terms Expiring in 2026	Terms Expiring in 2027	Terms Expiring in 2028
Cindy Bendroth (2nd term)	Sandy Bell (2nd term)	Beth Cate-Freeman (2nd term)
Kristin Cassell (1st term)	Betsy Cobb (1st term)	Beth Hager (2nd term)
Dale Laninga (2nd term)	Andrew Hunter (2nd term)	Cherstin Hamel (1st term)
Dave Lehman (2nd term)	Steve McMullen (1st term)	Barb Jewett (1st term)
David Volkman (1st term)	Lana Walmer (1st term)	

The September and October activities included:

Communion

Approved the Worship Committee's Communion calendar for 2027.

Music Program

Approved spending $4,200 from the Drane Fund to cover the costs of the instrumentalists for Fauré's *Requiem* which the choir will be singing in worship on Sunday, November 1.

Bible Study

Approved a request from Emmanuel Dugar to use the Knox Room on Sunday mornings for weekly Bible study, prayer, and fellowship in French and Haitian Creole, subject to the church's normal facility-use and security policies and a Memorandum of Understanding.

Homelessness Taskforce

Session approved holding "listening sessions" in order to hear the congregation and discuss Market Square's Homeless ministry.

As of October 20, 2026 there were 326 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.

A Congregational Conversation on *Welcome & Balance*

Sunday, December 6, at 12:30 p.m. | Fellowship Hall



Following worship, please join us for a light lunch and an important congregational conversation about how Market Square can continue to welcome and support our unhoused neighbors while caring for the needs of our entire church community.

Grounded in our mission and our identity as a Matthew 25 church, this gathering will be an opportunity to listen, share perspectives, and discern together how we move forward with compassion, consistency, and care. We'll learn more about the ways Market Square currently serves our unhoused neighbors and participate in small-group discussions about how we can best live out our calling while maintaining a welcoming, safe, and respectful environment for everyone who enters our doors: members, visitors, and unhoused neighbors.

This is a chance to listen to one another with open hearts, deepen our understanding, and thoughtfully explore how we can best balance the needs of our congregation and our unhoused neighbors while remaining true to our mission. The ideas and insights shared will help our Homelessness Task Force develop a plan for moving forward.

Please mark your calendar and plan to join us. Your voice and perspective matter as we discern the next steps in this important ministry.

Music Notes



Tyler Canonico-Dilley
Minister of Music & Worship

Dear friends,

November begins with **All Saints' Sunday** – a beautiful opportunity in the life of the Church to pause and remember those who have gone before us in faith. We give thanks for the lives of the saints – those whose love, witness, and presence have shaped us – and we remember that, even in death, we remain part of the communion of saints. One of the most unique ways the Church gives voice to this remembrance is through the singing of a *Requiem*. A *Requiem* is a musical setting of texts traditionally associated with prayers for the dead. Unlike much of the music we encounter in worship, a *Requiem* allows us to sit honestly with the realities of death, grief, remembrance, and hope. Through music, we give expression to emotions that can sometimes be difficult to put into words. At the same time, the singing of a *Requiem* is not simply an act of mourning; it is an act of faith. We remember the dead while proclaiming our trust in God's mercy and the hope of new life.

This All Saints' Sunday, we will hear Gabriel Fauré's beloved *Requiem*. His setting is distinctive for its gentleness and profound sense of peace. Rather than dwelling on the terror of judgment and death, Fauré emphasizes rest, light, mercy, and paradise. His *Requiem* offers a musical vision of death not as an ending to be feared, but as a passage into the eternal peace of God. Maybe his *Requiem* is perhaps most remarkable for its final movement, *In Paradisum*, in which the choir sings of the angels leading the departed into paradise. The music seems to rise effortlessly toward heaven, offering a fitting conclusion to a work that is ultimately less about death than it is about hope.

On Sunday, November 8, both **the Market Square Ringers and the Children's Choir** will return to worship! November 22 is **Christ the King Sunday** and a brass and percussion ensemble will join the choir in helping us celebrate and recognize the Reign of Christ. And just like that, Advent has returned. November 29 is **Advent 1** and we have a special and moving season planned this year.

Arts on the Square's next concert is **Sunday, November 8 at 4 p.m.** and features **The Harrisburg Camerata**. The Camerata formed from the pandemic days when the "Quarantine Choir" was singing for our radio broadcast each week. The group has had some personnel changes and has a stellar program of incredible choral music planned. I hope you will join us on November 8th for a gorgeous choral concert.

Peace and love,
Tyler

Sanctuary Choir Repertoire for November:

November 1 (All Saints' Sunday) – "Requiem" by Gabriel Fauré and Daniel Gawthrop's beloved "Sing me to Heaven"
November 8 (24th Sunday after Pentecost) – "My Lord, What A Morning" by Robert Hobby and "Keep Your Lamps" by André Thomas
November 15 (25th Sunday after Pentecost) – David Schwoebel's arrangement of "It Is Well with My Soul" and "Blessed Are Those Servants" by David Hurd
November 22 (Chris the King) – "The Kingdom" by André Thomas and "Crown Him with Many Crowns" by Dan Forrest
November 29 (Advent I) – "People, Look East" by Craig Courtney and "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers" by Adam Gumpeltzhaimer





Harpsichord Repair

At right: ***Market Square Presbyterian Church is updating its harpsichord!*** The action of the Hubbard and Broekman instrument, built in 1990, has become a bit the worse for wear and so choir member **Barry Lockard**, who is also a harpsichordist and harpsichord technician, has undertaken the work of replacing it. As the firm Hubbard and Broekman Harpsichords is no longer in business the old plastic jacks have been discarded and new wooden jacks, which are more historically authentic, are taking their place. We are looking forward to a restored, refreshed, and refined instrument!



NOV 8 4:00 PM

Harrisburg Camerata Concert

The Harrisburg Camerata, one of Central Pennsylvania's newest choral ensembles, began as the "Quarantine Choir." Artistic Director and Founder Tyler Canonico-Dilley will lead the ensemble in a program featuring a variety of stunning choral works. The choir will be accompanied by a chamber orchestra.

Details at artsonthesquare.net

A donation of $15 in support of Arts on the Square is suggested.

Complimentary parking is provided in the adjacent Market Square Garage.

arts ON THE Square
Market Square Presbyterian Church

MARKET SQUARE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH | 20 S. 2ND STREET | HARRISBURG

Two Magnificent Concerts from Arts On The Square!

A HARRISBURG TRADITION

Carols By Candlelight

Sunday, December 13, 4 p.m.

Market Square Presbyterian Church
20 S. 2nd Street • Harrisburg

FIRST HALF: Part 1 of Handel's *Messiah*
SECOND HALF: Christmas songs, candlelighting, 32-piece orchestra, dancers from The Studio, and more. K-5 are invited to participate in Kids' Corner during the first half.

Sponsored by the Carole DeSoto Foundation and Debra Yates.

artsonthesquare.net

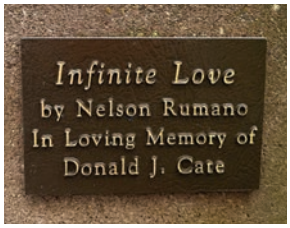
Donation of $20 in support of Arts on the Square is suggested. $40 advance preferred seating

Complimentary parking provided in the adjacent Market Square Garage.

The Studio
Growing beautiful dancers with Grace

arts ON THE Square
Market Square Presbyterian Church

Infinite Love: Remembering and Being Remembered at Market Square



If you've walked through the courtyard outside the Atrium, you've probably noticed the stone sculpture that stands between the two sections of Market Square's columbarium. Recently, David Volkman gave the sculpture a much-needed cleaning, offering a fresh opportunity to appreciate this beautiful and meaningful part of our church.

Titled *Infinite Love*, the sculpture was created by Zimbabwean artist Nelson Rumano, whose work includes stone carvings in the Shona sculptural tradition. Carved from serpentine stone from Zimbabwe, the sculpture depicts three figures in a gentle, eternal embrace. The original columbarium brochure explains that the work represents *mudiro*, the love of family, and *ukama*, an expansive love that embraces all humanity.

The sculpture was dedicated in memory of Donald James Cate, a longtime and deeply involved member of Market Square. Don served our congregation as a Deacon, Elder and Trustee, taught Sunday School, led youth activities, sang in the choir and chaired the Investment Committee. He was also active in numerous community organizations, giving generously of his time and talents. Don died suddenly in January 2008. His wife, Sara Jane, and daughter, Ruling Elder Elisabeth (Beth) Cate-Freeman, remain part of his story at Market Square.

The columbarium was dedicated during worship on November 23, 2008. Its creation reflected a desire to provide a place at the church for remembrance and committal, continuing the congregation's care for its members beyond death. The *Infinite Love* sculpture has been part of the space from the beginning.



A Place for Remembrance

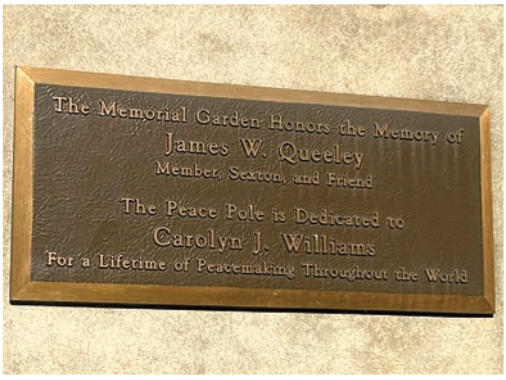
Market Square's columbarium offers two ways to remember loved ones. Individual niches, designed to hold the cremated remains of one person, are available for $1,500. Each niche includes a bronze nameplate bearing the person's name and dates of birth and death.

There is also a memorial plaque near the columbarium gate. It honors deceased members of Market Square whose remains have been laid to rest elsewhere. This provides an opportunity to remember loved ones who are buried in a cemetery or whose ashes have been scattered or placed in another location.

Whether you are considering a niche or simply wish to learn more about the memorial plaque, the columbarium offers a lasting way to honor those whose lives have been part of our church community.

For more information about either option, please contact the church office.

Nancy Sheets,
Ministry Support Administrator









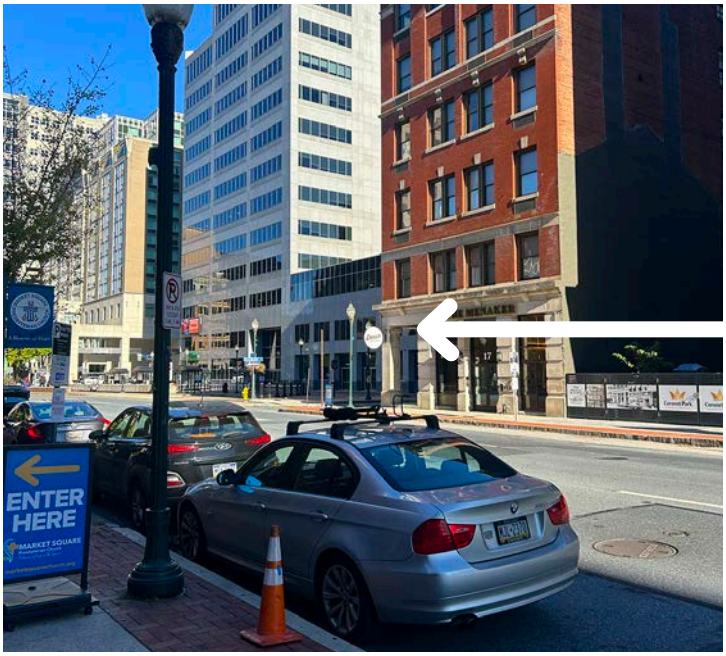
Greenwashing

Several months ago, the Ecology Action Committee initiated a program to recycle oral health waste products and packaging. We had studied recycling of plastics and learned that very small amounts of plastics end up being recycled. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency reported that in 2018, it was 8.7% of produced plastics that year were recycled. This was computed based on the generation of 35,680 tons of plastics, with 3,090 tons recycled, 5,620 tons combusted for energy generation, and 26,970 tons ending in landfills.

Most plastics come from crude oil and natural gas. Extracting and refining these resources releases greenhouse gases and toxic pollutants into the air and water, thus exposing populations to the air and water pollution and greenhouse gases associated with fossil fuel use. Knowing how little plastic material is recycled, we were excited to learn that the Colgate company offered a free recycling program. We thought it was a great idea to have the company bear the cost of disposal of their products. They offered free shipping to a recycling location, and as a backup that there were drop-off locations, including one in Harrisburg. As it turned out, neither of these options were actually available, and **we have since concluded that Colgate is practicing "greenwashing,"** making their company sound sustainable without having concrete actions that actually promote sustainability.

Thank you to those of you who brought your oral health products in support of this initiative. We will continue to look for ways to support our church and its congregation to live sustainably on this beautiful earth home.

Janet Braugh, *Ecology Action Committee*



EARTH WISDOM: WIND USE FOR CLEAN ENERGY

- Wind energy is a clean, renewable resource that generates electricity without emitting greenhouse gases or air pollution
- Wind power harnesses atmospheric air currents to spin turbine blades, converting kinetic energy (energy due to motion) into electricity through an internal generator.
- Wind power energy offers low operational costs, creates job opportunities, and uses land efficiently by allowing farming or grazing to continue around the turbines.
- Wind turbines can be placed on land or in off shore waters.
- Wind power is a fast growing, zero emission, renewable energy source. — **Chuck Smith**

NOV 1st



On All Saints Sunday, we remember with gratitude the lives of these beloved members of the Market Square family who have died since last year's observance.

Rev. Lois Nell Richwine
February 10, 1943 – November 16, 2025
Roger Olson
March 5, 1935 – December 7, 2025
Scott David Tornblom
October 27, 1964 – March 4, 2026
Patty LaRue Gordon
July 14, 1946 – March 5, 2026
Daniel Graham
March 13, 1940 – March 22, 2026
Suzette L. Moore
December 9, 1955 – July 2, 2026
Sandra Cameron
April 11, 1948 – July 3, 2026
Daniel Kim Davis
January 14, 1969 – September 19, 2026
Bess Lenore Jafvert
January 9, 1930 – October 22, 2026

Another New Neighbor!

In September, MSPC hosted its annual picnic right across the street at the new Coronet Park. Now there is another new business located across the street from us: Denim Coffee. The company began in 2011 with the sole purpose of brewing exceptional coffee. The owners have since opened a number of locations including Harrisburg, Lancaster, York, and Chambersburg. Denim Coffee gets stellar reviews online. Check them out before or after church sometime, and be sure to tell them, *"Weclome to the neighborhood!"*

Our Church Family

From Joyce Keiffer: *"Thank you MSPC for supporting me at the Chocolate Town Book Fest. Anne Ross stopped to say hello and later Dave Minnich. I'm so grateful to be part of this loving congregation."*

A note from Rev. Judd and Peggy McConnell: *"We want to express our thanks to those who continue to refresh us with their love and concern through calls and cards. Each Sunday, we look for those whom we can identify as we worship with the Community of Faith at MSPC via the internet live."*

We offer our love and condolences to the Jafvert family. Bess Jafvert, the widow of former pastor Don Jafvert, died on October 22, 2026.

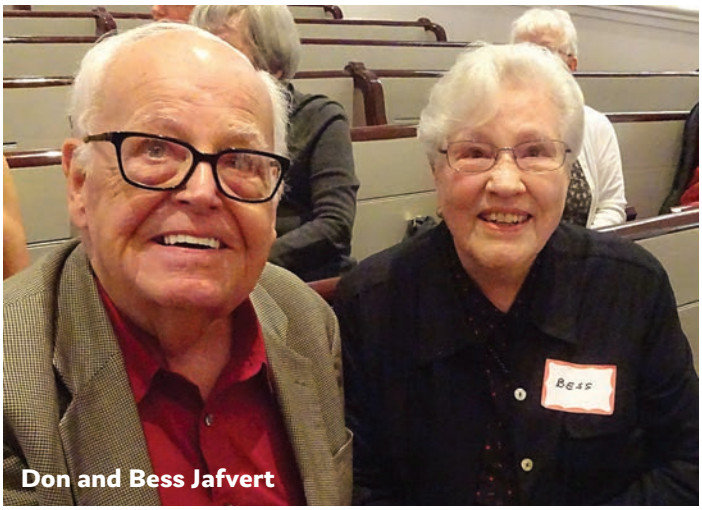
One of the joys of being part of a church family is having so many reasons to celebrate one another! Since the last newsletter, Jonelle and Tom Darr marked 30 years of marriage, Tom Williams celebrated his 90th birthday (if you're reading this before October 31, you still have time to get a card in the mail) , and Andrew Hunter and his teammates made *Guinness World Records* history by playing pickleball continuously for 51 hours! We're so happy to share in these special moments and celebrate the people who make our church family so special. Congratulations to all!



Joyce Keiffer, left
Rev. Anne Ross, right

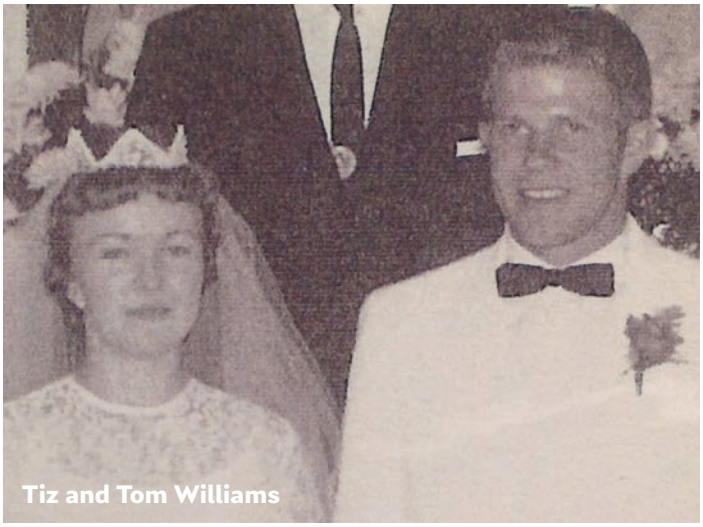


Judd and Peggy McConnell



Don and Bess Jafvert


Jonelle and Tom Darr


Tiz and Tom Williams

Caregiver Support Group Beginning November 14



A caregiver is anyone who helps another person who is in need, whether that person is an ill spouse, partner or an aging friend or relative. Caring for a loved one can feel very good, but the demands of caregiving can also cause emotional and physical stress. It is not uncommon to feel short tempered, frustrated, worn out, and isolated. Caregiver stress can tax even the most resilient people and can lead to caregiver burnout.

It is important for caregivers to know that since they are the ones holding everything together, they pay a high price, including putting their own health at risk. To be more effective caregivers, they need to prioritize their own health and well-being. Being a part of a support group allows one to know other caregivers who know what they are dealing with. They can help you solve problems and cheer you on.

A new **Caregiver Support Group begins at Market Square Church on Saturday, November 14, at 10:30 am in the parlor.** This monthly group will be facilitated by Rev. Anne Ross. Contact her with questions (amross0611@gmail.com).

Epic Bike Trip

Rev. Allison and her dad and brother started out at the Point in Pittsburgh and rode their bikes east to Cumberland, MD.







At the end of September, Rev. Allison enjoyed a special getaway with her dad and brother, biking from Pittsburgh to Cumberland, Maryland, along the Great Allegheny Passage.

The three took in the beautiful scenery and, best of all, enjoyed some wonderful time together. Allison reports they had an amazing time!

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Market Square Merch for the Holidays!



Looking for a little something special for the holidays? Market Square has an online storefront featuring shirts, mugs, tote bags, and more celebrating our faith community! Whether you're shopping for yourself or looking for a gift, it's a fun way to share a little Market Square with the people in your life.

A quick note about how it works: This isn't a fundraiser, and the church doesn't make much money from these sales. The items are printed on demand and shipped by the company that hosts our storefront, so Market Square doesn't purchase or keep inventory. Prices are based on the company's pricing, with a small amount added to round them up.

Think of it as a way to wear your Market Square pride, share a little love, and let others know what makes this community so special!

https://www.bonfire.com/store/market-square-presbyterian-church

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/v8eqr

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