

4 Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet
chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵ like living stones, let
yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood,
to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 2:4-5



Abington Presbyterian Church

May 7, 2023

10:00 a.m. Celebration Worship

Fifth Sunday of Easter

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Fifth Sunday of Easter May 7, 2023

GATHERING

The people gather wherever they may in response to God's call, offering praise in words of scripture, prayer, and song. The people acknowledge their sinfulness and receive the good news of God's forgiveness.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP *A time for quiet preparation before worship*

Almighty God, we pray for your blessing on the church in this place.
Here may the doubting find faith, and the anxious be encouraged.
Here may the weary find rest, and the strong be renewed.
Here may the aged find consolation and the young be inspired;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRELUDE

Dove of Peace

William Witherup

LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

CALL TO WORSHIP

In your wisdom, O God, you call us here to worship you.
We gather, alive to the Word of God.
You call us to be fully alive with your life abundant,
ready to listen and respond with heart, soul, strength, and mind.
We listen, alive to the Word of God.
You call us to be always watchful for your Word of wisdom,
sometimes startling and unexpected,
sometimes still and quiet,
but always dwelling among us.
We watch and wait for the Word of God.
Let us worship God!

***HYMN 327**

From All That Dwell Below the Skies

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

(* - Indicates all who are able may stand)

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Almighty God, we confess how hard it is to be your people.
You have called us to be the church,
to continue the mission of Jesus Christ to our lonely and confused world.
Yet we acknowledge we are more apathetic than active,
isolated than involved, callous than compassionate,
obstinate than obedient, legalistic than loving.
Gracious Lord, have mercy upon us and forgive our sins.
Remove the obstacles preventing us
from being your representatives to a broken world.
Awaken our hearts to the promised gift of your indwelling Spirit.
This we pray in Jesus' powerful name. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*HYMN OF PRAISE 233, v.3

The Day of Resurrection!

LANCASHIRE

**3 Now let the heavens be joyful; let earth its song begin;
the round world keep high triumph and all that is therein.
Let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend,
for Christ the Lord has risen, our joy that has no end.**

*THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Greet one another with the sign of Christ's peace.

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

ANTHEM

The Living Word

Austin Lovelace

Come with singing; come with laughter; Come with joy before the Lord,
For the Word of God is living! Sharper than a two-edged sword,
Quick and powerful the Word is. Every Word of God is pure,
Full of grace and truth and wisdom. Evermore it shall endure.

Sweeter than the taste of honey is the message that God gives.
God is speaking to the people, Telling us He lives! He lives!
Now my heart his Word is reaching. With my heart I hear his voice.
Life He brings. Oh soul receive Him. Sound his praise. Rejoice! Rejoice!

WORD

God's Word is read and its message is proclaimed in scripture, music and interpretation.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

All Grades are dismissed to Sunday School

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Peter 2:2-10

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING

John 14:1-12

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

WHO ARE YOU?

The Rev. Dr. James W. Thornton

*HYMN 297

In Christ Called to Baptize

ST. DENIO

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from *The Confession of 1967*

To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as God's reconciling community. This community, the church universal, is entrusted with God's message of reconciliation and shares God's labor of healing the enmities which separate people from God and from each other. Christ has called the church to this mission and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit. The church maintains continuity with the apostles and with Israel by faithful obedience to his call. The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. His life as a human involves the church in the common life of people. His service to humanity commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all the sufferings of humankind so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of people in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on our inhumanity to humankind and the awful consequences of its own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of humanity's life in society and of God's victory over all wrong.

THANKSGIVING and SENDING

*After the proclamation of God's Word, we respond with gratitude prepared to go
into the world where we are called to live according to God's will.*

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY

Canon of Praise

Natalie Sleeth

Praise Him, O praise Him, O come ye people, Praise the Lord forever.
Sing praises to His holy name.

To the God of glory loudest praise now bring,
Source of our salvation, our Eternal King.

Praise Him, praise him, praise the Lord forever.
Come and praise Him, come and praise the Lord.

*DOXOLOGY

HYMN 606

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We glorify your name and lift our voices in joyful praise:

HYMN

Holy, Holy, Holy

*Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again.

We join together in the prayer Christ taught his disciples, saying:

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

RECEIVING OF ELEMENTS

COMMUNION HYMN 515

I Come With Joy

DOVE OF PEACE

PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

*HYMN 309

Come, Great God of All the Ages

ABBOT'S LEIGH

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

St. Denio

J. Bert Carlson

Worship Leaders:

Preacher: The Rev. Dr. James W. Thornton

Liturgist: Sandy Bishop

Children's Message: Ruth Sall

Chapel Choir: John Sall & Ruth Sall, co-directors

Chancel Choir: John Sall

Organ: Erik Meyer

Gluten free communion bread will be available in front of the lectern.

Hearing assistant devices are available in the Narthex, please see an usher for assistance.

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In need of special prayers this week: Doris Boerner, Helen Porter (mother of Joe Porter), Suzy Paravla (daughter of Susan Davis), Linda Maisenhelder, Will Pompilli (son of Teresa Pompilli), Wayne Gibbons, Jr., Judy Meissner, Susan Johnson, John and Phyllis Frazier, Robin Cupo, Laura Lafferty, Emil Kupper, Victor Johnson III (Pete Johnson's nephew), Laurie Betts, Sally Hardy, Katie Link, Jennifer Edward (friend of Nick Cupo), Karen Dirks, Marilyn DeBacco (mother of Barb Foy), Ted Hyczko, Peter Mason (John Waters' nephew), Shawn London (William Coles' daughter), Bill Kostik (Shelia Jackson's brother), Gordy Hawkinson (Nick Cupo's Uncle), Jen Klauder (friend of Cindi Willis), Valerie Steigerwalt (niece of Marlyn Whyte), Peggy Savage, John Connelly (friend of Joanne and Jeff Bates), Jim Holman (friend of Joanne and Jeff Bates), Paul Costello Family, Mary Ann Wherry, Kirby Lawrence Hill, Miriam Whitten, Carol Young (friend of Bill Gustafson), Gina Marshall (Cynthia Browna's sister-in-law), Bob Browna (Len Browna's brother).

For Pastoral Care: To notify the church of an illness, hospitalization, death, or to request prayer, contact a minister or call your Deacon or the Church Office at (215) 887-4530.



Abington Presbyterian Church celebrates God's infinite love and believes all people are equal in the eyes of God. We welcome all to worship and serve with us. We seek to work together to oppose intolerance, racism, and injustice that threaten the unity of humankind.

ABINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Founded 1714

1082 Old York Road, Abington, PA 19001

Phone: (215) 887-4530 Fax: (215) 887-5988 E-mail: jthornton@apcusa.org

Web Site: www.apcusa.org

James W. Thornton, Head of Staff

Tia McCoun, Congregational Care Associate

Ruth Ideen-Sall, Interim Director of Christian Education

John Sall, Director of Music Ministries

Eric Meyer, Organist

Ashley Rossi & Justin Feil, Youth Fellowship Coordinators

ABINGTON PRESBYTERIAN LIFE

May 7 2023

10:00 AM				
AGE/GRADE	ROOM	TEACHER	TOPIC	Pick Up
Birth- 2 year olds	110-112	Childcare	Childcare	110-112
Preschool	221	Amanda Pompilli	Zacheaus	221
K-2nd Grades	Kitchen	Mariam Freeman	Cooking	Parish Hall
3rd-5th Grades	Youth Lounge (72)	Connie Allgyer	Drama	Parish Hall

Children ages 30 months through 5th grade attend Sunday School during the 10am service. Preschool classes start at 10am and are listed in the grid. Kindergarten through 5th graders start the worship service with their families and proceed to their classrooms after the Children's Moment. All children are welcome to attend Sunday School. If you are a visitor today, please feel free to accompany your child to his or her classroom.



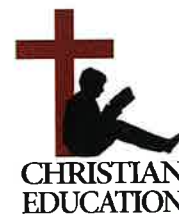
Nursery Care— is offered for children birth through toddler in the nursery and the toddler rooms (110 and 112)

All nursery volunteers will be vaccinated and wearing masks.
Our limit per room is 4 children.

Christian Education Offerings

8:45am

- Middle School Sunday School at 8:45am in the Parish Hall basement. All 6th - 8th graders are welcome to join us.
- Adult Education at 8:45am in the Parlor.
- For more information contact Ruth Sall at 215-887-4530 or rsall@apcusa.org.



Adult Forum Series for Spring: *Being Reformed: Faith Seeking Understanding*

8:45 Sunday mornings, May 7, 14, 21 June 4, 11, 18 in the Parlor.

What does it mean to be a Presbyterian Christian in the world today? God calls us to explore and to work together continually to grow in faith and understanding, but how? Join us in a six-part course, as we explore and celebrate the Reformed and Presbyterian tradition of faith.

We will be using the study guide "Being Reformed: Faith Seeking Understanding" published by the PCUSA. Through readings, discussion, and prayer we will explore aspects of theology, church, worship, spirituality, discipleship, and social righteousness, and how these are significant for our faith.

See Ruth Sall to obtain a copy of the study guide. Extra copies will be available at class time. Sessions will be facilitated by Charlotte Dean and Peter Dykstra and are open to high school age students and adults. Hope you can join us!

Youth News:

Today 5/7/23
Youth group 4-5:30
Dinner 5:30
Choir rehearsal 6-7:15



There is no youth group or choir on 5/14 so all can celebrate Mother's Day.

Put these dates on your calendar to attend.....VBS youth activities.

Following VBS each day will be a youth activity. Whether you are helping out with VBS or not, come be a part of the fun. There is NO COST to attend. Please RSVP to justinfeil4@gmail.com by June 19 if you will be attending.

June 26 - Mini-golf and Dairy Queen

June 27 - Pennypack hike and Rita's

June 28 - Bowling and bowling alley lunch

June 29 - Movie and pizza

BEACH DAY: August 19, 2023 will be APC Youth Beach Day in Ocean City, NJ! Spend the day together at the beach. More details to follow.

Doing some Spring cleaning? If you come across unused greeting cards, notecards, birthday, and sympathy cards, we would appreciate your donations. There is a simple brown box on the filing cabinet outside the office marked "Cards" to place them in. Thank you.

Women's Gathering

Please join us on Thursday, May 11th at 5:30 at the Olive Garden, 2328 Easton Road, Willow Grove. Please RSVP to Sheila Jackson - dljskj@gmail.com.

End-of-Year Picnic info:

June 11th after worship- save the date for the end-of-year church picnic.

On the Church Street lawn, next to the Education Building. Food, fellowship, and fun.

We hope to see you there. More information coming soon!

Congregational Life Council





5th Annual WKM Golf Outing

(Benefiting West Kensington Ministry)



Monday, May 15, 2023

Best Ball / Scramble Format

9:45 a.m. Shot-Gun Start

(Sign-In/Registration starting at 8:45 AM)

~ Five Ponds Golf Club ~

Donation: \$175.00 per player

Includes: Lunch

Greens Fees and Cart

Putting Contest

Hole Prizes, Door Prizes

Post-Tournament Reception

A fun day to benefit a Critical Urban Ministry

Support Opportunities: Sponsor a Hole - \$250

Sponsor or Donate a Prize - \$400 or prize value

Sponsor WKM logo Golf Balls - \$900

Sponsor or Co-Sponsor Golf Outing - \$5000

Sponsor or Co-Sponsor Lunch - \$1500

Sponsor or Co-Sponsor Reception - \$2500

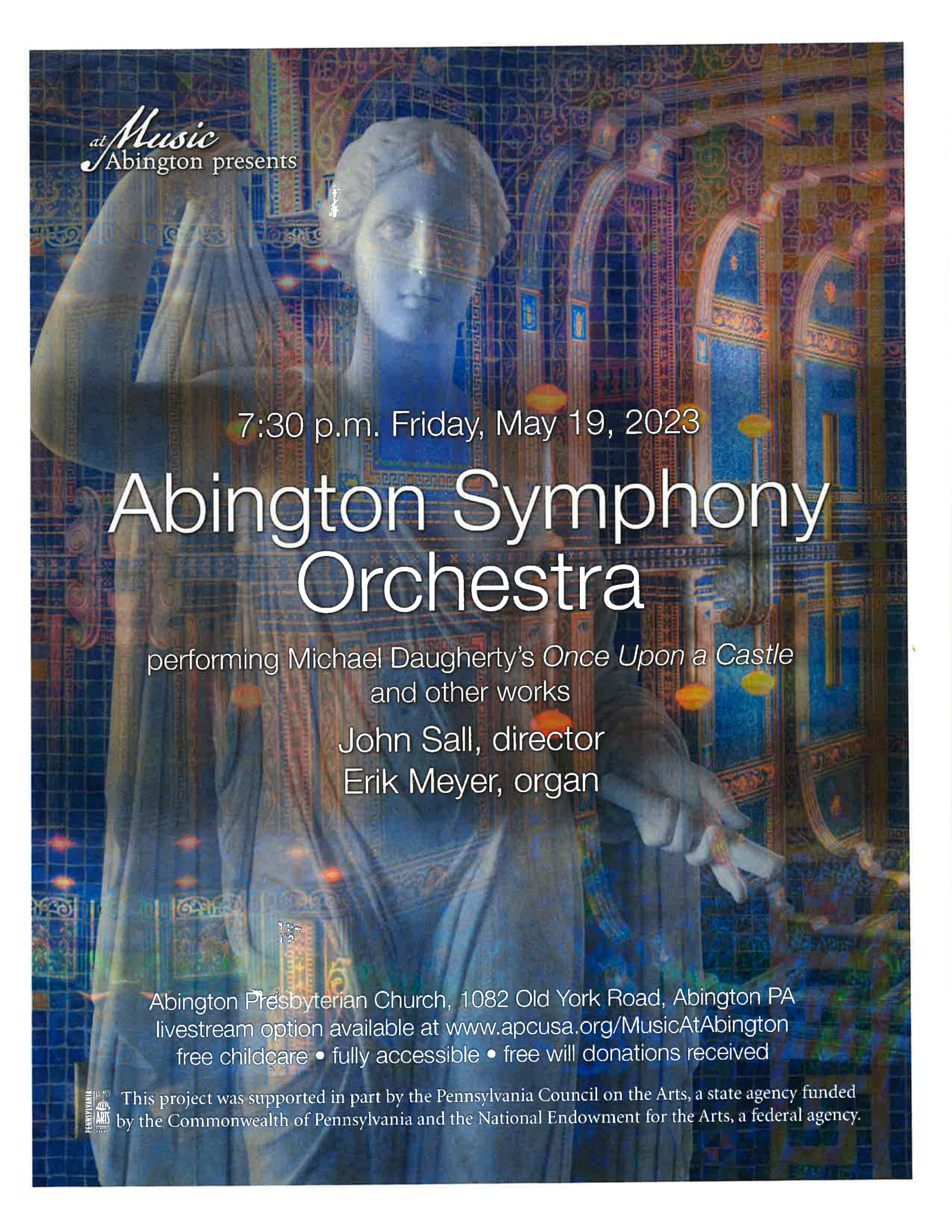
Silent Auction - Bid or Donate an Auction Item

Purchase Mulligans, 50/50 Raffle

To Register: go to www.westkensingtonministry.com

Click on the GREEN "Golfer Registration" icon

It's near the bottom of the home page



at Music
Abington presents

7:30 p.m. Friday, May 19, 2023

Abington Symphony Orchestra

performing Michael Daugherty's *Once Upon a Castle*
and other works

John Sall, director
Erik Meyer, organ

Abington Presbyterian Church, 1082 Old York Road, Abington PA
livestream option available at www.apcusa.org/MusicAtAbington
free childcare • fully accessible • free will donations received



This project was supported in part by the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

Envisioning the Future of APC Survey

The Session at APC has been tasked with designing a plan for the future growth of the church, and your input is essential. Beginning Sunday, April 30 and running through May 7, we invite you to take 5-10 minutes to complete the Envisioning the Future of APC Survey. It will be available in print in the worship bulletin and in electronic form here: <https://forms.gle/xp7TFqu33TiRoWnD9>

If you have ideas for the future growth of APC and would like to chat with the committee, we will be holding listening sessions after worship on April 30 and May 7. We thank you for your input on envisioning the future of our church.

The Envisioning the Future of APC Survey is a joint venture of the Missions Committee and the Congregational Life Committee. This survey was designed by Nick Allgyer, Don Brooks, Cindy Miller, and Suzin Weber on behalf of the Session of APC.



APC Deacons Family Summer Support Food Drive

HUNGER DOESN'T TAKE A VACATION

In support of families in need during the summer, please drop off non-perishable items in the orange food pantry bins. High need items are:

- Dishwasher tablets
- Dish soap
- Laundry detergent tablets
- Cleaning supplies (glass or multi-purpose cleaner)
- Tall kitchen garbage bags
- Ziploc totes, size extra large or jumbo

**MAY 14
TO
MAY 28**

All donations will be dropped off to Family Promise Montco PA

www.fpmontco.org/donate-items

This QR Code takes you to the donation page on our APC website

