

The Frankford Gazette



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VOL. VII, ISSUE 11—JUNE/JULY 2017

Wes and Irene Harvey

By Bob Smiley

In April of 1963, the U.S.S. Thresher, a nuclear submarine, was conducting sea trials about 200 miles East of Cape Cod, Massachusetts. It went silent on April 10th and, after an extensive search, was discovered at the bottom of the sea in 8,400 feet of water. An inquiry concluded that the probable cause was a failure of a weld in the salt water piping system, causing the Thresher to implode in one or more of her compartments. 96 enlisted men, 17 civilian technicians and 16 officers, including Commander Wes Harvey, were lost.

John Wesley Harvey was born in the Bronx, New York on September 24, 1927. His parents, Manning and Anna, had lived in Frankford prior to that time and they returned sometime before 1930. The family, including older brother Manning Jr., first settled into a house in Oxford Circle but soon were living on the 1300 block of Fillmore Street in Frankford.

Wes attended Henry Edmunds Elementary School, Woodrow Wilson Junior High School and Frankford High School and was an honor student throughout. During his high school years, he was a member of the student board, Victory Corps and he also served as advertising manager of the school newspaper. Wes also participated in sports and was a member of the varsity football and baseball

teams. Upon graduating high school, he was awarded the Board of Education Scholarship, with full tuition, to the University of Pennsylvania. He also received the Ellis A. Gimble Citizenship Award and was selected to the "One Hundred Club of Philadelphia" whose members are picked by the school principals and coaches from students having the highest combined standing in scholarship and athletics.

Irene Nagorski grew up in Bridesburg on Edgemont Street and attended Frankford High School where she met the handsome Wes and they became sweethearts. She went on the graduate from the Frankford Hospital School of Nursing.

Wes" was enrolled in the Moore School of Electrical Engineering at

Penn from February 1945 until September 1946, when he won a long-desired appointment to the Naval Academy. While at Penn, Wes maintained honor grades and



Wes suited up at the U.S. Naval Academy



USS Thresher

played varsity football on the same team with Chuck Bednarik. He said later that they both wanted to play Center but Bednarik beat him out for the position and he moved to Guard. During that time he was President of the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity.

His naval career began at the Naval Academy in September 1946, when he was sworn in as a midshipman, class of 1950. During his Academy years, he continued to excel in academics, in addition to starring in athletics and participating in a full schedule of extracurricular activities.

Graduated and commissioned an Ensign in June 1950, he married his high school sweetheart, Irene, and together they became a military family and went on to have two sons, Bruce and John Jr. The family followed along with Wes as he moved from one assignment to the next. Irene learned the ways of being a Navy wife.

Wes received his orders to report to his first ship, the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Coral Sea (CVA 43), as assistant navigator. He volunteered for submarines and was selected for training and graduated from submariner school in July 1951, standing 3rd in a class of 77.

His next assignment was aboard the submarine U.S.S. Sea Robin where he was designated qualified

(Continued on page 2)

Happy 4th of July!!!

(Continued from page 1)



Wes Harvey on the USS Nautilus

in submarines and selected for advanced training in nuclear propulsion. He received this training at the Westinghouse's Bettis Laboratory in Pittsburgh and Idaho Falls, Idaho.

In July of 1955, he reported to the U.S.S. Nautilus and remained with that command until August 1958.

During that time, he participated in two Arctic cruises, the second of which was climaxed by the first submerged transit of the north polar region and earned the crew a Presidential Unit Citation. After more than a year as first engineer of a new prototype reactor in Windsor, Connecticut, he commissioned the nuclear-powered submarine U.S.S. Tullibee as engineering officer. In May 1961, he was selected as executive officer of the submarine, Sea Dragon, based at Pearl Harbor. In Sea Dragon, he participated in the historic rendezvous with Submarine Skate at the North Pole in 1962. In January of 1963 Wes was appointed commander of the USS Thresher fol-



Irene Harvey

lowing three months of duty at the Naval Reactors Branch of the Bureau of Ships.

The tragedy devastated the families of all those lost on the Thresher. Irene Harvey never remarried but continued to raise her sons and work as a nurse. She lived in Con-

necticut, until she passed away in February of 2014.

Irene was a devoted Navy wife and Mother. As a nurse and Navy widow, "Irene touched many lives. She believed that the meaning of life is not to be found in mere survival. Instead, life's purpose is to be found somewhere in the process of caring, sharing, and loving."

She also left behind a last request: to be buried at sea alongside her husband. In a solemn Navy tradition, USS Annapolis, over the site of the remains of the Thresher, fulfilled Irene's wish.

May they both rest in peace.

Research assistance was provided by Dawn Hodson-Ritzler

The Frankford Civil War Monument was dedicated on July 4, 1867 and will be 150 years old this year. If you are looking for a non commercial way to spend some time, go up to Cedar Hill Cemetery and have a look. Use the Cheltenham Avenue entrance and follow the roadway down toward Bridge Street. Parts of it are now illegible due to weathering but you can go to our web site for a complete list of the names of the men who are listed.



Frankford NAS Election for Committee Members

By Christine DeJesus

The Frankford Neighborhood Advisory Committee (NAC) serves as a subcommittee of the Frankford Community Development Corporation (CDC).

The purpose of the committee is to assist the Frankford CDC with fulfilling its obligations to the City of Philadelphia's Office of Housing and Community Development.

The NAS is responsible for safety, for beautifying and for zoning in the Frankford community. The NAS Committee also provides citizens with adequate

opportunity to participate in decisions made around the delivery of affordable housing resources and development in the Frankford community.

Election for committee members will be held on Wednesday, September 20th, 2017. Community residents will elect committee members. The polling locations and times are as follows:

Former location of the Frankford Community Development Corporation
4900 Griscom Street
10 AM – 4 PM

Frankford NAC
4667 Paul Street – Ground floor for the voting
9 AM – 6:30 PM

Voters will need to show proof that they live in the NAC Service Area. A state ID or 1 Utility Bill will be accepted as proof of address.

Any resident who would like to serve on the committee (7-11 members) should contact Christine DeJesus, NAC Coordinator at (215) 743 – 6580 or by email at cdejesus@frankfordcdc.org.

7 Candidates have already provided the necessary bios. Candidates need to provide a brief bio

to be advertised to residents. You may nominate yourself or others but you must submit a personal bio to be included in this election.

The bios need to be sent to Christine by Monday, July 31st at 5PM.

The boundaries of the NAC service area are Roosevelt Boulevard from Cheltenham Avenue down to the Delaware River over to Granite Street and from Granite Street to the Frankford Creek to Tacony Street back up to Roosevelt Boulevard and Whitaker Avenue.

Fourth of July

When the wild winds walk across the ocean,
 and the big waves hit the shore,
 and kites are flying in the sky,
 on this day we call the 4th of July,
 when all the lights are turned off and fireworks hit the
 sky,
 then you know it's a beautiful day to be with someone,
 and have someone by your side.

This is the day that we all look for when beauty rocks
 the sky,
 and oh what a good feeling when they say,
 this is the Fourth of July.

By Lenny Jaynes

Community Supports Senior Residence

By Bob Smiley



1611-41 Ruan Street proposed senior residence as it may look when finished.

At the Frankford NAC zoning meeting on June 8th, the community heard a presentation about the proposal to build a 44 unit, 5 story, HUD subsidized, senior residence at 1611-41 Ruan Street. A variance is needed because the property is presently zoned commercial and also because the proposed parking spaces fall below what is normally required for a building of the size proposed. 15 full sized parking spaces are the standard but the owners propose providing 13 full sized spaces and 3 for compact cars.

The property would be managed professionally with amenities and services for seniors. The NAC supports the proposed variance. Funding however is not in place for the project so this is only the first step in the process. After the zoning variance is approved, applications will be submitted for funding which could take another year before a decision is made.

Also on the agenda was 2116 Gillingham. The application was for an auto body and repair facility with no spray painting. There was no community opposition to the project. The next Frankford NAC zoning meeting will be held on July 13th at 7 PM at the Second Baptist Church, 1801 Meadow Street.

Let's Do It Again!
2017 OLD HEAD GAME AND COOKOUT
SATURDAY, AUGUST 19, 2017
Another Ike and Kat EVENT



LOCATION: Ditman and Wakeling Streets
Time: 9:00a.m. until the Cops put us out!
Please bring your grill, food, tables, chairs, etc.
Live Band and DJ

FKD - One Village - One Love



St. Benedict's Clothes Closet

New and well used clothing to those in need
 St. Mark's Church
 4442 Frankford Avenue

Every Saturday from 1 PM to 3 PM

About the Frankford Gazette

Keep the Faith in Frankford publishes the Frankford Gazette. This is a print edition of some of the articles available online. We cover the Frankford neighborhood in Philadelphia. Go to www.frankfordgazette.com to get full details.

Editor: Bob Smiley; **Associate Editor:** Pat Smiley, **Veterans Affairs:** Richard W. Johnson, **IT Director:** Jim Smiley, **Printing by Health Partners Plans.**

You can receive Frankford/Northwood news and event information by text message sent directly to your cell phone. Text the word JOIN to sms+659@telefio.com.

Interested in writing for Frankford's community newspaper? Email contrib@frankfordgazette.com or call (215) 847-5506. Want your event on the community calendar? Email events@frankfordgazette.com or call (215) 847-5506. Publication date is the 20th of each month. Events and ads are due by the 14th.

Distribution locations: Frankford CDC - 4667 Paul St., S&A Dry Cleaner - 4935 Frankford Ave., Rep. Dawkin's Office - 4667 Paul Street, PA Auto Insurance Outlet - 4901 Frankford Ave., Lee Brothers Deli - Harrison St. & Frankford Ave., Sugar and Spice - 4801 Frankford Ave., Peter Bressi N.E. Senior Center - 4744-46 Frankford Ave, Taha Barber Shop - 4665 Frankford Ave., Meadow House - 4649 Paul Street, Frankford Library - 4634 Frankford Ave, Frankford High School, Frankford Friends School, Northwood Academy Charter School, Marshall School, Gambrel Recreation Center, McIlvain Recreation Center, Simpson Recreation Center, Boys and Girls Club, Great Awakenings Café - 1466 East Cheltenham Ave, Campbell AME Church 1657 Kinsey St., St. Marks Church 4442 Frankford Ave., 2nd Baptist Church 1801 Meadow St., All Star Kids Learning Factory 4654 Frankford Ave., Sen. Tartaglione Office 1061 Bridge St., American Legion POST 224 2006 Orthodox St.



The Frankford Gazette Proudly Announces Publication of Our First Book:

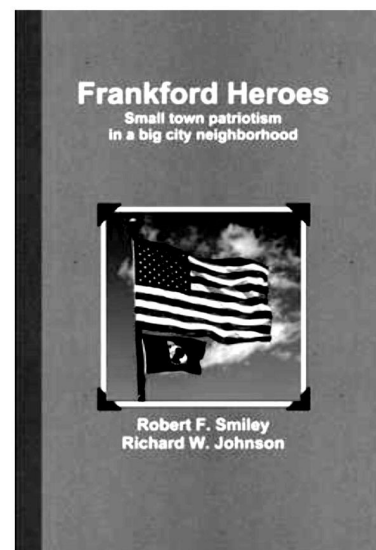
***“Frankford Heroes:
Small town patriotism
in a big city
neighborhood”***

by Robert F. Smiley with Richard W. Johnson

Order your copy, \$10.99, online here -

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-frankford-gazette-publishes-frankford-heroes-tickets-34940896161>

Or call 215-847-5506, 215-520-5616 or email gil@frankfordgazette.com



The following are the men and women who served so bravely:

Those who died in service:

Astbury Jr.,
Thomas William
Batt, Joseph
Bertolet, Benneville
Wellington
Blanchett, Stephen
Paul
Blittersdorf Jr.,
Charles Henry
Brinton, Walter
Carroll
Cantelly, Howard B.
Cassels, George H.
Chapman, Thomas
Clark, Joseph
Herbert
Comber, David
Wayne
Coyle, Charles J.
Coyle, Joseph
Alexander
Crane, James
Bartholomew
Decker, Warren John
Dowd, Thomas
Joseph
Edgar, David Feaster
Elliott, Chares
Francis
Evans, Lewis B.
Fairhurst, William M.
Ferry, William J.

Fischer, Theodore
Lauer
Frey, George
Edward
Gibilterra, Charles J.
Givens, Horace
Gossling Jr., Walter
Bryan
Harpel Jr., Eugene
David
Higgins, Matthew
Johnson, Admiral
Johnson, John
Johnson, William
Keeley, Francis
Krull, Andrew
Layton, Charles
Leszczynski Jr, John
Lynch Jr., Frederick
George
McClurg, Joseph T.
Needham, Elmer J.
Nelis, Edward
Neumann, William
Wilkinson
Peel, William
Charles
Randall, Sewell
Redding, Louis
Redman, Charles
Harold
Savage, Daniel

Joseph
Shipley, Eugene
Paul
Sirman, Donald
Stainthorpe
Stott, Thomas C.
Taylor, Amos
Raymond
Vandergrift, Jesse
Vannatter, William A.
Wilson, Lloyd
Calveria
Wilson, William C.
Wilusz, Joseph
George

Veterans of the Month

Adams, Stanley
Andrews, Larry
Brantley, Jeffrey
Brantley, Leon
Brooks, Albert W.
Brooks, James
Clyde (Lem),
Hairston
Donaldson, Don
Fletcher, William
(Junie)
Flowers Travers,
Donna T.
Gary, James
Honesty, James

Jackson, Lawrence
Clay
Jaynes, Leonard
Johnson, Richard
W.
Keith, Edward L.
Lewis, Gregory L.
Lewis, Guy D.
Lewis, Nathan
McAvoy, Erin
McAvoy, Thomas A.
McAvoy, Tom
McCartney, James L.
McGeehan Sr., Bill
Miller, Robert
Randolph Jr., Charles
Randolph Jr., Robert C.
Robson, James
Sorendino, Jane
Taylor, Joseph H.
Turner, Joseph W.
Wilkinson, Karl A.
Williams, Howard
(Punny)
Williams, Robert

***Don't Delay -
Order your book
(books) today!
\$10.99
Personally autographed!***

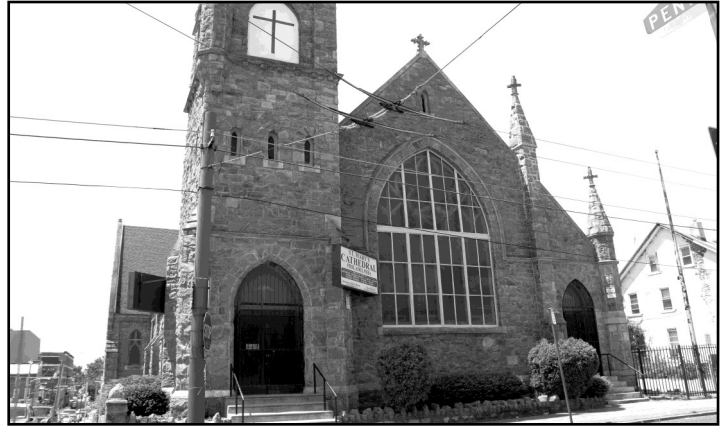
Frankford Friends Expands Again

By Bob Smiley

The congregation of **St. Mary's Malankara Orthodox Church** at Orthodox and Penn Streets has held their last service in Frankford. They have relocated the church farther up in the Northeast to better serve their members. We wish them well.

The building was originally **St. Luke's Reformed Episcopal Church** which was designed by architect Frank Rushmore Watson. It has been purchased by Frankford Friends School for use as an almost full-size gym as well as to provide enhanced music and theater spaces.

This is a win for the Frankford community. Frankford Friends will care for it well and continue to stabilize that area of Frankford.



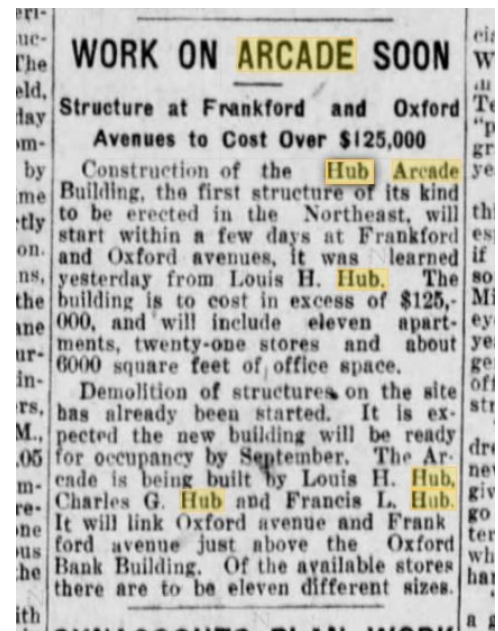
The 2nd Annual Bike Ride for Peace in Frankford brought out the crowds on June 18th despite the rain that came down briefly. Large number of people turned out for the Resource Fair at Aria Hospital where 2 bikes were awarded to kids. Then down at the Boys and Girls Club when the riders got there another 6 bikes were awarded to lucky kids. All the bikes included a helmet.

Thanks to Ronald Ryan of Town Watch Integrated Services for organizing the event.

Demolition began this month on 4743 Griscom Street which was the Griscom Street entrance of the Hub Arcade.

We haven't heard that name often since it became a vacant eyesore but it was a big deal back in 1928 when it opened. It housed a collection of shops almost like an enclosed mall that would come along in the 1960s. In the 1930s, radio station WFKD broadcast children's programming on Sundays from the Arcade. It was still active right through the 1950s.

Now how do we keep the drug users and bums out of the vacant lot that will be left behind?



Congratulations & Welcome to Baby Voci Bennett, Jr.!

Jennifer & Voci Bennett welcomed their son, Voci, Jr. into this world in mid-June.

Besides his proud parents, VJ will be spoiled by his grandparents, Linda Bonner, Franklin and Veronica Daniel, Lillian and Roosevelt Williams, and Brian and Judy Chennells.

VJ is also blessed with great grandparents, Louise Williamson, Glen and Adelaide Bonner and Audrey Bonner.

Many blessings to all.



Food Truck Fridays

On the 4600 block of Paul Street. See page 7

For the schedule and what truck will be there.



Farmers Market

Every Saturday from July 15th to Nov. 11th
10 am to 11 am at 1300 Dyre Street (Yard)

FRESH PRODUCE FROM FARM

Suggested Donation of \$5

TO QUALIFY YOU
MUST

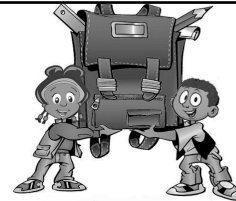
- Receive free or reduced school lunch or
- Receive public assistance or
- Receive SSI/SSD



To Pre-Register call 215-288-9800

By Grace Alone & Frankford Memorial Church
with America's Grow a Row

Summer Reading Help



Do you want your child to...

- Become a better reader?
- To love books?
- Does your child need to strengthen his or her reading?

Northeast Community Outreach
presents

Summer Reading Tutoring

with a Title 1 Reading Specialist and Trained Volunteers

July 10-August 2

Mondays-Wednesdays | 7-8pm

For students who have completed Kindergarten, 1st or 2nd Grade

Simpson Recreation Center
1010 Arrott St, Philadelphia PA 19124

To learn more, call Rhonda Johnson, 215-385-2127

Registration Required

Child's Name _____ Age _____

School Attended _____ Grade Completed _____

Parent's Name _____

Phone or Cell _____ Email _____

Child's Name _____ Age _____

School Attended _____ Grade Completed _____

Parent's Name _____

Phone or Cell _____ Email _____



Coming Up in Frankford

Live Music - Each Saturday 7pm - 10pm - Great Awakenings Cafe, 1466 E Cheltenham Ave.

Children's Story and Craft Hour - Each Thursday 10am - 11am - Great Awakenings Cafe, 1466 E Cheltenham Ave. Ages 2 to 5

Power Circle - Every Tuesday 5:30pm - 7:30pm, Northeast Frankford Boys and Girls Club, 1709 Kinsey Street - For teens 14 to 18 - Light dinner, resources, guest speakers, open discussion

Grand Army of the Republic Museum Open House - Sun, July 2, 12 pm - 5 pm, 4278 Griscom Street - Presentation at 1:30 PM:

Friends of Overington Park - Tue, July 4, 7 pm, Friends Meeting House, 1500 Orthodox Street - The group maintains and supports Overington Park at Orthodox and Leiper Streets. This park has been resurrected and now hosts events almost every month of the year but it can't do it without your active participation. New members needed. Join us the first Tuesday of the month. We meet In the Park from May to September.

Frankford Civic Association Meeting - Thu, July 6, 7 pm, St Mark's Church Frankford, 4442 Frankford Avenue

Food Truck Friday - Fri, July 7, 11 am, 4600 block of Paul Street - DUMPNROLL. Call Frankford

CDC for more details at 215-743-6580.

Nature's Hidden Surprises: The Meadow, The Monarchs, & Other Pollinators - Wed, July 12, 9:30 am - 11:30 am, Tacony Creek Park, Ramona Gateway, 4528 I St, - We will visit the meadow to look for some of the pollinators, so important to life on Earth. Our quest will be to find beetles, ants, butterflies, moths, bees, wasps, and others that do this necessary work.

Dress for sunny, hot conditions. RSVP's Requested; Walk-ins Welcome! RSVP at doryan@ttfwatershed.org or call 215-744-1853. Walk-ins are also welcome!

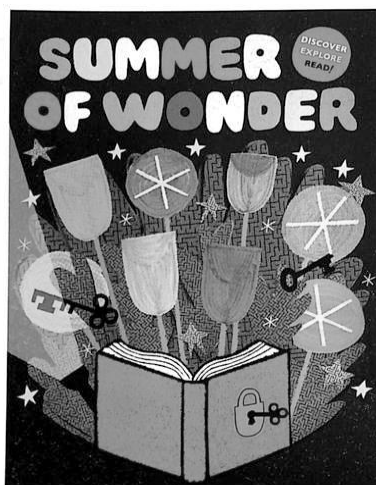
Neighborhood Advisory Committee Meeting - Thu, July 13, 7 pm, 2nd Baptist Church, 1801 Meadow St.

Northwood Civic Association Meeting - Tue, July 18, 7 pm, Simpson. Recreation Center,

1010 Arrott St.

Food Truck Friday - Fri, July 21, 11 am - 2 pm, 4600 block of Paul Street - PINK'S COLD TREATS. Call Frankford CDC for more details at 215-743-6580.

15th Police District PSA1 Meeting - Thu, July 27, 7 pm, Aria Hospital, 4900 Frankford Ave.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS
June | July | August 2017



freelibrary.org/summerreading

FRANKFORD LIBRARY

Mr. Pagan's Reading Club for Boys
Come to listen and talk about fun, interesting, and scary books for boys ages 9 to 12 and do a fun activity. Members are eligible to win books. Tuesdays: June 27, July 11, August 1 3:30 p.m.

Spanish/English Bilingual Storytime
Lectura Bilingüe de Cuentos Infantiles
Enjoy a bilingual storytime with librarian Mr. Pagán. For children and their parents. Mondays: June 12, 26; July 10, 24 6:00 p.m.

Leído por el bibliotecario Sr. Pagán. Para niños y sus padres. Los Lunes: 12, 26 de junio; 10, 24 de julio | 6:00 p.m.

Frankford's Wednesday Movie of the Month
Eat some popcorn and watch a fun family movie! Wednesdays | 5:00 p.m.
June 14: *Moana*
June 28: *Trolls*
July 12: *Finding Dory*
July 26: *Sing*

Frankford Library Minecraft Club
Come build and play Minecraft with other kids, ages 8 to 14. We'll be playing in creative and peaceful mode only! Your host will be librarian Mr. Pagán. Call or stop by to sign up. Fridays at 2:00 p.m.
June 16 and 30
July 7 and 21
August 4

Teen Thursdays
Have fun doing various activities and games, and enjoy snacks. A program for teens. Thursdays: June 15, 22, 29; July 13, 20, 27; August 3 | 3:00 p.m.

Adult Laptop Time
Adults are invited to use our new laptop computers. Mondays: June 19, 26; July 17, 24, 31 12:00-2:00 p.m.

Preschool Storytime with Mr. Pagán
Preschoolers and their caregivers are welcome to listen to stories, do finger plays, and sing songs. Tuesdays: June 20, July 11, August 1 11:00 a.m.

Block-Building Parties
Join us for a wooden-block party in the library. Children ages 6 and under and their caregivers are encouraged to build, create, and play! Wednesdays: June 21; July 5, 19; August 2 | 5:00 p.m.

Children/Teen Laptop Time
Children and teens are invited to use our new laptop computers. Fridays: June 30; July 14, 21, 28; August 4 | 3:00-4:00 p.m.

Services at St. Mark's Episcopal Church

4442 Frankford Ave.

**8:30AM SIMPLE AND
SHORT WORSHIP**

**Sunday Morning Bible Study: 9:00am
10:00AM Main WORSHIP SERVICE**

Campbell AME Church

1657 Kinsey Street

Church Office: 215-288-2748

Email: campbella.m.e.frankford@gmail.com

CAPUCHIN FRANCISCAN MINISTRY

at St. Joachim's Catholic Chapel



Mass Schedule:

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday - 7:30 AM
Monday, Wednesday - 7:00 PM
Saturday - 8am (Spanish)

Chapel is open for personal prayer
From 7 to 9pm, Monday through Friday

Chapel is on the corner of Church St. and Griscom St.
Schedule will begin Monday, January 9th

We are here for you! All are welcome.



Services at Faith Assembly of God

1926 Margaret St
Sunday 11 A.M. and 6:30 P.M.
Wednesday 7:00 P.M.
Friday 7:30 P.M.

St. James Lutheran Church
5185 Castor Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19124
215-743-1828
www.StJamesPhilly.com
Sunday Worship Service: 10:00am
Friday Night Youth Ministry (4th to 12th
Grade): 6:30pm - 8:30pm



Your health. Our focus.

#1 Medicaid plan for preventive care in Pennsylvania and one of the top 15 Medicaid plans in the country.*

Our award-winning health plan has served Southeastern Pennsylvanians, like you, for more than 30 years. Now that's a plan you can trust!

To see if you qualify or to enroll in Health Partners, call PA enrollment services at 1-800-440-3989 (TTY 1-800-618-4225) or visit enrollnow.net.



2016 - 2017



Health Partners Plans

**According to NCQA's Medicaid Health Insurance Plan Ratings 2016-2017*

CC-1187-17