

# St. John's UCC, Fullerton

575 Grape Street ☩ Whitehall PA 18052  
[www.stjohnsuccfullerton.org](http://www.stjohnsuccfullerton.org) ☩ 610-264-8421



UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST

Blessed  
to be a  
*Blessing*

*We Worship, We Love, We Serve  
– No Matter What!*

**June 11, 2023**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
**9:30AM**

# *The Order of Worship*

## *~ We Worship ~*

**\* Those who are comfortably able, please stand**

*Welcome to St. John's UCC, Fullerton!*

*We are a place where love can grow!*

*As the music begins, please find your place and  
begin to center your spirit for our worship of God together.*

***Our Offering*** is received as we gather for worship.

*The offering plates are on pedestals at the back.*

*We welcome your gifts to God of praise and gratitude in our ministry. The  
offering is presented later in the worship service.*

*Guests, please don't feel obligated to contribute financially.*

*The support of the church is the responsibility of our congregation.*

***Children's Faith Formation*** takes place with the worship service through  
the Children's Message time, then the children are led to their classroom for  
our "Blessed to Be a Blessing" lesson in Rm. 101.

*Parents are welcome to go with the children to see the area and  
sign in their children, then pick them up following the worship service.*

## **Music to Prepare our Hearts for Worship**

*Reflection  
Mark Hayes*

## **Chimes**

## **Welcome and Announcements**

Rev. Steven Davis

~ Children's Ministry and Vacation Bible School / Kids Camps

~ 5G Connection for New Persons to St. John's

June 18 & 25 after worship

~ June 18, Outdoor Worship at Pavilion, Father's Day

~ June 25, Come as Who You Are / Open & Affirming Sunday

~ Insert about bus trip to Ocean City on September 23<sup>rd</sup>

## **\*Greeting and Sharing the Peace of Christ**

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you!**

## Call to Worship

*Adapted from Worship Ways*

Liturgist: Fortress Chryst

One: This month we celebrate LGBTQ+ Pride as we work toward greater inclusion in every church, workplace, and family.

**All: We gather today to be refreshed, renewed, and strengthened in our faith and in our resolve for the work we must do together.**

One: Listen, there is a voice calling us.

**All: It is the voice of our Divine Beloved.**

One: The one who loves us invites us to mingle our voices together.

**All: We call out in worship and praise together.**

One: Bring your hopes, expectations, and longings that you have carried with you throughout the week.

**All: Here they are. We speak to them in our spirit and with our words.**

One: Come and worship. Come and praise. Come and pray.

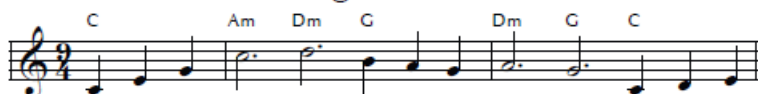
**All: We commit ourselves to this sacred time of celebration.**

## \*Opening Hymn:

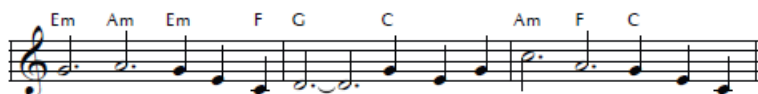
*Morning Has Broken*

CELEBRATING TIME

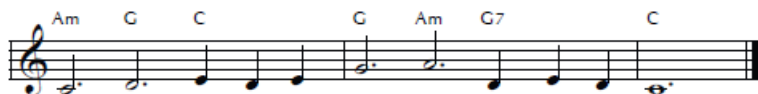
### Morning Has Broken 664



1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing; black-bird has  
2 Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from heav - en, like the first  
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing, born of the



spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the  
dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet-ness of the wet  
one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion; praise ev - ery



morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!  
gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.  
morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

## Prayer of Confession

*Adapted from UCC Worship Ways*

Liturgist: Fortress Chryst

**One:** Spirit of holiness, we confess that we are a sinful people. In thought, word, and deed, we quench the fire of your love and dissipate the power of your presence. You long to restore us to the image of God, but we let it tarnish as we nurse selfish attitudes.

**All:** **You nurture unity, but we sow discord. You come to make our bodies your temples, but we desecrate them. You seek to have all your creations to live in peace, but we thrive on division. We dishonor your good intentions for us. Forgive us, merciful Spirit.**

*(Time for silent prayer)*

## Words of Assurance

Liturgist: Fortress Chryst

**One:** My friends, God is faithful and just. God will not remember our sins. Rejoice, be glad, and give God praise.

**All:** **Amen, Thanks be to God!**

## Children's Message

Rev. Davis

Children and youth are welcome to come up to the chancel steps.

## Hymn:

*This is the Day of New Beginnings*

Verses 1, 2 and 4

*Hymn found on page 4 of the bulletin*

## \*Scripture Reading

Genesis 12: 1-9

Kay Chryst

\*Please stand in body or in spirit for the reading of God's Word.

**One:** The word of God for the people of God.

**All:** **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## Sermon

Rev. Steve Davis

**We are the Body of Christ**  
**"Blessed to Be a Blessing"**

## 355 This Is a Day of New Beginnings

*Unison*

1 This is a day of new be-gin-nings, time to re-mem-ber  
 2 For by the life and death of Je-sus, love's might-y Spir-it,  
 3 Then let us, with the Spir-it's dar-ing, step from the past and  
 4 Christ is a-live, and goes be-fore us to show and share what  
 \*4 In faith we'll gath-er round the ta-ble to taste and share what

and move on, time to be-lieve what love is bring-ing,  
 now as then, can make for us a world of dif-ference,  
 leave be-hind our dis-ap-point-ment, and griev-ing,  
 love can do. This is a day of new be-gin-nings;  
 love can do. This is a day of new be-gin-nings;

lay-ing to rest the pain that's gone.  
 as faith and hope are born a-gain.  
 seek-ing new paths, and sure to find.  
 our God is mak-ing all things new.  
 our God is mak-ing all things new.

\*Alternate text for Holy Communion

WORDS: Brian Wren (1936- )  
 MUSIC: Carlton R. Young (1926- )

Words © 1983, 1987 Hope Publishing Company  
 Music © 1987 Hope Publishing Company

BEGINNINGS  
 9.8.9.8.

## Special Music

*May I Be Filled*

Mark Miller

Soloist: Kirby Hower

*~ We Love ~*

## Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Davis

God of love, unity and grace, who fashions us to be the many members of the Body of Christ, draw us together as one. We gather this day knowing you by many names, and we call on you to hear us as we pray for...

## Prayer as the Body of Christ

Rev. John Hoff (video)

## The 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**

## Offering Our Gifts, Tithes and Offerings to God



Thank you for your generosity and faithfulness in supporting the ministry of St. John's UCC!

## Acknowledging Rev. John Hoff

Rev. Davis (video)

**In Gratitude for Pastoral Service  
on the Anniversary of Ordination  
United Church of Christ**

Recognizing and celebrating that

**Rev. John A. Hoff**

an ordained minister of the United Church of Christ  
was ordained on the tenth day of June 1973

has served long and faithfully, and

is hereby awarded this citation for

pastoral service on his

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

With the gratitude and appreciation of the

United Church of Christ

and the Penn Northeast Conference

Presented on this eleventh day of June 2023

at St. John's United Church of Christ

Fullerton, Whitehall, Pennsylvania

**\*Doxology**

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

Melody: O Waly, Waly

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise God all creatures here below,**

**Praise God above you heavenly hosts,**

**Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

Liturgist: Fortress Chryst

**We are all one human family. In your love you created us. Through your grace you reach out to us. You are great enough to hold us all in your arms at the same time. Help us to open our hearts to the world that you love. Teach us to weave our lives together. We yield to Spirit, offering what we have to the greater good. In this way, each day, we begin again in love.**

# ~ We Serve ~

## \*Hymn

*Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*  
Verses 1 and 2

*Hymn found on page 8 of the bulletin*

## \*The Benediction

## Postlude

*Fanfare on Ode to Joy*  
Arr. by Noel Rawesthorne

*When the altar candles have been extinguished, our time of worship  
is concluded and our service in the world continues.*

*The Benediction and Postlude send us out  
to be the people of God in our community.*

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## Bulletins

Bulletins today are sponsored by Paul E. Geissinger, Jr. in memory of Paul E. Geissinger, Sr.

**Sponsorship Opportunities:** You can sponsor altar flowers for \$25 a vase, \$20 for bulletins, \$15 for the wheat basket (donated to the Food Pantry) and \$100 for the monthly newsletter.

## Serving in Worship Leadership

### June 11

Liturgist – Fortress Chryst      Scripture Reader – Kay Chryst  
Ushers – Wendy Fox, Carol O’Connell  
Worship Tech – Michelle Gutekunst

### June 18

Liturgist – Tyler Shankweiler      Scripture Reader – Linda Powell  
Ushers – Sharon and Bob Czekner  
Worship Tech – Michelle Gutekunst



## Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee 59

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;  
 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,  
 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,  
 4 Mor - tals, join the hap - py cho - rus which the morn - ing stars be - gan;

hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, open - ing to the sun a - bove.  
 stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.  
 well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean depth of hap - py rest!  
 love di - vine is reign - ing o'er us, join - ing all with - in its span.

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the dark of doubt a - way;  
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - ery mead - ow, flash - ing sea,  
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Broth - er— all who live in love are thine;  
 Ev - er sing - ing, march we on - ward, vic - tors in the midst of strife;

giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day!  
 chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.  
 teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine.  
 joy - ful mu - sic leads us sun - ward in the tri - umph song of life.

WORDS: Henry Van Dyke (1852-1933)  
 MUSIC: Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

HYMN TO JOY  
 8.7.8.7.D.

## **In Our Prayers**

Please remember in your prayers all those who are ill or are in our area hospitals: Richard Baatz, Anita Beil, Clarence Biehn, Thomas Chryst, Jean Coombe, Marion DeMilio, Sandra Diefenderfer, Robert and Nancy Dougherty, Shirley Downing, Milton Focht, Gary George, Sally Gibson, Tracey Glass, Ron Glass, Gary Hallman, Ruthann Hallman, Blaine Holden, Travis Kaintz, Geraldine Keim, Adrienne Kiesbar, Elaine Lentz, Jean Litzenberger, Betty Millham, Eleanor O'Donnell, Jack Ohl, Timothy Ott, Brenda Pascoe, Joey, Carol and Paul Raszler, Marietta Seyfried, Madeline Slivka, Eleanor Smith, Nancy Weaver.

We continue to pray for all those serving in our nation's military and for their families for their sacrifices on behalf of our freedom.

If you or a family member is admitted to the hospital, tell them you are a member of St. John's or use the church code, 473.

If you have someone for us to remember in prayer, please contact the church office.

## **IRONPIGS BASEBALL**

Not much time left! The deadline for reservations is **June 18**. Join us in Section 105 of the grandstand at Coca Cola Park for the IronPigs vs. Buffalo Bisons baseball game. Game day is Tuesday, August 1, at 7:05 p.m. The cost is \$13 per person which includes a ticket to the game, \$2 refreshment or food voucher, and raffle ticket. It will be Dollar Dog Night where hotdogs will be \$1 at the beginning of the evening. For reservations, contact Carol Raszler at 610-393-7572 or email at [craszler@aol.com](mailto:craszler@aol.com). Payment must be made in advance with checks payable to St. John's.

## **WHITEHALL FOOD PANTRY**

Donations needed for June: pancake mix, juice, cereal, peanut butter and ground coffee. A shopping cart can be found in the coatroom area by the sanctuary where you can place your donations. Monetary contributions are always welcomed. The Food Pantry is also in need of volunteers who can help the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month either in the morning or in the evening. Contact Gary Black at 484-274-2405 or email at [gary.t.black@outlook.com](mailto:gary.t.black@outlook.com) if you would like to volunteer to help at the food pantry.

## **JUNE 16 GIFT CARD BINGO**

Tickets are now being sold for the June 16<sup>th</sup> Gift Card Bingo. In advance, tickets are \$20; \$25 at the door. Doors open at 6:00, Bingo begins at 7:00. Get your tickets in the office, or from Tom Moyer.

How can you help?

- Buy tickets for you and your friends. Get them early, because we expect a sellout!
- Sponsor a game. The cost is \$50 to pay for a gift card for a game. Your name will be acknowledged in the program.
- Sponsor a prize for our “Tricky Tray” table. These can be gift cards or other things with a value of \$20 to \$30 or so.

For the kitchen we will need:

- Donations of hot dogs, rolls for hot dogs and Bar-B-Que, and baked goods.
- Bottled water donations.
- Soft drink donations. To keep things simple, please use Coca-Cola products if possible. We will need regular, caffeine-free regular, diet, caffeine-free diet, Sprite, etc.

**IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP WITH THIS, PLEASE CONTACT ANY MEMBER OF THE FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE OR TOM MOYER. THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!**

## **GRIEF SUPPORT ~ HEALTHCARE MINISTRY**

If you are grieving the death of a loved one, you are invited to attend a grief support group at Asbury UM Church, 1533 Springhouse Rd., Allentown. The group meets the 4th Tuesday monthly at 1pm in the upper-level Parlor and is led by Rev. Evelyn Stupp, Asbury’s Pastor of Bereavement and Care Ministries. Please contact her at [estupp@asburylv.org](mailto:estupp@asburylv.org) or 610-428-9095 for more details and to indicate your interest. The next support gathering is **Tuesday, June 27.**

## MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP

The Men's Breakfast Group of St. John's meets on the first Saturday of the month at the Hamilton Family Restaurant located at 2027 Hamilton St. in Allentown. Our next meeting is on **July 1 at 8:30 a.m.** We would be pleased to have you join us. If you would like to know more about this group, please contact Bob Bold at 610-393-6123 or email at [QVRRBold@aol.com](mailto:QVRRBold@aol.com).

## CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION NEEDS YOUR LOVE!

Our children's program, "Blessed to Be a Blessing" will continue throughout the summer. Following the Children's Message, the kids and adult leaders and helpers will leave for the classroom. Once there, the children will gather in the sacred circle to hear the Bible story of the day and be invited to pray in response. We will also be engaging the children in a craft that is related to the story.

Please check out the sign-up sheet in the back of the sanctuary. We need two volunteers each Sunday, one to lead and one to help. Those of us who have been leading and helping all along are planning to sign-up for two Sundays. ***Please add your name to the two weeks when you are available. If you have questions you can speak to anyone listed above.***

Thank you in advance for sharing your LOVE with our children.

## S.O.S – IF YOU CROCHET, WE NEED YOUR HELP!

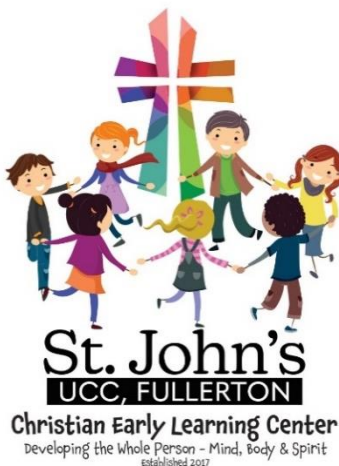
The Crafters Group is looking for more people who can crochet. All we need is your time and talent to crochet the tops on our T- towels. Supplies will be provided. Contact Carol Raszler at 610-393-7572 or email at [craszler@aol.com](mailto:craszler@aol.com).

## HAVE YOU SEEN--?

A microphone with a red cover? A wireless mic with a red cover has been missing for several weeks. If you see it, please return it to the Tech desk.



© dsk



**SAVE THE DATES!!!**

**JUNE 20-22**

**JULY 18-20**

**& AUG. 15-17**

**9:00 - Noon**

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL  
CAMPS**

**SIGN UP TO HELP &  
CONTRIBUTE**

During the month of May and throughout the summer, special offerings will be received to support our 3 Summer VBS Camps in partnership with our St. John's Christian Early Learning Center (CELC). Your contributions will help us raise \$3,000 towards funding for CELC staff, supplies and materials. Please sign up for the dates which you are available to participate as a volunteer leader/helper/support.



For each VBS Camp, kids will receive a St. John's t-shirt, and enjoy 3 mornings of fun, stories, crafts and snack time. Follow the link or go to our website and click on "VBS" in the homepage banner tabs to register and share your suggested donation to help cover costs.

We are recommending \$10/child for each camp or a maximum of \$20/family for each camp. If you would like to contribute online to help support this ministry, please use our secure giving and in the "Miscellaneous" section, note the donation for VBS. This is only a suggested donation.

**All children who register will be able to participate regardless of the ability to share the suggested donation.**

FINANCIAL UPDATE

MONTHLY OFFERINGS

JUNE 2023

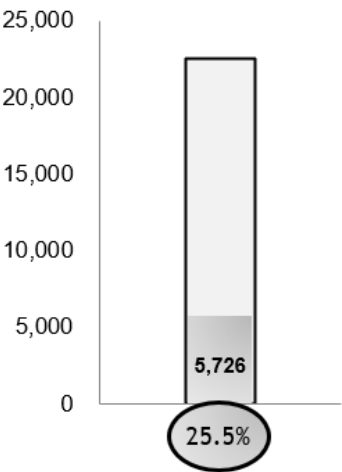
Overall	
Overall Target	22,500.00
Overall Total	5,726.30
Overall Percent	25.5%

Last Week	
Start:	6/4/23
End:	6/10/23
Total:	3,452.30

Amt needed to reach Target	
JUNE 2023	16,773.70

Progress

- Overall Target
- Overall Total



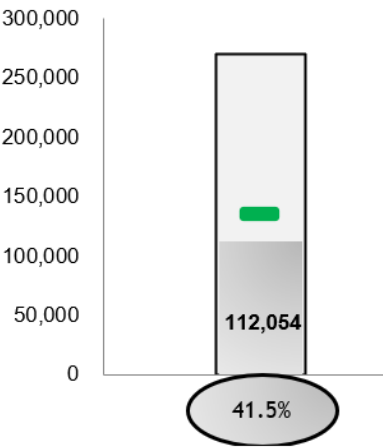
YTD OFFERINGS

JUNE 2023

Overall	
Overall Target	270,000.00
On Track Target	135,000.00
Overall Total	112,053.75
Overall Percent	41.5%

Progress

- Overall Target
- Overall Total
- On Track Target



## Church Calendar for the Week of June 11 – June 18, 2023

Sun 6/11	9:30 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Faith Formation
	2:00 pm	Private Event – Pavilion
		Newsletter Deadline
Tues 6/13	10:00 am	Community of Practice
	10:30 am	Visitation Committee
	1:30 pm	Staff Meeting
	6:00 pm	Elders
	7:00 pm	Consistory
Wed 6/14	9:00 am	Verso Chat
	6:30 pm	Zumba
	7:00 pm	SAA Recovery Group
Fri 6/16	7:00 pm	Bingo
Sun 6/18	9:30 am	Bluegrass Service - Pavilion
	9:30 am	Faith Formation
		New Member Class

### **OUR STAFF**

Rev. Steve Davis	Senior Pastor
<a href="mailto:sjfsrpastor@sjuccf.org">sjfsrpastor@sjuccf.org</a>	
Patrick Sandt	Director of Music Ministries
<a href="mailto:sjfmusic@sjuccf.org">sjfmusic@sjuccf.org</a>	
Alison Berger Boor	Office Administrator
<a href="mailto:sjfofficesecretary@sjuccf.org">sjfofficesecretary@sjuccf.org</a>	
Sue Weldner	Treasurer
<a href="mailto:sbweldner@gmail.com">sbweldner@gmail.com</a>	
Thomas and Emilie Moyer	Financial Secretary
<a href="mailto:tommoyer54@gmail.com">tommoyer54@gmail.com</a>	
Michelle Gutekunst	
<a href="mailto:sjfstars@sjuccf.org">sjfstars@sjuccf.org</a>	Worship Tech &
<a href="mailto:sjfcustodians@sjuccf.org">sjfcustodians@sjuccf.org</a>	Coordinating Custodian
Bob Czekner	Custodian
<a href="mailto:rczekner11@aol.com">rczekner11@aol.com</a>	
Christina Bach	Custodian
<a href="mailto:Ironton1@verizon.net">Ironton1@verizon.net</a>	
Newsletter	<a href="mailto:newsletter@sjuccf.org">newsletter@sjuccf.org</a>