

St. John's UCC Fullerton



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

575 Grape Street
Whitehall PA 18052

www.stjohnsuccfullerton.org
(610) 264-8421



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

**June 1, 2025
9:30am**

**Seventh Sunday of Easter
Confirmation Sunday**

We Worship

Welcome to St. John's UCC, Fullerton!

We celebrate the life and hope we find together in God's love!

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

Our Offering is received as we gather for worship, with plates located on pedestals at the back. We graciously accept your gifts to God of praise and gratitude, to be presented during the service. While guests are welcome to contribute, please know there is no obligation; the financial support of our church is primarily the responsibility of our congregation members.

Sunday Social is a time to gather for light refreshments and connection time, to visit, make new friends and build relationships. Join us in Fox Hall following worship each Sunday, hosted by various congregants and groups.

Children's Faith Formation begins in the early part of our worship service in the sanctuary, including the Children's Message. Parents are asked to accompany their child if they are at the kids' table in the back.

Our regular program for children will return September 7.

Sign children up for VBS, June 22-26

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

Strengthen the Church Offering (June 8)

Video

Chimes

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Steven Davis

- Pentecost Sunday, June 8 – Wear Red, Yellow, Orange
- Senior Sunday – Acknowledgment of Graduates – June 8
- Vacation Bible School, June 22-26, 6:00-8:00pm
- Ocean City Bus Trip – Saturday, June 28 (See pg.16)
- General Synod Expense (See pg. 16)

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

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you!

Music to Prepare our Hearts for Worship

In the Upper Room
by Russell Nygard

St. John's Choir
Stephani Bell, Violinist

Children, I am with you but a little while. Where I go, you cannot follow. You will seek, but will not find me; Still you know that I am the way.

Don't be troubled that I say I go away; It is best for you I go now. If I go, I make a place for you: And I'll come to take you someday.

I will send the Holy Spirit to you, to lead you in truth, To guide what you do. He'll remind you then of all I have said; And I will always be with you.

Take and eat my body broken; Take and drink the blood I offer. What I do for you, you know not. If you love me, you will obey.

I will send the Holy Spirit to you, to lead you in truth, To guide what you do. He'll remind you then of all I have said; And I will always be with you.

Children, I am with you but a little while. Where I go, you cannot follow. You will look but will not find me; Still you know that I am the way. Still you know that I am the Way.

*Call to Worship

Liturgists: Confirmands

Nicholas: The Spirit of God bids us, "Come."

All: May we hear within our hearts "Come."

Lucas: Hear the whole earth rejoice and the coastlands sing of our God's steadfast love.

All: We come to rejoice in the Holy One, our God.

Aiden: Let everyone who is thirsty for the Spirit "Come." Let anyone who wishes "Come," and receive the water of life as a gift.

All: We come to rejoice in the Holy One, our God. We give thanks for God's steadfast love that brings joy to our hearts in the night, lights our lives like the dawn, and sets us free. Amen.

*Opening Hymn

In the Midst of New Dimensions
Verses 1 and 2

found on page 3 of the bulletin

315 In the Midst of New Dimensions

1 In the midst of new di - men - sions, in the face of
 2 Through the flood of starv - ing peo - ple, war - ring fac - tions,
 3 As we stand, a world di - vid - ed by our own self -
 4 We are man and we are wom - an, all per - sua - sions,
 5 Should the threats of dire pre - dic - tions cause us to with -

chang - ing ways, who will lead the pil - grim peo - ples
 and de - spair, who will lift the ol - ive branch - es?
 seek - ing schemes, grant that we, your glob - al vil - lage,
 old and young, each a gift in your cre - a - tion,
 draw in pain, may your blaz - ing phoe - nix spir - it

Refrain

wan - dering in their sep - arate ways?
 Who will light the flame of care?
 might en - vi - sion wid - er dreams. God of rain - bow, fi - ery pil - lar,
 each a love song to be sung.
 res - ur - rect the church a - gain.

lead - ing where the ea - gles soar, we your peo - ple, ours the jour - ney

In this simultaneously-created text and tune, the author-composer was seeking to incorporate imagery from both Native American and Hebrew spiritual traditions. Also included is the mythological phoenix, which had received a Christian interpretation as early as the first century.

Affirmation of Faith

United Church of Canada

We are not alone; we live in God's world.

We in believe in God:

Who has created and is creating,

Who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,

To reconcile and make new,

Who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God,

We are called to be the church:

To celebrate God's presence,

To love and serve others,

To seek justice and resist evil,

To proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,

Our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God, Amen.

A Prayer for Confirmation

Confirmation Class & Leaders

All: Come, Holy Spirit, and fill us with your love.

Aiden: Open our eyes to see the presence of God all around us,
in

the stillness of this sacred space, in the busyness and
noise of our city streets, in the joys and celebrations of
our lives, in the tragedies and struggles that break our
hearts.

All: Come, Holy Spirit, and comfort those who grieve.

Lucas: Grant them the peace that only you can bring. Stir
within us a trust in life beyond death, as we ponder the
mysteries of Christ's resurrection and the hope we have
in new and everlasting life.

All: Come, Holy Spirit, and bring wholeness to the sick.

Nicholas: Strengthen those who are weak; heal the wounded and
broken; give rest to the weary. Inspire our warring world
to seek peace, to love our enemies, to put away our
weapons, to remember the price paid for our freedom, to
care for those who have served.

All: Come, Holy Spirit, and ignite a fire in our bones.

Wayne: Give us a passion for justice that cannot be quenched until all of your children are loved, until no one is marginalized or oppressed, until everyone has the opportunity to thrive, until the world is transformed and renewed.

All: Come, Holy Spirit, and revive your church.

Linda: Liberate us from complacency and apathy; inspire us with Christ's vision for a world reborn; help us to recognize our gifts for ministry and to use them in service of others; transform our hearts and our minds; fill us with love that overflows; remind us that there is no greater calling than to love you with all that we are and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

All: Come, Holy Spirit.

Steve: Gracious God, give us a glimpse of your kingdom emerging around us and drawing us into the new things you are doing in the world. Hear the prayers of your faithful gathered here today, especially as we pray for (*prayer intentions listed*)

It is for your kingdom that we now pray, filled with your Spirit, using the words Jesus taught us...

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

Children's Message

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

Hymn

*Every Word and Every Breath, All Verses
found on page 6 of the bulletin*

EVERY WORD AND EVERY BREATH

Adam M. L. Tice

CAPITOLA
Mark A. Miller



1. Ev-'ry word and ev-'ry breath; all the
2. Ev-'ry tool of war we make forged a -
3. Ev-'ry sin that you for - give; ev - 'ry



signs of grace you gave; by your life and by your
gain to plow the land; all we build and all we
heart that you re - store; ev-'ry soul re-deemed to



death; by your ris - ing from the grave:
break new - ly pur - posed in your hand:
live o - pens wid - er heav-en's door.

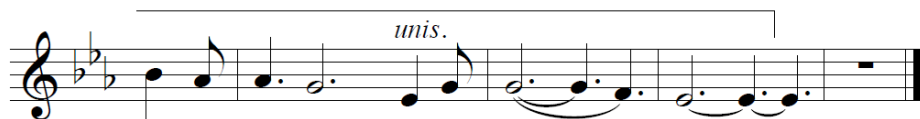


Lamb of God, you bring sal - va - tion mak-ing



us your new cre - a - tion. Al-le - lu - ia!

Repeat last time



Al - le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia!

unis.

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***Scripture Reading:**

Acts 1:1-5, 8 and John 17:20-23

Read by: Linda Powell

Acts 1:1-5, 8

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and teach until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen.

After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

John 17: 20-23

"I ask not only on behalf of these but also on behalf of those who believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me."

One: The word of God for the people of God!

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Rev. Steven Davis

**The Power of P-R-I-D-E
You Will Receive POWER!**

Song of Praise

Come Holy Spirit Still My Heart
by Deborah Govenor
St. John's Choir
Stephani Bell, Violinist

*And the peace of God, which passes understanding, will keep your hearts
and minds in Jesus Christ.*

*Come Holy Spirit ! still my heart With gentleness divine, In dwelling peace
You can impart; O make that blessing mine! Give me a heart of clam repose
Amid the world's loud roar. A life that like a river flows Along a peaceful
shore!*

*Above these scenes of storm and strife There spreads a region fair; Help me
to live that higher life; And breathe that heavenly air. Come, Holy Spirit!
Breathe that peace, That vict'ry made me win; Then shall my soul its conflict
cease, And find a heav'n within, and find a heav'n within.*

We Love

The Order of Confirmation

See insert

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Rev. Davis

*Please sign the communion book in the back of the church
if you have not done so at a service of communion in 2025.*

We are an Inclusive Community!
In the United Church of Christ, we observe an "open communion."
ALL people are welcome to receive
the gifts of God's grace and love with us at the table.
In the UCC, ALL means ALL!

The Invitation to Receive

One: You are most high over all Creation, Holy One, and blessed is
Jesus Christ, your Joy, our Hope. You gave him your glory,
which he shares with all your children.

All: **The Bright Morning Star came to illumine the shadows of
our lives. Bringing the testimony of your salvation, he
proclaimed the good news to all who listened. Desiring that
we might be with him wherever he is, he went to the cross,**

throwing open death's imprisoning doors, that we might have life eternal.

One: Come, Holy God, come, pouring out your Spirit upon this feast, transforming your children with the simple gifts of the bread and cup.

All: **As we eat of the bread, may it unite us, wherever we are divided; heal us, where we are broken; send us, when we are reluctant; to throw open wide all that imprisons our sisters and brothers throughout the world. As we drink from the cup, may we realize how deeply we know you, and go forth to witness to all around us, that the love with which you have loved us may be in us all.**

One: And when the end of all time has come, when the Alpha and Omega invites us to "come," we will gather around your Table in the holy city, clothed in your grace with all the saints, where we will sing your praises forever and ever,

All: **God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.**

Words of Consecration

Rev. Davis

Sharing the Meal

As the minister directs, all are welcome to come using the center aisle to any of the two stations to receive the gifts of communion, served by our Confirmands as their first acts of service after being received.

If you are unable to come forward, a server will bring the elements to you.

Eat and drink upon receiving at the station and dispose of your cup at the side, returning to your seats by the side aisles.

Hymn during Communion

The Supper of the Lord
by Laurence Rosania

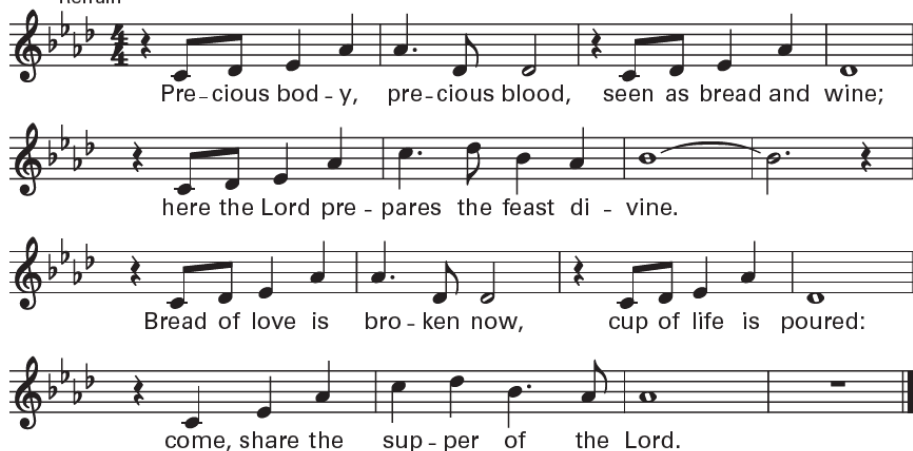
Julie Mertus, soloist on Verses

*Please join the choir in singing the refrain
found on page 10 of the bulletin.*

THE SUPPER OF THE LORD

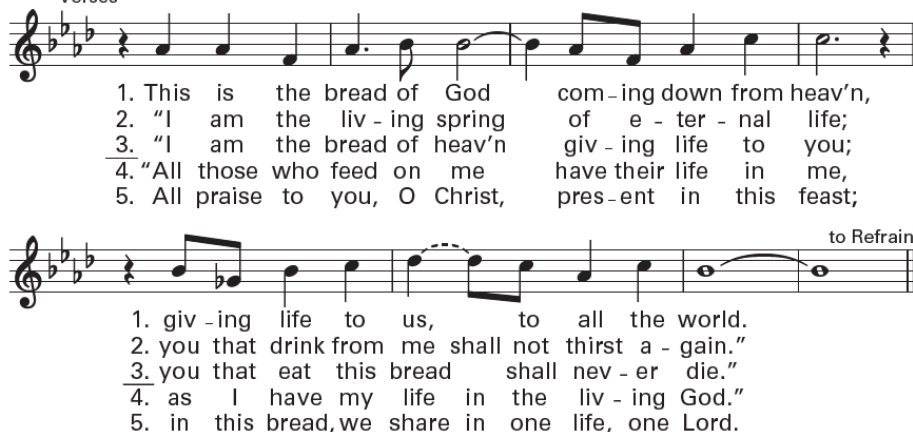
Laurence Rosania

Refrain



Pre-cious bod - y, pre-cious blood, seen as bread and wine;
 here the Lord pre - pares the feast di - vine.
 Bread of love is bro - ken now, cup of life is poured:
 come, share the sup - per of the Lord.

Verses



1. This is the bread of God com - ing down from heav'n,
 2. "I am the liv - ing spring of e - ter - nal life;
 3. "I am the bread of heav'n giv - ing life to you;
 4. "All those who feed on me have their life in me,
 5. All praise to you, O Christ, pres - ent in this feast;

1. giv - ing life to us, to all the world.
 2. you that drink from me shall not thirst a - gain."
 3. you that eat this bread shall nev - er die."
 4. as I have my life in the liv - ing God."
 5. in this bread, we share in one life, one Lord.

Text: Verses 1-4 based on John 4, 6.

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Prayer of Thanksgiving

Rev. Davis

All: Holy Father, your Son prayed for his disciples that they would be one, as you and he are one. As we have eaten of the one bread, and drank from the one cup, keep your whole church harmoniously together in faith and love, united by the one Spirit. We ask this through your most holy name, 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!

*Doxology

Praise God

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Prayer of Dedication

All: Transforming God, we have come to your house as children. The Table is ever-growing, and we revel in your gifts for us. Receive our simple offerings, that they may be used to faithfully serve in building your kingdom come. Amen.

We Serve

Closing Hymn

*Go to the World!
Verses 1, 2 and 4*

found on page 12 of the bulletin.

Go to the World!



1. Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth. Go
 2. Go to the world! Go in - to ev - 'ry place. Go
 3. Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless and pray. The
 4. Go to the world! Go as the ones I send, For



preach the cross where Christ re - news life's worth, Bap -
 live the Word of God's re - deem - ing grace. Go
 nights of tears give way to joy - ous day. As
 I am with you till the age shall end, When



tiz - ing as the sign of our re - birth.
 seek God's pres - ence in each time and space. Al -
 ser - vant Church you fol - low Christ's own way.
 all the hosts of glo - ry cry "A - men!"



le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993, © 1991, GIA Publications, Inc.
 Tune: SINE NOMINE, 10 10 10 with alleluias; Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

The Benediction

Rev. Davis

*Postlude

Sine Nomine
 by Gregg Sewell

The Benediction and Postlude send us out to be the people of God in our community. When the altar candles have been extinguished, our time of worship is concluded and our service in the world continues

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A word of thanks to Stephani Bell, our violinist, for sharing her talent once again with St. John's

Flower Sponsorship
In Memory of Jean Fischl
By Jeanne Fischl

Bulletin Sponsorship from May 25
In honor of grandchildren
By Nancy Weaver

Our Condolences to the Boor Family

On Thursday, May 29, Betty Berger (98), the mother of our Office Administrator, Alison Boor, passed away peacefully. You're welcome to share messages of support at the church address.

Our Worship & Faith Formation Sunday Schedule

9:30am Worship

with Sunday Social time following worship

During the Summer months, June, July and August, Adult and Children's Faith Formation activities take a break with special opportunities announced. We look forward to coming together again on September 7.

Attendance – May 25 – 6th Sunday of Easter

Onsite – 82 Online - 29

7th Sunday of Easter / Confirmation Sunday, June 1

Lectionary Readings

1 Samuel 2:1-10 and Psalm 113
Romans 12:9-16b and Luke 1:39-57

Serving in Worship Leadership

Liturgist: Confirmands	Scripture Reader: Linda Powell
Worship Tech: Bill Castello	Acolyte: Wayne Lichtenwalner
Ushers:/Greeters: Sharon Antrim, Wendy Fox, Kirby Hower, Charlotte Kerrington, Tyler Shankweiler	
Altar Guild: Marion DeMillio	
Social Hour: Basket Social and Bake Sale	

Pentecost Sunday, June 8

Lectionary Readings

Acts 2:1-21 or Genesis 11:1-9 and Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Romans 8:14-17 or Acts 2:1-21 and John 14:8-17, (25-27)

Serving in Worship Leadership

Liturgist: Regi Mohr

Scripture Reader: Barbara Seeds

Worship Tech: Bill Castello

Ushers: Carole O Connell

Greeters: Linda and Charlie Apple, Robin Brensinger

Social Hour: Consistory

IN OUR PRAYERS

Please remember in your prayers all those who are ill, in our area hospitals, or otherwise in need of prayer: Larry Albright, Phyllis Ambearle, Grace Arnold, Margaret and Richard Baatz, Diana Beck, Clarence and Dorothea Biehn, Sherry Castello (Bill's mom), Bob Czekner, Rob Czekner, Margaret and Mike Davis, Samuel, Nick and Amanda Devaney, Janet Ebert, Gus Geissinger, Gary George, Sally Gibson, Lynn Gilbert, Tracey Glass, Ron Glass, Joy and Mike Gravely, Donna Held, Joanne Hower, Ray Hower, Geraldine Keim, Emma Kuczek Repp, Judy Luckenbill, Gayle Mihulec, Karen Moyer, Joey Raszler, Madeline Slivka, Bert Smith, Leona Snyder, Martha Strauss, and George Williams.

Continued prayers for those in our military, especially Dominic DeMilio, Kaden Rossanese, and Nathan Unger.

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**. To add someone to our prayer list please contact the Church Office.

CALLING ALL WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

A new schedule for the months of July and August for readers, liturgists, ushers and greeters will be coming out mid-June, and volunteers are needed! Anyone interested in becoming involved with this wonderful ministry of the church, please contact Patrick at music@sjuccf.org or through the church office, extension 13.

VBS REGISTRATION

It's time to register for Vacation Bible School, held this year on June 22-26 (Sunday through Thursday) from 6:00 to 8:00pm. Register online by using the QR Code or contact the church office.

GIANT, WEIS, REDNER'S

Buy Giant and Weis gift cards and the church receives 5% back. Also good for purchasing gas. You can get your gift cards from the office or by seeing Tom Moyer & Carol Raszler every Sunday. Save the register tapes from Redner's and the church receives 1% back. A collection jar for the tapes is on the table in the lounge area or see Karen Stoitsits. Please do not roll the Redner's tapes and do not include other stores' receipts.

"STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH"

This special offering of UCC National furthers the work of our conferences and the national UCC as they work together to strengthen and renew existing congregations, fund leadership development, and provide exciting new programs for youth and young adults. The contributions are divided with 50% staying regionally within our own conference and 50% supporting the National Ministries of the UCC. Special offering inserts & envelopes were in the June newsletter, are in today's bulletin, and also on the table in the lounge area. They will be received on Sunday, June 8, and continue to the end of June.

WHITEHALL FOOD PANTRY

For the month of June, we are collecting cereal, pork & beans, and canned fruit. Any other non-perishable food items as well as monetary contributions are always welcome. A shopping cart can be found in the coatroom area by the sanctuary for you to place your food donations. If you would like to volunteer at the pantry on the 4th Monday of each month from 9am to 11am or 5:30pm to 8:00pm at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, please contact Gary Black at (484) 274-2405 or gary.t.black@outlook.com.

GRADUATES

St. John's wants to honor ALL our graduates on June 8. Please share the names of High School and College grads and any others receiving degrees so we may celebrate them.

OCEAN CITY BUS TRIP

Would you like to join us for our annual bus trip to Ocean City, NJ, on June 28th? We leave at 7:00am and leave Ocean City at 7:00pm. Cost is \$50. Money for the bus trip is due to Brian Fisher or the office by May 28th.

GRIEF SUPPORT ~ HEALTHCARE MINISTRY

You are invited to attend a grief support group at Asbury UM Church, 1533 Springhouse Rd., Allentown on the 4th Tuesday of the month 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 or (610) 428-9095 for more details and to indicate your interest. The next support gathering is **Tuesday, June 24**.

PEOPLE NEEDED TO SERVE ON “FUN-RAISING” COMMITTEE

Help is needed for anyone interested in serving on St. John's "Fun-Raising" Committee. If you have thoughts on ways to raise money for the church, ideas for new fundraisers, suggestions for current fundraisers, we need you to consider becoming part of this committee. For more information, contact chairperson Amy Feidler at (835) 210-5944 or email at alfeidler@gmail.com.

GENERAL SYNOD EXPENSE – Special Offerings

This year, the PNEC has selected both Rev. Steve Davis and Tyler Shankweiler to represent our conference at the national level of our global denomination, July 11-15, in Kansas City, Missouri. The PNEC will reimburse travel, food and General Synod expenses by 50% for all delegates. To help offset the expense for Pastor Steve and Tyler, for the communion Sundays of May, June and July, we will have a special offering plate and envelopes available for your donations. Contributions may also be made online or shared any Sunday, noting General Synod Expense. Thank you for your generosity and support.

OUR STAFF

Senior Pastor	Rev. Steve Davis srpastor@sjuccf.org
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Custodian	Eric McWilliams ericmcwill1@hotmail.com

**CHURCH CALENDAR
FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 1 – JUNE 8**

Sun 6/1	9:30 am	Worship – Confirmation Sunday
	10:30 am	Sunday Social Hour Basket Social
Tues 6/3	9:30 am	Staff Meeting
	6:30 pm	Stewardship and Finance
Wed 6/4	12 noon	Painting Group
	6:00 pm	Painting Group
	7:00 pm	SAA Recovery Group
Thurs 6/5	9:30 am	Visitation Committee
Sat 6/7	8:30 am	Men’s Breakfast
	9:30 am	Zumba
Sun 6/8	9:30 am	Worship
	10:30 am	Sunday Social Hour Newsletter Deadline