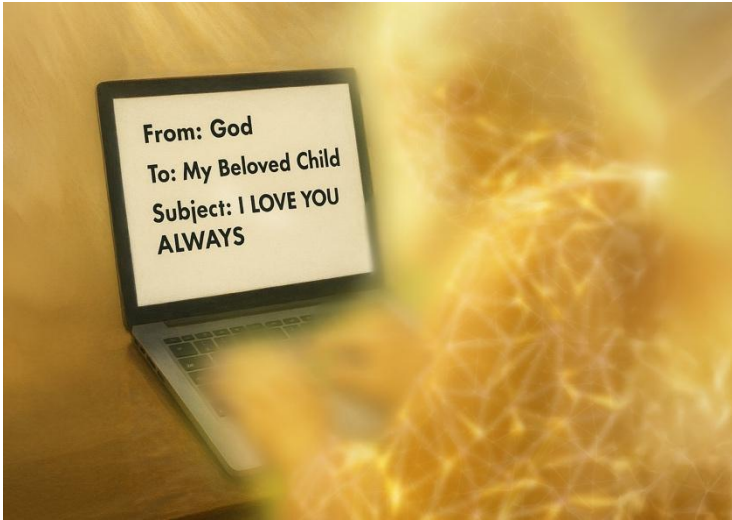




St. John's UCC, Fullerton

575 Grape Street ☩ Whitehall PA 18052
www.stjohnsuccfullerton.org
610-264-8421



August 24, 2025
9:30am



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

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

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

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.

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.

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

Chimes

Welcome and Announcements

- Gathering Sunday, September 7 & Sunday Socials
- Faith Formation Registration for children and youth
- Ministry Fair, September 14 during Sunday Social
- Dine & Donate, September 15 at P.J. Whelihan's Bethlehem location off Schoenersville Rd. (See pg. 13)
- Bus Trip to NYC, December 13 (See pg. 12)
- New Worship and Rejoice Hymnal (See pg. 12)

***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

Interlude No. 9

Arranged by Paul Tate

Patrick Sandt, Director of Music

***Call to Worship**

Liturgist: Kim Hillegass

One: O Consuming Fire, You spark awe and joy

All: with the work of your hands and power of your deeds.

One: You give us an unshakable kingdom in this ever-shaking world.

All: We give thanks and worship you with reverence and awe. Let us worship God!

***Gathering Hymn**

O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate

Verses 1 and 2

found on page 3

Invitation to Confession

Liturgist: Kim Hillegass

One: In faith and hope, turning to the Rock of our Salvation,
let us make our confession before God together.

(Time for Silent Prayer)

Prayer of Confession

All: O God of mercy, we confess that we live self-centered lives. We tolerate injustice, cruelty, and complacency at home and around the world. We neglect the needs of others. In your righteousness, deliver us and rescue us. Turn us to your way and lead us in your light, that we might serve you and care for all of creation.

Words of Assurance

Liturgist: Kim Hillegass

One: The Lord is our hope and trust, our light and salvation.
Believe the good news!

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

Children's Message

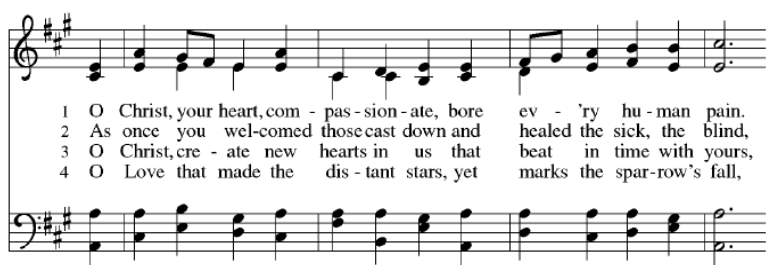
Rev. Steve Davis & Samantha Kistler

Hymn

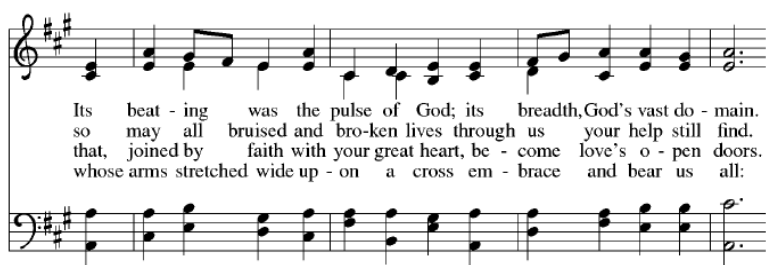
Seek Ye First

Verses 1 and 2

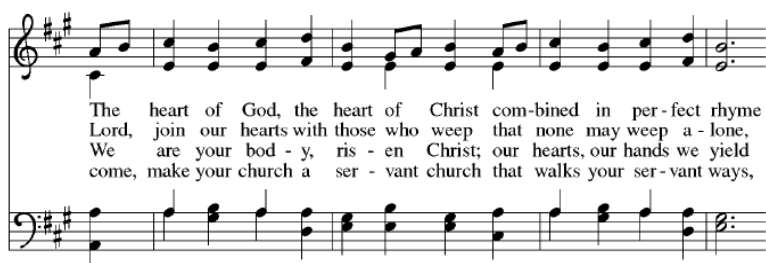
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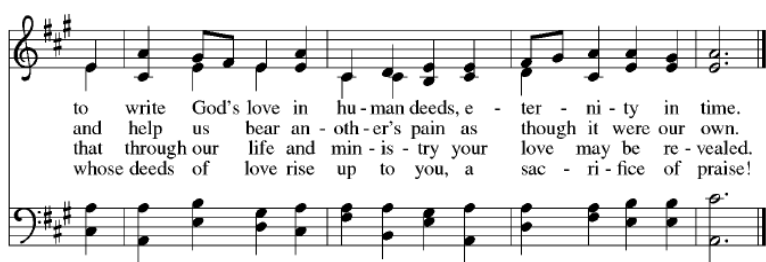
1 O Christ, your heart, com - pas - sion - ate, bore ev - 'ry hu - man pain.
 2 As once you wel - comed those cast down and healed the sick, the blind,
 3 O Christ, cre - ate new hearts in us that beat in time with yours,
 4 O Love that made the dis - tant stars, yet marks the spar - row's fall,



Its beat - ing was the pulse of God; its breadth, God's vast do - main.
 so may all bruised and bro - ken lives through us your help still find.
 that, joined by faith with your great heart, be - come love's o - pen doors.
 whose arms stretched wide up - on a cross em - brace and bear us all:



The heart of God, the heart of Christ com - bined in per - fect rhyme
 Lord, join our hearts with those who weep that none may weep a - lone,
 We are your bod - y, ris - en Christ; our hearts, our hands we yield
 come, make your church a ser - vant church that walks your ser - vant ways,



to write God's love in hu - man deeds, e - ter - ni - ty in time.
 and help us bear an - oth - er's pain as though it were our own.
 that through our life and min - is - try your love may be re - vealed.
 whose deeds of love rise up to you, a sac - ri - fice of praise!

Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God

783

Descant

Al - le - lu - ia, al -

D F#m G D G

1 Seek ye . . . first the king - dom of God and its
2 Ask and it shall be giv - en un - to you; seek and
3 We do not live by bread . . . a - lone, but by

le - lu - ia, al - le -

D Em A⁷ D F#m

righ - teous - ness, and all these things shall be
you shall find; knock and the door shall be
ev - 'ry word that pro - ceeds from the

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

G D G D Em A D

add - ed un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.
o - pened un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.
mouth . . . of . . . God. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.

Scripture Reading:

Psalms 71: 1-6

Read by: Sherri Gangewere

In you, O LORD, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame. In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline your ear to me and save me. Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress. Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of the unjust and cruel. For you, O Lord, are my hope, my trust, O LORD, from my youth. From my birth I have leaned upon you, my protector since my mother's womb. My praise is continually of you.

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

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Rev. Steve Davis

“Dear Children of God!” When We Are Shaken

Special Music

My Gracious Spirit

Arranged by Sally DeFord

Rev. Todd Fennell, Soloist

In all thy works I see thy glory, In mighty wonders; in small and simple things. My heart rejoices in the bounty set before me and my grateful spirit sings.

Each rising sun tells of thy goodness the rain proclaims thee in the life it brings. All creation bears the sure and silent witness and my grateful spirit sings. The stars that crown the realms of space reflect the image of thy grace.

The rolling seas, the earth and sky Declare thy pow’r; thy majesty and might I see thy hand in man’s compassion Thou art the font of kindness whence it springs, Thy boundless charity has wrought my soul’s salvation and my grateful spirit sings For changeless love and endless mercy for countless blessings beyond the wealth of kings.

For every perfect gift thou sendest, Lord, I praise thee and my grateful spirit sings.

We Love

Prayers of the People and Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Davis &
Samantha Kistler

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

Presenting 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
Jimmy Owens

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

*Prayer of Dedication

Liturgist: Kim Hillegass

**All: We give you thanks and praise, O God, for you have
chosen the poverty of the world to make your people
rich in faith. Help us to put our faith into practice
through the offering of our lives, giving food to the
hungry, clothes to the naked, and shelter to the poor; all
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

We Serve

***Closing Hymn**

What a Friend We Have in Jesus
Verses 1 and 2

found on page 8

***Benediction**

Rev. Davis

***Postlude**

Postlude on Converse

Arranged by Noel Rawesthorne

Patrick Sandt, Director of Music

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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Our Worship & Faith Formation Sunday Schedule

9:30am Worship

Attendance – August 17

Onsite – 68 Online – 47

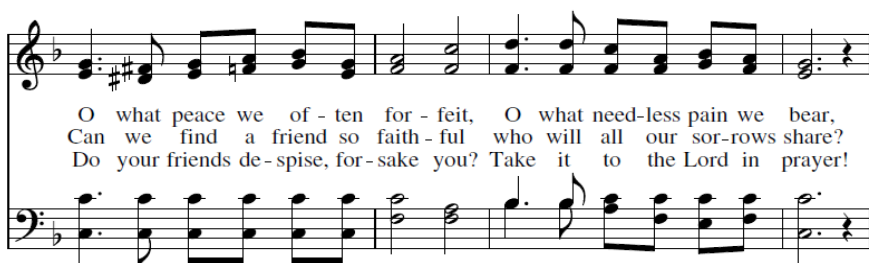
473 What a Friend We Have in Jesus



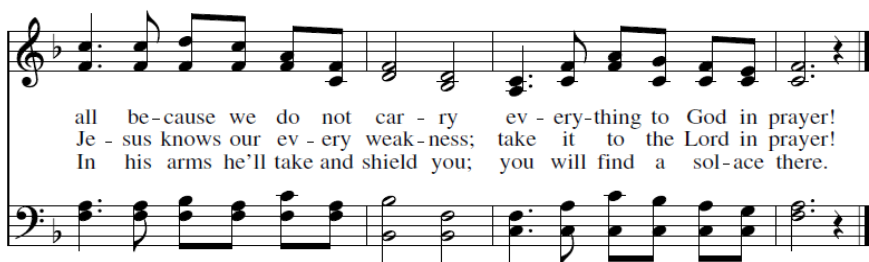
1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
 2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
 3 Are we weak and heav - y la - den, cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - ery-thing to God in prayer!
 We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged; take it to the Lord in prayer!
 Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— take it to the Lord in prayer!



O what peace we of - ten for - feit, O what need-less pain we bear,
 Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - rows share?
 Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer!



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - ery-thing to God in prayer!
 Je - sus knows our ev - ery weak - ness; take it to the Lord in prayer!
 In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a sol - ace there.

WORDS: Joseph M. Scriven (1819-1886)
 MUSIC: Charles C. Converse (1832-1918)

CONVERSE
 8.7.8.7.D.

11th Sunday after Pentecost, August 24

Lectionary Readings

Jeremiah 1:4-10 and Psalm 71:1-6

Isaiah 58:9b-14 and Psalm 103:1-8

Hebrews 12:18-29 and Luke 13:10-17

Serving in Worship Leadership

Liturgist: Kim Hillegass

Scripture Reader: Sherri Gangewere

Worship Tech: Bill Castello

Greeter: Pam Repetz

Ushers: Corrina Schneck and Kirby Hower

Altar Guild: Charlotte Kerrigan

12th Sunday after Pentecost, August 31

Lectionary Readings

Jeremiah 2:4-13 and Psalm 81:1, 10-16

Sirach 10:12-18 or Proverbs 25:6-7 and Psalm 112

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16 and Luke 14:1, 7-14

Serving in Worship Leadership

Liturgist: Dewey Yeatts

Scripture Reader: DonnaLee Yeatts

Worship Tech: Bill Castello

Altar Guild: Cindy Reck

Greeter: Kim Hillegass

Ushers: Tom and Emilie Moyer

Altar Guild: Marion DeMilio

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, Christina Bach, Clarence Biehn, Sherry Castello (Bill's mom), Rob Czekner, Roxanne DeMilio, Janet Ebert, Gus Geissinger, Gary George, Sally Gibson, Tracey Glass, Mike Gravely, Donna Held, Ray and JoAnn Hower, Geraldine Keim, Emma Kuczek Repp, Karen Moyer, Molly Nicholas, Joey Raszler, Bert Smith, Leona Snyder, Barry and Becca Stephens, Martha Strauss, and George Williams.

We pray for the family of Ron Glass, who died August 15th.

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.

GROCERY OPPORTUNITIES – GIANT, WEIS & REDNER'S

Buy Giant and Weis gift cards and the church receives 5% back. Also good for purchasing gas. 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.

BOSCOV'S "FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS" SHOPPING PASS

Purchase a \$5.00 shopping pass from St. John's and the church gets to keep the funds. The pass entitles you to 25% off the lowest sales price, in-store and online. To get your pass, see Ginny Brokenshire before or after worship or give Ginny a call at (610) 439-0443. Save the shopping date at Boscov's: **Wednesday, October 22, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.**

LEHIGH VALLEY SAVEAROUND BOOKS

With the year half over, we can now offer these books to you at a reduced cost of only \$10.00. You'll find coupons for restaurants (both dining and fast food), clothing, sporting goods stores, businesses, fun & recreation activities & more. Checks are payable to St. John's. See Carol Raszler to make your purchase.

BAZAAR ITEMS NEEDED

Time to clean out your closets, basement, garage, and shed. We're looking for items you no longer use or need such as: **jewelry, purses, linens, toys & games, puzzles, CDs, dishes, pots & pans, glassware, knickknacks, attic treasures, books, appliances, small furniture, and seasonal décor.** All items must be clean and in working order. We will **NOT accept:** clothing, encyclopedias, magazines, records, bowling balls, computers, monitors, printers. So, start bringing in your

items now and drop them off in the office or in Room 303. If you have any questions or would like to help in any department, contact Amy Feidler or Carol Raszler. Be sure to put the Bazaar date on your calendar — Saturday, November 8, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

TEXAS FLOOD RELIEF EFFORTS

The catastrophic flooding that occurred in Texas and in other parts of the country have claimed many lives. UCC's Disaster Ministries Team is helping the victims of this disaster as well as giving support for the long-term recovery efforts. If you would like to make a monetary contribution, you can find Disaster Relief Fund envelopes on the table in the lounge or in your August newsletter. Please make checks payable to St. John's UCC with "Severe Storms" in the memo section. The deadline to receive donations is Sunday, August 31.

WHITEHALL FOOD PANTRY

For the month of August, we are collecting juice, cereal, jelly, pancake mix, and pancake syrup. 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.

PASTIE SALE

Choose from meat pasties, melts, and fruit turnovers. Prices vary from \$7.50 to \$8.50 for the meat and melt pasties and \$4.50 for the fruit turnovers. Order forms can be found on the table in the lounge, August newsletter, or church's website under "Forms." Pickup is Thursday, October 2, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, October 5, down in Fox Hall. Deadline to order is Sunday, September 7. Checks, payable to St. John's, must accompany all orders. Give your orders to Carol Raszler or mail into the church office.

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, August 26.**

DECEMBER BUS TRIP

Spend the day, Saturday, December 13th, in NYC and enjoy the city during the holiday season. The cost of the trip is \$50.00 per person with the bus leaving the St John's parking lot. Additional information regarding drop-off at the Big Apple will be provided at a later date. Please write the checks to St John's UCC Fullerton and note the money is for the NYC bus trip.

ST. JOHN'S MUSIC MINISTRY IS HAPPY TO INTRODUCE *WORSHIP AND REJOICE*

Worship and Rejoice, a hymnal published by Hope Publishing in 2003, is an extensive collection of 749 titles containing all the essential traditional hymns, plus over 100 of the top contemporary worship songs. The broad scope of *Worship & Rejoice* makes it the richest resource available for blending different styles of music together in one service.

As we take this next step in growing our worship experience, we would like to introduce this hymnal for usage. We are providing you, our faithful members of the congregation, with an opportunity to dedicate each new hymnal purchased. Each hard cover book is valued at **\$20.00**. Your generosity and commitment is vital to serving others through our beautiful services.

To obtain an order form, please see the back table in the parlor, or connect with a member of the music ministry who will be in the back of the church after service beginning next weekend (August 31st)

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 **September 6 at 8:30 am**. 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.

DINE & DONATE – SEPT 15

P.J. Whelihan's off Schoenersville Rd., Bethlehem

Come join the St. John's family and friends by dining out on Monday, September 15, from noon to closing! **15% of ALL FOOD AND DRINK** will be donated back to St. John's UCC, Fullerton. Tell your friends and help us support our ministries.

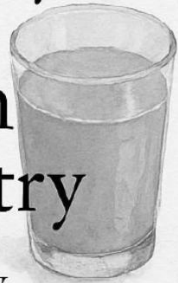
CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 24 – AUGUST 31

Sun 8/24	9:30 am	Outdoor Worship
	11:00 am	Connection Class
Tues 8/26	9:30 am	Staff Meeting
Wed 8/27	9:00 am	Verso Chat
	12 noon	Painting Group
	6:00 pm	Painting Group
	6:30 pm	STARS
	6:30 pm	Zumba
	7:00 pm	SAA Recovery Group
Thurs 8/28	6:00 pm	Bells
	6:30 pm	Property Committee
	7:00 pm	Choir
Sat 8/30	9:30 am	Zumba
Sun 8/31	9:30 am	Worship



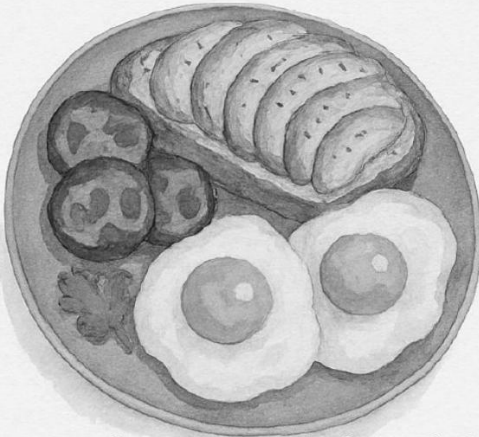
St. John's Music Ministry
cordially invites you to

Breakfast with the Music Ministry



Sunday,
October 12th
2025

beginning at
10:30AM
until 12PM



Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for children over the age of 5. Tickets are available after service, in addition to contacting the church office, or the morning of the event.



Tickets will be available beginning next Sunday after Service

OUR STAFF

Senior Pastor	Rev. Steve Davis srpastor@sjuccf.org
Director of Music	Patrick Sandt music@sjuccf.org
Ministry Intern	Samantha “Sam” Kistler samanthamkistler@gmail.com
Office Administrator	Alison Berger Boor officesecretary@sjuccf.org
Treasurer	Sue Weldner sbweldner@gmail.com
Financial Secretary & Coordinating Custodian	Michelle Gutekunst financialsecretary@sjuccf.org custodians@sjuccf.org
Worship-Media Tech & Connections Newsletter Editor	Bill Castello stars@sjuccf.org newsletter@sjuccf.org
Custodian	Christina Bach iron1@verizon.net
Custodian	Geoffrey Jackson geof.bloomberg24@gmail.com