

St. John's UCC, Fullerton

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



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



Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration

January 18, 2026

**Second Sunday after Epiphany
9:30am**

We Worship

Welcome to St. John's UCC, Fullerton!

*We are proudly an Open & Affirming (ONA) Congregation
of the Keystone Conference of the United Church of Christ!
You are WELCOME HERE!*

Our Offering is received as we gather for worship, with plates located on pedestals at the back. We graciously accept your gifts of praise and gratitude to God, 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. On Communion Sundays the children remain in the worship service.

Chimes

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Steven Davis

- Fun-Raising Information – Hoagies and Bus Trip
- Annual Meeting Report Book – Emailed and Online
- Annual Meeting and Potluck Lunch, February 1 following worship.
- Friday, February 7, 6:00pm – Tailgate Party and Church Family Feud Fun Night

*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

Lift Every Voice

Arranged by Jason Krug

Bells of St. John

***Call to Worship** Liturgist: Samantha Kistler

One: Children of God, who has God called you to be?

All: A light to all the nations!

One: When confusion, disunity, and misinformation threaten to undo us, who are you called to be?

All: A light to all the nations!

One: When wars and rumors of wars in our communities and around the world overwhelm us, who are you called to be?

All: A light to all the nations!

One: When the vulnerable are left without care or hope for flourishing, who are you called to be?

All: A light to all the nations!

One: Come! Let us worship God, who gives us as a light of good news to all the nations!

All: We come to worship God, who calls us and equips us to reflect God's glory and abundant life into all the world.
Amen.

***Opening Hymn #72**

Great Is Thy Faithfulness
Verses 1 and 2

Prayer of Confession and Response Liturgist: Samantha Kistler

One: We live our lives imperfectly, for we are flawed. And we are also loved by the God in whose image we were created. Let us remake ourselves toward that image as we make our confession before God and each other, first in silent prayer.

(Time for Silent Prayer)

All: Gracious and loving God, hear our prayer.
We know we do not always live as we ought:
We turn away from you, from our neighbor, and from our true selves. We know we dim your light within us, with our pride, our self-righteousness, and our need for control. We know that you love us, that you do not abandon us, and that again and again you call us back to you, back to love, back to grace, back to your light.
Forgive us, we pray, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sung Response

Choir, All

Call to Confession for Epiphany

Riko Watanabe



♩ = 72
First time Choir, then All 2 3 4

5 6 7 8

Lord have mer - cy Christ have mer - cy Lord have mer - cy on us
Lord have mer - cy Christ have mer - cy Lord have mer - cy on us.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Liturgist: Samantha Kistler

One: Friends, hear the good news: the mercy of God is from everlasting to everlasting.

All: **Let us proclaim the good news:
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.**

Children's Message

Rev. Davis & Samantha Kistler

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

Hymn #350

The Summons

Verses 1, 2, and 4

*Scripture Reading

Isiah 49: 1-7

Scripture Reader: Tyler Shankweiler

Listen to me, O coastlands; pay attention, you peoples from far away! The LORD called me before I was born; while I was in my mother's womb he named me. He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away. And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified."

But I said, "I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the LORD and my reward with my God." And now the LORD says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength-he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the

tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and stand up; princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Steven Davis

Glory Revealed: Give You as a Light

Song of Praise

Lamb of God—John Reim

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world. Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world. Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world.

Grant us peace, grant us peace.

We Love

Pastoral Prayer and Prayers of the People

Rev. Davis &

(Requests shared from the entry table basket) Rev. 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**

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

Gloria Patri

**Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

Liturgist: Samantha Kistler

All: Ever-Present and Calling God, receive these gifts, offered with gratitude and hope. Use them, and us, to proclaim your justice, to shine your love to the ends of the earth, and to glorify your name. In the name of Christ, your Servant and our Savior, we pray. Amen.

We Serve

*Closing Hymn #42

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise
All Verses

*The Benediction

Rev. Davis

Postlude

Praises Unending

Arranged by Jason W. Krug

Patrick Sandt, Director of Music

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Attendance – January 11th

Onsite – 98 Online – 33

Our Worship & Faith Formation Sunday Schedule

8:15am Friendship Class

9:30am Worship/Faith Formation: Holy Moly

10:30am Sunday Social

Second Sunday after Epiphany, January 18

Lectionary Readings

Isaiah 49:1-7 and Psalm 40:1-11

1 Corinthians 1:1-9 and John 1:29-42

Serving in Worship Leadership

Liturgist: Samantha Kistler Scripture Reader: Tyler Shankweiler
Worship Tech: Bill Castello Altar Guild: Linda Apple
Usher: Charlotte Kerrigan and Tom Moyer
Greeters: Pam Repetz and Jackie Maxon

Second Sunday after Epiphany, January 25

Lectionary Readings

Isaiah 49:1-7 and Psalm 40:1-11

1 Corinthians 1:1-9 and John 1:29-42

Serving in Worship Leadership

Liturgist: Sharon Czekner Scripture Reader: Corrina Purdon
Worship Tech: Bill Castello Altar Guild: Cindy Reck
Usher: Carole O'Connell and Wayne Lichtenwalner
Greeters: Kim Hillegass

IN OUR PRAYERS

Please remember in your prayers all those who are ill, in our area hospitals, or otherwise in need of prayer: Phyllis Ambearle, Grace Arnold, Margaret and Richard Baatz, Christina Bach, Sherry Castello (Bill's mom), Rob Czekner, Marion DeMilio, Janet and Jim Ebert, Keith Fox, Gary George, Sally Gibson, Sandy Glass and Tracey Glass, Mike Gravely, Donna Held, Ray and JoAnn Hower, Geraldine Keim, Jean McGonigle, Karen Moyer, Molly Nicholas, Joey Raszler, Bert Smith, Leona Snyder, Barry Stephens and Rev. Becca Stephens, Martha Strauss, and George Williams.

We pray for the family of Gus Geissinger, whose funeral service was yesterday. We pray for the family of William Hausman, who died this week.

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.

INCLEMENT WEATHER NOTICES

If inclement weather requires cancellation of Sunday services, notices will be on Channel 69 news or www.wfmz.com/weather/stormcenter.

GRIEF SUPPORT ~ HEALTHCARE MINISTRY

If you're grieving the loss of a loved one, you are invited to attend a monthly daytime grief support group at Asbury UMC, 1533 Springhouse Rd., Allentown. Rev. Evelyn Stupp, Asbury's Pastor of Bereavement and Care Ministries, leads the group. For more information and to indicate your interest in attending, please contact her at estupp@asburylv.org or 610-428-9095.

BUS TRIP TO SIGHT AND SOUND: "JOSHUA"

Wednesday, June 3, 2026. Bus leaves St. John's at 8am for 11am show. After the show we will enjoy a lunch buffet at Yoder's restaurant in nearby New Holland, PA. Cost of trip, including chartered bus, downstairs theater tickets, lunch buffet, and tips is \$150 per person. (Children may be a little cheaper.) Because we need to know how many are interested in this trip, we ask that you make your reservations ASAP. Please include a \$75 deposit with each reservation, and give to Tom Moyer or Carol Raszler.

APPLEBEE'S BURGERS FOR A CAUSE

Now available! Applebee's burger gift cards are good for any burgers on their menu (Some cost over \$17.00), for the price of \$10 per card. The certificates never expire, and are good at Applebee's in our area. They make great stocking stuffers! See Carol Raszler or Tom Moyer to purchase these certificates.

PEEPS MEETING

The monthly PEEPS (Women's Group) meeting will meet on **Tuesday, January 20, at 6:30 p.m.** in Fox Hall. Please contact Regi Mohr at 610-390-0872 to learn more about PEEPS.

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 Stoisits. Please do not roll the Redner's tapes and do not include other stores' receipts.

“SOUPER BOWL OF CARING” WHITEHALL FOOD PANTRY

Our goal in January and up to Super Bowl Sunday on February 8 is to collect 250 cans of soup. With all the excitement and spending associated with football's Super Bowl, help us be mindful of "those who are without even a bowl of soup to eat." The **“Souper Bowl of Caring”** initiative started back in 1990 and has generated more than \$100 million for soup kitchens, food banks, and other charities in communities across the country. Any other food donations as well as monetary donations are always welcome. **Please bring your cans of soup and place them in the box or shelves in the coatroom area by the sanctuary.** For more information or to volunteer on the 4th Monday of the month, contact Gary Black at (484) 274-2405 or email at gary.t.black@outlook.com.

SUPER BOWL TAILGATE PARTY & FAMILY FEUD NIGHT

Come to the Super Bowl Tailgate Party and Family Feud Night on **Friday, February 6, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. down in Fox Hall.** Meal includes chili, cornbread, dessert, and beverage followed by teams playing Family Feud. **Bring a can of soup for “Souper Bowl of Caring”** to support the Whitehall Food Pantry. Wear clothing of your favorite football team. **A signup sheet** is on the bulletin board at the

back of the sanctuary or call the church office. Let us know the number coming and if you are willing to donate any of the meal items.

PASTIE SALE

These traditional turnovers are made by hand at the Mr. Pastie bakery in Pen Argyl and come frozen. If you don't have time to cook, just pop these pasties in the oven for a quick, delicious meal. We have 13 selections to choose from. Order forms can be found on the table in the lounge area, in the January newsletter, or on the church's website.

Pickup is either Thursday, April 9 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. or on Sunday, April 12, after worship down in Fox Hall. If you have any questions, see Carol Raszler. **Deadline to place your order is Sunday, March 1.**

LEHIGH VALLEY SAVEAROUND BOOKS 2025

This coupon book, good for all of 2025, contains discount offers for restaurants, hotels, car rentals, entertainment venues, amusement parks, clothing, food, and much more. Cost is \$25 per book. A sample copy is on display in the lounge area. See Carol Raszler to make your purchase.

HOAGIE FUNDRAISER

St. John's is excited to kick off our first-ever Hoagie Fundraiser, running January 11th through February 22nd! This is a delicious way to support St John's while enjoying fresh, made-to-order food from Island Expressions. Whether you're grabbing lunch for yourself, feeding the family, or ordering for work, every purchase helps make a difference.

The sign-up sheet for the hoagie fundraiser will be on the red bulletin board in the back of the church with all the other announcements. Payment is due at the time you order the hoagies. Please hand the payment to either Michelle Guntekunst, Amy Feidler, or Brian Strauss. The last day to order hoagies will be February 22nd. The hoagies will be delivered to the church on March 6th during the day from Island Expressions, and pick-up time is from 4 pm until 7 pm.

PHANTOMS HOCKEY

Hey, St. John's, who is ready for an afternoon on the ice? Do you want to see the Phantoms Hockey team in action? Phantoms are playing WBS Penguins. Location: PPL Center Time: 3pm. Day: Sunday March 8th. Cost: \$28.00 per ticket. Section 121. Come and have a fun afternoon with fellow St. John's Member's!! If you are interested in going please email me your name, phone number, and how many tickets you need. My email address is brianfish2001@yahoo.com. Phone:610-762-1134, Thanks, Brian Fisher.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

MONTHLY OFFERINGS

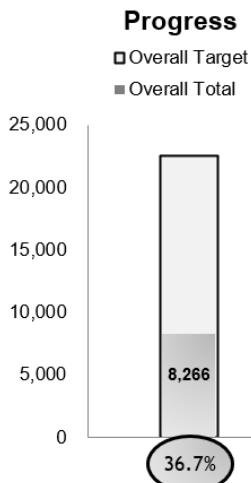
JANUARY 2026

Overall	
Overall Target	22,500.00
Overall Total	8,266.30
Overall Percent	36.7%

Last Week	
Start:	1/11/26
End:	1/17/26
Total:	3,389.00

Amt needed to reach Target

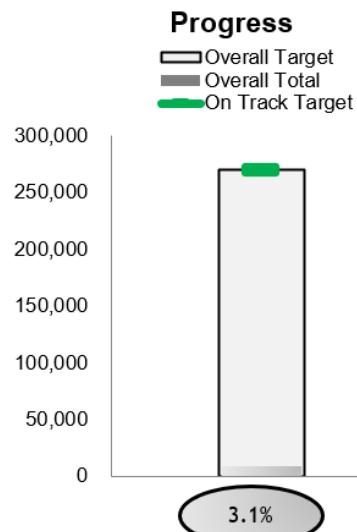
JANUARY 2026 14,233.70



YTD OFFERINGS

JANUARY 2026

Overall	
Overall Target	270,000.00
On Track Target	270,000.00
Overall Total	8,266.30
Overall Percent	3.1%



CHURCH CALENDAR
FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 18 – JANUARY 25

Sun 1/18	8:15 am	Adult Faith Formation
		Friendship Class
	9:30 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Faith Formation for Children
	10:30 am	Social Hour
Mon 1/19	Office Closed – Martin Luther King Day	
Tues 1/20	9:30 am	Staff Meeting
	10:00 am	Community of Practice
	6:30 pm	PEEPS
Wed 1/21	9:00 am	Verso Chat Lectionary Study
	12 noon	Painting Group
	6:00 pm	Painting Group
	6:30 pm	Zumba
	7:00 pm	SAA Recovery Group
Thurs 1/22	6:30 pm	Property Committee
	7:00 pm	Choir
Fri 1/23	5:00 pm	St. George Church School
Sat 1/24	9:30 am	Zumba
Sun 1/25	8:15 am	Adult Faith Formation
		Friendship Class
	9:30 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Faith Formation for Children
	10:30 am	Social Hour

OUR STAFF

Senior Pastor	Rev. Steve Davis srpastor@sjuccf.org
Director of Music	Patrick Sandt music@sjuccf.org
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