

St. John's UCC, Fullerton

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www.stjohnsuccfullerton.org ✠ 610-264-8421



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

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



**November 16, 2025
23rd Sunday after Pentecost
9:30 am**

We Worship

Welcome to St. John's UCC, Fullerton!

*We are proudly an Open & Affirming (ONA) Congregation
of the Penn NE Conference 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.

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

Chimes

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Steven Davis

- Fall Congregational Meeting, TODAY during social hour
- Mitten Tree for November
- Volunteers for Lighting of the Advent Wreath
- Prayer Shawls – Prayer Quilts at the back as you come in.
- NYC Bus Trip, December 13
- Community Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service, Monday, November 24, 6:00pm with Advent Decorating after.
- Passing of Larry Albright on November 11, 10am visitation 11am service at Fellowship Communities, Saturday, Nov. 29

*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

Wayfaring Stranger

Arranged by Craig Courtney

*Call to Worship

Liturgist: Rev. Janet Boyd

One: You are making all things new.

All: A new heaven, A new earth, A new way of thinking, A new way of being.

One: You are making all things new.

All: No more Death, No more mourning, No more crying. No more pain.

One: You are making all things new.

All: Renew our minds to renew the world by living out your commandment of love. You are making all things new.

*Opening Hymn

O Christ the Same

Worship & Rejoice # 433

Verses 1 and 2

Prayer of Confession and Response Liturgist: Rev. Janet Boyd

One: Before we call, God answers us. While we are still speaking, God hears us. Let us confess our sin to God, who even now is waiting to say, "I forgive you."

(Time for Silent Prayer)

All: Mighty Savior, we turn from your path of sacrificial love and we turn toward our personal preferences. In our self-centeredness, triune God, we now seek your forgiveness, praying that you will relieve the burden of our regrets by the power of your patient love.

Sung Response

Kyrie

Ostinato I



Assurance of Forgiveness

Liturgist: Rev. Janet Boyd

One: God is creating a new heaven and earth; the former things shall not be remembered. Be glad and rejoice forever in what God is creating: newness of life for all.

All: **In Jesus Christ, we are reconciled to God and to one another. Thanks be to God!**

Children's Message

Rev. Davis &
Samantha Kiester

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

Hymn

When Peace Like a River (It is Well)

Worship & Rejoice 428

Verses 1, 2, and 4

***Scripture Reading**

2 Thessalonians 3: 6-13

Scripture Reader: Barbara Seeds

Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother or sister living irresponsibly and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not irresponsible when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day so that we might not burden any of you.

This was not because we do not have that right but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living irresponsibly, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living.

Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Steven Davis

Let Gratitude Shine: Doing What is Right

We Love

Pastoral Prayer and Prayers of the People

Rev. Davis

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**

Praise God

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise God, all creatures here below

Praise God above ye heavenly hosts

Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Liturgist: Rev. Janet Boyd

All: As we bring our gifts this day, may they be seeds of your promised future — an offering of hope, justice, and mercy in a weary world. Let this act of giving remind us that your dream is still unfolding, and that we are called to help create it. In Christ's name, who is our joy. Amen.

We Serve

***Sending Hymn #523**

Soon and Very Soon
Worship & Rejoice 523
All Verses

***The Benediction**

Rev. Davis

Postlude

Joy in My Soul
Arr. by Mark Hayes

Patrick Sandt, Director of Music

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Our Worship & Faith Formation Sunday Schedule

8:15am Friendship Class

9:30am Worship/Faith Formation: Holy Moly

10:30am Sunday Social

Flower Sponsorship for Sunday, November 16th

In Honor of Emilie and Tom Moyer's 65th Wedding Anniversary

By Keith, Dee, Jane, Karen and Moyer Family

In Honor of Emilie and Tom Moyer's Wedding Anniversary

By Emilie and Tom Moyer

In memory of Gibbs H. Taylor, Steve and Christen's Dad, on what would have been his 86th Birthday

By Jackie Maxon, Bill Castello and Rev Steve Davis

23rd Sunday after Pentecost, November 16

Lectionary Readings

Isaiah 65:17-25 and Isaiah 12

Malachi 4:1-2a and Psalm 98

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13 and Luke 21:5-19

Serving in Worship Leadership

Liturgist: Janet Boyd

Scripture Reader: Barbara Seeds

Worship Tech: Bill Castello

Altar Guild: Marion DeMilio

Greeters: Pam Repetz and Jackie Maxon

Ushers: Marion DeMilio and Karen Stoitsits

Reign of Christ, November 23

Lectionary Readings

Jeremiah 23:1-6 and Luke 1:68-79

Jeremiah 23:1-6 and Psalm 46

Colossians 1:11-20 and Luke 23:33-43

Serving in Worship Leadership

Liturgist: Regi Mohr

Scripture Reader: Sharon Czekner

Worship Tech: Bill Castello

Altar Guild: Cindy Reck

Greeters: Carole O'Connell

Ushers: Charlotte Kerrigan and Kim Hillegass

Attendance – November 9

Onsite – 76 Online – 30

IN OUR PRAYERS

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

Our deepest condolences and prayers for Andrea and Lynn, daughters of Larry and Freda Albright, at Larry's passing on November 11.

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.

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.

LEHIGH VALLEY SAVEAROUND BOOKS

This coupon book, good for all of 2026, 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.

“OPERATION SANTA”

Look for the Mitten Tree at the back of the sanctuary. We are encouraging everyone to consider giving a donation to Phoebe Ministries and/or Pinebrook Family Answers. From your contribution, the staff at Pinebrook will purchase Christmas gifts for their children and youth, and the staff at Phoebe will purchase gift certificates to Phoebe's beauty salon/barber shop and gift shop for their senior residents. Be sure to take a mitten off the tree. Your contribution can be mailed, put in the offering plate, or paid online. Checks are payable to St. John's. Be sure to specify Phoebe or Pinebrook in the memo section. Deadline to received contributions is Sunday, November 23.

BUS TRIP TO NEW YORK CITY – December 13

We have been able to extend the deadline for our bus trip to New York City to Monday, November 24. The cost of the trip is \$50/seat. Please make your reservation with payment TODAY! Visit with Amy Feidler or Brian Strauss for more information. We need to have a minimum of 48 people for the trip.

RAISERIGHT GIFT CARDS

Orders have been placed for RaiseRight gift cards. You will be notified when the cards arrive for pickup. Thanks for your support of St. John's.

WHITEHALL FOOD PANTRY

Many young adults with children and senior adults on fixed incomes rely on Federal assistance for their food needs. With the government shutdown, congregations are looking to help fund area food banks, where they are already seeing significant increases in people looking for assistance. Federal funding for SNAP (food stamps) ended on October 31. A special offering for the Whitehall Food Pantry will be received over the coming weeks as the need continues. In addition, for the months of November & December, our goal is to collect 180 boxed or packaged stuffing mix for the Thanksgiving and Christmas meals. A shopping cart can be found in the coatroom area by the sanctuary for you to place your food donations.

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.

APPLEBEES 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.

ADVENT DECORATING

Volunteers are needed to help with decorating the church on Monday, November 24th, immediately following the 6PM Interfaith service. If you are available to help, please see Patrick Sandt.

FAMILY MOVIE & ICE CREAM NIGHT



Join us on Saturday, December 6, at 6:30 p.m. for a fun-filled event. Choose from a big selection of ice cream flavors with all the toppings, eat some popcorn, and watch the movie “WONKA.”

The movie depicts a young Willy Wonka (played by Timothee Chalamet) as he arrives in the city with a dream of opening his own

chocolate shop. He becomes entangled with a ruthless boarding house owner and greedy chocolatiers who want to crush any new competition. With the help of an orphan Noodle and other new friends, he sets out to make his unique chocolates and defeat his rivals. The story is a heartwarming tale of determination, friendship, and the idea that it only takes a dream to make a difference. A signup sheet can be found on the bulletin board at the back of the sanctuary.

GOBBLE, GOBBLE, GOBBLE

During the upcoming holidays, many of you will win turkeys, get them as gifts, or earn them with the supermarket rewards program. If you would like to donate your turkey for our fundraising events, please contact Carol Raszler to make arrangements.

ZION CHORAL SOCIETY

Zion Choral Society will be in concert Sunday, November 23rd at Cedar Crest Bible Fellowship, 1151 S. Cedar Crest Blvd, Allentown at 3PM. Zion Choral Society is composed of 67 auditioned singers providing a rich and inspired program of Christian music. For an uplifting, meaningful musical afternoon, please plan to attend as you are able.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

MONTHLY OFFERINGS

NOVEMBER 2025

Overall	
Overall Target	22,500.00
Overall Total	7,864.00
Overall Percent	35.0%

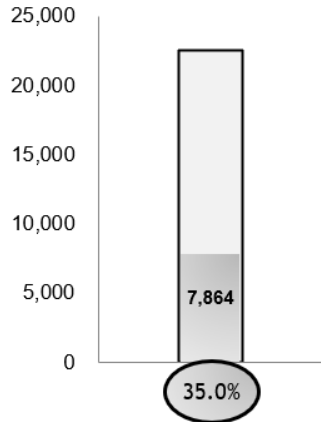
Last Week	
Start:	11/9/25
End:	11/15/25
Total:	2,299.30

Amt needed to reach Target

NOVEMBER 2025	14,636.00
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Progress

- Overall Target
- Overall Total



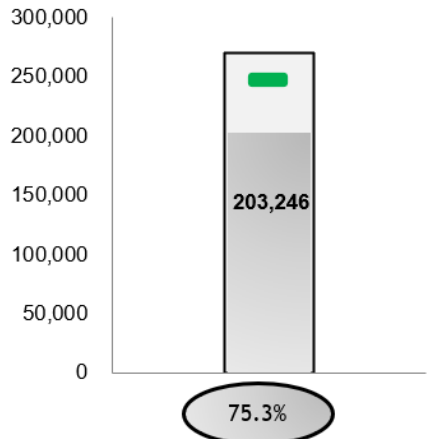
YTD OFFERINGS

NOVEMBER 2025

Overall	
Overall Target	270,000.00
On Track Target	247,500.00
Overall Total	203,245.67
Overall Percent	75.3%

Progress

- Overall Target
- Overall Total
- On Track Target



CHURCH CALENDAR **FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 16 – NOVEMBER 23**

Sun 11/16	8:15 am	Adult Faith Formation
		Friendship Class
	9:30 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Faith Formation
	10:30 am	Congregational Meeting Social Hour
Mon 11/17	6:30 pm	“Fun Raising” Committee
Tues 11/18	9:30 am	Staff Meeting
	10:00 am	Community of Practice
	6:30 pm	PEEPS
Wed 11/19	9:00 am	Verso Chat
	12 noon	Painting Group
	6:00 pm	Painting Group
	6:30 pm	Zumba
	7:00 pm	Mission Committee
	7:00 pm	SAA Recovery Group
Thurs 11/20	7:00 pm	Choir
Fri 11/21	5:00 pm	St. George Church School
Sat 11/22	9:30 am	Zumba
Sun 11/23	8:15 am	Adult Faith Formation
		Friendship Class
	9:30 am	Worship – Reign of Christ
	9:30 am	Faith Formation
	10:30 am	Social Hour/Conference Class