



St. John's UCC, Fullerton

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

HUMBLE *Faith*



October 26, 2025
9:30am



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

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

Twentieth 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 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

- “Ask the Pastor / Elders” Today after worship in Fox Hall
- Missions – Food Bank – 180 Boxes of Stuffing
- Worship leaders schedule—schedules in back of church for pickup
- St. John's Bazaar, Saturday, November 8, 9am – 2pm
- Mitten Tree - November

***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

*Eye Has Not Seen
Marty Haugen*

New Song for Worship

*Call to Worship

Liturgist: Regi Mohr

One: We gather in awe,

All: Standing in the presence of the One who crafted the stars, the mountains, the seas.

One: We gather in faith,

All: Trusting that the One who has held little children holds our lives in the heart of God.

One: We gather in need,

All: Seeking the One who longs for justice to grace each and every person in creation.

*Gathering Hymn

We Come with Joy in Jesus Christ

Verses 1 and 3

found on page 3

Invitation to Confession

Liturgist: Regi Mohr

One: The God of mercy waits in compassion to show mercy.
Together, let us seek God's forgiveness.

(Time for Silent Prayer)

Prayer of Confession

Liturgist: Regi Mohr

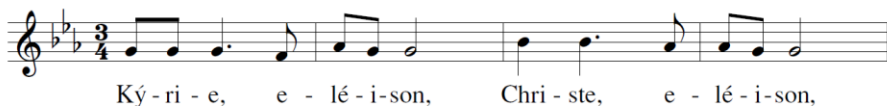
All: Loving God, shatter us with the truth that all have sinned. We have failed to live as the people you call us to be. Cleanse us and restore us, for the sake of Jesus, our Savior. This we pray in your most holy name, Amen.

Sung Response

Kyrie Eleison (Haugen)

Kyrie

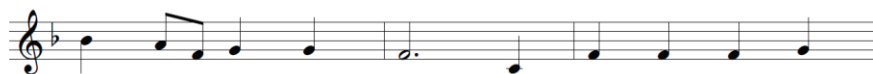
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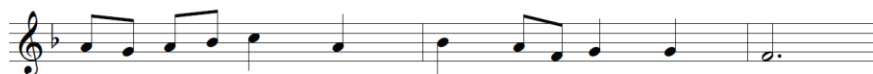
We Come with Joy in Jesus Christ



1. We come with joy in Je - sus Christ, Who
 2. A lit - tle bread is all we have, So
 3. Like rip - ples in a pool, our gifts, How -



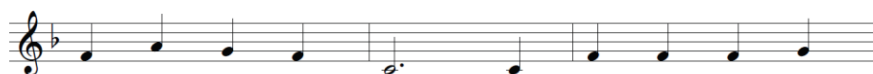
knows our hu - man need, Who, moved with pit - y
 mea - ger our sup - ply; A lit - tle time, a
 ev - er small they are, Will reach and heal a



for the poor, Would ev - 'ry hun - ger feed.
 lit - tle love Can hard - ly sat - is - fy.
 need - y world, Will com - fort near and far.



He blessed the fish and bar - ley loaves Till
 But let us bring the best we have, De -
 For Christ will bless our bit of bread, The



food was mul - ti - plied. His boun - ty o - ver -
 spite our pov - er - ty, And of - fer all our
 loaves our hands pro - vide, Till emp - ty bas - kets



flowed their want And all were sat - is - fied.
 gifts to Christ, Im - per - fect though they be.
 o - ver - flow And all are sat - is - fied.

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b.1939, © 1994, GIA Publications, Inc., alt.
 Tune: FOREST GREEN, CMD; English

Words of Assurance

Liturgist: Regi Mohr

One: God's love in Jesus Christ seeks us out and gathers us in.
This is good news!

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

Children's Message

Rev. Steve Davis and
Samantha Kistler

Hymn

Eye Has Not Seen
Verses 1 and 2

found on page 5

Scripture Reading:

Luke 18: 9-14

Read by: Sharon Czekner

He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector.

I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other, for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.

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

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Rev. Steve Davis

Choosing Faith: Humble Faith

Eye Has Not Seen

Refrain

Eye has not seen, ear has not heard what God has read-y for
those who love him; Spir - it of love, come, give us the
mind of Je - sus, teach us the wis-dom of God.

Verses 1-3

1. When pain and sor - row weigh us down, be near to us, O
2. Our lives are but a sin - gle breath, we flow-er and we
3. To those who see with eyes of faith, the Lord is ev - er
Lord, for - give the weak - ness of our faith, and
fade, yet all our days are in your hands, so
near, re - flect - ed in the fac - es of
D.C.
bear us up with - in your peace-ful word.
we re-turn in love what love has made.
all the poor and low - ly of the world.

Verse 4

4. We sing a mys-t'ry from the past in halls where saints have
trod, yet ev - er new the mu - sic rings to
D.C.
Je - sus, Liv - ing Song of God.

Text: 1 Corinthians 2:9-10; Marty Haugen, b.1950
Tune: Marty Haugen, b.1950
© 1982, GIA Publications, Inc.

Song of Praise

Take My Hand—Lloyd Larson

Take my hand, Lord, lead me onward, as a shepherd leads a lamb. Be my guide along the pathway to becoming all I am. Help me claim the gifts within me as Your calling I embrace, always learning on this journey, always living in Your grace.

Take my heart, Lord, make it tender towards the people on my path. Fill my soul with Your compassion; free my heart from fear and wrath. Help me see all those around me through the eyes of heaven's gaze, as I seek to share with others what I've learned of heaven's ways.

God, You save and call Your children by Your mercy and Your grace, granting gifts for every calling that can never be erased. Help me share Your light with others through the life I seek to live. Make my heart the humble vessel of the gifts You freely give.

Take my life, Lord, I surrender all I am and all I'll be. Give me grace to share the bounty of the love You've shared with me. Help me rightly seek for justice; fill my heart with mercy, too. Let me live a life of service; let me humbly walk with You.

Take my hand, Lord, lead me onward, as a shepherd leads a lamb.

We Love

Prayers of the People and Pastoral Prayer

**Rev. Steve Davis
and 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
Based on Old Hundredth

*Praise life that makes us change and grow
Praise love that makes compassion flow
Praise peace that ends all strife and fear
Praise hands that work for justice here. Amen.*

***Prayer of Dedication**

Liturgist: Regi Mohr

All: To you, O God, we offer our lives—our abundance, our poverty, all that we have, all that we are—a sign of our great thanksgiving for the treasure of your grace. Take and use us for good in the world that you so love; we pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

We Serve

***Closing Hymn**

Lord, I Want to be A Christian
Verses 1, 2, and 4
found on page 8

Benediction

Rev. Steve Davis

Postlude

Recessional
John Turner

457 Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

D D G D

1 Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart, in my heart;
 2 Lord, I want to be more lov-ing in my heart, in my heart;
 3 Lord, I want to be more ho-ly in my heart, in my heart;
 4 Lord, I want to be like Je-sus in my heart, in my heart;

A Bm G D G/D D

Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more lov-ing in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more ho-ly in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be like Je-sus in my heart.

G D Bm

In my heart, in my heart, in my heart, in my heart,

D A7 Bm G D

Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more lov-ing in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more ho-ly in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be like Je-sus in my heart.

WORDS and MUSIC: African-American spiritual

I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN
 Irregular

Flower Sponsorship

In Honor of our Wedding Anniversary (October 24th)

Rev. Todd and Jean Fennell

In Honor of Mike and Joy Gravely's Wedding Anniversary

By Sons Michael and Jonathan Gravely

Our Worship & Faith Formation Sunday Schedule

8:15am Friendship Class

9:30am Worship/Faith Formation: Holy Moly

10:30am Sunday Social

Attendance – Oct 19

Onsite – 60 Online – 26

20th Sunday after Pentecost, October 26

Lectionary Readings

Joel 2:23-32 and Psalm 65

Sirach 35:12-17 or Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22 and Psalm 84:1-7

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18 and Luke 18:9-14

Serving in Worship Leadership

Liturgist: Regi Mohr

Scripture Reader: Sharon Czekner

Worship Tech: Bill Castello

Altar Guild: Cindy Reck

Greeters: Kim Hillegass

Ushers: Emilie and Tom Moyer

21st Sunday after Pentecost, November 2

Lectionary Readings

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4 and Psalm 119:137-144

Isaiah 1:10-18 and Psalm 32:1-7

2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12 and Luke 19:1-10

Serving in Worship Leadership

Liturgist: Sherri Gangewere

Scripture Reader: Sharon Antrim

Worship Tech: Bill Castello

Altar Guild: Corrina Purdon

Greeters/Ushers: Sharon Antrim, Robin Brensinger, Wendy Fox,

Kirby Hower, Kathy Roth

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, Larry Albright, 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, Tracey Glass, Mike Gravely, Donna Held, Ray and JoAnn Hower, Geoffrey Jackson, Geraldine Keim, Karen Moyer, Molly Nicholas, Carol Raszler, Joey Raszler, Bert Smith, Leona Snyder, Barry Stephens, 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.

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.

RAISERIGHT GIFT CARDS

What better way to shop for those on your holiday gift list than by purchasing gift cards through RaiseRight. While you're shopping, don't forget to add a few for yourself. Choose from almost 150 vendors in various dollar amounts. Order forms can be found on the church's

website, in October's newsletter, and on the table in the lounge. **Deadline for order form and payment is October 31.** Checks are payable to St. John's UCC, Fullerton. If you have any questions, contact Karen Stoitsits at (610) 262-0746 or littlekdr@yahoo.com.

ST. JOHN'S BAZAAR AND ITEMS NEEDED

Saturday, November 8, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

- * Crafts * Yard Sale Treasures * Bake Sale * Candy Sale
- * Come for Lunch - Beef Vegetable Soup, Chili, Hot Dogs, Burgers, Snacks and Beverages

Deadline to receive items is Sunday, October 26. Clean out your closets, basement, and garage. 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, household furnishings, books, small appliances, small furniture, tools, craft supplies, 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. Bring in your items now and drop them off in the office or in Rooms 303 & 306. If you have any questions, need items to be picked up, or would like to help in any department, contact Amy Feidler or Carol Raszler.

WHITEHALL FOOD PANTRY

For the months of October & November, we are collecting boxed or packaged stuffing mix for the Thanksgiving meal. 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.

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. Pastor 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 NYC

Spend Saturday, December 13, in NYC and enjoy the city during the holiday season. See a play, visit a museum, or do some Christmas shopping. Cost of the trip is \$50 per person with the bus leaving St. John's parking lot at 9:00 a.m. & leaving NYC at 7:00 p.m. **Deadline for reservations and payment is Sunday, November 9.** Please make checks payable to St. John's UCC, Fullerton. If you have any questions, see Brian Fisher, Amy Feidler, or Pastor Steve.

NEIGHBORS IN NEED

Two-thirds of the NIN offering is used by UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to provide grants to UCC churches and organizations as well as supporting a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. One-third of the offering supports the Council for American Indian Ministry, witnessing to Native values and culture. Special offering envelopes were in the October newsletter and in the bulletin. Contributions will be received up until the end of October.

MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP – NOV. 15!

The Men's Breakfast Group of St. John's normally meets on the first Saturday of the month at the Hamilton Family Restaurant located at 2027 Hamilton St. in Allentown. Due to the PNEC Fall Conference Meeting on Nov. 1 and the St. John's Bazaar on Nov. 8, we have moved our Men's Breakfast for November. **Our next meeting is on November 15 at 8:30am.** We would be pleased to have you join us. If you would like to know more about this group, please contact the Church Office at (610) 264-8421 or email at Pastor Steve at SrPastor@sjuccf.org if you have any questions. Bring a friend and join in the breakfast fun!

FINANCIAL UPDATE

MONTHLY OFFERINGS

OCTOBER 2025

Overall	
Overall Target	22,500.00
Overall Total	13,425.61
Overall Percent	59.7%

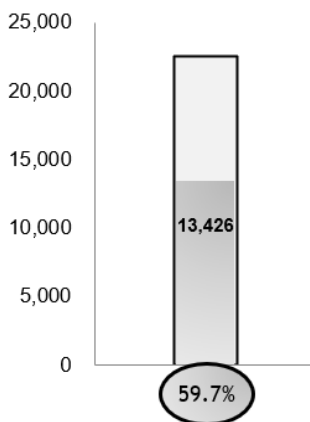
Last Week	
Start:	10/19/25
End:	10/25/25
Total:	1,037.00

Amt needed to reach Target

OCTOBER 2025	9,074.39
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Progress

□ Overall Target
■ Overall Total



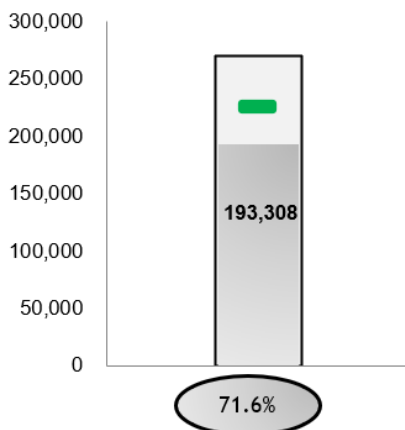
YTD OFFERINGS

OCTOBER 2025

Overall	
Overall Target	270,000.00
On Track Target	225,000.00
Overall Total	193,307.87
Overall Percent	71.6%

Progress

□ Overall Target
■ Overall Total
■ On Track Target



CHURCH CALENDAR **FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 26 – NOVEMBER 2**

Sun 10/26	8:15 am	Adult Faith Formation
		Friendship Class
	9:30 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Faith Formation
	10:30 am	Social Hour/Conference Class
	12:00 noon	Custodians meeting
Tues 10/28	9:30 am	Staff Meeting
	6:00 pm	Confirmation (UCC Greenawalds)
Wed 10/29	9:00 am	Verso Chat
	12 noon	Painting Group
	6:00 pm	Painting Group
	6:30 pm	Zumba
	6:30 pm	STARS
	7:00 pm	SAA Recovery Group
Thurs 10/30	6:00 pm	Bell Choir
	7:00 pm	Choir
Fri 10/31	6:00 pm	Trunk or Treat
	5:00 pm	St. George Church School
Sat 11/1	8:30 am	Men's Breakfast – <u>MOVED</u>
		to Nov. 15 at Hamilton Family Restaurant
	9:30 am	Zumba
Sun 11/2	Daylight	Savings Ends – FALL BACK
	8:15 am	Adult Faith Formation
		Friendship Class
	9:30 am	Worship – All Saints Remembrance
	10:30 am	Social Hour

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