



St. John's UCC, Fullerton

575 Grape Street, Whitehall, PA 18052

April 2020



April 2020

Vol. 13 Issue 4 "Our Church Connection"

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"Give Backs"

Texas Roadhouse

March 26th

Panera Bread

April 28th

Flyers for these "Give Backs" are in this newsletter

Mark Your Calendar

Gift Card Bingo Rescheduled to:
Friday, May 15th
@ 7:00PM

EASTER SERVICES
6:30AM, 8:15AM,
10:45AM

Newsletter Deadline

The articles for the May newsletter are due on April 12th.

*St. John's UCC,
Fullerton
575 Grape Street,
Whitehall, PA
"Our Church
Connection" newsletter
is published monthly.*

FROM REV. MICHELLE G FUNK

March 1, 2020
St. John's UCC, Fullerton

Dearest Beloved Church,

As most of you are aware, my husband has been driving back and forth to North Carolina for work the past 16 months. His company has now transferred him full time to the Graham, North Carolina facility. I am sure you can understand that I need to be with my husband. It is with deepest regret that I give my notice of leave to the congregation. We will be moving to North Carolina by May 1st.

While God's timing for this to some of you may seem terrible, I believe it to be a blessing. I am so glad God saw it fit for me to be able to walk along side you during this time of transition until your Interim Sr. Pastor's arrival. Rev. Bonnie Moore will be arriving on April 20, 2020 and my last Sunday will be April 26th. It will be good for us to have a week together prior to my leave.

What about confirmation? I will be talking with the Music & Worship committee and confirmation parents about moving confirmation up to a date prior to my leave-taking. It is important to me to be able to confirm the teens I have walked with for the past two years. Any teens unable to change the date selected will be confirmed on May 24th, as scheduled, with Pastor Bonnie.

What is next for me? After hearing the news, I submitted my profile to the Southern Conference discerning God's call for my ministry. I am humbled to say that I will be serving as the Southern Conference Minister for Youth & Young Adults. While I am sad to be leaving such an amazing church I am excited to begin this new call from God!

The 7 years I have been ministering with all of you have been such a joy and blessing! This transition for me is bittersweet. I am so excited about what God has in store for all of you! I know it will be good! You are a loving, welcoming, strong, growing & thriving church! I know there are awesome pastors out there that are going to walk with you as your ministry goes in exciting directions! God is indeed doing a new thing for all of us! I will be praying for you and for the pastors that are being led by God to serve with you!

Love & Light,

Rev. Michelle Germuga Funk

A Word from Pastor Bonnie Moore

“I am about to do a new thing...”

~ Isaiah 43:19

It doesn't take much for people to figure out that *I* am about to do a new thing – the many boxes and empty bookshelves in my office give that away! I suspect it doesn't take much for people to figure out that St. John's UCC in Fullerton is already doing a new thing – when a beloved pastor retires, “the way we've always done it” doesn't work even if a congregation wants it to!

But this quote from Isaiah isn't about you or me – it's about God – a God who is *always* guiding and renewing and challenging and refreshing anyone and everyone who is willing to attend to the ever-present movement of the Spirit in their midst.

Speaking of moving... until we can meet in person, here's a *very* brief intro: I graduated from Lancaster Theological Seminary in 1997 and will celebrate the 23rd anniversary of my ordination this Fall. I have served five different churches in the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference of the UCC, including a ten-year pastorate at Shenkel UCC in Pottstown, and most recently, a sixteen month position as Interim Senior Pastor at New Goshenhoppen UCC in East Greenville. I am currently wrapping up an interim pastorate at First Congregational Church of Pelham, UCC, in Pelham, NH.

I have three adult children – Michael, a freelance digital animator who lives in Costa Mesa, CA, Josh, who lives in Huntsville, AL where he works as an aerospace engineer with NASA, and Lindsey, who lives with her husband, Ryan, in Nazareth, PA, raising my three awesome grandkids, Jonathan (11), Levi (9), and Elianna (3).

I have been a puppy raiser for The Seeing Eye for over 25 years. Elwood, my 16th pup, just returned to The Seeing Eye (in Morristown, NJ) for his harness training this month. My other current interests include kayaking and weaving.

I am looking forward to serving with and among all of you as together we seek to discern what “new thing” God has in mind for St. John's UCC in Fullerton. See you in April!

Be God's,
Pastor Bonnie

Interim Ministry FAQs

What's an Interim Pastor?

An Interim Pastor is an ordained pastor with specialized training to serve churches during the transitional time between the departure of a settled pastor and the calling of a new settled pastor. Pastor Bonnie's profile included this description: "My approach to intentional interim ministry is to work with the church leadership and a Transition Team to help congregations recognize and celebrate how God has been at work in the past and present in their church, and to prayerfully consider where God may be leading them next. In the process, the congregation will gain clarity about their identity, core values, strengths, and growing edges. Those insights will be used to facilitate healing where necessary, in the discernment of a faithful vision for their future, and as the basis for planning and effecting changes that will put them in the best possible position to welcome their next pastor and become the church God is calling them to be."

An Interim Pastor has all the responsibilities of a Settled Pastor – worship leadership, pastoral care, meeting with committees, administration, etc. – and is also responsible for specific interim tasks described below. An Interim Pastor may also help with the local church's pastoral search process, but they are not involved in the actual search, and are **NOT** a candidate for the settled position.

How long will the Interim Pastor serve?

The length of the Interim Pastor's term is dependent on the unique needs of the local church and the length of the search process, as the interim time ends once a new pastor is called. Typically, Interim Pastors serve between one and two years.

What tasks are specific to an Interim Pastor?

Each church has unique needs, but an Interim Pastor will typically help a church and its members with some or all of the following foci:

- **Heritage** – Reviewing how the congregation has been shaped and formed, working through feelings of hurt, anger, or grief, and discovering what can be learned from the church's past
- **Mission** – Identifying and clarifying the church's identity and core values; reviewing (or developing) mission and vision statements that are congruent with that identity
- **Leadership** – Reviewing the congregation's way of organizing and its effectiveness in serving its mission; exploring ways to strengthen current, and develop new leaders
- **Connections** – Assessing and developing denominational and community relationships
- **Future** – The goal of all these tasks is not only to help a congregation prepare a strong, honest and clear Church Profile, but to be in the best possible position to welcome their new pastor and become the church God is calling them to be!



Thank you to everyone that had anything to do with my ordination service! It was a day I will never forget! The Spirit was certainly moving! Thank you to the staff & volunteers of St. J's for all your hard work in preparation for this service. To those that planned, baked, and were in any way a part of the refreshments and fun afterwards!

Thank you to the congregation for the beautiful communion set! It was a blessing to be able to serve communion with it on Ash Wednesday and March 1st. Thank you also for the generous monetary gift! I am planning on using it for a desk for my home office. This way every time I write a sermon, I will be able to reflect back on that awesome sacred day and my call from God! One more thanks for all the cards, gifts, emails and texts. I am so humbled to serve such an amazing congregation!

Love and Light,
Michelle

To St. John's UCC, Fullerton Family & Friends,

We would like to thank all of our friends for their support and prayers during the past months of our father's illness and passing. Pastor Quinn's almost daily visits were an inspiration and a blessing. It is easy to see why so many people view St. John's as their family.

Ted & Jinny Hess



Mary & I would like to thank Pastor Cliff for his home visit to give us a meaningful prayer and to bless the ashes of our very much loved & missed pet, our little girl "Happy". She is so much missed and she will forever live in Our Hearts. Happy would have been 3 in April, she had a heart issue. Born on our back porch with her 3 brothers which are all house bound. Happy was the only girl, and a calico. Thank You Pastor Cliff, your visit means a lot to us!

Roger & Mary Ann Knauss



To St. John's UCC, Fullerton

We would like to thank Pastor Dave for his special visits at our home and when my mother was in the hospital and at Fellowship Manor Rehab. Thank you to everyone for the Christmas goody bag. It was deeply appreciated. Also a special thank you goes out to Pastor Herring for visiting my mother when she was in the hospital as well.

Betty Blose and Sandy Koch

To St. John's UCC, Fullerton

Thank you for the generous donation of \$692.25 in support of our very important programs. Your generosity will continue to help Valley Youth House in its mission to become the catalyst for youth to achieve their desired future through genuine relationships that support families, ensure safe places, and build community connections.

Our positive outcomes and legacy of excellence would not be possible without the support of thoughtful people like you. On behalf of Valley Youth House and those we serve, thank you for your help in expanding our reach to the most vulnerable youth and families within our community.

Sincerely,
Christina J. Schoemaker M.B.A.
Senior Vice President, Development & Marketing
Valley Youth House



Thank you for the prayers, food and visits over the holidays. It is never too late to say thank you very much! Thank you to Pastor Quinn for visits. Thank you for the food and treats and gifts. They mean very much to me. To give your time to make someone happy is the greatest gift of all.

Thank you,
Marietta Seyfried

Dear Friends of Christ,

Thank you for your generous donation of \$615.00 to the United Church of Christ to support USA Emergencies. Because of your kindness, we will help people rebuild their communities and bring comfort to their lives.

Aid provided to individuals from the early days of recovery and relief through the long-term recovery phase makes a big difference. Communities faced with devastating challenges find strength and hope in knowing that you care.

Thank you again for spreading God's hope, peace and love through your financial assistance as the United Church of Christ continues to build a just world for all.

Sincerely,
Rev. Dr. John Dorhauer
General Minister and President
United Church of Christ



Our Church Family



Change of Address/Phone No.

Janice Blaker
3020 Fellowship Dr.
Apt. 7
Whitehall, PA 18052

Jean Coombe
Parkland Manor, Rm A32
4636 Crackersport Road
Allentown, PA 18104

Jean Litzenberger
5248 Spruce Street
Schnecksville, PA 18078-2640

Sandra Diefenderfer
255 Greenbriar Circle
Tobyhanna, PA 18466-3008

Stephen Reck
319 Waterford Road
Silver Spring, MD 20901-2535



Deaths

Carol (Ritter) Myers died on February 28th. Carol is survived by her daughter, Karly, mother, Phyllis Csaszar, step-father, Frank Csaszar and significant other, Jason Snyder. Services are private.

Walter Ebling died on February 28th. He is survived by his wife, Nancy, son, Walter, grandchildren and a great-grandson.

Our thoughts and prayers are the families of Carol and Walter.

New Member's Group Forming

If you would like to join the St. John's family please speak with Pastors Michelle Funk or Cliff Herring or Colleen Kulhamer, Consistory President.

Upcoming Baptisms

March 22 – Rowan Gregory Rarich Lord
March 22 – Daniel Joseph Vrablic
April 19th – Raylynn Mae Morris
May 17th – Everly Rose Dilley and Daniel Jayden Pope



April Anniversaries

April 4 – Gladys & Joseph McCarthy – 50 years

April 8 – Patricia & James Molinaro – 59 Years
Charlene & John Hoff – 48 years

April 10 – Veronica & Joshua Miller – 10 years

April 12 – Beth Ann & David Erney – 40 years

April 13 – Kristy & Michael Hentz – 7 years
Amy & Jairus Miller – 7 years

April 20 – Lucille & Roger Schneck – 57 years

April 23 – Sandra & Todd Heffelfinger – 26 years

April 25 – Audrey & Duane Slough – 22 years

Calling All Graduates!

It is almost graduation time! Those who are graduating are finishing up papers, thinking of final exams and getting ready for this important milestone. If you are going to graduate in 2020 please let us know. We want to know from where you are graduating and your future plans.

Please call the church office or email Susan our Office Administrator with the details (stjohnsucc.secretary@rcn.com).



Check out our website!

www.stjohnsuccfullerton.org

Hospital Admission Policies

When being admitted to an area hospital please inform them your church code is 473.

Please have a member of your family also call and let us know you have been hospitalized.



Susan, our Office Administrator calls the hospitals daily but sometimes is not told of a member's admittance. We want to visit and pray for all of our members. Help us to know when you need us! Call the church and pastor.

*Hospital Code for
our church - 473*

Church News



2020 Lenten Series ~ "Roll Down Justice"

Lenten "Soup, Spirit, and Soul" Worship - Wednesday nights – 6:30PM



In keeping with our Sunday worship theme of "Let Justice Roll Down", we have focused our mid-week Lenten gatherings on justice issues that face our community. You are invited to join us on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 PM in Fox Hall. We will begin with a meal where you will have a selection of soups and breads, followed by a 20 minute presentation.

On Wednesday, March 25, we are hoping to focus on prison reform issues. We have not been able to obtain a speaker as of yet.

On Wednesday, April 1, Dr. Brad Beckwith will speak on Abusive Relationships.

We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday evenings.

Lenten Series used with permission by Worship Design Studio. © Marcia McFee

******We are looking for people to make soup and bring bread** to our soup supper and services - Wednesdays during Lent, March 25th, and April 1st. A sign-up sheet will be in the coat room on the board. If there are any questions, please see/call Kenda Catalini 484-358-7453 or Pastor Cliff.



April 5 ~ Palm Sunday – 8:15AM and 10:45AM
9:30AM – Journey through Holy Week

April 9 ~ Maundy Thursday – 7:00PM –
Holy Communion

April 10 Good Friday – 7:00PM – An important service to experience.
This moving service reminds us of all that Jesus did for us on that sacred day

April 12 EASTER Services – "HE HAS RISEN!" 6:30AM, 8:15AM & 10:45AM



Gift Card Bingo Rescheduled

The Gift Card Bingo that was scheduled for Friday, March 27th has been rescheduled for Friday, May 15th. Doors open at 6:00PM; Bingo 7:00PM

Due to the Coronavirus, we want to take precautionary measures with events where a large number of people are in attendance.

We care about our community and our leadership is making decisions we feel are appropriate to keep everyone safe.

TICKETS that have been purchased are valid for the May bingo. If the NEW date does not work for you, call the church office to schedule a time to return your tickets and receive a refund.



Cost of tickets \$20.00 in advance; \$25.00 the night of the event (if available). In addition to the regular bingos and specials there will be a basket raffle and the kitchen will be open.

**PLEASE READ:
IMPORTANT
MESSAGE**

Precautionary Measures

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, the leadership body of St. John's has taken precautionary measures to help keep our congregation safe. During this time of uncertainty, we will change the way we serve communion until after Easter. We are also requesting "no touch" greetings during worship.

Please check the church's Facebook page and our website www.stjohnsuccfullerton.org as we adapt events for the safety of our congregation and community.

Continue to follow CDC and Healthcare Professionals' recommendations during this time. See the Healthcare article in the April newsletter for more information.

If you have any pastoral concerns, please email or call the church office or the pastors.

Lent Offering Envelopes

Included in this newsletter is a Lenten envelope. Over the years, fewer members are inserting coins in the Lenten tri-fold coin folder. Many either insert cash or checks or don't use them at all. As there is considerable expense for purchase and mailing, we have printed the enclosed envelope for your use.



Informal Communion

During Lent we will be offering an informal communion option for folks who are unable to come to regular services on communion Sunday due to work or other commitments. Join us in the sanctuary from 4:30 pm - 5:00 pm where you will be able to receive communion and a prayer from a pastor.

Informal communion will be offered on Sunday- April 5th.

Holy Communion Sign In Book!

The book is on the table in the back of the sanctuary. You are asked to sign it if you participated in the sacrament. You need only sign it ONE TIME PER YEAR. The book will be alphabetical according to your last name.

Please participate often in the sacrament and make sure you sign the book at least one time during 2020.

Miller Blood Drive - April 19th

Sunday, April 19, 2020 will be the next Miller Blood Drive at St. John's. This blood drive is being dedicated to Jack Ohl. If you cannot donate on this date and go to the blood center, please mention the donation is for Jack Ohl through St. John's.

I am already scheduling donors so please call me for a time slot - Sharon Antrim 610-216-6207. Please leave a message if I don't answer and I will get back to you asap. I truly appreciate the response I get from all donors. Save lives.

God Bless Sharon



Pastor Emerita...

Let's enjoy a sacred moment together! We will be honoring Pastor Becky as our Pastor Emerita on Sunday, **March 29th** at the 10:45AM worship service! Hope you can join us for this special moment in the life of our church!

Save
the Date

Best Wishes to Pastor Michelle

Pastor Michelle's last day with us will be Confirmation Sunday on April 26th.

On Holy Humor Sunday, **April 19th**, St. John's will be serving up donuts, coffee and punch in Fox Hall from 9:15am-10:15am to wish Pastor Michelle our best wishes as she prepares for her new adventure in North Carolina.

There will be a special box available for cards, advice, and other surprises for Pastor Michelle. Come join us as we thank her for choosing St. John's to be a part of her journey and celebrate a job well done!

Rev. Dr. Bonnie Bates' Installation

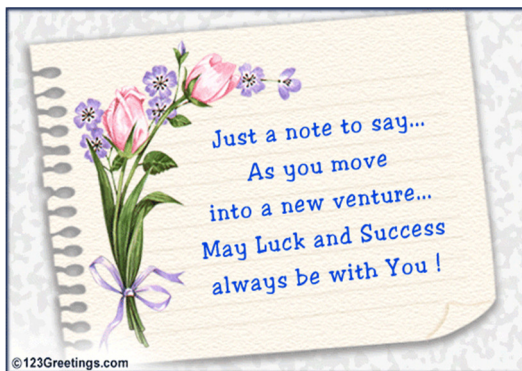
Everyone is welcome to attend the Installation of Rev. Dr. Bonnie Bates as our 4th Penn Northeast Conference minister. The event will be held on **April 4th** at 2:00 pm at Greenawalds UCC, 2325 Albright Avenue, Allentown.

May 3rd Faith Formation "Meet N Greet" with Rev. Bonnie Moore

Families and congregation are welcome and urged to attend this opportunity to meet our Sr. Interim Pastor Rev. Bonnie Moore. There will be a time for questions and answers so we can begin to get to know

each other. The Christian Ed committee will be providing donuts and drinks. Parents, grandparents, children, teens, adults alike this is an hour you won't want to miss! Let's give Pastor Bonnie a warm St. J's welcome!

meet & greet



Easter Egg Hunt



Saturday, April 4th - 10:30AM
(Ages 0 - 12) ~ Call the Church office
to register for the Egg Hunt or pick up
a registration form in the coat area
or register online

<https://tinyurl.com/sjegg hunt2020>

Prize basket and prize bags for every
age group!



The Men's Breakfast Group

The Men's group of St.
John's meets on the first
Saturday of the month at the
Hamilton Family Restaurant
in Allentown. We would be
pleased to have you join us.
Next meeting is April 4th at
8:30AM.



Breakfast

Lady PEEPS Invites You!

"The Amen Corner"

Our next Lady PEEPS meeting is on **Tuesday, April 21, at 6:30 p.m.** in Fox Hall as we learn more about **Colleen Kulhamer's** faith journey.

The theme is the "**The Amen Corner.**" She'll share her experiences growing up in the Baptist church, its history and beliefs, and the Baptist culture. Join us as we explore another Christian religion and examine its differences and similarities. Refreshments will also be served.



**Let's All
Shout
"Amen"**

Ironpigs Party Porch

Friday, July 31st



Baseball, food, fireworks, and
non-alcoholic beverages, along
with a great view of the game.

Price - \$37 (Same as the past few years)

Now taking reservations, with
payment. See Tom Moyer.

LET'S GO PIGS!

“Give-Back Nights”

★Join us on **Thursday, March 26, from 3:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.** at the **Texas Roadhouse** located at **6268 Hamilton Blvd.**

in Trexlertown. From your dinner receipt, 10% will be

donated back to St. John’s. **An additional 20% off on a meal for military, veterans, fire, police, EMT, paramedics, doctors, nurses, teachers with proof of ID.** A flyer is required.

★Join us on **Tuesday, April 28, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** at **Panera Bread** located at **2669 MacArthur Rd. in Whitehall.** From your dinner receipt, 20% will be donated back to St. John’s. A flyer is required.



Flyers can be found in this newsletter, bulletin, and in the parlor.



We've Got a Team !!!

Who are Our St. John's Daredevils?



We have **Four** brave souls who are participating in the Lehigh Conference of Churches' Third Annual **“Valley Over the Edge.”** They will be among 92 rappellers going “over the edge” at the Five City Center building in downtown Allentown on **Saturday, May 30**, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. LCC hopes to raise \$100,000 for their many programs that help the homeless, the disadvantaged, those facing health and mental disorders, and those assimilating into society after incarceration.



The **St. John's Team** is comprised of: **Pastor Dave Quinn, Paul Raszler, Joe Trippett, and Roxanne DeMilio!** Each OTE participant needs to raise \$500, and the Mission Committee is asking the congregation for its help in supporting their efforts. Soon you will find a donation box in the lounge area by the sanctuary.

More information will be available shortly and in the May newsletter on how we can help Dave, Paul, Joe, and Roxanne reach their goal. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please see Carol Raszler.

Don't Count Calories!

Our next Bake Sale with The Bakery Nook is scheduled for **Friday, April 24**. We will be taking orders for **Wet-Bottom Shoofly Pies, Funny Cakes, and Plain & Walnut Sticky Buns**. Cost is \$10. 10" pies are too big for you?—cut in half and freeze! **A sign-up sheet for orders is in the coatroom area by the sanctuary or you can contact Carol Raszler at 610-393-7572.** Pickup times are from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. that Friday in Room 201 or in the lounge after each worship service on Sunday, April 26. **Deadline for orders is Sunday, April 12.**



M'm! M'm! Good! M'm! M'm! Good!

Our homemade soups are M'm! M'm! Good!

Our next selection of soups is **Turkey Pot Pie**, which will be **made on Friday, May 15**. Cost is \$7.00 a quart. **A sign-up sheet for orders is posted in the coatroom area by the sanctuary or you can contact Carol Raszler at 610-393-7572.** Pickup times are that Friday from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. down in Fox Hall or in the lounge after each worship service on Sunday, May 17. **Deadline for orders is Sunday, May 3.**

Another IronPigs Opportunity

We've reserved **100 seats** in Section 105 of the grandstand in Coca Cola Park for the IronPigs vs. Indianapolis Indians (affiliate of the Pittsburgh Pirates) baseball game. **Game day is Monday, August 10, at 7:05 p.m.** The cost will be \$12 per person which includes a ticket to the game, \$2 ball park refreshment or food voucher, raffle ticket, and handling fee to St. John's. While it is too early to know of any give-aways, we know that it's **Dollar Dog Night** where hotdogs will again be \$1 all night long. So mark your calendar—we will start taking reservations **May 3** and **payment must be made in advance.** (Checks are payable to St. John's.) For more information, please contact Carol Raszler at 610-393-7572 or email at craszler@aol.com. **Deadline for reservations is June 21.**



Crockpot Breakfast Casserole

Submitted by Marion DeMilio, Healthcare Committee

1 dozen eggs
2 lbs. of hash brown potatoes
½ cup onions – diced
¼ teaspoon dry mustard
1 tsp salt and ½ tsp of pepper

1 cup milk
1 lb. of bacon or veggie Morning Star bacon – cooked
3 cups cheddar cheese – shredded
¼ teaspoon garlic powder

Instructions

- Beat 12 eggs until well blended
- Next, beat in milk and garlic powder, mustard, 1 tsp salt & ½ tsp pepper. Set aside
- Layer potatoes (I suggest to season each potato layer to taste...a small pinch of salt and pepper) and sprinkle 1/3 of the onions
- Next sprinkle 1/3 of the bacon
- Last but not least, top with 1 cup of cheese
- Repeat this layering 2 more times to have a total of 3 layers ending with cheese
- Take your egg mixture and pour over layers. For refrigerated hash browns, cook for 6-7 hours on low. For frozen hash browns cook for 7-8 hours on low or until eggs are set.

Nutrition information

Calories 416kcal (21%)	Carbohydrates: 23g (8%)	Protein – 29g (58%)
Fat: 33g (51%)	Saturated fat: 12g (60%)	Cholesterol: 294 mg (98%)
Sodium: 766mg (32%)	Potassium: 594 mg (17%)	Fiber: 1g (4%)
Sugar: 2g (2%)	Vitamin A: 515IU (10%)	Vitamin C: 9.3mg (11%)
Calcium: 261 mg (26%)	Iron: 2.7 mg (15%)	



St. John's UCC, Fullerton Mission Statement

St. John's United Church of Christ, Fullerton provides a welcoming and safe place for all people to worship God, grow in faith and fellowship, and serve others and God by following the example of Jesus Christ. We believe all persons are created in God's image and are loved, valued, and blessed equally by God. This community of faith is an open and accepting congregation who seeks to welcome, without judgment, all persons, including those of all races, ethnicities, faith backgrounds, abilities and economic circumstances.

Everyone is invited to fully share and participate in the life, ministry, and joys of our church family.



© Can Stock Photo

April Music Notes

God has been doing a new thing in our midst. It started with the *Roll Down, Justice* series we are using during Lent and finishing on Easter. We have heard scriptures, poems, and prayers dealing with social justice, and we have sung new music.

On Easter Sunday at the 8:15 am and 10:45 am services, we will sing *Ubi Caritas*. Oh my! What is that? *Ubi Caritas (Where Charity Is)* began as a Gregorian chant and may have been written between 300 and 1100 CE. CE means "Common Era" or "Christian Era". The setting we will sing is from Taize. The Taize Community is an ecumenical Christian monastic fraternity in Taize, France. It is composed of more than one hundred brothers from Catholic and Protestant traditions, who originate from about thirty countries across the world. It was founded in 1940 by Brother Roger Schutz, a Reformed Protestant.

The music of Taize emphasizes simple phrases, usually lines from Psalms or other pieces of scripture. The repetition of the words and music make the songs easy to learn.

Now back to *Ubi Caritas*. The choirs will sing it in Latin first and the congregation will sing the English translation. Here are the Latin and English words:



*Ubi caritas et amor,
Ubi caritas Deus ibi est.*

*Live in charity and steadfast love,
Live in charity; God will dwell with you.*



Live in Charity and Steadfast Love is fitting to sing on Easter Sunday as we have been focusing on social justice issues and the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. And in the end, **LOVE WINS!**

Musically,

Gail

Would You Like the Newsletter Emailed to You?

You can receive your newsletter by email. Please send your email address to Susan Kuder at stjohnsucc.secretary@rcn.com. By getting an emailed copy of the newsletter it saves the church money by using less paper, less ink usage, and lower mailing costs. Also, if you get it emailed, you will receive your newsletter quicker than through regular mail.



Christian Education & Youth

Confirmation

The confirmands are getting ready for their special day! Join us on Sunday, April 26th at 9:30AM as we witness our 2nd year confirmands reaffirming their baptism! This is a special day on their faith journey, please join us! ONE SERVICE ONLY THIS SUNDAY!

Youth Group Crossover Worship service

Monday, April 13th 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

All Youth Groups will enjoy our Crossover Worship & Celebration in Fox Hall! Pizza will be provided! Please RSVP total number of people attending to Pastor Michelle by April 5th! sjuccyouth@gmail.com or 610-264-8421.

Vacation Bible School

“Knights of the North Castle”

Monday, July 13th - Friday, July 17th

5:45 pm - 8:00 pm.

Grades PreK - 6th



Register online:

<http://tmab.cokesburyvbs.com/stjohnsuccfullerton>



FAITH FORMATION

Save the Date!~

Last Day of KidZ JAM & Faith Formation Classes!

Sunday, May 17th, 2020

Bowling Youth Group Fun!

All youth groups and families welcome to one more outing with Pastor Michelle! Sunday evening April 19th (time TBD) the youth group and families will head to Jordan Lanes to bowl! \$7.75 person includes 2 games, shoe rental, hot dog and a soda! Let's enjoy a night of fun together!





DINE TO DONATE! FUNDRAISING NIGHT

Support St. John's UCC Fullerton by presenting this flyer at the Fullerton location (2020 Main St.) and Texas Cakes will donate 20% of your total food purchase to St. John's UCC Fullerton!

10%

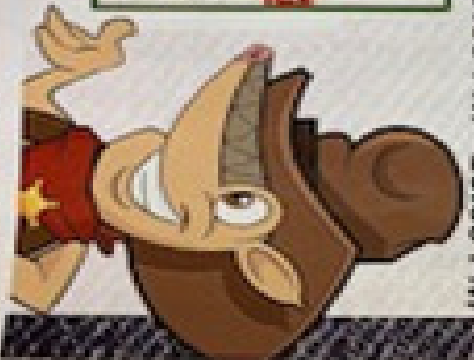
DONATION NIGHT

Support
**St. John's UCC-
Fullerton!**

**March 26, 2020
3:00 PM - 10:00 PM**

**THANK YOU
THURSDAY**

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
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DOCTORS • NURSES • TEACHERS
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WHEN Tues, Apr 28th **FROM** 4:00pm - 8:00pm

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Enter "PRFUND" as your Promo Code to have a portion of your proceeds donated to your organization.

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Mission Moment!

Deodorants Needed for PNEC



As a sign of community and unity, churches have been asked to gather items for people in need and bring them to the Penn Northeast Conference Spring Meeting. They will be distributed to our many interfaith partners. **St. John's will be collecting deodorants.** Place your donations in the box found in the coatroom area by the sanctuary. **Deadline to receive items is Sunday April 19.**

Whitehall Food Pantry

The Food Pantry is providing a meal to its clients for the Easter holiday. **St. John's goal is to collect 150 cans of red beets.** Donations are being accepted now through April 5. For the month of April, donations are needed for the following: **any kind of cereal, pancake mix, pancake syrup, spaghetti sauce, and all kinds of pasta.** A shopping cart can be found in the coatroom area off the sanctuary where you can place your donations. Any other non-perishable food items as well as monetary contributions can always be made at any time throughout the year. We wish to thank everyone who made monetary donations to the Whitehall Food Pantry in February. **A total of \$205 was received.**

Jubilee Breakfast Ministry

The last date for St. John's to serve breakfast at Zion's UCC (620 W. Hamilton St., Allentown) is **Friday, April 30, from 6:30 a.m. to 9:15 a.m.** This ministry provides a hot meal and warm hospitality to the homeless, the working poor, and anyone in need of food. If you are interested in volunteering in this important ministry, please contact **Nancy Dougherty at 610-760-8361 or email her at nancydough@msn.com.** The team of volunteers will be back again in November for the start of the new season.

Volunteers Needed at Lehigh Conference of Churches

LCC is looking for volunteers for several of their projects. Their services are offered to the most vulnerable people in our valley—the hungry and the homeless. The **Daybreak Center** is looking for help cooking and serving breakfast and lunch, running a bingo game or other such activities. The **Ecumenical Soup Kitchen** needs help preparing and serving lunch on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays. There are other opportunities in the **Lazarus Housing Program** or **Pathways Housing Services.** You can review these and others at the LCC website lehighchurches.org or by email to rleashomb@lehighchurches.org or calling Becky LeaShomb at 610-433-7220.



Mission Moment – Continued

“Valley Over the Edge” – Lehigh Conference of Churches

Members of the Mission Committee have agreed to help sponsor, promote, and support 4 church members as they each need to raise \$500 to participate in this fundraising event sponsored by the LCC. They hope to repel down a 13-story building in downtown Allentown in support of the programs of the LCC. **Be sure to read more about this event in this newsletter and how you can help them achieve this goal.**

Update on Other Mission Outreaches:

✠ **Church World Service – Hygiene Kits** – Thank you to everyone who donated supplies for CWS Hygiene Kits. **We exceeded our goal of 25 kits and were able to send 30 kits on to CWS.** These kits will be disbursed to places in the United States and around the world where natural disasters have struck.

The CWS Kits and Blanket Program are two of the many ways CWS shares in a hope-filled tomorrow. Your support truly makes a difference in the lives of children and families all over the world. In 2019 CWS distributed over 96,000 CWS Blankets and Kits in the United States:

7,800 School Kits	9,143 Cleanup Buckets & Supplies
19,923 Hygiene Kits	59,173 Blankets

In addition, CWS distributed over 58,000 CWS Blankets and Kits internationally for a total of 154,334 Blankets and Kits globally in 2019.

✠ **One Great Hour of Sharing** – A special offering was received for OGHS on March 22. OGHS enables the UCC to reach people and communities in crisis—those affected by disasters, refugee displacement, or poverty. A final tally will be reported in the May newsletter.



How did our St. John's Family do?

Recent Outreaches	February	Year-to-Date
Our Churches Wider Mission	\$1773.26	\$3478.34
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00
Souper Bowl of Caring	\$ 342.83	\$ 342.83
PNEC National Youth Event *	\$1017.00	\$1017.00
Whitehall Food Bank	\$ 205.00	\$ 692.00

* (Offering taken at Rev. Michelle's Ordination)

HealthCare Ministry

Update on Coronavirus (Covid-19)



The Coronavirus has now spread worldwide and has been classified as a pandemic because of that fact. It is important not to panic because there are steps you can take to lessen your chance of exposure to the virus. Currently, there is no vaccine to prevent this virus so the best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to coronavirus. The virus is spread person to person through respiratory droplets when an infected person coughs or sneezes. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.

Here are some things to keep in mind to avoid exposure of coronavirus as well as any other transmissible illnesses:

- 1) Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing.
- 2) If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
- 3) Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- 4) Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- 5) Put distance between yourself and other people if COVID-19 is spreading in your community. This is especially important for people who are at higher risk of getting very sick.
- 6) Stay home if you are sick.
- 7) Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow.
- 8) Throw away used tissues in the trash, then immediately wash your hands with soap and water or hand sanitizer.
- 9) If you are sick, you should wear a facemask if you are around other people and before you enter a healthcare provider's office.
- 10) If you are not sick, you do not need to wear a facemask unless you are caring for someone who is sick (and they are not able to wear a facemask). Facemasks are in short supply and they should be saved for caregivers.
- 11) Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks.
- 12) Disinfection options include a bleach solution of 4 tsp. bleach per quart of water or alcohol solution that contains at least 70% alcohol. Lysol is also an option.



NOW ENROLLING FOR THE 2020/2021 SCHOOL YEAR!

*3 YEAR CLASS (TUESDAY/THURSDAY)

*3 DAY 4'S (MON/WED/FRI)

*4 DAY 4'S (MON/WED/THURS/FRI)

*5 DAY 4'S

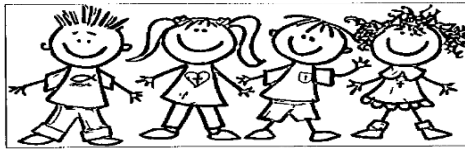
Register online:

<https://stjohnslearningcenter.com>

Contact us today:

Laurie Dovico, Director
610-433-0254

575 Grape Street, Whitehall, PA 18052



Pentecost Sunday – May 31, 2020

You can purchase a geranium in a 4 ½" pot for display on Pentecost Sunday, May 31st. The cost is \$3.00. **Deadline to order is May 17th.**



Name _____

Envelope No. _____

Number of Geraniums at \$3.00 each _____

Total enclosed _____

In honor of _____

By _____

In memory of _____

By _____

April 8:15AM and 10:45AM

April 5th Palm Sunday Scripture: Isaiah 35 Hymns: *The Palms *All Glory, Laud, and Honor

8:15AM

Scripture Reader: Sharon Antrim STARs Tech: Joe Trippett

10:45AM

Scripture Reader: Brenda Pascoe STARs Tech: DonnaLee Yeatts Children's message: Pastor Cliff

April 9th Maundy Thursday 7:00PM

Hymn: *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love

April 10th Good Friday 7:00PM

Hymns: *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross *O Sacred Head Now Wounded *In the Hour of Trial

April 12th Easter 6:30AM; 8:15AM and 10:45AM Holy Communion Scripture: Matthew 28:1-9

6:30AM Hymns: *God of Grace and God of Glory *Christ the Lord is Risen Today

STARs Tech: Joe Trippett

8:15AM and 10:45AM Hymns: *Christ the Lord is Risen Today *Ubi Caritas ("Live in Charity")

*Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven

8:15AM

Elders: Marion DeMilio & Connie Viglione

Ushers: John Viglione, Colleen Kulhamer, Sharon Antrim, Gary Black, Anne Welsh, Linda Smith, Lora Nailor, Charlie Apple

Scripture Reader: LeDonne Wagstaff

STARs Tech: Susan Rarich

10:45AM

Elders: Pete Mohr, Brian Fisher

Ushers: Kim Hillegass, Dewey Yeatts, Marion DeMilio, Linda Smith, Colleen Kulhamer, Bob Czekner, Sharon Czekner, Doris Smith

Scripture Reader: Noreen Miller

STARs Tech: Jesus Pagan

April 19th 2nd Sunday of Easter Scripture: Psalm 100

Hymns: *Christ Arose! *Lift High the Cross *Shine, Jesus, Shine

8:15AM

Usher: Judy Miranda, Cole Buskirk, Angela Buskirk

Scripture Reader: Janet Ebert

STARs Tech: Susan Rarich

10:45AM

Ushers: Gail Green, William Hoffman

Scripture Reader: Brenda Pascoe



April 26th 9:30AM Service Only Confirmation/Holy Communion 3rd Sunday of Easter

Hymns: *Here I Am, Lord

*Spirit of the Living God

*Every Time I Feel the Spirit

Children's Message: Pastor Michelle

Staff

Pastor Michelle Funk, L.M.
stjohnsucc.youth@rcn.com

Rev. David Quinn
Visitation Pastor
pedalinpastor@gmail.com

Rev. Cliff Herring
Bridge Associate Pastor
reched@rcn.com

Mrs. Gail Hanzl
Director of Music
stjohnsucc.music@rcn.com

Mrs. Susan Kuder
Office Administrator
stjohnsucc.secretary@rcn.com

Mrs. Susan Weldner, Treasurer
sbweldner@gmail.com

Mr. and Mrs. Tom & Emilie Moyer,
Financial Secretaries
thomasmoyer@rcn.com

Mrs. Michelle Gutekunst
Coordinating Custodian &
EZ Worship Tech

Mr. Robert Czekner – Custodian

Ms. Christina Bach – Custodian

St. John's Custodian's email:
custodiansofstjohns@gmail.com

Consistory

- Sharon Antrim
- Gary Black
- Marion DeMilio
- Brandon Deutsch – Youth Deacon
- Amy Feidler
- Brian Fisher
- Ted Hess
- Jenn Hunsicker
- Colleen Kulhamer, President
- Noreen Miller
- Pete Mohr
- Anne Welsh
- Dewey Yeatts, Vice President

Committees & Chairpersons

- Altar Guild – Nancy Dougherty
- Altar Flowers – Sally Gibson – 610-264-1210
- Bowling & Softball – Donald Schneck – 610-216-2707
- Christian Education – Karen Stoitsits
- Church Usage – Ted Hess
- Crafters Group – Carol Raszler – 610-393-7572
- Evangelism – Kenda Catalini – 484-358-7453
- “Fun” Raising Committee – Cheryl Weaver 610-443-0161
- Healthcare – Marion DeMilio – 610-797-9652
- Interior – Beth Erney
- Mission – Jean McGonigle
- Personnel – Connie Viglione
- Prayer Chain – Mary Jane Ott – 610-434-9732
- Property – Charlie Apple – 610-928-7193
- STARs – Michelle Gutekunst
- Stewardship & Finance – Gary Madaus
- Visitation – Pat Thompson
- Women's Group – Colleen Kulhamer – 610-264-2499 clkulhamer@aol.com
- Worship & Music – Nancy Dougherty
- Youth Ministry – Nicole McWilliams & Jenn Hunsicker

Office Hours

Monday – Friday
8:30AM – 4:00PM
610-264-8421

Worship Services
8:15AM and 10:45AM