



St. John's UCC, Fullerton

575 Grape Street, Whitehall, PA 18052

Church Office: 610-264-8421

December 2020 & January 2021



"Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles..." Isaiah 40:31

So what are you waiting for these days? A coronavirus vaccine to be available? The election results to be certified? To be able to gather again with family and friends you've not seen in months? World peace? An end to racial injustice, child hunger, economic disparity?

And these are just a few of the "big" things on most of our "not yet" lists.

Waiting is not easy, but it is something Christians get to practice every year during Advent - the season of waiting for the birth of Jesus. It's a season that, once again, invites us to stop worrying and put our faith in God. It's a season that asks us to trust that our lives, our church, our nation, and our world are being held in loving hands, and that there is no amount of darkness that can extinguish the Light that has already come into the world.

There's a children's song, sung by Herbert the snail (who else?) with these words:

*Have patience, have patience, don't be in such a hurry.
When you get impatient, you only start to worry.
Remember, remember, that God is patient, too.
And think of all the times that others have to wait for you.**

This is not to suggest that during Advent we are to prop up our feet and snooze the days away - Isaiah suggests that God is expecting strong partners in the work of bringing forth God's realm of peace, hope, joy and love that we dream about. So let us engage fully and expectantly in the Advent task of waiting - this season, and in the months ahead.

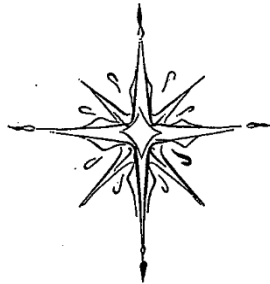
Waiting with you,
Pastor Bonnie

*From the song "Patience" by Candle on the album *Music Machine: Fruit of the Spirit*.

To the Family at St. John's UCC, Fullerton

Bob C

Christina



Christmas is...

Christmas is a miracle.

Christmas is about a child.

Christmas is when hope became reality.

Christmas is when God blessed those who were poor.

Christmas is the day we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

Christmas is about the sacredness of scripture becoming reality.

Christmas is the season when God took on the human form of a child.

I hope you will bring in the Christmas season with your church family on Christmas Eve.

Have a blessed
Advent and
Christmas
Season.

Sue

Tom

Karen

Amy

Michelle G.

Susan Kuder

Dail

Emilie

Dave

Sharon A

Brian

Duffy

Gary

Pete

Brandon

Cecilia H. P.

Jenn

From the entire Consistory and Staff of St. John's!



Church News

Advent Begins on Sunday, November 29th!

Psalm 126 opens with the line: *“When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.”*

What does it look like to live as those who dream? The prophets, the psalmists, John the Baptist, Mary, Elizabeth, Joseph, Simeon, Anna, and the shepherds were all dreamers. Each one of them received, discovered, and responded to God’s dreams for the world. This year during Advent, the church year’s “now, but not yet” season of waiting, we will step into the mystery and awe of God’s dreams and pray that they will shape our reality.

If you dream of a deeper connection with God, if you dream of a just and peace-filled world, if you dream of comfort and joy, and even if it feels like your dreams have been crushed, join us this Advent as we dream together, alongside prophets and angels. Join us as, together, we seek and sow God’s dreams for our world.



DIY Advent Wreath

All it takes is five candles! Any kind, any size, although you may want to choose one candle that is a bit taller than the others for the center of your “wreath” to serve as a Christ Candle to light on Christmas Day.

The typical placement of the four Advent Candles in a circle symbolizes God’s love which has no beginning and no end. Greens, which represent eternal life since they stay green year-round, are optional - be creative! If you’re willing to share a photo of your wreath, we’d love to post it on our website.

We will include an Advent Candle Lighting liturgy each Sunday beginning November 29th during Zoom worship - join us in anticipating the coming of Christmas!

Thank you to Ellen Sagazio who gave us a photo of the Advent wreath she made. Great job, Ellen!

December Sunday School Challenge – Christmas is coming!

All children through grade 6 are invited to join us in the Field of Dreams parking lot on Sunday, November 29 at 4:00 pm for the next Sunday School Challenge! The program will last about 20-30 minutes, and each child will leave with some special Christmas surprises. Please let the church office know by November 24th if your kids, grandkids, nieces, nephews, neighbors - all are welcome! - are planning to attend.



Yes, it will look different this year, but we will still have several opportunities to celebrate the birth of Jesus, whose parents, you might remember, also had to celebrate in unusual circumstances!

Option 1: A special Christmas story, “A Most Beautiful Christmas Tree,” presented in readers-theater style, will be shared in a short Christmas Eve

service designed especially for families with young children. The Zoom service will begin at 4:00 pm with Gathering Music offered by our youth. The story itself will be pre-recorded and will also be available via Facebook and YouTube by 4:30 on Christmas Eve, so if you aren’t able to attend the 4:00 pm Zoom service, you can still share the story with your children before bedtime!

4:00 pm Zoom worship info: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89986114833> Use the following Zoom meeting ID: 899 8611 4833 with the Sunday worship passcode or if you do not have a computer dial 1-646-876-9923

Option 2: It’s an outdoor BYOL (Bring Your Own Light) celebration! Bring your own candle, flashlight, headlamp, tiki torch, cell phone, glow stick - whatever you choose, and come at 6:00 pm to the Field of Dreams parking lot to hear the Christmas Story and to join in singing Silent Night as we are reminded, as John 1:5 says, “The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.” Masks and physical distancing will be required; please park in the Grape Street lot. This service will last no more than 20 minutes and will be held no matter the weather - come dressed appropriately, and bring your own chairs if you would prefer not to stand throughout worship.

Option 3: A traditional Christmas Eve service including lessons and carols and an uplifting Christmas message will be offered via Zoom at 8:00 PM. Pre-service gathering music will begin at 7:45. You’re invited to have a candle (or flashlight, glowstick, or cellphone) ready as we join virtually together to sing Silent Night as we welcome the birth of our Glorious Lord, Precious Redeemer, Prince of Peace, Emmanuel - God with us.

8:00 pm Zoom worship info: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82310264837> Use the following Zoom meeting ID: 823 1026 4837 with the Sunday worship passcode or if you do not have a computer dial 1-646-876-9923

Plan to join us on any or all of these occasions to rejoice in Christ’s birth and to offer our thanks and praise to God. Please invite your family and friends to join us as well!

Keystone-Miller Blood Center is always in need of blood. Due to Covid-19, I am not able to do blood drives at church this year. Thank you to so many of you who went directly to the blood center to donate. Please continue going there until I can do another drive at the church. Our church code is 0872. Phone is 1-800-223-6667.

Thank you,
Sharon Antrim 610-216-6207



Tuesday Talkbacks Continue!

Join us every Tuesday at 2:00pm for conversation and fellowship. Pastor Bonnie hosts these informal, agenda-free Zoom gatherings. Use the following Zoom meeting ID: 889 9327 5253 with the Sunday worship passcode. Contact the church office if you need additional information.

Longest Night Service – December 21st

St. John's Healthcare Ministry will lead a Longest Night service via Zoom at **7:00PM on Monday, December 21** (the longest night of the year). This service of prayer, music, Scripture and reflections offers God's light in the midst of our darkness and reminds us we are not alone. We'll gather to experience God's hope and peace in the midst of grief, relationship/job loss or other life changes and events (including the pandemic). Please plan to join us, and share an invitation to attend to anyone you know who might appreciate this special service.



*Use the following link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86595767725>
and put in the Zoom meeting ID: 865 9576 7725 along with the Sunday worship passcode
Or if you do not have a computer dial 1-646-876-9923
Contact the church office if you need additional information.*

Can't Get Enough Christmas Carols?

Join us for Zoom worship on Sunday, December 27 not only to SING, but to learn the stories behind some of the carols we enjoy during the Christmas season.

Did you know, for example, that one of our favorite carols doesn't even *mention* the birth of Jesus? Did you know that there was a period in history when Christians were forbidden to sing carols? Did you know that the U.S. Postal Service once issued a series of stamps based on a Christmas carol?

Join us for a celebratory and carol-filled "Singing Our Christmas" service on December 27th at 9:30 am!



Reflections of St. John's Update

Thanks so much to everyone who responded to the Transition Team's request for stories about your best experience of being a member of St. John's and for your thoughts about the core values that make St. John's St. John's. There were SO MANY common threads in the reflections you shared!

On **Sunday December 6th**, immediately following worship, we are looking forward to reporting back what we heard. In Zoom breakout rooms, facilitated by Transition Team members, you'll be invited to let us know if you think we're on target about what makes St. John's such a unique and special church.

The core values we affirm will help the Search Committee in answering the church profile question "Who are we?" and will give prospective pastors a clear sense of what St. John's UCC values most, and what drives our ministry as a community of faith.

We hope you'll join us!



Search Committee Update

Your Search Committee has met with our Conference minister: Rev. Dr. Bonnie Bates and a representative from the Search and Call Team. We were given our guidelines for the task of ultimately securing a new Pastor. At this meeting we identified positions among the seven members on your Search committee: Kenda Catalini and Sharon Czekner- CoChairs, Susan Rarich - Secretary and Paul Raszler - Chaplain.



We have scheduled our next meeting: [December 2](#). We ask you to keep us in your prayers!

Sincerely,

Your Search Committee -

Wendy Fox, Pete Mohr, Paul Raszler, Kenda Catalini, Susan Rarich,
Melissa Mendiolina and Sharon Czekner

Reopening Task Force

As much as we all long to resume in person worship, the Reopening Task Force and Consistory made the difficult decision to remain closed until January. We are hopeful that we will be able to worship in person early in 2021, but the health of our congregation is the priority. As you are aware the COVID-19 cases are increasing in our area and across the nation. In fact, some schools in our area have had to close temporarily and may have to switch to all virtual learning.

Our Conference minister, Rev. Dr. Bonnie Bates, has recommended that churches continue with virtual services. She also recommended that those churches that have opened consider closing again.

The committee will continue to meet for a monthly ZOOM meeting to discuss the possibility of opening and how to accomplish that safely. We will continue to keep you informed, stay safe.

From the Visitation Committee

COVID-19 has really turned our world upside down. We haven't been able to visit our shut-ins, but we still keep in contact with them by phone and they are so appreciative. Unfortunately we will not be able to do the Christmas gift bags this year.

We would like to do a "Christmas Card Shower". The names and addresses are located in this newsletter on page 10.

You can send to one person or to all of them. It is up to you. You can also be creative when you sign them. You can just sign your name, if you want, or tell them something about yourself. If you are artistic, draw something. Poetic, write a poem. Send a picture of you, your dog or your grandchild. They will love them all. Got the gist. Your card is your gift to them this year.

I want to thank everyone in advance for making this a special Christmas for our shut-ins.

Pat Thompson
Visitation Committee



Our Church Family



Thank you to all for your many thoughts, prayers, messages, and cards, and to Pastor Dave for your home visits as I recently navigated a new health challenge. We appreciate each one.

Thanks,
Jim & Janet Ebert



A sincere thank you goes to **Colleen Kulhamer** for serving as the leader of **PEEPS**, our Women's Group, for the past five years. We have enjoyed many entertaining and knowledgeable programs that Colleen has organized and presented over the years. It is because of her enthusiasm and dedication that PEEPS is what it is today—a strong, vital organization at St. John's, uniting women together as Positive Extraordinary Encouraging Prayerful Sisters.

~ With Gratitude from Your Lady PEEPS



Congratulations to Rev. Michelle Funk who accepted a call to serve as Pastor at First Christian UCC in Burlington, North Carolina. She will begin on November 30th. Best wishes and God's blessings Pastor Michelle!

Check out our website!
www.stjohnsuccfullerton.org

It is both with regret and joy that I announce to you the retirement of our Office Administrator, Susan Kuder. We are happy for her but sad for St. John's. Susan will be retiring effective December 31st of this year.

If there is one person who has made St. John's run smoothly for the last 15 years, it is Susan. If you know Susan, you know she doesn't like to be the center of attention....however, we at St. John's love a good celebration. So this is what we are planning. On Saturday, December 19th between 1pm and 2pm we will have a Christmas Holiday Farewell in the Field of Dreams. This will be a time for the St. John's family to gather before the holidays and celebrate Christmas and the end of 2020, say farewell to Susan and just spend an hour together....masked and social distancing, but still together.

Please join us as we say farewell and thank her for a job well done. Details to follow on a separate insert!

Colleen Kulhamer, Consistory President



December Anniversaries

December 8 – Nicole & John McWilliams – 2 years
 December 11 – Anne Welsh & Joseph Trippett – 10 years
 December 17 – Cheryl & Gary Weaver – 15 years
 December 21 – Melanie & Edward Eckert – 8 years
 December 22 –
 Barbara Thomas & Eugene Gallagher – 30 years
 December 27 – Janice & Walter Walenta – 11 years
 December 28 – Patricia & Gerald Yanavok – 9 years
 December 29 – Regina & Peter Mohr – 36 years
 December 31 – Barbara & Kevin Hoderman – 10 years

January Anniversaries

January 24 –
 Carole & Dennis O'Connell – 51 years
 January 27 –
 Shelby & Brent Nailor – 9 years
 January 30 –
 Doris & Ronald Smith – 50 years



Death

Donald Downing passed away on October 31st. He is survived by his wife, Shirley, sons, Daniel and Jeffrey and daughters, Wendy and Vicki, and grandchildren, great-grandchildren and a great-great-grandson. Please hold Donald's family and friends in your prayers.

St. John's First Walking Challenge Healthcare Ministry

We had a very successful Walking Challenge. Everyone enjoyed themselves and it was a lot of fun setting new goals each week. We've seen some good health benefits in the past four weeks. Due to a majority wanting a Spring Challenge, looks like St. John's is on to something BIG. We had eight teams of four. The total steps taken, drum roll, 5,688,936 in four weeks. Congratulations to all our walkers. Team 5, Wacky Walkers, consisted of Joy Gravely-Captain, Marion DeMilio, Barbara Menges and Linda Smith. They came in FIRST PLACE with 979,768 steps. Congratulations to everyone.

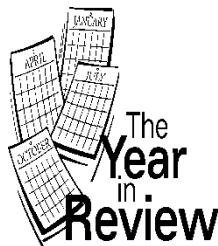
Watch the newsletters in spring, put on your sneakers and join the fun.

Healthcare Ministry

Annual Reports Due

If you are a committee chairperson, task force leader, etc. you are asked to submit a yearly report updating our membership on what is happening in your committee. Please get your report to the Church office by January 17, 2021. You can also email your report to

stjohnsucc.secretary@rcn.com



December Birthdays

December 1 – Barbara Thomas
 December 2 – Joseph Bonshak, Andrew Mill
 December 3 – Austin Sommer
 December 4 – Phyllis Ambearle, Donna Rice, Myles Silfies
 December 5 – Nancy Weaver, Carol Buskirk
 December 7 – Alycia DeMilio
 December 8 – Jed Becks, Kelsey Gallagher, Elijah Fox
 December 9 – Craig Bryant, Ryan Weiner, Rylee Schmoyer
 December 10 – Rudolph Kaintz, Cliff Herring, Donna Brown
 December 11 – Rachel Pollitt
 December 12 – Kim Hillegass, Keith Fox, Jr., Kaitlyn Weidner, Steven Schlenker
 December 13 – Melissa Szoke
 December 14 – Beverly Peters, Janet Smith, Jo Ellen Wexler
 December 16 – Kayla Held
 December 17 – Tara Rapchak, Brittany Rothrock, Brooke Heffelfinger
 December 18 – Andrea Leibensperger, Jason Snyder,
 December 19, Spencer Riedy, Daniel Schlenker
 December 20 – Annamarie Barrall
 December 21 – Todd Shirk
 December 22 – Joanne Ziegler, Walter Walenta, Robert Sherman, David Martin
 December 24 – Daniel Reid, Sally Gibson
 December 25 – Michael Kulhamer
 December 26 – Paul F. Geissinger, Christopher Kuhns
 December 27 – Jesse Wright III, Rebecca Csaszar
 December 28 – Anne Welsh
 December 29 – Fay Salivonchik, Thomas Piskula, Mary Ann Knauss, Dennis Pascoe, Debra Hausman
 December 30 – Kerry Geissinger, Faith Schaffer
 December 31 – Frank Csaszar

January Birthdays

January 1 – Lamar Peters
 January 2 – Patricia Thompson, Carter Troxell
 January 3- Bettyjane Bonshak, Carole O'Connell, Sherri Sutter, Guy Schwenk, Chace Miller, DonnaLee Yeatts
 January 4 – Susan Rarich, Shannon Fenstermacher
 January 5 – Georgine Long, Nathaniel Kuhns, Owen McNicholas
 January 6 – Nancy Cusati, Doris Hunsicker
 January 7 – Milt Focht, Franklin Reichl, Noemi Quinn, Zachary Frana
 January 8 – David Fritzinger, Jr., Rosemary Hess, LeAnn Focht, Kristen Riedy, Karly Myers
 January 9 – Brenda Pascoe
 January 10 – Emilie Moyer, Mark Chwastiak
 January 12 – Colleen Chryst, Michael Bateman
 January 13 – Cathy Kuhns, Brian Deutsch
 January 14 – Timothy Christman
 January 15 – Heather Moyer, Jacob Hannis
 January 16 – Henry Moll, Kathy Nelson, Kimberly Hannis
 January 18 – Lori Stocker, Chloe Martin
 January 19 – Jillian Sommer, Nikolas Christman
 January 20 – Joseph Trippett, Austin Dunbar
 January 23 – Destinee Kessler
 January 24 – Natalie Reichl, Megan Marinkovits
 January 25 – Bonnie Cocivera, Betty Shankweiler, Matthew Sommer, Natalie Schutts
 January 26 – Robert Jones, Barry Wexler, Olivia Powell, Quinn Fenstermacher
 January 27 - Terry Leibenguth
 January 28 – Gladys McCarthy, George Romberger, Edward Pollitt
 January 29 – Sue Wright, Paul Raszler, Larry Martin, William Hoffman
 January 30 – Theresa Kuhns
 January 31 – Ronald Patterson, John Hoff



Shut-in List

ABOVE AND BEYOND SENIOR LIVING - 1545 W. Greenleaf St., Allentown 18102 - **Edith Crews** ~ Room 306

CEDARBROOK, ALLENTOWN – 350 S. Cedarbrook Road, Allentown 18104

Theresa Kuhns ~ Room 721A

Ruth Wittman ~ 7th Floor, D705C

EASTON NURSING CENTER – 498 Washington St., Easton 18042 - **Henry Moll** ~ Room 230

FELLOWSHIP MANOR - 3000 Fellowship Drive, Whitehall 18052

Betty Blose – Room 125

Barry Everett – Room 325

Karen Moyer – Room 121B

Sara Siegfried – Room 126A

June Tomb – Room 119

FELLOWSHIP TERRACE - 3010 Fellowship Drive, Whitehall 18052

Adrianne Kiesbar – Room 157

Roy Luckenbill – Room 161B

FELLOWSHIP VILLA – 3020 Fellowship Drive, Whitehall 18052

Emma Repp Kuczek – Room 312B

GRACEDALE- 2 Gracedale Avenue, Nazareth, 18064 - **Sandra Diefenderfer** – Tower 10, Room 10C2

GREENFIELD SENIOR LIVING – 1415 St. Francis Road, Bel Air, MD 21014 - **Frank Nolt** ~ Room #5

HCR MANOR CARE – 2021 Westgate Drive, Bethlehem, 18017 - **David Walters** ~ Room 264B

PARKLAND MANOR - 4636 Crackersport Road, Allentown, 18104 - **Elaine Lentz** – Room 9

PHOEBE HOME – 1925 W. Turner Street, Allentown 18104 - **Ray Lane** – Rm 107A – 1st floor

UNITED ZION RETIREMENT COMMUNITY - 722 Furnace Hills Pike, Lititz, PA 17543

Roberta Haberern

WHITEHALL MANOR 1177 6th Street, Whitehall 18052 - **Anita Beil** – C106

HOMEBOUND

- ◆ Jean Coombe ~ 950 Towamensing Rd., Lehigh, PA 18235
- ◆ Nancy Eichman ~ 2202 Second Ave., Whitehall 18052
- ◆ Ruth Eli ~ 7316 W. Hillcrest Lane, Slatington 18080
- ◆ Fae Erney ~ 2574 Halleck Drive, Whitehall 18052
- ◆ Sylvia Hafer ~ 2574 Halleck Drive, Whitehall 18052
- ◆ Louiseann Hein ~ 736 N. 7th Street, Allentown 18102
- ◆ Lucille Hicks ~ 1210 Broad Street, Apt. 2, Whitehall 18052
- ◆ Thomas Miller ~ 3005 East Blvd., Apt. 5, Bethlehem 18017
- ◆ Marietta Seyfried ~ 1210 Broad Street, Apt. 5, Whitehall, 18052
- ◆ Bert Smith – 3114 N. 5th Street, Whitehall, 18052
- ◆ Eleanor Smith ~ Robinwood Village, 407 Manchester Rd., Saylorsburg 18353
- ◆ Ethel Weiland ~ 7566 Molasses Barrel Rd., Slatington, 18080

OUT OF TOWN

- ◆ Marie Fatzinger ~ Providence Place, 2200 1st Avenue, Room 346, Pottsville, PA 17901
- ◆ Peggy Snyder ~ Providence Place, 2200 1st Avenue, Room 251, Pottsville, PA 17901
- ◆ Susan Felegy ~ 90 Eden View Road, Apt 29, Elizabethtown, PA 17022-3112



In Case of Bad Weather

If the church has to cancel its Sunday services due to inclement weather, we will list the closing on Channel 69 news or you can go to their website at

www.wfmz.com



Don't Be a Grinch !

There's still time for last minute Christmas shopping! **The Crafters Group will be at the Christmas Holiday Celebration on Saturday, December 19, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Field of Dreams.** We will have an assortment of Christmas decorations and ornaments as well as our selection of kitchen, household, and baby items, cookbooks, and masks. **If you need a specific item, please contact Carol Raszler at 610-393-7572 or email craszler@aol.com.**



Advent Offering

As in past years, each Advent season St. John's gives you the opportunity to remember your church during this busy season by using the enclosed Advent envelope. We hope you will consider using the envelope to support and give thanks for the many ways St. John's has impacted your life.

The Stewardship and Finance Committee extends to you and your family our best wishes for a joyful Christmas. Remember, God is Good, All the Time!



Advent
offering

*Hospital Code for
our church - 473*



The articles for the February 2021 newsletter are due **January 10th**.

Nut & Fruit Sale – It's Not Too Late!

For anyone who did not place an order for our annual Nut & Fruit Sale, we have a few extra bags of **Tropical Fruit Blend, Mixed Chocolate Cranberries, and Deluxe Mixed Nuts** for sale at **\$11.00**. Contact **Carol Raszler** at **610-393-7572** to arrange pick-up or delivery.



December/January Music Notes

Prepare for Advent? I want Christmas! Can't we sing Christmas carols now? Most people tell me they do not know Advent hymns, only "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel". This Advent season we will sing our share of Advent hymns and some will indeed be new ones to many of you. As I look over the list, I see joyful, spirited hymns encouraging "People, Look East"; "Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn"; "There's a Voice in the Wilderness"; "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"; and a rousing traditional Irish melody, "Canticle of the Turning". The words of the Advent hymns give us hope, peace, joy, and love.

Yeah! Christmas is finally here! And we will sing lots and lots of familiar Christmas carols, the traditional ones with traditional words. What is your favorite carol? Mine is "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing".



The Sunday after Christmas will be stories and more carols with beloved carols sung and stories shared about the carols.

Next, we move into Epiphany with hymns of light and the Baptism of Jesus singing "Crashing Waters at Creation". You won't want to miss that one. Never heard of it? It will be sung to a very familiar tune.

I miss singing with other Christians in the sanctuary. It does not seem the same when I'm sitting at my kitchen table watching the service on zoom. But this is what we have for now and hopefully we can worship together in time.

Prepare for His coming, celebrate His birth, and be a beacon of light, sharing the good news of God's love to all people.

Musically,

Gail

Mission Moment!



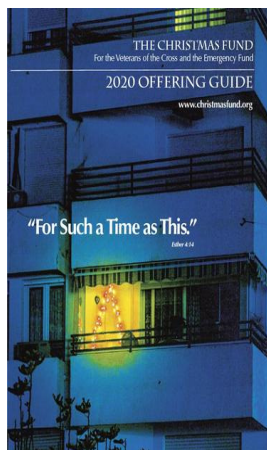
“Operation Santa” – Mitten Tree Project

We are not collecting gifts this year. Instead, we are encouraging everyone to give a donation to Phoebe Ministries and Valley Youth House. *From your contribution, gifts will be purchased by the staff at both locations and delivered to their clients and residents.*

Here’s what to do: Send in your donation payable to St. John’s UCC, Fullerton. Be sure to specify Phoebe or VYH or both in the memo section. Deadline to receive your contribution is no later than November 30.

The Christmas Fund

“For such a time as this.” ~ Esther 4:14



The Christmas Fund is a special ministry of UCC National. It has been caring for active and retired clergy and lay employees of the United Church of Christ for over 100 years—providing emergency grants, supplementaion of small annuities and health premiums, and Christmas “thank you” checks each December to our lower-income retirees. Since last March, because of the pandemic, the emergency financial needs of many who serve the church have increased dramatically. These difficult times make the need for the Christmas Fund more urgent than ever. For those of you who receive your newsletter through the mail, a special offering envelope and insert is included. **Contributions can be mailed to the church office or donate on-line or text – deadline is December 20.** Be sure to specify that your donation is to go to the Christmas Fund.

Update on Other Mission Outreaches:

✝ **Whitehall Food Pantry** – We desperately need volunteers from St. John’s to help at the food pantry on the 4th Monday of every month—8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. to stock shelves or 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. to put orders together and distribute to their clients. **Please contact Bill Meckes at 610-769-5194 or email billmeck@gmail.com.**

✝ **Jubilee Breakfast Ministry** – Due to so many church closures because of the pandemic, coordinators for this ministry are not signing up teams but only individuals to help with the breakfast meals. The meals are prepared at Zion’s UCC from 6:30 a.m. to 9:15 a.m.; meals are placed in take-out containers; and clients pick them up at the church’s back door. To date, we have no volunteers to help from St. John’s. **Please contact Nancy Dougherty at 610-760-8361 or email nancydough@msn.com to help.**

✝ **CROP Walk** – St. John’s contributions from the October event amounted to **\$502.00.**

Would You Like the Newsletter Emailed to You?

If you would like to receive your newsletter by email, please send your email address to 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.



STAFF

Rev. Bonnie Moore, Interim Pastor
sjfpastor@gmail.com

Rev. David Quinn, Visitation Pastor
pedalinpastor@gmail.com

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

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

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

Mrs. Susan Weldner, Treasurer
sbweldner@gmail.com

Mrs. Michelle Gutekunst –
Coordinating Custodian
custodiansofstjohns@gmail.com
and Worship Tech
starsofstjohns@gmail.com

Mr. Robert Czekner – Custodian

Ms. Christina Bach - Custodian