



# St. John's UCC, Fullerton

575 Grape Street, Whitehall, PA 18052

November 2019



November 2019

Vol. 12 Issue 11

## "Our Church Connection"

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Church Hospital Code: 473

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Dear Church Family,

Thanksgiving is my favorite holiday. I love the family gathering and how the house smells. I think it's awesome that no one buys presents. Tangible gift giving has nothing to do with the day. Instead the gift is sharing of yourself and being present with the family.

Since 1975 Bob and I have hosted Thanksgiving meals. The people around the table change but the meaning of "family" and giving thanks remains the same.

Some of my favorite Thanksgivings have been the year that I got sick as the pumpkin pie was getting cut. Brad was 8 months old and my mom and sister cleaned up the meal and took care of our baby, Bob went to work. I got teased for years about how I managed to get out of cleaning up after the huge meal. The following month, I found out Jill was on her way! Another great year was when it was announced that after two granddaughters, we had a grandson coming. Lucas followed Maya and Aubrey and claimed his spot as our youngest.

As I move toward this thing called retirement, I find myself looking back on my whole life and giving thanks. Bob and I will celebrate 47 years of marriage this month. We continue to love *and* like each other – at least most days! We are incredibly proud of our son and daughter. Brad and Jill have vocations where they are doing God's work – I'm convinced of it. They too found great love and created awesome families. Bob and I just beam with pride. Does it get any better?

When I first hung up my clergy robe at St. John's in 2005, I wondered what on earth I was doing. I loved my previous church – yet knew God was calling me to serve on Grape Street. Little did I realize that I was about to begin the most important walk of my spiritual life – being your pastor. You allowed me to lead. You empowered me to try new things. You laughed along with me when I messed up and you celebrated with me when we received so many, many blessings. God has been so very, very good. The Holy Spirit was constantly moving us and a new church came about. When a church has over 600 children and adults join in 14 years, it really does become a new church. We have been blessed. I am so thankful for you...

And now that same clergy robe will soon leave that closet and find a new place in my home. As I pack it away, I will probably shed a few tears – tears of sadness, tears of joy, tears of thanksgiving. But then I'll smile knowing while I am trying to figure out how to "Enjoy This Life," you will continue to work on how to "Be The Church."

Happy Thanksgiving my dear Church Family! It has been a such a pleasure to be your pastor!

Blessings and Love,

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

# Thank You!!!

Thank you, Pastor Becky and Pastor Dave, for the visits and the congregation for all the cards, prayers, and phone calls I received during my recent knee surgery and while recuperating.

Margaret Baatz

Dear Friends in Christ,

As we enter the Thanksgiving season, the board of the Whitehall Food Pantry wishes to express our gratitude to your parishioners for their continued support – both food and money. There are many people experiencing difficult times and your help is critical to the mission of providing for them.

We thank you for your continued support and wish you a happy holiday season.

With blessings,  
Judy Ehret for  
The Whitehall Food Pantry

Thank you to everyone that donated items or services to be auctioned off in the Anything Goes Auction on August 25th. Another thank you goes out to the bidders who purchased the items. We hope that everyone enjoyed the event.

Cheryl Weaver and Cindy Reck

I would like to thank Pastors Becky and Dave, and the many friends of St. John's, for all the cards, phone calls, visits and prayers when my son, Bob, passed away. Thank you, also, for remembering my birthday with even more cards and phone calls. I really am happy here at St. John's and am so glad that we, from Dubbs, decided to move in with you. I think we made a very good choice. Our prayers were answered when you accepted us.

Thank you all!  
Emma Repp Kuczek

Thanks to St. John's Fullerton for leaving me be your Coordinating Custodian for the last seven years, I've held three jobs over the years and this one had its challenges in getting everything done as the Church required. Please give my replacement time to get herself familiar with her new job duties. I will begin a new Chapter in my life as Cheryl and I hope to do some traveling and enjoy our Golden Years. I will be seen at St Johns as I will continue to be active on the Property Committee.

Gary Weaver

Dear Pastors Dave, Becky, Michelle and Congregation:

I appreciate all your prayers, visits, phone calls, e-mails/texts and cards following my recent hip replacement surgery. I'm sure that your support and prayers helped in speeding my recovery. Thank you so much!

Sincerely,  
Nancy Delp



## 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*

**BE THE CHURCH**  
*Protect the environment.*  
Care for the poor.  
**Forgive often.**  
**Reject racism.**

*Fight for the powerless*  
*Share earthly and spiritual resources.*  
Embrace diversity.  
**Love God.**  
**Enjoy this Life.**

## "Be The Church"

The theme for St. John's UCC, Fullerton for 2019 is "Be The Church." The idea is that each of us must Be The Church. This occurs when we are together but we also go into the world where we must Be The Church.

How will you Be the Church this year? How will God make a difference through the willingness of each member at St. John's. Start visioning on how each of us can embrace this Be the Church movement.

## Newsletter Deadline

In order to save on postage, paper and time, you will be receiving the December/January newsletter in the end of November. This will include all activities for December and half of January.

You will be receiving the January/February newsletter in the middle of January and it will include the second half of January and all of February activities.

*The articles for the December/January newsletter are due on November 10<sup>th</sup>.*  
*The articles for the January/February 2020 newsletter are due on January 12<sup>th</sup>.*





## Let's Celebrate Pastor Becky!!!

Want to send Pastor Becky off into retirement from her ministry at St. John's in the best possible way?



**COME TO WORSHIP!!!!**

***Sunday, November 10th - 9:30AM***

Worship is the way we gather as a community of faith. It would make Pastor Becky's last Sunday with us sacred and special if your presence was in the pews! Or better yet, God's House was FULL with standing room only!

And then stay for the party after worship and celebrate this milestone in Pastor Becky's journey!

By now you should have received your invitation to Pastor Becky's Retirement Open House on Sunday November 10th from 11:00AM – 1:00PM in Fox Hall.

**JOIN US!**

# Our Church Family



## Birth

**Rowan Gregory Rarich Lord** was born on September 20<sup>th</sup> to parents Jennifer Rarich and Eric Lord. He weighed 11lbs. 4 oz. and was 21.5 inches long. Rowan has an older brother, Shepard. Rowan's grandmother is Susan Rarich and his great-grandmother is Mary Jane Ott.

**Gabrianna Marie Thompson** was born on October 2<sup>nd</sup> to parents Eric Thompson and Melanie Baylor. Pat and Skip Thompson are Gabrianna's grandparents.

## Wedding

Congratulations to **Brittany Schneck and Matthew Daiello** who were married on October 5<sup>th</sup> at Saucon Acres.

## Upcoming Wedding

10-31 **Shelby Bright & Joseph Bedics**

## Baptisms

**Cael Nesta Hess** was baptized on September 29<sup>th</sup>. Cael is the son of Lisa and Steve Hess. His siblings are Sophia and Jolene.

**Kinley Serendipity Lichtenwalner** was baptized on October 20<sup>th</sup>. Kinley is the daughter of Christina and Nathan Lichtenwalner. Kinley has an older brother, Lucas.

## Deaths

**Doris Guldner** died on September 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Faye Baylor** died on October 15<sup>th</sup>. The service celebrating her life is on October 30<sup>th</sup>. Faye was a long-time choir member and active member of St. John's.



## December & January Scripture Readers & Ushers

We have placed a sheet in the coat room area for you to sign up to read scripture or usher.

Please think about volunteering or better yet... pray about it.

Check out our website!

[www.stjohnsuccfullerton.org](http://www.stjohnsuccfullerton.org)



# New Members Joined on October 13<sup>th</sup>



***Phyllis and Raynold Ambearle***

Phyllis and Raynold are retired. Phyllis' hobbies include spending time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, Plastic Canvas, knitting and reading.



***Charlotte Kerrigan***



Charlotte is a Corporate Office Manager at Service Tire Truck Centers. Her husband is James.



***Kaitlyn Irving and Kevin Weidner  
And Lucas Weidner***

Kaitlyn is a Registered Nurse at Lehigh Valley Health Network. Her hobbies include shopping, arts and crafts. Kevin works as a carpenter at Kitchen Magic. Their son, Lucas is 1 yr. old.



***Becca Stephens***

Becca is a retired United Church of Christ Minister. Her hobbies include cooking, knitting, reading, singing, art appreciation, walking, and spending time with her grandchildren. Her husband is Barry.

## Senior Pastor Retirement

*From the  
Pastor*



On November 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. Pastor Becky will lead her last service as our Sr. Pastor. At the service we will be celebrating God's many blessings at St. John's since 2005. The following week Becky will be doing several visits and cleaning out her office. Her final day is Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup>.

Some things you may want to know or had questions about:

Becky will no longer be officiating at member funerals or weddings. St. John's is blessed to have two awesome pastors; Michelle and Dave, along with an Intentional Interim Senior Pastor (who we hope will soon join the pastoral team). Together they will make decisions on who will officiate at funerals and weddings. Pastor Michelle will lead worship until the end of 2019 along with her Faith Formation and Youth ministries. Pastor Dave will be the primary pastor for emergencies, funerals and visitations.

Representing St. John's (motion from Consistory with PNEC knowledge), Pastor Becky will remain Josef Raszler's pastor through his trial scheduled to begin December 10<sup>th</sup>. She has been visiting Joey regularly at the Lehigh County Jail since his arrest on April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Joey was an active St. John's member and hopes to get back soon.

Pastor Michelle is in the ordination process through the Penn Northeast Conference. Pastor Becky has been her mentor, pastor and supervisor for the last seven years. Pastor Becky will remain with Michelle as she completes the ordination process. This too is on request of Consistory with input from PNEC.

Pastor Becky will be busy "Enjoying This Life." She will still love us and look forward to chatting when we meet up in the mall or Giant. She plans to chat away with us as always but not on church or church related activities.

Transitions and Goodbyes can be hard. Prayer helps. Pastor Becky's answer to most things is to "Pray About It." So, she will be praying for us, and we should be praying for her.

## 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](http://www.wfmz.com)



## November Anniversaries

- November 3 Julie & Conrad Beck – 35 years
- November 6 Joanne & William Wasley, Jr. – 37 years
- November 9 Linda & Thomas Germuga – 51 years  
Tara & Craig Bryant – 17 years  
Lori & Gregory Yocco – 34 years
- November 11 – Dee & Randy Schlenker – 19 years  
Debra & William Hausman – 24 years
- November 19 Emilie & Thomas Moyer – 59 years
- November 23 Lori & William Fink – 11 years
- November 24 Donna & Matthew Rice – 40 years
- November 27 Linda & Stanley Luckenbill – 50 years  
Lynn & Donald Miller, Jr. – 43 years



**Change of Address?  
Please Let us know**

[stjohnsucc.secretary@rcn.com](mailto:stjohnsucc.secretary@rcn.com) or  
call the church office - 610-264-8421

## 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.

*November's meeting is  
November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 8:30AM.*



## Be the Church Moment

November 3<sup>rd</sup> Rev. Evelyn Stupp will be sharing a "Be The Church Moment" on Grief. Evelyn is a friend of our congregation and a United Methodist Pastor. She has become part of our Healthcare Committee.

**Reminder:**

**Daylight Saving Time  
Ends on November 3**







# Church News

## November Worship Services

11-3 8:15 & 10:45	ALL SAINTS DAY - Luke 6:20-31	“Care For The Poor”
<b>11-10 9:30AM</b>	Pastor Becky’s last Sunday	“Enjoy This Life”
11-17 8:15 & 10:45	Rev. Dr. Bonnie Bates PNEC Minister preaching	
11-24 8:15 & 10:45	Pastor Michelle Funk, preaching – Luke 23:33-43	

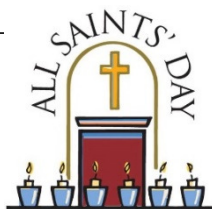
### All Saints Day

All Saints Day will be celebrated on November 3<sup>rd</sup> at both of our worship services. We will be looking at the Luke 6 passage of Blessings and Woes. At the end of the service we will light a candle and sound a gong for those lives we celebrated this past year. This is a powerful service where we celebrate eternal life. Come be spiritually uplifted and moved! Join us! We will celebrate the lives of the following friends and members of St. John’s.

- |                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Faye Baylor        | Virginia Beck     |
| Roger Cocivera     | Bruce Coombe      |
| David Fisher       | Daniel Focht      |
| Doris Guldner      | Douglas Gutekunst |
| Denise Harry       | Jonah Herring     |
| Leon Kuhns         | Janet Miller      |
| Betty Moll         | Margaret Papsun   |
| Lillian Ruth       | Gladys Schaffer   |
| Kenneth Schneck    | Kevin Schutts     |
| Gene Stiles        | Donald Smith      |
| Doris Wagner       | William Wasley    |
| Blodwyn Wetherhold | Esther Xander     |

### Thanksgiving Eve Service November 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM

We will be offering a Thanksgiving Eve worship time. Pastors Dave and Michelle will lead this service. It is time to think about all the many blessings in our lives and in our church.



## St. John's UCC, Fullerton Congregational Meeting November 24, 2019 at 9:15 a.m.

On November 24<sup>th</sup> after the first service (approximately 9:15am) we will have our annual Congregational Meeting in the sanctuary. This meeting takes place in order for us to examine the 2020 budget and to vote on it. We also vote on 3 Deacons, 1 Youth Deacon and an Elder for our Consistory.

You will soon be receiving a letter with the 2020 Budget and a list of the Consistory candidates. If you have any questions about the budget, please speak with a member of St John's Stewardship & Finance Committee. Advance questions enable the individual to get answers and those questions help our budget presenter to know what areas to clarify.

Please put this important date on your calendar. Plan to be part of the important decisions of your church.



## Filling Help Needed

On Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8:00AM help is needed to peel potatoes and make the filling. We have a lot of potatoes to peel and we really need lots of hands.

Come and join the fun and don't forget to bring your peeler and knife!

The filling order form is located in this newsletter – Page 24.

## Rev. Dr. Bonnie Bates, PNEC Minister Preaching

On November 17<sup>th</sup>  
at the 8:15 and 10:45AM  
worship services  
Rev. Dr. Bonnie Bates  
will be preaching.



At 9:30AM Rev. Dr. Bonnie Bates will share the Pastoral Search process with our congregation. It is expected that a Search Committee will come together by spring of 2020.

Please mark your calendars! JOIN US!

## Advent Worship series

During worship this advent season we will explore the Advent scriptures while reflecting on the beloved Christmas classic, "A Christmas Carol".

We will explore Christmas past, present, and future as we wait for the birth of Jesus. This series will also help us to prepare ourselves as we begin the transition process toward calling a new Sr. Pastor. The worship services will include concepts

from Matt Rawle's book "The Redemption of Scrooge: Connecting Christ and Culture" Join us Sundays December 1st, 8th, and 15th!

Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> will include a hymn sing at the 8:15 am service and another

awesome KidZ JAM & youth Christmas pageant at the 10:45am service.



## Safety Team

St. John's is continuing to do our best to make sure we are a Safe Church. All of our teachers, youth leaders, staff and more have clearances to work with children and criminal background checks. We also want to make sure that we are a safe church in reference to a wide variety of safety issues.

The Consistory has been talking about how we can continue to grow in our ability to make St. John's safe. A sub committee was formed and they have been meeting. On September 28<sup>th</sup> four of our members attended PNEC Disaster Preparedness Workshop. (Sharon Antrim, Pastor Becky, Marion DeMilio and Tony DeMilio). We will keep you posted as new ideas are shared and incorporated.

## Sing A Song Of Joy To God All You Children

**CHILDREN'S CHOIR** starts Wednesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 pm to 6:45 pm in the Choir Room. Children in Kindergarten to sixth grade are invited to sing.

The choir will rehearse for six weeks and sing at the 6:00 pm Christmas Eve service. There will be no rehearsal Wednesday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, because of the 7:00 pm Thanksgiving Eve service.

Please contact Gail Hanzl if your child is interested or if you have any questions. Call the church office, 610-264-8421 or email Gail at [stjohnsucc.music@rcn.com](mailto:stjohnsucc.music@rcn.com).



## Nominating Committee

We are grateful for those who are completing their 3-year term and who have served on the 2020

Nominating Committee.

These positive and spiritual individuals will continue to

keep our congregation alive and healthy.

They include: Sharon Czekner, Bob Dougherty, Wendy Fox, Paul Raszler, and youth deacon Eireann Hunsicker. We thank these individual for their leadership.



The Nominating Committee submitted the following individual's names to Consistory for their approval at the October Consistory meeting: Elder: Brian Fisher Deacons: Gary Black, Amy Feidler and Jenn Hunsicker. The Consistory unanimously approved these individuals and will recommend them to the congregation for their approval at the November Congregational meeting.

## Co-ordinating Custodian Update

We wish Gary Weaver a well earned retirement after 7 years of outstanding work as our Coordinating Custodian.

We are pleased to welcome Michelle Gutekunst as our new Coordinating Custodian She started on October 14<sup>th</sup>. She is excited to begin this new job and all the challenges it brings. Michelle will continue her 4 hour position as STARS E-Z Tech.

## Calling all Bakers!

We are looking for homemade desserts for Pastor Becky's retirement party (you know how much she loves your homemade baked goods!!)

If you are willing to make/bake something for her party please bring in to Fox Hall on Saturday November 9<sup>th</sup> from 9:00AM- 2:00PM (mark your item "BRP") or Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup> between 8:30AM and 9:00AM

Thank you so much!!!!



## Designer Purse & Gift Card Bingo

The bingo will be held on Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00PM. Doors open at 6:00PM. Tickets are available. The cost is \$20.00 per ticket in advance or \$25.00 at the door the night of the event. Please call the church office to get your tickets or contact Barbara Thomas. The kitchen will be open and there will also be a Chinese Auction.

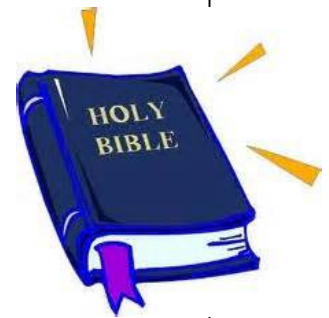
## "Give-Back Night"

★ Join us on **Tuesday, October 29**, all day from **11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.** at **Miller's Ale House** located at **913 Airport Center Dr. (in Airport Plaza off of Airport Rd.) in Allentown.** From your dinner receipt, the tavern will donate 20% of the proceeds back to St. John's. A flyer is required and can be found on the table in the lounge, bulletin, and in this newsletter.



## Bible Recipients – 2019

St. John's proudly gives Bibles to our young students. On October 20<sup>th</sup> Children's Sabbath, we gave Bibles to our Preschool, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class and our youth starting Confirmation.



### Preschool

*Jayce Marino*  
*Kora Sharkazy*

*Felicity Miller*  
*Riley Kulhamer*

### Second Grade

*Owen McNicholas*  
*Cole Troxell*  
*Derek Berg (3<sup>rd</sup> Grade)*

*Sophia Pagan*  
*Lucas Williams*

### First Year Confirmands

*Michael Baatz*  
*Cole Buskirk*  
*Will Hoffman*  
*Archer Hunsicker*  
*Zoe Roth*  
*Carter Troxell*

*Ethan Brobst*  
*Savannah Gedroic*  
*Jared Holderman*  
*Christopher Leibensperger*  
*Conner Strauss*





## Dinner & Movie Night



Come on **Sunday, November 17, at 4:00 p.m. to Fox Hall** and watch the Academy Award winning movie “**Sound of Music.**” The film, set in Salzburg, Austria in 1938, is about an aspiring nun sent to the home of a retired naval captain to be governess to his seven children. After bringing love and music into their lives, she marries the officer and the family tries to find a way to survive the loss of their homeland to the Nazis. **You’ll enjoy singing along to over a dozen songs!** Join us for this fun, admission-free event. The entrée and beverages will be provided. **All we ask you to do is to bring a covered dish to share.** A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the coatroom area by the sanctuary.



## Capital Campaign and Furnace Replacement

Earlier this year Property Committee learned that our heating system (more than 30 years old) was in need of immediate replacement. Consistory, therefore, was faced with the problem of how to finance this expense of more than \$50,000 as there were no budgeted funds.

A bank loan was an option, but that would have resulted in a significant interest expense. An alternate solution was proposed: borrow funds from the Capital Campaign. This was done and our heating system has been installed and is now operational. The remaining question is how to repay that loan.

December of this year will mark the end of the three-year Capital Campaign and envelopes designated for that purpose will stop.

Since our members have been regularly making contributions to that fund, it was decided that a replacement envelope will start in January. It will be labeled “Furnace Fund”. All contributions will go to loan repayment so that the Field of Dreams Committee can continue with the plan originally approved by our membership.

It has long been said that, when our members understand a need, they respond until that need is met. Furnace replacement fits that criteria and we know there will be a good response. There is no pledge period (although lump-sum contributions are welcome), but we will be relying on members continuing to make Furnace Fund contributions in place of the Capital Campaign gifts.

This may delay some of our projects but, in the end, we are confident that we will have the monies to meet Capital Campaign goals.



## 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.



### **Fall, Thanksgiving, and Christmas Boutique at St. John's**

**Saturday, November 9, Vendor Fair & Craft Show – 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

**Sunday, November 10 – before 9:30 a.m. worship service in the parlor**

**Sunday, November 17 – before and after both worship services in the parlor**

**Looking for household furnishings for the holidays?** We've got lots of handmade holiday items, stocking stuffers, wall hangings, and decorations. There are holiday and snowmen t-towels and table runners and cross-stitch finger-tip towels, and bread cloths. Choose from stockings, Santas, angels, Christmas ornaments, snowmen, reindeer food, and more!

**Have a new baby or children in the family?** We've got cross-stitch and cloth baby bibs, knitted baby sweaters, burping cloths, tooth fairy pillows, boo boo bunnies, washcloth dolls, American Girl doll sweaters, and more!

**Need birthday or thank-you gifts?** We've got wine totes, cork hot plates, table runners, cross-stitch finger-tip towels and bread cloths, kitchen towels, potholders, dishcloths, scrubbies, friendship bunny and bikini towels, crocheted hangers, church cookbooks, 12-bean soup mix, and more!

**If you need a specific item, please contact Carol Raszler at 610-393-7572.**

**Remember, our crafts are for sale all year long.**

## Craft/Vendor Fair

Come start your Christmas shopping at the Craft/Vendor Show on Saturday, November 9th. 9:00AM to 2:00PM, shopping on two floors, lots of great items to choose from. Shop till you drop! The kitchen will be open with some yummy treats, and don't forget to stop by the youth groups bake sale table. Proceeds support St. John's UCC Youth Groups. Event will be held indoors! Vendors include makeup, kitchenware, jewelry, food, bags, skincare, many other vendors and lots of homemade crafters!

Check out St. John's Facebook page for the latest list of vendors!

Hope to see everyone there.

## Gobble, Gobble, Gobble!

### Do you have a spare turkey in your freezer?

During the 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 to the soup makers for their pot pie sale, please contact Carol Raszler at 610-393-7572 to make arrangements.**



## Christmas Cookies – Yum!

It's that time of year again, to start thinking about your cookies for Christmas. We are making cut out cookies this year. We are taking pre-orders only starting 10/27th. The sheets will be at the back of the church to order Money will be due with orders. Pick up dates are either 12/8 or 12/15. After both services.



All orders **MUST** be in by **Nov. 24th**. If you order and you would like us to fill your containers please bring them in to either Kenda Catalini or Nicole McWilliams.

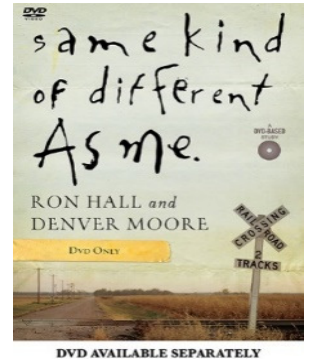
LOOKING for baking helpers.....We will be baking, **Sat.** 11/30 and **Sat.** 12/7 from 8am to? Also **Wed.** 12/4 from 530pm to 8pm.

Please let Kenda or Nicole know if you are able to help. No experience necessary and we always have a fun time, lots of laughs and fellowship.

# “Lessons of Faith, Love, Compassion, Purity, and Seeing Other People through God’s Eyes”

## Lady PEEPS Meeting

*“I found out everybody’s different—the same kind of different as me. We’re all just regular folks walkin’ down the road God done set in front of us. The truth about it is, whether we is rich or poor or something in between, this earth ain’t no final restin’ place. So in a way, we is all homeless—just workin’ our way toward home.” ~ Denver Moore*



An international art dealer and a homeless, modern-day slave from Louisiana become friends after the art dealer is unwillingly forced into volunteering at a homeless shelter by his saintly wife. You’ll see the heart of God in this tale of love, faith, and unlikely friendship between Ron Hall and Denver Moore. Gritty with pain, betrayal, laughter, doubt, and tears, this is a miraculous true story that crosses the barriers of society. The movie encourages people of faith to pass on the torch of faith and compassion that Jesus Christ and his apostles taught us.

Join us for our next **Lady PEEPS** meeting on **Tuesday, November 19, at 6:30 p.m. in Fox Hall** when we discuss and present the video entitled **“Same Kind of Different as Me,”** starring Rene Zellweger, Greg Kinnear, and Djimon Hounsou. Refreshments will be served.



## Cheesecakes and Pies are Back

### Just in Time for the Holidays



Once again **Andie Dallago** is making her scrumptious homemade baked goods for sale on **Sunday, December 22**. At a cost of \$10.00 for an 8” cheesecake or pie (they freeze well), you can select the following:

★ **Peanut Butter Pie**   ★ **Lemon Raspberry Cheesecake**   ★ **Brownie Cheesecake**

Look for a sign-up sheet in the coatroom area by the sanctuary or you can call Andie at 610-504-6598.

**Deadline to place your order is Sunday, December 8.**



# Coming soon....St. John's Live Nativity 2019

**When:** Saturday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00pm and 7:00pm

**Where:** The Sunday School lawn on the east side of the church

**How:** Well, that's where we need YOU! We need help with acting (no speaking) and a narrator, singing, set-up, kitchen helpers, cookie donations, etc.




### Actors needed include:

- \*Mary (preferably a teenager)
- \*Joseph (preferably a teenager)
- \*Angels (children between the ages of 5 and 12)
- \*Innkeeper (preferably someone older than 17)
- \*2 Shepherds (teenagers or adults)
- \*3 Wise Men (preferably adults)
- \*Narrator (preferably an adult)

**Singers needed include:** 4 men and 6 women

If you are willing to be a member of the cast, donate cookies or help out the night of the event, please contact DonnaLee Yeatts or Noreen Miller. Or, sign-up on the sheet in the church coat room.



		<h2>Nut &amp; Fruit Sale</h2>
ITEM	DESCRIPTION	COST
<b>Deluxe Mixed Nuts</b>	Pecans, cashews, pistachios, macadamias, almonds, hazelnuts, and Brazil nuts – no peanuts Roasted & gently salted; great source of vitamins & minerals	\$11.00/lb.
<b>Fancy Pecan Halves</b>	Contains more than 19 vitamins & minerals High in antioxidants; helps reduce risk of heart disease	\$11.00/lb.
<b>Giant Whole Cashews</b>	Roasted & gently salted Great source of iron; helps build healthy bones	\$11.00/lb.
<b>Heart Healthy Nut Mix</b>	Raw natural cashews and almonds, sweet dried cranberries, golden raisins, pumpkin seeds, and sunflower seeds. No sodium; no cholesterol	\$11.00/lb.
<b>Mixed Chocolate Cranberries</b>	Cranberries smothered in rich creamy milk, dark, and white chocolate; high in antioxidants	\$11.00/lb.
<b>Tropical Blend</b>	A tropical blend of macadamias, cashews, almonds, and cranberries. Loaded with sweet dried pineapple chunks.	\$11.00/lb.
<p><b>Please see Carol Raszler before or after worship to make your purchases.</b> Checks are to be made payable to St. John's UCC, Fullerton.</p> <p><b>You'll need these items for Christmas baking or gifts for the holidays.</b></p>		

## November Music Notes . . .



Thanksgiving is not just the Thursday celebration in November when we eat too much turkey and stuffing and pumpkin pie and give thanks to God for all that has been provided to us. But I think Thanksgiving Day should be every day. God does not take a break from being our provider. Thanks should be offered every day.

Our Thanksgiving Eve service on Wednesday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, will focus on *gratitude*. The word *gratitude* means *quality of being thankful and readiness to show appreciation for and to return kindness*.

As I was checking music publishing websites, I came across an anthem called *Gratitude*. It was written in 2002 by Nichole Nordeman. She was born in 1972 in Colorado Springs, Colorado, where she played piano in church. Nordeman is a contemporary Christian recording artist and songwriter and eight-time Dove Award winner. The words to this hymn are beautiful. It is a prayer asking God to send rain because the earth is dry and needs to drink again. The song goes on to ask for other things, too. But what if God does not give us what we ask for. Perhaps God gives us what we need and not what we want. The last phrase of the hymn is asking for peace, which is so desperately needed by the world.

The Jubilation Choir will sing this very moving song on November 10<sup>th</sup>. The music is just as haunting as the words. We hope *Gratitude* will stir your hearts and emotions as much as it has for the ladies of the Jubilation Choir.

Musically,

Gail



# Christian Education & Youth

## Friendship Sunday - Sunday November 17<sup>th</sup>

We will be hosting a Friendship Day on Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup> during the Faith Formation hour! All KidZ JAM & Youth Classes and teachers will be welcoming friends and enjoying a class together!

Bring a friend with you to your class and share a time of Faith & Fun together! Friends are always welcome, but this is a special day of sharing!



## Month Of Thanks!

The KidZ JAM classes usually make a small craft for the congregation during the month of thanks.

This year they have decided to do something a little different! They are busy making a craft for Pastor Becky! Since she will be retiring, the KidZ JAM and youth classes will be making a craft to present to her showing their gratitude during worship on November 10th.

## PNEC Sleepout for Homelessness!

8 youth participated in the PNEC Sleepout for homelessness. The Youth Raised money for the Synergy Project of Valley Youth House. They learned a lot about homelessness and participated in various simulation activities.



## Sr. Youth Group Movie Night (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Graders)

Join us on Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup> 6pm - 8pm as we enjoy the movie "Dumbo" (2019 version)

## UPDATE on Pastor Michelle's Journey to Ordination

Pastor Michelle has finished her ordination paper and will be meeting with the PNEC authorization working group on November 18th.

With consistory's blessings, Pastor Becky will be accompanying Pastor Michelle through the rest of the ordination process. Please keep her in your prayers on November 18th!



## Advent Kick Off Sunday, December 1st 9:30 am – 10:30 am

A family event!

Kick off the Advent Season with us!

On Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> families will enjoy snacks in Fox Hall and create “Advent in a Box” kits. These kits will be taken home to be used as we prepare for the birth of baby Jesus this advent season.

We may even have a surprise guest join us!  
You won't want to miss this!

## NYE 2020 Planning Team

In case you weren't aware, Pastor Michelle has been working at the National UCC Level as a member of the 2020 National Youth Event planning team.



Recently she was given the task of overseeing the planning of one of the worship services for the 3,000 youth, young adults and chaperones that will be attending NYE 2020. She formed a worship team and began working with them to plan the “Unite the Earth” worship service. One of our own, Rachel Eichman, was selected to be a part of the worship planning team!

They are in the process of curating an experiential worship service that will bring the creation story and the feeding of the 5,000 to life as they explore how humans are to be caretakers of the Earth and good stewards of all of God's awesome creation.



# MILLER'S ALE HOUSE



## HEAD TO OUR HOUSE

**October 29, 2019 • 11-2pm & 5-8pm**

**We are giving 20% of total food sales back to  
St. John's UCC Fullerton**

Present flyer at time of payment for a 20% donation to St. John's UCC Fullerton. Valid from 11-2pm & 5-8pm. Can not be combined with any other offer or discount.

913 Airport Center Rd • Allentown • 610-235-2511

WWW.MILLERSALEHOUSE.COM

## Healthcare Ministry

Many of you have probably heard on the news about people developing serious lung issues due to vaping. The healthcare committee would like to remind anyone in our congregation that is currently vaping to stop or proceed with extreme caution. Vaping devices and e-cigarettes were developed to help cigarette smokers quit their dangerous habit by providing a safe way to satisfy their nicotine addiction without inhaling the toxins that come from burning tobacco. Some users also vape substances extracted from marijuana or hemp, which can be for medicinal purposes, as it has been found to help some people suffering from chronic conditions. Tobacco companies, who have bought out most vaping businesses also have added delicious flavorings to entice young people. These companies have slick advertising skills and have managed to promote vaping as the new way to be cool and healthier when compared to smoking cigarettes. Once you start vaping, these companies have you as you become addicted to the nicotine.

As of now, there have been 9 deaths associated with lung problems developed from vaping. There are over 500 other people hospitalized with lung complications from vaping in our country. The early symptoms include fatigue, nausea, vomiting, coughing and fever, escalating to shortness of breath that can become so extreme as to require a visit to the emergency room and possibly a hospital stay.

The FDA and the CDC are currently trying to figure out what ingredient in either the vaping solution or vaping devices is responsible for this sudden health crisis. Until they know for sure, they have advised people to stop vaping for now.

# Mission Moment!

## Ornament & Mitten Tree Project



The Mission Committee is happy to announce that we are again conducting our Ornament and Mitten Tree Project for the Christmas season. This year we will be collecting items for the following organizations:



### **Phoebe Ministries**

Founded in 1903 and affiliated with the UCC, Phoebe Ministries is a multi-facility organization specializing in healthcare, housing and support services to **seniors**. It is guided by its mission to provide compassionate care to residents of its community regardless of their ability to pay.



### **Valley Youth House**

It began in 1973 as a single shelter in the Lehigh Valley for homeless young people and has grown to over 250 residential sites throughout Pennsylvania. Its mission is to help all **youth**, the most vulnerable, those who have been abused, ran away, or are homeless. Valley Youth House helps them build a healthy and independent future.

## **Here's How You Can Help Spread Christmas Cheer:**

**The Ornament and Mitten Trees will be on display shortly in the rear of the sanctuary.**

**You can select a name and purchase a gift as follows:**

**◆ Red Ornament – Phoebe Ministries    ◆ Green Ornament – Valley Youth House**

**Take the top ornament for yourself. Fill out the information on the beige ornament and place it immediately in the gold box.** The gifts need to be wrapped and the person's name must be securely attached to each package (optional to include your name). All gift cards need to be either put in a box or in a gift bag so they don't get lost.



**We Need New Mittens, Gloves and Hats.** A separate tree will be on display for you to bring in donations of new mittens, gloves or hats—for adults and children, men and women, girls and boys. Please do not wrap them but just hang them on the tree. With the cold winter weather approaching, many needy individuals are without these things to keep warm. All items will be distributed to the Whitehall-Coplay School District and the Sixth Street Shelter.

**Deadline to Receive All Gifts is Sunday, December 8.**

## Jubilee Breakfast Ministry

St. John's will be hosting the Jubilee Breakfasts the last Thursday of every month from 6:30 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. The breakfasts are held at Zion UCC located at 620 W. Hamilton St. in Allentown from November 2019 to April 2020. **We will, however, not be preparing a breakfast on Thursday, November 28, due to the Thanksgiving holiday.** This ministry is to provide breakfasts for the homeless, working poor, or anyone in need of food. If you are interested in serving on this team, please **contact Nancy Dougherty** at 610-760-8361 or at [nancydough@msn.com](mailto:nancydough@msn.com).

## Whitehall Food Pantry

The Food Pantry is providing a meal to its clients for the Thanksgiving holiday. **St. John's goal is to collect 140 cans of sweet potatoes towards that Thanksgiving meal.** In addition, the following donations are also needed for November: **stovetop stuffing, canned peas, cake mix, and cereal.** A shopping cart can be found in the coatroom by the sanctuary where you can place your donations. Any other non-perishable food items can always be made at any time throughout the year. Thank you to everyone who contributed monetarily to the Food Pantry from the special offering envelopes that were placed in the bulletin on September 29. A total of **\$255** was received.

### Update on Other Mission Outreaches:

✝ **Neighbors in Need** – NIN supports the UCC's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to fund a wide array of local and national justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. One-third of the offering supports our American Indian neighbors in the UCC. A special offering envelope was in October's newsletter and in the bulletin on October 6. A final tally will be in the next newsletter.

✝ **CROP Walk** – The CROP Walk was held on Sunday, October 13. **Those who sponsored our 12 adult and 4 youth walkers donated \$1032.** A quarter of the total proceeds stay right here in the area shared between the Lehigh Conference of Churches' Ecumenical Soup Kitchen and the Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank. The remaining funds are used by Church World Service to fight hunger in the United States and around the world.

<b>How did our St. John's Family do?</b>		
<b>Recent Outreaches</b>	<b>September</b>	<b>Year-to-Date</b>
Our Churches Wider Mission	\$1,714.30	\$14,342.52
Neighbors in Need	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
Whitehall Food Bank	\$ 255.00	\$ 1,653.00



# Real Potato Filling Sale -

\$7.00 for a two pound container ~

All orders and payment must be received by November 10, 2019.

**PLEASE PAY WHEN ORDERING -  
NO LATE ORDERS ACCEPTED**

Dates for pick up: Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> and Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>

Please complete this order form and place in the offering place along with your payment or call the church office at 610-264-8421

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Containers @ \$7.00 each \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Due \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Check one:

Pick up Saturday 3-5:00PM \_\_\_\_\_

Pick up Sunday (after both services) \_\_\_\_\_

Call Cheryl Weaver - 610-443-0161 or Ruthann Hallman  
610-434-0314 with any questions

**PLEASE PAY WHEN ORDERING**



# 2019 Poinsettia Order

You will once again be able to order 6 1/2" poinsettia plants to beautify the sanctuary at the Christmas season. Please complete the order form below and place it in the offering plate or mail to the church office with your money included.

Deadline to order is Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>. The plants will be displayed in the sanctuary on Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> and also at the Christmas Eve Services.

The cost of a red poinsettia plant is \$8.00.

Red poinsettia(s) \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$8.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

BY \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

BY \_\_\_\_\_

*Please mark which service on Christmas Eve you will be taking  
your plant*

6:00PM \_\_\_\_\_ 9:00PM \_\_\_\_\_





# November 8:15AM and 10:45AM Services

## November 3<sup>rd</sup>

Hymns: \*I Sing a Song of the Saints of God \*Shall We Gather at the River \*For All the Saints

### 8:15AM

STARs Tech: Joe Trippett

Acolytes: Andrew Deutsch & Bailee Neitz

### 10:45AM

Scripture Reader: Linda Smith      STARs Tech: Don Schneck

Acolytes: William Hoffman & Kayleigh Fisher

## November 10<sup>th</sup>

Hymns: \*I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry \*Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore  
\*Peace I Leave with You, My Friend

### 9:30AM

Ushers: Diana Beck, Sharon Antrim, Kim Seager, Tommy Saeger

STARs Tech: Susan Rarich      Acolytes: Tyler McNicholas & Conner Strauss

## November 17<sup>th</sup>

Hymns: \*Come, We Who Love God's Name \*This is My Song \*Now Is the Time Approaching

### 8:15AM

Ushers: Judy Miranda, Andrew Deutsch, Brian Deutsch, Michael Baatz

Scripture Reader: Ellen Sagazio      STARs Tech: Joe Trippett

Acolytes: Steven Schlenker & Carter Troxell

### 10:45AM

Ushers: Diana Beck, Kim Hillegass, William Hoffman, Gail Green

Scripture Reader: Kim Hillegass      STARs Tech: DonnaLee Yeatts

Acolytes: Jillian Sommer & Ethan Brobst



*Staff*

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Assistant Pastor Michelle Funk, L.M.  
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Mrs. Susan Weldner, Treasurer  
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Mrs. Michelle Gutekunst  
Coordinating Custodian

Mr. Dan Riedy – Custodian

Mr. Robert Czekner – Custodian

Mrs. Michelle Gutekunst –  
EZ Worship Tech

*Consistory*

- Sharon Antrim
- Sharon Czekner, President
- Marion DeMilio
- Bob Dougherty
- Wendy Fox
- Ted Hess
- Colleen Kulhamer, Vice-President
- Eireann Hunsicker, Youth Deacon
- Noreen Miller
- Pete Mohr
- Paul Raszler
- Anne Welsh
- Dewey Yeatts

*Committees & Chairpersons*

- Altar Guild – Kim Hillegass & Nancy Dougherty
- Altar Flowers – Sally Gibson – 610-264-1210
- Bowling & Softball – Donald Schneck – 610-216-2707
- Christian Education – Karen Stoitsits
- Church Usage – Ted Hess
- Community Celebrates – Jinny Hess – 610-821-8856
- Crafters Group – Carol Raszler – 610-393-7572
- Evangelism – Kenda Catalini – 484-358-7453
- “Fun” Raising Committee – Tracey Glass (610-432-4997) & Cheryl Weaver
- Healthcare – Marion DeMilio – 610-797-9652
- Interior – Connie Viglione – 610-398-9663
- Mission – Robert Dougherty
- 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](mailto:clkulhamer@aol.com)
- Worship & Music – Cheryl Weaver – 610-443-0161
- Youth Ministry – Kenda Catalini

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

Worship Services  
8:15AM and 10:45AM