



St. John's **CONNECTIONS**

A monthly update from the people of St. John's UCC, Fullerton

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“Easter People, Raise Your Voices”

As the war in Ukraine continues into the Easter season — with the Catholic and Protestant churches celebrating Easter on April 17, and Orthodox Easter, as celebrated by many Ukrainians, falling on April 24 — a spotlight is shining on the Ukrainian Easter tradition of decorating Easter eggs known as pysanky. Decorating them has become a gesture of peace, as the war has brought new meaning to an old tradition that dates back to pre-Christian times. So why Easter eggs



In Christianity, eggs are a common symbol of the resurrection of Christ. Traditional designs on the eggs are also imbued with meaning. Per Christian tradition, triangles on

eggs represent the Holy Trinity. Different regions of Ukraine decorate eggs in different ways. The symbols and colors help to celebrate the God whose love overcomes every hardship, even death, with unwavering and everlasting love for us all. Because of this love, we boldly raise our voices to affirm, “Christ is risen! Christ is risen, indeed!” God’s Easter message lives on in our raised voices!



Rev. William Marceus James (1913-2013) wrote “Easter People, Raise Your Voices” for his congregation at Metropolitan Community United Methodist Church in New York City. It is sung to the tune of Regent Square (paired with “Angels from the Realms of Glory”). The text was written in 1979 by this great Methodist minister who served in Harlem for many years. It’s a song that shares the “Alleluias” which were absent in Lent and now a declaration of triumph and hope in the face of adversity.

***Easter people, raise your voices, sounds of heaven in earth should ring.
Christ has brought us heaven’s choices; heavenly music, let it ring:
“Alleluia! Alleluia!” Easter people, let us sing.
Fear of death can no more stop us from our pressing here below.
For our Risen Lord empowers us to triumph over every foe.
Alleluia! Alleluia! On to victory now we go.
Every day to us is Easter, with its resurrection song.
When the cares of life overwhelm us, Easter people, sing this song:
“Alleluia! Alleluia!” Everlasting triumph song!***

This Easter and every day, we can remember the words of Jesus’ “new commandment” given for us to “love one another,” as Christ has loved us. This love guides and shapes all we do to model the love and sacrifice that Jesus brought to this world. This love compels us to action as we encounter life’s challenges. We have faith that stands against the hardships and empowers us. Jesus is with us always! Jesus demonstrated in words and actions how we stand with the downtrodden, the oppressed, and those who society cast aside. We can’t hide in fear! Our role every day is to live proudly in a Christ-like manner. Jesus taught that all are accepted and loved by God.

What’s next for us as today’s “Easter People?” As the people of St. John’s UCC, Fullerton? God is preparing the way forward and inviting us to experience the transformation of new life. We take our next steps in bold confidence, trusting God to use these days of resurrection time of our pandemic life to transform us. Let’s raise our voices and share God’s love in Christ!

Yours in grace and hope,

Rev. Steven Davis
Senior Pastor



In Memoriam

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of David Walters who died on April 9th.



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Celebrating the Easter Season

"From the Tomb"



From Easter morning to Pentecost, we share the continuing stories of Jesus with the disciples and affirming life lived in resurrection hope and love. During the month of May, this new message series will take us to the birth of the Church in the spirit of Pentecost.

Message scriptures and themes will be:

- May 1, 2022: John 21:1-19
"Follow God"
- May 8, 2021: John 10:22-30
"Believe God"
- May 15, 2022: John 13:31-35
"Glorify God"
- May 22, 2022: John 14:23-29
"Love God"
- May 29, 2022: John 17:20-26
"Know God"
- June 5, 2022 (Pentecost Sunday):
John 14:8-17, 25-27 "Ask God"

"From the Tomb" culminates with our celebration of the Spirit coming to the Church and bringing the power of love to transform the world! This is our story as well! We worship the risen Christ! The continuing journey takes us to new ways and opportunities to Worship, Love and Serve: No Matter What!

Re-Opening Task Force Update

Current area conditions in the Lehigh Valley with increases in COVID-19 variants cause us to carefully monitor and promote vaccination where possible and continued mask wearing while singing. For those vaccinated, masking is optional during worship and other gatherings. We continue to urge all others to get vaccinated if possible and for all to use a mask while singing.

Many Opportunities for Generosity

Strengthen the Church
Offering - June 5!

Help St. John's do more to support congregations nationally and in our area with vital ministry funds to strengthen existing ministry and explore new opportunities for faith communities.

The Strengthen the Church special offering is 1 of the 5 for 5 denominational support giving opportunities of the United Church of Christ throughout the year, providing support to Our Church's Wider Mission and the Special Mission Offerings:

1. Our Church's Wider Mission (often referred to as OCWM)
2. One Great Hour of Sharing (Disaster Relief, March)
3. Strengthen The Church (Church Vitality, Pentecost, June)
4. Neighbors In Need (World Communion Sunday, October)
5. The Christmas Fund (Retired Clergy, December)

More information will be shared in Sunday worship bulletin announcements and with an offering envelope available for the JUNE Connections Newsletter! For those who wish to make an electronic contribution, please do so using our website and select "Strengthen the Church" from the menu of fund options.

Stewardship / Donations

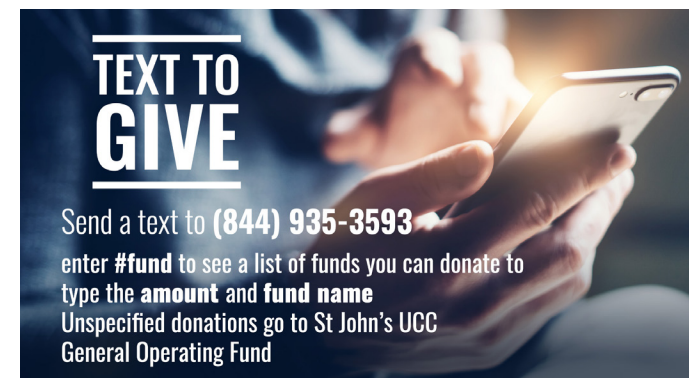
Have you noticed the QR Codes in our worship bulletin, on the worship slides and in other locations around the church? This simple square coded image will allow anyone with a smartphone camera to be directed to our St. John's UCC donation page! From this secure website page, you may select the funds or causes and amounts you wish to contribute. We hope you will find this to be one more easy way to make donations in the moment as opportunities are presented.

St. John's UCC, Fullerton continues to operate in a significant deficit. While we are attempting to re-engage and return to more substantive ministry activity, we continue to experience a shortfall each month in contributions over our expenses, which causes us to dip into reserve funds.

If you are not already doing so, please sign up for automatic secure contributions to be made from your bank account or credit card. This allows for donations to continue on a regular basis, as well as making your donation process easier when special needs come up to which you wish to respond.



**SCAN ME
TO DONATE**



April Music Notes

"Borning Cry" is one of the most popular songs in recent hymnals. The ballad style of the music lends itself to a feeling of a love song, a love song between God and the singer.

This hymn addresses humanity from God's point of view. The spirit of "Borning Cry" is one of a God who loved us from the beginning of time and continues to love us throughout the seasons of our life.

The author and composer is John Carl Ylvisaker. He was born in 1937 and is a native of Fargo, North Dakota. He received degrees from Concordia College in Minnesota, Luther Northwestern Seminary (now Luther Seminary) in St. Paul, the University of Minnesota and St. Cloud State College. He worked as a voice teacher, music director for a Lutheran church, and in the communications division of the American Lutheran Church. His compositions have appeared in hundreds of worship resources.

The composition of "Borning Cry" began in 1985, when Mr. Ylvisaker was asked to prepare a series on baptism called "Reflections" for the American Lutheran Church. The ballad style of "Borning Cry" reflects the composer's interest in folk song. The use of folk sources is embedded in Mr. Ylvisaker's Lutheran heritage of the chorales, many of which had folk influences and provided the basis for the congregational song heritage of the Lutheran Reformation.

In addition to the lyrical melody and text that allows God to sing a love song to humanity, "Borning Cry" gives us a sense of the timelessness of God. The final stanza of the seven-stanza hymn is the same as the first stanza.

We think of ourselves as finite beings, God re-creates us and gives us new life in the baptismal waters, a spiritual regeneration that lasts for eternity.

Ideal for baptisms, weddings, or any occasion that celebrates God's presence as He "was there to hear your borning cry," and He'll "be there when you are old," "Borning Cry" will be sung by the Chancel Choir on May 1st for the confirmation service.

Musically,

Gail

Church Office Transitions

The Personnel Committee and Pastor Steve are working to select a new Church Office Administrator for our part-time position. We are grateful for Susan Kuder's willingness to return from her retirement to assist St. John's in this transition, as well as those who have been helping as office volunteers and taking on tasks to help with worship.

All interested applicants are encouraged to respond to the position posting on Indeed and contact Pastor Steve or one of the Personnel Committee members for more information. Thank you for your prayers and understanding as we look for a new person to be part of our St. John's staff team.

Honoring the Music Ministry of Gail Hanzl

After 21 years in ministry with St. John's UCC, Fullerton, empowering our music ministry and making our worship services more joyful and meaningful with her gifts of leadership and talents of musicianship, Gail Hanzl will be retiring from St. John's. Her final Sunday leading worship will be June 5, Pentecost Sunday.

The Consistory leadership and other ministry area leaders are helping to organize some meaningful ways for us to express our appreciation and gratitude to Gail for her many years of ministry with us. Please watch for more information in the coming weeks about how you can participate in honoring and acknowledging Gail.



5G Connection Class

We are returning to more people gathering on-site for worship, as well as those who participate throughout the week online. With this increasing activity, there are those who are exploring more of what it means to be well connected spiritually.

Do you have a 5G Connection at St. John's UCC? Having a strong connection is fundamental when we think about our phones, sharing information, communicating, live streaming... you name it, the better the connection the more enjoyable the experience of participating. We find the same when we think about our experience of the St. John's UCC, Fullerton faith community! The greater our connection, the greater our experience!

Whether you've been part of the church family for decades or a recent participant or online viewer, we want every person to have a great connection. Everyone is invited to "upgrade" your connection and take part in our 5G Connection Class, where we will explore what it means to:

- G**ather in faith and fellowship,
- G**ain understanding and relationships,
- G**ive in time, talent and treasure,
- G**row through acts of compassion and service,
- G**o! Sharing our life and love, grace and hope!

The 5G Connection Class will be held over 2 consecutive Sundays, May 15 and 22 following worship. Participants will have the opportunity to be received in covenant relationship in worship on Pentecost Sunday, June 5! Contact the Church Office or speak with Pastor Steve to learn more if you're interested in being part of the 5G Connection Class. Classes will be offered 3-4 times a year for your participation. Everyone is welcome to learn more!

Pavilion is Available for Use

The work on the new Church Pavilion has been completed and is available for anyone to use. Schedule your usage now! There is a cost plus a deposit which is refundable after the usage. The cost is \$100 for Church Members and \$150 for Nonmembers and the usage is for the entire day. A restroom facility is available at the Pavilion. The Pavilion has tables and chairs and can be arranged any way the user wishes and can facilitate up to 130 people. Call the Church Office at (610) 264-8421 and we will happily reserve the date for your usage.

More about the Pavilion

Tables and chairs are not permanently located in the seating area. They are stored on dollies in the "garage" area. They are moved into place for each event and returned to storage afterwards.

There are approximately 25 tables (6' long) and 130 chairs. Tables are a light-weight folding variety.

There two "set-up" options. User can contract for our custodial staff to place (and remove) tables and chairs, or the user may do the set up and return them to storage after their event.

On the day of an event, the user will be given the combination to a lockbox (labelled "community") in which are located keys to access kitchenette, bathrooms and storage area. Hot water will have been turned on in advance of the event.

Following the event, user will return keys to lockbox (spin the dial to relock) and check that lights/water are turned off, the kitchenette and overhead garage door relocked.

It is the responsibility of users to monitor that refuse and recyclables are placed in the appropriate containers and, to avoid problems with wildlife, secured in the storage area before leaving.

Cleaning supplies are located in the storage area. Tables and chairs must be wiped down before replacing them on storage dollies.

Contract and related information can be sent by the Office administrator to anyone inquiring.

Time for Pasties for Dinner

The "Fun"Raising Committee is selling pasties from Mr. Pastie in Pen Argyl. Due to the increased cost of ingredients the price will be higher than previous years. The 12 oz. pastie is available in Beef, Chicken, Sausage or Ham for \$7.00 each. Also available in the 12 oz. size is Veggie Melt and Spinach Melt for \$7.00. The 6 oz. fruit pies are available in Apple, Cherry or Blueberry for \$4.00 each. All the pasties come frozen and simply need to be baked. Make a salad and you have a very easy meal.

An order form is included in the newsletter or is available on the table in the back of sanctuary. To order, simply mail your order form with payment to Cheryl Weaver, 919 Fifth Street, Whitehall, PA 18052. The deadline to order is Sunday, June 5th. Pickup will be Thursday, June 23rd 2:00–4:00 pm in Fox Hall (use elevator door entrance) or Sunday, June 26th in Fox Hall after the church service. Please designate which date you will be picking up on the order form.

If you have any questions, please call the church office (610) 264-8421 or contact Cheryl Weaver.

A colorful graphic for Summer Camp. At the top, a banner reads "SUMMER CAMP" in large, multi-colored letters. To the right, a purple starburst says "FUN ACTIVITY PROGRAMS". A red speech bubble says "BOYS & GIRLS! LEARN AND HAVE FUN!". A yellow starburst says "MAKE NEW FRIENDS". Three children are holding signs: a girl on the left holds a sign for "FAIRIES AND GNOMES CAMP JULY 19-21 9AM-12PM"; a boy in the middle holds a sign for "LEGO CAMP JUNE 14-16 9AM-12PM"; and a girl on the right holds a sign for "ARTS AND CRAFTS CAMP AUGUST 16-18 9AM-12PM". The background is a bright blue sky with sun rays and green grass with flowers. At the bottom, a pink banner says "contact Jazmin Smith at Staff@stjohnslearningcenter.com" and an orange banner says "Help support our summer program for kids. You can volunteer your morning to assist with camp. Registration is \$90 per child for each camp."/>

contact Jazmin Smith at
Staff@stjohnslearningcenter.com

Help support our summer program for kids. You can volunteer your morning to assist with camp. Registration is \$90 per child for each camp.

Verso Chat Continues! Grow with us!

You can participate in a mid-week boost to your spirit! Come participate in the fun and conversation on Wednesday mornings.. We want to discover God's still speaking words instilling life into our circumstances. "Verso" is the Latin word meaning "conversation."

Join Pastor Steve and others from our faith family on Wednesday mornings at 9:00am onsite at St. John's and on Zoom. You will find the "Verso Chat" link here and on the website to participate. Let's study and chat about the verses of scripture together!

Sight and Sound

Want to see the newest performance at Sight & Sound in Lancaster? It is the Biblical story of David. St. John's has a bus reserved for Wednesday, July 6th to see this show, followed by a late lunch at Shady Maples buffet. We will leave the Church at 8am for the 11am show, then go to lunch. The total cost for everything, including tips is \$120.00 To date, the bus is only one-third filled.

If you are thinking about going, please make your reservation with Tom Moyer ASAP. The sooner we pay for the theater tickets, the better seats we can get. Also, we need to know if we have enough people to make this trip. Join us for a day of fun!

Men's Breakfast Group

The Men's Breakfast Group of St. John's meets on the first Saturday of the month at the Hamilton Family Restaurant located at 2027 Hamilton St. in Allentown. Our next meeting is on May 7 at 8:30am. We would be pleased to have you join us. If you would like to know more about this group, please contact Bob Bold at (610) 393-6123 or email at QVRRBold@aol.com

Summer Camps at St. John's

St. John's Christian Early Learning Center and St. John's UCC, Fullerton are pairing up to engage kids this summer with three "Camp" Events!

Instead of a one-week Vacation Bible School, we will help support the three events of our Learning Center and include more kids, ages 3-12!

SAVE THE DATES!

- ✓ LEGO CAMP - June 14-16, 9am-12pm
- ✓ FAIRIES and GNOMES CAMP - July 19-21, 9am-12pm
- ✓ ARTS and CRAFTS CAMP - August 16-18, 9am-12pm

To volunteer your morning to assist with camp or to register a child, contact Jazmin Smith at Staff@stjohnslearningcenter.com. Camp is \$90 per child for each camp.

Help support our summer program for kids and reach out to our community with your time and love for kids as we share God's love during these 3-day events!

Congratulations

Dale Serfass was selected as an Unsung Hero by the Lehigh County Office of Aging and Adult Services. There will be a ceremony held on May 18th to honor Dale.

The Unsung Hero Ceremony pays tribute to people age 60 or older who demonstrate successful aging and who display exceptional generosity with their time and talents for the benefit of the community. The Unsung Hero program salutes individuals who live quietly among us and who inspire all those privileged to know them.





Our Faith Home and Followup Sharing Sessions

Thank you to all who participated in the "Our Faith Home" gatherings. We had over 50 people participate and shared deeply about our journeys of faith and why we proudly call St. John's UCC, Fullerton "Our Faith Home!" The elders and Consistory leadership are working to grow our program and opportunities in the coming months based on your sharing. The reality we all know well is that being the Church requires us to go beyond what's comfortable and stretch toward what God is doing next in and through us.

In mid-June, leadership will have a planning retreat to develop our next steps together and then share that plan in small groups and in congregational conversations to help us work through possibilities and questions moving forward. Your sharing in the "Our Faith Home" gatherings has informed and inspired us. Now we look to God and look to you again as we prepare.

We are a "Whatever it takes" congregation! So by whatever means, let's share ourselves, our love, our learning and our service in the next steps we take together! Plan to be part of the conversations this summer and share anytime with members of our staff, elders and Consistory leadership.

Basket Social

and Bake Sale



Saturday, May 21st. from 9am to Noon

- ✓ Tickets are \$5 per sheet of 26 tickets
- ✓ Winning tickets will be drawn at Noon
- ✓ You need not be present to win
- ✓ Drop off will be at the pavilion
Sunday, May 15 after church
Friday, May 20 - 5 to 7pm

✓ Basket donations needed:

- cooking basket
- lottery tickets
- candy bouquet
- beautiful potted plant
- gift cards
- auto detailing
- cleaning supplies
- (items don't have to be in a basket)

Questions? see Kenda Catalini
or call (484) 358-7453

Lady PEEPS

Hold your horses, Lady Peeps!

On Tuesday, May 17th at 6:30pm in Fox Hall, the Lady PEEPS Women's group will be enjoying an evening together at St. John's version of the Kentucky Derby. Put on your best party hat and join us for an evening of fun and games and laughter.

Iron Pigs Party Porch

After a year's layoff due to COVID 19, St. John's has reserved the Ironpigs Party Porch for Saturday, July 9. Ticket price remains the same as in the past, \$37, which includes great seats for the game, a picnic buffet, soft drinks and bottled water, and post-game fireworks. Contact Tom Moyer (610) 432-3372 for reservations.

Another IronPigs Opportunity

We've reserved 80 seats in Section 105 of the grandstand in Coca Cola Park for the IronPigs vs. Syracuse Mets (affiliate of the New York Mets) baseball game. Game day is Thursday, August 4, 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. It will be Dollar Dog Night where hotdogs will be \$1 all night long. Deadline for reservations is June 19.

So, mark your calendar—we are now taking reservations and payment must be made in advance. (Checks are payable to St. John's.) For more information and reservations, please contact Carol Raszler at (610) 393-7572 or email at crazler@aol.com.



DINNER TO GO

SATURDAY
JUNE 11

FOX HALL
3 TO 5PM

CHICKEN MARSALA,
ROASTED RED BLISS POTATOES,
GREEN BEANS, ROLLS AND BUTTER
PAYMENT IS DUE WITH ORDERS
BY SUNDAY - JUNE 5

NO DINING IN

\$13 PER MEAL

Any questions please see Kenda Catalini or call (484) 358-7453

Attention St. John's Walkers

Contact Sharon Antrim, sharonantrim@yahoo.com or call (610) 216-6207 to sign up for the Spring St. John's Walking Challenge. We are beginning April 24, 2022 and ending May 21, 2021. It's always a lot of fun. Spring is in the air.

Thank you... Healthcare Ministry



Multi-Purpose Drive-By

Saturday, May 7 (Rain or Shine)

9am to Noon at the Pavilion

Mission Committee Outreaches

- Whitehall Food Pantry donations needed: hot chocolate, coffee, tea, soup, peanut butter, jelly, pancake mix, syrup, cereal, pasta, rice, canned fruit, canned vegetables, spaghetti sauce, tuna fish, macaroni & cheese, instant mashed potatoes, hamburger or tuna helper, cake mixes. Monetary donations always accepted.

- Contribute to "Ukraine Relief Fund."

"Fun" Raising Committee Events

- Make reservations for IronPigs Party Porch on July 9 and IronPigs Grandstand on August 4.
- Make reservations for bus trip to see "David" at Sight and Sound Theater & Shady Maples on July 6.
- Purchase gift cards for Giant and Weis grocery stores.
- Sign up to order our Chicken Marsala Dinner on June 11.
- Register for tickets for Basket Social on May 21. Supply a basket.
- Bring your Redner's receipts.

Worship & Music Committee – Opportunities to Serve

- Sponsor the wheat basket at the altar to support the food bank.
- Sponsor altar flowers on a Sunday.
- Sign up to be an usher/greeter.

Healthcare Ministry

- Blood pressure screenings.

Craft Sale

- What's new: fabric baskets, clothespin bags, octagon table runners, shopping bags.
- Household items: bowl cozies, dishcloths, table runners, T-towels, bread cloths, plastic bag holders, casserole totes, wine totes, cookbooks, 12-bean soup mix, and more.
- Baby items: bibs, burping cloths, tooth fairy pillows, boo boo bunnies, baby sweaters, baby blankets, American Girl doll sweaters, and more.

Thank You

Dear Friends at St. John's United Church of Christ,

Thank you for your generous donation in the amount of \$420.00 to the United Church of Christ to support disaster relief in Ukraine. Through your gift, families that have been displaced and are in need of shelter and basic necessities will receive support.

Through your giving, those in need will be provided with spiritual support and physical resources to rebuild their lives.

Thank you again for spreading God's hope, peace, and love through your financial assistance.

In faith,

Rev. Dr. John Dorhauer

General Minister and President
United Church of Christ

Homebound Residents

People who would welcome receiving a greeting card:

Shirley Abel	Lucille Hicks	Frank Nolt
Anita Beil	Geraldine Keim	Marilyn Piskula
Jean Coombe	Adrienne Kiesbar	Marietta Seyfried
Sandra Diefenderfer	Emma Repp Kuczek	Eleanor Smith
Susan Felegy	Elaine Lentz	Bert Smith
Sally Gibson	Jean Litzenberger	Peggy Snyder
Roberta Haberern	Roy Luckenbill	Ethel Weiland
Sylvia Hafer	Karen Moyer	

To protect privacy, please contact the Church office for a listing with mailing addresses.

April Birthdays

5/01	Kyle Dorney Jean Gilbert Kimberly Leatherman Matthew Wasley	5/16	Jared Holderman-Adams Kristin Jordan Judith Sommer Cole Troxell
5/03	John Bennett Justin Brosious Corey Rapchak	5/17	Jennifer Rarich Lucille Schneck
5/04	Nancy Bennett Tammy Christman	5/18	Sandra Nagy Wesley Christman
5/05	Brittany Daiello	5/19	William Roth Sr.
5/06	Eric Jackson	5/20	Barbara Hoderman Lori Fink Kevin Hoderman
5/07	William Meckes	5/21	Thomas Moyer Ricardo Venanzi
5/08	Robin Brensinger Robert Czekner Juliet Czekner	5/22	Ronald Eichman William Wasley Jr
5/09	Barbara Marinkovits Kimberly Saeger	5/23	Edith Crews Gary Bruder Jamie Kulhamer
5/10	Audrey Christopher Christopher Leibensperger Felicity Miller Bailee Neitz	5/25	Sandra Glass Paul Brobst Patrick Haffl
5/11	Craig Hanzl Michael Hentz Hunter Miller Robert Schlenker	5/26	Landon Troxell
5/12	Steve Davis Cynthia Kern Elaine Lentz	5/27	Seth Bergeris-Cortright Bruce Miller Tara Roth
5/13	Ryan Szoke	5/28	Spenser Beck Janet Black David Newton Amy Romberger Teresa Schwenk
5/14	Donald Brensinger Grant Brobst Kyle Brokenshire Fortress Chryst Josef Raszler Timothy Silfies Lucas Williams	5/29	David Erney Ashley Koehler
5/15	Nancy Dougherty	5/30	Judith Barron Parker Christman Danielle Powell Tammy Yura

April Wedding Anniversaries

Lee Ann & Robert Lopez 5/02/1992	Mary Ann & Roger Knauss 5/22/2016
Lauren & Craig Schutts 5/03/2008	Ashley & Ricardo Venanzi 5/22/2010
Paige & William Albert 5/04/1984	Laurie & William Dovico 5/23/2009
Kenda & Joseph Catalini 5/04/2002	Kristin & Michael Jordan 5/24/2015
Owen Eberhart Jr 5/06/1961	Staci & Jesus Pagan 5/24/2015
Janet & James Ebert 5/07/2011	Charlotte & James Kerrigan 5/25/1979
Casey & Justin Brosious 5/08/2010	Jennifer Rarich & Eric Lord 5/25/2013
Wendy & Keith Fox Jr 5/08/1999	Susan & John Weldner 5/25/1986
Julia Gross & Thomas Gross III 5/12/2012	Candra & Ernest Zellner Jr 5/25/1974
Karen & Frank Stoitsis 5/12/1979	Amy Chambers 5/28/2016
Robin & Kerry Dorney 5/13/1978	Bill Castello & Steve Davis 5/28/2017
Rosemary & Bruce Hess 5/16/1984	Debra Long 5/29/1982
Jill & George Williams 5/17/2003	Lisa & Alan Weiner 5/30/1982
Shirley & Gary George 5/18/1968	Sandra & Steven Nagy 5/31/2002
Barbara & Ned Bateman 5/20/1978	Adele & Samuel Yoder 5/31/2008

If you have an upcoming anniversary or notice an omission, please update the church office.





Ukraine Emergency Appeal Update

As our eyes are drawn daily to the news, we learn that more than 4.5 million refugees have fled and sought refuge outside of the Ukraine, while an estimated 6.5 million people have been displaced within the country itself. Thanks to your generosity, we sent \$420 to UCC National and \$420 to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA as they work with their global partners in the area to provide shelter, food, water, clothing, transportation, toiletries, and care, and assist with refugees assimilating in neighboring countries. We also sent \$445 to Project HOPE, which provides medical supplies, medical equipment, health kits, and healthcare to Ukraine. Another \$445 was sent to World Central Kitchen, which distributes nourishing food and provides over 300,000 meals daily to Ukraine, Poland, and surrounding countries.

We continue to accept donations for the "Ukraine Relief Fund" as the need continues to grow. You can send your check to the church office payable to St. John's or pay on-line or by text. Be sure to note "Ukraine Relief Fund" in the memo section or on the website link.

Yellow and blue lapel pins made by our Crafters Group are still available on the table in the back of the sanctuary. 100 pins have been made so far for distribution to anyone to take and wear to show your support. We continue to pray for the Ukrainian people and all those in the world affected by this crisis.

Turning Point of Lehigh Valley

Recognizing a growing need, a small, dedicated group came together in 1976 to answer hotline calls from women who were victims of domestic violence in the area. In 1978, the group was granted non-profit status and evolved into Turning Point of Lehigh Valley. Since its inception, Turning Point has helped more than 85,000 victims of domestic abuse.

Turning Point is a safe place where survivors of domestic and intimate partner abuse and their children can find refuge. Its mission is to eliminate abuse in the Lehigh Valley through empowerment, education, and engagement. Abuse can be verbal, physical, emotional, sexual, or financial. Abuse does not discriminate against age, gender, sexual orientation, religion, or economic status. Turning Point's Safe House Emergency Shelter provides shelter within a communal living environment. Children's accommodations and programs are also available.

There is more than one way to give back and make a difference in the lives of survivors and their families. You can invest your time as a volunteer and/or make a donation to Turning Point. If you have general questions about this organization, its mission and work, or wish to donate, you can contact the administrative office at 444 E. Susquehanna St., Allentown, call at (610) 797-0530, or go to its website at turningpointlv.org. **If you need the services of Turning Point because of abuse, call their 24/7 hotline at (610) 437-3369.**

Whitehall Food Pantry

For the month of May, we are collecting jelly, pancake mix, and pancake syrup. We have a shopping cart in the coatroom area next to the sanctuary where you can place your donations. Any other non-perishable food items are always welcome. Monetary contributions are always accepted and can be forwarded to the church office or via on-line or text. Just a reminder that we are collecting canned goods and non-perishable food items at the Multi-Purpose Drive-By at the pavilion on Saturday, May 7, between 9am and Noon.

Whitehall-Coplay Hunger Initiative

WCHI and the Faith-Based Community are providing free meals to low-income Whitehall-Coplay households on the 1st Sunday and 3rd Tuesday of each month from 4pm to 6:30pm. The host locations change every time, and they will decide if masks are required and if it is a sit-down or take-out meal. Call the host church to see what guidelines they are following.

Date	Church	Address	Phone
Sunday, 5/1	St. John's Lutheran Church	835 3rd St., Whitehall	(610) 533-1357
Tuesday, 5/17	Whitehall Bible Fellowship Church	3300 7th St., Whitehall	(610) 434-8661
Sunday, 6/5	St. Peter Roman Catholic Church	4 S. 5th St., Coplay	(610) 262-2417
Tuesday, 6/21	Redeemed Christian Church of God	5 N. 3rd St., Coplay	(610) 262-8993

WCHI is in search of gardening enthusiasts who could enjoy adopting a raised garden bed in the WCHI Garden located at the Mickley-Prydun Farm, 3540 Ruch St. in Whitehall. Individuals, families, and faith-based groups are invited to plant and maintain a garden bed (16 available) throughout the 2022 growing season. WCHI will provide the soil, seeds and/or plants; water will be available thanks to Hokendauqua Fire Department. All harvested produce will be given to Whitehall-Coplay residents through WCHI's Children's Summer Feeding Program and WCHI's Food Pantry.

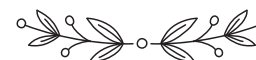
To reserve a garden bed, contact Shari Noctor, WCHI's Director, at (484) 225-0358 or WhitehallCoplayHunger@gmail.com.

Update on Other Mission Outreaches

Thank you to everyone who contributed to One Great Hour of Sharing in March. To date we have received a total of \$739.80. OGHS enables the UCC to reach people and communities in crisis—those affected by natural disasters, refugee displacement, and poverty.

How did St. John's Family do?

Recent Outreaches	March 2022	YTD 2022	YTD 2021
Our Church's Wider Mission	\$ 1,722.00	\$ 4,477.60	\$ 4,267.30
OGHS	\$ 714.80	\$ 739.80	\$ 801.80
Whitehall Food Pantry	\$ 70.00	\$ 445.00	\$ 720.00
Ukraine Relief Fund	\$ 1,145.00	\$ 1,145.00	N/A
Christmas Fund	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00



We congratulate Pastor Steve who will celebrate the 30th anniversary of his ordination which took place on May 26, 1992.

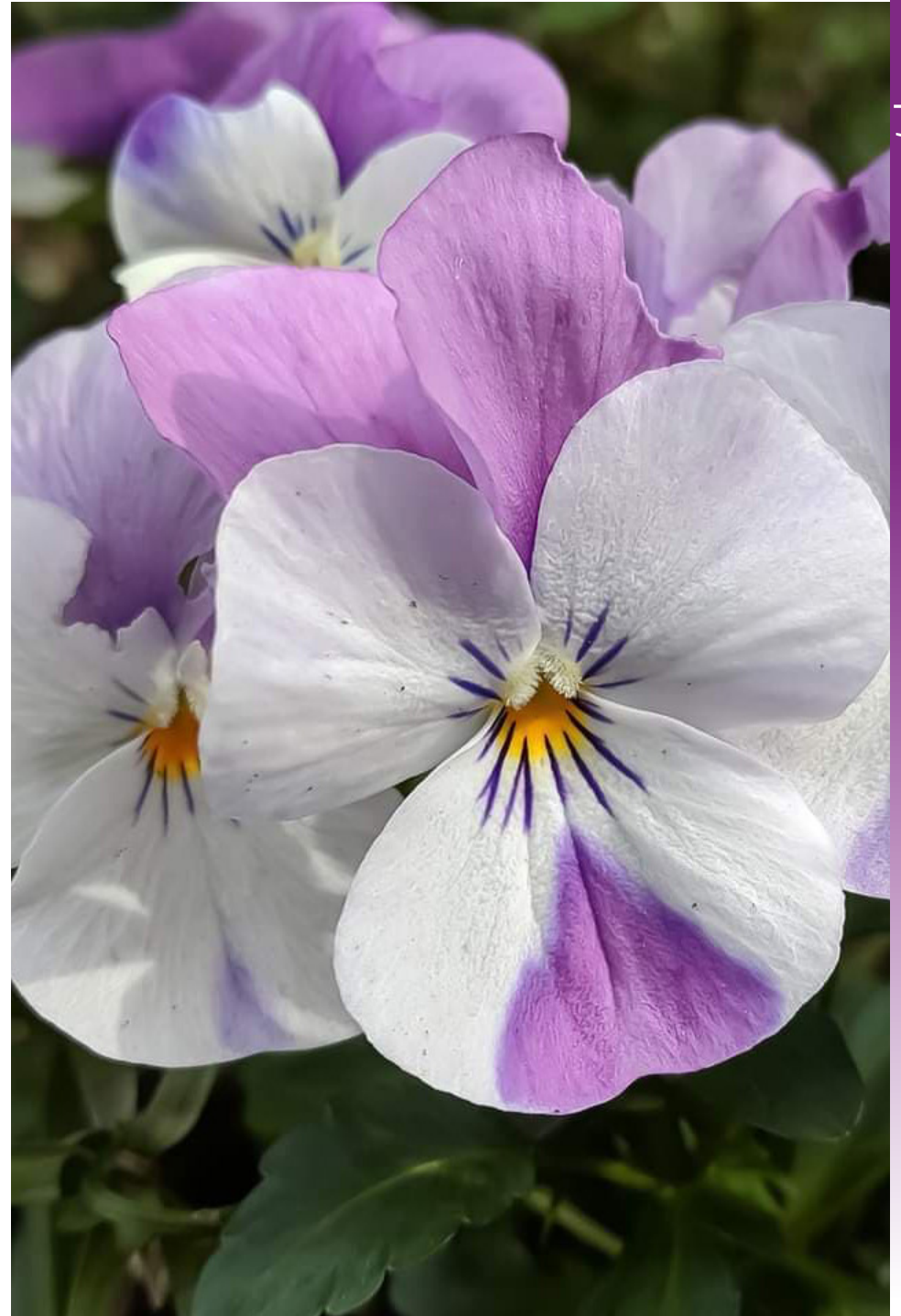
Altar Flower Dates Available

May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	August 7, 14, 21, 28	November 6, 13, 20, 27
June 5, 12, 19, 26	September 4, 11, 18, 25	December 4, 11, 18, 25
July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31	October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	

Contact Margaret Young with the Altar Guild or call the Church office to inquire about availability.



What would you like to see in
St. John's CONNECTIONS?
email: sjfofficesecretary@gmail.com



**St Johns UCC Fullerton - Statement of Finances
MAR 2022**

Income	Electronic	3/6/2022	3/13/2022	3/20/2022	3/27/2022	Total
Offerings for Operating Expenses	\$5,968.02	\$5,105.00	\$2,298.00	\$3,658.00	\$5,569.80	\$22,598.82
Rental Income--Gross				\$1,247.50		\$1,247.50
Fundraising Income--Net of Exp		\$59.00				\$59.00
Endowment Interest						\$-
Flowers		\$70.00	\$20.00	\$135.00	\$143.00	\$368.00
Christian Education	\$30.00					\$30.00
Special Gifts	\$32.34	\$180.00			\$206.81	\$419.15
Total	\$6,030.36	\$5,414.00	\$2,318.00	\$5,040.50	\$5,919.61	\$-

Expense Summary	Actual	Budget	Difference
Pastoral Services	\$13,272.00	\$13,377.00	\$(105.00)
Staff Salaries & Expense	\$9,112.54	\$9,591.00	\$(478.46)
Property	\$1,693.71	\$3,416.00	\$(1,722.29)
Parish Programs	\$1,113.98	\$2,668.00	\$(1,554.02)
Total	\$25,192.23	\$29,052.00	\$(3,859.77)

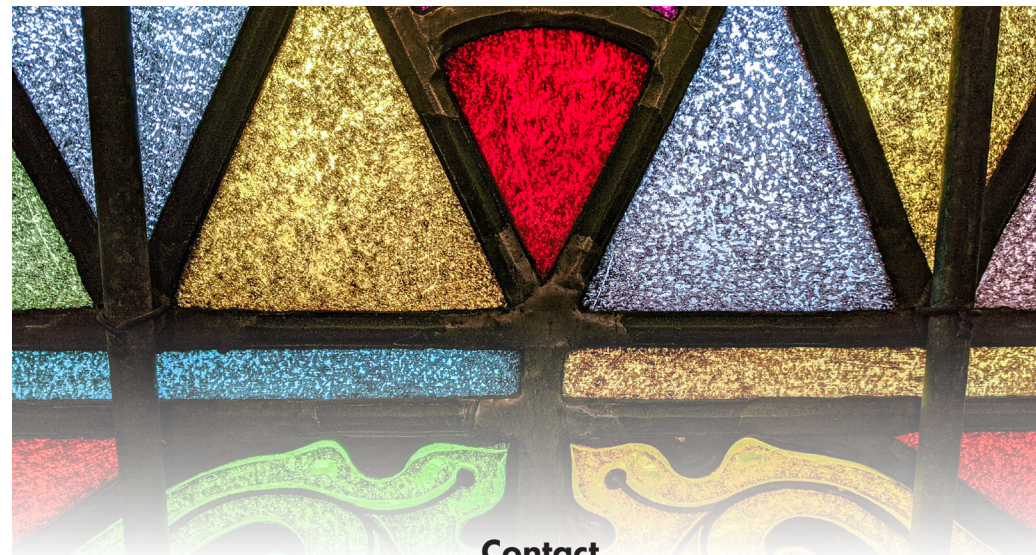
	Month	Year
Total Income	\$24,722.47	\$68,298.11
Total Expenses	\$25,192.23	\$76,780.72
Net LOSS	\$(469.76)	\$(8,482.61)

Mission Giving, MAR 2022

Our Churches Wider Mission	\$1,722.00
Christmas Fund	\$20.00
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$714.80
Ukrainian Relief	\$1,145.00
Whitehall Food Bank	\$70.00
Total	\$3,671.80

**St John's UCC Fullerton
Fund Balances
For Month Ending, MAR 2022**

Account	Feb-22	Mar-22	Difference
Checking Account--KNBT	\$35,947.83	\$37,599.22	\$1,651.39
Giant Card Funds	\$2,659.51	\$329.51	\$(2,330.00)
Weis Card Funds	\$2,810.00	\$460.00	\$(2,350.00)
sub-total General Fund Assets	\$41,417.34	\$38,388.73	\$(3,028.61)
IN & OUT Account--KNBT Checking	\$74,133.13	\$74,025.42	\$(107.71)
Restricted/Property Money Market	\$31,863.07	\$31,863.35	\$0.28
sub-total Restricted Assets	\$105,996.20	\$105,888.77	\$(107.43)
Endowment Fund--KNBT	\$514,719.32	\$520,714.27	\$5,994.95
TOTAL ASSETS	\$662,132.86	\$664,991.77	\$2,858.91
Cornerstone Pavillion Loan	\$(85,550.57)	\$(85,550.57)	\$-
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$(85,550.57)	\$(85,550.57)	\$-
NET FUND BALANCE	\$576,582.29	\$579,441.20	\$2,858.91



Contact

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Rev. David Quinn
Visitation Pastor

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Music Director & Organist

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www.stjohnsuccfullerton.org

575 Grape Street, Whitehall, PA 18052 (610) 264-8421

May 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30am Worship Service / Confirmation Sunday	2 6:15pm Jubilation Choir 7:00pm Handbell Choir	3 9:30am Staff meeting: Rm 201 6:30pm S&F Committee	4 9:00am Verso Chat with Pastor Steve 6:30pm SIA's Committee Mtg 6:30pm Zumba Class: Fox Hall 7:30pm Chancel Choir	5 6:00pm Music & Worship	6	7 8:30am Men's Breakfast Group: Home Farm Restaurant 9:00am Multi-Purpose Dineby-Pavilion 9:30am Zumba classes: Fox Hall
8 9:30am Worship Service	9 6:15pm Jubilation Choir/Last Rehearsal 7:00pm Handbell Choir/Last Rehearsal	10 9:30am Staff meeting: Rm 201 10:30am Visitation Committee 6:30pm Elders Meeting 7:00pm Consistory	11 9:00am Verso Chat with Pastor Steve: Rm 201 6:30pm Zumba Class: Fox Hall 7:30pm Chancel Choir	12 6:00pm Music & Worship	13	14 9:30am Zumba classes: Fox Hall
15 9:30am Worship Service 10:45am 5G Class	16	17 9:30am Staff meeting: Rm 201 6:30pm Lady Peeps: Fox Hall	18 9:00am Verso Chat with Pastor Steve: Rm 201 6:30pm Zumba Class: Fox Hall 7:30pm Chancel Choir	19	20	21 9:00am Basket Social:Pavilion 9:30am Zumba classes: Fox Hall
22 9:30am Worship Service 10:45am 5G Class	23	24 9:30am Staff meeting: Rm 201	25 9:00am Verso Chat with Pastor Steve: Rm 201 6:30pm Zumba Class: Fox Hall 7:30pm Chancel Choir	26 6:30pm Property Committee: Rm 201	27	28 9:30am Zumba classes: Fox Hall
29 9:30am Worship Service	30	31 9:30am Staff meeting: Rm 201				