



St. John's **CONNECTIONS**

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

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“Legacies”

As we join the world in observing the death of Queen Elizabeth II and honoring her seven decades of faithful service as the monarch of the United Kingdom and the Head of State and Head of the Church of England, I find myself in awe of the solemn ceremony and heartfelt tributes of those who revere her as well as her critics. Many express strong sentiments of appreciation for the Queen’s dedication to serving in public life in her role as Queen and her deliberateness to be a person of faith, a mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Whether enamored by the pageantry and ceremony of royal life or a harsh critic of the role of monarchy and imperialism, most agree that Queen Elizabeth II’s grace and dignity have left a favorable, warm and endearing legacy for all those who have only known one Queen.

I’ve been giving much thought recently to legacies. As I visit with my mom, my children and you, I am reminded of the ways in which others experience us, the ways in which we hope to be remembered and the actions of our lives which we hope have made lasting and favorable influences on others around us. The legacies we desire to share grow with each small act, every grace shown, the gifts we share, the time we dedicate to creating something lasting and loving. The expressions of gratitude and tributes shared in the transition of the generations are predicated on words and actions over many years which “build the house where love can grow.” The words and actions of appreciative people have been so much more than expressions of grief. They share a deep gratitude for service and contribution to the greater good of humanity, as well as the gestures we might think are small, yet to the individual recipient means everything. Legacies.

On the hallway at the back of the parlor, St. John’s has a “Legacies” tree, with leaves bearing the names of those who have shared in making lasting gifts to the ministry of St. John’s through our endowment. In other places, plaques and markers, tributes in stained glass and musical instruments, furnishings and historic items remind us of those whose faith in creating a place where God’s love to every person could grow. Their names remind us of all those upon whose shoulders we stand today. Legacies.

This time one year ago, I completed interviews with the St. John's Search Committee and accepted their invitation to be considered by the congregation as the candidate being brought forward to be the next Senior Pastor of this faith community. My photo now joins the gallery of other persons who have joyfully accepted the mantle of "Pastor." I now contribute my faith, words and actions along with yours as a people committed to "Worship, Love and Serve ~ No Matter What!" Legacies.

Little did any of us realize last October at my election as your called Settled Minister that the struggles of moving forward in the global pandemic experience would take almost another full year for us to take next steps in expanding our ministry activities and finding new ways to "build a house where love can grow." We've prayed, had great conversations, prayed, struggled with next steps, prayed, stepped out in faith and continued to pray. Our journey moves forward, opening opportunities for us to be the church, to be community for each other and to welcome neighbors to become our family. The journey is not and will not be smooth and easy. It will continue to demand much of us and cause us to think deeply and pray fervently for new ways to communicate and demonstrate the love of God.

We are St. John's UCC, Fullerton. To every person, as we build a house where LOVE is growing, we welcome you to join us as together we create a lasting and loving legacy of faith.



Yours in grace and hope,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Davis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rev. Steven Davis, Senior Pastor

Fall Worship on Sundays

8:15 & 10:45am

Faith Formation (Sunday School)

9:30am

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Living Forward in the New “COVID Normal”

St. John’s has returned to a more robust schedule of Sunday morning, social and ministry activities. With this posture of “Living Forward” we continue to monitor conditions related to the COVID pandemic and our responsible measures to promote health and care for all. We have recently had several in the congregation who have contracted COVID and, thankfully, are recuperating well. This should be a reminder to us that the virus is still spreading around the globe, with more than 400 dying every day in the US. Please remember: our current vaccination, “boosting” and masking recommendations remain in effect and are posted on the website.

We continue to urge all to use masks during group singing, and to pay added attention if seated in close proximity to others.

For those vaccinated, masking is optional during other aspects of our worship and other gatherings. For those not vaccinated, we ask you to wear a mask. We provide KN-95 masks at our entry tables for all who would like one.

The Consistory continues to monitor case numbers and hospitalizations for COVID in our area and is paying attention to ongoing variants and projections for Fall/Winter 2022. We urge everyone who can get vaccinated and “boosted,” including children, to assist us in keeping our community and most vulnerable healthy. Thank you for your continued understanding and participation in these measures.

November Newsletter

If you are contributing an article for the November newsletter, please email your single-spaced submission in PDF, DOC, RTF or plain text format to our new address - newsletter@sjuccf.org by Sunday, October 9.

Photos for your article should be included as attachments to your email. Please do not embed them in the file.

Authors: some helpful newsletter guidelines are here:

<https://stjohnsuccfullerton.org/stylenotes>

Music Corner of St. John's

Let's be honest, joining a choir can be intimidating. 10-15 or more pieces of music, some being treasures from the past, where others are new and more challenging. Some members of the choir sing with ease and full, confident voices, while new members may approach each note with strange reserve, unsure if a note is correct. Or are they wasting their time, even thinking "Can I do this?"

Here is the thing though, everyone feels this at first! Developing confidence takes time, commitment, and asking lots of questions.

Beginning is never easy. It always takes trust, a lot of patience, listening, and a pencil for circling notes. We have ALL been through this!

You're reading this asking, "Where is he going with all of this?" Well, knowing that everyone has worn beginner's shoes at one point in their life, what is stopping you from sharing your time and talent with the music ministry?

I have had the pleasure of working with and getting to know three wonderful choirs here at St. John's — Chancel (which meets on Wednesday), Bells, and Jubilation (both meet on Monday). All three need your support, and not just from the pews!

As we celebrate this month and welcome back members of our congregation, consider coming to a rehearsal to see what it is all about. ALL are welcome! Invite a friend, colleague, or someone worshipping with us on Sunday!

Musically Yours,
Patrick Sandt



Celebrating Pastors

We congratulate the following pastors who will be installed in their positions in October:

Rev. Jameson Baxter – installation as Staff Chaplain at Phoebe Ministries, 1925 Turner Street, Allentown on Thursday October 20, at 2:15pm. Pastor Baxter served as St. John’s Bridge Pastor from September 2021 to November 2021.

Rev. Rebecca Sausser – installation as Pastor at St. John’s UCC, 36 S. Sixth Street, Allentown, on Sunday, October 30, at 3pm. Pastor Sausser was ordained at St. John’s on June 28, 2020.

Faith Formation Registration Continues for All Ages

Parents with children age 4 through high school, and adults who plan to participate in a Sunday morning group: to prepare for our Fall Faith Formation classes, please use the online registration form on our website to provide the required information for your child/young person using this link <https://forms.gle/FXuXYzsPY3XkMSj16> or by clicking on the Children’s Ministry picture on our website and then the registration link button.

Adults, you are invited to register for Fall Faith Formation. Help us connect with you and grow in faith!

Thank You

Dear Congregation at St. John’s UCC:

“I wanted to extend the district’s sincere appreciation for your generosity in donating and delivering school supplies for students in the Whitehall-Coplay School District. There are simply no words to express our heartfelt thanks for the kindness that you have extended toward our school family. Your donation will allow us to provide students in need with supplies necessary to enhance their education during this school year. We are grateful that our schools are located in such a caring community!”

Sincerely,
Dr. Robert J. Steckel
 Superintendent of Schools

Stewardship/Donations

Become an "Automatic Contributor"

Currently, 49 giving units participating.

All of us continue to feel the global effects of inflation and look for ways to make the best use of the resources we have. The St. John's Stewardship & Finance Committee wishes to express appreciation for those persons who have responded to the most recent updates shared in worship, the bulletin and newsletter by increasing your contribution and by signing up to become a recurring "automatic contributor." Contributions may be set up for one time per month or two times per month on the 1st and 15th. Our system only allows for contributions to be withdrawn automatically on those two dates.

St. John's UCC, Fullerton continues to operate in a significant deficit, now over \$25,000 for the year. While we re-engage and expand to more substantive ministry activity, we continue to experience a shortfall each month in contributions over our expenses, which causes us to use limited reserve funds to meet expenses. We need every person, not in equal amounts, but in equal response to help make this expanded activity effort a reality by seeing if you can increase your gifts by 20%. Think about it this way. If you give \$20 per week, can you increase it to \$24? If you give \$100, can you increase it to \$120? When we break it down, if everyone does what they can, we will meet our goal of reducing our deficit and engaging in meaningful outreach and ministry. Please take a moment to see how you are currently giving.



A new way to give!

Could you take some time to pray about increasing your regular giving? Would you consider making that change through a recurring gift online?

If you are not already doing so, please sign up for automatic secure contributions to be made from your bank account or credit/debit 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. There are no fees associated with donations made using your bank account and a small cost per transaction for processing credit/debit cards.

Those wishing to make donations at any time may use the QR square code and follow the instructions to donate to whatever area of ministry you wish to support. "But I like having something to put in the offering plate when I come to worship!" you might say. We all appreciate the opportunity to share and express our gratitude to God for the life and work of faith in which we share. We want to participate in making a difference at home and around the world by sharing in acts of love, hope, and justice together. We offer the ease of using the QR Code on the previous page, on the worship slides, and in other locations around the church. If you need help getting set up or want to know more, please contact the Church Office or visit with Tom Moyer or Rev. Steve Davis. Become an "Automatic Contributor" today and help the church no matter where you may be on a Sunday morning!

Water Gathering on Vacations

As some have traveled this summer, you have collected some samples of water in bottles from your journeys across the country and around the world. Thank you!

We invite you to continue this activity throughout the year as you travel to special places. Bring back a small bottle of water and give it to Pastor Steve for safe keeping. During the year, we will remind you to continue this activity. The water will be received and purified and then, next Fall on "Gathering Sunday," we will begin using this water for our celebrations of baptism and other sacred moments in worship. Thank you in advance for helping create a new ritual to touch us with the waters of life from all over the world.

New Worship & Faith Formation Schedule This Fall

We are off to a good start with people returning to our worship and faith formation activities. Thank you to everyone who participated in our "Welcome All! Welcome Home!" Sunday on September 11. The next steps we take are "NO MATTER WHAT!" actions to guide us forward!

Here is our new Sunday morning schedule:

Fall Worship on Sundays

8:15 & 10:45am

Faith Formation (Sunday School)

9:30am

A kids table with "Busy Bags" and other fun supplies is set up in the Parlor during worship services for any who need some extra activities to welcome children to worship. Enjoy and receive them with joy as Jesus did! Please be sure to register your children and youth for our new "Blessed to Be a Blessing" Sunday morning Faith Formation for children, age 4 - 6th grade. This group will meet in room 101 at 9:30am.

Confirmands (7th & 8th graders) will also have the opportunity to register and get more information about class activities in the Youth Room, 301. Register online and join us!

<https://bit.ly/3qOxkgZ>

The Consistory will be monitoring our progress as a congregation each month through the year-end, as was presented to the congregation in June and July. How we participate through our worship attendance, share our financial support, and participate in expanded activities to grow us forward will all be carefully watched. The Consistory will see if other measures are needed should levels of support and participation not keep up with the needs for sustainability. Please consider how you can give your time, talent, and treasure to sustain these significant goals! The time is now for our "NO MATTER WHAT!" faith!

From the Consistory & Personnel Committee

With gratitude for faithful ministry, we are sad to announce the coming resignation of Rev. Dave Quinn as our Visitation Minister, effective November 15. Pastor Dave's congregation in Palmerton



and the congregation in Danielsville have voted to share his leadership as their pastor, which will be a great blessing for both faith communities. However, this change in his pastoral leadership responsibilities means he will not be able to continue to serve with us at St. John's. We will announce in the coming weeks how we can honor his ministry and express our gratitude to Pastor Dave.

Harvest Home Celebration

"Come ye thankful people come, Join the song of Harvest Home." To celebrate the bounty of fall and God's gifts the church will be decorated for harvest home on Sunday, October 9. The church will be decorated with fall mums and fall harvest baskets and produce. Please bring non-perishable items to church to help support the Whitehall food pantry and place in the shopping cart in the rear of the church. God has blessed us with many gifts. Let us celebrate and be thankful!



Sunday Social Hour

9:30am in Fox Hall

We love building community together! Many times, that involves some kind of gathering, good food to enjoy, and great people with whom we can connect! To grow our love as a faith community, we want to continue to encourage gatherings that help us know each other and share in the love of Christ.

During the summer, we began the 4th Sunday social time after worship each month. We want to expand that to an EVERY SUNDAY invitation, starting October 2, to join in a time of connection in Fox Hall during the Faith Formation hour (9:30-10:30am) between the two worship services. If you're not currently in an adult class or group, join us for refreshments, getting to know each other and social time. As we share in two Sunday morning worship services, we want to continue to build the relationships and friendships we've made over the past year of worshipping together in one service.

Different ministry groups and Faith Formation classes will be invited to host social time, bring some goodies to share, and enjoy some time between the worship services for more fun, casual and meaningful connections. Whether you are part of a Faith Formation class or not, stay after worship or come early to enjoy some social time together!

Please contact the Church Office if you, your class, group, or committee would like to host one of our Sunday Social Hour events!



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 October 1 at 8:30am with Pastor Dave Mohr as speaker. 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 QVRRBold@aol.com

Gift Card Bingo

Oct 7, 6pm in Fox Hall



Let your family and friends know about our first Bingo event of 2022! Invite them to purchase tickets from the Church Office. Those who still have tickets from the canceled 2021 event (due to COVID) may exchange them for this event. Plan to enjoy an evening as part of the Bingo team, help serve, prepare, clean up and share our St. John's hospitality. This is a time to invite the community to come have an evening of fun and contribute to our ministry by purchasing tickets.

We are in need of these items for October 7 Gift Card Bingo:

- Items for our "Tricky Tray" drawings. They can be any type of gift or gift card, and should be worth \$20 to \$30. Please tell Cheryl Weaver or Tom Moyer what you will bring!
- 6 packs of 12-ounce Coca-Cola soft drinks, both regular and diet.
- Baked goods to sell. Items should be individually wrapped.

If you are able to help out with any of these items, please talk to Cheryl Weaver or Tom Moyer.

Doors open at 6pm to enjoy food for purchase prior to Bingo festivities. At 7pm, let the games begin!

2022 PNEC Youth Sleep-Out for Homelessness

October 15 - October 16 7pm-7am

Where: St. Matthews UCC-Kunkletown

WHAT IS IT?



Youth in grades 7-12 will sleep outside in a large box (or tent) during this overnight homeless simulation. Engaging activities will not only be fun but provide valuable lessons on homelessness that gently confront harmful stereotypes and misunderstandings about who might become homeless and why.

Youth may participate ONSITE at St. Matthews or gather at their home churches (activity guide provided/fundraising still encouraged).

NOTE: Churches may not send youth to St. Matthews without an adult chaperon.

If, for any reason (weather/COVID?), the large group cannot gather, we may encourage all youth groups to meet at their home churches instead (activity guide provided). Onsite participants: Eat dinner before arriving. Light breakfast refreshments provided. This is an outdoor event in October! Bring a large box to sleep in, as well as weather-appropriate clothing/blankets. You will not have access to electricity. Tents are allowed, but YOU are responsible to be able to fully set up your own tent ON YOUR OWN in the dark. Beside the experiential component of this event, it is also a fundraiser for the amazing programs that the Lehigh County Conference of Churches provides for the community.

Participants are asked to raise at least \$25 to support these programs. The event ends early enough on Sunday morning that we hope youth groups get back to “can” for (collect) additional donations and even share their experiences!

REGISTRATION:

Email pattyr@pniec.org with: Church name, leader name, email & cell phone #, number of youth. Covenant Form for this Event - <https://bit.ly/3Bsmrpc>

Donations will be collected the night of the event (at least \$25 per youth) - Cash or check made out to Lehigh County Conference of Churches. Or, churches can mail one check to PNEC with funds collected Sunday morning (10/16) and any donations collected ahead of the event.

Please direct any questions to JanetNewett@gmail.com or Pastorkayli@unionucc.org

The PNEC Spiritual Development Ministry Team

Cheesesteak Sandwiches

October 12, 3-7pm



The renowned Vince's Cheesesteak Truck will be in the St. John's Pavilion parking lot on Wednesday, October 12, 3-7pm to delight your mouth and help us raise funds! St. John's will receive \$1 for every sandwich sold! Let your friends and neighbors know to stop by and get a delicious cheesesteak sandwich and join us in raising funds to offset our current budget deficit.



Verso Chat Bible Study Group

"I want to connect more with the examples of Scripture in guiding my faith journey." Someone recently shared that they don't know how to study the Bible and connect with God through these sacred texts. We all approach the Bible through our own lens of understanding and experience in life. You don't need to be a Bible scholar to have God's timeless truths and "still speaking" Word to find life-giving value for your life today.

Each Wednesday morning, you're welcome to participate in fun and conversation as we explore the lectionary readings for upcoming worship services as a study opportunity. ALL are welcome to drop in and participate any time you are available. Each week is its own contained experience to discover God's "still speaking" words for our life today. "Verso" is the Latin word meaning "conversation."

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81571428042>

Boscov's Friends-Helping-Friends Shopping Pass

This fantastic shopping experience is on October 19, 8am to 11pm. The shopping pass entitles you to 25% off the lowest sale price on all purchases for that day only. The cost of the shopping pass is only \$5.00 and St. John's keeps the entire amount towards our fundraiser. Think of all the retail therapy you could have on that day! Good time to start your Christmas shopping and enjoy extra savings. Contact Ginny Brokenshire at (610) 439-0443 or the Church Office to purchase the shopping pass.

Nut & Fruit Sale

Back by popular demand is our annual Nut & Fruit Sale. Choose from the items listed below. Unfortunately, mixed chocolate cranberries (one of our favorites) was discontinued by the company. Instead, you can purchase dark chocolate cranberries. There will be a slight increase in prices this year.

Deluxe Mixed Nuts	Pecans, cashews, pistachios, macadamias, almonds, brazilnuts & hazelnuts – no peanuts; roasted & gently salted	\$12/lb.
Fancy Pecan Halves	Mammoth pecan halves	\$12/lb.
Giant Whole Cashews	Roasted & gently salted	\$12/lb.
Whole Almonds	Roasted & gently salted	\$12/lb.
Healthy Mix	Cashews and almonds, sweet dried cranberries, golden raisins, pumpkin seeds & sunflower seeds	\$12/lb.
Dark Chocolate Cranberries	Sweet, tangy, dried cranberries in rich, dark chocolate	\$12/lb.
Chocolate Bridge Mix	Cashews, almonds, brazil nuts, peanuts, pecans, walnuts, hazelnuts, dried pineapple & raisins coated in milk chocolate	\$12/lb.
Harvest Medley Mix	Dried cherries & cranberries, roasted & salted pistachios, cashews & pecans	\$12/lb.

Order in advance by phoning Carol Raszler (610) 393-7572 or email crazzler@aol.com Those who purchased items in 2021 will be contacted via email or phone.

Deadline to place orders is Saturday, October 1, 2022

- Delivery is anticipated by mid-November.
- Pick-up will be by a scheduled drive-by and after worship service.
- Payment is due when items are delivered with cash or checks payable to St. John's UCC, Fullerton.

Purchase now for holiday baking or Christmas gifts!



Ladies, join us for the Lady PEEPS Women's Group meeting Tuesday, October 18th at 6:30pm in Fox Hall. The theme will be the long awaited story of The Amen Corner - Growing Up Southern Baptist. You will learn a little about the Baptist religion and my personal story of growing up in the Baptist church.

Join us for a fun relaxing evening together and refreshments will be served. Please use the elevator entrance.

Colleen Kulhamer

Trunk or Treat!

St. John's will once again be sponsoring Trunk or Treat on Friday, October 28th from 6pm-8pm in our 6th street parking lot area. This is the Whitehall trick or treat night. If you would like to decorate the trunk of your car and hand out treats to area children, please join us for this fun evening. Feel free to dress up in a costume and bring lots of treats. There will be lively Halloween music playing. Please RSVP to Colleen Kulhamer.

Convalescent & Homebound Residents

People who would welcome receiving a greeting card:

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

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

Pasties for Dinner

The "Fun Raising" Committee is selling pasties from Mr. Pastie in Pen Argyl. 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 the sanctuary. To order, mail your order form with payment to the church office or drop it into the offering plate on Sunday. The deadline to order is Sunday, October 16. Pickup will be Friday, November 4, 2pm – 4pm in Fox Hall (use elevator door entrance) or Sunday, November 6 in Fox Hall after the worship service. Please designate the 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.



Potato Filling Sale

Don't forget your potato filling made with REAL potatoes, not instant, for your Thanksgiving Feast this year.

The filling will be made on Saturday, November 19 and will be available for pickup from 3pm to 5pm on that date or the following day after church service in Fox Hall. The cost of the filling will be \$7.50 for a 2 lb. container. What a bargain! Filling can even be frozen to be used at a later date.

An order forms are available on the table at the back of sanctuary or on the church website. Deadline for orders is Sunday, November 6. Do not be caught without this great filling at your Thanksgiving table. Order today!

Contact Cheryl Weaver with any questions.

Helping Hands Wanted

We will be in need of helping hands the day of the filling sale. We could use potato peelers, cutters, cooks, mixers and container fillers. We will be starting at 8am on Saturday, November 19 in Fox Hall. Please contact Cheryl Weaver if you are able to help in any way. There is always lots of laughter and fun on that day!

Don't forget to bring your favorite peeler, knife or cutting board.

You Can Help and Serve - NO MATTER WHAT!

Here are a few ways the staff of St. John's could use your help:

- Volunteer to turn on and off microphones and change slides for the 8:15am worship service. (No camera or live streaming to worry about. It's just like the good old days pre-pandemic.) Contact your STARs Chairman Jesus Pagan at sjfleadtch@sjuccf.org
- Volunteer to open the building for 8:15am service and/or close the building after the 10:45am service. Contact your Coordinating Custodian Michelle G. at sjfcustodians@sjuccf.org

Items Needed for Troop Packing

The Blue Star Mothers – LV Chapter PA201 are planning a Troop Packing on October 8 and need the following items to send to service members both overseas and here in the states. We also donate items to the various Veterans homes in the area. We would be very grateful if you could donate whatever you can to help us out and support our troops. We recommend the following items be travel size ... Shampoo, Deodorant, Body Wash; also needed are Baby Wipes and Granola Bars/Nut Snacks. Please place the items in the box in the church foyer, **by October 2**. Thank you in advance for your support. If you have a son/daughter, other family member or friend who is in the military and would like them to receive a package, please send their name and address to Bonnie Sankovsky at BonnieSankovsky@gmail.com and we will add them to our mailing list. If you have any questions, or would like more information, please call Bonnie at (610) 216-7836.



Calling All Blood Donors

Keystone-Miller Blood Center is in need of blood donations. Due to the after-effects of COVID, the blood center is having difficulty providing manpower for community blood drives. Please go to your nearest donation center. Give the St. John's UCC Fullerton code, "0872", so we get the credit for your donation. Thank you for your understanding and patience through these difficult times. I'm hoping to schedule a blood drive at church in the Spring.

Sharon Antrim
Healthcare Ministry

Healthcare Ministry - Grief Support

The mission of our Healthcare Ministry is to promote the spiritual and physical well-being of the St. John's congregation. We believe this includes our mental health and how we grieve together through times of loss. We gladly partner with others in the family of faith and share gratitude for Rev. Evelyn Stupp, a United Methodist minister, who has long relationship with St. John's and serves in this ministry area.

If you are grieving the death of a loved one, you are invited to attend a grief support group at Asbury United Methodist Church, 1533 Springhouse Road in Allentown. The group meets the 4th Tuesday, monthly at 1pm in the upper-level Parlor and is led by Rev. Evelyn Stupp, Asbury's Pastor of Bereavement and Care Ministries. Please contact her at estupp@asburylv.org or (610) 428-9095 for more details and to indicate your interest. The next gatherings for support are September 27 and October 25.

St. John's
Technical
Artistic
Resources



The STARs committee is your group of tech-savvy, creative folks who assemble the weekly livestream of the worship service. We are looking for people who would like to learn about what we do and join our team. starsofstjohns@gmail.com



St. John's 27th Annual Road Rally

Sunday, October 23, at 1:30pm

What is a road rally at church? A great chance to enjoy the autumn scenery at a location to be "discovered" in the Lehigh Valley, then join for a meal at a site to be revealed. Sign-up sheets will be in the church in October. **Spectacular prizes can be won!** Ask Tom or Emilie Moyer for more information.

Homemade Christmas Candy

The "Fun Raising" Committee is going to be selling homemade chocolate candy for Christmas season. The cost is \$14.00 a pound. There will be semi-sweet chocolate peanut butter balls and semi-sweet coconut balls this year. You can order full pounds of either or half peanut butter/half coconut. The order form is available on the table in the back of the sanctuary or on the church website. Deadline to order is November 27 and delivery will be at church on December 18. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ginny Brokenshire at (610) 439-0443.



Our fourth grader celebrated his birthday on crutches, so he couldn't carry the cupcakes into school without help. I asked our sixth-grader, Noah, to help his brother carry them in. "I could," he said, "but I'd prefer not to."

Spotting a teaching moment, my husband asked Noah, "What would Jesus do?" Noah answered, "Jesus would heal him so he could carry his own cupcakes."

—Rachel Nichols

October Birthdays

<p>10/02Joy Gravely Kirby Hower Riley Kulhamer Linda Smith Gabrianna Thompson</p> <p>10/3 Eireann Hunsicker Patricia Schaffer</p> <p>10/4..... Michael Buskirk</p> <p>10/5Bailey Kulhamer Sharon Romberger Matthew Stoitsits</p> <p>10/6Joan Phillips</p> <p>10/7Gary George Mark Geroulo Sr Ted Hess Charles Schwenk</p> <p>10/8 Freda Albright James Leibensperger Gary D Neitz Janice Walenta</p> <p>10/9 Randy Bachman Gary Hallman Franklin Nolt Ann Patterson Zachary Young</p> <p>10/10..... Robert Young</p> <p>10/11Corynn Troxell</p> <p>10/13..... Abby Chryst Hoffman</p> <p>10/15.....Katelyn Orlowsky Barbara Seeds Rev. Evelyn Stupp</p>	<p>10/17Andria Dallago Amy Feidler</p> <p>10/18Barbara Seyfried</p> <p>10/19Jo Ann Sutter</p> <p>10/20Dee Schlenker Mary Ann Weaver</p> <p>10/21Jean Coombe Nicole Fox</p> <p>10/23..... Isabella Pagan</p> <p>10/24Robert Dougherty Wilbur Kline</p> <p>10/25 Michael Baatz David Brown Brinlee Neitz</p> <p>10/26..... Shane Grove</p> <p>10/27Donna Herring Marlene Kocher</p> <p>10/28.....Kristine Gersbach Barbara Menges Janet Miller William Roth Jr. Randy Schlenker</p> <p>10/29 Zane Saeger</p> <p>10/30Melanie Beck Nancy Keister Carol Olson Jacob Powell Stacy Sommer Gary Weaver</p> <p>10/31 Arbula Dotter</p>
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If you have an upcoming birthday or notice an omission, please update the church office.



October Wedding Anniversaries

Kevin & Melody Fox
10/01/1977

Margaret & Robert Young
10/02/1993

Brittany & Matthew Daiello
10/05/2019

Robert & Barbara Jennings
10/06/2001

Kimberly & Robert Saeger
10/08/2004

Ronald & Ann Patterson
10/09/1970

Kirby & Lorraine Hower
10/10/2009

James & Andrea Leibensperger
10/10/1998

Robert & Helene Scheirer
10/10/1981

Kevin & Kaitlyn Weidner
10/10/2020

Christopher & Jennifer Kuhns
10/14/2000

Jeffrey & Barbara Seeds
10/14/1972

Brian & Tracy Fisher
10/16/1999

Elwood & Patricia Thompson
10/18/1975

William & Kathy Roth Sr.
10/20/1973

Ellen & James Sagazio
10/20/2007

Michael & MaryBeth
McNicholas
10/26/2002

Michael & Joy Gravelly
10/27/1973

Susan & Keith Kaider
10/30/1965

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



WALK. GIVE. CHANGE THE WORLD.

2022 CROP Hunger Walks

ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME

CROP Hunger Walk

The CROP Project was organized in 1947 when farmers were asked to donate food and seed crops to our hungry neighbors in post-World War II Europe and Asia. The program soon became known as the Christian Rural Overseas Program — CROP. In 1969 in Bismarck, ND, and in 1970 in York, PA, the first events were organized to raise funds to support CROP.

CROP Hunger Walks have become community-based events held in cities across the United States, raising dollars to support the global mission of Church World Service to eradicate hunger and poverty. Twenty-five percent of the funds raised stay within our local community to support the Ecumenical Food Bank and the Lehigh Conference of Churches' Conference Kitchen.

This year you can take part in this event or be a sponsor. You can get involved in several ways to help raise funds:

- Join the walk on Sunday, October 2, meeting at 1 pm at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church located at 140 S. Ott Street in Allentown. Walk begins at 1:30pm.
- Choose from two routes: 10K route (with refreshments at the Allentown Ecumenical Food Bank and the Lehigh Conference of Churches) or a "Golden Mile" route through the Hamilton Park neighborhood.
- Walk on your own or with a group or sponsor a participant in the event.

Our member, Marion DeMilio, will be coordinating registration for this year's CROP Walk. Contact Marion to become a walker or to sponsor her. You can send in a contribution to the church with checks payable to CWS/CROP or see her before and after worship. In addition, the Mission Committee is coordinating this event with our Healthcare Ministry's Walking Challenge.

Marion's note: People can go online to donate, but they must remember to put "St. John's" in the appropriate box.

crophungerwalk.org/allentownpa

Neighbors in Need

"Behold!"

"Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you..." ~ James 5:4

A special offering for Neighbors in Need (NIN) will be received during worship on Sunday, October 2. An insert and offering envelope are included in October's newsletter.

This offering will support ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. With inflation impacting all of our households, this offering focuses on economic justice. Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to fund an array of local and national initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. One-third of the offering also supports the UCC's Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM).

Contributions can be mailed to the Church Office or you can donate online or by text. Deadline is October 31. Be sure to specify your donation is to go to "NIN."

Whitehall Food Pantry

For the month of October, we are collecting drip coffee, canned or instant potatoes, soup, and pancake mix. Any other non-perishable food items are always welcome. A shopping cart can be found in the coatroom area by the sanctuary where you can place your donations. Monetary contributions can also be made by mailing a check to the Church Office or through online or text giving.

Ukraine Relief Fund Update

Your contributions so far have helped with Ukrainian relief by giving to UCC National, Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, Project HOPE, and World Central Kitchen. As long as the crisis continues, we will receive donations by mail, at worship, or by online and text giving. For the month of July, \$150 was sent to Ukrainian Orthodox Church of USA; for the month of August, \$10 in donations will be sent to Project HOPE; and for the month of September, donations will be sent to World Central Kitchen. For the month of October, funds will be given to UCC National. Be sure to note that your contribution is for "Ukraine Relief Fund." Special offering envelopes along with yellow and blue lapel pins showing your support can be found on the table in the lounge area next to the sanctuary.

Here is how your contributions have helped the people of Ukraine:

- So far with the help of compassionate supporters like you, Project HOPE has provided direct care to more than 2,300 refugees in Poland; launched four Mobile Medical Units to provide care in Ukraine; and delivered over 300 pallets of medicine and supplies, including insulin, needles, and hygiene kits. Now Project HOPE is expanding its operations in Ukraine to include trauma training, so health workers can treat the terrible injuries that result from Russian missile strikes. Their teams are at work helping rebuild hospitals and restoring schools, pharmacies, and other vital facilities.
- It's been over six months since Russia attacked Ukraine—six months that families, children, the elderly have lived under constant bombing of their homes, at train stations, just walking down the street. World Central Kitchen arrived within 24 hours of the invasion. They are feeding thousands of Ukrainians every day—140 million meals served so far. As warm months turn into winter, the situation in Ukraine is going to get very difficult. Damaged infrastructure has left communities with no heat, no access to food, and in need of WCK's support; and there are very few humanitarian aid organizations left on the ground. Serving one million meals a day, every day, is expensive, so support is needed to help WCK continue cooking.

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 location changes 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, 10/2	Muslim Assoc. of the Lehigh Valley	1988 Schadt Ave., Whitehall	(703) 346-8698
Tuesday, 10/18	Redeemed Christian Church of God	5 N. 3rd St., Coplay	(610) 262-8993
Sunday, 11/6	St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church	618 Fullerton Ave., Whitehall	(610) 266-0695
Tuesday, 11/15	First Presbyterian of Hokendauqua	3005 S. Front St., Whitehall	(610) 264-9693

Operation Santa – Mitten Tree Project

This year's Mitten Tree Project will include gifts for families, youth, and senior citizens. We hope to make Christmas brighter for those less fortunate at Phoebe Ministries and Valley Youth House. More information will be in the next newsletter.



How Did St. John's Family Do?

Recent Outreaches	Aug 2022	YTD 2022	YTD 2021	YTD 2020
Our Church's Wider Mission	\$986.00	\$10,628.90	\$12,058.70	\$12,914.22
Whitehall Food Pantry	\$120.00	\$985.00	\$1,860.00	\$2,248.00
Ukraine Relief Fund	\$10.00	\$3,070.00	N/A	N/A
Wheat Basket	\$25.00	\$865.00	\$1,715.00	\$2,073.00

St Johns UCC Fullerton - Statement of Finances
AUG 2022

Income	Electronic	8/7/2022	8/14/2022	8/21/2022	8/28/2022	Total
Offerings for Operating Expenses	\$6,247.87	\$2,182.00	\$4,445.00	\$1,345.80	\$1,866.00	\$16,086.67
Rental Income--Gross				\$1,375.50		\$1,375.50
Fundraising Income--Net of Exp				\$(583.79)		\$(583.79)
Endowment Interest						\$-
Flowers			\$150.00	\$25.00		\$175.00
Christian Education	\$5.00		\$2.91			\$7.91
Special Gifts					\$350.00	\$350.00
Total	\$6,252.87	\$2,182.00	\$4,597.91	\$2,162.51	\$2,216.00	\$17,411.29

Expense Summary		Actual	Budget	Difference
Pastoral Services		\$11,079.50	\$13,377.00	\$(2,297.50)
Staff Salaries & Expense		\$8,162.09	\$10,041.00	\$(1,878.91)
Property		\$3,938.13	\$5,316.00	\$(1,377.87)
Parish Programs		\$1,100.17	\$2,518.00	\$(1,417.83)
Total		\$24,279.89	\$31,252.00	\$(6,972.11)

	Month	Year
Total Income	\$17,411.29	\$185,036.73
Total Expenses	\$24,279.89	\$209,731.59
Net (LOSS)	\$(6,868.60)	\$(24,694.86)

Mission Giving, AUG 2022

Our Churches Wider Mission	\$976.00
Ukrainian Relief	\$10.00
Whitehall Food Bank	\$145.00
Total	\$1,131.00

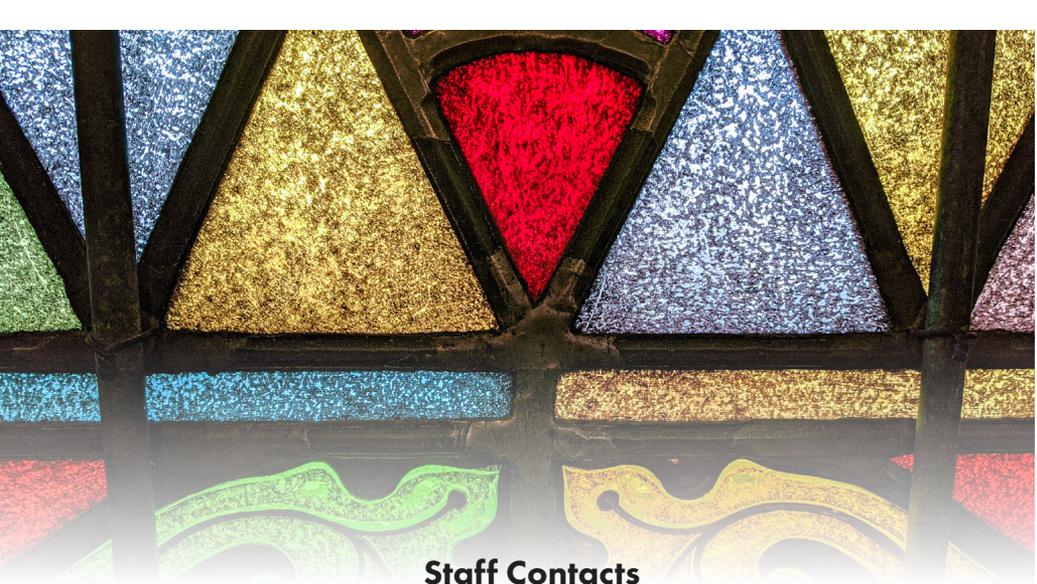
St John's UCC Fullerton
Fund Balances
For Month Ending, AUG 2022

Account	Jul-22	Aug-22	Difference
Checking Account--KNBT	\$36,700.35	\$29,871.79	\$(6,828.56)
Giant Card Funds	\$244.51	\$1,744.51	\$1,500.00
Weis Card Funds	\$3,185.00	\$2,310.00	\$(875.00)
sub-total General Fund Assets	\$40,129.86	\$33,926.30	\$(6,203.56)
IN & OUT Account--KNBT Checking	\$70,748.14	\$71,685.83	\$937.69
Restricted/Property Money Market	\$31,864.41	\$31,864.68	\$0.27
sub-total Restricted Assets	\$102,612.55	\$103,550.51	\$937.96
Endowment Fund--KNBT	\$467,935.13	\$449,544.70	\$(18,390.43)
TOTAL ASSETS	\$610,677.54	\$587,021.51	\$(23,656.03)
Cornerstone Pavilion Loan	\$(85,550.57)	\$(85,550.57)	\$-
TOTAL LIABILITES	\$(85,550.57)	\$(85,550.57)	\$-
NET FUND BALANCE	\$525,126.97	\$501,470.94	\$(23,656.03)

Financial Update

Offerings received in the second week of September were \$2,762 – a combination of offerings received electronically, in the mail, and in the Sunday offering plate. This brings our total offerings for September to \$8,170.

To reach our monthly giving “break-even target” of \$22,500, we will need \$7,165 for each week remaining in September. We continue to run behind on income sufficient to meet 100% of the month’s expenses. Recently we have seen a downward trend in giving. Through August, we are \$24,695 behind in overall income compared to expenses.



Staff Contacts

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October 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>2 World Communion Sunday 8:15am Worship Service 9:30am Faith Formation 10:45am Worship Service 1:30pm Crop Walk</p>	<p>3 6:00pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Jubilation Choir</p>	<p>4 9:30am Staff meeting: Rm 201 6:30pm Stewardship & Finance Committee</p>	<p>5 9:00am Verso Choir with Pastor Steve 6:30pm STARKS Committee Mtg 6:30pm Zumba class: Fox Hall 7:00pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 6:00pm Gift Card Bingo: Fox Hall</p>	<p>1 8:30am Men's Breakfast Group: Ham Farm Restaurant 9:30am Zumba class: Fox Hall</p>
<p>9 8:15am Worship Service 9:30am Faith Formation 10:45am Worship Service Newsletter Articles Due</p>	<p>10 Church office closed</p>	<p>11 10:30am Visitation Committee 1:30pm Staff meeting 6:30pm Elders meeting 7:00pm Consistory</p>	<p>12 9:00am Verso Choir with Pastor Steve: Rm 201 6:30pm Zumba class: Fox Hall 7:00pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>13 7:00pm Worship & Music Committee</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 9:30am Zumba class: Fox Hall</p>
<p>16 8:15am Worship Service 9:30am Faith Formation 10:45am Worship Service</p>	<p>17 6:00pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Jubilation Choir</p>	<p>18 9:30am Staff meeting: Rm 201 6:30pm Lady PEEPS: Fox Hall</p>	<p>19 8:00am Boscov's Pass Day 9:00am Verso Choir with Pastor Steve: Rm 201 6:30pm Zumba class: Fox Hall 7:00pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 9:30am Zumba class: Fox Hall</p>
<p>23 8:15am Worship Service 9:30am Faith Formation 10:45am Worship Service 1:30pm Road Rally</p>	<p>24 6:00pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Jubilation Choir</p>	<p>25 9:30am Staff meeting: Rm 201</p>	<p>26 9:00am Verso Choir with Pastor Steve: Rm 201 6:30pm Zumba class: Fox Hall 7:00pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 9:30am Zumba class: Fox Hall</p>
<p>30 All Saints Day Observance 8:15am Worship Service 9:30am Faith Formation 10:45am Worship Service</p>	<p>31 6:00pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Jubilation Choir</p>					