



St. John's Messenger

September, 2014

from Fr. John W. Morris, Rector

BLESSING OF SAME SEX UNIONS

Our Sunday Adult Formation and Education (AFED) program begins on September 28th with a new format and focus. We will meet in the church from 9:15 to 10:00 AM. However, we will be meeting only one time a month. And we will be addressing topics of contemporary Christian ethical and social concern.

The Blessing of Same Sex Unions will be the first of the subjects to be considered. I have selected this issue because of its immediacy in our rapidly changing society and because of its centrality in the sacramental life of our church. Now that same sex marriage has been made legal in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania it is time for us in the Episcopal Church to discuss how this change will affect our life as a Christian community. Under what circumstances will the blessing of the union same sex couples be allowed? Are there guidelines that need to be followed? Do individual congregations have a voice in the decision making process?

As important as these questions are, I believe of even greater importance is what the church's teaching about the blessing of same sex unions has to tell us about our understanding of Christian marriage. If marriage is no longer only between people of different gender, how has our understanding of the sacrament of marriage changed? If our theology of marriage is no longer tied exclusively to scriptural passages about the joining of man and woman as husband and wife, how does that cast our expectations of heterosexual relationships in a new light?

In the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania we have clear guidelines to direct us. Our guidelines are in conformity with the resolution approved by the 77th General Convention of the Episcopal Church. Among their points:

Permission for the blessing must be requested of and given by the diocesan Bishop.

The request must be preceded by consultation between the clergy and vestry of the parish with the vestry voicing an affirmative consensus.

Only the rite approved General Convention may be used.

All couples must participate in appropriate counseling and spiritual guidance.

At least one of the couple must be a baptized Christian.

The liturgy is formally titled, *The Witnessing and Blessing of a Lifelong Commitment*. It begins with the Liturgy of the Word in much the same way as a wedding or Sunday service. Prayers and lessons are offered by the gathered community to support the couple in a relationship of mutual fidelity and steadfast love. In the exchange of Vows each is asked, "Do you freely and unreservedly offer yourself?" and "Will you live together in faithfulness and holiness of life as long as you both shall live?" In the Commitment, the couple pledge they will support and care for each other, enduring all things and forsaking all others as long as they both shall live. Rings are blessed and exchanged before the Pronouncement that the couple have bound themselves to one another in a holy covenant. The liturgy concludes with the Blessing of God's grace and love, and the sharing of the Peace.

THE REV. JOHN W. MORRIS (CONTINUED)

While this liturgy follows the outline of *The Celebration and Blessing of a Marriage*, it also challenges many deeply held and popularly based notions about marriage. Many in our society view marriage as individual civil right. Not so in the church. For the church, marriage is understood as a vocation, a particular way of holy living that requires the consent of the community in which we live. Most people think of marriage as a contract between two people, like a limited partnership that can be legally established or dissolved. Not so in the church. We believe marriage to be a covenant with the intention of being permanent as it is founded on the absolute, irrevocable love of God. Generally our culture equates being married with having children. While the church firmly acknowledges the importance of nurturing children, raising children is but one way for marriage to achieve its larger purpose of serving and securing the well being of the society in which we live.

These are some of the areas I hope to explore on Sunday, September 28th. I believe there is much here from which all of us can learn, whether we are of same or are of different gender relationship. As we develop a more understanding appreciation for others we can also grow more deeply in the grace that God holds for each of us and the calling God has for all of us in the ministry we share in Jesus Christ.

John+



DIOCESAN DIGEST

In an effort to encourage greater communication in our diocese, Bishop Geperth has asked for the email addresses of all members of congregations within this diocese. The email addresses will be used to send out the diocesan digest only. If you do not want to receive the diocesan digest, please follow the directions on the diocesan website to unsubscribe.

“Fourth Sunday Adult Forum”

St. John's is planning a new approach to adult formation this year: fourth Sunday adult forums. On the fourth Sunday of every month (with the exception of December and May) a special speaker and topic will be offered in the church from 9:15- 10:00 a.m. On the fourth Sunday of each month we will pause from the regular work of our ministry: our choirs won't rehearse between services, teachers won't offer church school lessons and our teens won't meet in individual groups. Instead, all members of St. John's will be encouraged to participate in age-specific formation.

Adults will be invited to gather in the church for facilitated conversation on a wide range of topics and children will be invited to gather in the auditorium to rehearse the Christmas pageant (which will still be held in the church), learn an anthem and create a special Earth Day pageant for the spring. Adult formation will continue to happen on the other Sundays in the Becker House, with the possibility of extending conversation from Fourth Sunday offerings. Our teens have been invited to join us for the adult formation conversation, with the exception of our Rite 13 teens, who will experience similar presentations each month but in language more accessible to emerging teens. Fourth Sundays at St. John's will provide a new and creative way to engage in theological conversation with one another. I hope you will come!

September 28th

A Theology of Same Gender Blessing and Marriage, Fr. John Morris

Fr. John will facilitate a conversation on same gender blessing and marriage from the perspective of the church.

October 26th

The Loving Presence, Linda Bruce

Linda Bruce will share personal experiences and thoughts on what to say -or not say- to those sick and/or dying.

November 23rd

Why Safe Church Matters, Pastor Jennifer and Marylee Sauder

Pastor Jennifer will share her story as a survivor of abuse. Marylee Sauder will share information as a volunteer and advocate for survivors.

January 25th

On Every Mountainside: Racial Justice and the Church, Nick Miron, Director of Racial Justice and Anti-Opression at the YWCA

Nick Miron will present information on racism and local initiatives to overcome it.

February 22nd

From Darkness to Light, Mary Woolson and Clergy

Mary Woolson will share her story on overcoming depression. Clergy will offer reflections from the perspective of the church.

THE REV. JENNIFER E. LOOKER (CONTINUED)

March 22nd

Disciples of all Nations, David Kilp and The Rev. Barbara Serras

David Kilp and Mother Barbara Serras will share stories and perspectives from their work in the larger church, sharing from their diocesan, provincial and national church experience.

April 26th

The Missionary Life, Fred and Eleanor Honaman

Fred and Eleanor Honaman will share stories and insights from their many years serving as missionaries in Japan, with a particular focus on what it means to forgive in the aftermath of nuclear war.

Jennifer+

POPCORN THEOLOGY

Popcorn Theology Begins: Friday, September 19th at 7:00 p.m. in Parish Hall

“Wish Me Away” (2011) - After a lifetime of hiding, Chely Wright becomes the first commercial country music singer to come out as gay, shattering cultural stereotypes within Nashville, her conservative heartland family and, most importantly, within herself. Wright gave the director unprecedented access over a two-year period, including her private video diaries, and the film layers her rise to fame (while hiding in the late 90's) with the execution of her coming-out plan, culminating in the exciting moment when she steps into the media glare to reveal she is gay. It shows both the devastation of internalized homophobia and the transformational power of living an authentic life. It also documents the conflicting responses from Nashville, the heartland and the LGBT community as Wright prepares for an unknown professional future.

Please join us for a movie and popcorn! Bring a friend and stay afterward for the discussion, if you'd like. And we invite you to bring a donation of food for St. John's food pantry. Questions? See Debbie Carter. *Note: Popcorn Theology returns to the THIRD Friday of each month this year.

MDG CHALLENGES FOR SEPTEMBER

"I Am, We AreOne World--Creating A Global Partnership"

What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

James 2: 14-17

We have spent the last years focused on learning about the MDG goals, while continuing to review them, ask yourself what speaks to you and how you will speak to it.

You have the knowledge, now share the action.

Blessings to all in God's World.

MDG Challenge for September 7th

"When it is obvious that the goals cannot be reached, don't adjust the goals, adjust the action steps." Confucius

Be open to how YOU can be a change for good and what small action could make all the difference for someone.

MDG Challenge for September 14th

"God doesn't require us to succeed, he only requires that you try." Mother Theresa
And what change have you committed to make?

It's never too late to begin. Cleaning out a closet? What could you share?
BOGO at the food store? Who of God's hungry children could you feed?

MDG Challenge for September 21st

International Day of Peace

"If you want peace, don't talk with your friends. You talk with your enemies." Desmond Tutu

Our newspapers and TV networks have been filled daily with horrific stories of national and international fighting and war among people. While today is focused internationally as a day of peace, make the commitment to personally hold in prayer and be an example so that peace becomes the prevalent environment in our neighborhoods and in the world.

MDG Challenge for September 28th

National Good Neighbor Day

A contest for you....Each day this week, perform a "good neighbor" act and your reward will be that silent smile that lights up inside from your doing God's work.

The smallest action could turn out huge for another.

SENIOR WARDEN

A New Year

Where did the summer go? With Fr. John away on Sabbatical, a few things have been a bit different, but all in all, we've made it through these three months with no disasters. I'd like to call special attention to the fresh looks of a repainted sacristy and a repaired sidewalk on Mulberry Street - have a look if you haven't already - and to thank Bill Gross and the Property Committee for seeing these projects through to their conclusion.

A brief word about the year ahead in anticipation. The Feasibility Committee is in conversation with several groups to secure assistance in plotting an optimum course in connection with the "courtyard project" - which now has become a substantial plan for improved accessibility and gathering space for our campus. We expect a report very soon in the new church year, and this will be a major step forward in this building venture.

You can also expect a few minor changes in the way some things are done. The Nominating Committee (which secures candidates for Vestry and Convention Delegates) is moving toward a slightly new mode of operation. In the past, the Nom Com has worked quite hard during the summer to identify Vestry candidates for the next year, but it has been their experience that folk are hard to contact at this time of year, and we all have a tendency to have our minds on our summer activities during summer months, resisting the task of giving thought to other matters. Because of this, the Committee will try to get this process underway earlier. So, expect to hear conversations about service on Vestry next spring before the distractions of summer begin to set in. Perhaps you can begin now to review various options that are available to you for service at St. John's.

One additional note: this Vestry article in the Messenger has usually been written by the Warden. While this practice will continue to some extent, we also will be encouraging other Stewards to share information about their Vestry ministries. Look forward to some variety and refreshing change in this way.

So, we're gearing up to go in this new fall season and we hope these and other innovations will help us find our way through the next year.

Submitted by,

John Herzog
Senior Warden

TREASURER'S REPORT

The news that I had to share with Vestry during the August meeting was not particularly good. The summer doldrums hit us hard during the month of July and as of that meeting appeared to be spilling over into August as well. As you can see below, the pledged contributions for the month of July were only \$21,053 and the non-pledged contributions were only \$2,762. To give you a feel for the difficulties this created, our payroll for the month of July was approximately \$20,200 and our utility bills were \$3,180. As you can see, this didn't leave us much to pay for all the other bills. In fact, we have now fallen 3 months behind on our commitment to the Diocese.

In order to pay some necessary bills, the Finance Committee has authorized taking our 4th quarter draw from the Endowment Investment Account earnings immediately. This coupled with the procedure of paying invoices just prior to incurring late fee penalties is hoped to be able to sustain us through the remainder of the summer and into the fall.

The July financial summary is as follows:

	July		Year-to-Date		Annual
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Budget
Pledged contributions:	\$21,053	\$27,750	\$194,935	\$194,250	\$333,000
Non-pledged contributions:	\$2,762	\$3,333	\$18,283	\$23,333	\$40,000
Total Income (all sources):	\$31,668	\$42,604	\$335,289	\$302,345	\$575,450
 Total Expense:	 \$49,515	 \$59,253	 \$378,558	 \$416,323	 \$712,939

We are still in need of a volunteer for the Assistant Treasurer position. Accounting and/or Finance background is **NOT** a requirement. The primary responsibility is to be a backup to the Treasurer. More information is available simply by contacting me. Thanks for all of your support.

Submitted by,

Steve Latshaw, Treasurer

PARISH DIRECTORY

It's that time of year again when we ask you to visit the Parish Hall and review your personal information for our upcoming Stewardship mailing and Parish Directory.

It is very important that you review your ***name, address, telephone number(s), e-mail address, and birth dates***, and make any necessary revisions. **This information will be posted from September 14 to October 19.**

Copies of the new Parish Directory will be available in the Parish Hall on Sunday, November 9 at the annual Parish Meeting.

Thank you for taking the time to provide us with accurate information for our church database, it is greatly appreciated.

VESTRY RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were passed at the Vestry meeting on August 18, 2014.

1. Resolve that the St. John's Vestry ratify the action of the Executive Committee in authorizing the Property Committee to complete the repair of the sidewalk on North Mulberry Street at a total anticipated cost of \$13,400 (\$10,500 of this has already been approved under a previous resolution). This project will be paid from the R3 Account.
2. Employee Healthcare Benefits ó Upon the advice of the Personnel Committee, the Vestry affirms the effort to contain health insurance costs for the parish while providing necessary healthcare coverage to its employees. The Vestry approves the following healthcare benefit offerings for all employees as approved by resolution in the 2013 Diocesan Convention which also complies with the mandate of 2012 General Convention. The plans to be offered to all employees are the Empire PPO 80/60 and Empire High Opt PPO. The Empire PPO 80/60 plan will be the standard offering with the cost being fully covered by the parish. Should an employee wish to maintain their current enrollment in the Empire High Opt PPO, they will be required to contribute the difference in the premium expense. The dental plan remains unchanged and the cost fully covered by the parish.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

There are two (2) fall dates for special events which join all women from the Diocese. Keep these dates on your calendar and please ask questions about how you can participate.

The Cape May, New Jersey Retreat is September 26-28. The theme is "Healing Waters" (what better place to be?). Registration forms are on the Parish Hall bulletin board. Your \$25 registration fee will be paid by St. John's and the deadline for registration is September 12.

The Annual ECW Gathering, "Celebrating the Women of the Episcopal Church", is November 1st at Trinity Church, Jersey Shore, PA. Please join me while we celebrate our own Honored Woman.

Submitted by, *Sue Martin*



FOOD PANTRY STAPLES

Peanut butter and jelly, pasta noodles, pasta sauce, canned tuna, Spam, boxed macaroni & cheese, "Helpers" (hamburger, tuna, etc.), rice, boxed rice mixes, canned soup (not packaged such as Ramen), canned vegetables, canned fruit, and cereal.

Cardboard boxes are also needed for the distribution of the food.

Bring your food donations to the rear of the church on any Sunday or to the church office during the week.

"THANK YOU!"

WEEKLY SUNDAY ALTAR FLOWERS

If you'd like to remember a loved one(s) with an altar flower or give thanks for a special occasion, please be sure to stop by the bulletin board in the Parish Hall and add your name to the Flower Chart. Details and donation envelopes will also be available at the chart. Please be sure to mark your check accordingly and a \$30 donation is appreciated.

If you are unable to travel to church but are interested in signing up, please contact our Parish Secretary, Patti Means. We are encouraging two (2) remembrances per Sunday. Following is the information we have received for the time-frame September—October, 2014. The blank areas remain available. Thank you for supporting this ministry at St. John's.

SUNDAY DATE	(1)	(2)
SEPTEMBER 7	G. Shutt (Trust)	
SEPTEMBER 14	Cricket Johnson	
SEPTEMBER 21	Rev. Peter Greenfield	
SEPTEMBER 28		
OCTOBER 5		
OCTOBER 12		
OCTOBER 19	John & Barbara Graeter	
OCTOBER 26		
NOVEMBER 2	Betty Juslin-Asplin	
NOVEMBER 9	Dave & Sue Martin	
NOVEMBER 16		
NOVEMBER 23	Ruth McDivitt	
NOVEMBER 30		



There is a new Altar Flower Chart posted on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall.

If you have special Sunday dates that you'd like to remember your loved one(s) or to give thanks for a special occasion, be sure to sign the Flower Chart.

Envelopes are also located by the chart and can be placed in the offering plate on any Sunday.

“CHURCH SCHOOL KICK-OFF!”

September 7, 2014

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CHURCH SCHOOL REGISTRATION FORM

PRINT: Name *(Last)* _____ *(First)* _____

Address _____

City _____, PA Zip _____

Phone (____) _____

Gender _____ Grade Level *(entering)* _____ Birth Date _____

E-mail Address _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s) _____

Parent/Guardian Phone *(Day)* _____ *(Work/Cell)* _____

Emergency Contact Name _____ Phone _____

Any special medical or dietary needs _____

In the case of an emergency, I authorize any medical care deemed necessary by an accredited physician, nurse, paramedic, or hospital while my child is involved in this church activity.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Health Insurance Company _____ Policy Number _____

Do you give permission for your child's picture to be taken? YES NO

SEE REVERSE SIDE 

“Would You Like To Help?”

There are many ways to be involved with our children and youth ministries. Please let us know how you would be willing to help:

- () Teacher
- () Assistant Teacher
- () Bulletin Boards
- () Nursery Volunteer
- () CROP Walk
- () Advent Event
- () Christmas Pageant
- () MLK Day
- () Liturgy of Light
- () Vacation Bible School
- () Food Drive

SAVE THE DATE!

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

**Sunday
September 7th
Courtyard
11:30 a.m.**



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday School News

Karen DiPace, Sunday School Director

I hope you all had a great summer and are off to a fabulous new school year! Now that we are back into the swing of school it's time to kick off church school!

Sunday, September 7th will be the first day of our new church school year. We will not be having Gathering Time this year. Classes will begin at 9:00 a.m. in the lower level. Teachers will be there to greet you! After the 10:15 a.m. service, we will have an ice cream social to ring in the new church school year! I hope you can join us. Please complete the church school registration that is included in this publication and bring it with you. We will also have copies available in the classrooms.

New this year will be have a special musical offering the 4th Sunday of each month in the Auditorium at 9:00 a.m. This will be instead of regular classes. Even if you are not musical, there will be something for everyone!

We would like to welcome back our church school leaders, and introduce a few new faces. Jen Hreben and Janelle Stone will return to teach our PreK & K children in Catechesis. Sue Dodge, Marla Lester, Pam Loose and Maria Sauder will return for our 1st-3rd grade classroom. Carol Stigelman will return and be joined by a new team of Katie Mausolf, Leslie Morgan, and Mary Woolson with our 4th & 5th graders.

Please see the calendar of events in Mary Ellen's youth article. Most events are open to all church school children and families. We encourage you to attend if you can, they are great ways to meet other youth and families!

I am looking forward to an exciting new school year. Feel free to contact me at any time with questions or concerns about church school or nursery, or to sign up to help out!

Karen

Journey to Adulthood

Mary Ellen Kilp & Leslie Morgan, Co-Youth Directors

School is in session and so is youth ministry at St. John's! Our teens have been actively engaged in the life and ministry of our community throughout the summer months. Whether serving at the altar or as counselors for VBS, helping out at coffee hour or serving blueberry cobbler, our teens have been an active and dynamic presence this summer.

We will officially begin the start of classes on **Sunday, September 7th, with Education Sunday and an Ice Cream Social**. This is a transition year, which means welcoming a new Rite 13 class. Please feel free to be in touch with Mary Ellen Kilp or Pastor Jennifer if you have any questions about class locations or leaders.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (CONTINUED)

We have a dynamic group of leaders this year, including:

Rite 13

James Glazier
 Matt Gokey
 Emily Gross
 Leslie Morgan

J2A

April Way
 Joe Way
 Bob Murphy
 Betty Murphy

What's better than hanging out at Cherry Crest Farm on a late September afternoon? Doing it with a group of friends from the Lancaster Convocation! Save the date for a **Convocation Corn Maize Outing on Saturday, September 20th**, at Cherry Crest Farm. Walk the corn maize, enjoy a hay ride, pick pumpkins, and get to know other teens and families from the Lancaster Convocation. Pack your sleeping bags and tents and plan on spending the night at St. Thomas to extend the fun! Families are both welcomed and encouraged. Please rsvp to Mary Ellen Kilp or Pastor Jennifer. Look for more details to come.

ST. JOHN'S YOUTH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- ★ September 7 Kick off Sunday with Ice-cream social after church/parent's meeting
- ★ September 20 Corn Maize St. Thomas lock in for families of all ages
(Sat. 4PM until Sun. 12PM)
- ★ September 28 Fourth Sunday Forum/J2A Coffee Hour
- ★ October 4 Work Day Mass at St. Thomas (all ages welcomed)
- ★ October 17 Knoebel's, lock- in at Christ Church Shamokin
(Sat. 12PM until Sun. 12PM)
- ★ October 19 CROP WALK
- ★ October 26 Fourth Sunday Forum
- ★ November 2 Battle of the Saints
- ★ December 5 Nightwatch Trinity Williamsport (Fri, 7PM until Sat. 10AM)
- ★ December 12 Nightwatch St. John's Lancaster (Fri. 7PM until Sat. 10AM)
- ★ December 13 Rite 13 Coffee Hour
- ★ December 34 Christmas Pageant
- ★ February 13 -15 Happening (snow date is Feb. 20-22)
- ★ March 13 ó 15 Middle School Retreat
- ★ March PY3

JUBILEE MINISTRIES

14

ALERT WORK MASS DAY The All Lancaster Episcopal Response Team (**ALERT**) will again sponsor a Work Mass Day on Saturday, October 4. Teams of volunteers from the Episcopal Churches in the Lancaster Convocation will participate in working at tasks such as yard clean-up and other small jobs which home owners are not able to do themselves. If you are interested in helping or know someone who would benefit from this service, or if you would like to have a small group help with any tasks which you can not do, please contact Mike Gbur, Dave Martin, or Shirley Shaheen for more details. There is a sign-up sheet posted in the Parish Hall for volunteers to sign their names and there is another sign-up sheet for those who would like to request assistance.

BETTY FINNEY HIV/AIDS MEMORIAL GARDEN Dream Ride of Lancaster will be hosting a major fund-raising event on September 20, 2014. This event will be supporting several charities, one of which is to help finance the maintenance and improvements of the Betty Finney HIV/AIDS Memorial Garden located in the Northwest Linear Park.

Members of St. John's and others from the community are invited to participate in the ride. If not able to ride that day, one could support in the form of a pledge to someone who will be riding. More information is available on the bulletin board in the Parish House.

At this point, Dave Martin will be participating in the ride. Contact Dave for specifics about how to register for the ride as well as making a pledge.

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST (Contact: Sue Martin) **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20**—A breakfast of pancakes, sausage, eggs, juice, cereal, and pastries will be served to the downtown community at First Reformed United Church of Christ, 40 East Orange Street, Lancaster. Volunteers are always needed to help prepare and serve the breakfast.

EAGLE'S NEST—(Contact: Sue Martin)

As we look forward to another year of mentoring eager 4th and 5th graders on Wednesday afternoons, we also acknowledge that we are in the need of committed volunteers. Please see Sue Martin for details. This could be one of the most rewarding ministries you can be involved in. One key to success has been the ratio of children to adults. Let's continue our good work!

FOOD PANTRY - (Contact: Debbie Carter & Bill Cater)

Non-perishable food donations can be delivered to the church office or given to the Ushers on Sunday. Weekly food bags/boxes are organized for families or single people and are distributed from our church office on Tuesdays and Thursdays to those in need.

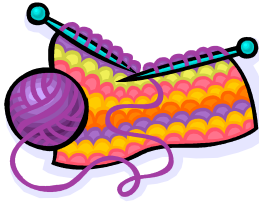
GROCERY CARDS (Contact: Cynthia Minnich)

Total sales for July gave \$363 to Jubilee. That figure is \$150 less than last month. This is not going in the right direction! Step up everyone. Show Jubilee that we really care! Our regular buyers and irregular buyers are doing well! Now, the rest of you need to participate. Everyone has to eat something. Let's make purchasing grocery cards the only thing to do! Don't forget: It's easier to use a grocery card at the store than to peel out cash or write a check. Your using one of our cards gives 5% of its value to our Jubilee missions. Remember that a \$100 card can be used as often as it takes to use it up. You don't have to spend it all at one time.

AND YOU ARE NOT LOSING ANYTHING. YOU ARE GETTING FULL VALUE FOR YOUR CARD. THE STORE SELLS CARDS TO US AT A 5% DISCOUNT.

Participating Stores: Darrenkamp's, Giant, John Herr's, Oregon Dairy, Stauffer's, & Weis

JUBILEE MINISTRIES (CONTINUED)



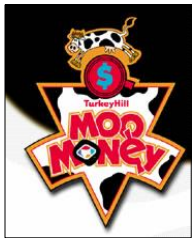
MARTHA'S MINISTRY (Contact: Jeannie Zeller)

The summer months brought a few new faces to our Tuesday meeting time. Our new friends include a new knitter, a maker of beautiful items from reused wool, and another friend brought a request for some Pocket Prayer Shawls to be used in her ministry project.

If you would like to help us, please stop by our table in the Parish Hall on any Sunday morning for the pocket prayer shawl pattern or drop off remnants of wool for the art projects.

As always, we are most grateful for your support of this ministry and we issue an open invitation to join us at any time.

Please Note! Martha's Ministry will resume the Sunday morning meeting time (between services) in the Parish Hall. We have lots of yarn! All we need is ***YOU!***



ROBERT FULTON SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP - If you shop at a Turkey Hill store and purchase any of their milk items, **BE SURE TO SAVE THE "MOO" MONEY BOTTLE CAPS** and bring them to church on Sundays. There is a collection container at the Eagle's Nest area of the Parish Hall. We're also collecting Box Tops for Education, Printer Cartridges, and Campbell Soup Labels.

VOYAGERS

Our first Voyagers meeting this fall will be held on Saturday, September 27 at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall. Our meeting will be a time for sharing summer memories!

Think back to your teenage years and "good old summertime" activities. How did you fill your days when school was over? Do you remember your first job (what were your duties and how much were you paid)? Where did you go swimming? Was there a family vacation, a visit to the beach or family picnics? How did your family celebrate the 4th of July? Were there ball games at the park, nights when you'd catch lightning bugs and put them in a jar, or days when you managed a lemonade stand on the sidewalk?

Come join us and share some of your stories, enjoy some snacks, and good fellowship!
Bring a friend with you!
Everyone is welcome!

If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Graeter.

"Hope to see you there!"

ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY



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The Millennium Development Goals

Eight Goals for 2015

[Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger](#)
[Achieve universal primary education](#)
[Promote gender equality and empower women](#)
[Reduce child mortality](#)
[Improve maternal health](#)
[Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases](#)
[Ensure environmental sustainability](#)
[Develop a global partnership for development](#)

"I Am, We AreOne World--Creating A Global Partnership"

This mantra should sound familiar with just a little twist. Over the last 7 years the MDG committee has individually presented the Millennium Development Goals, for "congregational awareness", seeking to educate and inspire. This year we are looking for how we can step into "congregational action". And, any step, no matter how small makes a difference. There are so many opportunities to make connections, create partnerships and maintain them with our global and local neighbors.

This year, the MDG committee will present opportunities to the Parish each month that serve to create and maintain partnerships. This September's opportunity is participation in the "Pedal Harder Remedy Ride" on 9/6/14. Participation can be riding, walking, running or sponsoring with a donation.

The Pedal Harder Remedy Ride was created by the family of Glen Lapp here in Lancaster, to carry on the good work he was doing to provide health care to folks in need. Joining in this event at any of the options from the 60 mile option to the -0- mile option is a chance to connect with other folks here locally who are also interested in doing good works globally. While progress on any of the MDG goals is likely to cross over to the other goals, Glen's work with Dr. Tom Little at the Noor Eye Clinic specifically advanced goals 6, 4, 2, and 1. Glen lived his life "trying to be a little bit of Christ in this part of the world." Second Corinthians, chapter 9 emphasizes that we are to do good works in the community, and not just for ourselves. They say it takes a village to raise a child. It takes a global village to raise the children of the world. Come join us on Sept 6, and be part of the larger global village - One World.

Find registration and background information online: <http://pedalharderride.wordpress.com/>, or look for information on the bulletin board, St. John's website and blog, or ask around. Any of us on the MDG committee will be happy to answer questions.

Also, please join us in the conversation and planning of developing global partnerships. Our September meeting is changed and will be Thursday 9/11/14 at 7pm. We normally meet the 1st Thursday of each month at 7pm. We hope you look for and read the MDG challenges in the Messenger or in the Bulletin each Sunday and give consideration as to how you can incorporate them into your lives and be òI Am, We Areí .One Worldô Creating Global Partnerships.ö

Submitted by,
Tammy Collier and Brad Zuke

PROPERTY CORNER

With the advent of Sunday School and J₂A programs, much time and effort is being placed into these areas of our church campus. Walls and ceilings are being repaired and refinished.

Considerable effort has been expended bringing the new janitorial service on board. It appeared as though they were going to be performing the same level of cleaning as the previous company, as their phased-in approach was not resulting in improvements with our cleanliness. Their operations manager was out to review concerns with the restroom and choir room floors. These areas were cleaned, with the intent that all that would be required is a maintenance level of mopping in order to keep them clean. This situation will continue to be monitored.

The painting of the sacristy and rental properties was completed. Thanks goes to Janice Henry for her assistance in choosing colors for the Sacristy and the Altar Guild for cleaning the Sacristy out for painting. In addition to the preparation needed for the rental properties, much time was spent by our staff, appeasing our neighbors about the painting. Apparently, it was thought that aluminum capping was being used to cover our wooden surfaces.

Considerable time has also been spent on the parking lot and our sewer lateral undermining. After finding no break in our line, we have attributed the erosion to the test boring holes in the parking lot. While not wanting to fix the sidewalk for fear that it may sink again, RGS and ARM were asked for their input. RGS deferred to ARM, who administered the borings. And, after several attempts to meet with ARM, our friends, the McSherrys (of boiler room fame) were contacted to offer their thoughts on our situation. They suggested having the parking lot sealed and the surfaces around the church sloped away from the foundation, particularly around the compressors. While planning to do this work, it became readily apparent that we lack the equipment and product to use. Cold patch was used to plug/cap the boreholes and the area around the parking lot drain. And, we are trying to get a quote for filling the cracks with either hot tar or a 3405 polymer. While somewhat of a seasonal operation, a contractor came recently with hopes of providing a quote for the monthly meeting. While this project has been a work-in-progress pre-Easter, we should have the sealing performed ASAP to prevent any further damage of our parking lot, sewer pipe and underground electrical service. The sidewalk, with its liability exposure was an even higher priority, being completed in August.

Although not property related, much time has been spent on the WiFi and the computer upgrade and its affects on our e-mail. As of now, everything seems to be working well. However, this success was costly, going through several vendors and replacement of most of our equipment. We currently have a good working relationship with Emulous, who has remote access to our system for ease with making adjustments, repairs, etc.

We are updating our telephone list for Select Security. This list shall consist of the names and phone numbers of individuals to be notified in the event of an alarm going off in the church. These individuals are used to meet with the fire company and secure our facilities, including the alarm system when given permission by the fire department. While the church office and Property Manager are on the list, it is beneficial to have upwards of ten individuals on the list for times when people are out of the area and/or cannot respond. These people will be given keys so that the premises may be secured after access is given to the fire department.

Mark your calendars for our **Fall Clean-up on December 13th**. We will be starting at 9 a.m., meeting in the Parish House. A light breakfast is scheduled beforehand with our youth, who will be concluding a night watch from the evening before our cleanup. Come and share in our ministry of preparing our property for the celebration of Christ's birth. We hope you can make it and make a difference!

Your Property Committee: Phil Becker, Pete Eaton, Bob Fields, Bill Gross, Grant Hansel, Mike Heider, Janice Henry, and Cynthia Minnich.

TO REACH THE CLOUDS

*“How wonderful are the feet of those who bring good news!”
Romans 10:15*

While most of us are still in shock over Robin Williams’s death, I’d like to tell a joyful story. In 2008, filmmakers, James Marsh (director) and Simon Chinn (producer) made an Oscar winning documentary called “Man on Wire.” Man on Wire retells the story of Philippe Petit, a Frenchman, who in 1974 at the age of 24, walked between the Twin Towers on a high wire. It’s hard to find the proper adjective to describe what he did because so many come to mind: remarkable, astonishing, and spell-binding are just a few. The story began six years earlier.

In 1968, while sitting in his dentist office in Paris, Petit read a newspaper article about the soon-to-be built World Trade Center (WTC) in New York City. The article explained how these buildings were going to widen the international business world and strengthen the business world of Wall Street. However, Petit wasn’t interested in the business of the WTC; he was only interested in the height of these two new buildings. And then he started to plan the unthinkable: walking between them on a high wire. To train for this epic event, in 1973, Petit went to Sydney, Australia and walked over the Sydney Harbour Bridge. In January 1974, Petit, along with a few friends, came to the US, to see the WTC for the first time. After spending a month in NYC, his friends told him, “Look Phillippe, this isn’t going to be possible,” but one friend, Jean-Louis Blondeau encouraged him to stick with the “coupö, as they called it. So for the next eight months, Petit and his friends traveled between Paris and NYC working on ways to make it happen. On a windy morning, in August 1974, Phillippe Petit walked between the Twin Towers for 45 minutes. Well, he did more than “walkö; as Sgt. Charles Daniels of the NY Port Authority police said, “He wasn’t a tight rope walker; he was a dancer. I was spell bound by the watching of ití it was a once in a lifetime event.”

It’s a good thing to remember that even during tragedy, there is good news. And the good news is often laughter. Laughter in no way takes away the sorrow, but it does help to soothe it. While I was saddened by the news of Robin Williams’s death, I started to remember watching him as Mork and saying “Nanu, nanuö and I laughed. I remembered watching “Good Morning, Vietnamö and his performance as Adrian Cronauer, the military radio announcer who used humor during a time of war. And after watching “Man on Wireö, I started to picture the beauty of the Twin Towers again. I remembered that in 2000, I was standing on the 100th floor for a reception and looking out the windows; the view of Brooklyn was astonishing from that height.

As Robin Williams said, “Comedy is acting out optimism,” so let’s all try and be optimistic this month. Let’s all try and act in ways so we can bring laughter and joy into someone’s life.

Submitted by,

Julie Gittens

PRAYER LIST

If you would like to add someone to the Prayer List, please contact the church office and that particular person will be prayed for, for four (4) weeks. Continued prayers for that person necessitates another contact with the church office.



*Susie & Albert Bos
Kay Bush
Nelson Craige
Faith D'Urbano
Amelia Dissinger
Linda Fredericksen
Stefan Latshaw
Alice & George Miller
Nancy Nemith
Lorraine Nolan
Christian Stigelman
Katherine Suliveras
Joan*

For Our Homebound Parishioners

And

For Those Suffering from Addictions

SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Please remember those who are serving in our armed forces. If you would like to add or delete anyone from this list, please be sure to contact Patti Means in the church office.

*Michael Briggs, Laurel Hobbins,
Matthew James, Howard Kane, III,
Alex Kelly, Kyle Kulka,
Joseph Lombardo, Nicholas Lombardo,
Sean McCormick, Jamie Olejniczak,
John S. Waltz, Joshua Watkins*

If Your Personal Information Changes...

**Please be sure to contact the church office
with changes to your personal information:**

change of address, telephone, or e-mail.

"Thank you for your cooperation!"

***Patti Means, Parish Secretary
717-299-1188 or patti@stjohns-lancaster.org***



**Copies of the Messenger are in
the Welcome Center at the rear
of the church.**

**Copies of the Vestry reports are
posted on the bulletin board in
the Parish Hall.**

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>
Ail, Suzanne	3
Almy, Clara	16
Bedi, Ryan	19
Cater, Bill	20
Clark, Ross	12
Clemente, Adrian	28
DeLeo, Christina	3
DeLeo, Serenity	10
Dissinger, Amy	13
Dorgan, Bill	14
Eckert, Marianne	18
Forry, Stephen	19
Freeman, Dale	12
Harvey, Thetis	11
Heilman, Sue	13
Inyang, Carter	21
Kuser, Alvena	8
Latshaw, Stefan	17
Lee, Bob	22
Lester, Max	27
Limroth, David	28
Logan, Debbie	6
Looker, Jennifer	17
Lovett, Ann	14
Luck, Megan	11
Macleish, Sea	3
Mann, John	21
Mausolf, Fiona	18
Mausolf, Katherine	12
McGee, Vince	2
Miller, John	1
Moffatt, Elspeth	4
Morgan, Leslie	4
Murphy, Betty	15
Noble, Henry	22
Rhodes, Annaleigh	17
Roden, Ted	2
Snyder, Barbara	9
Soders, Kayla	3
Springer, Bob	19
Stigelman, Carol	14
Stone, Jeff	11
Suliveras, Katherine	14
Suliveras, Luca	20
Visco, Natalie	19
Waskowicz, John	7
Wolf, Paula S.	10
Wolf, Paula Y.	3

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

<u>Couple</u>	<u>Date</u>
Archer, Bill & Carolyn	9/08/56
Bednar, Ed & Kelley, Lois	9/04/05
Clark, Neil & Burlingame, Susan	9/24/88
McCormick, Patrick & Kristin	9/11/04
Snyder, Jim & Barbara	9/07/63
Wolf, Paula & Ray	9/03/55
Woolson, Matt & Mary	9/07/91



**THE DEADLINE TO SUBMIT
ARTICLES FOR THE**

**OCTOBER
“MESSENGER”:**

SEPTEMBER 15



SERVING SCHEDULE – SEPTEMBER, 2014

FOR ALL THOSE SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S: PLEASE NOTE!

If you are unable to fulfill your serving duties, it will be your responsibility to find a replacement. Once you have located a replacement, please be sure to call the Church Office with your name, the name of your replacement, and the date you were scheduled to serve. If you reach our voice mail system, **simply dial "0"** to leave your message. If you call the Church Office after working hours, your call will still be received by a staff member prior to the Sunday service.

Please avoid contacting Aaron Spicher, personally, with this type of information. Aaron will receive your information through the Church Office. *"Thank you for your cooperation!"*

SEPTEMBER 7	8:00 AM	10:15 AM
Eucharistic Minister	Ricky Smith	Sibyl Freeman, Michael Stank
Eucharistic Visitor	ô	Don Durand Fred & Eleanor Honaman
Lector	Bob Lee	Paula Wolf
Server	Joanie Kilhefner	Dylan Stone
Torch Bearer	ô	Kylie Stone, Miriam Lester
Crucifer	ô	Glenn Miller
Altar Guild	Team 1	Team 1
Steeple Bell Ringer	ô	Danielle DiPace
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Team A
Greeter	ô	Brad Zuke
Coffee Hour	Usher Teams: 8am & A	Usher Teams: 8am & A
Nursery	ô	Jen Hreben

SEPTEMBER 14	8:00 AM	10:15 AM
Eucharistic Minister	Aaron Spicher	Brad Moyer, David Kilp
Eucharistic Visitor		Karen Latshaw, Sue Martin
Lector	Ricky Smith	Joel Cliff
Server	ô	Adidan Cliff
Torch Bearer	ô	Sean Cliff, Max Lester
Crucifer	ô	Dave Pennell
Altar Guild	Team 2	Team 2
Steeple Bell Ringer	ô	Amelia Dissinger
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Team B
Greeter	ô	Dave Martin
Coffee Hour	Martha's Ministry	Martha's Ministry
Nursery	ô	Tracy Cliff

SEPTEMBER 21	8:00 AM	10:15 AM
Eucharistic Minister	Peter Eaton	Peter Novosel, Katie Mausolf
Eucharistic Visitor	Stephanie McGovern	Fred & Eleanor Honaman
Lector	Laurie Eaton	Jeannie Zeller
Server	Joanie Kilhefner	TBD
Torch Bearer	ô	Kendall Morgan, Natalie Visco
Crucifer	ô	Bob Kilp
Altar Guild	Team 3	Team 3
Steeple Bell Ringer	ô	Tierza Mendez
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Team C
Greeter	ô	Bruce Waskowicz
Coffee Hour	Community Breakfast	Community Breakfast
Nursery	ô	Phyllis Gbur

September



SEPTEMBER 28	8:00 AM	10:15 AM
Eucharistic Minister	Merle Schnee	Judy Arnold, Emily Gross
Eucharistic Visitor	ô	Phyllis Gbur, Sue Heilman
Lector	Fred Bush	Frank Cummins
Server	ô	Aaron Hasircoglu
Torch Bearer	ô	Conor Brenton, Danielle DiPace
Crucifer	ô	John Waskowicz
Altar Guild	Team 4	Team 4
Steeple Bell Ringer	ô	Max Lester
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Team D
Greeter	ô	Sue Martin
Coffee Hour	J2A	J2A
Nursery	ô	Andy Carroll

LOOKING AHEAD TO: OCTOBER, 2014

OCTOBER 5	8:00 AM	10:15 AM
Eucharistic Minister	Ricky Smith	Sibyl Freeman, Michael Stank
Eucharistic Visitor	ô	Fred & Eleanor Honaman
Lector	Sue Tobie	Fran Gouveia
Server	Joanie Kilhefner	Michael Hreben
Torch Bearer	ô	Miriam Lester, Max Lester
Crucifer	ô	Glenn Miller
Altar Guild	Team 1	Team 1
Steeple Bell Ringer	ô	Lynn Hayford
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Team C
Greeter	ô	Peter Novosel
Coffee Hour	Altar Guild	Altar Guild
Nursery	ô	Anne Gokey



INTERESTED IN SERVING?

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO BECOME INVOLVED IN SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S:

For **Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Servers, Crucifers, or Torch Bearers**: Contact the Church Office
 For **Eucharistic Visitors**: Contact the Church Office
 For **Altar Guild**: Contact Cynthia Minnich
 For **Ushers**: Contact Mike Gbur
 For **Greeters** or **Coffee Hour Hosts**: Contact Bruce & Mary Waskowicz

- Contact telephone numbers for these people can be found in the Parish Directory and copies are available in the Welcome Center at the rear of the church.