



# *St. John's Messenger*

**May, 2015**

*from Fr. John W. Morris, Rector*

## **“GOODBYE SUNDAY” *Farewell Pastor Jennifer***

On Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, we say goodbye to Pastor Jennifer, Bradley and their children Anna Gail, William, and Thomas. It will be a day-long celebration of thanksgiving for their ministry and their life with us at St. John's.

In the morning, Pastor Jennifer will preach at both the 8:00 and 10:15 AM services. Between the services starting at 9:15 AM in the Parish Hall we will honor Jennifer with a farewell party. The children and teachers of the Church School are preparing a special photographic remembrance album to present to Pastor Jenn. The leaders and the teens of the Journey to Adulthood group are writing cards, personal gift notes sharing their memories and thanksgivings for Jennifer's ministry with them and their hopes and prayers for her in the future. The wardens on behalf of the Vestry and congregation will gift Jennifer with a handsomely framed photograph of St. John's Church, to always remember us by.

In the evening, beginning at 4:00 PM will be Choral Evensong with St. John's Chancel Choir and select singers from St. Martin-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church, Chestnut Hill. St. Martin's is Bradley's former parish where he sang as a member of the choir. In his role as St. John's Choir Warden, Bradley was instrumental in bringing these two great choirs together. Pastor Jennifer will serve as officiant for the service. She will be chanting the clergy portions of the liturgy. While we will have a chance on May 3<sup>rd</sup> to experience Evensong at St. Martin's (you will recall that we were snowed out on March 1<sup>st</sup>), our May 17<sup>th</sup> hosting of Choral Evensong will be one last musical gift from Jennifer and Bradley to all of us.

A gift that we are all invited to share is the collection of a parting purse for Pastor Jennifer. To simplify the collection and accounting, a letter has been sent to all households in the parish. With the letter is a designated gift envelope. You may either return the envelope in mail or bring it with you to church and drop it in the collection plate. Please make the check payable to St. John's Church. While your gifts are welcome at anytime, we would prefer to receive them before May 17<sup>th</sup> so we can present Pastor Jennifer with the parting gift check.

The ministry of Pastor Jennifer has touched the lives of all of us and in so many ways. Whether you got to know her through her pastoral visitations in the hospital or homes, or through her sacramental counseling for weddings, baptisms or burials, or through her work with our children and teens, or through her leadership on vestry or any number of other parish ministries, you know that Pastor Jennifer is a stellar person, an awesome role model for our youth and an exceptional priest of the church.

St. John's has been blessed by Pastor Jennifer's ministry with us these past eight years and those blessings will live on past her leaving. The ministries she nurtured, those she revived, those she initiated and those leaders she served with will continue on as her legacy for years to come.

Please join me in wishing Pastor Jenn, Bradley, and the children a fond farewell from St. John's Church.

*John+*

## THE REV. JENNIFER E. MATTSON

### *“Always We Begin Again”*

I keep a small, pocket sized book on my desk that is titled “Always We Begin Again”. This book was a gift from a priest that I deeply admired. It has journeyed with me from college to seminary to chaplaincy to St. John's. It was written by an attorney who wanted to find balance and spiritual depth in his life. He discovered the rule of St. Benedict and interpreted it using modern language. The result was “Always We Begin Again”. I love the title as much as the book. It reminds me that each day is a new beginning, and that God invites us to have courage and faith in its unfolding.

It is difficult to say goodbye to you. It is difficult to find the right words. St. John's has been a place of profound formation: in my vocation, in my family, in my sense of personal identity. I have had many new beginnings in your midst. I became a priest, a mother, was divorced, remarried. My own life narrative has been one of nearly constant change and new beginnings. But equally formative have been the vocational milestones along the way: baptisms, weddings, funerals, prayers for the sick, prayers for the dying, visits to the homebound, lessons with children, retreats with teens, coffee hour conversations and every kind of meeting and committee imaginable, not to mention worship of profound beauty and depth. Every day has been a new beginning. My formation as a priest- a formation that was deeply shaped by you- has been one of nearly constant learning. I am so grateful for all that I have experienced.

You have taught me that it takes courage to age with grace and gratitude; that dying is rarely easy, but often sacred beyond imagining. You have taught me that healing comes in surprising ways, and that new life is always beckoning. You have taught me that it is almost always better to listen than to speak; that sometimes a simple touch or quiet song can express a sentiment deeper than words. You have taught me that joy is contagious and powerful, that kindness is a language that requires no interpretation, and that although we are children of God we shouldn't take ourselves too seriously. Your faithfulness, quiet devotion, genuine welcome, and real commitment to serving others have made a deep and lasting impression. I believe that I am a better priest and person for having served in your midst. I'm so profoundly thankful.

It is difficult to leave St. John's, but I trust and believe that the timing is right. I feel genuinely called to devote myself to the role of mother for a period of time, and look forward to returning to ministry in the future. Our family will continue to live in Lancaster, a community that we have come to genuinely love. We are planning on attending St. Martin-in-the-Fields in Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, where Bradley sings in the choir.

St. John's is a truly remarkable place, and you will always hold a special place in my heart. I know this is true for my family as well. In the words of one of my favorite hymns: *O God beyond all praising we worship you today and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay; for we can only wonder at every gift you send, at blessings without number and mercies without end: we lift our hearts before you and wait upon your word, we honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.*

You have been a genuine gift from God. I marvel daily at the many blessings I have known in your midst. I will hold you in my hearts and prayers as you “begin again” with a new priest and a new beginning.

In Christ's Love,

*Pastor Jennifer*

## MDG CHALLENGES FOR MAY

No one is born hating another person because of the color of their skin or their background, or their religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite.+  
Nelson Mandela

### MDG Challenge for May 3rd

Hunger kills more people every year than AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria combined. If you are reading this, help out, and bring something for St. John's Food distribution so hunger isn't happening locally. Thank you for your caring of God's family.

### MDG Challenge for May 10th Mother's Day

We are ALL meant to be mothers of God for God is always needing to be born.+  
Meister Eckhart

### MDG Challenge for May 17th

Take a lesson from The Eagle's Nest - Don't take more than you are going to eat!  
And when in doubt, don't throw it out!+  
Americans throw away \$165 billion worth of food every year. Think of those with little or nothing while you might be wasting. And speaking of food - buying grocery cards at church will meet your needs and help others at the same time - no loss, only gain on both sides.

### MDG Challenge for May 24th Pentecost

Acts 2:1. 2, "And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting."  
THEY were ALL sitting TOGETHER, as we do at St. John's, striving to be open to ALL of God's children, accepting of ALL regardless of color, beliefs, gender, ages, circumstances.

### MDG Challenge for May 31st Trinity Sunday

"Enrich my heart, mouth, hands in me, With faith, with hope, with charity;  
That I may run, rise, rest with thee.+ George Herbert, poet, 1633.  
With our hearts enriched, may we speak kind words and demonstrate actively our caring for our brothers and sisters the world over.

## PASTOR JENNIFER FAREWELL



On Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup> we will say, “Goodbye” to Pastor Jennifer. To express our thanksgiving for eight years of ministry with us, the Vestry has authorized the collection of a purse to be presented on her last Sunday with us. Gifts will be received via the Sunday morning collection or by mail. If you would like to make a donation to her purse, please make your check payable to St. John’s and note on the check, *PASTOR JENNIFER*.

## PARISH REGISTER



**Baptized on Easter Day, April 5, 2015**

*Ashley Christine Smith  
and her daughter,  
Stella Jade*

# SAFE CHURCH



## *Having “Safe” Conversations As We Embark On “Safe Church”*

St. Johnø is now three months into its participation in the “Safe Church” program – a yearlong endeavor designed to help create the safest environment possible for our children. With guidance from Samaritan Counseling Center professionals, St. Johnø Safe Church committee is participating in monthly meetings with eight other local churches to learn ways to enhance the culture of safety within our parish and to write a comprehensive policy aimed at keeping our children safe.

St. Johnø Safe Church committee is working closely with clergy and staff, Vestry, Church School and J2A leaders and teachers, and others in the congregation to create a comprehensive safety policy and initiate conversations around child sexual abuse prevention. As it states in the first section of the draft policy, St. Johnø is participating in Safe Church because we have “a responsibility to ensure that children in our care grow and develop in a church environment that is safe and with a church family that empowers them to speak up if they believe something isn’t right.”

As our parish begins having some of these difficult conversations, please remember that the person you’re talking with may be a survivor. It is important that we choose our words and sentiments carefully. We can ensure our conversations are “safer” by avoiding stereotypes about how abuse impacts survivors and avoiding harsh or angry words to describe our feelings about sexual abuse.

If you are a survivor or impacted family member and would like resources or a safe space for talking, please reach out to our clergy. Father John and Pastor Jennifer have close contacts at the Samaritan Counseling Center and both are available as a safe space. If you are a survivor and are comfortable offering suggestions for how to enhance Safe Church activities, please talk with a committee member – Cynthia Minnich, Cindy Morris, Mary Woolson, or Marylee Sauder.

These conversations aren’t easy for any of us to have, but by addressing them together, we strengthen our parish family – at church, and in our everyday lives.

Submitted by,

*Marylee Sauder*

## TREASURER'S REPORT

As promised in the mini-meeting on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, here is the information from my slides.

|                                    | <u>Actual</u> | <u>Budget</u> | <u>Year to Date<br/>Actual</u> | <u>Annual<br/>Budget</u> |
|------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Revenue</b>                     |               |               |                                |                          |
| Contributions                      |               |               |                                |                          |
| Pledged                            | \$32,761      | \$27,708      | \$95,514                       | \$332,500                |
| Non-Pledged                        | \$2,745       | \$3,333       | \$7,911                        | \$40,000                 |
| Other                              | \$391         | \$892         | \$5,771                        | \$10,700                 |
| Total Contribution                 | \$35,897      | \$31,933      | \$109,196                      | \$383,200                |
| Other Income Sources               |               |               |                                |                          |
| Invest Draw                        | \$11,709      | \$11,709      | \$11,709                       | \$46,840                 |
| Other Sources                      | \$5,865       | \$5,299       | \$16,841                       | \$16,750                 |
| Total Other income                 | \$17,574      | \$17,008      | \$28,550                       | \$63,590                 |
| Jubilee Income                     |               |               |                                |                          |
| Grocery Cards                      | \$12,920      | \$9,167       | \$27,420                       | \$110,000                |
| Food Pantry                        | \$1,400       | \$250         | \$2,868                        | \$3,000                  |
| Other Jubilee                      | \$31          | \$266         | \$669                          | \$3,200                  |
| Total Jubilee                      | \$14,351      | \$9,683       | \$30,957                       | \$116,200                |
| Total Revenue All Sources          | \$45,705      | \$46,915      | \$168,703                      | \$562,990                |
| <br>                               |               |               |                                |                          |
| Total Expense All Ministries       | \$67,172      | \$60,861      | \$155,469                      | \$730,333                |
| <br>                               |               |               |                                |                          |
| Investments (as of March 31, 2015) |               |               |                                |                          |
| Unrestricted Endowment             | \$982,044     |               |                                |                          |
| Restricted Endowment               | \$235,699     |               |                                |                          |
| Total Value of Investments         | \$1,217,743   |               |                                |                          |
| <br>                               |               |               |                                |                          |
| Total Value of All Assets          | \$7,195,459   |               |                                |                          |

From these numbers, I believe that you can see that the church is not about to go bankrupt any time soon. Over the past 4 years, St. Johnø has had several necessary expenses that were either unplanned (the recent ösink holeö), capital in nature (the fire safety upgrade), or long overdue (correcting our accounts). I would point out that we made no additional draws from the Endowment in fiscal years 2011, 2012 or 2013. While we have had a deficit budget every year for at least the last 10 years, St. Johnø Endowment continues to grow and the church continues to expand its ministries.

I hope these figures relieve some anxieties regarding our financial condition. If you have any questions or concerns regarding our financials, please contact any Vestry member, Finance Committee member, or myself.

Submitted by,

*Steve Latshaw*  
Treasurer



# VESTRY RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were passed at the Vestry meeting on: April 20, 2015

**Administrative Support** ó Resolved that, at the request of the St. John's Episcopal Church Finance Committee, the Vestry of St. John's Episcopal Church hereby authorizes an additional expenditure of up to \$15,000 (including wages, payroll taxes, and any associated expenses) for the balance of 2015 for the purpose of adding a part-time administrative support person to the church staff to assist with the preparation of a Financial Secretary Operations Manual, to serve as a back-up resource for the Financial Secretary, as required, to assist with the implementation of ACS "On Demand" and ACS "Access", to aid in efforts to eliminate any requirement for continuing services from a financial consultant, and to perform any other administrative functions that the Rector assigns.

*This resolution comes from the Finance Committee. Sue Heilman called the question.  
The motion carried.*

**Assistant Treasurer** ó Resolved that at the request of the Finance Committee, the Vestry appoint Cynthia Minnich to be an Assistant Treasurer and authorizes her to be an approved signer of checks written upon the General Fund at the request of the Treasurer or if the Treasurer is unavailable.

*This resolution comes from the Finance Committee. Sue Heilman called the question.  
The motion carried.*

**Amos Martin Fund** ó Resolved that the Vestry authorizes the payment of \$1400 to the musicians for the Easter services from the restricted Endowment Amos Martin account.

*This resolution came from the Worship Committee. Leslie Morgan called the question.  
The motion carried.*

**Pointing** ó Resolved, that the Vestry approves the expensing of up to \$5000 from Building Maintenance (01-5138) and up to \$2500 from 209 Rental Repair and Maintenance (06-5152).

*This resolution came from the Property Committee. Sue Heilman called the question.  
The motion carried.*

**Horizons Stewardship** - Resolved that the Vestry accepts the feasibility report from Horizons Stewardship and authorizes the payment of \$3862.00 from the Restricted Endowment Labyrinth account.

*This resolution came from the Stewardship committee. Leslie Morgan called the question.  
The motion carried.*

**Vestry Steward** ó Resolved that the Vestry accepts the nomination and election of Bruce Waskowicz, as a Vestry member to serve as the steward for Stewardship for the remainder of the term for 2015.

*This fills out the term until the end of the year for the Vestry position vacated by Marylee Sauder, who resigned to focus on the work of the "Safe Church" initiative. An election will need to take place at the fall Parish meeting to elect a candidate to fulfill the remainder of the unexpired term, at that time. This resolution comes from the Nominating Committee. Julie Gittens called the question.  
The motion carried.*

## SENIOR WARDEN

It doesn't seem that long ago that extra time was needed to put on the winter coat, gloves and scarves and head out to shovel the sidewalk and scrape off the car. Suddenly it is time for lawn mowers, shorts and tee shirts and beautiful flowers bursting into bloom. Before it's time to get out the suntan oil and beach chairs, I wanted to take a moment to highlight some special occasions that have occurred during this past month at St. John's.

I want to thank the Nominating Committee, especially Debbie Carter, for all of their hard work in finding a capable and willing person to fill the remaining Vestry position as Steward for Stewardship. Thank you, Bruce Waskowicz, for accepting and taking on the important role as liaison between the Stewardship Committee and Vestry.

I want to also thank the ECW for making the Newcomers' Brunch, held on March 22nd, a wonderful success. A delicious meal was enjoyed by all. We invited 21 new members, but had a number of folks who couldn't make the luncheon. While only 5 were able to attend, all appreciated the invitation and hope to attend the fall Welcome Brunch. All who were in attendance, including clergy, vestry and newcomers, spent time getting to know one another, including sharing about how their journey brought them to be a part of St. John's.

Lastly I want to take a moment to share with you something that I experienced on Maundy Thursday. It was wonderful to see all of the congregation at the evening service, but especially the 33 young people who came from all over the diocese for the annual J2A lock-in. It was a very personal privilege to be able to take part in the foot washing. Besides the solemn act of washing feet, as Christ did for his disciples, it was even more meaningful to be a part of the service at St. John's where clergy, youth and Vestry all participated. It left a profound sense of thankfulness. If you have an opportunity to participate in the future, please consider it.

Have a blessed and peaceful spring. Bring on the flowers!

Submitted by,

*Bob Murphy*  
Senior Warden



**IF YOUR CHECK IS NOT  
IN A DESIGNATED  
ENVELOPE, PLEASE LIST  
ITS DESIGNATION ON THE  
MEMO LINE. THANK YOU!**



## FEASIBILITY REPORT SUMMARY

On Monday, April 20, the Vestry met with Scott McKenzie, our stewardship consultant from Horizons Stewardship. In an hour-long presentation, he shared his observations and recommendations based on his personal interviews and online surveys. What follows is the Feasibility Report Summary that was emailed to the members of the Vestry. The Vestry felt this report should be made available to the whole parish and they invite your comments. At their May 18th meeting, the Vestry will consider how we at St. John's should move forward.

### ANALYSIS AND OBSERVATIONS:

1. This study was conducted with personal interviews and online surveys. 53 out of 75 giving households responded to our request for an interview or online survey. This is an above average response rate. Considering the response rate, Horizons Stewardship is confident in the observations, projections and recommendations.
2. While many churches continue to decline, St. John's remains stable and strong. In 2013 the median worship attendance for all Episcopal churches was 61. With an average worship attendance of 185 your church is larger than over 75% of all Episcopal churches. With a diocesan average attendance of 70, St. John's is a flagship church within the diocese. 92% of respondents view St. John's as either stable and steady or dynamic and growing. 8% responded with declining and dying.
3. Like many churches, a significant percentage of giving households (**27.8%**) give less than \$500. This number indicates a need for stewardship development. With a median Lancaster county household income of \$56,000, there is clearly significant room for increased giving to the ministries and mission of St. John's. Stewardship taught and practiced as grounded in gratitude, revealed in prayer, and lived in faith can and will have a positive impact. **Remember, giving and stewardship are first and foremost spiritual issues.**
4. The average church pledge in your diocese was \$2,041. St. John's average pledge was over \$2,300. The average giving per attender in your diocese was \$1,794. St. John's average gift per attender was \$2,113.
5. 92% of people indicated they are either familiar or very familiar with the church's expansion and renovation plans. This is a very positive response. Clear and consistent communication will be of critical importance as we move forward with a capital campaign.
6. 62% of people believe the expansion and renovation plans will further the church's ministry and mission. Only 6% of people said no, the plans would not enhance mission and ministry. This is critical to a successful campaign. Successful campaigns are less about bricks and mortar and more about building mission and ministry.

## FEASIBILITY REPORT SUMMARY (CONTINUED)

7. 92% of respondents are supportive or very supportive of the decision to conduct a capital campaign.
8. Of those surveyed, 79% indicated their willingness to consider some level of gift. 12% were unsure. Only 9% said no. While it is common in feasibility surveys to **not** see the majority of lead gifts surface, the success of the campaign will, in our experience, depend on leadership gifts larger than \$10,000. 15 gifts were indicated higher than \$10,000. Major leadership gifts, especially those that surface early in a campaign, will encourage others to prayerfully consider their gift and other leadership gifts will follow. One gift was indicated between \$100,000-\$149,999. In order to raise one million dollars, experience tells us that the top ten gifts will need to equal \$350,000 to \$400,000.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. In light of the data gleaned from this study, Horizons Stewardship recommends St. John's Episcopal Church proceed with a capital campaign in the Fall of 2015. Based on the giving levels indicated in the survey, we find a reasonable expectancy of the total raised in a 3-year giving campaign to be \$620,000 to \$730,000. Though a capital campaign could yield more or less than the reasonable expectancy, this is a conservative projection based on the responses received.
2. The campaign will focus on raising maximum number of pledged dollars from August through December.
3. The total project cost should not exceed 2 times the amount raised in this initial campaign. Based on my projections I recommend developing a plan with a cost of \$1.2-\$1.4 million. This would require 2 consecutive capital campaigns. Many people expressed concern over the total cost of the project.
4. Once the final plan is developed there should be a series of town hall meetings to present the plan and the vision for enhanced and expanded mission and ministry. Once final pledge numbers are in and town hall meetings conducted, Vestry will be able to make an informed decision.
5. In order to improve overall stewardship there are a few key recommendations.
  - Continue and strengthen your focus on lives changed because of giving. Give a specific example/witness of how someone's life was changed because of the ministry of St. John's.

## FEASIBILITY REPORT SUMMARY (CONTINUED)

- Have clearly stated expectations for people who take positions of leadership in the church. They should be: tithing or be working toward tithing, regular attendance in worship, and involvement in some kind of mission/outreach beyond the walls of the church.
- Have clearly stated expectations for people who join the church. They should be: tithing or be working toward tithing, regular attendance in worship, and involvement in some kind of mission/outreach beyond the walls of the church. Remember, growing churches do not focus on membership, they focus on discipleship.

### KEYS TO SUCCESS:

First and foremost the leadership and people of St. John's must be willing to embark on a journey of faith. Horizons believes that lasting and life-changing stewardship is grounded in gratitude, revealed in prayer and lived in faith. %God, what am I most deeply grateful for?+ %God, what would you have me do with the resources you have blessed me with?+ %God, how are you calling me to step out in faith and do more than I may have ever imagined?+ **If church leadership is willing to model this process and encourage others to follow, this campaign will succeed.**

Members of St. John's will be more likely to embrace this journey of faith when they are convinced their church has a life changing vision for mission and ministry in the community and world. We need to state the vision clearly and help people see in very practical terms how these changes will enhance mission and ministry. This campaign cannot be about simply building but must be about lifting up mission and ministry.

Once the campaign is initiated, there must be a strong emphasis on major gifts by the leadership team and pastors. It is extremely important that leadership gifts surface early in the campaign to have the effect of raising the belief and willingness of others to honestly pray for God's guidance in determining their family's gift.

People give generously and sacrificially always in response to God's Vision to reach people and transform lives.

## “SHARING IN SONG!”



### The Combined Choirs of



### *St. John's, Lancaster and St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Chestnut Hill*

**Sunday, May 17, 2015**

**Evensong, 4:00 p.m.—Church**

**Welcome and Reception, 5:00 p.m.—Parish Hall**

The welcome and reception will be hosted by the Stewardship and Worship Committees to

- Celebrate our music and worship
  - Welcome Select Singers from St. Martin's Choir
    - and, of course, to eat, drink, and enjoy each other's company!

**Program:** Food & Fellowship to Welcome Members of the St. Martin's Choir

**Bring:** Food (Finger Foods, Savory or Sweet) or Beverage to Share  
Soft Drinks and Juice Provided

**If you have questions, please contact:**

**Debbie Carter** (717-299-1530 or [dp Carterpa@verizon.net](mailto:dp Carterpa@verizon.net)) or

**Jane Lee** (717-606-9294 or [ljanel123@gmail.com](mailto:ljanel123@gmail.com))

## PROPERTY CORNER

This weather is just wonderful and it's great to get outside to start projects. One project that needed to be done was the repair of the "holey wall" of the courtyard. A beautiful metal gate was installed a couple weeks ago (in time for Easter) that looks perfect. It will allow accessibility to the courtyard if a piece of equipment needs to be there.

Thanks to everyone who helped in the Spring clean-up. It snowed the night before so we were met with an inch or two of the white stuff when we arrived but it quickly melted so the outside workers could get on with their work. Thanks to Peter, Laurie, and Dave Martin for the coffee and treats. If anybody would want to join in NEXT year, we would appreciate it.

As the clean-up progressed there are areas of the church that were noticed that need repair. Repointing will be one of the next projects as the winter weather and age have taken quite a toll on the pilasters especially. Pilasters are those big jutting out brick areas along Chestnut and Mulberry Streets. Also the brick wall of the rental property at 209 Concord Street needs repair.

Does anyone have a special organization that could use old monitors, keyboards and towers?? There are maybe a dozen pieces of these around the church that should go away. Please call me at 283-5858 and let's make them gone! There are a couple of big old wooden desks also hanging around that could use good homes. These are great HEAVY things that will last forever. Somebody should be using these.

There is also an old air conditioner that needs a home. Please let me know so we can start to free-up space for groups that need storage. If any committee needs help sorting through "stuff" let me know.

A special thank-you to Bill Gross who adjusted the lights for the altos in choir. And a very special thank you for all the people involved with Easter flowers. The plants in the church don't last but we are all enjoying the planters outside.

I know we are all awaiting the results of the Feasibility Study for BIG changes but let us know if there are small things you might see around the church that could use help. Please consider joining the Property Committee. We meet the 1st Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in Becker House.

Submitted by,

*Deb Smith*  
*Vestry Steward—Property*

## 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. A \$30 donation is appreciated and please make a notation on your check. If you are unable to travel to church but are interested in signing up, please contact our Parish Secretary, Patti Means at 717-299-1188.

We would like to receive two (2) remembrances per Sunday and each will appear in **both** service bulletins. Following is the information we have received for the time-frame between **May** and **July, 2015**. The blank areas remain available. Thank you for supporting this important ministry at St. John's!



| SUNDAY DATE | (1)                    | (2)                    |
|-------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| MAY 3       | Kilhefner Family       | John & Barbara Graeter |
| MAY 10      | Becker Family          | Lorraine Nolan         |
| MAY 17      | Collier Family         | Gross Family           |
| MAY 24      | Betty Juslin-Asplin    | Ricky Smith            |
| MAY 31      | Patti Means            | John & Helen Miller    |
| JUNE 7      | Charles Alexander      | Kilhefner Family       |
| JUNE 14     | Qualls Family          |                        |
| JUNE 21     |                        |                        |
| JUNE 28     | Becker Family          | J & L Hartman Trust    |
| JULY 5      | Rev. John Emmert Trust | Dale & Barbara Landis  |
| JULY 12     |                        |                        |
| JULY 19     | Robert Baker           |                        |
| JULY 26     |                        |                        |

### FOOD PANTRY STAPLES—ALWAYS WELCOMED!



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

**Bring your food donations to the rear of the church on any Sunday or to the church office during the week. "THANK YOU!"**



# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

## *Sunday School News*

*Karen DiPace*, Sunday School Director

The Church School children are inviting the parish to donate their coins in the Parish Hall from April 26 through June 7. The organization we will be supporting will be ECHO, a global Christian organization equipping people across the globe with agricultural resources and skills to reduce hunger and improve the lives of the poor. Their vision is to honor God through sustainable hunger solutions. We ask you to help make a difference to eliminate extreme poverty. Donate your pennies!

Please join us as we say Goodbye to Pastor Jennifer. She has been a blessing to our Church School program during her time here and she will be greatly missed! Children are encouraged to write her a message or draw a picture for her to help say goodbye on Sunday, May 17.

Looking ahead, we will be having our annual Parish Picnic on Sunday, June 7 at Lancaster County Central Park, Pavilion #3. This will also be the last day of church school classes this year. Look for a sign-up coming soon for the potluck & details!

Vacation Bible School (VBS) will be underway the week of July 12-17. We will be visiting Camp E.D.G.E!! Anyone interested in helping out can contact me. Registration and details to come in June.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions about our Nursery or Church School program.

*Karen Di Pace*

## *Journey to Adulthood*

*Mary Ellen Kilp & Leslie Morgan*, Co-Youth Directors

St. John's hosted the Maundy Thursday lock-in for our youth and youth around our diocese. We had a total of 9 churches represented with a total of 36 youth and 11 adults. We had an Agape fest, followed by Stations of the Cross, walking the Labyrinth, and quiet time in the church. After a short night our youth led the Good Friday morning service and helped to load the truck for Soles for Souls.

Easter was especially sweet for those who enjoyed the J2A chocolate eggs. Congrats to our teens and leaders on a wonderfully successful fundraiser: they raised over \$3,000!!! Thank you to all who supported our youth! We are excited to announce that they have decided on their pilgrimage! They will be going to Peru in July of 2016. Watch the Messenger for more information about the pilgrimage.

The J2A confirmation retreat was recently held at Camp Hebron April 17th-18th. Group leaders Joe Way, April Way, Pastor Jennifer and Bradley Mattson led our teens in prayer, scripture reflection, campfire talk, charades, singing and team building activities. Participating teens included: Aidan Cliff, Emma DiPace, Amelia Dissinger, Aaron Hasircoglu, Michael Hreben, Brooks Morgan, Dylan Stone, Cameron Watts and James Woolson. Camp Hebron was the perfect setting for a time of fellowship and confirmation preparation!

On Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> we will celebrate Graduation Sunday. Don't miss the opportunity to honor our graduating senior with a festive coffee hour between the services and a blessing during the 10:15 a.m. service. This year's high school graduate is John Waskowicz.

More excitement as we celebrate with our J2A youth their Confirmation on May 9, at Mt. Calvary Episcopal Church in Camp Hill. The service will start at 11:00 a.m. with a reception to follow. We will also celebrate with them at St. John's on Sunday, May 10 between services.



## YOUTH CALENDAR

### 2015

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| May 3              | Graduation Sunday                                     |
| May 9              | Confirmation at Mt. Calvary                           |
| June 7             | Teacher Appreciation                                  |
| June 14            | ALERT   |
| June 26 – 28       | Diocesan Summer Conference                            |
| July 12 – 16       | VBS   |
| August 1           | Knoebels CPA family, children, youth/young adult day. |
| August 23          | Blueberry Festival                                    |
| September 12       | Rev. Canon Scanlan's Consecration                     |
| October 5          | Inflatable 5K Race                                    |
| October 16, 17, 18 | Convention  |
| December 4 – 6     | Diocesan Fall Retreat                                 |
| <u>2016</u>        |   |
| February 18 – 21   | Diocesan Happening Event                              |

The J2A will be holding a letter drive for Pastor Jennifer and her family. One of the most memorable parts of our youth events are the caritas - letters of love and appreciation we receive from friends and family. We thought it would be nice to send Pastor Jennifer and her family off with tokens of appreciation and love from their St. John's family. Please place your completed letters or other tokens of appreciation in the basket in the back of the church labeled "Caritas". We will be collecting them May 17th, when we will present them.



# JUBILEE MINISTRIES

**COMMUNITY BREAKFAST** (Contact: Sue Martin) **SATURDAY, MAY 16**—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 often needed to help prepare and serve the breakfast (7:30 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.).

**EAGLE'S NEST**—(Contact: Sue Martin) Eagle's Nest closes its 13th year with its annual auction (of leftovers!) using Monopoly money, the judging of our annual Chocolate Chip Cookie Contest by staff from Fulton School, and a pizza party given in thanks by a grateful father whose three daughters have completed the program. Thanks for its success go to faithful volunteers: Barbara Graeter, Sandra Jackson, Sue Heilman, Mike Higgs, Cricket Johnson, Jackie Limroth, Sue and Dave Martin, Cindy Morris, Claire Phillips, Shirley Shaheen, Michael Stank, Bruce Tahsler, Sue Tobie and paid mentors: Maria Sauder and Bryanna David. Special thanks also go to Bill Gross and Patti Means who joyfully attend to our needs.

**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. Monetary contributions are also welcomed for buying food to fill gaps in food donations. Please write **FOOD PANTRY** in the Memo line on your check. Food bags/boxes are organized for families and 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 March gave \$646 to Jubilee. This was a stupendous month. March, 2015 was one of the best months ever. We did have 5 Sundays in which to buy but it was still amazing. Let's do it again! Step up and buy grocery cards, 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, no need to use it all at one time.

**NOTE:** 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**

**MARTHA'S MINISTRY** (Contact: Jeannie Zeller)

Come and join us in the **Parish Hall** at St. John's on **Tuesday afternoons** from **2:00-4:00 p.m.** as we share fellowship and ideas!

*"Happy Easter" and "Welcome Springtime!"*

The Martha's are adding an evening meeting time for those of you unable to join us on Tuesday afternoons in the Parish Hall. Beginning in May, you are invited to join us at the home of Deb Smith on any Tuesday evening starting at 7 pm. We are so grateful to Deb for the opportunity to extend this fellowship opportunity to more folks. We are currently collecting hats and scarves for the Seamen's Institute and/or our community folks, lap robes for Conestoga View residents, and pocket prayer shawls. We are really in need of your participation. We have yarn and patterns.

**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's Soup Labels.

## LECTORING

### *A Well-trained Tongue...*

It was a title of a book written about the many aspects of the ministry of lector. It included many things which those of our sisters and brothers among us that serve by proclaiming the Scriptures at worship exemplify each week. A lector does not simply read aloud the words on a page but proclaims the living Word of God. At worship we believe that the person or minister before us is an instrument through which God and Jesus are speaking directly to us. Our responses to the announcements before and after the readings bear this out. Therefore lectoring is more than reading. Proclamations involve communication ó bringing the words on the page alive so that they not only enter our ears but also our hearts.

Over the last couple of years, we have taken steps to assist our lectors in their service. We have provided opportunities for formation. We have made changes to the form of the texts they use for proclamation. Now, at the 10:15 service, we are going to employ two lectors in order to give them more frequent opportunities to proclaim. Just as musicians need to use their gifts with regularity, so, too, the proclaimer. Fr. John and Pastor Jennifer are also models of this. Their excellent proclamation and preaching skills have been honed through frequent use.

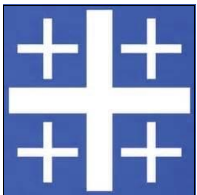
### *...and a Well-trained Ear...*

It is the other side of the coin. Communication not only involves speaking but also involves listening. Listening is more than just hearing the words. Listening involves taking the message to heart ó entering into the message and owning it. The stories and lessons we hear proclaimed at worship are not only something that happened to others in the past but happens to us (or should, if we are truly listening). God uses both the proclaimer and the listener. With changed hearts we go out to the world to bring about the kingdom. Our Jubilee ministries and other efforts are the results of our listening to the proclamation of the Word. The Word of God is more than the printed words in our Sunday programs. Just as our lectors are asked to bring the Word to life by communicating, we as listeners are asked to go beyond the printed words and respond both in and out of worship.

Submitted by,

Tom Bond

*(Tom is a member of the Worship Committee and works with the ministry of lectors.)*



*To members of the Altar Guild, Flower Guild, Altar Party Participants, and Ushers—a special thank you for all the work that went into preparing and celebrating Holy Week and Easter at St. John's. For those who participated in more than one service, and those who gathered to worship, thank you for your generous gifts of leadership in worship.*

*Aaron Spicher, Verger*



## FROM BRADLEY MATTSON

*Zephaniah 3:17 (ESV) The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.*

Dear Friends,

In this, my first and last "Messenger" article to all of you, I carry the heavy burden of saying both hello and goodbye to you as a congregation. As I take stock regarding our time together, what gives me the most pause is seeing now -with the benefit of hindsight - the glorious ways in which God brought us together.

It seems more than any other theme, what brought me to the Anglican Communion, was the warm embrace of friendship that I felt over the span of years. As a child we often attended Bruton Parish Church in Williamsburg, VA, when visiting my Cousins Joan and Bill, whose friendship has been deeply formative in my life. As a Student in London, I attended Westminster Abbey, and in time was welcomed as a regular, and embraced as a friend by Julian Empett who sings there full time. The penultimate of this was my friendship with Paul Reese who invited me to sing with the choir at St. John's. Yes, friendship brought me down the Canterbury trail, and brought us together, like an exclaimed "amen" at the end of a prayer. Before we knew one another "God" knew us. Before we were working "God" was working.

I count you all the very best and dearest of friends, with whom I have dearly enjoyed a sweet fellowship. As the hymn says, Jesus is "our maker, defender, redeemer, and friend" and he brought us together in this way. On my second Sunday with you, you served me communion by name, and I have not looked back since. Being joined together some time later with Jennifer and the children in marriage has also been a profound gift. With our marriage, "the prayers of the people" became our daily lives and I witnessed the 24/7 complete circular dedication to one another we all have - a living, breathing example of our Eucharistic theology.

Recalling the words from Zephaniah, I have experienced *God in your midst*, and in many ways our time together *saved* me. In being just who God created you to be as a congregation, your community of faith *rejoiced over me with gladness*, and *quieted me with love*. We exulted together with loud singing, both in the choir, and together as we worship. Sharing in the work of the gospel with all of you through music has been a particular blessing. For this I thank the St. John's choir most of all.

With all that I am, I thank God for putting us on this mortal coil together for a time in this brief, uncertain life of pilgrimage.

"Life is short, and we do not have too much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us; so be swift to love and make haste to be kind...." ~ Henri-Frédéric Amiel

Peace Be With You! Soli Deo Gloria!

With the greatest affection, I am,

*Bradley Lodge Mattson*

\*\* Sunday, May 3rd at 5:00 p.m. "Choral Evensong at St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia (*Snow Date*)

# COMMEMORATING THE END OF THE CIVIL WAR



The following story appeared in a 1916 Lancaster New Era column that identified St. John's as the first Lancaster church to toll a bell early on the morning of April 10, 1865—the end of the Civil War. It read that “John Ferrier, Sexton of St. John's, had gone off to war. He left his wife at their home next to the church. In his absence, Mrs. Ferrier took over her husband's church duties, including ringing the bell.”

According to the New Era column, “Mrs. Ferrier was upset early on the morning of April 10 because one of her children was ill and her husband was far away. She and the child were sitting outside on the porch. A railroad employee she knew passed by and consoled her. He said she would not have to wait long for her husband's return: Robert E. Lee had just surrendered his army to Ulysses S. Grant. Mrs. Ferrier was elated. She and another of her children, Ellie Ferrier, hurried to the church to ring the bell in celebration.

Mrs. Ferrier carried a white handkerchief and Ellie, a small American flag to wave from the belfry. They rang the bell a bit after 2 a.m. and people tumbled from their beds, hurriedly donned their clothes and ran into the streets,” according to the newspaper column. “In the darkness, they could barely see Mrs. Ferrier and her daughter waving from the belfry.

Night watchmen quickly spread the news around Lancaster and practically everyone arose to see what was going on. An hour after St. John's bell had rung, others took up the refrain,” the newspaper column related, “and by six o'clock the town was agog with sound. Every bell in the neighborhood was pealing. Jubilation reigned.”

Commemorating this event at St. John's on Thursday, April 9th, parishioner Barbara Graeter stepped in to the role of Mrs. Ferrier and waved to onlookers from the main steps of St. John's as Aaron Spicher (our Verger), rang the church bell at 3:14 p.m. for 4 minutes. Father John led prayer, for those who gathered, with a Litany of Thanksgiving for National Life and the Collect for Heroic Service from the Book of Common Prayer.





## VOYAGERS



The May meeting of the *Voyagers* has been cancelled due to a scheduling problem. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September. Have a great summer!

Submitted by,

*Barbara Graeter*

## ELECTION DAY BAKE SALE!

“Election Day” is **Tuesday, May 19** which means St. John’s Courtyard òBake Saleö to benefit our Eagle’s Nest After School Program. Although turnout for this primary event may be light, everyone who comes likes to support the program and buy something. Fortunately, the students have baked lots and lots of chocolate chip cookies (now in the freezer), but we will need many other contributions. You can bring your items to church on Sunday, May 17th or to the Courtyard on Election Day. Thank you!!!!!!!



## BETTY FINNEY AIDS MEMORIAL GARDEN

St. John’s has been maintaining the Betty Finney AIDS Memorial Garden for the last several years and will continue to do so this year. Saturday, May 2nd has been designated for a time to do the spring clean-up, planting of the annuals and to mulch the entire garden area. **Volunteers are needed to help with this project.** The garden is within the southern part of the Linear Park just off of Lemon Street. Parking is available next to the garden in the Penessa Counseling Services parking lot. Wheelbarrows are needed for transporting the mulch. Morning or afternoon times are available for helping. A sign-up sheet is posted on the Parish Hall bulletin board. Questions should be directed to Dave Martin. Thank you for your help!

## POPCORN THEOLOGY

**Friday, May 15th at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall**

***Belle*** (2013) The mixed-race daughter of a Royal Navy Admiral is raised by her aristocratic great-uncle in 18th century England. (PG, UK)

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 our food pantry.

Questions? Contact: *Debbie Carter*

## MDG GOALS UPDATE

*How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?---1 John 3:17*

The Lenten season seemed to fly by quickly this year. Although the uncooperative Weather caused cancelations of the first two planned events, the MDG committee was able to host 3 Sunday evening events filled with meaningful content. Our focus was on getting to know our neighbors *near and far*. Last month's MDG article summarized our 1<sup>st</sup> two programs and the 3<sup>rd</sup> and final night exceeded our expectations. Our guest speaker was Fatih Akdemir who is a volunteer at the Turkish Cultural Center and the Assistant Administrator of Religion & Volunteer Services of the PA Department of Corrections. Our program was *Learning about Islam*. We learned a great deal about our guests and we encourage you to visit the website for the Turkish Cultural Center to learn more about their activities and events, <http://lancaster.tccpenn.org/>.

Our program topics throughout the season were very different but *very* enlightening. It is concerning how what we believe or think we understand is possibly influenced by not having enough information, being fearful to open the door to learn more and quite possibly find new friends. The common thread to all that we heard seems to be the title of our one presentation, öThe Danger of a Single Storyö.

What sources do we use to inform ourselves about any topic? Is it the local newspaper, our favorite TV or radio news program? Do you read or listen to more than one source? How about the internet or books? How about attending a Cultural event different from your own? Which of these influences what we think or believe about our neighbors near and far? How willing are we to open our doors, our hearts, or our minds to new things, ideas or people? There is such a wide range of opportunities for learning, for getting to know our neighbors near and far. The MDG committee has shared and will continue to share opportunities as we learn of them.

We also are working on a Book list that we will be sharing next month in the öMessengerö and on the St. John's website. We as a Parish have touched a large number of places and people throughout the last nine years of working the Millennium Development Goals. The last goal still in progress is the Building Global Partnerships.

The MDG Committee is in the process of discerning which outreach ministry will be the focus of support from St. John's. Who shall we establish a Global partnership? The large world map posted in the parish house shows the world wide points where St. John's has given support through the MDG Committee. You are encouraged to look at the map and read the information about these ministries from the centerpieces on the round tables. The following three ministries have been selected for consideration in choosing one to build our initial global partnership.

### **The World Bicycle Relief**

This organization, a non-profit, is based in Chicago. They specialize in large scale, comprehensive bicycle distribution programs to aid poverty relief in developing countries around the world. Their programs focus on education, economic development, and health care. As of November 2014, they have been able to distribute more than 217,000 bicycles and trained more than 1,000 bicycle mechanics in the developing world. They serve many countries in Africa, Philippines, Peru, and South East Asia.

## MDG GOALS UPDATE (CONTINUED)

"While bicycles are distributed for a variety of uses to farmers and health care workers, the most frequent use is for educating girls. Girls have many chores to do at home before and after school. If time runs short, they often don't make it to school, so of all the bicycles WBR gives to students, about 80% are given to girls. A bicycle can reduce the trip to and from school from an hour or more each way to about 20 minutes each way. Rather than only going to school one or two days a week, these girls can go to school every day simply by giving them a bicycle." You might remember the bicycle which for a time was located in the parish house as a reminder of this ministry support.

Simple, sustainable bicycle transportation multiplies an individual's efficiency. Compared to walking, bikes improve access to education, healthcare and economic opportunity. They increase carrying capacity and accessible travel distance while decreasing the time it takes to commute to schools, clinics and markets. <http://www.worldbicyclerelief.org/>

### **Educational Concerns for Hunger Organization--ECHO**

ECHO exists to reduce hunger and improve the lives of small-scale farmers worldwide. They work to identify, validate, document and disseminate best practices in sustainable agriculture and appropriate technology.

We provide agricultural and appropriate technology training to development workers in more than 165 countries.

Reducing Hunger and Improving Lives Worldwide. For over 30 years, ECHO has been helping thousands of development workers and organizations around the world to better access vital information and other resources needed to improve food production and security for small-scale farmers and gardeners.

ECHO operates Regional Impact Centers, strategically located around the world to bring much-needed agricultural resources within reach of the small-scale farmers that need them. Regional Impact Centers are located in Chiang Mai, Thailand, Arusha, Tanzania, and Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, with a long-term research project in soil science based near Modimolle, South Africa.

The ECHO International Headquarters is located at a campus in North Fort Myers, Florida. This campus includes the Global Farm and Research Center, Reference Library, Seed Bank, Tropical Fruit Nursery, Global Bookstore and Staff Offices. ECHO's presence provides not only improved networking opportunities but enables regional-based services for assistance. <http://echonet.org/>

### **Rafiki Africa Foundation, Alendu Kenya**

Their mission--Rafiki Africa exists to work together with African communities and provide practical resources, training, real and lasting hope, dignity, encouragement, spiritual growth and guidance to bring them to a place of Optimum Health. **Optimum Health** refers to the capacity of individuals and families to work together to sustainably transform the conditions that promote their spiritual, emotional, economical, social, physical and environmental well being. **Capacity** is the ability of individuals and families in a community to have the desire, vision, resources, knowledge, power and support to work together to achieve Optimum Health.

## MDG GOALS UPDATE (CONTINUED)

Established in 2007 by Dorothy Dulo and Roger Godfrey who are the owners of the African food stand òRafikiö at Lancaster Central Market. òThe Rafiki Africa Foundation envisions a community in which individuals and families have the hope and capacity to build and manage conditions that promote Optimum Health. Today Rafiki Africa works in the community of Alendu serving over 300 students, 400 families and thousands of children.ö

A part of the Rafiki Africa Ministry is Community Education in the form of *the Lighthouse Academy*. It has grown from one Kindergarten class in 1998 to that class now being in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade. òLHA is a K-12 school. K-8<sup>th</sup> grade students are on site at the Alendu campus with a maximum enrollment of 200 students. 9<sup>th</sup> ó 12<sup>th</sup> grades are in partnership with other High Schools. LHA enrolls students who are at risk for not receiving education anywhere else due to poverty or being orphaned and abandoned. The school provides students with two meals a day, all school supplies, healthcare, social clubs, sports and other activities.ö òOther community education initiatives include adult skill classes for women; scholarships for high school and college; after school tutoring; children reading and writing program; and continuing education for our local staff.ö <http://www.rafikiafrica.org/>

The MDG committee meets the first Thursday of every month at 7 pm. Come join us! And in the meantime, please continue to read the MDG challenges and incorporate them into your week! And, consider seeking out “*the other stories*” as we continue to get to know our neighbors near and far. Together, we can make the world a better place!

Submitted by,

*Tammy Collier and Dave Martin*

***I Am, We Are-One World-Here AND There!***



## MOTHER'S DAY

*And Jesus said to her,  
"Woman, what concern is that to you and to me?  
My hour has not yet come."*

*John 2:4*

Imagine if you will, the wedding banquet at Cana. Mary, very casually, tells her son, "They have no wine" and after he replies saying "My hour has not yet come", she simply nods her head and tells the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." It's a simple exchange between a mother and a son. In fact, if we were to imagine this parable as a stereotype, we would picture Mary, the Jewish mother, telling her son what to do, and Jesus, the Jewish son, looking at his friends, with a frustrated face, thinking, "When is she going to stop telling me what to do?" Ironically, of course, this Jewish son, does more than what his mother wants, he didn't simply turn water into wine, so the wedding guests could continue celebrating. He turned the water into a better wine. His first miracle. And it's proof that Mary knows how great her son is.

This is my first Mother's Day without my mother. Growing up Mother's Day is very important if you have older siblings, because there's a fear of "what if I get her something (name sibling) has already gotten her". I didn't understand that my mother didn't care if I gave her a gift she'd already gotten, because she and Mrs. Lauro, from across the street, traded gifts. It wasn't until my mother passed away that I realized I grew up with two mothers. What was a rule at my house was a rule across the street; they were two women with wooden spoons. A friendship that lasted 50 years. This year, I'm sending a Mother's Day card to Mrs. Lauro.

I'm writing this as a Mother's Day card to someone else also. A Mother's Day card to Pastor Jennifer. It's with great happiness and sadness I wish you a Happy Mother's Day. I'm very excited for you (and Bradley, Anna Gail, William and Thomas) about the birth of your new baby, but also saddened that you'll be leaving your work at St. John's. Pastor Jennifer, I wish you happiness with your baby. I think your time with your children will be wisely spent. Please know, everyone here at St. John's will miss you and we can't wait to see your new family photos.

Sincerely,

*Julie Gittens*





## PRAYER LIST

*For those who we offer our continued prayers:*

Ed Bednar  
 Darlene Bentley  
 Tom Bond  
 Carolyn Ching  
 Vera Clarke  
 Anna Ehrhart  
 Linda Frederiksen  
 Bill & Lois Herzog  
 Anne Johnson Horn  
 Joyce Landis  
 Barbara McGraw  
 Andrew Miller  
 William Miller  
 Lorraine Nolan  
 Jeff & Mary Power  
 Robert & Joan Power  
 Randy Reddy  
 Christian Stigelman  
 Steven Schwartz  
 Stephanie Smith  
 Nancy Strasburg  
 Leeton Thomas  
 Chris Thompson  
 Carolyn Weaver  
 Gary Weaver  
 Melissa Williams  
 Ken Zeller  
 Christina & Family



*...and for our Homebound Parishioners*

Jim Breitegan  
 Margaret Crothers  
 Faith D'Urbano  
 Paul Davis  
 Providence Eshelman  
 Michael Frantz  
 Betty Juslin-Asplin  
 Paul Kreider  
 Joan Lahr  
 Stefan Latshaw  
 Fritz Lawrence  
 Donna Lawson  
 Betty McCaskey  
 Barbara McKee  
 Nancy Nemith  
 Peter Plaxa  
 Nancy Puffer  
 Virginia Rainey  
 Gray Sellers  
 Marjorie Seachrist  
 Helen Souders  
 Joanna Sweeney  
 Sandra Wengert  
 Poppy Youngquist



## 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.

*Laurel Hobbins, Matthew James,  
 Howard Kane, III, Alex Kelly,  
 Kirby Kinderwater, Kyle Kinderwater,  
 Kyle Kulka, Joseph Lombardo,  
 Nicholas Lombardo, Sean McCormick,  
 Jamie Olejniczak, John S. Waltz,  
 and 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](mailto: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.**



## MAY BIRTHDAYS

| <u>Name</u>               | <u>Date</u> |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| Andersen, Bryna           | 9           |
| Ashton, Rob               | 21          |
| Breitegan, Jim            | 27          |
| Burch, Ken                | 3           |
| Davis, Maggie             | 21          |
| Fields, Amy               | 29          |
| Fields, Bob               | 8           |
| Graeter, Barbara          | 3           |
| Graeter, John             | 20          |
| Greenfield, The Rev Peter | 29          |
| Gromis, Jeff              | 28          |
| Gustafson, Greyson        | 19          |
| Henry, Graham             | 8           |
| Hogg, Ryan                | 23          |
| Houston, John             | 27          |
| Hreben, Michael           | 6           |
| Hurlburt, Joe             | 30          |
| Kane, Howard              | 27          |
| Kilhefner, Michael        | 8           |
| Lee, John                 | 5           |
| Linton, Debby             | 6           |
| Loose, Eric               | 24          |
| Loose, Julia              | 3           |
| Magagna, Erin             | 24          |
| McFarland, Ruth           | 26          |
| McGee, Shirley            | 12          |
| Means, Patti              | 23          |
| Rahe, Deborah             | 9           |
| Rahe, Emily               | 12          |
| Rahe, Scott               | 5           |
| Rahe, Zachary             | 15          |
| Rhodes, Delia             | 28          |
| Segarra, Sonia            | 31          |
| Smith, Dan                | 9           |
| Smith, Mary               | 12          |
| Springer, Graham          | 31          |
| Watts, Eleanor            | 27          |
| Zeller, Ken               | 2           |
| Zuke, Brad                | 18          |



## MAY ANNIVERSARIES

| <u>Couple</u>                   | <u>Date</u> |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Almy-Webber, Anne & Webber, Ben | 05/29/2004  |
| Bailey, Bob & Lyn               | 05/31/1969  |
| Glazier, Penn & Mary            | 05/31/1969  |
| Hogg, Bob & Linda               | 05/12/1984  |
| Lee, Bob & Maggie               | 05/29/1985  |
| Qualls, Scott & Sherry          | 05/28/1983  |
| Smith, Peter & Betsy            | 05/08/1982  |



## Messenger Deadline

**THE DEADLINE TO SUBMIT  
ARTICLES FOR THE**

**JUNE "MESSENGER" IS:**

**MAY 18**

**PLEASE NOTE THIS DATE  
ON YOUR CALENDAR!**

# SERVING SCHEDULE – MAY, 2015

## 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!"*

| <b>MAY 3</b>                | <b>8:00 AM</b>   | <b>10:15 AM</b>                    |
|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Eucharistic Minister</b> | Merle Schnee     | Sibyl Seachrist, Katie Mausolf     |
| <b>Eucharistic Visitor</b>  | ô                | Phyllis Gbur, Sue Heilman          |
| <b>Lector</b>               | Bob Lee          | Danielle DiPace & C. Weaver-Gelzer |
| <b>Server</b>               | Joanie Kilhefner | Emma DiPace                        |
| <b>Torch Bearer</b>         | ô                | Greyson Way, Natalie Visco         |
| <b>Crucifer</b>             | ô                | Glenn Miller                       |
| <b>Altar Guild</b>          | Team 1           | Team 1                             |
| <b>Steeple Bell Ringer</b>  | ô                | Tierza Mendez                      |
| <b>Ushers</b>               | 8:00 a.m.        | Team A                             |
| <b>Greeter</b>              | ô                | Brad Zuke                          |
| <b>Coffee Hour</b>          | Lectors          | Lectors                            |
| <b>Nursery</b>              | ô                | Elsbeth Moffatt                    |

| <b>MAY 10</b>               | <b>8:00 AM</b>     | <b>10:15 AM</b>                |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Eucharistic Minister</b> | Ricky Smith        | David Dissinger, Michael Stank |
| <b>Eucharistic Visitor</b>  | Stephanie McGovern | ô                              |
| <b>Lector</b>               | Sue Tobie          | Aidan Cliff, Joel Cliff        |
| <b>Server</b>               | ô                  | Amelia Dissinger               |
| <b>Torch Bearer</b>         | ô                  | Helena Carroll, Sean Cliff     |
| <b>Crucifer</b>             | ô                  | Brooks Morgan                  |
| <b>Altar Guild</b>          | Team 2             | Team 2                         |
| <b>Steeple Bell Ringer</b>  | ô                  | Max Lester                     |
| <b>Ushers</b>               | 8:00 a.m.          | Team B                         |
| <b>Greeter</b>              | ô                  | Bruce Waskowicz                |
| <b>Coffee Hour</b>          | Property           | Property                       |
| <b>Nursery</b>              | ô                  | Marla Lester                   |

| <b>MAY 17</b>               | <b>8:00 AM</b>      | <b>10:15 AM</b>                 |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Eucharistic Minister</b> | Laurie Eaton        | David Kilp, Sibyl Seachrist     |
| <b>Eucharistic Visitor</b>  | ô                   | Don Durand, Julie Gittens       |
| <b>Lector</b>               | Peter Eaton         | Frank Cummins, Brooks Morgan    |
| <b>Server</b>               | Joanie Kilhefner    | James Woolson                   |
| <b>Torch Bearer</b>         | ô                   | Nicholas DiPace, Kendall Morgan |
| <b>Crucifer</b>             | ô                   | John Waskowicz                  |
| <b>Altar Guild</b>          | Team 3              | Team 3                          |
| <b>Steeple Bell Ringer</b>  | ô                   | Lynn Hayford                    |
| <b>Ushers</b>               | 8:00 a.m.           | Team C                          |
| <b>Greeter</b>              | ô                   | Leslie Morgan                   |
| <b>Coffee Hour</b>          | Community Breakfast | Community Breakfast             |
| <b>Nursery</b>              | ô                   | Courtney Rhodes                 |



| <b>MAY 24</b>               | <b>8:00 AM</b>       | <b>10:15 AM</b>               |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Eucharistic Minister</b> | Merle Schnee         | Brad Moyer, Peter Novosel     |
| <b>Eucharistic Visitor</b>  | ô                    | Karen Latshaw, Sue Martin     |
| <b>Lector</b>               | Ricky Smith          | David Dissinger, Paula Wolf   |
| <b>Server</b>               | ô                    | Aaron Hasircoglu              |
| <b>Torch Bearer</b>         | ô                    | Ian Thompson, Sophie Thompson |
| <b>Crucifer</b>             | ô                    | Bob Kilp                      |
| <b>Altar Guild</b>          | Team 1               | Team 1                        |
| <b>Steeple Bell Ringer</b>  | ô                    | Garth Alexander               |
| <b>Ushers</b>               | 8:00 a.m.            | Team D                        |
| <b>Greeter</b>              | ô                    | Peter Novosel                 |
| <b>Coffee Hour</b>          | Ushers: 8am & Team A | Ushers: 8am & Team A          |
| <b>Nursery</b>              | ô                    | Heidi Leitzke                 |

| <b>MAY 31</b>               | <b>8:00 AM</b>           | <b>10:15 AM</b>               |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Eucharistic Minister</b> | Molly Moyer              | Judy Arnold, David Kilp       |
| <b>Eucharistic Visitor</b>  | Phil Becker, Ricky Smith | ô                             |
| <b>Lector</b>               | Merle Schnee             | Fran Gouveia, Bob Kilp        |
| <b>Server</b>               | ô                        | Brooks Morgan                 |
| <b>Torch Bearer</b>         | ô                        | Miriam Lester, Ella Suliveras |
| <b>Crucifer</b>             | ô                        | Dave Pennell                  |
| <b>Altar Guild</b>          | Team 2                   | Team 2                        |
| <b>Steeple Bell Ringer</b>  | ô                        | Aaron Hasircoglu              |
| <b>Ushers</b>               | 8:00 a.m.                | Team B                        |
| <b>Greeter</b>              | ô                        | Sue Martin                    |
| <b>Coffee Hour</b>          | Hand Bell Choir          | Hand Bell Choir               |
| <b>Nursery</b>              | ô                        | Mary Ellen Kilp               |

| <b>JUNE 7</b>               | <b>8:00 AM</b>   | <b>10:15 AM</b>                 |
|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Eucharistic Minister</b> | Peter Eaton      | Michael Stank, C. Weaver-Gelzer |
| <b>Eucharistic Visitor</b>  | ô                | Peter Novosel, Julie Gittens    |
| <b>Lector</b>               | Laurie Eaton     | Jane Lee, Jeanie Zeller         |
| <b>Server</b>               | Joanie Kilhefner | Michael Hreben                  |
| <b>Torch Bearer</b>         | ô                | Danielle DiPace, Kylie Stone    |
| <b>Crucifer</b>             | ô                | Glenn Miller                    |
| <b>Altar Guild</b>          | Team 3           | Team 3                          |
| <b>Steeple Bell Ringer</b>  | ô                | Toni Ehrhart                    |
| <b>Ushers</b>               | 8:00 a.m.        | Team A                          |
| <b>Greeter</b>              | ô                | Carolyn Maxey                   |
| <b>Lemonade Time</b>        | TBD              | TBD                             |
| <b>Nursery</b>              | ô                | Katie Mausolf                   |

## 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.