



St. John's Messenger

February, 2016

from Fr. John W. Morris, Rector

LENTEN LABOR

You may have heard the good news. Cindy and I are grandparents. On January 15th at 9:30 AM our daughter, Nina, gave birth to Naomi Ambrose Schenck: eight pounds, eighteen inches. Naomi, or ðNomiö is bright eyed and beautiful. She is also extra special to us because she is our very first grandchild.

Which is why Cindy and I were not only there for Nomiø's birth. We were present for the course of Nina's labor. The process of Nomiø's delivery began on Wednesday night and finally concluded on Friday morning. Over thirty hours start to finish.

Nina was a total champ. She followed the directions from her team of doctors, nurses and midwives. She used all that she learned from her birthing classes about drug free pain management. The hours she spent in the gym doing squats and other exercises really paid off for her when it finally came time for her to push. While not looking forward to doing this again any time soon, Nina summed it up while holding her new born daughter, ðShe was definitely worth itö.

Labor and childbirth are often used in the scriptures as metaphors for life and the spiritual journey. The prophet Isaiah speaking of people of Israel writes, ðAs soon as Zion was in labor, she brought forth her sonsö (Isaiah 66:8). In his first letter the apostle St. John the Evangelist reminds us, ðhe who loves is born of God and knows Godö (I John 3:6). Jesus in his conversation with Nicodemus tells him, ðThat which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spiritö (John 3:6). To live in Christ is not easy. To be born of God requires labor like childbirth. And like the birth of a child, we believe that it is worth it.

The season of Lent has been likened to labor. It has a specific beginning and end. It builds slowly from Ash Wednesday to Holy Week and Easter. It starts in the dead of winter and finishes with the birth of spring. We believe that Lent is ðworth itö because it leads us to new life in Christ.

This Lent at St. John's you are invited make a spiritual journey on the way to new birth. It is a journey that begins joyfully on Shrove Tuesday with the J2A Pancake Supper followed by sung Evening Prayer in the sanctuary. On Ash Wednesday in addition to services at 7:30 AM and Noon, St. John's will host at 7:30 PM a combined service of Holy Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes with the congregations and choirs of St. Edward's, St. Thomas's and St. James's Churches.

Sunday evenings in Lent begin at 5:00 PM with a pot luck supper followed at 6:00 PM with an education program sponsored by our new Global Partnership Committee. We will be exploring the world of global mission and especially our new global partnership with Rafiki Africa and the Lighthouse Academy in Alendu, Kenya. Our evening will conclude at 7:00 PM with a different form of worship every Sunday: Compline, Night Prayer, Taize, Labyrinth Walk, and Close of Day.

Our new Bishop Audrey Scanlan will also be with us in Lent. On Sunday, February 21st she will celebrate Holy Eucharist with Baptism, Confirmation and Renewal. Please be on hand to meet and welcome our new Bishop.

These are the first, but not all, of our opportunities for labor in Lent. While they all require effort on our part, they each return to us a deep reward. So that by the time we reach the celebration of new birth at Easter, we can look back with joy and thanksgiving and say of our labor, ðIt was definitely worth itö.

John+

THE REV. DR. BARBARA J. SERAS

I am sending this Messenger article from Holy Cross Monastery in West Park NY. It is the last bit of work that I planned to do before I go into retreat. I wanted to write to you from this place. And then amazingly, in an instant, I will transmit this article to Lancaster.

It was not always this way. I remember as a child on vacation I would take time to send a postcard home. I'd drop the card in the post box or make a special trip to the post office. Sending the card, I felt somehow especially connected. Often I would beat the card home and as a child that surprised and at times disappointed me. In the same way, I will see many of you before you read this article, but sending it from the monastery, I feel connected.

Let me tell you about Holy Cross and the retreat house. The Order of the Holy Cross is an Episcopal Monastic Community for men founded in 1884. Their retreat house and monastery are located on twenty six acres on the banks of the Hudson River. The building is over 115 years old yet has all the modern conveniences. The brothers extend a hospitality that is beyond compare and designed to give visitors a time to pray, reflect, rest and enjoy. There is a time to reflect quietly and a time to meet folks from every corner of the church and the world. You can sit and watch the Hudson flow by...read that book that has been sitting on your to-do pile...take an afternoon nap...join the brothers in the monastic rhythm of prayer. We pray in the chapel five times each day, starting with Matins at 7 and finishing the day with Compline at 8:30. I delight in this practice of community prayer.

I have been on retreat here many times as well as at the brothers' houses in Toronto and Santa Barbara. And as I entered the chapel last evening, I recognized that it has been too many years since my last retreat at West Park. I hope one day soon a group from St. John's will make a several days' pilgrimage here together.

For me, the joy and beauty of retreat, is sitting still...and going deep. Not just a pause but a full stop...not just a passing thought but a prayerful embrace of God speaking...softly...gently. No matter in the chapel, the room I occupy or the refectory (dining room), I get lost in thought and prayer in a way not as common at home.

For we are very busy at St. John's and it will not be long before we embark on the Lenten Journey to Easter. The newly forming Global Partnership Committee will present a fascinating program on Africa and African life as we at St. John's enter into our partnership with Rafiki in Kenya. We will learn how our life differs from life other parts of the world. But more, we will begin together to form our relationship as individuals and as community with the people of Alendu. Won't you mark you calendars now? Sunday nights during Lent. Your time to learn about Rafiki but also to experience how and where the Spirit is calling you in this venture.

But for now...the bell is ringing for Vespers...time to go. I keep you close in prayer.

Blessings,

Barbara+

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGES

I Am, We Are.....One World - Here, There, Everywhere

February, 2016

It's February - Heart Health Month!

It's February - Valentine's Day, again focus on "heart" and so!
Think about how your caring self could share your love with those with so much less, and especially those dealing with the cold weather. Food bank donations are much less than Valentine's and dinners out and time spent helping those at the Community Breakfast who can't pay you back - that's love. The Council of Churches is looking for towels, winter coats, bedding (sheets, pillowcases, blankets). Buying grocery cards to help those at Eagles Nest - that's love.

Fair-trade coffee at the Sunday Coffee Hour is a heart donation that's warms you and puts smiles and sustainability in the farmers growing and processing the coffee beans.

In the end, major heart health actions all.

GPC Challenge for February 7th

The elimination diet:

Remove anger, regret, resentment, guilt, blame and worry.

Then, watch your health and life, improve.

GPC Challenge for February 14th

Valentine's Day is a day to focus on "heart health" as you consider what you can do to warm the hearts of those in your presence and those in need of any caring at all.

February 17th is National Random Act of Kindness Day! Celebrate!

Find ways to make your heart smile as you celebrate this entire week by random acts of caring - here, there, everywhere.

GPC Challenge for February 21st

"Either we see the divine image in all created things, or we don't see it at all."

Richard Rohr

How's your vision? Time for your eye exam?

GPC Challenge for February 28th

As we "step" into the Lenten season, remember to check out your closets for shoes that are lonely to be worn and would be celebrated by those with none.

Also don't forget your friends and neighbors who might have the same sadness in their closets.

Bring the shoes to church between now and Palm Sunday and we will find them a home and allow them to dance.

SENIOR WARDEN

The cold of winter has finally arrived and left a number of us anticipating the change back to the warmth and green of spring along with the activity it brings.

In spite of the cold, life at St. John's continues with a buzz. Just some examples included a game night for youth, inviting teens from some of the Lutheran churches in the area. Scout Sunday and "Happenings" are also upcoming events. ECW is planning the Lenten luncheon as well as the Welcome Brunch in March, to serve newcomers. Marylee Sauder and Anne Carroll are co-chairs of a new committee called "Child Protection" which will work to implement all of the excellent efforts of the Safe Church Group.

St. John's needs to plan for Diocesan Convention (October 14-15) and is in need of delegates to represent our parish. This year, the convention will be held in Lancaster. If you are interested, please contact a member of the nominating committee (Sue Heilman, Bob Kilp, Glenn Miller, and Bob Murphy) and let them know of your interest. Please ponder the idea and ask any questions. We do need to vote for these delegates at our Parish Meeting on March 6th.

This month also marks a normal change for Vestry. Dynamic people, including Amy Dissinger, Lynn Hayford, Marylee Sauder, Bruce Waskowicz, Jennifer Hreben, and Leslie Tashler are joining your leadership team to help guide St. John's forward. Your new Senior and Junior Wardens will be elected by Vestry from their membership at their annual retreat.

I would like to thank all of St. John's for your support and prayers, affording me the opportunity to serve St. John's in the capacity of Senior Warden for this past year.

God's Peace, *Bob Murphy*

PARISH INFORMATION

Deaths

L. Edward Bednar

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES AT ST. JOHN'S



7:30 AM ó Quiet Communion w/ Ashes

12:05 PM ó Quiet Communion w/ Ashes

7:30 PM ó Choral Eucharist w/Imposition of Ashes/Sermon

and Combined Worship with

St. Edwards, St. James, and St. Thomas Episcopal Churches.



Child Protection Committee Establishing Safe Shelter For Us All

It is in the shelter of each other that people live. -Irish Proverb

This quote has followed me from classroom to office to conference room through decades in education. I have shared it with tweens and graduate students, custodial crews and classroom teachers. It holds a place in my mind and my heart that reminds me each day that I am not in this life journey alone.

As noted last month, St John's is now extending the journey of SafeChurch by the formation of a Child Protection Committee (CPC). Co-chaired by Marylee Sauder and Anne Carroll, CPC welcomes representatives from a variety of ministries throughout our parish to continue the work of keeping St. John's a safe shelter for our children. By having congregant representation of each service (8am and 10:15am), church school, nursery, J2A, Eagle's Nest and other ministries, our church will increase the education and conversation regarding protecting our children from sexual abuse. Though the CPC mission is to examine the provided policy and establish necessary and feasible procedures, it also works to continue to shift the culture in and out of our church to allow a safe place to worship, work and play.

In the coming weeks the goals are to finalize the committee membership, establish a visible CPC presence to allow for open dialogue, and best support the process of all clearance receipts for those serving Eagle's Nest and Nursery ministries. In April, Sexual Assault Awareness Month, CPC will host a guest dialogue between services.

All of us are needed to be a part of the journey. We live in the shelter of one another.

Interested in being a part of CPC, please contact Anne Carroll, Marylee Sauder, or the clergy.

Submitted by,

Anne Carroll

EASTER FLOWER MEMORIALS



THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING MEMORIALS IS: MARCH 14

We will be compiling our Easter Flower Memorial list for the bulletins from the following form. Please complete and return this form to the church office via the offering plate or the U.S. mail, along with your donation check made payable to: **ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH** and note **EASTER FLOWERS**. Thank you for your contribution and if you have any questions, please call our church office.

IN MEMORY OF: _____

GIVEN BY: _____

DONATION AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

CUT HERE ↓



HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE

March 20 - Palm Sunday

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I with Blessed Palms
- 10:15 a.m. Choral Holy Eucharist Rite II with Procession

March 24 - Maundy Thursday

- 7:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist, Foot Washing, and Stripping of the Altar
- 8:45 p.m. Vigil until after the 12:00 p.m. Good Friday Service

March 25 - Good Friday

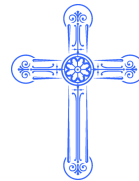
- 7:30 a.m. Youth Good Friday Liturgy with Communion
- 12:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross with Communion
- 7:30 p.m. Choral Good Friday Liturgy with Communion

March 26 - Great Vigil of Easter Eve

- 7:30 p.m. Easter Vigil with Renewal of Baptism (*with Incense*)

March 27 - Easter Day

- 7:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I
- 8:30 a.m. Choral Holy Eucharist Rite II with Renewal of Baptismal Vows
- 9:30 a.m. Parish Breakfast
- 10:30 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt (*for Toddlers through 3rd grade*)
- 11:00 a.m. Choral Holy Eucharist Rite II with Renewal of Baptismal Vows



**ALL PARISH
EASTER
BREAKFAST
AT 9:30 AM
IN THE
PARISH HALL
ALL ARE
WELCOME!**

VOYAGERS



The February Voyagers Meeting on Saturday, February 27, at 10:00 a.m. will be an informal get-together to share *“Memories of Winters Past”* including what we did on snow days, how we celebrated Washington and Lincoln birthdays, and the best (or maybe worst) Valentine’s card or gift you ever received. We’ll look forward to hearing your stories. As always, light refreshments will be served - maybe even some hot chocolate to warm you up!



CHECKS

Our weekly volunteer counters would like to request that whenever you submit checks to St. John's for various contributions (annual pledge, Capital Campaign, Jubilee, Martha's Ministry, etc.) **please write separate checks** for each one, rather than combining all on one check. Combining your contributions on one check makes it difficult for the counters to separate those amounts for entry work. Thank you for your cooperation and our counters thank you too!

THANK YOU

Dear St. John's Family,

I am so thankful for the love and support you gave to Ken and me throughout his battle with lung cancer. We were lifted up by your prayers. I am blessed and so thankful for the times you visited with Ken, sent a meal, helped me unclog my dryer, made me laugh or sent a card. Ken loved you all so much. Thank you for continuing to keep me going with your love and support as I walk this new path without Ken by my side.

Jeannie Zeller

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMAN

After the November/December flurry of Angel Tree preparation and implementation, February and March bring us to our hosting of a **Lenten Luncheon and the Annual Plant Sale**. Each Friday in Lent, churches in the Northwest Ecumenical Cluster take turns hosting a luncheon and service. This year, St. John's will be hosting on March 11th. Volunteers are needed to help with the event. A planning meeting will be held in the Parish Hall on Friday, February 26th at 10:00 a.m. Questions? Please contact Sue Martin.



The sale of primroses and pansy planters (bowls or ovals), will be held on Palm Sunday, March 20th. Pre-orders will be taken on March 6th and 13th. These blooms are a great way to bring an early Spring into your home, and help to support expenses of ECW as this is our only fundraiser each year.

PROPERTY CORNER

Thank you, Phil!

The Property Committee expressed a mix of gratitude and sadness in learning Phil Becker will no longer be serving on the committee. Thank you, Phil, for your many years of dedicated service, guiding perspective, and enthusiasm. You will be sorely missed.

HVAC Review

The committee reviewed a feasibility study from Marotta/Main Architects (architect for capital campaign project) which recommended replacing St. John's boiler plant due to age and inefficiency. Bill Gross and Andy Carroll are evaluating all mechanical systems to determine if any changes to the timeline for equipment replacement are needed.

Rental Property Management

Fr. John shared his vision to make our rental properties on Concord Street affordable housing units, requiring significant repairs to increase marketability. An outside company with its own maintenance staff will be hired to manage the properties.

Annual Contract Review

Bill will obtain quotes for annual contracts managed by the Property Committee--cleaning, refuse, and the fire alarm system.

Construction Committee

Two Property Committee members, Janice Henry and Andy Carroll, are serving on the Construction Committee, along with Bill Gross as staff liaison. They join Ted Loose, Doug Brown, Fr. John, and Steve Latshaw. The Construction Committee is in the process of establishing a scope of work and has shared expectations with M/M Architects, including:

- Water management to include pitching of ground away from the building, and storm water management.

- Elevator to be sized for a gurney and lift to accommodate medical emergencies and the moving of equipment.

- Joseph Barbato Associates of Chadds Ford was selected as the structural engineering firm for the project.

Please considering joining us for our annual spring clean-up Saturday, March 12, 9 a.m.-noon. Any amount of time you can give is always very appreciated, as we shine and polish our building and grounds for the Easter holiday.

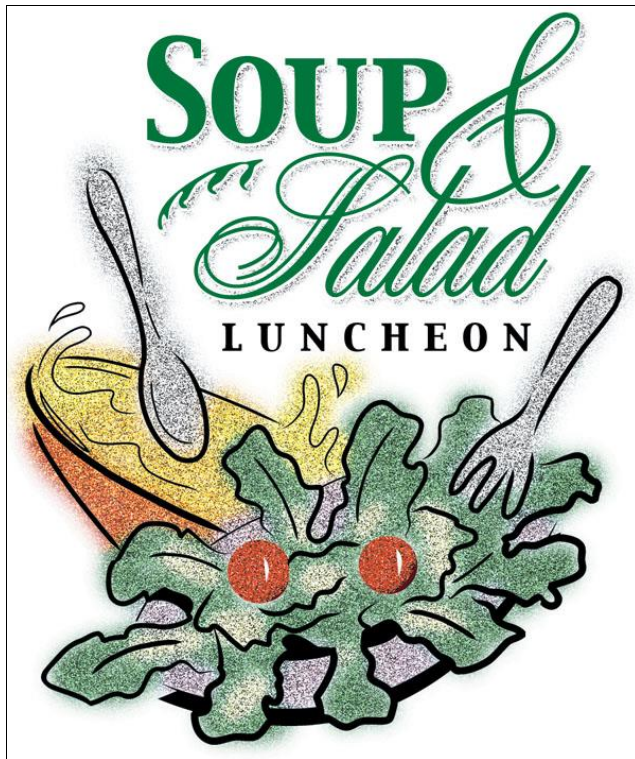
Please feel free to contact any of us with any questions or concerns.

Property Committee:

Andy Carroll, Bob Fields, Jeff Gromis, Bill Gross, Janice Henry, Cynthia Minnich, and Deb Smith

"SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY!"

Sunday, February 7th



Join us in the Parish Hall following the 10:15 a.m. service for a special

"SOUP & SALAD LUNCHEON"

(By Donation)

All proceeds will benefit our

FOOD
PANTRY
MINISTRY



SHROVE TUESDAY "PANCAKE SUPPER!"

February 9, 2016

5:30-7:00 p.m.—Parish Hall

\$5.00 Adults * \$2.00 Children

The supper will be prepared by our Journey to Adulthood Youth and include pancakes, sausage, applesauce, and fruit salad.



"Come Scrapbook With Us!"

Join the J2A for their 3rd annual Scrapbook-A-Thon!

Friday February 26th 6:00 PM - 11:00 AM
Saturday February 27th 7:30 AM - 10:00 PM
(St. John's Parish Hall)



Join us for hours of cropping, stamping, and scrap booking. Are you new to scrapbooking? No problem, we'll be happy to help you get started on preserving all your precious memories.

Doors open at 6:00 pm Friday evening and light refreshments will be available all evening. We usually order pizza for everyone to share. Crop until 11:00 pm! Leave all your items where they are and head home. We will open the doors again at 7:30 am Saturday. Breakfast will be served from 7:30 until 9:30 am. Pretzel sandwiches will be available for sale during lunch and a light supper will be provided Saturday night. Crop until 10:00 pm Saturday.



The cost will be:

Friday only: \$25
Saturday only: \$35
Both days: \$45



Door prizes and raffles will be awarded throughout the event. We look forward to seeing you there!

Register early as seating is limited! Registration will close on February 19th!
All proceeds will go towards the J2A pilgrimage fund.

J2A SCRAPBOOK-A-THON REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____

PHONE: _____

Let us know if you have a table buddy and we will do our best to seat you together.

You can mail registrations and payment to:

**Jenn Hreben
81 Den Mar Drive
Holtwood, PA 17532**

Make checks payable to St. Johns Episcopal Church with
'J2A' in the memo line.

Be sure to invite a friend or two!

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 for the church altar and one (1) for the chapel**. This information will appear in **both service bulletins**. Following is the information we have received for the time-frame between **February and April, 2016**. The blank areas remain available. Thank you for supporting our flower ministry at St. John's!

➔ FEBRUARY 14 - MARCH 20: THE ALTAR WILL BE ADORNED FOR LENT WITHOUT FLOWERS.

DATE	(1)	(2)	CHAPEL
FEB 7	Carol Stigelman		
FEB 14			
FEB 21			
FEB 28			
MARCH 6	Ellen Meyer Trust		
MARCH 13			
MARCH 20			
MARCH 27	John & Helen Miller	Ron & Rosalie Wenger	
APRIL 3	John & Helen Miller		
APRIL 10	Dale & Barbara Landis	John & Barbara Graeter	
APRIL 17	Frankvert Family	Patti Means	
APRIL 24			

FOOD PANTRY STAPLES—ALWAYS WELCOMED!

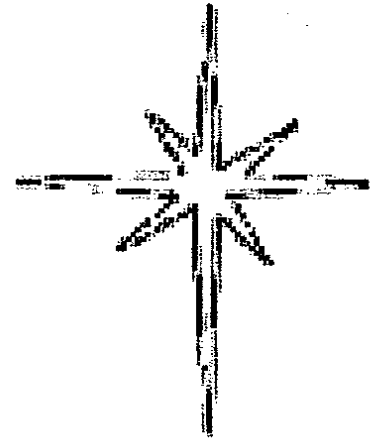


Peanut butter and jelly, pasta noodles, pasta sauce, canned tuna, canned meat, boxed macaroni & cheese, “Helpers” (hamburger, tuna, etc.), rice, boxed rice mixes, canned soup (not packaged such as Ramen), canned vegetables, canned fruit, and cereal.

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

THERE WERE THREE OF THEM.....

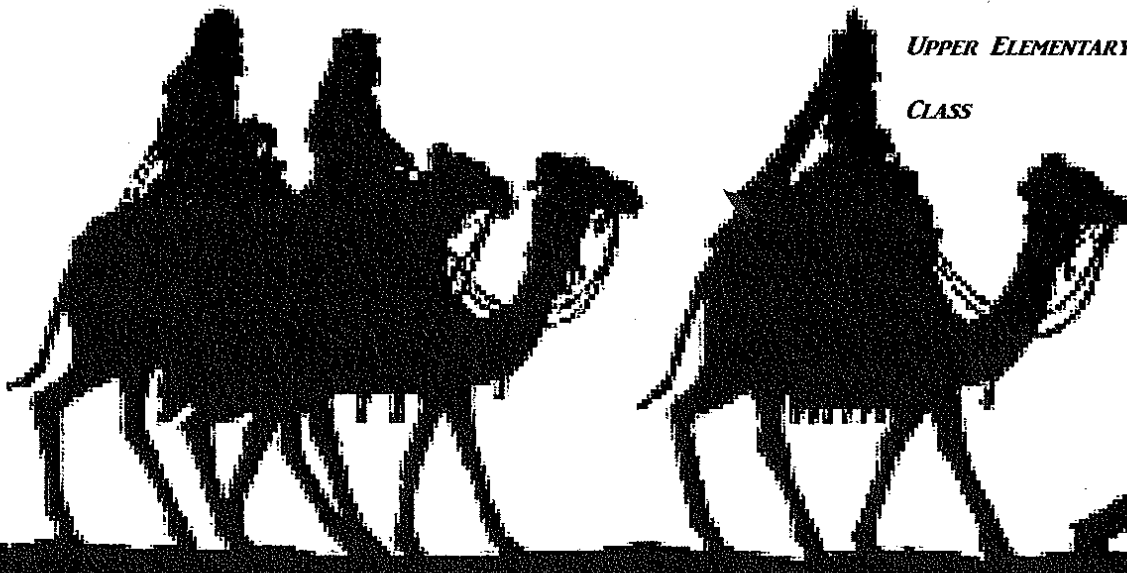
*NOBLE KINGS OF GREAT MAGESTY
CLOTHED IN RICH ROBES AS A DEFENSE
AGAINST THE HOWLING SAND.
UPON THE BACKS OF STURDY CAMELS
CARRYING GIFTS OF WEALTH INFINITE.
FOLLOWING.....*



*FOLLOWING A STAR OF MIGHTY LIGHT
TO THE VERY ICON OF HIS BIRTH.
DANCING RAYS OF THE LIGHT OF HEAVEN ABOVE
THE LIGHT OF GOD....
THE POWER OF FAITH
PORTRAYED IN THE JOURNEY OF THE MAGI
TRAVELING THROUGH DAY AND NIGHT.
JUST BELIEVING...
JUST BELIEVING...
NOT KNOWING...
BUT...
JUST BELIEVING....*

MISS FRANKIE BROGAN, 5TH GRADE

*UPPER ELEMENTARY
CLASS*



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday School News

Karen DiPace, Sunday School Director

We will be holding our "Souper Bowl Sunday" of caring on Sunday, February 7th. You are encouraged to bring in soup donations for our food pantry.

The youth are hosting the annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake supper on Tuesday, February 9th from 5:30-7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome! All proceeds will benefit the J2A. They will also be hosting a scrapbooking weekend of February 26th-27th. Contact Mary Ellen Kilp for more information if you are interested!

Mark the date for the Bishop's Visit on Sunday, February 21st! A chance for us all to meet the new Bishop!

All classes begin at 9:00 a.m. in the classroom. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions about our Nursery or Church School program.

Karen

Journey to Adulthood

Mary Ellen Kilp & Leslie Morgan, Co-Youth Directors

Five of our youth have been busy planning for the Happening event that will be held February 11-14, 2016 for senior high youth of the Diocese. Happening is a three day weekend retreat for high school students led by high school students. It's a spiritual journey and a time for finding, reconnecting or growing closer to God. This year's theme is "The Light of Christ." If anyone is interested in writing a caritas for our youth that will be attending this event please see Mary Ellen Kilp for details.

We will kick off the month of February with our Souper Bowl soup and salad luncheon on February 7. Please join us after the 10:15 service for soup and salad, all proceeds will benefit our food pantry.

Don't miss the annual "Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper" on Tuesday, February 9th. The menu will include pancakes, sausage, applesauce and fruit salad. The food is good, the company fantastic and the money raised all benefits the J2A pilgrimage. Join us at 7:00 in the church for Evening Prayer.

Do you have pictures just thrown into boxes and unorganized? Join us on February 26 & 27 for our annual Scrapbooking event. You can make an album, organize your pictures or just come and hang out with us. See the attached flyer for more details. It is a fun time sharing stories and pictures. All proceeds will benefit the J2A pilgrimage.

Our Senior High Youth will be starting another busy month of March attending the Province III Youth Event (PYE) at North Bay in Maryland March 4-6. This is a time for our youth to meet other youth from the Mid-Atlantic Region, ride on a Zip Line, walk the High Ropes Course, ride the Giant Swing, and climb the Rock Wall all while enjoying singing and experiencing about The Prodigal Son!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (CONTINUED)

ST. JOHN'S YOUTH CALENDAR - 2016

February 7, 2016
February 9, 2016
February 12–14, 2016
February 26 – 27, 2016
March 4, 2016
March 12, 2016
March 24, 2016
April 3, 2016
May 1, 2016
July 17, 2016
July 22 – 31
August 6, 2016
October 16, 2016

Souper Bowl Event
Shrove Tuesday Dinner
Happening
Scrapbook Weekend
Sr. High PYE
Auction/Dinner/Talent Show
Maundy Thursday Lock In
Middle School Retreat
Youth Sunday/Graduation Sunday
Pilgrimage send off
Pilgrimage to Peru
Knoebel's Reunion
Pilgrimage Presentation



EASTER EGG SALE!



J2A will begin selling chocolate eggs during Lent at the SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE DINNER. Eggs come in Milk Chocolate / Peanut Butter, Dark Chocolate / Peanut Butter, and Dark Chocolate / Coconut. We will sell eggs through Easter between services. If you would like to order eggs, pick up a flyer at the sandwich sales table between services or use this link: <http://j.mp/J2AEggs> or contact Joe Way.



The Rev. John W. Symonds

We are pleased to share that on Wednesday, January 27, 2016 at 7:30 p.m., The Rev. John W. Symonds (a child of St. John's) was installed as the new Rector at:

St. James' Episcopal Church
409 East Lancaster Avenue
Downingtown, Pennsylvania

JUBILEE MINISTRIES

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST (Contact: Sue Martin) **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 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 (7:30 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.).

There are so many faithful volunteers, but occasionally we find ourselves short of help. We have always been able to scramble and fill in the need. It is helpful to know ahead of time who might be missing, so please let Sue Martin know about absences, if possible. Thank you.

EAGLE'S NEST AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM (Contact: Sue Martin)

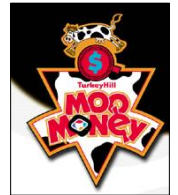
The enrichment offering for January was a wonderful field trip to the Fulton Theater. Kids and volunteers were awed at the back stage areas, the lower levels with dressing rooms, green room, orchestra pit, and the very top Gallery where we appreciated the fine artwork of the ceiling. Thanks go to the special fund left by Rodney Michel in memory of his wife Marie. The family requested that we offer enrichment experiences to the Eagle's Nest children (as well as ice cream!). Volunteer help is needed to replace some current ones who are traveling in the next few months. While clearances are essential, the key items are Weds. afternoons available and interaction with children comfortable. See Sue Martin or Director Maria Weaver-Hollownicky.

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.

FULTON SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP (Contact: Dave or Sue Martin)

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 are also collecting Box Tops for Education, Printer Cartridges, and Campbell's Soup Labels.



GROCERY CARDS (Contact: Cynthia Minnich)

Total sales for December gave \$462 to Jubilee. Our total giving to Jubilee for the year, 2015, was \$5,358. That's down slightly from 2014. That's not the direction that we want to go! Let's **Step up** and buy grocery cards everyone. Show Jubilee that we really care! Grocery cards, also, make great gifts for your college student.

Don't forget: It's easier to use a grocery card at the store than to peel out cash or write a check. And the amount remaining on your card is recorded on your receipt. And your using one of our cards gives 5% of its value to our Jubilee missions. It is truly a **win, win** situation!

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** and they are:

Darrenkamp's, Giant, John Herr's, Musser's Market, Oregon Dairy, SKH, 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!

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE UPDATE

Jesus sent out the twelve after instructing them where to go and what to do: *“Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for laborers deserve their food”*. --Matthew 10:5-10

“Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for laborers deserve their food”. --Matthew 10:5-10

Now, can you imagine going to work or school one day or, coming home from either; and your Supervisor, Teacher or Parents saying to you; you are going on a trip and here is where you are going and what you will do but, here's the catch; you go out the door with just the clothes you are wearing with no money, no suitcase, no reservations made and no snacks to eat on the way! Oh, and be careful out there! To think of making such a journey would be extremely challenging and frightening to most of us.

Life is a Journey, sometimes broken up into many smaller journeys. There are volumes of books, poems and quotes written about it. One of my favorites is Ralph Waldo Emerson, who put it very well, “Life is a Journey, not a destination”. Although the 12 were commissioned to go out to cover particular areas; as we all start out in one particular direction or another; it's what we do along the way, our individual contributions that make up the purpose for our journeys. We begin our life's journeys coming into the world with nothing until someone wraps a blanket around us and, we depart with little more. Between those two points, are our individual journeys. Every one of us is different. “To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit”. But, one and the same Spirit produces all of these, distributing them individually to each person as he wishes” 1 Cor 12:7, 11.

The former MDG committee, now the Global Partnership Committee, after completing one journey, is beginning another and we are hoping you all will come along. No, we are not asking you to walk out the door with nothing but, the clothes on your back. In our worldly, modern lives we do a lot of planning, preparing and packing for our journeys. We are commissioned and we have a plan for St. John's Global Partnership mission with the Rafiki Africa foundation & the Lighthouse Academy in Alendu, Kenya. We have a program plan, are making preparations and are very excited about the upcoming Lenten Season that will focus on this Global Partnership.

We invite you to come with us on our Lenten journey. We hope to have all come together for 5 Sunday evenings for learning and sharing about Africa, especially Rafiki and the Lighthouse Academy. We hope this Lenten journey will help in the learning about ourselves as well as Rafiki; what we have in common and how we are already connected and can grow this partnership.

Join us during Lent on Sunday evenings 2/14/16, 2/21, 2/28, 3/6 and 3/13/16, at 5pm in the Parish Hall; for coming together, and an always delicious “meatless” potluck. Look for the details in the Sunday bulletin, for each Sunday's activities planned. Each week's journey will be posted as well, on the bulletin board in the Parish hall. Join us for all or as many evenings as you can. This journey promises to be fun filled as well educational and inspiring.

Keep watching and listening as we transition from the MDG Committee and the MDG challenges to a new name, emphasizing our “*Global Partnership*”. And, if you are inspired or just want to be part of the conversation, consider joining us in this ministry of working with the world to improve the lives of all people. Our next Global Partnership Committee meeting is scheduled for February 4, 2016 at 7:00pm in the Becker House. Please look for the *Global Partnership Challenges* and consider how you may incorporate them into your daily lives.

Submitted by, *Tammy Collier*

“I Am, We Are.....One World—Creating A Global Partnership”

THRIVE for allí **Workshop & Seminar Leadership Day**

Building Empathy and Eliminating Oppression Workshops: A Deep Look at Racism & Religious Prejudice

AGENTS OF FAITH: THE URGENT NOW

Where? St. Stephen's Cathedral, Harrisburg
221 North Front Street, Harrisburg, Pa 17101
Parking at no cost in the Diocesan House parking lot; the open parking lot and the PHFA parking garage (both located next to the cathedral)

When? Saturday February 13, 2016 - 8:00 am- 4:00 pm

Why? Because working to eliminate racism is a highly complex task that requires an understanding of what racism really is and how it impacts all of us.

All-day workshop selections:

#1 Moving From Concern to Action; Anti-Racist Organizational Development

Understanding systemic inequality and oppression

#2 Straight Talk on Race in the Church and in the Workplace

- Gain a basic framework for understanding prejudice, oppression and specifically racism.
- Understand the impact of racialized language in a work environment.
- Understand the appropriate racial language to use, avoid and why.

Gain strategies for responding to racist "OUCH!" moments.

#3 best practices, Anti-Racism Related Programming

Learn to utilize films and documentaries to generate conversations, e.g., Traces of the Trade; book discussions utilizing bestsellers such as The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness (2010/2012) by Michelle Alexander; YouTube conversation-starters, such as "What Kind of Asian are You?" and "How to Tell Someone They Sound Racist"; and Gain facilitation and strategies to present an anti-racism mini program for participants to be able to return to their congregations and present an informational one-three- hour workshop for vestries, parish search committees, youth group and youth leaders, as well as social justice and jubilee committees.

Sign up now! At www.DioceseCPA.org on the Homepage

\$20.00 registration to include breakfast items & lunch.

Childcare will be provided, if requested.

Registration Questions Contact Linda Arguedas: larguedas@diocesecpa.org

PRAYER LIST

For those who we offer our continued prayers:

Ron Barton
 Ellen Beck
 Emory Billingsley
 Michael Brogan
 Ken Brown
 Judy Durand
 Helen Farruggia
 Linda Frederiksen
 Sarah Gordon
 Annie Grove
 Gill & Mary Hartley
 Susan Herr
 Anne Johnson Horn
 Cricket Johnson
 Howard Kane
 Ellen Keller
 Joyce Landis
 John Lechowicz
 Ernie Leffler
 Isaac Markovich & Family
 Alice May
 Ruth McFarland
 Kathy McNamara
 William Miller
 Jodi Myers
 Jane Naegele
 Mary & Jeff Power
 Robert & Joan Power
 Merle Schnee
 Steven Schwartz
 Stephanie Smith
 Bob Stanton
 Christian Stigelman
 Martha Stroh
 Joana Torres & Kids
 Carolyn Weaver
 Gary Weaver
 Melissa Williams
 Paula S. Wolf
 Virginia Young
 Fred
 Camille



...and for our Homebound Parishioners

Ellen Beck
 Jim Breitegan
 Miriam Cromis
 Margaret Crothers
 Providence Eshelman
 Bette Lou Forsyth
 Michael Frantz
 Dyls Glew
 Susan Herr
 Betty Juslin-Asplin
 Paul Kreider
 Joan Lahr
 Stefan Latshaw
 Fritz Lawrence
 Don Lovett
 Betty McCaskey
 Barbara McKee
 Nancy Nemith
 Darlene Pfeiffer
 Peter Plaxa
 Nancy Puffer
 Virginia Rainey
 Gray Sellers
 Marjorie Seachrist
 Helen Souders
 Joanna Sweeney
 Sandra Wengert
 Isabell Yackly
 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, 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*



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.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>
Alexander, Garth	1
Brenton, Nancy	12
Burlingame, Susan	18
Carroll, Andy	22
Carroll, Anne	28
Clark, Natalie	23
Cliff, Sean	19
Coverly, Rosemary	4
Di Pace, Emma	21
Farmer, Daniel	8
Glazier, Mary	19
Glew, Dyls	23
Gordon, Emily	24
Grosh, Kaitlin	10
Johnson, Alan	17
Kilhefner, Joanie	7
Latshaw, Alexandru	9
Le, Thong	10
Lyon, Bob	9
Maxey, Carolyn	17
Morris, John	2
Murphy, Bob	26
Ogwang, Alice	2
Qualls, Scott	12
Rahe, Joan	24
Springer, Kate	24
Stone, Kylie	3
Stonerook, Chris	24
Sullivan, Teresa	10
Thompson, Joe	16
Tobie, Alan	12
Way, Greyson	14
Way, Joe	13
Wendler, Callen	12
Wendler, Isabella	14
Woolson, Mary	21
Yackly, Isabell	21
Youngquist, Phyllis	14
Zuke, Sue	3



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

<u>Couple</u>	<u>Date</u>
Henry, Kevin & Janice	02/20/1982
Kane, Howard & Edith	02/24/1962
Limroth, David & Jackie	02/15/1958



Messenger Deadline

THE **DEADLINE** TO SUBMIT
ARTICLES FOR THE

MARCH

“MESSENGER” IS:

FEBRUARY 15

PLEASE NOTE THIS DATE
ON YOUR CALENDAR!

SERVING SCHEDULE – FEBRUARY, 2016

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!"*

FEBRUARY 7	8:00 AM	10:15 AM
Eucharistic Minister	Laurie Eaton	David Dissinger, Sibyl Seachrist
Eucharistic Visitor	ô	Peter Novosel, Julie Gittens
Lector	Peter Eaton	Jane Lee, Paula Wolf
Server	ô	Aidan Cliff
Torch Bearer	ô	Max Lester, Ian Thompson
Crucifer	ô	Bob Kilp
Altar Guild	Team 2	Team 2
Steeple Bell Ringer	ô	Lynn Hayford
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Team A
Greeter	ô	Brad Zuke
Coffee Hour	J2A	J2A
Nursery	ô	Marla Lester

FEBRUARY 14	8:00 AM	10:15 AM
Eucharistic Minister	Ricky Smith	David Kilp, Peter Novosel
Eucharistic Visitor	Phil Becker, Ricky Smith	--
Lector	Sue Purdy	Danielle DiPace, Charlotte Weaver-Gelzer
Server	ô	Michael Hreben
Torch Bearer	ô	Miriam Lester, Sophie Thompson
Crucifer	ô	Brooks Morgan
Altar Guild	Team 3	Team 3
Steeple Bell Ringer	ô	Garth Alexander
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Team B
Greeter	ô	Dave Martin
Coffee Hour	Usher Teams A & D	Usher Teams A & D
Nursery	ô	Courtney Rhodes

FEBRUARY 21	8:00 AM	10:15 AM
Eucharistic Minister	--	--
Eucharistic Visitor	Stephanie McGovern	Phyllis Gbur, Sue Heilman
Lector	Fred Bush	Aidan & Joel Cliff
Server	ô	Emma DiPace
Torch Bearer	ô	Frances Brogan, Ella Suliveras
Crucifer	ô	Aaron Hasircoglu
Altar Guild	Team 1	Team 1
Steeple Bell Ringer	ô	Aaron Hasircoglu
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Team C
Greeter	ô	Leslie Morgan
Coffee Hour	Community Breakfast	Community Breakfast
Nursery	ô	Heidi Leitzke



FEBRUARY 28	8:00 AM	10:15 AM
Eucharistic Minister	Peter Eaton	Katie Mausolf, Michael Stank
Eucharistic Visitor	--	Karen Latshaw, Sue Martin
Lector	Laurie Eaton	David Dissinger, Brooks Morgan
Server	ô	Dylan Stone
Torch Bearer	ô	Natalie Visco, Greyson Way
Crucifer	ô	Glenn Miller
Altar Guild	Team 2	Team 2
Steeple Bell Ringer	ô	Toni Ehrhart
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Team D
Greeter	ô	Bruce Waskowicz
Coffee Hour	Altar Guild	Altar Guild
Nursery	ô	Mary Ellen Kilp

LOOKING AHEAD TO: MARCH, 2016

MARCH 6	8:00 AM	10:15 AM
Eucharistic Minister	Molly Moyer	David Dissinger, Sibyl Seachrist
Eucharistic Visitor	--	Julie Gittens, Peter Novosel
Lector	Merle Schnee	Fran Gouveia, Bob Kilp
Server	ô	Amelia Dissinger
Torch Bearer	ô	Helena Carroll, Nicholas DiPace
Crucifer	ô	Dave Pennell
Altar Guild	Team 3	Team 3
Steeple Bell Ringer	ô	Brooks Morgan
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Team A
Greeter	ô	Carolyn Maxey
Coffee Hour	Voyagers / Sunday School Teachers	Voyagers / Sunday School Teachers
Nursery	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.

Deadline Dates!

**WEEKLY BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS:
WEDNESDAYS**

**"MESSENGER" ARTICLES:
3rd MONDAY OF EACH MONTH**