



St. John's Messenger

January, 2017

from Fr. John W. Morris, Rector

Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Following Our Lord Jesus Christ

Our annual honoring of the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. has been a key feature of St. John's Jubilee Ministries. Our MLK Sunday morning celebration, MLK Concert on Sunday afternoon and our day-long educational program for children on MLK Day are expressions of St. John's cornerstone commitment to anti-racism and the values of human dignity and mutual respect. Through these and other ministries and activities, we strive to achieve positive effects and healing for the endemic social and spiritual illness of racism.

On **Martin Luther King Sunday**, Dr. Amanda Kemp will be our special guest. She will be offering the homily at the 8:00 and 10:15 AM services. Dr. Kemp blends activism and spirituality, theatre arts and history. A survivor of the New York City foster care system, Dr. Kemp has been a lifelong poet-performer and advocate of racial justice and equality. A recipient of numerous honors and awards, Dr. Kemp earned a B.A. from Stanford University and Ph.D. from Northwestern University. Author of several books and plays, she has taught at Cornell, Dickinson and Franklin & Marshall colleges. She is Lancaster resident married to violinist Michael Jamanis and mother of five teens. As an activist, Dr. Kemp seeks to promote Oneness rather than Separation.

This year's **Martin Luther King Concert** features the shining star of J.P. McCaskey High School, the Gospel Choir under the direction of Colette N. Stephens. A 17-year veteran of the School District of Lancaster, she began her music teaching career at Price Elementary. The choir performs a range of inspirational choral music from Andrea Crouch to Hezekiah Walker. More than a singing group, Ms. Stephens describes the choir as an extended family that students value and hold dear. In 2010, the choir received the St. John's Episcopal Church Martin Luther King Jr. "Prolonging the Dream" award. The concert begins at 3:00 PM in the sanctuary, with a reception following in the Parish Hall. A free-will offering will be taken in support of the mission of the choir.

"Leading to Freedom" is the theme of our **Martin Luther King Day** program. Gathering in the Parish Hall beginning at 9:30 AM and concluding at 3 PM, students will explore Harriet Tubman as a role model for leadership through the children's book, *Go Down Moses*. Activities will include arts and crafts, labyrinth walking, prayer and faith reflections, and Jeff "The Drummer" Kuhn leading the children in an orchestra of African drumming. All children ages 6 to 10 are invited and welcomed. Registration forms are in this Messenger or parents can register with their children the day of the event. There is no fee and lunch will be provided.

Among the many things we need to remember regarding Dr. King, perhaps the most important is that he embodied the highest values of our Christian tradition and the teaching of Jesus Christ. While a political figure who engaged in political struggle, he was not a politician. He was more a prophet. His goal was not to engage in sectarian partisan debate. It was to elevate our vision for ourselves as a people being called by God to a higher quality of community. In our current environment of polarization and crude discourse, we at St. John's continue to celebrate Christ's truth in the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

I not only invite you to share in this remembrance of Dr. King, I invite you to invite your neighbors and friends. Become part of our rededication of ourselves to be a better community. God has shown us the way. All we need to do is follow.

John+

Living Into Christmas

I don't know what it is any more. Maybe I've seen enough Christmases that some of the glitter has shaken loose. Yet it seems to me as if this country has become just too complicated...too busy...too comfortable...too weight conscious...too politically correct...to celebrate a virgin birth.

And it's not that we don't try

Yet so much of this 21st century life seems to be just the stuff that takes us further and further from the peace and security and tranquility of the Holy Birth.

Perhaps it has something to do or everything to do with our modern day insistence to disbelieve or set aside, devalue or totally doubt whatever is beyond our human explanation: That a Child born in Bethlehem in Judea some 2000 years ago is our salvation

I miss hearing the greeting "Merry Christmas." At times a "Merry Christmas" feels more like a battle cry than a blessing of peace. Indeed, this culture's celebration of Christmas seems devoid of Christ. And I wonder why...

It is not a comfortable question. Still this question and the reality that underlies it poses a great challenge and opportunity for those of us who come to the Manger, "standing on the tiptoe of expectation," as one gospel writer puts it.

The ChristChild--Emmanuel shows us all something profound about the Great Love of God, who never overpowers or overwhelms us. Rather instead, Jesus leads us along gently, quietly as a newborn babe with every eternal intention of bringing us all to his side.

Christ's sacred birth was a quiet, unheralded event except for a few motley shepherds and some seers from the East. God's path to enter humanity coming gently and quietly--one person by one life by one soul at a time.

In these twelve days ahead of the Christmas season, might we not ponder how each of us be and become the voice and the heart, the real flesh and blood Proclaimers of the most significant birth in the history of humankind? How can we bring the Christmas Mystery into the center of our modern day life?

Our challenge as the People who stand at the Manger is to show forth in our lives this Mystery, the sacred Mystery of the Word Made Flesh. For as People "standing on the tiptoe of expectation" we are called to bring alive the Reality of God coming into the world to live as one of us. It is our time to show forth Emmanuel-- God with Us-- who brings Peace and Hope, Joy and Security beyond anything we can imagine.

And so I greet you -- Merry Christmas!

Christ is Born!

Alleluia...AMEN

Barbara+

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGES

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

JANUARY 2017

Thinking of õhappeningsö in January, high on the list are õresolutionsö we make for the new year. We also know that plans made often don't make it through the end of the month, much less the year. Ask yourself õIf we are ALL God's Children,ö how can I resolve and act to help them?

GPC Challenge for January 1st

As we õstepö into this New Year, let us pray AND act for peace among ALL our brothers and sisters.

GPC Challenge for January 8th

Epiphany which we celebrated on the 6th was when the Wise Men came to visit the Christ child after õfollowing a starö bringing gifts typically given to people of royal status. They were looking for a õKingö which turned out to be in an unlikely environment within the manger in a stable.

As you õfollow your gutö and move ahead with who you might be õcalledö to help, remember to look everywhere, open to whatever you may discover and learn, then õresolveö to act, not just gaze.

GPC Challenge for January 15th Martin Luther King Day Monday, January 16th

õLife's most persistent and urgent question is: 'What are you doing for others?'

- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Shoes to share? Help with Community Breakfast? Donation for Food Bank? Eagle's Nest? Grocery card purchase? They ALL help others!!!

GPC Challenge for January 22nd

International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust History

On the 27th, we honor and remember those Jews and minorities who were murdered in the 1930's & 1940's by the Nazis. Horrific treatment of our brothers and sisters continues today all over the world. Take the time to hold them ALL in your prayers, take the time to be kind to ALL, remembering, We are ALL God's Children - Here, There, Everywhere!

GPC Challenge for January 29th

õInjustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.ö
- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

VESTRY RESOLUTION

The following resolutions were passed at the Vestry meeting on December 19, 2016

1. **2017 Budget** – Resolved, that the Vestry of St. John's Episcopal Church, Lancaster, approves for 2017 a spending plan with projected expenses of \$715,190 and projected income of \$536,004 including an anticipated additional draw from investment of \$179,186.
2. **Clergy Housing Allowance** – Resolved, that the total compensation paid to the Rev. John W. Morris for the calendar year 2017 shall be \$88,529, of which \$40,000 is hereby designated as housing allowance, pursuant to section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code. And be it further resolved that the total compensation paid to the Rev. Barbara J. Seras for the calendar year 2017 shall be \$58,607, of which \$30,000 is hereby designated as housing allowance, pursuant to section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code.
3. **Matthew 25 Gift** - Resolved, that the Vestry of St. John's gratefully accepts the gift of \$1,000 from the Matthew 25 Thrift Shop directed to meeting emergency needs of Lancaster residents, and allocates from that gift \$500 to the St. John's Rector's Fund and \$500 to the Community Breakfast ministry.
4. **Ruth McDivitt**

A RESOLUTION OF THE ST. JOHN'S VESTRY HONORING RUTH MCDIVITT ON THE OCCASION OF HER ONE HUNDREDTH BIRTHDAY.

Whereas, Ruth McDivitt is the most senior member of St. John's Church at one hundred years of age;

And whereas, she was born on December 7, 1916, and has been a member of St. John's her entire life;

And whereas, she was baptized, confirmed and married at St. John's;

And whereas, she has been a member of the St. John's Girls Basketball Team, a member of the drama club "The Masquers" of St. John's, a member of the St. John's St. Cecelia Choir, and a member of the Episcopal Church Women;

And whereas, she served as a Sunday School Teacher, and was for many years the sender of birthday cards to every member of the parish;

Be it therefore resolved, that the Vestry of St. John's Episcopal Church, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, offers their warmest regards and best wishes, and invites the congregation to offer to God prayers of thanksgiving, for Ruth McDivitt and the blessings of a full life and abundant ministry.

SENIOR WARDEN

As I reflect on my tenure as Senior Warden, I remember it as a wild ride. In three short years, I have come to understand the workings of our church in ways I never imagined possible or necessary before I agreed to serve.

Even though Bruce won't let me touch our checkbook because I am numerically dyslexic, I understand the budget as a statement of our financial goals for the coming year. I recognize the difference between our operating budget, the capital campaign budget, and our rental property budget. I can read and make some sense of the investment reports for both our general endowment and our restricted funds.

Even though I don't know the names of any tools beyond a hammer and a screwdriver, I have come to some basic understanding of coolants, cranes, chimney liners, and asbestos tiles. I've learned about sinkholes, arborists, micrometers, and grease traps. Through recent meetings I've learned about energy suppliers, and how we have different accounts for each part of our property.

Even though I still sweat through Robert's Rules, I've learned the way to make a motion, and the way to not make a motion. I've learned how to call the question, table the motion, and pass a resolution. I've also learned what our executive council does, and how it helps to direct the business of church.

For as much as I understand, there are still things that I am learning. While I know that we have a Catechesis program for our youngest Sunday School attendees, I don't know exactly what that is or how it works. While I know we are a Jubilee Center, I still can't grasp all the ministries that are connected to this larger umbrella. In addition, while I understand what a Lay Eucharistic Minister and a Lay Eucharistic Visitor do, I've never taken the training for these ministries. I've also never figured out how to post anything to our website, but I've learned there's a process for getting that done.

On this journey I have met some amazing people, who I know I would not have encountered without pushing myself to step outside my comfort zone. My church friends were closely connected with my stage in life; I basically knew the children who were in classes with my children, and through them, the teachers and other parents. I was not necessarily looking to expand my social circle, but saying yes to Vestry has allowed me to work with some fascinating and talented people. I've also been a part of several committees that I would not have necessarily joined, fearing I have nothing to offer, but through these groups, I've met some incredibly hard-working people who share their love of St. John's through their diverse array of gifts and efforts.

Joining Vestry was a life-enriching pilgrimage into new fields and meeting new people, all without having to leave the comfort of "home." I know that joining Vestry is not for everyone, but I believe that everyone has a talent that they can share. As you are making New Year's Resolutions, I hope that you will resolve to become more involved in your church life. As a full-time employee, and mother of two active children, I know that time is precious, and that every club and organization is making a plea for your help. I just hope you will come to see that opportunities such as a one-day program, like the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day or the Community Breakfast, are a great way to expand your social circle, give back to the community, and be an involved member at St. John's. If you are looking for a larger commitment, we would love to have more volunteers in every aspect of our church. Just look at the back of your bulletin or your church directory for the names of the Vestry stewards who might be able to direct you to committee chairs. We need folks from every walk of life, in order to better represent our diverse community. Who knows? You just might learn something along the way.

Submitted by,

Leslie Morgan, Senior Warden

PROPERTY CORNER

The committee thanks all those who helped with our Fall Clean-up this year. We were very happy to see Tracy Cliff, Pam Loose, Marylee Sauder and the Grosses help with preparing the Church for Christmas. Thanks for all you did to make this Holy Day more special.

The leak in the trap of the ladies room floor drain has been fixed. We will continue to monitor this and another reported leak in this area prior to repairing the ceiling. The timing of this repair was good when considering the recent extensive use of our facilities. We are evaluating placement of an access panel in this area.

We appreciate everyone's understanding with the signage and cones at our Mulberry Street parking lot entrance. We hope to continue to encourage our members and guests of safe entry and exit from our facilities through the end of the year. We are also working with the City of Lancaster to improve our clear-sight distance for exiting our parking lot. Currently, it is very difficult to see up Mulberry Street when leaving our parking lot. We hope this situation can be improved with the removal of parking around this entrance.

We learned that the chimney configurations won't permit a chimney liner to be placed within the chimneys of our rental properties. Younger Realty Group shared the advice from the inspector to convert to non-venting means of heating the living units and their water, as the potential for carbon monoxide can threaten the safety of our tenants. We are awaiting some suggestions from their HVAC contractor for a suitable fix to this situation, while ensuring acceptable carbon monoxide detection capacity in each unit.

The committee is reviewing the floor in the undercroft, which is deteriorating in several areas. In particular, there is concern about the asbestos in this tile. We have previously used a sheet floor covering in the choir room with marginal results and Bill questions whether it will last an additional five years. Protrusions in the concrete floor are pushing up the tiles and sheeting, creating shattered tiles in 3-4 spots. Bill didn't notice this in the choir room until something was dragged across it, ripping the sheet flooring. The problem that exists will be exacerbated with the removal of the sheet flooring when replacing it. Bill has applied glue to broken areas to contain the deterioration and is receiving consultations from flooring experts regarding possible solutions.

Dave reported on his review of many potential utility suppliers and suggested that we continue to use electrical suppliers shopped by PPL at 6.198 cents/kwh on a budget plan. We have been paying taxes on the transmission and the supplier costs for the electricity and will need to go back and look at getting back taxes returned. Review of the gas usage for the property led us to UGI as our supplier at 48 cents/cubic foot. We are also on the budget plan for the gas use, but our use varies greatly during the different seasons. Representatives for UGI alerted us to a credit balance on our accounts, suggesting that we cancel the budget plan to use the credit, and then, return to the plan. Bill questioned whether it would be better to stay on the pay as you go, as a way to manage our cash flow during the summer months, which are typically difficult months for cash flow while our usage is minimal. As we are also paying taxes on gas, there also exists a need get this resolved now and back over the last few years.

The committee thanks Marylee Sauder for her dedicated service to St. John's as Vestry Steward of Property. We wish her the best in her future pursuits and ministries. She will be sorely missed for her level of support and insight.

We also thank Leslie Morgan, Senior Warden, for her contributions to many of St. John's committees, including Property. We offer Leslie our best wishes with her future endeavors, as she recovers from a very busy 3-year span of service to St. John's.

With our best wishes for a safe and "Happy New Year" - St. John's Property Committee:

Andy Carroll, Jeff Gromis, Bill Gross, Jane Lee, Dave Martin, Cynthia Minnich, and Marylee Sauder.

SERMONS ONLINE!

St. John's Sermons Are Now Available Online!

If you subscribe to our blog, you probably already know this, but anyone with Internet access can now listen to selected sermons from St. John's leaders. Here's how:

Go to St. John's website: stjohns-lancaster.org

Click on **NEWS/BLOG** in the upper-right corner.

Scroll down to "Categories" on the left side; click on **Sermons** below that heading.

Sermons page: All sermons will be listed, each with its title.

Click on a sermon title, which will take you to a page for that sermon.

Click on the underlined link, which will take you to the audio page.

Click on the triangle to **PLAY** the audio recording.

When you have finished, close the audio window.

Click the back arrow on the individual sermon page to get back to the main **Sermons** page.

Many thanks to Joe Way for his guidance in setting up this process!



The Communications Committee is looking for volunteers to help record sermons during either the 8:00 or 10:15 a.m. services. Training provided, and it's fairly simple. Please contact Leslie Tahsler for more details. Thank you.

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK!

Stay up to date on the very latest at St. John's by "liking" our Facebook page. Don't miss a mid-week snow cancellation, event reminder, or inspirational message. And...if you haven't subscribed to our blog to receive email notifications on a variety of topics (Events, Worship, Mission Fields, Pastoral Messages, Reflections from the Pew), go to www.stjohns-lancaster.org and click on **NEWS/BLOG** in the upper right. There's a lot happening at St. John's and our social media presence is growing. Be a part of it!



ST. JOHN'S FOOD PANTRY

Would you like to help with our "Food Pantry" by meeting and giving prepared boxes of food to members of our community on Tuesdays or Thursdays from 2:15-3:30 p.m.? If so, please contact Lynn Hayford. A brief training will be provided for this rewarding St. John's ministry!

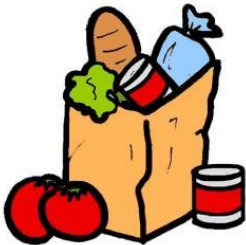
WEEKLY SUNDAY ALTAR FLOWERS

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 **January, 2017** and **March, 2017**. The blank areas remain available. Thank you for supporting our flower ministry at St. John's!

DATE	(1)	(2)	CHAPEL
JAN 1			
JAN 15			
JAN 29			
FEB 5			
FEB 12			
FEB 19	Charles Alexander	Lynn Hayford	
FEB 26			
MARCH 5			
MARCH 12			
MARCH 19			
MARCH 26			

FOOD PANTRY



FOOD PANTRY STAPLES—ALWAYS WELCOMED!

Peanut butter, pasta noodles, pasta sauce, canned tuna, canned chicken, boxed macaroni & cheese, "Helpers" (chicken or tuna), rice, boxed rice mixes, canned soup, canned vegetables, canned fruit, and cereal.

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

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

FOOD PANTRY MINISTRY

FOOD PANTRY BOUNTY FROM LOCAL PARTNERS

St. John's food pantry ministry was greatly enhanced by recent collections by two local partners:

SCOUTING FOR FOOD

Scouts from Cub Scout Pack 125, Boy Scout Troop 64, Boy Scout Troop 30, Girl Scout Troop 71450, and Girl Scout Troop 70302 distributed door tags in two neighborhoods in October, collected the food on a November Saturday, and then delivered and helped us sort the abundance for our food pantry! The food filled at least a dozen large boxes, from which we filled our shelves, and we tucked the rest wherever we could find room! Many thanks to Mike Williams, Joe, April, Greyson, and Campbell Way, and a whole host of scouts!



THE OTHER CHURCH

This small church (which meets at Lancaster Theological Seminary and whose name *really is* 'The Other Church'), contacted us near the end of the summer and offered to partner with our food pantry by conducting a food drive in their congregation for a few months. That effort concluded in November, and Jerome Burg, a member of the church, brought the food to us. Here's Jerome, surrounded by some of the bounty!

You can visit The Other Church's Facebook page to learn more about it: <https://www.facebook.com/TOCLancaster/>.

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The generosity of these groups will help us meet the needs of our neighbors this winter, and we're truly grateful for their efforts!

Submitted by Debbie Carter and Bill Cater



No School? Come join us as we honor the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

“LEADING TO FREEDOM”

Monday, January 16, 2017 • 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



- MUSIC
- STORIES
- CRAFTS
- DRUMMING
- PREPARE AND SHARE LUNCH

*This program day is appropriate for **children in grades 1-5**. It is open to children of St. John's and their friends as well as our community neighbors. Participants are asked to arrive promptly at 9:30 a.m. and stay until the program concludes at 3:00 p.m.*

DETACH and return this form by FRIDAY, JANUARY 13, 2017.

Pre-Registration is Required.

DETACH HERE =====

**Martin Luther King, Jr. • “LEADING TO FREEDOM” • January 16, 2017
St. John’s Episcopal Church • 321 West Chestnut Street**

Child’s Name: _____ School: _____ Grade: _____

Parent’s Name: _____ Home Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Another Emergency Contact Person: _____ Phone: _____

Allergies, Medical Concerns or Restrictions: _____

I give permission to have my child photographed with his/her name attached: _____
(Signature of Parent or Guardian)

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday School News

Karen Di Pace, Sunday School Director

Hoping you all had a very Merry Christmas! Thank you to everyone who helped out with the Christmas Pageant and dinner; we couldn't do it without all of your help!

There will not be Church School classes on January 1st. Wishing everyone a Happy New Year!

Don't forget to save the date for MLK Day events on January 16th from 9:30 to 3:00! There will be some great activities for the children! Adult help is needed! See the MLK Day events in the Messenger for more details.

We will be celebrating our Scouts on Sunday, February 5th. All Scouts are encouraged to wear their uniform to church and be a part of the service. Join us in acknowledging the Scouts of St. John's. We will also have our "Soupers Bowl of Caring" on the 5th. More information to come!

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions about our church school program.

Karen

Journey to Adulthood

Mary Ellen Kilp & Leslie Morgan, Co-Youth Directors

In the midst of all that was busy and bright in December, our teens spent time at the Diocesan Winter Retreat that was held at Camp Mount Luther. Some of the talks and discussions were on what are your expectations for the Messiah versus reality; Jesus's two great commandments, Love God and Love your neighbor as yourself; Temptation, hope, and what Jesus would want us to do. It was a great experience for all who attended.

20 of us gathered for an Advent Night watch and a Curated Eucharist at St. John's. We were unable to have the lock-in due to weather.

Thank you to everyone that supported the J2A by purchasing wreaths and greens. We greatly appreciate all the support for our teens.

Thank you to our wonderful Journey to Adulthood leaders, Dawn & Mike Williams, April & Joe Way, Cindy Morris, Bob Kilp & Karen Di Pace. We could not have the awesome youth program without all of your help and support.

On January 6-8, 2017, we will have some youth participating in the Province Youth Event at the Claggett Center. The theme is Uncaged; it is about Forgiveness, Freedom, and Peace!

All Youth: make sure you join us for a fun night of games and a lock-in at St. John's. We will be starting the lock-in on Friday, January 13, at 7:00. Pick up will be at 9:00 Saturday morning.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (CONTINUED)

The next few months promise to be equally busy with opportunities for fellowship and ministry. We will be having Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday along with Scout Sunday on February 5. Help to support our Food Pantry Ministry and join us for soup after the 10:15 a.m. service. The next J2A fundraiser will be the Shrove Tuesday Pancake dinner on February 28. A weekend Scrapbook event will be held on March 3-4. Bring pictures and materials and leave with creative ideas and meaningful keepsakes. Please see Mary Ellen Kilp or Jenn Hreben if you are interested in participating.

Diocesan events coming up will be the ðHappeningö retreat, this is a special retreat for Sr. High teens, and it is scheduled for the weekend of February 17-20. The Middle School Retreat will be on March 17-19 at Camp Mount Luther, and the theme this year will be Seussology.

Please make sure to mark your calendars with all of the events coming up.

"Happy New Year!"

Mary Ellen Kilp

FOOD PANTRY GIFTS FROM SUNDAY SCHOOL

"A Special Thank You!"

Several of our December visitors to the Food Pantry received a special gift, in addition to their box of food!

Our Sunday School students, with the help of Carol Stigelman, assembled gift trays to embellish the Christmas dinner tables of their recipients. Each package included a festive table cloth, plates, and napkins, as well as several special treats. About a dozen mid-December food pantry visitors received one of these special Christmas packages, and they were much appreciated!

One of our St. John's Food Pantry volunteers, who helped to distribute these gifts, shared that as she handed a gift tray to a young mother, the woman became visually overwhelmed, started to cry, and expressed her sincere thanks. Truly, the meaning of Christmas.

Many thanks to our Sunday School team for their thoughtful efforts and to the volunteers who distributed these gifts to our visitors!



ST. JOHN'S YOUTH CALENDAR

2017

January 6 – 8 PYE Jr. & Sr. High Claggett Center, MD
 January 13 & 14 Game night and lock-in
 January 20 – 22 Happening Planning meeting
 January 29 Coffee Hour YAC

February 5 Scout Sunday
 Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday
 February 11 Snow Tubing (Joe)
 February 17 – 20 Happening
 February 26 Acolyte training/Pizza party
 February 28 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner

March 1 Ash Wednesday
 March 3 – 4 Scrapbook Weekend
 (Start Easter Eggs)
 March 17 – 19 Diocesan Jr. High Retreat

April 1 Dinner / Talent Show
 April 9 Palm Sunday
 April 13 Maundy Thursday
 April 14 Good Friday
 April 16 Easter
 April 23 Earth Day Sunday
 April 30 Youth Sunday / Graduation Sunday

May 7 Mini Golf (Scoops)

June 4 Pentecost
 Church Picnic
 June 11 Teacher Appreciation

July 7 Berry Festival
 July 10 – 14 EYE Oklahoma

August 5 Knoebels Reunion



JUBILEE MINISTRIES

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST (Contact: Sue Martin) **SATURDAY, JANUARY 21**—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.).

Community Breakfast is in need of fresh volunteers, especially those that wish to be on a substitute list. Not only have we lost the lives of several faithfuls recently, we seem to have busy elders as well as youth. After 16 years, this is bound to happen! It's a wonderful Jubilee Ministry that makes everyone feel good, servers as well as guests. Please consider joining us.

EAGLE'S NEST (Contact: Sue Martin)

Eagle's Nest After School Program continues to engage selected 4th and 5th graders from our neighboring Fulton Elementary School on Wednesday afternoons. Volunteers are always welcomed to help out either on a regular or substitute basis. PA State Child Abuse Clearances are required.

WE ARE IN NEED OF: small (ages 9 to 11) gloves or mittens to have available as students are leaving to go home, many walking. Please leave your donation on the Eagle's Nest table in the Parish Hall. Thank you. Out-grown coats for elementary-sized children are also needed.

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 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're also collecting Box Tops for Education, printer cartridges, and Campbell's Soup labels.

GROCERY CARDS (Contact: Sue Tobie)

Total grocery card sales for **NOVEMBER: \$6,740.00** Total earned by Jubilee Ministries: **\$337.00**

Did you know that 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? Whenever you use one of our cards, 5% of its value goes to our Jubilee ministries. It is truly a "WIN WIN" situation! Grocery cards also make great gifts!

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.

Stop by the Parish Hall on any Sunday to purchase cards for any of the following stores:

Darrenkamp's, Giant, John Herr's, Oregon Dairy, SKH, & Weis

JUBILEE MINISTRIES (CONTINUED)

MARTHA'S MINISTRY (Contact: Jeannie Zeller)

Come and join us in the **Parish Hall** at St. John's on **Sundays** (between services) and **Tuesday afternoons** from **2-4 p.m.** as we share fellowship and ideas! If you know of someone who would enjoy receiving a prayer shawl to comfort them through difficult times, please contact Jeannie Zeller or any member of Martha's Ministry.

"**THANK YOU**" to everyone who shopped at, or otherwise helped out with, our annual St. Nick's Knit Sale. Sales totaled \$1,114 and all monies are going to help our Eagle's Nest program and other Jubilee activities as needed. "HAPPY NEW YEAR!"

ALL LANCASTER EPISCOPAL RESPONSE TEAM

The Circle of Friends group, a part of ALERT, helped with the Gifting Party held at the Church World Service facilities on E. King St. on Tuesday evening, December 13. It was a joyous occasion when the Angel Tree gifts from St. John's were shared with 6 refugee families. The gifts, ranging from coats to toys to tools, were so appreciated by the family members. Snacks and drinks capped the evening. A huge, huge thank you to all who participated in the Angel Tree project for these refugee families.

The Circle of Friends group continues to work with the Abdelaziz family as well as helping support an Iraq mother (Sarah), who is used as a translator for the Sudanese family. In the December Messenger, a plea was issued for members of the congregation to become involved in establishing an informal relationship with a member or members of the family.

As stated before, there are 6 children - Khadidja - 18, Nouracham -15. Both girls attend McCaskey and are enrolled in the International School. Ibrahim - 13, a student at Hand Middle School, and Djalale -10, a fifth grader at King Elementary. Both boys are interested in sports, but are in need of male mentors. Rania - 5, and Hawaa - 1+ are the two younger girls. Rania is full of energy and curiosity. With the exception of the youngest, there have been significant advances with English in the last several months. They are eager to have new and interesting experiences. Inviting any one of them to visit a museum, a sporting event, taking a hike, or going for a bus ride are activities which create learning situations. A drop-in at their home on evenings usually will find most of the family intact. Often they have school work in which they could use some guidance. A bring-along picture book that could be used to build vocabulary could be a great back-up. When I visit, I often try to take a small food item with me.

There is a dire need for someone who has some time to help Mariam manage her financial affairs. It is not complicated, but as a refugee, she has had no previous experience with check writing, building and holding to a budget, or establishing and securing important cards and records for safe keeping. It is an important component to helping the family to become more self-sufficient.

The family lives on the 500 block of Green Street in Lancaster. If anyone would like to make contact with Mariam, the mother, or visit with the family, call the St. John's Church Office. The secretary will provide you with my phone number. I will share with you more information and answer any questions you may have about becoming involved with this resettlement.

Thanks for reading and possibly considering - Dave Martin (representative from St. John's to the All Lancaster Episcopal Response Team).

*** MARK YOUR CALENDAR ***

*Come meet Sister Jacqueline, CT – Our Guest Speaker
(Sisters of the Transfiguration in Cincinnati, Ohio)
and
Kimberly Fonner, Oblate of the Transfiguration Community*

Saint John's Transfiguration Weekend

*A Lenten Offering of
Reflection ~ Learning ~ Remembering ~ Prayer*

Friday, March 10 to Sunday, March 12, 2017

**Friday Evening 5:30 to 8:30 ~ Supper~Program for all ages:
Special Program for Youth ~ Nursery Care ~ Labyrinth**

Saturday Morning 9:30 to 11:30 ~ Program for ALL

who serve, sing, read at our Sunday Eucharists

Saturday Noon ~ a Special Lunch for ALL

and a time to share stories

Sunday Morning 9:15 ~ Program with Sister Jacqueline



Angel Tree Ministry

Members of the Angel Tree Ministry thank everyone who generously donated gifts for the children of our community and recently-arrived refugee families. Your hearts are *SO BIG!!!* *"THANK YOU!!"*

VOYAGERS



The January 28, 2017 Voyagers will start the New Year with *"Holiday Memories"* from the days of our youth and more recent ones. Come prepared to compare our traditions, funny stories, and show-and-tell if you wish! We hope to see you at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall for fun, fellowship, and food - bring a friend!!

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Honoring Our Past... Welcoming Our Future: Capital Campaign Update

Here's a quick update (as of December 9) on the financial support for our building renovations:

	Amount Received
Received toward total pledges of \$777,553	\$ 359,308
One-time gifts (unpledged)	\$ 2,245
Earnings on your contributions	\$ 10,501
Bequests from Eckenrode & Craige families	\$ 150,000
Total received (as of December 9, 2016)	\$ 522,054

Thanks to everyone for your generous support of our goal of making the doors a little wider and the invitation a little warmer!

If you have a question about your pledge, please contact Gina Keiser, our Financial Secretary at: gina@stjohns-lancaster.org or 717-299-1188 on Tuesdays and Fridays.

STEWARDSHIP: MAKING A DIFFERENCE

We've heard from Fr. John and some of our parishioners about how St. John's has made a difference in the lives of our neighbors, both near and far, and how we at St. John's have made a difference in each other's lives.

So how do we make sure we can continue to **Make a Difference**?

As of December 23, we have received 118 pledges, for a total of \$301,686, and nearly half of these are increased pledges (compared to 2016) or new pledges! This is about 90% of our Finance Committee's goal, and *the good news is that it's not too late to submit a pledge!*

You can get a pledge card from an usher, by calling the church office (717-299-1188) or on the Stewardship web page. Or contact Gina Keiser, our Financial Secretary (in the church office or at gina@stjohns-lancaster.org), to make a pledge by phone or email.

If you haven't pledged in the past, any amount is a start. *Please join us in helping to make a difference!*

Questions?

Contact: *Bruce Waskowicz or Debbie Carter*

SOLES 4 SOULS

WEARING OUT POVERTY™

May 12, 2016



Barbara Landis
St. Johns Episcopal Church
321 W Chestnut St
Lancaster, PA 17603-3509

Dear Friend,

Thank you for joining our mission and collecting shoes for those in need! We know that this required a lot of effort and commitment on your part and want to assure you that your work will help improve the lives of many hurting people around the world. It is only because of compassionate people like yourself that we are able to expand our mission and realize our goals, which has always been to simply help those in need.

We are truly blessed to have friends like you. We want to assure you that your donation will enable individuals in the United States and around the world to step out of poverty. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and your personal involvement with our cause is tremendously important. You should be proud of your humanitarian efforts. We invite you to keep our mission in mind, should the opportunity arise to continue to donate to our cause.

Thanks again for helping us with our mission of ***"Wearing out Poverty"***™!

Contribution Date: 4/29/16

Total Pairs: 888

With deepest thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Buddy Teaster".

Buddy Teaster
CEO



"COME SCRAPBOOK WITH US!"

Join the J2A for their 4th Annual Scrapbook-A-Thon!

Friday, March 3rd 6:00 PM - 11:00 AM

&

Saturday, March 4th 7:30 AM - 10:00 PM

Join us for hours of cropping, stamping, and scrapbooking. 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 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

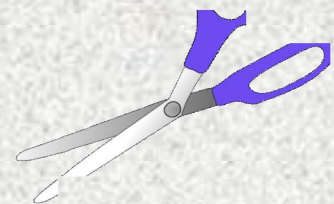
Both days: \$45

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 Feb. 24th!

All proceeds will go towards the J2A pilgrimage fund.



J2A SCRAPBOOK-A-THON REGISTRATION

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____

PHONE: _____

TABLE BUDDY: _____



You can mail registrations and payment to:

Jenn Hreben
81 Den Mar Drive
Holtwood, PA 17532

Make checks payable to:

St. John's Episcopal Church with "J2A" in the memo line.

...BE SURE TO INVITE A FRIEND OR TWO!

PRAYER LIST

For those who we offer our continued prayers:

Dave Arnold
Bob Bailey
Robert Bray
Michael Brogan
Patricia & Ralph Clare
Graham Cliff
Faith D'Urbano
Paula DeBrill
Vincent Delevega
Shaphan Dulo
Judy Durand
Linda Frederiksen
Carol Greenfield
Alina Grobicki
Gill & Mary Hartley
Anne Johnson Horn
Howard Kane
Ellen Keller
Marge Kern
Joyce Landis
Marty Laubenthal
John Lechowicz
Wayne LeFevre
Ernie Leffler
Kelly Lynch
Barbara McKee
Kathy McNamara
William Miller
Jodi Myers
Jane Naegele
Lorraine Nolan
Kevin & Mary Nourie
Plummer Family
Robert & Joan Power
Virginia Rainey
Riddle Family
Madison Riggs
Ricky Ross
Jesse Rutledge
Gloria Schnee
Steven Schwartz
Stephanie Smith
Sister Connie Sophy
Christian Stigelman

Martha Stroh
Teresa Sullivan
Joana Torres & Kids
Gary Weaver
Melissa Williams
Mary Woolson
Ella & Family
Meredith

*...and for our
Homebound
Parishioners*

Ellen Beck
Providence Eshelman
Richard Farmer
Bette Lou Forsyth
Michael Frantz
Dyllys Glew
Cricket Johnson
Joan Lahr
Stefan Latshaw
Fritz Lawrence
Don Lovett
Betty McCaskey
Barbara McKee
Nancy Nemith
Peter Plaxa
Nancy Puffer
Virginia Rainey
Gray Sellers
Marjorie Seachrist
Joanna Sweeney
Sandra Wengert
Johnnie Wheeler
Isabell Yackly

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,
Alex Kelly, Kirby Kinderwater,
Kyle Kinderwater, Kyle Kulka,
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
available in the Welcome Center
at the rear of the church and in
the Parish Hall.**

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

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>
Bailey, Lyn	23
Boohar, KC	28
Breitegan, Loie	8
Burch, Connie	29
Di Pace, Nick	10
Durand, Emily	23
Gbur, Andrew	28
Gordon, Jean	25
Hasircoglu, Chris	27
Hogg, Linda	10
Kilhefner, Shelby	23
Kilp, David	2
Latshaw, Ally	12
Latshaw, Andy	27
Lisman, Kathryn	26
Magagna, Aubrey	16
Mausolf, Lily	29
Miller, Howard	29
Purdy, Sue	28
Rivera, Deborah	14
Smith, Ricky	21
Springer, Mark	18
Stone, Dylan	4
Strickler, Kent	25
Suliveras, Zoe	7
Tahsler, Bruce	10
Tahsler, Martha	22
Thompson, Michael	22
Thompson, Sophia	31
Van Aulen, Ben	15
Watts, Ken	16



JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

<u>Couple</u>	<u>Date</u>
Crothers, Jim & Margaret	01/31/1953
Farmer, Richard & Mary Suzanne	01/10/1948
Honaman, Fred & Eleanor	01/10/1953
Sellers, Gray & Ellen	01/26/1957
Stonerook, Tom & Kendall	01/26/1985

"Thank You!"

Dear St. John's Family,

I can't thank you enough for honoring me at both services on December 5th, just prior to celebrating my "100th" birthday! It was a wonderful day! Later that afternoon, my family surprised me with a very memorable party that was attended by relatives from as far away as Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey, Maryland, Georgia, and Florida! There were neighborhood children who grew up with my children, new neighbors, and many, many friends! I received 14 floral arrangements, gifts, and 104 cards, including one from the White House, signed by President Obama! One card was from a child that read "I think you can make to 200!" Thanks to all of you for remembering me on my special day!

Lovingly, Ruth McDivitt



SERVING SCHEDULE – JANUARY, 2017

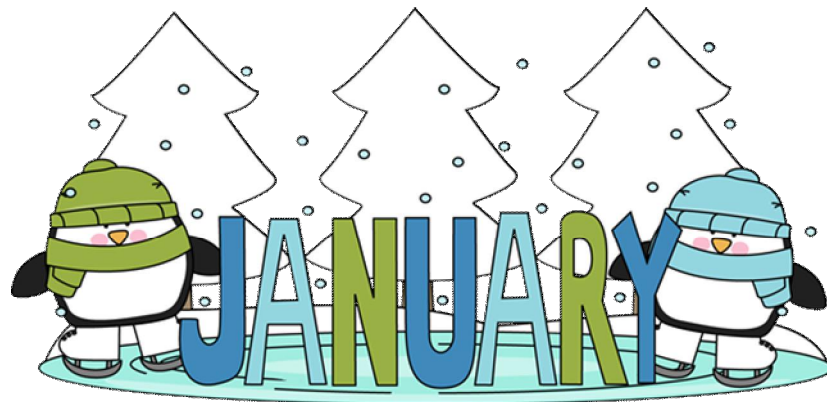
FOR ALL THOSE SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S: PLEASE NOTE!

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.

JANUARY 1	8:00 a.m.	10:15 a.m.
Eucharistic Minister	Molly Moyer	David Dissinger, Michael Stank
Eucharistic Visitor	--	--
Lector	Bob Lee, Sue Purdy, Phil Purdy, Barbara Landis, Fran Gouveia, Merle Schnee	Paula Wolf, Aidan Cliff, David Dissinger, Sue Tobie, Joel Cliff, C. Weaver-Gelzer
Server	--	Amelia Dissinger
Torch Bearer	--	Helena Carroll, Natalie Visco
Crucifer	--	Glenn Miller
Altar Guild	Team 2	Team 2
Steeple Bell Ringer	--	Lorraine Nolan
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Team A
Greeter	--	Bruce Waskowicz
Coffee Hour	Usher Teams A & D	Usher Teams A & D
Nursery	--	Katie Mausolf

JANUARY 8	8:00 a.m.	10:15 a.m.
Eucharistic Minister	Merle Schnee	Peter Novosel, Charlotte Weaver-Gelzer
Eucharistic Visitor	Phil Becker, Ricky Smith	--
Lector	Sue Tobie	Aidan & Joel Cliff
Server	--	James Woolson
Torch Bearer	--	Greyson Way, Hal Williams
Crucifer	--	Brooks Morgan
Altar Guild	Team 3	Team 3
Steeple Bell Ringer	--	Emma Di Pace
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Team B
Greeter	--	Sue Martin
Coffee Hour	LEVs	LEVs
Nursery	--	Marla Lester

JANUARY 15	8:00 a.m.	10:15 a.m.
Eucharistic Minister	Molly Moyer	Brad Moyer, Sibyl Seachrist
Eucharistic Visitor	Stephanie McGovern, Phil Becker	Phyllis Gbur, Sue Heilman
Lector	Gretchen Walden	David Dissinger, Brooks Morgan
Server	--	Aidan Cliff
Torch Bearer	--	Rob Williams, Sean Cliff
Crucifer	--	Bob Kilp
Altar Guild	Team 1	Team 1
Steeple Bell Ringer	--	Danielle Di Pace
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Team C
Greeter	--	Leslie Morgan
Coffee Hour	Stewardship	Stewardship
Nursery	--	Mary Ellen Kilp



JANUARY 22	8:00 a.m.	10:15 a.m.
Eucharistic Minister	Ricky Smith	Michael Stank, Peter Novosel
Eucharistic Visitor	Karen Latshaw, Sue Martin	--
Lector	Merle Schnee	Fran Gouveia, Bob Kilp
Server	--	Danielle Di Pace
Torch Bearer	--	Nicholas Di Pace, Miriam Lester
Crucifer	--	Dave Pennell
Altar Guild	Team 2	Team 2
Steeple Bell Ringer	--	Lynn Hayford
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Team D
Greeter	--	Ted Loose
Coffee Hour	Community Breakfast	Community Breakfast
Nursery	--	Mary Waskowicz

JANUARY 29	8:00 a.m.	10:15 a.m.
Eucharistic Minister	Sue Purdy	Danielle Di Pace, Charlotte Weaver-Gelzer
Eucharistic Visitor	--	Peter Novosel, Julie Gittens
Lector	Barbara Landis	Jane Lee, Paula Wolf
Server	--	Dylan Stone
Torch Bearer	--	Elijah Mendez, Kylie Stone
Crucifer	--	Aaron Hasircoglu
Altar Guild	Team 3	Team 3
Steeple Bell Ringer	--	Garth Alexander
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Team C (5th Sunday)
Greeter	--	Carolyn Maxey
Coffee Hour	YAC	YAC
Nursery	--	Jenn Hreben

LOOKING AHEAD TO: FEBRUARY, 2017

FEBRUARY 5	8:00 a.m.	10:15 a.m.
Eucharistic Minister	Merle Schnee	Michael Stank, Charlotte Weaver-Gelzer
Eucharistic Visitor	--	Phyllis Gbur, Sue Heilman
Lector	Phil Purdy	Brad Moyer, Sibyl Seachrist
Server	--	Michael Hreben
Torch Bearer	--	Ella Suliveras, Natalie Visco
Crucifer	--	Glenn Miller
Altar Guild	Team 1	Team 1
Steeple Bell Ringer	--	Aaron Hasircoglu
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Team A
Greeter	--	Brad Zuke
Coffee Hour	Scouts	Scouts
Nursery	--	Tracy Cliff

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.