



St. John's Messenger

March, 2017

from Fr. John W. Morris, Rector

ST. JOHN'S TRANSFIGURATION WEEKEND

Friday, March 10, through Sunday, March 12

This Lenten season St. John's is offering a unique experience of fellowship, learning and prayer. Based on the concept of an "at home" weekend retreat, instead of traveling to a destination, we are bringing the Lenten retreat to St. John's. Mother Barbara Seras has called upon her background as a Sister to invite two of her colleagues to be spiritual resources for our weekend: Sister Jacqueline of the Community of the Transfiguration in Cincinnati, OH, and Kimberley Fonner, an Oblate of the community.

It was Phil Becker who first suggested this idea. Phil recalled a time in the past at St. John's when we had an intentional relationship with the Sisters. During the tenure of Phil's father, the Rev. Heber Becker, the Sisters would visit St. John's regularly as part of their ministry of education. One of the goals of our weekend is for us at St. John's to reconnect with this legacy and tradition.

Founded in 1889, the Community of the Transfiguration is a religious order for women in the Episcopal Church. They seek to pattern their life following the biblical examples of Mary and Martha. Living together under vows of poverty, chastity and obedience, the Sisters have established schools and worked with children across our country and abroad.

Our Transfiguration Weekend is designed to deepen the spirituality of all ages, all members and all friends. Friday night will be especially "family friendly" with prayer practices for children and adults. A soup and salad dinner will be provided starting at 6:00 PM. You are invited to bring salad toppings, dessert, and friends.

Lunch will also be provided for the Saturday morning program that begins at 8:30 AM and continues to 2:30 PM. You are welcome to come and stay for all the offerings or to drop in for any as your schedule will allow. All we ask is that if you are planning to come for Friday's dinner or Saturday's lunch, **SIGN UP**, so we can be sure to have enough food for all.

Sunday morning at both the 8:00 AM and 10:15 AM services, Sister Jacqueline will offer the sermon as part of our celebration of the Holy Eucharist. For those who did not have the opportunity to experience any of the events on Friday or Saturday, this will be your chance to participate in the Transfiguration Weekend.

While travel expenses and accommodations for the Sisters have been provided for, the St. John's Vestry has authorized the collection of free-will offerings at the Friday and Saturday meals and on Sunday morning as a way of expressing our thanks for the presence of the Sisters among us and our support for ministry of the Community of the Transfiguration.

I am very much looking forward to our Transfiguration Weekend. I believe it has the potential to be transfigurative for all of at St. John's. It is a novel way, in addition to our traditional Sunday evening program, to feed our spiritual needs in Lent. It offers a new model for how to do Christian formation that is experiential and intergenerational. It helps us to reclaim an ancient and living branch of the church's ministry with those who have ordered their lives through religious vows. It invites us to become Christ's family of faith in a way that is rooted in community and in prayer.

I invite and encourage you to take advantage of this innovative offering any way you can. Nothing like it has ever been tried, let alone imagined. Make it the point of your Lent to take part in the St. John's Transfiguration Weekend.

John+

An Invitation to Holy Lent

A Litany for Lent

We fast from judging others,
but feast on patience.
We fast from apparent differences,
but feast on unity of all life.
We fast from words that pollute,
but feast on words that affirm.
We fast from complaining,
but feast on appreciation.
We fast from bitterness and anger,
but feast on forgiveness and mercy.
We fast from discouragement,
but feast on hope.
We fast from suspicion,
but feast on trust.
We fast from idle gossip,
but feast on purposeful silence.
We fast from problems that overwhelm
but feast on prayer that strengthens.

Have you given thought to how you will spend your Lent? Each year I ask myself that question and over the years I've come up with different answers. As a child, I'd give up something I really liked: candy, desserts, ice cream. There was one year I chose to give up liver...really! But the adults in my life thought better of that.

Later on, I began to look for behaviors that I might want to curb: eating less, going to bed earlier or shutting off the TV for all of Lent...that last one was a hard one. There were years I looked to do something new or positive on a regular basis: sending cards to older family and friends, working an evening or day or two each week in a ministry or reading some good books.

Whatever the practice, Lent was a time to renew my relationship with Christ. And I began to realize that this is the real goal of Lenten practices. Lent was the gift of time long enough to make an impact and change my ways. I read a study years back that said a habit can be broken or formed in just six weeks. Interesting, I thought, for six weeks is about 40 days.

On Ash Wednesday, March 1st, we are invited "to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word" (BCP265). It is for us to make this invitation real in our lives.

It is our time to take more time, that prayer becomes deeper. It is that time to take time to listen to God. It is a time to take time to eat more intentionally and more simply as a reminder to give thanks for our abundance and remember those who hunger. It is a time to take time to read scripture more often, that scripture form and transform our everyday life. It is the time to take time to worship each Sunday and during the week.

Truly, Lent is that special time each year to strengthen our relationship with God. It is our time to discover and engage in those simple practices that change up our daily routine and draw us closer to Christ and with one another.

May this Lent be that sacred time to put Christ in the Center, that what we experience this holy season will continue the year round.

Barbara+

"let lent be the time to give up who you've been for who you will become"

TIME TO SIGN UP in the Parish Hall
St. John's Transfiguration Weekend

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



***A Lenten Offering of
Reflection ~ Learning ~ Remembering ~ Prayer
Friday, March 10, to Sunday, March 12, 2017***

Sister Jacqueline Marie, C.T., was born and raised near Sacramento, California. Her parents were educators and she has three brothers. After high school she attended two California State Universities. Opportunity came to move to Virginia and experience the east. After a year as housemother to physically handicapped children, she transferred into the University of Virginia and completed her degree. She taught for four years in the Charlottesville schools and completed her Master's Degree in Education.

Sister met the Transfiguration Community as a teenage helper at the Camp managed by the Sisters. She entered the Community in 1971 and was life professed in 1978. Sister currently is Sacristan in charge of the Community's Chapel. She is responsible for the Associates, who are individual lay people who enter into a formal relationship with a religious Community. Sister writes: "I am very much looking forward to the weekend at St. John's. Shalom"

Kimberley Fonner was raised in the Lutheran Church and grew up in Palo Alto, CA. She earned her B.A. in Art History at Santa Clara University, a Master's in Medieval History at UCLA and law degree at UC Berkeley. From 1997 to 2010, Kimberley practiced law in the Bay Area and became an active volunteer and board member at the local humane society.

After the unexpected death of her father, Kimberley felt called to a deeper, more intentional spiritual life. She searched for an Anglican/Episcopal religious order to connect with after being confirmed in the Episcopal Church. She visited the Community of the Transfiguration in several times during 2010 and relocated a mile from the Convent in January 2011. She helped with the newly-expanded retreat ministry, the Transfiguration Spirituality Center. Kimberley was received as an Associate in 2011 and an Oblate in 2013. In 2016, she moved into a house on the Convent grounds with her pet family and began a new position supporting the Sisters' Leadership team.

Friday Evening – 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm
An Evening Program for the Entire Community
That's EVERYONE !



- 5:30 Gathering and Registration
- 6:00 – 7:00 Supper prepared for you [Just bring salad topping or dessert.]
- 7:00 – 8:00 Sister Jacqueline will present: *“Personal Spiritual Practices: Lectio Divina and Spiritual Journaling”* and Parallel Children’s Program and Nursery Care
- 8:00 “Labyrinth Compline” with “Silent” Procession -
 Compline is the Church’s Night Prayer. Come to this unique contemporary innovative worship. Following Compline, you can walk the Labyrinth.

A Great Opportunity to Invite Friends!

Saturday Morning – 8:30 am to 2:30 pm
Everyone Invited

- 8:30 – 9:00 Registration and Hospitality
- 9:00 – 9:45 **Centering Prayer** Learn about this ancient form of silent prayer as taught by John Main and Basil Pennington. A period of silent prayer for experienced and beginners alike.
- 10:00 – 11:30 A Unique Offering! **“Creating a Mary Moment: Preparing for Worship as a Spiritual Practice”**
In the spirit of Mary and Martha of Bethany, we will explore how all of us can prepare for worship as a spiritual practice. In the busy-ness of life, how might we be more intentional, mindful, prayerful in our worship and prayer?
- Noon VOYAGERS invite all to a special time: **“Sharing our Stories.”** Hear and share St. John’s stories. Hear Sister’s story of her path to religious life. Lunch will be served.

Sunday Morning

Sister Jacqueline Preacher ~ Coffee hour with Sister Jacqueline

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGES

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

MARCH, 2017

I Am, WE Are, One World - Here, There, Everywhere Daily Prayer for National Unity and Healing

God of wisdom and mercy, grant us patience to listen; compassion to be open to other views and opinions; generosity to forgive and grace to change. As you taught us to love our neighbor, compel us to be healing instruments of unity and reconciliation.

We pray that you give us strength as we encourage our nation to move forward in unity. Amen.

Sisters of St. Joseph

Global Partnership Challenge for March 5th

Tonight we “step” into Lent. We will spend these next weeks learning about some of our brothers and sisters and their lives. Let us be open to their gifts and growing possibilities for each of us toward a greater sense of community.

Let us broaden our vision locally and globally.

Global Partnership Challenge for March 12th

Contemplative Sunday

Think about spending less time asking God for answers and more time listening to what He has to say.

Global Partnership Challenge for March 19th

Feast of St. Joseph, husband of Mary of Nazareth

St. Joseph is the patron saint of Italians. An old custom was to set a plate at the table for him and pile it high with food that was later given to the poor.

If you forgot today, no problem, but put it on your list to bring something for the poor to eat for St. John’s Food Pantry. Wonderful custom!

Our brothers and sisters will be SO grateful.

Global Partnership Challenge for March 26th

“Holding onto anger is like grasping a hot coal with the intent of throwing it at someone else; you are the one who gets burned.” *Buddha*

As we think about “giving up” something during this Holy season, let us also think about taking on forgiveness and forgetting.



SENIOR WARDEN

I am sitting here writing my first article for the Messenger as your Sr. Warden on this beautiful “spring” morning. This is also following the mini-meeting that was held yesterday (Feb. 19th) in regards to our progress on our Capital Improvement Project. I use the term “progress” loosely, as it seems we have encountered some more delays. I trust that God has a greater plan and that it will be revealed in good time (church time, God’s time). The plan may be as simple as a lesson in patience and grace, or something greater. Only God knows and he will reveal it in his own time.

In the meantime, I can speak to the patience and grace that I have experienced here at St. John’s over the past year and a half. I joined Vestry for the very first time in September 2015. I had agreed to fill out an unexpired term. As I was still getting my head wrapped around what it meant to be on Vestry, I found myself in the role of your Jr. Warden. It has been a whirlwind ride, to say the least. I had a huge learning curve ahead of me! But, through the patience and grace of many members at St. John’s, I began to learn what exactly is involved in the running of the church. I asked many questions and questioned a lot. My questions were always met with much patience and grace, especially when I seemed to ask some of the same questions over and over again. There’s a lot to wrap my head around.

Over the past year, I found myself often reciting the prayer from our Capital Campaign, *Lord, what do You want to do through me?* As we move through this next year, I invite you also to remember this prayer and reflect on it from time to time. We are currently short two Vestry members. Are you being called to serve? If so, please let Leslie Morgan or me know that you would be interested in filling one of those vacant positions.

I also invite you to pray for those who have been charged with making the major decisions for our Parish. As you pray for them, please keep in mind, that most of them are volunteers with full-time jobs, families, and other obligations outside of the church. While we all would love to devote 40 hours a week to the work of the church, it just is not possible. One thing I noticed as I attended different meetings over the past year is that our committees are greatly understaffed. You may think that you may not have anything to contribute to some of these ministries, but you would be surprised. Some of them just need someone with good organizational skills, or an eye for detail, or someone to ask the right questions, or to question.

We will need patience and grace as we begin our search for a new rector. As Fr. John communicated in his [sermon on Jan. 22](#), it is his desire and intent to retire when the building program is complete. While an official date for retirement has not been determined, the Vestry has been charged with forming a Search Committee for our new rector. If you are interested in serving on the Search Committee, or if you know of anyone you feel would be an asset to the committee, please forward those names to Jenn Hreben at ferhreben@msn.com with a brief description of why you or the person you are recommending would be an ideal candidate for the Search Committee.

I ask for your prayers and trust that all are doing their best to continue moving St. John’s forward, all in church time. Pray for patience and grace as we continue in our mission to Grow in God, Act in Service, and Witness in Love.

Submitted by,
Jenn Hreben, Senior Warden



Name Tags!

We would like all who volunteer at St. John's to wear a name tag. Please check to see if you have one and if not, please write your name on the sheet by the "Name Tag Wagon" in the Parish Hall and one will be provided for you. Thank you.

VESTRY RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were passed at the Vestry meeting on February 20, 2017:

Secretary to the Vestry – Resolved, that the Vestry of St. John’s Episcopal Church elects Bob Kilp to serve a one year term as Secretary to the Vestry. *This resolution came out of the Executive Committee. Bruce Waskowicz called the question. The motion passed.*

Treasurer – Resolved, that the Vestry of St. John’s Episcopal Church elects Rob Ashton to serve a one year term as Treasurer. *This resolution came out of the Executive Committee. Lynn Hayford called the question. The motion passed.*

Transfiguration Sisters - Resolved that the Vestry invites the parish of St. John's Church to participate in free-will offerings of thanksgiving for the presence of Sister Jacqueline, CT, and Kimberley Fonner on St. John’s Transfiguration Weekend, March 10-12, 2017, for the relationship of the Transfiguration Sisters with St. John's Parish and for the continued ministry of the Transfiguration Community. *This resolution came from Mother Barbara Seras, and was vetted by the Executive Committee. Pam Loose called the question. The motion passed.*

Asbestos Abatement – Resolved that the Vestry requests of the Property Committee the preparation and presentation of two plans of action for asbestos abatement, including cost estimates: a) a plan for full removal of all asbestos material; and b) a plan for temporary containment. *This resolution came out of the Property Committee. Bruce Waskowicz called the question. The motion passed.*

Evensong Offering – Resolved that the Vestry invites the collection of a free-will offering at the Transfiguration Sunday Evensong with Organ Recital and Reception, February 26, 2017, to benefit ALERT’s Sudanese refugee family. *This resolution came out of the Executive Committee. Lynn Hayford called the question. The motion passed.*

Go Fund Me – Resolved that the Vestry invites the parish of St. John’s to participate in a GoFundMe event for Peter Plaxa to assist with the caregiving costs associated with his multiple sclerosis (MS). *This resolution came from Pete’s daughter-in-law, Lori, and was vetted by the Executive Committee. Julie Gittens called the question. The motion passed.*

Parochial Report - Resolved that the Vestry of St. John’s Episcopal Church approve the 2016 Parochial Report. *This resolution came out of the Executive Committee. Amy Dissinger called the question. The motion carried unanimously.*

2017 Mission Imperatives – Resolved that the Vestry adopts for 2017 the following Mission Imperatives:

Primary Imperatives

- Repair the Courtyard and build the Atrium
- Establish the Search Committee for the next rector.

Program Imperatives

- Offer more alternative liturgies
- Increase connections with our homebound parishioners
- Develop opportunities for adult formation / education

This resolution came out of the Executive Committee. Glenn Miller called the question. The motion passed.

PROPERTY CORNER

We are pleased to welcome Bruce Waskowicz as our new Vestry Steward – Property. Bruce replaces Marylee Sauder who faithfully served our parish in this capacity. We look forward to working with Bruce, while wishing Marylee all best.

The City's Traffic Commission has restricted parking between our Mulberry St. driveway and the one north of us, while also doing so ten feet south of our entrance. Please adhere to these parking restrictions, as violators will be ticketed. This work is a result of our request to enhance our site distance and turning capacity when leaving our parking lot. We thank the City for their assistance on this matter.

The Construction Committee met with the Vestry and Donald Main of Marotta/Main Architects on February 1st to get approval for our project. Unfortunately, a response from the contractor at the eleventh and a half hour before the meeting, added considerable costs to the project. Instead of approval, it was decided to re-bid the project. It is estimated that re-bidding could take six weeks. More information was offered at the Parish Mini-Meeting on February 19th.

We started HVAC exchanger cleaning and filter replacement, completing all of the Church, except for the undercroft storage area and classroom. The units in this area have been turned off to reduce air currents from spreading asbestos-laden dust. We plan to continue with the Becker House and the Parish House exchangers in the near future.

Our Rite-13 youth have relocated from the undercroft to the Auditorium. The undercroft has warning signs by the entrances to restrict access to this area. The floor areas that are significantly raised and have holes have been filled with a floor-leveling compound, as the glue was no longer able to settle in the raised areas. These areas were all documented with photos prior to patching to further monitor the situation. The Vestry has requested a quote for full asbestos remediation and one for short-term encapsulation. Your Property Committee is working on these two options for the Vestry's consideration.

We are working with our rental manager at Younger Realty Group to have their HVAC contractor install new heaters in our rental properties by the first week of March. We received a quote of \$5,400 for the bulb replacement within the Nave. The contractor was able to locate a lift that will straddle the pews, avoiding the need for their removal. They also will be cleaning and repairing the gutters on our property.

February's life safety inspection, started on February 1st, was coordinated with Select Security's annual functional test. It found two horn strobes that needed to be replaced. The two missing flashlights for our ushers have been replaced.

Your Property Committee is one of the few ministries that serve all of St. John's other ministries. Our committee welcomes a myriad of talents and expertise from which we base our decisions. In our attempt to attract more people and avoid dodging holidays, the committee decided to meet on the first *Tuesday* of every month instead of the first Monday. Therefore, our next meeting will be *Tuesday*, March 7, 2017, at 7 pm in the Becker House. All are welcome. We hope to see you then.

Your St. John's Property Committee,

Andy Carroll, Jeff Gromis, Bill Gross, Jane Lee,
Dave Martin, Cynthia Minnich and Bruce Waskowicz

PARISH INFORMATION

Deaths

Gizella P. "Gigi" Callender
March 10, 1935 - February 15, 2017

Virginia B. Rainey
August 22, 1918 - February 20, 2017

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.

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!

WEEKLY SUNDAY ALTAR FLOWERS

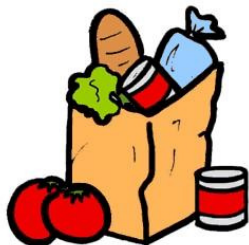
If you'd like to remember a loved one(s) with an altar flower or give thanks for a special occasion, please be sure to **stop by the bulletin board in the Parish Hall and add your name to the Flower Chart**. Details and **donation envelopes will also be available at the chart**. A **\$30** donation is 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 **March and May, 2017**. The blank areas remain available. Thank you for supporting our flower ministry at St. John's!

GREEN SHADING REPRESENTS LENT - ALTAR GREENS

DATE	(1)	(2)	CHAPEL
MARCH 5			
MARCH 12	Barbara Landis	Cindy Morris	
MARCH 19			
MARCH 26			Helen & John Miller
APRIL 2			
APRIL 9			
APRIL 16	All Easter Memorials	All Easter Memorials	All Easter Memorials
APRIL 23			
APRIL 30			
MAY 7			
MAY 14	Barbara & John Graeter		
MAY 21	Patti Means		Helen & John Miller
MAY 28	Lynn Hayford		

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.

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

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday School News

Karen Di Pace, Sunday School Director

Please look for details in this month's *Messenger* for the March 10-11 visit by the Sisters of the Transfiguration. There will be an offering for all ages on Friday! We also hope everyone can join us for the Parish Meeting on March 19.

Our church school will begin their "Penny Drive" on March 5. We will be raising money to help with the well capping in Rafiki. We will also be having a Lenten food drive. Look for the grocery bags with shopping lists to help visitors to our Food Pantry.

I would like to remind all families that church school at St. John's is every Sunday from 9-10 a.m. in the lower level of the Parish Hall. Children from PreK-12 are invited to attend. We offer many fun and spiritual activities for all ages. Our teachers are loving and dedicated volunteers who want to share their passion with the kids. Parents are welcome to stay and observe anytime they wish and are welcome to become involved in the program, as well, if they would like to do so.

We know how hard it can be to get your family to church in time for class each week, but once you start, it becomes an easy habit to continue. Once they start coming regularly, your children will begin to feel a sense of family within St. John's and so will you. As they move up into the Rite 13 and J2A youth programs, these children will solidify friendships that will help them through those turbulent teen years. My three (3) children have all moved up through the church school program and truly value the friends they have made at St. John's. It truly is a special place. I am hopeful that all of the children at St. John's will get to experience that love.

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

Submitted by,

Karen Di Pace

Journey to Adulthood

Mary Ellen Kilp & Leslie Morgan, Co-Youth Directors

Submitted by, *Mary Ellen Kilp*

Scout Sunday was February 5; it was nice to have our Scouts participate in the service and to be recognized.

Our youth hosted a soup and salad luncheon on Souper Bowl Sunday. We served seven different kinds of soup and provided a salad bar to raise money for our food pantry ministry. We raised \$1,127. Thank you to everyone that supported this important ministry. Thank you to all who donated food for this event.

Continued on next page...

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (CONTINUED)



On February 17, 2017, a group of 46 youth, young adults and adults from our diocese met at Camp Mount Luther for a weekend called "Happening." The Happening "Experience" is a powerful instrument of Christian Renewal.

During the three-day retreat, the participants listened to talks given by teenagers and adults. The youth present talks using personal life experiences to offer Christ's message to attending "Happeners" on a level they can understand and to answer many of the faith questions youth struggle with on a daily basis. Talks were given about church teachings and their importance in the lives of youth attending the weekend.

Each talk is a critical building block in the creation of the Happening message. The entire series of talks is given in a sequence that is intended to guide Happeners by opening an avenue of discussions to help them verbalize and internalize their faith questions in a safe environment, hopefully leading to a new or renewed relationship with Christ. April Way and Tierza Mendez participated as Happeners, while Emma Di Pace served as Rector, Brooks Morgan as Assistant Rector, along with James Woolson, Aaron Hasircoglu, Karen Di Pace, David, Bob and Mary Ellen Kilp, who all helped as youth staff and adult staff. It was an amazing weekend!



TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER!

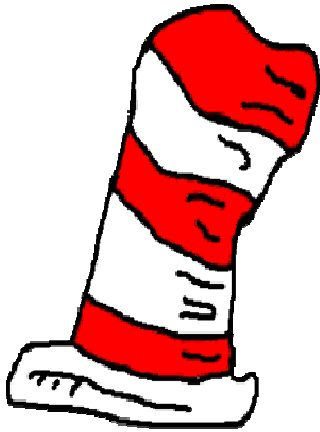
Do not miss the annual "Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper" on Tuesday, Feb. 28, 5:30—7:00 in the Parish Hall. The menu will include pancakes, sausage, applesauce and fruit salad. The food is good, the company fantastic and all the money raised benefits the J2A pilgrimage. Join us at 7:00 in the church for Evensong.

SCRAPBOOKING!

Do you have pictures just thrown into boxes and unorganized? Join us for our annual Scrapbooking event on March 3 and 4. 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.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (CONTINUED)

ATTENTION: JR HIGH YOUTH Grades 6 – 9



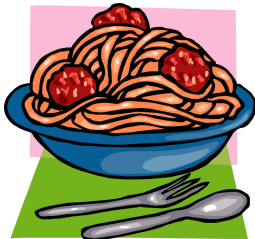
We will be having a diocesan youth retreat
March 17 – 19 at Camp Mount Luther.

The retreat is *Seussology 101*:
A *Seussical* Look at Life.

Come explore the *Wospel* in the Gospel
Join other Episcopalian youth!

The importance of retreats can be seen in the life of any spiritual person and we believe it is especially important for teens to get away from their super-scheduled lives. Retreats provide the necessary time and space to spend quality time with God, sacred scripture and community. Our Diocese creates opportunities for overnight retreats throughout the year for middle and high school students.

Thank you for all the support with our Journey to Adulthood Program. We could not have the wonderful program without the great adult leaders and congregation that we have.



SPAGHETTI DINNER & TALENT SHOW

Join our youth on April 1, for our annual Spaghetti Dinner and Talent Show. Do you have a talent? If so, we would love you to share it that evening at our Talent Show.



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.?

We also need volunteers to pack boxes (using a specific list of foods) occasionally, when our regular packers are unavailable. The schedule for this is much more flexible; it can be done any time between one distribution day (Tuesday or Thursday) and the next.

If you feel called to help with either aspect of this rewarding ministry, please contact Lynn Hayford. A brief training will be provided. Thank you!

ST. JOHN'S YOUTH CALENDAR

2017

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, MARCH 18**

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.

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)



Thanks you for the support of Campbell Soup labels in the past, but be informed that **Campbell Soup Company is terminating this method of fundraising so we will NO LONGER COLLECT THEM.** Box Tops and Turkey Hill Moo Caps are still welcomed.



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 and printer cartridges.

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.



JUBILEE MINISTRIES (CONTINUED)

GROCERY CARDS (Contact: Sue Tobie)

Total grocery card sales for **JANUARY: \$9,020.00** **Total earned by Jubilee Ministries: \$451.00**

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



EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

The early spring blooms are almost ready! The annual ECW plant sale is coming too! Orders will be taken on March 12 and 19 in the Parish Hall, with delivery on March 26 (or with an early pick up on Saturday, March 25).

Remember, everything must be preordered. The best news is: **PRICES REMAIN THE SAME AS THE PAST FIVE YEARS!!** The 12-inch bowl of pansies, or the 16-inch oval planter costs \$12.00. The potted primroses, in a variety of colors, are \$3 each.

Proceeds from this annual fundraiser aid in supporting kitchen appliance repairs and entertaining supplies as needed, as well as the Diocesan annual assessment.

See Sue Martin, Barbara Graeter, or Alvena Kuser with questions.

ALL LANCASTER EPISCOPAL RESPONSE TEAM

As part of the ALERT group, the Circle of Friends continue to assist the Issis family in their journey within the Lancaster Community. Helping with their needs in transportation, shopping, working through the monthly finances, doctors' appointments, being a liaison between school and home, providing staples for the family not covered by the food stamp program are a few of the "helps" which are provided to the family. The Circle of Friends group welcomes anyone who could give of their time to help with the family. Contact Dave Martin if interested.

A Work Day at the Lancaster County Council of Churches is scheduled for Saturday, March 25' from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the Community Food and Resource Distribution Hub, 812 North Queen St. Come when you can and stay as long as you can. Bring a brown bag lunch; beverages will be provided. Painting, organizing storage areas, cleaning, and small carpentry jobs are examples of work to be done. A good family project, as kids are welcome. See the post on the Parish Hall bulletin board for more information.

Winter Shelter 2016/17 Volunteers - As a small token of our appreciation for service at winter shelter, volunteers are invited to a Thank You Dinner on Thursday, March 9 at 6:00-7:30 p.m. All food is supplied by the Saint James Mission & Justice Committee. The event will take place at the Saint James Parish House Forum Room, 119 N Duke St, Lancaster. A big thank you to the members of St. John's who have helped with this community project.

St. Paul's Church, Columbia, is having their annual Spaghetti and Veal Parmigiana Supper on Saturday March 25, from 4:00-7:00 p.m. See the post on the Parish Hall bulletin board for details.

Save This Date - Betty Finney Memorial AIDS Garden Work Day. Saturday morning, May 6.

As part of the ALERT group, I find it very rewarding to associate with members of other Episcopal Churches within Lancaster County and to find out what other churches are doing in their sponsored activities and the outreach programs. I also believe WE all need to support one another, whether it is in some special worship time, activity, or fundraiser. We need one another and we all can benefit from being more attentive in doing so.

Submitted by, *Dave Martin*

VOYAGERS



Don't miss the **March 25th** Voyagers meeting! Michele DeRosa will present a talk on "**Solace Through Writing**," a book designed to help readers understand and navigate stages of grief through journaling.

Ms. DeRosa is a funeral director at Groff Funeral & Cremation Services in Lancaster. All are welcome to what promises to be an interesting and informative talk in a casual and friendly setting. As usual, light refreshments will be served. Voyagers meet in the Parish Hall from 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. We hope to see you! Questions? Contact: Barbara Graeter.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

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

Here's a quick update (as of February 10, 2017) on the financial support for our building renovations:

	Amount Received
Received toward total pledges of \$777,553	\$ 438,502
One-time gifts (unpledged)	\$ 2,345
Earnings on your contributions	\$ 12,197
Bequests from Eckenrode & Craige families	\$ 150,000
Total received (as of February 10, 2017)	\$ 608,044

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.



FLOWER GUILD SCHEDULE

The Flower Guild will be meeting as follows:

Sunday, **February 26**, after 10:15 a.m. service to place Lenten altar decorations and change hangings (STRONG ARMS NEEDED!).

Saturday, **April 8**, 9:00 a.m. to make palm arrangements and decorate for Palm Sunday.

Wednesday, **April 12**, at 5.30 p.m. to arrange the Garden of Repose with plants and flowers.

Saturday, **April 15**, at 9:00 a.m. to DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR EASTER.

ANY AND ALL HELP WILL BE APPRECIATED!

If you would like to help, please contact Hilary Becker. Thank you!

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Global Partnership Committee is continuing St. John's congregational "One People" work to build deep relationships with Rafiki Africa, the children of the LightHouse Academy, and the community of Alendu, Kenya. We'll be exploring those relationships at the Sunday Evening Lenten Series that begins March 5. All are invited to attend the five Sunday evenings during Lent leading up to Palm Sunday: March 5, 12, 19, and 26, and April 2.

We gather in the Parish Hall at 5:00 for a meatless (but delicious, nonetheless) potluck dinner, share stories in communion with each other, and wrap up at 7:00, although one of the evenings will probably go until 8:00. We've got a couple of movies to watch and discuss. One evening, we'll each be making prayer flags, and on another we're going to write pen-pal letters that Roger and Dorothy will hand carry to our friends in Kenya. And SHOES! We're collecting shoes again for the Soles4Souls initiative. Bring them to church on April 2 and that evening we'll box them up and get them ready for shipping.

Partnership is all about being in relationship with one another, and relationship is communion. Please come join us, build relationships, and be in communion as we celebrate that I Am, We Are ... One People, Here, There, and Everywhere.

Submitted by,

Tammy Collier

PETER PLAXA

In response to the request of Lauren Boyle Plaxa the St. John's Vestry invites the parish to participate in the GoFundMe event described below for parishioner, Pete Plaxa:

"I'm reaching out today on behalf of Pete Plaxa, my father-in-law and a proud member of St. John's Episcopal. When his body permitted it, he was a host of the coffee and fellowship hour after church services and a favorite voice of St. Peter during the Passion readings. He talks often of the church he loves so much.

Unfortunately, Pete has progressive multiple sclerosis (MS), is confined to a PowerChair, and can no longer leave his home without exceptional difficulty. His condition requires round-the-clock feeding, dressing, and bathing of four home caregivers, the cost of which was \$3k a month in 2016. Pete's MS has placed a profound financial burden on him, and despite still working full-time, he can no longer afford the care he needs, which is not covered by insurance or any other grants for the disabled (that require a person to receive disability payments, from which Pete's employment status disqualifies him).

We've started a GoFundMe to help with the cost of Pete's caregivers.
www.GoFundMe.com/caregiversforpete. "

Lauren Boyle Plaxa



"COME SCRAPBOOK WITH US!"

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

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

&

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

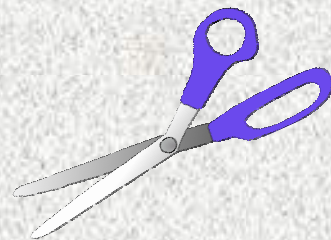
Both days: \$45

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

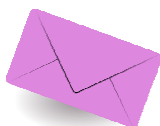
NAME: _____

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

We offer our continued prayers for

Dave Arnold
Bob Bailey
Earl Benedict
Robert Bray
Michael Brogan
Patricia & Ralph Clare
Paula DeBrill
Vincent Delevega
Shaphan Dulo
Linda Frederiksen
Carol Greenfield
Alina Grobicki
Ned Grove
Gill & Mary Hartley
Anne Johnson Horn
Ellen Keller
Marge Kern
Vonda Kirchner
Terry Koogelevo
Marty Laubenthal
John Lechowicz
Wayne LeFevre
Ernie Leffler
Kelly Lynch
Ruth McDivitt
Kathy McNamara
John Miller
William Miller
Cynthia Minnich
Molly Moyer
Jane Naegele
Dee Norman
Kevin & Mary Nourie
Robert & Joan Power
Ricky Ross
Jesse Rutledge
Gloria Schnee
Steven Schwartz
Stephanie Smith
Sister Connie Sophy
Don Sterling
Christian Stigelman
Martha & John Stroh
Joana Torres & Kids
Gary Weaver
Melissa Williams

Ella & Family
Meredith
Chuck & Barbara
Earl



*...and for our
homebound
parishioners*

Ellen Beck
Providence Eshelman
Richard Farmer
Bette Lou Forsyth
Michael Frantz
Dyls Glew
Cricket Johnson
Joan Lahr
Stefan Latshaw
Fritz Lawrence
Don Lovett
Liam Maloney
Betty McCaskey
Barbara McKee
Nancy Nemith
Peter Plaxa
Nancy Puffer
Barbara Ramella
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.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>
Bailey, Bob	7
Bowser, Adeline	7
Burch, Molly	9
Carpenter, Allie	5
Clark, Neil	29
Cliff, Joel	30
Cook, Webb	29
Dissinger, David	3
Dorgan, Paul	25
Glazier, Penn	24
Gromis, Keith	29
Gromis, Sharon	27
Gross, Emily	14
Hasircoglu, Betsy	23
Heider, Mike	25
Henry, Kimberly	26
Johnson, Cricket	17
Lahr, Joan	8
Latshaw, Karen	21
Lemonick, Leslie	16
Loose, Ted	13
Mone, Jennifer	12
Morgan, Brooks	6
Pennell, Dave	2
Rodriguez, Julie	12
Sellers, Ellen	8
Snyder, Jim	31
Stone, Janelle	17
Suliveras, Anthony	26
Texeira, Jax	6
Walsh, Ellie	27
Walsh, Marjie	12
Waskowicz, Bruce	31
Watts, Kristi	15
Wendler, Jeff	29
Wendler, Madalyn	17
Williams, Dawn	21
Zimmerman, Phil	23



MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

<u>Couple</u>	<u>Date</u>
Freeman, Dale & Seachrist, Sibyl	03/27/1992
Houston, John & Nancy	03/11/1990
Latshaw, Andy & Ally	03/20/2005
Mausolf, Katie & Andy	03/17/2007
McGee, Vince & Shirley	03/16/1957
Tahsler, Bruce & Leslie	03/31/1979
Waskowicz, Bruce & Mary	03/09/1991



Hassle-Free—and FREE Parking for St. John's Sunday Services!

When you attend Sunday services at St. John's, you don't have to worry about finding a parking space or honing your parallel parking skills. While limited parking is available in St. John's lot off of Mulberry Street, you can park at the [Water Street Garage](#)—just a block south of the church off of Chestnut Street—at no cost.

Thanks to an agreement with the Lancaster Parking Authority, **if you enter the garage between 7:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. on Sundays mornings, you receive 3 hours of free parking.** Just take a ticket when you enter and place it in the slot when you exit. No payment will be required. Simple and convenient.

While there were some initial growing pains late last summer as the process got underway, everything is now operating smoothly. Thank you, Andy Carroll, from our Property Committee, for making this happen. And thank you to the Lancaster Parking Authority for being a great neighbor.

Note: If you arrive prior to 7:30 or after 10:30 a.m., free parking will not apply. If you remain in the garage beyond 3 hours, you will need to pay for the additional time at the garage's regular rates.

We encourage use of the Water Street Parking Garage rather than the private lot across from the church on Chestnut Street. This lot is reserved for residents of the Stevens School Apartments.



SERVING SCHEDULE – MARCH, 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.

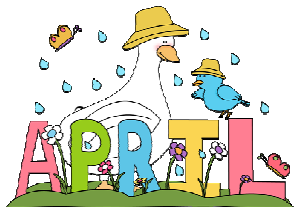
MARCH 5	8:00 a.m.	10:15 a.m.
Eucharistic Minister	Ricky Smith	Michael Stank, Charlotte Weaver-Gelzer
Eucharistic Visitor	--	Phyllis Gbur, Sue Heilman
Lector	Sue Tobie	Fran Gouveia, Bob Kilp
Server	--	Kendall Morgan
Crucifer	--	Aaron Hasircoglu
Torch Bearer	--	Elijah Mendez, Frances Brogan
Altar Guild	Team 2	Team 2
Steeple Bell Ringer	--	Hal Williams
Verger	--	Kathy Kyper
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Team A
Greeter	--	Bruce Waskowicz
Coffee Hour	Handbell Choir	Handbell Choir
Nursery	--	Jennifer Gustafson

MARCH 12	8:00 a.m.	10:15 a.m.
Eucharistic Minister	Sue Purdy	Brad Moyer, Sibyl Seachrist
Eucharistic Visitor	Phil Becker, Ricky Smith	--
Lector	Merle Schnee	Jane Lee, Paula Wolf
Server	--	James Woolson
Crucifer	--	Brooks Morgan
Torch Bearer	--	Helena Carroll, Fiona Mausolf
Altar Guild	Team 3	Team 3
Steeple Bell Ringer	--	Rob Williams
Verger	--	Tom Bond
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Team B
Greeter	--	Ted Loose
Coffee Hour	Rite 13	Rite 13
Nursery	--	Katie Mausolf

MARCH 19	8:00 a.m.	10:15 a.m.
Eucharistic Minister	Ricky Smith	David Kilp, Peter Novosel
Eucharistic Visitor	Phil Becker, Stephanie McGovern	Julie Gittens, Peter Novosel
Lector	Nicole Pham	Brad Moyer, Sibyl Seachrist
Server	--	Dylan Stone
Crucifer	--	Bob Kilp
Torch Bearer	--	Gabriella Suliveras, Luca Suliveras
Altar Guild	Team 1	Team 1
Steeple Bell Ringer	--	Conor Brenton
Verger	--	Kathy Kyper
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Team C
Greeter	--	Leslie Morgan
Coffee Hour	Community Breakfast	Community Breakfast
Nursery	--	Marla Lester



MARCH 26	8:00 a.m.	10:15 a.m.
Eucharistic Minister	Nicole Pham	Emma Di Pace, David Dissinger
Eucharistic Visitor	Karen Latshaw, Sue Martin	--
Lector	Bob Lee	Danielle Di Pace, Charlotte Weaver-Gelzer
Server	--	Aidan Cliff
Crucifer	--	Dave Pennell
Torch Bearer	--	Nicholas Di Pace, Hal Williams
Altar Guild	Team 2	Team 2
Steeple Bell Ringer	--	Toni Ehrhart
Verger	--	Tom Bond
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Team D
Greeter	--	Carolyn Maxey
Coffee Hour	Vestry	Vestry
Nursery	--	Mary Ellen Kilp



LOOKING AHEAD TO: APRIL, 2017

APRIL 2	8:00 a.m.	10:15 a.m.
Eucharistic Minister	Merle Schnee	Michael Stank, Charlotte Weaver-Gelzer
Eucharistic Visitor	--	Phyllis Gbur, Sue Heilman
Lector	Barbara Landis	Aidan Cliff, Joel Cliff
Server	--	Ian Thompson
Crucifer	--	Glenn Miller
Torch Bearer	--	Claire Thompson, Sophia Thompson
Altar Guild	Team 3	Team 3
Steeple Bell Ringer	--	Lorraine Nolan
Verger	--	Kathy Kyper
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Team A
Greeter	--	Brad Zuke
Coffee Hour	Usher Teams: 8:00 a.m. and B	Usher Teams: 8:00 a.m. and B
Nursery	--	Mary Waskowicz

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**