



St. John's Messenger

January, 2018

from Fr. John W. Morris, Rector

NEW YEAR'S (retirement) RESOLUTIONS

With my retirement from St. John's and from active parish ministry starting on March 1st, I thought I might share with you some of my plans in the form of New Year's resolutions. This may also help answer some questions that many of you have asked.

Resolution #1 - Stay put. Cindy and I do not plan to leave Lancaster in the near future. Partly because we want to ease into the retirement experience. Partly because our children are still unrooted and we waiting to see where they go. But largely because we like living in Lancaster city.

Resolution #2 - Be with family and friends. Being in parish ministry for almost 40 years has meant a lot of time putting church family first. Now is my time to switch that around. For Easter we will worship with our daughter and family in Charlottesville, VA. In July we will be fly fishing in Montana with my nephew, Ted, who is a guide on the Yellowstone River. In between, we'll be spending a lot of time spoiling our grand girls, Nomi Rose and Louisa.

Resolution #3 - Spiritually explore. I've spent most of my Sundays in one pew. I'd like to widen my view. I look forward to visiting on Sunday the other Episcopal churches of our Lancaster Convocation. I am also excited to worship with my ecumenical and interfaith friends throughout the city. This freedom will also afford opportunities for deeper spiritual development with Holy Cross Monastery, for example.

Resolution #4 - Pursue adventure. Free diving the underwater national park off the Buck Island coral reef in St. Croix, USVI, has been on my bucket list for some time. Plans were set back as a result of hurricane Maria, but this has given me time to start taking SCUBA classes first. Doing Memphis in May and the canyon lands of the southwest are just some of the other bucket items.

Resolution #5 - Play music. My brother, Jerry, has a Friday night blues jam band in York and from time to time he lets me sit in and play harp. Over the years I've gotten better but there's lots of room for improvement. I'm thinking it's time for a few lessons.

Resolution #6 - Be open. There is much that I could do to fill up my time but it remains to be seen what I will "do" with my time. Having a life with higher purpose is important to me. What that might be going forward isn't clear. I'm okay about this because throughout my life the Lord has been pretty good about providing me direction in this department, and I'm excited to discover what it will be this time.

I have a lot of conflicting feelings going on. Sadness at saying goodbye to our friends at St. John's. Jealousy at all the amazing things that will be happening in the parish that I won't have a hand in. Regret that there are some things left undone that I would like to have done. But mostly it is a feeling of thankfulness for the twelve years of shared ministry with all of you, including the experience of doing the capital campaign and building program together.

I recently heard someone say, "It's not retirement. It's re-wirement." To me that means using what I have been given but in a new way. I think that applies not just to my life but to the life of all of us at St. John's. Thankfully receiving the gifts Christ has given us and letting the Spirit lead us to share them in new ways. Maybe that's a New Year's resolution for all of us.

John+

THE REV. DR. BARBARA J. SERAS

“Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” ~ Luke 2: 15

No one of us can say what really happened that first Christmas. We don't even know the year Jesus was born: 4 BC? 6 AD? We really cannot even say that it was December or even the 25th of the month. It could have been spring time when the shepherds would more often have been out in the fields the entire night with their flock...and newborn lambs.

Some would tell us that it is not even certain if Jesus was born in Bethlehem or whether there were multitudes of the heavenly hosts praising God and lifting hymn to the Glory of the Child's radiant birth. Perhaps, it was just Mary and Joseph holding tight to one another and sheltering their newborn son.

But be it Bethlehem or not, December or May, whether there were ten million angelic hosts or just a few unseen guardian angels watching over their charges, be there shepherds and Magi and all the Glory of heaven or just Mary and Joseph alone, when the ChristChild was born, the whole course of human history was forever changed.

From manger to cross to empty tomb, the Love Story of God and all creation takes on flesh and becomes tangible and real. It begins with the Incarnation at Christmas. And all creation-- all living things in heaven and on earth--glows and rejoices.

For God is with Us now in the flesh. Jesus the Christ is born!

No amount of talk or study will ever explain what you and I and all Christian people proclaim this Christmas. No amount of talk will unravel this Christmas Mystery because there is no way any one of us can even wrap our minds around the profound reality of what God has done and what God is doing still!

Rather it is our steadfast relationship with our Lord, given life this day, and it is our living into this great Mystery of God With Us all our days that births the Christmas Mystery in us. It is our living by faith in intimate friendship with God and God's people that brings the Christmas Mystery to life. *And the mystery is this:*

God has become what we are that God might make us what God is.

~Saint Athanasius: On the Incarnation

God With Us! It means that we are given the possibility to become holy and righteous and joyful and complete. God With Us! It is what gives us the means to shed all that keeps us down, all that dims our joy, all that reduces our confidence and our convictions and our hope.

In these Twelve Days of Christmas I hope you will join me in pondering this Mystery of God with Us. What difference does it make in our everyday lives? How might each of us enter that sacred relationship with Christ every day forever?

Merry Christmas,

Barbara+

TWO BIG WEEKENDS AT ST. JOHN'S

Friday, February 23—Sunday, February 25, 2018

Father John's Leave-Taking

Friday—St. John's Community Night

Saturday—Evening Prayer and Reception

with the Rt. Reverend Audrey Scanlan



In Preparation for the Celebration please send in your favorite photos and videos now ONLINE with Photo Share at:

<https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipM0Le3Sa9MKzYOAZklVLLsqbM6ZUfhIPR45Ao42aXqlbeUy-GTDSwMuV1UFqf8zqkQ?>

-or-

Bring your Photos or Videos to the Church Office

AND THE FOLLOWING WEEKEND...

St. John's Transfiguration Weekend

A Lenten offering of Reflection ~ Learning ~ Prayer



Theme: *Stepping Ahead . . .*

Where is God calling us in ministry and parish life?

Welcoming the Rt. Reverend Robert W. Ihloff
Retired Bishop of Maryland



GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGES

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

JANUARY 2018

I Am, WE Are, ONE World - Here, There, Everywhere

January - Resolutions - New Goals - As you might be thinking of what you might “take on” in the new year, don’t be overwhelmed.

Think about taking a “step” in a new direction.

Doesn’t have to be a “leap” as any motion or movement counts. You may not be able to take someone to dinner, but you could afford a can of food for our Food Pantry, a pair of retired shoes for the shoe gathering, being more attentive to wasting water, refusing straws when dining out, sharing “Hello’s”, smiles, a pledge of a kind act daily, sharing unused clothing, etc.

We are SO MUCH MORE POWERFUL than we imagine to help our brothers and sisters -
Here, There, Everywhere.

Global Partnership Challenge for January 7th

“Our prime purpose in this life is to help others.

And if you can’t help them, at least don’t hurt them.” Dalai Lama

Goal - One kind act each day.

Global Partnership Challenge for January 14th

Martin Luther King, Jr.’s Birthday January 15th

“The old law about ‘an eye for an eye’ leaves everybody blind.

The time is always right to do the right thing.” Martin Luther King, Jr.

Be good to yourself, make your heart smile - a caring act delivered without reward expected.

Decide to make it a habit.

Global Partnership Challenge for January 21st

“What does love look like? It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows.

That is what love looks like.” Saint Augustine

Think of those without a warm bed and a hot meal - how can we help our family?

Here, There, Anywhere....

Global Partnership Challenge for January 28th

“My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.” John 15:12

Look around you - adults? teens? kids?

Dealing with - Loneliness? Bullying issues? Depression?

Ask yourself what “step” you could take to make a difference
for yourself and someone else.



SERVING SCHEDULE – JANUARY, 2018

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 7	8:00 a.m.	10:15 a.m.
Eucharistic Minister	Sue Purdy	Brad Moyer, Sibyl Seachrist
Eucharistic Visitor	--	Sibyl Seachrist
Lector	Sue Tobie	Danielle Di Pace, Charlotte Weaver-Gelzer
Server	--	Kendall Morgan
Crucifer	--	Bob Kilp
Torch Bearer	--	Claire & Sophia Thompson
Altar Guild	Team 1	Team 1
Steeple Bell Ringer	--	Lorraine Nolan
Verger	--	Kathy Kyper
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Team A
Greeter	--	Brad Zuke
Coffee Hour	Rite 13	Rite 13
Nursery	--	Tracy Cliff

JANUARY 14	8:00 a.m.	10:15 a.m.
Eucharistic Minister	Tom Bond	Katie Mausolf, Michael Stank
Eucharistic Visitor	Phil Becker	Don Durand, Peter Novosel
Lector	Gretchen Walden	Joel Cliff, Jeannie Zeller
Server	--	Sean Cliff
Crucifer	--	Glenn Miller
Torch Bearer	--	Fiona Mausolf, Natalie Visco
Altar Guild	Team 2	Team 2
Steeple Bell Ringer	--	Danielle Di Pace
Verger	--	Kathy Kyper
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Team B
Greeter	--	Leslie Morgan
Coffee Hour	LEVs	LEVs
Nursery	--	Katie Mausolf

JANUARY 21	8:00 a.m.	10:15 a.m.
Eucharistic Minister	Molly Moyer	David Kilp, Peter Novosel
Eucharistic Visitor	Phil Becker, Stephanie McGovern	--
Lector	Barbara Landis	David Dissinger, Meagan Howell-Brogan
Server	--	Rob Williams
Crucifer	--	Dave Pennell
Torch Bearer	--	Frances Brogan, Campbell Way
Altar Guild	Team 3	Team 3
Steeple Bell Ringer	--	Toni Ehrhart
Verger	--	Ben Creighton
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Team C
Greeter	--	Bruce Waskowicz
Coffee Hour	Community Breakfast	Community Breakfast
Nursery	--	Jen Gustafson



JANUARY 28	8:00 a.m.	10:15 a.m.
Eucharistic Minister	Nicole Pham	David Dissinger, Brooks Morgan
Eucharistic Visitor	Karen Latshaw, Sue Martin	Phyllis Gbur, Sue Heilman
Lector	Gretchen Walden	Fran Gouveia, Bob Kilp
Server	--	Danielle Di Pace
Crucifer	--	Glenn Miller
Torch Bearer	--	Nicholas Di Pace, Greyson Way
Altar Guild	Team 4	Team 4
Steeple Bell Ringer	--	Garth Alexander
Verger	--	Ben Creighton
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Team D
Greeter	--	Dave Martin
Coffee Hour	Lectors	Lectors
Nursery	--	Mary Waskowicz

SERVING SCHEDULE - LOOKING AHEAD TO FEBRUARY, 2018

FEBRUARY 4	8:00 a.m.	10:15 a.m.
Eucharistic Minister	Sue Purdy	Brad Moyer, Sibyl Seachrist
Eucharistic Visitor	--	Sibyl Seachrist
Lector	Phil Purdy	Jane Lee, Paula Wolf
Server	--	Hal Williams
Crucifer	--	Bob Kilp
Torch Bearer	--	Helena & Evelyn Carroll
Altar Guild	Team 1	Team 1
Steeple Bell Ringer	--	Toni Ehrhart
Verger	--	Tom Bond
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Team A
Greeter	--	Ted Loose
Coffee Hour	Scouts	Scouts
Nursery	--	TBD

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 Toni Ehrhart

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**

Deaths

Stefan K. Latshaw, Jr.
September 17, 1970 - November 2, 2017

Donald J. Sterling
October 1, 1951 - November 14, 2017

Transferred Out

Linda S. Braught

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

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

Here's a quick update (as of December 14, 2017) on the financial support for our building renovations, which began in mid-June:

	Amount Received
Received toward total pledges of \$781,553	\$ 616,319
Non-pledged (one-time or above pledged amt.)	38,454
Bequests	155,000
Total received	\$ 809,773

Total anticipated (pledges + other giving): \$ 975,007

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

The capital campaign fulfillment period runs through 2018. However, if you are able to join the 41 families who have already completed their pledges, that will reduce the amount that we need to borrow from the bank during construction. (And that, of course, will reduce the interest we have to pay.)

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 Wednesdays.

-- Submitted by Debbie Carter

SENIOR WARDEN

Submitted by, Jenn Hreben - Senior Warden

On Sunday, December 17th, St. John's Sunday, we honored the saints among us, the Way family and the Cuthbert-Brown family for their dedication and service to St. John's. We have so many saints among us that narrowing it down to just two recipients each year is a difficult task. The good news is that we have a long list of others awaiting to be honored. We are truly blessed to have so many among us who are so giving of themselves to St. John's.

For those who were unable to attend, the following is the resolution approved by the Vestry at their November meeting:

St. John's Sunday – Resolved, that on this St. John's Sunday December 17th, 2017, the Vestry of St. John's Episcopal Church, Lancaster, PA on behalf of the members of the congregation, offers their most heartfelt thanksgiving to God and expression of deep appreciation to these saints among us:

The Cuthbert-Brown family, Doug, Angela, Chloe and Sophia, for Doug's service to St. John's as an usher, for his leadership on the Property Committee, for his chairmanship of the Construction Committee, and most especially for the family's team efforts tending the Jubilee Ministries vegetable garden, serving at the community breakfast, and respectfully removing, by hand, and securely storing over six thousand, five hundred pounds of sacred soil from the St. John's Memorial Garden.

Joseph and April Way, for Joe's sharing of his communications technology expertise, for April's making of thousands of chocolate-covered Easter Eggs, for their shared leadership of the Journey to Adulthood youth ministry program, and most especially for their organization and chaperoning of the J2A pilgrimage to Peru.

St. John's Sunday was an especially busy morning as we also opened the time capsule contained in the 1915 cornerstone. Due to the busy morning, many of you were unable to view the gift presented to the Way and Cuthbert-Brown families, so I am including a photo here. The engraving says: "St. John's 2017".



Thank you again, Ways and Cuthbert-Browns, and thank you to all of our saints among us.

VESTRY RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were passed by the Vestry on December 18, 2017:

1. **Zeller Appointment** – Resolved, that the Vestry appoints Jean Zeller to serve as a member of the Vestry until the next Vestry election.

This resolution comes from the Executive Committee. Glenn Miller called the question. The motion carried.

2. **2018 Budget** – Resolved, that the Vestry of St. John’s Episcopal Church, Lancaster approves for 2018 a spending plan with projected expenses of \$694,871 and projected income of \$694,871, including an anticipated additional draw from investment of \$123,176.

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

3. **Clergy Housing Allowance** – Resolved, that the total annual compensation paid to the Rev. John W. Morris for the calendar year 2018 shall be \$7,666, of which \$3,333 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 2018 shall be \$69,838, of which \$40,00.00 is hereby designated as housing allowance pursuant to section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code.

This resolution comes from the Finance Committee. Pam Loose called the question. The motion carried.

4. **Change Orders** – Resolved that the St. John’s Vestry gives to the following the authority to make change orders in the building program within the stated parameters: a) Construction Committee Chair up to \$1,000 either individually or cumulatively, b) the Construction Committee with the Vestry Steward for Property up to \$5000, either individually or cumulatively; all change orders above \$5000 require approval by the Vestry.

This resolution comes from Construction Committee and Executive Committee. Sue Heilman called the question. The motion carried after making the amendments to the language.

5. **Columbarium Policy** – Resolved, that Vestry of St. John’s Church approves the statement of Policies and Rules Governing the Columbarium and Memorial Garden as presented by the Columbarium Committee.

This resolution comes from the Columbarium Committee. Tom Bond called the question. The motion carried.

PROPERTY CORNER

J & J Heating & Cooling, our HVAC contractor, was called in several times to make repairs to two of our pumps in the boiler room and our unit on the third floor of the Becker House. Boiler room units required rebuilding of the bearing assemblies. These repairs involved the pump on boiler #1 and the church zone pump. In addition to efficiency issues, the pumps become very noisy, which can be a big distraction for services in the Nave above the boiler room. Fortunately, we were able to swap parts from our old furnace in the basement of the Becker House to repair the unit on the third floor of the office building.

We appreciate everyone's understanding as we continue with construction during the usual busy use of our facilities by our many ministries, including support groups. We ask that you exercise caution while moving around our Church campus. The Sunday school level of our Parish House has a number of tools, cables and debris, which should not be touched. So, we ask parents to use caution and pay close attention to their children while moving through this space. The exterior of our Campus is no exception. We ask that everyone please use designated entrances for each of our buildings, while avoiding construction materials and equipment that may be stored on campus.

The Atrium project is reportedly running about five weeks behind schedule, but with hopes of being able to use the new entrance for Christmas services. Of recent interest was the opening of our corner stone for the Parish House. A carefully constructed copper box contained newspapers, books, coins and sermons inside from 1915.

And while we're talking projects, Brooks Morgan conducted his Eagle Scout project at St. John's on December 1st. His project involved diverting rainwater away from our buildings' foundations to reduce water damage. We thank Brooks for considering St. John's for his project and for his coordination with his troop. We should be much dryer now in the future thanks to his efforts.

We have a painter lined up to do some of the exterior of the Becker House to help seal out moisture from entering the walls. Although still awaiting a proposal, he claims to be able to match the brick color of the Parish House, which sounded appealing. At this time, we have recently mortared areas, while areas with chipping/peeling paint exist along the front and sides of this building. He is scheduling us for this month.

While we were hoping to get the gutter repair and cleaning done by year's end, the leaves came down and the gutters froze all of their contents within just weeks. The repairs were involving areas of damage that has occurred, causing the gutters to leak. Bottom line, we'll have to wait until next spring to have the cleaning done.

December's Life Safety inspection was completed on December 1st and required Select Security to return to reprogram our notification areas. Our first test since the relocation of the fire alarm panel, to the lower level of the Parish House staintower, revealed that some of the alarms were activating campus wide. Select Security was in to correct this condition, which will allow our occupants to move to one of our other buildings during alarm activation.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, January 9th, 2018 due to the proximity of the holiday. We welcome all members to offer their perspectives at 7 pm in the Becker House. We normally meet on the first Tuesdays of every month.

Your Property Committee: Jenn Hreben, Tom Bond, Bruce Waskowicz, Andrew Carroll, Bill Gross, Kathy Kyper, Jane Lee, Dave Martin, Cynthia Minnich, and Shirley Shaheen.

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 2018 and March 2018**. The blank areas remain available. Thank you for supporting our flower ministry at St. John's!

DATE	(1)	(2)	CHAPEL
January 7			
January 14			
January 21			
January 28			
February 4			
February 11			
February 18			
February 25			
March 4			
March 11			
March 18			
March 25			

GREEN AREA REPRESENTS GREENS ON ALTAR.

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!"

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

“A CELEBRATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS”

Monday, January 15, 2018 • 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



- **MOVEMENT WORKSHOP** with “*MR. BARRY*”
- **VIDEO PRODUCTION**
- **STORIES**
- **PREPARE & 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 12, 2018.

Pre-Registration is Required.

DETACH HERE =====

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Camp - January 15, 2018
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 participate in a video production: Yes _____ No _____

I give permission to have my child released to these persons: _____

(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!

We are eagerly anticipating getting back into our classrooms this month after the construction is complete! If anyone is available to help us put the classrooms back together, please let me know. Once we have a date we will let you all know.

Don't forget to save the date for MLK Day events on January 15 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. 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 Youth and Scouts on Sunday, February 4. 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. Please contact me if your child is a scout so we can add them to our scout list. We will also have our "Souper Bowl of Caring" on the 4th. More information to come!

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

Karen Di Pace

ANGEL TREE

On Thursday, December 21, the gifts you purchased for the recently arrived refugee families were distributed at the Church World Service office on East King Street. Snacks and excitement surrounded this event; for most it was their first Christmas (or Holiday) celebration. They are all so grateful for whatever they received and St. John's is grateful for the generous outpouring of gifts for these folks.

Thanks to the Carroll and Lattanzio-Hale families for their interest, coordination, and finalization of this great St. John's annual project. It isn't just adult run; the five daughters of these families have given a great deal of attention and understanding to this cause. Thanks then, to Julia, Helena, Emelia, Sophia, and Evie, who are more than just elves!

The Sudanese family of Mariam, who many of you know and are active with, are having a Holiday Dinner in the Parish Hall on Wednesday, December 27, which will be attended by the ALERT Circle of Friends and all St. John's folks who are involved with the family in one way or another. Their gifts will be distributed then.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (CONTINUED)

Journey to Adulthood

Mary Ellen Kilp & Leslie Morgan, Youth Co-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. The theme was Prepare the Way... A Path to Peace. The theme was based on what was shared at EYE this summer. "If you want to change the world follow Jesus" We listened to Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's EYE opening sermon and the theme continued throughout the weekend. We made flat Jesuses, reconfirmed our baptism covenant at the lake, shared about how to heal relationships, and walked a candlelight labyrinth with a beautiful full moon, followed by a healing service. A great time was had by all!

The next three months will be very busy for the youth, so please mark your calendars now for the upcoming events.

January 5 & 6 will be the confirmation retreat for all J2A youth. The location TBD, but will be about 1 hour away.

January 13 – 14 will be a convocation game night with Rite 13 and J2A, with a lock in.

January 19 – 21 will be the Happening-planning meeting in Coudersport. Brooks Morgan is our Rector and Tierza Mendez is the Assistant Rector for Happening. Please keep them in your prayers as we prepare for the Happening Retreat that is being held February 15 – 18 for any Senior High youth at Camp Mount Luther. We will also be planning the Middle School retreat that is run by the Senior High youth for Junior High youth that weekend. The Middle School retreat is called New Beginnings and will be held March 16 – 18 for all 6 – 8 graders at Camp Mount Luther.

January 28 will be the Rite 13 service during the 10:15 service. It is very important that all youth attend classes in the New Year, as they will be preparing for this service.

Please mark your calendars with all the dates listed on the Youth Calendar on the next page.

"Happy New Year!"



ST. JOHN'S YOUTH CALENDAR 2018

January 5 -6	Confirmation Retreat
January 12 & 13	Game Night and Lock-In (Convocation)
January 19 – 21	Happening Planning Meeting (Diocese)
January 28	Rite 13 Ceremony
February 4	Scout Sunday Souper Bowl of Caring
February 13	Shrove Tuesday
February 14	Ash Wednesday
February 15 - 18	Happening (Diocese)
February 23 -25	Bishop Visit
March 2-4	Transfiguration Weekend
March 9 – 10	Scrapbook Weekend
March 16 – 18	Diocesan Jr. High Retreat
March 25	Palm Sunday
March 29	Maundy Thursday (Convocation)
March 30	Good Friday
April 1	Easter
April 7	Dinner / Talent Show
April 29	Graduation / Youth Sunday
May 4	Confirmation
May 6	Teacher Appreciation Mini Golf (Convocation)
July 6	Berry Festival



JUBILEE MINISTRIES

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST (Contact: Sue Martin) **SATURDAY, JANUARY 20**

A breakfast of pancakes, sausage, eggs, juice, cereal, and pastries will be served to the downtown community at First Reformed United Church of Christ, 40 East Orange Street.

Volunteers: Please let Dave or Sue Martin know if you won't be helping so they can reach out to those on their substitute list, not be caught short of help. Thank you!

EAGLE'S NEST (Contact: Jean Gordon)

Twelve students and as many volunteers (including St. John's teens, Tierza Mendez, Max Lester, and Lexi Smith), are learning to work together within our revised spaces and are adapting well to each week's construction limitations. The kitchen is always perfect and they are learning the rewards of cooking, preparing meals, setting tables for a family supper, and clearing their spaces after a meal. It is a joy to witness their interest in this activity, and especially baking Christmas cookies for their families. At the recent Christmas party and program (thanks to assistance from Paul Reese and Mother Barbara) each student received an authentic chef's hat embroidered with their name. In addition, gifts from the Angel Tree were received with great excitement. Thank you to the supporters of the gifts and of the No Bake Sale in Nov., which yielded nearly \$500!



FOOD PANTRY (Contact: Debbie Carter or Linda Wallace)

We benefitted greatly from Scouting For Food in mid-November! Many thanks to our scouts, J2A, and their leaders!

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)

Please continue to donate Box Tops for Education, Turkey Hill Moo Caps, and spent printer cartridges. There are collection containers on the Eagle's Nest table under the photo gallery in the Parish Hall. Thank you for your donations.

MARTHA'S MINISTRY (Contact: Jeannie Zeller)

Many thanks for the wonderful helpers and supporters who allowed St. Nick's Knit Sale to earn \$911 for our after-school program, Eagle's Nest, in December. This past year saw many changes along with a few new faces around our table in the Parish Hall on Tuesday afternoons. We invite you to join us as you are able from 2-4 pm on any Tuesday for tea and snacks, friendship and conversation. Happy 2018 to us all!

Come and join us as we share fellowship and ideas while enjoying good conversation, knitting, and/or crocheting! Thanks to all who have continued to help our ministry, whether by prayer or by contribution of time and/or materials. We are always in need of prayer shawls. If you know of someone who would enjoy receiving a prayer shawl to comfort them through difficult times, or if you have questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact Jeannie Zeller.

JUBILEE MINISTRIES (CONTINUED)

GROCERY CARDS (Contact: Sue Tobie)

Total grocery card sales for December will be reported in the February *Messenger*.

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

LANCASTER INTERCHURCH PEACE WITNESS

Free Monthly Film Series at St. John's Episcopal Church — Last Fridays, 7:00 — 9:00 pm

January 25th: I Am Not Your Negro

Documentary about James Baldwin (1924- 1987), the writer, narrated by Samuel Jackson, 93 minutes long. It's a journey into black history that connects the past of the Civil Rights Movement to the present #BlackLivesMatter.

Discussion afterwards is invited but optional. Snacks provided.

Also, on February 3rd and 4th, consider joining LIPW for 2 different opportunities to hear Earl and Pat Martin share stories of their time in Vietnam in the 60's, where they were MCC workers during the war.

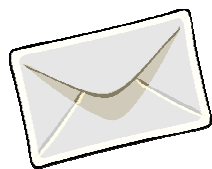
Saturday, Feb. 3rd, 7:00 pm, at Grandview United Methodist, 888 Pleasure Rd.

OR

Sunday, Feb. 4th, 3:00 pm, at Trinity Reformed UCC, 450 W. Main St, Mountville (off Columbia Ave.)

Questions? Ask Sue Heilman

2018 OFFERING ENVELOPES



The 2018 offering envelope boxes are available for pick-up in the Parish Hall (Chestnut Street side). In order to help our Counters and to keep accurate account of your contributions, we encourage the use of offering envelopes. If you don't see your name on a labeled box or if you would like to start using envelopes, please call the church office.

HELP US SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS—NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED

We are happy to report that our new web streaming camera is up and running! We are looking for members who would be interested in helping with the web streaming of our church services for all to see. *No experience required.* The time commitment is small and is whatever you can offer. Joe Way, a church member and tech consultant, will provide training. We are a dedicated group that works to highlight all the good news and happenings at St. John's and we hope that you will join us. For additional information please contact a committee member:

Debbie Carter, Jill Gross, Leslie Tahsler, or Joe Way

ST. JOHN'S 1915 TIME CAPSULE!

As many of us knew, there was a "1915" date stone behind the church sign in the small courtyard at the front of the church. What we didn't know was that it contained treasure from a time over 100 years ago. The discovery of the time capsule came as a complete surprise. The impetus for moving the date stone was to ensure that it would not be covered by the new concrete ramp. I was planning to move it up one to two feet so that it would look at home while staying in its original location. I had figured that it would be only 4" or so thick and that I would have no problem pulling it out as it was 14" H x 32" W. I was quite surprised to find out it was around 18" thick which allowed space for the time capsule. With the help of some Paul Risk workers, we loaded it onto our dolly and wheeled the 250+ lbs. stone into the Nave.



The materials in the time capsule were perfectly preserved in a copper box that was soldered shut and covered with a piece of slate mortared into place. While opening the time capsule on St. John's Sunday, December 17, I became quite nervous after the slate was removed and I discovered the copper box (which looked like a sheet of lead). After I removed the box and seeing that it was soldered shut, my brain was racing to find a way to open it. I did not want to grind it as this could produce sparks that could ignite the contents. Fortunately Bill Gross had tin snips that I used to cut off the top of the box. If I had more time I could have desoldered the lid, but this may also have ignited the contents if a flame was used. In the heat of the moment, and conscious of my limited amount of time, I opted to snip it open. Luckily I did not damage any of the perfectly preserved contents.

I don't have a list of the contents but I did see some things in passing. The two main Lancaster papers had articles on the Russian Revolution on their front pages and the other paper had an article on a Providence man who fell ten feet to his death, breaking his neck while picking cherries. There was a small book of prayers, several books wrapped in brown paper, some announcements and bulletins from the commemoration of the Parish Hall by the order of the Masons, three coins, and some other items.

The church has contacted Heather Tennies at the Lancaster Historical Society to inventory and assess the contents and to make a recommendation as to the best means of preservation. There will be discussions as to how we will handle these items and how we want to display them. There have also been conversations on whether or not to place a new time capsule either in the original location or in a new location. I am not an expert on time capsule etiquette, but I am confident that our Vestry will come up with a fine solution. It was my pleasure in opening the time capsule and I would be more than happy to open any more that are lying around!

Doug Brown, Construction Committee



WITH GRATITUDE

Dear St. John's friends:

My father, Robert Power, has been on our prayer list for at least a few years, due to his generally declining health from Parkinson's Disease and a few crises along the way. Dad died in late November, and he is now at peace.

My mom, brother, and I have been very thankful for your prayers on his (and our) behalf, and I will be forever grateful for the loving support of my St. John's family.

Sincerely,

Debbie Carter

PRAYER LIST

We offer our continued prayers for:

John Anders
 Camilla Anderson
 Bob Bailey
 Michael Brogan
 Frank Burris
 Patricia & Ralph Clare
 Paul & Molly Clark
 Nancy Cook
 Linda Frederiksen
 Aidan Freeman
 Carol Greenfield
 Alina Grobicki
 John Guetter
 Thetis Harvey
 Lynn Hayford
 Shannon Hickman
 Terry Koogle
 Kelly Lynch
 Andy Mausolf
 Kathy McNamara
 Cynthia Minnich
 Kevin & Mary Nourie
 Joan Power
 Ricky Ross
 Gloria Schnee
 Merle Schnee
 Stephanie Smith
 Christian Stigelman
 Martha Stroh
 Joana Torres & Kids
 Gary Weaver
 Melissa Williams
 Angelica Zander
 Paul
 Dianna
 Khyzeer
 Benny



*...and for our
 homebound
 parishioners*

Margaret Crothers
 Providence Eshelman
 Bette Lou Forsyth
 Michael Frantz
 Dyls Glew
 Cricket Johnson
 Ellen Keller
 Joan Lahr
 Fritz Lawrence
 Don Lovett
 Barbara McKee
 Nancy Nemith
 Peter Plaxa
 Joan Rahe
 Gray Sellers
 Marjorie Seachrist
 Ricky Smith
 Joanna Sweeney
 Sandra Wengert

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 contact Patti Means in the church office.

*Laurel Hobbins, Matthew James,
 Alex Kelly, Kirby Kinderwater,
 Kyle Kinderwater, Kyle Kulka,
 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
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
Lisman, Luke	24
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



VOYAGERS

The Voyagers are pleased to invite you to join with them at the first meeting of 2018 to welcome our Assistant Verger, Kathy Kyper, who will tell us about her role at St. John's.

Many of us appreciate the valuable services given to us by the Vergers but know little about their many duties. The get-together will be held on Saturday, January 27, from 10:00 until 11:30 a.m. with fellowship, fun, and food.

We hope to see you then!

