

December Highlights:

- Pg 2 Christmas Services
- Pg 3 Global Partnership
Angel Tree
- Pg 4 Bishop's Visit
Voyagers
- Pg 5 Eagle's Nest
- Pg 6 Knit Sale
Live Nativity
- Pg 7 Senior Warden
Property Corner
- Pg 8 Children/Youth
- Pg 10 Jubilee Ministry
- Pg 11 Adult Forum
Puerto Rico Trip
- Pg 12 Coffee Hour
Women's Group
- Pg 13 Capital Campaign
Gifts That Give
- Pg 14 Serving Schedule
- Pg 15 Christmas Servers
Christmas Flowers

Weekly

Sundays:

- 8:00AM Holy Eucharist
- 9:00AM Fellowship
- 9:30AM Sunday School
- 10:15AM Holy Eucharist
with Choir

Wednesdays:

- 12:05PM Healing Service
with Holy Eucharist



The Messenger



December 2019

A MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR

Dear St. John's,

"The season of Advent means there is something on the horizon the likes of which we have never seen before... What is possible is to not see it, to miss it, to turn just as it brushes past you. And you begin to grasp what it was you missed, like Moses in the cleft of the rock, watching God's back fade in the distance. So stay. Sit. Linger. Tarry. Ponder. Wait. Behold. Wonder. There will be time enough for running. For rushing. For worrying. For pushing. For now, stay. Wait. Something is on the horizon."

Every year I find myself being drawn to this quote written by artist and author Jan L. Richardson. It's hard to believe that the season of Advent is upon us. Advent, which means *coming*, is a time of preparation, of patience, of remembering what grounds and sustains us. Over the course of the next four weeks, we are invited to prepare our hearts and lives to celebrate and receive the Christ child once again. Yet, the season of Advent is about more than celebrating the birth of our savior. We are also invited to watch, and hope, and anticipate the day when Christ will come again. It's the second coming of Christ that I hope draws our attention this year.



Every year at this time, I find myself asking the question, "How do we prepare for the coming of Christ?" As Jan Richardson so beautifully stated, we wait and while we wait, we repent and get our lives or priorities in order. We trust in God's promises of ushering in a new heaven and a new earth. We pay attention to the darkness in the world - we deepen our sensitivities to the people and places desperate for God's kingdom to break through and then we pray and act. Most importantly, we prepare by acknowledging our own longing for a savior.

During this holy and sacred time, I invite you to wait, ponder, sit, wonder, and behold right here at St. John's. Linger around coffee hour a little longer on Sunday mornings and connect with those who wait with you. Imagine the fulfillment of God's promises while sitting in a pew on a random lunch break. Behold the gift of Christ's presence in the bread and wine each week. Consider St. John's a safe space away from the hustle and bustle of daily life this December. Who knows, perhaps you'll even discover the light of Christ breaking through the darkness right here and now.

I remain faithfully yours, *Amanda*

DEC BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|--------------------|----|
| Meikrantz, Marcia | 2 |
| Wear, Charles | 2 |
| Hayford, Lynn | 6 |
| Hale, Julia | 7 |
| Braught, Charley | 8 |
| Honaman, Eleanor | 8 |
| Gross, Jill | 9 |
| Walden, Gretchen | 9 |
| Moyer, Brad | 12 |
| Parmer, Shirley | 15 |
| Honaman, Fred | 16 |
| D'Urbano, Faith | 17 |
| Stonerook, Kendall | 18 |
| Brown, Polly Ann | 19 |
| Jackson, Len | 19 |
| Krueger, Randy | 19 |
| Summers, Ed | 21 |
| Brown, Jan | 24 |
| Kintner, Jenny | 24 |
| Latshaw, Steve | 24 |
| Crothers, Jim | 25 |
| Schnee, Donna | 25 |
| Brenton, Richard | 26 |
| Dorgan, Dan | 29 |
| Means, Allen | 29 |
| Zeller, Jeannie | 29 |
| Kilp, Adam | 30 |
| Grove, Ned | 31 |

DEC ANNIVERSARIES

| | |
|--------------------------|----|
| Dissinger, David & Amy | 17 |
| Kilhefner, Mike & Shelby | 1 |
| Latshaw, Steve & Karen | 28 |
| Schnee, Merle & Donna | 26 |
| Shevock, Tom & Christine | 3 |





*Christmas Eve Services
at St. John's Church*

3:30 P.M.
Holy Eucharist: Rite I
with Christmas Hymns

6:30 P.M.
Holy Eucharist: Rite II
with Nativity Pageant &
Christmas Hymns

9:30 P.M.
Prelude of Carols with Brass
Festive Holy Eucharist with
Incense & Christmas Hymns

Christmas Day Service

10:00 A.M.
Holy Eucharist: Rite II
with Piano & Violin

*St. John's Episcopal Church
321 W. Chestnut Street
Lancaster, PA 17603*

CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR...

Vonda Kirchner, Kingston Lowe, Sea Macleish, Mike Skilling, Ryan Smith

Homebound: Margaret Crothers, Michael Frantz, Cricket Johnson, Ellen Keller, Fritz Lawrence, Don Lovett, Nancy Nemith, Peter Plaza, Joan Rahe, Ricky Smith, Joanna Sweeney

Military: Brian Hobbins, Laurel Hobbins, Alex Kelly, Kirby Kinderwater, Kyle Kinderwater, Joshua Watkins, Cameron Watts

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGE

I AM, WE ARE...ONE WORLD: HERE, THERE, EVERYWHERE

**Global Partnership Challenge for Dec. 1
Advent Begins - Pearl Harbor Remembrance
Day on Dec. 7 -** `Hope is like peace. It is not a gift from God. It is a gift only we can give one another. _ *Elie Wiesel - Holocaust survivor*
As we step into a season of `gift giving_ let us give the gift most lasting of all - caring and love to ALL our brothers and sisters - Here, There, Everywhere

Global Partnership Challenge for Dec. 8
`Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. _ *Psalm 133*
The Angel Tree, the Soles4Souls collection, Community Breakfast, Eagle's Nest, Mission Trips, MLK Day, Scouts, welcoming doors to ALLŰ ..and SO many other opportunities for us to show our love to those - Here, There, Everywhere

**Global Partnership Challenge for Dec. 15 -
International Migrants Day on Dec. 18th as
declared by the United Nations in 2000**
`The beginning of love is to let those we love be perfectly themselves, and not to twist them to fit our own image. Otherwise we love only the reflection of ourselves we find in them. _
Thomas Merton

Global Partnership Challenge for Dec. 22
`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. _ *St. Augustine*
Best gift this ChristmasŰ .LOVE - give away caring to ALL - Here, There, Everywhere

Global Partnership Challenge for Dec. 29 -
Abraham Joshua Heschel diagnosed racism as an "eye disease" - an inner blindness resulting in the `inability to see the image of God in each and every person, which therefore is to see it in none. _ As we step into 2020, may we be cured of any eye disease and see that we are ALL Gods's children - NO exceptions - Here, There,



ANGEL TREE MINISTRY

There are still some tags left for the taking, with a **December 8** ingathering deadline. It is suggested that you place no more than 2-3 gifts in the bag for each tag. Please attach the tag to the gift when returning. If in doubt as to what to get, check the suggestion list posted at the Angel Tree table next to the tree in the Parish Hall. This year's gifts from St. John's will go to Eagle's Nest students, as well as newly arrived refugees from Congo, Sudan, Afghanistan, and Syria. The committee is working with Church World Service to make this happen. Thanks to Annie, Anne, Julia, and Helena!

THE BISHOP IS COMING!

(OK, not until February 9th, however it's never too early to prepare!)



With the Bishop's visit officially on the books, it is time to begin our preparations for her visit. One of the roles of our bishop is the Confirmation, Reception, and Reaffirmation of members of the parish.

In the 1979 prayer book, we find this introduction to the rite of **Confirmation**: 'Those baptized at an early age are expected, when they are ready and have been duly prepared, to make a mature public affirmation of their faith and commitment to the responsibilities of their Baptism and to receive the laying on of hands by the bishop.' (p. 412) Those baptized as children are usually confirmed during adolescence to publicly affirm for themselves the baptismal vows made for them by parents and godparents.

Reception refers to the rite by which a baptized Christian, confirmed by a bishop, is welcomed into the fellowship of the Episcopal Church. It too, is a public affirmation; like those being confirmed, candidates for reception also make a profession of faith and renew the Baptismal Covenant.

The rite of **Reaffirmation** is celebrated with a confirmed Episcopalian who, for personal reasons, wishes to again to publicly reaffirm their baptismal vows to the bishop and the community. It is comparable to a married couple publicly reaffirming their vows at significant times in their marriage. In both reception and reaffirmation, we pray that the Holy Spirit continues to transform and deepen the candidates' faith.

If you are interested in learning more or participating in these Sacramental Rites' Confirmation, Reception, or Reaffirmation' please let Amanda+ know by emailing amanda@stjohns-lancaster.org or calling the church office. Classes will begin in January!

VOYAGERS - No Meeting in December

The Voyagers will be out of port during the month of December, but we are eager to welcome fellow parishioners Ken and Polly Ann Brown for our January 25, 2020, get-together. The Browns will share their experiences about their life and work in Ethiopia. Look for more details in the January 'Messenger.' _ Until then, have a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!



EAGLE'S NEST

Our Eagle's Nest after school program began October 2nd, with 21 fourth and fifth grade students from Fulton Elementary School enrolled in the program. With 7 returning fifth graders, we welcomed 14 new students this year. We are grateful for the support of our Fulton teachers, who were instrumental in referring these students to Eagle's Nest. We are all excited to work with this large group of deserving students this year. Our staff of dedicated volunteers work hard each Wednesday to mentor and guide these students through a variety of activities that may include games, arts and crafts, homework assistance, journaling, field trips, meal planning, and cooking and family meal sharing.

In October, our Eagle's Nest students visited the Pottery Works, where 21 students were able to select and paint a unique piece of pottery. For Halloween, we enjoyed a party, complete with pumpkin painting, pumpkin bowling, and bobbing for apples.



Our November field trip was a visit to the local fire station. The fire fighters gave us a tour of the fire station and their equipment, complete with the chance to climb up into a firetruck and view each other through a thermal imaging device.

We were grateful for their informative presentation and patience in answering the many questions. A wonderful Thanksgiving meal was prepared and shared by all, including our personal thoughts on gratitude.

Many thanks to all who supported the Election Day Bake Sale, either through the donation of baked goods or by purchasing them. Proceeds from the bake sale are given to Eagle's Nest. We also want to thank Sue Mackey for the generous donation made to Eagle's Nest from the Block Party on Mulberry Street. This money is greatly appreciated, as it allows us to enrich the lives of our students through community field trips and activities.

I thank all of you in this congregation for your generous support of this ministry. To see the faces of these students light up each week is truly a gift.

Blessings,

Jean Gordon,
Director of the Eagle's Nest Program



MARTHA'S MINISTRY - KNIT SALE

St. Nick's Knit Sale is coming to our Parish Hall on December 1st and 8th. In addition to the many beautiful knitted items, there will be tea cozies, handmade chocolates, Anglican prayer beads, handmade soaps, and baked goods offered.

Every dollar you spend goes directly to our Eagle's Nest program!

The sale will be held between services and after the later service.

"See you at the knit sale!"

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 Flower Chart.**

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.



THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF CENTRAL PA PRESENTS: A LIVE NATIVITY



WHAT:
A celebration of the Christmas season featuring a nativity scene with donkeys, goats, and a camel; Christmas Carols; and pictures with St. Nicholas. This event is part of our Bishop Out of the Box series.

WHEN:
Friday, December 13th, 5:00-8:00 pm

WHERE:
St. Andrews in the Valley
4620 Lingiestown Rd
Harrisburg, PA 17112

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
Act as a biblical character, sing as an angel, greet people, and set up or tear down.

CONTACT:
Faith Niece
Diocesan Events Coordinator
fniece@diocesepa.org
(717)-236-2999 x1104

BISHOP OUT OF THE BOX is an attempt to showcase brave, innovative, and community-focused missional initiatives that you can be a part of, you can emulate, and you can use for your own experiments.



For more information or to sign up to volunteer, visit <https://diocesepa.org/bishopoutofthebox/>

SENIOR WARDEN'S MESSAGE

Your Vestry is diligently working with Amanda and the Finance Committee to finalize the 2020 budget. The most exciting part of the process is that it will be as close as we have ever gotten to a balanced budget! The mandate being followed is no withdrawal of funds from the endowment to cover our expenses. We will cut and fundraise to cover these, leaving the endowment to earn for our future.

This is my final Messenger article as Senior Warden. I believe endings to be a time of gratitude and reconciliation. My gratitude knows no bounds when it comes to those I have served with on the Vestry - one year as Junior Warden and 2 years as Senior Warden. All the Vestry members in those 3 years have been a great support and a good group to collaborate with, keeping the parish's best interest at heart.

I also owe great gratitude to Fr. John Morris, Fr. Glenn Miller, and to Rev. Amanda Knouse. Their able leadership as Rectors made the job of Senior Warden that much easier. I enjoyed working with all three. There were many moments of success to celebrate!

Thanks to the parish for the opportunity to serve. While my service was filled with many successes and high points in our parish life, there may have been times when things were not as successful. If I caused anyone to feel unheard, uninvited, or not disagreed with in a respectful way, I beg forgiveness.

I pray that everyone has a truly blessed Christmas and prosperous New Year!

Tom Bond

PROPERTY CORNER

1. Thanks to all who cleaned up the exterior of our church on Sunday, November 17th. Fall Clean-up will resume with interior items on Saturday morning, December 7. We hope to see you there as we prepare to celebrate the coming of our savior!
2. As Parish Hall floor refinishing was scheduled for Martin Luther King Day, in addition to Eagle's Nest, and Coffee Hour activities in the first three weeks of January, refinishing was rescheduled to start December 26 so that it will be ready for MLK Day and reduce the impact on Eagle's Nest, our after school program. We thank an anonymous donor for allowing St. John's to have this work done. And, we thank everyone for their understanding, as we navigate through this much needed maintenance in a much used space.
3. Basement window boxes were eliminated at the Concord Street sidewalk next to the Becker House. Brick pavers have replaced the deteriorating concrete, resulting in a much safer walking surface.
4. The HELP button in our elevator is there for individuals having an emergency. When pressed, it sends a call to our alarm company operator, who will ask if anyone is in need of emergency assistance. If not hearing back from the person on the elevator, the operator will assume that someone in the elevator needs emergency assistance and will have it sent. If you should accidentally press the button, please answer the operator so they know everything is okay and no one is in need of help.

ALL THINGS CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Thank you Dawn & Mike Williams, April & Joe Way and the youth for making the All Purpose room more welcoming. Please stop to see what an amazing job this group did!

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 1: We will not be having class this day but join us for the Advent Event starting with a potluck following the 10:15 service. We will be having a visit from St. Nicholas. Other activities include wreath making; cost is \$12 for the supplies. We ask for donations of live greens to be used to decorate the wreaths. We will decorate cookies and make cards for the homebound and our college students. If anyone would like to donate gift cards for our college students for their care packages before finals, please bring them on December 1. Come join us and enjoy the festivities. Sign-up at: SignUpGenius at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0a4ea8ab29a3fc1-advent>

December 7: Convocation activity as we join together at Saint James to celebrate the life of Nicholas of Myra (better known to us as St. Nicholas). As families arrive for the evening service, children are encouraged to leave their shoes in the chapel before going to the sanctuary, in stocking feet. St. Nicholas will be joining us for the service; join us to learn more about this famous church bishop. After the service, children will return to the chapel to retrieve their shoes filled with treats. The mass is a reminder of the generosity of St. Nicholas and how we are also called to a life of generosity.

December 8: If you ordered holiday greens you can pick up your greens in the All Purpose room after 9:00 AM.



December 24: The Christmas Pageant will be held at 6:30. We will be having rehearsal on Dec. 15 and Dec. 22, starting at 9:30. Please plan to be there if you would like to be part of the Pageant. Join us before the service at 5:00 for a family lasagna dinner! Please RSVP to Karen Di Pace.

SAVE THE DATE

Dec. 13 - Live Nativity at St. Andrew's in the Valley, Harrisburg, PA

Jan. 11 - Convocation game night at St. John's. We will be starting at 6:00 p.m. with a potluck. Watch the bulletin for details.

Jan. 20 - MLK Day

Feb. 2 - Scout Sunday & Souper Bowl Sunday

Feb. 8 - Gratitude Dinner at St. John's

Feb. 9 - Visit from the Bishop (probably Confirmation as well)

Feb. 14-17 - Happening at CML

Feb. 25 - Shrove Tuesday

Feb. 28-29 - Absalom Jones Event at St. Stephen's Cathedral

Watch the bulletin board outside of the kitchen for updates and more information on events.

FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES

Pretzel Sandwiches will not be available until January 2020. Thank you to everyone who buys sandwiches from us.

December 8 & 14: Cookie Sale, 14 assorted Christmas Cookies for \$6.00.

Thanks for supporting our younger members.

EPISCOPAL YOUTH EVENT

Date: July 7-11, 2020

Youth: Rising 10th Graders - Recent Graduates

Adults: 21 and Older

Location: University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland. Cost: \$500

ALL THINGS CHILDREN AND YOUTH CONTINUED...

A gathering of over 2,000 young Episcopalians that only happens once every three years! Each diocese throughout the church is invited to send youth and adult attendees. We are hoping to take 25 youth and 5 chaperones to the University of Maryland, MD for this once-in-a-lifetime experience. We will gather with people of faith from across the globe to have worship, workshops, public forums, and fellowship!

Come meet people from around the world, make connections that will forever change you, and spend time immersed in the Holy Spirit for a week! We will be starting registration in January - watch for details!



HAPPENING #13

The Peace of the Lord

What is Happening? Happening is a 3 day weekend retreat. It is led by teens, for teens. It is a truly magical spiritual journey in which you will grow closer to yourself, your friends, and God!

Who can attend? Anyone in Grades 9-12

When is it? February 14-16

Where is it? Camp Mount Luther

Why should I come to Happening? Happening is different than other youth retreats you may have been to. Of course, there will still be food, singing, friends, and fun! But there will also be much, much more! Many have said that Happening was a "life changing experience" for them. It could be for you, too!

Register at: www.diocesecpa.org

Questions? E-Mail cpayouth@gmail.com

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THIS YEAR'S
"HAPPENING"

JUBILEE MINISTRIES

Since 1988, St. John's has been designated by the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church as a Center for Jubilee Ministry because of the direct and dynamic link between our theology and our ethics, demonstrated in numerous outreach and neighborhood ministries. St. John's takes very seriously God's call to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked, and care for the sick. (*Matthew 25:35*)

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST SATURDAY, DEC 21 (Contact: Sue Martin)

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.

For those who volunteer regularly, please don't forget to let Dave or Sue Martin know if you can't help, so they can reach out to those listed as substitute helpers. Thanks!

MARTHA'S MINISTRY (Contact: Jeannie Zeller)

We're looking for knitters, crocheters, quilters, crafty folks.....

One of our goals as a Jubilee ministry is fellowship. We gather together every Tuesday, from 2-4 PM, in our Parish Hall to share ideas, friendship, and sometimes tasty treats. Please join us when you have the time.

We have plenty of yarn to share!

FULTON SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP (Contact: Dave or Sue Martin)

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

FOOD PANTRY (Contact: Debbie Carter)

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 in need and are distributed from the courtyard entrance to our Parish Hall on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

GROCERY CARDS (Contact: Sue Tobie)

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.**

Sunday sales in the Parish Hall for **October** was **\$4,140** of this **\$207 (5%)** went to our **Jubilee Ministries**. Thank you!!

**GIANT
JOHN HERR'S
STAUFFER'S
WEIS**

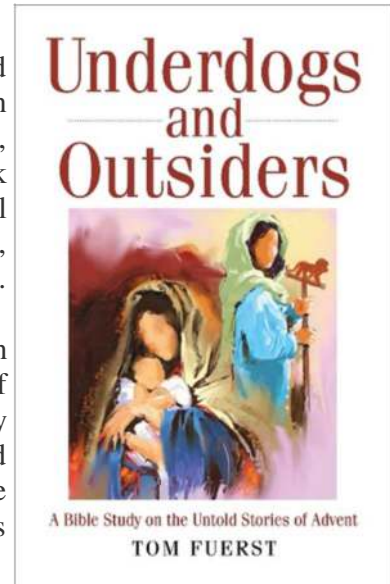
ADULT FORUM - DECEMBER

UNDERDOGS AND OUTSIDERS by Tom Fuerst

Sundays in December 8, 15, 22 @ 11:30 a.m. in the All-Purpose Room

The Bible is full of surprises. At every turn, from the beginning of the Old Testament right through the end of the New, we find God working in unexpected, even strange ways to bring about God's purposes. During Advent, remembering this strange history of God working in our world helps us look forward to the birth of God's Son, Jesus. As if to remind us of this, the Gospel of Matthew presents a genealogy of Jesus before telling the story of his birth, including subtle references to the times God worked through unlikely people.

Matthew names five women in the family tree of Jesus: Tamar, a forgotten daughter-in-law and widow; Rahab, a prostitute; Ruth, a foreigner; the wife of Uriah, an adulteress; and of course Mary, a young virgin. This Advent study explores the stories of each of these five women, showing how they all played a pivotal role in God's purposes. Through the Old Testament stories the Gospel draws upon, Matthew reminds us to look for God in unexpected places during this Advent season. *(From the foreword)*



Books can be purchased on Amazon at

<https://www.amazon.com/Underdogs-Outsiders-Untold-Stories-Advent/dp/1501824287>

PUERTO RICO MISSION TRIP

In August 2018 and February 2019, an ecumenical group from Lancaster traveled to Arecibo, Puerto Rico to help the rebuild effort as a result of the devastation of Hurricane Maria in 2017. A third Mission Trip to Arecibo is planned this coming February 16-22, 2020, to continue that work and support the community still recovering. Dave Overbagh, Scott and Sherry Qualls, and Don Durand will be joining them from St. John's.



There are a variety of ways we can help support their efforts. We can offer prayers for the work they will do and the people they will serve, and we can help financially. Please mark your calendars for a fundraising event at the **Iron Brewery & Restaurant on December 2**. Twenty percent of the proceeds that day will be given for the trip. If interested, you must have a coupon. You can find the coupons in the back of the church or see Don.

You can also donate online at:

<https://onrealm.org/saintjameslanaster/Give/JTGZQWYZAU>

Thank you for your support of our neighbors in need and those committed to serving those needs!

COFFEE HOUR NEWS



"No Longer the Same Old Grind"

Here's the plan to reorganize Coffee Hour hosting duties. We will have 12 teams of approximately 12 families. A volunteer captain for each group will coordinate the coffee hour duties every 3 months as the group's turn comes back up. It only takes a couple people to man the kitchen each coffee hour with a few donated snacks. It is not likely that the same people within each group will be called upon EVERY 3 months...although, if barista is in your blood, no one is going to turn you away!

The new plan begins on January 19 after the Parish Hall floors are refinished, so let's get organized! Open up that group email that you thought was spam and reply today or email Gretchen Walden at

ST. JOHN'S WOMEN'S GATHERING

The St. John's women's group will be holding their next gathering on Sunday, December 8th at 6:00 p.m. at "551 West" (located at 551 West King Street, Lancaster).

Another evening of fellowship is anticipated along with a fun secret Santa exchange, items under \$10 or handmade. We will have spares, so don't worry if you forget!

All St. John's women are invited and encouraged to attend for a great evening!

Please RSVP to Karen Di Pace at karen.dipace@gmail.com



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PHASE II

Honoring Our Past... Securing Our Future - Submitted by Rosemary Coverly, Co-Chair

As we begin this Advent season, we are reminded of the most incredible gift the world has ever known – the birth of Jesus, given to us by God the Father. Perhaps this is where the beautiful tradition of gift-giving at this time of year originated.

There are many worthy recipients of our generosity -- medical research, educational and cultural organizations, caring for the less fortunate and, of course, St. John's. During this season of giving, please consider contributing a new or additional gift to our capital campaign. You will help pay the remaining balance on our renovations' loan and reduce the total amount we will owe by decreasing the interest we pay each month – currently approximately \$2,000.

In lieu of a cash contribution, you might be able to take advantage of one of the following tax-saving options when making a charitable gift:

Gifts from an IRA

When you're 70 ½ or older, instead of taking your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD), you may make what's called a **Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) directly to St. John's**. You are not entitled to a charitable deduction, but unlike an RMD, your donation won't increase your taxable income. For example, if you are in a 20% tax bracket and take an RMD of \$5,000, you will owe \$1,000 in federal taxes. If instead you make a QCD to St. John's, the church will receive the full \$5,000 and you will not be taxed.

Gifts of appreciated property held more than one year

The tax code is very generous toward giving publicly traded stocks, mutual fund shares, bonds and other marketable property. **Giving the asset to St. John's** eliminates potential capital gains taxes. St. John's, as a tax-exempt entity, will realize the full market value, less transaction costs, at the time of sale.

If you choose one of the above methods to make a new or additional gift to the capital campaign, please contact Financial Secretary Gina Keiser, Pastor Amanda or Rosemary Coverly for a special contribution form. Otherwise a check to St. John's clearly marked "Capital Campaign 2_" will be credited appropriately. All gifts of any amount are greatly appreciated.



Give gifts.
Give hope.
Change lives.

Visit with 30 nonprofits that provide life-changing benefits to people within our community and around the world. Purchase charitable gift donations to honor loved ones on your holiday shopping list with meaningful gifts of hope. Each gift includes a beautiful greeting card and an explanatory insert. Enjoy local culinary delights, a fair-trade marketplace, kids' activities, and an inspiring community atmosphere.

THE JUNCTION CENTER, 1875 Junction Road, Manheim, PA 17545

DECEMBER 7: 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

DECEMBER SERVER SCHEDULE

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 to let us know of the change.

| | DEC 1 | DEC 8 | DEC 15 | DEC 22 | DEC 29 |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| 8:00 AM | | | | | |
| LEM | M. Moyer | P. Purdy | N. Pham | S. Purdy | T. Bond |
| Lector | S. Latshaw | S. Tobie | B. Landis | N. Pham | P. Purdy |
| Altar Guild | Team 1 | Team 4 | Team 3 | Team 2 | Team 4 |
| Ushers | 8:00 AM | 8:00 AM | 8:00 AM | 8:00 AM | 8:00 AM |
| Web | L. Tahsler | L. Tahsler | L. Tahsler | J. Way | J. Way |
| Coffee Hour | Property | Bells | Community Breakfast | LEV's | <i>(No Coffee Hour)</i> |
| 10:15 AM | DEC 1 | DEC 8 | DEC 15 | DEC 22 | DEC 29 |
| LEM | Mausolf/Stank | B.Moyer/CWG | D. Di Pace/G. Miller | Novose/Phillips | Stank/CWG |
| Lector | K. Bomberger | G. Way | J. Cliff | K. Kiedrowski | S. Zuke |
| Intercessor | E. Nelson | B. Moyer | J. Zeller | F. Gouviea | H. Trenary |
| Server | H. Williams | H. Carroll | K. Stone | K. Morgan | O. Williams |
| Crucifer | G. Miller | O. Williams | D. Pennell | B. Kilp | G. Miller |
| Torches | F. & L. Mausolf | E. Carroll/C. Way | C. & S. Thompson | Gustafson/Way | E. & S. Hale |
| Altar Guild | Team 1 | Team 4 | Team 3 | Team 2 | Team 4 |
| Bell Ringer | H. Williams | G. Alexander | D. Di Pace | L. Hayford | G. Alexander |
| Ushers | Team A | Team B | Team C | Team D | Team D <i>(5th Sun)</i> |
| Greeter | T. Loose | P. Novosel | B. Waskowicz | D. Martin | B. Zuke |
| Web | L. Tahsler | L. Tahsler | L. Tahsler | J. Way | J. Way |
| Coffee Hour | Property | Bells | Community Breakfast | LEV's | <i>(No Coffee Hour)</i> |
| Nursery | L. Morgan | S. Bowser | K. Mausolf | M. Kilp | P. Gbur |

CHRISTMAS EVE & CHRISTMAS DAY SERVING SCHEDULE

| DEC 24 | 3:30 PM | 6:30 PM | 9:30 PM |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| LEM | S. Purdy, M. Stank | B. Moyer, M. Moyer | E. Di Pace, E. Phillips |
| Lector | S. Tobie | -- | C. Weaver-Gelzer |
| Intercessor | S. Purdy | -- | D. Di Pace |
| Server | -- | J. Hale | H. Williams |
| Crucifer | B. Kilp | -- | -- |
| Torches | -- | F. & L. Mausolf | D. & N. Di Pace |
| Altar Guild | L. Tahsler | M. Moyer | S. Qualls |
| Bell Ringer | S. Gromis | L. Hayford | B. Zuke |
| Ushers | Graeter, Gromis, Sherman, Snyder | Cliff, Di Pace, Hale, Waskowicz | Bomberger, Brenton, Dorgan, Zuke |
| Greeter | -- | -- | -- |
| Web Streamer | -- | -- | -- |
| Coffee Hour | -- | -- | -- |
| Nursery | -- | -- | -- |



Remember Your Loved Ones

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING NAMES FOR CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS IS DECEMBER 15.

Please complete and return to the church office, along with your check made payable to: **ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**. You may also place your donation in the offering plate on any Sunday. Thank you

REMEMBERING (Names only please, not association): _____

GIVEN BY: _____

AMOUNT: \$ _____

MY CHECK #: _____



St. John's Church
321 W. Chestnut St.,
Lancaster, PA 17603

