

# The Messenger

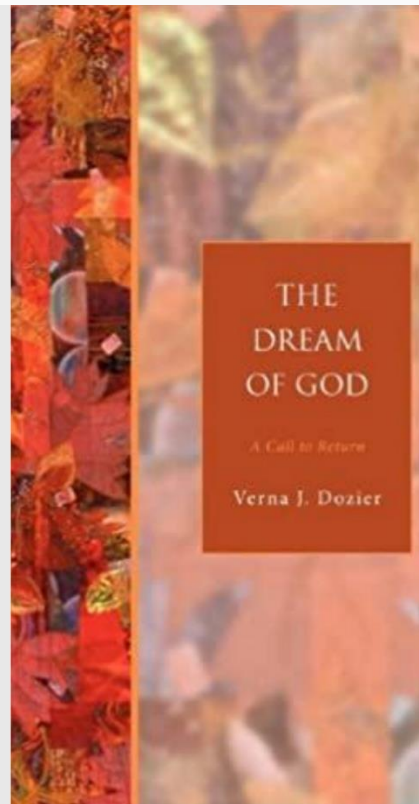


## A MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR:

*"What happens on Sunday morning is not half as important as what happens on Monday morning. In fact what happens on Sunday morning is judged by what happens on Monday morning." (p. 115)*

### Introducing our first All-Parish Read

Stay connected through the gift of the written word! Each month we will read a book and then gather on zoom the last Wednesday of the month to share our thoughts and reflections. Weekly questions and prompts will also be posted on our blog and facebook page. For September, we will be reading "The Dream of God," by Verna J. Dozier. You can find it on Amazon or in most bookstores.



## **A MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER OF MUSIC, PAUL REESE:**

Dear St John's Family,

So many of you have shared with me over the past few weeks how much our time together has meant to you. Your kindness has been overwhelming! I have been uplifted to hear personally from so many of you, and it is good to know all the long hours of practice behind the scenes have gone to good purpose.

Given your warmth of feeling and words, I want you all to know how very much you too have been ministers to me during these years. I came to St John's eight years ago a different person, and I leave a better person. A better person, a better musician, and more excited about loving and serving Jesus. You all have played an important part in that development, and I thank you for ministering to me.

I was originally enthralled by the stunning beauty of the St John's building. I happened in one Sunday between services and was immediately met and greeted by Aaron Spicher, who gave me an impromptu tour. That very day I purposed to become organist at St John's, and sure enough, it happened. What I came to realize was that St John's is not just a beautiful place, it is full of beautiful people. And by that I mean warm, caring, hardworking, and enthusiastic. In taking the role of musician at St John's, I joined a beautiful people rooted in Lancaster City, and have had the privilege of being a fellow minister along with you.

St John's was the first church position where the word "minister" was in my job title. In other churches, there is a great distinction between clergy and musician. At St John's, that distinction is not erased, but each priest has welcomed me as a fellow minister and shared the role of ministry in public worship. The interaction between music and liturgy thrives in dialogue, each adding to and supporting the other. That the priests at St John's not only allowed but invited and encouraged this relationship has been a humbling and inspirational experience. Thank you Father Morris, Father Miller and Amanda!

I would be remiss if I did not specifically mention the faithful St John's choir. It's an understatement to say you are a wonderful group of people. My conception of what a church choir can be is forever changed because of you. Thank you for giving of yourselves as a sacrifice of praise.

Blessings,  
**Paul Reese**

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*A  
Homestaying  
Celebration*

SEPTEMBER 13 AT 10:00AM

This year our Homecoming celebration is going to look a little different, but we're still going to celebrate. Join us in person (space is limited) or online for our **Homestaying** celebration. We have before us an opportunity to celebrate the gift of staying:

Stay Hopeful  
Stay Safe  
Stay Generous  
Stay Prayerful  
Stay Encouraged  
Stay Beloved  
Stay Faithful  
Stay Mindful  
Stay Neighborly

Most Importantly: **STAY CONNECTED!**

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## **COMMUNITY BREAKFAST NEWS:**

Dear St. John's Friends,

The good news is that Saturday breakfast is returning to First Reformed starting in September!! This is a great step. Bad news is that we will serve outside, "brown bag" only, and not enter the church kitchen at all. BUT, we can do this as requested and pray for a full return when it is safe. For those of us who are anxious to get back to volunteering, there are definitely limits, and we can't use everyone. First Reformed Church volunteers are taking over from the Moravian Church group on Saturday, Sept. 19 and 26. We have been invited to check out their process by distant observation. The rotation will return in October, with Saturday the 17th as our first official feeding opportunity. While there will be a need for folks to greet and hand out a bag (using a table in front of the garage doors), it will not be more than two or three. The greater need will be to plan and shop on Friday (Oct. 16) and prepare bags in our kitchen, and transport to First Reformed, between 8:00 and 9:00 AM on Saturday morning October 17. We will have a better idea of numbers (although we are told it has gone down), and what supplies we will need to have. This has generally been a cold meal, but it could be possible to create breakfast sandwiches in our kitchen and wrap to keep warm. I believe that observing the process on the two Saturdays in September will assist our planning. So hang tight! Thanks for your faithful patience.

**Sue Martin**

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## **STAY CONNECTED:**

There are multiple ways to stay connected as we navigate re-entry. For those of you desiring to stay home please join us for worship on our [YouTube](#) page Sundays at 10:00AM. In addition, check our [Facebook](#) page often for information, prayers, ministry opportunities, etc. For those desiring to worship in person, please check the [Website](#) for the sign up sheet. Each Monday we will post the sign up sheet for the following week. Please make sure to read the [Re-entry Letter](#) and the [Re-Entry Plan Brochure](#) thoroughly before returning.

Know our prayers continue as you discern how to stay connected.

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**GROCERY COUPONS FOR SALE AGAIN:**

Please support our Jubilee Ministries by purchasing grocery cards!

St. John's receives 5% of each card's value and the purchaser receives 100% of the value of each card. So for every \$100 card purchase, \$5 goes to Jubilee. We will start by participants mailing checks made out to St John's with grocery coupons written in the memo line. Please mail check to church office: 321 W. Chestnut St. Lancaster PA 17603.

Please note on a separate paper or in the memo section which grocery store(s) cards you would like to purchase. We offer \$100 cards from WEIS, STAUFFERS, JOHN HERRS and GIANT. Giant alone offers a \$20 card option. Please clarify if you want the \$20 card or the \$100 card for Giant.

Our goal is to get the grocery card to you within the week. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Sue Tobie. All request will be processed once received. Gift cards can be picked up at the church office or placed in the mail.

Our grocery card sales for the months of July and August were \$3,060.

Please note that we will not be taking verbal request for cards during service. Thank you all for your understanding and participation during this time of distancing due to COVID-19.

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### **Prayers and Considerations for Helping the Issa Family During these Difficult Times.**

If you attended the forum in the Parish House which featured a program by Church World Service during late winter you might remember being introduced to a refugee family from Sudan which has connections to St. John's. The mother (Mariam) is pictured with her 6 children in the attachment.

Mariam was working at a local motel just off of the Manheim Pike in housekeeping. She was laid off as a result of reduced business at the motel. The owners of the motel have indicated full staffing would only resume upon increased business, and who knows when that will occur. She would like some work which fits her skills. Djalale, the youngest boy, who is 14 is also interested in any outside work - like caring for the lawn, weeding, etc. If anyone, or you know of anyone who can make use of these offerings by the members of this family please contact Dave Martin at 717-519-2691 or by email - [mdsmartinduncan@aol.com](mailto:mdsmartinduncan@aol.com). for more detailed information. They are having a stressful time in an already difficult and complex world.

Any prayers and considerations for helping would be a blessing. - **Dave Martin**

***"It takes a village to raise a child."  
African Proverb***

## **The Village at St. John's**

**321 W. Chestnut Street  
Lancaster, PA 17603**



### **What is The Village?**

The Village is a program created to support the academic and social well-being of students at Fulton Elementary school. With classes moving online, the need for social interaction, help navigating online assignments, and accessibility to internet is crucial. We believe it takes a village to raise a child and hope opening The Village will enable students to thrive this school year.

There is no cost to attend this program. Students and volunteers will be required to wear masks and practice social distancing.

***Sign up for one or more of  
the following sessions:***

***Monday:***

***8:30 AM - 12 PM (K-5 grade)***

***Wednesday:***

***10 AM - 12 PM (K-2 grade)***

***12:30 PM - 2:30 PM (3-5 grade)***

***A bagged lunch will be provided for  
students attending.***

***Space is limited, so register today!***

**To register click here: [The Village Registration Form](#)**



**FOOD PANTRY IS HELPING TO MEET INCREASING NEEDS:**

Dear St. John's Family,

During this pandemic, most of our ministries have had to adapt, and our Food Pantry is no exception. We've streamlined our process and added cleaning and distancing precautions. Maria Weaver-Hollowniczky, whose official responsibilities are in nursery and security, has become the public face of our food pantry, distributing food and occasionally delivering a box or two. From 2017 through 2019, we gave out an average of just over 8 boxes of food per week. But from April through August of this year, we have served an average of 26 families each week! This has only been possible because you have stepped up your giving, of both food and money, to enable us to provide for our neighbors' increased needs. (And we've temporarily taken over a Sunday school room as a warehouse!)

Many thanks to Maria and our 3 teams of volunteer buyer-packers, who have researched bulk buying options and kept the food flowing in and out!

**Debbie Carter, Food Pantry Coordinator**

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# YARD GIVE

## A MESSAGE FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE:

*“Take what you need; give what you can”* has been the Yard Give motto for the last five years, but not in our wildest dreams could we have imagined what that meant before this year’s Yard Give.

First, parishioners cleaned out their closets in a huge way! During July, the Stewardship Committee used the auditorium stage to collect donated items. But by the last two weeks of collection, we had outgrown that space and we were working our way down the sides of the auditorium.

Volunteers sorted all the items onto the tables in the Parish Hall and the Auditorium. Clothing and accessories dripped off the tables in the Parish Hall, and the Auditorium was filled with electronics, appliances, art, tools, kitchen items, small chairs, lamps, toys, office supplies, decorations, and books galore. When we opened the doors on Friday, August 7th at 7:00am, the magic started. There were already seven people waiting to enter the building. Yard Sale regulars, neighbors, and folks from every walk of life walked through the doors of our church to find their treasures. Some were in search of a bargain while others found necessities that they couldn’t otherwise afford. We estimate that we saw between 100-150 shoppers over the course of the 2 days. Thankfully, we had dedicated volunteers that helped at the various levels and entrances of our church. These volunteers welcomed the people, helped to maintain safe practices, and shared our beautiful campus with those who came to shop. These volunteers heard many stories of gratitude for our work at St. John’s.

We met Lily, who fled domestic violence in New Jersey. She has been staying on the couch of someone who lets her stay with him in exchange for a small fee and cooking and cleaning. We watched a single mother with teenage twin boys who regularly get food from our food bank bring a toy that they no longer could use in exchange for some clothing that fit their growing bodies. A neighbor, who is not a parishioner but knows the work of the Yard Give, asked us to give out \$20 bills that she provided to those coming to the Yard Give in need. *It was just one God Moment after another.*

Thank you St. John's for continuing to carry out this ministry of being good stewards to our environment, our neighbors and each other.

#### FINANCIAL UPDATE:

Pledge and offering income for August was on budget while year to date remains about 5% ahead of budget. Overall expenses are also favorable. Through August, **no withdrawals** from our investment account have been required to meet our operating cash flow requirements, thanks in part to Paycheck Protection Program funding.

C. Wear - Treasurer

#### St. John's Episcopal Church

#### Budget vs. Actual

As of August 31, 2020

#### Operating Statement: Cash Basis

	August Actual MTD	2020 Actual YTD	2020 Budget YTD
<b>Income</b>			
Pledge & Offering	\$34,470	\$284,879	\$271,266
Draw from Investments	\$0	\$0	\$32,356
Other Income	\$1,315	\$34,669	\$14,400
Jubilee Ministries	\$3,656	\$23,205	\$53,066
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$39,441</b>	<b>\$342,753</b>	<b>\$371,088</b>
<b>Expense</b>			
All Expenses	\$45,566	\$360,450	\$391,925
<b>Net Surplus/(Shortfall)</b>	<b>(\$6,125)</b>	<b>(\$17,697)</b>	<b>(\$20,837)</b>

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

# MEN'S GATHERING: PIZZA AND PRAYER

MEET US AT THE LABYRINTH ON  
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2020

@  
4:00PM

Bring a comfortable chair and your favorite beverage.  
Pizza and salad will be provided!



**ST. JOHN'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**WOMEN'S  
PICNIC  
GATHERING**



**SUNDAY,  
SEPTEMBER  
13TH**

**2:00PM**

**LONGS PARK**

**BRING YOUR LUNCH,  
YOUR COMFORTABLE  
CHAIR AND  
LET'S CATCH UP!**

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH PRESENTS

# CHILDREN'S CHURCH

CALLING ALL YOUTH  
GRADES: PRE-K - 8TH

BEGINS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2020

1ST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH -  
CHILDREN'S CHAPEL AT ST. JOHN'S  
FROM 10:00AM - 11:00AM

2ND - 5TH SUNDAYS -  
CHILDREN'S CHURCH ON ZOOM  
FROM 9:00AM - 9:50AM

PLEASE REGISTER YOUR CHILD AT  
[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/STJREGISTRATION](https://tinyurl.com/stjregistration)



## **GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGE**

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

“God cannot be found by weighing the present against the future or the past, but only by sinking into the heart of the present as it is.” Thomas Merton

Ask yourself: How can I be a positive child of God to my brothers and sisters - Then do some act to help others.

#### **September 6th (Labor Day September 7th)**

This Labor Day, act on thanking people around you who have helped you in this difficult time.... Teachers, healthcare workers, grocery store workers, postal workers, garbage workers, everyone.

#### **September 13th**

“Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.” It was Peter who answered, “Lord,” he said, “If it is you, tell me to come to you across the water. “Come” said Jesus. - *Matthew 14*

What is the boat I am being asked to get out of?”

#### **September 20th (International Peace Day September 21st)**

“Mankind must remember that peace is not God’s gift to His creatures; peace is our gift to each other.” - Elie Wiesel

Make a pledge with yourself to an act of peace to those

#### **September 27th (National Good Neighbor Day September 28th)**

“All of us, at some time or other, need help. Whether we’re giving or receiving help, each one of us has something valuable to bring to this world. That’s one of the things that connects us as neighbors - in our own way, each one of us is a giver and a receiver.” Fred Rogers

While we are not “together” physically at church as we were in the past, we are “still together” - just differently. Celebrate those connections, those smiles.

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# September Birthdays

**John Miller 1**  
**Vince McGee 2**  
**Sea Macleish 3**  
**Suzanne Ali 3**  
**Paula Wolf 3**  
**Leslie Morgan 4**  
**Deborah Logan 6**  
**John Waskowicz 7**  
**Alvena Kuser 8**  
**Barbara Snyder 9**  
**Jeffrey Stone 11**  
**Dale Freeman 12**  
**Katherine Mausolf 12**  
**Ross Clark 12**  
**Amy Dissinger 13**  
**Sue Heilman 13**

**Ann Marie Lovett 14**  
**Carol Ann Stigelman 14**  
**Jay Noble 14**  
**Elizabeth Murphy 15**  
**Graham Welaish 17**  
**Marianne Eckert 18**  
**Fiona Mausolf 18**  
**Stephen Forry 19**  
**Robert Springer 19**  
**Natalie Visco 19**  
**John Mann 21**  
**Robert Lee 22**  
**Henry Noble 22**  
**Maxwell Lester 27**  
**Christine Cummins 29**

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Andrew & Mia Welaish 5  
James & Barbara Snyder 7  
The Rev. Bill & Carolyn Archer 8  
The Rev. Amanda & John Knouse 13  
Dr. Neil Clark & Ms. Susan Burlingame 24

**SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES**