

The Messenger



February 2022

A MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR

Dear St. John's,

One of my favorite moments in scripture is when Jesus walks along the shore and yells out to a couple of fishermen. With a simple statement, Jesus invites two brothers to drop what they are doing and follow him. The crazy part is they do it! Like the disciples, I've witnessed many of you accept a similar invitation from Christ.

In March of 2020, just a week before the pandemic paralyzed our nation, The Rev. Matt MacDougall said yes to a call to serve as Associate Rector of our parish. For two years, Matt+ has served faithfully as we navigated our way through online church, zoom forums, and the search for a new Music Minister. Matt+ also follows a call to empower young people and serves as a social studies teacher at York Catholic High School. Teaching is his greatest passion and one he is looking forward to focusing on in the coming years. To do that, Matt+ will be stepping down as the quarter-time Associate at the end of February. Don't worry, though. Matt+ will continue to celebrate, preach, and even teach some Adult Forums throughout the year. It has been an absolute joy getting to work alongside Matt+ during his tenure at St. John's.

The story of Jesus and the fishermen continues after those first two brothers drop their nets and accept Jesus' invitation. Jesus immediately turns to two others and extends the same offer. Hard to believe, but they, too, accept the call. Prior to my arrival at St. John's, there had always been two full-time clergy. Over the past two years, our financial challenges prevented me from calling someone full-time. I am happy to report that thanks to the current financial health of the parish, we are now able to step out in faith and hire a full-time assistant.

I am thrilled to announce that Jennifer Trenary has accepted the call to serve here at St. John's and will be joining the team beginning February 1. Many of you know Jen, but for those who do not, Jen is a candidate for Holy Orders in our diocese. She completed her seminary training at Lancaster Theological Seminary, ministered as Chaplain at Lebanon VA Medical Center, and serves as co-president of the Daughters of the King, Lancaster Chapter. Jen has an M.A. in Community Counseling and spent numerous years serving as a therapist specializing in children, adolescent, and family therapy. God willing and the people consenting, Jen will be ordained this spring or summer.

Jen is passionate about pastoral care, communications, and worship, and will be a fabulous addition to our St. John's family. Jen's desire to minister to those inside and outside of the church walls is a beautiful testimony to her faith. I look forward to seeing where Jesus leads us in the coming months and years! It's time to drop the nets and follow Jesus, St. John's!

I remain faithfully yours,
Amanda+

February Highlights:

- Pg 2 Nights of Light and Bead
- Pg 3 ALERT
Sock Drive
- Pg 4 Vestry Notes
Souper Bowl of Caring
- Pg 5 Financial Update
- Pg 6 Lenten Offering
- Pg 7 Deacon's Message
- Pg 8 Scout Sunday
- Pg 9 Pancakes To Go!
- Pg 10 GPC
Office Hours
- Pg 11 Calendar

Weekly

Sundays:

8:00 AM

Holy Eucharist Rite: I

9:15AM

Sunday School

10:15AM

Holy Eucharist Rite: II

Wednesdays:

12:05PM

Healing Service with
Holy Eucharist

Nights of Light & Bead

Join Deacon Stacey Catigano as she celebrates The Season of Epiphany by praying the Anglican Rosary. All Welcome.

When: Thursday Evenings/6:30-7:30 pm/January 20th & 27th/ February 3rd, 10th, 17th 24th. You are welcome to come to all or one evening.

Where: Held on Zoom. Pls Email Deacon Stacey for invite: Scatigano@gmail.com

What to Bring: Your heart, your smile and a set of Anglican Prayer Beads. A lit candle beside you is recommended.

Experience Required: None. A prayer guide sheet will be emailed to you and placed on Zoom to follow.



February Birthdays:

Garth Alexander	1
Alice Ofgang	2
Kylie Stone	3
Sue Zuke	3
Rosemary Coverly	4
Ben Webber	7
Joanie Kilhefner	7
Dan Farmer	8
Matt MacDougall	8
Ron Wenger	9
Alex Latshaw	9
Teresa Sullivan	10
Nancy Brenton	12
Scott Qualls	12
Callen Wendler	12
Joe Way	13
Isabella Wendler	14
Greyson Way	14
Joe Thompson	16
Carolyn Maxey	17
Tom Hobbins	18
Susan Burlingame	18
Mary Glazier	19
Sean Cliff	19
Emma Di Pace	21
Cindy Williams	22
Andy Carroll	22
Natalie Clark	23
Chris Stonerook24	
Kate Springer	24
Emily Gordon	24
Caleb Knouse	25
Anne Carroll	28

February Anniversaries:

Paul & Liz West	18
Janice & Kevin Henry	20
Edith & Howard Kane	24

Continued prayers for our Homebound:

Ellen Keller, Don Lovett, Nancy Nemith, Peter Plaxa, Ricky Smith, Joanna Sweeney, Carolyn McCarty

Military: Brian Hobbins, Laurel Hobbins, Alex Kelly, Kirby and Kyle Kinderwater, Joshua Watkins, Cameron Watts, Amelia Dissinger, Hunter Walden

A.L.E.R.T. BY DON DURAND

Last month (and this month!), there was a request for socks to be given to your A.L.E.R.T. representatives. You may be wondering, what is ALERT and who are the representatives? Allow me to enlighten you.

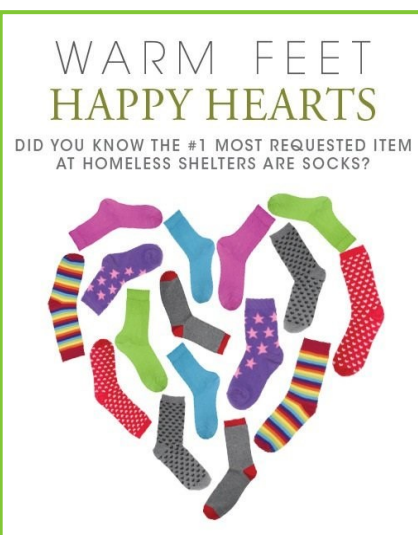
ALERT is the All Lancaster Episcopal Response Team. It is comprised of Lancaster County Episcopal Churches to offer support and help in emergency situations. It was formed in response to Hurricane Sandy. At that time, ALERT sent 137 five-gallon buckets of cleaning supplies to the impacted area.

Since then, we have provided in-person service and financial support to refugee families, participated in the Transform Jersey Shore rehab Program, shared in maintenance work at the Food Hub, helped staff the women's emergency shelter, offered financial assistance to several parishes impacted by natural disasters, assisted at Fresh Express, maintained the AIDS Garden, collected and distributed clothing and cleaning supplies as needed, and many other projects.

We meet monthly to determine what the current needs are and how we can respond to them. We use prayer as an important resource in our work. ALERT meetings are a delightful way to hear what other parishes are doing and enables us to make connections with our fellow siblings in Christ. We welcome new members willing to serve Christ with an open heart. At St. John's, Dave Martin and Don Durand are your local representatives. Give us a call to find out more!

SEE THE NEED. MEET THE NEED.

2ND ANNUAL SOCK DRIVE



Socks are one of the most needed, but least donated articles of clothing for our homeless neighbors. Please help us put cold feet into warm socks, by donating a pair of new socks. Gently used hats and gloves are also welcome.

Donations will help support Paramedic, Debbie Logan's, "Refresh Lancaster" mobile hygiene unit which offers showers and medical support at designated sites throughout Lancaster City and County.

For donation pick up please contact your A.L.E.R.T Representative or Stacey+ at 717-799-9764 or scatigano@gmail.com.

VESTRY NOTES BY JOHN GOUVEIA, SECRETARY

In past years, the January Vestry Meeting would be held as part of the annual Vestry Retreat. At the retreat we would examine the results of the past year and set goals for the coming year or years. Like many other things in this time of COVID, this had to be postponed. However, we did examine the results of the past year in order to set the stage for the retreat when we can then concentrate entirely on our upcoming opportunities.

There was a time when our financial report at the Annual Meeting would be accompanied by the theme from “The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly.” If we were to use a similar approach for 2021, we could use the hymn “How Firm a Foundation”. For the second consecutive year, we expanded our missions and simultaneously finished with a financial surplus. This was due to the generous giving of our members, the effective monitoring by our treasurer, the careful work of our committees, and yes, the use of the PPP funds. When we plan for the future, we believe we can count on your continued support in continuing our mission efforts and accepting the greater challenges in the church and the world.

Among the challenges we face in-house, we recognize that our current staffing level is not sustainable. Our rector believes in collaboration and St. Paul’s imagery of many members, one body. Our current staffing structure is missing some of those members. We also must support our Property Committee as they move to address our maintenance needs on an annual basis rather than relying on capital campaigns. We need to monitor our rental property more closely in the future so that we do not repeat our mistakes of the past.

As first steps in the process our new slate of Vestry Officers was chosen. Mary Waskowicz is the new Senior Warden. Leslie Morgan, John Gouveia, and Charles Wear were re-elected as Junior Warden, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Rector led a discussion on the new office hours that were implemented. The vestry has committed to support the Rector in her search for new staff members and great progress is being made. The work continues and the vestry is eager to follow God’s call to serve.

YOU ARE INVITED TO
The Souper Bowl of Caring
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2022



Takeout soups will be available from
9:15 - 10:00 and 11:30 - 12:00.
We welcome donations for the food pantry.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

December operating financials ended as expected, impacted by a budgeted income draw from our investment funds and various other transfers to and from restricted accounts to true-up end of year accounting. A surplus of \$27.8k was achieved for the full year, slightly ahead of budget. Lay staff savings off set overspending in property maintenance, office and audit expenses. Overall, the one-time PPP grant was key to our 2021 financial success.

C. Wear
Treasurer

St. John's Episcopal Church Operating Income Statement December 2021 Results Cash Basis in \$000's

	2021			2020		
	Dec	Year	Budget	Dec	Year	Budget
Income Sources						
Pledge Income	\$23.2	\$324.4	\$365.0	\$26.3	\$357.7	\$365.0
Other Total Contributions	\$12.4	\$59.6	\$38.7	\$13.0	\$53.8	\$41.9
Investment Draws	\$24.2	\$44.2	\$44.2	\$28.5	\$48.5	\$48.5
Designated Gifts	\$0.0	\$11.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$21.0	\$4.0
Grants	\$0.0	\$60.5	\$60.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
All Other Income	(\$12.0)	\$20.5	\$9.6	(\$7.9)	\$14.7	\$17.6
Jubilee	(\$4.3)	\$10.2	\$58.9	\$7.2	\$37.9	\$79.6
Total Income	\$43.5	\$530.4	\$576.8	\$67.1	\$533.6	\$556.6
Expenses						
Personnel	\$26.3	\$276.0	\$292.5	\$25.5	\$295.7	\$291.9
Vestry	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.4	\$0.0	\$0.4	\$0.4
Finance	\$0.6	\$12.8	\$6.6	\$0.6	\$7.3	\$6.3
Communications	\$1.0	\$18.6	\$14.3	\$1.2	\$14.7	\$12.4
Property	\$9.2	\$92.7	\$84.4	\$12.9	\$90.3	\$93.7
Education	\$2.0	\$2.9	\$2.8	\$0.1	\$0.4	\$1.3
Worship	\$1.7	\$8.9	\$10.5	\$3.1	\$9.6	\$12.2
Community	\$0.1	\$0.8	\$3.1	\$0.0	\$0.1	\$3.3
Outreach	\$7.0	\$80.3	\$79.8	\$7.0	\$87.3	\$87.3
Jubilee	\$2.6	\$9.5	\$60.4	\$1.2	\$30.0	\$79.4
Total Expenses	\$50.6	\$502.6	\$554.6	\$51.6	\$535.8	\$587.9
Net Surplus/(Shortfall)	(\$7.1)	\$27.8	\$22.3	\$15.5	(\$2.2)	(\$31.3)

A LENTEN OFFERING



Dear fellow pilgrims on the way,

In just a few short weeks, we will embark on our annual Lenten pilgrimage to the cross and the grave. Last year, we offered a Lenten Devotional written by our members. My journey through Lent was enriched by the words, stories, and reflections that were shared. I've heard many of you were also impacted by the discipline. The daily offerings connected us to each other and to the journey we share as God's beloved.

With the season of Lent quickly approaching, I look forward to offering this gift a second year, but we're going to need your help! We are looking for 40 people to reflect on a daily scripture passage and write a short reflection to help us on our Lenten journey's. You don't have to have a theological degree or wear a collar to share your thoughts on scripture!

Following are the instructions for writing your reflections.

1. Read your passage, pray, and write!
2. Your reflection should be no longer than 200-250 words. Remember brief is beautiful!
3. To submit your reflections simply write the date and passage at the top of the page and include your reflection below it.
4. All reflections need to be emailed to amanda@stjohns-lancaster.org by FEBRUARY 20.
5. There are no wrong ways to do this; whatever is speaking to your heart is what you should write. Remember personal connections make scripture come alive for others. If you are really struggling with what to write, call me! I'd be happy to work through it with you.
6. Make sure to write your name at the bottom of your reflection. (If you would like to remain anonymous we understand and will honor that, however we'd love to give credit where credit is due and I have found these writings to mean so much more when we know who they're coming from.)
7. Finally, enjoy this process. This practice is designed to inspire conversations with God and with each other.

If you would like to contribute to the St. John's Lenten Reflection Book, please sign up on our webpage at:

www.stjohns-lancaster.org

And remember, there are no age limits to this spiritual practice. Children, youth, young adults, seasoned adults, and families together are invited to participate!

I look forward to walking with you through this transformative season,
Amanda+

DEACON'S MESSAGE

THE MEMORY OF FAITH



Have you ever gone for a walk on the beach or through the fields and noticed a random stack of well-balanced stones? If you have, did you wonder why they were there? And if you haven't, are you wondering why would anyone create a pile of rocks in the first place?

The art of rock balancing or stone sculpting pre-dates the bible and is multicultural. Many different people had many different reasons to place one stone on top of another. Today, people stack stones to relax, relieve stress, meditate, create and play.

Artist Shane Hart states he was drawn to stacking stones through a love of improbability. "It was the seeming impossibility of it is what drew me in, and I'm still amazed when I slowly pull my hands away from a stone and it remains there defying gravity, it becomes a work of resiliency."

When I hold a stone in my hand, I am reminded of the story in which Samuel constructed a memorial after God saved the Israelites from the Philistines: Samuel took a stone and set it

between Mizpah and Jeshanah, and named it Ebenezer, for he said, "Thus far the Lord has helped us" (1 Sam. 7:12, NRSV). The purpose of the Ebenezer memorial stone was to remind the Israelites of God's help and faithfulness.

I now have a regular spiritual discipline of keeping a mental list as I attempt to balance my Ebenezer stones. I think back to all the ways God has been faithful in my life. I think of a specific time I needed forgiveness, a time I was prayed for or a time I needed help to get through a valley, to name only a few. When I remember God's help in the past, I am encouraged and sustained in the here and now, especially when I wonder where is God while I experience or witness suffering.

Often the beginning of a new year is a time of looking forward. But this year instead of only looking forward, I am going to be more intentional about remembering all the ways God has helped me and other folks in life.

I hope what has proven true for me also proves true for you-that the more you look for those moments of God's faithfulness in your life the more you will remember them.

Thanks be to God!

Deacon Stacey

"When our days become dreary with low-hovering clouds of despair, and when our nights become darker than a thousand midnights, let us remember that there is a creative force in this universe, working to pull down the gigantic mountains of evil, a power that is able to make a way out of no way and transform dark yesterdays into bright tomorrows." Martin Luther King, Jr.

SCOUT SUNDAY—SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6



Caleb Knouse is a Tiger Scout with Pack 102. He is in 1st grade at Brecht Elementary.

Please join us on Sunday, February 6th for Scout Sunday! Our Scouts will take the lead roles in worship and one of our scouts will be preaching!



Graham Welaish is a Bear with Pack 125. He is in 3rd grade at Centerville Elementary.



Nicholas DiPace is a Tenderfoot with Troop 393. He is in 11th grade at Lampeter Strasburg.

Greyson Way is a Life Scout with Troop 349. He is in 10th grade at Hempfield High School.



Campbell Way is a 2nd year Cadent with troop 71450 and is also a Tenderfoot with BSA Troop 349. Campbell is in 7th grade at Centerville Middle School.



Pancakes TO GO!

TUESDAY, March 1, 6:00PM - 7:00PM



Meals include 3 pancakes, 2 sausages,
applesauce, butter & syrup.

Payment by donation at pick up,
money benefits the St. John's youth!

Pick up on Concord St. behind the Parish House.

Pre-orders are highly recommended:
Please email Karen.DiPace@gmail.com with the
total number of meals you would like to order!

GPC Goals for February 2022

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



February brings to mind Valentine's Day - hearts, flowers, candy, gifts to those we love. Take a moment and think how love could be spread with a can or box of food, shoes, toiletries, smiles, thanks, to care for those in our community...

February 6th

National Send a Card to a Friend Day

Think of someone having a rough time, going through a loss, or just miss seeing them. Mail a card, a note, a joke, a smile, and just share your love with someone.

February 13th

Valentine's Day—February 14th

Share a smile, a thanks, anything from your heart to any of God's Children, your brothers and sisters.

February 20th

Random Acts of Kindness Day February 17th

"Ubuntu" - South African belief...We are ALL connected. No matter where we are from or who we are, a person is a person through our connections to other people. Ask any of the Community Breakfast volunteers the names of those we meet at breakfast and they won't be able to respond. But ask if they know the faces, the smiles, the thanks they hear, they will smile in the response as they are gifted in this unity time. We are ALL connected.

February 20th

World Day of Social Justice

A United Nations declared day in 2009, in declaration that everyone deserves equal economic, political and social rights and opportunities. Listen and realize that everyone, no exclusions, are welcomed to our table, in hopeful relation to what Jesus would have done to those in His presence. We are called to follow Him.

February 27th

"In Louisville, at the corner of Fourth and Walnut, in the center of the shopping district, I was suddenly overwhelmed with the realization that I loved all these people, that they were mine and I theirs, that we could not be alien to one another even though we were total strangers. It was like waking from a dream of separateness, of spurious self-isolation in a special world." - Thomas Merton

Mondays:

Office Closed.

Mondays will be an administrative day for our staff. *We are always available for pastoral emergencies.*

Come in. We're

OPEN

Tues-Thurs:

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

The office will be staffed by volunteers from the parish who are happy to assist any way the can!

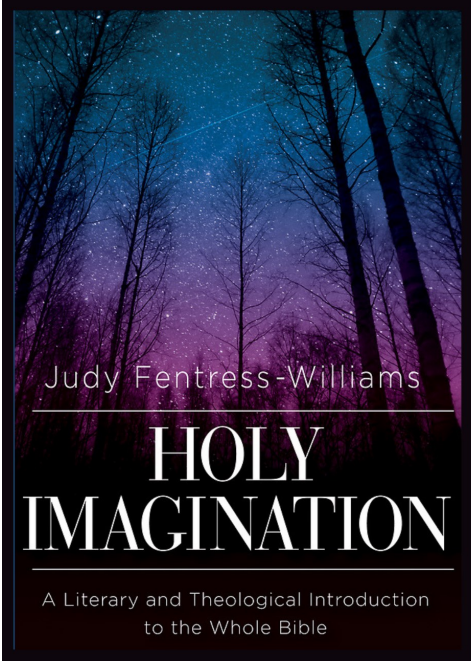
Fridays:

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Please note: Fridays are the Rector's day off.

FEBRUARY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I (In-person) 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II (In-person & Online)	31 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM NA (Parish Hall) 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Hand bell Practice	1 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 1:30 PM Martha's Ministry 2:30 PM Food Pantry 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM VH Dance 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM AA (AP) 6:30 PM Adult Forum	2 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM NA (Parish Hall) 12:05 PM Holy Eucharist with Healing Service (Sanctuary) 3:30 PM Eagle's Nest 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	3 2:30 PM Food Pantry	4 Rector's Day Off 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM NA (Parish Hall)	5
6 Birthdays & Anniversaries Scout Sunday 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I (In-person) 9:00 AM Parish Breakfast 10:15 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II (In-person & Online)	7 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM NA (Parish Hall) 7:00 PM Ministries Council	8 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 1:30 PM Martha's Ministry 2:30 PM Food Pantry 4:00 PM Finance Committee 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM VH Dance 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM AA (AP) 6:30 PM Adult Forum 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM CCL - Lancaster Meeting	9 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM NA (Parish Hall) 12:05 PM Holy Eucharist with Healing Service (Sanctuary) 3:30 PM Eagle's Nest 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	10 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Clergy Council 2:30 PM Food Pantry	11 Rector's Day Off 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM NA (Parish Hall)	12 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM CCL - Lancaster Meeting
13 Valentine's Day Party (Tabor House) 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I (In-person) 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II (In-person & Online)	14 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM NA (Parish Hall) 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Hand bell Practice	15 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 1:30 PM Martha's Ministry 2:30 PM Food Pantry 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM VH Dance 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM AA (AP) 6:30 PM Adult Forum	16 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM NA (Parish Hall) 12:05 PM Holy Eucharist with Healing Service (Sanctuary) 3:30 PM Eagle's Nest 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	17 2:30 PM Food Pantry	18 Happening Planning: Youth Rector's Day Off 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM NA (Parish Hall)	19 Happening Planning: Youth 9:00 AM Community Breakfast (First Reformed)
20 Happening Planning: Youth 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I (In-person) 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II (In-person & Online) 12:00 PM Vestry Meeting	21 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM NA (Parish Hall)	22 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 1:30 PM Martha's Ministry 2:30 PM Food Pantry 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM VH Dance 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM AA (AP) 6:30 PM Adult Forum	23 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM NA (Parish Hall) 12:05 PM Holy Eucharist with Healing Service (Sanctuary) 3:30 PM Eagle's Nest 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	24 2:30 PM Food Pantry	25 MESSENGER DUE Rector's Day Off 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM NA (Parish Hall)	26
27 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I (In-person) 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II (In-person & Online)	28 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM NA (Parish Hall) 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Hand bell Practice 7:00 PM Stewardship Committee Meeting	1 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 1:30 PM Martha's Ministry 2:30 PM Food Pantry 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM VH Dance 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM AA (AP) 6:00 PM Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper	2 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM NA (Parish Hall) 12:05 PM Holy Eucharist with Healing Service (Sanctuary) 3:30 PM Eagle's Nest 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	3 2:30 PM Food Pantry	4 Rector's Day Off 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM NA (Parish Hall)	5



ADULT FORUM

EVERY TUESDAY AT
6:30PM ON ZOOM

"STUDYING SCRIPTURE REQUIRES
DIALOGUE..."

Join us as we explore the story of
our salvation using the brilliant
work of Dr. Judy Fentress-Williams.

Meeting ID: 831 8777 3889
Passcode: 796078



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

