

The Messenger



May 2022

A MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR

Dear St. John's family and friends,

Dependable, personable, invested, passionate. These are a few of the characteristics that excite my heart when I think about the future staff here at St. John's. It's no surprise that this past season has been filled with transition. What's that saying, "change is the only constant in life?" St. John's is changing, evolving, healing, and growing, and so is our staff.

I am delighted to announce that a creative vision has been cast for our staffing structure that will enable us to live more fully into our mission and ministry. Keishla Leandry has joined our team as custodian. Keishla is the mom of two small children, lives right up the street, and is excited to be here on Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 9:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m. Please say hi when you see her preparing our campus for worship and gatherings.

Doug Beach, our Music Minister, will be expanding his role to full time, as a bivocational minister. Doug will continue to serve in his capacity as Music Minister on Wednesday, Thursdays and Sundays, but on Mondays and Tuesday, he will assume the role of Minister of Communication. In his new position, Doug becomes the chief storyteller for St. John's, utilizing social media platforms, website maintenance and church publications to keep us all well informed. With the vast array of gifts and passion Doug brings to the table, why not place them under the same roof?

John Knouse has been hired to serve as our part-time Property Manager. As a clergy spouse, John is not a parishioner of the church and therefore is not prohibited from working as a staff member per church policy. To ensure a healthy system is in place, John will report directly to the Diocesan Property Manager, Stuart Scarborough. John will report monthly to the diocese and Stuart will conduct his semi-annual performance reviews.

Lastly, Ellia Osofsky, a student at Franklin and Marshall, will be serving as our new Nursery Attendant. Ellia has been volunteering with our Eagle's Nest Program and is eager to meet our youngest members on Sundays.

As we continue through these great fifty days of Easter, know the staff at St. John's looks forward to ministering with you!

I remain faithfully yours,
Amanda+

May Highlights:

- Pg 2 Outreach News
- Pg 3 Easter Recap
- Pg 4 Financial Statement
- Pg 5 Vestry Highlights
Diocesan Delegates
- Pg 6 J2A Pilgrimage
Graduation Sunday
- Pg 7 Deacon's Message
- Pg 8 Soles4Souls Sendoff
- Pg 9 Prison Ministry
- Pg 10 Just Mercy
- Pg 11 Gratitude Dinner

Insert
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

May Birthdays:

Ginny Young	1
Dave Overbagh	2
Barbara Graeter	3
Julia Loose	3
John Lee	5
Michael Hreben	6
Debby Linton	6
Graham Henry	8
Mike Kilhefner	8
Ruth Knouse	9
Brad Zuke	18
Jon Forrester	19
John Graeter	20
Sal Barbieri	23
Eric Loose	24
Jen Hreben	25
Theodore Bowser	26
Ruth McFarland	26
John Houston	27
Howard Kane, Jr.	27
Eleanor Watts	27
Gray Springer	31

May Anniversaries:

Lois & Michael Gobel	6
Scott & Sherry Qualls	28
Michael & Susan Bowser	29
Bob & Maggie Lee	29
Anne Almy-Webber & Ben Webber	29
Bob & Lyn Bailey	31
Penn & Mary Glazier	31

Continued prayers for our Homebound:

Ellen Keller, Don Lovett, Nancy Nemith, Peter Plaxa, Ricky Smith, Joanna Sweeney, Carolyn McCarty, Cynthia Minnich, Al Kuser, Eleanor Honaman

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

OUTREACH NEWS

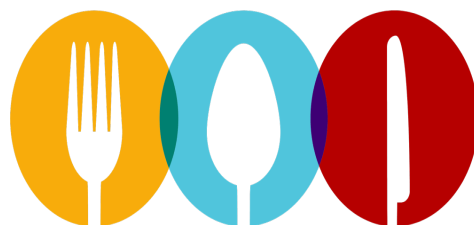


Soles4Souls

Thank you to any of you that contributed to our shoe collection. On Good Friday we shipped 1,369 pairs of shoes out to Soles4Souls. We should all thank Barbara Landis and Brad Zuke for leading this ministry for another year. Read more about Soles4Souls on pg. 8

Community Breakfast

Our volunteer team fed 61 people on April 16. This followed us feeding 60 people in March. As a reminder, the third Saturday of every month, St. John's is the host for Community Breakfast held at 1st Reformed Church. If you would like to be involved please contact Sue Martin at mdsmartinduncan@aol.com.



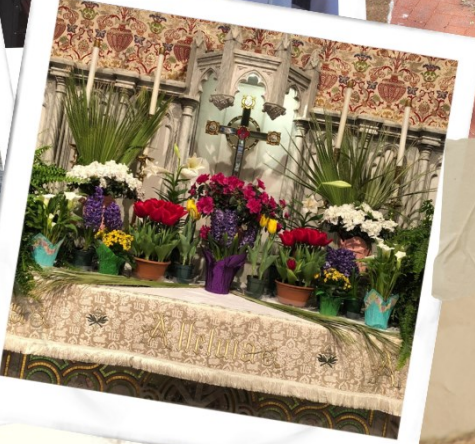
Lancaster Community Meal Program

Refugee Ministry

Thank you to all who signed-up to help our new Refugee Ministry Team. Church World Service will meet with our volunteers for a training session on Thursday, May 5, from 7-9 p.m. in the parish hall. We'll discuss administrative procedures and any questions regarding the team we're setting-up. If you're interested in being a part of this team and not as yet signed-up, please see the sign-up sheet in the parish hall. Questions? Rich Garon at rich@richgaron.com.



Easter at St. John's



FINANCIAL SUMMARY

March operations benefited from a number of prepaid annual pledges that have us running well ahead of 2021 on a total income basis. Income exceeded expenses for the month and YTD. This favorable pattern has continued since the beginning of the year.

Overall operating expenses were in line with budget, but higher than last year. Property expenses were notably higher due to utilities and tree trimming work along Chestnut Street. The March electric bill was significantly higher in spite of lower usage due to a large rate hike.

As mentioned last month, a capital reserve fund of approximately \$92k was established with our 2021 operating surplus plus a portion of the proceeds from the sale of 211 N Concord. In March, \$15.5k was dispersed from this account to replace the sewer line in the parking lot.

C. Wear
Treasurer

St. John's Episcopal Church Operating Income Statement March 2022 Results Cash Basis in \$000's

	2022			2021		
	Mar	YTD	Budget FY	Mar	YTD	Budget FY
Income						
Pledge Income	\$41.0	\$138.4	\$384.6	\$28.4	\$108.5	\$365.0
Other Total Contributions	\$8.0	\$15.7	\$35.5	\$4.2	\$11.4	\$38.7
Investment Draws	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$63.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$44.2
Designated Gifts	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$10.0	\$0.0	\$11.0	\$0.0
Grants	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$60.5
All Other Income	\$3.4	\$10.7	\$12.6	\$6.7	\$13.0	\$9.6
Jubilee	\$3.1	\$4.5	\$16.9	\$1.7	\$5.3	\$58.9
Total Income	\$55.5	\$169.3	\$523.5	\$41.0	\$149.1	\$576.8
Expenses						
Personnel	\$22.2	\$62.7	\$296.4	\$23.2	\$66.9	\$292.5
Vestry	\$0.3	\$0.3	\$0.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.4
Finance	\$0.9	\$2.3	\$9.2	\$0.6	\$2.6	\$6.6
Communications	\$0.8	\$2.4	\$15.6	\$0.8	\$5.2	\$14.3
Property	\$12.1	\$28.7	\$97.5	\$8.8	\$23.3	\$84.4
Education	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1.7	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2.8
Worship	\$1.7	\$3.7	\$9.8	\$0.3	\$1.9	\$10.5
Community	\$0.7	\$0.7	\$2.6	\$0.1	\$0.4	\$3.1
Outreach	\$6.9	\$17.3	\$65.8	\$7.0	\$14.3	\$79.8
Jubilee	\$1.0	\$1.5	\$24.4	\$0.2	\$1.3	\$60.4
Total Expenses	\$46.4	\$119.4	\$523.5	\$41.0	\$116.0	\$554.6
Net Surplus/(Shortfall)	\$9.1	\$49.9	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$33.1	\$22.3

VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS BY JOHN GOUVEIA, SECRETARY

Leslie Morgan opened us in prayer with thoughts about change. Change can be thought of as good, bad, scary, and happens daily. We should remember that we are not alone. When we act in community, we can adapt to change.

With that in mind, we continued discussion and discernment regarding the use of 209 North Concord Street. Some people expressed concern over this building during and after the sale of 211 North Concord. The Vestry had determined that we did not wish to be a landlord in the traditional sense as that was not our mission. After discussions that had taken place over the last months, we determined that the property can best be used as transitional housing for families being supported through St. John's ministries. Whether it is used by refugees, returning citizens, or any other ministry effort, this would further our mission. We did set a time limit in that we would not rent to a family for more than two years.

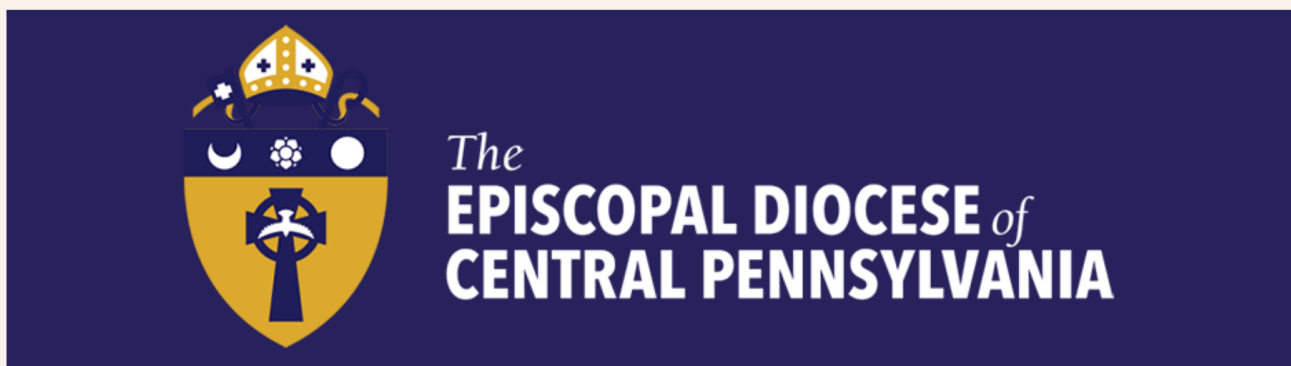
We then received a capsule statement from our Open and Affirming Committee. This committee has done an outstanding job in defining what it means to be an "Open and Affirming Church."

We recognize that we may not be there yet, but we have a statement of our ideals identifying who we want to be as St. John's Episcopal Church in Lancaster PA. The Vestry accepted the statement with our full support. Additional information regarding next steps and the statement itself will be forthcoming.

It was noted that the Presiding Bishop (The Most Rev. Michael Curry) will be visiting the Diocese on Saturday, June 11. We are following up with the Diocese as to arrangements.

When we act in community, we can adapt to change.

ST. JOHN'S DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES



We are pleased to announce the slate of Delegates and Alternates to the Diocesan Convention in the Fall. Our Delegates will be Anne Almy-Webber, David Dissinger, Mary Huber, Molly Moyer, and Heather Trenary. The alternates are Rich Garon and Fran Gouveia. We wish to publicly thank all those who put their names forward as candidates in this election.

SUNDAY SCHOOL & YOUTH NEWS

It has been a long few years, but the wait is finally over for our J2A (Journey to Adulthood) youth! This summer we are setting off to Oregon for our J2A pilgrimage. 6 teens and 4 adult chaperones will head west for a journey of discovery. Following in footsteps of Lewis and Clark, we'll explore the great Northwest while seeking the face of God in God's beautiful creation. As is our custom, the itinerary is held closely to the chests of the chaperones and Wonder Voyage (who is personalizing our pilgrimage), so the teens can experience it in the moment. You'll hear all about it from our pilgrims afterwards!

Our trip is planned for June 30-July 6. Please keep the following participants in your prayers as we continue to prepare our hearts for this experience:

Youth:

Natalie Viscoe
Julia Hale
Greyson Way
Nicholas Di Pace
Evan Sipe
Otto Williams

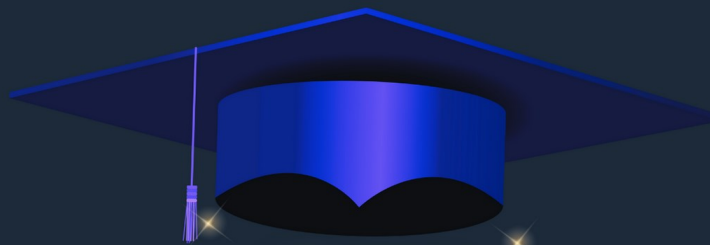


Chaperones:

April Way
Joe Way
Amanda Knouse+
John Knouse

Thank you for your continued support of our young people. Your generosity with every fundraiser, the countless prayers, and the relationships you have made with our youth are gifts that enable these experiences to happen.

**GRADUATION SUNDAY
MAY 22**



class of

2022

THE HEALING OF OUR COMMUNITY BY JOE WAY

There was a scientific study done in 2019 that offered people a choice between giving themselves electric shocks or being alone with their thoughts for 15 minutes. Many chose electric shock! Take it or leave it, the pandemic has given us all time to inwardly reflect and spend time alone trying to figure things out amidst this ongoing global pandemic.

Instead of electric shock, I elected to add prayer to my long daily commute. Through this discipline of daily prayer, I found a fuller sense of awareness of my needs as well as the needs of my family, friends, and community. I found myself making a lot of lengthy phone calls and sending repeated texts to check in on those I cared about. As human beings, we have evolved to take comfort in one another's presence. Isolation and social distancing have led me to a sense of despair and longing for the days when shaking hands or hugging was acceptable!

There is one undeniable truth about each of us, and that is that we need authentic relationships with others, and those relationships complete us. Breaking bread together, bible study, playing mini-golf, or whatever other things we end up doing together allows us to spend time getting to know one another more than superficially.

Social connectedness and belonging in the 21st century have become more about which social media platform you participate in or which groups you follow than actually making time to sit down face to face. St. John's provides a great opportunity to build a new sense of togetherness through the many groups meeting to fulfill the mission of the church! Pandemic Isolation may not be over for all, many in our community still need to be cautious for the sake of their health or others in their care. We will continue to offer live streams to ensure they can remain a part of our community. If there are regulars that you haven't seen in a while, pick up the phone and give them a call!

For me, returning to the Altar rail for communion has provided comfort that things are on the mend. Handshakes, hugs, Fistbumps, two-finger peace symbols, winks, and texting loved ones that can't be with us in church are joining the medley of ways we share the Peace. Don't forget to keep reaching out to others that may need you.

So, embrace the community at St. John's with all your heart! There is a shocking amount of opportunity for you to participate in glorifying God! In Matthew, we are promised that "For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them." You will see that St. John's is a Thin Place where we are all immersed in the presence and love of God!



SOLES4SOLES

Hey St. John's! I know some of you know the Soles4Souls shoe collection program really well, and some of you may not. Let me share a little about what it's all about according to them:

“Turning shoes into opportunity: People living in poverty want a better life, but many lack opportunity. At S4S, we turn unwanted shoes and clothing into opportunity, by keeping them from going to waste and putting them to good use – providing relief, creating jobs and empowering people to break the cycle of poverty. We are 4 making a difference. Our programs are focused on making a measurable impact on people and the planet.

- Providing relief - We collect new shoes and clothing to distribute to people in need across the U.S. and around the world.
- Fighting poverty - We help people launch and sustain their own small business selling donated shoes and clothing.
- The planet - We're protecting the environment by putting used goods to good use, instead of wasting away in a landfill.
- Empowering women - We aim to empower women, ensuring they have the opportunity and recognition they deserve.

Most people own many more pairs of shoes than they wear. By hosting a shoe drive, you put all of that unused footwear to work—literally!

- Create opportunity - Gently used shoes you collect get funneled to developing countries, where people start small businesses to sell them.
- Generate income - By selling shoes, business owners have money to provide for their family—and people who need shoes the most get them at a price they can afford.
- Provide relief - Funds generated through our micro-enterprise program allow us to use 100% of donor contributions for direct assistance and disaster relief programs in all 50 states.
- Protect the environment - By repurposing discarded shoes and clothing, you keep them out of landfills and help promote sustainability.



All of the shoes from your drive will go into micro-enterprise programs in developing countries around the world. These programs serve as long-term opportunities to break the cycle of poverty for those in need. When the shoes arrive, they are sorted and, together with our partners, we determine where they need to be sent to make the most impact.”

Now, on to the best part. This collection, thanks to all of you, we had an amazing sendoff of 1,369 pairs of shoes!! We want to thank every one of you for your compassion and generosity in continually bringing in your gently worn shoes. As a reminder, we are always collecting shoes at any time during the year, and you should be able to find boxes for this all over the St. John's campus. So you never need to worry about when we are collecting – we are always collecting!

LANCASTER COUNTY PRISON

PRISON MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Calling all singers,
musicians, and prayer
warriors from Episcopal
congregations!

JOIN OUR MONTHLY WORSHIP TEAM!

If you are interested in joining
this incredible ministry or need
more information please connect
with Pastor Jennifer Mattson at
St. Thomas: 717 569 3241 or visit
www.stthomaslanaster.org





Join your deacons for a book club!

READ WITH YOUR DIOCESAN FAMILY

Join in with your deacons for a weekly book club discussing *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson!

WHERE: Zoom Gathering

WHAT TO BRING: Your smile and comfy slippers

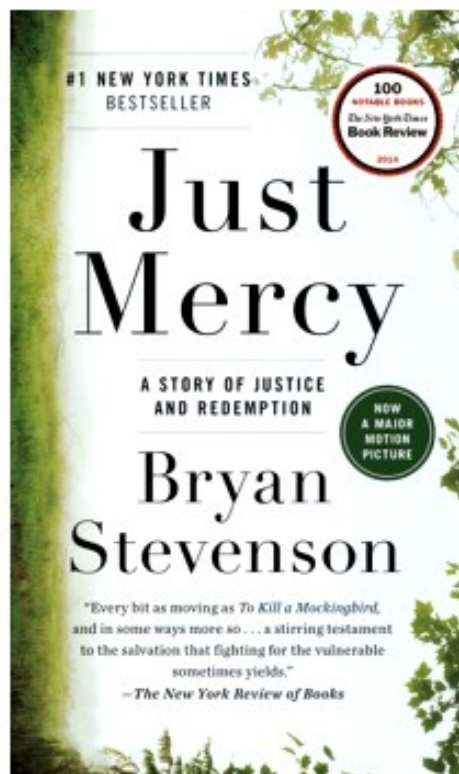
WHEN: Monday nights at 7:00 PM starting April 25

For a Zoom invite link, please email Stacey Catigano, scatigano@gmail.com

ABOUT THE BOOK: A memoir by American attorney Bryan Stevenson that documents his career defending disadvantaged clients. The book, focusing on injustices in the United States judicial system, alternates chapters between documenting Stevenson's efforts to overturn the wrongful conviction of Walter McMillian and his work on other cases, including children who receive life sentences, and other poor or marginalized clients.

Mondays 7:00-8:00 PM
April 25 - May 23rd

BOOK: *JUST MERCY* BY
BRYAN STEVENSON



GRATITUDE DINNER—SAVE THE DATE!

GRATITUDE DINNER

Honoring our Property Committee

SUNDAY, JUNE 12

5:00–8:00 P.M.

**COME FOR A TOUR OF ST. JOHN'S
RARELY SEEN SPACES!**

*Menu: chicken cordon bleu,
seasonal vegetables, and assorted desserts
Drinks: iced tea, lemonade, wine, beer*

INVITATION FORTHCOMING BY MAIL

MAY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Birthdays & Anniversaries 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist: Rite I 9:00 AM Parish Breakfast 10:15 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II	2 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM NA 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Daughters of the King 7:00 PM Ministries Council	3 1:30 PM Martha's Ministry 2:30 PM Food Pantry 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM Dance Mosaic 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM AA (AP)	4 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM NA 12:05 PM Holy Eucharist with Healing Service (Sanctuary) 6:30 PM Open & Affirming Meeting 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	5 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 10:00 AM Worship Committee 2:30 PM Food Pantry 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM NA 7:00 PM Refugee Ministry Training	6 Rector's Day Off 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM NA	7 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM NA
8 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist: Rite I 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II	9 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM NA 6:00 PM Pastoral Care Meeting	10 1:30 PM Martha's Ministry 2:30 PM Food Pantry 4:00 PM Finance Committee 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM Dance Mosaic 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM AA (AP)	11 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM NA 12:05 PM Holy Eucharist with Healing Service (Sanctuary) 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	12 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Clergy Council 2:30 PM Food Pantry 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM NA	13 Rector's Day Off 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM NA	14 Congregational Development Day 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM NA
15 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist: Rite I 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II 12:00 PM Vestry Meeting	16 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM NA 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Daughters of the King	17 1:30 PM Martha's Ministry 2:30 PM Food Pantry 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM Dance Mosaic 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM AA (AP)	18 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM NA 12:05 PM Holy Eucharist with Healing Service (Sanctuary) 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	19 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 2:30 PM Food Pantry 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM NA	20 Rector's Day Off 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM NA	21 9:00 AM Community Breakfast (First Reformed) 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM NA
22 GRADUATION SUNDAY! 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist: Rite I 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II 6:00 PM Stewardship Committee	23 Clergy Conference 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM NA	24 Clergy Conference 1:30 PM Martha's Ministry 2:30 PM Food Pantry 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM Dance Mosaic 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM AA (AP)	25 Clergy Conference MESSENGER DUE 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM NA 12:05 PM Holy Eucharist with Healing Service (Sanctuary) 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	26 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 2:30 PM Food Pantry 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM NA	27 Rector's Day Off 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM NA	28 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM NA
29 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist: Rite I 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II	30 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM NA	31 1:30 PM Martha's Ministry 2:30 PM Food Pantry 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM Dance Mosaic 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM AA (AP)	1 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM NA 12:05 PM Holy Eucharist with Healing Service (Sanctuary) 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	2 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 2:30 PM Food Pantry 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM NA	3 Rector's Day Off 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM NA	4 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM NA

Global Partnership Challenge for May 1st

National Day of Prayer - May 5th

While taking the time to offer prayers for those around us and the in world, also take some time to sit in silence to hear from above.

Global Partnership Challenge for May 8th

“Love and compassion are necessities, not luxuries. Without them humanity cannot survive.” Dalai Lama—Give thanks for the “mother” who birthed you and to those other “mothers” who have cared and encouraged you in your life’s journey.

Global Partnership Challenge for May 15th

“Lord, make me an instrument thy peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love.” St. Francis of Assisi—Our caring actions were never more important than in these stress-filled times. Any action of peace and caring makes a difference for you and those receiving.

Global Partnership Challenge for May 22nd

“Whoever is happy will make others happy too.” Anne Frank—Think of the smiles at church while sharing the peace, the smiles on your heart when you listen to the music from the organ, piano, choir, singing groups - Think and then act on how you can carry those smiles and happiness into our world - NO exceptions - Here, There, Everywhere.

Global Partnership Challenge for May 29th

“If you want peace, you don’t talk to your friends. You talk to your enemies.” Desmond Tutu—Take a moment and share your thanks to those who have served in the military and their families and lost their lives during their service.



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

