



St John's Episcopal Church, Lancaster PA

The Messenger - SEPTEMBER

THIS MONTH'S EVENTS:

- 9.11 - Homecoming Sunday
*Single Service at 9:00 AM
- 9.14 - Fulton Elementary
School Luncheon
- 9.15 - Men's Gathering
- 9.18 - Sunday School Kick Off!
- 9.24 - Workshop: A Faithful Response
to the Mental Health Crisis

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*Nursery
Volunteer
Wanted*

We are looking for help in our nursery during the 10:15 service to assist our nursery caregiver. Please contact Karen DiPace with any questions at 717.368.0319 or karen.dipace@gmail.com



RITE13™
RECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear St. John's,

Every Wednesday at noon and every Sunday morning, I find my heart filled with love for this community and for God who draws us all together, week after week. I always seem to leave our worship services with a softened heart and gratitude for the relationships that are forming in this sacred space. I pray you are experiencing something similar when you worship. With a new program year beginning, one of our top priorities as a staff is to continue providing meaningful and transformative worship opportunities. To launch us into this new season, we are thrilled to offer a Homecoming Celebration like no other.

On Sunday, September 11 at 9:00AM we will launch into our new program year with a joint worship service and parish breakfast to follow. Not only will we gather as one body in Christ on September 11, but we will also celebrate the Rite 13 class as they continue their journey into adulthood and transition from the Rite 13 class to the J2A class (Journey to Adulthood).

The Rite 13 ceremony is a powerful proclamation that our middle school class is transforming into young adults. It is a ceremony that celebrates and honors a youth's rite of passage into adolescence. Rite 13 signifies a transition in the relationships between young folks and their community, parents, family, and friends, celebrating the fact that God's love extends to those years. It's a beautiful and reflective time for families to unite around an important transition and for our youth to bond with one another.

As a community of faith, we are invited to stand with our young people and support them in their journey. We will offer prayers for our youth and their parents and will promise to support them in their continual formation. And we will lean into our own baptismal vows by participating in the baptism of one of our Rite 13 participants.

So, mark your calendar, friends. September 11 at 9:00AM is going to be a day of praise and thanksgiving! May Christ continue to transform each of us as we walk with one another through life's rites of passages!

God's Peace,
Amanda+

A Morning of Action and Prayer on Ending Gun Violence

*Saturday,
September 17th
9 AM to 12 PM*

All are welcome to share in a morning of hope and witness to end gun violence. Retired Bishop Jim Curry, co-founder and retired bishop of the Diocese of CT, **will bring a forge to repurpose guns into garden tools.**



Come out to experience Swords to Plowshares

Gun violence continues on the increase. This tragic reality is shown both in persistently high firearm suicide rates and accelerating firearm homicide rates (US homicide rate spiked 35% in 2020).

The day will include a memorial to the lost hosted by heeding God's call to end gun violence.

Arts and crafts will be available for children. Teens and children will be invited to contribute to a prayer wall. The day will conclude at 12 p.m. with a brief service of prayer.

St. Edward's Episcopal Church
2453 Harrisburg Pike,
Lancaster
717-808-5410
stedsoffice@comcast.net



GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGE



**I AM, WE ARE,
ONE WORLD -
HERE, THERE,
EVERYWHERE**

"While you are proclaiming peace with your lips, be careful to have it even more fully in your heart."

-St. Francis of Assisi

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGE FOR SEPTEMBER 4TH

"Thousands of candles can be lighted from a single candle, and the life of the candles will not be shortened. Happiness never decreases by being shared." -Buddha

Our small group can make a powerful impact on so many - Neighborhood gatherings, Food Pantry, Soles4Soles, Community Breakfast, Eagles Nest, kind signs in our church yard - ALL add up, an event at a time, to ALL - Here, There, Everywhere

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGE FOR SEPTEMBER 11TH

Grandparents Day

Take the time to thank and give thanks for those "grandparents" in your life who didn't fret over the everyday stuff but rather just loved you, hugged you, and smiled in your presence. Reach out and connect while you can and give thanks.

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGE FOR SEPTEMBER 18TH

International Day of Peace September 21st

Peace Prayer of Saint Francis

"Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love, where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith. where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O, divine Master, grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life."

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGE FOR SEPTEMBER 25TH

National Coffee Day September 29th

This week, call a friend, make plans to connect, share thoughts and caring over a cup of coffee. Then imagine how great it would be if more people simply slowed down, met up, connected and listened without judgement. Prayers that those in our government and in our world will take the time to connect and care. Blessings to ALL - Here, There, Everywhere.

TREASURER'S REPORT

CHARLES WEAR

St. John's Episcopal Church						
Operating Income Statement						
July 2022 Results						
Cash Basis in \$000's						
	2022			2021		
	July	YTD	Budget FY	July	YTD	Budget FY
Income						
Pledge Income	\$18.6	\$227.5	\$384.6	\$18.0	\$199.9	\$365.0
Other Total Contributions	\$1.9	\$29.3	\$35.5	\$1.9	\$24.2	\$38.7
Investment Draws	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$63.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$44.2
Designated Gifts	\$0.0	\$0.4	\$10.0	\$0.0	\$11.0	\$0.0
Grants	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1.0	\$0.0	\$60.5	\$60.5
All Other Income	\$3.2	\$17.3	\$12.6	\$1.8	\$22.1	\$9.6
Jubilee	\$0.4	\$8.2	\$16.9	\$1.9	\$8.1	\$58.9
Total Income	\$24.1	\$282.6	\$523.5	\$23.6	\$325.9	\$576.8
Expenses						
Clergy	\$15.3	\$109.8	\$205.6	\$12.9	\$90.8	\$160.4
Lay Staff	\$10.0	\$46.0	\$90.8	\$10.7	\$70.8	\$132.1
Vestry	\$0.0	\$0.3	\$0.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.4
Finance	\$0.7	\$5.4	\$9.2	\$0.9	\$5.2	\$6.6
Communications	\$0.7	\$5.8	\$15.6	\$0.9	\$9.2	\$14.3
Utilities	\$2.0	\$25.5	\$29.5	\$1.6	\$17.6	\$29.0
Property (ex-Utilities)	\$3.6	\$32.9	\$68.0	(\$0.3)	\$27.8	\$55.4
Education	\$0.0	\$0.8	\$1.7	\$0.1	\$0.4	\$2.8
Worship	\$1.6	\$7.5	\$9.8	\$0.5	\$3.9	\$10.5
Community	\$3.6	\$1.4	\$2.6	\$0.1	\$0.5	\$3.1
Outreach	\$7.3	\$40.2	\$65.8	\$7.2	\$45.1	\$79.8
Jubilee	\$2.8	\$8.5	\$24.4	\$0.5	\$3.2	\$60.4
Total Expenses	\$47.7	\$283.9	\$523.5	\$35.2	\$274.7	\$554.5
Net Surplus/(Shortfall)	(\$23.6)	(\$1.3)	\$0.0	(\$11.5)	\$51.2	\$22.3

The \$26.3k operating deficit for July reflects the lower income anticipated for summer months. Our YTD financials look good, with only a \$1.3k deficit indicating income is basically meeting expenses. Up to this point, utilities are the only expense category of concern due to inflationary rate hikes. All other expense categories are either down or at budget rates. Staffing costs will increase in the upcoming months, but our budgeted investment draw has not yet been tapped and is ready as a reserve to end the year in good shape.

In other news, the renovation of Concord 209 began in July and booked \$1.6k in expenses for the month. The Vestry earmarked \$8.0k as a project budget. Current forecasts now indicate only about half of that will be required, primarily due to the terrific team of volunteers who have done most of the work.

C. Wear

**WORKSHOP:
A FAITHFUL RESPONSE
TO THE MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS**

St. John's Episcopal Church has partnered with the National Alliance on Mental Illness and the Lancaster Police Crisis Worker Program to present a compassionate, inclusive, and informative workshop on mental health in our community.

Please join us as we learn more about mental health and how to respond lovingly and faithfully. Additional resources will be provided during the workshop and opportunities to ask questions and hear from local leaders will be offered.

This workshop is open to all!



September

24

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM



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

READ ALL ABOUT IT

St. John's Episcopal Church Men's Group

September Men's Gathering Bonfire at the Knouse Home

Please join the men from St. John's as we enjoy an evening bonfire at the Knouse's home. 6:30pm at 1919 Bloomindale Ave, Lancaster, PA 17601. Invite a friend and bring a snack to share!

THURSDAY, SEPT 15 @ 6:30 PM

Questions? Reach out to Joe Way or John Knouse.

We want YOU to help!
2-3 helpers are needed to facilitate
Coffee Hour after each service,
and training is easy!

COFFEE HOUR
Volunteers
WANTED

A sign-up sheet is available in the Parish Hall,
or online through SignUpGenius.
Please contact Karen DiPace with any questions
at 717.368.0319 or karen.dipace@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE

St. John's

Christmas Bazaar

November 13th & 20th
After each service

Volunteers Needed!
Items for sale will include

- Woodcrafts
- Paper Crafts
- Sown Items
- Christmas Cookies
- Candy

Contact
amy.l.dissinger@gmail.com
with any questions



SAFEGAURDING GOD'S CHILDREN

JOHN GOUVEIA

Safety Comes First

We at St. John's have always been concerned with the safety of our kids. Over the last year we have stepped up our training and record keeping as we continue to grow. Our Baptismal Covenant states our commitment "to seek and serve Christ in all persons...and respect the dignity of every human being."

In order to be sure that our kids are best protected we are committed to providing Safeguarding God's Children training three to four times a year. In addition, anyone who has direct or indirect contact with our kids should get the appropriate background checks. These are:

1. PA State Police Criminal History Check
2. PA Child Abuse History Clearance

These background checks are done online. If you are a volunteer, there is no charge for these two clearances. These background checks are valid for five years. If your clearance is more than five years old, then you must update your records.

If you have not lived in Pennsylvania for at least the last ten years, then you must also get an FBI Criminal History Clearance.

How to get involved

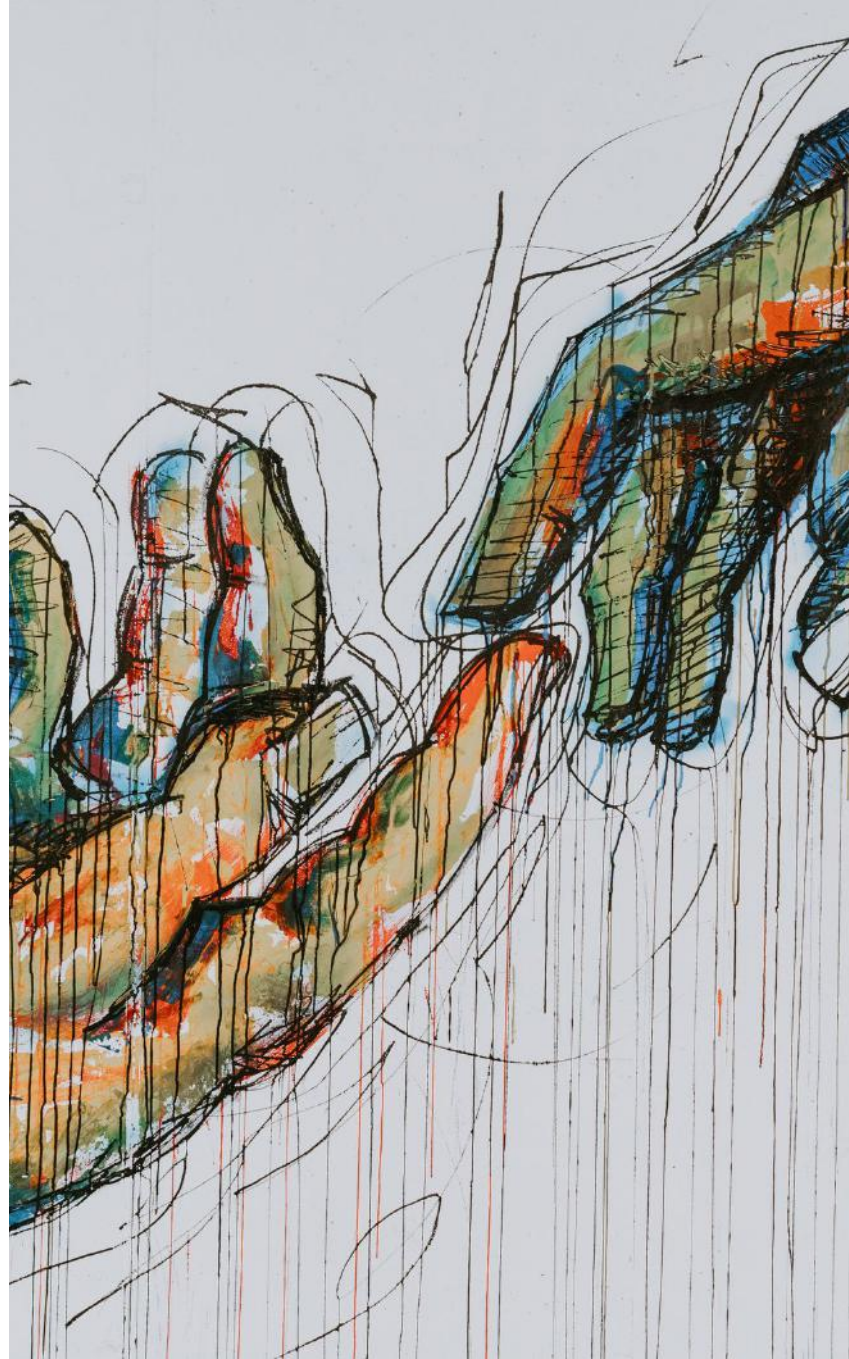
We will be offering Safeguarding God's Children training at St. John's on Sunday, October 2nd, at Noon, in the Parish Hall. If you fill any of the following roles at St. John's, you should take the training if you have not done so within the last five years:

- Clergy
- Vestry (including church officers)
- Lay Employees, Eagle's Nest Volunteers
- Volunteer Office Staff
- Sunday School Teachers, Youth Leaders, Nursery Volunteers
- LEMs/LEVs
- Ushers
- Lay Worship Leaders
- Food Pantry Volunteers
- Anyone who has or wishes to have a key to the building

As our Rector says, "our children are not the future of the church, they are the present". These presents are a gift from God, and it is up to us to keep them safe. **7**

Caring Ministry

As St. John's gears up for a new church year, the Caring Ministry (formerly Pastoral Care) has information it would like to share.



Lay Eucharistic Visitors

Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEVs) offer meaningful fellowship for our St. John's friends at home, and we're looking to grow this important ministry. LEVs' visits are an extension of that week's church service — with readings, prayers, words from the sermon and the eucharist. It is a special time for all involved.

LEVs often visit in teams of two, and St. John's currently has five LEVs. We are looking to increase that number! LEVs receive special training. A date for the training will be publicized once it is available. If you want to learn more about what being a LEV entails, please talk with Deacon Jen or current LEVs — Sue Heilman, Karen Latshaw, Sue Martin, Kathy Novosel, and Peter Novosel.

Congregational Calls

Later this fall, each parish family will receive a call from a Caring Ministry team member or Vestry member. After the isolation of covid, we'd like to see how you are doing, let you know you are loved, and ask if there's anything you need and how the church could help.

Call the Church Office

If you have a prayer request or another need, please call the church office. Our office is staffed with kind, compassionate, and efficient volunteers. They'll take your request and make sure it's delivered to the right person. ALSO, if you or a family member enters the hospital and you want the church to know, please call the church office. Hospitals don't call the church to tell us, so we want to be sure you receive support if you'd like it.



CONFIRMATION RECEPTION REAFFIRMATION

With the Bishop's visit officially on the books (November 20), 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.

Youth and adults are regularly confirmed, making this choice for themselves to affirm their baptismal vows. For those who may have been confirmed in another denomination (Roman Catholic, Orthodox, Presbyterian, Methodist, Lutheran, etc.) the Prayer Book provides for Reception, whereby one is formally received into The Episcopal Church, honoring the commitment one made in their previous denomination.

The rite of Reaffirmation is celebrated with a confirmed Episcopalian who, for personal reasons, wishes to publicly reaffirm their baptismal vows to the bishop and the community. In both reception and reaffirmation, we pray that the Holy Spirit continues to transform and deepen the candidates' faith.

This fall we will hold two classes, one for adults and another for youth. We will explore what we believe as Episcopalians, the role of the sacraments, the importance of scripture, our history, and more. If you are interested in learning more or participating in these Sacramental Rites please email amanda@stjohns-lancaster.org. Classes will begin later in September!

BIBLE STUDY



WHEN

September 4th, 11th, 18th &
25th
7:00 PM



WHERE

Parish Hall
or via Zoom - link can be
found on the Church Website



WORKBOOK

Gospel of Matthew
Scripture Study: The
Beatitudes and Francis of
Assisi by
Hagios Study

WITH YOUR DEACON

Come join the fun with Barbra Landis and Sister Stacey as we explore eight principles of The Beatitudes through the lens of St. Francis of Assisi! Pairing this Christian saint with how he responded to scripture will give us a unique perspective on how we can apply Christ's teaching to our time and culture.

Our workbook can be purchased on Amazon or Sr. Stacey can order it for you. Email: scatigano@gmail.com

We will invite the Holy Spirit to lead us by using the Lectio Divina scholastic format of Read, Reflect, Respond, and Rest.



BIRTHDAYS

3

Sea Macleish
Paula Wolf

4

Leslie Morgan

7

John Waskowicz

8

Al Kuser

9

Barbara Snyder

11

Jeff Stone

12

Ross Clark
Katie Mausolf

13

Amy Dissinger
Sue Hellman

14

Jay Noble
Carol Stigelman

17

Emelia Hale
Sophia Hale
Mary Huber
Graham Welaish

18

Marianne Eckert
Fiona Mausolf

19

Steve Forry
Bob Springer
Natalie Visco

21

John Mann

22

Bob Lee
Henry Noble

27

Max Lester

ANNIVERSARIES

5

Andrew & Mia Welaish

7

Jim & Barbara Snyder

8

John & Becky Modene

10

Joel & Ericka Sipe

13

John & Amanda Knouse

24

Neil Clark
Susan Burlingame





The House of Hope is ready!

Thank you to the many volunteers who turned this house into a home for the Abdi family, especially Paul and Liz West, Rich and Karen Garon, Tom Shevock, Pam Loose, Andy Carroll, Amy Dissinger, Doug Beach, Sue Zuke, Ben Webber, John Knouse, Kluane Snyder, Tracy Cliff, and Jess Eccles!

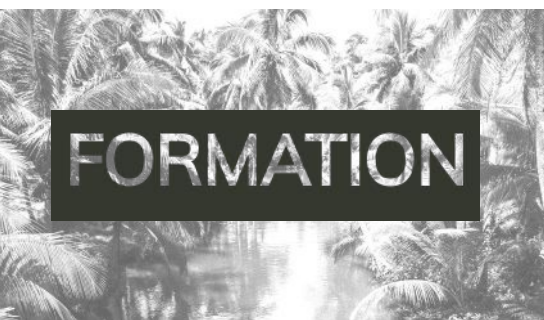


Vestry Highlights

From our August 21, 2022 Meeting

Monthly Financial Report: Treasurer's Report: As of July 31, we had a small deficit of \$1,300 which is essentially a balanced report. Pledge income is still running about \$20,000 ahead of 2021. Overall expenses are okay, but we can expect an increase in the future. Looking forward:

- Our surplus in the checking account is dropping.
- We now have an Ordained Assistant Rector (effective in August)
- We have not taken any of our investment draw yet
- Our bookkeeper charges are higher than expected in the transition.
- Utilities, especially power and gas, are a real concern.



The Sunday School Teachers and Youth Leaders are preparing for a new program year. We have a number of new students enrolled this year. An open house to see the classrooms will take place on Homecoming Sunday, September 11. Classes will begin on September 18. Adult formation will begin on Sunday, September 4 led by Deacon Stacey+ and Barbara Landis.

We had an outstanding Neighborhood BBQ on Saturday August 19. Leslie Morgan was commended for her leadership of this event. The members of the Property Committee are to be thanked for all the work they have put into updating and improving the property. It was reported that volunteers spent 820 person hours in this work over a two-month period.

Karen DiPace will lead the Coffee Hour organization. There are four Sundays at which we will have a single service. They are Homecoming, All Saints, Easter, and Pentecost. On these Sundays we will have a Parish Breakfast. The Vestry has been volunteered to host the breakfast on Homecoming Sunday, September 11, 2022.



The Caring Ministry is working on formalizing procedures regarding the prayer list. Members of the committee and the vestry will be making calls to parishioners to check in and connect. Members brainstormed about improving communications with church members.

The HVAC system is an ongoing priority. Estimates are being received for its replacement. The step from the Parish Hall Stairway to the Atrium has been the location of several falls recently. The architect is meeting with members of Property Committee later this month. Our phone system is now operational and the fire hazard in the Becker House basement has been resolved.

The Yard Give was a huge success. More donations than ever; fewer items left over for the committee to dispose of; and we made \$1300 for the Operating Budget. The 2023 Stewardship plans are being implemented. There will be three weeks of Stewardship education in October followed by Commitment Sunday on All Saints Sunday.

NEW BUSINESS:

- The Housing Resolution for The Rev. Jen Trenary was approved unanimously.
- The Vestry meeting ended with a discussion regarding the financial future of the parish. The rector was excused and compensation, property needs, and the budget outlook was discussed. An increase in pledging units will be critical to the health of our parish in 2023. Additional information can be found in the full minutes located on the Parish Hall Bulletin Board.

The next vestry meeting will take place on Sunday, September 18 at 12:00 PM. Meetings are open to anyone interested in joining.

Church CALENDAR

Thursday, September 1st

9:00AM Staff Meeting
2:30PM Food Pantry
6:30PM-8:00PM NA

Friday, September 2nd

Rector's Day Off
12:00PM-1:00PM NA

Saturday, September 3rd

6:30PM-8:00PM NA

Sunday, September 4th

Birthdays & Anniversaries
8:00AM Holy Eucharist: Rite I
10:15AM Holy Eucharist: Rite II

Monday, September 5th

Office Closed
12:00PM-1:00PM NA
6:00PM Daughters of the King

Tuesday, September 6th

1:30PM Martha's Ministry
2:30PM Food Pantry
6:00PM-7:00PM AA (AP)

Wednesday, September 7th

12:00PM Healing Service
12:00PM-1:00PM NA

Thursday, September 8th

9:00AM Staff Meeting
2:00PM Council of Trustees
2:30PM Food Pantry
6:30PM-8:00PM NA

Friday, September 9th

Rector's Day Off
12:00PM-1:00PM NA

Saturday, September 10th

Pilgrimage to Convocation Churches
6:30PM-8:00PM NA

Sunday, September 11th

Homecoming Sunday
9:00AM Single Service
10:30AM Parish Breakfast

Monday, September 12th

12:00PM-1:00PM NA
6:00PM-7:30PM Caring Ministry

Tuesday, September 13th

1:30PM Martha's Ministry
2:30PM Food Pantry
4:00PM Finance Committee
6:00PM-7:00PM AA (AP)

Wednesday, September 14th

12:00PM Healing Service
12:00PM Fulton Elementary Luncheon
12:00PM-1:00PM NA

Thursday, September 15th

9:00AM Staff Meeting
2:30PM Food Pantry
6:30PM-8:00PM NA
6:30PM Men's Gathering
@ Knouse House

Friday, September 16th

Rector's Day off
12:00PM-1:00PM NA

Saturday, September 17th

9:00AM Community Breakfast
(First Reformed)
6:30PM-8:00PM NA

Sunday, September 18th

8:00AM Holy Eucharist: Rite I
9:30AM Sunday School
10:15AM Holy Eucharist: Rite II
12:00PM Vestry Meeting

Monday, September 19th

12:00PM-1:00PM NA
6:00PM Daughters of the King

Tuesday, September 20th

1:30PM Martha's Ministry
2:30PM Food Pantry
6:00PM-7:00PM AA (AP)

Wednesday, September 21st

12:00PM Healing Service
12:00PM-1:00PM NA
6:30PM O&A Meeting

Thursday, September 22nd

9:00AM Staff Meeting
2:30PM Food Pantry
6:30PM-8:00PM NA

Friday, September 23rd

Rector's Day Off
12:00PM-1:00PM NA

Saturday, September 24th

9:00AM Mental Health Workshop
6:30PM-8:00PM NA

Sunday, September 25th

8:00AM Holy Eucharist: Rite I
9:30AM Sunday School
10:15AM Holy Eucharist: Rite II

Monday, September 26th

12:00PM-1:00PM NA
6:00PM Stewardship Committee

Tuesday, September 27th

1:30PM Martha's Ministry
2:30PM Food Pantry
6:00PM Lancaster Convocation Meeting
6:00PM-7:00PM AA (AP)

Wednesday, September 28th

12:00PM Healing Service
12:00PM-1:00PM NA

Thursday, September 29th

9:00AM Staff Meeting
2:30PM Food Pantry
6:30PM-8:00PM NA

Friday, September 30th

Rector's Day Off
12:00PM-1:00PM NA