



St John's Episcopal  
Church, Lancaster PA  
*The Messenger* -  
JANUARY

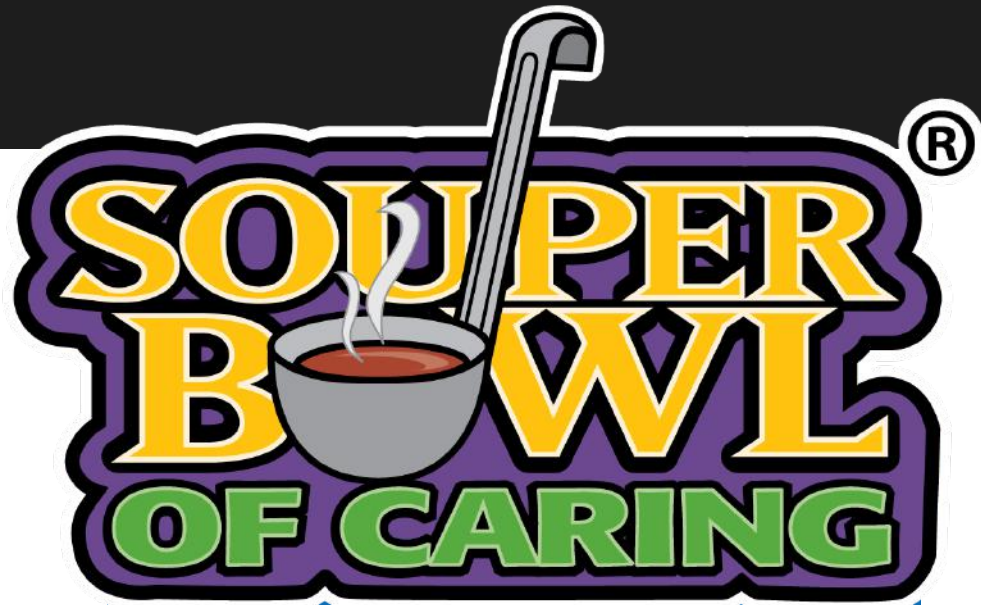


**THIS MONTH'S EVENTS:**

- 1.8 - Vestry Commissioning
- 1.16 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 1.19 - Men's Gathering

**WHAT'S INSIDE:**

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St. John's will again  
participate in the  
Souper Bowl of Caring  
on February 12,  
offering a lunch of  
homemade soups in  
the Parish Hall, with  
all donations to benefit  
our Food Pantry.  
Stay Tuned!

# RECTOR'S MESSAGE

DEAR ST. JOHN'S FAMILY AND FRIENDS,

Happy New Year! Welcome to 2023, the year of discovering Christ in our midst, the year of finding new rhythms and postures, the year of leaning into the light of Christ himself. I love that each new calendar year gets its footing in the season of Epiphany. Beginning on January 6, Epiphany is a season that celebrates the revelation of God as a human being in Jesus Christ. Words like journey, arrival, wisdom, fulfillment, rhythm, presence, and revelation are all tied to this season. As a community of faith, we will spend the next seven weeks immersed in the season of Epiphany and it all begins with the journey of the Magi to discover Emmanuel, “God with us” and the offering of their most treasured gifts.

THIS YEAR, RATHER THAN MAKING RESOLUTIONS THAT ONLY FEED MY SHORTCOMINGS AND INSECURITIES, I’M TAKING ON THE RHYTHM OF PRAYING THE EXAMEN. THE PRAYER OF EXAMEN IS A CENTURIES-OLD PRACTICE THAT INVITES US TO REFLECT ON OUR DAYS PRAYERFULLY IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD. THANKS TO MY LITURGICAL CALENDAR, I’M INVITED EVERY WEEK TO NOTICE GOD’S WORK IN MY LIFE. HERE’S THE INVITATION:

## PRAYER OF Examen

*As you pray, consider your spirit, body, mind, relationships, home, work, resources, or another category you find helpful.*

- ◆ Draw near to God. Become present. Rest your mind and heart.
- ◆ Reflect on the previous week with a posture of humility and gratitude.
- ◆ Note what surfaces. When have you been near to or far from God’s presence?
- ◆ Ask God to guide your reflections to be both faithful and gracious.
- ◆ Reset for the week to come. Move forward in a spirit of hope.

Consider the following questions to help you lean more fully into Epiphany:

- How am I noticing the revelation of God in my life?
- What gifts do I have to offer Jesus?
- In what ways am I being invited to grow?

Friends, I look forward to embarking on this new year with you and growing in our faith and relationships. Here’s to a hope-filled, love-inspiring, grace-receiving kind of year!

I remain faithfully yours,

Amanda+



# COFFEE HOUR

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

It's time to fill in our coffee hour volunteer slots for the new year. You can choose to help after either service or both- any help or greatly appreciated! A sign-up link can be found on the church website!



# COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

THE 3RD SAT. OF THE MONTH

For I was  
hungry and you  
gave me food, I  
was thirsty and  
you gave me  
drink...

Matthew  
25:35a



Every week, members of St. John's gather at 1st Reformed church to offer breakfast to those who are hungry. If you would like to participate in this ministry please contact the church office at [office@stjohns-lancaster.org](mailto:office@stjohns-lancaster.org)

# OUTREACH

THE MANY MEMBERS OF OUR OUTREACH TEAMS CONTINUE THEIR SPLENDID WORK IN CHRIST'S NAME WHILE MAKING PLANS TO DO MORE IN 2023.

The Food Pantry served 148 in October and 180 in November. They have served 1506 individuals/ family units so far this year. They were able to fill 35 boxes from donations they received. This enabled the committee to save \$340 in expenses. Marion Wear is leading volunteers in planning to increase their fund-raising efforts with a target of raising \$20,000 in 2023. We received a \$10,000 memorial and about \$4000 in donations towards this goal. The group is working on Souper Bowl of Caring Event. The committee has developed a brochure highlighting their efforts.

The Community Breakfast crew served over 90 people in October and over 100 in November. We began offering inside service at First Reformed UCC in December. St. John's was the first team to do so. The menu is the same as 2022.



Stacey Catigano reports that:

- F3 (Food, Faith, and Fellowship) is growing. The Committee is developing its own internal structure to assure that the finances are appropriately used.
- In December, Stacy+ met with the prison warden and Probationary Officers to help vet people for community service opportunities at St. John's.
- Stacey+ reports that Worship at prison is happening. 9 parishioners wanted to help.
- In planning for Easter, Stacey+ is working on getting Beth Shalom residents to come worship with us.
- We are supporting F2 (Faith & Finance). St. Thomas members lead this.
- Members of the F2 and F3 teams were recognized and commissioned during our services on Sunday December 11.

The Refugee team was diligent in reporting our hours of service toward our family. As a result, CWS will pay an additional 2 months of rent. All three children are in school. The committee is working on helping Mr. Abdi find employment closer to the City of Lancaster.

Sue Martin reported that the Election Day Bake sale raised \$890 for Eagles Nest. This was a record year. Deb Smith reported that we raised \$2,244 through the Christmas Bazaar so far. There are some additional funds coming in. The funds were raised for our Eagles Nest after school program. The Angel Tree gift gathering was a tremendous success. We will have a fuller report next month.





# GLOBAL

## PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGE



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

"To be grateful is to recognize the Love of God in everything He has given us - and He has given us everything.

Every breath we draw is a gift of His love, every moment of existence is a grace."

- Thomas Merton

### GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGE FOR JANUARY 1ST

As we start this new year, coming out of a season of "gifting", what gift could each of us give to those Here, There, Everywhere...

Let us start with an act of kindness. Pay attention to the needs of your loved ones or someone else and surprise them with a simple act of kindness.

### GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGE FOR JANUARY 8TH

Hmm....gifting? Take an inventory of your home and consider donating something that isn't giving you joy anymore. Your old items could be someone else's new treasure. Consider the auction at church, shoes, socks, sweaters, food for the pantry or food box - Your love will be felt.

### GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGE FOR JANUARY 15TH

"Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase." - Martin Luther King, JR.

Remember the smallest step can make a difference. Take a step, any size, to care for those here, there, everywhere.

### GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGE FOR JANUARY 22ND

"And know, I am with you always; yes to the end of time." Matthew 28:20

In any moment of fear or loneliness, feel the arms of Jesus on your shoulders saying those words.

### GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGE FOR JANUARY 29TH

"The more we care for the happiness of others the greater our own sense of well-being becomes." - The Dalai Lama

Remember our community has no exceptions of caring - Here, There, Everywhere

# Online Auction

## Collecting Items

Please bring your items valued at \$25 or more to the Choir Room to donate the them for the online auction at the dates and times below. Any questions about items can be directed to Leslie Morgan or Pam Loose.



<b>Online Auction Dates:</b>	<b>February 10 - 20, 2023</b>
<b>Pick Up Items:</b>	Saturday, February 25, 2023 from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm Sunday, February 26, 2023 from 11:30 am - 1:30 pm
<b>Auctioneer:</b>	Patrick Morgan Auction Services, LLC. 717-278-9202
<b>Collecting Items:</b>	Wednesday 1-11-23, 1-18-23, 1-25-23, and 2-1-23 from 6:00-8:00pm Sunday 1-15-23, 1-22-23, 1-29-23, and 2-5-23 from 9:00-10:15am, 11:15-11:45am
<b>Link:</b>	A link will be sent to bid on the items during the first full week of February.

# TREASURER'S REPORT

CHARLES WEAR

<b>St. John's Episcopal Church</b>						
<b>Church Operating Income Statement</b>						
Through November 2022						
Cash Basis in \$000's						
	2021			2022		
	Month	YTD	Budget	Month	YTD	Budget
	Nov	Nov	Full Yr	Nov	Nov	Full Yr
<b>Income</b>						
Pledge Income	\$21.3	\$301.2	\$365.0	\$24.7	\$350.0	\$384.6
Other Contributions	\$14.1	\$47.2	\$38.7	\$11.6	\$53.3	\$35.5
Investment Draws	\$20.0	\$20.0	\$44.2	\$0.0	\$52.1	\$63.0
Other Income	\$3.8	\$104.0	\$70.1	\$4.7	\$27.7	\$23.6
Jubilee	\$3.4	\$14.5	\$58.9	\$16.5	\$31.6	\$16.9
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$62.7</b>	<b>\$486.9</b>	<b>\$576.8</b>	<b>\$57.7</b>	<b>\$514.7</b>	<b>\$523.5</b>
<b>Expenses</b>						
Clergy	\$12.7	\$141.3	\$160.4	23.1	\$195.3	\$205.6
Lay Staff	\$8.0	\$108.5	\$132.1	9.1	\$82.2	\$90.8
Vestry/Finance/Comm	\$5.3	\$29.7	\$21.3	\$5.4	\$22.3	\$25.3
Utilities	\$1.6	\$25.0	\$29.0	\$3.3	\$36.2	\$29.5
Building Repairs & Supplies	\$8.3	\$34.2	\$27.0	\$3.3	\$23.8	\$38.4
Other Property	\$2.3	\$24.3	\$28.4	\$2.3	\$25.3	\$29.6
Worship/Ed/Community	\$0.4	\$8.8	\$16.4	\$2.8	\$14.3	\$14.1
Outreach	\$7.0	\$73.3	\$79.8	5.1	\$66.2	\$65.8
Jubilee	\$1.5	\$6.9	\$60.4	\$1.5	\$19.8	\$24.4
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$47.1</b>	<b>\$452.0</b>	<b>\$554.6</b>	<b>\$55.8</b>	<b>\$485.4</b>	<b>\$523.5</b>
<b>Net Total</b>	<b>\$15.5</b>	<b>\$35.0</b>	<b>\$22.3</b>	<b>\$1.9</b>	<b>\$29.3</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>

A substantial gift to the food pantry resulted in November income exceeding expenses. We continue to build a YTD operating surplus. But as noted last month, most if not all of the surplus funds are restricted gifts that will be transferred to their respective investment account as part of the year-end closing process. We continue to expect therefore, to close the year at or near a balanced budget.

CWear

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# VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

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At our December meeting, where we finished the work of 2022 and began the work of 2023, Deacon Stacey led us in reflection with Maya Angelou's Christmas poem, "Amazing Peace." On Sunday, January 1, the St. John's Award was presented to Paul and Liz West for their leadership in the restoration of the 209 Concord Street property (the new home for our refugee family), their dedication to the food pantry effort and their participation in the chancel choir. The Vestry is grateful for these and countless other ways in which they give their time and talents to our church community.

A generous memorial gift of \$10,000 and an additional \$4,000 in member donations were received. These gifts, earmarked for the food pantry, will allow St. John's to continue to assist in the community's growing needs. The annual Vestry retreat will take place on January 6 and 7. In addition to welcoming new Vestry members Kathy Kyper, Ted Loose and Liz West; the Vestry hopes to prayerfully discern where the spirit is leading St. John's in the coming year, both in service to the parishioners of St. Johns and to the community.

The 2023 budget was unanimously approved. The clergy, lay leaders and St. John's faithful, have worked diligently to support the various missions of the church, while also controlling expenses. The Vestry is most grateful for the continued strong financial support of the congregation. Martha's Ministry Bazaar and the Election Day Bake Sale efforts received strong support from both our parishioners and our neighbors. With the business of 2022 nearly concluded, the Vestry voted unanimously to support the payment of bonuses to staff members.

John Gouveia, Joe Way, and Paula Wolf were recognized and thanked for their contributions as Vestry members.

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# MEN'S GATHERING

**“Third Thursday”  
St. John’s Parish Hall  
January 19th at 6:30 P.M.**

When the Knouse House made our move to Lancaster mid-2019, we never knew that in the very near future a global pandemic would affect our social lives so profoundly. Covid-19 disrupted so many aspects of our lives at St. John’s, but one thing that remained strong was the urge of the men of our parish to come together in community with one another.

Sporadic, at best, would be the way I would describe our gatherings over the next two years, but coming together a time or two and a zoom trivia night kept up our interest until a time came when we could once again gather safely. I am so incredibly excited that the time for this has finally arrived.

What I missed most and needed the most during the “Covid-Years” is something that I find every time our group comes together on the third Thursday of every month. A community, a meal, fellowship and conversation, and building new friendships are just a few of the things that make our men’s gatherings so important to me.

These gatherings don’t just give us an opportunity to break bread together, but they also give us an opportunity to get to know one another and build amazing, Christ-centered relationships with the various members of our congregation.

Whether you are new to St. John’s or have been here for decades, the men’s group is the place for you if you are seeking community. Please join us!

Peace,  
John Knouse



# BIRTHDAYS

2 - David Kilp	21 - Ricky Smith
4 - Stephen Sherman	22 - Martha Lamb
4 - Dylan Stone	23 - Lyn Bailey
5 - Linda Shore Novosel	23 - Emily Durand
6 - Paul West	23 - Shelby Kilhefner
6 - Joanna White	25 - Jean Gordon
8 - John Knouse	25 - Michael Patrone
10 - Nick Di Pace	25 - Kent Strickler
10 - Bruce Tahsler	27 - Chris Hasircoglu
12 - Ally Latshaw	27 - Andy Latshaw
13 - Mary Lou Broucht	28 - Sue Purdy
15 - Jennifer Trenary	29 - Lily Mausolf
16 - Ken Watts	30 - Annie Lattanzio-Hale
18 - Mark Springer	30 - Marion Wear
20 - Wayne McKee	31 - Sophia Thompson

# ANNIVERSARIES

7 - Pat and John Pankey  
26 - Tom and Kendall Stonerook



# Church CALENDAR

**Sunday, January 1st**  
\*Birthdays & Anniversaries\*  
8:00AM Holy Eucharist: Rite I  
9:30AM Sunday School  
10:15AM Holy Eucharist: Rite II

**Monday, January 2nd**  
6:00PM Daughters of the King

**Tuesday, January 3rd**  
1:30PM Martha's Ministry  
2:30PM Food Pantry

**Wednesday, January 4th**  
12:00PM Healing Service  
3:30PM Eagle's Nest

**Thursday, January 5th**  
9:00AM Minister's Meeting  
2:30PM Food Pantry

**Friday, January 6th**  
\*Rector's Day Off\*  
5:45 PM Vestry Dinner

**Saturday, January 7th**  
9AM-3PM Vestry Retreat

**Sunday, January 8th**  
\*Vestry Commissioning\*  
8:00AM Holy Eucharist: Rite I  
9:30AM Sunday School  
10:15AM Holy Eucharist: Rite II

**Monday, January 9th**  
6:00PM Ministries Council

**Tuesday, January 10th**  
1:30PM Martha's Ministry  
2:30PM Food Pantry  
4:00PM Finance Committee

**Wednesday, January 11th**  
12:00PM Healing Service  
3:30PM Eagle's Nest  
7:00PM Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, January 12th**  
9:00AM Minister's Meeting  
2:30PM Food Pantry  
7:00PM Handbell Rehearsal

**Friday, January 13th**  
\*Rector's Day Off\*

**Sunday, January 15th**  
8:00AM Holy Eucharist: Rite I  
9:30AM Sunday School  
10:15AM Holy Eucharist: Rite II

**Monday, January 16th**  
\*MLK Jr. Day\*  
6:00PM Daughters of the King

**Tuesday, January 17th**  
1:30PM Martha's Ministry  
2:30PM Food Pantry

**Wednesday, January 18th**  
12:00PM Healing Service  
3:30PM Eagle's Nest  
7:00PM Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, January 19th**  
9:00AM Minister's Meeting  
2:30PM Food Pantry  
6:30PM Men's Gathering  
7:00PM Handbell Rehearsal

**Friday, January 20th**  
\*Rector's Day Off\*

**Saturday, January 21st**  
9:00AM Community Breakfast  
at First Reformed Church

**Sunday, January 22nd**  
8:00AM Holy Eucharist: Rite I  
9:30AM Sunday School  
10:15AM Holy Eucharist: Rite II

**Tuesday, January 24th**  
1:30PM Martha's Ministry  
2:30PM Food Pantry

**Wednesday, January 25th**  
12:00PM Healing Service  
3:30PM Eagle's Nest  
7:00PM Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, January 26th**  
9:00AM Minister's Meeting  
2:30PM Food Pantry  
7:00PM Handbell Rehearsal

**Friday, January 27th**  
\*Rector's Day Off\*

**Sunday, January 29th**  
8:00AM Holy Eucharist: Rite I  
9:30AM Sunday School  
10:15AM Holy Eucharist: Rite II

**Saturday, January 30th**  
6:00PM Stewardship Committee

**Tuesday, January 31st**  
1:30PM Martha's Ministry  
2:30PM Food Pantry