



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

THIS MONTH'S EVENTS:

3. 12 - Service of Hope & Light

3.18 - Irish Music Event

Neighborhood Prayer Walks

each Tuesday at 4:00PM

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STEWARDSHIP STATS

2023 PLEDGE UPDATE - \$396,298 WITH 104 PLEDGES

FEBRUARY BUILDING USE - RENTAL AND BUILDING
USE WITH KITCHEN RENTAL FOR A FLEDGLING
CATERING BUSINESS, THERAPY GROUP MEETINGS FOR
ADULTS WITH TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURIES, CONTRA
DANCE GROUP, DANCE MINISTRY CLASSES, NA AND
AA SUPPORT GROUPS

GRANT SUBMITTED - HISTORIC PRESERVATION GRANT SUBMITTED FOR \$100,000 TO RESTORE AND REPAIR OUR STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

ONLINE AUCTION - \$1,100 PROFIT - THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS!

SAVE THE DATE - GRATITUDE DINNER
JUNE 10TH HONORING MUSIC MINISTRIES

Rector's Message

Dear St. John's,

I pray your Lenten journeys have gotten off to a holy start. This month, we will have numerous opportunities to lean into this sacred season of growth and awareness through worship, neighborhood walks, gatherings for our youth and men's groups, and service. In whatever ways you engage these forty days, I pray you discover more deeply your belovedness. I pray you discover what it means to be forgiven, valued, and loved through the life and ministry of Christ. I pray your eyes are opened to the journey Jesus took on our behalf and the ways he engaged the people around him as he made his way to Jerusalem.

The awareness that Jesus had for the people and communities he encountered fundamentally shaped his ministry and how he lived into his own belovedness. In the same way, our neighborhood prayer walks invite us to a new kind of awareness of the community in which we live and move and have our being. Every Tuesday in Lent, we invite you to go for a stroll with us around the neighborhoods that encircle our parish. Each week we will walk a new path, stopping along the way, to acknowledge what we see and to pray for those we pass.

As a reminder, these neighborhood prayer walks are not just about walking around and they're not just about praying. They are about walking through the city with our eyes and our hearts wide open. They are about noticing signs of hope and signs of need, and how God calls us to be present to both. Jesus knew the communities he encountered along his journey because he paid attention to them. He noticed the woman at the well, he saw those who were sick, suffering, and those who were grieving, he paid attention to where people gathered and how the marginalized were treated. Jesus didn't spend his life hidden behind closed doors or stained-glass windows, his ministry revolved around communities, workplaces, homes.



As we walk each Tuesday, we'll ask:

- Where do our neighborhoods feel like wilderness?
- Where are the temptations?
- Where are the angels?
- Where might we find Jesus along this particular path?

If you are unable to join us for these walks, please take a stroll around your own neighborhood and ask the same questions. Go for a drive and pay attention to your surroundings. When you're at the grocery store, say a prayer for those you pass in each aisle. Ask God to open your eyes and your heart. Perhaps our Lenten walks will draw us even closer to Christ this Lent...

God's peace, Amanda+

Holy Week at St. John's

Palm Sunday

8:00 AM - Liturgy of the Palms with Holy Eucharist (spoken)

10:15 AM - Festive Palm Procession with Holy Eucharist and Choir

Maundy Thursday

7:00 PM - Foot Washing, Holy Eucharist, Stripping of the Altar 8:30 PM till Midnight - Maundy Thursday Vigil

Good Friday

12:00 PM - Stations of the Cross

7:00 PM - The Passion, Prayers, and Holy Eucharist from the Reserved Sacrament

Easter Day

6:30 AM - Easter Sunrise Service at the Betty Finney AIDS Memorial Garden 8:30 AM - Festive Eucharist with the Renewal of Baptismal Vows and Handbells 9:30 AM - Easter Egg Hunt and Brunch

11:00 AM - Holy Baptism with Festive Choral Eucharist and Brass



Palm Sunday

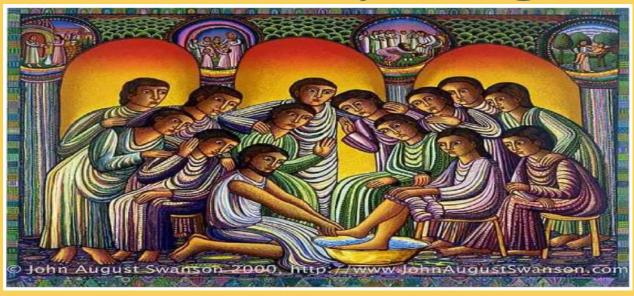


Palm Sunday is what I consider the entrance rite into Holy Week. I've always loved the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. I've walked the path from the Mount of Olives into the holy city and can only imagine how monumental that parade was for the community that gathered. Imaging the crowds spreading their cloaks and palm branches onto the path of Jesus while shouting Hosanna with every fiber of their being sends chills down my neck. Hosanna, meaning save us, is their song. Save us from oppression, save us from the corrupt political system we've become enmeshed in. Save us from our sin and brokenness. Save us from whatever separates us from the God of love.

Palm Sunday begins with shouts of victory and triumph, but it doesn't end there. Within moments the shouts of Hosanna are a distant echo to the shouts of a mob yelling, "crucify him." In one Sunday, we go from Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem to Jesus' trial, conviction, and death and with that we're thrust into Holy week. Holy week is a week designed to break our hearts open and expose us to the lengths our Messiah was willing to go simply because he loves us...completely...even to the grave.

As writer, Kate Bowler, recently shared, "Holy Week is a slow and steady march toward the cross. Because we know the end of the story (Easter! Resurrection! Hope! New Life!), it can be tempting to skip to the good part. But let us instead be like the women at the foot of the cross who never leave Christ's side as he takes his last breath. Let us not rush into the glory of Easter, and instead accompany the one who walks with us." May we begin that walk on Palm Sunday and stay the course throughout the entire Holy Week Triduum.

Deacon Stacey Catigano



Some thoughts about Maundy Thursday

Pedicure Season?

As I interned in several parishes across our diocese, I often heard moans and groans when approaching Maundy Thursday. As someone with super ticklish feet and not raised in the Christian faith, I can appreciate the wonkiness of foot washing in relation to modernity. But, as with most things in my life, God converted my heart in how I understood, approached and experienced Maundy Thursday. What once sent me running to the nail salon to get a pedicure out of self-consciousness now brings me to tears because of the remarkable privilege of serving God's people. It is my hope that by sharing some of my thoughts we might reframe Maundy Thursday into the ongoing shared practice of Christ's selfless love and humility regardless of how uncomfortable it can feel while serving the angry, the sick, the lonely, the guilty, the judged, the ignored, the arrogant, the homeless, the addicted, the poor, the undocumented, the unforgiving, the convicted and the dying.

An Act of Love.

Initially, the washing of feet was a menial act of hospitality (Gn 18:4, 19:2). It was often done for guests by a servant, slave or the wife of the host. The Gospel of John (13:1-17) records that Jesus washed the feet of the disciples at the Last Supper. Jesus urged the disciples to follow his example of generous and humble service (Mk 10:43-44). The foot washing also expressed Jesus' "new commandment" for his disciples to love one another, as he had loved them (Jn 13:34). If we take a look at Luke 7: 36-50, we read about a woman who is washing the feet of Jesus. She washes his feet with her tears and wipes them with her hair. Jesus explains to Simon Peter that the woman had a lot of sin in her life and because she was forgiven much she was loved much. So, in both instances we can understand that Jesus

elevates what was once an act of hospitality to an act of love. In addition, Jesus elevates those who are oppressed and marginalized, and includes women!

A Basin and a Towel.

Like all good symbols and symbolic actions, the washing of the feet on Maundy Thursday holds many layers of significance for us as Christians. The diaconate is an Order of Service, symbolized by the basin and towel (deacon's stole) used by Jesus. The deacon's vocation is a response to be a diakonos (Greek) a servant who is to freely and gladly give diakonia, service, in imitation of her Savior (Jn 13:4-5). Take note, that in our tradition, before a priest can be ordained, they become a transitional deacon for six months. Most continue to have a diaconal heart for service for the rest of their priesthood! Thanks be to God!

The Washing of Hands.

Sometimes we are uncomfortable having our feet washed because love it makes us feel vulnerable and vulnerability is difficult to accept. Therefore, the washing of hands is often considered a more comfortable option. If we are to remain biblically connected to the Last Supper, the problem with hand washing is that it lends itself more to Pilate's act of power and indifference when he washed his hands of condemning Jesus to death (Mt 27:24) Jesus' own act of service and love when he stooped down to wash his disciple's feet. Do Ancient Rituals Matter in 2023? No, not if we don't put into practice in our daily lives what rituals signify. Specifically, Maundy Thursday is when we proclaim the narrative of the Last Supper, according to the Gospel of John, by the washing of feet, sharing Holy Communion and concluding with the Stripping of the Altar. According to The Oxford English Dictionary (Online ed.), liturgy is a subset of ritual. The liturgy is often equated in English as "service," referring to a formal ritual enacted by those who understand themselves to be participating with the divine. Liturgy, if not understood can have negative connotations but, it's important for us to understand the origins, beauty and intentions behind it. It reminds us of where we've come from and uses Scripture as a way to participate with God in our daily lives. Friends, let not only Maundy Thursday but every day be an opportunity where we may serve as the hands and feet of Christ.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

Good Friday BY JEN TRENARY

Good Friday: The Friday before Easter Day, on which the church commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus. It is a day of fasting and special acts of discipline and self-denial. In the early church candidates for baptism, joined by others, fasted for a day or two before the Paschal feast. In the west the first of those days eventually acquired the character of historical reenactment of the passion and death of Christ. The liturgy of the day includes John's account of the Passion gospel, a solemn form of intercession known as the solemn collects (dating from ancient Rome), and optional devotions before the cross (commonly known as the veneration of the cross). The eucharist is not celebrated in the Episcopal Church on Good Friday, but Holy Communion may be administered from the reserved sacrament at the Good Friday service.

Altar of Repose: An altar other than the main altar of the parish upon which the consecrated bread and wine from the Maundy Thursday eucharist are reserved for communion on Good Friday. The altar of repose may be in a chapel or a room away from the church. It is usually decorated with candles and flowers. Members of the congregation may participate in a watch or vigil at the altar of repose from the conclusion of the Maundy Thursday service until the beginning of the Good Friday service.

Good Friday Collect: Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Collect Reflection: So what does this Good Friday collect ask of God? It's a stunningly simple request: "...behold this your family..." In this holy moment, this darkest of days, we ask God in his love and grace to see us, to hold us in his sight. The request is as essential as it is simple, because at the core of our being, isn't this what we are looking for? To be seen, to be known, to belong, to be held. Also, notice that this request to be seen isn't relegated to the purely personal. The request is for all of us—the gathered community of worshippers. We do not single out ourselves for special notice.

The simplicity of the request here belies a complex and wonderful truth. We are only enabled to ask to be seen, identified, and esteemed by God as his family through saving work of Jesus. As Paul says in Romans, it is our status as God's adopted children that allows us to cry 'Abba, Father!' The collect rehearses the escalating awfulness of the path Christ took, emphasizing his willingness to be betrayed by those closest to him, delivered over to those who misunderstood and despised him, and, at last, to suffer the cruelty of the cross. The willingness of Christ, so poignantly expressed in Jesus' prayer in the garden of Gethsemane, affirms the never-failing love of God.

There are fewer collects as plain and unadorned as this. There will be a season for over-flowing rhetoric, abounding imagery, and grand requests. But this plainness fits this day. On Good Friday, we are suspended for the briefest moments in hopelessness. We find ourselves in darkness, not certain if any sun shall ever rise. And so, we pray not for eyes to see, but rather to be seen. As we recall Jesus' suffering upon the cross, we remember that we are seen by God because Christ was willing to be forsaken. -Kolby Kerr



St. John's presents

Irish Music

FREE ADMISSION

St. John's Parish Hall

MAR18TH 4PM TO 6PM

Featuring Ben Webber, Paul West, and Sam Meckley

Repertoire will consist of ballads, folk songs, art songs, show tunes, and drinking songs.

All ages welcome!





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

"The planet does not need more successful people. The planet desperately needs more peacemakers, healers, restorers, storytellers and loves of ALL kinds." -Dalai Lama

We are ALL capable of this, regardless of any age or differences.

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGE FOR MARCH 5TH

"If you want peace, you don't talk to your friends, you talk to your enemies." -Desmond Tutu

Ask anyone working at the Community Breakfast, the Food Pantry, Soles4Souls, outdoor offerings, Eagles Nest, about the smiles they feel after sharing with our brothers and sisters - with no restrictions, just caring.

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGE FOR MARCH 12TH

St. Patrick's Day March 17th

While many will be wearing "green" to celebrate St. Patrick's Day, think about making a commitment to "be green" by increasing your recycling, using your own bags when shopping refusing plastic/styrofoam, recycling/gifting clothes and shoes, etc. We ALL share One World.

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGE FOR MARCH 19TH

When you are going through hard times and wonder where God is...Remember the teacher is always quiet during a test. Look around at our community and give thanks for those who support and care and be a part of that family and ask and act on how you can be a healing part - Here, There, Everywhere - We are stronger together.

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGE FOR MARCH 26TH

As we move into Spring and thoughts of gardening surface..."If speaking to plants helps them grow...Imagine what speaking kindly to humans can do."

This Lenten time we have focused on discovering our community. Don't let that end.

We are ALL One - We are ALL God's Children.

ST JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH INVITES YOU TO

ASCIVICE Ascrice of Hope & Light

SUNDAY, MARCH 12TH AT 7:00PM 321 W CHESTNUT ST. LANCASTER PA 17603

Featuring St. John's Chancel Choir, Manor Winds Quintet, and Cellist Isaac Se Young Um



Dignity Campaign from the Feeding Ministries of St. John's Episcopal Church

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." – John 13:34-35, NIV

Seeing the Value in Others:

God calls us to love one another. Seeing value in everyone is not the same as agreeing or being best friends with everyone. Instead, it means showing all people the love of Christ through what we do and how we treat them.

The Feeding Ministries of St. John's Episcopal Church want to challenge you to support basic human dignity through our outreach in the community. During Lent we ask you to help us fill our collection wagons in the Parish Hall, Atrium and downstairs elevator lobby with food AND also with toiletries and supplies that help people maintain their basic human dignity!

SNAP and other food support programs do not provide money for non-food items like toilet paper, shampoo, toothpaste, bar soap or diapers. During COVID, many of our visitors asked us for help obtaining these items, and because of that sharing, all your Feeding Ministries responded!

- · Toiletries are now offered during the Tuesday/Thursday food pantry.
- The Fence of Love grew up next to the Blessings Box to provide hats, scarves, gloves and socks during the colder months.
- The Community Breakfast Program added a table to share gloves and socks with their guests in the winter.

CAN YOU HELP US SUPPORT THE DIGNITY OF OTHERS?



TREASURER'S REPORT

CHARLES WEAR

	8	2022			2
	Actual Jan	Actual Full Yr	Budget Full Yr	Actual Jan	Actual Full Yr
ncome					
Pledge Income	\$59.2	\$59.2	\$365.0	\$77.6	\$77.6
Other Contributions	\$5.3	\$5.3	\$55.1	\$6.9	\$6.9
Investment Draws	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$63.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
Other Income	\$2.8	\$2.8	\$23.6	\$1.6	\$1.6
Jubilee	\$0.4	\$0.4	\$16.9	\$1.3	\$1.3
otal Income	\$67.7	\$67.7	\$523.5	\$87.3	\$87.3
Expenses Clergy	\$12.8	\$12.8	\$205.6	18.5	\$18.5
	ATTA HARASHE SHIPS		Secondario di		AN WHEREAVER SHOWN
Lay Staff	\$5.6	\$5.6	\$90.8	9.2	\$9.2
Vestry/Finance/Comm	\$2.3	\$2.3	\$25.3	\$3.1	\$3.1
Utilities	\$3.7	\$3.7	\$29.5	\$6.6	\$6.6
Building Repairs & Supplies	\$2.1	\$2.1	\$38.4	\$1.4	\$1.4
Other Property	\$2.3	\$2.3	\$29.6	\$2.3	\$2.3
Worship/Ed/Community	\$1.4	\$1.4	\$14.1	\$0.9	\$0.9
Outreach	\$5.3	\$5.3	\$65.8	5.8	\$5.8
Jubilee	\$0.3	\$0.3	\$24.4	\$1.2	\$1.2
Total Expenses	\$35.7	\$35.7	\$523.5	\$49.0	\$49.0
	s	***************************************	•		* ***
Net Total	\$32.0	\$32.0	\$0.0	\$38.3	\$38.3

January was a huge month for income due to several large annual pledged gifts, the same pattern as recent years. The resulting cash surplus is reflected in the large increase in operating checking balance for the month. Operating expenses for January are unremarkable and consistent with budget expectations.

In resettlement program news, the CWS organization has provided prepaid rent through August for the Abdi family in 209 Concord. Work on the financial section of the annual parochial report is nearing completion.



2160 Lincoln Highway East, #18 Lancaster, PA 17602

717-299-1113 parishresourcecenter.org info@parishresourcecenter.org

Creating community connections since 1976

Food Program Best Practices

Tuesday, March 7th from 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Free Registration Live on Zoom

Presenters: David Devries, Community Action Partnership and Maria D'Isabella, Central Pennsylvania Food Bank

Whether you are currently providing food pantry services or considering opening one, learn what best practices you should follow. Discover ways to reduce waste, limit your paperwork, and best serve your clients and community.

To register, visit www.connectprc.org/programming or call 717-299-1113



ST JOHN'S LENTEN YOUTH SERIES The Way

Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus

Join us for dinner and discussion every Wednesday in Lent Questions? See Joe Way or John Knouse

March 1 @ 6:30pm

March 8 @ 6:30pm

March 15 @ 6:30 pm

March 22 @ 6:30pm

March 29 @ 6:30pm



Maundy Thursday Lock-In!



REFORM RE-ENTRY RE-IMAGINING

MARCH 9 7-8:30 PM

BEYOND THE BARS

AN ONLINE DISCUSSION EXPLORING
THE REALITIES OF INCARCERATION
AND WAYS TO FAITHFULLY ENGAGE.
HOSTED BY THE CHRISTIAN SOCIAL CONCERNS
COMMITTEE OF UNITED CHURCHES OF LYCOMING CO.

TO REGISTER, EMAIL: CHRISTEPCHURCH@GMAIL.COM

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Mike Williams
- 3 David Dissinger
- 6 Brooks Morgan
- 7 Bob Bailey
- 7 Adeline Bowser
- 8 Ellen Sellers
- 10 Ken Brown
- 11 Tim Huber
- 11 David Rodriguez
- 12 Julie Rodriguez

- 13 Ted Loose
- 16 Leslie Lemonick
- 17 Janelle Stone
- 17 Madalyn Wendler
- 19 Alison Siewert
- 21 Karen Latshaw
- 21 Heather Trenary
- 21 Dawn Williams
- 23 Betsy Hasircoglu
- 24 Penn Glazier

- 25 Paul Dorgan
- 26 Kimberly Henry
- 29 Neil Clark
- 29 Webb Cook, Jr.
- 29 Jeff Wendler
- 30 Joel Cliff
- 31 Jim Snyder
- 31 Bruce Waskowicz
- 31 Liz West

ANNIVERSARIES:

9 - Bruce & Mary Waskowicz 11 - John & Nancy Houston 17 - Katie & Andy Mausolf

20 - Andy & Ally Latshaw

31 - Bruce & Leslie Tahsler



Easter Flowers

Please submit requests by March 31

GIVEN BY:

IN THANKSGIVING FOR:

IN MEMORY OF:



Wednesday, March 1st

12:00PM Healing Service 3:30PM Eagle's Nest 6:30PM Youth Group 7:00PM Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 2nd

9:00AM Minister's Meeting 2:30PM Food Pantry 7:00PM Handbell Rehearsal

Friday, March 3rd

Rector's Day Off

Sunday, March 5th

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

Monday, March 6th

6:00PM Ministries Council 6:00PM Daughters of the King

Tuesday, March 7th

1:30PM Martha's Ministry 2:30PM Food Pantry 4:00PM Neighborhood Prayer Walk

Wednesday, March 8th

12:00PM Healing Service 3:30PM Eagle's Nest 6:30PM Youth Group 7:00PM Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 9th

9:00AM Minister's Meeting 2:30PM Food Pantry 7:00PM Handbell Rehearsal

Friday, March 10th

Rector's Day Off

Sunday, March 12th

8:00AM Holy Eucharist: Rite I 9:30AM Sunday School 10:15AM Holy Eucharist: Rite II 7:00PM Service of Hope & Light

Monday, March 13th

6:00PM Caring Ministry Meeting

Tuesday, March 14th

1:30PM Martha's Ministry 2:30PM Food Pantry 4:00PM Finance Committee 4:00PM Neighborhood Prayer Walk

Wednesday, March 15th

12:00PM Healing Service 3:30PM Eagle's Nest 6:30PM Youth Group 7:00PM Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 16th

9:00AM Minister's Meeting 2:30PM Food Pantry 6:30PM Men's Gathering 7:00PM Handbell Rehearsal

Friday, March 17th

Rector's Day Off

Saturday, March 18th

9:00AM Community Breakfast at First Reformed Church 9:00AM LEV Training at St. Thomas 4:00PM Irish Music Event

Sunday, March 19th

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

Monday, March 20th

6:00PM Daughters of the King

Tuesday, March 21st

1:30PM Martha's Ministry 2:30PM Food Pantry 4:00PM Neighborhood Prayer Walk

Wednesday, March 22nd

12:00PM Healing Service 3:30PM Eagle's Nest 6:30PM Youth Group 7:00PM Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 23rd

9:00AM Minister's Meeting 2:30PM Food Pantry 7:00PM Handbell Rehearsal

Friday, March 24th

Rector's Day Off

Sunday, March 26th

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

Monday, March 27th

6:00PM Stewardship Committee

Tuesday, March 28th

1:30PM Martha's Ministry 2:30PM Food Pantry 4:00PM Neighborhood Prayer Walk

Wednesday, March 29th

12:00PM Healing Service 3:30PM Eagle's Nest 6:30PM Youth Group 7:00PM Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 30th

9:00AM Minister's Meeting 2:30PM Food Pantry 7:00PM Handbell Rehearsal

Friday, March 31st

Rector's Day Off