



St John's Episcopal Church, Lancaster PA

The Messenger - JUNE



LANCASTER CONVOCATION SUMMER VBS PROGRAMS

Art Camp

June 12th - 15th
10:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Saint Thomas Episcopal Church

301 Saint Thomas Road
Lancaster

Paint, play and create while learning about God's amazing love. No cost to attend! Lunch and snacks provided. For children ages K-8th grade.

Build In God

June 26th - 29th
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Hope Episcopal Church

2425 Mountain Road
Manheim

Join us for a week of bible stories, wood working and other fun games and activities! No cost to attend! Lunch and snacks provided.

Kids Camp

July 10th - 12th
8:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Saint James Episcopal Church

119 North Duke Street
Lancaster

Children will gather for songs, games, meditation and movement, Godly play and crafts! Lunch will be provided. For children ages 4-10.

Music Camp

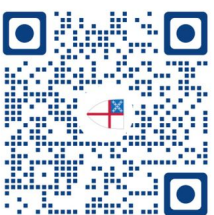
July 31st - August 3rd
6:30 - 8:30 PM

Saint Paul Columbia

340 Locust Street
Columbia

For more information, head over to saintpaulcolumbia.org

Scan the QR code for more information and registration options on all of the upcoming summer VBS programs!
Or log on to www.LancasterEpiscopal.org



THIS MONTH'S EVENTS:

- 6.10: Gratitude Dinner
- 6.17: **Pride Festival**
- 6.18 - 6.23: Episcoluter Week
- 6.25: Church Picnic

WHAT'S INSIDE:

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RECTOR'S LETTER

Dear St. John's,

Welcome to the season after Pentecost, also known as Ordinary Time. For the next several months, we will immerse ourselves in a season of living out our Christian faith through our ordinary or daily lives. Marked by green vestments and altar hangings, Ordinary Time is a designated period in the church calendar to grow as Christ's disciples. We've encountered the risen Christ through the season of Easter, celebrated the coming of the Holy Spirit in Pentecost, and now we get to practice discipleship through worship, service, and formation.

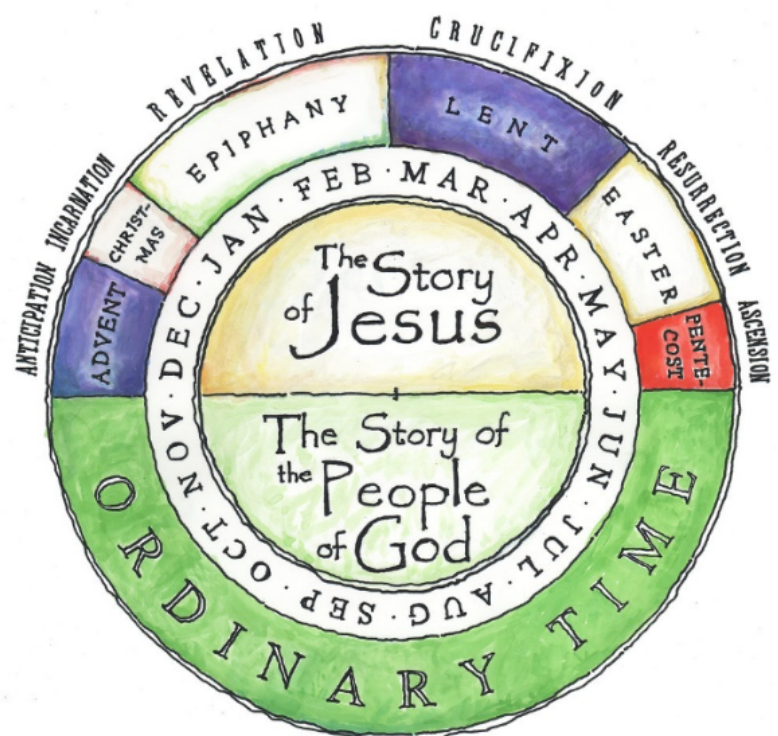
During this season, we will delve deeper into scripture and the life of Jesus. We will read parables and remember how Christ changed the lives of everyone he interacted with, in big ways and small. This is a season to explore what it means to live daily in faith and grow as Christ's body in the world today.

Opportunities to strengthen our spiritual muscles are abundant this summer. A new Adult Forum entitled, Transforming Questions, will be offered throughout the entire summer following our joint worship service. Our young people can attend Camp Mount Luther and explore the theme, Holy Trinity, Wholly Love; head to the Episcopal Youth Event in Baltimore, MD; or attend one of four Vacation Bible Schools happening in our Convocation!

Opportunities to express gratitude are also plentiful. Join us at the Gratitude Dinner as we celebrate our Music Ministries, lend a hand at the Food Pantry and give thanks for the abundant resources we have to share, or contribute to the Yard Give knowing there's enough for everyone when we practice faithful stewardship.

There is so much to learn and experience during this holy ordinary season. I look forward to growing with you in the months to come!

I remain faithfully yours,
Amanda+



SOLES4SOULS

"COMMUNITY HELPING COMMUNITY"

THANK YOU!
FROM BARBARA LANDIS

On Good Friday morning, our community gift of shoes left St. John's to gift those in need all over the world.



St. John's community and their friends along with congregations and friends from James Street Mennonite, St. Edwards, St. Thomas, Warwick schools thanks to Leslie Morgan, donated shoes. Our thanks to them ALL for their caring and work and to Phoenix Transport who have picked them up every year for 10 yrs and transport them to the distribution center in NJ for free. Without their help, we would have to raise \$1/pair to ship. Think of all the devastation from weather, war, economic challenges that are happening in the world; many places kids can't attend school without shoes; imagine walking to church barefoot from your home. Because of the community connection and caring, we sent out a record number, 1644 pairs of shoes - Community helping Community - Here, There, Everywhere.



GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGE



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

"Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend." - Martin Luther King, Jr.

In our troublesome world, kindness was never more important, for ALL God's Children - Here, There, Everywhere

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGE FOR JUNE 4TH

World Environment Day June 5th

"When I admire the wonders of the sunset or the beauty of the moon, my soul expands in the worship of the Creator." - Mahatma Gandhi

Take a step, any size, to care for the earth given to us by God.

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGE FOR JUNE 11TH

Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does.
In your caring, your sharing, your kindness,
your willingness to learn on a new adventure.
Aim for the moon. If you miss, you may hit a star.
Keep moving. Every step counts. Blessings to ALL.

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGE FOR JUNE 18TH

Father's Day

"Instruct a child in the way they should go and when they grow old they will not leave it."
- Proverbs 22:6

Give thanks and acknowledge those "Father Figures" who have presented in your life with caring and guidance.

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGE FOR JUNE 25TH

"And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions." - Joel 2:28

We are ALL called to action on any level to demonstrate God's love for each of us.
Share your kindness and love in a world that needs it - Here, There, Everywhere.



GRATITUDE DINNER

JUNE 10, 2023

5:00 PM

Honoring our
Music Ministries
Please RSVP by June 1.

Hosted by Stewardship Committee





PRIDE MONTH

Heather Trenary

Last summer, Jen+ and I were out camping in York county not long before they were ordained as a Deacon. I hear rustling behind me as I am stoking the fire and turn around quickly to make sure an animal hasn't made its way into camp trying to steal a bit of dinner. Instead, I see a youngling, who says in a very quiet and sheepish voice, "Hi, would you like to come have dinner, my family has extra." I quickly tell them, with a big grin on my face, that our dinner is just about finished but maybe we can share dessert. That is all it took for my new found camping friend to open up. I came to find out that Audrey, was about 13 and was wondering if Jen and I were lesbian. Well that is complicated (feel free to come ask me some day) but yes we are in a lesbian marriage. You see little Audrey was exploring her own sexuality and gender identity with the full support of her mom and step-dad. What really kept Audrey at our campsite is that she found out that Jen & I go to church. Not only do we go but Jen was about to be a leader in the church, a pastor, a minister, a Deacon? She didn't know what the word Deacon fully meant but what Audrey heard that day was a message that she is a Child of God, just the way she is and she was beaming. You see she was hiding. Hiding from her conservative christian father who told her that people who are LGBTQIA+ are disgusting, and that God doesn't love them, to say the least. So Audrey had to hide when with her father. And it was painful and hurtful. Audrey and her mom shared how they had been to church but not found one open and affirming, even hearing anti-LGBTQIA+ rhetoric. And Audrey's mom said she had never seen Audrey smile so big as when Jen and I told them both that Audrey is a Child of God.

St. John's friends. This happened in 2022. A youngling is afraid to be themselves. And has to hide. Now tell me if you had this experience at churches or with people who claim Christianity would you want to walk into the doors of a church? Probably not. So we as a loving open and affirming Christian community need to go to the LGBTQIA+ community.

Audrey, and all of us in the LGBTQIA+ community, is the reason St. John's has committed to showing up at Lancaster Pride again this year. With a giant sign and pride temporary tattoos and prayers to meet them. The LGBTQIA+ community needs to hear that they are Children of God. And that there are Christians who love them without wanting to change them.

If you have time to share the love of St. John's please consider volunteering at St. John's Pride Booth. Lancaster Pride will be held at the Lancaster County Convention Center (25 S Queen St) from Noon to 7 pm on June 17th, 2023. Volunteer time slots are 2 hours long. Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0B4BA8AB22A2F94-stjohns> OR In the Parish Hall. If you have questions feel free to come find me here at church (you can text/call 513-377-0881 or email me @ kanary77@gmail.com) or message Jen+ or Amanda+.

HAPPY PRIDE

TREASURER'S REPORT

St. John's Episcopal Church

Church Operating Income Statement

April 2023 vs 2022

Cash Basis in \$000's

	2022			2023		
	Actual April	Actual YTD	Budget Full Yr	Actual April	Actual YTD	Budget Full Yr
Income						
Pledge Income	\$24.8	\$169.5	\$384.6	\$27.2	\$175.9	\$415.0
Other Contributions	\$4.6	\$16.7	\$35.5	\$6.4	\$25.2	\$50.5
Investment Draws	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$63.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$63.6
Other less Transfers	\$3.8	\$11.8	\$23.6	\$4.4	\$11.8	\$20.7
Jubilee	\$0.8	\$5.3	\$16.9	\$1.1	\$5.6	\$23.9
Total Income	\$34.1	\$203.4	\$523.5	\$39.1	\$218.4	\$573.7
Expenses						
Clergy	\$15.5	\$61.6	\$205.6	19.6	\$78.7	\$247.0
Lay Staff	\$2.6	\$19.2	\$90.8	7.9	\$32.9	\$116.5
Vestry/Finance/Comm	\$2.0	\$7.0	\$25.3	\$2.6	\$10.7	\$27.6
Utilities	\$3.4	\$17.1	\$29.5	\$3.1	\$23.1	\$39.2
Building Repairs & Supplies	\$0.8	\$9.0	\$38.4	\$2.3	\$7.8	\$33.6
Other Property	\$4.2	\$11.0	\$29.6	\$2.3	\$11.5	\$28.9
Worship/Ed/Community	\$0.8	\$5.2	\$14.1	\$2.7	\$5.9	\$17.2
Outreach	\$0.3	\$17.6	\$65.8	4.9	\$21.2	\$64.6
Jubilee	\$1.1	\$2.6	\$24.4	\$1.9	\$7.1	\$34.2
Total Expenses	\$30.9	\$150.3	\$523.5	\$47.4	\$198.9	\$608.7
Net Total	\$3.2	\$53.1	\$0.0	(\$8.3)	\$19.5	(\$35.0)

Both income and expenses for April were in line with our average monthly budget. Easter offering and proceeds from the online auction (\$1201) provided a good boost in income. Easter Egg sales rose over \$4000 for the J2A program during March/April. Notable budgeted expenses for April include travel for Rector's continuing education, office supplies, refrigerator repair (building maintenance) and food for youth programs.

Utility expenses are looking a bit better. Our 3rd party contract for electricity is providing a substantial kw-hr saving over PPL's base rate. Gas consumption has slowed as warmer weather has arrived. Our monthly trash service expense is highlighted as a savings opportunity.

Investigation into our high water consumption continues. Recent meter readings indicate an April rate more in line with historical values, but the team remains vigilant.

Rodgers & Associates, our investment advisor, presented an annual performance review to the Finance Committee during our May meeting. Our consolidated portfolio has returned 4.3% YTD through April and -0.5% for the 12 month trailing year, in line with market conditions and our strategic fund allocations.

Respectfully submitted,
C Wear, Treasurer



Saturday, June 3, 2023
Strawberry Picking Ministry

Please help Stacey and James share the joy of strawberries in our community. Meet us at Cherry Hill Orchards' parking lot at 8:30 a.m. Pick strawberries for yourself and donate one carton of strawberries to the St. John's Food Pantry and the mothers and children at Beth Shalom.

If you are unable to help pick, please consider making a financial donation to help pay for the strawberries.


Questions? Contact Deacon Stacey at scatigano@gmail.com.

Cherry Hill Orchards is located at 400 Long Lane, Lancaster, at the corner of Long Lane and Marticville Roads.

Don't forget your hat and water bottle!

Looking forward to seeing you,

Stacey+ and James, usher extraordinaire



Bring a side dish to share and join us!

**ANNUAL
CHURCH PICNIC**

*June 25 following worship at D.F. Buchmiller County Park (Pavilion #33)
60 Buchmiller Park Dr, Lancaster, PA 17602*

SUMMER SERIES: TRANSFORMING QUESTIONS
 SUNDAYS AT 10:30 A.M. BEGINNING JUNE 4 IN THE ALL PURPOSE ROOM

	Transforming QUESTIONS
	WEEK 1 Can We Question our Faith?
	WEEK 2 Who is Jesus?
	WEEK 3 Why did Jesus Die?
	WEEK 4 How Should We Live?
	WEEK 5 How Should We Read the Bible?
	WEEK 6 Does God Answer Prayer?
	WEEK 7 Why is there Suffering?
	WEEK 8 What Happens After Death?
	WEEK 9 What is the Church for?
	WEEK 10 What does it mean to be Anglican?
	WEEK 11 Where do we go from here?

An introduction from authors Melody Wilson Shobe and Scott Gunn:

Many Christians and seekers operate under an assumption that doubt is the opposite of faith. Sometimes we hear people say that to have faith means accepting things without questioning them. Others say that you can't be a "good Christian" if you have a lot of doubt. Nothing could be further from the truth. Questions are an essential part of faith.

Almost every single person in scripture who encounters God does so with a lot of questions, and more than a little doubt. Abraham and Sarah, Moses, David, Mary, the disciples, and Paul all ask questions, and those questions are part of their faithful response to God. In fact, it is in the act of asking questions that we wrestle more deeply with our faith, allowing ourselves to be transformed by the One whom we encounter in the midst of our doubts and questions.

Transforming Questions is a curriculum that offers the opportunity to engage in faithful questioning with the companionship of a leader and in the midst of a community. Through table fellowship, teaching, and conversation, participants wrestle with some of the most basic questions of our faith: Who is Jesus? Does God answer prayer? Why do bad things happen? In the act of asking questions, we see our faith transform, deepening and developing from something simple and superficial to something complicated and rich. And, in the act of asking questions, we see ourselves transformed, as the answers that we find, or the new questions that we discover, demand that we respond, changing not only what we think but also how we live.

Transforming Questions helps to build community among those who are seekers and those who are members, those who are old and those who are young, those who are questioning for the first time and those who are questioning for the thousandth time. Together they will find that wherever they come from, they share the same questions; together they will discover, not easy answers, but the still, small voice of God, speaking in their very midst.

Birthdays

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 - Molly Moyer | 15 - Phil Purdy |
| 5 - Aaron Hasircoglu | 17 - Tyler Brenton |
| 5 - Julia Hasircoglu | 19 - Bob Kilp |
| 6 - Debbie Carter | 19 - Kathy Plaxa |
| 6 - Eamon Nelson | 21 - Phil Modene |
| 6 - Peter Plaxa | 21 - Beth Mollard |
| 6 - Mary Waskowicz | 24 - Mary Ellen Kilp |
| 7 - Jane Forrester | 24 - Peter Novosel |
| 8 - Susan Bowser | 25 - Doug Beach |
| 8 - Francois Mollard | 27 - John Gouveia |
| 11 - Kim Bomberger | 28 - Molly Brenton |
| 11 - Mike Williams | 29 - Mary Sue Farmer |
| 15 - Susan Dohren | |

Anniversaries

- 11 - Stephen & Heather Sherman
- 13 - Phil & Sue Purdy
- 21 - Ed & Jean Gordon
- 24 - Dave & Sue Martin
- 23 - Ronald & Debby Linton
- 25 - Jeff & Janelle Stone
- 25 - Ted & Pam Loose
- 25 - Kent Strickler & Rosemary Coverly
- 25 - Don & Vivian Doolittle
- 27 - Heather & Jennifer Trenary
- 28 - Jon & Jane Forrester

Church

CALENDAR

Thursday, June 1st

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

Friday, June 2nd

Rector's Day Off

Sunday, June 4th

9:00AM Holy Eucharist: Rite II
10:30AM Adult Forum

Monday, June 5th

5:00PM Executive Committee
6:00PM Daughters of the King
6:00PM Ministries Council

Tuesday, June 6th

1:30PM Martha's Ministry
2:30PM Food Pantry

Wednesday, June 7th

12:00PM Healing Service

Thursday, June 8th

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

Friday, June 9th

Rector's Day Off
11:00AM Funeral

Saturday, June 10th

5:00PM Gratitude Dinner

Sunday, June 11th

9:00AM Holy Eucharist: Rite II
10:30AM Adult Forum

Monday, June 12th

6:00PM Caring Ministry

Tuesday, June 13th

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

Wednesday, June 14th

12:00PM Healing Service

Thursday, June 15th

9:00AM Minister's Meeting
2:30PM Food Pantry
6:00PM Newcomer's Picnic

Friday, June 16th

Rector's Day Off

Saturday, June 17th

Pride Festival
9:00AM Community Breakfast
at First Reformed Church

Sunday, June 18th

Father's Day
9:00AM Holy Eucharist: Rite II

Monday, June 19th

Juneteenth
Episcopulther Week
6:00PM Daughters of the King

Tuesday, June 20th

Episcopulther Week
1:30PM Martha's Ministry
2:30PM Food Pantry
6:00PM Lancaster Convocation

Wednesday, June 21st

Episcopulther Week
12:00PM Healing Service

Thursday, June 22nd

Episcopulther Week
9:00AM Minister's Meeting
2:30PM Food Pantry

Friday, June 23rd

Episcopulther Week
Rector's Day Off

Sunday, June 25th

Church Picnic
9:00AM Holy Eucharist: Rite II
10:30AM Adult Forum

Monday, June 26th

6:00PM Stewardship Committee

Tuesday, June 27th

1:30PM Martha's Ministry
2:30PM Food Pantry

Wednesday, June 28th

12:00PM Healing Service

Thursday, June 29th

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

Friday, June 30th

Rector's Day Off