



# St John's Episcopal Church, Lancaster PA

## **The Messenger - JANUARY**

### WHAT'S INSIDE:

PG. 2 - *FOR A NEW BEGINNING*

PG. 3 - TRAVELER LETTER

PG. 4 - BLACK HISTORY MONTH

PG. 5 - EVENSONG SERVICE

PG. 6 - BUILDING USE

PG. 7 - PEACEMAKING

INITIATIVES & RELIGIOUS LIFE

PG. 8 - FOOD PANTRY

PG. 9 - GLOBAL PARTERSHIP

PG. 10 - A CASE FOR LOVE: MOVIE

PG. 11 - VOYAGERS MEETING

& LENTEN STUDY

PG. 12 - TREASURER'S REPORT

PG. 13 - CHURCH LIST

PG. 14 - CHURCH CALENDAR

# HAPPY NEW YEAR

**Blessings to you in this new year  
from all of us at St. John's!**



## FOR A NEW BEGINNING

*by John O'Donohue*

In out-of-the-way places of the heart,  
Where your thoughts never think to wander,  
This beginning has been quietly forming,  
Waiting until you were ready to emerge.

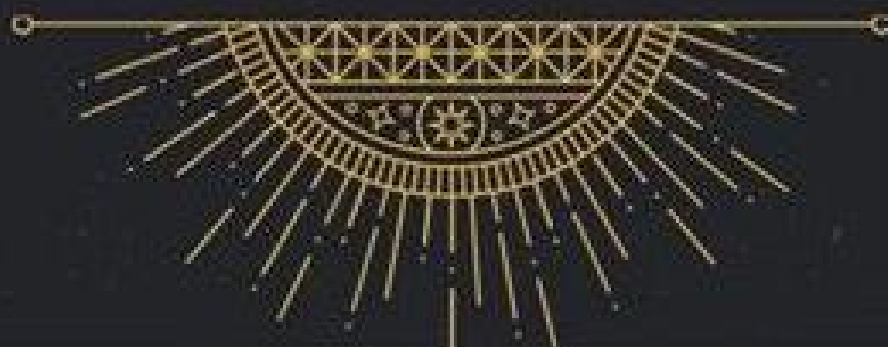
For a long time it has watched your desire,  
Feeling the emptiness growing inside you,  
Noticing how you willed yourself on,  
Still unable to leave what you had outgrown.

It watched you play with the seduction of safety  
And the gray promises that sameness whispered,  
Heard the waves of turmoil rise and relent,  
Wondered would you always live like this.

Then the delight, when your courage kindled,  
And out you stepped onto new ground,  
Your eyes young again with energy and dream,  
A path of plenitude opening before you.

Though your destination is not yet clear  
You can trust the promise of this opening;  
Unfurl yourself into the grace of beginning  
That is at one with your life's desire.

Awaken your spirit to adventure;  
Hold nothing back, learn to find ease in risk;  
Soon you will be home in a new rhythm,  
For your soul senses the world that awaits you.



**ANGLICAN  
COMMUNION**  
IN OVER 165 COUNTRIES



### **St. John's Traveler Letters: Explained!**

Every week we pray for a church or province in the Anglican Communion. You may be wondering what is the Anglican Communion and why do we pray for a different place every week????

One of the best parts of being an Episcopalian is knowing that we belong to something bigger than just our parish. We are part of a worldwide movement, known as the Anglican Communion!

The Anglican Communion is an association of churches that are in full communion with the Church of England, and specifically with the Archbishop of Canterbury. We are the third largest Christian communion in the world. In the United States we all ourselves “Episcopal” to reflect our structure under the authority of a Bishop. However, we are both Episcopal and Anglican.

Each church in the communion has its own way of doing things and doctrines (that’s a fancy word for a set of beliefs), but all are based primarily on that of England. Our worship and ministries allow for the inclusion of local customs, cultures, and traditions.

The Archbishop of Canterbury is the religious head of the Church of England and recognized as the symbolic head of the worldwide Anglican Communion. The Anglican Communion considers itself to be part of the “One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church” and to be both Catholic and Reformed. We are what we like to call the “via media” or the middle way between Catholicism and Protestantism.

You can travel to any Anglican church in the world and follow along in the service because we all use a similar worship order and components. There are prayers, scripture readings, holy communion, blessings, and dismissals. Even when spoken in other languages, you would recognize the different parts of the service by when you stand, kneel, or sit!

St. John's travelers go on adventures each week to worship in the very places we pray for and then write me letters to share about their experiences. These letters are meant to connect us to our siblings around the world who are worshiping and serving God just like we do here in Lancaster.

We hope these letters help you connect to others striving to follow Jesus and open your heart to the beauty, depth, and power of belonging to a church that stretches around the world!



# Black History Month February 2024

The month of February is an invitation for us to explore the rich histories and cultures of Black people in the United States through a variety of programs, events, and media. Below is but a sampling of resources to engage with and celebrate African Americans in our community. Please continue the conversation and share resources you know of with our St. John's family!



### February 10th

Sounds of Blackness: A Journey through African American Music and Civil Rights Moments.

Jackson Middle School  
431 South Ann Street

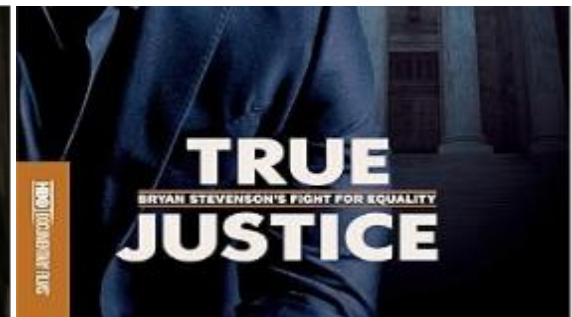
Free Entry, Free Student Art, Free Soul Food.  
Doors open @ 5PM



### February 16th

Jumaane Smith: Louis! Louis! Louis!  
Michael Buble's long-time sideman, trumpeter, and vocalist Jumaane Smith celebrates the origins of jump blues and jazz by honoring the three famous "Louis" - Armstrong, Prima, and Jordan.

The Ware Center Millersville University  
42 North Prince Street  
Tickets \$17.00-\$25.00



### February 18th

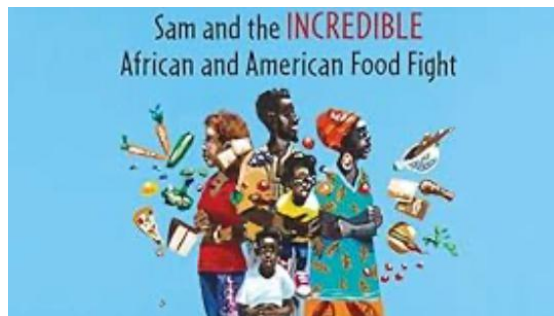
True Justice: Bryan Stevenson's Fight for Equality follows 30 years of EJI's work on behalf of the poor, the incarcerated, and the condemned. The film won the Emmy Award for Outstanding Social Issue Documentary, and is the winner of the National Association for Multi-ethnicity in Communications's 26th annual Vision Award and a Peabody Award. Adult themes.

11:30. - Parish Hall - Popcorn provided.



### Netflix

The film tells the story of the charismatic, gay civil rights activist Bayard Rustin. Despite incredible odds, he managed to organize the March on Washington in 1963. This event is considered one of the high points of the civil rights movement in the United States.



### Book

Sam and the Incredible African and American Food Fight by Shannon Gibney and Charly Palmer

Six-year-old Sam, with his Liberian dad and African American mom, finds a way to bring everyone in his cross-cultural family together at the dinner table.



### African American Historical Society

The Society was organized in 2005 as an affiliate of the Crispus Attucks Center of Lancaster, with the mission to collect, analyze, and interpret basic information about the life of African Americans in the South Central region of the Commonwealth. The Society now operates independently.

ST. JOHN'S CHANCEL CHOIR PRESENTS

**A**  
**Celebration**  
**of**

*Black History Month*

JOIN US AS WE REMEMBER THE PAST AND  
CELEBRATE THE PRESENT THROUGH SONG

An Evensong Service  
Sunday, February 4th at 4:00 PM





UPDATE FROM STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

# ST. JOHN'S BUILDING USE

*It's never quiet around here!*

***We are grateful for the many folks sharing our space:***

*8 support groups meeting in the  
All Purpose room each week.*

*2 non-profit organizations sharing office space.*

*Theater groups performing in the Auditorium.*

*Reunions, birthday parties, and showers  
renting our Parish Hall.*

**THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE IS LOOKING FOR HELP!  
DO YOU LIKE TO PLAN AND SET UP  
FOR PARTIES AND EVENTS?**

**CONTACT PAM LOOSE IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ASSIST  
WITH HOSTING AT ST. JOHN'S.**

# "Peacemaking Initiatives in Palestine/Israel" on Sunday, January 14, 2024 at 2 p.m. at Akron Mennonite Church

You are invited to hear Jonathan Kuttab, Palestinian lawyer and peace activist, speak on "Peacemaking Initiatives in Palestine/Israel" on Sunday, January 14, 2024 at 2 p.m. at Akron Mennonite Church, 1131 Diamond St, Akron, PA. This event is jointly sponsored by Pilgrims Mennonite Church and Akron Mennonite Church. Invite your friends!

Jonathan Kuttab is a co-founder of the Palestinian human rights group Al-Haq and co-founder of Nonviolence International. A well-known international human rights attorney, Jonathan practices in the US, Palestine and Israel. He serves on the Board of Bethlehem Bible College and is President of the Board of Holy Land Trust. Jonathan was the head of the Legal Committee negotiating the Cairo Agreement of 1994 between Israel and the PLO. After graduating with his Doctor of Jurisprudence (JD) from Virginia Law School, and practicing a couple years on Wall Street, Jonathan returned home to Palestine. Jonathan is currently the executive director of Friends of Sabeel North America (FOSNA). Jonathan is a resident of East Jerusalem, and is a partner of Kuttab, Khoury and Hanna Law Firm in East Jerusalem.

The General Convention of The Episcopal Church approved resolution 2022-B004, "Foundation of Religious Life Sunday," to be commemorated each year on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany. The purpose of this observance is to share with all Episcopalians the existence of vowed religious orders and Christian communities, their residential and dispersed ways of life, and what resources and support they have to offer.

We believe that religious life has something for everyone in The Episcopal Church! Through contact with our religious orders and communities there is companionship to help deepen relationships with God and to help center lives in Christ.

Brother David with the Community of Francis and Clare will give a presentation at Forum on January 21. To get online information about Religious Life Sunday, here is the link: <https://www.religiouslifesunday.org/>



January 21, 2024  
Religious Life Sunday!

Celebrating the many gifts of religious orders  
in the Episcopal Church

Go to [www.religiouslifesunday.org](http://www.religiouslifesunday.org)  
for free print and video resources to share with your parish  
on Religious Life Sunday.

*The Episcopal Church Welcomes you.* 



## Our Food Pantry wants YOU!

Over the last few years, the St. John's Food Pantry has grown from serving about 36 families a month to serving about 60 families a week. While there are a few more volunteers than in years past, we are at a time when we need a few more people with flexible schedules to help. We are fortunate to have a cadre of shoppers who seek out the best prices from various sources. We need donation collectors who will get the needed items when they are needed and available and help store them at the church. Right now, we receive food from the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank, Blessings of Hope, Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Lidl, Aldi, Weis, and Westfield Egg Farm of New Holland. Each of these sources offers particular advantages and restrictions.

The Central Pennsylvania Food Bank has a distribution point at the Golden Triangle. Most deliveries are on Thursdays at 8:30 AM. Debbie Carter is the coordinator. She can be contacted at [dpcarterpa@verizon.net](mailto:dpcarterpa@verizon.net). Blessings of Hope offers us food at \$0.31/pound. This is our primary source for rice and pasta. However, when they have rice, our volunteers have to pick it up and repack it on site. Debbie Smith is the coordinator. She can be contacted at [deboston@aol.com](mailto:deboston@aol.com). Sacred Heart receives food donations from their parishioners. The church used to operate its own pantry. We have a volunteer who gets it, but we could use a backup. Tim Huber is the coordinator. He can be contacted at [tjhuberlaw@outlook.com](mailto:tjhuberlaw@outlook.com).

Aldi has canned goods and cereal at reasonable prices. Our shoppers lookout for sales. We need volunteers, especially those with a large truck as sometimes multiple trucks are needed. Lidl does large orders. Our volunteers need to be there in the middle of the day as Lidl requires the Store Manager to be available. Again, a large truck would be most helpful. Weis is our primary source for tuna fish. Our shoppers look out for sales on other food items. Pickups are on Tuesdays. Westfield Egg Farm of New Holland delivers 30 dozen eggs each week. Our volunteers are needed in order to put the eggs into containers of one-half dozen each. Sorting is done on Mondays at 1:00 We need help when large orders are delivered to the church by the donation collectors so that the food can be stored in an orderly manner.

Our key need is these donation collectors with a flexible schedule. Right now, our volunteers are doing magnificent work in our name. We need a few more people to help out as the need just keeps on growing. If you can help with any of the tasks described above, not only will our current volunteers be grateful, but the recipients will be grateful. If you are willing to serve or just want more information, please contact Marion Wear. She can be contacted at [wearall@comcast.net](mailto:wearall@comcast.net). You may also contact Liz and Paul West at [paullizwest@gmail.com](mailto:paullizwest@gmail.com).





**New Year, New Goals, New Friends  
with Resolutions and Action  
for Increase of Peace**

**January 7th**

As the Magi came to the Christ Child and blessings come to our homes, let us think of our larger home, the Earth, and how we can we can "act" on blessing our environment and ALL our brothers and sisters.

**January 14th**

**Martin Luther King Birthday January 15th**

In this season of cold weather, let us not show a "cold shoulder" to anyone but rather welcome any stranger with food, sweaters, gloves, hats, smiles and welcomes. While caring for those coming to Community Breakfast is appreciated by the diners, the hearts of those serving are exploding with smiles at being able to serve.

**January 21st**

**Festival of Rereading Your Christmas Cards**

Before you store or throw away the Christmas cards you received, reread them and give thanks for connections you have and the feast of caring.

**January 28th**

*Peace On Earth, Good Will to Men*

As we move into 2024, let the lyrics from this song be an anthem and goal for all of us Peace on Earth, Peace on Earth, Peace on Earth, good will to ALL - NO exceptions.



YOU DECIDE.



# A CASE FOR LOVE™

CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions please email us at  
[info@gracebasedfilms.org](mailto:info@gracebasedfilms.org)



## **EVENT DATE**

January 23, 2024

## **WHERE WILL THE MOVIE BE SHOWN**

Our partnership with Fathom Events™ will allow us to be in a minimum of 1000 theaters across the country—we're coming to a theater near you!

## **WHEN WILL TICKETS BE AVAILABLE?**

Both single and group sales tickets will be available beginning December 1, 2023. However those with groups of 20+ people can visit our website at [acaseforlovemovie.com](http://acaseforlovemovie.com), and pre-submit their interest via the GROUP SALES button near the top of the home page.

## **ABOUT THE MOVIE**

"A Case for Love" is a heartfelt yet personally challenging movie inspired by the teachings and writings of Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry. It explores the idea that the personal practice of unselfish love has the power to positively transform each of us, those around us, and by extension, the world. Although inspired by faith traditions, given the highly divided nature of our current society, this message appeals to not only religious communities but to secular audiences as well.

This documentary examines the question of whether or not love, specifically, unselfish love, is the solution to the extreme societal and political divide facing the U.S. It is divided into 7 chapters and focuses on subjects from across the U.S., striving to live their lives selflessly. All are common, everyday people of various ethnicities, from various walks of life, from various socio-economic backgrounds, all dealing with a variety of issues.

During filming, the team traveled across the US, interviewing everyday people from various walks of life and ethnicities striving to live their lives selflessly. In addition to these subjects, well known figures including Pete Buttigieg, Al Roker, Sam Waterston and Jon Meacham weigh in as well. In the end, Bishop Michael Curry places what we've seen into context.

**Penn Cinema, 541 Airport Road, Lititz  
or Regal Manor, 1246 Millersville Pike,**



# VOYAGERS

After an absence of a few years, we are pleased to announce that the Voyagers will return to action on Saturday, January 13 at 9:00 AM. All senior citizens and others are invited to attend the restart. This is a gathering of faith and fellowship. For January, our featured speaker will be Mary Hinkle. She will tell us what lead her on the road to her ministry as a Lay Preacher.

As was the custom before, attendees are welcome to bring something light to share, but this is not a requirement. Coffee and tea will be provided. We anticipate that the gathering will be from 9:00 to 11:00 AM. Most of the time will be for socializing. We will meet in the Parish Hall. Pre-registration is not required. We would love to see as many people who can be there. If you have any questions, contact John or Fran Gouveia. John's email is [johnandfran43@aol.com](mailto:johnandfran43@aol.com) Fran's email is [fg2vista@gmail.com](mailto:fg2vista@gmail.com)

## LENTEN STUDY

SAVE  
THE  
DATES



WEDNESDAYS:  
FEB. 21, 28,  
MAR. 6, 13, 20, 27  
5:30 - 7:00 PM

Wednesday evenings during Lent. Simple supper followed by discussion of Adam Hamilton's, Final Word From the Cross

# TREASURER'S REPORT

CHARLES WEAR

	2022			2023		
	Actual Nov	Actual YTD	Budget Full Yr	Actual Nov	Actual YTD	Budget Full Yr
<b>Income</b>						
Pledge Income	\$24.1	\$349.6	\$384.6	\$25.8	\$367.3	\$415.0
Other Contributions	\$12.2	\$54.1	\$35.5	\$7.1	\$60.0	\$50.5
Investment Draws	\$0.0	\$52.1	\$63.0	\$12.1	\$63.6	\$63.6
Other less Transfers	\$4.7	\$27.7	\$23.6	\$20.5	\$64.0	\$20.7
Jubilee	\$16.6	\$31.7	\$16.9	\$10.5	\$30.9	\$23.9
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$57.7</b>	<b>\$515.2</b>	<b>\$523.5</b>	<b>\$75.9</b>	<b>\$585.8</b>	<b>\$573.7</b>
<b>Expenses</b>						
Clergy	\$23.1	\$195.3	\$205.6	19.2	\$218.5	\$247.0
Lay Staff	\$9.1	\$82.2	\$90.8	7.8	\$89.4	\$116.5
Vestry/Finance/Comm	\$5.4	\$22.3	\$25.3	\$1.6	\$29.4	\$27.6
Utilities	\$3.3	\$36.2	\$29.5	\$3.8	\$45.9	\$39.2
Building Repairs & Supplies	\$3.3	\$23.8	\$38.4	\$1.0	\$34.3	\$33.6
Other Property	\$2.3	\$25.3	\$29.6	\$2.6	\$27.3	\$28.9
Worship/Ed/Community	\$2.8	\$14.3	\$14.1	\$0.3	\$31.4	\$17.2
Outreach	\$5.1	\$66.2	\$65.8	0.0	\$55.0	\$64.6
Jubilee	\$1.5	\$19.8	\$24.4	\$3.8	\$29.8	\$34.2
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$55.8</b>	<b>\$485.4</b>	<b>\$523.5</b>	<b>\$40.2</b>	<b>\$561.1</b>	<b>\$608.7</b>
<b>Net Total</b>	<b>\$1.8</b>	<b>\$29.8</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>	<b>\$35.7</b>	<b>\$24.8</b>	<b>(\$35.0)</b>

Operating income was very strong in November resulting in a significant surplus. Several key items include a \$12.1k draw from our restricted investment account (the annual budgeted amount) and \$7.5k from Martha's ministry (holiday bazaar). The final resolution and distribution from the Martin Everett trust also occurred in November. Although these funds are booked as operating ("pass through") income, they will be transferred to one of our investment savings accounts in December per Vestry instructions. Expenses were routine for the month, and given the favorable YTD financials, it is likely we will complete the year much ahead of budget.



## Birthdays

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

## Anniversaries

7 - Patricia & John Pankey  
26 - Tom & Kendall Stonerook

## Church Prayer List

Pat Pankey, Jeannie Zeller, Kent Strickler,  
Nancy Strasburg, Justin & Lisa, Ella,  
Matt Patterson, Michael Yoder, Kevin,  
Judy Modene, Angie Stamm, Andrew Gilpin,  
Jesse Rutledge, Ann Marie, Cheryl & Rhoda,  
Ted Griswold, Maria Sander, JoAnn Trenary,  
David O'Dell, John Graeter, Tina

## Friends at Home

Ellen Keller, Nancy Nemith, Peter Plaxa,  
Ricky Smith, Joanna Sweeney, Al Kuser,  
Mary Sue Farmer, Ellen Sellers, Edith Kane,  
Merle Schnee, Carol Greenfield, Sandy Grove,  
Carole Humphrey, Darlene Bentley, Peggy Zuke

## Serving in the Military

Amelia Dissinger, Alex Kelly, Brooks Morgan,  
Brian Hobbins, Joshua Watkins,  
Kirby Kinderwater, Kyle Kinderwater,  
David Wolfe

# Church CALENDAR

**Tuesday the 2nd**

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

**Wednesday the 3rd**

12:00PM Healing Service

**Thursday the 4th**

9:00AM Minister's Meeting  
2:30PM Food Pantry  
3:45PM Baptisms in the Atrium

**Friday the 5th**

\*Rector's Day Off\*

**Sunday the 7th**

8:00AM Holy Eucharist: Rite I  
9:15AM Sunday School  
10:15AM Holy Eucharist: Rite II  
11:0:30AM Adult Forum

**Monday the 8th**

4:30PM Trans Loving Community  
6:00PM Caring Ministry  
6:00PM Ministries Council

**Tuesday the 9th**

1:30PM Martha's Ministry  
2:30PM Food Pantry  
4:00PM Finance Committee  
7:00PM Capital Campaign Meeting

**Wednesday the 10th**

12:00PM Healing Service  
7:00PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday the 11th**

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

**Friday the 12th**

\*Rector's Day Off\*

**Saturday the 13th**

9:00AM Voyager's Meeting

**Sunday the 14th**

8:00AM Holy Eucharist: Rite I  
9:15AM Sunday School  
10:15AM Holy Eucharist: Rite II  
11:30AM Adult Forum

**Monday the 15th**

6:00PM Daughters of the King

**Tuesday the 16th**

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

**Wednesday the 17th**

12:00PM Healing Service  
7:00PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday the 18th**

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

**Friday the 19th**

\*Rector's Day Off\*

**Saturday the 20th**

9:00AM Community Breakfast  
at First Reformed Church

**Sunday the 21st**

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

**Monday the 22nd**

6:00PM Stewardship Committee

**Tuesday the 23rd**

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

**Wednesday the 24th**

12:00PM Healing Service  
7:00PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday the 25th**

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

**Friday the 26th**

\*Rector's Day Off\*  
6:00PM Vestry Dinner

**Saturday the 27th**

9:00AM Vestry Work Day

**Sunday the 28th**

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

**Tuesday the 30th**

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

**Wednesday the 31st**

12:00PM Healing Service  
7:00PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal