



St John's Episcopal Church, Lancaster PA

The Messenger - MARCH

What's inside:

Pg. 2 - Holy Week Services

Pg. 3 - Good Friday

Pg. 4 - Global Partnership

Pg. 5 - Food Pantry

Pg. 6 - Dignity Campaign

Pg. 7 & 8 - Queer Saints

Pg. 9 - St. Patrick's Day

Pg. 10 - Pilgrimage

Pg. 11 - Adult Formation

Pg. 12 - Voyagers & Spring Clean Up

Pg. 13 - Treasurer's Report

Pg. 14 - Prayer List

Pg. 15 - Church Calendar



EASTER is COMING...
are YOU ready?

The MARCH to Easter

PALM SUNDAY

March 24th

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

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

MAUNDY THURSDAY

March 28th

7:00 PM - Foot Washing, Holy Eucharist, Stripping of the Altar

8:30 PM till morning - Garden of Repose & Overnight Vigil

GOOD FRIDAY

March 29th

12:00 PM - Stations of the Cross

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

EASTER SUNDAY

March 31st

**6:30 AM - Easter Sunrise Service at the
Betty Finney AIDS Memorial Garden**

8:30 AM - Festive Eucharist with Handbells

9:30 AM - Easter Egg Hunt and Brunch

11:00 AM - Festive Choral Eucharist with Brass


GOOD FRIDAY

MARCH 29TH AT NOON - STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Being a newer person at the parish, I am always finding new and interesting things to look at while on the property. St. John's is truly a beautiful place. One of the things that has intrigued me are the stained glass Stations of the Cross inside the nave. They are all different by design and all have a story to tell. From what I understand, the "Stations" were designed and made by the Youth of the parish in the early 2000's. What an amazing gift and blessing to the church!



So, what are the Stations of the Cross? Known by a number of names like the Stations of the Cross, Way of the Cross, Way of Sorrows, or the Via Crucis (to name a few) are a series of 14 pictures, carvings, or other artwork, portraying the events in the Passion of Christ. They begin with Jesus' condemnation by Pontius Pilate, his journey carrying his own cross to Golgotha where he was crucified, and concludes with his entombment after his death.



JOIN US on Good Friday, March 29 beginning at Noon in the Atrium. We will use Everyone's Way of the Cross as our liturgy and the stained glass Stations as our visual guide as walk with Jesus on his last steps and conclude our own Lenten Journey. We welcome back any "Youth" and/or family members who made the Stations to walk with us and participate in the service. Contact Br David if you have any questions: drutledge1225@gmail.com Br David

GLOBAL

PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGE

“Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love.” Francis of Assisi

MARCH 3RD

"Peace begins with a smile."

- Mother Teresa

Share with those you know and those you don't. It will make a difference.

MARCH 10TH

As we "spring" forward, choose an action that will "spring" forward more peace in our world - food, shoes, smiles, kind words, caring for ALL God's children - NO exceptions!

MARCH 17TH

St. Patrick's Day

*"Christ beside me, Christ before me,
Christ behind me, Christ within me,
Christ beneath me, Christ above me."
St. Patrick*

MARCH 19TH

Earth Day

"Look deep into nature and then you will understand everything better."

- Albert Einstein

Ask yourself "What can I do as a child of God to be more connected to my brothers and sisters and care for our earthly home" and then act on it - Here, There, Everywhere

MARCH 24TH

Feast of the Annunciation & Good Friday 29th

If the only prayer you ever say in your entire life is thank you, it will be enough. Give thanks and focus on your blessings.

MARCH 31ST

Easter

"God loves each of us as if there were only one of us." St. Augustine
Give thanks, share your love in a world that needs it SO much - Here, There, Everywhere

FOOD PANTRY

Thanks to you for your response to our appeal for more volunteers! We now have 48 volunteers in various capacities, including 11 who are new to this ministry!

In 2023, we had 2245 visits from members of our community, as compared to 1625 in 2022. This increase in demand has challenged our budget, and we made the difficult decision to stop buying toiletries. However, our visitors still need and often ask for toiletries. So...

During this season of Lent, we're conducting a Dignity Campaign to support our Food Pantry visitors, and it includes toiletries (toothpaste, shampoo & conditioner, deodorant, bars of soap, diapers & wipes, feminine hygiene products, toilet paper and facial tissues, dishwashing detergent, and laundry detergent pods or sheets) and hats, scarves, gloves, and socks.

Thank you for all you do to support this critical ministry to our neighbors!



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?

Please look for the collection wagons and help us collect enough to fill each one every week during Lent!



Thanks for your support!

Know your Queer* Saints!

The Reverend Dr. Pauli Murray [1910-1985]

Last month at our TLC [Trans Loving Community] meeting, we talked about the extraordinary life of Pauli Murray, a 20th Century African-American and Episcopal Saint who was part of the LGBTQIA+ community.



A note about pronouns: Pauli Murray was perceived to be a woman and used she/her pronouns for themselves, though frequently expressed that they felt male and sought out gender-affirming medical care [which they were denied]. Since Pauli did not have access to the terminology of today, and we can't know Pauli's wishes, the Pauli Murray Center uses "s/he" and "they" pronouns in writing of Pauli's life.

Born in Baltimore & raised by their aunt in North Carolina, Pauli moved to New York to prepare for college at the age of 16 and quickly became involved in the Civil Rights movement. As early as 1940 Pauli organized sit-ins, was arrested for sitting in the White section of a bus, and worked with activists for labor rights. In 1956 Pauli published "Proud Shoes", a memoir which used their own mixed family heritage to convey how white supremacy was an essential part of U.S. slavery.

Fighting discrimination throughout their academic career, Pauli became the first Black person to earn a JSD [Doctor of the Science of Law] degree from Yale Law School in 1965. They used their law career to advance civil & women's rights, supplying legal aid to both movements. Their arguments were later used in landmark Supreme Court decisions to outlaw racism and sexism.

Pauli was a pioneer in what today we call "intersectionality", or seeing that race, class, gender, and sexuality were issues that couldn't be completely separated. In the 1960s they worked closely with Martin Luther King, Jr, Bayard Rustin and other leaders. However, s/he was critical of the lesser roles women were allowed to play in the movement. Similarly, s/he helped found the National Organization for Women, but left because they felt that Black women's issues were being left out.

For 5 years, Pauli taught at Brandeis University but after their partner Irene Barlow died in 1973, Pauli [now in their mid-60s] entered the seminary. Pauli was ordained in 1977, becoming the first Black person perceived as a woman to become an Episcopal priest.

Pauli died from cancer in 1985 on July 1st, which is now their feast day. They were named an Episcopal Saint in 2012 by Bishop Michael Curry who said they “had an agenda for the human good that was constant and unswerving”. Pauli is considered the first modern queer Episcopal saint.

To learn more about Rev. Dr. Pauli Murray, see the documentary “Who Is Pauli Murray”? Available on Prime or check out the Pauli Murray Center at www.paulimurraycenter.com

Definition of the Month:

** **Queer:** Once considered a slur, the word “Queer” has been embraced by many in the LGBTQIA+ community [especially youth] as a “shorthand” word for that acronym; it includes those who identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning/Queer, Intersex, Asexual, as well as those who use other terms, fall between those terms, or have yet to choose a term. As with the + symbol, it acknowledges the ever-changing nature of language and terminology. Due to its offensive origins, some people may not feel comfortable using or identifying as this term.*

Nametags Help Us Welcome the Stranger and the Friend!

As we noted in TLC tips last month, wearing your pronouns on a nametag or pin is a GREAT way to communicate that St. John’s is a safe space for LGBTQIA+ people. Starting this week, we’ll have a table of pronoun pins next to our nametag board in the atrium Please find one that matches your pronouns and add it to your nametag! And then...wear your nametag!to services, coffee hour, open meetings. We can ALL use a refresher on names & spellings, and this can help any newbies feel at home! [Not to mention our many neurodiverse members who may have a hard time remembering names]. If you need a new nametag, please see an usher and ask!

Maria Weaver

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH JZA
ST. PATRICK'S DAY
CELEBRATION



*** 17 MARCH, 2024 - 4PM ***

**COME OUT TO SUPPORT OUR PILGRIMAGE TO
IRELAND WITH AN AFTERNOON OF IRISH THEMED
FOOD, FUN, AND FELLOWSHIP!**



Our own St. John's J2A is gearing up for an extraordinary adventure as they prepare to embark on a pilgrimage to Ireland in partnership with Wonder Voyage. This upcoming journey promises to be a transformative experience, blending exploration, spirituality, and community service in the breathtaking landscapes of the Emerald Isle.

Scheduled to depart on June 21st, this pilgrimage offers the young adults of St. John's Episcopal Church a unique opportunity to immerse themselves in Ireland's rich history, vibrant culture, and deep-rooted religious heritage. Guided by our own experienced leaders, April, Joe, John, and Amanda, the trip is meticulously planned to provide participants with an unforgettable and meaningful experience.

Throughout the pilgrimage, our youth will have the chance to visit iconic sites such as ancient monasteries, majestic cathedrals, and sacred landmarks, where they can deepen their understanding of

Christian faith and spirituality. These encounters with Ireland's religious history will serve as powerful moments of reflection and contemplation for the young pilgrims, allowing them to connect with their faith in a profound and personal way.

In addition to exploring Ireland's spiritual treasures, the pilgrimage will also include opportunities for community service and cultural exchange. Participants will engage in hands-on service projects, partnering with local communities to make a positive impact and foster connections across cultural boundaries. These acts of service not only reflect the values of St. John's Episcopal Church but also instill a sense of compassion and empathy in the teenage pilgrims, empowering them to become agents of positive change in their own communities.

Traveling with Wonder Voyage ensures that every aspect of the pilgrimage is thoughtfully planned and expertly executed, allowing the teenage participants to focus on their journey of self-discovery and spiritual growth. Our guide, John Spencer, has been a part of

Wonder Voyage from the beginning and has years of experience in adventure trips, Irish history, and Celtic Christianity voyages. Four decades of active ministry in the Irish church allows him to both inspire and encourage the groups that travel with him. To travel with John is to know laughter, community, and communion.

As the departure date draws near, excitement is building at St. John's Episcopal Church! We will be celebrating St. Patrick's Day with a feast of fun, food, and fellowship, and we hope you will come out to join us as we wrap up our last few fundraising efforts. This pilgrimage represents more than just a trip abroad—it's an opportunity for young individuals to embark on a profound spiritual journey, deepen their faith, and forge lifelong friendships with their fellow travelers. With Wonder Voyage as their guide, the teenage pilgrims of St. John's Episcopal Church are poised to embark on an unforgettable adventure filled with discovery, inspiration, and transformation.

LENTEN STUDY

WEDNESDAYS FROM 5:30–7:00 PM:

FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 6, 13, 20, 27

Simple soup supper followed by discussion of Adam Hamilton's, "Final Word From the Cross"



Father, Forgive Them

Today you will be with me in Paradise

Behold your son...Behold your mother

My God, My God, Why have you forsaken me?

I Thirst

It is Finished

VOYAGERS

Fred Honaman to Address the Voyagers

Imagine what is it like to spend years in a country where the culture, the language and the predominant religion are different from ours? Fred Honaman has lived that experience most of his working life. Come join the Voyagers on Saturday, March 9th at 9:00 AM and you will hear of a life much different from what many of us have experienced.

On Saturday, April 13, we will hear from Melissa Ressler, Executive Director of the Lancaster Downtowners. Will address how to "age in place" in Lancaster. What are the networking opportunities, programs and agencies here to make that happen.

Coffee and tea are provided in the Parish Hall.

Attendees are encouraged to bring something to share, but it is not mandatory. If you have any question, please contact John or Fran Gouveia.



COME ONE, COME ALL...SPRING CLEANUP IS HERE!

When: Saturday, March 23rd from 8AM - Noon

What: Our annual indoor /outdoor cleaning to brighten our space for our Easter Celebration!



TREASURER'S REPORT

CHARLES WEAR

	2023			2024		
	Actual Jan	Actual YTD	Budget Full Yr	Actual Jan	Actual YTD	Budget Full Yr
Income						
Pledge Income	\$78.1	\$78.1	\$415.0	\$57.7	\$57.7	\$428.4
Other Contributions	\$6.1	\$6.1	\$50.5	\$8.9	\$8.9	\$69.5
Investment Draws	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$63.6	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$66.3
Other less Transfers	\$1.6	\$1.6	\$20.7	\$0.8	\$0.8	\$22.3
Jubilee	\$1.3	\$1.3	\$23.9	\$9.5	\$9.5	\$25.5
Total Income	\$87.1	\$87.1	\$573.7	\$76.9	\$76.9	\$612.0
Expenses						
Clergy	\$18.5	\$18.5	\$247.0	21.5	\$21.5	\$265.3
Lay Staff	\$9.2	\$9.2	\$116.5	10.7	\$10.7	\$102.6
Vestry/Finance/Comm	\$3.1	\$3.1	\$27.6	\$1.6	\$1.6	\$34.2
Utilities	\$6.6	\$6.6	\$39.2	\$3.9	\$3.9	\$41.6
Building Repairs & Supplies	\$1.4	\$1.4	\$33.6	\$2.0	\$2.0	\$33.1
Other Property	\$2.3	\$2.3	\$28.9	\$2.6	\$2.6	\$31.1
Worship/Ed/Community	\$0.9	\$0.9	\$17.2	\$0.7	\$0.7	\$13.8
Outreach	\$5.8	\$5.8	\$64.6	4.8	\$4.8	\$62.3
Jubilee	\$1.2	\$1.2	\$34.2	\$2.1	\$2.1	\$28.1
Total Expenses	\$49.0	\$49.0	\$608.7	\$49.9	\$49.9	\$612.0
Net Total	\$38.1	\$38.1	(\$35.0)	\$27.0	\$27.0	\$0.0

High operating income resulted in a surplus of approximately \$27k in January. This was largely due to advanced annual giving by several parishioners. The high Jubilee income reflects the deposit of \$7860 for the food pantry from ExtraGive donations last November. Operating expenses for the month were on budget across the board.

Payroll processing has been transferred to Paychex, a new provider, effective January 1, along with some internal payroll processing improvements. We have also transitioned the financial reporting of monthly asset balances to be more consistent with other reports. In the past, assets were reported from monthly bank statements, which do not include uncleared deposits and payments. Going forward, uncleared transactions will be included, and the asset balance sheet will be on the same basis as the income statement.

Respectfully,
Charles Wear

Birthdays

3 - David Dissinger
6 - Brooks Morgan
7 - Bob Bailey
7 - Adeline Bowser
8 - Ellen Sellers
10 - Ken Brown
11 - David Rodriguez
11 - Tim Huber
12 - Julie Rodriguez
13 - Ted Loose
16 - Leslie Lemonick
17 - Janelle Stone
19 - Alison Siewert
21 - Karen Latshaw
21 - Heather Trenary
23 - Betsy Hasircoglu
24 - Penn Glazier
25 - Paul Dorgan
26 - Kimberly Henry
29 - Neil Clark
29 - Webb Cook, Jr.
30 - Joel Cliff
31 - Jim Snyder
31 - Bruce Waskowicz
31 - Liz West

Anniversaries

9 - Bruce & Mary Welsh Waskowicz
11 - John & Nancy Houston
17 - Katie & Andy Mausolf
31 - Bruce & Leslie Tahsler

Church Prayer List

Pat Pankey, Jeannie Zeller, Kent Strickler,
Glenda Broad, Don Doolittle, Nancy Strasburg,
Justin & Lisa, Ella, Matt Patterson, Michael Yoder,
Kevin, Judy Modene, Andrew Gilpin,
Ann Marie, Cheryl & Rhoda, Ted Griswold,
Rich Hartley, Justice Deleo & New Family,
Richard Anderson, Mary Ellen Kilp,
Paula Wolf, John Gouveia,
Mary H., Rich & Karen Garon

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

Friday the 1st

Rector's Day Off

Sunday the 3rd

8:00AM Holy Eucharist: Rite I

9:15AM Sunday School

10:15AM Holy Eucharist: Rite II

Monday the 4th

4:30PM Trans Loving Community

6:00PM Ministries Council

Tuesday the 5th

1:30PM Martha's Ministry

2:30PM Food Pantry

Wednesday the 6th

12:00PM Healing Service

5:30PM Soup Supper & Lenten Program

7:00PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday the 7th

9:00AM Minister's Meeting

10:00AM Worship Committee

2:30PM Food Pantry

7:00PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

Friday the 8th

Rector's Day Off

Saturday the 9th

9:00AM Voyager's Meeting

Sunday the 10th

8:00AM Holy Eucharist: Rite I

9:15AM Sunday School

10:15AM Holy Eucharist: Rite II

Monday the 11th

6:00PM Caring Ministry

Tuesday the 12th

1:30PM Martha's Ministry

2:30PM Food Pantry

4:00PM Finance Committee

Wednesday the 13th

12:00PM Healing Service

5:30PM Soup Supper & Lenten Program

7:00PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday the 14th

9:00AM Minister's Meeting

2:30PM Food Pantry

7:00PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

Friday the 15th

Rector's Day Off

Saturday the 16th

9:00AM Community Breakfast

at First Reformed Church

Sunday the 17th

8:00AM Holy Eucharist: Rite I

9:15AM Sunday School

10:15AM Holy Eucharist: Rite II

12:00PM Vestry Meeting

Tuesday the 19th

1:30PM Martha's Ministry

2:30PM Food Pantry

Wednesday the 20th

12:00PM Healing Service

5:30PM Soup Supper & Lenten Program

7:00PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday the 21st

9:00AM Minister's Meeting

2:30PM Food Pantry

7:00PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

Friday the 22nd

Rector's Day Off

Sunday the 24th

Palm Sunday

8:00AM Holy Eucharist: Rite I

9:15AM Sunday School

10:15AM Holy Eucharist: Rite II

Monday the 25th

6:00PM Stewardship Committee

Tuesday the 26th

1:30PM Martha's Ministry

2:30PM Food Pantry

Wednesday the 27th

12:00PM Healing Service

5:30PM Soup Supper & Lenten Program

7:00PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday the 28th

Maundy Thursday

9:00AM Minister's Meeting

2:30PM Food Pantry

7:00PM Maundy Thursday Service

Friday the 29th

Good Friday

12:00PM Stations of the Cross Service

7:00PM Good Friday Service

Sunday the 31st

Easter Sunday

6:30AM Sunrise Service

8:30AM Renewal of Baptismal Vows
& Holy Eucharist

9:30AM Easter Brunch & Egg Hunt

11:00AM Renewal of Baptismal Vows
& Holy Eucharist