

AUGUST 2024

## THE MESSENGER



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## A LETTER FROM THE ASSISTANT RECTOR



Dear St. John's,

It has been my great privilege to "hold down the fort" this past month of July. I have been so thankful for all of you, as so many of you jumped right in any time I needed help with something. I barely had to ask, and folks were on top of it. From planning a funeral to replacing the staples in the office printer (no easy feat!), St. John's had my back. It's one of the many reasons I love this community. You give of yourselves when needed. You show up.

Reflecting on writing this note to you, I am thinking of this upcoming month of August. Because of people like you, I have such hope for the future, both at church and in the world. St. John's reminds me that we are a community, and that it really does take a village.

I see how you step up to see each other, and the community we are surrounded by as well. We have the Yard Give coming soon that is so meaningful to those without. The Fulton school supply drive and luncheon provides supplies to our underpaid teachers, along with a lunch to celebrate all they do. Never mind the ongoing activities of the Community Breakfast, Food Pantry, and Holiday Bazaar that are all driven and organized by volunteers. You see the world, and you simply show up to serve.

Also, a shout out to the office volunteers that have been crucial to maintaining the administration side of things. You have really stepped up and handled everything I brought to you.

I could really go on and on to folks that when I called on you for help with something, you stepped up to the plate, ready to go. Altar Guild, Vergers, Ushers, readers, fill-in's...everyone who makes worship happen.... I am so thankful to you all.

I'm sure there are people and ministries that I have missed. Please know that I see you too.

So, thank you St. John's, for being the loving people you are. You are genuinely a community that represents the best of Jesus' disciples.

In God's peace and love,

Jen+

## SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

Although it seems as if the schools have just recently closed for summer break, the staff are thinking about starting up! Some teachers will be moving to another grade level, another building, or returning to what they left behind during their scurry to start a well-deserved vacation.

St. John's is ready and anxious to support the staff at our neighborhood Robert Fulton Elementary School. As in the past we honor these teachers with a cheer, pat on the back, and an armload of fresh supplies for their start up. At the annual Kick-Off luncheon, they are gifted with classroom supplies, donated by us, as appreciative neighbors.

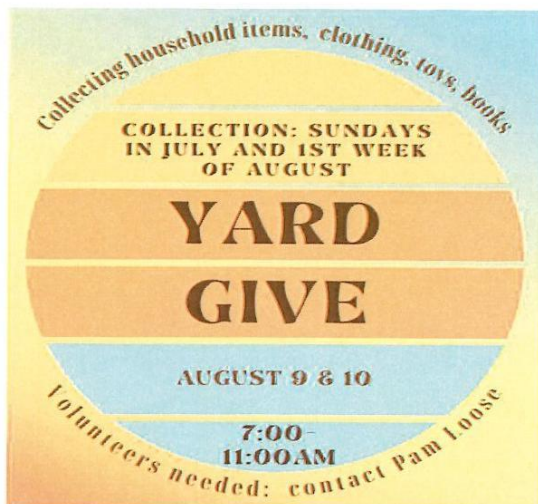
Think about an empty teacher desk when choosing appropriate items. Nothing is wrong! Contact Sue Martin with questions at [mdsmartinduncan@aol.com](mailto:mdsmartinduncan@aol.com).

### Suggested Items:

- Sharpies
- Pencils
- Glue Sticks
- Scissors
- Staplers
- Calculators
- Kleenex Boxes
- Disinfecting Wipes
- Stickers
- Post-Its



## YARD GIVE 2024



## Looking for Volunteers!

**Flexible Opportunities  
to Meet Your Needs**

### **Workers on Friday and Saturday–August 9 and 10 from 7:00–11:00 a.m.**

- ♦ Door Greeters–2 or 4 hour shifts on both days–Greet shoppers and direct them to the correct place to shop
- ♦ Shopping Helpers – 2 or 4 hour shifts on both days – Assist people shopping with finding or handling items, answer questions, etc.

### **Set-Up and Break-Down Workers**

- ♦ Setting Up on Thursday, August 8–8 a.m.–12 noon
- ♦ Breaking Down on Saturday, August 10–Starting at 11:00 a.m.

**If You Can Help, Contact Pam Loose at  
[ptloose@ptd.net](mailto:ptloose@ptd.net)!**



## AUGUST ADULT FORUM

During the month of August, St. John's forums after the 9:00 AM Eucharist we will be learning about what the Episcopal Church and other faith communities are doing about helping to End Gun Violence in our country.

August 11th: Sue Heilman is Lancaster County's coordinator of the Lancaster Memorial to the Lost and will be inviting us to put up the t-shirts on our campus's grassy areas. Each t-shirt has the name of a person killed by gun violence in Lancaster County. The memorial will stay up through the end of August and hopefully spur discussions, prayers and awareness to those driving and walking by. There will be educational materials explaining what the Memorial is for passers-by to take and read.

August 18th: Bryan Miller from Philadelphia, executive director of Heeding God's Call to End Gun Violence, a state-wide faith-based, grass roots movement, will share how we can more effectively do public witness and policy advocacy in this area. One of the ways Heeding does this is by erecting t-shirt Memorials to those Lost by gun homicide in each county. (The gun suicide rate would more than double these numbers.)

August 25th: Deacon Anne Flynn will speak about our Diocesan efforts. They are currently planning on showing The Tree of Life Massacre documentary on October 25 & 26 throughout the diocese. She will bring us up to date on the monthly diocesan Zoom meetings called, Saving Lives: Ending Gun Violence. All are welcome to listen in to this zoom anytime. She will also be speaking about other statewide and national groups working on this issue.

Please come with your questions and thoughts and ideas. There will be plenty of time for discussion. Feel free to contact Sue with any questions at 717-951-0731.



L to R: Memorial to the Lost, Heeding God's Call to End Gun Violence, Overbrook Presbyterian sidewalk 02/03/15  
Memorial to the Lost, Heeding God's Call to End Gun Violence, Chester-Delco, Chester Eastside Installation, S Dunham 06/12/14

## FOOD PANTRY NEWS FROM DEBBIE CARTER

### *A Behind-the-Scenes Look at Food Pantry Buying*

Your Food Pantry leaders and purchasing teams are offering an inside look at what goes into the bags of food that we give to our visitors. Most of our food items are ordered in bulk from Lidl or the Central PA Food Bank (CPFB), but we also take advantage of great regular prices and/or sales at local stores.

Here are the items that we include in each bag we give to our visitors:

<b><i>Canned Items:</i></b>	<b><i>Best Regular Prices:</i></b>	
Black beans (15-18 oz)	Giant	.75
Chicken (two 4.5 oz. pouches or 5 oz. cans) (or one 10-15 oz. can)	CPFB Price for 2 sm. cans ->	2.08
Corn (15-18 oz)	Lidl	.64
Fruit (15 oz)	CPFB	.96
Green beans (15-18 oz)	Lidl	.64
Pasta sauce (24-28 oz)	Wegmans	1.29
Soup – chicken noodle	Lidl or Aldi	.68
Soup – tomato	Lidl or Aldi	.68
Tuna (5 oz. can)	Weis (Tues. senior disc.) Price for 2 cans ->	1.56
<b><i>Other Items:</i></b>		
Cereal (med. or sm.)	Aldi	1.65
Mac & cheese (7.5 oz)	CPFB	.44
Pasta (1 lb)	Blessings of Hope	.31
Peanut butter (15-18 oz)	Aldi	1.89
Rice (1 lb)	Blessings of Hope	.31
	<b>TOTAL -&gt;</b>	<b>13.88</b>

We purchase sturdy cloth or plastic bags that can be reused – they cost less than cardboard boxes – and we include a note, inviting the recipient to reuse the bag or bring it back for us to reuse. (For years, we used the cardboard boxes in which Rob Ashton’s dialysis fluids had been shipped. R.I.P. Rob 2021.)

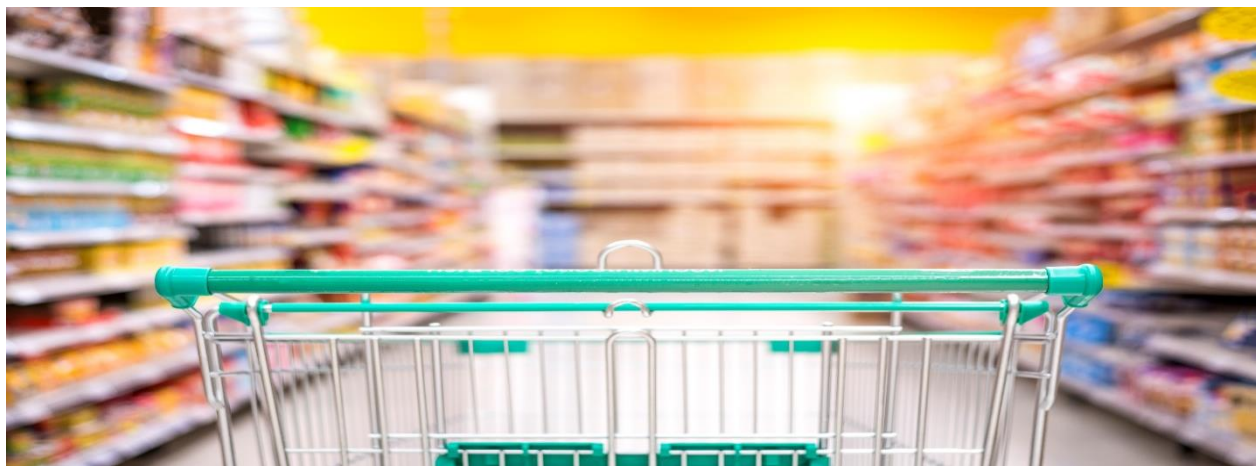
Note: Because space in the bags is very limited, we can’t accommodate larger sizes of these items. If we receive donations of larger items, we offer them on our “extras” cart (from which people may choose 3 items).

## FOOD PANTRY NEWS CONTINUED

How can you help? If you love to shop and you find prices that meet or beat those we've shown, please feel free to take advantage of them. Otherwise, we'd be glad to stretch your monetary donations through our bulk buying. (You may donate via our website. At the bottom of our home page, click Give.)

Note: Our Food Pantry is only allowed to spend funds that have been specifically designated for the Food Pantry, so please choose "Food Pantry" in the Give web page's drop-down list or write "Food Pantry" in the memo area of your check.)

The need is great, and your help is appreciated by all associated with our Food Pantry. Thank you for your support!



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## IT'S LEMONADE TIME!



the counter near the coffee window.

Beginning in June and continuing through the summer months, Lemonade will be served in lieu of coffee hour. Traditionally served in the courtyard from a prepared cart, which allows for ample fellowship and activity space, it is a simple and direct hosting opportunity. The summer sign up schedule is in the parish hall on

PLEASE VOLUNTEER for a summer Sunday. See Sue Martin for details



## SISTER STACEY DAWN PROFESSES VOWS



Congratulations to St. John's Deacon, Sr. Stacey Dawn Catigano, CFC who on June 19, 2024 became a Professed Member of the Community of Francis and Clare. After a formation and discernment process consisting of a year of Postulancy and two years of the Novitiate, Sr. Stacey Dawn took her lifelong vows of simplicity, fidelity, and humility in the presence of the gathered Community and Bishop Visitor Katharine Jefferts Schori at Loyola University Retreat and Ecology Center in Woodstock, Illinois.

Sr. Stacey Dawn continues to be a blessing to the St John's community and the many lives she touches in her ministry of service and love.

The Community of Francis and Clare is a dispersed religious community recognized by the House of Bishops of the Episcopal Church with over 50 members in the United States, Canada, UK, and Mexico. The CFC website is: <https://cfcfranciscans.org/>



## MUSINGS FROM THE ORGAN BENCH....*When In Our Music God Is Glorified...\**



As I begin my fourth month here at St. John's as the Minister of Music, I find myself continually blessed by a congregational family that enjoys being together in worship and in service to the greater community. The title of this article is that of the opening words of a hymn by Fred Pratt Green and one will find that hymn in the 1982 hymnal as #420 \*. The music of hymns, coupled with wonderful poetry of ancient and modern times continues to be one of the treasures of the Christian faith. Fred wrote another hymn that I think describes in many ways the people of St. John's. See if you agree (and please respond.... I never know, through the years, if anyone actually reads my articles...!) The title of the hymn is simply *"Partners"*:

**What Joy it is to worship here  
And find ourselves at home,  
Where God, who uses every gift,  
Has room for all who come!  
Yet are no two of us alike  
Of all the human race,  
And we must seek a common ground  
If we would share his grace.**

*(copyright 1982 The Hymns and Ballads of Fred Pratt Green, Hope Publishing Co, Carol Stream, IL, page 105) ...The hymn tune for those who like to sing is "Forest Green" #398.. 1982 Hymnal*

Hymns of the church.... the sounds, the words, the combinations of the two (e.g. "Amazing Grace") touch us whether we hear them, sing them or play them...are unlike any other expressions that are practiced in any religion in the world. I think of folks that have continued to be able to sing songs of long ago, even after their minds have been touched by dementia. I think of those among us for whom a sacred song has a way to lift them up physically, emotionally and spiritually over the years of life.

## MUSIC CONTINUED

Music is a blessing and St. John's is blessed to be a singing congregation. It is also blessed to have a fine Chancel Choir. And I look forward to getting the Handbell Choir back into regular participation in worship in a variety of ways. We have a full filing cabinet of good handbell music that is silent print on paper until a group brings the sounds of what is composed to life by playing. I saw pictures of when St. John's had large boys and girls choirs. Wouldn't it be wonderful to once again have a children's choir here and I will be seeing if we can bring that together.

As to the fall schedule for our musical groups... Chancel Choir and Handbell Choir... I am looking to begin rehearsals for Chancel Choir on Wednesday evenings, beginning on August 28 at 7 p.m. And then, the following week on Thursday, September 5 at 7 p.m. I am looking forward to starting Handbell Choir rehearsals.

As I conclude this article, I would like to quote from Alex Hodgkinson, who recently retired from Trinity on the Green, New Haven, Connecticut. He was interviewed for an article that appeared in the June 2024 issue of the American Organist (AGO magazine). His "philosophy of music" is one that resonates with my personal philosophy of church music. He sums up his career of church music with these words: "What we sing from the choir stalls is the same as what we hear from the lectern and the pulpit. It can be condensed to one word: love. That's it. Love. If our mission and our behavior don't come back to that word, we are falling short. The reason for the existence of the choir (and I add...bells, instruments, organ, hymns, etc.) is to broadcast Christ's love." (The American Organist, June 2024, page 32).

Blessings as we move to the fall season and our return to the sanctuary space for worship and wonder!

*Soli deo Gloria,*

Mark

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### UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES:

Chancel Choir Rehearsals Begin	August 28th
Bell Choir Rehearsals Begin	September 5th
Homecoming Sunday (Back to 2 services)	September 8 <sup>th</sup>
St. John's Day and Award Presentation	September 22
Blessing of the Badges	September 26

## GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGE AUGUST 2024



### **I Am, WE Are, One World - Here, There, Everywhere**

“When I was a boy, I used to think that *strong* meant having big muscles, great physical power; but the longer I live, the more I realize that real strength has much more to do with what is not seen. Real strength has to do with helping others.” Mr. Rogers

### **Global Partnership Challenge for August 4th**

*National Friendship Day*

Send a card, make a call, get together, anyway, to connect to friends in your presence and those at a distance, to connect and share smiles.

We are all Brothers and Sisters being God’s children. Be a friend.

### **Global Partnership Challenge for August 11th**

“How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world. “Anne Frank

Our Food Pantry, Community Breakfast, Soles4Souls, welcoming worship community, Scouts, youth learning adventures - ALL make a difference - Here, There, Everywhere.

### **Global Partnership Challenge August 18th**

*August 21st - Senior Citizens Day*

Take a moment and connect with a “wisdom figure” giving thanks for their connection and the sharing of their wisdom and knowledge.

### **Global Partnership Challenge for August 25th**

*August 26th Women’s Equality Day*

“The earth is the mother of ALL people, and ALL people should have equal rights upon it.”

Commit to doing your part to welcome, include and recognize ALL - NO exceptions.

## FINANCIALS BY CHARLES WEAR, TREASURER



There was a \$12.5k operating deficit for June. However, after adjusting for a few exceptional items noted below, operating income and expenses for the month were largely on budget. Copier and phone/internet expenses were heavy for the month due to timing and terms of a new maintenance contract. We expect annual expenses to be close to or below budget. Payments for Becker House mold remediation work have been completed (\$19.1k). Insurance covered all but the \$5k deductible, which will be reimbursed from the R3 restricted building maintenance account in July. Thanks to the net proceeds from the Gratitude Dinner (\$1.8k) and a generous stock gift (\$2.8k) in June, all current expenses for the J2A trip to Ireland (\$29.1k) have been paid in full. The Martha Everett bequest (\$64.7k) was allocated per Vestry directive: 50% to the endowment fund, 40% to the capital project fund and 10% to the clergy discretionary fund. An additional \$6.8k from the trust remains in the endowment account due to an additional disbursement from the trust.

Capital gifts totaling \$45.8k were received in June. Expenses of \$132.1k included our monthly \$77k draw for HVAC contract work (with additional \$6k of unbudgeted work to replace the Becker House unit), and \$50.1k to order church lighting equipment.



## FINANCIALS CONTINUED

### St. John's Episcopal Church Church Operating Income Statement

June 2024 vs 2023

Cash Basis in \$000's

	2023			2024		
	Actual June	Actual YTD	Budget Full Yr	Actual June	Actual YTD	Budget Full Yr
<b>Income</b>						
Pledge Income	\$27.3	\$236.3	\$415.0	\$31.9	\$264.5	\$428.4
Other Contributions	\$13.7	\$37.8	\$50.5	\$2.7	\$25.9	\$69.5
Investment Draws	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$63.6	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$66.3
Other Income	\$15.0	\$30.9	\$20.7	\$8.5	\$29.0	\$22.3
Income to Transfer	\$0.0	\$0.1	\$0.0	\$0.5	\$6.1	\$0.0
Jubilee	\$1.2	\$8.5	\$23.9	\$2.5	\$17.3	\$25.5
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$57.3</b>	<b>\$313.6</b>	<b>\$573.7</b>	<b>\$46.2</b>	<b>\$342.7</b>	<b>\$612.0</b>
<b>Expenses</b>						
Clergy	\$22.9	\$120.6	\$247.0	21.2	\$128.0	\$265.3
Lay Staff	\$7.6	\$48.7	\$116.5	7.7	\$55.8	\$102.6
Vestry/Finance/Comm	\$1.4	\$14.1	\$27.6	\$3.0	\$14.3	\$34.2
Utilities	\$1.5	\$27.8	\$39.2	\$3.2	\$22.7	\$41.6
Building Repairs & Supplies	\$1.0	\$14.7	\$33.6	\$13.9	\$20.8	\$33.1
Other Property	\$2.5	\$16.3	\$28.9	\$2.6	\$18.0	\$31.1
Worship/Ed/Community	\$2.1	\$9.3	\$17.2	\$1.1	\$30.6	\$13.8
Outreach	\$5.3	\$31.4	\$64.6	4.8	\$30.2	\$62.3
Jubilee	\$2.1	\$12.6	\$34.2	\$1.1	\$21.1	\$28.1
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$46.4</b>	<b>\$295.5</b>	<b>\$608.7</b>	<b>\$58.6</b>	<b>\$341.6</b>	<b>\$612.0</b>
<b>Net Total</b>	<b>\$10.9</b>	<b>\$18.0</b>	<b>(\$35.0)</b>	<b>(\$12.5)</b>	<b>\$1.1</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>



### Wanted: Your Pet's Unwanted Goodies

Do you have unused or gently used pet toys, leashes, cat beds, or other pet items your pet didn't like or no longer needs? Donate them to the "Pet's Paradise" table for the St. John's bazaar! We'll offer them at thrifty prices, and you'll get more space! Bring them to Maria

Weaver-Hollowniczky almost any Sunday. (Please no edible items). For larger items, ask first: [Mariaweaverh@gmail.com](mailto:Mariaweaverh@gmail.com) 717-341-9735.

## 2024 HOLIDAY BAZAAR

### *St. John's Episcopal Church* *Holiday Bazaar* *Save the Dates!*

The planning has begun for the 2024 Holiday Bazaar.

Friday, Dec. 6, from 5-8 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 7, from 9 a.m.—2 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 8, after 2nd Service for Church Members Only

We need you to make this fundraiser for the Outreach ministries of the church a success.

Looking for Donations to Sell  
And Volunteers to Help

New and this year are crafting parties to learn together and make beautiful items — one to keep and one to donate!

- Paper crafting party
- Beaded jewelry making party
- More to come

See our Bulletin Board

And Special Atrium Display for information.

Or Contact Marion Wear at  
[mwear2016@outlook.com](mailto:mwear2016@outlook.com)!



### **BIRTHDAYS**

Sarah Gordon	8/1
Nancy Houston	8/2
Aidan Cliff	8/3
David Labeda	8/3
Bruce Morgan	8/4
Kendall Morgan	8/4
Otto Williams	8/5
Emma Wendler	8/6
Rich Collier	8/7
Linda Bruce	8/7
Pamela Loose	8/9
Joanna Sweeney	8/9
Thomas Shevock	8/9
Helen Miller	8/12
Heather Sherman	8/12
Michael Gbur	8/14
Rachel Hreben	8/21
Karen Largent	8/22
Stephanie Morrison	8/23
Edith Kane	8/23
Darlene Pfeiffer	8/24
Nancy Nemith	8/26
Phil Becker	8/26
Michael Gobel	8/26
Ashley Smith	8/27
Darlene Bentley	8/27
Donald Durand	8/28
Stella Smith	8/30
Stephanie McGovern	8/31
Sherry Qualls	8/31

### **ANNIVERSARIES**

Drew & Paul Dorgan	8/18
Betsy & Chris Hasircoglu	8/18
Ginny & Malcolm Young	8/21
Eleanor & Ken Watts	8/26

### **OUR 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**

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

### **CHURCH PRAYER LIST**

Pat Pankey, Jennier Zeller  
Kent Strickler, Glenda Broad  
Nancy Strasburg, Justin & Lisa, Ella  
Kevin, Judy Modene, Andrew Gilpin,  
Cheryl & Rhoda, Ted Griswold,  
Richard Anderson, Mary, Collin,  
Liz Kreider Reid, Polly Ann Brown  
Carolyn, Lynn Hayford, Dani Myers,  
Jay & Sophia, Bart Smallwood

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts, may the peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



AUGUST 2024 CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 9:00am Holy Eucharist Rite II (Summer Schedule) 10:30am Lemonade in the Courtyard	29 12:00pm NA	30 1:30pm Martha's Ministry 2:30pm Food Pantry 5:00pm Dance Mosaic 6:00pm AA (AP)	31 12:00pm Holy Eucharist with Healing 12:00pm NA	1 9:00am Staff Meeting 2:30pm Food Pantry 6:30pm NA	2 Rector's Day Off 12:00pm NA	3 6:30pm NA
4 Birthdays & Anniversaries 9:00am Holy Eucharist Rite II (Summer Schedule) 10:30am Lemonade in the Courtyard	5 12:00pm NA 4:30pm Trans Loving Community 6:00pm Ministries Council	6 1:30pm Martha's Ministry 2:30pm Food Pantry 5:00pm Dance Mosaic 5:00pm Executive Committee 6:00pm AA (AP)	7 12:00pm Holy Eucharist with Healing 12:00pm NA	8 9:00am Staff Meeting 2:30pm Food Pantry 6:30pm NA	9 Rector's Day Off 7:00am -1:00pm Yard Give 12:00pm NA	10 7:00am -1:00pm Yard Give 9:00am -11:00am Voyager's Meeting 6:30pm NA
11 9:00am Holy Eucharist Rite II (Summer Schedule) 10:30am Lemonade in the Courtyard	12 12:00pm NA 6:00pm Caring Ministry Meeting	13 1:30pm Martha's Ministry 2:30pm Food Pantry 4:00pm Finance Committee 5:00pm Dance Mosaic 6:00pm AA (AP)	14 12:00pm Holy Eucharist with Healing 12:00pm NA	15 9:00am Staff Meeting 2:30pm Food Pantry 6:30pm NA	16 Rector's Day Off 12:00pm NA	17 9:00am Community Breakfast (First Reformed) 6:30pm NA
18 9:00am Holy Eucharist Rite II (Summer Schedule) 10:30am Lemonade in the Courtyard 12:00pm Vestry Meeting	19 12:00pm NA	20 1:30pm Martha's Ministry 2:30pm Food Pantry 5:00pm Dance Mosaic 6:00pm AA (AP)	21 12:00pm Holy Eucharist with Healing 12:00pm NA	22 9:00am Staff Meeting 2:30pm Food Pantry 6:30pm NA	23 Rector's Day Off 12:00pm NA	24 6:30pm NA
25 MESSENGER DUE 9:00am Holy Eucharist Rite II (Summer Schedule) 10:30am Lemonade in the Courtyard	26 12:00pm NA 5:00pm Stewardship Committee Meeting	27 1:30pm Martha's Ministry 2:30pm Food Pantry 5:00pm Dance Mosaic 6:00pm AA (AP)	28 12:00pm Holy Eucharist with Healing 12:00pm NA	29 9:00am Staff Meeting 2:30pm Food Pantry 6:30pm NA	30 Rector's Day Off 12:00pm NA	31 6:30pm NA