

JUNE 2025

THE MESSENGER

St. John's Episcopal Church
321 W. Chestnut St., Lancaster PA 17603
www.stjohns-lancaster.org



Pride Month Prayer Service

St. John's Episcopal Church 321 W. Chestnut St. Lancaster
in the courtyard off Mulberry St.
Wednesday June 11 @ 7pm

Join us after for a light meal and a continued time for
connection.

ALL ARE WELCOME
from all faiths or none.

NEWS & STORIES FOR THIS ISSUE:

- Joe's Ordination
- Summer Service Schedule!
- Juneteenth Events
- Foyer Groups
- Summer Book Study
- Musings from the Organ Bench
- Financials
- TLC & Pride
- Food Pantry
- Yard Give
- Birthdays & Anniversaries
- Calendar

ASSISTANT RECTOR, JOE PRITCHETT IS GETTING ORDAINED!



By the Grace of God,

The Right Reverend Audrey C. Scanlan
XI Bishop of the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania

Will Ordain

Joseph Edward Pritchett

Among the 2025 Class of Ordinands

To The Sacred Order of Deacons
In Christ's One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church

On June 21st, 2025

At 10 o'clock in the morning

At

St. Stephen's Episcopal Cathedral

221 North Front St.

Harrisburg, PA 17101

Your prayers are requested.

Clergy are invited to vest and process (red stole).

Reception will follow.

If you are unable to attend, the service will be available via livestream.

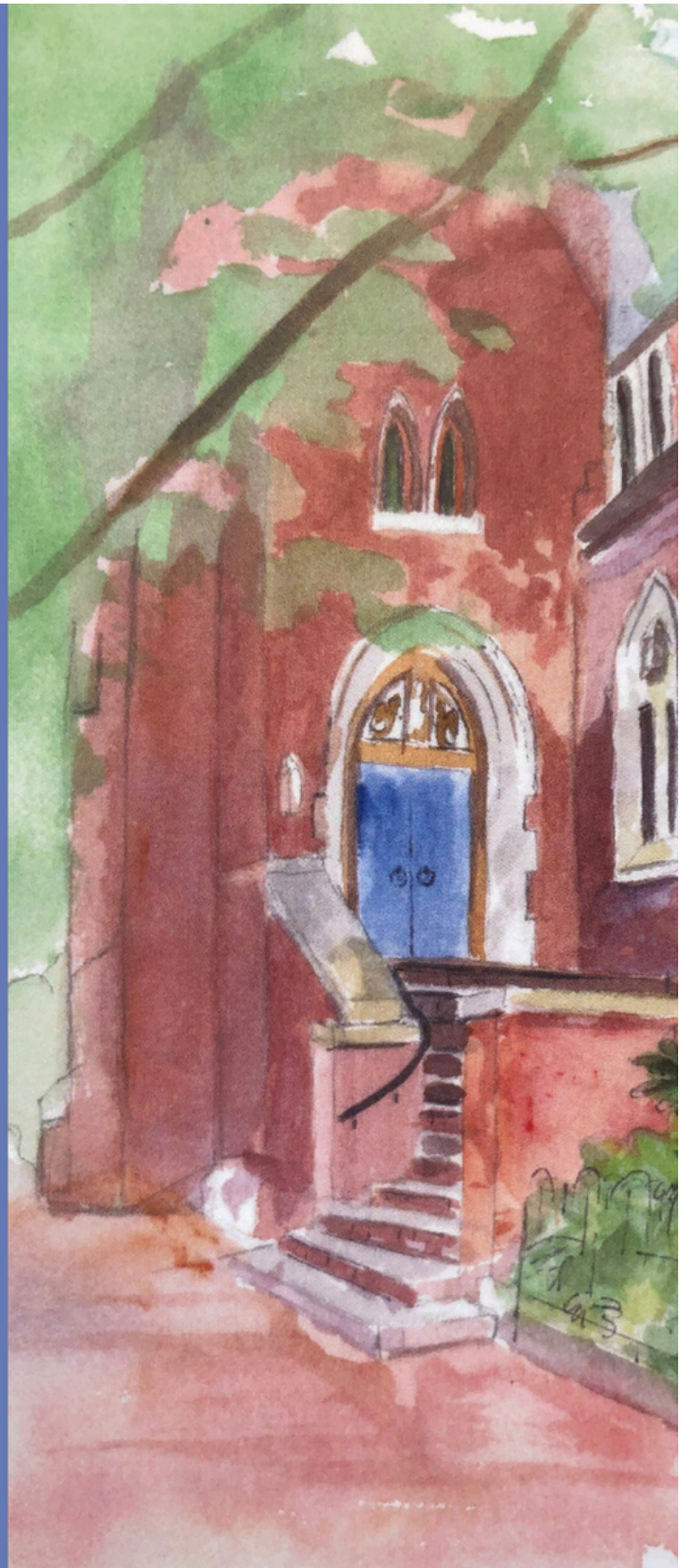
<https://www.facebook.com/saint.stephens.cathedral>

SUMMER SERVICE SCHEDULE

ST. JOHN'S SUMMER SERVICE SCHEDULE

9:00 a.m. *Sunday Service*

Beginning June 1st, and continuing throughout the summer, we will worship as one congregation with a service every Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m. We change our service schedule over the summer months in order to build community and strengthen relationships. This also allows us to offer some formation opportunities following worship. We will go back to two services on Homecoming Sunday, September 7th! We look forward to worshipping with you on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. (or Wednesdays at noon!)



JUNETEENTH BLOCK PARTY!

Juneteenth, celebrated on June 19th, commemorates the emancipation of enslaved people in Texas in 1865. It's a day of remembrance and celebration of freedom, recognizing the delay in news of the Emancipation Proclamation reaching enslaved people in the state. Juneteenth is often celebrated with family gatherings, picnics, speeches, and religious services. It's also a time for reflection on the history of slavery and the ongoing struggle for equality and justice. Living into our baptismal covenants, St. John's stands with those still fighting for freedom, equality, and justice!

more information
AACAL.ORG/EVENTS

SPICE OF LIFE
NAACP LANCASTER BRANCH
AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL ALLIANCE
LANCASTER JUNETEENTH

JUNETEENTH BLOCK PARTY

GET READY TO PLAY, LEARN & GROW

FOOD TRUCKS * MUSIC * ART * GAMES
**OPEN
TO
ALL**
RESOURCE TABLES * VENDORS

JUNE 19TH, 2025
2PM-6PM
400 BLOCK OF ROCKLAND ST
LANCASTER, PA

JUNETEENTH FLAG RAISING
JUNE 19TH @ 11AM
LANCASTER CITY HALL
120 N DUKE ST, LANCASTER, PA

T.S.O.L. NAACP LANCASTER BRANCH African American Cultural Alliance of Lancaster JUNE TEENTH LANCASTER



Juneteenth Celebration at Landis Valley Village & Farm Museum

Date: Thursday, June 19, 2025

Time: 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Admission: HALF PRICE

Landis Valley Village & Farm Museum is proud to announce that it will host Lancaster's annual Juneteenth Celebration on Thursday, June 19, 2025. Organized in partnership with the Lancaster Chapter of the National Action Network (NAN), this year's event marks a historic first for Landis Valley as part of our 100th Anniversary celebration—a year dedicated to honoring community, heritage, and the diverse stories that shape Pennsylvania's past.

Juneteenth in Lancaster has a legacy rooted in the Strawberry Street Festival, the earliest known African American celebration in the county, believed to date back to 1905. Revived in 1997 by Paul Culbreth and Darlene Colon as a Juneteenth event at Thaddeus Stevens College, this celebration has grown into a cherished tradition honoring emancipation and African American culture. Now, for the first time, Landis Valley is honored to serve as the host site for this living history experience, aligned with our mission to preserve and interpret the full spectrum of Pennsylvania's heritage.

Event Highlights Include:

- Historical reenactments and performances by the acclaimed PA Past Players
- Live gospel choirs performing spirituals and songs of the emancipation era
- A diverse array of vendors and food trucks, spotlighting African American-owned businesses and traditional cuisine
- Educational programming and exhibits that explore the legacy of Juneteenth and its impact in Pennsylvania

Admission is HALF PRICE for this event, thanks to the generous support of sponsors including Discover Lancaster, Members First, and others. Visitors of all ages are welcome to attend and celebrate freedom, culture, and community. Join us for this special day at Landis Valley Village & Farm Museum—where history comes to life during our 100th Anniversary, and where we look ahead to a future of education and shared heritage.



FOYER GROUPS ARE COMING TO ST. JOHN'S!

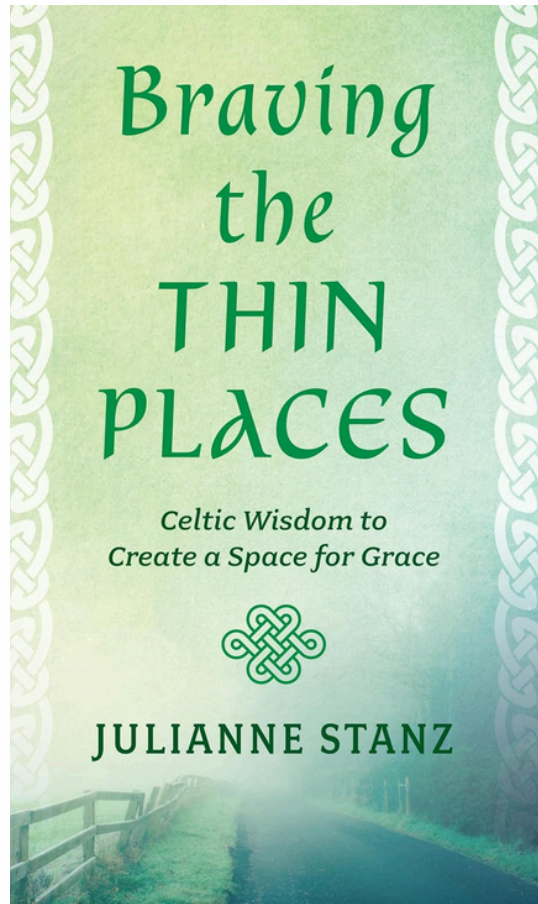


Announcing Foyer Groups to start in September!

What is a Foyer Group, you ask? It's a small, random, intergenerational group of adult parishioners that gather informally, once a month, during the school year, to share a simple meal and fellowship. Then the following year, we mix up the groups and do it again! Here is the great part; NO LIMIT to how many people, total, can participate! We will form as many groups as we need.

We will have a whole-group kick-off in September in the Parish Hall. On this date you will meet your group for the first time, dine together, and discuss when and where you will meet monthly. It is completely up to your group as to meeting in your homes, at a venue or at church. Meals should be very simple; pot-luck style or even, byo. And, there is NO agenda except getting to know one another! We will have ideas for you. Intrigued? Interested? Sign-up options to follow soon!

BRAVING THE THIN PLACES BOOK STUDY



As we read in the rector's letter, while Amanda+ is on sabbatical she will be reading Braving the Thin Places by Julianne Stanz. The vestry hopes we can read along with her and will create small groups for discussions based on interest. If you are interested in joining a small discussion group, please email Sarah Jones at selizabethjones@gmail.com and they will be in touch with more information regarding meeting places, days, and times.

Here is a little about the book and a link to the webinar from the author. "Braving the Thin Places" explores the concept of "thin places" in Celtic spirituality, where the veil between the earthly and spiritual realms thins, allowing for deeper encounters with God and oneself. It offers practical guidance on identifying & experiencing these moments, drawing from Celtic traditions and faith practices. The book emphasizes the transformative power of these encounters, leading to a more authentic and meaningful life." [Braving the Thin Places \(webinar about the book\)](#)

MUSINGS FROM THE ORGAN BENCH



Last fall, during the month of October we used Marty Haugen's Mass of Creation all month long to celebrate St. Francis of Assisi. Marty Haugen is a noted composer who has been a prolific composer for the Lutheran church in particular and for the rest of us in the worshipping church. One of his hymns, which is part of the ELW (Evangelical Lutheran Worship, copyright 2006), is entitled "Soli Deo Gloria" (To God alone be Glory).

Members of the Lancaster Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, of which I have served as Dean twice (and several other positions over my 55 years of membership...wow...time flies!!), use this hymn each year at our Annual Banquet, thanks to it's introduction by Dr. Karl Moyer...another long-time member of the chapter. The first verse and fifth verse, written by Marty (who authored both the words and music, copyright 1989, GIA Publications), reflect aspects of the musical experience at St. John's. Marty wrote: "O God of blessings, all praise to you! Your love surrounds us our whole life through, You are the freedom of those oppressed, you are the comfort of all distressed. Come now, O holy and welcome guest: Soli Deo gloria! Soli Deo gloria! A billion voices in one great song, now soft and gentle, now deep and strong, in every culture and style and key, from hill and valley with sky and sea, with Christ we praise you eternally: Soli Deo gloria! Soli Deo gloria! (Hymn 878, ELW)

The Latin ending of each verse, is also a phrase that Johann Sebastian Bach included in the title area of his compositions. His whole life was intentionally focused on giving God the glory for all that he, as a masterful musician, was able to produce.

This summer, at each of our Sunday services, besides the hymns and music of the liturgy, and the voices of the pipes in the organ, we will be blessed with special music of a variety of styles, messages, and groupings. We will have at least one guest from outside our congregation in addition to the sharing through music, of the many talents that are a part of our blessed congregation. Whether you are traveling or coming to Sunday worship, I encourage you to be a part of worship, as we have it live, in person, streaming, or "after the fact" via online recordings of our worship.

FINANCIALS BY TREASURER, CHARLES WEAR

- Operating expenses and income were close to budget levels in April, which resulted in a small monthly deficit of \$5.1k. We are still running a surplus YTD of \$36.1k based on above favorable income and expenses at the beginning of the year.
- April is the first month reflecting the hire of our new assistant priest effective April 13. Staffing costs for the month were further inflated by paying both April and March health insurance premiums in the month.
- Worship costs were up due to organ tuning and Easter brass expenses. These expenses will eventually be reconciled against applicable music reserve accounts.
- Capital gifts of \$16.7k were received in April, bringing the total gifts for the project to \$768.1k. Additional one-time bequests and pre-campaign donations bring the grand total to \$883.8k, with \$227.7k in pledges outstanding. The estimated total project cost remains at \$1.24 million, leaving \$129.7k as additional need.
- Besides the monthly debt service for the Heistand loan, the only major capital expense in April was a \$16.5k installment payment to Willet for the Mary window.

	April		Year to Date		Annual
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Budget
Income					
Contributions	\$40.0	\$42.1	\$199.8	\$168.3	\$505.1
Investment Draws	\$0.0	\$6.1	\$0.0	\$24.5	\$73.6
Other Income	\$4.3	\$2.9	\$16.1	\$11.5	\$34.4
Jubilee	\$0.9	\$3.0	\$22.9	\$12.0	\$36.1
Transferred Income	\$0.0	(\$3.3)	\$0.0	(\$13.3)	(\$40.0)
Total Income	\$45.2	\$50.8	\$238.8	\$203.0	\$609.2
Expenses					
Clergy	\$19.2	\$23.1	\$78.6	\$92.5	\$277.5
Lay Staff	\$10.2	\$9.4	\$38.1	\$37.5	\$112.4
Vestry/Finance/Comm	\$2.8	\$2.5	\$9.9	\$10.1	\$30.3
Utilities	\$4.2	\$3.3	\$15.1	\$13.0	\$39.0
Building Repairs & Supplies	(\$1.1)	\$3.0	\$10.0	\$12.0	\$36.1
Other Property	\$3.4	\$3.1	\$13.9	\$12.2	\$36.6
Worship/Ed/Community	\$3.2	\$1.9	\$7.6	\$7.4	\$22.2
Outreach	\$5.4	\$5.3	\$21.4	\$21.4	\$64.2
Jubilee	\$2.9	\$3.1	\$8.1	\$12.4	\$37.1
Transferred Expenses	\$0.0	(\$3.9)	\$0.0	(\$15.4)	(\$46.3)
Total Expenses	\$50.3	\$50.8	\$202.7	\$203.1	\$609.2
Net Total	(\$5.1)	(\$0.0)	\$36.1	(\$0.0)	\$0.0

TLC (TRANS LOVING COMMUNITY)

Have you had questions about how to support the LGBTQIA+ community, what those letters or other lingo means, or about how to talk to people in your family about LGBTQIA+ issues?

Head over to the parish hall, where in the hallway just outside the kitchen door you'll find a brochure rack full of real, printed, publications on these topics and more from PFLAG (formerly Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays). They're yours for the taking, to read through or to pass onto another friend who could benefit.

Also be sure to check out our TLC bulletin board in the same space. This month it's devoted to Pride and asking our parishioners what Pride or Being and Ally to the LGBTQIA+ community means to them.

Don't see a topic you've been looking for? See Maria Weaver-Hollowniczky and hopefully we can find it!



VOLUNTEER WITH TLC AT LANCASTER PRIDE

It's St. John's 4th year at Pride! We need help to staff our table on Saturday, June 28th and some help Friday evening to set up (see details in the SignUp Genius link)!

Our goal is to support and affirm the LGBTQIA+ community. We will offer temporary tattoos and prayer stones/prayer bowl as well as information about our services and ministries for anyone interested.

During festival hours (noon-6pm) We will have 4 people at the table at a time (plus younger children if you bring them along). Two people will leave and two new people come in every half hour. Most shifts are an hour and a half. Shorter shifts at start/end of day. Please read any notes under a slot.

This year admission is free, so come to check out the festivities before or after your shift. Everything is indoors, with A/C and accessibility.

Please review the available slots at the link below and click on the button to sign up. Questions? See Maria Weaver-Hollowniczky or text 717-341-9735 or email mariaweaverh@gmail.com.

PRIDE SIGNUP!



St. John's Food Pantry Summer Updates!

Things continue at a busy pace even during the summer.

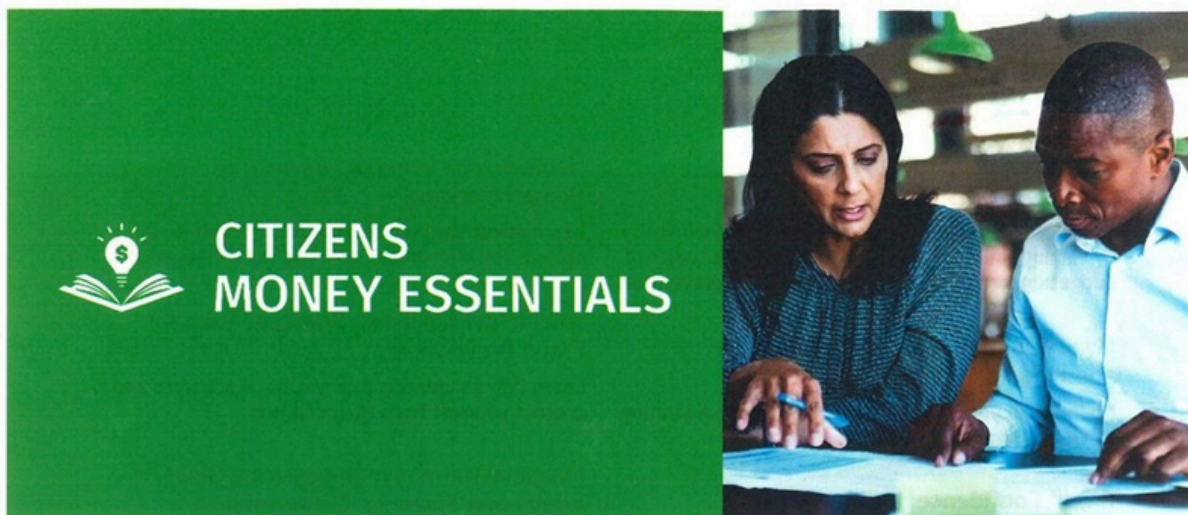
We are partnering with Citizens Bank to offer remarkable free financial classes to help any age and stage of life understand money essentials as well as access to unique programs to help make that success possible.

Please invite others to join us. Flyers are on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall! Sign up by calling the church office.

Don't forget to check out our "Honoring Our Partners" bulletin board display to learn more about the many outside organizations helping us feed the hungry in downtown Lancaster!



**Partnering to Equip Everyone with the
Education for Financial Success!**



EMPOWER YOUR FINANCES WITH CITIZENS MONEY ESSENTIALS

A FREE FINANCIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM TO HELP YOU BUILD A STRONGER FINANCIAL FUTURE

Join us for expert-led workshops designed to help you take control of your financial future!

Why Attend?

- **Free and Engaging Workshops** led by financial experts
- **Practical Tips and Tools** to apply immediately
- **Exclusive Resources** to support your journey

Who Can Join?

This program is open to individuals and families looking to strengthen their financial knowledge and make smarter money decisions.

How to Get Started?

- **Contact:**
 - Name: St. John's Church Office
 - Email : office@stjohns-lancaster.org
 - Phone Number: 717-299-1188 - Press 1 for Church Office

Dates:

June 11th: 4:00PM-5:00PM
July 9th: 4:00PM-5:00PM
August 13th: 4:00PM-5:00PM

Where?

St. John's Episcopal Church
321 West Chestnut Street
Lancaster, PA 17603

Visit Us: [Citizensbank.com/learning](https://www.citizensbank.com/learning)

YARD GIVE

AUGUST 8 / 9

7:00 AM - 11:00 AM

PARISH HALL AND UPPER LEVEL

Donation Collection

July 13 - August 7

Mondays 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM & Sundays after church

(Choir Room and Undercroft area)

**Items Needed: clothing
(especially children's
clothes), toys, linens,
household items**



**Please do not donate
damaged items.**

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED! CONTACT
PAM LOOSE TO HELP!**

**Our guests are
greeted with,
"Take what
you need,
Give what
you can."**

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGE

"What Jesus never said : "Feed the hungry only if they have papers."

"Clothe the naked only if they're from your country."

"Welcome the stranger only if there's zero risk."

"Help the poor only if it's convenient."

"Love your neighbor only if they look like you." Fr. James Martin

Global Partnership Challenge for June 1st

June 5th World Environment Day

What is done by "one" can help "many". Make and pledge and commit to recycling, decrease plastic, don't waste water, etc. The smallest change by each of us could have huge meanings to our gift of the earth.

Global Partnership Challenge for June 8th

"God is always present - it is us who are missing." Cynthia Bourgeaut, PhD

The third Saturday of each month, St. John's people gather in community to set up, cook, and serve breakfast to those in community much less fortunate with no questions, just acceptance. While it's a caring gift to them, it also fills our hearts. Ask the people working the Food Pantry about their smiles and hearts in helping.

Global Partnership Challenge for June 15th

Father's Day

Celebrate "father" figures in your presence - those connected by blood/birth and those who have supported you by their caring.

Global Partnership Challenge for June 22nd

St. John's Eve June 23rd - Birthday of John the Baptist

Celebrated all over the world with fires lit to symbolize the "light" John brought into the world. What "light" can each of us be in the world. Doesn't have to be a flame or fire as the smallest light can be seen and the warmth felt.

Global Partnership for June 29th

Hug Holiday

Smiles and hugs deliver power filled feelings to those needing warmth and caring - elderly, sick, invalid, lonely, anyone. Those seconds could mean the world to the receiver.



BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Molly Moyer
- 6 Eamon Nelson
- 6 Mary Welsh Waskowicz
- 7 Jane Forrester
- 8 Susan Bowser
- 8 Francois Mollard
- 11 Kim Bomberger
- 15 Ann Woodland
- 19 Bob Kilp
- 19 Kathy Plaxa
- 21 Phil Modene
- 21 Beth Mollard
- 24 Mary Ellen Kilp
- 24 Peter Novosel
- 27 John Gouveia
- 29 Mary Sue Farmer

ANNIVERSARIES

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

OUR FRIENDS AT HOME

Ellen Keller, Nancy Nemith, Ricky Smith, Joanna Sweeney, Al Kuser, Mary Sue Farmer, Ellen Sellers, Edith Kane, Merle Schnee, Sandy Grove, Peggy Zuke, Peggy Buscher

SERVING IN THE MILITARY

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

CHURCH PRAYER LIST

Nancy Strasburg, Ella, Kevin, Judy Modene, Andrew Gilpin, Cheryl & Rhoda, Ted Griswold, Richard Anderson, Collin, Eileen Waite, Andrew Wright, Denise Chandler, Marshall, Sandy Patrone, Bonnie, Debbie Linton, Wade Winkle, Heidi, Danny & Kenneth



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 your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

June 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Birthdays & Anniversaries <i>Coffee Hour after the service</i> 9:00am Holy Eucharist: Rite II	2 12:00pm NA 4:30pm Trans Loving Community 6:00pm Ministries Council 7:00pm SLAA	3 1:30pm Martha's Ministry 2:30pm Food Pantry 5:00pm Executive Committee 5:00pm Immigration Clinic 6:00pm AA (AP)	4 12:00pm Holy Eucharist with Healing 12:00pm NA	5 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:00am Worship Committee 2:30pm Food Pantry	6 12:00pm NA	7 1:00pm AA 6:00pm AA
8 <i>Coffee Hour after the service</i> Pentecost! 9:00am Holy Eucharist: Rite II	9 12:00pm NA 4:00pm Caring Ministry Meeting 7:00pm SLAA	10 1:30pm Martha's Ministry 2:30pm Food Pantry 4:00pm Finance Committee 5:00pm Immigration Clinic 6:00pm AA (AP)	11 12:00pm Holy Eucharist with Healing 12:00pm NA 3:30pm Finance Class 7:00pm Pride Prayer Service	12 9:00am Morning Prayer 2:30pm Food Pantry	13 12:00pm NA	14 12:30pm Citizen's Climate Lobby Group 1:00pm AA 6:00pm AA
15 <i>Coffee Hour after the service</i> 9:00am Holy Eucharist: Rite II 12:00pm Vestry Meeting	16 12:00pm NA 7:00pm SLAA	17 1:30pm Martha's Ministry 2:30pm Food Pantry 5:00pm Immigration Clinic 6:00pm AA (AP)	18 12:00pm Holy Eucharist with Healing 12:00pm NA	19 9:00am Morning Prayer 2:30pm Food Pantry	20 12:00pm NA	21 Joe Pritchett's Ordination St. Stephen's Cathedral Harrisburg 9:00am Community Breakfast (First Reformed) 1:00pm AA 6:00pm AA
22 <i>Coffee Hour after the service</i> 9:00am Holy Eucharist: Rite II	23 12:00pm NA 5:00pm Stewardship Committee Meeting 7:00pm SLAA	24 1:30pm Martha's Ministry 2:30pm Food Pantry 5:00pm Immigration Clinic 6:00pm AA (AP)	25 12:00pm Holy Eucharist with Healing 12:00pm NA	26 9:00am Morning Prayer 2:30pm Food Pantry	27 12:00pm NA	28 PRIDE Festival 2025 1:00pm AA 6:00pm AA
29 <i>Coffee Hour after the service</i> 9:00am Holy Eucharist: Rite II	30 12:00pm NA 7:00pm SLAA	1 1:30pm Martha's Ministry 2:30pm Food Pantry 5:00pm Executive Committee 5:00pm Immigration Clinic 6:00pm AA (AP)	2 12:00pm Holy Eucharist with Healing 12:00pm NA	3 9:00am Morning Prayer 10:00am Worship Committee 2:30pm Food Pantry	4 12:00pm NA	5 1:00pm AA 6:00pm AA