

# ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

November—December , 2019

## Pastor Tony's Message

November is deemed by many as the month of thanksgiving. And for the Fields and Brown Family, we like to say thank you. Thank you for the cards, Facebook posting, prayers, texting, and the many wishes of God's presence for us.

In the last few weeks in October, we encountered highs and lows however, that because of your warm expressions of assistance prompting us that God walks with us in our time of demand. And for this, we say thank you.

One element of existence we are convinced of is that Life is like an onion. You peel it off one layer at a time, and sometimes you weep. Carl Sandburg

Furthermore, Scripture teaches "Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning."- Psalm 30:5. Jodie and I thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Now this is truly an incredible way to commence the Thanksgiving month of November.

## ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup> following the worship service.

The main purpose of the meeting will be to approve the 2020 budget, and elect new members of Consistory. Please plan to stay and attend this meeting.

## **Consistory News** by Charlene Ziegler, Secretary

Consistory met on October 28, 2019.

The Budget and Finance Committee's proposed 2020 Budget was reviewed. There will continue to be a deficit, but less than 2019. The budget will be presented to the congregation during the Congregational Meeting on November 24<sup>th</sup>.

There is an area of carpet in the front of the sanctuary that needs to be replaced or repaired. Several estimates were received from carpet installers to replace all the carpet. Consistory discussed the situation and decided to look into ways to replace the damaged area rather than purchase new. The costs to purchase new carpet far exceeded the amount of money available at this time.

Two Elders and one Deacon on Consistory have completed two terms and will need to be replaced. Two current deacons have agreed to move up to the Elder positions. Three deacon positions will need to be filled. Candidates are being considered.

A donation of \$500 will be presented to the Power Packs Project from the Deacon's Fund.

### **Women's Retreat** by Louise Walmer

Our 3<sup>rd</sup> Women's Retreat, sponsored by the Music and Worship Committee will be on Saturday June 6, 2020, from 9am-2pm. The theme for the retreat will be "Fruits of the Spirit". There will be activities, good food and of course great fellowship.

More information on this event will be published as we make plans for the day.

### **All Saints**

Our annual All Saints Celebration will be during morning worship on Sun., Nov. 3. The embers, family members and friends of our congregation who passed away since our 2018 Celebration will be recognized.

Letters inviting the next of kin to this service have been mailed.

The following is a list of the "Saints" being recognized this year: Carmen Alvarado, Roseanne Bolles, Sally Daub-Boyer, Betty Eberhart, Joseph Hayes, Christopher Lawrence, Sr., Donna Lugo, Richard Mohn, David Steckbeck, and Elizabeth Steckbeck and Eleanor Yienst.

If you have a family member or friend who passed away since November 1, 2018, that is not listed above, please contact the church office if you want us to recognize them at our November 3rd service.

### **THANK YOU!**

**A big thank you to everyone that came and helped me to have a great fun 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party. I appreciate the gift cards and gifts.**

**Thank You and God Bless.  
Cass**

### **Senior Choir** by Louise Walmer

The Sr. Choir is busy rehearsing the Christmas cantata, "Lead Me Back to Bethlehem", by Pepper Choplin. The cantata is a joint effort with the Christ Church's Sr. Choir and will be presented during morning worship at Christ Church, Annville, at 10AM on Sunday, December 15th. There will be no morning worship at St. John's that day.

There are 2 joint rehearsals planned. On Wednesday, December 4th, the Christ Church choir will come to St. John's to rehearse and then on Wednesday, December 11th, our choir will travel to Annville to rehearse at Christ Church. Both rehearsals begin at 7PM.

The choir, in addition to our morning worship anthems, is also preparing music for the Thanksgiving Eve worship at Zion Gosherts UCC, Mt. Zion, and the lighting of the Advent Wreath candles.

### **Painting Party** by Louise Walmer

Success! Yes, the painting party was a success. There were 24 painters, who all painted the same picture under the direction of Zen Cat Creatives. It was an evening of fun and fellowship for all who participated.

We've even been asked to do it again!

### **Operation Christmas Child** by Julie Ditzler

Once again, it's time to plan for the happiest project of the year – the packing of our Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. Our target is fifty boxes, and our packing party is set for November 17<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 9 a.m. Look for the display in the social room with suggestions to include in your donations, and cards to take shopping for supplies we need. Please consider a donation to cover the cost of shipping our boxes as well; envelopes for this purpose will be in the pews during October and early November. Be part of this fun and rewarding project as we spread some Christmas cheer to children all over the world!

### **Budget and Finance** by Louise Walmer

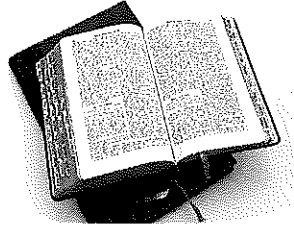
The Budget and Finance Committee has been meeting to prepare the 2020 Proposed Budget to present to the Consistory at their October 28th meeting. The Consistory will need to make their changes and approve a 2020 Budget so that it can be presented to the Congregation at the annual meeting after worship on November 24th.

### **Music and Worship** by Louise Walmer

Our Committee met on Wednesday, October 18th. All Saints Celebration and Advent for 2019 were discussed.

Our annual Baked Potato Bar will be after worship on Sunday, January 26th. And our next meeting will be on Wednesday, January 15th at 6pm in the secretary's office.

## NOVEMBER WORSHIP NEWS



**Sunday November 3, 2019**  
Twenty-first Sunday After Pentecost  
Isaiah 1:10-18  
Psalm 32:1-7  
2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12  
Luke 19: 1-10

**Sunday, November 10, 2019**  
Twenty-second Sunday After Pentecost  
Haggai 1:15b-2:9  
Psalm 145:1-5  
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 17-21  
Luke 20:27-38

**Sunday, November 17, 2019**  
Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost  
Isaiah 65:17-25  
Psalm 98  
Thessalonians 3:6-13  
Luke 21:5-19

**Sunday, November 24, 2019**  
Twenty-four Sunday after Pentecost  
Jeremiah 23:1-6  
Psalm 46  
Colossians 1:11-20  
Luke 23:33-43

**Thursday, November 28, 2019**  
Thanksgiving Day  
Deuteronomy 26:1-11  
Psalm 100  
Philippians 4:4-9  
John 6:25-35

## DECEMBER WORSHIP NEWS

**Sunday, December 1, 2019**  
First Sunday of Advent  
Isaiah 2: 1-5  
Psalm 122  
Romans 13: 11-14  
Matthew 24:36-44

**Sunday, December 8, 2019**  
Second Sunday of Advent  
Isaiah 11:1-10  
Psalm 72: 1-7, 18-19  
Romans 15:4-13  
Matthew 3:1-12

**Sunday, December 15, 2019**  
Third Sunday of Advent  
Isaiah 35:1-10  
Psalm 146:5-10  
James 5:7-10  
Matthew 11:2-11

**Sunday, December 22, 2019**  
Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Isaiah 7: 10-16  
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19  
Romans 1:1-7  
Matthew 1:8-25

**Wednesday, December 25, 2019**  
Christmas Day  
Isaiah 52:7-10  
Psalm 98  
Hebrews 1:1-12  
John 1:1-14

**Sunday, December 29, 2019**  
First Sunday after Christmas  
Isaiah 63:7-9  
Psalm 148  
Hebrews 2:10-18  
Matthew 2:13-23

## DECEMBER CELEBRATION

### Happy Birthday to:

2 Jodie Fields	16 Brad Griffiths	31 Rev. Allen Helwig
6 Mabel Rudy	25 Shayne Tyrpin	
11 Jarrod Kapp	25 Larry Walmer	
11 Chris Rentschler	27 Kadie Walmer	

### Happy Anniversary to:

7 Jean Ann & Neal Grimes

## Sunday Worship Volunteers, Thank You!

#### December Readers

Dec. 1 Pam Emery  
Dec. 8 Louise Walmer  
Dec. 15 No Service—Cantata  
Dec. 22 Brenda Good  
Dec. 29 Music Sunday

#### December Flowers

Dec. 1 Nancy Frantz  
Dec. 8 Neal & Jean Ann Grimes  
Dec. 15 No Service—Cantata  
Dec. 22 Pastor Tony  
Dec. 29 Donna Eberly-Lehman

#### December Deacon

Angela Michael

#### December Bulletins

Dec. 1 Nancy Frantz  
Dec. 8 Neal & Jean Ann Grimes  
Dec. 15 No Service—Cantata  
Dec. 22 Pastor Tony  
Dec. 29 Donna Eberly-Lehman

#### December Coffee Host

Dec. 1 Open  
Dec. 8 Open  
Dec. No Service—Cantata  
Dec. 22 Open  
Dec. 29 Open

#### SPONSORS NEEDED

Coffee Host:  
Month of December  
Sign up sheet is in the  
Social Hall



## NOVEMBER CELEBRATION

### Happy Birthday to:

1 Margaret Rudy  
2 Mary Gerhart  
4 Pat Rentschler  
9 Jillian Ditzler  
9 Dylan Kapp  
10 Dena Eberhart

12 Delanae Shaffer  
16 Michigan Daub  
19 Elizabeth Overton  
27 Walter Bolles  
28 Terry Knapp  
30 Violet Leibensperger

### Happy Anniversary to:

8 Darlene & Steve Stoltz  
29 Kadie & Jeff Walmer

If your information is incorrect or not included, please contact the church office.  
Thank you.

## Sunday Worship Volunteers, Thank You!

### November Readers

Nov. 3 Brenda Good  
Nov. 10 Julie Ditzler  
Nov. 17 Neal Grimes  
Nov. 24 Louise Walmer

### November Flowers

Nov. 3 Vicki Gonzalez  
Nov. 10 Priscilla Rentschler  
Nov. 17 Barbara Trainor  
Nov. 24 Terry&Ginny Knapp

### October Attendance

Oct.	6	41
Oct.	13	37
Oct.	20	34
Oct.	27	41

### November Bulletins

Nov. 3 Vicki Gonzalez  
Nov. 10 Priscilla Rentschler  
Nov. 17 Barbara Trainor  
Nov. 24 Terry&Ginny Knapp

### November Coffee Host

Nov. 3 Jean Ann Grimes  
Nov. 10 Jean Ann Grimes  
Nov. 17 Jean Ann Grimes  
Nov. 24 Jean Ann Grimes

November Deacon  
Scott Benfer



**Thanksgiving Eve Worship**  
**Wednesday, November, 27, 2019**  
**7pm**  
**Zion Gosherts UCC, Mt Zion**

The churches, pastors, and choirs of the Fredericksburg Ministerium are participating in this worship service.

**Christmas Cantata** by Louise Walmer

The cantata, "Lead Me to Back to Bethlehem", written by Pepper Choplin, will be presented by the Sr. Choirs of St. John's UCC and Christ Church UCC at 10am on Sunday, December 15 at Christ Church Annville.

Please note: there will be no morning worship service at St. John's that day.

**St. John's Fellowship** by Ginny Knapp

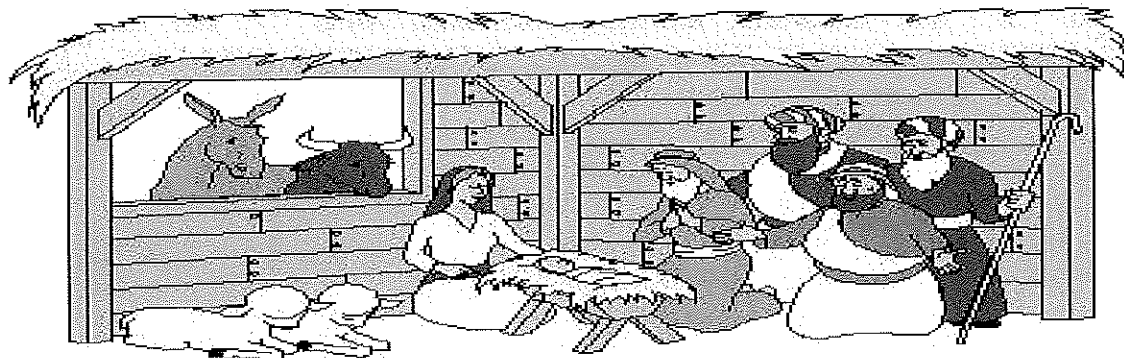
Plans are underway for the annual Fellowship Christmas Party! A covered dish meal is planned for the affair to be held Tuesday, December 17th at 6:00PM in the church social hall. A \$5.00 gift will be part of the "Now you have it—Now you don't game."

The group voted to give the church treasury a check of \$2000.00. This brings our total contribution to \$4000.00 for the year. Results of the Fall Flea Market were given and are \$443.75—Baked Goods; \$159.50—Food Sales and \$564.25—Fleas.

Our group is very active but we surely could use more members. Will you join us for our next meeting, Tuesday November 19th at 7:00 PM? We'd love to see you there.


**CHRISTMAS CAROLING**  
**Sunday, December 15TH**

Meeting at the church at 1:30 p.m. Singing led by choir members - spreading holiday cheer! Everyone is welcome to go caroling just come to the church at 1:30PM. Festivities end with supper together at the Batdorf in Annville. More details will follow.



**THE STAFF OF ST. JOHN'S**  
**WISHES YOU AND YOUR FAMILY A**  
**BLESSED CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.**

# NOVEMBER 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:30 AM Christian Connection 11:00 AM Worship (Communion) Thank Offering	4	5 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM	6 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM  7:00PM Choir Practice	7 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM	8 Chicken Corn Noodle Soup Sale 11:00 AM—5:00PM	9
10 9:30 AM Christian Connection 11:00 AM Worship JOY Pantry Sunday Thank Offering	11	12 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM	13 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM  7:00PM Choir Practice	14 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM	15	16 4:30 PM Wedding
17 9:00 AM Packing Shoe Boxes 11:00 AM Worship	18	19 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM  7:00PM Fellowship Meeting	20 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM  7:00PM Choir Practice	21 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM	22	23
24 9:30 AM Christian Connection 11:00 AM Worship Annual Congregation Meeting Following Worship Deacon Fund Sunday Dine & Donate Sunday	25 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM	26	27 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM  7:00PM Thanksgiving Eve Worship Zion Gosherts UCC, Mt Zion	28	29	30



# DECEMBER 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 9:30 AM Christian Connection 11:00 AM Worship (Communion)  Helen Walmer Fund	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM	<b>4</b> Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM  7:00PM Joint Choir Rehearsal at St. John's	<b>5</b> Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 9:30 AM Christian Connection 11:00 AM Worship JOY Pantry	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM	<b>11</b> Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM  7:00PM Joint Choir Rehearsal at Christ Church	<b>12</b> Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> Christmas Cantata 10:00AM Christ Church in Annville  1:30 PM Christmas Caroling	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM  6:00PM Fellowship Christmas Party In the Social Hall.	<b>18</b> Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM  7:00 PM Choir Practice	<b>19</b> Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 9:30 AM Christian Connection 11:00 AM Worship Dine & Donate Sunday	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM  7:00PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	<b>25</b> <i>Merry Christmas</i>	<b>26</b> Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9:30 AM Christian Connection 11:00 AM Worship Honor Graduate Deacon Fund Sunday	<b>30</b> Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM	<b>31</b>				