

# ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

November, 2020

## Pastor Tony's Message

As we begin in November as a church, we celebrate All Saints Day and receive Holy Communion. This is wonderful because, again, we experience God's Word, Sacraments, and Respecting those who enter eternal rest. And yes, we are live streaming, practicing social distance while wearing our mask; however, something more is happening. We are the church.

The theological perspective is that God remains faithful to us, his people. Yes, we are doing things differently; however, God is stretching our view of his presence and boosting our faith to live in dire times. We are privileged to be lights in the darkest time. As the choir sang this song, "Go Light your World." Ironically the music that was sung in our four walks has put on shoes. Or should I say it this way when rhetoric put on shoes, it is then we are living out the gospel?

Furthermore, we will embrace the Daylight Saving Time. Honestly, the thought of adding an hour to 2020 is unthinkable. I mean, 365 days or 8760 hours is more than enough. Then again, some great things happened.

We were invited to experience church in a different way. Yes, it was challenging however we were force beyond the fall walls and live in community. The Holy Spirit invited us to learn how to dignified and appreciate individuals and technology in a new way. And like learning new things, it is challenging and empowering. And you know what we did it!!

Now we are approaching the month of Thanks. Let's take these next 30 days and offer thanks. Indeed we have things to be thankful for. I thank God for ministry, life, a portion of health, and having a peaceful mind.

I thank God for the communities of Annville, Fredericksburg, and Lebanon, churches, and members. I thank God for participating in essential parts of people's lives, such as administering the Holy Sacraments, baptism, counseling, committal services, funerals, midnight prayer, officiating weddings, public relations, racial justice/reconciliation, and the sharing of God's Holy Word. I thank God for two excellent secretaries/ office administrators. I thank God for two thoughtful consistories, along with the joint committees. I thank God for worship committees, choir directors, and organist.

Honestly, I could go on and on. However, I hope that despite all the challenges we experience in 2020, we look into the rearview mirrors of this year, and without any regret and say, Lord, I thank you. This is not to negate the heartache we experience but to say that despite it all, I am still willing to be collaborators with God and the church family in which I am entrusted to live in. Well, it is vacation time, and again, I thank God.

*Grateful  
to  
God*

A decorative flourish consisting of several overlapping, curved lines that sweep upwards and to the right, resembling a stylized leaf or a calligraphic flourish.

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

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The Consistory met on September 28, 2020.

Some of the items noted: More Sunday morning offering counters are needed. A lay person is needed to fill a position on the Committee on Ministry for the Lebanon Association of the Penn Central Conference. There will be a pulpit exchange on October 11<sup>th</sup>, with Pastor Bruce Farrell coming to St. John's.

The Budget and Finance Committee presented a budget proposal for 2021.

Nominations for replacements for outgoing Consistory members are being sought.

Fundraisers for the near future are a sub sale and Avon sale.

Operation Christmas Child will continue this year but on a smaller scale than in the past years.

Pastor Tony will be on vacation October 18 through October 25. While he is away, St. John's will celebrate Harvest Home both Sundays.

The next Consistory meeting will be held October 26, 2020.

**AVON FUNDRAISER**

An AVON Fundraiser will be held toward the end of October for about three weeks. This is your time to purchase Christmas items and other favorites all the while helping St. Johns raise some money. Any Consistory member can help you get a book. There will also be flyers with product specials. This is something new. Charlene Ziegler is coordinating the sale. Many thanks to Priscilla Rentschler who coordinated the sale in the past and is very much appreciated.

**SUB SALE**

The Consistory will be starting a Sub Sale soon. They will be selling tickets for \$7.00 each and the tickets are good until December 31st. The ticket will be good for 1 large Italian, Ham, Turkey or Beef Sub from Krall's General Store in the square in Jonestown. Tickets will be available in the church office during office hours or from any Consistory member.

# Order Your Christmas Poinsettias

St. John's once more is providing the opportunity for you to order poinsettias to beautify our sanctuary in celebration of the birthday of our Lord. Due to the COVID-19 orders must be taken earlier this year.

Please indicate how many plants you want to provide and give this order sheet and the money to Robin Gingrich or Louise Walmer no later than Sunday, *November 8th*. You may also mail in your order no later than **November 4th**. The cost is \$9.75 per plant, each plant having 5 blooms.

	<u>How Many?</u>
Red	_____
White	_____
Pink	_____
<u>Total Plants</u>	_____
<u>Total Cost</u>	\$ _____

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory/Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

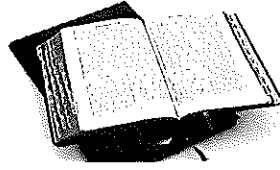
Order forms and checks payable to: St. John's United  
Church of Christ PO Box 87, Fredericksburg, PA 17026



## Operation Christmas Child

We are entering the final stages of our Operation Christmas Child project. We have most of the basics gathered; what we can use now is some little toys, books, games, balls, etc. to add some fun to our shoe boxes! We are also asking anyone who is able to consider sponsoring the sending of our boxes with a \$9 donation per box. Our goal is to prepare and send 30 boxes, so the total will come to \$270. Please do what you can to support this effort. You will find special envelopes for this purpose on the tables in the vestibule, and next to the offering plate on the shelf at the top of the steps leading into the sanctuary. Our wrapping and packing party is set for Sunday, November 15, at 10:00 a.m. Please join us for some fun as we prepare to send our shoeboxes on their merry way!

## NOVEMBER WORSHIP NEWS



Sunday, November 1, 2020  
Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost  
Joshua 3:7-17  
Psalm 107: 1-7, 33-37  
I Thessalonians 2:9-13  
Matthew 23: 1-12

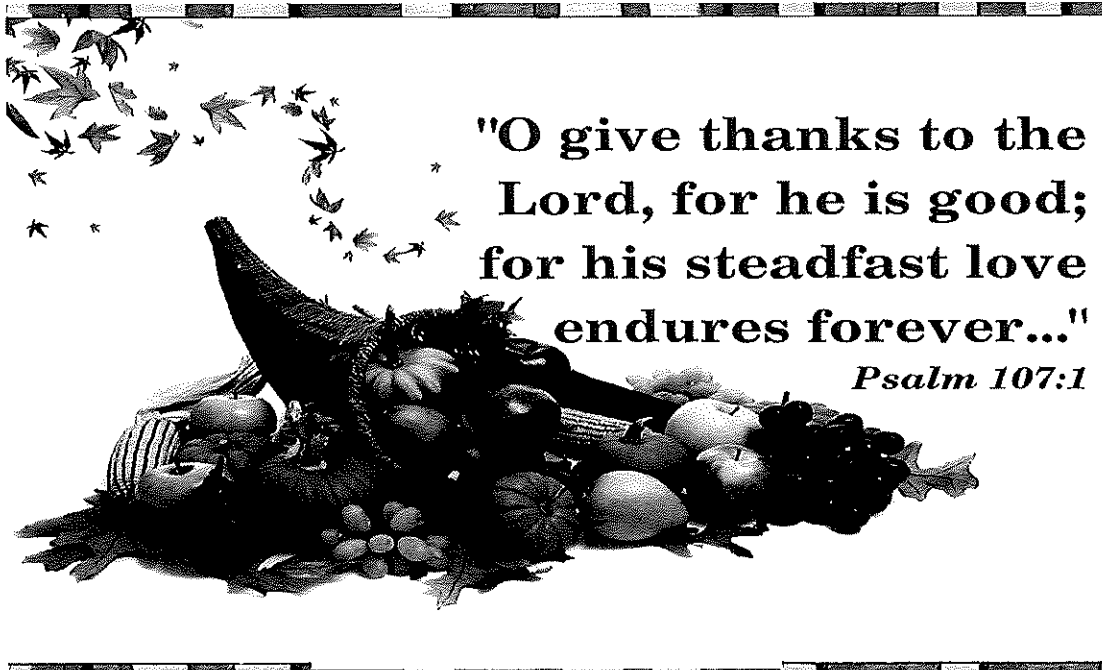
Sunday, November 8, 2020  
Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost  
Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25  
Psalm 78: 1-7  
I Thessalonians 4:13-18  
Matthew 25:1-13

Sunday, November 15, 2020  
Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost  
Judges 4:1-7  
Psalm 123  
I Thessalonians 5:1-11  
Matthew 25:14-30

Sunday, November 22, 2020  
Reign of Christ  
Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24  
Psalm 100  
Ephesians 1: 15-23  
Matthew 31-46

Thursday, November 26, 2020  
Thanksgiving Day  
Deuteronomy 8:7-18  
Psalm 65  
2 Corinthians 9:6-15  
Luke 17:11-19

Sunday, November 29, 2020  
First Sunday of Advent  
Isaiah 64:1-9  
Psalm 80: 1-7, 17-19  
I Corinthians 1:3-9  
Mark 13:24-37



## 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!

#### Nov. Readers

1 Beth Barto  
8 Julie Ditzler  
15 Neal Grimes  
22 Louise Walmer  
29 Keith Gingrich

#### Nov. Flowers

1 Sharon Walmer Kunisky  
8 Donna Eberly-Lehman  
15 Ginny & Terry Knapp  
22 OPEN  
29 Barbara Trainor

#### October Attendance

October 4 23  
October 11 24  
October 18 21  
October 25

#### Nov. Bulletins

1 Sharon Walmer Kunisky  
8 Donna Eberly-Lehman  
15 Ginny & Terry Knapp  
22 OPEN  
29 Barbara Trainor

#### Nov. Coffee Host

1  
8  
15  
22  
29

November Deacon  
Angela Michael



## ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, November 22nd following the worship service. The main purpose of the meeting will be to approve the 2021 budget, and elect new members of Consistory. Please plan to stay and attend this meeting.

### All Saints

Our annual All Saints Celebration will be during morning worship on Sun., Nov. 1. The members, family members and friends of our congregation who passed away since our 2019 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: Madelyn Fegan, Marc Griffiths, Howard Duane Gross, Wilson Lugo, and Richard E Rudy.

If you have a family member or friend who passed away since November 1, 2019, that is not listed above, please contact the church office if you want us to recognize them at our November 1st service.



# NOVEMBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> All Saints Sunday 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	<b>5</b> Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 11:00 AM -Worship JOY Pantry  <u>Deadline to order</u> <u>Poinsettias</u>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM	<b>11</b> Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM	<b>12</b> Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 10:00AM Packing shoe Boxes 11:00 AM—Worship	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM	<b>18</b> Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM	<b>19</b> Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 11:00 AM—Worship Annual Meeting following Worship	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM	<b>25</b> Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM	<b>26</b> Happy Thanksgiving  May your heart overflow with blessings this Thanksgiving season.	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 11:00 AM—Worship Deacon Fund Sunday	<b>30</b> Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM  7:00PM Consistory Meeting	<b>30</b>				

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CHURCH OF CHRIST

141 W. Main Street P.O. Box 87  
Fredericksburg, PA 17026

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**11:00 AM Morning  
Worship**

*St. John's United Church of Christ is: A church of faith, heeding to God's call, through worship, evangelism, discipleship and fellowship. We are building on our church's history, while looking to our future. Our church is filled with messengers, who share the gift of God's love, with the community and beyond. We strive to be a church that reaches out to all with compassion, a vision of God's everlasting peace, and a witness of spiritual hope to our present and future generations. For all this and so much more, we pray in God's name.*

Church Staff

Rev. Tony Fields, Sr. Pastor  
Beth Ann Griffiths, Organist  
Louise Walmer, Choir Director  
Donna Eberly-Lehman Church Secretary

Consistory

Keith Gingrich, President  
Julie Ditzler, Vice President  
Charlene Ziegler, Secretary  
Louise Walmer, Treasurer

Elders

Julie Ditzler  
Keith Gingrich  
Mark Tyrpin  
Charlene Ziegler

Deacons

Beth Barto  
Angela Michael  
Jerry Mohn  
Elizabeth Overton