

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

April 2021

PASTOR TONY'S MESSAGE

The Ant

Ministry.

We are ants. As we continue providing ministry for our members and community I am hopeful as we begin this month, may the Resurrection Promises burn deeply within. He is Risen indeed, and may these words leap into your hearts and vibrate every fiber of your being.

We have a committee working on a purpose statement. We hope that whoever is entrusted to our care while doing ministry will be able to say boldly in one sentence that this church is providing ministry. I am hoping they will boldly say that the Church purpose is "To worship, serve, heal, and proclaim the good news as ambassadors and collaborators with God." (objective not completed yet)

As we continue forward, think of yourselves as ants. Ants are dedicated workers, and no matter the obstacle, they will not stop until they obtain their mission. Ants will keep going and going. Think about it.

We experience a pandemic, social distance, mask, health care of members, death of loved ones, digital illiteracy, technology challenges, and vandalism. However, still, we stand.

Think about the ant. Whenever an ant faces a challenging situation, it will try to climb over. If that doesn't work, the ant will try to go around it. If that doesn't work, it will try to lift it. If that doesn't work, it will call other ants to try to help raise it. However, if the ant still can't get through, it will try to eat it. If that doesn't work, the ant will dig under it; however, it will not stop until it reaches its destination.

We have more work to do, and no matter the circumstances, as collaborators, our members and community need us. We do not face these challenges alone. The Triune God is with us. I believe that is why we celebrate Easter. This is a reminder that the Church will not die. The way we do church may be challenging; however, the church (ekklesia) "called out people" will endure. Therefore Ants, as we face these changes, consider this we are not losing. It is what we are becoming as we continue in the ministry God entrusted to us.

So what makes that little ole ant think he can move that rubber tree plant? She/ he has high hope. Be a blessing.



Consistory News by Charlene Ziegler

The Consistory has been holding monthly in person meetings.

Since the last VOICE we said thank you to Angela Michael for serving on the Consistory and welcomed Robin Gingrich to serve as Deacon. A By-law change was approved by the Consistory and voted on by the Congregation to allow members to serve an additional term after their term expires if no one else is available for nomination.

Elders are:

Keith Gingrich – President
Julie Ditzler – Vice President
Charlene Ziegler – Secretary
Mark Tyrpin

Deacons are:

Beth Barto
Robin Gingrich
Jerry Mohn
Elizabeth Overton

Some of the items noted during recent meetings:

*Fundraising is a regular topic. Currently Redner's Tapes are being tabulated.

A fundraiser in the near future will be an Apple Dumpling sale.

There may also be a spring Avon sale.

The donation from the Boscov's Friends Day will be presented to Annville UCC Home.

*Plans were recently made for worship services during Lent and Easter.

*There have been ongoing issues with the boiler that are being addressed.

The next Consistory meeting will be held March 28, 2021 after worship

REDNER'S TAPES

Redner's tapes are still being collected! Beth Barto is currently tabulating the tapes that were in the social hall. Please remember that your receipts must have the words Save-A-Tape printed on them to be eligible. A Redner's Rewards card must be used at each purchase. Please see someone at the store if you do not have a card and wish to provide receipts to St. John's.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Friends Helping Friends at Boscov's in October. We raised \$110.00 which was forwarded to the Lebanon Valley Home in Annville.

CALLING ALL 2021 GRADUATES

We need a list of all our 2021 college and high school graduates. Please contact the church office with the graduate's name, name of their high school or college, their future plans & names of "Relatives" in the congregation.

JOY Pantry Report by Charlene Ziegler

Even though the members of St. John's were limited by the COVID lockdown and the rules that came with it, we generously gave food to JOY Pantry. Since May 2020, the total donation given was 265 pounds.

In the latest JOY Pantry letter they noted that over the past year JOY Pantry helped 2,662 individuals including 928 children. Their average is 86 households each month in the northern part of Lebanon County. They are thankful for the help to continue this community outreach.

St. John's pantry donation Sunday is the 2nd Sunday of each month. A basket in the vestibule is available to place donations.

Remember only non-perishable items can be accepted. Their current wish list is for Chili, Canned Pasta, Canned Beef Stew, Spam, Frosting, Toilet Paper and Dish Detergent.

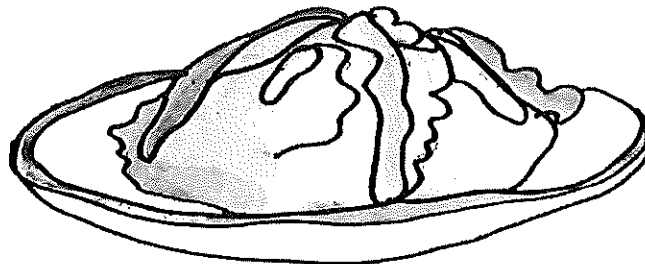
Thank you for your help with this ministry.

To the Sr Choir

I would like to file and organize our music to prepare for a fresh start to St John's music ministry as soon as the pandemic allows.

Please check your Choir folders. If you have music, bring it to church and put it in the box marked "Choir Music" on the round table in the Fellowship Hall.

Thank you.
Louise



apple dumpling

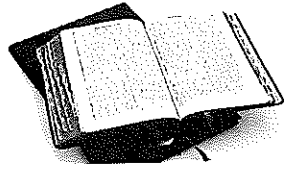
Apple Dumpling Sale

Orders are being taken for apple dumplings to be delivered to the church on April 30th. They are from Sycamore Spring Orchard and cost \$6.00 per dumpling.

Orders must be in on April 18th. Order forms are available or contact any Consistory member to place an order or call the church office 717-865-7222.

Orders can be picked up April 30th from 3:00PM—6:00PM in the Social Hall.

APRIL WORSHIP NEWS



Easter

Maundy Thursday

April 1, 2021
Exodus 12: 1-14
Psalm 116: 1-2, 12-19
I Corinthians 11: 23-26
John 113: 1-17, 31b-35

Good Friday

April 2, 2021
Isaiah 52: 13—53:12
Psalm 22
Hebrews 10:16-25
John 18: 1-19:42

Holy Saturday

April 3, 2021
Job 14:1-14
Psalm 31: 1-4,15-16
I Peter 4: 1-8
Matthew 27: 57-66

Sunday, April 4, 2021

Acts 10:34-43
Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24
I Corinthians 15: 1-11
John 20: 1-18

Sunday, April 11, 2021

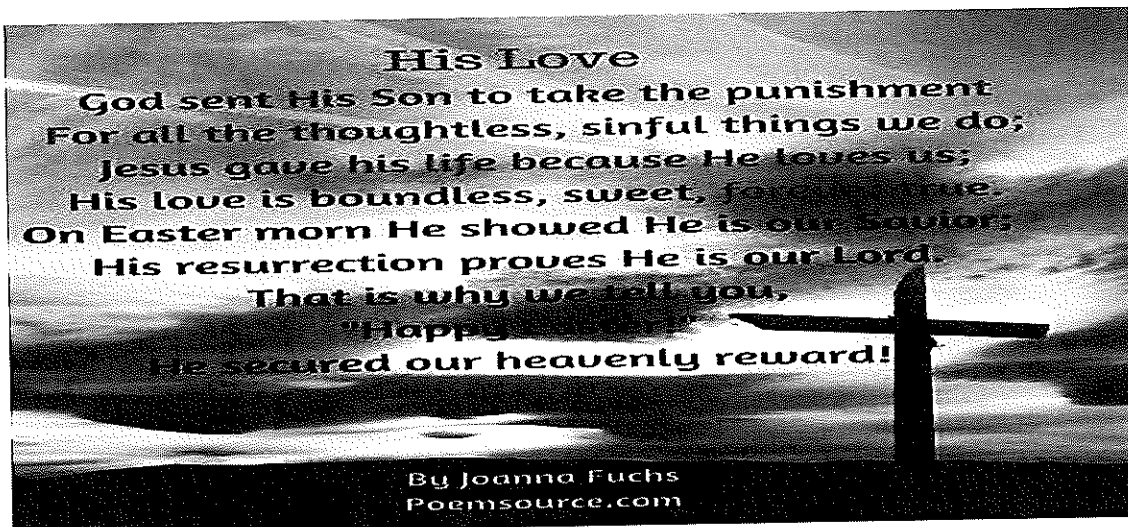
Second Sunday of Easter
Acts 4:32-35
Psalm 133
I John 1:1-2:2
John 20: 19-31

Sunday, April 18, 2021

Third Sunday of Easter
Acts 3:12-19
Psalm 4
I John 3: 1-7
Luke 24:36b-48

Sunday, April 25, 2021

Fourth Sunday of Easter
Acts 4: 5-12
Psalm 23
I John 3: 16-24
John 10: 11-18



APRIL CELEBRATION

Happy Birthday to:

6 Rev. Drew Morris
6 Jordan Seltzer
7 Pat Ziegler
8 Cathy Rentschler
9 Keith Gingrich
10 McKenna Zohn
11 Ken Mohu

12 Andrew Fegan
13 Josh Stoltz
18 Wade Tyrpin
18 Zachary Baynard
20 Becky Martin
20 Leah Stoltz
20 Kayla Benfer

Happy Anniversary to:

9 Peggy & Charles Wike
14 Linda & Mark Tyrpin
18 Betty & Vernon Schriver

21 Kim & Jarrod Kapp
27 Linda & Mike Nace

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

Sunday Worship Volunteers, Thank You!

April Readers

April 4 Beth Barto
April 11 Joe Ditzler
April 18 Neal Grimes
April 25 Charlene Ziegler

April Flowers

April 4 Betty Schriver
April 11 Open
April 18 Neal & Jean Ann Grimes
April 25 Millie Schriver

March Attendance

March 7	28
March 14	22
March 21	
March 28	

April Bulletins

April 4 Betty Schriver
April 11 Open
April 18 Neal & Jean Ann Grimes
April 25 Betty Schriver

**April Deacon
Elizabeth Overton**



Thoughts from the Treasurer

The past year has been financially difficult for many of us, including St. John's. During the weeks that we had no services, the mail in and online giving of our members is what sustained us.

On several occasions that there were bills due and not enough money in the bank account to pay them. Out of the goodness and faithfulness of our membership, I'd go to the post office and find that enough monies came in the mail to cover.

Through the Lebanon Co Cares Act, we applied for and received a grant of \$11,550.00. Which was deposited into our savings account to replace the \$10,000 that had been withdrawn to pay bills in 2020. An additional \$1000 was received from the Lebanon County Mask Up Program. These monies have been a tremendous help to us.

Because of the pandemic, our 2020 Fundraising fell short of the \$6500 budgeted amount. We had a soup sale in February and a breakfast in March. These events netted us \$1714.62. In the fall we netted \$382.00 from the Avon Sale, and \$ 556.00 from selling tickets for Krall's Subs.

I don't want to give you the impression that the church is "broke". We have assets of approximately \$111,000.00 in our Memorial Funds, Savings Account, and invested in CD's. However, we should do our best to pay the costs of the day-to-day operation of the church using the weekly giving rather than dipping into our savings and/or CD's.

How can you help? Donna, our secretary, and I continue to try to think of ways to cut costs. We would welcome any suggestions, thoughts or ideas from you. Call me anytime or call the church office during Donna's working hours.

One thing that has been occurring is that some members have changed from using their church envelopes to online weekly giving. If you use online banking, consider giving weekly through your online banking. You would no longer need to use your offering envelopes and we could cut down on the cost of the printing of them. Let me know if you have questions about weekly giving through online banking.


I'd like to take this opportunity to say THANK YOU to Neal Grimes, Keith Gingrich, Terry and Ginny Knapp, and Joe Ditzler, for assisting in counting the monies after each church service. Beth Barto has recently consented to be part of our "counting team".

Additionally, I want to also send MANY THANKS to Elizabeth Overton, Ginny Knapp and Neal Grimes who serve as our auditors. Annually they audit the books of all our accounts. Without these volunteers my job as treasurer would be difficult and I'm not sure I could do it.

My prayer is that God continues to bless St John's and its membership.

Sincerely,
Louise Walmer

APRIL 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p><i>Happy Easter</i></p>				1 Maundy Thursday Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM 7:00PM Maundy Thursday Service—St. John's	2 Good Friday 7:00PM Christ Church UCC Annville PA	3
4 Easter 6:30 AM Sunrise Service St. John's 11:00 AM -Worship Communion Helen Wahner Fund	5	6 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM	7 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM	8 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM	9	10
11 11:00 AM—Worship JOY Pantry Pastor Tony vacation	12 Pastor Tony vacation	13 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM Pastor Tony vacation	14 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM Pastor Tony vacation	15 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM Pastor Tony vacation	16 Pastor Tony vacation	17 Pastor Tony vacation
18 11:00 AM—Worship Deadline for ordering Apple Dumplings Pastor Tony vacation	19 Pastor Tony vacation	20 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM Pastor Tony vacation	21 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM Pastor Tony vacation	22 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM Pastor Tony vacation	23 Pastor Tony vacation	24 Pastor Tony vacation
25 11:00 AM—Worship Deacon Fund Sunday	26 Office Hours 9:00 AM— 3:00PM 7:00PM Consistory Meeting	27	28	29	30 Pick up Apple Dumplings 3:00PM— 6:00PM	

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

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
Robin Gingrich
Jerry Mohn
Elizabeth Overton