

# ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

November –December 2021

## PASTOR TONY'S MESSAGE

In the last few weeks, you heard in scriptures Jesus asking his disciples, what do you want me to do for you. My answer will be, as King Solomon stated in 1 Kings 3: 8 & 9, your servant is here among the people you have chosen, a great people, too numerous to count or number. So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and distinguish between right and wrong. For who can handle this great person of yours?"

After enduring the barriers of providing several different digital worship services such as Sunday morning worship, Midnight Prayer, and Monday Morning First Fruit, we are about to embark on a celebrating time of the year. The challenge before us is how to continue and engage and invite our members and viewers as we live in this diversity of Being Church.

In this Sacred Trust, and as we cooperate and live in our accountability with God and each other, I hope this ignites our worship together. As collaborators, we must continue in our discernment and sensitivity to those in our community we serve, even if they are viewers who are onlookers as we live the Great Commission.

Therefore I asked that you boldly proclaim our worship services with your family members, neighbors, and friends. Remind our community we are still here and thriving. Yes, we face challenges; however, we do not passively sit by as a symbol of despair. We are active and living organisms embracing and abiding by the power of God's love. Moreover, our youth and seniors will help by providing visual aid during our Advent and Christmas seasons. We will give thanks and celebrate with our ecumenical partners that the Stillspeaking God is with us.

Therefore let us go forth singing songs of hope. In this season, let's go forth with hearts filled with hope, shouts of joy, souls touched by grace. More importantly, we know God knows our tears and will not leave us comfortless. For God, who knows our needs and daily cares, will provide us with the blessings of life. Collaborators don't get lost in the narrative of online or in-person worship. Let us live out the new things God is doing!

And the Church says AMEN!!!!

### LAY READERS NEEDED

**If you would be able to serve as a Lay Reader for 2022, please call the church office. Any questions, contact Donna Eberly-Lehman.**

### PULPIT EXCHANGE

Pastor Brad Walmer will be delivering the message on November 14, 2021.

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

Consistory met on August 30 and September 27, 2021.

The survey taken during the Organizational Meeting on August 22, 2021, showed that the congregation would like Sunday School to resume; get active socially; keep the Fellowship Group going; plan a Woman's Retreat. Other suggestions were joint events with Christ Church; go see a Christmas show and have a Christmas party; also suggested was a joint game night with CCUCC. Advent and Lenten Services were also at the top of the list.

A joint musical service with Christ Church UCC will be held December 19, at 10 a.m. at St. John's. The service will feature Christmas music sung by the choirs. Light refreshments will follow.

As of this writing, orders for the chicken barbeque scheduled for October 23 are being taken.

Orders will soon be taken for the apple dumpling sale with delivery scheduled on November 17.

Redner's tapes are still being collected. The latest estimate in earnings is \$100, which means \$10,000 worth of tapes were sent in!

Wanted – Interested persons to serve on Consistory! Consistory meets regularly once per month. It is a sharing of ideas that address the concerns for St. John's. It would be great to have some new faces on board. If interested, please speak to a consistory member or even attend one of the meetings to see what is discussed.

The next Consistory meetings will be held November 29 and December 27, 2021.

## **JOY Pantry Report** by Charlene Ziegler

St. John's pantry donation Sunday is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month. A basket in the vestibule is available to place donations. Items donated for Harvest Home will be taken to the Pantry.

The most recent donation from St. John's was 31 pounds.

To keep up to date with the Pantry, the website can be found at [www.joypantry.org](http://www.joypantry.org).

## **Harvest Home** By Louise Walmer

Non-perishable food items for the JOY Food Pantry were collected on Sunday, Oct. 24, as part of our annual Harvest Home celebration.

Many thanks to Dena Eberhart, and Robin and Keith Gingrich, who decorated the sanctuary for the autumn season and this celebration.'

## **Thank Offering Sunday** By Louise Walmer .

On Sunday November 21 we will have a special offering to support the Power Packs Project of Lebanon Co.

Power Packs is an organization that fights food insecurity in our children. They provide nutritious weekend meals and food preparation skills to local families. The recipes and ingredients in the Packs aim to teach the participants to cook low-cost meals, sometimes for less than \$5. All 4 elementary schools in the Northern Lebanon School District participate in this program.

## **Thanksgiving Eve**

The Fredericksburg Ministerium is sponsoring a community Thanksgiving Eve Service at 7pm on Wednesday, November, 24 at Mt. Zion Road Church of the Brethren.

Come and give thanks!

## **Christmas Music Program**

The Sr. Choirs of St. John's and Christ Church will present a Christmas Music Program at for the morning worship service on Sunday, Dec. 19.

This special service will be at St John's and begin at 10AM.

We would like to have a Christmas Cookie Social after the service. We thank you in advance if you are willing to bake and donate some cookies for the social.

## **Plan to Attend Christmas Eve Worship**

St. John's annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service will be at 7pm on Friday, December 24.

Our sister church, Christ Church, Annville, has a 10pm, Christmas Eve Candlelight Service if you are interested in attending a later service.

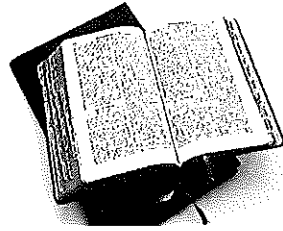
## **Looking Ahead to 2022**

The new year will be upon us before we know it and events are beginning to be scheduled.

Our Annual Year in Review Social will be after morning worship **on Sunday, Jan. 23, 2022.** We will have the famous "Potato Bar" for lunch followed by annual committee reports. Please plan to attend.

And ... to the Ladies of St. John's ... our 3<sup>rd</sup> Women's Retreat is scheduled for **Saturday, May 21, 2022, 9am-2pm.** The theme for the day will be "Fruits of the Spirit". Reserve that date on your calendar and invite you family and friends. It'll be a day of worship, fellowship, fun, good food, crafts, etc.

## NOVEMBER WORSHIP NEWS



Sunday, November 7, 2021  
Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost  
Ruth 3: 1-5, 4:13-17  
Psalm 127  
Hebrews 9:24-28  
Mark 12: 38-44

Sunday, November 14, 2021  
Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost  
I Samuel 1:4-20 Psalm 16  
Hebrews 10:11-25  
Mark 13:1-8

Sunday, November 21, 2021  
Reign of Christ  
Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost  
2 Samuel 23: 1-7  
Psalm 23  
Revelation 1: 4b-8  
John 18: 33-37

November, 25, 2021  
Thanksgiving Day  
Joel 2: 1-27  
Psalm 126  
I Timothy 2: 1-7  
Matthew 6: 25-33

November 28, 2021  
First Sunday of Advent  
Jeremiah 33: 14-16  
Psalm 25: 1-10  
I Thessalonians 3: 9-13  
Luke 21: 25-36

JOURNEY  
OF  
*Faith*

## DECEMBER WORSHIP NEWS

December 5, 2021  
Second Sunday of Advent  
Malachi 3: 1-4  
Luke 1: 68-79  
Philippians 1: 3-11  
Luke 1: 39-55

December 12, 2021  
Third Sunday of Advent  
Zechariah 3: 14-20  
Isaiah 12:2-6  
Philippians 4:4-7  
Luke 3: 7-18

December 19, 2021  
Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Micah 5: 2-5a  
Luke 1: 46b-55  
Psalm 80:1-7  
Hebrews 10: 5-10  
Luke 1: 39-55

December 24, 2021  
Christmas Eve  
Isaiah 62: 6-12  
Psalm 97  
Titus 3: 4-7  
Luke 2: 1-20

December 25, 2021  
Christmas Day  
Isaiah 9: 2-7  
Psalm 96  
Titus 2:11-14  
Luke 2: 1-20

December 26, 2021  
First Sunday after Christmas  
I Samuel 2: 18-20, 26  
Psalm 148  
Colossians 3: 12-17  
Luke 2: 41-52

# NOVEMBER CELEBRATION

## Happy Birthday

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

Nov. 7 Charlene Ziegler  
Nov. 14 Louise Walmer  
Nov. 21 Keith Gingrich  
Nov. 28 Joe Ditzler

### Nov. Flowers

Nov. 7 Donna Eberly-  
Lehman  
Nov. 14 Operation  
Christmas Child  
Nov. 21 Terry & Ginny  
Knapp  
Nov. 28 Barbara Trainor

### October Attendance

Oct. 3	29
Oct. 10	28
Oct. 17	18
Oct. 24	22
Oct. 31	

### Nov. Bulletins

Nov. 7 Donna Eberly-  
Lehman  
Nov. 14 Operation  
Christmas Child  
Nov. 21 Terry & Ginny  
Knapp  
Nov. 28 Barbara Trainor

November Deacon  
Robin Gingrich



# DECEMBER CELEBRATION

## Happy Birthday

2 Jodie Fields  
6 Mabel Rudy  
11 Jarrod Kapp  
11 Chris Rentschler  
16 Brad Griffiths

25 Shayne Tyrpin  
25 Larry Walmer  
27 Kadie Walmer  
31 Rev. Allen Helwig

## Happy Anniversary to:

7 Jean Ann & Neal Grimes

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

# Sunday Worship Volunteers, Thank You!

### December Readers

Dec. 5 Beth Barto  
Dec. 12 Neal Grimes  
Dec. 19 Pam Emery  
Dec. 26 Julie Ditzler

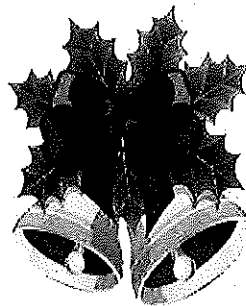
### December Flowers

Dec. 5 Neal & Jean Ann  
Grimes  
Dec. 12 OPEN  
Dec. 19 Rick & Lisa Rudy  
Dec. 26 Christ Church  
Service

December Deacon  
Elizabeth Overton

### December Bulletins

Dec. 5 Neal & Jean Ann  
Grimes  
Dec. 12 OPEN  
Dec. 21 Rick & Lisa Rudy  
Dec. 26 Christ Church  
Service



### SPONSORS NEEDED

Flowers & Bulletins:  
December 12

Sign up sheet is in the  
Social Hall

to Come  
Worship  
with us

## Treasurer's Report by Louise Walmer

September 2021:	2021 Year to Date (Jan-Sept.)
Income     \$ 11,951.13	Income     \$49,752.21
Expenses   \$ 7,993.66	Expenses   \$67,752.24

### Annual Congregation Meeting

In accordance with our Bylaws, there will be our annual Congregation Meeting after the worship service on Sunday, November 21.

The agenda for the meeting will include: requesting approval for the church's 2022 Budget and election and/or reappointment of Consistory members.

Please plan to attend.

### ADVENT BIBLE STUDY

Pastor Tony will be having Bible Studies during Advent. They will be held Sunday afternoons in the Social Hall at 3:00PM on November 28, December 5, 12 & 19.

The Bible Study will be "The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem" by Adam Hamilton.

Adam Hamilton travels from Nazareth to Bethlehem in a fascinating look at the birth of Jesus Christ. Using historical information archaeological data, and a personal look at some of the stories surrounding the birth, the most amazing moment in history will become more real and heartfelt as you walk along this road.

There is a signup sheet on the bulletin Board in the Social Hall and the books have arrived you can pick one up in the church office.

Any questions, contact Pastor Tony.

### Shoebox Wrap-up by Julie Ditzler


Our holiday project is approaching the finish line! We have most of the supplies we need for our boxes, and we are busy now gathering shipping donations and planning our wrapping/packing party for Sunday, November 14<sup>th</sup>. We will begin the festivities at 9:30 a.m.

Please plan to join in the fun, and help us prepare our boxes for distribution to waiting children around the globe!

### 'Tis the Season To Be Jolly!

Just makes you want to burst into song, doesn't it??!! You can do that and help us spread some holiday cheer as we plan to go Christmas Caroling after our Advent Study on Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup>. We will visit with people who might enjoy some yuletide singing, and share some supper together along the way. Please add this to your holiday calendar, and plan to join us!

# NOVEMBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Office Hours 9:00 AM— 3:00PM	3 Office Hours 9:00 AM— 3:00PM  7:00PM Choir Practice	4 Office Hours 9:00 AM— 3:00PM	5	6
7 All Saints Sunday 9:45 Christian Connection 11:00 Worship (Communion)  Helen Walmer Fund Sunday	8	9 Office Hours 9:00 AM— 3:00PM	10 Office Hours 9:00 AM— 3:00PM  7:00PM Choir Practice	11 Office Hours 9:00 AM— 3:00PM	12	13
14 9:30 Wrapping Shoeboxes 11:00 Worship (Pastor Brad Walmer)  JOY Pantry Sunday	15	16 Office Hours 9:00 AM— 3:00PM	17 Office Hours 9:00 AM— 3:00PM Apple Dumpling Sale 3:00—6:00PM 7:00PM Choir Practice	18 Office Hours 9:00 AM— 3:00PM	19	20
21 9:45 Christian Connection 11:00 Worship Annual Meeting Thank Offering	22	23 Office Hours 9:00 AM— 3:00PM	24 Office Hours 9:00 AM— 3:00PM  7:00PM Thanksgiving Eve Service At Mt. Zion Road Church of the Brethren	25   © CassiniPhoto.com	26	27
28 9:45 Christian Connection 11:00 Worship Deacon Fund Sunday 3:00 Bible Study	29 Office Hours 9:00 AM— 3:00PM  7:00PM Consistory Meeting	30				



# DECEMBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Office Hours 9:00 AM— 3:00PM  7:00PM Choir Practice	2 Office Hours 9:00 AM— 3:00PM	3	4
5 9:45 Christian Connection 11:00 Worship (Communion) Helen Walmer Fund Sunday  3:00 PM Bible Study	6  Pastor Tony Vacation	7 Office Hours 9:00 AM— 3:00PM  Pastor Tony Vacation	8 Secretary Vacation Day  7:00PM Choir Practice Pastor Tony Vacation	9 Office Hours 9:00 AM— 3:00PM  Pastor Tony Vacation	10  Pastor Tony Vacation	11  Pastor Tony Vacation
12 9:45 Christian Connection 11:00 Worship JOY Pantry Sunday  3:00PM Bible Study 4:00PM Caroling	13	14 Office Hours 9:00 AM— 3:00PM	15 Office Hours 9:00 AM— 3:00PM 7:00PM Choir Practice	16 Office Hours 9:00 AM— 3:00PM	17	18
19 No Christian Connection 10:00 AM Christmas Music Sunday  3:00PM Bible Study	20	21 Office Hours 9:00 AM— 3:00PM	22 Office Hours 9:00 AM— 3:00PM  7:00PM Choir Practice	23 Office Hours 9:00 AM— 3:00PM	24  7:00PM Christmas Eve	25  <i>Merry Christmas</i>
26 No Christian Connection 10:00 AM Combined Christmas Worship at Christ Church. (If you need a ride come to St. John's)	27 Office Hours 9:00 AM— 3:00PM  7:00 PM Consistory	28	29 Office Hours 9:00 AM— 3:00PM	30 Office Hours 9:00 AM— 3:00PM	31	

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

**Christian Connection—  
9:45AM  
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  
Angela Michael  
Elizabeth Overton