

St. John's United Church of Christ

The VOICE

July/August 2014

THINKING OUT LOUD!

The journey begins... household goods arrived, wi-fi is connected, most books are on the shelf, bulletin information is completed, and first sermon and communion completed. Oh! Of course, I dare not forget coffee hour with a tasty welcoming cake, a time to celebrate. St John's thank you for your Extravagant Welcome!!!!!!!

June 15 was not only Father's Day but also my favorite National Basketball Association team won, The San Antonio Spurs. Yes, it was a great day. The admirable part of the championship is the team's humility. Although they sensed victory was near, they did not play arrogant or distasteful. The Spurs relied on their team sportsmanship, the whole series even at the end. In the last two minutes of the game, if you saw their faces, they did not match today's image of Show Off or egotistical behaviors. They remain a team filled with humility.

Several things helped them accomplish their goal to win the NBA Championship Title. The one thing that was impressive is their team behavior. No doubt that The Spurs' team work will be viewed by many in the next few years. Their unselfishness to pass the ball to the person who will make the basket helped tremendously: their attitude affected their altitude.

After reflecting on last year's fail attempt, the coach decided to trust the basics of basketball and used the basic fundamentals. Throughout the year all members played, received adequate rest, and relied on the other strengths and understanding of the growing edges of the other team member. The players are from over 6 nationalities. However, on the court it did not matter because the fundamentals benefited ALL the team.

Additionally, this is why I need you. Each organism has an identity a signature that makes it viable. When people think of KFC, people know one of the three mottos; there's Fast Food, then there's KFC, We do chicken right, and Finger Lickin' Good. We want people to know who we are and what is our business. We must become a team so our instinctive ideas do not die and willingly share our diverse perspective. Our similar thinking to increase while engaging with our diverse perspective of influences will ensure that contributions will be nurtured and foster growth.

Each church has its own culture and are more fruitful together. Let's understand the talents, gifts, and fruits that are already here: music, singing, teaching, grant writing, financial administration, etc... In your history, the denomination wrote a letter to George Washington for which you spoke boldly, with gratitude, and inspiration. You stated at the end, "But inspire our souls with new and mostly lively emotions of adoration, praise, and thanksgiving to His Holy Name. President Washington replied thanking you for accepting him and blessing his family and administration. However he further stated, "May your devotions before the throne of grace be prevalent in calling down the blessings of heaven upon yourselves and your community". Now here we are, 275 years established and we will celebrate. More so as a team let's develop into what we are yet to become in the next 275 years. As we rely on the mercies and goodness of God, as we understand the resources God has given us that are relevant for today. Let us build a team for the task.

Let's address the fundamentals, share our strengths, and sharpen our growing edges and enjoy this new holy adventure as we invest in furthering our call to the wilderness.

Pastor Tony Fields, Sr.

JULY WORSHIP NEWS



Sunday, July 6, 2014
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Genesis 24: 34-38, 42-49, 58-6
Romans 7: 15-25a
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30
Psalm 45:10-17

Sunday, July 13, 2014
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
Genesis 25:19-34
Romans: 8:1-11
Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23
Psalm 119:105-112

Sunday, July 20, 2014
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
Genesis 28:10-19a
Romans 8:12-25
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24

Sunday, July 27, 2014
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
Genesis 29:15-28
Romans 8:26-39
Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52
Psalm 105:1-11, 45b



We invite all members and friends of St. John's to join us every Wednesday at noon. We invite you to bring a sandwich. **We hope to see you some Wednesday!**

Sunday, August 3, 2014
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
Genesis 32:22-31
Romans 9:1-5
Matthew 14:13-21
Psalm 17:1-7, 15

Sunday, August 10, 2014
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
Genesis 37: 1-4, 12-28
Romans 10:5-15
Matthew 14:22-23
Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22

Sunday, August 17, 2014
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
Genesis 45:1-15
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
Matthew 15:10-20, 21-28
Psalm 133

Sunday, August 24, 2014
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
Exodus 1:8-2:10
Romans 12:1-8
Matthew 16:13-20
Psalm 124

Sunday, August 31, 2014
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
Exodus 3:1-15
Romans 12:9-21
Matthew 16:21-28
Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26

Consistory News by Joe Ditzler, Consistory President

SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE

There will be a special congregational meeting immediately after the worship service on July 13th. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss some expenses the consistory would like to incur to make some repairs/renovations to the sanctuary. Please plan on staying for this brief meeting.

2014 Graduates Honored

Five graduates were honored by Pastor Tony and Consistory President, Joe Ditzler during the June 22nd worship service.

KAYLA BENFER

Kayla is the daughter of Scott Benfer. She has graduated from Northern Lebanon High School in 2014. Kayla is planning on attending HACC in the fall for her first two years for Associates degree and then transferring to Shippensburg for her Bachelors degree for Business Administration.

JULIE BRANDT

Julie is the daughter of Jeff Brandt. And she is the granddaughter of Joyce Myers and Lloyd Brandt, and the great granddaughter of Kathryn Myers. She graduated from Northern Lebanon High School in 2014 and plans to attend HACC in the fall, majoring in Criminal Justice.

AMBER DAUB

Amber is the daughter of Corey and Melissa Daub. She has graduated from Northern Lebanon High School in 2014. Amber will be attending Kutztown University, pursuing a degree in elementary Education.

ALEXANDRA FLANICK

Alexandra is the daughter of Lee and Denise Flanick and her grandparents are Ken & Violet Leiben-sperger. She received her Master's Degree in Speech and Language Pathology from Edinboro University on May 9, 2014. She will be pursuing her career in pediatric care in a hospital setting.

SHAYNE TYRPIN

Shayne is the daughter of Mark and Linda Tyrpin. She has graduated from Northern Lebanon High School in 2014. She plans to attend HACC in the fall.

St John's Family

Thank you for your love and support over the years. As I begin this new chapter in my life I ask that you please continue to pray for me. I know God will be there to guide me through these next 4 years.

Love

Amber Daub

Thank you!

A Thank You letter was received from the JOY Pantry for St. John's UCC donation of 35 pounds of food in the month of April and 24 pounds of food in May. Also for a monetary donation of \$100.00 in May.

JULY Celebrations

Happy Birthday to:

5 Earl Ziegler
6 Phil Eberhart
7 Steve Stoltz
8 Dalton Kapp
8 Sara Schott
9 Eleanor Yiengst
11 Tyler Marinkov

11 Bob Seltzer
15 Kevin Shilling
19 Beverly Myers
20 Scott Kless
20 Beth Ann Griffiths
21 Joan Losiewicz
21 Denise Voshell

22 Priscilla Dearwechter
23 Rachael Quairol
25 Kellie Davis
26 Karen Kern
28 Pastor Tony Fields
31 Aleta Babe

Happy Anniversary to:

4 Stefanie & Anthony Shutter
18 Pat & Earl Ziegler

28 Brad & Becky Griffiths

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

Sunday Worship Volunteers, Thank You!

July Readers

July 6 Robin Getz
July 13 Charlene Ziegler
July 20 Paul Smith
July 27 Pam Emery

July Flowers

July 6 Garry Gingrich
July 13 Earl & Pat Ziegler
July 20 OPEN
July 27 Jerry Mohn

June Attendance

June 1	71
June 8	52
June 15	76
June 22	57
June 29	59

July Bulletins

July 6 Gary Gingrich
July 13 Earl & Pat Ziegler
July 20 OPEN
July 27 Jerry Mohn

July Coffee Hosts

July 6 Earl & Pat Ziegler
July 13 Earl & Pat Ziegler
July 20 Earl & Pat Ziegler
July 27 Earl & Pat Ziegler

July Acolytes

July 6 Noah Gingrich
July 13 Nick Benfer
July 20 Andrew Eberhart
July 27 Kayla Benfer

SPONSORS NEEDED:

We are in need of Sponsors for:
Flowers: July 20th & August 24th & 31st
Bulletins: July 20th & August: 24
Coffee Host: The month of August
Sign Up sheets are in the Social Hall.



July Deacon
Mark Tyrpin

AUGUST Celebrations

Happy Birthday to:

1 Brayden Benito
1 Ruth Lutz
2 Ken Leibensperger
3 Craig Mohn
4 Brad Walmer
4 Peggy Wike
6 Jeff Ditzler
6 Morgan Hevel

7 Seth Shaffer
8 Barb Miller
8 Betty Schriver
10 Al Schriver
12 Brett Getz
13 John Oskam
15 Jerry Mohn
15 Darlene Stoltz

20 Louise Walmer
20 Chris Rankin
24 Charles Wike
26 Alex Flanick
27 Dan Wenger
29 Ira Rudy
30 Denise Flanick

Happy Anniversary to:

18 Charlene & Randy Ziegler
24 Denise & Rick Voshell
27 Lisa & Rick Rudy

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

Sunday Worship Volunteers, Thank You!

August Readers

August 3 Rachael Miller
August 10 Sharon Hibshman
August 17 Keith Gingrich
August 24 Regina Engler
August 31 Wendy Dorsey

August Flowers

August 3 Pam Emery &
Nancy Foutz
August 10 Joe & Barbara Miller
August 17 Charlene Ziegler
August 24 OPEN
August 31 Jack & Brenda Good

August Acolytes

August 3 Jason Eberhart
August 10 Zachary Seltzer
August 17 Noah Gingrich
August 24 Nick Benfer
August 31 Andrew Eberhart

August Bulletins

August 3 Vickie Gonzalez
August 10 Joe & Barbara Miller
August 17 Charlene Ziegler
August 24 OPEN
August 31 Jack & Brenda Good

August Coffee Hosts

August 3 OPEN
August 10 OPEN
August 17 OPEN
August 24 OPEN
August 31 OPEN

August Deacon
Robin Gingrich



Christian Education Corner by Angie Michael

This is your cordial invitation to attend and participate in the Christian Connection this fall. The adult class will begin a study of Kyle Idelman's book *Not a Fan*. This book challenges you to look at your relationship with Jesus Christ to determine if you are a fan (enthusiastic admirer) or a follower. Discussions will be enhanced if participants read outside of class. Copies of the book will be available in August. To reserve your copy, talk to Joe or Julie Ditzler. Hope you will join us this fall.

TUESDAY EVENING PROGRAMS

July 15 - 7:30 PM-9:30 PM - POOL PARTY!

Bethel Township's Lions Pool

**July 22 - 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM - Hoot & Holler Crossing Puppet Show!
& Ice Cream Party**

St. John's Social Hall

July 29 - 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM - Carnival & Pizza Party!

St. John's Parking Lot

St. John's Fellowship by Regina Engler

St. John's Fellowship celebrated Mothers' and Fathers' Day with the scheduled June 17 supper at the Farmer's Wife Restaurant. If you missed it, well, *you missed it!* As usual, the food was great and only excelled by the fun and fellowship. Our president, Priscilla Rentschler, extended a welcome and presented a reading of thought-provoking comments which, in conclusion, urged us to start praying and stop worrying, reassuring us of God's love. Pastor Tony offered the invocation and blessing for the meal. Each person in attendance had the opportunity to draw a number from a bag and, when corresponding numbers were revealed, the table centerpieces of French miniature marigolds went to Jodie Fields and daughter Tiara and to Gary Trautman. An additional plant went to the oldest person present, Regina. (Sigh!) During a brief business session, we confirmed an item we had approved at our May meeting by agreeing to offer \$500 to the Consistory to purchase additional lighter-weight white tables. Contrary to what we had decided last month, we will have a meeting during August on the 19th in order to make further plans for our Fall Flea Market. There was an added bonus to the evening's festivities when our pastor and his family learned two words frequently found in our vocabulary but not in theirs. As we slid over to make room for additional folks at our table, they heard us tell one another to *rutch* over. That was followed with *nix nutz*, certainly not describing anyone at our table! If you get the impression that gatherings of St. John's Fellowship are pleasant and worthwhile, you're correct. But why not come and experience it for yourself?

Lebanon Association of the UCC Choral Festival by Louise Walmer

Our Sr. Choir and the choirs of 8 other Lebanon area UCC churches, plus singers from churches who have no Sr. Choirs will present a Choir Festival at 4pm on Sun., Oct. 19, at Quentin UCC.

The choirs will sing 7 anthems directed by the choir directors of the participating churches. If you are interested in singing with this mass choir, please tell Louise. You do NOT have to be a choir member to participate. However, it is important to tell Louise if you are planning to participate so that we get enough music for everyone. There will be at least 2 separate rehearsals on Wednesdays in October, prior to our regular choir rehearsals to practice the music for the Festival.

Music and Worship Committee

Our committee met on Monday, June 23rd. Gary Trautman led our devotion time, reading from Jeremiah 6:16-20.

Final plans and “duty” assignments for our Christmas in July event were discussed.

Reservations for those attending the Sacred Choral Reading Session on July 26 need to be paid and given to Louise by July 13. Cost to attend is \$30.

Robin Getz was asked to get Consistory approval for some dates the committee suggested for future events:

Outdoor Worship – Sun., Aug 10; Harvest Home – Sun., Oct. 12; Laity Sunday – Sun., Oct. 19

All Saints Sunday – Nov. 2; Thank Offering – Sun., Nov. 23

Sharon announced that the annual Penn Central Conference Women’s Retreat at Hartman Center will be the weekend of Nov. 14-16. Last year 7 of our “church ladies” attended. Can we top that number for 2014? Sharon will keep us informed of the theme and plans about the weekend as the information becomes available.

We had a very good discussion with Pastor Tony concerning ideas and suggestions that he has to make to enhance our worship experience. The Flash Mob is at the top of his list and we will announce plans for one in the near future. He has also suggested that when we celebrate World Wide Communion Sunday, we seek volunteers to bake different types of bread from different parts of the world. He will help with the recipes. This will be the bread that we would use for the communion sacrament.

Our next meeting of this committee was set for Mon., Aug. 11 at 7pm. Charlene will lead our devotion time.

Senior Choir

The Sr. Choir wrapped up its 2013-14 singing season on Sunday, June 15th. Looking for members of the Sr. Choir to present solos, duets, etc. for our musical offerings over our summer break.

If anyone is willing to share their musical talents during the summer, please contact Charlene Ziegler. Open dates as of Monday evening, June 23rd, are: August 17th & 24th.

Our 2014-15 Choir Season will begin with rehearsal on Wed. Sept. 10 @ 7pm. If you are thinking of becoming a member of our group, please tell Louise. Music for the new season will be ordered in August and we need to be sure to have enough copies for everyone.

Christmas in July

The “**Christmas in July**” will be on **Friday, July 25** at the church beginning at 6pm with a covered dish meal. A sign-up sheet will soon appear on the bulletin board so we can be sure to have enough seating. Dessert, beverages, and all paper goods will be provided.

The Music and Worship Committee is planning this event. There will be singing of some Christmas songs, and of course, some surprises. We promise not to embarrass anyone. Please wear red or green so we all are “festive” looking.

The highlight of the evening will be the singing of our Christmas cantata, “Bethlehem’s Child”. There will be **one cantata rehearsal, on Wednesday, July 23 at the church at 7PM.** We invite all who are interested in singing the cantata to come to this rehearsal. You do not have to be a choir member to participate. Come, even if you didn’t sing the cantata with us in December.

When the Choir Has to Change a Light Bulb!

Q: How many altos does it take to change a light bulb?

A: All of them ... one to change the bulb, and the rest to complain about how “high” it is.

Q: How many sopranos does it take to change a light bulb?

A: Only one. She holds it up, and the rest walk around her.

Q: How many tenors does it take to change a light bulb?

A: They can’t, because “it’s too high!”

Sacred Choral Reading Session by

Louise Walmer

Some of the members of the Music and Worship Committee and some choir members will be attending the Sacred Choral Reading Program sponsored by Loser's Music Store on Saturday, July 26 from 9am-3pm. The program is at Lititz Church of the Brethren and is a day of singing sacred choral anthems. Cost to attend is \$30 and includes lunch and your choral music packet.

This year the guest director is Joseph Martin. Mr. Martin has over 1200 compositions in print. His major works include nearly 40 choral cantatas. He has a Bachelor of Music Degree in Piano Performance from Furman University in Greenville SC and a Masters of Music Degree in Piano Performance from the University of Texas, Austin, TX. He is the Director of Sacred Publications for Shawnee Press Inc.

Our Sr. Choir regularly sings anthems composed by Mr. Martin. It is from this program that we choose the anthems that the Sr. Choir sings.

Conference Meeting Report

Thank you again to everyone who brought shoes. We took 2 1/2 bags along (60 pairs!) to Conference Meeting. Penn Central Conference, together, gathered 353 bags, which equaled 8,823 pairs of shoes. Quite a collection!

The focus of the 52nd Annual Meeting was the retirement of Marja Coons-Torn after her 10 years as Penn Central Conference's Conference Minister. There were worship services, gifts, visitors, a formal acknowledgment, and a purely fun presentation by all the staff of the Conference Office, a la Gilligan's Island and Love Boat. In addition, there was also time for workshops, meditations, Bible studies, and visiting with friends from around the Conference.

We were proud to represent St John's UCC, especially when Pastor Tony and the group from Fredericksburg were there to stand with us to be recognized for our congregation's 275th Anniversary. And then there was the slide show of new pastors in the Conference, "featuring" our own Tony Fields!

Conference Meeting is a great chance to meet people from all over our area, to find out what's going on in the Conference, and to learn of the many activities, services, projects, and "doings" from our own Penn Central Conference. It's a rich opportunity for all; many more should try to take advantage of it!

Ladies! For your information!

Mark your calendars now!!

Women's Retreat at Hartman Center is scheduled for November, 14-15-16, 2014.

Details and theme to follow later.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT - 2014

Tuesday, August 5, 2014 - 6:00 PM- 8:00 PM

St. John's UCC Parking Lot

Free food, games, & contests!

Entertainment by our own Denise Voshell

Plus

Other activities

Come and help celebrate our Community!

BUDGET & STEWARDSHIP By Neal Grimes

MAY	INCOME	Y.T.D.
WEEKLY OFFERINGS (4WEEKS)	\$ 7,009.00	\$ 38,710.00
DEFRAY COST OF ENVELOPES	0	283.00
BULLETINS	40.00	140.00
JOINT MEN'S & WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP	0	1,300.00
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	0	275.00
FUNDRAISING	66.00	1,342.17
SPECIAL SERVICES	0	179.00
SOCIAL HALL RENTALS/MISC	30.00	180.00
INTEREST	2.50	11.68
TOTAL INCOME FOR MAY	\$ 7,147.50	\$ 42,420.85
EXPENSES	\$ 8,653.49	\$ 35,916.15
NET INCOME/(LOSS)	\$ (1,505.99)	\$ 6,504.70

Our budget for weekly offerings \$2,300. For May we average \$1,752.25.

Give and it shall be given to you good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.

Luke 6:38 NKJV

LEBANON ASSOCIATION OF UCC CHURCHES PICNIC

The Lebanon Association of UCC churches will be sponsoring a picnic on Sunday, July 20, at South Hills Park (located along Lincoln Avenue, bordering the VA property). We reserved the West pavilion for the day. Hot dogs (and the extras) and paper products will be provided. Bring your favorite dish to share, drink, lawn chairs and favorite outdoor games. Look for the signs! The fun begins at 1:00 (or whenever YOU get there!). There is a sign up sheet located in the Social Hall– sign up today! **Dead-line to sign up is Sunday, July 13th.**

Upcoming activities of the Lebanon Association UCC include the following, please save the dates!

Hartman Center, Fall Fest, October 18 – bus trip from Christ UCC to HC

Association Choir Fest – October 19, Quentin UCC (is your choir joining us?)

Youth Thanksgiving Breakfast will take on a new BIGGER look – youth, you won't want to miss this one!

Check for updates on all of the association activities on our website: lebanonassociationucc.com.

July 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Pastor Tony will be in the church office Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM. He will also have hours from 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM on Wednesdays. If you need to reach Pastor Tony at other times, call his home phone, 717-820-4956</p>		1 Office Hours 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM	2 Office Hours 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Bible Study 12:00 PM	3 Office Hours 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM	4 	5
6 No Christian Connection 10:30am Worship (Communion) Helen Walmer Fund Sunday	7	8 Office Hours 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM	9 Office Hours 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Bible Study 12:00 PM	10 Office Hours 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM	11	12
13 No Christian Connection 10:30am Worship Special Congregational Meeting following Worship Service. JOY Pantry Sunday	14	15 Office Hours 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Pool Party Lions Pool 7:30 PM—9:30 PM	16 Office Hours 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Bible Study 12:00 PM	17 Office Hours 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM	18	19
20 No Christian Connection 10:30am Worship	21	22 Office Hours 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Hoot & Holler Crossing Puppet Show & Ice Cream Party Social Hall 6:00 PM—7:30 PM	23 Office Hours 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Bible Study 12:00 PM Choir Practice 7:00 PM	24 Office Hours 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM	25 "Christmas in July" Covered Dish Social 6:00 PM	26
27 No Christian Connection 10:30am Worship Dine & Donate Sunday Deacon Sunday	28 7:00 PM Consistory Meeting	29 Carnival/Pizza Party Parking Lot 6:00 PM—7:30 PM	30 Bible Study 12:00 PM	31		

August 2014

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10 No Christian Connection 10:30am Worship JOY Pantry Sunday	11 Music & Worship Meeting 7:00 PM	12 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00 PM	13 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00 PM Bible Study— 12:00 PM	14 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00 PM	15	16
17 No Christian Connection 10:30am Worship	18	19 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00 PM Fellowship Meet-	20 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00 PM Bible Study— 12:00 PM	21 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00 PM	22	23
24 No Christian Connection 10:30am Worship Dine & Donate Sunday	25 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00 PM Consistory Meeting 7:00 PM	26	27 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00 PM Bible Study— 12:00 PM	28 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00 PM	29	30
31 No Christian Connection 10:30am Worship Deacon Fund Sunday					"	

St. John's United Church of Christ

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

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Fredericksburg, PA 17026

Church Phone # 717-865-7222
E-mail stjohnsucc@comcast.net
Website: www.stjohnsuccfburg.org

**Every Sunday
10:30am 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
Mrs. Beth Ann Griffiths, Organist
Mrs. Louise Walmer, Choir Director
Mrs. Donna Eberly-Lehman Church Secretary

Consistory

Joe Ditzler, President
Angela Michael, Vice President
Missy Daub, Secretary

Elders

Walter Bolles
Missy Daub
Joe Ditzler
Wendy
Dorsey

Deacons

Robin Gingrich
Connie Martin
Angela Mi-