

St. John's United Church of Christ

JUNE 2014

The VOICE

Welcome Letter

As your Pastor, it is a joy to open the church doors and welcome those who gather for worship, education, fellowship, and service at St John's United Church of Christ. Having the opportunity to share in God's new holy adventures with St John's is hope-filled. In this adventure together, we shall become a place where "rhetoric wears shoes."

Our congregation is an active and growing community of faith made up of unique individuals with the willingness to draw closer collectively, to know, experience, and proclaim the Good News!

In this new holy adventure of sharing the gospel message, providing a spiritual environment for spiritual growth will equip us to break boundaries. Together we shall welcome the stranger, engage in the struggle against injustices, and have our voices echo to loosen the hold of complacency. Our rhetoric shall put on shoes.

Furthermore, our doors will swing on the hinges of welcome for us to become beacons of light in our community. As we seek to show ourselves as a caring and inviting church, we will recognize the importance of forming new relationships, engaging with ecumenical partners, and serving alongside community social agencies who share our mission and vision.

As we pursue this new holy adventure together, I encourage you to join in with open hearts, minds and hands.

St. John's United Church of Christ...a church where Rhetoric wears Shoes!

Pastor Tony Fields, Sr.



JUNE WORSHIP NEWS



SCRIPTURES FOR JUNE

Sunday, June 1—Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:6-14

Psalm 68:1-10—32-35

I Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

John 17:1-11

Sunday, June 8—Pentecost Sunday

Acts 2:1-21

Psalm 104:24-34b

I Corinthians 12:3b-13

John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39

Sunday, June 15—First Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 1:1-2; 4a

Psalm 8

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Matthew 28:16-20

Sunday, June 22—Second Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 21:8-21

Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17

Romans 6:1b-11

Matthew 10:24-39

Sunday, June 29—Third Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 22:1-14

Psalm 13

Romans 6:12-23

Matthew 10:40-42

Consistory News by Joe Ditzler, Consistory President

Progress continues on the work project in the sanctuary, the details of which were noted in the last newsletter. We hope to soon have a congregational meeting to discuss and approve this project, so please continue to watch for details regarding it.

It was agreed to paint the walls and clean the carpet in the minister's office. The office hasn't been painted since its construction several years ago and the carpet is in need of cleaning. With the office currently being vacant, it was decided now is the time to accomplish those tasks. This work will be done prior to Pastor Fields' "moving in".

Consistory voted to pay for Pastor Fields' moving expenses. At the meeting, two estimates for this job were considered; however, since Pastor Fields expected to receive at least one more estimate, the amount to be spent was not determined. Both estimates received were about four thousand dollars. A final accounting of this expense will be reported in next month's newsletter.

Due to the Memorial Day Holiday, consistory will not meet the last Monday in May but will instead meet on June 2nd. Moving the date back a week will allow Pastor Fields to attend. All are welcome to attend.

Please talk to any consistory member if you have questions, concerns, suggestions, or comments regarding the work of consistory. Any feedback or input is appreciated.

Pastor Fields' Update

As of this writing, Pastor Fields and his family expect to move to this area on May 29th and 30th. They have found a house in the Fredericksburg area. His ministry with us will begin on Monday June 9th and he will conduct his first worship service at St John's on Sunday the 15th. At that service we will celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion.

Every year in the church calendar we celebrate the season of Advent, a time of preparation. **This is our Advent Season at St John's.** Let us prepare for the arrival of our new minister and the start of our time working together with prayer for God's help and guidance, as well as personal reflection and commitment so we can move forward together to fulfill His purpose and plan.

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "...plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a future and a hope. You will find me when you seek me if you seek with all your heart."

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH OFFERING

On Sunday June 1st and 8th we will receive the Strengthen the Church Offering. This is one of four offerings collected by the United Church of Christ each year. Funds from this offering are used to start new churches and develop plans for growth in existing ones. Church campaigns such as *Stillspeaking*, a nationwide program focusing on making religion relevant again with communities and individuals, benefits from monies received. Envelopes to contribute to this offering will be available in the pew pockets on those Sundays. Please consider contributing to this important work of our church at large.

The Missions Committee

JUNE Celebrations

Happy Birthday to:

1 Holli Brown
4 Greg Yingst
5 Gail Grimes
6 Jim Rudy
8 Nick Benfer
10 Taylor Gingrich
10 Diane Mohn

12 Michelle Walmer
12 Joe Miller
17 Jeff Walmer
17 Grayclin Griffiths
18 Karen Davis
18 Bailey Lynam
19 Clint Fegan

20 Gina Lutz
22 Dave Marinkov
23 Jean Ann Grimes
23 Arlene Walmer
26 Harry Swanger
30 Haley Martin

Happy Anniversary to:

8 Loretta & Bobby Lutz
11 Dave & Lori Marinkov

21 Julie & Joe Ditzler
21 Karen & Richard Light

22 Glenn & Margaret Rudy

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

Sunday Worship Volunteers, Thank You!

June Readers

June 1— Keith Gingrich
June 8— Regina Engler
June 15— Charlene Ziegler
June 22— Neal Grimes
June 29— Wendy Dorsey

June Flowers

June 1— Missy Daub
June 8— Scott Benfer
June 15— Neal & Jean Ann Grimes
June 22— Joe & Julie Ditzler
June 29— Karen & Richard Light

May Attendance

May 4— 64
May 11— 51
May 18— 50
May 25— 49

June Bulletins

June 1— Missy Daub
June 8— Scott Benfer
June 15— Neal & Jean Ann Grimes
June 22— Joe & Julie Ditzler
June 29— Karen & Richard Light

June Coffee Hosts

June 1— Arlene Walmer & Gerald Rudy
June 8— Arlene Walmer & Gerald Rudy
June 15— Arlene Walmer & Gerald Rudy
June 22— Arlene Walmer & Gerald Rudy
June 29— Arlene Walmer & Gerald Rudy

June Acolytes

June 1— Nick Benfer
June 8— Andrew Eberhart
June 15— Kayla Benfer
June 22— Jason Eberhart
June 29— Zachary Seltzer

SPONSORS NEEDED:

We are in need of Sponsors for:
Flowers: July 20th & August 24th & 31st.

Bulletins: July 6th & 20th & August: 24 & 31st.

Coffee Host: The month of August
Sign Up sheets are in the Social

June Deacon
Angela Michael

Christian Education Corner by Angie Michael

A note from Christian Education Committee: The Christian Connection hiatus begins Sunday, June 15. It will run through August--see you then!

UPCOMING TUESDAY EVENING FREE 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!

Puppet Craft & Ice Cream Party

In St. John's UCC Social Hall

July 29— 6:00 PM —7:30 PM

Carnival & Pizza Party!

On St. John's UCC Parking Lot

St. John's Fellowship by Regina Engler

St. John's Fellowship members at the recent meeting were pleased with lots of good news provided by President Priscilla Rentschler. With the Spring Flea Market and Bake Sale profit of \$1,439.60 and \$475 from the recent Avon sale, the group approved a donation to our church treasury of \$1300.

As the tradition of providing red geraniums for our sanctuary on Pentecost Sunday continues, volunteers of this group will provide the time and labor to plant them on June 10. With Violet Leibensperger and Pat Ziegler spearheading the effort, volunteers are certainly welcome.

An untold number of people reading this may remember having received a card on differing occasions from our Women's Fellowship and now our St. John's Fellowship. The one who's been doing that for a long time is Arlene Walmer. As she retires from this post, the aforementioned Violet is going to continue this mission. (It's even been suggested that Ken might help her.) We are grateful for Arlene's loving service and Violet's willingness to keep it alive.

Our group will be hosting a brief celebration following Rev. Tony Fields' first Sunday with us on June 15. Yes, there'll be cake and we hope you'll be there, too.

A final reminder was given about the June 17 gathering at The Farmer's Wife Restaurant at 6:00 p.m. This will be a Mothers' and Fathers' Day celebration. Ordering will be by individuals from the menu as will paying the bill. In other words, let's treat ourselves to an evening of good food and fellowship. There's a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the social hall. As Neal Grimes' devotions at our meeting suggested, we should be drawing nearer to God. Perhaps that would be aided by drawing near to one another.

Although there will be no meeting in July, we will begin anew in September. That date will be September 9 as we prepare for another successful Flea Market and Bake Sale.

Have a safe, happy and blessed summer.

DISCOUNT PARK TICKETS

Discount Summer Amusement Park Tickets have arrived in the NLRec office and are now available for sale. A park/price list is on the bulletin board in the Social Hall, or go to our website, www.nlrecreation.org, click on "specials". Contact the office if you would like to have a price sheet mailed to you. Tickets are valid any day through the end of this summer season (dates vary & some blackouts based on ticket).

If you plan to purchase tickets, please call the office, 865-5425 x2 or 304-6844, to make sure someone is available to assist you.

Suzanne Guirate-Dubeck, CPRP, Director of Recreation

MUSIC AND WORSHIP NEWS by Louise Walmer

The Sr. Choir's singing season is winding down. We have just 2 more anthems to rehearse and present before we have our summer break.

I want to thank all our choir members and Beth Ann for their commitment to attend our rehearsals on Wednesdays evening. I know that it was hard to come out on some of those cold, wet nights we had this past winter. Your support of the music program here at St. John's is greatly appreciated by me and the members of the congregation.

Our June anthems are: June 1 - "Fly Away Medley" and on June 15 - "Give Him Glory".

I received information that the choir directors of our UCC churches have been invited to a meeting on May 28, at Quentin UCC to gather and talk about having Lebanon Association Choir Fest to be held this fall. I will keep you all updated.

Music and Worship Committee

The Music and Worship Committee has not had a meeting since the last Voice was published. We do have a meeting scheduled for Monday, June 23 at 7pm. Gary Trautman will lead our devotion time. Final plans for the Christmas in July event will be on our Agenda.

Please note that our 2014 Graduates will be honored at the June 22 morning worship service.

Since our April meeting, we received information about the annual Sacred Choral Reading Program in Lititz. Several members of this committee always attend this program, sponsored by Loser's Music Store. The event is on Sat. July 26, 9am-3pm. Composer, director and performer, Joseph Martin will lead the program this year. Registration deadline is July 19th and the cost is \$30.

Christmas in July

We will celebrate "Christmas in July" on Friday, July 25 at the church.

Our evening will begin with a covered dish supper at 6pm. The Music and Worship Committee is planning this event and will provide the decorations, paper goods, utensils, and beverages. There will be singing of some Christmas songs. And please wear red or green.

The highlight of the evening will be the singing of our Christmas cantata, "Bethlehem's Child". All who sang this cantata with the Sr. Choir are invited to sing again.

NOTE: There will be one rehearsal at 7pm on Wed., July 23. We invited all who are interested in singing the cantata to come to this rehearsal. You don't have to be a choir member to participate. All are welcome.

If you haven't already, invite your friends and family and get this date on your calendar. Don't miss the fun evening. We are hoping to put some Christmas joy into the midst of your summer season.

Calling All 2014 Graduates

We will be honoring all graduates of high school, college, technical, trade schools, etc., during the June 22 worship service. Please contact the church office with the graduate's name, name of their high school or college, and their future plans.

Pentecost Geraniums

Geraniums will decorate the sanctuary to celebrate Pentecost on Sunday, June 8th. These geraniums will be planted outside around the church to be enjoyed by all of us.

If you are able to help plant the geraniums, please come to the church at 6:00 PM on June 10th. Bring your favorite watering can and/or shovel. The more the merrier and the faster the flowers get planted.

PICNIC NOTICE

THANK YOU!

A thank you to all the Avon ladies. The ladies sold a total of \$1545.11 and made a total of \$475. for the Fellowship Group.

The top seller was Kathryn Myers selling \$472.81 and Pat Ziegler came in second selling 238.21. Thanks to all who sold and a BIG Thank you for the buyers

We will be taking orders in the Fall and if anyone is interested in selling please let Priscilla Rentschler know.

Flea Market

A special thank you to all the HELPERS and thanks to all who donated products. We made a total of \$1439.60.

GREAT JOB!

Priscilla Rentschler



From the Family of Verna Jean Rentschler,

We wish to thank all who helped to make our Mother's final day here in our church home, one we will look back on with Love in our hearts. She would have been so honored, by you all.

Our parents loved this church. They never thought about going to any other, ever. In good times, or not so good times. They held strong, and stood by this church. Folks like you, are the reason. They felt as if they were a part, of a church family.

A big Thank you, to Pastor Herb and Sharon. Pastor Herb, your words were words of comfort to us. Secretary Donna, a wonderful job on the bulletins. Joe Ditzler, you had somewhere you were to be, but came and helped out. The women in the kitchen, you all did such a wonderful job. You did it with a smile on your faces. You all helped to ease, the burden of this sad day for us. The support we got, and the time you gave up, It was much appreciated. We all Thank You

Denise Laura Voshell, and Family

BUDGET & STEWARDSHIP By Neal Grimes

APRIL	INCOME	Y.T.D.
WEEKLY OFFERINGS (4WEEKS)	\$ 7,424.00	\$ 31,701.00
DEFRAY COST OF ENVELOPES	10.00	283.00
BULLETINS	30.00	100.00
JOINT MEN'S & WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP	1,300.00	1,300.00
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	275.00	275.00
FUNDRAISING	-827.15	1276.17
SPECIAL SERVICES	179.00	179.00
SOCIAL HALL RENTALS/MISC	65.00	150.00
INTEREST	2.41	9.16
TOTAL INCOME FOR APRIL	\$ 8,458.26	\$ 35,273.33
EXPENSES	\$ 6,629.02	\$ 27,262.66
NET INCOME/(LOSS)	\$ 1,829.24	\$ 8,010.67

Our budget for weekly offerings \$2,300. For April we average \$1,856.00.

I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said: "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Acts 20:35 NKJV

NEW HORIZONS

New Horizons is an opportunity for fellowship for single adults, sponsored by the Parish Life Committee of the Lebanon Association, Penn Central Conference, United Church of Christ. For additional information for future programs, please call Betty Holdren (866-2013), Dolores Wolfe (867-1807), Eleanor Hollowell (895-8087), Barbara Beard (497-0208), Eleanor Baylor (865-4977) or Ann Wagner (867-2675).

June 28— "Pride of the Susquehanna". Meet at Christ Church, Annville at 1:30 PM to carpool

July No Meeting

August 16. Picnic "Pot Luck" at Jonestown Community Park. Games and Fellowship and bring a prize for bingo.

June 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Devotions at 9AM Followed by Christian Connection 10:30am Worship Helen Walmer Fund Strengthen the Church collection	2 7:00 PM Consistory	3	4	5	6	7
8 Pentecost Sunday Devotions at 9AM Followed by Christian Connection 10:30am Worship JOY Pantry Strengthen the Church collection	9 Welcome! Pastor Tony Fields	10	11 Choir Practice 7:00 PM	12	13	14
15  Summer Schedule No Christian Connection 10:30am Worship (Communion)	16 VOICE DEADLINE	17 Joint Mother's & Father's Day dinner at Farmers Wife Restaurant 6:00 PM	18	19	20	21
22 Summer Schedule No Christian Con- nection 10:30 AM Worship Graduation Recognition Sunday Dine & Donate Sunday	23 Music & Worship Meeting 7:00 PM	24	25	26	27	28
29 Summer Schedule No Christian Con- nection 10:30 AM Worship Deacon Fund Sunday	30 Consistory Meeting 7:00 PM					

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

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

Church Staff

Rev. Tony Fields, 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
Walter Bolles, Treasurer

Elders

Walter Bolles
Missy Daub
Joe Ditzler
Wendy Dorsey
Robin Getz
Terry Knapp

Deacons

Robin Gingrich
Connie Martin
Angela Michael
Bob Seltzer
Mark Tyrpin
Pat Ziegler

**Every Sunday
Devotions at 9:00am Followed by
Christian Connection through 6/8/14
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.