

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

March-April, 2017

THE VOICE PASTOR TONY'S MESSAGE

The Journey

We are journeying through Lent to Resurrection. And this, by the means, is just an old story. This is the time of year we re-examine, re-imagine, and re-visit the plans God has for humanity. It is in this time that the historic foundations of Christianity permeate throughout the vast layers of the senseless flagrant of injustices, persecutions, and victimization of our society. It is again we explore what The Stillspeaking Voice has to say to us God's people: the salt and the light of this world.

For we know we cannot remain helpless nor hopeless in the challenges our society faces. In this season, let us reaffirm our faith... Together, as the body of Christ, we affirm and declare Jesus Christ to be the Son of God, the Word of God in flesh, and the love of God personified, the mercy of God in action, and the power of God at work. In his extraordinary incarnation, life, death and resurrection, Jesus lived in perfect obedience, showing us who God is and what God is like in every attitude, word and deed. Therefore, we seek to imitate Christ by yielding to his love, that we might be transformed and renewed in his likeness. Amen.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

During Lent, following worship service on March 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th and April 2nd, we will be having Bible Study with lunch. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us. The Bible Study will be studying the Apostles Creed.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I BELIEVE IN God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hades; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

March-April, 2017

ST. JOHN'S FELLOWSHIP by Ginny Knapp

It's that time again! Spring cleaning is just around the corner and the Fellowship has scheduled a Flea Market and Bake Sale. The sale will be held Friday, April 28th, and Saturday April 29th. We need your slightly used items to make our sale a success.

The Fellowship Group has not met during January and February so we should be ready and eager for the March meeting, Tuesday, March 21st, at 7:00PM. Please plan now to attend and support this worthwhile event.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL—2017
HERO CENTRAL
Discover Your Strength in God!

St. John's invites all children (Pre-Kindergarten through 6th grade) to soar with us at VBS Hero Central Vacation Bible School!!

This superhero adventure experience includes music that will energize your ears, interactive Bible fun, super science, cool crafts, hands-on-mission hero work, light dinner, great games, and more. The Bible School tentative date will be July 17th—July 21st at 5:30 PM—8:00PM.

To be a part of the SUPER fun at VBS Hero Central, please contact Pastor Tony 717-673-0972.

We are still in need of volunteers. Anyone who is interested, please contact Pastor Tony.

THANK YOU! by Brenda Good

I want to thank everyone who sold tickets, bought tickets, donated baked goods, helped with the soup making and helping on Friday and especially my brother, Gary who helped me from Spang Crest. He answered a lot of questions for me during the soup making. I also want to thank Bell & Evans for donating the chicken for our soup sale. We had a profit of over \$1100.00.

A Big Thank You to All!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

On Saturday, March 11th, at St. John's UCC from 7:00AM—10:30AM we will be having a Pancake Breakfast organized by Scott Benfer. Food Served will be a couple different kind of pancakes, waffles, French toast, sausage, eggs and toast, and coffee and orange juice. The cost will be \$8.00 for ages 12 and up and under 12 will be \$5.00.

Hope to see you on March 11th.

CARD SHOWER

Family of Elizabeth Overton would like to request a card shower for their family friend, Missy Novidor-Bristow's son, Ethan. Ethan is undergoing a three month extensive therapy program.

His address is: Ethan Bristow
 Children Specialized Hospital
 200 Somerset St. Room 203A
 New Brunswick NJ 08901

MARCH WORSHIP NEWS



Wednesday, March 1, 2017

Ash Wednesday

Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17

Psalm 51: 1-17

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Matthew 6: 16-21

Exodus 17: 1-7

Psalm 95

Romans 5: 1-11

John 4: 5-42

Sunday, March 5, 2017

First Sunday in Lent

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 Psalm 32

Romans 5: 12-19

Matthew 4: 1-11

Sunday, March 26, 2017

Fourth Sunday in Lent

I Samuel 16: 1-13

Psalm 23

Ephesians 5: 8-14

John 9: 1-41

Sunday, March 12, 2017

Second Sunday in Lent

Genesis 12: 1-4a

Psalm 121

Romans 4: 1-5, 13-17

John 3:1-17

Matthew 3: 13-27

Sunday, March 19, 2017

Third Sunday in Lent

APRIL WORSHIP NEWS

Sunday, April 2, 2017

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Ezekiel 37: 1-14

Psalm 130

Romans 8: 6-11

John 11: 1-45

Sunday, April 16, 2017

Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34-43

Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24

Acts 10: 34-43

John 20: 1-18

Sunday, April 9, 2017

Palm Sunday

Liturgy of the Palms

Matthew 21: 1-11

Liturgy of the Passion

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm 31: 9-16

Philippians 2: 5-11

Matthew 26: 14-27

Sunday, April 23, 2017

Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 22-32 Psalm 16

I Peter 1: 3-9

John 20: 19-31

Sunday, April 30, 2017

Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Psalm 116: 1-4, 12-19

I Peter 1: 17-23

Luke 24: 13-35

MARCH CELEBRATION

Happy Birthday to:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 Anna Marie Lauer | 5 Jim Davis Jr. | 6 Missy Daub |
| 6 Rev. Thomas Jackman | 6 Glenn Rudy | 6 Brenda Good |
| 6 Tiara Rice | 8 Randy Ziegler | 16 Paul Smith |
| 16 Marlene Zechman | 20 Mildred Schriver | 20 Beth Yingst |
| 21 Kathy Fegan | 21 Ginny Knapp | 24 Steve Shaffer |
| 26 Jeremy Stoltz | 28 Gary Trautman | 30 Melissa Seltzer |

Happy Anniversary to:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 2 Violet & Ken Leibensperger | 15 Marc & Beth Ann Griffiths |
| 11 Diane & Ken Mohn | 27 Jeremy & Alyssa Stoltz |
| 12 Denise & Lee Flanick | 29 Barb & Thomas Trainor |

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

Sunday Worship Volunteers, Thank You!

March Readers

- Mar. 5– Julie Ditzler
- Mar. 12– Regina Engler
- Mar. 19– Charlene Ziegler
- Mar. 26– Paul Smith

March Flowers

- Mar. 5– OPEN
- Mar. 12– OPEN
- Mar. 19– Joe & Julie Ditzler
- Mar. 26– OPEN

February Attendance

- Feb. 5– 46
- Feb. 12– 36
- Feb. 19– 47
- Feb. 26

March Bulletins

- Mar. 5– OPEN
- Mar. 12– OPEN
- Mar. 19– Joe & Julie Ditzler
- Mar. 26– OPEN

March Coffee Host

- Mar. 5– Brenda Good
- Mar. 12– Brenda Good
- Mar. 19– Brenda Good
- Mar. 26– Brenda Good

March Deacon



APRIL CELEBRATION

Happy Birthday to:

6 Rev. Drew Morris
6 Jordan Seltzer
6 Aidan Zechman
7 Sheila Fox
7 Pat Ziegler
8 Cathy Rentschler
9 Keith Gingrich

10 McKenna Zohn
11 Ken Mohn
11 Steve Zechman
12 Andrew Fegan
13 Erika Flanick
13 Josh Stoltz
15 Christine Lutz

18 Wade Tyrpin
18 Zachary Baynard
20 Becky Martin
20 Leah Stoltz
20 Sharon Hibshman
20 Kayla Benfer
26 Rick Rudy

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.

Sunday Worship Volunteers, Thank You!

April Readers

Apr. 2- Pam Emery
Apr. 9- Brenda Good
Apr. 16- Robin Getz
Apr. 23- Wendy Dorsey
Apr. 30- Youth Sunday

April Flowers

Apr. 2- OPEN
Apr. 9- OPEN
Apr. 16- OPEN
Apr. 23- Millie Schriver
Apr. 30- Melissa Seltzer

April Deacon

April Bulletins

Apr. 2- OPEN
Apr. 9- OPEN
Apr. 16- OPEN
Apr. 23- Millie Schriver
Apr. 30- Melissa Seltzer

April Coffee Host

Apr. 2- OPEN
Apr. 9- OPEN
Apr. 16- OPEN
Apr. 23- OPEN
Apr. 30- OPEN



FUND RAISING EVENTS

The Fund Raising Committee met recently and set monthly fund raising events for the church. The events they suggested are:

- February – Soup & sale on Friday, Feb. 17
- March – Breakfast on Saturday, March 11
- April and September – Chicken BBQ,
- June - Golf outing
- August 1 – National Night Out
- October 7 – Pot Pie Dinner
- November – Gift baskets and wreaths at NL Band Parents Bazaar

Financial Report by Robin Getz, Finance Chair

Total Revenue	(1/1/17– 1/31/17)	\$ 9,807.10
Total Expenses	(1/1/17– 1/31/17)	\$ 8,715.49

We need to collect \$1750.00 weekly to meet budget and currently we are averaging \$1902.20 per week for the month of January. When the budget was presented at the congregational meeting held in November 2016, it was mentioned that we would have to do fundraisers to balance the budget. We truly need to consider ways to raise revenue through different fundraisers to assist with balancing the budget. The Consistory has taken over the fundraising projects and has a number of fundraisers schedule throughout the year. The first one was held on February 17th which was the Soup & Bake Sale and it netted over \$1100.

We must look to outside sources to close the budget gap. We ask our members to pray very hard on this matter and to speak with members of the budget and finance committee or members of Consistory if you have any ideas you would like share or suggestions. We need your prayers and assistance more than ever!!

The Financial Committee is always diligent with monitoring expenses. I am thankful for the dedication of the members and their continued efforts. Note: We are always looking for members to serve and, if there is any interest, they can contact me.

EVANGELISM REPORT by Neal Grimes

The Committee met for the first time this year in January. The main topic was this Year's National Night Out which will be held on August 1, 2017 at Bethel Twp./Lions Park.

In attendance were Scott Benfer, Mary Donmoyer, Pastor Glen Compton, Pastor John Buhr and Neal Grimes. Letters will be sent to the churches that are currently not involved, once again asking them to join our committee. We are also looking for entertainment for this year as our own Denise Voshell has decided to step down after nine year's. Our next meeting will be held at the Fredericksburg Baptist Church on Monday, February 20th at 6:00 PM.



Sr. Choir by Louise Walmer

The Sr. Choir will **NOT** rehearse on: Wednesday, Mar. 1, Mar. 8, and Mar. 15. Regular Sr. Choir rehearsals will resume on Wednesday, Mar. 22, at 7 PM

March Choir Anthems are:

March 5 - "Come Share the Lord" Leech/Larson

March 12

March 19 - "Great Is the Lord" Smith/Smith/Schrader

March 23 - Hand Bells

Music and Worship Committee by Louise Walmer

The Music and Worship Committee met with Pastor Tony on Mon., Feb. 6. Charlene Ziegler had our opening devotions.

Speakers for Pastor Tony's vacations on Feb. 26 and Mar. 26 are Rev. Judy Ritter-Dickson and Victoria Valez. Dena and Jason will assist Rev. Judy Ritter-Dickson on February 26th and Louise and Charlene will assist Victoria Valez on March 26th. Beth Ann has asked off for 3 Sundays in April. Louise will contact Rita Geesaman to fill in for her.

Lenten services and Easter sunrise worship were discussed. Weekly studies after church on the Apostles' Creed are planned. Volunteers will be needed to prepare a light lunch for those who attend. The committee will meet with Pastor Tony to co-ordinate a Maundy Thursday Passover Meal. It was discussed that we could have our own noontime Good Friday worship in addition to the joint Good Friday worship with the Fredericksburg Ministerium churches.

The much talked about Women's Retreat was discussed. Tentative date would be June 24 from 9AM-4PM. Some of the activities we are looking into include: Bible study, a painting session, and a wellness focus.

Altar Communion was discussed and how often we should have it.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March at 6:00PM. Dena will have our opening devotions.

Lenten Schedule 2017 by Louise Walmer

Ash Wednesday worship will be at Zoar's Lutheran Church, Mt. Zion, at 7PM. There will be communion and the administer of ashes. We will also administer ashes at our Sunday morning worship on March 12.

Our Lenten Study, on the Apostles' Creed will begin on Sundays after church beginning March 5th. We will need volunteers to provide a light lunch to share. There will be a sign up sheet on the bulletin board for volunteers who are willing to provide lunch for the 20-25 people who stay for the study.

On Maundy Thursday the Pastor would like to have a Passover Feast. The Music and Worship Committee will assist the Pastor to co-ordinate this event.

There will be a Good Friday service with the churches of the Fredericksburg Ministerium. In addition to this combined worship, Pastor Tony would like to have our own noontime worship service on Good Friday.

On Easter Sunday, there will be a sunrise service at 6:25AM at Cedar Hill Cemetery followed by a continental breakfast at the church.

March 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 ASH WEDNESDAY Pastor Tony Vacation Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM NO CHOIR Ash Wednesday Service at Zoar's Lutheran Church 7:00 PM	2 Pastor Tony Vacation Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM	3 Pastor Tony Vacation	4
5 Daylight Saving Time Begins First Sunday in Lent 9AM Christian Connection 10:30 Worship (Communion) Bible Study & Lunch Helen Walmer Fund	6 6:00PM Music & Worship Committee Meeting	7 Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM	8 Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM No Choir	9 Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM	10	11 Pancake Breakfast 7:00 AM –10:30 AM
12 Second Sunday in Lent 9AM Christian Connection 10:30 Worship Bible Study & Lunch JOY Pantry	13	14 Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM	15 Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM No Choir	16 Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM	17	18
19 One Great Hour of Sharing Third Sunday in Lent 9AM Christian Connection 10:30 Worship Bible Study & Lunch Christian Ed Meeting	20	21 Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM 7:00PM Fellowship Meeting	22 Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM 7:00PM Choir Practice	23 Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM	24	25
26 One Great Hour of Sharing Fourth Sunday in Lent 9AM Christian Connection 10:30 Worship Bible Study & Lunch Deacon's Fund Dine & Donate	27 Pastor Tony Vacation Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM 7:00PM Consistory Meeting	28 Pastor Tony Vacation	29 Pastor Tony Vacation Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM 7:00PM Choir Practice	30 Pastor Tony Vacation Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM	31 Pastor Tony Vacation	

April 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Pastor Tony Vacation
2 9AM Christian Connection 10:30 Worship (Communion) Bible Study & Lunch Helen Walmer Fund	3	4 Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM	5 Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM 7:00PM Choir Practice	6 Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM	7	8
9 Palm Sunday 9AM Christian Connection 10:30 Worship JOY Pantry	10	11 Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM	12 Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM 7:00PM Choir Practice	13 Maundy Thursday Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM	14 Good Friday 	15
16 EASTER Sunrise Service 6:15 AM 9AM Christian Connection 10:30 Worship (Communion)	17	18 Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM	19 Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM 7:00PM Choir Practice	20 Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM	21	22
23 9AM Christian Connection 10:30 Worship	24 Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM 7:00PM Consistory Meeting	25 6:00 PM Fellowship Meeting	26 Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM 7:00PM Choir Practice	27 Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM 8:00 AM—5:00PM Sorting & Drop Off time for the Flea Market	28 8:00AM—5:00 PM Flea Market	29 8:00AM—11:00 AM Flea Market
30 9AM Christian Connection 10:30 Worship Deacon's Fund Dine & Donate						

ST. JOHN'S UNITED
CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

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Every Sunday
9:00 AM Christian
Connection
10:30 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
Mrs. Beth Ann Griffiths, Organist
Mrs. Louise Walmer, Choir Director

Consistory

Julie Ditzler, President
Keith Gingrich, Vice President
Louise Walmer, Secretary
Walter Bolles, Treasurer

Elders

Keith Gingrich
Neal Grimes
Ken Leibensperger
Bob Seltzer
Louise Walmer

Deacons

Scott Benfer
Julie Ditzler
Brenda Good
Elizabeth Overton
Elizabeth Zimmerman