

# ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

## *The VOICE*

October, 2016

### PASTOR TONY'S MESSAGE

#### MORE NOW THAN EVER

##### **1 Corinthians 16:13-14 (NRSV)**

<sup>13</sup> Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, and be strong. <sup>14</sup> Let all that you do be done in love.

The Apostle Paul gives this concluding exhortation in his epistle to the Corinthians. It is good advice for us today too. The Apostle gives 5 commands to his readers; be alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong, and let all you do be done in love.

May these words become more than rhetoric as we lace our boots to fight the good fight of faith. As we live in what seems to be whirlwind times of social change, let us remember we have a "charge to keep (call by God)" and a God to glorify. Living in these times as Christians, especially as we hear the ugliness of social and political changes, these scriptures give us purpose.

As we reflect and lend our ears to the conversations of these issues that we must remain grounded in the reign of God rather than live in fear. As Christians we must think through and make sense of all the fears and anxieties of the rapid changes in society no matter if the disputes are issues of abuse of police authority, global warming, gun laws, immigration, Isis, racism or patriotic loyalty we must remind ourselves that conflict and challenge do not rule the day.

Furthermore, as we move into our nation's most controversial debates, we cannot afford to waver and allow social polarization. Our voices and actions must align themselves as we become a congregation that passionately declares and demonstrates the courageous love of Christ (Penn Central Conference).

#### **NEW ADDRESS**

**Pastor Tony & Jodie Fields  
216 Greentree Village  
Lebanon PA 17042**

#### **All Saints Celebration by Louise Walmer**

St. John's will celebrate All Saints Sunday on Nov. 6, 2016. During the morning worship we will recognize the members, friends and family who passed away since All Saints Day of 2015.

Listed below are the names of the Saints the Music and Worship Committee has record of passing this year. They are: Elda Bugg, Betty Hassinger, Curtis Herr, Steve Kubik, Richard Light, Barbara Miller, Joe Miller, Craig Mohn, Brandon Reigle, Lori Rentschler, Dianne Rhodes, Brad Shirk, Roy Shirk, Sandra Wall, Arlene Walmer, and Dan Wenger.

If there is someone that we have missed please contact the Church Office at 865-7222 to have them added to our list. Thank you.

## ST. JOHNS FELLOWSHIP, by Ginny Knapp

Many, many thanks to all who helped with our recent Flea Market and Bake Sale. We netted over \$1,200.00! Without the help of the many people who gave their time, materials, and foods, we could not have accomplished this. Again, thanks to all of you.

The annual Holiday Party for residence of Cedar Haven is set for Tuesday, November 15th at 7:00PM. We will be serving soft cookies and finger jello. Each resident will receive a box of tissues. We always need help for this project. Serving the cookies or taking the tissues to the rooms of those not attending the program takes quite a few willing hands. We could use yours!

It was decided, due to the lack of interest, to cancel the Birthday Social. Other events scheduled are the Pot Pie Dinner, November 5th, a Christmas Avon project and the Christmas Dinner.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, October 18th at 7:00PM.



## Operation Christmas Child By Julie Ditzler

Our shoeboxes are gathered – now it's time to work on filling them! Please remember that Samaritan's Purse will not ship liquids of any kind, and does not allow any kind of war-related toy to be shipped.

The basics that are packed into each of our boxes are a bar of soap, a washcloth, a toothbrush and a tube of toothpaste, pencils, erasers, pencil sharpeners, a box of crayons, a tablet or notebook, and a bag of candy. There are many kinds of items that will make our boxes bring lots of smiles – balls, activity books, markers, socks, sunglasses, flashlights, small toys and games, toy cars, dolls, and stuffed animals.

Our boxes go to children ranging in age from 2-14, so a wide variety of gifts will allow them to be distributed to kids of all ages. Please remember that any item you purchase must be small enough to fit inside a shoebox, so that it may be properly packed and shipped.

In addition to the items we gather to fill our boxes, we will also be soliciting sponsorship of the boxes we send. Each box requires a \$7 donation for shipping. Since we have been able to fulfill our sponsorship needs in a timely way in the past, we could attach a specific label that allows them to be tracked during the distribution process. That way we have been notified of their final destinations. Look for the small brown envelopes in the pews to make your donation for this purpose.

Our gathering of gifts and sponsorships will begin in earnest during the month of October. We will provide weekly updates in church so that everyone is aware of our progress and anything that might still be needed. On **Sunday, November 13**, we will wrap and pack our boxes beginning at 8:30. The boxes will be blessed during morning worship on **Sunday, November 20**, and will be taken to the local collection site in Ono. A group of us will travel to the regional shipping site in the Baltimore/Washington area on **Monday, December 5**, from 2-6 p.m. If you would like to be part of that group, please let us know. This project brings much joy, not only to the children receiving our gifts, but also to those of us who have a hand in the process. We ask for your participation, support, and prayers, as we prepare for another season of giving.

## **CONSISTORY REPORT** by Brenda Good, President

Consistory welcomed Elizabeth Overton, as Deacon and Bob Seltzer as Elder to Consistory. We know that their love of Christ within them, will help us keep the hope alive in our church.

The Elders met for the evaluation of Pastor Tony. They will have another meeting Wednesday, September 18th at 6:00PM.

The Building & Grounds Committee had quite a hot summer with the mower but all things will work out till next spring. Just ask Scott Benfer and Ken Leibensperger.

We had a lovely Vesper Service on September 11th at Memorial Lake. Pastor Tony had a great patriotic service and the food wasn't too bad either. Although the hot dogs were not done like a Bob Seltzer original, you know nice and chubby with a bit of Golden Brown. But why did Earl Ziegler keep on saying give me some of the fat Black Hot dogs? Hmm, lets ask Wendy Dorsey.

Pot Pie Dinner is set for November 5th 4:00PM—7:00PM. Take outs will be available. Any questions, call me or the church office.

Robin Gingrich and Brenda Good along with Louise Walmer are going to man a stand at N.L.H.S. Christmas Bazaar, November 26th. We are asking anyone who would like to make a Gift Basket or any kind of a craft that you are proud of making for our table. Please ask your friends, neighbors and family come and patronize our table.

We are checking on having an Apple Dumpling sale. If anyone has any ideas for fundraising, please contact any member of Consistory. For example Soup Sales, Sub Sales etc.

I have been on our Consistory the last 3-4 months as to how we can make money for the love of God and hope for our church, St. John's.

We have to Pray for a Vision of our concern, which unfortunately is our budget. You will soon receive a letter concerning our budget. We will also have a meeting during our service in the near future for open discussion and your input.

We look forward to seeing you in church on Sundays. You are the St. John's I know that has been keeping this church alive. Let's not get distracted by criticism. There is potential in all of us to keep the Vision and hope alive for God's work and for our church. I don't think our church would be 277 years old if it did not have a vision. Let's keep the hope and love of God in our Vision for our church.

See you in Church!

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!**

St. John's Annual Family Style Chicken Pot Pie Dinner will be held November 5th from 4:00PM—7:00PM. Watch the bulletins for updates.

## OCTOBER WORSHIP NEWS



Sunday, October 2, 2016  
 Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost  
 Lamentations 1:1-5  
 Psalms 137  
 2 Timothy 1:1-14  
 Luke 17: 5-10

Sunday, October 9, 2016  
 Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost  
 Jeremiah 29: 1,4-7  
 Psalms 66:1-12  
 2 Timothy 2: 8-15  
 Luke 17: 11-19

Sunday, October 16, 2016  
 Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost  
 Jeremiah 31: 27-34  
 Psalms 119: 97-104  
 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5  
 Luke 18:1-8

Sunday, October 23, 2016

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost  
 Joel 2:23-32  
 Psalms 65  
 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18  
 Luke 18:9-14

Sunday, October 30, 2016  
 Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost  
 Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4  
 Psalms 119  
 Isaiah 1:10-18  
 Luke 19:1-10

### **The Lebanon Valley Home & Kindred Place at Annville**

UCC Homes does all we can to bring festive joy to as many residents as possible. UCC Homes takes pride in the care and service we provide to those in need. We honestly couldn't do it without your help. We invite you to share with those who are less fortunate by spreading the Christmas spirit through your compassion and generosity.

In order to provide each resident with a meaningful gift this coming Christmas, we are asking our sponsoring congregations, church groups and individuals to consider donating a monetary donation or gift cards/certificates to be used toward purchasing desired gifts for residents of the communities of UCC Homes, making Christmas a little more special.

**For Lebanon Valley Home**, we are requesting gift cards for the following stores: Giant Food Stores, Boscov's, Wal Mart, Target, CVS, Rite Aid, & VISA/MC cards. Please deliver Christmas gift cards **by December 5, 2016** to the receptionist desk Monday through Friday between 9:00 AM & 3:00 PM to Amy Tillinger's attention or to a nurse's station if delivering after hours. It would be helpful if the name and address of the sponsoring church be included with the gift card donation.

**For Kindred Place at Annville:** Donations or gift cards to the following stores: Giant Food Stores, Weis Markets, Dunkin Donuts, Wal Mart, Target, CVS, Rite Aid and Sheetz. Please deliver to Beth Coatsworth **by December 3, 2016** to the office at Kindred Place Monday through Friday from 8:30AM—4:30PM.

## October CELEBRATION

### Happy Birthday to:

2 Wendy Dorsey

9 Tracy Hevel

13 Colt Dorsey

13 Linda Tyrpin

16 Angela Michael

22 Mark Tyrpin

22 Joyce Myers

23 Lee Flanick

26 Kathryn Myers

26 Richard Rudy

26 Yvette Oskam

27 Savannah Fox

30 Gerald Rudy

31 Julie Brandt

31 Marc Griffiths

### Happy Anniversary to:

8 Missy &amp; Cory Daub

12 Robin &amp; Keith Gingrich

17 Rodney &amp; Aleta Babe

18 Butch &amp; Shirley Rudy

22 Pastor Herb &amp; Sharon Hibshman

22 Josh &amp; Crystal Stoltz

23 Clint &amp; Kathy Fegan

If your information is incorrect or not included, please contact the church

## Sunday Worship Volunteers, Thank You!

### October Readers

Oct. 2- Neal Grimes

Oct. 9- Julie Ditzler

Oct. 16- Paul Smith

Oct. 23- Charlene Ziegler

Oct. 30- Youth Sunday

### October Flowers

Oct. 2- Colt Dorsey

Oct. 9- Dorsey &amp; Trautman

Oct. 16- Brenda Good

Oct. 23- Pastor Tony

Oct. 30- OPEN

### Sept. Attendance

Sept. 4— 35

Sept. 11— 51

Sept. 18- Hinkelfest

Sept. 25 – 49

### October Bulletins

Oct. 2- Colt Dorsey

Oct. 9- Dorsey &amp; Trautman

Oct. 16- Brenda Good

Oct. 23- OPEN

Oct. 30- OPEN

### October Coffee Host

Oct. 2- OPEN

Oct. 9- OPEN

Oct. 16- OPEN

Oct. 23- OPEN

Oct. 30- OPEN

### October Deacon

Scott Benfer

### SPONSORS NEEDED:

Flowers: Oct. 30th, Nov. 6,  
& Dec. 18Bulletins: Oct. 23rd & 30th  
Nov. 6th &  
Dec. 18thCoffee Hosts: Months of  
Oct. & Dec.

## **SAFE TRICK OR TREAT NIGHT**

Fall has arrived and we are planning our annual "Safe Trick or Treat Night" at The Lebanon Valley Home. For the past twenty-seven years we have welcomed children from the community into the home to collect goodies from the residents on "Trick or Treat" night. Our goal was to provide a place in the community where parents would be sure their children would be receiving safe treats.

As you can imagine, as word has spread the number of children participating continues to grow over the years, as well as the expense to continue the practice. Several local organizations and businesses have made financial contributions in the past to assist us. We are therefore once again contacting UCC Churches to see if your members would be willing to donate a bag of candy. All candy would need to be turned in to the home by Monday, October 24<sup>th</sup>.

We greatly appreciate any assistance you can provide in offering this service to the community and our children.

Sincerely, Amy Tillinger, Director of Activities 867-4467

If you want to drop off candy at the church no later than Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> we will see that it gets to The Lebanon Valley Home on Monday.

## **LEBANON ASSOCIATION FALL MEETING**

Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Hebron Fire Company Banquet Hall

Program:

Registration 1:45 PM

Holy Humor Worship: 2:00PM

(If you've ever thought of introducing a Holy Humor service to your congregation you won't want to miss this event)

Business Meeting (Following Worship)

Greetings from our new Conference Minister

Rev. Dr. Monica Dawkins Smith

Desserts

## **EVANGELISM REPORT** by Neal Grimes

We held our 9<sup>th</sup> National Night Out on Tuesday, August 2, 2016 at Bethel Township/Lions Park. An estimated crowd of between 300-350 persons attended on a warm beautiful evening. The event is held to promote crime awareness in our communities. The Pennsylvania State Police were present with two officers and a patrol car to show their support.

Music, games, prizes and food was a major part of the event. Booths that were sponsored by Victory Lighthouse Church, Fredericksburg Baptist Church, St. John's UCC Church of Fredericksburg, St. Paul's Church of Hamlin, Greater Lebanon Crop Walk, Fredericksburg Dental Center and Matthews Public Library were set up around the stage where Denise Voshell provided a variety of songs that entertained the crowd.

Camp Strauss Fire Co. and the Fredericksburg Fire Co. were present with their volunteers and equipment.

A special Thank You to Denise for her musical talent and to the committee, which consisted of Scott Benfer, Terry Knapp, Brenda Good, Mary Donmoyer, Regina Engler, Pastor Glenn Compton, Pastor John Burr, Pastor Tony Fields, Jodie Fields, Walter Bolles and Neal Grimes. In addition to the committee we especially applaud Bob Seltzer and every volunteer who worked at the food building, games and at various places throughout the park during the evening.

Because of generous donations by businesses and individuals, there were over 30 prizes awarded to lucky winners.

This successful event was made possible by total co-operation of St. John's UCC, St. Paul's UCC, Fredericksburg Baptist Church and the Victory Lighthouse Church.

## **Music and Worship Committee** by Dena Eberhart

World-wide communion was celebrated on Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> in the way the Corinthians did – with a communal meal (pot luck, in our case) and sharing Communion together as part of the meal (not as part of the main service). We chose to celebrate this year with bread from the country of Ukraine, since that's where our shoeboxes were received last year, and the social hall and members were dressed in traditional garb for the occasion. Thanks to everyone who was part of this event. It was interesting to learn about traditions from another country.

Harvest Home will be celebrated on October 16<sup>th</sup>, and donations will be accepted that day for the Joy Pantry.

All Saints Sunday is November 6<sup>th</sup>. The following is a list of members/family/friends who will be celebrated on this day: Arlene Walmer, Dianne Rhodes, Roy Shirk, Craig Mohn, Dan Wenger, Elda Bugg, Barbara Miller, Curtis Herr, Brad Shirk, Steve Kubik, Sandra Wall, Richard Light, Joe Miller, Betty Has-singer, Brandon Reigle, Lori Rentschler. If you know of anyone missing from this list, please let Louise know so we can be sure to include them. We will have the families light the candles, as well as display up to an 8x10 photo of the person that day.

### Upcoming dates:

Thanksgiving Eve service will be held at Goshert's beginning at 7:00 p.m.

The first Sunday of Advent is 11/27

We will continue our Advent Studies after church each Sunday of Advent... we are looking for volunteers to provide a small meal (soup, sandwich, etc.) for each of these weeks... there will be a sign-up sheet in the social hall. Please plan to join us as we prepare for the birth of Jesus.

Choir practice has started once again, and we'd love to have you join us. We meet every Wednesday's at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. See you there!

## **Sr. Choir** by Louise Walmer

The Sr. Choir began rehearsals on Wednesday, September 14th. We will sing our 1<sup>st</sup> anthem on World Wide Communion Sunday, Oct. 2. We have lost several members recently and are looking for singers. Please consider joining the choir.

Choir anthems for October are:

Oct. 2 "Here I Am, Lord" by Schutte / Schrader

Oct. 16 "Lord, Listen to Your Children" by Medema / Schrader

Oct. 23 "Autumn Carol" by Schulz-Widmar

"Autumn Carol" is from the Ring & Sing Choral anthem series. The Hand Bells will accompany the Sr. Choir for this anthem.

Other musical news includes that, J.B. Yorty will be our guest organist during Beth Ann's vacation on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup>.

## **NL Band Bazaar - Saturday, November 26th**

There will be a St. John's UCC table at the Northern Lebanon Band Parents Bazaar on Saturday, November 26. Please consider donating homemade crafts or candies or a themed gift basket to sell at our table.

If you have items to donate or are willing to put together a themed gift basket, please contact Brenda Good (601-9616), Robin Gingrich (865-4573) or Louise Walmer (865-5103).

## NEW HORIZONS 2016

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 (865-8087), Etta Cuddleford (273-8140), Eleanor Baylor (865-4977), Ann Wagner (867-2675), or Patricia Rentschler (685-1492).

October 22—2:00PM—Meet at UCC Church in Annville and dinner location to be announced. Program by Wayne Anspach, "The Blue Eyed Six", and music.

November 26- 9:00 AM Breakfast at "Country Fare Restaurant", Myerstown. Reservations due by November 19th.

December—Celebrate the true meaning of Christmas with family and friends.

Note: Programs are subject to change. If you have any questions, please contact the committee members. Phone numbers are listed at top of sheet.

### Financial Report by Robin Getz, Finance Chair

Total Revenue	(1/1/16– 8/31/16)	\$ 61,990.83
Total Expenses	(1/1/16– 8/31/16)	\$ 75,215.97

We need to collect \$1923.07 weekly to meet Morning Worship budget and currently we are averaging \$1,771.16 per week. As you can see, we are running behind projections by \$151.91 plus dollars on a weekly average basis. There is a serious concern with our ability at meeting budget over the 2016 year which will result in utilizing more of our cash reserves than anticipated, shortening the life bread of our church. When the budget was presented at the congregational meeting held in November 2015, we were very clear that the continual shortfall would continue to be detrimental to the church's financial health. We truly need to consider ways to either raise revenue through solid fundraising (and not just the committee of 5) OR look at ways to cut expenses which will mean some truly tough choices as there really is not "fluff" in the approved budget. 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.

**College Addresses:** We would like to keep in touch with our college students, so please forward their addresses to the church office.

### New Addresses:

Shayne Tyrpin  
1293 Lions Gate Blvd.  
13-207A Cub Circle  
Bloomsburg PA 17815

Amber Daub  
402 C Golden Bear Village South  
Building 10  
Kutztown PA 19530

Noah Gingrich  
East Stroudsburg University  
Linden Hall, Room 117A  
200 Prospect St  
East Stroudsburg PA 18301

Andrew Eberhart  
Lebanon Valley College  
Silver Hall #312  
Annville, PA 17003-1421

Morgan Hevel  
Clarion University  
Givan Hall I#128  
840 Wood St.  
Clarion, PA 16214

Tiara Rice  
Bradley University  
1307 W Bradley Ave. Dorm #220  
Peoria IL 61606

# October 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 World Wide Communion 9:00AM Christian Connection 10:30AM Worship Helen Walmer Fund Sunday	3	4 Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM	5 Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM NO BIBLE STUDY 7:00 PM Choir Practice	6 Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM	7	8
9 9:00AM Christian Connection 10:30 AM Worship JOY Pantry	10	11 Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM	12 Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM Noon Bible Study 7:00 PM Choir Practice	13 Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM	14	15
16Harvest Home Sunday 9:00AM Christian Connection 10:30 AM Worship	17 7:00 PM Music & Worship Meeting	18 Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM	19 Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM Noon Bible Study 7:00 PM Choir Practice	20 Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM	21	22
23 9:00AM Christian Connection 10:30 AM Worship Dine & Donate Sunday	24	25 Office Hours 8:00AM-1:00PM	26 Office Hours 8:00AM-3:00PM Noon Bible Study 7:00 PM Choir Practice	27 Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM	28	29
30 9:00AM Christian Connection 10:30 AM Worship Deacon Fund Sunday	31 Office Hours 8:00AM-3:00PM 7:00 PM Consistory Meeting		MARK Your Calendars November 5th Chicken Pot Pie Dinner 4:00 PM— 7:00PM			REMINDER: NOVEMBER 6TH WE TURN OUR CLOCKS BACK AN HOUR.

# 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

**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*

Brenda Good, President  
Pam Emery, Vice President  
Robin Gingrich, Secretary  
Walter Bolles, Treasurer

### *Elders*

Joe Ditzler  
Robin Gingrich  
Neal Grimes  
Ken Leibensperger  
Bob Seltzer  
Louise Walmer

### *Deacons*

Scott Benfer  
Pam Emery  
Brenda Good  
Elizabeth Overton  
Mark Tyrpin  
Pat Ziegler