

# ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

March—April, 2020

## Pastor Tony's Message

Here we are in the season of Lenten. Christians throughout the world will journey through this season. Churches will have numerous ways of embarking into the season of Lent. As we equip ourselves for this season, let us analyze the promises that God is with us. More so, Jesus began his inauguration as he instructed his disciples by speaking these promises. He tells his disciples you are blessed, you are the salt, and you are the light. In the sermon of the mount, he advises his disciples this is your identity. This is who you are.

Therefore since we are his disciples, ambassadors, and collaborators by blessing each other with these words will help ready us for Lent. As I sat with a few nurses they asked me what I am giving up for Lent. As their words echo into my ear they can see a look of concern. Then I blurted out, "The beginning of the year I already gave up ice cream and peanut butter cups. Is there any other thing to give up?" We laughed.

I know disciples will increase their religious practices and attempt to become more spiritual. And by all means, my prayer is that your relationships bond with God strengthens. In this Lenten journey, be intentional and embrace the uncertainty of this journey. Let us consider our personal and collective practices; rather, it is through worship, study, serving, giving, and sharing our faith. This season let us not concentrate on what we are giving up but rather on our intentions and take time to reflect and journal throughout this expedition.

In this season, let us prepared to leave a legacy for coming generations that they will see what the Lord has done. In this season, let this journey shape you so that people not yet born will praise and reap the wealth that God was and is still speaking.

In this season, let us considered this question. Has the church reached a plateau? Let me redirect my question. Have we plateaued in the way we embody the glory of God? Perhaps in this season, let us make an honest evaluation of how we live, move, and reveal our being in our communities and church. We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us. Perhaps we need to resolve with each other are we living in fear? Have we let the whispers of fear move us into stagnation?

More important, I think that since the church is a living organism and has an administrative aspect, perhaps we need to address our managerial practices. (I digress)

As we prepare for Lent and move into another valuable time of a believer's life, Easter, let us listen for God's word. Listen to God's word not by pondering ancient history but by expecting discoveries to emerge. In this season, listen for God's word with expectation and hope that God is always promising a new beginning and always bringing forth new life. Perhaps we still need to live as faithful people. David Lose states, "Faith is being able to see what God is already doing." In this Lenten season, may our faith boost, and when we arrive at Easter, hopefully, we can see the jewels that God already exemplified for his acclaim.

# Lent



## Consistory News by Charlene Ziegler, Secretary

Consistory met on January 27, 2020.

Prior to the meeting a baked potato and salad dinner was held to thank the outgoing Consistory members Scott Benfer, Brenda Good and Louise Walmer. Beth Barto was welcomed as a new member.

The Election of Officers was then held.  
The following slate was presented and approved:

**Keith Gingrich** to remain **President**  
**Julie Ditzler** for **Vice President**  
**Charlene Ziegler** to remain **Secretary**  
**Louise Walmer** to remain **Treasurer**

A Copier Lease and Maintenance contract will be signed for 5-years with Stratix which is the same company contracted previously..

A proposal to replace the coffee maker in the kitchen was presented. A coffeemaker similar to the current one will be purchased.

The Baked Potato Bar on January 26, 2020 raised \$205



**\$8.50**  
per person

**START YOUR SATURDAY OFF THE RIGHT WAY!**  
**ALL YOU CAN EAT BREAKFAST**

**7 AM - 10:30 AM | Saturday, March 14**

St. John's UCC 141 W. Main St. Fredericksburg, PA 17026  
[www.stjohnsuccfburg.org](http://www.stjohnsuccfburg.org) 717-865-7222



Pastor Tony is planning to have a Lenten Bible Study. The sessions will be starting Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup> and every Wednesday through April 1<sup>st</sup>. However, there will be no session on March 11<sup>th</sup> at noon all is welcome at the 6PM study. The Bible Study is titled "The Walk" by Adam Hamilton. Description: How do we walk with Christ – daily follow him, grow in him, and faithfully serve him? Join Adam Hamilton this Lent and Easter in "The Walk" and discover five essential spiritual practices rooted in

Jesus' own walk with God. In each chapter Hamilton's engaging teaching style will help you explore one of these practices.

The times will be Noon – 1PM and 6:00PM – 7:00PM. Soup will be available at noon. Any questions,

**From The Christian Connection Corner** by Angie Michael  
Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. —Ephesians 6:10

The committee re-convened in February to begin planning Vacation Bible School 2020. This Summer we're helping the Knights Of North Castle assemble the King's armor, but the armor isn't what the knights think it is! During VBS week our students will learn about the Bible stories of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego; David and Goliath; Mary's Journey to Bethlehem; Jesus Walking on Water; and Paul and Silas. Please mark your calendars with the following dates, and consider helping out with VBS planning or during VBS week here at the church!

#### **DATES TO KNOW:**

Saturday, April 18 at 9 AM: Join us in the church social hall to help make decorations for VBS!

Saturday, July 11 at 9 AM: Join us at the church to help set up and decorate for VBS week!

Monday, July 13 - Friday, July 17, 5:45 AM - 8 PM: VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL WEEK

#### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Special Events Committee of UCC Homes, we invite you, our partners in mission, to participate in a variety of different ways for our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Helping Hands Dinner and Auction scheduled for Saturday, May 2, 2020 at the Hershey Country Club. Our special anniversary event will be even more special than previous years with recognition of honored guests and long-time donors as well as new and unique auction items!

This evening will begin at 5:30PM with a silent auction followed by dinner at 7:00PM. The live auction is scheduled to begin after dinner. The cost of the evening is \$90.00 per person. Though this may seem costly, \$45.00 from each ticket will directly benefit the Benevolent Endowment Trust Fund, thus benefiting those residents in need of assistance.

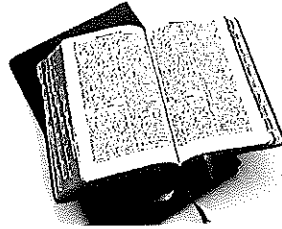
#### **Pocket Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Several ladies met twice for lunch and to knit Pocket Prayer Shawls. We now have more than 20 on hand.

We've decided that while we will continue to make sure that there are pocket prayer shawls to share, we'd like to knit scarves and hats for the homeless and the less fortunate.

Our next gathering will be on Wednesday, March 11th at 12 noon. Come and knit or crochet a project with us. Bring along a lunch or snack. Stay as long as you'd like. We usually spend about an 1 ½ - 2 hours, together.

## MARCH WORSHIP NEWS



Sunday March 1, 2020  
First Sunday in Lent  
Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7  
Psalm 32  
Romans 5:12-19  
Matthew 4:1-11

Sunday, March 8, 2020  
Second Sunday in Lent  
Genesis 12:1-4a  
Psalm 121  
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17  
John 3:1-17

Sunday, March 15, 2020  
Third Sunday in Lent  
Exodus 17:1-7  
Psalm 95  
Romans 5:1-11  
John 4:5-42

Sunday, March 22, 2020  
Fourth Sunday in Lent  
I Samuel 16:1-13  
Psalm 23  
Ephesians 5:8-14  
John 9:1-41

Sunday, March 29, 2020  
Fifth Sunday in Lent  
Ezekiel 37:1-14  
Psalm 130  
Romans 8:6-11  
John 11:1-45

## APRIL WORSHIP NEWS

Sunday, April 5, 2020  
Sixth Sunday in Lent  
PALM SUNDAY  
(Liturgy of the Palms)  
Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29  
Matthew 21:1-11  
(Liturgy of the Passion)  
Isaiah 50:4-9a-Psalm 31:9-16-  
Philippians 2:5-11  
Matthew 27:11-54  
Sunday, April 12, 2020  
EASTER  
Acts 10:34-43  
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24  
Colossians 3:1-4  
John 20:1-18

Sunday, April 19, 2020  
Second Sunday of Easter  
Acts 2:2-14a, 22-32  
Psalm 16  
I Peter 1:3-9  
John 20:19-31

Sunday, April 26, 2020  
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	16 Marlene Zechman
6 Missy Daub	20 Mildred Schriver
6 Rev. Thomas Jackman	21 Kathy Fegan
6 Glenn Rudy	21 Ginny Knapp
6 Brenda Good	24 Steve Shaffer
6 Tiara Rice	26 Jeremy Stoltz
8 Randy Ziegler	28 Gary Trautman
16 Paul Smith	30 Melissa Seltzer

### Happy Anniversary to:

2 Ken & Violet Leibensperger  
15 Marc & Beth Ann Griffiths  
27 Jeremy & Alyssa Stoltz  
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. 1 Beth Barto  
Mar. 8 Julie Ditzler  
Mar. 15 Keith Gingrich  
Mar. 22 Brenda Good  
Mar. 29 Music Sunday

#### March Flowers

Mar. 1 Brenda Good  
Mar. 8 Donna Eberly-Lehman  
Mar. 15 OPEN  
Mar. 22 Joe & Julie Ditzler  
Mar. 29 Barbara Trainor

#### February Attendance

Feb. 2 43  
Feb. 9 32  
Feb. 16 31  
Feb. 23

#### March. Bulletins

Mar. 1 Brenda Good  
Mar. 8 Donna Eberly-Lehman  
Mar. 15 OPEN  
Mar. 22 Joe & Julie Ditzler  
Mar. 29 Barbara Trainor

#### March Coffee Host

Mar. 1 OPEN  
Mar. 8 OPEN  
Mar. 15 OPEN  
Mar. 22 OPEN  
Mar. 29 OPEN

March Deacon  
Angela Michael



## APRIL CELEBRATION

### Happy Birthday to:

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

10 McKenna Zohn  
11 Ken Mohn  
12 Andrew Fegan  
13 Josh Stoltz  
18 Wade Tyrpin

18 Zachary Baynard  
20 Becky Martin  
20 Leah Stoltz  
20 Kayla Benfer

### 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.  
Thank you.

## Sunday Worship Volunteers, Thank You!

### April Readers

Apr. 5 Pam Emery  
Apr. 12 Dena Eberhart  
Apr. 19 Beth Barto  
Apr. 26 Charlene Ziegler

### April Flowers

Apr. 5 OPEN  
Apr. 12 OPEN  
Apr. 19 OPEN  
Apr. 26 Millie Schriver

### April Deacon Elizabeth Overton

### April Bulletins

Apr. 5 OPEN  
Apr. 12 OPEN  
Apr. 19 OPEN  
Apr. 26 Millie Schriver

### April Coffee Host

Apr. 5 Ginny Knapp  
Apr. 12 Ginny Knapp  
Apr. 19 Ginny Knapp  
Apr. 26 Ginny Knapp

### SPONSORS NEEDED

Flowers & Bulletins:  
Flowers: March 15th  
April 5th, 12th & 19th  
Bulletins: March 15th  
April 5th, 12th & 19th  
Coffee Host: Month of  
March  
Sign up sheet is in the  
Social Hall



## **Music and Worship Committee** by Louise Walmer **Sr. Choir**

The Sr. Choir is busy preparing our Sunday anthems as well as a cantata to be sung during the worship service on May. 17.

In our UCC calendars, the theme for Sunday May 17th is, Witness of Love. What better way to promote that theme than to sing the cantata titled, "Redeeming Love".

The publisher of the cantata says; "Redeeming Love! No words could better describe God's long-suffering patience, nor the gift of his Son for our eternal redemption. Love is the golden thread that runs through the scriptures, and it is pivotal to the Easter story."

### **Choir Anthems for March and April:**

**Mar 1** - "Amazing Grace/Pachelbel's Canon" Arrg by Jean Anne Shafferman

**Mar 15** - "Just As I Am, I Come" Arrg by Mary McDonald

**Apr 5** - Palm Sunday, "Rejoice! Rejoice! Jerusalem" by Robert and Betty Hughes

**Apr 12** - Easter: "Hallelujah!" by Robert and Betty Hughes

There will be **no** choir rehearsal on: Mar 18, Mar 25, Apr 15, and Apr. 22.

### **Music and Worship** by Louise Walmer

The Baked Potato Bar raised \$205 for our Music Program. Thank you to everyone who donated the supplies and to those who enjoyed the potatoes and supported the Music Ministry.

Our committee is busy planning the Women's Retreat scheduled for 9-2 on Sat., June 6. The theme for the retreat will be "Fruit of the Spirit". Women of St. John's: Mark your 2020 calendars and invite your friends and family to attend the retreat. Set aside these few hours to gather for some fun, fellowship, and worship.


The next meeting of this committee is on Wednesday, Mar. 4th at 6pm.

## **Women's Retreat - Fruit of the Spirit** **Galatians 5: 22-23**




**Saturday, June 6, 2020**  
**9AM - 2PM**  
**St. John's UCC**  
**141 W Main St.**  
**Fredericksburg, PA 17026**  
**717-865-7222**

# MARCH 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 9:30 AM Christian Connection 11:00 AM Worship (Communion) Helen Walmer Fund</p>	2	<p>3 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM</p>	<p>4 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM Noon— Bible Study 6:00PM Bible Study 6:00PM Music &amp; Worship Meeting 7:00PM Choir Practice</p>	<p>5 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM</p>	6	 <p>Spring Forward!</p>
<p>8 9:30 AM Christian Connection 11:00 AM Worship JOY Pantry Sunday</p>	9	<p>10 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM</p>	<p>11 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM Pocket Prayer Shawls Group Noon 6:00PM Bible Study 7:00PM Choir Practice</p>	<p>12 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM</p>	13	
<p>15 9:30 AM Christian Connection 11:00 AM Worship</p>	16	<p>17 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM 7:00PM Fellowship Meeting</p>	<p>18 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM Noon— Bible Study 6:00PM Bible Study NO Choir Practice</p>	<p>19 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM</p>	18	21
<p>22 9:30 AM Christian Connection 11:00 AM Worship Dine &amp; Donate Sunday</p>	23	<p>24 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM</p>	<p>25 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM NO Choir Practice</p>	<p>26 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM</p>	27	28
<p>29 9:30 AM Christian Connection 11:00 AM Worship Deacon Fund Sunday</p>	<p>30 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM 7:00PM Consistory Meeting</p>	31				



# APRIL 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM Noon- Bible Study 6:00PM Bible Study  7:00PM Choir Practice	2 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM	3	4
5 Palm Sunday 9:30AM Christian Connection 11:00 AM Worship (Communion)  Helen Walmer Fund Sunday	6	7 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM	8 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM  7:00PM Choir Practice	9 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM  7:00PM Maundy Thursday Service at Christ Church	10  7:00PM Good Friday Service at Fredericksburg United Methodist	11
12 EASTER 6:25 AM Sunrise Service 9:30AM Christian Connection 11:00 AM Worship Joy Pantry Sunday	13	14 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM	15 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM  NO Choir Choir Practice	16 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM	17	18 9:00AM VBS Making Decorations
19 NO Church Services at St. John's  10:00AM Jazz Festival at Christ Church	20	21 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM	22 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM  NO Choir Practice	23 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM	24	25
26 11:00 AM Worship 9:30AM Christian Connection Deacon Fund Sunday Dine & Donate Sunday	27 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM  7:00PM Consistory Meeting	28	29 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM  7:00PM Choir Practice	30 Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00PM		

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CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

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**Christian Connection—  
9:30AM  
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  
Mrs. Beth Ann Griffiths, Organist  
Mrs. Louise Walmer, Choir Director  
Ms. 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  
Angela Michael  
Jerry Mohn  
Elizabeth Overton