

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

January—February 2022

PASTOR TONY'S MESSAGE

We are Blessed! The grace of God has appeared. God is very gracious. In his generous love for us, he offers us everything we need to resist the narrative of doom and gloom. Think of the attributes of God as we launch ourselves into the New Year. In Western (Christian) thought, God, is traditionally described, as a being that possesses at least three necessary properties: omniscience (all-knowing), omnipotence (all-powerful), and omnibenevolence (supremely good). Let us “stand” and without any hesitation and begin the year by reminding ourselves that as collaborators with God, our testimonies for others may be the voices from within the veil. According to Romans 8:37, We are more than conquerors: Amplified Bible Yet in all these things, we are more than conquerors and gain an overwhelming victory through Him who loved us [so much that He died for us].

Therefore with that said, we should start our calendar year with The Apostles' Creed and boldly proclaim what we believe:

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.

Let us
consider
our callings,
let us *reflect*
on our
responsibilities, and
let us
follow
Jesus Christ

Thomas S. Manson

Consistory News by Charlene Ziegler, Secretary

Consistory met in November and December 2021, and held the Annual Meeting.

During the Annual Meeting, the 2022 Budget, was reviewed and approved. Treasurer Louise Walmer went over the changes and spoke about negotiating with the gas and electric companies for better rates. Another change concerned the computer technical support and a switch to a local company. She also explained the transfer of funds between accounts necessary through the year to meet expenses.

The fund raisers held in the fall were successful. The fundraisers included a chicken barbeque, apple dumpling sale, Avon fundraiser, as well as the continuing collection of Redner's tapes. Thank you to the organizers, sellers and purchasers.

Also discussed at the meetings was how to fill the delegate opening at the UCC Home with someone from St. John's. Julie Ditzler offered to become the delegate. It was noted that Lebanon County Christian Ministries is looking for volunteers.

The wooden Nativity scene that appeared during the Christmas season was donated by a former St. John's member, Jennifer Hughes, in memory of Regina Engler who recently passed away.

Mark your calendars for the Annual Celebration on January 23, 2022. A baked potato bar will be held that day. New Consistory members will be installed during the worship service.

The next Consistory meeting will be held January 31, 2022.

Treasurer's Report by Louise Walmer

The 2022 Budget was approved at the annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, November 21, 2021. Copies of the budget are available. If you want a copy of the budget, please contact the church office or Louise Walmer and one will be mailed or delivered to you.

\$310.00 was collected in our Thank Offering envelopes and sent to the Lebanon Region PowerPack Project.

Actual 2021 Financials Statistics are:

Expenses	\$93,462.91
Income	<u>\$67,696.99</u>
Difference	(\$25,765.92)

Music & Worship Meeting

The Music and Worship Committee will be meeting January 19, 2022 at 6:00 PM. If you would be interested in joining us please come to this meeting as we plan for the upcoming Lenten season.

Sr. Choir News by Louise Walmer

On Dec. 19 our Sr Choir, the Christ Church Sr. Choir and their Praise Team prepared and presented a Christmas Music program for a joint worship service here at St. John's. It was a wonderful way to celebrate the Christmas season with our brothers and sisters from Christ Church. A cookie fellowship followed the worship service. Many thanks to everyone who helped to make this program and fellowship special.

Our January and February Choir Rehearsal and Anthem Schedule is as follows:

Wednesday night rehearsals at 7pm on: Jan 5, 12, 19, 26 and Feb 9, 16, 23. There will be no rehearsal on Feb. 2.

Anthems will be sung on Sunday, Jan. 2, 16, Feb 6, & 20.

Anthems on:

Jan 2 - "The Work of Christmas Begins" by Frombach/Courtney

Jan 16 - "Great is the Lord" arrg. by Greer

The Baked Potato Bar will be Back!

By Louise Walmer

The Music and Worship Committee is planning another delicious "Baked Potato Bar. The Baked Potatoes with all their Fixin's" will be ready for your enjoyment following worship on Sunday, January 23rd. Plan to stay for the good food and fellowship.

Takeout's will be available if you'd like.

Donations received for this event will support our Organ and Piano Maintenance. The Organ Maintenance agreement and piano tuning cost us \$950 per year.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL CELEBRATION

Join us after worship on Sunday, January 23, 2022. We will also celebrate our ministry in 2021 and look to what God has in store for us in 2022!

It will be a great time to consider where we have been as a congregation, and where we would like to go. Please bring your ideas, and plan to be present at this gathering.

JOY Pantry Report by Charlene Ziegler

St. John's pantry donation Sunday is the 2nd Sunday of each month. A basket in the vestibule is available to place donations.

Items donated for Harvest Home weighed 53.5 pounds.

The most recent donation from St. John's was 28.6 pounds.

To keep up to date with the Pantry, the website can be found at www.joypantry.org.

The most recent needs are: canned & instant potatoes, fruit cocktail, stuffing mix, mixed vegetables, canned carrots, canned red beets, pudding cups, dish detergent, laundry detergent, tissues, ketchup & mustard, Spam/canned hams, tuna, juices: Apple, Cranberry, Grape (or other assorted), BBQ sauce, Ranch (or assorted salad) dressing, cream of soups (Potato, Mushroom, Chicken, etc.), Ramen (Chicken, Beef, Shrimp, Veggie, etc.), boxed shelf-stable milk, salt & pepper shakers, ladies sanitary products, shampoo & conditioner

Monetary donations are also accepted.

JANUARY WORSHIP NEWS



Sunday, January 2, 2022
Second Sunday after Christmas
Jeremiah 31: 7-14
Psalm 147: 12-20
Ephesians 1: 3-14
John 1: 1-18

Sunday, January 9, 2022
First Sunday after Epiphany
Isaiah 43: 1-7
Psalm 29
Acts 8: 14-17
Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22

Sunday, January 16, 2022
Second Sunday after Epiphany
Isaiah 62: 1-5
Psalm 36: 5-10
I Corinthians 12:1-11
John 2: 1-11

January 23, 2022
Third Sunday after Epiphany
Nehemiah 8: 1-3, 5-6, 8-10
Psalm 19
I Corinthians 12: 12-31a
Luke 4: 14-21

January 30, 2021
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
Jeremiah 1: 4-10
Psalm 71: 1-6
I Corinthians 13: 1-13
Luke 4: 21-30

JOURNEY OF *Faith*

FEBRUARY WORSHIP NEWS

February 6, 2022
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
Isaiah 6: 1-13
Psalm 138
I Corinthians 15: 1-11
Luke 5: 1-11

February 13, 2022
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany
Jeremiah 17: 5-10
Psalm 1
I Corinthians 15: 12-20
Luke 6: 17-26

February 20, 2022
Seventh Sunday after Epiphany
Genesis 45: 3-11, 15
Psalm 37: 1-11, 39-40
I Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50
Luke 6: 27-38

February 27, 2022
Transfiguration
Exodus 34: 29-35
Psalm 99
2 Corinthians 3: 12-4:2
Luke 9: 28-43a

JANUARY CELEBRATION

Happy Birthday

5 Barb Trainor
11 Cynda Kless
15 Jason Eberhart
24 Chase Mease

Happy Anniversary to:

29 Dena and Phil Eberhart

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

Sunday Worship Volunteers, Thank You!

January Readers

2 Keith Gingrich
9 Joe Ditzler
16 Louise Walmer
23 Charlene Ziegler
30 Julie Ditzler

January Flowers

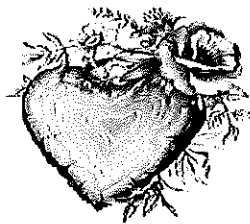
2 OPEN
9 OPEN
16 Elizabeth Overton
23 OPEN
30 Open

December Attendance

5 23
12 26
19 43
24 34
26 No Service

January Bulletins

2 Open
9 Open
16 Elizabeth Overton
23 Open
30 Open



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January Deacon
Robin Gingrich

Come
Worship
with us

FEBRUARY CELEBRATION

Happy Birthday

1 Alison Long
4 John Kless
6 Shirley Fortna
11 Shirley Rudy
15 Cindy Michael
21 Charlene Ziegler

22 Becky Griffiths
23 Joe Ditzler
23 Andrew Eberhart
24 Kim Kapp
25 Pamela Myers

Happy Anniversary to:

6 Cathy & Chris Rentschler

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

Sunday Worship Volunteers, Thank You!

February Readers

Feb. 6 Beth Barto
Feb 13 Neal Grimes
Feb. 20 Julie Ditzler
Feb. 27 Keith Gingrich

February Flowers

Feb. 6 Open
Feb 13 Open
Feb. 20 Open
Feb. 27 Open

February Deacon

To Be Announced

February Bulletins

Feb. 6 Open
Feb 13 Open
Feb. 20 Open
Feb. 27 Open



SPONSORS NEEDED

Flowers & Bulletins:
Jan. 9, 16, 23 & 30
Feb. 6, 13 20 & 27
Sign up sheet is in the
Social Hall



LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

Name of the Bible Study:

Words of Life “Jesus and the Promise of the Ten Commandments Today”

By Adam Hamilton

Product Description:

Nearly everyone has heard of the Ten Commandments, the list of "thou-shalt-nots" found in the Bible. Jesus saw these commandments not as onerous burdens, but as guideposts to help us experience a good and beautiful life. These ten ancient "words" were given to us by a loving God who longed to set safe boundaries, create order out of chaos, help communities live peacefully, and protect us--often from ourselves.

In this book of Scripture and inspiration, bestselling author Adam Hamilton brings modern eyes to the most important set of ethics in history. He considers the commandments in their historical context, considering the meaning of each commandment in Hebrew, unpacking how Jesus reinterpreted them, and showing how every thou-shalt-not was intended to point to a life-giving "thou shalt." He also explores how the latest research in science and psychology illuminates these commandments, rightly understood, as a way of ordering one's life beautifully in the present day. In a culture marked by workaholism, materialism, and social media-driven envy, God has given us a time-tested path that leads to gratitude, confidence, and peace.

A landmark work from one of our most trusted biblical thinkers, Words of Life is an inspiring, thought-provoking read for anyone seeking to live a meaningful and joyful life.

The Bible Study will be Wednesday's March 9, 16, 23 & 30 at 6PM in the Social Hall.

Change in Church Office Hours

Beginning the 1st week of January, church office hours will change to:

10:00AM to 3:00PM on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays

The last week of the month the office hours will be:

10:00AM to 3:00PM on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.

If you have church business or need at times other than these set office hours, please contact Donna Eberly-Lehman or Louise Walmer for assistance. Thank you.

THANK YOU!

I would like to thank everyone for their Christmas Cards and gifts. I appreciate your thoughtfulness. I wish each of you a very Happy & Healthy New Year!

Donna Eberly-Lehman

JANUARY 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:45 Christian Connection 11:00 Worship (Communion) Helen Walmer Fund Sunday	3	4 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM	5 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM 6:00PM Bell Choir Practice 7:00PM Choir Practice	6 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM	7	8
9 9:45 Christian Connection 11:00 Worship JOY Pantry Sunday 3:00PM Bible Study	10 7:00 PM Joint Council Meeting of St. John's & Christ Church @ Annville	11 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM	12 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM 7:00PM Choir Practice	13 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM	14	15
16 9:45 Christian Connection 11:00 Worship	17	18 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM	19 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM 6:00PM Music & Worship Meeting 7:00PM Choir Practice	20 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM	21	22
23 9:45 Christian Connection 11:00 Worship Potato Bar & Annual Congregation Meeting Following Worship	24 7:00PM Elder's Meeting	25 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM	26 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM 7:00PM Choir Practice	27 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM	28	29
30 9:45 Christian Connection 11:00 Worship Deacon Fund Sunday	31 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM 7:00 PM Consistory					

FEBRUARY 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Office Hours 10:00 AM— 3:00PM	2 Office Hours 10:00 AM— 3:00PM	3 Office Hours 10:00 AM— 3:00PM	4	5
6 9:45 Christian Connection 11:00 Worship (Communion) Helen Walmer Fund Sunday	7	8 Office Hours 10:00 AM— 3:00PM	9 Office Hours 10:00 AM— 3:00PM 7:00PM Choir Practice	10 Office Hours 10:00 AM— 3:00PM Vacation	11	12
13 9:45 Christian Connection 11:00 Worship JOY Pantry Sunday	14	15 Office Hours 10:00 AM— 3:00PM	16 Office Hours 10:00 AM— 3:00PM 7:00PM Choir Practice	17 Office Hours 10:00 AM— 3:00PM	18	19
20 9:45 Christian Connection 11:00 Worship	21	22 Office Hours 10:00 AM— 3:00PM	23 Office Hours 10:00 AM— 3:00PM 7:00PM Choir Practice	24 Office Hours 10:00 AM— 3:00PM	25	26
27 9:45 Christian Connection 11:00 Worship Deacon Fund Sunday	28 Office Hours 10:00 AM— 3:00PM 7:00 PM Consistory		29 Office Hours 10:00 AM— 3:00PM	30 Office Hours 10:00 AM— 3:00PM	31	

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CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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

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Church Staff

Rev. Tony Fields, Sr. Pastor
Beth Ann Griffiths, Organist
Louise Walmer, Choir Director
Donna Eberly-Lehman Church Secretary

**Christian Connection—
9:45AM
11:00 AM Morning Worship**

Consistory

Keith Gingrich, President
Julie Ditzler, Vice President
Charlene Ziegler, Secretary
Louise Walmer, Treasurer

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.

Elders

Julie Ditzler
Keith Gingrich
Mark Tyrpin
Charlene Ziegler

Deacons

Beth Barto
Robin Gingrich
Jerry Mohn
Elizabeth Overton