

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

November—December 2022

PASTOR TONY'S MESSAGE

Praise the Lord your God

Praise the Lord your God who is from everlasting to everlasting. Nehemiah 9:5 (NIV)

Another year is coming to an end -how can it be possible? Honestly, I am beginning to believe my seniors who say that as you get older, it seems as though time moves at a rapid pace. We are about to go into a new church calendar. And as Mother Nature allowed us to see the beauty of nature by adorning each tree with lush, colorful, and vivid changing colors from green to gorgeous shades of red, orange, and yellow. Perhaps this beauty is preparing humanity to take a look at the essence of God in our midst. Just as the seasons progress every year so do God's promises. God is from everlasting to everlasting. Our world had a beginning while humans and everything within it, however God did not. He has always been and always will be. Truths about God are profound things, but God's eternity is the highest mystery. Many ask the question: Is God eternal or everlasting?

Some will answer His eternal nature is thought of as being everlasting rather than timeless. He never came into existence and he will never go out of existence, but he exists within time. God will continue and endure all-time more important continuing for a long time or indefinitely.

Therefore as the seasons depart let's not move into the new calendar and the winter season with anxiety or apprehension. Let's go with the Blessed reassurance that God is from everlasting to everlasting. This too is beautiful. Therefore we should give thanks and approach this advent season and Christmas season with high expectations knowing that God Is! God is eternal. And since God has no beginning or end or starting point when He came into existence, we can rest assured that the future does not surprise God because again, He Is. Therefore let's plan for a beautiful and glorious ending to 2022.

May God bless you and keep you is always my prayer.

Don't worry God is in control.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES:

Sunday, December 11 at 10:00AM—Combine worship service at St. John's UCC Christmas Music program (Both St. John's & Christ Church choirs) with fellowship time to follow.

Saturday, December 24 at 7:00PM St. John's UCC & 10:30PM at Christ Church UCC.

Sunday, December 25 at 10:00AM at Christ Church UCC with fellowship time to follow.

Sunday, January 1 at 10:00am combined worship at St. John's UCC.

Consistory News by Charlene Ziegler

Consistory Held their regular meetings August 29 and September 26, 2022.

Prior to the start of the business meeting on August 29, Robin Gingrich and Dena Eberhart, members of the Social Hall Committee, presented the vision for the future Social Hall.

The plan is for a Communication Center as you enter the space, a gathering area, a coffee area and a Sunday School section. The ladies presented options for furniture for the specific areas except for the school section which will use the current tables and chairs. Prices were presented for the specific items.

A motion was made to use money from the Memorial Funds to pay for the purchase. The purchase will include 8 chairs, 4 table sets and a “fireplace”. The color scheme will be light blue on three walls with the fourth wall a darker blue. Exact shades will be chosen after furniture arrives. The floor will be “wood” laminate.

Ernest Zserai was available to answer questions regarding his company’s estimate. He would plan on starting the work late October/early November with a finish date by Thanksgiving. An agreement was signed with Zserai Construction.

Volunteers have been busy doing some of the demolition work.

Other events for St. John’s discussed at the meetings were Rally Day September 11, the fall Flea Market and Bake Sale September 23 and 24, the start of Sunday School on September 25. Harvest Home will be on October 16 and a Chicken Barbeque will be held on October 22. Items will be collected for Operation Christmas Child again this year.

Holiday worship services are set through the end of the year.

Julie Ditzler informed the Consistory that the historic records for St. John’s are stored at the Lancaster Seminary with records from other churches. She was informed they are running out of storage space and are opting to send the records out of state to be stored. She would like to have the records remain in our possession. Consistory told Julie to bring the records back to the church.

The Consistory will be reviewing the proposed budget for 2023 at the next meeting

The next Consistory meeting will be held October 31, 2022 at 7 p.m. Consistory meetings are open to all members of St. John’s and members are more than welcome to attend.

Special Worship Services

November and December are busy month for the church calendar. Besides the celebration of the Holidays these months include church calendar events. Please make note of the dates and consider attending 1 or all of them.

Sunday, Nov 6	Saints Sunday and Memorial Recognition
Wednesday, Nov 23	Community Thanksgiving Worship at 7PM
Sunday, Nov 20	Reign of Christ Sunday
Sunday, Nov 27	1 st Sunday of Advent
Sunday, Dec 4	2 nd Sunday of Advent
Sunday, Dec 11	3 rd Sunday of Advent - Christmas Music Sunday The Sr Choirs of St. John’s and Christ Church, Annville will be participating. This service begins at 10AM
Sunday, Dec 18	4 th Sunday of Advent
Saturday, Dec 24	Christmas Eve Worship 7PM at St. John’s Christmas Eve Worship 10:30PM at Christ Church, Annville
Sunday, Dec 25	Christmas Day Joint Worship at 10AM, Christ Church, Annville. There is no service at St. John’s
Sunday, Jan 1, 2023	New Year’s Day Joint Worship at 10AM, at St. John’s

NOVEMBER WORSHIP NEWS



Sunday, November 6, 2022
Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost
Haggai 1: 15b-22:9
Psalm 145: 1-5, 17-21
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17
Luke 20: 27-38

Sunday, November 13, 2022
Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost
Isaiah 65: 17-25— Psalm 98
2Thessalonians 3:3-13
Luke 21:5-19

Sunday, November 20, 2022
Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Jeremiah 23: 1-6
Psalm 46
Colossians 1:11-20
Luke 23:33-43

Thursday, November 24, 2022
Thanksgiving Day
Deuteronomy 26: 1-11—Psalm 100
Philippians 4:4-9
John 6:25-35

Sunday, November 27, 2022
First Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 2: 1-5
Psalm 122
Romans 13:11-14
Matthew 24: 36-44



DECEMBER WORSHIP NEWS

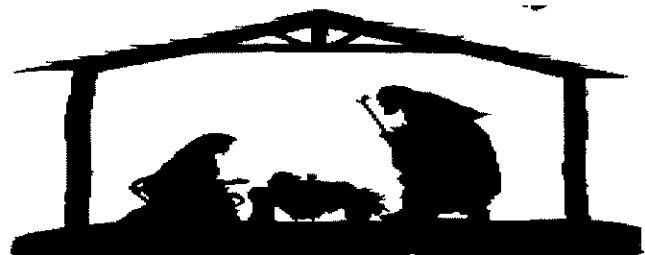
Sunday, December 4, 2022
Second Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 11:1-10
Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19
Romans 15:4-13
Matthew 3:1-12

Sunday, December 11, 2022
Third Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 35: 1-10
Psalm 146:5-10
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11

Sunday, December 18, 2022
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 7:10-16
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
Romans 1:18-25
Matthew 1:18-25

Saturday, December 24, 2022
Christmas Eve
Isaiah 9:2-7
Psalm 96
Titus 2:11-14
Luke 2: 1-20

Sunday, December 25, 2022
Christmas Day
Isaiah 52:7-10
Psalm 98
Hebrews 1:1-12
John 1: 1-14



NOVEMBER CELEBRATION

Happy Birthday to:

1 Margaret Rudy	10 Dena Eberhart	28 Terry Knapp
2 Mary Gerhart	12 Delanae Shaffer	30 Violet Leibensperger
4 Pat Rentschler	16 Michigan Daub	
9 Jillian Ditzler	19 Elizabeth Overton	
9 Dylan Kapp	27 Walter Bolles	

Happy Anniversary to:

8 Darlene & Steve Stoltz

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

Sunday Worship Volunteers, Thank You!

November Readers

Nov. 6 Neal Grimes
Nov. 13 Louise Walmer
Nov. 20 Beth Barto
Nov. 27 Joe Ditzler

November Flowers

Nov. 6 Donna Eberly-Lehman
Nov. 13 OPEN
Nov. 20 Ginny & Terry Knapp
Nov. 27 Barbara Trainor

November Bulletins

Nov. 6 Donna Eberly-Lehman
Nov. 13 OPEN
Nov. 20 Ginny & Terry Knapp
Nov. 27 Barbara Trainor

October Attendance

Oct. 2 24
Oct. 9 22
Oct. 16 26
Oct. 23 22
Oct. 30 21

November Deacon
Beth Barto



DECEMBER CELEBRATION

Happy Birthday

2 Jodie Fields	25 Shayne Tyrpin
6 Mabel Rudy	25 Larry Walmer
11 Jarrod Kapp	27 Kadie Walmer
11 Chris Rentschler	31 Rev. Allen Helwig
16 Brad Griffiths	

Happy Anniversary

7 Jean Ann & Neal Grimes

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

Sunday Worship Volunteers, Thank You!

December Reader
Dec. 4 Keith Gingrich
Dec. 11 Charlene Ziegler
Dec. 18 Louise Walmer
Dec. 24 Julie Ditzler
Dec. 25 No Service at
St. John's

December Flowers
Dec. 4 Neal & Jean Grimes
Dec. 11 OPEN
Dec. 18 Rick & Lisa Rudy
Dec. 25 No Service at
St. John's

December Deacon
Joe Ditzler

December Bulletins
Dec. 4 Neal & Jean Grimes
Dec. 11 OPEN
Dec. 18 Rick & Lisa Rudy
Dec. 25 No Service at
St. John's

SPONSORS NEEDED
Flowers & Bulletins
November 11
December 12

Signup sheet is on the Bulletin
Board in the Narthex



JOY Pantry Report by Charlene Ziegler

The most recent donation from St. John's monthly collection was 45 pounds of food and a cash donation of \$20. A large number of totes were also given.

Items donated for Harvest Home on October 16, 2022, weighed 78 pounds.

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

To keep up to date with the Pantry, the website can be found at www.joypantry.org. The most recent needs are: canned red beets, Hamburger Helper, canned pastas (Spaghetti-O's, Chef Boyardee), mandarin oranges, Progresso and Campbell's chunky soups, canned yams, applesauce, assorted fruit juices, assorted flavors of squeezable jellies, spaghetti/tomato sauces, ketchup, ranch dressing, mayonnaise, brownie mix, baking goods such as sugar, flour, sprinkles, etc., canned peas and carrots, pudding cups, Knorr Pasta & Rice sides, Rice-A-Roni, Cream of Soups (any kind), Manwich, peanut butter, pudding cups, baking soda, bleach, assorted cleaning products, dish detergent, laundry detergent, toilet paper, paper towels, size 4, 5 & 6 diapers and baby wipes.

They would also appreciate reusable tote bags!

All Saints Sunday 2022

On Sunday Nov 6, we will be celebrating All Saints Sunday by remembering members, family members and friends of St. John's who have passed away throughout this past year.

The church office has record of the following people who will be remembered: Regina Engler, Steve Kolar, Wencel Kolar Sr., Scott Gingrich, Ken Leibensperger, Kevin Regan and Jim Zidik.

Crafters

Did you know there are "Crafters" here at St. John's? Several of us here at St. John's are participating with women from Christ Church, Anville to knit and crochet items to be used in nursing homes, homeless shelters, etc.

Some of the items we've made include:

- the pocket prayer shawls that are available in the Narthex
- the pink dishcloths that were distributed recently to women in both congregations in recognition of Breast Cancer Aware Month
- doll clothes for the Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes
- hats, scarves, and blankets for those who need them

Some of the hats, scarves and blankets went to Williamsport for people who needed them in that community

Want to help? We knit and crochet these items using donated or extra yarn that we have on hand. We work at our own pace. No pressure to finish a project.

Oh, you are unable to knit or crochet? Would you want to learn? Or how about using a loom? Do you have any unwanted yarn around the house?

For more information to participate in our projects, to donate yarn to us, or to learn how to knit, crochet, or use a loom, contact: Donna Eberly-Lehman, Becky Martin, or Louise Walmer.

Christian Connection by Julie Ditzler

Our adult Sunday School class has been meeting every Sunday at 9:30, and we would love to have you come and join us. Right now we are studying the book of Isaiah with a course written by Melissa Spoelstra. Our author encourages us to strive less on our own and trust God more by learning about the ways God revealed his character, his calendar, his comfort, his commands, and his correction through the prophet Isaiah. So many of our beloved Advent readings foretelling the coming of Jesus can be found in this book. Come and prepare for the holiday season with us.

Sr. Choir by Louise Walmer
Sr. Choir Rehearsal Schedule

In November and December the Sr Choir will rehearse at 7PM on:

Wednesday Nov 2

Wednesday Nov 9

Wednesday Nov 16

Wednesday Nov 30

Wednesday Dec 7 - this will be a joint rehearsal with the Christ Church Sr Choir

Music and Worship by Louise Walmer

Our committee met on Wed., Sep 21. Louise opened the meeting with a prayer.

Dates were set and plans made for Harvest Home, All Saints Sunday, Thank Offering, Thanksgiving Eve worship, and our Christmas worship services.

Thank you to Dena Eberhart and Robin Gingrich for decorating the church for our Harvest Home and Thanksgiving services

Volunteers will be needed to light the Advent Wreath candles during the Advent and Christmas Eve services. If you are willing to volunteer talk to Louise

The committee is considering purchasing CDs from Worship Service Resources to be used for congregational singing in the event there is no organist or pianist available for worship services.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Jan 11 at 6pm. We closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

Operation Christmas Child by Julie Ditzler

We are in the final weeks of our Operation Christmas Child project. We have had a great response, and have collected most of the essentials that will be packed into each of our shoeboxes. What we're looking for now are some fun items to add some extra excitement to our gifts. Please remember that each item must be small enough to be packed into a shoebox. We are not requesting shipping donations this year because we have built up a good reserve in previous years, and the adult Sunday School class has voted to fund the difference. We will be wrapping and packing our boxes together on Sunday, November 13, beginning at 9:30. Please come and join in the fun.

I would like everyone to know that this will be the final year for packing our boxes together. We will continue to make boxes available for anyone who would like to fill one, and will make sure that all boxes filled by our congregation are delivered to the local drop-off point.

NEW ADDRESS


Neal & Jean Grimes

4 Kindred Place,


Annville PA 17003

Telephone 717-867-8504 & Cell Telephone 717-220-8296

NOVEMBER 2022

PSun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM	2 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM 6:30PM Bell Choir Practice 7:00PM Choir Practice	3 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM	4	5
6 All Saints Sunday 9:30AM Christian Connection 11:00 Worship (Communion) Thank Offering Helen Walmer Fund Sunday	7	8 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM	9 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM 6:30PM Bell Practice 7:00PM Choir Practice	10 Office Hours 10:00AM-3:00PM	11	12
13 9:30AM Packing Shoe boxes 11:00 Worship Thank Offering 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 9:30AM Christian Connection 11:00 Worship Thank Offering	21	22 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM	23 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM 7:00PM Thanksgiving Eve	 <p>© CarStodPhoto.com</p>	25	26
27 9:30AM Christian Connection 11:00 Worship Paint Can Donation Sunday	28 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM 7:00 PM Consistory	29	30 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM 6:30PM Bell Practice 7:00PM Choir Practice			

DECEMBER 2022

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	 <p><i>Merry Christmas</i></p> <p>I wish the love of Christ fills your home and life and makes each day to release countless blessings for you.</p> <p><small>Christmas.365greetings.com</small></p>			1 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM	2	3
4 9:30AM Christian Connection 11:00 Worship (Communion) Helen Walmer Fund	5	6 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM	7 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM 6:30PM Bell Practice 7:00PM Joint Choir	8 Office Closed Secretary Vacation Day	9	10
11 NO Christian Connection 10:00AM Joint Music Worship Service With Christ Church JOY Pantry Sunday	12	13 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM	14 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM	15 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM	16	17
18 9:30AM Christian Connection 11:00 Worship Paint Fund Sunday	19	20 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM	21 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM 7:00PM Choir Practice	22 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM	23	24 7:00PM Christmas Eve Service at St. John's 10:30 PM Christmas Eve Service at Christ Church
25 No Church at St. John's 10:00AM Joint Service at Christ Church in Anville	26	27 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM	28 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM 7:00PM Choir Practice	29 Office Hours 10:00 AM—3:00PM	30	31

UNITED CHURCH OF
CHRIST

141 W. Main POP Box 87
Fredericksburg PA 17026

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**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
Beth Ann Griffiths, Organist
Louise Walmer, Choir Director
Donna Eberly-Lehman Church

Consistory

Joe Ditzler, President
Robin Gingrich, Vice President
Charlene Ziegler, Secretary
Louise Walmer, Treasurer

Elders

Julie Ditzler
Keith Gingrich
Mark Tyrpin
Charlene Ziegler

Deacons

Beth Barto
Robin Gingrich
Joe Ditzler
Elizabeth Overton