

# Enlightener

October, 2019 Vol. XXXIX, No. 08

## Strength for Today, Bright Hope for Tomorrow

Each year a theme is created to bring a meaningful focus to our Covenant Commitment Campaign. Sometimes the process is lengthy, but this year's theme, **Strength for Today, Bright Hope for Tomorrow**, literally came from the pages of our hymnal. It appears in a favorite hymn for many of us at St. John's, "Great Is Your Faithfulness." When a theme leaps out from a verse of a hymn, one cannot help but think it is meant to be the theme that encourages us to make a covenant.

Just like athletes building muscular strength in a training camp, we as St. John's members must build our faith as individuals and as a congregation. We can begin doing this through worship, communion, scripture and prayer. This is a continuous process, just like exercising, or we lose strength. However, it does not end with these four building blocks. What we do with these building blocks is also essential. This is where our test of strength as a congregation comes in. To make it happen, we must have a committed and enthusiastic staff, members willing to support and create programs and ministries, and funding for all that we do.

In order to ensure *Strength for Today*, let us do so by supporting St. John's, for without strength now, expecting future growth and improvement is futile. And after all, do we not all want *Bright Hope for Tomorrow*? What will that bright hope entail and how will we attain it?

Start by prayerfully considering and completing the Covenant Commitment card in this *Enlightener*. Then bring your card to worship on **Stewardship Sunday, November 10**. As a symbol of our shared commitment, we will bring forward our commitment cards during worship when the offering is received. If you cannot attend worship on November 10, please note that special baskets for receiving the cards will be kept on the communion table throughout November. Come join with the Stewardship Committee to be a part of this covenant!

Barbara Metzler, Chair  
Lynnika Booraom  
Judy Emery  
Michelle Powell

Sally Jarinko  
Rev. Sue  
Judy Taylor  
Bob Taylor

Sandy Taylor  
Steve Botz



Church School	Sundays	9:00 AM
Worship	Sundays	8:00 & 10:15 AM

**"After Worship" refers to the 10:15 AM service.**

MEETINGS		
AA	Tuesdays	7:30 PM
AGM	10/6 & 27	Noon-1:30 PM
Boards and Council Meetings	10/14	7:00 & 8:00 PM
Brownies and Girl Scouts	10/7 & 21 Tuesdays	6:30 PM 7:00 PM
Chess Club	Fridays	6:00 PM
Health Ministry	10/6	After Worship
NAMI	10/1	7:00 PM
Prayer Group	10/28	7:00 PM
Prayer Shawl	10/7	6:30 PM
Prayer Walk	10/10 & 24	7:00 AM
St. John's Stampers	10/10	1:00 PM
Stewardship Meeting	No meeting in October	
The Art of Living	Saturdays	10:00 AM
Yoga	Thursdays	7:00 PM

CHILDREN'S CHOIR/UNITED VOICES		
Children's Choir: Activity Room	Wednesdays	6:00-7:15 PM
United Voices: Music Room	Wednesdays	5:30-6:30 PM

REHEARSALS		
Chancel Choir	Thursdays	7:30 PM
United Ringers	Thursdays	6:15 PM

EVENTS		
10/1	Indoor Yard Sale Drop-Off	8:00 AM-6:00 PM
10/2 & 3	Indoor Yard Sale	9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

EVENTS (continued)		
10/4	Indoor Yard Sale and Pack-Up Feed My Starving Children @ Del Val University	9:00 AM-1:00 PM 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
10/6	 World Communion Sunday <i>Neighbors in Need</i> Offering BP Screening CROP Walk	8:00 & 10:15 AM    1:00 PM
10/8	Men's Breakfast	9:00 AM
10/9, 16, 23, 30	Fall Bible Study	7:30-8:45 PM
10/11	Konevets Quartet	7:30 PM
10/12	Women's Retreat	9:00-11:30 AM
10/13	MANNA Sunday New Member Sunday Congregational Dinner Signing of Goodie Box Letters <i>Enlightener</i> Due Date Manna Benefit Concert	After Worship After Worship 7:00 PM
10/15	Worship at MANNA	7:30 PM
10/20	Stewardship Sunday Fairly Traded Coffee Sales Artist Series, John Deahl	After Worship 4:00 PM
10/24	Soup Prep <i>Enlightener</i> Folding Thim/Moyer Wedding Rehearsal	8:00 AM 9:30 AM 12:30 PM
10/25	Thim/Moyer Wedding	3:00 PM
10/26	Soup Cooking	8:00 AM
10/27	Prayer Shawl Sunday Soup Sale Artist Series, Ensemble Nobiles	4:00 PM
10/30	Communion	Noon & 12:30 PM
10/31	Reformation Day Halloween	

## October Nursery Schedule



Dear St. John's Nursery Helpers, thank you for caring for the children of our congregation. If you are on the nursery schedule, please arrive at 10 AM. If you cannot serve on the Sunday you have been scheduled, please find a replacement following these guidelines: FIRST: call someone else on the schedule to switch your week. Most scheduling difficulties can be handled this way. If you are unable to find someone, please call me at 215.527.6238.

October 6	Emily Donahue & Tracey O' Neill
October 13	Amy Faga & Gretchen Reese
October 20	Jessica & Pam Ace
October 27	Liz & Matt Rivett

Thanks again for serving!  
Mary Billy, Nursery Coordinator

## Were You There?

**Thirty Years Ago:** The Youth Group took advantage of early autumn weather to weed the garden beds around the church.



**Twenty-five Years Ago:** Parents of young children were invited to attend a 12-week video and discussion series on Christian parenting beginning October 1994.

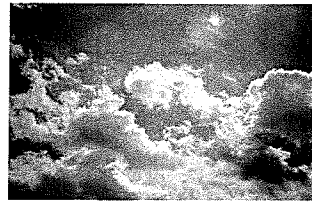
**Twenty Years Ago:** The Trustees concluded that the parsonage should be sold at market value, the funds invested, and the investment used to fund the housing allowance for the new associate pastor.

**Fifteen Years Ago:** Ryan Henderson was ordained at his home church, South Glastonbury Congregational/United Church of Christ, in South Glastonbury, Connecticut.

**Ten Years Ago:** Halloween at Dorney Park was held on October 24, open to all youth age 10 and older, or younger children accompanied by an adult.

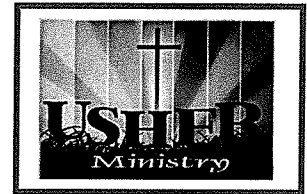
**Five Years Ago:** The sanctuary lighting project was completed with LED bulbs and computer-controlled brightness and color.

**One Year Ago:** The Stewardship Committee reminded us that 2018's theme was Faith and Service, and that we each live out our faith differently, but that faith without service is dead.

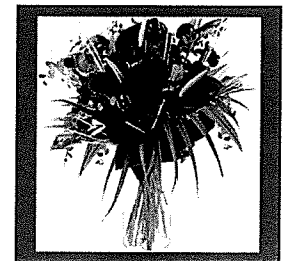


*Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of St. John's who passed away recently: Ruth Delp, mother-in-law of Lisa Delp.*

## October Ushers



Date	Team
October 6	4: Sally Jarinko, Mark Methlie
October 13	5: Gerald Linderman
October 20	1: Nancy Roberts, Roger Atkin
October 27	2: Thomas Beggs



October 6  
In memory of loved ones from Doris Latta  
In memory of Madeline Bruen from her son, Mark, and Grace, Ben, and Allison Bruen  
In memory of John Finnemeyer's October 11<sup>th</sup> birthday from Joe and Yvonne DelCiotto

October 13  
In memory of Bob, Evelyn, and Harry Summers from Dan and Joan Summers Gallagher and the Cindy Dimmig and Mitchell Miller families  
In memory of George Ruth from Chriss Ruth Bodde and family  
In memory of Stewart and Louise Wells from Kathleen Wells and family  
In memory of Richard Drissel's October 16<sup>th</sup> birthday from S. Ronald and Joyce Erb

October 20  
In memory of parents from Mr. Roger Wardlow

## Chancel Flower Ministry

Thank you for being a part of this important ministry. Many lives have been touched by your efforts. Flowers should be delivered after the 10:15 AM church service or on Monday. Feel free to deliver the flowers to whomever you want—anyone who is celebrating a birthday or an anniversary, people who are ill, people who are in the hospital, people who need a little extra care. The people you deliver to do not need to be members of St. John's. They can be your friends, loved ones, and neighbors. The flower ministry is part of our outreach.

The flower room is through the door on the left side of the chancel—the side where the pastor preaches. All the supplies you will need are in this room: plastic vases, St. John's Address Directory, and cards.

Please take the flowers out of the brass vases and put them in the plastic floral containers located on the shelves in the flower room. Leave the plastic liners in the gold vases, they belong to the florist. Please include a card for each bouquet. There will be a copy of these instructions in the flower room. If you are out of town on your assigned Sunday, please switch with someone. Again, many thanks for being a part of St. John's flower ministry.

10/6	Desiree & Bill Wallace
10/13	Amy Faga
10/20	Dorene Rice
10/27	Susan Popjoy



### ARTICLES DUE FOR NOVEMBER ISSUE

#### DEADLINE: OCTOBER 13

Leaders: Please provide articles for these coming events for the next *Enlightener* issue:

- ◇ All Saints Sunday
- ◇ Stewardship Sunday
- ◇ Alternative Gift Market

All submissions must include your name and phone number and be typed or printed. Submissions can be placed in the *Enlightener* bin in the Church Office (bottom bin), or emailed to [erickinsey46@gmail.com](mailto:erickinsey46@gmail.com). If you have questions, please call Eric Kinsey at 215.513.2237.

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## October Social Host Schedule



October 6	Gail Linderman
October 13	Congregational Dinner
October 20	Wendy & Phil Hunt
October 27	Jess Akiya & Stu Elsenbaumer

If you have a conflict, please try to find a replacement from your complete list of social hosts.

## What's Up In Church Council?



### Financial Report: Sandy and Bob Taylor, Cotreasurers:

August was a poor month financially for St. John's, which is often the case in summer months. Our regular income (including the budgeted transfer from our investments) was \$10,681 less than our expenses. Entering the month we had been at breakeven, so we now find that our YTD expenses exceed our YTD income by about \$10,700, or 3%. We expect that things will improve in September and beyond. Please continue your financial support so that together we can reverse this current shortfall.

We committed to a 2019 OCWM contribution of \$46,460, or about \$3,872 a month. In August contributions to OCWM totaled \$2,443. Year-to-date we are about \$1,100, or 3½% behind our committed pace. Please keep up the needed attention to our OCWM giving.

Please feel free to share your questions or concerns with our cotreasurers, Sandy and Bob Taylor.

### Staff Reports:

#### Rev. Dr. Sue Bertolette, Senior Pastor:

Sue thanked Deb Dayton, Abbie Lampe, Ted Kasander, and Janet Morton for helping with Laity Sunday.

*[continued on next page]*

Three people attended the new-member informational gathering held on September 8. Five more are interested but were unable to attend. New members will join the church on Sunday, October 13, and will be invited to attend the Congregational Dinner.

The Fall Bible Study will begin October 9 and continue for five Wednesday evenings beginning at 7:30 PM. The book *Inspired*, written by Rachel Held Evans, will be studied. Rachel's life journey is part of this book.

Monthly worship gatherings will begin at MANNA as an alternative way to reach out to members who are registered under Megan's Law.

The Blessing of the Animals will be held after worship on September 29.

**Rev. Addie Stong, Associate Pastor:**

Celebration Sunday on September 8 was the kick-off for fall Sunday School. Addie and Sue will continue to teach the Jr/Sr High class.

Goodie Boxes will be filled and mailed to college students. Tear-off sheets are posted for donations.

National Youth Event will be held July 22 to 25, 2020, at Purdue University. An informational meeting will be held October 13 after the Congregational Dinner.

**David Furniss, Minister of Music:**

The carpet in the music room has been replaced. Choir rehearsals have begun for the season.

A flyer was created by Sandy Brown for the Artist Series season. A March concert will feature Alan Morrison, who grew up with Fred Rogers. Four of his students have played at St. John's in the past.

September 29 will be a fundraiser for Agape National Academy of Music, Monrovia, Liberia, featuring Samson Tarpeh along with the Overbrook Assembly of God Choir.

October 20's concert will feature John Deahl, who works for Reuter Organ Company and designed the St. John's organ pipe layout.

A MANNA fundraiser will be held October 13 at 7:00 PM featuring the Liberty Belles and The North Pennsmen.

*[continued at right]*

**Abbie Lampe, Minister of Music for Children and Youth:**

No report.

**Lisa Delp, Office Administrator:**

Emergency Funds distributed over the summer for people in need in the community totaled \$1,400. St. John's members responded to the request for additional funds. Approval for assistance is granted by Rev. Sue or Rev. Addie. Referrals of people in the community come from MANNA, St. Vincent DePaul, and Trinity Lutheran Church, for which there is a limit of \$200/person. Confidential requests for assistance by St. John's members might be granted a larger amount.

Lisa stated she is looking to purchase fewer sets of offering envelopes as a cost-saving measure since members are giving in other ways.

**Board Reports:**

Educators:

Jr/Sr High class will help with the Congregational Dinner.

A meeting will be held to go over nursery guidelines.

Elders:

Ideas about how to reach out to residents of the new Madison Lansdale Station apartments were discussed. The apartments are within walking distance of the church.

A banner was hung on the wall above the rose garden on Richardson Avenue.

Trustees:

Radiator covers for the Montessori School have been ordered at a cost of \$265 each.

Leroy is still searching for a company for boiler repairs. Additional paint for the sanctuary has been purchased at a lower cost.

**New Business:**

Lansdale Electric Department

Lansdale Borough is considering extending the contract with their current electric supplier. Pricilla Ponist and Don Atkiss attended a meeting of the electric department regarding renewal of the contract, and possibly including additional renewable power suppliers. *[continued on next page]*

Currently, Lansdale Borough gets 5% of its electric from renewable energy sources, 28% from coal, and the remainder from oil and natural gas.

A new contract would potentially save up to \$700,000 over 12 years. There are no requirements for using renewable energy, although they could be added. If the borough decided to get 100% of its electric from renewable sources, it would reduce those savings to approximately \$570,000. The borough could specify any amount for a renewable energy requirement.

The Electric Department will make a recommendation to Borough Council at next month's meeting. Lansdale Borough residents are encouraged to contact their Council member to voice their opinion.

Permit Parking

Permit parking signs have been posted on Richardson Avenue. They will be enforced at a later date.

Stewardship Theme

Barb and Robin MacMullen will address St. John's theme for the current season, "Strength for Today—Bright Hope for Tomorrow," October 20, by sharing how being a part of St. John's gives them strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow.

On November 10 Commitment Cards will be brought forward with offering during worship.

Support of Community Organizations:

It was decided we will continue with our annual contributions of \$500 to the Fairmount Fire Company of Lansdale and \$500 to the Lansdale Police Department. A donation of \$250 was suggested for the Volunteer Medical Service Corps. The item was tabled for further investigation.

Phoebe Ministries

This student endowment is a continuing donation from the GEM Fund (\$2,500) to the CPE Program. Pastor Addie has benefited from this program. St. John's made a contribution of \$10,000 over a 4 year period.

**Board of Elders:**

With guidance from Rev. Sue and Rev. Addie, and other church members and committees, the Elders continue to work on the design and message of promotional items for welcoming neighbors in our communities.


*[continued at right]*

Please consider volunteering to welcome folks to church on a Sunday morning as a Greeter for the 10:15 service. Contact Judy Leslie, who will be happy to schedule a Sunday that suits your calendar.

Attendance for August 2019					
Date	8:00 AM	10:15 AM	Total	Past Years	Average
8/4	55	162	217	2018	140
8/11	59	122	181	2017	174
8/18	46	115	161	2016	182
8/25	44	104	148	2015	198
	<b>204</b>	<b>503</b>	<b>707</b>	2014	210
		<b>Average = 177</b>		<b>5-Year Average = 181</b>	

Elder of the Morning for 10:15 Worship Service		
Date	Elder	Special Activity
10/6	Sumiko Booraem	World Communion Sunday
10/13	Judy Leslie	Congregational Dinner & New Members
10/20	Deborah Dayton	
10/27	Marcia Stacy	

**Board of Deacons:**



**CONGREGATIONAL DINNER**  
**October 13 at Noon**  
**Bring your appetites and charming selves to enjoy the food and each other.**  
**Look for signup sheets.**  
**Brought to you by the deacons.**

The Congregational Dinner is October 13. The menu includes roast beef, gravy, smashed red bliss potatoes, green beans, glazed carrots, and rolls. Signup sheets will be in the Elevator Lobby and Narthex beginning September 22. Also, a Deacon will be at social hour on September 29 and October 6 to sign up members who want to attend.

*[continued on next page]*

**Board of Educators:  
Junior Church Schedule October 2019**

Date	Name	Phone	Email
10/6	Liz Rivett	732.604.4180	lizrivett@verizon.net
10/13	Lisa Thim		lisathim@hotmail.com
10/20	Rev. Patti Thomas	215.206.6796	pattit28@verizon.net
10/27	Amy Hutchinson	215.601.0537	hutchinson_ae@msn.com

If you are not able to volunteer on your assigned Sunday, please contact another volunteer and do a switch. If you cannot make a switch, please contact Mary Billy at 215.527.6238 or mjbilly91@gmail.com. Thank you for your continued support in volunteering and providing Christian education to our youth.

Acolyte Schedule October 2019	
10/6	Mitchell & Elliott O'Neill
10/13	Open
10/20	Katie Baker & Siobhan Morris
10/27	Susan Popjoy & Rev. Patti Thomas



**SPUD LUNCH**

Sunday, November 3, 2019 during social time after church  
**FREE-WILL OFFERING** to assist St. John's Youth in participating in **NATIONAL YOUTH EVENT July 2020 at Purdue University**



**News from the Pews**

By now, I hope you have gotten your very own squeezable bright yellow light bulb (first given out on Celebration Sunday) to help remind you in the months ahead of the theme that was chosen for this coming year at St. John's. "Strength for today, bright hope for tomorrow" comes from a beloved hymn of the church, *Great Is Your Faithfulness* (one of this little mouse's favorites!), and our squeezable yellow light bulb challenges us to remember that there is bright hope for tomorrow at St. John's UCC.

Of course, this bright yellow reminder is bigger than I am and takes up an awful lot of space in my little mouse house in the closet in Rev. Sue's study, but I smile every time I bump into it, and I try to do what Rev. Addie encouraged us to do every morning when we get up and every night as we lay our head on the pillow and prepare to sleep. She suggested that as we get out of bed in the morning and turn on the light, we pray "God, give me strength for today." When we get ready to climb into bed in the evening and turn out the light, we pray "God, give me bright hope for tomorrow." So far, I haven't missed a day of praying these prayers.

As I write to you this month, I am anticipating St. John's annual Blessing of the Animals, a time I look forward to every year with mixed emotions. I do love being out in St. John's beautiful meditation garden and labyrinth, and I certainly want to be blessed, but all of the animals that come are bigger than I am, and some of them might enjoy eating me for lunch! I will count on folks keeping a close eye on their furry, feathered, and scaly friends, and I will savor the blessing that reminds me that all creatures great and small are loved by God. I will also try to remember that the admonition that appears most often in the Bible is the simple admonition: "Be not afraid."

Looking forward to the month of October, my little mouse-sized calendar is filled with all sorts of things going on at St. John's: the annual Indoor Yard Sale (formerly known as the Rummage Sale), World Communion Sunday, Artist Series concerts, the Fall Bible Study, a congregational dinner . . . Phew! I'm going to need to remember to do what Rev. Sue and Rev. Addie remind us to do every time we gather for worship: Take a deep breath. And of course, I hope to cross paths with you in the days ahead!

AMOS

## FINANCES

Summary of August and YTD Income and Expense	August 2019	Jan–Aug 2019
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>		
<b>Income</b>		
Counters Discrepancies	0.00	20.50
Current Tithes/Offerings	24,780.12	256,180.20
Event Income/Fundraisers	0.00	3,081.00
Flowers	99.00	2,626.00
Investment Income	1,011.18	16,527.94
Rental Income	0.00	16,200.00
Use of Building Income	0.00	3,540.00
Youth Group	0.00	97.00
Miscellaneous Unrestricted Income	58.00	2,472.59
Interest Income, Savings Accounts	17.03	130.09
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>25,965.33</b>	<b>300,875.32</b>
<b>Gross Income</b>	<b>25,965.33</b>	<b>300,875.32</b>
<b>Expense</b>		
Salaries and Benefits	32,566.24	261,913.58
Elders Expenses	0.00	549.22
Deacons Expenses	250.00	5,363.24
Educators Expenses	0.00	710.35
Trustees/Bldg Expenses	2,937.70	9,776.26
Building Operation Expenses	2,257.33	36,470.72
Operating Expenses	4,379.74	37,392.31
Miscellaneous Expenses	295.16	2,458.62
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>42,686.17</b>	<b>354,634.30</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>-16,720.84</b>	<b>-53,758.98</b>
<b>Budgeted Transfers From Investments</b>	<b>6,040.23</b>	<b>43,004.70</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income Plus Transfers</b>	<b>-10,680.61</b>	<b>-10,754.28</b>

*[continued at right]*

<b>Other Income/Expense</b>		
<b>Other Income</b>		
Artist Series Income—		
Special	0.00	4,904.57
Benevolence Offerings	2,814.00	38,952.31
Special Accounts	3,747.00	86,989.97
Soup Sales	0.00	1,214.51
Endowment Income	0.00	42,915.05
Immediate-Needs Income	0.00	42,915.05
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>6,561.00</b>	<b>217,891.46</b>
<b>Other Expense</b>		
Benevolence Disbursement	4,765.00	36,028.31
Special Fund Expenditures	6,193.72	33,412.91
Alternative Gift Market	0.00	90.39
Artist Series Fund Expenditures	0.00	5,065.00
Immediate-Needs Expense	0.00	15,311.00
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<b>10,958.72</b>	<b>89,907.61</b>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<b>-4,397.72</b>	<b>127,983.85</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-21,118.56</b>	<b>74,224.87</b>
<b>Net Income Plus Transfers</b>	<b>-15,078.33</b>	<b>117,229.57</b>



World Communion Sunday began as Worldwide Communion Sunday at Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in 1933. The Rev. Hugh Thompson Kerr and his congregation sought to demonstrate the interconnectedness of Christian churches, regardless of denomination. Today, Christian congregations celebrate World Communion Sunday around the globe. Followers of Jesus Christ in large churches and small, on farms and in cities, in ornate buildings and under tents, gather to receive the bread and cup of Holy Communion. Despite the differences in our denominations and traditions, we celebrate our unity in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.



# Music, Music, Music!

During the next few weeks, there is an abundance of opportunities to attend a variety of concerts at St. John's Church – you are sure to find one or more of these events to be of interest:

Sunday, September 29, 4:00 pm – St. John's Artist Series features **Samson Tarpeh**, pianist, with the **Overbrook Assembly of God Choir** – Fund raiser for the Agape National Academy of Music (ANAM) in Monrovia, Liberia

Friday, October 11, 7:30 pm – The **Konevets Quartet** from St. Petersburg, Russia, will be in the area to sing a concert of sacred and secular music at St. John's Church

Sunday, October 13, 7:00 pm – The **North Pennsmen** and the **Liberty Belles** will sing a concert as a fund raiser for Manna on Main Street

Sunday, October 20, 4:00 pm – St. John's Artist Series will feature organist **John Deahl**, Head of Engineering and Design for the Reuter Organ Company

Sunday, October 27, 4:00 pm – St. John's Artist Series will feature **Ensemble Nobiles**, a men's quartet from Leipzig, Germany, in a concert of sacred and secular music

## Patrons of St. John's Artist Series 2019-2020

### Benefactor

Lynne Bartholomew, Sandy & Scott Brown, A Friend, Ken & Bonnie Hales, Anne & Eric Kinsey, Dan & Lillian Panachyda

### Sponsor

Marie Bertolette Carota, Bob & Jean Fehnel, Clifford J. Kneipp, Marcia Stacy, Joe & Carol Voicheck

### Donor

Nicole & Don Groff, Ruth Moyer

### Friend

Rosa Giletti in memory of Greg Giletti

Please consider supporting St. John's Artist Series as a Patron at one of the following levels:

\_\_\_ Benefactor (\$200+) \_\_\_ Sponsor (\$100-199) \_\_\_ Donor (\$50-99) \_\_\_ Friend (\$25-49)

Name as you would like it to appear in Artist Series Programs \_\_\_\_\_

