



St. John's United Church of Christ

500 West Main Street
Lansdale, PA 19446

215.855.5489
office@st-johns-ucc.org

Wednesday Night Live is Coming to St. John's and Lansdale!

June 16, 2023

Members and Friends of St. John's United Church of Christ,

We are reaching out to make you aware of some significant, exciting, and hope-filled changes coming to St. John's this fall! Beginning Wednesday, September 6, 2023, and continuing through Wednesday, May 22, 2024, we are introducing **Wednesday Night Live**, an experience for our church and the surrounding community that encompasses Music, Outreach, Worship/Faith Formation, and Fellowship/Care, the four quadrants of the Celtic Cross that have been guiding our visioning process. *Wednesday Night Live* has been presented to, and is endorsed by St. John's Executive Committee, St. John's Church Council, and St. John's Adult Musical Ensembles (Chancel Choir, Chancel Choir Friends, and United Ringers), and now, we want to present it to you!

Wednesday Night Live is designed to serve our church and surrounding community in mind, body, and spirit through food, fellowship, and worship. Each Wednesday is centered around a meal with the option for a free-will donation, served from 5pm-7pm on the kitchen side of assembly hall. The food will be purchased/catered from a local restaurant and served by volunteers. The free-will donation collected at each meal will be used to cover the cost. At 5:30pm a family worship service will be held on the piano side of assembly hall (5:30pm-6pm). The worship service will be led by one of the pastors and Andrew, giving families, and all worshipers, a chance to worship during the week. At 6pm, education and musical opportunities begin – Children's Choir, Middle/High School Ensembles, and an Adult Education Hour (6pm-6:45pm). At 6:45pm, United Ringers handbell rehearsal begins (6:45-7:30pm), with Chancel Choir rehearsal beginning at 7:30pm (7:30-9pm). By offering all these options on one evening, we can create an environment in which all ages can receive a free meal, worship, learn, and rehearse together.

As is often the case, so that we can have our hands and hearts open to fully grab hold of this new thing, we must let go of some others. Beginning September 10th, we will shift our alternative worship service from 8:00am on Sunday mornings to this Wednesday evening opportunity. This means we will offer one worship service on Sunday morning at 10:15am and one on Wednesday evening at 5:30pm. Shifting away from the 8:00am service will allow for more of our energy to be focused on Sunday morning education programs at 9:00am, providing a mid-week service for those who are unable to be with us at any time on Sunday, and continuing to provide spiritually deep and engaging worship at our 10:15am service.

We want to acknowledge that this is a loss for those of you who have found the 8am service to be particularly meaningful and your preferred time to worship. We know that it came about because there was a sense of need and excitement for another time and tone of worship in our community. As needs shift and evolve, we hope you will come along with us with that same excitement as we explore new ways to foster that same sense of belonging and help us as we extend that belonging to even more people in our community.

The St. John's Ministerial Staff, St. John's Executive Committee, St. John's Church Council, and St. John's Adult Musical Ensembles are fully invested in breathing new life into the middle of the week at St. John's – an evening in which we all come together to create a hub of activity and excitement for our church and the surrounding community. If you have any questions, please reach out to Minister of Music Andrew Paulson, Rev. Addie Stong, Rev. Dale Davis, Church Council President Liz Rivett, or Church Council Vice Present Mark Bruen.

We hope to see you at *Wednesday Night Live!*

With love, joy, and faith,
Andrew, Addie, Dale, and the leadership of St. John's UCC

P.S. To learn more about *Wednesday Night Live*, join us on Sunday, June 25, during our congregational meeting following worship.