



ST JOHN'S TRANSITION – MOVING TOWARDS OUR SETTLED SENIOR PASTOR

As St. John's continues on this journey of change, we are working hard to achieve our vision of a loving and sharing community that strives to reach out to others and find more opportunities to connect with our local community in Lansdale and surrounding communities.

We have accomplished a lot in the first 3 months of this 2024 Church Council session, but still have more to do as we complete some of our critical staffing related tasks and begin to focus more on our longer term initiatives and outreach to the community.

Transition Period – While Searching for Our New Senior Pastor

Dale, our Interim Senior Pastor, is retiring end of May. We will celebrate his time with us after church with a luncheon on May 19th.

We have completed a call agreement for a **Bridge Support Pastor** to help us through the time after Dale retires until we have a Settled Senior Pastor onboard. Our Bridge Pastor, Reverend Thomas Adil, is starting May 16th and will be working to support Reverend Addie (who will be Acting Lead Pastor) during our search. Thank you to the Bridge Pastor search team and team lead Bill Leslie for their diligence in completing this important task.

Search and Call Time at St John's

Our completed **Church Profile** has been officially posted to the Conference websites for candidates to review and respond to. Many thanks to the Profile team who worked diligently over a long time to put together a wonderful description of who we are at St. John's and who we are looking for in a senior pastor.

Please join us after church on May 5th to find out more about our Church Profile.

The **Search and Call Team** has formed and is preparing to receive profiles from candidates and perform the interview and selection process. We have already received two profiles from candidates! Susan Fitzpatrick, the lead for the team, will be giving us all periodic updates as the process moves along. Our prayers will be with them as they perform this key task for St. John's.

Progress on Our Highest Priority Goals

Welcome Kay Peebles as **Office Manager** and Grace Marchione as our new **Communications Coordinator**. Many thanks to the Personnel committee who put in many long hours reviewing resumes and performing interviews under the guidance of Marge Jewel. Great job.

Our most critical goals re-our Church Profile, transitional ministerial staff, and formation of the Search and Call team are now complete!

Moving Forward on Our Next Priority Goals

Now that our Senior Pastor search is well underway, we are looking to the future for our next areas of focus.

Outreach to Lansdale Community – many activities are being planned for this year. Don Atkiss is the driving force (with a little help from me organizing and participating). Contact Don or me if you can help or if you have ideas.

- Norristown Garden Club tour and stained glass window tour - June 8
- Garden day at Garden of Health in Hatfield – Saturday April 27
- Lots of new ideas – first Fridays, Game night, cars and coffee - TBD

SJ Reach Out Team – we have started an initiative to reach out to St. John's members who we have not seen if a while. Our goal is to reconnect with them and update them on what's going on at St. John's. Contact Deb Dayton or me if you have questions or would like to help.

Upcoming Council Communication Events:

- Church Profile Presentation – Sunday, May 5th – after church in the assembly hall.
- Council/Congregation Communication Session – Sunday, June 2nd after church in assembly hall
- Congregational Meeting – June 9th after church in the sanctuary – before church picnic

There is much activity at St. John's during this transition period. It is an exciting time! If you have any questions, please call me or talk to me when we see each other at Church.

I ask Jesus to continue to guide us through this challenging time. Please say a prayer for all those involved and reach out to us if you want to get more involved.

Yours in Christ,

Mark Bruen
St. Johns Council President
215 872-6189



2
0
2
4

The Basket Raffle Is Back!

We're happy to announce the Basket Raffle is on for 2024! Individuals, families, and church groups are encouraged to donate a "themed basket" to be raffled off at the Church Picnic on June 9. Signup sheets are in the Narthex and the Elevator Lobby.

Dates to remember:

April 28: commitment and basket theme due.

Week of May 5–10: completed baskets due at the church.

May 12: ticket sales begin and continue through June 9.

June 9: Church Picnic and basket drawing.

Each basket should be wrapped in clear cellophane with a sign attached identifying the theme and the contents.

The baskets will be displayed at church on Sundays from May 12 through June 2, at Lansdale Day on June 1, and at the Church Picnic on June 9.

If you have questions, please contact Judy Johnston at 215-896-9381 or twostitches@comcast.net.



Summary Of Last Month And YTD Income And Expense	Mar 2024	Jan-Mar 2024
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Current Tithes/Offerings	47,165.46	122,001.03
Event Income/Fundraisers	860.00	3,443.00
Flowers	895.00	1,552.00
Rental Income	3,250.00	9,750.00
Use of Building Income	0.00	100.00
Miscellaneous Unrestricted Income	79.00	146.00
Interest Income, Savings Accounts	1.29	6.47
Total Income	52,250.75	136,998.50
Gross Income	52,250.75	136,998.50
Expense		
Salaries and Benefits	36,771.96	110,941.96
Elders Expenses	49.99	458.30
Deacons Expenses	1,357.21	4,427.74
Trustees/Building Expenses	2,015.54	4,552.62
Building Operation Expenses	6,471.76	21,845.94
Operating Expenses	6,778.24	18,857.64
Miscellaneous Expenses	57.87	381.91
Total Expense	53,502.57	161,466.11
Net Ordinary Income	-1,251.82	-24,467.61
Budgeted Transfers from Investments	11,599.58	11,599.58
Net Ordinary Income Plus Transfers	10,347.76	-12,868.03
Other Income/Expense		
Other Income		
Artist Series Income—Special	300.00	20,210.00
Benevolence Offerings	7,185.00	22,332.13
Special Accounts	7,919.00	15,499.21
Soup/Cookies Sales	608.00	608.00
Total Other Income	16,012.00	58,649.34
Other Expense		
Artist Series Fund Expenditures	11,527.50	20,232.58
Benevolence Disbursements	4,853.00	29,578.47
Special Fund Expenditures	2,843.93	7,849.73
Total Other Expense	19,224.43	57,660.78
Net Other Income	-3,212.43	988.56

Welcome

**Welcome to our new
Church Administrator
and our
Communications
Coordinator!**

Kay Peebles is the newest addition to the St. John's staff, now running the church office. She is an avid reader, loves science fiction, fantasy, and horror, and aspires to be an author in her own right. Her favorite things to do are watch action and horror movies, play Dead by Daylight, and be a Dungeon Master for her thrice weekly Dungeons & Dragons games! Kay has been a loyal member of the Light Brigade Color Guard from 2016-through 2023, competing internationally for 8 consecutive years.

Grace Marchione is excited to step into the role of Communications Coordinator. Coming from a family of musicians and artists, she deeply values the role of creative expression in life and work. In her marketing and communications career, she's found particular joy and fulfillment working with local nonprofits. She looks forward to learning all there is to know about St. John's and helping to grow its presence in the community. Grace loves nature walks, cooking, yoga, knitting and crochet, and thrift and antique shopping.



Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of John Josten and Merv Holt, brother-in-law of Susan Fitzpatrick, who passed away recently.

**ARTICLES DUE FOR JUNE ISSUE
DEADLINE: MAY 12**

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

- ∅ Father's Day
- ∅ Juneteenth
- ∅ Graduates
- ∅ 67th Anniversary of the UCC
- ∅ Independence Day

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 (top bin) or emailed to erickinsey46@gmail.com. If you have questions, please call Eric Kinsey at 215.513.2237.

The *Enlightener* is published monthly except for July and August by St. John's United Church of Christ, 500 West Main Street, Lansdale, Pennsylvania 19446
Eric Kinsey, Editor: erickinsey46@gmail.com

Church Picnic

The Church Picnic will be on Sunday June 9. Feel free to bring a side dish and/or desserts to share. We will be doing BBQ pulled pork, hot dogs and hamburgers, and a vegetarian option.





**Chancel Flower Sponsorship
New Pricing**

Effective May 1st, the cost to sponsor a chancel flower bouquet is \$40. Our florist has been able to provide lovely chancel flowers at the low price of \$35. However, due to steadily rising prices, they have found it necessary to increase prices across the board on everything. They will continue providing St. John's with the flower designs and dependable delivery we've come to expect. Here is the list for May 2024. Please review this list and contact the church office if you would like to remove/add/update any information on the list.

May 5

In memory of George and Dorothy Knipe, John and Diane Skibbe, and Wendy Hunt from Phil Hunt, John Skibbe III, and Donavan Thomas

In memory of Mary Franks from Suzanne Franks

May 12 **Mother's Day**

Happy 96th birthday on May 13 and Happy Mother's Day to Lorene K. Ahrens from her loving family

In memory of their mothers, Ruth Ekberg and Mae Brown, from Sandy and Scott

In memory of Marie Evans from Jeane, Robert, and Beth Fritz

In memory of Mary Fritz from Robert, Jeane, and Beth Fritz

In memory of Lillian Wurster's birthday and Mother's Day from her daughter, Christine Wiley

[continued at right]

In memory of Nancy Schultz on Mother's Day from her daughter, Merle Anne Morcom, and Walter Hawkins

In memory of Mary Franks from her parents, Donald and Suzanne Franks

In memory of George Ruth's May 15th birthday from Chriss Bodde and family

In memory of Daniel Elliott on our May 15th wedding anniversary from his wife, Elizabeth

May 19 **Pentecost/Confirmation**

Congratulations to Sandy and Scott Brown who will celebrate their 49th wedding anniversary on May 24th.

May 26

In memory of Michelle Lee Snyder on her 36th birthday, May 29th. Love, Mom, Dad, Jim, Jackie, James, and the boys

In memory of June Hendricks's June 1st birthday from her nephew, John, and Susan Hendricks

In memory of Scott Harmon from dear friend Barbara Kirk (date of death May 29)

**PRAYER SHAWL
SUNDAY, MAY 5**

**CELEBRATING
OUR 20TH
ANNIVERSARY**



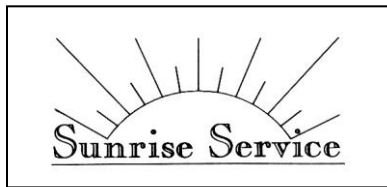
The Praying Hands Stitchers will be celebrating our 20th anniversary with a Prayer Shawl Sunday on May 5th during the 10:15 worship service.

Please join us during worship to celebrate this meaningful outreach ministry at St. John's. Prayer shawls will be distributed downstairs during fellowship time.

Anyone is welcome to select a prayer shawl for themselves or to take to a friend, an acquaintance, or a family member.



WNL will be hosting a game night simultaneously with our meal on Wednesday, May 22, 2024, 5:00 PM to 6:45 PM. We are encouraging everyone to attend our final WNL for the year. This will be a time to come together for fellowship by enjoying a meal and fun times interacting with one another by enjoying a game and socializing. Bring your favorite game to enjoy with others. There will be NO service, adult education, or music rehearsals. Please sign up the beginning of May. A form will be on the table in the elevator lobby.



Thank You!

On Sunday morning, Easter Sunrise Service, we came together with members from Trinity Lutheran Church and community friends to celebrate Christ's Resurrection. St. John's could not have done this without 'YOU'! No matter how small or large your part was in assisting to orchestrate this beautiful service, we Thank You! We are grateful for your love and support.
The Board of Educators

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. **Return the green liners to the brass vases, they belong to the florist. Include a card for each bouquet. Also, write in the signup book who the flowers were delivered to on your assigned Sunday; this will help us avoid replicating recipients.**

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.

Kay

May 5	Judy & Bill Zoll
May 12	Tracey & Mark O'Neill
May 19	
May 26	Peter Conver

Were You There?

Thirty Years Ago: A special service was held at St. John's to educate, raise

consciousness, examine issues surrounding AIDS, and gather support for those suffering from AIDS.

Twenty-five Years Ago: Church-newsletter bloopers from the May 1999 *Enlightener*.

- Mrs. Vinson will sing a solo, followed by the pastor's message, "It's a Terrible Thing."
- Eight new choir robes are needed due to the addition of new members and the deterioration of some older ones.
- The choir invites anyone who enjoys singing to join the choir.

Twenty Years Ago: Kim Sands, a Pampered Chef Consultant, hosted a Mega Kitchen Show to raise money for the American Cancer Society's Breast Cancer programs.

Fifteen Years Ago: David Furniss offered several of St. John's older pianos to anyone in the congregation, free of charge.

Ten Years Ago: A quote from the May 2014 *Enlightener*. Humans think they are smarter than dolphins because we build cars and buildings and start wars, and all dolphins do is swim in the water, eat fish, and play. Dolphins believe that they are smarter for exactly the same reasons.

-Douglas Adams, writer, dramatist, and musician, *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* (1952-2001)

Five Years Ago: The Board of Educators invited St. John's members to attend a Chili Cookoff to benefit the National Youth Event at Purdue University.

One Year Ago: Deb, Paul, and Tim Ahrens invited the congregation to join in celebrating Lorene's 95th birthday at coffee hour on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 14.



First Quarter Finance Report



Our Current Outlook:

To properly track the financial picture for St. John's, it is important to understand that while St. John's monthly expenses are fairly constant throughout the year, giving to St. John's is more seasonal. We see higher giving to St. John's at the beginning of the year, as several people give on an annual basis, and at the end of the year during Advent and Christmas. In addition, in the summer we do not receive rent from the Montessori school. To be able to cover our expenses during these summer months, it is important to have a buffer of additional income now.

After the first quarter, we are \$4,167 behind where we need to be to cover our expenses in future months. If you are able, adding \$5 to your donation to current expenses would go a long way in lowering this deficit. Giving to OCWM for the first quarter is right where we need to be, and we are on track to be able to give the full pledged amount of \$41,500.

Are you drawing your RMD?

If you are currently drawing from your retirement accounts, there is a tax advantage to directing funds directly to St. John's. Drawing from retirement accounts becomes taxable income, but if it is sent directly to a charity from a retirement account, it is not considered taxable income. This is especially helpful for those who must draw a required minimum distribution (RMD).

[continued on next page]

Funds sent directly to St. John's are counted as part of your RMD but are not taxed.

Please consider using this method for donating to current expenses on a monthly, quarterly, or annual basis. If you find you have additional funds you can give, please also consider directing these funds to our Exterior Restoration Fund. Giving to this fund will allow St. John's to continue restoring sections of the exterior walls to stop the water infiltration that is causing interior deterioration. Forms are available in the church office to help set up such donations. As always, please contact a member of the finance committee if you have any questions or comments.

Grace Bruen, *Chair*

Matt Carson, *Treasurer*

Finance Committee Members: Bob

Bertolette, Chris Bodde, Rick Fanciulacci, Susan Hendricks, Marge Jewell, Liz Rivett, Charles Sisian

NEWS FROM CHURCH COUNCIL



Financial Report, Matt Carson, Treasurer:

In March St. John's exceeded our goal for tithes and offerings, receiving \$47,165.46 against a budgeted amount of \$30,382.00 a nice recovery compared to the first two months of the year. We had total income of \$63,850.33 (including the budget transfer of \$11,599.58), against a budgeted amount of \$35,498.67, meaning we exceeded our income projections by \$28,351.66.

[continued at right]

For Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM) we have received \$13,107.71 year to date against a projection of \$13,108, meaning we are just 62.29 behind.

Please feel free to share your questions or concerns with Matt Carson, Treasurer.

Staff Reports:

Ministerial Staff (Dale Davis, Addie Stong, Andrew Paulson):

- New member gathering was held on April 14 with 6 new people who are interested in joining St. John's.
- New office administrator Kay and Communications Director Grace M will bring their talents to St. John's.

Abbie Lampe, Minister of Music for Children and Youth

- The family choir will sing on May 12.

Kay Peebles, Office Administrator

- The church calendar has been digitized.
- Supply closet has been reorganized and itemized.
- Vendors and congregational members have been met.
- Ideas will be sent to Deacons and Finance Committee for savings on food.
- Thoughts for children during Sunday services to be sent to Educators.

Board Reports:

Trustees: (Bob Bertolette)

- Elevator is not working. Leroy has been working with Otis Company and Steve Hendricks to determine a cause. Steve Hendricks to follow up with Otis.
- Repointing of building in courtyard has begun.

Deacons: (Scott Vanderburg)

- Additional social hosts are needed.
- The church picnic is on June 9 at Plains Mennonite Church. A congregational meeting will be held in the sanctuary before the picnic. The meeting is planned for 45 minutes.

[continued on next page]

Educators: Mary Billy

- There will be a Community Outreach Program on April 27, 2024, from 8 to 11 AM meeting at the Garden of Health to help prepare the ground for planting. Signup sheet will be posted.
- Educators will be organizing a Game Day for a community get-together.
- There will be a chili cookoff May 1 at WNL.

Elders: (Susan Fitzpatrick)

- Elders met Sunday April 14.
- Bridge pastor has been hired.
- Search and call profile has been posted. 2 candidates have applied. Elders are preparing for interviews.

Elders:

March 2024 Attendance			
Date	WNL	Date	Sunday
		3/3	98
3/6	19	3/10	105
3/13	22	3/17	153
3/20	20	3/24	149
3/27	Ash Wednesday	3/31	210 Easter
Total 61		Total 715	
Average 20		Average 143	

Current Business/Priority Initiatives

Priority #1: Hire Bridge Pastor/Other Staff Changes

Bridge Pastor: (Bill Leslie)

The Search Team completed the in-person interviews and unanimously voted to offer the position to Pastor Thomas Adil.

He verbally accepted our offer on Friday, March 22. The Call Agreement was drafted, reviewed, and approved by the team and the Conference. Pastor Tom suggested revisions, which were then reviewed by the team. A final Call Agreement was approved and accepted by Pastor Tom on April 10.

Pastor Tom will be joining St. John’s officially on May 16. He has a good understanding of the role he will be playing here at St. John’s in supporting Addie.

[continued at right]

He has recently retired from a position as Director of Spiritual Care at Reading Hospital. He has extensive experience as a Bridge and Interim pastor at numerous churches including Heidelberg UCC in Hatfield. He and his wife live in Birdsboro.

Many thanks to Sally Atkiss, Kelly Bresadola, and Tom Allebach for their assistance on the Search Team. Thanks also to Mark Bruen, Deb Dayton, Grace Bruen, and Margie Jewell for their support and participation. It was a true team effort.

We are all very excited to have Pastor Tom join us and we are very confident he will be a great asset to Addie and St. John’s.

New Staff:

Office Manager: (Margie Jewell)

Margie introduced Kay Peebles. Kay has a church and choir background and looks forward to working with the congregation at St. John’s.

Communications Role: (Margie Jewell)

Margie introduced Grace Marchione. Grace has begun conversations about the direction of St. John’s. Grace has worked with nonprofits and has a church background. Grace is looking forward to working at St. John’s.

Search and Call Process: (Elders, Susan Fitzpatrick)

The search has begun, with the profile document posted. Work teams have been created to consider questions, communications internally and with candidates, and the evaluation process. Input from the congregation is important and is to be part of the process.

Priority #2: Communications Internal and External: (Deb Dayton)

Formation of St. John’s Communications Task Force: (Mark Bruen)

Per the bylaws, Church Council has the power to establish a task force for a special purpose. Mark Bruen presented to Council a proposal to start a Communications Task Force to help guide St. John’s through the process to expand and improve the internal and external communications, in conjunction with the addition of the new Communications Coordinator, Grace Marchione.

[continued on next page]

Task Force Mission:

- Improve our Internal communications to current members so all know of the opportunities for religious events, fellowship, group activities, and other happenings at St. John's.
- Expand and improve our external communications to those in our surrounding communities to make them aware of St. John's and to reach out and broaden our community outreach activities.
- Become the primary interface with the Communications Coordinator to review proposed plans, branding proposals, major communications media upgrades, signage, etc.
- Establish a consistent and positive branding vision for St. John's use in our communications efforts.
- Update our social media: website, Facebook, and other forms.
- Update and improve our printed communications, in line with our newly formed branding vision.
- Define the processes for St. Johns council and groups to more effectively communicate using the resources of the Communications Coordinator.

Proposal:

Establish a task force to work hand in hand with Grace M:

- Mark Hogan to chair the task force.
- A representative from each board to provide input and guidance.
- Two at-large representatives, to be determined by Mark Hogan in consultation with Mark Bruen.
- President and Vice President as members.

Communications Sessions during Social Hour: (Deb Dayton)

Listening sessions will be held during social once a month.

May 5–St. John's Church Profile

June (date TBD)–Status of Search and Call.

Outreach Mission: Beyond St. John's: (Don Atkiss/Mark Bruen)

Monthly events with the community are being planned. Don Atkiss has taken a lead role in community outreach.

[continued at right]

- Earth Day (April 22). Creation Stewards bags and Garden of Health Day in Hatfield on April 27. The Creation Stewards will be distributing reusable grocery bags with the St. John's logo on Sunday, April 28. All that we ask is that you "Take the Pledge," to stop using plastic bags, and use reusable bags whenever you shop. If you forget your reusable bags, go back to your car and get them. Plastic bags are terrible for the environment and for our health. Here are a few facts:

10 Facts About Single-Use Plastic Bags

The world uses 5 trillion plastic bags a year.³

Americans use an average of 365 plastic bags per person per year. People in Denmark use an average of four plastic bags per year.⁴

It only takes about 14 plastic bags for the equivalent of the gas required to drive one mile.⁵

In 2015 about 730,000 tons of plastic bags, sacks, and wraps were generated (including PS, PP, HDPE, PVC & LDPE) in the United States, but more than 87% of those items are never recycled, winding up in landfills and the ocean.⁶

About 34% of dead leatherback sea turtles have ingested plastics.⁷

The plastic typically used in bottles, bags, and food containers contains chemical additives such as endocrine disruptors, which are associated with negative health effects including cancers, birth defects, and immune system suppression in humans and wildlife.⁸

It takes 1,000 years for a plastic bag to degrade in a landfill. Unfortunately, the bags don't break down completely but instead photodegrade, becoming microplastics that absorb toxins and continue to pollute the environment.⁹

Chemical leachates from plastic bags impair the growth of the world's most important microorganisms, Prochlorococcus, a marine bacterium that provides one tenth of the world's oxygen.¹⁰

There were 1.9 million grocery bags and other plastic bags collected in the 2018 International Coastal Cleanup.¹¹

[continued on next page]

In 2014 California became the first state to ban plastic bags. As of March 2018, 311 local bag ordinances have been adopted in 24 states, including Hawaii.¹² As of July 2018, 127 countries have adopted some form of legislation to regulate plastic bags.¹³

- May 3: First Friday Event of 2024. Mark Bruen will staff St. John's tent; volunteers are requested. St. John's events will be held during Lansdale First Fridays from May 3 through November 1.
- June 8: Norristown Garden Club Tour and Stained Glass Windows Tour, 10 AM to 4 PM.
- July 5: First Friday "Dog Days" Blessing of the Animals. Addie will hold the blessing on the Anchor House Lot.
- Potential Event: Lansdale Day June 1: Cars and Coffee. Under the Lights Car Show.

Reach Out to Members Initiative: (Deb Dayton)

A small group has been formed to reach out and contact congregation members not seen in a while. Addie will assist in this initiative. Members include Deb Dayton, Grace Bruen, Mark Bruen, Wendy O'Connor, and Rick Fanciulacci.

Book Study: (Deb Dayton)

Governance and Ministry, by Dan Hotchkiss. This highly recommended book discusses how churches can streamline internal structures to release greater energy for ministry. Dale will lead each group. The study will be held via zoom.

New Business:

Building Use Procedures (Mark Bruen)

A committee is being formed to identify and update guidelines to handle requests.

Old Business:

Debby Hendricks is coordinating the retirement planning for Dale. Please contact her to offer to help.

Sue Fitzpatrick confirmed there will be a Social Hour after worship, Sunday, May 19. An informal bike ride, walk, and social is planned for later that afternoon. Signups will begin shortly.



Happy Spring, St. John's family! April showers have definitely brought forth May flowers, and the librarian and I have been busy tidying up and reorganizing our wonderful library.

In April we focused on titles pertaining to our precious planet, Earth. April 22nd was Earth Day, and what a glorious creation our planet is. We also closed out our book and flashlight drive for the children of Malawi. The response from you, our congregation, was nothing short of remarkable. Thank you to all of you who donated books and flashlights so that the children of Malawi can enjoy all of the benefits and joys that reading can bring.

The librarian and I are also in the process of providing an online catalog, and access to it, for our St. John's readers. We will update everyone on our progress via Facebook and our publications. Some exciting stuff is coming our way!

Some people have approached us and asked where they can place books they'd like to donate for consideration to our collection. We are hoping to host some book drives in the coming months. In the meantime, if you have any titles you think would be good additions to our library, please place them in the rolltop desk located in the library.

Thank you always for your feedback and support! If you'd like to contact the librarian, she can be reached at sekhogan@comcast.net (Sarah Hogan). We hope you're able to enjoy all that St. John's library has to offer! Happy reading!

Lizzie



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE 2024-2025 SEASON!

Mainstreet Brass

Sunday, November 10, 2024, 4pm

Lehigh Valley based Mainstreet Brass will present a program that is sure to reach listeners of all ages. The glorious sounds of trumpet, horn, trombone, tuba, and percussion will fill the sanctuary to begin our season.

Christmas Festival

Sunday, December 8, 2024, 4pm

Musicians from St. John's and North Penn High School combine for our annual holiday spectacular with choir, organ, and brass. It's not the Christmas season without the St. John's Artist Series Christmas Festival.

Riverview Early Music

Sunday, March 9, 2025, 4pm

Bucks County-based Riverview Early Music will present late medieval, renaissance, and early baroque music played on period instruments. Come and embrace early music as a source of enjoyment and inspiration.

Ein deutsches Requiem

Sunday, April 13, 2025, 4pm

The North Penn Chamber Singers and St. John's Chancel Choir and Friends combine with orchestra to present this choral masterwork by Johannes Brahms. Join us as we conclude the season with this magnificent work.

Learn more by scanning the QR code below!

