



Enlightener

September, 2017 Vol. XXXVII, No. 07

Dear Members and Friends,

St. John's UCC has a longstanding, wonderful reputation ~ both within the community and throughout the United Church of Christ ~ as a generous congregation, not only with regard to monetary gifts but also because St. John's members have willingly shared their time and talents in a multitude of ways over the years. May it ever be so!

This history of gifts given **"with glad and generous hearts"** has resulted in a financial cushion which has enabled the church to continue to do God's work, even in challenging financial times. While this cushion (endowment) has been carefully stewarded under the guidance of faithful members, it is important to remember that the cushion does not mean future members and friends are "off the hook" and need not concern themselves with financially supporting the ministry and mission of St. John's. Building on the generosity of those who came before us, we have been able to totally renovate and improve our pipe organ, generously support Manna on Main Street, sponsor four children around the world, support new church starts, and help create a scholarship program for seminary students preparing for ordination, along with paying the bills and keeping in good repair the building that has been entrusted to our care.

However, in light of the fact that current giving to St. John's has not quite kept pace with the increased cost of doing the important work of the church, and recognizing that each one of us is called to do our part to maintain the momentum our predecessors set in motion, we challenge you to consider the following questions: *What role will you play in this wonderful history of giving with glad and generous hearts? *What concrete, tangible steps will you take to enable the ministry and mission of St. John's to continue to thrive in the future, as well as in the present? *Are you able to contribute more than you have contributed in the past? *Are you able to give additional time to the church, perhaps as an usher, a greeter, a deliverer of flowers, a committee member, a Sunday School teacher, a gardener, a visitor of homebound members, or as a faithful pray-er for the members of our community of faith? The beauty of gifts given **"with glad and generous hearts,"** no matter the size of the gift, is that not only the recipients of the gifts benefit ~ so do the givers of the gifts!

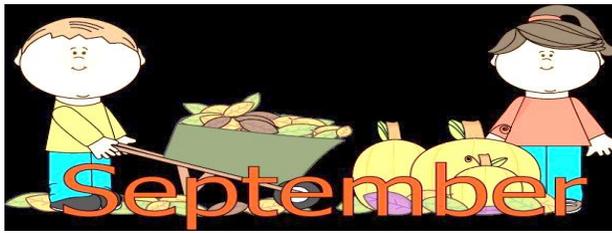
After giving this your prayerful consideration, we invite you to fill out the Covenant Commitment Card attached to this *Enlightener* and bring it to church with you on **Laity Sunday, October 8, 2017**. On that Sunday, when the gifts of St. John's members are highlighted during worship and Stewardship Sunday is celebrated, you will have an opportunity to bring forward your Covenant Commitment Card and place it in one of the baskets specially designated for that purpose. In advance, we thank you for the part you have played, and continue to play, in enabling St. John's to touch lives both within and beyond our walls. Like the early believers who are described in the New Testament book of Acts, may all that we do be done **"with glad and generous hearts!"**

Your partners in faith,
The Stewardship Committee

Baron Mettelie, Chair
Bob Taylor
Greg Larkin

Sandy Taylor
Suzanne Bonham
Jeff Elmer

Sally Jaisko
Stephen D. Butz
Rw. Shue



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

“After Worship” refers to the 10:15 AM service

EVENTS		
9/3	Hymn Sing	10:15 AM
9/4	Labor Day	Office Closed
9/9	Women’s Retreat	9:00–11:30 AM
9/10	Manna Sunday Celebration Sunday/Sunday School Kickoff Organ Dedication	
9/12	Men’s Breakfast	9:00 AM
9/17	Blood Pressure Screening	After Worship
9/19	Worship at Manna	7:15 PM
9/24	Congregational Dinner Blessing of the Animals	After Worship 1:00 PM
9/25, 26	Rummage Drop-off	
9/27	Noon Communion	
9/27, 28	Rummage Sale	9 AM–6 PM
9/29	Rummage Sale	9 AM–1 PM

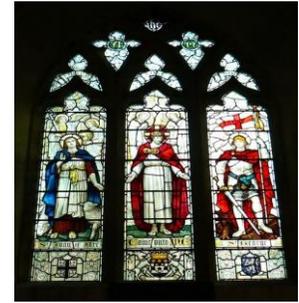
REHEARSALS		
Chancel Choir	Thursdays (beginning 9/7)	7:30 PM
United Ringers	Thursdays (beginning 9/7)	6:15 PM

WEDNESDAY CHILDREN’S ACTIVITIES: ENRICHMENT/CHILDREN’S CHOIR/ UNITED VOICES	
Gather in Activity Room: Children’s Choir Practice (beginning 9/20)	5:30–6:30 PM
Dinner	6:30–7:00 PM
United Voices (beginning 9/13)	6:45–7:30 PM
Enrichment Activities Age 4–7th Grade	7:00–7:30 PM

MEETINGS		
AA	Tuesdays Fridays	7:30 PM 8:30 PM
AGM	9/17	Noon–1:30 PM
Azul Dance	9/11, 18	1 PM–3 PM
Boards and Council Meetings	9/11	7:00 & 8:00 PM
Brownies and Girl Scouts	Tuesdays	7:00 PM
Chess Club	Fridays	6:00 PM
Diakonia Outreach	9/25	4:30 PM
Health Ministry	9/17	After Worship
NAMI	9/5	7:00 PM
Prayer Group	9/18	7:00 PM
Prayer Shawls	9/18	6:30 PM
Prayer Walk	9/14, 28	7:00 AM
Quilters	Tuesdays	1:30 PM
St. John’s Stampers	9/14	1:00 PM
Stewardship Campaign Kickoff	9/5	7:00 PM
The Art of Living	Saturdays	10:00 AM
Yoga	Thursdays	7:00 PM

Ushers—September 2017	
9/3	Team 3: Jim Lederach
9/10	Team 4: Sally Jarinko, Mark Methlie
9/17	Team 5: Gerald Linderman
9/24	Team 1: Nancy Roberts, Roger Atkin

Below you will find the **Chancel Flower Donation List for September**. Please review this list and contact the church office if you would like to remove, add, or update any information on the list. **Reminder:** *the requested donation for the chancel flower listing is \$25. Thank you!*



September 3

In memory of Donald Gibson Sr's September 6th birthday from Donna Wardle and family

September 10

In memory of Helen Huckins's September 11th birthday and Mary Decker's September 13th birthday from Edna Decker

In memory of Bill Rogers and other family loved ones from the MacKinstry/Rogers family

In memory of Ruth Ekberg from her daughter, Sandy, and Scott Brown

In honor of Sandy and Bob Taylor's September 11th wedding anniversary

September 17

Donations Needed

September 24

In memory of Robert Brunner's September 28th birthday and other loved ones from his wife, Gladys

In memory of Marvin and Jean Roshong's September 30th wedding anniversary

In honor of Gold Star Mother's Day from Jean Roshong

Dear St. John's Nursery Helpers,

Thank you for your willingness to care for the precious children of our congregation. If you are on the schedule for the nursery, please arrive at 10 AM. If you cannot serve on the Sunday you have been scheduled, it is important to find a replacement. Please follow these guidelines:

September Nursery Schedule

- **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



Thanks again for serving!

Mary Billy, Nursery Coordinator

- September 3 Cindy & Gretchen Reese
- September 10 Caiden & Jen Gilbert
- September 17 Charlene & Paul Herrick
- September 24 Kerrigan Gage & Shirley Hale

30 Years Ago: The congregation of St. John's expressed its thanks to Kirsten Olson for her five years of service as Minister of Music. Members of the Chancel Choir, Revelations, and children's choirs took a break from summer vacation to sing under Kirsten's direction for the last time.

25 Years Ago: Fall Hiking Day was sponsored by East Penn Camps for all adults, teens, and families with children eight years or older to hike in Big Pocono State Park.

20 Years Ago: Ventures of '97 was three days of fun, learning, and fellowship for those "chronologically experienced" yet with the energy to "get up and go." The overnight event was held at Camp Mensch Mill.

15 Years Ago: St. John's observed Communion at noon on September 11 to remember and reflect upon the tragic events that occurred on 9/11, 2001.

10 Years Ago: A call went out to the congregation to come and join St. John's Quilters and experience the fun of quilting.

5 Years Ago: There was a special reason to celebrate on Celebration Sunday 2012 when Rev. Sue was presented with the Allan S. Meck Award for distinguished service in pastoral ministry. The annual award is presented by Lancaster Theological Seminary based on the following criteria: fostering the vitality of ministry, exhibiting excellent pastoral presence, demonstrating creativity in ministry, eliciting and nurturing the gifts of others, and relating the gospel to commonly shared experiences in the ministry.

1 Year Ago: St. John's members joined Manna on Main Street as they created a 1.3-mile human chain to move from their then-current headquarters on West Main Street to their new home in North Penn Commons.

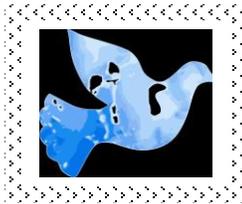
September Social Host Schedule



- 9/5 Stephanie Giampa & Jenn Moyer
- 9/10 Kathy & Tom Allebach
- 9/17 Lynn & Don Huntsinger
- 9/24 Congregational Dinner

IMPORTANT: If you are unable to be hosts for your assigned Sunday, please switch with another host on the schedule. Once you have done this, please contact Lisa Delp, our Office Administrator, to update the weekly Bulletin. Call 215.855.5489 or email ldelp@st-johns-ucc.org. If you have any questions, please contact Debby Hendricks, Social Host Coordinator, at 267.664.5490 or hendricksd@hukus-hanning.com.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of St. John's who passed away recently: Gail Schaeffer; Nancy Pierson; Bill Panachyda, husband of Dirce and brother of Dan; and Dr. Ted Kasander, father of Ted.



	<h3>PSEC Events</h3>	Contact Conference at 610-489-2056 or ucc@psec.org for information or registration.
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- September 9: Flea Market, Gulph UCC, 100 Matson Ford Road, Gulph Mills
- September 16: Bausman Memorial UCC Golf Tournament, Willow Hollow, 619 Prison Road, Leesport
- September 16: Second Annual Cruis'n for Christ Car Show, St. Peter UCC, 1920 Ridge Road, Knauertown
- September 23: Apple Dumpling Sale, Rosedale UCC, 1301 East Bellevue Avenue, Reading
- September 30: All-You-Can-Eat Turkey Supper, Solomon's UCC, Bedminster, 2990 Bedminster Road (Route 113), Perkasio
- September 30: Apple Butter Festival, UCC East Goshen, 1201 North Chester Road (Greenhill Road at Route 352), West Chester



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
- Cards

Please take the flowers out of the brass vases and put them into the plastic floral containers located on the shelves in the flower room. Return the liners back into the gold vases. 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 else. Again, many thanks for being a part of St. John's flower ministry.

September 3	Susan & John Hendricks
September 10	Barb & Don Fretz
September 17	Jen & Matt Harp
September 24	Kathy Allebach

Please leave the plastic liners in the gold vases, they belong to the florist.

~ Lisa

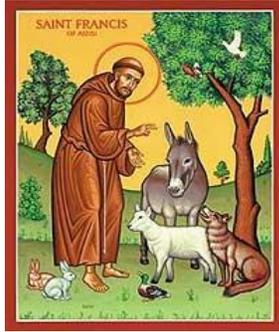
**SAVE
THE
DATE**



St. John's Alternative Gift Market will be held on Sunday, November 19, from 11:30 AM to 2:00 PM. Come to the Market for a special Christmas shopping experience! Watch for details in *The Herald* and in the October and November *Enlighteners*.

Blessing of the Animals

Saint Frances, Patron Saint of Animals, so loved the animals we remember him as a friend and protector to them.



Legends have left us with idyllic pictures of how beasts and birds were susceptible to the charm of St. Francis's gentle ways, how they entered into companionship with him and often felt protected by him. It is said birds listened so reverently to his sermon along the road near Bevagna Francis chided himself for not having thought to preach to them before. He also found great delight and solace in simple things, such as the rising sun or flowers; all aspects of nature.

The form that the observance and celebration of Labor Day should take was outlined in the first proposal of the holiday—a street parade to exhibit to the public “the strength and esprit de corps of the trade and labor organizations” of the community, followed by a festival for the recreation and amusement of the workers and their families. This became the pattern for the celebrations of Labor Day. Speeches by prominent men and women were introduced later, as more emphasis was placed upon the economic and civic significance of the holiday.



The first Labor Day holiday was celebrated on Tuesday, September 5, 1882, in New York City, in accordance with the plans of the Central Labor Union. The Central Labor Union held its second

Labor Day holiday just a year later, on September 5, 1883. In 1884 the first Monday in September was selected as the holiday, as originally proposed, and the Central Labor Union urged similar organizations in other cities to follow the example of New York and celebrate a “workingmen’s holiday” on that date. The idea spread with the growth of labor organizations, and in 1885 Labor Day was celebrated in many industrial centers of the country.

Notes From Council

Financial Report: Sandy and Bob Taylor, Cotreasurers: As there was no Treasurer’s report on the June results, the following covers the months of June and July. Ordinary income of \$73,286 was \$6,361 less than our ordinary expenses of \$79,646. The deficit was small primarily because the expenses were quite low. Although the tithes and offerings in July were somewhat improved over June’s amount, the July income was low in part because of the absence of Montessori rental income in the summer. Year-to-date, even with the usage of some investment monies (\$44,000) as budgeted (and counting that as “income”), our income nonetheless lags our expenses by \$16,000. Our OCWM contributions in June and July totaled \$6,980, versus our bimonthly commitment of \$7,428.34. So, we are behind by \$286 (or 1.1%) YTD. Please feel free to share questions/concerns with our Cotreasurers, Sandy and Bob Taylor.

Staff Reports

- Rev. Sue Bertollette, Senior Pastor:** on sabbatical
- Rev. Addie Stong, Associate Pastor:** Plans for the upcoming year are in the works; Addie has been very busy during Rev. Sue’s absence.
- David Furniss, Minister of Music:** absent
- Allison Bruen, Minister of Music for Children and Youth:** Allison is looking ahead to the needs of the children’s music program when it begins again.
- Lisa Delp, Office Administrator:** Lisa attended a seminar on Servant Keeper software (membership database) with Chriss Bodde. She upgraded the program to the latest version and is ready to explore further capabilities of the program.

Old business

Jo-Ann Sine gave an update on The Worm Project. The summer newsletter is in the library. On September 16, at 6 PM, there will be a program and dinner at Franconia Heritage Restaurant, which will replicate a meal eaten by people who live near the equator. After dinner, speakers will share inspiring stories from partners working around the world and share how donations can transform the lives of malnourished children.

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Dinner is free but donations are accepted. Jo-Ann would like to fill a St. John's table for 12. Please see Jo-Ann if you would like to attend.

Anne Kinsey said Dr. Freed will be collecting donated pill bottles at the end of August. Please remove labels and deposit bottles in the box in the library (under the portraits of former pastors).

New business

Leroy reported that the planned Eagle Scout project at the Anchor House property will not be completed because the scout aged out before commencement of the project. Therefore, we will be responsible for some cleanup of the property. Something will also need to be done about the stones, but no decision has been made pending outcome of the paving project with the borough.

Board of Deacons, June 2017:

Basket raffle was a success! We made \$1853, slightly less than last year but we had one less Sunday to sell this year. We made \$471 at the Spring Picnic (rough count of 125 attendees), a high amount, and we made \$630 at Lansdale Day.

Board of Deacons, August 2017:

The Deacon who is a kitchen monitor should confirm with the scheduled social hosts the week prior and meet them in the kitchen before the 10:15 service to be sure they know how to make coffee, have enough supplies, etc. We should also clean out the fridge and closet and take dirty dish towels.

Old business

It has been suggested that we put some of the money from the raffle toward the kitchen stoves and ovens. Should we upgrade or replace? Another idea was purchasing a toaster oven for easy warming of dishes that aren't large enough to warrant using the ovens.

New business

The Congregational Dinner is Sunday, September 24. The menu will be Chicken St. Samuel, a chicken casserole using Sam Adams with mushrooms, onions, and a secret sauce of Steve's, served over noodles; sugar snap peas; rolls; salad; and soup.

Date	Kitchen Monitor(s)
9/3	Aly Faga
9/10	Judy & Alan Johnston
9/17	Bill Kurz & Mike Goldstein
9/24	All Deacons

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Board of Elders, June 2017:

We need two adults for coverage of the Nursery. The Elders are responsible for washing acolyte robes. A session will be set up to train new acolytes in the fall. Aidan Gage is willing to assist in this training.

Umbrella Ministry: Greeters need to be at the backdoor from 9:40 AM to 10:10 AM. It was suggested that we contact members who have not attended in a while and let them know they are missed.

Elder of the Morning

Date	Elder	Special Activity
9/3	Susan Popjoy	Labor Day Sunday
9/10	Marcia Stacy	Celebration Sunday
9/17	Jo-Ann Sine	
9/24	Sumiko Booraem	Congregational Dinner

Attendance May—July 2016

Month	8:00 AM	10:15 AM	Total	Avg/Week	Past 5-Yrs Avg/Week
May	232	650	882	221	245
June	221	635	856	214	236
July	233	632	865	173	199

Board of Elders, August 2017:

Old business

Umbrella Ministry: A calendar was created to cover the year from fall of 2017 to fall of 2018. It will be posted outside Pastor Addie's office for people to sign up. It was discussed that greeters should stay by the backdoor until 10:15 AM to help the latecomers. There will be an announcement during church on September 17 about the need for volunteers.

Board of Educators:

Junior Church Schedule September 2017

Date	Name	Phone	Email
9/3	Mary Billy	215.527.6238	mjbilly91@gmail.com
9/10	No Junior Church	Celebration Sunday	
9/17	Liz Rivett	732.604.4180	lizrivett@verizon.net
9/24	Kelly Bresadola	215.694.0939	kabresadola@yahoo.com

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Acolyte Schedule September 2017			
9/3	Caiden & Jen Gilbert	jengilbert3108@comcast.net	215.350.9246
9/10	Ace Family	pace@christiinsurance.com	
9/17	Acolytes Needed		
9/24	Kerrigan Gage & Luna Hutchinson	raerae_1974@yahoo.com hutchinson_ae@msn.com	215.285.6101 215.601.0537

Board of Trustees, June 2017:

Projects completed

The boiler has been installed and is working effectively. The final payment was made. Total cost was \$11,600. The electrical work for the organ has been completed. Altek was called to provide service on the Fireside Room TV. They checked the unit and it is now operating effectively.

Projects in the works

The mantel for the Fireside Room has been placed. The heat emanating from the fluorescent bulbs caused warping of the Library Light Switch.

Bergey's recommended another type with less voltage. The alternative will still allow the lights to be dimmed. It will be installed in approximately 2 weeks and will cost around \$100.

Board of Trustees, August 2017:

Projects completed

The downspouts by the front porch have been installed. The restroom near the office has been painted. The wall at the front of the Nursery has been repaired and painted.

Projects in the works

There is a water leak in the storage room where the tables and chairs are kept. A significant amount of leakage was discovered so Leroy called Tim Morton to help assess the problem. Tim said the PVC drain pipe is broken. The area will need to be dug out to be repaired. The wall in the corner of Fellowship Hall is deteriorating. Leroy is replacing it with water-resistant drywall. He also replaced the studs. The condition of the tile shows signs of excessive moisture. The decorative pieces on the iron railing (front steps) are deteriorating and in need of repair. The pieces involved are not impacting the safety of the railing.

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The borough will rework the parking lot sketch for the Anchor House Lot so as to get more parking spaces and still try to give us more green space.

Projects to consider

The Anchor House Lot needs to be cleaned up and the shed demolished. Leroy researched a company in King of Prussia that sells commercial kitchen ranges. We are considering three different models, perhaps for next year.

ARTICLES DUE FOR OCTOBER ISSUE
DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 10

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

- ◇ Neighbors in Need
- ◇ Worldwide Communion
- ◇ Laity Sunday
- ◇ Prayer Shawl Sunday
- ◇ Reformation Day
- ◇ CROP Walk
- ◇ Bible Study

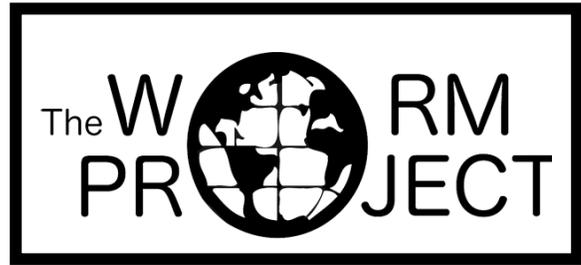
All submissions must include your name and phone number and be typed or printed. Submissions can be placed in the *Enlightener* bin in the Church Office (bottom bin) or emailed to erickinsey46@gmail.com. If you have questions, please call Eric Kinsey at 215.513.2237.

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Eric Kinsey, Editor: erickinsey46@gmail.com



Summary of June and YTD Income and Expense	June 2017	January—June 2017
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Current Tithes/Offerings	25,814.00	183,295.84
Event Income/Fundraisers	1,911.76	2,910.76
Flowers	285.00	1,978.00
Investment Income	6,338.25	38,029.50
Rental Income	2,350.00	14,100.00
Use of Building Income	235.00	3,062.00
Misc. Unrestricted Income	487.00	4,611.57
Interest Income, Savings Accts	10.75	81.42
Total Income	37,431.76	248,069.09
Gross Income	37,431.76	248,069.09
Expense		
Salaries and Benefits	30,320.46	181,875.57
Elders Expenses	0.00	423.93
Deacons Expenses	528.30	4,726.31
Educators Expenses	233.99	1,573.33
Trustees/Building Expenses	1,758.22	8,678.36
Building Operation Expenses	3,717.34	33,399.83
Operating Expenses	5,398.11	29,746.07
Miscellaneous Expenses	148.70	1,961.82
Total Expense	42,105.12	262,385.22
Net Ordinary Income	-4,673.36	-14,316.13
Other Income/Expense		
Other Income		
Artist Series Income—Special	0.00	1,654.00
Benevolence Offerings	4,192.00	30,196.01
Special Accounts	6,229.00	81,594.76
Soup Sales	0.00	1,472.00
Rummage Sale	0.00	50.00
Petty Cash, Addition to	0.00	10.00
Endowment Income	0.00	3,000.00
Immediate-Needs Income	250.00	4,250.00
Total Other Income	10,671.00	122,226.77
Other Expense		
Benevolence Disbursements	4,320.00	25,186.90
Special Fund Expenditures	9,468.54	538,583.99
Artist Series Fund Expenditures	0.00	2,250.00
Immediate-Needs Expense	0.00	11,600.00
Endowment-W/drawals&Trnsfrs	4,801.48	31,281.10
Total Other Expense	18,590.02	608,901.99
Net Other Income	-7,919.02	-486,675.22
Net Income	-12,592.38	-500,991.35

Summary of July and YTD Income and Expense	July 2017	January—July 2017
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Current Tithes/Offerings	28,890.00	212,185.84
Event Income/Fundraisers	0.00	2,910.76
Flowers	85.00	2,063.00
Investment Income	6,226.27	44,255.77
Rental Income	0.00	14,100.00
Use of Building Income	420.00	3,482.00
Youth Group	106.00	106.00
Misc. Unrestricted Income	115.47	4,727.04
Interest Income, Savings Accts	11.10	92.52
Total Income	35,853.84	283,922.93
Gross Income	35,853.84	283,922.93
Expense		
Salaries and Benefits	30,054.35	211,929.92
Elders Expenses	835.00	1,258.93
Deacons Expenses	340.39	5,066.70
Educators Expenses	492.58	2,065.91
Trustees/Building Expenses	305.02	8,983.38
Building Operation Expenses	1,911.52	35,311.35
Operating Expenses	3,551.92	33,297.99
Miscellaneous Expenses	50.00	2,012.32
Total Expense	37,541.28	299,926.50
Net Ordinary Income	-1,687.44	-16,003.57
Other Income/Expense		
Other Income		
Artist Series Income—Special	0.00	1,654.00
Benevolence Offerings	4,238.79	34,434.80
Special Accounts	3,559.00	85,153.76
Soup Sales	0.00	1,472.00
Rummage Sale	0.00	50.00
Petty Cash, Additions to	35.00	45.00
Endowment Income	0.00	3,000.00
Immediate-Needs Income	0.00	4,250.00
Total Other Income	7,832.79	130,059.56
Other Expense		
Benevolence Disbursements	5,337.91	30,524.81
Special Fund Expenditures	643.32	539,227.31
Artist Series Fund Expenditures	0.00	2,250.00
Immediate-Needs Expense	0.00	11,600.00
Endowment-W/drawals&Trnsfrs	0.00	31,281.10
Total Other Expense	5,981.23	614,883.22
Net Other Income	1,851.56	-484,823.66
Net Income	164.12	-500,827.23



ABOUT OUR OVERSEAS CHILDREN

When you make a contribution in the Change for the Children buckets, which are occasionally available after church services, you are helping the four overseas children our church supports. Please keep them in your prayers. These children were assigned to us by the United Church of Christ's World Missions program. When they reach 18 years of age, we will be given other children if we so choose. Letters and pictures from these children are posted on the bulletin board near the church library.

Nickole Florence Inog lives in the Philippines and will soon graduate from high school. Two members of our church who visited her have offered to help her through college. It appears at this point that she will major in information technology. Nickole Florence teaches at Vacation Bible School and, from her pictures, it appears that she enjoys good friendships.

Dillibabu lives at the Family Village Farm in India and just completed ninth grade. We have seen him gain enthusiasm for many activities from sports to theater. He expressed appreciation for Saint John's youth church service and sends his congratulations to those who participated. (I send the bulletin and describe this special service to our overseas children every year.)

Isaya Mashave, about 15, lives with his siblings in a child-headed household in Zimbabwe in southern Africa. Their parents have died. We have heard very little from him. He suffers from serious tropical diseases and lives a good distance from the center that is to provide some guidance for him.

Yashi Chotten, 12, lives in the Tibetan Children's Village in India and is glad that her brother and cousin also live there. She likes helping out with the younger children in the village. Now she thinks she might like to work with animals when she grows up because she enjoys the pets at the village. Three languages are part of her study: English, Tibetan, and an Indian language.

Sylvia Bingham for the Outreach Team

The Annual Worm Project Banquet will be held on Saturday, September 16, at 6 PM at the Franconia Heritage Family Banquet and Conference Center, 508 Harleysville Pike, Telford. There is no cost for the meal although donations will be accepted.

You will hear the inspiring firsthand stories from the Worm Project partners working around the world and find out how your donations can transform the lives of malnourished children.

St John's is hoping to have a table filled with our members. Reservations are required. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Jo-Ann Sine at joannsine@gmail.com or 215-855-3040.

The current newsletter for the Worm Project is available in the library on the table by the hallway door.



Save the Date!
Sunday, October 15. Details to follow in the Herald and the October Enlightener.

The annual North Penn/Lansdale community CROP Walk will take place on Sunday, October 15, starting and ending at Trinity Lutheran Church on Main Street. Registration will begin at 1:00 PM. Registration materials and general information may be obtained from the church office or by contacting Nicole Groff at nic@groffiti.com.

NO RATIONAL ARGUMENT WILL HAVE A RATIONAL EFFECT ON A MAN WHO DOES NOT WANT TO ADOPT A RATIONAL ATTITUDE.

~ KARL POPPER, AUSTRIAN-BRITISH PHILOSOPHER



News From the Pews September 2017

All summer long I have been looking forward to introducing you to the members of St. John's 2017 Confirmation Class. Because Confirmation occurred on June 4, and I always introduce the class members after they are confirmed, I had to wait for the September Enlightener . . . which wasn't easy because this little church mouse was so eager for you to meet these great young people!

ETHAN ALBANO is an 8th grader at Pennfield Middle School. His favorite color is blue, his favorite animal is the tiger, and he enjoys deck hockey, flag football, and track and field. In Ethan's words, "I love anything with technology and I know a lot about it." So, now this little church mouse knows who to go to when my smartphone is giving me trouble!

LUNA HUTCHINSON is an 8th grader at Penndale Middle School. The list of things she loves includes music, swimming, the beach (Stone Harbor), surfing, reading, and writing. Her favorite color is teal and her favorite animal is the otter.

KELSIE MACINTOSH, also an 8th grader at Penndale, plays soccer, softball, and basketball. She loves the Dallas Cowboys, likes hanging out with her friends, and enjoys listening to music.

JARED SANDS, an 8th grader at Penndale, identifies baseball, soccer, cooking, video games, and swimming as his passions. He also plays the violin and likes to listen to music.

RILEY SAXMAN, yet another class member who is an 8th grader at Penndale, enjoys playing soccer, skiing, cycling, and track. In the summer, and winter she likes to vacation at Wildwood Beach in New Jersey and at her mountain home in the Poconos. Her favorite professional soccer team is Chelsea, and one of her favorite things to do is hang out with friends and listen to music.

FRANKIE SCARPIELLO, an 8th grader at Pennfield, loves editing and listening to music.

I will count on you to help these new members of St. John's feel at home and loved in the days to come. I will also count on you to join me in the pews as we begin a brand new year of programming and activities at this wonderful church I call HOME.

AMOS



Hello Adults and Youth,

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You! for your support and assistance for a fantastic VBS. Our theme, "Faithful Fruits," is synonymous with each of you.

St. John's could not have a successful VBS program without you. I am blessed to know you and work alongside you providing Christian education to our amazing children and adults.

Amy, Brian, Luna, Desiree, Kerrigan, Brennan, Aidan, Jen, Cayla, Kelly, Kasey, Kim, Jared, Shirley, Rev. Patti, John H., Allison, Rev. Addie, Rev. Sue

Many Thanks!



MUSIC NOTES

You are invited...!

St. John's Church has an awesome Music Ministry, and you could be a part of it by participating in one of several music groups. Consider blending your voice with one of our singing choirs:

Chancel Choir – Four-part singing, leads worship weekly
Rehearsals on Thursdays at 7:30 beginning September 7

Chancel Choir Friends – Participates in Christmas and Spring concerts
Seasonal rehearsals on Thursdays at 7:30 beginning in November

United Voices – Unison and two-part singing, monthly participation in worship
Rehearsals on Wednesdays at 6:45 beginning September 20

Children's Choir – Directed by Allison Bruen, monthly participation in worship
Rehearsals on Wednesdays at 5:30 beginning September 20

You may want to participate in one of several instrumental opportunities. Please contact Minister of Music David Furniss for information about any of the following groups:

St. John's United Ringers

St. John's Wind Ensemble

St. John's Brass

St. John's Dixieland Band

Plus occasional ensembles of various instruments

St. John's Artist Series

The 2017-2018 season of Artist Series concerts will focus on celebrating the newly renovated Schultz Memorial Organ, beginning in November.

Nathan Laube, Organist
Dedication Concert
Sunday, November 5, 4:00 pm

Christmas Concert
North Penn High School Chamber Singers and Women's Choir
St. John's Chancel Choir and Friends
Sunday, December 10, 4:00 pm