

The Spirit

Volume 77 No. 2 February 2024



**A publication of St. John's United Church of Christ
Chambersburg, Pennsylvania**

From Pastor Caroline

How did it already get to be February? Weren't we just ringing in the New Year?

Time is among our most precious resources. There are only so many hours in a day, week, and year. We do our best to use our time wisely, doing our best to live out the call to love. Along with Advent, Lent is a season of preparation, a time set aside for contemplation and spiritual renewal, drawing closer to God and allowing God to draw closer to us. The 40 days (plus Sundays) of Lent lead us from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday. Following the lunar calendar, Lent and Easter are early this year. Lent begins with worship on Ash Wednesday, February 14, 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary. I hope you will join us to remember that not only are "you dust and to dust you shall return" but "you are loved and to love you shall return."

This year, we're piloting a few opportunities to enhance our Lenten experience. Joining together with other churches in the "Conococheague Mission Cooperative," St. John's will participate in shared Wednesday worship services in Lent (not Ash Wednesday or Holy Week). The theme of these services is "Lenten Lament: a journey toward joy." The schedule for these services is as follows (all services will be at 7 pm):

Wednesday, February 21, Scotland Fellowship Church, Loretta McClure preaching
Wednesday, February 28, St. Luke Lutheran Church, Pastor Caroline preaching
Wednesday, March 6, Mont Alto Methodist Church, Pastor Bill Smith preaching
Wednesday, March 13, Calvary United Methodist Church, Pastor Christopher Frye preaching
Wednesday, March 20, St. John's UCC, Pastor Robin Baer preaching

In addition to offering these ecumenical opportunities to join together with faithful people from other churches, Dale Myers has coordinated the publication of a "Lenten Reflections Booklet" that may help you to go deeper this Lent. You may learn something new, find an additional perspective to consider, and/or be moved by the testimony of those who have contributed a reflection from their spiritual journey. This resource is unique to SJUCC.

The Lenten Reflections Booklet will be available in the church office on Sunday, February 11 for hard-copy pickup. A \$5.00 donation would be appreciated to offset printing costs. A PDF version of the booklet will also be available on the home page of the St. John's website (www.sjucc1811.org).

Throughout this issue of *The Spirit*, you will find opportunities to love and learn, worship and witness, welcome and serve. We are engaging the themes of our strategic plan in new and creative ways. And we are indeed growing in love of God and neighbor.



MUSIC MINISTRY

HANDBELL RINGING IN AMERICA – Part 2

Last month I wrote about how handbells got to America and this month I would like to give you some information about the organization called Handbell Musicians of America.

The AGEHR or Handbell Guild of English Handbell Ringers was formed in 1954. This group began with the love and enthusiasm for Handbells in America which sprang from the hand of Margaret Shurcliff in Boston. Margaret introduced many of her friends to the joys of handbell ringing as she formed the Beacon Hill Ringers which included five of her six children.

In 2010 the AGEHR changed their name to the Handbell Musicians of America or HMA. The United States was divided into 12 regional areas with a mission to unite people through the musical art of handbell and hand chime ringing. We are located in region 2 which includes Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey. The idea was for each region to work together for the good of handbell ringing with having concerts and festivals together in these three states.

The HMA has a most prestigious award, the Honorary Life Membership, which they bestow upon outstanding handbell musicians. So far, 41 people have been honored with this award. These people have made many major contributions to the Guild. One such person was Donald Allured who we had her as a clinician for our musicians in the 1980's. Other winners of this award have written music and have had playing careers during their lives.

Gary Crum



St John's Nursery School

The school year is certainly moving along quickly! We are continuously amazed at the growth and confidence we see in all of the children. Information regarding Kindergarten registration in the Chambersburg Area School District went home to the families of children who will turn five by September 1, 2024. If you know someone who may also need this information, please let me know.

St. John's Nursery School is having a restaurant fundraiser on February 8th 11am-11pm at Primanti Bros. in Chambersburg. Just show our fundraising flyer at the restaurant or enter the code DINE2DONATE online, and our school will receive 20% of the sales! Flyers will be available in the Church office. Thanks for your support! We look forward to celebrating Valentine's Day this month. Our room parents will be planning a fun day filled with Valentine-themed crafts, games, and snacks. Children will also have the opportunity to pass out valentines to their friends!

February is also Dental Health Month. We will have Dr. James Barra visit our classrooms to help us learn how to keep our teeth healthy. We thank him so much for spending time with us! Lastly, Nursery School registration for the 2024-2025 school year will begin for current Nursery School and Church families on February 15th. Registration paperwork will soon be available on the Church website as well as in the Nursery School hallway. Registration will open to the public on March 1st.

I pray that everyone is doing well and that you are staying warm!
Kari Rock
Nursery School Director

Member Spotlight!

¡Hola! My name is Chris Willman-Bunge and I'm originally from Sandusky, Ohio. I became an Eagle Scout before I graduated from high school, traveled eastward to attend college at Penn State Mont Alto (I went to school there from 2010-2014), and I have been involved with St. John's U.C.C. since I was a freshman at Penn State. After living in a couple states since graduation I officially moved back "home" to Pennsylvania in August 2022 and I officially became a member later that December. I have a myriad number of interests, but most notably my top 3 are reading books, writing short stories and poems, and playing video games. When I'm not at work or at home, I feel like my main purpose in life is to serve God and others and to make a difference in the world (or at least the lives of those around me) and change it for the better.

Chris Willman-Bunge, pictured by the cross in St. John's Sanctuary



Future Together Progress Report

As we embrace the opportunities and possibilities that a new year brings, we notice the ways that God is leading us forward and helping us to live into our mission: to grow in love of God and neighbor.

You will note that several of these activities overlap in different areas of our Strategic Plan. We hope this “progress report” helps everyone to see how we are living into our St. John’s UCC Future Together Strategic Plan.

SPIRITUAL DEEPENING

- ◆ Diana Kongkeattikul writes a weekly devotion that is shared with the youth and the adult church school class.
- ◆ Carol Yarema and Diana Kongkeattikul decorated Fellowship Hall and the Sanctuary for the Christmas Season to enhance our worship spaces.
- ◆ Dale Myers is coordinating the production of a booklet for the Lenten Season featuring member reflections, historical information, and spiritual nuggets.
- ◆ The prayer chain is advertised weekly and coordinated by the office staff. We continue to pray with and for one another.

ENERGIZE PARTICIPATION

- ◆ Discussion has started about hosting a poverty simulation workshop with other churches.
- ◆ A task force has met and is making progress on reviewing the governance and leadership teams needed to succeed in reaching our goals. Our hope is to have a presentation ready for the congregational meeting in June 2024.
- ◆ A retreat called Net Engagement facilitated by Jose Ricardo-Osorio is being planned for the Spring. Stay tuned for more details!

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

- ◆ Our library (located in room 106) is now hosting a jigsaw puzzle exchange: take one or trade one and enjoy a relaxing time.
- ◆ Roxanne Davenport and Chris Willman-Bunge are planning an intergenerational “game day” for an upcoming Saturday or Sunday.
- ◆ Carol Yarema is leading a book study focused on living with anxiety and depression. Contact her for more details.
- ◆ A group study of “The Purpose Driven Life” by Rick Warren is being planned.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- ◆ Our Wednesday night Lenten Services this year will be in collaboration with other churches in our area. See page **2** for more information.
- ◆ On January 26 we held a “Banquet for the New Year” fundraiser dinner hosted by chef Joshua Gibson who leads the cooking classes at our church.
- ◆ On January 28, John Widmann offered an organ recital in the Sanctuary.
- ◆ On February 2, Jose Ricardo-Osorio will be leading a salsa/merengue class.
- ◆ February 13 is our annual Pork & Sauerkraut Dinner (dine-in and carry out options available).
- ◆ On February 17, there will be a Valentine’s Day Dance (donations accepted).
- ◆ St. John’s will host the Salvation Army Auxiliary Fabric Fair in May 2024.

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

- ◆ Camp Ministry has developed a new rental fee structure for 2024. A team has been formed to apply for grant money through the Penn Central Conference to assist campers and camp maintenance issues.
- ◆ St. John’s has engaged outside help with Berkstresser Realty and Ghost Writer LCC (see page **11** for more information).
- ◆ Online giving and other giving opportunities are regularly advertised. A QR code has been added to our publications to make online giving even easier.

Where Does Your Money Go?

Let's talk money!

Oh, yes. Money is such a dirty word. We could disguise the topic by calling it stewardship, but stewardship is more than money. Stewardship is giving of your time, talent, and treasures. And while we need gifts of time, talent, and treasures; the truth is that like your own personal household, our church cannot survive without money. Mission and ministry require funding. Your gifts and offerings make it possible for St. John's to remain a vital part of our congregants' lives and our community.

Unless money is labeled for a specific use when it is gifted, it is deposited into the church's General Fund. This "bucket" supports the overall mission and ministry of the church. Utilities, wages and benefits, office supplies, and most ministry expenses (among other things) are covered under the General Fund. Both community outreach and in-house fellowship are funded by general fund monies that are flagged for the ministry teams supporting those events. The bulk of monetary offerings falls into this fund. Gifts to the General Fund provide St. John's with the greatest flexibility in managing our income and expenses.

We have a number of special funds that support particular aspects of our life together. These include: Camp Fund; Pastors Discretionary Fund; Patrons of Music; Sponsor-A-Camper; Maintenance; HVAC; Children and Youth; First Fruits; and St. John's Nursery School. You are able to support many of these funds using our online giving platform (Vanco), available through our church website, or by designating contributions to these funds on your check or offering envelope.

The Camp Fund supports our St. John's Camp, enabling us to care for buildings, land, programming and summer camp necessities. Sponsor-A-Camper helps us offer scholarships for young people to attend camp. The Children and Youth Ministry Fund supports education and faith formation, especially for our younger members and friends. The Patrons of Music fund helps us to offer concerts such as the Susquehanna University choir (they'll be coming again to sing at St. John's in March 2025).

The Maintenance Fund supports the basic maintenance of St. John's building and grounds. This money pays for needed repairs and covers costs incurred with maintaining our facility. Plumbing repairs, new lighting, replacing doors, etc. are all supported by this fund. Major projects such as the new HVAC system are typically funded by special fundraising efforts or capital campaign programs (like "Mission Possible").

"First Fruits" offerings are collected each month to support organizations in our local community and beyond. The Pastors Discretionary Fund allows us to help people in our congregation and community with emergency needs. These monies help us to do good within and beyond the walls of our building.

The St. John's Nursery School is a self-sustaining program, meaning it covers its expenses through student tuition payments. Gifts to the nursery school are considered special opportunities to improve or add to playground equipment, update programming supplies, and offer special student events.

So where does your money go? Well, that is up to you. Your offering goes exactly where you ask us to put it. Designated gifts go to specific projects and programs. Undesignated gifts go to the general fund, giving us the greatest flexibility to manage budgeted operating expenses and unbudgeted needs. As you plan future donations to St. John's, please also consider adding to your gift and designating funds for something near and dear to your heart. Any ministry-supporting work that touches you would benefit from additional money marked for just those functions.

Thank you to every St. John's member and friend who supports the church so the church can continue to support ourselves and our community.

–Financial Task Force members Lisa Fair, Scot Orndorff, Jerry Thomason, and Pastor Caroline

St. John's United Church of Christ

JOIN US FOR
**SHROVE
TUESDAY**

5:30 PM FEB 13 2024

\$15 adults

\$5 kids 6-12

Kids under 6 eat free

**PORK &
SAUERKRAUT
DINNER**

St. John's United Church of Christ, 1811 Lincoln Way E, Chambersburg PA
Parking Lot B for Fellowship Hall

Financial Update: Seeking Outside Assistance

Building on the theme of Financial Sustainability as laid out in our Future Together Strategic Plan, St. John's UCC has been exploring options to help us achieve our goals in this area.

Our Consistory recently entered into several agreements to help explore options for meeting our 2024 budget and maintaining our building. One of the agreements is with Ghost Writers, LLC. Pastor Caroline, Scot Orndorff, and trustee Tom Harrison recently met with Kirsten Hubbard and Abby McElhiney of Ghost Writer, LLC to discuss potential grant opportunities for SJUCC. Kirsten indicated that there are a number of private, state and federal grants that might be available to SJUCC. Her firm is familiar with the complexities of grant applications and how to communicate the Organization's need for available funds. Pastor Caroline, Scot and Tom believe SJUCC needs professional guidance and assistance to be successful in this competitive arena. This requires a \$1200 monthly cost and is for a one year period. However, it can be cancelled by either party with 30 days' notice. There is a meeting scheduled at the end of January to consider several projects that may be worthy of grant funding.

The second agreement is with Berkstresser Realty Group to possibly rent some of the space that was vacated when First Start Partnerships moved their three classrooms from our building to the old Lincoln Lanes Building. Pastor Caroline, Harold Collier, and trustee Tom Harrison toured the building with Wayne Berkstresser to show the possible rooms that are available. It was agreed that SJUCC should seek professional help from a realtor to market our space to potential tenants. The agreement is for longer term space/room rental. We agreed to pursue this through June 2024. The cost for any space rented is the first month's rental amount.

The Consistory was unanimous in supporting these options for the financial sustainability of our congregation.



It's hard to believe, but with Easter coming early this year, it's already time to think about ordering flowers to decorate the Sanctuary!

*We are now taking orders for **tulips** to decorate the Sanctuary for the Easter Sunday service. We have chosen to order tulips in 2024 rather than lilies as they are less pungent.*

If you would like to donate a tulip, please complete the form and return it to the church office by **Friday, March 15, 2024** **Cost - \$15.00 each**

Donor's name: _____
(as it will appear in the bulletin insert)

Phone number: _____

I would like to order _____ lily (lilies) to be placed: **(Please pick one)**
_____ In memory of: _____
_____ In honor of: _____
_____ To the Glory of God

****Thank you for your support. Please arrange for your flowers to be picked up.**

Please include your payment with this form and return it to the church office by
Friday, March 15, 2024. Make checks payable to St. John's UCC.



Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9am –3pm



We will be closed on Monday, February 19, for President's Day.

Loretta Zimmerman - Office Manager

Heather Nickey - Office Assistant

Church office # (717) 263-8593

WON'T YOU CONSIDER JOINING IN? OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING AND SERVICE WITH THE OPEN AND AFFIRMING MINISTRY TEAM

We often think of winter months as a time to hunker down with decreased engagement in outside-the-home activities. During the months of February and March, St. John's is challenging you to participate in any one of several activities of varying levels of engagement and learning.

- 1) Beginning in January, the Winter Warmth Drive (headed up by United Way) began to receive items for low income and homeless in our area. Up until February 12, you can make contributions (monetary) or tangibles at the church. Our First Fruits Offering at February 4 worship service will go to this project. If you wish to make a monetary contribution other than at that worship service, you can submit a check up until February 12 so noting that designation. Tangibles can be placed in the carts in our lobby: Food – whole grains, seasonings, cooking oils, condiments, flour, sugar, boxed meals, peanut butter, shelf-stable milk, pasta/pasta sauce and canned goods. Personal Care items – first aid kits, hand soap, shampoo, conditioner, body wash, deodorant, tissues, toothpaste, laundry detergent, dish soap, paper towels, mittens, gloves, winter hats, socks.
- 2) February is Black History Month. We have scheduled the viewing and discussion of the film “13th” on February 18 here at the church. This event will follow the worship service on February 18 and will include a light lunch. Time period will be approximately three hours, including lunch, viewing and discussion. The documentary film reveals the complexity of, and often a misunderstanding of, the 13th Amendment to the United States Constitution. The ratified amendment in 1865 is often understood to be total freedom for those in enslavement and ruled slavery of any kind as unlawful. However, there was a loophole that has led to the utilization of the 13th as a way for the American incarceration system to deem a form of slavery acceptable as a legal punishment. You will find this an enlightening and profound documentary film. We do ask you to pre-register for this event by February 11th by calling (717-263-8593) or email (manager@sjucc1811.org) to aid in having sufficient lunch supplies.



- 3) Early in March – Saturday, March 2, 2024 – will be the Penn Central Conference ONA Ministry Team’s “Winter Gathering.” This will be held at Colonial Park UCC, 5000 Devonshire Rd., Harrisburg, PA with registration at 9:30 a.m. and closing at 3:00 p.m. The featured speaker for this event will be Corinne Goodwin who is founder and Executive Director of Eastern PA Trans Equity Project (a non-profit organization which has a mission of empowering transgender individuals throughout a 26-county area of Eastern Pennsylvania). Workshops will also be part of this gathering. There is NO COST to attend, but they do ask for registration by contacting Steven Roush at scroush2@gmail.com with individual’s name, name of church, a contact email and phone number. A free will offering will help cover food & speaker costs.

- 4) Sunday, March 3 – St. John’s UCC will host a workshop “Skills for Bridging the Divide” with the organization Braver Angels. We live in a polarized political climate that affects all aspects of our lives: how we live, work, worship, and our relationships with family and friends. How do we have better conversations with people we disagree with, especially those on the other side of the political aisle? By learning **Skills for Bridging the Divide!** This workshop will teach skills for having respectful conversations that: clarify differences; search for common ground; affirm the importance of relationship. Skills for Bridging the Divide is perfect for communities of worship who want to reduce the divisiveness of polarization. Respect, not agreement, is an essential key for healthy discussion. As people of faith, we want to be able to reach out to other people with more love and respect. Why should you come? To learn about the perspectives, feelings, and experiences of someone you care about who differs from you politically; to have a sense of satisfaction about how you conveyed your own perspective, feelings, and experiences; to discover some common ground, if it’s there. Participants will: practice tone setting skills; listening skills; speaking skills; and handling difficult moments. **When and Where:** Sunday, March 3, 2-5 pm, here at St. John’s UCC (Fellowship Hall). A “snow date” of Sunday, March 10, 2-5 pm, has been selected in case of inclement weather.





Outreach Ministry 2024 Lenten projects

Each year the Outreach Ministry designates three or four recipients of our Lenten First Fruits. This year there are three groups that we have decided to support.

Peru Adopt a school program. St John's association with this program began in 2008 when the Crum's and Powell's visited the school on their trip to Peru. All donations go to the purchase of school supplies for an elementary school in Yamamoto. We continue to receive communications in appreciation of our support. (Check out the three "books" of original artwork made by kids in these schools available at the Welcome Center.)

African Mission Healthcare. This mission is in support of compassionate medical access and treatment in Kenya and Malawi. It is the Mission in which the Jon and Amanda Fielder family serve.

The Women Healthcare Initiative Foundation. This organization's mission: To work with local governments, religious institutions, NGO's and local, national and international stakeholders to empower women and children in Burkina Faso to break the cycle of poverty through healthcare teaching, formal education with basic technical skills, and to offer solutions to improve the quality and delivery of healthcare. The vision is a nation where women come together to overcome health disparities in Burkina Faso.

The proceeds of these offerings by the congregation will be evenly divided between these three programs. Our collection will be during **Lent** and will end on **March 24th, Palm Sunday**. We are very happy to offer this opportunity for global outreach in the life of St John's UCC.

First Fruits in February will be collected for United Way's "Winter Warmth Drive" on Sunday, February 4 and Sunday, February 11. Collection for Lenten offerings will begin on Wednesday, February 14.



Dear Saint John's,

We would like to express our sincere gratitude for the very generous cash donation towards the power pack program. The money will be put to good and Godly use for purchasing nutritional food for local children who might not otherwise eat well during the weekend.

Sincerely, The Power Pack Team at Grace Brethren Church.

St. John's United Church of Christ,

Thank you for your faithful and generous support of the refugees from the middle east settling here in Chambersburg over the last 3 years. At this time we do not expect any new families but will let you know if things change. You and all the volunteers have become their friends and continue to help them navigate the complexities of life in America.

Sincerely, Jane Stockhauser, on behalf of Refugee Resettlement

St. John's Camp

Camp Ministry members have been working on the camp website, camp-based activities, events and the summer camp program. Our beautiful camp is the perfect place to gather, learn about nature, relax and get closer to God. Have you considered renting the camp for a day, a weekend or a week? Camp is the perfect place to gather with friends, team build with a group, enjoy a family reunion, walk the labyrinth in the woods, or hold a meaningful retreat. Please, take a look at the Camp Rental tab on the church website for information and prices and then share with your family and friends.

Upcoming Camp events:

- Camp Sunday is February 11. Come reminisce, sing camp songs, support our camp and promote this summer's camping season.
- April First Fruits will be for Sponsor A Camper. Last year we sponsored 6 campers and hope to do the same this year.
- Sticky Bun Sale will be in April. Orders and payment will be taken for cinnamon sticky buns for \$12/dozen and \$7/half dozen before and after church on Sundays, April 7 and 14. Then pick up your "ready to bake" sticky buns on Sunday morning, April 21. Freshly baked sticky buns will also be on sale, after church, on April 21 for \$2 each.

Email Mary Lee Yaukey (mlyaukey@comcast.net) if you want to join the fun of making the delicious buns on Saturday morning, April 20.

- Camp Clean Up – Help is always needed to get the camp cleaned and ready for the summer camping season. There will be a Saturday group cleaning date with the Boy Scouts where the focus is on the grounds and mainly with leaf removal. Throughout the spring, on weekdays and weekends, help is needed to clean cabins, the dining hall, kitchen, etc. More details to come.
- 2024 Summer Camps – New this summer there will be a Weekend Adventure for grades 6,7,& 8 June 21-23. Camp Kum-Ba-Yah, a day camp, with one overnight option for grades 3,4,& 5 and Camp Noah, also a day camp, for grades K,1,& 2 will both run June 24-28. "Life's Learning" presenters, counselors, and lunch time helpers will be needed to operate the camp program. Mark your calendar, spread the word and please consider volunteering!

Valentine's Day Dance

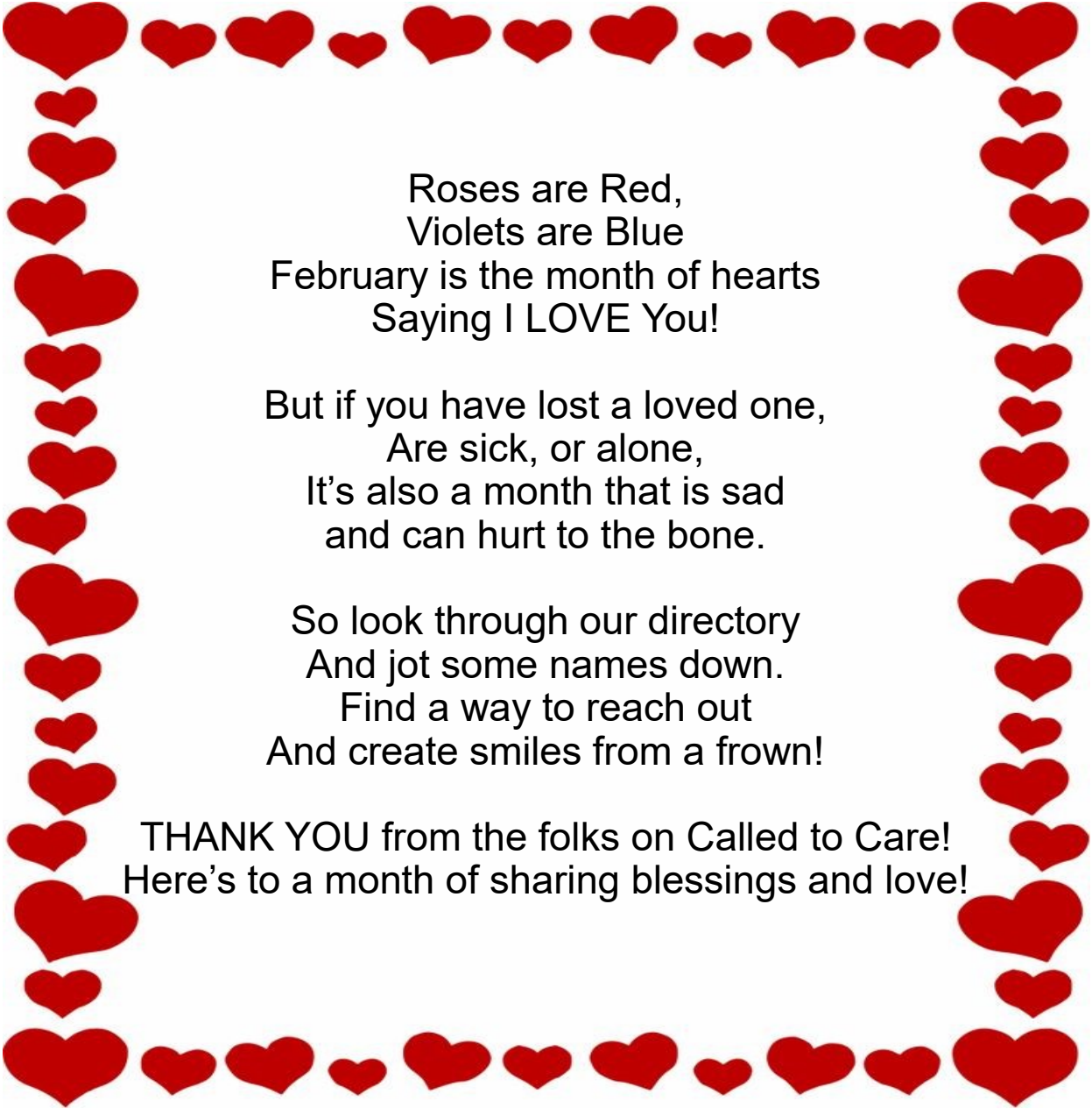
DJ Frank Hancock

February 17, 2024
6:00 - 9:00 PM
St. John's Fellowship Hall
Donations Accepted



St. John's United Church of Christ
1811 LWE, Chambersburg, PA Parking Lot B

THE CARING CORNER



Roses are Red,
Violets are Blue
February is the month of hearts
Saying I LOVE You!

But if you have lost a loved one,
Are sick, or alone,
It's also a month that is sad
and can hurt to the bone.

So look through our directory
And jot some names down.
Find a way to reach out
And create smiles from a frown!

THANK YOU from the folks on Called to Care!
Here's to a month of sharing blessings and love!



The Flower Corner:

Have you heard of the book “Who moved the Cheese?” Well it seems we have a similar issue, “Who moved the Flower Sign Up Chart?”

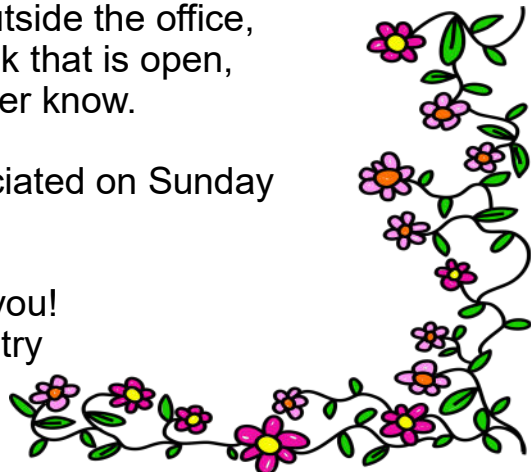
Last Summer when the Strategic Planning Committee needed to add to the bulletin board in the Lobby, we could hardly find a location that would work. So the Lobby bulletin board was cleaned-up and rearranged. A new chart for Coffee Hour Volunteers was added and The Flower Chart was moved to the bulletin board outside of the office as part of the Called to Care Communication area.

The chart is an easy to view record of weeks with flowers ordered for the ‘Foot of the Cross’ in the sanctuary. In addition, our office assistant Heather tracks the orders so that she can verify flower requests, determine what gets published in the Sunday bulletin, and handle collection of payment.

If you wish to sign up to sponsor flowers, please check the chart outside the office, add your name to a week that is open, and also let Heather know.

Flowers are always appreciated on Sunday mornings!

Blessings to you!
Flower Ministry



FEBRUARY 19, 2024 | 6:30 PM

BIBLE & A BEER

Theological conversations
Rich discussion
Powerful testimony

Join us at 6:30 pm at
The Trojan Diner & Sports Bar!
1121 Lincoln Way E
Chambersburg, PA 17201

Bring your questions,
Invite your friends!



Join us for

Saturday Night Worship

*This service is designed to provide a relaxed, informal,
intimate atmosphere for worship and fellowship.
This family-friendly worship service includes communion
and activities for children.*



February 10, 2024

5:00 pm

Fellowship Hall

St. John's UCC
1811 LWE Chambersburg, PA 17202



Ladies LUNCHEON

Nine ladies hurried into Longhorn Steakhouse Wednesday, January 10 to escape the strong wings. They realized the earlier snowstorm was probably due to the Farm Show being held in Harrisburg. It seems about half the group had NEVER attended that event which first was held in 1917.

Those who had attended, happily recalled there favorite activities of the 41 categories. Food, animals, square dancing (both by people and tractors), and “sheep to shawls” were mentioned.

Other Pennsylvania people, places, and things were then topics of discussion. Do YOU know the largest body of water within the state? It happens to be artificially made. Who were famous actors and actresses born here? Do you know Pennsylvania is the mushroom capital of the world?

Our next meeting will be at Montezuma’s (on Route 30) on February 14 (which is not only Valentine’s Day but also Ash Wednesday). This suggests many possible activities. Come, be enlightened and enjoy a brief time with other St. John’s ladies.

MENS BREAKFAST



We will be meeting Thursday, February 1, 2024 at 7am at Chris’s Kitchen (across from Perkins)

We look forward to seeing any and all for February’s Breakfast

February BIRTHDAYS

02/02 Tom Harrison

02/03 Gary Crum

02/03 Dr. Donald Hendrickson

02/04 G Michael Bitner

02/04 Jolene H. McGinley

02/04 Kurt Widmann

02/05 Helen Douglas

02/06 Gary Patterson

02/06 Alma Dietrich

02/06 Maelynn Dietrich

02/07 Julie Dereef

02/08 Ernie Welch

02/09 Denny Domer

02/09 Alex Bishop

02/10 Gregory St. Clair

02/11 Colleen Woy

02/12 Christopher Willman-Bunge

02/13 Richard Collier

02/14 Aryn Martin (Rebok)

02/17 Donna Hilton

02/19 Kristin Brown

02/19 Marvin Zeger

02/19 Casimir Rzomp

02/19 Cynthia St. Clair

02/23 Harold St. Clair

02/27 Allen Frantz

02/27 Sophie Hoger





Youth Calendar of Events

February

4 Church School 8:45

11 Church School 8:45

NO Children's Corner during Worship
(Camp Sunday)

Confirmation 11:30

13 Pork and Sauerkraut Dinner 4:45 or ASAP

18 Church School 8:45

25 Church School 8:45

Children's Corner during Worship

Confirmation 11:30

Thank you!!!! From Families Around the World In November, the Youth of St. John's presented information to raise money for Heifer International, as an early gift giving option as well as the First Fruits offering for November. I am happy to announce that a total of \$1080 was given and the following animals were purchased for families around the world: 3 goats, 1 pig, 2 sheep, 1 flock of ducks, 6 flocks of chickens, 2 Hope baskets, and 4 colonies of bees Thank you to all who helped teach our youth about giving and sharing our wealth.

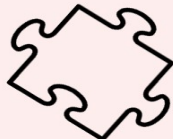

Help Needed!!!!

The annual Pork and Sauerkraut dinner is just around the corner as we prepare for Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent. Youth and their families are asked to help serve this dinner. The meal is scheduled for February 13th . Please let Roxanne know if you can help and plan to arrive by 4:45 if possible. Service hours will be awarded to the youth who work.

VBS Dates for 2024

Mark your calendars for July 28th -Aug 1st

See Roxanne to help!



**PUZZLE
LENDING
LIBRARY!**

**PLEASE FEEL FREE TO
BORROW A PUZZLE
AND/OR DONATE
PUZZLES!**

**PUZZLES ARE AVAILABLE
IN THE BACK OF OUR
LIBRARY**





Bad weather could be upon us at any time. Remember that the church follows the CASD schedule. If school is cancelled for the day, all church activities are cancelled for the day. If school is delayed in the morning, all morning church activities are cancelled. If school is dismissed early, all evening church activities will be cancelled. It is the goal to hold all scheduled worship services.

When in doubt, safety first!

Ministry Chairs

2023-2024

Called to Care—*Connie Morrill-Hair*

Camp—*MaryLee Yaukey*

Caring Cooks—*Lisa Frantz*

Children & Youth Ministry—*Roxanne Davenport*

Facilities Ministry—*Tom Harrison*

Fellowship—*Sue McMurtray*

Finance—*Scot Orndorff*

Invitational Ministry—*Susan Collier*

Library—*MaryLee Yaukey*

Nursery School—*Renee Byers*

Open and Affirming—*N. Aaron Hartman/Mark and Emily Hoger*

Outreach—*TBD*

Prayer Shawl Ministry — *N. Aaron Hartman*

Public Relations— *TBD- Suggestions/ Volunteers Welcome!*

Safe Church Compliance—*Safe Church Compliance Steward, Sarah Herbert*

Safe Church Response—*Safe Church Compliance Steward, Sarah Herbert*

Safety and Security—*Tom Kinton*

Technology and Media Ministry— *Calvin Frantz*

Worship/Music Ministry—*Gary Crum* 30

Want to serve
on a Ministry?

These Ministry teams
would welcome you &
your talents!

Speak to them or Pastor
Caroline today to be a part
of these ministries.

CONSISTORY 2023-2024

Trustees

TBD

Thomas Harrison—**Vice President**

Larry Wadel

Elders

Harold Collier, **President**

N. Aaron Hartman

Jill Miller

Gary Patterson

Dwight Sollenberger, **Head Elder**

Carol Yarema

Deacons

Allen Frantz

Mike Blumberg

Cathy Kinton

Sarah Myers, **Secretary**

Chris Willman-Bunge

TBD

Pastor

The Rev. Caroline E. Saxton

Sunday Worship will be at 10 am (Offered In-Person and on YouTube)

Upcoming Communion Dates:

Saturday, February 10, 5 pm (Fellowship Hall)

Sunday, February 11, 10 am (Sanctuary & Livestreamed)

Ash Wednesday, February 14, 6:30 pm (Sanctuary; possibly Livestreamed)

Sunday, March 3, 10 am (Sanctuary & Livestreamed)

Saturday, March 9, 5 pm (Fellowship Hall)



St. John's United Church of Christ

**1811 Lincoln Way East
Chambersburg, PA 17202**

Phone: 717-263-8593 Fax: 717-263-9010

Website: www.sjucc1811.org

