

# The Circle

## October Worship at St. John's

20<sup>th</sup> Weekend after Pentecost

Saturday, October 6<sup>th</sup> – Evening Light, 5 p.m.

Sunday, October 7<sup>th</sup>

Holy Communion, 8 a.m.

Christian Education, 9:25 a.m.

Holy Communion, 10:45 a.m.

Blessing of the Animals, 12:30 p.m.

The Gospel reading begins with Jesus saying something that makes people cringe, but then does something that reveals the heart of God's love and grace. We will also celebrate St. Francis Day (his "saint day" falls on October 4<sup>th</sup>) with a blessing of the animals. Besides his love of animals, Francis had an uncanny way of understanding and expressing the Gospel.

21<sup>st</sup> Weekend after Pentecost

Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup> – Evening Light, 5 p.m.

Sunday, October 14<sup>th</sup>

Holy Communion, 8 a.m.

Christian Education, 9:25 a.m.

Holy Communion, 10:45 a.m.

In this weekend's Gospel a rich man wants to know how he can buy eternal life. Isn't that what we all want—life, good and full and forever? Jesus' response disappoints him because the very thing he wants is not for sale. Open hands and open hearts are the only ways we experience eternal life.

22<sup>nd</sup> Weekend after Pentecost

Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup> – Evening Light, 5 p.m.

Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup>

Holy Communion, 8 a.m.

Christian Education, 9:25 a.m.

Holy Communion, 10:45 a.m.

Things get turned upside-down in the Gospel this weekend. Those who want to be "number one" are instead invited into servanthood.

REFORMATION 501 WEEKEND

Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup> – Evening Light, 5 p.m.

Sunday, October 28<sup>th</sup>

Holy Communion, 8 a.m.

Christian Education, 9:25 a.m.

Holy Communion, 10:45 a.m.

Trunk or Treat, 2-3:30 p.m.

On this 501<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the Reformation, we celebrate the heart of our faith: the gospel of Christ, the good news that makes us free!!! You are invited to participate in the St. John's tradition of wearing red on this day!



## Blessing of the Animals

There will be a special blessing of the animals on Sunday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 p.m. in the Circle in honor of St. Francis of Assisi. Our seminarian, Debbie Gordon, will officiate. Pets of all shapes and sizes (or pictures of pets) are invited to be blessed. This has become a wonderful



St. John's tradition for humans and animals. Please invite your friends and their pets to attend!

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## The Pastor's message:

### The God-bearing Life

At Baptism, parents, god-parents and the whole congregation make promises to help the child grow in the Christian faith and life, to live in the covenant of baptism and to support the child and pray for his or her new life in Christ. Then water flows and a new identity given as a baptized child of God. The baptized one is sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever as the sign of the cross is traced on his or her forehead. The whole church responds with a welcome into the God-bearing Life. That is what we are, God-bearers, ones who carry the God-given gifts of faith, hope and love into the world.



At the Confirmation lock-in on September 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, we talked about God-bearing. The first question asked was “Who is your favorite person in the Bible?” All sorts of answers were given from Jesus to Jonah, David to Mary. We talked about how this person, sometimes in spite of themselves (such as Jonah with the whale incident), was a bearer of God. Then it got more personal with the question, “Who has been a God-bearer for you?” In the small group I was in, almost all of them said their father or mother. Parents, please read that again and remember it when your son or daughter is driving you crazy—you are a “God-bearer” for them!

The question was expanded upon in a conversation about caring for others, specifically the poor in our community. They learned about the work of PACS (Phoenixville Area Community Services) from Donna Searchfield, a member of St. John's who is on the staff at PACS. She told them what items were needed in the PACS food bank and why that was so. Then each small group was given \$40 to go shopping for PACS at Redners. It was controlled chaos as they worked together to make decisions and getting the most for their money.

All the groups were done, but one—the 7<sup>th</sup> grade boys. There were four of them of varying heights so that Danielle, their guide, looked as if she was their mom. The boys were figuring out how to operate the self check-out machine, while counting every penny, when a man came up to the group and said, “If you need more money, I have it for you.” They said they were O.K. He replied, “I can cover it. I know what it is like to be hungry.” A God-bearer had shown up, where he was not expected.

It happens like that, doesn't it?

Later in the dark sanctuary, we gathered at the font, the same one in which most of them had been baptized. Each held a candle, an extension of the light of Christ they were given on the day of their baptism, and asked God to help them be God-bearers. Prayers were spoken silently in hearts and out loud, the baptismal water splashed and the sign of the cross traced on their foreheads as they, as we, and the man in Redners, were blessed!

Pastor Cynthia Krommes



### Martin Luther: The Idea That Changed the World

Last year, when we celebrated the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation, St. John's coordinated the showing of the new movie *Martin Luther: The Idea That Changed the World* at the Colonial Theatre. The show was sold out! Now, this year for the 501<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the Reformation, we are showing the same movie in the Fireside Room on Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup>. We'll begin with a covered dish supper (perhaps some German food and the special Reformation Beer “Heavenly Indulgences” once again brewed by Iron Hill) at 6 p.m., followed by the movie

beginning at about 6:45 p.m. The participants of The WAY, our newcomers' group, are especially invited, but so are you!! Please RSVP via the Yellow Communication Card or by contacting our Parish Administrator, Sonya Sowards, at (610) 933-3947 or [office@stjohnphoenixville.org](mailto:office@stjohnphoenixville.org). It's a very fine movie, one not to be missed!



## *Silver, Wood & Ivory*

### *A Celestial Musical Journey*

St. John's presents "Silver, Wood & Ivory" in concert, 4:00 p.m., on Sunday, September 30<sup>th</sup>. Silver, wood, and ivory are three creations of beauty found in nature. When you add the musical inspirations of Tracy Dietrich and Cindy Wittenberg, "Silver, Wood & Ivory" transform into a celestial musical journey. Whether it's a familiar song that causes memories to come flooding back or a new melody that creates a sense of calm, Silver Wood & Ivory has created a body of work that will satisfy everyone's melodic appetite. Together, this two-person orchestra of classically trained artists have fashioned a tapestry of music that stirs the soul.

Tracy Dietrich, the Silver and Wood of the duo, was born with the gift of perfect pitch. She says that playing music came as second nature to her from the time she was a child. Tracy has played other instruments, but it's the flute that has captured the passion of her musical voice. Tracy has mastered nineteen different flutes and recorders ranging from the most primitive to the most sophisticated. These intricate varieties of flutes compliment her unique style. Cindy Wittenberg, the Ivory of the pair, grew up in a musical family with a classically trained mother. She began playing the piano at the age of four and began formal training by the age of eight. Cindy also learned to play the organ and the bassoon which allows her to draw from her symphonic experiences when composing music. Tracy and Cindy both have instrumental performance degrees: Tracy from Indiana University and Cindy from Elizabethtown College and Peabody Conservatory.

There is no admission charge although a free-will offering will be received. A reception follows the concert. Arrive early as a full house is anticipated.



Fall signifies that it is once again time for the annual WELCA soup sale! This year the offerings are beef barley, chicken spiral, and potato. Price remains \$8 per quart or 2 quarts for \$15, and is payable at the time of pickup. Please use the Yellow Communication Card in your weekly bulletin to place your order to be picked up the following week after either service.



### **Cooking Demonstration Thursday, October 18th at 5:30 p.m.**

The Fellowship Committee would like to invite the congregation to attend a cooking demonstration by

Stephen Drewes. The menu for the event is braised pork shoulder, mashed parsnips and potatoes, and green beans almandine. Any leftovers will go to the St. Peter's lunch program the following day. The demonstration will take approximately 90 minutes. Please indicate on the Yellow Communication Card if you would like to attend.

### **Altar Guild Description and Invitation to Help**

The Altar Guild's responsibilities include preparing the sanctuary for worship, setting up for communion, and cleaning up after communion. Members usually work as teams, with an experienced member training a new member. At times, members are asked to help with preparations for Holy Week, Christmas, or other special occasions. Teams usually work one weekend a month, although bi-monthly or occasional commitments are available as well. You are invited to learn more about "setting the table for Jesus" by contacting Jean Herbranson at (610) 831-5803 or [deherb@juno.com](mailto:deherb@juno.com).



## Trunk or Treat!

Mark your calendar for St. John's Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 28th from 2 to 3:30 p.m. rain or shine! This is a fun way for kids to gather goodies and for families to work together in transforming the family car into a trunk full of treasures. We have seen such creative ideas the past two years and look forward to seeing just how imaginative folks can be. This event is open to the community and will be held rain or shine. Volunteers are needed to help with various aspects of the day. Please contact Teresa Olsen at [jtbertesa@gmail.com](mailto:jtbertesa@gmail.com) to volunteer and to sign up as a "trunk" participant!

## A Fall WAY

The WAY is one of the "ways" we welcome new people into the life of our congregation. Called The WAY after the first followers of Jesus, who were known as "People of the Way" before being called Christians, this is an opportunity for faith to be explored, nurtured and renewed. It is also a wonderful way to meet the people of St. John's and to learn about our life together.

The Welcome Team has elected to have two sessions of The Way, once this fall and once in the spring, because several new people are interested in joining St. John's and we are happy to accommodate. The Team has developed a seven-week curriculum where different congregational leaders will be sharing their areas of expertise each week. Members of the Team will attend each class as facilitators and discussion leaders. Here's what the curriculum looks like:



We begin on **October 7<sup>th</sup>** from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. with dinner at Pastor Krommes' home. Prospective members will be teamed up with a "God Friend" a/k/a mentor and receive a copy of *"The Lutheran Handbook."*

**October 14<sup>th</sup>** 9:30-10:30 a.m. Jack Ertell will give an overview of the history of the congregation and give a tour of the church.

**October 21<sup>st</sup>** 9:30-10:30 a.m. Tom Snyder will be discussing how and why we worship as we do.

We'll meet after Evening Light on Saturday, **October 27<sup>th</sup>**. Since the next day is Reformation Sunday, we'll use the opportunity for a movie/pizza night where we will watch and discuss a film about Martin Luther.

**November 4<sup>th</sup>**, All Saints Sunday, 9:30-10:30 a.m. We will learn how our congregation makes decisions. A council member will lead us in a discussion about the role of council and how our budget is created/ approved.

**November 11<sup>th</sup>**, 9:30-10:30 a.m. We will be learning about stewardship of time and talent by asking that leaders of the various ministries at St. John's make a guest appearance to give a short, three-minute elevator speech about their ministry.

**November 18<sup>th</sup>** the prospective members will be joining the church, and the congregation will welcome them with a brunch afterwards.

After the new members have joined the church, they will oversee a service project, which they have devised and planned, to be held between then and Christmas.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Pastor Krommes at (610) 933-3947 or [c.krommes@verizon.net](mailto:c.krommes@verizon.net). If you have been thinking about inviting a friend or neighbor to St. John's, now is the time to do so. We can't wait to get started!



## Strategic Planning Update

Earlier this year, Council approved a contract to partner with Kairos Consultant Pastor Elise Brown to help St. John's conduct a congregation assessment to help shape a three-year strategic plan. Between May and June, Pastor Brown conducted listening sessions and interviews with a variety of congregation members.

During her interviews and meetings, Pastor Brown focused on the following topics: What is the perception of members at St. John's about St. John's strength areas, growth areas and gap areas?

What is the level of passion and energy of the congregation for St. John's mission and ministry?

What is the general understanding of ministry needs for the future?

Is there a clear sense of mission and purpose at St. John's?

On Sunday, September 9th, Pastor Brown attended service and then presented her findings to approximately 100 St. John's members.

During the presentation Pastor Brown pointed out that St. John's is deeply loved by both long-time and new members, which translates into a sincere desire for St. John's to thrive long into the future. She noted that St. John's has a high level of faith maturity and its integration into daily life. But, at the same time, there is a desire for more faith formation.

In her presentation to the congregation, Pastor Brown highlighted overall themes and topics from her meetings. She shared insights about strengths of St. John's and areas of opportunity for the congregation to discuss.

The next step in our process is to schedule Cottage Meetings in October and November. These meetings, which will be hosted by St. John's families and facilitated by St. John's congregation members, create opportunities for members to come together to talk about the themes uncovered by Pastor Brown and to begin to narrow our list to a few priority areas for action. The goal of each Cottage Meeting is to identify 3-5 priority areas for inclusion in the Ministry Plan. Cottage Meetings will be offered at a variety of times and locations and will be communicated via email and Sunday bulletins.

It is now the responsibility of the congregation to help identify 3-4 areas of focus for our three-year strategic plan. The staff and council will need everyone's input during these Cottage Meetings to provide input to the next steps of the strategic planning process.

The following are the areas for attention that were identified during this process and it is now the responsibility of the congregation to narrow these options and determine which 3-4 areas will be the focus of our strategic plan for the next three years.

Concern for the overall direction of the youth and family program. This includes Sunday school, youth group and confirmation.

Concern over the absence of youth from worship and the overall life of the congregation.

Worship needing to be more lively and engaging. Children are disconnected at service and there should be something that "speaks to them."

Lack of invitational outreach. We can't rely on who simply walks in our doors for new membership.

What is our visibility in the community? This includes both visible and virtual visibility.

Ministry leadership: micro-management versus empowerment.

Communication and planning to ensure the congregation knows what is coming so they can plan and make St. John's part of their already busy life.

Staff configuration and analysis. What are our staffing needs?

Ministry Organization: which programs are strengthening our congregation and which are sparsely attended?

What is our "culture of generosity" and how do we learn to grow our financial capacity through a more well defined ministry of generosity?

Please consider these areas and what speaks to you. We can't do it all, but we need your voice at a cottage meeting so we can prioritize and improve the areas of most concern and strengthen our congregation for now and for our future.

Thank you to all who attended a focus group or interview with Pastor Elise, and to all who attended the Listening Report meeting. Please continue to pray for guidance in our strategic planning process. If you are interested in hosting or participating in a Cottage Meeting, please reach out to Sonya Sowards. For questions about our partnership with Pastor Elise or our strategic planning process, please contact Brian Becker or Mitch Reading.

Come enjoy authentic food and good company and support Phoenixville Area Time Bank! Phoenixville Area Time Bank offers people the opportunity to reach out, ask for help, and discover the joy of sharing their interests and skills with others.



Where: St. John's Lutheran Church

When: Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup>

Time: 5:00-7:30 p.m.

Take-outs begin at 4:30 p.m.

Cost: \$10.00 per adult in advance, \$12.00 at the door, \$6.00 per child (ages 10 and under), children under 3 are free

Spaghetti, homemade meat balls, sausage, salad, garlic bread, fresh grated cheese, drinks, and desserts will be served. Gluten free pasta & vegetarian spaghetti squash will also be available.

Tickets for raffles and baskets will be sold throughout the night and silent auction items and a 50-50 raffle will be available. You can also bid on baskets at St. John's on October 7<sup>th</sup> during coffee hour. Please respond via the YCC or contact Kelly LeMarbe at [keepfaith315@yahoo.com](mailto:keepfaith315@yahoo.com)

**COME OUT AND SUPPORT THE PHOENIXVILLE AREA TIME BANK**



### St. Peter's Lunches

We are currently providing lunches at St. Peter's for the homeless and other people who are struggling in our community. We do this the third Friday of every month and are in dire need of more volunteers to help prep and serve lunch. Donated desserts would also be a big help. If you do a dessert, it would be very helpful if you sign up ahead of time. Please contact Deb Welsh at [djwelsh1453@yahoo.com](mailto:djwelsh1453@yahoo.com) if you can help out. Thank you!



### All Saints' Sunday November 4<sup>th</sup>

It has become our tradition to begin All Saints' Sunday worship in the St. John's Columbarium Garden. Following a bagpiper we process to the garden and by the rock foundation, remember our baptisms. We then follow the piper into the sanctuary

where we worship with all the saints of every time and place and especially remember those who have died in the past year. If you would like to add the name of a saint who died since November 3, 2017 to our prayers that day, please email [office@stjohnphoenixville.org](mailto:office@stjohnphoenixville.org) or write their name on a Yellow Communication Card. We also plan to have small copper tags on which a beloved one's name may be written and hung on a tree in the garden. Let us give thanks for all the saints, for their faithfulness and love.



### Wednesday Adult Bible Studies

There are two opportunities to be part of a St. John's Bible study on Wednesdays. The **morning study** resumes takes place in the community room at the Episcopal House, an independent-living apartment building for seniors on Mason Street in Phoenixville from 10 to 11 a.m. The **evening study** is from 7 to 8 p.m. and meets in the Fireside Room. Both groups focus on one of the readings for the coming Saturday/Sunday. That means if you need to miss a week it is easy to get reconnected! New participants are welcome! If you are interested in the possibility of a study on a different day or time, please connect with Pastor Krommes.





## Why do we Sing in Worship?

When I received this email from Daniel Aune, President, Region 1, Association of Lutheran Church Musicians, I wanted to share it with the congregation. It helps us understand the vital role music and singing plays in our weekly worship.

“To start with, singing is a part of our faith history. The act of singing to God is recorded from a song of praise after Pharaoh’s army was destroyed, to Jesus and his disciples singing a psalm at their Passover observance, to the New Testament ‘psalms, hymns and spiritual songs.’

We sing because it connects us to the saints that have gone before us, the saints that will come after us, and the hosts of heaven worshipping with us. We never sing alone because we have the voices of the saints echoing from the past and resounding into the future, right alongside us in the present.

We sing to learn about our faith. We are blessed with hymn writers who give us rich sermons through their hymnody and they continue to preach and evangelize when we sing their texts.

The most important reason we sing is that we have been given the breath of life from our Creator and in turn we use our breath to give back thanks and praise in worship. Our sung prayer allows us to become one voice which offers immortal praise to our Lord and Savior.”

-Tom Snyder

## Looking Good!

To get ready for a new program year, our fabulous Property Committee worked hard at cleaning up and cleaning out our grounds and buildings. They tackled the shed, garage, classrooms and closets. Much was recycled and removed. THANK YOU PROPERTY COMMITTEE!!!!

To prevent re-cluttering, **please do not donate items to St. John’s unless they have been cleared by our Parish Administrator, Sonya Sowards.** The only exceptions are food, can-openers and personal care items such as toilet paper for PACS (place these items on the shelves outside the church office or in the narthex), and used/new shoes for our ongoing shoe

drive. Clothes and household items in good condition can be donated to the Phoenixville Thrift Store on Church Street or to the Goodwill. The Phoenixville Historical Society will also receive appropriate donations for the annual flea market. There is a book bin and a recycling trailer in the Redners parking lot that also welcome donations. Thanks for helping us keep St. John’s clutter-free!



TIME IS RUNNING OUT to sign up for your fall Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend! Gardens and lawns need tending to grow healthy and strong, and so does your marriage. Register TODAY to be sure to get the Weekend of your choice. Opportunities this fall are:

\* October 19-21, 2018 at Olmsted Retreat Center. A stunning, hotel-style retreat center adjacent to the Olmsted Mansion in the Allegheny National Forest, 2 hours north of Pittsburgh, PA.

\* November 9-11, 2018 at Hampton Inn Berkshires in Lenox, Massachusetts. Situated on the edge of a nature preserve in the heart of the Berkshires, an hour northwest of Springfield, MA.

Go to [www.GodLovesMarriage.org](http://www.GodLovesMarriage.org) for all the details about Weekends and to register online. For questions, please contact Northeast US Directors of Lutheran Marriage Encounter, Fred & Julie Schamber, at 724-325-3166 or [fjschamber@comcast.net](mailto:fjschamber@comcast.net).





*There's no mistaking the happiness that comes from knowing people with such kind and giving hearts.*

Pat Fatale  
(via heartline by Hallmark greeting card)



Dear Pastor Krommes and Friends from St. John's:

On behalf of the staff, board, and volunteers of Phoenixville Area Community Services (PACS), thank you for your ongoing collection of food, grocery items, and toiletries for PACS' Emergency Pantry. PACS' mission of service in the community is as important as ever. In the Phoenixville area, the cost of housing, transportation, food, and medicine is rising, while many wages remain low. As a result, many of our neighbors are finding it difficult to pay for their food and other essentials such as rent, utilities or heat. They are faced with having to choose between food on their table, prescription medicine, rent, or their electric bill. These are choices no one should have to make. Thank you for supporting our mission and sharing our commitment to make a difference in our community, providing hope and building a brighter future for those in need.

Sincerely,  
Carol A. Berger  
Executive Director

### **Sunday Learning Opportunities for Adults @ 9:30 a.m.**

#### **Little Ones and Parents**

Meeting in the "Noah Room" downstairs and to the left, infants, toddlers and parents gather for story-time, snack, games and crafts while growing in God's love together.

#### **The WAY**

Interested in learning more about the community of faith of St. John's? If so, The WAY is for you. It begins with dinner at the home of Pastor Krommes and John Stong on Sunday, October 7<sup>th</sup>. The Way will then meet on Sundays, October 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> and November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. through November 10<sup>th</sup>. On Saturday evening, October 27<sup>th</sup> we'll meet for a covered dish supper and the movie: *Martin Luther: The Idea That Change the World*.

#### **Happy Hour**

This group is called "Happy Hour" because the group is largely made up of parents whose children are in Sunday school—that's why they're happy! This class talks about faith and life while sharing the joys and challenges of raising children. They also do much of the planning for Youth and Family ministry at St. John's.

#### **Sunday Morning Book Club**

Do you love to read? Perhaps the Sunday Morning Book Club is for you. Each year the club formulates a list of books to read and then gathers weekly for a time of discussion and support. Beyond Sunday morning the Club enjoys evenings at the movies, particularly films on books they have read together. Coordinator Jean Herbranson lets everyone know what's happening through "Life Together" and our weekly email update. The Book Club meets in Pr. Krommes' office.

#### **Faith Life**

Faith Life is for those who want to think deeply about what's happening in the world in relationship to their faith. This fall our Seminarian Debbie Gordon will be meeting with this group. Faith Life meets in the Meeting Room #1 to the left of the stage in Kley Hall.

#### **Grit and Grace: Heroic Women of the Bible**

Experience the grit and grace of seventeen women of the Bible through creative first-person retellings of each person's story. Led by Linda Landis, this group meets in the Fireside Room.

New participants are welcome in every class. Please join us!



## Stewardship News

Drumroll . . . *Into the Future with Faith and Generosity* is St. John's Stewardship theme for 2018-2019! Our Stewardship Committee thought deeply about what God is calling us to do and be, listened carefully to the Strategic Plan Listening Report presented by Pastor Elise Brown on September 9<sup>th</sup> and in talking with one another heard each other using the words, future, faith and generosity. Consider this—moving into the future takes faith in a world that's often full of fear. Remember the Star Trek theme: To boldly go where no man has gone before. That's true whether you are venturing into outer space or into a new day. To do so with generosity is to be confident that God always provides whatever we need, so our giving of time, talent and treasure may be done with joy!

## Chester County Department of Aging Services

The Chester County Department of Aging Services is located in the Government Services Center at 601 Westtown Road, West Chester. The department offers a range of services to assist Chester County seniors.

Contact the Chester County Department of Aging Services, to gain access to critical information including:

- ◆ Assistance in accessing services
- ◆ Person Centered Counseling
- ◆ Support groups
- ◆ Respite care
- ◆ Meal programs
- ◆ LIHEAP (Low Income Heating and Electric Assistance Program)
- ◆ Property tax/rent rebate qualifications

Professional assessment and care management staff help older adults access a wide range of services, free of charge. Assessors and care managers can:

- ⇒ Discuss program and care plan options
- ⇒ Assist people age 60 and older in making informed decisions about services
- ⇒ Advocate for the rights of people age 60 and older when needed
- ⇒ Conduct assessments for services on individuals age 18 and older to determine if the individual qualifies medically for certain Pennsylvania Department of Human Services or Pennsylvania Department of Aging programs.
- ⇒ Receive reports and investigate allegations of elder abuse. Elder abuse calls can be made 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and all calls are confidential.

If you are not sure where to start or need information, stop in to our office at 601 Westtown Road during the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, give us a call at (610) 344-6350, or visit our website [www.chesco.org/aging](http://www.chesco.org/aging).



Chester County  
Department of Aging Services

# People of God Involved in God's Work

## October Schedule

### Early

### Late

#### Acolytes

7 Braeden Hawkins	Wyatt Barker
14 Jason O'Neill	Kevin Yonosh
21 Luke Olsen	Evan DesMarais
28 Braeden Hawkins	Lucas Becker

#### Altar Guild

7 Janet Ertell	
14 Donna Thompson & Jean Herbranson	
21 Jean Herbranson	
28 Betty Hans & Elena Wallace	

#### Assisting Ministers

7 TBD	Cole O'Neill
14 Brittney Walters	Sandi Stotler
21 Teresa Olsen	Nancy Cressman
28 Debbie Gordon	TBD

#### Coffee Hour

7 Property/Electronics	
14 Christian Education	
21 Stephen Ministry	
28 Book Club	

#### Communion Assistants/Lectors

7 Jay Stearly (L)	Brian Becker (L)
Erica Lucas	Dale Herbranson
14 Teresa Olsen (L)	TBD
Chuck Liedike	Heather Yonosh
21 Aimee Hillegas (L)	Bill Starling
Margaret Walker	Sue Starling
28 Brittney Walters (L)	Kim Fetters
Pam Freehafer	Larry Fetters

#### Counters

7 Stephen Drewes. TBD	
14 Heather Yonosh, Eileen Subacus, Peg Yanoviak, Donna Searchfield	
21 Mary Heiser, Ed Naylor, Mike & Cathy Kahl	
28 Jack Ertell, Lilly & Elisa Khan, Donna Anderson	

#### Lock-Up

7 Dick Wolstenholme	Brian Becker
14 Bobbi Riley	Bill Starling
21 Dale Herbranson	Rick Kramer
28 TBD	TBD

#### Ushers

7 Greg Krueger	Travis Brown
Bev Rote	Margaret Walker
Debbe Welsh	Deb Ahola
Cathy Garrett	Gabrielle Perrotto
14 Rich Latella	Dale Herbranson
Rich Skoniczin	Glen Murphy
Erica Lucas	Jim Ninness
Carol Cully	Carter Ninness
21 Barry Church	Brian Becker
Luanne Bindschusz	John Westerman
Dick Kunsch	Cathy Garrett
John Rawlins	Barb Rambo
28 Don Titus	Donna Anderson
Bob Gorman	Paul Miller
Cindy Gadzicki	Sandi Stotler
TBD	Gabrielle VanDerveer

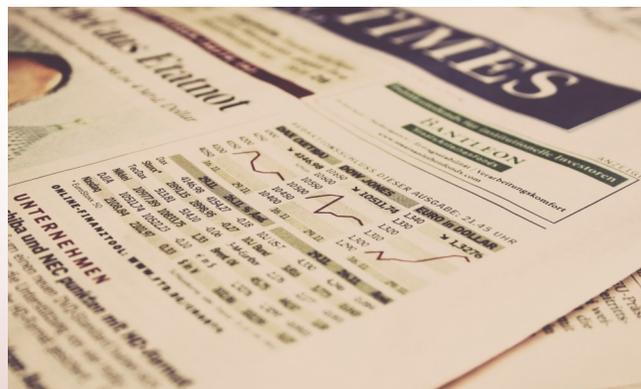
## Summary Report as of August 31, 2018

	Monthly		Year-to-Date	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
<b>Income:</b>				
Envelope Giving	\$ 35,347	\$ 25,862	\$ 282,773	\$ 239,628
Other Income	1,658	1,289	13,267	13,671
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 37,005</b>	<b>\$ 27,151</b>	<b>\$ 296,040</b>	<b>\$ 253,299</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 38,786</b>	<b>\$ 27,005</b>	<b>\$ 310,286</b>	<b>\$ 284,348</b>
<b>Income (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$ (1,781)</b>	<b>\$ 146</b>	<b>\$ (14,246)</b>	<b>\$ (31,049)</b>



## Organ News

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the work to be done on the console was unable to be completed during the summer. The work is now scheduled to start on September 24<sup>th</sup>. It will require approximately three weeks to bring the work to completion. In the meantime, we will again raise our voices in song with the grand piano.



### Donating Stock to St. John's

One of the many ways to financially support St. John's is through the donation of stock. Donating appreciated stock will benefit the church and provide a potential tax benefit to the donor. For stock that has been held for more than a year and has appreciated in value, one can take a charitable deduction based on the stock's fair market value on the day of donation. Additionally, making such a donation will avoid capital gains taxes on the increased value of the stock.

### Envelope Options

If you give monthly and you haven't already let Sonya Sowards know, please call (610) 933-3947 or email [office@stjohnphoenixville.org](mailto:office@stjohnphoenixville.org). If you are an electronic giver and would rather not receive envelopes at all, please let Sonya know. Thank you!

# October 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>30</b> 8am Holy Communion 9am Children's Choir Rehearsal 9:25am Christian education classes 10:45am Holy Communion 12pm St. John's Crafty Folks 4pm Silver, Wood and Ivory Concert (reception following)	<b>1</b> 5:45pm Daisy girl scouts 7pm Stephen Ministry 7:30pm Property	<b>2</b> 10:30am Littlest Music Makers 3:30pm Staff 7pm Parent Grief Support Group 7:30pm Worship & Music	<b>3</b> 10am Bible Study 12:30pm PACA 3pm Social Ministry 7pm Alanon 7pm Bible Study 7:30pm Nicotine Anonymous 8pm Adult Choir (Christmas choir rehearsals begin)	<b>4</b> 10am Mom's Monthly Mingle 5:30pm Junior Troop #4514 5:30pm Women's AA/Alanon 7pm Naranon 7:15pm Adult Handbells	<b>5</b> 10am Mother-Baby Breastfeeding Connections	<b>6</b> 5pm Evening Light 6pm Movie Night
<b>7</b> 8am Holy Communion 9am Children's Choir Rehearsal 9:25am Christian education classes 10:45am Holy Communion 12pm St. John's Crafty Folks 12:30pm Blessing of the Animals 2pm PCO Rehearsal 6pm The Way Kick-Off Dinner	<b>8</b> 7:30pm Church Council	<b>9</b> 10:30am Littlest Music Makers 7pm Christian Education 7pm Parent Grief Support Group	<b>10</b> 10am Bible Study 7pm Alanon 7pm Bible Study 7:30pm Nicotine Anonymous 8pm Adult Choir	<b>11</b> 5:30pm Women's AA/Alanon 7pm Naranon 7:15pm Adult Handbells	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 5pm Evening Light 5pm Spaghetti Dinner benefiting Phoenixville Time Bank
<b>14</b> 8am Holy Communion 9am Children's Choir Rehearsal 9:25am Christian education classes 10:45am Holy Communion 12pm St. John's Crafty Folks	<b>15</b> 5:45pm Daisy girl scouts 7pm Stephen Ministry 7pm Welcoming Team	<b>16</b> 10:30am Littlest Music Makers 4:30pm PACS Board 7pm Parent Grief Support Group	<b>17</b> 10am Bible Study 12pm Young at Heart 7pm Alanon 7pm Bible Study 7:30pm Nicotine Anonymous 8pm Adult Choir	<b>18</b> Circle deadline 10:30am Moms' Music & Crafts Club 5:30pm Cooking Demonstration 5:30pm Junior Troop #4514 5:30pm Women's AA/Alanon 7pm Naranon 7:15pm Adult Handbells 8:15pm Naranon Support	<b>19</b> St. Peter's lunch 10am Mother-Baby Breastfeeding Connections	<b>20</b> 5pm Evening Light
<b>21</b> 8am Holy Communion 9am Children's Choir Rehearsal 9:25am Christian education classes 9:30am Electronics 10:45am Holy Communion 12pm Juniors Girl Scouts Engineering Journey 12pm St. John's Crafty Folks 2pm PCO Rehearsal	<b>22</b> 6:30pm Kiwanis Board	<b>23</b> 10:30am Littlest Music Makers 10:30am WELCA 5:30pm Stewardship 7pm Parent Grief Support Group	<b>24</b> 10am Bible Study 7pm Alanon 7pm Bible Study 7:30pm Nicotine Anonymous 8pm Adult Choir	<b>25</b> 5:30pm Daisy Troop #42024 5:30pm Women's AA/Alanon 7pm Naranon 7:15pm Adult Handbells	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 5pm Evening Light 6pm Movie Night
<b>28</b> 8am Holy Communion 9am Children's Choir Rehearsal 9:25am Christian education classes--intergenerational 10:45am Holy Communion 12pm St. John's Crafty Folks 2pm Trunk or Treat	<b>29</b> 11:30am Covered Bridge Garden Club	<b>30</b> 10:30am Littlest Music Makers 7pm Parent Grief Support Group	<b>31</b> 10am Bible Study 7pm Alanon 7pm Bible Study 7:30pm Nicotine Anonymous 8pm Adult Choir	<b>1</b> 10am Mom's Monthly Mingle 5:30pm Junior Troop #4514 5:30pm Women's AA/Alanon 7pm Naranon 7:15pm Adult Handbells	<b>2</b> 10am Mother-Baby Breastfeeding Connections	<b>3</b> 5pm Evening Light

# October 2018 Birthdays and Anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 Brian and Amy Becker's anniversary John Reading's birthday	1 Duane and Valerie Landis's anniversary Sara Filipovski's birthday Scott Lonsdale's birthday Ulrich Rimrott's birthday	2 Isaac Henderson's birthday Jim Taylor's birthday Julie Gardner's birthday Tom and Cassandra Obert-Thorn's anniversary	3 Isabelle Hulmes's birthday Nicholas Castellano's birthday	4 Rhett and Margit Grejdu's anniversary William Renner's birthday	5 Katie Borelly's birthday Patrick and Jill DesMarais's anniversary	6 Bridget Riley's birthday Karen Warren's birthday Matt and Sarah Bethune's anniversary Sam Fryer's birthday
7 Gabrielle Perrotto's birthday Jennifer Rutherford's birthday	8 Ginny Pearo's birthday Jonathan and Kate Hicks's anniversary	9 Christopher and Mary Scavello's anniversary	10 Beth Kramer's birthday Courtney Wilkinson's birthday Kelly LeMarbe's birthday Larry and Kim Fetters's anniversary Robbie McMahon's birthday Scott and Jess Blain's anniversary	11 Nicole Brown's birthday Stephen and Cindy Riley's anniversary Wynne Salvas's birthday	12 Brian Schanzenbach's birthday John Stong and Cynthia Krommes's anniversary Shari Bradley's birthday Stephen and Jennifer Drewes's anniversary William and Barbara Self's anniversary	13 Allison Kramer's birthday Donald and Shirley Platzer's anniversary Joe Muller's birthday Joey Gombarick's birthday John Freehafer's birthday Nadine Hilvick's birthday Ron and Rebecca Stevens's anniversary
14 Glynys LaBoon's birthday James and Claudine Niness's anniversary Lana McQueen's birthday Lyndsey Williams's birthday Matthew Myers's birthday Patti Bell's birthday Stephen Borowy's birthday	15 Gail Doebbling's birthday Simon Khan's birthday Stephen and Ashleigh Melton's anniversary	16 Bill Livelsberger's birthday Keith Kenyon's birthday Nicholas Stotler's birthday Zach Pekofsky's birthday	17 Greg Krueger's birthday Mark Buckwalter's birthday Sam Ritchie's birthday Zander Cummins's birthday	18	19 Ania Kabatt's birthday Drew Irons's birthday Sarah Smith's birthday	20 Isaac Leong's birthday Matthew Cratty's birthday
21 Ainsley Lucas's birthday Camrin Lewis's birthday Frank Petiet's birthday Karisa Saeger's birthday Kyle Oszeyczik's birthday Paul Carey's birthday	22 Edward Lavin's birthday George Wilkinson's birthday Jarrett Hunt's birthday John Rawlins's birthday Justin Rawlins's birthday Lleyton Coupe's birthday	23 Nicholas DeWolf's birthday William Sell's birthday	24 A. Lee Dalasio's birthday	25 Melissa Rutherford's birthday Ron Williams and Venus Hadeed's anniversary TJ Babinchak's birthday	26 Mark Gerner's birthday Richard Ash's birthday	27 Cecilia Greninger's birthday David and Lisa Gardner's anniversary Iain Riley's birthday Lizzy Strunk's birthday Paul and Mary Miller's anniversary
28 Brendan Stefanowski's birthday Dale Herbranson's birthday Harper Themens's birthday Mary Wenner's birthday Mike and Maryanne Mara's anniversary	29 Elisabeth Stevens's birthday	30 Gracie Themens's birthday Miranda McMahon's birthday Noah Deichmann's birthday	31 Alexandra Perrotto's birthday Edwin Walters's birthday Teri McDonnell's birthday	1 Charles and Donna Sout's anniversary James Miller's birthday Lisa Wible's birthday Matt Endres's birthday	2 Audree Bonavita's birthday Faith Rawlins's birthday Iain and Bridget Riley's anniversary Lisa Schanzenbach's birthday	3 Nathaniel Napoli's birthday

**St. John's Lutheran Church**  
**355 St. John's Circle**  
**Phoenixville, PA 19460**  
**(610) 933-3947**

**www.stjohnphoenixville.org**  
E-mail: [stjohnsphoenixville@verizon.net](mailto:stjohnsphoenixville@verizon.net)

#### **CHURCH STAFF**

**Lead Pastor:**  
The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Krommes  
**Pastoral Associate:**  
The Rev. Thomas Kochenderfer, Jr.  
**Director of Music:**  
F. Thomas Snyder III  
**Organist:**  
John A. Quinn III  
**Evening Light Pianist:**  
Sondra L. Andrews  
**Parish Administrator:**  
Sonya K. Sowards  
**Sexton:**  
Mark Yanchek, Jr.  
**Nursery Coordinator:**  
Arlene Hudak

#### **CHURCH COUNCIL**

**President:**  
Brian Becker  
**Vice President:**  
Dale Herbranson  
**Secretary:**  
Pam Naylor  
**Treasurer:**  
Shirley Platzter  
**Assistant Treasurer:**  
Rose Gatlos  
**Financial Recording Secretary:**  
Mary Heiser  
**Fund 3 Secretary:**  
Kevin Gallagher  
**Executive Committee.:**  
Rick Kramer  
Sandra Zimmermann

**Other Members of Church Council:**  
Bill Starling  
Don Titus  
Dick Wolstenholme  
Bobbi Riley  
Laura Caughlan  
Dick Kunsch  
Brian Greenwald

**Stephen Ministry Leaders:**  
Linda Landis — (610) 933-9544  
Lee Dalasio — (610) 454-9884

#### **COMMITTEES**

**Christian Education:**  
Mark Gerner, Chair  
Bill Starling, Council Rep.

**Youth & Family**  
Teresa Olsen, Chair  
Rick Kramer, Council Rep.

**Columbarium:**  
Bill Starling, Council Rep.

**Electronics:**  
William Schoellkopf, Chair  
Dale Herbranson, Council Rep.

**Executive:**  
Dale Herbranson, Chair

**Fellowship:**  
Sandra Zimmermann, Chair  
Bobbi Riley, Council Rep.

**Finance:**  
Jack Ertell, Chair  
Don Titus, Council Rep.

**Property:**  
Rick Kramer, Chair  
Dick Wolstenholme, Council Rep.

**Social Ministry:**  
Debbe Welsh, Chair  
Laura Caughlan, Council Rep.

**Stewardship:**  
Stephen Drewes, Chair  
Dick Kunsch, Council Rep.

**Welcoming Team:**  
Donna Searchfield, Chair  
Pam Naylor, Council Rep.

**Worship and Music:**  
Jean Herbranson, Chair  
Sandra Zimmermann, Council Rep.

**Office Assistants:**  
June Henzie  
Beverly Ott Kay Mann  
Joan Carl Pat Renninger  
Dottie Doeping

**The Circle Editor:**  
Sonya K. Sowards

#### **Pastoral Acts**

**Baptism**  
Lilyana Nicole Reading  
September 9, 2018

**Wedding**  
Courtney Lynn Sell  
Matthew Adam Quaglia  
August 31, 2018

**Funerals**  
Kenneth Himes  
September 7, 2018

Dorothy V. Casvecchia  
September 14, 2018

Lois May "Locke" Craven  
September 19, 2018

#### **Change of Contact Info**

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E-mail: [office@stjohnphoenixville.org](mailto:office@stjohnphoenixville.org)

office hours 9-3 M,T,Th & 9-12 W,F (*barring exceptions*)

please call for appointments with staff members

***A Caring, Sharing, Growing Congregation***

***Participating in Stephen Ministry***

**Worship Schedule**

Saturdays 5 p.m.

Evening Light with Holy Communion

Sunday mornings

Holy Communion at 8:00 and 10:45 a.m.

*Handicapped Accessible*

**THE CIRCLE**

