



2019 Newsletter

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

The Reverend Jo Ellen Mauger
4 North Main Street, P.O. Box 356
Richlandtown, PA 18955
215-538-0875



Church Contact Phone Numbers, Email, Website

The Reverend Jo Ellen Mauger—215-872-7515
Pastor Jo's E-Mail—jem7679@windstream.net
Jade Scholl—*Council President*—215-536-6198
Larry Benner—*Organist Choir Director*—215-536-2791
David Williams—*Custodian*—267-377-5610
Office DottiAnne Edmonds—*Secretary*—215-538-0875
Church E-Mail—stjucrichtown@verizon.net
Church Website—www.stjohnsucc.org
Church Office Hours: 9:15 AM to 3:15PM Monday & Thursday

As I write this, it is only a few days after Easter and the joyous sights, sounds, and fragrances of our celebration of Christ's resurrection have faded into the background – the richly resonant sounds of the organ are now silent; the Lord's

table is no longer set – the bread and wine of Holy Communion, gone; and the Easter flowers that brought color and a sense of new life to the sanctuary have been taken home to be enjoyed for their beauty and the memories which they evoke. In the wake of the emotions felt throughout the changing moods and events of Holy Week and the exuberant celebration of Easter Day, I, and I suspect many of you, often find myself in the depths of a weighty Easter letdown, wondering, "So what now? What are we to do after Easter? What difference does Easter make in our lives?"



I remember experiencing these same feelings during my first year as associate pastor at what is now my home church in Norristown. On that occasion, strangely enough, help in answering those questions presented itself in the form of an exterior door – yes, I said, a door. Until the week before Easter, said door had been the typical solid gray metal exterior door found in many classroom wings. Use of this type of door, in combination with closed classroom doors, gave the long hallway a dark, tomb-like appearance – it wasn't an inviting space to walk into at all. On the day before Easter, some of the men of the church replaced the metal door with a full-length set of glass doors, the purpose of which was to let more light into the dark hallway. On that Easter Monday, I was alone in the building, cleaning up the wilted flowers that had covered the old wooden cross. As I rounded the corner from the narthex into the hallway, I was astounded to find the hallway flooded with bright sunlight; the rays of light seemed to dance down the hallway. So transformed by the light was that formerly dark space, that I couldn't help but think to myself, "That is the difference that Easter should make in our lives. Easter gives us the opportunity to be transformed, to begin to live our lives as

Easter people – ***caught up in light and new life, and God’s transformative power.***”

The celebration of Easter ***should*** transform us; to be the time to begin again to live into the transformed life that God has made possible for us through Christ. As Easter people, we are called to witness to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus by ministering all, as Jesus, himself, ministered to all; to care for and serve those who need it most. So, as we continue to tell the story, let us also ***live*** the story; to let God’s light flood us as light flooded that long, dark hallway. As we pass from one season to the next, let us live in hope, and with a passion to love and serve others, so that all may know and experience the depth of God’s great love and care for all God’s children.

Easter Blessings and Peace,
Pastor Jo

Schedule

May	1	7PM Choir
	2	6:30PM NA Mtg.
	5	3 rd Sunday of Easter Installation of Church Council
	8	7 PM Choir
	9	6:30 NA Mtg.
	12	4 th Sunday of Easter – MOTHER’S DAY <i>Collection for Phoebe Richland</i>
	14	7PM Choir
	15	7PM Council
	16	6:30 NA Mtg.
	19	5 th Sunday of Easter MUSIC SUNDAY
	21	9AM – 4PM Social Hall in Use for Keystone Quilters Workshop
	22	7PM Choir
	23	6 – 8 PM Quakertown Food Pantry



May Schedule continued....

- 23 6:30PM NA Mtg.
- 26 **9:30 AM** - 6th Sunday of Easter
Summer Worship schedule begins
- 27 MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY
- 29 Food for Friends
7PM Choir

Mother's Day Offering

It is a tradition at St. John's to make a Special Offering supporting the work of our community neighbor Phoebe



Richland at Mother's Day. In the past these offerings have been used to support a selected project or contribute to an ongoing goal. If there is a particular need or an area or goal of which our members are aware, please contact Pastor Jo, Council President, Jade, or a member of church council. Envelopes for your use are in the Narthex.



May 19 is Music Sunday at St. John's.

Everyone is invited to join in the musical celebration lifting our praises to God in song. Come, enjoy the talents of our musical family, and share your appreciation of music in our worship services!

Summer Worship Schedule

begins on Memorial Day
Sunday, May 26th, at 9:30AM



LOOKING AHEAD.....JUNE SCHEDULE....

- June 8 7:30 PM Cinemagic Musical Program
- 9 Pentecost Holy Communion
- 3 PM Cinemagic Musical Program
- 30 Summer Harmony Concert – Tickets \$15.
(See Newsletter Pg 12 for details)

2019 Church Council Members

Jade Scholl, President	<i>Council President</i>	215-536-6198
Dan Muck	Scott Yerger	Carole Freed
Eleanor Fly	Beverly Kuhn	Chris Horton

April 24 Council Meeting Update...

from Chris Horton Council Secretary.

Committee Reports:

- The Property/Cemetery Committee will be looking into cleaning up the cemetery grounds.

- *The Church has received a generous donation of mulch. Please see Scott Yerger if you would be able to help with the labor of landscaping.*

- The radiator/boiler has been repaired and a motion has been approved to fix the sprinkler system.



Church Council

NOTES

Other Business:

- *Summer Harmony will be performing at our Church on June 30, 3 pm. Larry Benner noted that tickets will be \$15/ea.*

- The lower front door of the Church will be locked and remain locked for the duration of the service. The elevator will be locked for the duration of the service after the first ten minutes (i.e, at 10:25 AM). Contact Scott Yerger if you will require access during the service.

- *Sunday, May 5, 2019 has been set for the formal installation of the 2019 Church Council.*

- It has been confirmed that we still retain the previous time slot of the fourth Thursday of the month from 6-8pm for volunteering at the Quakertown Food Pantry.

- St. John's will be providing its own black and white bulletin covers featuring the Church on the front cover, resulting in large cost savings, starting in June.

- *More detailed minutes will be available upon request after the minutes have been approved at the next meeting.*

- Next meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, May 15 @ 7 pm.

JOIN the St. John's Team at Quakertown Food Pantry!!

The 4th Thursday of every month we will resume volunteering at the Pantry from 6:00 - 8:00 pm.



Prayerfully consider if you would be able to help. Much thanks to all those willing and able to do so!

There's a new ministry in the works at St. John's: "Hands of God Crafting Ministry!"

Do you like to make Things? Would you like to learn?
Our God is creative, and so are you!



We have discovered that there is a need for knitted hats for cancer patients at St. Luke's Hospital, as well as lap blankets and booties for Phoebe.

If you already do traditional knitting or crocheting, know how to use a knitting loom, or would like to learn,
THIS MINISTRY IS FOR YOU!

To learn more about what is being planned and how YOU can be involved in bringing comfort to our neighbors in St. Luke's and Phoebe, contact Babs Van Acker at [267-373-9379](tel:267-373-9379).

EVERYONE is welcome – the more, the merrier!

Tinicum UCC is having an annual spring Community Yard Sale on May 11 from 9 AM – 3 PM. Spaces are \$10/ ea. Lunch, Raffles and a Homemade Bake Sale will also be available. See the Narthex Bulletin Board for details.



Our Congregation has a Stewardship Tree. It is located on the Bulletin Board by the Church Street entrance doors. Please take a few minutes to look it over and add a leaf depicting service to our community which you have encountered or provided! Blank Leaves to be completed are in the Narthex below the bulletin board. Thanks to Dan Muck for coordinating. See him with questions.



FUND RAISING OPPORTUNITY – Ken and Babs Van Acker have generously offered to collect and redeem with the state of NY the 5¢/can or bottle rebate which NY offers when they travel north this summer. So remember to save your aluminum cans, recyclable water

bottles and look for a recycling container in the social hall to place your donations!

Speak with Ken and/or Babs for details. We thank them for their willingness to facilitate this project!!

Cash Register Tape Fundraiser



The WOW group collects cash register tapes from Redner's Warehouse Markets. Please register for a Shopper's Card at the courtesy counter and tell them it is for St. John's UCC. All tapes are appreciated. Please remember to save yours when you grocery shop. There is a box in the Narthex where you may place your tapes. Thank you.

Still looking for

Altar Flowers & Bulletins Sponsors for 2019

Sign Up sheets on the Narthex Bulletin Board.
Cost - \$10 Altar Flowers / \$5 Bulletin Sponsors.
Honor a special day or remember a loved one!!

Thank You!!



Just wondering..... Have you considered remembering

St. John's U.C.C. in your will? -- Thank you if you have made such a choice!!

Church Office Hours are: Monday & Thurs 9:15 - 3:15

Prayer Concerns

Shelly Ackerman
Terry Musselman
George Schaffer

Larry Benner
Jacob Pearson
Jade Scholl

Joey Leiter
Louise Plagman
Ken Van Acker

If you would like someone added or removed from the prayer list, contact the church office (215-538-0875) or inform Pastor Jo. Thank you.



Remember our Shut-in with your prayers and cards.

Charles Mundy
304 East Montgomery Avenue
North Wales, PA 19454-2950

PRAYER CHAIN -- Prayer is looking to God for His answers and leaving our cares in His Hands. Allow our Prayer Chain to pray for your needs today. Call Marcella Kulp (215-536-5625) with your prayer concerns.



Our Daily Bread.

booklets for June - August have arrived. Look for them in the Narthex for your use.

A WORD OF THANKS.....from

- **Larry Benner**....To the members and friends of St. John's for your thoughts, prayers, cards and acts of kindness during my recent hospitalization for triple bi-pass surgery. Although I had no fear undergoing the surgery, it's



comforting to know I had and continue to have you as my “support group” as I continue in my recovery. Thank you again.

- The **Yerger/Edmonds Family**.... Our sincere appreciation for



Thankful
FOR YOUR KINDNESS

the cards, meals, continuing prayers, thoughtfulness and concern which the congregation has extended to Katie and her family. Her treatments were completed the week before Easter. She is home, focusing on recovery and returning to her normal life.

Do you know anyone graduating?

We are asking for the names of graduates this spring/ summer from high school, college or any other type of certificate program.



Please complete the form below with their names and information for the June newsletter /bulletin. Return to the church office or place in the offering plate by May 26, 2019. Thank you!



NAME of GRADUATE _____

SCHOOL _____

DEGREE/MAJOR/CERTIFICATE PROGRAM _____

Scheduled to Serve this Month

Lectors

May	5	Dave Williams
	12	Lori Carney
	19	Sue Benner
	26	Pastor Jo



Greeters & Ushers

May	5	Susan Benner, Carol Horton
	12	Mark & Bernadette Fournier
	19	Gerald & Carol Freed
	26	Gladys Feher & Gail Jancsics

Offering Processing

May	5	Dan Muck, Chris Horton
	12	Eleanor Fly, Chris Horton
	19	Bev Kuhn
	26	Scott Yerger

Altar Guild Schedule—Jade Scholl, Shelly Ackerman

May Birthdays...

5	Dolores Sipple	23	Emily Scholl
11	Amy Gavis	28	Lloyd Ewer
12	Katherine Roberts	29	Ellen Yerkes



Is your birthday missing from the list, please call the church office at 215-538-0875 or email at stjuccrichtown@verizon.net. We will be glad to add it to the birthday list.



“Quiet on the set! Quiet on the set! “Lights...camera...action!”

Cinemagic!

The Music of the Silverscreen

*This musical revue by Mac Huff
is a look back at some of the
most memorable themes and
melodies in the history of
American film.*

PRESENTED BY

THE CANTATA CHOIR

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF

LARRY C. BENNER

SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 2019 ~ 7:30 PM

SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 2019 ~ 3:00 PM

~ ~ ~

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
CHURCH & MAIN STREETS
P. O. BOX 356
RICHLANDTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

COME AND SUPPORT THE CHOIR IN THIS MUSICAL ENDEAVOR.



The Premier Men's Chorus of the Lehigh Valley

Under the Direction of Vincent Trovato

In Concert

Sunday, June 30, 2019

3:00 PM

**St. John's United Church of Christ
Route 212 & Main Street
Richlandtown, PA 18955**

Call the church office for tickets - 215-538-0875

\$15.00

COME AND SUPPORT THIS FUND RAISER FOR ST. JOHN'S