



The Good News Letter

St. John's U.C.C., 1027 Church St., Fogelsville, PA18051

February 2020

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday

9 am Adult Class
10:30 am Worship & Sunday School
followed by coffee hour

Wednesday

3:45-7:30 Piano lessons
6:00-7:15 yoga

Thursday

12:00 Dutch Lunch at Starlite Diner
6-8 Lions Club on 1st and 3rd week

Friday

6-9:30 NA Group

February 10

Consistory Meeting 6:30pm

February 16

Guest Soloist in worship!
Raised Cake Orders are DUE

February 21/22

Pick up Raised Cake Orders at Christ's
Church at Lowhill 12 -3pm

February 23

Congregational Meeting Immediately
following worship

February 26

Ash Wednesday Joint Worship 7:30pm
at St. John's Lutheran

SPECIAL EVENTS

February 2

Worship with Communion 10:30 am
"Souper SOUL" Sunday!

February 4

Confirmation Class 6:30 - 8pm

February 9

Outreach/Marketing Team Meeting,
12pm

~OUR CONTACT INFO~

St. John's United Church of Christ

1027 Church Street

PO Box 817

Fogelsville, PA 18051

Office Phone: 610-398-7015

Church Hospital Code # 467

E-mail:stjohnsucc1@gmail.com

Website:www.stjohnsuccfogelsville.com

Web & Facebook Submissions:

stjohnsuccfogelsville@gmail.com

~YOUR CHURCH STAFF~

Pastor Janet Newett

E-Mail Pastorjanetn@gmail.com

Cell: 610-657-2189

Minister of Music: Dave Roth

Cell: 610-737-0530

E-mail: rothd@rcn.com/rothpiano.com

Parish Coordinator: Tina Laudenslager

E-Mail: stjohnsucc1@gmail.com

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The newsletter is printed around the 20th of each month. The newsletter must be printed and be available for distribution by the last Sunday of the month.

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From the Pastor's Desk-

Shine, Jesus, Shine! Here we are in the season of Epiphany, where we celebrate Jesus as the light in the darkness, learning about his ministry and teachings. I hope that you feel the LIGHT alive in your life and are encouraged to be a light to someone else. Speaking of lights....

On January 21, we hosted a *Peace Prayer Vigil* in the "center" of Fogelsville (the corner of Main and Church streets). Did you wonder was that was all about? What is prayer vigil anyway??

A **prayer vigil** can be a communal lament, an act of solidarity, or a time to bring light to brokenness in society. As an act of public witness, it offers the community a space to connect with God so that God's vision for love and justice can be carried out through us.

So, if you were not able to be with us but would like to join us still, I encourage you to pray the prayer of St. Francis over the next month, as we prepare for the season of Lent:

*Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.*

*O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.*

*For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.*

Lent begins this month with **Ash Wednesday on February 26th**- we will worship with our Lutheran neighbors across the street at 7:30pm.

May Peace be Yours
and Yours to Share!

Pastor Janet

610-657-2189 (text or call)

pastorjanetn@gmail.com



Thank you to Tom Sobczak, Brian Sobczak, Dean Mohr, Larry & Nancy Moyer for taking the Christmas decorations down.

Thank you to everyone who made a donation to the food pantry.

Thank you to the Busy Bees for their support with the Lions Club Christmas Party.



~PRAYER REQUESTS~

If you have a prayer request, please let us know. We ask for continued prayers for the following people at this time:

Frank Garon

Ruby Grace

Brandon Hamm

Clark Hamm

Sharon DeRoner

Roger Rupp

Brenda Stahley

Kermit Dietrich

Sandi Minnich

Nicole Bowser

Kim Warder

Wanda Fehnel

Fred Tomasko

If you or a loved one needs to be hospitalized, please inform the hospital staff that St John's UCC church code is 467. We also ask that you or a family member please notify the church office of your hospitalization when you enter and when you leave—call 610-398-7015. Thanks!

Birthdays & Anniversaries

February Birthdays

2– Courtney Moyer
3– Janet Newett
9– John Kleinschuster
10– Susan Roth
16– Dean Mohr
17– Leon Peters
17–George Rodenbach
22– Jennifer Marsteller

February Assistants

Assistant Minister

February 2 – Sue Snyder
February 9 – Marilyn Roth
February 16 – Frank Garon
February 23 – Janet Grim

Offering Schedule

Feb 2 -**Sue Snyder & Zach Edelman
Feb 9 Mark Laudenslager & Marilyn Roth
Feb 16 -Tom Sobczak & Frank Garon
Feb 23 -Larry Moyer & Jeff Grim

****Responsible for supplying bread
and set-up communion**



~& UPCOMING EVENTS~

Parkland C.A.R.E.S. Food Pantry –
Currently they are asking for donations of Chicken Noodle Soup and Granola Bars.

An **Iron Pigs game** is scheduled for Sunday, June 7th. We will enjoy a buffet lunch in the Boar'd room, located next to the Club level elevators, field level. We will watch the game from our seats behind home plate, section 109/110. I have 30 tickets available at \$30 per person. A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board. Deadline to sign up is May 3rd.

Also, the Lutheran Church has 11 tickets available for an **Iron Pigs game** on Wednesday, June 24th, section 119, third base. Cost is \$11, which includes \$2 food credit. If anyone is interested in going to this game, please see Nancy Moyer.

**~MORE NEWS &
UPCOMING EVENTS~**

Special Worship in February:



~SELLING RAISED CAKES~

Back by Popular Demand...

February 2020 Raised Cake Sale

Order Forms Due Sunday, February 16th

Seller's Name - _____

\$6.00 each

Seller's Telephone Number - _____

Cakes will be available for pick-up at Christ's Church at Lowhill between 12:00 and 3:00 on Friday or Saturday.

Name	Number of Cakes		
	Friday, February 21	Saturday, February 22	Either Day

\$6.00 each and are available for pick up at Christ's Church at Lowhill between 12 – 3 pm on Friday February 21st or Saturday February 22nd. Order forms are due Sunday February 16th. Order forms are available in the lobby. There is also a work sign-up sheet in the lobby for those available to help with making the cakes.

**~FAITH FORMATION
STATION~**

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS for Children

Families attend worship together, at 10:30am. The children are in worship until the Children's message and offering is completed. Then, the children go with their teachers to class for the rest of the worship service. Adults can even enjoy some fellowship time after worship while the children finish up in class! Children will be released to their Parents/Guardians at approximately 11:45.

On a Communion Sundays, like February 2nd, the children and teachers will be able to participate via the speakers in the classrooms. Ushers will be bring the bread and juice to them!

We have TWO classes:

Preschool through 1st grade AND
2nd through 6th grade

**BE PART OF THE TEAM OF
SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS:**

YOUTH GROUP-If you are interested in being added to the Youth Group Email list for specific event details, please contact the church office at 610-395-7015 or Pastor Janet.

CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE FOR FEB

- 4 6:30-8pm Class at Church
- 11 Check in with Google Classroom
- 16 Noon to 2 at church
- 25 Check in with Google Classroom
- 26 ASH WED WORSHIP 7:30pm

FAITH FORMATION FOR ADULTS IS IMPORTANT AS WELL!!

FAITH CONVERSATIONS on the book of ACTS and the Apostle Paul will continue in the month of February from 9am-10am. You are welcome anytime!

~Amazon Smile~

Amazon Smile is a version of Amazon that allows part of your payment for most items to go to a charitable organization of your choice. Go to smile.amazon.com and choose St Johns Ucc Fogelsville as your charity, or visit our website and click on the link on the homepage. Then, start shopping! Thank you for your contribution!

~Social Media~

Check out our website at stjohnsuccfogelsville.com

Like us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsUCCFogelsville/>

Follow us on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/st.johnsu.c.c.fogelsv/>

Share your St. John's U.C.C. Fogelsville experiences on social media with **#stjohnsuccfogelsville**

~Dutch Lunch~

Please join us for lunch at the **Starlite Diner** on Thursday afternoons at 12:00 p.m. It will be Dutch Style where everyone will treat him or herself for a lunch out. We will have informal discussions of faith and life, time to share, support, break bread together, and get to know one another.



~January 13, 2020~

Consistory Notes

1) **Pastor's Report** - Pastor Janet submitted a written report which is attached to the official Secretary's minutes. Highlights from the report: "Thank You" to the congregation and Consistory for her Christmas gifts. One of her goals for 2020 is to get to see the homebound 3 times, at least. The 4th Sunday monthly will include some kind of special music. Pastor and Lauren Sobczak will conduct a technology tutorial for Facebook, etc. following worship on January 19. We will have 3 youth and two adults to begin confirmation class this month. The Outreach Committee is going to become reactivated very soon. PNEC Annual Youth Retreat will be held May 15-17. Pastor serves on the planning team and hope to take youth along from St. John's. A prayer vigil for peace will be held on January 21. Details to follow.

2) **Correspondence** – A letters was sent to Robert Fegely of VFW Post No. 8282 for their donation of \$1,000 in November. A letter was sent to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Moyer for their donation in December to be used toward payment for our new sign. A letter was received from Heifer International for our donation of \$97.48 from Joyful Noise. A letter

was received from St. Paul's UCC Trexlertown for the cash donation to their Food Pantry of \$170. (This money was what was received from the joint Thanksgiving Eve worship service with the Lutherans.) A letter was received from Bethany Children's Home for our Christmas donations.

3) **Old Business - Issues**

- a. Lions Club wishes to thank the Busy Bees for their support at the Christmas Party!!
- b. Volunteers needed for year's end audit. Saturdays work best for Marlene.
- c. February. 23 is the date for our Congregational Meeting. Marlene will prepare the financial report.

4) **New Business Report -**

- a. Church Safety and Security Action Plan – Mike Doyle came to the meeting to discuss concerns about recent shootings at churches and to ask if we have a security plan. Consistory members agreed with Mike's concerns. There is no plan currently in place. Discussion was held. A committee should be formed. Jeff Grim, Frank Garon and Mike Doyle agreed to serve on this committee. Jeff will call Officer Rohrbach and ask for a meeting with him to discuss our concerns and get his suggestions and help us to come up with a plan. In the meantime, Consistory decided that our door should be locked at 10:40 a.m. each Sunday. The congregation will be informed of this decision and a phone

number will be posted on the door for anyone to call who might need to get in after the door is locked.

- b. Expenses Review - Electric, Heating oil, Phone and Internet etc. – Marlene will see that invoices are pulled for these items during the annual audit. Then we will look over the invoices and decide if there is any way that we can reduce costs for these items.
- c. Sunday School room – new table and chairs needed – Pastor Janet expressed a concern that the current table and chairs are too low and too small for the older children. One of the tables and folding chairs from the large room will be moved into the Sunday School room and see if this alleviates the problem.
- d. Don Hughes, our IT provider, attended the meeting to discuss our options with our computer system. We currently pay \$330.00 per year for Church Windows with updates and help when needed. This covers finances and membership. However, Marlene's computer, the office computer and the pastor's computer are not linked. If one person updates information, the other computers don't get it, causing data to be entered multiple times. This can also cause mistakes if not every person gets the new information. Getting a cloud license was discussed. Don will put together a written proposal of how to link all

of our programs and computers and the costs involved. We also need to get Windows 10 which is already on Pastor Janet's computer.

5) Treasurer's Report -

- a. Monthly report - Sue Snyder reported that the new IRS standard mileage rate for business miles is set at 57.5 cents per mile. Marlene presented a 3-page report ending December 31, 2019 which also contained end of year totals for each budget line. Checking account balance was \$20,487.11 with the General Fund having a balance of \$16,192.61 and the Building Fund balance of \$4,294.50. Weekly offering totaled \$9,208.00. Total expenses were \$10,214.79. The difference for the month between total income and total expenses was \$1,271.56.
- b. Capital Fund – The balance is \$10,857.56.
- c. Memorial Fund – The balance is \$25,368.69.
- d. Endowment Report – The current balance is \$122,419.00.

6) Outreach & Coming Events -

- a. Feb 26th Ash Wednesday Service time 7:30 p.m. – Check with Lutherans about possible joint service.
- b. March 20th – Possible Movie Night? With Food??

- c. April 9th Maundy Thursday Dinner
Worship in Social Hall – time 6:30
p.m. Soup and bread
- d. April 10th Good Friday 10am- 2pm
- possible Prayer Stations?
- e. Egg Hunt – Date, time?
Chairperson needed for this joint
event with St John's Lutheran
- f. April 12TH Easter Breakfast –
Men's Group to plan

7) **Christian Education** -

Great job S.S. Teachers!! If you
would like to volunteer please see
Pastor Janet.

8) **Kiva report**- Frank –

10,600 loans made. \$640.98 currently
outstanding. We are in the 99th
percentile of loans made. We have
made 306 loans in 17 countries.

9) **Media and Internet Tech** -

- a. Please check our Web page and
Facebook for current happenings!!
- b. "Facebook live" is going well.
Zach reported that he has friends
who watch who cannot make it to
church.
- c. Getting monitors/ TV for
downstairs, live feed and message
board benefits. As per the wishes
of his daughters, the Memorial
money for Pastor Moore will fund
this.

10) **Property Issues** -

- a. Sign Update – Jeff reported that
everything should be up and
running Tuesday or Wednesday.
- b. Interior painting touch up (walk
around) to be done.

For the good and welfare of the Church

**Motion by Tom Sobczak, seconded
by Jeff Grim that we approve Pastor
Janet's request for an extra Sunday
off. Motion approved.**

**A special "thank you" to Tom
Sobczak, Brian Sobczak, Dean Mohr,
and Nancy and Larry Moyer for taking
down and storing the Christmas
decorations.**



ST. JOHN'S
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
FOGELSVILLE
Small Church, Big Heart