

St. John's United Church of Christ
An "Open and Affirming" Congregation
EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - BAPTISM
Rev. Alice Rauch, Pastor

The Service: 10:00 a.m.

July 19, 2026

(Let us be silent and prayerful as we prepare ourselves for worship.)

MISSION STATEMENT OF ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Remembering that God calls us through Christ to be ministers with each other, St. John's United Church of Christ, as inspired and directed by the Holy Spirit, seeks: To be inclusive and accessible to all people; To provide loving service to all of God's people through mission and ministry; To strive for righteousness, justice, and peace.

In 2026 We Are Dreaming God's Dream Together

Prelude

Announcements and Prayer Concerns

*Call to Worship

God is waiting for us

With a tender heart and a searching question.

God is ready for us

With truth and wisdom from a deep well.

God is blessing us

With springs of living water.

God is preparing us

To sing, pray, love and serve every day.

God is here

With arms open wide and grace overflowing.

*Opening Hymn *"In the Midst of New Dimensions"* #391

Opening Prayer God of steadfast love and mercy, remind us once again that in Jesus Christ everything has become new. For far too often, things seem as they have always been: old habits die hard, difficult situations linger, failures from our past linger. We look for your promised newness but cannot see it. Speak to us again of your new creation. Open our eyes to its presence in our lives. Call us forth to claim this newness, that we may be healed and made whole. Amen.

Passing of the Peace: Peace be with you. And Also with you.

Hymn *"Little Children Welcome"* #323

Order for Baptism Page 31 in hymnal

Words for All, Especially Children

Scripture Reading 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Message *"From Division to Reconciliation"*

Morning Prayer

Lord's Prayer (sinned and sinned against us): Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who have sinned against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Celebrations and Joys

*Singing Our Gratitude as We Dedicate our Offerings #376 Stanza #1

God, we thank you for our people, roots dug deep within the soil,
Hardy spirits, rich in loving, strong for struggle, bold for toil.
Faithful Rock of generations, you whom parents' parents praised:
Here is hope as we remember may our song to you be raised.

*Dedication of Gifts and Offerings: "Gracious God, You are the giver of all good things. We give thanks for who You are and what You have provided. We ask that this offering honors Your name and furthers Your work. Amen"

*Hymn

"The Gift of Love"

insert

*Benediction

Postlude

CELEBRATION! - Today, we celebrate the baptism of Kora Aulenbach, daughter of Katy and Zach Aulenbach.

TODAY

St. John's is pleased you have joined with us today. We hope that you have found this time to be a blessing. **Please sign** the attendance book located in the Narthex (and kindly include your mailing address/telephone number and/or email) or fill out a Welcome Card (located on the Welcome Table in the Narthex) and introduce yourself to the people who are worshipping around you. If you are looking for a new church family and are interested in knowing more about St. John's, please indicate that following worship to the Pastor or one of the greeters. Offering plates are located at the rear of the Sanctuary.

WORSHIP - Immediately following the worship service today, there will be a workshop and lunch for church leadership. Based on the book "Future Ready Church", we will begin to Dream God's Dream as we begin to envision where God is calling us in days and years ahead.

THIS WEEK

Monday, July 20	8:30 am - 12:30 pm 6 pm 6:30 pm 7 pm	Kindermusik (PAV) Evan. Empty Arms. (CR) SUMMER BOOK STUDY (GP) FINANCE/PERSONNEL (ZOOM)
Tuesday, July 21	8:30 am - 12:30 pm 9 am 10:30 - Noon 7 pm - 9:30 pm	Kindermusik (PAV) TUESDAY TRUDGERS (FH) Willowbrook Strings (FH) Men's Westbranch Chorus (CH.RM)
Wednesday, July 22	8:30 am - 12:30 pm 9 am	Kindermusik (PAV) GARDEN HARVEST (GARDEN)
Thursday, July 23	8:30 am - 12:30 pm 8:30 am- 10:30am 9 am - 10:30 am 1:30 pm - 3 pm 7 pm	Kindermusik (PAV) WW (FH) TOPS (CR) Trailside Troubadours (FH) Women's Barbershop Chorus (SANCT)
Friday, July 24	8:30 am - 12:30 pm 11 am - Noon	Kindermusik P.E.O. (GP)
Saturday July 25		
Sunday, July 26	10 am Noon	WORSHIP, CHILDREN'S CHURCH HC SPIRIT CAMP BEGINS

FUTURE

NEED A RIDE TO CHURCH - Rides to Church services are now available for folks. If you're in need of a ride to one of our services, please call the Church office (570) 523-0162 by at least the Friday prior to needing a ride.

MONTHLY MISSION OFFERING -July's mission offering is dedicated to the **Donald Heiter Center**.

CHANCEL FLOWER CHART - The Chancel Flower Chart is located in the Narthex. Please consider sponsoring a Sunday or two for flowers.

COMMUNITY HARVEST MEAL -. If you have any questions or are interested please contact me through messages or email. 570-492-4487 - Riley. Hoeyriley32@gmail.com The next food distribution will be **August 15th**, 10 am - Noon.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - "All Things Bright and Beautiful" will be the theme of VBS this year. It will be held on Wed., Thurs., and Friday - August 5-7 from 6:30pm-8:30pm. Registration is open, forms are located in the Narthex.

AUGUST 9TH WORSHIP - We will hold worship on Sunday, August 9th at CENTRAL OAK HEIGHTS in West Milton. There will be a picnic to follow the worship service.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

(Please contact the church office, at 570-523-0162, with any updates)

Ongoing Needs- Laurie Anderson, Anna Brouse, Peg Brouse, Dorothy Griffith, Bill Fuller, Bill Geyer, Brock Hare, Jean Hartman, Kristian K., Ethel Moser, Bruce Rauch, Christine Sartwell, Alice Savidge, Leslie Shearer, Dianna Spickler, Emily Weaver, Linda Williams, Rev. Sharon Von Blohn.

Immediate Concerns -Pat B., Serita Barry, Rev. Patty Dodds, Hunter English (Sharon Von Blohn's grandson), Deb Hackenberg, Craig Hoffman, Steve M., Pam Mabus, Dennis Meckley, Ben Moyer, Craig O'Neil, Todd O'Neil, Dusti Ramey, Ann Smit, The Family of Victor Snyder, Renee St. Clair, The Family of Walter Swineford, Rick Wherley, Samantha Wyvill, Brett Yarger.

CHANCEL FLOWERS - Are given by Beth Moser.

THE OUTWARD SIGNS

July 12, 2026

Building Use - \$25.00; Chancel Flowers - \$102.28;
Current Expenses - \$2,034.00; Davy's Cards - \$400.00; Giant Cards - \$400.00;
Heiter Center - \$235.00; Improvements/Maintenance - \$20.00;
LEAF Fund - \$200.00; Loose Offering - \$110.00; OCWM - \$249.00;
Reitz Est. - \$11,077.97; Weis Cards - \$300.00;

GRAND TOTAL - \$ 15,153.25 THANK YOU!!!

St. John's United Church of Christ

1050 Buffalo Road, Lewisburg, PA 17837 -- (570) 523-0162
Worship 10:00 a.m. Office: Mon.- Fri. 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.
Website: www.stjohnslewisburg.org Email: stjohnsucc@ptd.net

It is a privilege to serve you today . . .

Rev. Alice Rauch, *Pastor*

Rev. Gary Nottis, *Pastoral Care Assoc.*

Todd R. Hummel, *Dir. Of Music / Organist*

Todd R. Hummel, *Bell Choir Director*

Sylas Wilde, *Kitchen Manager*

Todd Hummel, *Administrative Assistant*

Beth Moser, *Greeter*

Keira Aulenbach, Kora Aulenbach, *Acolytes*

Sue Baish, Barry Catherman, Alicia Graybill,

Lisa Graybill, Linda Sartwell, Dave Smit,

Tech Team

CCLI #20796546 One License #738455-A

Available to you, if needed, are Quiet Rooms for adults and children, where the service can be seen and heard. Also available are phonic-ear hearing units, large print bulletins, and large-print Bibles. Ask any greeter or A/V team member.