

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

The Service: 10:00 a.m.

September 13, 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 *"I Will Serve Thee" - William Gaither*

Announcements

Kernel #1 - God's Love

*Call to Worship

From the mustard seed a great and mighty shrub emerges.

Good things can come from something that seemed so insignificant!

The spore of the yeast can leaven the whole loaf of bread.

We can be those people who bring hope and peace to God's world.

Come, let us praise the God of great and mighty wonders.

Let our spirits soar in gratitude for the opportunities God gives us to serve.

*Opening Hymn *"Enter, Rejoice and Come In"* #73

*Opening Prayer *Opening Prayer - Gracious God, as we gather on this joyful Rally Day, we kick off a new season of learning, fellowship, and faith. In our hands and hearts, we hold the many precious gifts you give –reminders of Your absolute provision, even in times of scarcity, and Your promise of a rich spiritual harvest. Amen.

*Song of Praise:

Praise God who gives all blessings birth

Praise God, all creatures on the earth

Praise God, who makes, sustains, sets free

One Holy God, in persons three.

Kernel # 2 Love One Another

Children's Song The Fruit of the Spirit

Words for All, Especially Children

Kernel #3 Friends and Family

Prayer Concerns and 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.

Special Music *"God Will Take Care of You"* *Sid Richardson*

Scripture Reading Matthew 13:31-33, 44-48

Kernel #4 - The Beauty of God's Creation

Celebrations

God's Green Team

*Song of Dedication "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna sing so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna sing so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

*Dedication of Gifts and Offerings: Creator God, our beginning and our hope your wisdom in creation fills us with awe and wonder. May we who celebrate today be strengthened in kinship with lilies and ravens, orca and redwood that you have created, for the sake of Jesus Christ, your creating Word. Amen.

Kernel #5 God's Blessings - Now and Into the Future

*Hymn *"Seed and Harvest - A Hymn of 5 Kernels"* Insert

*Benediction:

Postlude *"Do Lord, Remember Me"* *William Smith*

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, Isaiah English, Deb Hackenberg, Craig Hoffman, Ken Kindya, Janet Kling, 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, Rick Wherley, Samantha Wyvill, Brett Yarger.

CHANCEL FLOWERS - given by Lisa Graybill in celebration of Alicia's 40th birthday!

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.

THIS WEEK

Monday, September 14	9 am - 11:15 am 9 am 12 pm - 3 pm 2 pm 5:30 pm - 6:45 pm	Kindermusik (PAR) ST. JOHN'S QUILTERS (CR) Lewisburg Garden Club (FH) WORSHIP/MUSIC (GP) Daisy Scouts (CR)
Tuesday, September 15	9 am 9 am - 11:15 am 10:30 - Noon 7 pm - 9:30 pm	TUESDAY TRUDGERS (FH) Kindermusik (PAR) Willowbrook Strings (FH) Men's Westbranch Chorus (CH.RM)
Wednesday, September 16	9 am 12 pm - 1 pm	GARDEN HARVEST (GARDEN) Qigong (PAR)
Thursday, September 17	8:30 am- 10:30am 9 am - 10:30 am 10 am - 5 pm 1:30 pm - 3 pm 7 pm 7 pm	WW (FH) TOPS (CR) Women's Barbershop Chorus (CH.RM.) Trailside Troubadours (FH) CONSISTORY (ZOOM) Women's Barbershop Chorus (SANCT.)
Friday, September 18	10 am - Noon	Women's Barbershop Chorus (CH.RM)
Saturday September 19	9 am - 5 pm 10 am - Noon	Women's Barbershop Chorus (CH.RM./Sanct) Community Harvest (FH)
Sunday, September 20	9 am 10 am	CHANCEL CHOIR (CH.RM.) WORSHIP, CHILDREN'S CHURCH

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 -September's mission offering is dedicated to the **William Cameron Engine Co.**

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 or Sue Kindya. The next food distribution will be **September 19th**, 10 am - Noon.

Join Our Music Ministry: Bell & Chancel Choir. Are you looking for a wonderful way to share your musical gifts? We are warmly inviting anyone interested in making music to join our vocal choir and bell choir. No prior musical experience is required—just a willing heart and a desire to make a joyful noise! Whether you read music fluently or are just starting your musical journey, we have a place for you. Chancel Choir rehearsals begin on Sunday, September 20th at 9 am in the Choir room and Bell choir begins on September 27th at 8:45 am in the Sanctuary.

THE OUTWARD SIGNS

September 6, 2026

Building Use - \$25.00; Copy Expenses - \$25.00;
Current Expenses - \$3,800.00; Davy's Cards - \$300.00; Giant Cards - \$100.00;
Holly Joe Café - \$50.00; Improvements/Maintenance - \$45.00 ;
Leaf Fund - \$215.00 ; Loose Offering - \$45.00 ; MASH - \$50.00;
OCWM - \$245.00; Retreat Refund - \$262.50; St. John's Quilters - \$15.00;
Weis Cards - \$200.00; Wm. Cameron Engine Co. - \$250.00;
Yard Sale - \$30.00;

GRAND TOTAL - \$ 5,657.50 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*

Kay & Rev. Gary Nottis, *Greeters*

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.