

St. John's News

May 2024

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St. John's Rummage Sale 2024

Friday, May 10 3 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Saturday, May 11 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Bake Sale and Refreshment Stand

Starting at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 11

\$6 bag sale for clothing, linens and books

Most other items ½ price

Accepting gently used/like new items

- Baby items - **NO** cribs, car seats or highchairs
- Books, CD's, DVD's – **NO** encyclopedias, textbooks, or VHS tapes
- Clothing, handbags, shoes
- Craft supplies
- Holiday decorations – **NO** Christmas trees
- Jewelry & collectibles
- Kitchen items
- Toys & games
- Linens & curtains
- Tools
- Sporting equipment – **NO** gym equipment
- **NO** luggage, TVs, computer equipment or furniture will be accepted.

Donation drop off times

Thursday, May 2: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Friday, May 3: 1 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Saturday, May 4: 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Sunday, May 5: 8:30 a.m. - noon

Monday, May 6: 9 a.m. – 7 p.m. - FINAL DROP OFF

PLEASE NOTE: *We are only using Fraunfelder Hall again this year. As a result, once the room/tables are full, we will stop collecting items, even if that happens before Monday. Get your donations in early to make sure we can accept them.*

Baked Goods are needed for the Bake Sale. Please bring goodies to the kitchen on Friday, May 10, before the start of the Rummage Sale. Thank you!

Sunday, June 23 - Game time 1:35 p.m.

(Gates open at 12)

Game tickets plus 2- hour picnic buffet
in an upstairs suite - \$55 per person

Call John Muscler (610-746-2557) for tickets or
more info.



Preschool Rita's Night Fundraiser

Where: Rita's Italian Ice, 52 East
Lawn Rd, Nazareth

When: **Thursday, May 9, 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.**

What: Purchase full priced Rita's and part of the
proceeds will go to the Preschool. Thank you for
your support!



From Team Innovation . . .



Sunday, June 2 - 10:30 a.m. in Fraunfelder Hall, kick-off to SUMMER ROCKS!!! All are invited to join us in getting the summer started off right. Let's fill our town with positive vibes. Join us after Church to paint a rock or two for a game of hide-and-seek with the Nazareth community this summer. Look for the sign-up sheet in the DeRemer Gallery.

Free Movie Night - Saturday, June 8 at 7:00 p.m. We are having a movie night in the Council Room. Come out and join us for a time of fellowship. Feel free to bring your own snacks. Bottled water will be supplied. Look for the sign-up sheet in the DeRemer Gallery.

Save the date for Game Day - Sunday, July 14 from 12:00 - 3:00 p.m. for "Christmas in July" GAME DAY! More information to follow in the coming months.

Summer Music



Summer Music

Make a Joyful Noise Unto the Lord!

CALLING EVERY ONE OF ALL AGES!!!! Each of us was designed by God with unique gifts and talents. Do you sing or play a musical instrument? With the choirs winding down for the summer, this is a wonderful opportunity for you to share your musical gifts. Please contact Donna Molan at music@sjuccnaz.org if you would like to sing or play at one of our summer worship services. Let's spread joy through music as we serve our great and loving God!



Sparks, Xplosion & Seekers- May 5 - Noon-1 p.m.

Spring has sprung! Let's celebrate the warm weather with fun and games in the parking lot!

Faith Formation - May 19 is the last day of formal church school for the '23-24 year. All St. John's classes will join to celebrate! To all of our Adult Classes - want to join in? 10am - 10:45am.

May 19 - Pentecost Sunday. This year's confirmands will be confirmed. Please join as they affirm their baptism.

Summer Crew '24

June 1 – The clothing company will be picking up our stored items from the basement of the Noble House. Have anything to donate? Please bring in before the above date or early that morning. They typically arrive by 8 a.m.

Need Help - This summer our Summer Crew is looking to care and provide service and mission to congregation members and the local community. It's a talented group that can do gardening, painting, window replacement, floors- you name it! It's a good chance we can provide the hands to do it. Besides providing bodies, we will also provide all materials and supplies needed. Please contact Marge.



April 14, 2024
Donald and Erin Clemens
Larry and Donna Palmer

*May Newsletter Sponsors
Bonnie and Tom Stubblefield*



May Worship Schedule In-person and Livestream 9 a.m. – Contemporary 11 a.m. – Classic

Worship livestreamed at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcx65EeJnEM6B-HrRVaai1g>

May 5 – Baptism

There is a difference between picking fruit and bearing, or producing fruit. Picking fruit is the final step in harvesting the work of someone else. Producing fruit requires energy, focus and devotion. Come, worship the God who gives us the tools to bear fruit.

Scriptures: Psalm 98; Acts 10:44–48; John 15:9–17

Message: Bearing Love

May 12 - Mother's Day

Come, celebrate the gifts God has given us. Celebrate families, parents, moms and dads and grandparents. Celebrate all the people who have shared the gift of faith with you and who give you hope.

Scriptures: Acts 1:1–11; Ephesians 1:15–23

Message: Knowing Hope



May 19 - Pentecost

Today is Pentecost Sunday, the birthday of the Church. Worship with us as we celebrate Confirmation, share in communion and consider the power of the Holy Spirit.

Scriptures: Romans 8:22–27; Acts 2:1–21

Message: Talk so People Can Hear You

May 26

How often do we miss the bigger picture because we are too focused on the details? How often is seeing the bigger picture beneficial? Worship with us as we praise the God who gifts us with the ability to see the bigger picture.

Scriptures: Isaiah 6:1–8; John 3:1–17

Message: The Bigger Picture

Special Offerings

May 5 - Social Concerns

May 12 - Church Marketing and Advertising

May 19 - (Pentecost) Support of the Ministry and Mission of the UCC

Looking Ahead

**Summer Worship Schedule begins on
Sunday, June 2 – One Worship Service at 9:30 a.m.**

Parish Ministrations

Deaths

Randy L. Erdie, born March 4, 1959

Died: March 22, 2024

Ellen L. Bartholomew, born June 28, 1941

Died: March 24, 2024

Charmaine N. Ashenfalder, born December 2, 1933

Died: April 1, 2024

May Sponsorship Opportunities

May 5, 12 – Flowers (\$25)

May 5, 19 - Worship Guides (\$20)

May 5, 12, 19, 26 – Online Ministry (\$20)

Please email or call the Church Office if you would like to be a sponsor for one of the open dates. Please include the date of sponsorship and who it is in memory or honor of as we will include an acknowledgement in the announcements during the service. Checks may be mailed to the church with a notation indicating sponsorship. Thank you!

Grateful or Frustrated?

Thoughts from Pastor Jeff . . .



Photo by Sticker Mule on Unsplash

“April showers bring May flowers,” was one of my mother’s sayings. No, I know she didn’t invent the phrase, she just liked it. She would offer it whenever any of us hit one of life’s little speed bumps. Loosely translated, her message was, it may be sad now, but something wonderful is coming. Well, sometimes that actually proves to be the case, while other times, not so much! When speed bumps happen, I think its okay to be frustrated. I also think that it is possible that we are responsible for a lot of the speed bumps we face. Many years ago, I read a book by Richard Carlson, Ph.D. titled, *Don’t Sweat The Small Stuff with Your Family*.

One of the issues he addressed was that we were in charge of how we reacted to “small stuff.” Depending on the way we framed (looked at, perceived) an issue, we would either find ourselves smiling and grateful or frustrated and annoyed. He illustrated this by sharing a list of things one partner found frustrating about the other. It had things like: always leaves the cabinet door open. Leaves dishes next to the sink and doesn’t put them in the dishwasher. Leaves the cap off the toothpaste. You get the idea. Carlson suggested that we could choose to experience such things as reasons to be annoyed, or feel disrespected, or taken for granted, or frustrated because we have complained about them more than once. Alternatively, we could choose to look at them as reminders that our partner was present, had little quirks and habits and was to be celebrated because of their commitment to us. Of course, what goes unsaid is that none of us are perfect and we all do things that get on our family’s nerves.

While this approach to life probably doesn’t apply to everything, I suspect it might apply to more than we might think. We can choose how we react to things when they are not exactly as we would like them to be. We can choose to remember that it is often our differences that make life more interesting. We can choose to let each other’s imperfections be endearing reminders that we share this life together, or we can choose to let them frustrate us. Choosing gratitude might be the more labor-intensive choice, especially when we are feeling unappreciated, but gratitude will make everyone happier. That’s a lot better than a bunch of frustrated people walking around, don’t you think?

The next **Social Concerns Committee** meeting will be on Monday, May 13, at 7 p.m. in the Council Room. Our next food pantry will be May 25, at 11:30-1 p.m. Volunteers are always welcomed. We will be presenting our Spirit of Community Award at the Nazareth Area Senior High School on Tuesday, May 21, at 6:30 p.m. to the student chosen for their Volunteer and Community Service.

From Third Street Alliance. . . . Thank you! We are so grateful for your gift of \$750 that has created brighter futures for the families that we serve. You may not realize it, but it is your loyalty and generous giving that enables us to maintain a nearly decades-long tradition of supporting unhoused women and children in the greater Lehigh Valley. Each and every year, donors like you fund the program that positively impacts the families we serve and allow us to remain financially nimble to quickly adapt to meet the changing needs of our community

Thank you for continuing to choose Third Street Alliance as a recipient of your generosity and making all that we do possible.

Alisa Baratta, Executive Director