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Church Records

Baptisms:

**Aurora Quinn
Weimerskir**
Scarlett Adele
Farrand-Roberson
November 4, 2018

**Scarlett Anderson
Chadwick**
November 18, 2018

*"Rest eternal grant unto
them, O Lord"*

Deaths:

Tim Morgan
October 25, 2018

St. John's kids are going Christmas Caroling on Sunday December 16th, and we'd love anyone who loves to sing carols to join us. We'll be visiting parishioners in several local nursing homes, and they're always so pleased to see their church family coming to visit. Watch the bulletin for further details!



FROM
God's House
TO *Your House*

DECEMBER 2018 • NEWS • CALENDAR

St. John's Episcopal Church
The Rev. Adam T. Trambley, Rector
724-347-4501 • stjohns@stjohnssharon.org
www.stjohnssharon.org

Chili Cook-Off

St. John's Chili Cook-Off and Harvest Party was a great time for all! With the rain that kept us indoors, it was a perfect evening for delicious hot chili, worm dogs for the kids (ask them) and fun & games for all!

Many thanks to our Chili & Costume Contest Judges, Alexandra Ahren from the Shenango Valley Chamber of Commerce, Nathaniel Tomko of the Meszaros Family Foundation, Randy Knight from the Slovenian Athletic Club Charitable Foundation, and Bob Fiscus of the City of Sharon, as well as Debbie Gibson, Dorothy O'Stafy and Joe Szakach of St. John's.

Congratulations to all our Chili contest winners: Tracy Schliep, a two-time winner for Best Spicy, Sheri Lowery for Best Non-Traditional Chili, and Heather Ulan, a double winner for Best Traditional Chili AND People's Choice.

In the costume contest, St. John's winners were Sandy Geiwitz, Eileen Moore, and Matt Wertz. Check out the pictures of many unusual and creative outfits on our Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/stjohnssharon

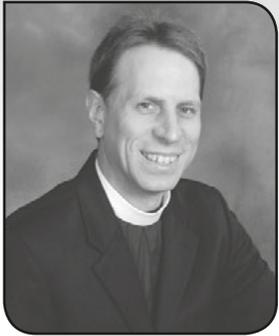
www.facebook.com/stjohnssharonyouth

And, as always, many thanks to all those who made chili or donated supplies, helped in the kitchen and assisted with the clean-up. We could NOT have done this without your help.

Thank You. St. John's has a trust whose income provides money each year to help people in need. We recently provided assistance to an "extended family member" of the parish whose house and business were swamped by the recent North Carolina hurricane. He sent the following note to the parish:

Thank you for the monetary blessing you sent me. It's going to go a long ways in my recovery. I'm going to use it towards sheetrock to rebuild my home. Tell everyone in the church I deeply, truly appreciate what they've done for me. God bless and have a good day. I'll keep you informed.

Thanks again. *Mark Pelsh*



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we come to the holiday season, I wanted to share a story of one small way that this church is family. Becky Yoho told a couple of us this story on Saturday.

Saturday was the first birthday party for her grandchildren, Ethan and Sebastian. They were born very premature, and the parish has been praying for them and their family for most of their young lives.

Becky was in the Pittsburgh airport waiting to pick up a family member, when a woman nearby was having trouble finding a place to charge her cell phone. Becky's husband Denny helped find an outlet and the three of them started talking. The woman mentioned her church, St. John's in Sharon. Becky said, "That's my church!" Becky identified herself as an 8:00er, and the woman was a 10:00er, so they hadn't met. As they talked further, Becky said she was the grandmother of the twins that the church had been praying for. The woman's response was, "Our twins!! We've been praying." As Becky told me the story, she was incredibly moved that the parish, and even people she had never met before, saw them as "our twins."

God did a miracle by bringing these two infants through their first year. St. John's and its prayers were an important part of that

St. John's Person of the Month

Congratulations to Sherri Lowery who is our celebrated November/December Parishioner.

If you would like to see a great volunteer in action, look to her. Wherever we need help with the children, including Sunday Nursery, Sunday School, Saturday Community Lunch, and Kid's Church Outings, you'll see Sherri. She has been a Pre-K and 1st and 2nd-grade teacher for many years. If you ever come to the Saturday Community Luncheon you'll find her at a table surrounded with children making Christ-centered art and learning about Bible stories. On Sunday, after the 8 AM service, she is working with our growing young children, helping them learn about Jesus and The Episcopal Church. But her spirit of volunteerism goes beyond the kids as you will also see her helping with the Kettle Korn projects and by bringing Sunday Morning Munchies, too! Truly, our St. John's family has been blessed by her never-ending support and presence.

The parish office will be closed the following days:

Monday, December 24 (Christmas Eve)—closing at 12 Noon
Tuesday, December 25—Christmas • Wednesday, December 26—Christmas holiday
Monday, December 31 (New Year's Eve)—closing at 12 Noon
Tuesday, January 1—New Year's Day • Monday, January 21—Martin Luther King Day

January 2019 Deadlines

Please have articles for the January newsletter turned into the parish office by Friday, December 14. We ask that articles be typed or printed and delivered to the parish office in person, by regular mail, e-mail or fax:

E-mail: stjohns@stjohnssharon.org Fax No. 724-347-4502

Mail: 226 W. State St., Sharon, PA 16146

miracle. Ethan and Sebastian are “our twins” just like so many others here are part of one family in the one Body of Christ. I remain grateful for our loving parish family where God is constantly at work among and through us.

Blessings for a Holy and Miraculous Advent and Christmas!

Adam

Upcoming Events at Cana's Corner

November 23:
“Donnie Abraham”
gospel and oldies
(special time - 6:30-8:30)

December 14:
“Terry Leonard”
special Christmas program

December 21:
“Zac Sartori”
special Christmas program
Robyn Ruth 724-866-3061

January 11:
“Jay Kelley”
oldies and variety of special music

February 15:
“Tammy O'Marrie”
oldies



Cana's Corner is at St. John's Episcopal Church (lounge) 226 West State, Sharon, PA 7-9 PM • Refreshments and nursery are available. For more information contact Robyn at (724) 866-3061

The **Annual Meeting** will be held on Sunday, January 27, 2019 at 9:05 am in Allen Hall. Annual Reports are due by Monday, January 7. Please e-mail your report to: stjohns@stjohnssharon.org



From Our Music Director, Ron Gracilla

By the time you read this, our church year will have ended with the Last Sunday of Pentecost, “Christ the King”. So from a lectionary viewpoint I wish you all a Happy New Church Year!

Certainly, it is good to celebrate this Advent and Christmas Season with a breath of newness and joy. We have so much to be thankful for with our church choir newly bolstered by our St. John’s Musical Scholars.

I urge you to spend time this Advent Season in reflection, perhaps stopping by one of the mid-week Wednesday 5pm services, or even volunteering at our Saturday Community Lunch. This could be the year where you exchange actions and interaction instead of monetary gifts. Perhaps this year you might invite a neighbor or friend to Sunday Advent service, or Family Christmas Eve Service with Children’s Pageant at 5pm, or even plan to attend our Choral and Brass Christmas Eve with prelude at 10:30.

I hope you find a way to personally engage our new church year. Be sure to thank our St. John’s Choir, Staff and Vestry as we enter a year of hope, growth and prosperity.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

Ron Gracilla

Please come join us for services at St. John’s on:

Christmas Eve: 5:00 pm – Family Service & Children’s Program
10:30 pm – Musical Prelude • 11:00 pm – Festive Christmas Eve Eucharist

Christmas Day: 10:00 am – Christmas Day Eucharist.

FLOWERS AND GREENS

The Christmas season is upon us and we ask St. Johns parishioners to assist in preparing our church for the Christmas Holy days by contributing toward the needed adornments. Flowers and greens will adorn the Church throughout the Christmas Season; anyone attending worship or stopping by for private prayer may enjoy the beauty of the altar. Please fill out the enclosed envelope and return it with your offering to the Church Office no later than *Wednesday, December 19*. All names submitted will be included in the bulletins on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

ST. JOHN’S FAMILY KITCHEN SERVING THE FREE COMMUNITY LUNCH:

NEXT COOKING DAY: Thursday December 12; 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

SERVING DAY: Saturday, December 15

WRAP SILVERWARE &

FINAL FOOD PREPARATION: 9:00-10:00 am

SERVING/CLEAN-UP: 11:00 am-1:30 pm

Many hands make light work and more fun. Come join us.

Any questions call Madge Tamber 724-6 62-4367

WINTERFEST

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2018

10 am - 2 pm

Fancy Cookies • Savory Soups

Yummy Candy • Nut Rolls

Old Christmas & White Elephant Sale

Divine Kettle Korn

St. John's Divine Kettle Korn in holiday bags is again available for Christmas. The price remains at \$5.00 per bag. Orders can be placed with Laura Peretic or left in the office **along with your payment** no later than December 9th. Kettle Korn will be available for pickup on Sunday, December 16th. All proceeds go to the Kids & Teen Camp Scholarship fund.

St. John's Divine Kettle Korn Fundraiser

\$5/bag. Please have all orders in by December 9th.

Popping will be December 15th and delivery December 16th.

Name _____

Telephone # _____

Quantity: _____ bags@\$5.00 each

DEADLINE FOR ORDERING: Sunday, December 9th.

Join us at Second Missionary Baptist Church on December 2

St. John's will be taking another trip to join with Second Missionary Baptist Church in Farrell for their worship service on December 2. We will hold our regular 8:00am service and a streamlined 10:00am service that day so that we can be at Second Missionary Baptist in time for their service to start at 11:00am. Last year, we had a great time at their service and were able to meet some new friends and experience a different worship style. This year, we will continue to build those relationships with our brothers and sisters. Their address is Second Missionary Baptist Church, 1138 Spearman Avenue, Farrell. I hope you can join us!

Natural Church Development Update

This fall, the Natural Church Development team has finished up its two-year long process on improving our parish's loving relationships with each other. Our team feels like we have made a difference in the atmosphere of our church and had fun while doing it. Many thanks to our team members Adam Trambley, Michael Wachter, Cleo Myers, Hannah Hancock, Katie Tingler, Tracy Schliep, Ron Gracilla, Debbie Gibson, and Sandy Geiwitz.

The team focused on four areas where we felt we could increase our loving relationships. The first was conflict resolution, where Father Adam did a sermon series and we developed a Church Conflict Resolution Process. The second area was increasing the ways that we thanked those who contributed to our parish. A "thank-you box" was put in lounge, and individual thank you notes were sent to people who were mentioned. We also started the "Person of the Month" and began to recognize ministries and other groups on Sunday mornings during the services.

Our third focus was to increase affinity groups, where people in the parish got together and did fun things. A Lent Madness group was created, and parishioners attended a few high school musicals, community theater performances and movie nights. Other events that fell into this category, which were initiated by other parishioners, included the Halloween Party, people going to lunch after services (with new people being invited to join them), an outing to a Pittsburgh Pirates game, the Wednesday evening suppers, and a group going to Youngstown to hear Nadia Bolz-Weber.

Our final area was increasing photographs of the congregation. We invited people to become St. John's Paparazzi, and a number of people have taken us up on that offer. We now regularly receive photos for social media and other uses from our Sunday services and special events.

The vestry has approved that we take another NCD survey. We welcome the opportunity to discover from members of the congregation how St. John's is meeting their needs and expectations. We thank the current NCD team for its efforts to support and encourage loving Christian relationships and look forward to making their efforts a part of the fabric.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>December 2018</h1> <p>St. John's 724-347-4501 e-mail: stjohs@stjohnssharon.org</p>						1 10am ~ 2pm ~ Winterfest in Allen Hall 11am - 1pm ~ Free Community Lunch ~ dining room
2 8am ~ Holy Eucharist 9am ~ Sunday School 10am ~ Sung Eucharist 3pm ~ C.O.P.Church - A.H. 6pm ~ Model Club -D.R.	3 3:30pm ~ Girl Scouts - D.R.	4 8:30am ~ T.O.P.S. - D.R. 6:30pm ~ AA - D.R.	5 11am ~ AA - D.R. 5:30pm ~ Weekday Eucharist 7:30pm ~ Choir Rehearsal <i>Bulletin Items Due</i>	6 10:30am ~ 12:30pm - ECS Food Pantry Distribution NOON ~ M.C.B.H.C. - D.R. 7pm ~ Women's AA - D.R.	7	8 11am - 1pm ~ Free Community Lunch ~ Allen Hall 11am ~ D.R. reserved
9 8am ~ Holy Eucharist 9am ~ Sunday School 10am ~ Sung Eucharist 3pm ~ C.O.P.Church - A.H. Kettle Korn orders due	10 3:30pm ~ Girl Scouts - D.R. 7pm ~ Vestry	11 8:30am ~ T.O.P.S. - D.R. 6:30pm ~ AA- D.R.	12 11am ~ AA - D.R. 5:30pm ~ Weekday Eucharist 7:30pm ~ Choir Rehearsal <i>Bulletin Items Due</i>	13 1pm ~ M.C.B.H.C. - D.R. 2pm ~ St. John's Food Prep 7pm ~ Women's AA - D.R.	14 January Newsletter Deadline 7pm ~ Cana's Comer	15 Kettle Korn Popping 11am ~ 1pm ~ Free Community Lunch in Allen Hall
16 8am ~ Holy Eucharist 9am ~ Sunday School 10am ~ Sung Eucharist 10am ~ D.R. reserved <i>Kettle Korn pick up</i> 3pm ~ C.O.P.Church - A.H. <i>St. John's Kids Christmas Caroling</i>	17 3:30pm ~ Girl Scouts - D.R.	18 8:30am ~ T.O.P.S. - D.R. 6:30pm ~ AA - D.R.	19 11am ~ AA - D.R. 5:30pm ~ Weekday Eucharist 7:30pm ~ Choir Rehearsal <i>Christmas Flower Envelope deadline</i> <i>Bulletin Items Due</i>	20 10:30am ~ 12:30pm - ECS Food Pantry Distribution 7pm ~ Women's AA - D.R.	21 5pm ~ Food prep -A.H. 7pm ~ Cana's Comer	22 11am ~ 1pm ~ Free Community Lunch in Allen Hall
23 8am ~ Holy Eucharist 9am ~ Sunday School 10am ~ Sung Eucharist 3pm ~ C.O.P.Church - A.H.	24 <i>CHRISTMAS EVE</i> NOON ~ Parish Office Closes 5pm ~ Family Service & Children's Program 10:30pm ~ Musical Prelude 11pm ~ Festive Eucharist	25 <i>CHRISTMAS DAY</i> Parish Office Closed 10am ~ Holy Eucharist 11:30am-1pm ~ Free Community Christmas Dinner in Allen Hall by reservation onl 6:30pm ~ AA - D.R.	26 Parish Office Closed 11am ~ AA - D.R. 5:30pm ~ Weekday Eucharist <i>Bulletin Items Due</i> 	27 7pm ~ Women's AA - D.R.	28 5pm ~ Food prep -A.H.	29 11am ~ 1pm ~ Free Community Lunch in Allen Hall
30 8am ~ Holy Eucharist 10am ~ Sung Eucharist/Baptism St. John's packing bags @ ECS following 10am service 3pm ~ C.O.P.Church - A.H.	31 New Year's EVE NOON ~ Parish Office closes	1 January New Year's Day PARISH OFFICE CLOSED			A.H. = Allen Hall D.R. = Dining Rooms C.O.P.C. = Covenant Orthodox Presbyterian Church	M.C.B.H.C. = Mercer County Behavioral Health Commission T.O.P.S. = Take Off Pounds Sensibly