

NORTH PARISH NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

THRU THE HANDS OF GOD -
ONE HAND HELPING ANOTHER
(North Parish's Mission Statement)



Musings from the priest's computer.....

Every day in your life is a special occasion !

(Saying found in a Chinese fortune cookie)

We've heard the phrase "today is the first day of the rest of your life". Yet that tells nothing about the quality of the day nor of the life. And to toss another cliché: life is what you make it. What we sense or feel often has the ability to make us joyful or angry, happy or depressed. In this Christian faith, St Paul tells us to rejoice always, rejoice! Really, every breath we take is an opportunity to change a poor attitude, and to extend ourselves to joy.

The late autumn-early winter holidays are often fraught with difficulties. Family pushes us like no one else can, and maybe that is a measure of the bond of love between us and them! Beyond the preparations and the gatherings, and the celebrations, these religious holidays present opportunities to extend ourselves in many ways. They also are a perfect time to learn more about the reasons for certain traditions and to discover a new spirituality connected to the liturgies we utilize. The national Church has numerous offerings on their website: episcopalchurch.org. Other interesting resources include the offerings from the Church of England. Though not an Anglican perspective, the writings from "Laughingbird.net" present an interesting collection of writings and prayers. The gatherings for Confirmation instruction and reflection held at Trinity on intermittent Thursdays are available to anyone interested.

Take time to breathe, to rest, and to participate in the life of the Body of Christ. Because the upcoming season presents great opportunities for welcome—really that scary word "Evangelism" --consider inviting your friends and your family members to worship services with you. We would be glad to embrace them into the joy of the Episcopal Church, for special occasions and for ordinary ones too.

May you know the Peace of Christ!

- Fr. Kurt



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 – Bonnie Hynoski	10 – Lilly Meade	27 – Theresa Price
Denise Ulceski	17 – Aubrey Scanlan	28 – Christie Joy Donatti
4- Nicole Scanlan	19 – Albert Leibig, Jr.	30 – Monique Snyder
6 – Sam Correll	21 – Ryan Lindenmuth	Patricia Snyder
Ryder Chase Bowers	22 – Nicholas Price	Frances Clamser
8 – Carole James	24 – Neal R. Miller	

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2 – Joshua Jacobs	10 – Brooklyn Hewes	15 – Dakotah Hewes
4 – Jennifer Evans	12 – Holly Jazwinski	18 – Robert Scheuren
Janis Idell	Sue O’Neill	21 – Clayton Demcher
Mary Price	Michael Leshner	23 – Jane Shaqfeh
8 – Randall Snyder	Alicia Rathosky	26 – John Price, Jr.
9 – Phil Frantz	14 – Albert Leibig	Stephen Ulceski

If your birthday is listed incorrectly or it is not included on the birthday list, please notify the church office. Thank you.



BAPTISMS: We welcomed on September 10, 2023, into the Episcopal Church through Holy Baptism at St. John’s, Greyson Ethan Allison, son of Nicholas J. Allison and Kara Lin Beattie. May God bless Greyson and his family now and forever.

We welcomed on September 30, 2023, into the Episcopal Church through Holy Baptism at Holy Apostles, Waverly Saige Deeter, daughter of Jon and Dakotah Deeter. May God bless Waverly and her family now and forever.



NOVEMBER MEMORIALS

WINE & WAFERS: In memory of Jean M. Brennan by Phil and Donna Frantz.

In memory of my friend Frank Baldino who was killed in action on November 14, 1968, given by Carol Jones.

BULLETINS: In memory of Jim Lecher by wife Bonnie.

SANCTUARY CANDLES: In memory of Betty Noble and Cole Joshua Lauver by the Hynoski Family.

In memory of Mary Umlauf by Joseph Coddington.

In memory of Alice and Raymond Umlauf by Susan Noble and Family.

In memory of Mr. and Mrs. Orme Frantz by their family.



DECEMBER MEMORIALS

WINE & WAFERS: In memory of John W. Frantz by Phil and Donna Frantz.

In memory of Bob Jones by wife Carol.

In memory of Lois Smith by Jim Smith.

BULLETINS: In memory of Harold and Deborah Strunk by the Strunk and Ulceski Families.

In memory of Mary Umlauf by Joseph Coddington.

SANCTUARY CANDLES: In memory of Cole Joshua Lauver by the Hynoski Family.

In memory of Mary Umlauf by Joseph Coddington.

THE NOVEMBER/DECEMBER NEWSLETTER is sponsored in memory of Jim Lecher by wife Bonnie.

2024 MEMORIALS AVAILABLE:

IT IS NOW TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMORIALS FOR 2024. If you are interested in memorials, please contact the church office by phone (570-429-7107) or by sending a note to the church secretary:



Shannon Mozdy, North Parish, P.O. Box 487, Frackville, PA 17931 OR

You can also give your memorials to your church treasurer:

Holy Apostles – Marsha Dudash, St. John's – Elaine Ulceski

The donations for monthly memorials are as follows: Sanctuary Candles - \$5.00

Bulletins - \$10.00; Wine & Wafers - \$10.00, Newsletters - \$10.00



All articles for the JANUARY/FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER should be submitted to our Parish Administrator, Shannon, no later than Monday, December 11th.



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Mia
Jennier J.
Jeff
Laura
Joseph Roy
Jonathan Mark
Tara Compinski
Diane Dalabrida
Delores Frantz
Donna Frantz
Emily Frantz
Gerard Frantz

Jennifer Frantz
Becky Higgins
Harley Hynoski
Rich Kehler
McKenzie Kline
Dolores Kozlosky
Joshua Lauver
Landry Lauver
Mary Levan
Jennifer Mackeravage
Jeff Maurer
Michael McCord

Shirley Moyer
Amanda Mozdy
Catherine Mozdy
Lynn Ann Mozdy
Polly Orth
Jack Orth
Kathleen S.
Gerry Salata
David Strunk
Bob Tiley

PRAYER LIST POLICY

We will begin a new prayer list beginning January 1st. If you would like your name to remain on the prayer list or you need to add someone, please notify the office before then.

We ask that you call the church office at 570-429-7107 or email us at nparish@ptd.net. Please leave your name, phone number and the name of the person for the prayer list.

You can also mail the form below to the church office at:
North Parish, P.O. Box 487, Frackville, PA 17931

Name on the prayer list: _____

Person making the request: _____

Please note: The prayer list will be updated at the end of June also.



I/we promise \$_____ for ministry.

I/we plan to fulfill this pledge ☐ weekly ☐ monthly ☐ semiannually ☐ annually.

NAME

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

☐ Please contact me about including the church in my estate plans.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS/MEMORIAL DONATION FORM



Please fill out this form and place it in an envelope with
your donation and place it in the collection or mail it to
the church office: North Parish, P.O. Box 487, Frackville, PA 17931

PLEASE NOTE: ALL CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO NORTH PARISH.

Name of Donor(s): _____

Church: _____

In Loving Memory of: _____

In Loving Memory of: _____

In Loving Memory of: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

PLEASE RETURN BY December 10, 2023.

All memorials will be published in the January/February Newsletter.





LOOKING FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Check out our Rada Cutlery and the
Episcopal Church of Schuylkill County Apparel Sale



ONLINE RADA CUTLERY SALE: North Parish is selling Rada Cutlery online to benefit our General Fund. Please type in this link in your web address to place an order:
<https://radafundraising.com/?rfsn=5315822.c6637d>

When you are directed to the website, please click yes to support North Parish. Then place your order like any other online purchase. This will be an ongoing sale. For those of you who are not comfortable ordering online, please see Bonnie Baker or Bonnie Hynoski for a printed catalog. Please feel free to share this with your family and friends.

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF SCHUYLKILL COUNTY APPAREL SALE – Adult sizes

Long Sleeve Ladies V-Neck t shirt - \$16; 2x \$18, Unisex Long Sleeve Round Neck t shirt - \$15; 2x \$17
Crew Neck Sweatshirt - \$18; 2x-\$20, Pull Over Hoodie - \$21, 2x - \$23
Zip Front Hoodie - \$25, 2x - \$27, Unisex T shirt – round necks, \$10, 2x \$12
v neck t shirts - \$12, 2x - \$14, Polo shirts - \$18, 2x - \$20
Tote Bags - \$13, Baseball caps (red only)- \$12

All apparel comes in red or gray except the baseball caps. Orders and payment must be placed by November 12th. An order form is available in each church.

Thanksgiving Day Dinner November 23, 2023



Holy Apostles' Episcopal Parish Hall
307 E. Hancock St.
St. Clair, PA

Please RSVP by November 16th

Call Bonnie at (570) 590-0450
Or the church office at (570) 429-7107

Eat in, Take Out or Delivery available

Delivery Beginning – 11:00 a.m.

Pick Up – 12 noon – 12:30 p.m.

Eat In – 1:00 p.m.



Volunteers are needed to cook, run deliveries and package meals. We also need donations of turkeys. Monetary donations will also be accepted to help with the dinner. Please make checks out to: North Parish. If you can donate any of these items or help with preparations, please contact Bonnie Baker.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT SERVICES



December 24, 2023 - Holy Eucharist

9:00 a.m. – St. John's, Ashland

11:00 a.m. – Holy Apostles, St. Clair

Celebrant – The Rev. Dr. Kurt Kovalovich

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

December 24, 2023

Holy Eucharist

4:00 p.m. – Holy Apostles, St. Clair

6:00 p.m. – St. John's, Ashland

Celebrant – The Rev. Timothy Albright



AUGUST & SEPTEMBER FINANCES

North Parish Receipts			North Parish Disbursements	
General Account			General Account	
	23-Aug	\$ 4,823.00		23-Aug \$ 7,689.64
Year to Date		\$ 47,067.41	Year to Date Exp.	\$ 62,907.81
Transfer in from M&I for Expenses		\$ -		
Transfer M&I Year to Date for expenses		\$ 8,000.00		
Transfer in from Memorial Acct.		\$ -		
Transfer Memorial Acct year to date		\$ 2,200.00		
Transfer in from St. Elizabeth's Guild		\$ 2,000.00		
Transfer St.Elizabeth's year to date		\$ 2,000.00		
M&I Account			M&I Account	
	23-Aug	\$ 58.19		23-Aug \$ -
Year to date		\$ 2,536.26	Year to date	\$ 8,000.00
Memorial Account			Memorial Account	
	23-Aug	\$ 0.18		23-Aug \$ -
Year to date		\$ 616.57	Year to date	\$ 2,200.00
Balances				
General Account		\$ 1,420.98		
M&I Account		\$ 11,545.39		
Memorial Account		\$ 10,675.78		
General Account			General Account	
	23-Sep	\$ 6,162.45		23-Sep \$ 8,891.62
Year to Date		\$ 53,229.86	Year to Date Exp.	\$ 71,799.43
Transfer in from M&I for Expenses		\$ -		
Transfer M&I Year to Date for expenses		\$ 8,000.00		
Transfer in from Memorial Acct.		\$ -		
Transfer Memorial Acct year to date		\$ 2,200.00		
Transfer in from St. Elizabeth's Guild		\$ 5,000.00		
Transfer Memorial Acct year to date		\$ 7,000.00		
M&I Account			M&I Account	
	23-Sep	\$ 992.96		23-Sep \$ -
Year to date		\$ 3,529.22	Year to date	\$ 8,000.00
Memorial Account			Memorial Account	
	23-Sep	\$ 0.17		23-Sep \$ -
Year to date		\$ 616.74	Year to date	\$ 2,200.00
Balances				
General Account		\$ 3,691.81		
M&I Account		\$ 12,538.35		
Memorial Account		\$ 10,675.95		

News From Marion C. Price

Save the Date!! The annual MPTF Christmas Luncheon will be held Thursday December 28, 2023 at Holy Apostles Church in Saint Clair. The Eucharist Service will begin at 11 AM, followed by lunch, games, and a Christmas Carol sing-a-long. Please help spread the word! All who are served by MPTF (age 60 and over) and a guest are invited to attend. Please contact Cathy Clouser in the office (570-621-3220) with any questions and to RSVP.

Reminder: Open enrollment for 2024 Medicare plans ends December 7, 2023.

Thankful, Grateful and Blessed

As the Thanksgiving holiday season approaches these words seem to be everywhere. I have seen them in many Fall and Thanksgiving decorations, including on two decorative boards at my home church. The reminders are nestled among two beautiful arrangements of fall flowers, leaves, and pumpkin decorations. I love the fall and its beautiful colorful decorations and this year I feel that I am being reminded to be thankful in more ways than a holiday decoration.

It began a few weeks ago with a video of Joyce Meyer speaking on the power of gratitude. It was a powerful sermon on being grateful and thankful. She was urging us to be thankful in all times, not just when things are going our way. I find that it is easy to give thanks for food – because my cupboards are full: shelter – because I have a home; good health – because I'm healthy; employment – because I love my job; family – because I think mine is pretty great! The harder question is can I give thanks when things are not going my way? Of course I can....I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.....but do I?

Joyce urges us to have a thankful attitude and stop complaining so much. We need to be thankful when we are having troubles and things are not going our way. Even then, you can always find something to be happy about. Make a list of what you have to be thankful for. In the New Testament Paul encourages us to "give thanks" at least 46 times. Perhaps his most difficult direction is found in 1 Thessalonians 5:18, "In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you". Paul was imprisoned, persecuted, and beaten, yet he was full of thanksin all circumstances.

In church this past week I read the scripture lesson Philippians 4:6 Do not be anxious about anything, but by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. This is one of my favorite verses. I have this on a bookmark on my desk as a constant reminder. It is ok to pray for your difficult situations but remember to be thankful for your blessings. The definition of thankful is being conscious of the benefits received. Being grateful is being appreciative of the benefits received.

Gratitude brings peace. Count your blessings. Gratitude helps us see that God's hand is over all our circumstances. Taking a posture of gratitude during a challenging time in life can prove to be a powerful choice. It is almost impossible to dwell on hardships and struggles when you are focusing on the good things you are thankful for. These two opposites can't occupy your mind at the same time.

The art of Thanksgiving is consistent, steadfast, genuine year-round thanksgiving in all things, for God is good. I wish you all a very Happy Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas. I am thankful for this job and to have met all of you, I am grateful for the relationships formed, and blessed to have you all in my life.



They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. - Jeremiah 17:8

I am so pleased this year to talk about the theme of our annual stewardship campaign, Rooted in Abundance. I am particularly excited about it because it describes the graceful state of our church community, and how we share our gifts so lovingly with each other.

Our giving tradition at North Parish has always been focused on how we share all of our gifts – not just our financial gifts. A church needs new ideas, creative people to lead, individuals who know how to solve complex problems, volunteers to keep our ministries focused on our neighbors. We usually talk about this in a three-fold way: wealth, works, and wisdom. If any one of these areas is missing from our community, we are diminished.

Each of us has a gift, some of have many. For some it is cooking and baking, others might have beautiful singing voices, we praise those who have an administrative gift of balancing books or counting the collection, we admire those who offer hospitality, who serve at the altar, who help us find a seat as the service begins. Whatever your ministries are, we couldn't be who we are without you.

In Fr. Kurt's letter to us in the September/October Newsletter, he talked about how trees are connected via their root structures, and how they share information and resources with each other through those underground networks. In this year of being in leadership ministry with you, I have witnessed the ways in which you communicate with each other to get things done. Potlucks, community events, pastoral care, it all happens so wonderfully because you are each deeply connected to each other through your roots of faith and service.

I thank you this year for the ways you have shared your gifts with us – your wealth, works, and your wisdom.

In gratitude,
Bonnie Baker, Senior Warden

We will celebrate Pledge Sunday on November 19th. An offering plate will be placed at the front of the church for you to place your pledge card. We ask you to please place your pledge card on the plate when you go to receive Communion. A pledge card is also printed in the newsletter and will be available in the November 19 bulletin. If for some reason you are unable to attend church, please mail your pledge card to the church office: North Parish, P.O. Box 487, Frackville, PA 17931. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED FINANCIAL SUPPORT!!!



NORTH PARISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH SERVICES

November 2023

November 4 Saturday	Evening Prayer	5:00 p.m.	Holy Apostles	Bonnie Baker
November 5	Morning Prayer	9:00 a.m.	St. John's	Susan Noble
November 12	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	St. John's Holy Apostles	The Rev. Timothy Albright The Rev. Timothy Albright
November 19	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	St. John's Holy Apostles	The Rev. Dr. Kurt Kovalovich The Rev. Dr. Kurt Kovalovich
November 26	Morning Prayer Morning Prayer	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	St. John's Holy Apostles	Donald Clamser, Sr. Susan Noble

December 2023

December 2 Saturday	Holy Eucharist	5:00 p.m.	Holy Apostles	The Rev. Dr. Kurt Kovalovich
December 3	Holy Eucharist	9:00 a.m.	St. John's	The Rev. Dr. Kurt Kovalovich
December 10	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	St. John's Holy Apostles	The Rev. Timothy Albright The Rev. Timothy Albright
December 17	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	St. John's Holy Apostles	The Rev. Dr. Kurt Kovalovich The Rev. Dr. Kurt Kovalovich
December 24	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	St. John's Holy Apostles	The Rev. Dr. Kurt Kovalovich The Rev. Dr. Kurt Kovalovich
December 24	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist	4:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Holy Apostles Holy Apostles	The Rev. Timothy Albright The Rev. Timothy Albright
December 31	Morning Prayer Morning Prayer	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	St. John's Holy Apostles	Donald Clamser, Sr. Bonnie Baker

November 4 & 5	All Saints	White
November 12	The Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost	Green
November 19	The Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost	Green
November 26	The Last Sunday after Pentecost: Christ the King	White
December 2 & 3	The First Sunday of Advent	Purple
December 10	The Second Sunday of Advent	Purple
December 17	The Third Sunday of Advent	Purple
December 24	The Fourth Sunday of Advent (morning)	Purple
December 24	The Nativity of Our Lord, Christmas Eve (evening)	White
December 31	The First Sunday after Christmas Day	White