



### Rector's Letter

Dear Friends in Christ:

September marked a "return to normal" for us in many ways. We concluded our summer worship schedule and use of our alternate worship venue and came back to the church after a particularly good end-of-summer parish picnic at the Dyakiw home on September 8. Over 50 people (a picnic attendance record) worshiped, ate, and fellowshiped with one another that day, lingering for hours after the service in perfect mid-September weather. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the Dyakiws for their warm hospitality.

The day before, I was invited by Bishop Baxter to serve as Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori's chaplain at St. Mark's, Lewistown, where she helped them celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their status as a Jubilee Ministry center. The Presiding Bishop was presented with a stole and mitre, made by the Rev. Veronica Chappell of Trinity Episcopal Church in Jersey Shore, on behalf of our diocese.

The next day, Bishop Katharine was at State Andrew's, State College, where she preached to a standing-room-only congregation in the morning, before speaking more informally in the afternoon with a large group of mostly college-aged young adults. She and Bishop Baxter celebrated and preached at the 5:00 contemporary service there. The purpose of her visit to St. Andrew's was in part to recognize their status as an Enterprise Zone, which is the term used for parishes that receive diocesan funding for a second part-time priest to help with mission. In St. Andrew's case, that priest is Father Fred Miller, who is also the new Episcopal campus minister at Penn State.

The next week witnessed the first fall meeting of our Church Book Group, which discussed *The Towers of Trebizond* by Rose Macaulay. Two days later, we had our first fundraising dinner of the season - a spaghetti supper prepared by Carol Fyfe and Ellen Dyakiw. Despite competing with a Penn State home game and horrible weather, 76 meals were sold and nearly \$800 was raised. We are grateful to Ellen and Carol - along with the MANY helpers who made the evening run so smoothly - for their efforts.

As October bears down on us, the fast pace of activities here at the church will not slow. As the work in the undercroft nears completion, our attention will focus on bringing to fruition our longstanding goal of opening a nursery in part of the existing classroom space. Later in the month, on Oct. 26, another new team of chefs - Charlotte Zmyslo and Tina Scott - will make homemade pierogies for our next fundraising dinner. Plan to participate as well in the CROP Walk on Oct. 20 (read more below), and mark your calendar for the Prayer Breakfast and All Souls observance at the beginning of next month (both on Saturday, Nov. 2; more information below).

I look forward to seeing you in church.

Faithfully,

The Rev. Christopher V. Pyles

### NEW MINISTRY OF HOSPITALITY

During the last few months, you might've noticed members of the vestry joining Dave Cree at the back of the church before the 10:00 service to welcome worshipers and to greet newcomers and guests. After a recent discussion, the vestry determined that a call to this ministry of hospitality should be extended to the entire parish. The responsibilities are not complicated: be at church by 9:45, and welcome people as you hand them a bulletin. Encourage visitors or guests to fill out a pew card and drop it in the offering plate, or sign the guest book. Answer any questions they might have. We are in the process of developing a "welcome gift" that newcomers should be given by whoever is greeting on a

particular Sunday. Explain where the parish hall is and gently encourage people to join us for coffee and fellowship after the service.

There will be a sign-up sheet during the month of October listing Sundays in November and December. If you feel called to this ministry of hospitality, please take a week or two and give it a try. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask a member of the vestry or Father Pyles.

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### FOURTH PRAYER BREAKFAST SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 2 - *Mission: Tanganyika*

*Mission: Tanganyika* is the title of our next prayer breakfast, scheduled for Saturday, November 2, at 10 a.m. Come hear the Very Rev. Canon Harry Krauss, retired dean of St. John's Cathedral in Providence, Rhode Island, talk about his mission trip to southeastern Africa, where he preached, taught, and worked with local Anglican leaders to develop the companion relationship between his parish and their diocese.

Prior to ministering at the Cathedral in Providence, Dean Krauss served parishes in New York City (St. Thomas, Fifth Avenue) and Wynnewood, Pennsylvania (All Saints). He attended the College of William and Mary and the Virginia Theological Seminary, and served in the Army Signal Corps in the Vietnam era. He retired in 2011, and lives on Manhattan's Upper West Side.

A sign-up sheet will soon be appearing on the table in the back - please join us for prayer, breakfast, and an important talk on collaboration, mission, and the formation of new friendships in Christ Jesus.

**ADULT NURSERY WORKERS WANTED!**

As we prepare to open our nursery in the next month or two, we are inviting participation from adults in the parish. While there will be a paid nursery aide each week and frequently a parent volunteer, we would also like to encourage adults who enjoy working with babies and toddlers to be involved, and to spend the occasional Sunday in the nursery. If you are interested in helping in this way, please speak to Ellen Dyakiw or Father Pyles.

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**2013 ALL SOULS REMEMBRANCE**

Please write names on the blanks below; use the reverse side for additional space, if needed. The All Souls service will be at **12 noon on Saturday, November 2, at the Mary Altar**. Please have your list returned to the church (mailed to the office or dropped in the offering plate) by **Wednesday, October 30**.

*Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord,*

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

*and let light perpetual shine upon them.*

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**THIRD ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PET BLESSING ON OCTOBER 6**

After two years of pet blessing services with just a few barks and no bites, we felt confident scheduling another this year. Pets are welcome in church at the 10:00 service on October 6, where all animals will receive a special blessing at the end of the service, as well as a blessed St. Francis of Assisi medal, to be added to your pet's collar.

For those pets unable to join us, a framed picture may be brought for a blessing, and a blessed medal may be taken home.

**NEXT BOOK CLUB MEETING ON OCTOBER 17**

Our October Church Book Club selection is *Excellent Women* (1952) by Barbara Pym. As reviewed on amazon.com: "An unqualifiedly great novel from the writer most likely to be compared to Jane Austen, this is a very funny, perfectly written book that can rival any other in its ability to capture the essence of its characters on the page. Mildred Lathbury, the narrator of Pym's excellent book, has a pretty unexciting life, centered around her small church, and part-time job. But Mildred is far more perceptive and witty than even she seems to think, and when Helena and Rockingham Napier move into the flat below her, there seems to be a chance for her life to take a new direction." Approx. 250 pages. Thursday, October 17, 7 p.m. in the rectory. Books available on the table in the back next to the sign-up sheet. All are welcome.

**SECRETARY AWAY OCTOBER 10-20**

Our parish secretary, Sara Witmer, is taking a long-overdue holiday from October 10-20. Parishioners are asked to be patient when making requests of the parish office during that time.

**WELCOME NEW CHOIR MEMBERS AND NURSERY WORKERS**

On October 6, we will welcome two new section leaders to our choir: Elizabeth and Nicholas Webb, who will be singing alto and bass, respectively. Elizabeth and Nicholas are married and live near the church on Linn Street.

Once our nursery is open, please welcome Elizabeth Speight and Michelle and Kiersten Dove as our nursery aides. Each of these women has YMCA certification to work with babies and toddlers, and each has also worked in this capacity at the YMCA.

Please keep an eye out for these new faces, and remember to greet them and welcome them to St. John's.

### THE CROP WALK IS COMING ON OCTOBER 20

For many years, St. John's faithfully sponsored a delegation of walkers in the annual CROP Walk in Bellefonte. That practice fell by the wayside recently, but Vestry member Betsy Quigley has taken up the cause this year and is coordinating the effort.

**What is the CROP Hunger Walk?** It's the original charitable walking event in the U.S. The CROP Walk's parent organization - Church World Services - is passionate about ensuring sustainable access to proper, nutritious food, supporting more than 2,500 local hunger-fighting groups across the U.S. This year alone, about 1,400 hunger walks will take place across our country, and more than 160,000 people will walk.

**What does money donated by sponsoring a walker buy?** Depending on where the money is applied, anything from nutrition packets for infants, seeds and gardening tools, emergency food packages, livestock, or installing a water pump in a village might be done. Church World Services recognizes that there is no single way to end hunger, so they look at a variety of ways to help those in need.

**How can I help?** St. John's would like to send as many walkers as possible to this year's event (2 p.m. on Sunday, October 20). Walkers are asked to get sponsors to make a pledge to support the Walk's cause. The goal of each walker is to raise a minimum of \$150. The walk is between 3-4 miles long (beginning at Faith United Methodist), so a sponsor might agree to donate \$5 per mile walked. A walker would then need only 9 or 10 sponsors to make his or her goal.

**How will it all work?** A sign-up sheet is now on the table in the back for interested walkers. Those who sign up will receive a packet of information from Betsy Quigley, which will contain all the pertinent details about this year's walk. Everyone's participation is encouraged, either through walking or sponsorship!

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**REMINDER: DOES YOUR HOME HEATING OIL COME FROM JJ POWELL?** All churches and their members who are Powell customers and on the EasyPay or Prebuy program can request that three cents of every gallon of fuel oil that they purchase be given to their church. This is money that JJ Powell is donating - *it will not cost the customer any more per gallon.* Call JJ Powell today (Bellefonte office: 355-4749; headquarters in Philipsburg: 800-432-0866) to sign up.

### CHRISTMAS FOOD BOX COLLECTION FOR THE FAITHCENTRE

The last two Sundays in October (20<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>) and the first two Sundays in November (3<sup>rd</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>), we will be collecting the following items for Christmas boxes that the FaithCentre will be putting together:

Instant potatoes - 32 oz. box	Stuffing mix - 6 oz. box
Jello - any size	Sugar - 1 lb. box
Noodles - 1 lb. bag	Cookie mix - any variety - 1 lb. 5 oz. bags
Hot chocolate - any size box	Coffee - regular or decaf - 1 lb. can
Sweet potatoes - 30 oz. cans	Cranberry sauce - 14 oz. cans
Gravy - 10.5 oz. cans	Fruit cocktail - 14.5 oz. cans

The FaithCentre needs these items by the week of November 10<sup>th</sup>, so we ask that all donations be brought by that Sunday. The need is very great - St. John's is always incredibly generous with these food drives; let's continue that tradition for this holiday season. Many thanks!

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### CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Just over \$3,000 in Capital Campaign gifts were received during the summer, which, when added to existing funds, brings the current Campaign account total to about \$5,700. This number represents an excellent starting point for another project next year. But more help is always needed. *If you have not yet had a chance to pay off your Capital Campaign pledge, or if you would like to make an additional gift in support of it, or to the Building Fund, it is not too late:* you are invited and encouraged to make your gift before the end of this year.

**DID YOU KNOW** that priests vow at their ordination to “share in the councils of the Church”? What this means is that parishes must share their clergy with the diocese so that the work of the wider church may be carried out. To that end, Bishop Baxter recently appointed Father Pyles chairman of the **Congregational Development Commission** (a committee whose members work with parishes that are either struggling or are in transition). Also, as of this month, Father Pyles becomes coordinator of the diocesan **Clergy Wellness Initiative** – an administrative position that involves overseeing the clergy support groups that meet throughout our diocese. Additionally, he was also just appointed to the **Bishop Search Committee**. This committee will have a variety of tasks in the next 14 months as we prepare for Bishop Baxter to retire and for the election of a new bishop. Among other things, the committee will survey people, parishes and convocations to get a sense of everyone’s hopes, fears, aspirations and frustrations so a solid diocesan profile can be put together, which will be given to those who feel called to be our bishop. The committee will also screen applications; interview and visit applicants; and lastly recommend a slate of five candidates to a special diocesan electing convention next fall. Prayers for the committee members and their work are very welcome!

**THE MEN’S GROUP RESUMED ON SEPTEMBER 16**, and new members are still invited to join. Deacon Alex Dyakiw serves as facilitator, and meetings currently take place at the Dyakiw home, 337 E. Curtin Street. Now in its 13<sup>th</sup> year, the Men’s Group is an opportunity for men of the parish to meet, discuss that Sunday’s scripture readings, and see how those readings might apply in everyday life. Meetings conclude with prayer, and last for one hour. Interested men are encouraged to speak with Deacon Alex, or simply attend the first meeting of the season at 7 p.m. on September

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#### **THANKS TO OUR SUMMER GRASS CUTTERS**

We extend special thanks to Larry Roberson and to the Eminhizer Family - Mark, Heidi, and Mark, Jr. - for their great dedication and generosity in cutting the grass nearly every other week all summer long. Especially when the weather was wet, our intrepid cutters faithfully came to keep our grounds looking smart. Thanks also go to Steve Dillon, Mike Fitzgerald and all other parochial groundskeepers for enabling us to be particularly proud of our beautiful corner of Bellefonte.

LAY MINISTRIES SCHEDULE - OCTOBER 2013

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

	8 a.m.	10 a.m.
October 6	Deacon Dyakiw	Deacon Dyakiw
St. Francis of Assisi (white)		Charles Hilderbrand, Jr.
October 13	Deacon Dyakiw	Deacon Dyakiw
Pentecost XXI (green)		Kathryn Grossman
October 20	Deacon Dyakiw	Dave Cree
Harvest Festival (white)		Jason Dench
October 27	Scott Mauger	Deacon Dyakiw
Pentecost XXIII (green)		Sara Witmer

ALTAR SERVERS' ROTA (10 A.M. MASSES)  
OCTOBER 2013

October 6	Book/Server	Jason Dench
St. Francis of Assisi	Crucifer	Bryan Hough
October 13	Book/Server	Charles Maurukas
Pentecost XXI	Crucifer	Steve Dillon
	Torches	Jason Dench
		Bryan Hough
October 20	Book/Server	Bryan Hough
Harvest Festival	Thurifer	Charles Maurukas
October 27	Book/Server	Steve Dillon
Pentecost XVIII	Crucifer	Charles Maurukas
	Torches	Bryan Hough
		Jason Dench



**ALTAR GUILD SCHEDULE  
OCTOBER 2013**

October 5 through October 11 Barbara Roberson, Jason Dench  
 October 12 through October 18 Barbara Roberson, Jason Dench  
 October 19 through October 25 Jim & Peggy Jackson  
 October 26 through November 1 Jim & Peggy Jackson

**OCTOBER VESTRY COLLECTION COUNTERS**  
 Patrick North and Mike Fitzgerald



**COFFEE HOUR HOSTS  
OCTOBER 2013**

October 6 - Lois Fetzer and Tina Scott  
 October 13 - No Coffee Hour (Columbus Day)  
 October 20 - Stuart & Paula Hough  
 October 27 - Nancy Andrews and Sara Witmer



**OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS**

October 3 Scott Strouse  
 October 5 Dave Cree, Laura McGinley  
 October 8 Tracy Stover  
 October 11 Jacob Fitzgerald  
 October 12 Charlotte Saylor  
 October 15 Barbara Roberson  
 October 18 Bryan Hough  
 October 21 Deborah McGinley, Glodine McMullen  
 October 22 Madison Arrington  
 October 25 Zebulon Green, Jr.  
 October 28 Matthew King  
 October 31 Taylor Stover

October 2013						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 9:30 a.m. – Low Mass with healing	3	4 Community Lunch – 10 a.m. at the Presbyterian Church	5
6 St. Francis of Assisi (transferred) MP – 7:45 Low Mass – 8 Sung Mass followed by blessing of the animals – 10 Coffee Hour	7  Men's Group – 7 p.m.	8	9  9:30 a.m. – Low Mass with healing	10	11	12
13 Pentecost XXI MP – 7:45 Low Mass – 8 Sung Mass – 10  No Coffee Hour	14  Columbus Day - Parish Office Closed	15	16  9:30 a.m. – Low Mass with healing	17  Book Club – 7 p.m., rectory	18	19
20 Harvest Festival MP – 7:45 Low Mass – 8 Sung Mass – 10 Coffee Hour  CROP Walk 2 p.m.	21  Men's Group – 7 p.m.	22	23  9:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer	24	25	26  Pierogie Fundraising Dinner – 4-7 p.m.
27 Pentecost XXIII MP – 7:45 Low Mass – 8 Sung Mass – 10  Coffee Hour	28  Men's Group – 7 p.m.	29	30  9:30 a.m. – Low Mass with healing	31	<b>Coming up: Prayer Breakfast on Nov. 2 at 10 a.m.; All Souls Mass on Nov. 2 at noon at the Mary Altar.</b>	

**ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**120 WEST LAMB STREET  
BELLEFONTE, PA 16823**

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Fax: 814.355.3981

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Parish Website:

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*St. John's is a parish in the  
Diocese of Central Pennsylvania,  
The Right Reverend Nathan  
Baxter, Bishop*

**PARISH CLERGY**

The Rev. Christopher V. Pyles, Rector  
[cvpyles@aol.com](mailto:cvpyles@aol.com)  
215.870.4809 (cell) (Off Tuesdays)

The Rev. Alex Dyakiw, Deacon  
[deaconalex@gmail.com](mailto:deaconalex@gmail.com)  
814.883.0430 (cell)

**PARISH STAFF**

Sara Witmer, Secretary  
Barbara Roberson, Treasurer  
E. Kay Putnam, Organist/Choir Director  
Terence Riley, Sexton

**LAY LEADERS**

Larry Roberson, Senior Warden  
Mike Fitzgerald, Junior Warden  
Ellen Dyakiw, Director of Sunday School  
Charles E. Maurukas, Acolyte Director

**ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
120 WEST LAMB STREET  
BELLEFONTE, PA 16823**



**NAME  
STREET ADDRESS  
CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE**