

RECTOR'S LETTER

Dear friends,

When one lives in or near a college town, the start of the academic year always feels like entering an actual new year. Even though we are months away from January 1st, early September in Centre County is a perfect time to set goals, create punch lists, and just get things done before it's too cold to be outside.



In the life of the Church, especially in these here United States, September functions in a similar way. The month of September usually operates as the kick-off for the church program year, when ministries, programs, and additional formation and liturgical offerings make their triumphant return. I will keep my letter to you short and sweet, but please continue to flip through this issue of *The Herald* to learn more about the wonderful things taking place at Saint John's. This month we are:

- Welcoming a new seminarian
- Working on a new picture directory
- Offering Choral Evensong & Benediction
- Celebrating the feast of Saint Michael & All Angels and the return of the *Let us Keep the Feast!* Dinner & Worship Series

- Announcing a new Sunday School schedule
- Preparing for our first Family Day in honor of Saint Francis (Oct. 1)

See you in church, and don't forget to look at our newly repaired floors!

Yours in Christ, Fr. Carlos†

NEW SEMINARIAN AT SAINT JOHN'S Welcome Kevin Lowe on Sunday, September 4



Kevin Lowe is a postulant for Holy Orders in the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania. He will be with us the first, second, and third Sundays of the month. Kevin will preach once a month, lead an online book study and learning series, and assist Fr. Carlos in various parish tasks as part of his

ongoing formation. Please make sure to welcome Kevin to Saint John's!

A Message from our New Seminarian

Hello, church! My name is Kevin Lowe, and I am so excited to be serving with you as your seminarian for the next two years. I am in the process of ordination for priesthood in the diocese, and I am going into my second year of seminary coursework at Bexley Seabury Seminary in Chicago. Bexley Seabury is a non-residential seminary, so my classmates (and teachers) live all over the country. We study and worship together online and meet in Chicago a few times a year for retreats. As part of the seminary program, we do two full years of field education, learning hands-on about ministry in a local context. I'm really excited to learn from Fr. Carlos, Deacon Alex, and everyone at Saint John's.

A little bit about me: I was born and raised Roman Catholic, but found my way to the Episcopal church in 2014. My wife, Sarah, and I have been members at St. Andrew's in State College ever since. Our daughter, Julia, was born in 2016. I have been a stay-at-home dad with her since she was born, and this fall she went off to kindergarten! Big transitions for all of us. I am also a historian (I did a PhD in American religious history at Penn State) and a professional musician. You might see me around the area playing drums (and sometimes singing) with Erin Condo and the Hoofties, Tyne and the Fastlyne, the Zeropoint Big Band, and Rick Hirsch.

My first Sunday with you will be September 4. Looking forward to meeting you all.

SUNDAY SCHOOL



Sunday School is back! Classes for elementary school-aged children will be offered during the 10:30 a.m. mass every Sunday except on the first Sunday of the month. We encourage parents to bring their children to worship on that day so that they can familiarize themselves with our liturgical life.

We are “taking off” the first Sunday of the month to make room for new formation experiences for our parish teens. More information will appear in next month’s issue of *The Herald*. This also will allow us to offer more seasonal family days for households with young children. As the name suggests, family days are designed for the entire family to learn about special feast days and saints of the Church. Please save the date for our first family day on **Saturday, October 1**, when we will celebrate everyone’s favorite animal-loving saint: Saint Francis of Assisi.

Our Christian education program took off with a splash this year. On Sunday, Aug. 28, our



and Learning at Bald Eagle State Park. Our day began with a worship service and communion followed by a barbecue (thanks, Larry!) and then activities that centered around the theme of The Summary of the Law. The best part of the day may have been the boat rides that everyone was able to take on the beautiful lake. Thank you, Captain Alex and Captain Mitch, for hosting us on your boats.

ST. FRANCIS FAMILY DAY
Saturday, October 1 | 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.



Families with young children; grandparents and grandchildren; and parishioners with little ones in their lives are all invited to our Saint Francis Family Day. In honor and thanksgiving for Saint Francis of Assisi, we will be offering a morning of family activities, learning, worship, and feasting. Come celebrate everyone’s favorite animal-loving Saint! Please confirm your attendance by contacting Ellen Dyakiw: setinsun@aol.com

NEW PHOTO DIRECTORY
Sunday, September 11 & 18



Say cheese! It’s time for a new photo directory. Unlike previous years, when we worked with a

studio to provide pictures for individuals and families, this time our own Deb Cree and Peggy Jackson will be behind the camera. They will be taking headshots of individual parish members (no family or group photos) to upload to our church management system, Breeze, which will format and produce a new picture directory for us. **Deb and Peggy will be taking headshots after the 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. masses on Sunday, September 11 and September 18.** If you prefer to submit your own headshot, or if you will not be in church when we are taking pictures, please email your headshot to stjohnscribe@gmail.com.

HELP WANTED: COFFEE HOUR

We have enjoyed many coffee hour gatherings in the past few months. As you can see by the photo, all have been well-attended and obviously enjoyed by the participants.



Now for the “Help Wanted” part 😊: While we post the link to sign up for hosting every month, the same few names continuously appear on the list. If you have been enjoying this time of fellowship (and food), won’t you step up to help? We need volunteers to set up, serve beverages, and clean up afterwards. ALL items are provided by the church, so *you don’t need to prepare anything*. You can also speak to Trish Weidemann or Deb Cree for guidance on the logistics of hosting. To sign up, please visit our sign-up link, <https://bit.ly/3um2fBp>, use the sheet in the back of the church, or contact the parish office. Thank you for your help!

BLESSING OF THE HERBS (FROM AUG. 14)



LET US KEEP THE FEAST!
NEW 2022 DATES



Let us keep the Feast! is a monthly worship and dinner series that celebrates feast days of the Church that would otherwise go unobserved. Each gathering will begin with mass in the church, followed by dinner in the Fellowship Hall. For the feast of Saint Michael & All Angels, expect to see angel food cake, among other thematic foods, and if we're lucky, you may even see a goose for dinner! Learn more about the Michaelmas goose here:

<https://britishgoose.org.uk/michaelmas-goose/>

Please save the dates below and bring a friend!

2022 Feast Days

Thursday, September 29 – St. Michael & All Angels
Tuesday, October 18 – St. Luke the Evangelist
Tuesday, November 1 – Solemnity of All Saints

Tuesday, December 13 – St. Lucy of Syracuse

Worship - 5:30 p.m.
Dinner - 6:00 p.m.

If possible, to help with food preparations, please RSVP for dinner by contacting the parish office:

office@stjohnsepisopalbellefonte.org

CHORAL EVENSONG & BENEDICTION
Sunday, September 25



A Service of Choral Evensong & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament will be offered on Sunday, September 25 at 5:00 P.M. Evensong is one of the jewels of Anglicanism. The service consists of chanted Psalms, readings from the Bible, traditional canticles, a Marian anthem, and prayers, both said and sung. Evensong is directly followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, a service of prayers and hymns offered in praise of our Lord's presence in the sacred mysteries of his Body and Blood. Please mark your calendars for our third Evensong & Benediction of the year.

MUSIC, MUSIC, MUSIC



If you have switched your attendance to the 9:00 Sunday mass rather than the 10:30 service, you are missing out. Throughout the summer, we have continued to have a full choral program and have enjoyed the compositions of such masters as Mozart, Beethoven, Shutz, Tallis, and many others. There is much more to come in the following months.

Our wonderful choir and music director spend many hours in rehearsal and preparation for our services. However, they need an audience, so come back and respect their gifts while filling your soul with the beautiful and inspiring offerings from our talented musicians.

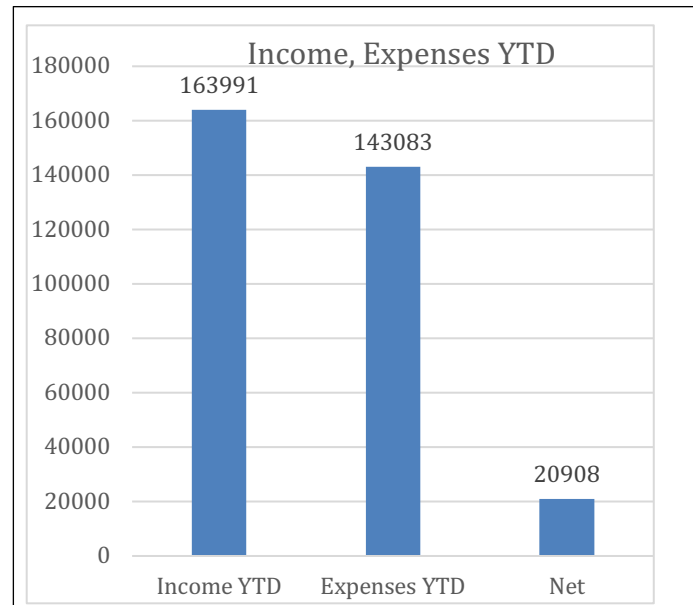
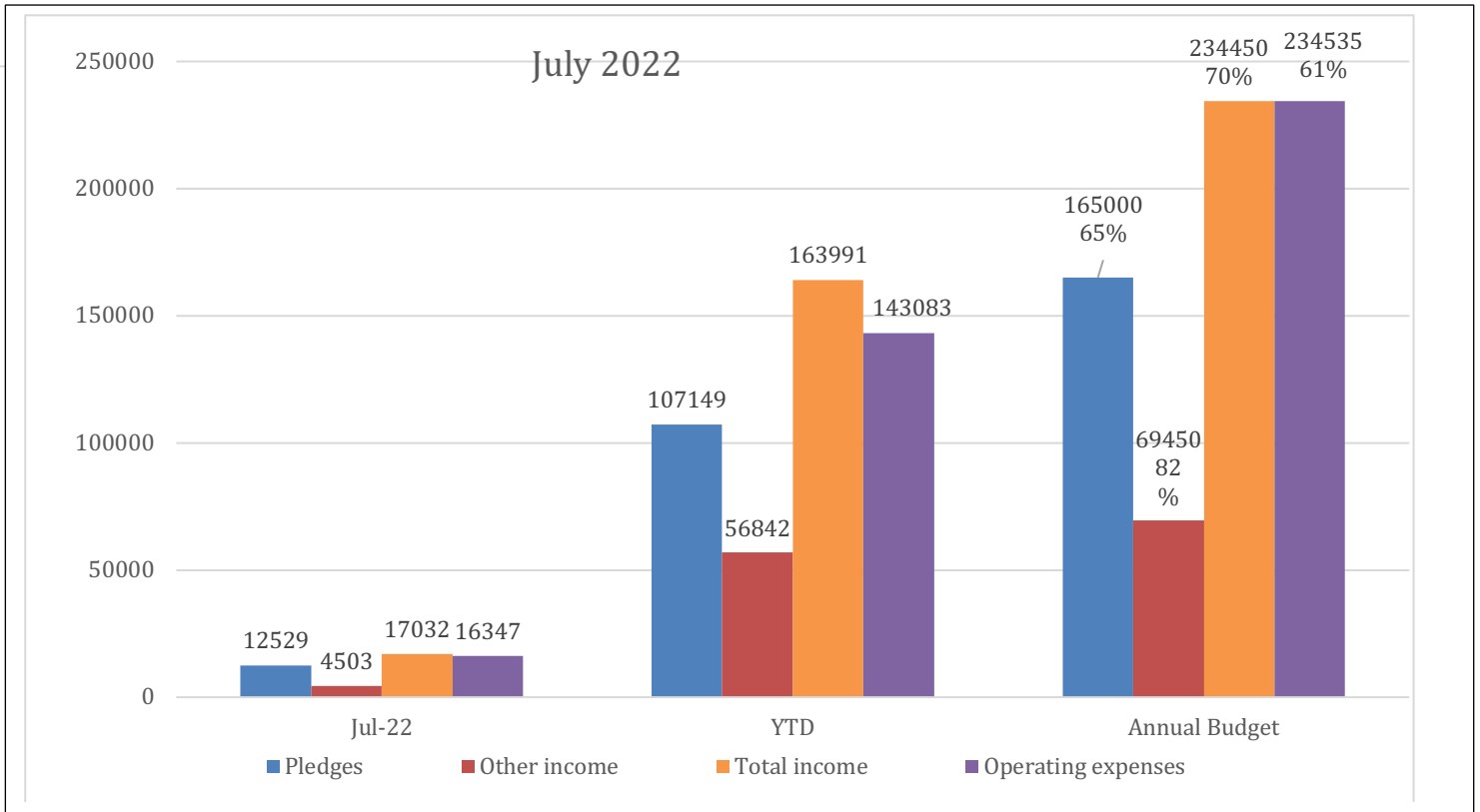
SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Alex	Germano	September 01
Jayden	Reid	September 04
Mary	Harpster	September 05
Jim	Jackson	September 07
Sean	Hough	September 09
Susan	Kurten	September 22
Carlos	de la Torre	September 25
Stephen	Snyder	September 29



FINANCIAL:

	Jul-22	YTD	Annual Budget	YTD % of Budget
Pledges	12529	107149	165000	65%
Other income	4503	56842	69450	82%
Total income	17032	163991	234450	70%
Operating expenses	16347	143083	234535	61%
Net	685	20908		



Expenses		
Income YTD	YTD	Net
163991	143083	20908

Numbers do not include investments, savings, or checking acct balance.