

RECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,



As we continue to make our way through the Fall season, I look forward to sharing with you in new and familiar offerings.

On Sunday, October 9, we will once again hold our much beloved Blessing of the Animals at both Sunday masses. I will be out of town, travelling to and from officiating the wedding of parishioners, Josh Tuttle and Karlin Andersen. However, our dear friend, Father Kevin Barron, will celebrate the day's masses and offer the animal blessing. On that same Sunday, you will hear our seminarian, Kevin Lowe, preach for the first time. He'll be preaching to both humans and pets – talk about a diverse audience!

Not long after his first sermon, Kevin Lowe will be offering a study on the book *Wearing God: Clothing, Laughter, Fire, and Other Overlooked Ways of Meeting God*. This book explores the rich variety of images for God in Holy Scripture, and should give us much to talk about and consider. Like our previous all-on-Zoom book studies, this series will take place in collaboration with parishes in State College, Altoona, and Lewistown.

As you scroll through this issue of *The Herald*, you will see notices for our *Let Us Keep The Feast!* worship and dinner series for the feast of Saint Luke (Tuesday, October 18); an upcoming fall clean-up day (Saturday, October 22); and our final parish dinner fundraiser of the year (Saturday, November 5). Please put these dates on your calendar.



Last but certainly not least, on Sunday, October 30, we will launch our Annual Stewardship Campaign to fund and sustain the work of this parish in 2023.

As I enter my fourth calendar year as your Rector, I am proud of all the work we've

accomplished. Since the start of my tenure, with the support of so many of you, we have revitalized our music program; redesigned our formation offerings for children, youth, and adults; increased our outreach efforts and developed new community partnerships; and tackled much-needed capital projects. Oh yeah, and we made it through a global pandemic!

During this year's stewardship season, you will hear from vestry members and from me about our goals and visions for 2023. For now, I hope you will join me in giving thanks to God for his never-failing love and faithfulness.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Carlos†



***DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR PETS!
BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS***

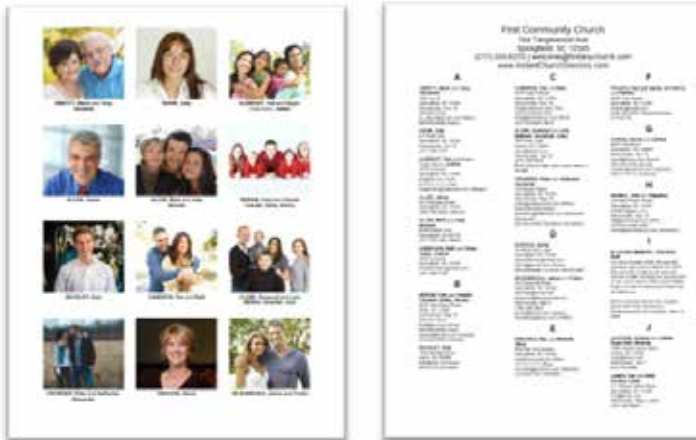
Sunday, October 9 | 9:00 and 10:30 a.m.



In commemoration of Saint Francis of Assisi, Patron Saint of Animals, we'll be offering a Blessing of the Animals. This year, a blessing will be offered at the ends of both the 9:00 & 10:30 a.m masses. Bring your furred, feathered, finned, or scaled friends to mass.



NEW CHURCH PHOTO DIRECTORY
We need Your Picture!



If you were not able to have your picture taken last week, please submit a headshot for our new directory to: stjohnscribe@gmail.com. We plan to publish a directory using our church management system sometime in mid-October. The more pictures we have on file, the better. Thank you for your help!

POLISH DINNER FUNDRAISER
Saturday, November 5 | 4:00-6:00 p.m.



Save the date and spread the word for our final dinner fundraiser of the year! Charlotte Zmyslo and parish volunteers will be serving up a traditional polish dinner: stuffed cabbage, kielbasa, pierogies, and noodles for \$12 per dinner. Stay tuned for more information, a donation list, and volunteer opportunities!

FREE BREAKFAST/PARISH CLEAN-UP DAY
Saturday, October 22 | 9:00 a.m.



There will indeed be a free breakfast provided by Father Carlos. In return, your help is requested after breakfast to help clean up the church grounds. Focus will be on weeding and trimming dead plants and preparing the parish garden beds for winter. If you have them, bring work gloves, clippers, and leaf rakes. It shouldn't take more than a couple of hours—if we have sufficient helpers—to get the church looking in ship-shape condition. There will also be a few jobs inside the church, including deep cleaning of the parish pews and the carpet in the parish office. If possible, please confirm your participation by e-mailing the parish office; this will help with planning and food preparations:
office@stjohnseiscopalbelleville.org

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. *Please save the date for our next celebration: the Feast of Saint Luke the Evangelist on Tuesday, October 18.*

2022 Feast Days

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@stjohnsepiscopalbellefonte.org

DIOCESAN EVANGELISM CONFERENCE
Friday, October 14

Evangelism Conference

OCT. 14, 2022
@ DIOCESAN CONVENTION



WITH
**JERUSALEM
GREER**

SPOOKY NOOK MANHEIM, PA

On Friday, October 14, the Diocese is holding an Evangelism conference with keynote speaker, Ms. Jerusalem Jackson Greer. Jerusalem works for the Presiding Bishop as a staff officer for evangelism. The author of *At Home in this Life: Finding Peace at the Crossroads of Unraveled Dreams and Beautiful Surprises* (2017) and *A Homemade Year: The Blessings of Cooking, Crafting, and Coming Together* (2013), she will lead us in two workshops on Friday. To learn more about the conference, please visit

<https://diocesecpa.org/diocesanconvention/>

Workshop 1:

The Art and Practice of Storytelling as Evangelism

Join Jeremy Tackett, Senior Manager for Creative Services + Digital Evangelist for The Episcopal Church, for an exploration of how we seek, name, and celebrate the work that God is doing in each of our lives. We'll focus on how to tell our own stories of faith and create open, safe space for others to do the same.

Workshop 2:

Experiments in Evangelism in Our Diocese: Getting Started Where You Are

A panel discussion led by the Rev. Jennifer Mattson, discussing creative, everyday ways to invite your local community to celebrate, learn and grow in the Good News.

Workshop 3:

Growing a Good News Garden

The Rev. Bradley Mattson will show how to share the good news of the Gospel through food and creation care ministry. We will trade recipes, gardening tips, and discuss how to create, plant and care for a Good News Garden in your parish's green space.

If you are interested in attending, please speak with Fr Carlos who will coordinate

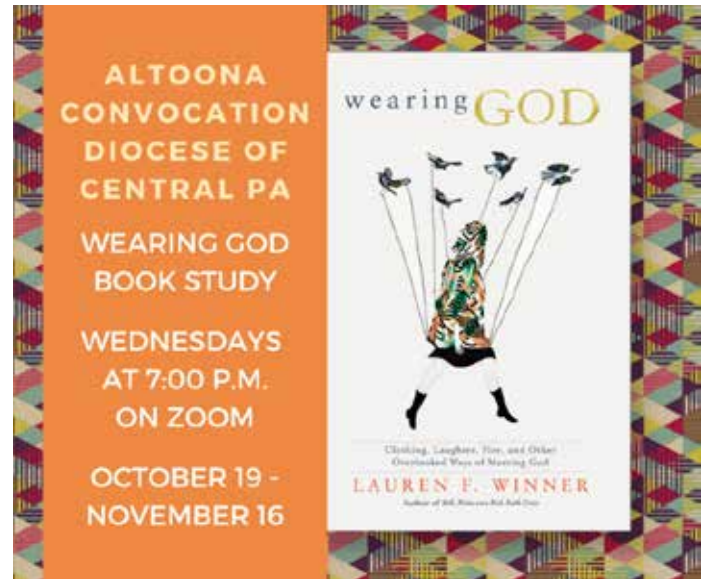
traveling down to Manheim. The parish will cover the registration fee for anyone who wants to attend.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|--------|
| David | Cree | 5-Oct |
| Laura | Reid | 5-Oct |
| Charlotte | Zmyslo | 7-Oct |
| Charlotte | Saylor | 12-Oct |
| Barbara | Roberson | 15-Oct |
| Bryan | Hough | 18-Oct |
| Debra | McGinley | 20-Oct |
| Madison | Arrington | 22-Oct |
| Victoria | Duminiak | 24-Oct |



NEW FALL BOOK STUDY!



Many of us may be accustomed to calling God by a few familiar names: Father, Shepherd, King. But the Bible is filled with a rich variety of images of God that are sometimes strange and surprising. *Wearing God: Clothing, Laughter, Fire, and Other Overlooked Ways of Meeting God* explores some of these unfamiliar biblical depictions of God. It will invite us to experience God in new ways, and reveal God to be much closer and more intimate than we may imagine. Free copies will be available in the back of the church. If you prefer an e-book, contact office@stjohnsepiscopealbellefonte.org, and we will email the link to the file to you (epub format).

Lauren Winner is Associate Professor of Christian Spirituality at Duke Divinity School and an Episcopal priest.

Five Wednesdays, 7 p.m., on Zoom

Oct 19: Clothing

Oct 26: Smell

Nov 2: Laboring Woman

Nov 9: Laughter

Nov 16: Flame

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8763410820?pwd=NE50LzQ4Y1o4Qk9qWU1VY25XR3NqQT09>

Meeting ID: 876 341 0820

Passcode: 556RN3

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,8763410820#,,,,*745944#

US (Washington DC)

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US

COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP

We continue to ask for volunteers to help set up, serve beverages, and clean up afterwards. All beverages and food items are provided



by the church; *you do not need to provide any of these.* If

you would like to contribute any specialty drinks or food items, you are welcome to do so, but it is not required. We need volunteers for October and November. To sign up for coffee hour, please visit our sign-up link: <https://bit.ly/3um2fBp>; use the sign-up sheet in church; or contact the parish office.

AROUND THE PARISH FAMILY TABLE



Scott Mauger spent a week visiting his oldest son,

Mike, and daughter-in-law, Dana, in Encenitas, CA, and



having a relaxing time. Scott reports, "On Sunday, I attended a Beach

Worship Service that St. Andrew's Episcopal Church and Bethlehem Lutheran Church hold together once a year. The service and music were great, and the weather was perfect! I enjoyed meeting many of the members of both churches.

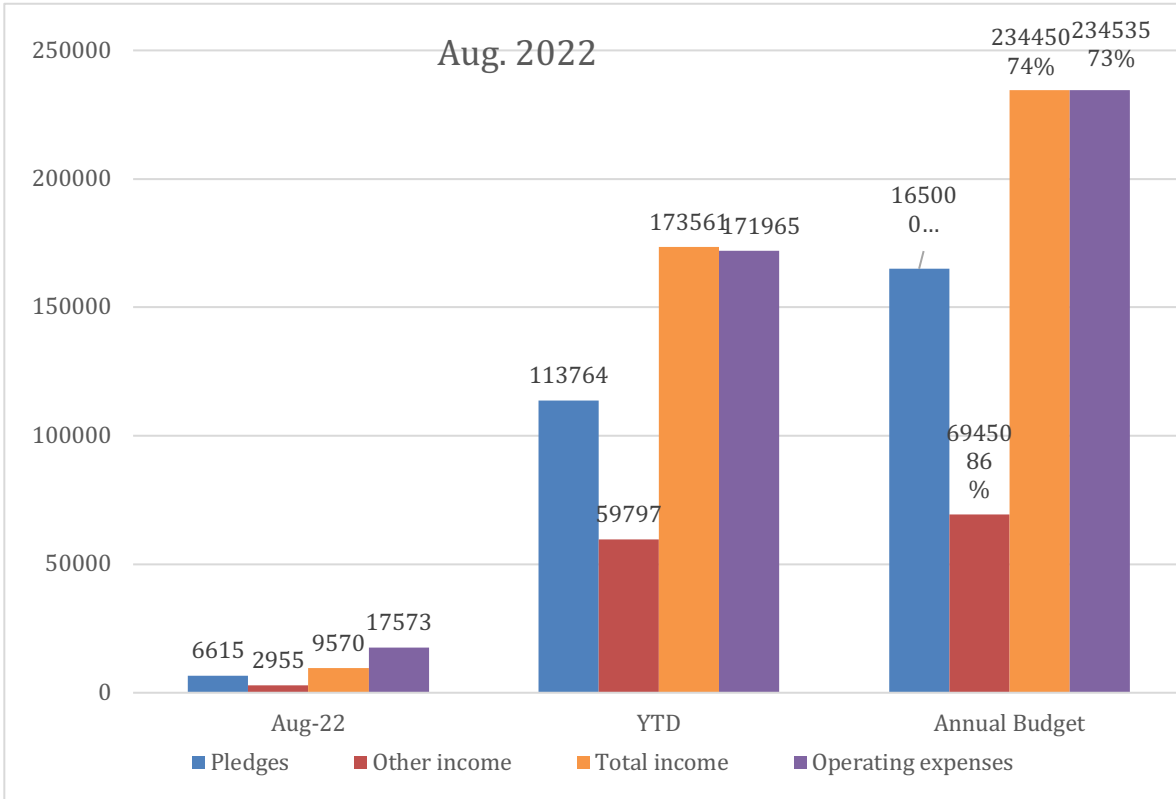


John Harwood was ordained to the priesthood on October 19, 2011. A long-time St. John's member, John now serves St. Mark's Lewistown, and continues to support us at

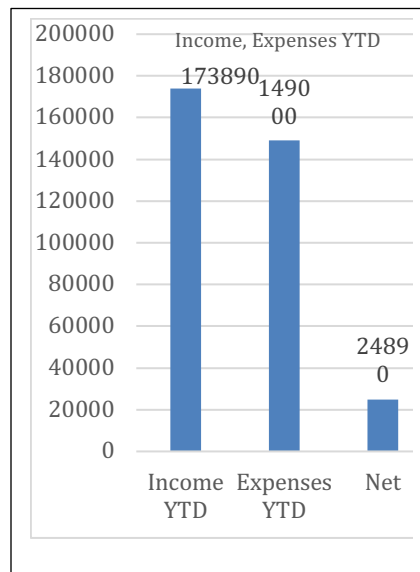
St. John's as his schedule permits. Happy Anniversary!

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

| | Aug-22 | YTD | Annual Budget | YTD % of Budget |
|---------------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Pledges | 6615 | 113764 | 165000 | 69% |
| Other income | 2955 | 59797 | 69450 | 86% |
| Total income | 9570 | 173561 | 234450 | 74% |
| Operating expenses | 17573 | 171965 | 234535 | 73% |
| Net | -8003 | 1596 | | |



| Expenses | | |
|------------|--------|------|
| Income YTD | YTD | Net |
| 173561 | 171965 | 1596 |



Vestry Members: Larry Roberson (Sr. Warden), Matt Perkins (Jr. Warden), Liz Helms, Carol Fyfe, Debra Cree, Thomas Quigley, David King, Charlotte Zmyslo, Susan Christy, Peggy Jackson

**St. John's Episcopal
Vestry Meeting
August 17, 2022
Minutes**

Members Present: S. Christy, D. Cree, L. Helms, P. Jackson, D. King, T. Quigley, C. de la Torre, C. Zmyslo

Absent: C. Fyfe, M. Perkins, L. Roberson,

Staff Present: T. Weidemann

Opening Prayer

Approval of Minutes from June meeting; first motioned T. Quigley, second approval C. Fyfe; no discussions, all in favor - yes

Rector's Report:

- Formation and Worship
 - *Let us keep the feast* monthly offering continues
 - Simple mass and dinner 9/29 for Saint Michael and All Angels
 - Online learning series in October and November
 - Kevin Lowe will take the lead
 - Advent
 - There will be another short learning series
 - Children and Youth Lakeside Worship and Learning
 - Launch new year of Sunday school
 - Sunday school will look different
 - First Sunday will be for teenagers; remaining Sundays for children
 - Possible pilgrimage to DC in June 2023
 - Bi-monthly Family Days – on a Saturday
- Music and Worship
 - 9/25 Choral Evensong
 - 11/13 Requiem
 - Victorian Christmas
 - St. John was approached to host music
 - Erik has been asked if his students from State High School can sing
 - We would provide refreshments
- Choral Ministry
 - How can music program be used as a learning/education component
 - Shape by Faith grants are available. We will be applying for funds for a new High School Choral Scholar Program.
 - Fund will cover four new high school singers (choral scholars), plus two graduate students from Penn State School of Music to offer voice lessons to the four high schools student.
 - 4 scholars Sept-May mainly sophomores
 - Each will receive a \$100 monthly scholarship, plus voice lessons
 - Funded completely by grant

- Partner with Penn State School of Music
 - Parishioner David Frego – director of Penn State School of Music
 - Ted Christopher – faculty at School of Music and new Episcopal chaplain at Penn State
- Question was raised about only State College High School students?
 - Erik is sending out email to other schools but giving the timing of funding most likely would be mainly State High only for now.
- Picture Directory Project
 - Thank you, Deb and Peggy, for taking the lead on this.
 - Our Breeze software allows to create a picture directory.
 - In the next week or two, people will submit a picture or have one taken, individuals only.
- Blanche Raymond Estate
 - St. John’s was named as a beneficiary, amount not known at this time.
- Yearly Stewardship Appeal
 - Two letters will be written
 - One for those that always pledge.
 - One for new parishioners and those that haven’t pledged.
 - Lost pledges from parishioners passing away has been about \$13K but haven’t felt this because we have had new pledges, increase pledges, and PPP grant
 - David King volunteered to help in writing the letters.

Treasurer Report, given by Father Carlos because Barbara was away

- One final fundraiser dinner on 11/5, Polish Dinner, mainly take out.
- Income still above expenses, even though some numbers aren’t correct.
- Misc. Expenses is where columbarium resides.
- No questions regarding budget.

Senior Warden

- No report since Larry was away.

Junior Warden

- Nothing to report.

New Business

- New Tenant
 - Tri Yoga will be using parish hall for classes on Thursdays at 6:00pm
 - She has her own insurance; Saint John’s is listed on the rider
 - Asked her to give 15% of what she makes back to church.
 - Will use the honor system.
 - Question regarding conflicts with our schedule and hers
 - She will use other space.

- Question regarding locking up hall afterwards
 - She will be given a key.
- Father Carlos asked if we feel comfortable going forward and offering a contract to her
 - L. Helms first motion; P. Jackson seconded
 - All in favor, no one opposed
- Will there be an end date?
 - Contract will be for one year to start.
- Question regarding does AA pay?
 - People who lead AA give money quarterly which is fine if the hall is left clean, and air is turned off.
- Floor Project
 - When the platform was pulled it was discovered it was built down into floorboard. There is a hole now that needs to be built back up.
 - Carpet was pulled found new issues; an area that was repaired but not with proper wood.
 - Father Carlos is very happy with group doing the work and their attention to detail.
 - First the Altar and choir area will be completed and then vestibule.
 - Worship on Sunday will be in Fellowship Hall.
 - Found more plywood than expected but don't need to figure it all out right now. However, we need to decide what we will be doing because this will add to budget.
 - Father Carlos had lunch with a parishioner on Monday who has given the parish \$20K. Only request is that the money stays in Bellefonte and it's for the maintenance of the church. This allows us to figure out how to address these floor issues.
 - Father Carlos will meet with Larry to discuss options.

Closing Prayer

Next vestry meeting September 21st via zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

Trish Weidemann