

St. John's Good News

A Family of Friends in Christ. Saved by Grace to Serve Others in Love.

September 2020

St. John's Church on Morgan Hill (610) 258-6018
2720 Morgan Hill Rd., Easton, PA 18042 stjohns.church@rcn.com
www.StJohnsMorganHill.org Facebook – St. Johns Church on Morgan Hill
Rev., Dr. Blake Heffner Pastor Rev. Helen Pearson, Asst. Pastor Emeritus
Debbie Patterson, Secretary-Treasurer Margaret Parisi, Caretaker
Doris Bonstein, Financial Secretary Nancy Moninghoff, Organist & Dir. Of Music
Ministry Team - Barb Duncan Dara Lavoie Tim Gordon
Linda Kreitz Drs. Scott & Rebecca Janney

My dear friends and family at St. John's,

***"To everything there is a season,
A time for every purpose under Heaven."
Ecclesiastes 3:1 NKJV***

By this time, I'm sure you have heard of our Pastor Blake Heffner's decision to enter into a well-deserved retirement after leading St. John's Church for 36 years! We praise God with great gratitude for Pastor Blake's Christ driven service for all those years. We have been blessed.

As I reflect on Pastor Blake's leadership and our time at St. John's, I remember our first Sunday services with you all. First of all, I was touched by hearing the words, "To Jesus we give ALL the Glory." Ever since, that expression of our theology has resonated in all I try to do and has become a life purpose. Secondly, I felt an amazing sense of Humility flowing from the pulpit. Blake's is a deep Humility which I can honestly say I was not used to hearing from church leadership. It moved me to a new direction in my life and faith: living to be humble before our God. Thirdly, over the last 9 years ministering with Pastor Blake, our ministry team has been encouraged to raise Jesus higher, to be so much more of Him and less of us and to indeed give our Jesus ALL the Glory as we live into glorious Eternal Life. As our church family reflects on our growth over the last years, we know that Pastor Blake's humble, Christ centered ministry has made us STRONG in our faith. We will miss him.

And so, we shall take this strengthened faith into the next "season" of leadership at St. John's, remembering what the Lord has said to us in the book of Jeremiah:

***"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord,
plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."
Jeremiah 29:4 NIV***

God is in control of every day, every event and every step in the process to call the right pastor to lead St. John's in our next season of serving Jesus, giving HIM all the glory. We ask each one of you to be part of this time in the life of our church by praying daily for the servant who God has chosen to be our leader, for our Consistory's strength and decisions, and for EACH OTHER! Together in faith and in love, we know that this new season in our church will flourish.

"To God Be the Glory, Great Things He Hath Done."

Living for Jesus,
Pastor Barbara

As many of you know we have opened the church for the past two weeks. It has been an exciting time to finally have church again. We have met as a consistory throughout the summer to develop procedures for the opening of church which has included mask wearing, social distancing, and music that has been provided through recordings or projection.

We look forward to the returning of many more of you as the summer comes to a close. Although church is a little different it still is a wonderful service and we are looking forward to seeing many of you again.

Gerry Zoccola
Consistory President



The church is open for Sunday Worship – 9:00 AM

ALL Sunday morning worship services are also online.
Please go to our website www.StJohnsMorganHill.org

If you are on Facebook, Follow us at:
St. John's Church on Morgan Hill
We go LIVE at 9:00 AM on Sunday mornings.

PAST SERVICE RECORDINGS – click on “Worship Services Library” on our website.

If you know someone who would like a copy of the morning service – on a DVD, please contact Linda Kreitz at (610) 392-0005. Wayne and Judy Paulus are creating DVD's of the services and will deliver them to your home.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to help with the recording of the worship service. We need someone each Sunday morning to use the newly purchased video recorder. We also need help with using the computer to project the hymn lyrics onto the front wall for the worship service. Please call Pastor Blake if you can help. (Training to be provided.)

Both youth groups, led by Pastor Dara and Sara Bosze are keeping in touch with each other by using technology – Facebook, texting, chat groups, etc...



Please contact them if you would like to have your teen be involved with the youth group.

Pastor Dara (908) 566-5783

Sarah Bosze (484) 264-7788 (middle school age)

Job Opening:

Pastor Dara Lavoie will be stepping down from the Youth Pastor/Youth Group Leader position in September 2020. If you know of anyone who might be interested in this position please have them speak to Jerry Zoccola or any other Consistory member.

Would you like to be on a “search task force” to assist in finding our next Youth Group Leader?
If so please contact Nancy Moninghoff or Debbie Patterson at (610) 258-6018.



OUR WATCHWORD FOR THE YEAR

“Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.” Galatians 6:2

Do you have plenty of vegetables in your garden?

Would you like to share some of your bounty with others in need? There are those from our church who would love some fresh vegetables.

Meals for those who come home from the hospital.

There is a need for volunteers to cook or bake to assist with meals. Frozen meals work great also! Bake a cake or cookies. A meal from a restaurant also works! Who doesn't love some fried chicken from a favorite restaurant!

Pastor Dara is providing food for others through a community ministry called LOVE THY NEIGHBOR. If you would like to help her in anyway please contact her. She is in need of canned goods, frozen items, fresh vegetables and grocery store gift cards.

Providing meals to SAFE HARBOR shelter in Easton.

Pastor Barb Duncan could really use some help with this ministry.
(Maybe bake a cake?)

Call Linda Kreitz if you
can help in some way.
(610) 392-0005



St. JOHN'S PRAYER TEAM – The Prayer Team is accepting your prayer requests through phone calls to any of the Ministry Team. You may also contact Erna Bonstein. If you would like to be part of St. John's Prayer Warriors, please give your email address or phone number to Erna.



Are you shopping from home due to the virus pandemic?

Here's a way to help our church as you shop online.

St. John's Church on Morgan Hill is listed as a charity with the Amazon Smile program. This means we will receive a donation of 0.5% for purchases made by anyone who picks us as their charity! Follow these

steps:

1. Go to www.smile.amazon.com when you shop.
2. **If you already have an Amazon account**, you will keep it, but you will need to choose us as your charity. Type our name in the charity search box and click 'Select'.
3. **If you do not have an Amazon account**, you will be asked to create one. Then type our name in the charity search box and click 'Select'.
4. You will shop as you always do, so shop till you drop! We will automatically receive our donations from Amazon on a quarterly basis.

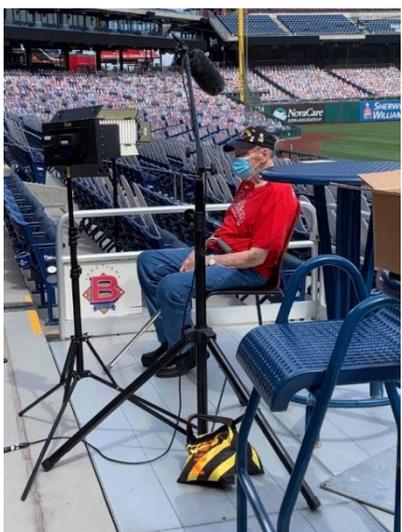
Please tell all your friends and family. Thank you for helping us.



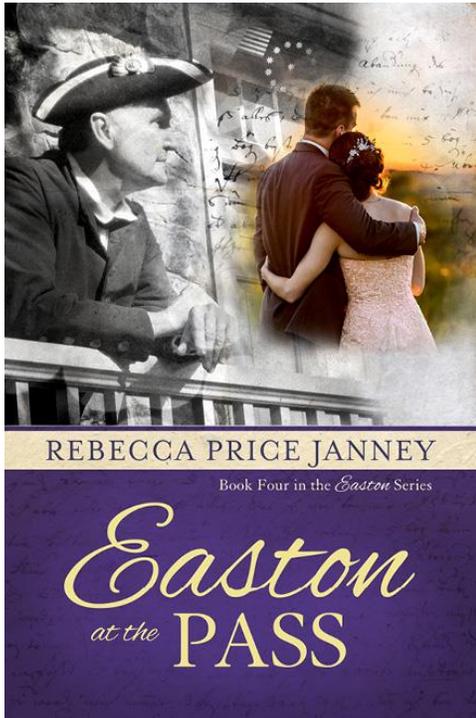
Dave Walter's Trip to Phillies Ball Park

With Dave's 90th birthday coming up his granddaughter and her husband decided to get him a cardboard cutout at Citizens Bank Park to be displayed at all the Phillies home games. He has been a Phillies fan forever and never misses a game so we thought this would be the perfect gift. They had no idea where his cutout would be sitting. One night, Jean Segura (Phillie's shortstop) hit a homerun and the ball "hit" Dave's cutout right in the head! They zoomed in on him during the next inning and the announcers talked about his service in the Army and joked about how Dave's cutout bounced right back up!

A few days after the game, the Phillies reached out to the family about setting up an interview. They invited Dave along with his granddaughter Michaela and her husband Tyler to the ballpark for a tour and an interview. The interview has turned into a commercial which plays on NBC Sports Philadelphia and will be playing for the rest of the Phillies season!



St. John's Authors



Pastor Rebecca Janney has released her latest book entitled:

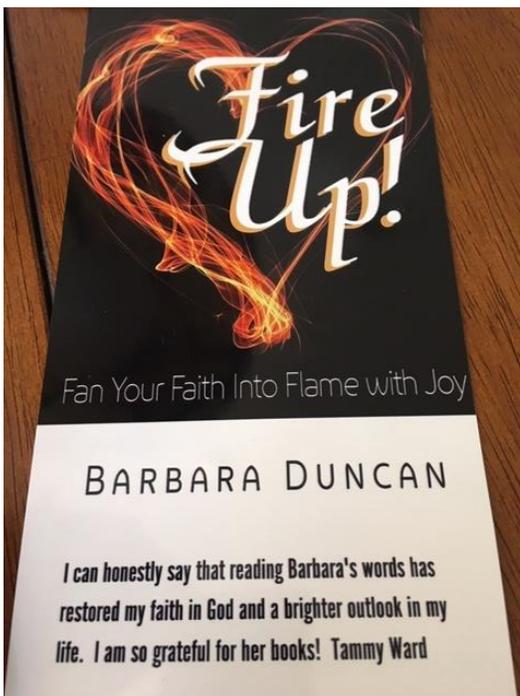
EASTON AT THE PASS

In this strange year, we can all relate to that! Rebecca Price Janney's newest installment in her award-winning *Easton Series*, *Easton at the Pass*, is a book for such a time as this.

Battle-weary Revolutionary War hero Peter Kichline and his remaining troops have returned to Easton, a town in upheaval, as they mend from combat and captivity. Meanwhile back to the future, Erin Miles is settling into her new life in Easton, but the ground has shifted; the world they once knew and cherished has changed. What they counted on to define themselves and their purpose in life is gone, and they set out to discover, "Who am I now?"

(A copy of the book may be purchased at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).)

COMING SOON



Launch Of my new book,

FIRE UP!

Renew your faith with messages
Of Hope and Encouragement!

Pastor Barbara Duncan