



# Announcements

November 26, 2023

Last Sunday after Pentecost  
Reign of Christ Sunday

## ADULT FORUM

We gather in the Trinity Room at 9:30am for coffee or tea then begin our program at 9:45am.

**Dec. 3 - First Sunday of Advent - For all ages....** Come join us for fun, food, and fellowship at our annual Advent breakfast in the Social Hall and help us kick off the Christmas season! Breakfast begins at 9:30AM. Always a terrific event!

**Dec. 10 and 17** – Reverend Bill Falla will lead us in discussion.

His topic is: *The Importance of Christmas for the 21st Century*, We will look at the Incarnation in text and creed and why it has a powerful message for us today. We always have a spirited talk with Bill and leave with much to think about.

**Dec. 24 and 31** - No class these Sundays.

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year !!!**

## GREEN TEAM FACTOID

On Friday, November 17th, the global mean temperature briefly exceeded 2.0 degrees Celsius above the 1850-1900 baseline for the first time in recorded history. The Paris Accords set a target of not exceeding 1.5 degrees Celsius, and this year's average is 1.3 degrees C. We are entering uncharted territory for the human race.

## **Nuts and Truffles Fundraiser**

Just in time for holiday celebrations and gift giving. This year our delicious homemade treats will be ready for pickup on Sunday, December 10.

**TODAY IS THE LAST DAY TO ORDER!!!**

Sweet and salty peanuts, maple sugar almonds and dark chocolate truffles in caramel, raspberry, mint and orange are being offered.

Orders forms are in the Great Hall and may be placed in the indicated box, given to Lynn Cloak, or phoned in to the church office at 610-433-0146.

**Do not put money in the box.**

**All orders must be paid for at the time of delivery.**

## **November Special Mission Offering**

It is November, which means that **Tallulah the Turkey** is back on her mission to combat hunger in the Lehigh Valley. We have agreed to assist her as we did her predecessor, Tilly, in this endeavor. Therefore, our Special Mission Offering for November is the Allentown Ecumenical Food Bank. **Tallulah also wants us to remember that while donations of non-perishable food items are welcomed, monetary donations are desired since the Food Bank can buy in bulk and purchase more food per dollar than we can.** So, let's help her with our donations for the Food Bank during the month of November. We may do so by dropping off food items in the Food Bank tote in the Narthex. Monetary donations can be given using the pew or weekly offering envelopes (designated for the Food Bank) or by using the Donate button on our website. Tallulah, and more important, those in need, will thank you.

# St. John's participated in the Allentown Crop Walk





## Good Morning Friends of Central!

We have some exciting updates for the end of the first quarter:

Goal	2021-2022	2022-2023	Current
Decrease chronically absent students by 23%	69% (18+ days)	46%	33% Overall regular attendance is 90%
Increase our Math PSSA scores (specifically 4 <sup>th</sup> grade ).	6% overall	13% Overall	14.1%
Increased our ELA PSSA scores (specifically 3 <sup>rd</sup> grade)	11.8% overall	13.36% Overall	16.8%
Kindergarten foundational literacy skills (DIBELS test- tests letters sounds, name and blends of words)		BOY 8% EOY 21%	Beginning of year 6%

### Other celebrations:

- We had SO many kindergarten students enroll this year, we had to add a 6<sup>th</sup> classroom.
- We had ZERO teachers leave us heading into the year so we hit the ground running this year!!!
- PreK is up and running and they are learning and growing each day. Our class is maxed out and we need to figure out how to add a 4<sup>th</sup> floor so we can add more classrooms in the years to come.
- Congratulations to Chief Roca who helped push our daily attendance to 90% taking the crown from Mayor Tuerk who saw 89% for his month. This month, our Attendance Ambassador is MeLVin of the Phantoms!
- We increased our after school programming and have anywhere from 100-175 students in after school programming Monday through Thursday. We could absolutely use more hands to help with cheerleading, street hockey, wrestling, basketball, the play, and tutoring. If you have any skill sets we could utilize, let me know!
- A few have asked for donations lists, please see our amazon wish list at:

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/W8QYM83QARAI?ref\\_=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/W8QYM83QARAI?ref_=wl_share)

We are extremely grateful for all that you do for Central. Wishing you all a restful Thanksgiving break. Your Central Family

Rebecca Bodnar M.Ed/ M.EdL, Principal, Central Elementary School

# TODAY IS THE LAST DAY TO ORDER!!!

The plants will be in church on December 24 for both the 11:00AM service and the Christmas Eve service at 7:30PM. You may take your plants home following the evening service.



Please submit this form with the exact wording you want printed in the Christmas Eve bulletin.

**Please do not write "Same as last year" and please print.**

Red Poinsettia(s) to be placed.....

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

or

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Placed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of plants you wish to buy: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate with a check mark or number of plants:

**For Pick-Up** \_\_\_\_\_ **For Homebound** \_\_\_\_\_

Price: \$8.50 (**Orders must be in by November 26, 2023**)

If writing a check, please make payable to "St. John's UCC" and mark the memo line "poinsettia".

You may complete this order blank or call the church office (610-433-0146) and pay later.