

TODAY AT ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Worship Leadership**

Preacher: The Rev. John Ward-Diorio  
Lector: 8:15 Richard Bensel  
10:30 Patrice Miller

**Ministry of Music**

Organist: Sarah Myers  
Assistant Organist: Patrice Miller  
Minister of Music: Eric Dundore

**Ministry of Service**

Head Ushers: Kathy Williams  
Ushers: 8:15 Cindy and Richard Bensel  
10:30 Patty and Dave Scott  
Kim and Jim Pirtle  
Greeters: 8:15 Connie and Herb Sutton  
10:30 Karen and Kevin Allison  
Acolyte: 8:15  
10:30 Katelyn Chambers  
Children's Sermon: 10:30 Patty Scott  
Nursery: Cathy Thomas  
Flower Delivery: Joan and Jim Quick  
Fellowship Time: Dundore Family

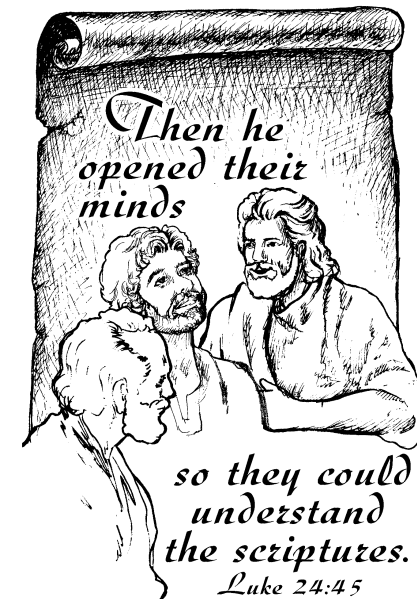
ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
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# Welcome to St. Paul's United Church of Christ

*An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ*

April 26, 2009



GOD IS STILL SPEAKING 

No Matter Who You Are, or Where You Are on Life's Journey You are Welcome Here!

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
SERVICE OF WORSHIP

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 26, 2009

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES  
THE GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRELUDE AND LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Organ 1<sup>st</sup> Service "I Know That My Redeemer Liveth"  
Organ 2<sup>nd</sup> Service "Face to Face"

Livingston, Jr.  
Kendall

\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Call and Response) From Psalm 5

\*THE HYMN NO. 230 "Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain"

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

**Persistent God, we are grateful for the new life You offer us, and Your continual attempts to share this good news with us. May we come to trust and believe that Your offer of new life, right here and right now, is for real and is for us. Amen.**

THE CALL TO CONFESSION

Like the first disciples, we quite often need to see in order to believe. And even then, we have our doubts or reservations. Yet God never gives up trying to help us see that each of us is offered new life, a chance to put behind us that which has held us back, held us down. We however seem to think that God, in the person of Jesus, or the Holy Spirit, only appeared to the original disciples, and has stopped speaking, stopped being present with us, ever since. Let us join in the unison Prayer of Confession.

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

**Merciful God, we have sinned in what we have thought and said, in the wrong we have done, and in the good we have not done. We have sinned in ignorance: we have sinned in weakness: we have sinned through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry. We repent and turn to You. Forgive us, for our Savior Christ's sake, and renew our lives to the glory of Your Name. Amen.**

THE SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

THE WORDS OF ASSURANCE (Responsive)

Minister: God receives our apologies and repentance, and has assured us that our sins are forgiven.

**All: Let us receive and pursue the new lives, which Jesus showed were possible for all of us. Amen.**

**CHURCH SERVICES ARE RECORDED** – We have been recording the Sunday services and have these CD's available for your use (for those in the hospital, home bound, etc.). Please contact the church office for a copy. Treat these like a library – you need to return the copy to the office when you are finished with it. If you have any questions, please call Don Wood at 761-3036.

**POLLYANNAS MEETING** – will be held 1 pm on Tuesday, April 28 at Bonnie Plymette's house. We will be having the Mystery Auction. Please bring your item(s) in a brown paper bag. Any questions, call Bonnie at 697-2938.

**THE 1<sup>st</sup> QUARTER 2009 GIVING STATEMENTS** are in a box on the table in the common area. These boxes are in alphabetical order by your last name, not your envelope #. When opening your statement, only remove the stubs on the side and leave the stub on top. This way your statement will remain in one piece. If you have any questions on your statement, please contact Terry in the Church Office.

**ATTENTION SUMMER CAMPERS!!** Registration forms and brochures for Hartman Center summer church camp are available in the commons area. St. Paul's will pay 25% of the registration fee on a first come first served basis. Just send in your money to Hartman Center and let the church office know how much you paid. If the funds are still available, you will be reimbursed for 25 % of the total cost. In these troubled economic times, church camp is quite a bargain, especially at a 25% discount! See Jonneke Dundore if you have any questions.

**FREE TRAINING! Fire Extinguisher and Fire Drill Training** will be held at St. Paul's on Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to noon. This training is being offered by the Monroe Township Fire Company, Thanks goes out to Devin Flickinger, one of our members and Captain with the Monroe Township Fire Company. Devin has also agreed to offer **CPR and AED Training** on Saturday, June 27 from 8 am to noon at St. Paul's. Both of these training sessions can be extremely valuable to all of our members and especially important for our Sunday Church School teachers, consistory members and ushers. Please see the sign up sheets on the bulletin board in the common area to sign up for these two valuable and possibly life saving training sessions. **ST PAUL'S UCC – A RED CROSS SHELTER** – St. Paul's is a certified Red Cross Shelter. In the case of a disaster, the Red Cross provides the staff necessary to man the shelter. However, due to the many lessons learned from Katrina, the American Red Cross's current strategy is to train a support team from each certified facility to provide backup. On Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup> the Red Cross is offering training from 8 am to 6 pm in Harrisburg(place to be determined based on number to be trained). The agenda for this training is attached to the sign up sheet on the bulletin board. This training can be utilized in any shelter across the country.

**MERCERSBURG ASSN SPRING MEETING** - Sunday, May 3 at St. Paul's. Registration begins at 2:30 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 3:00 p.m. The meeting will include reports from committees and elections and installations. Members of St Paul's will talk about their challenge to the association to raise money for the cabin we have adopted at Hartman Center. A three-way bake sale to raise money for our cabin will be held. Donations for the three way bake sale can be: already baked items, pre-measured ingredients along with a recipe for a baked good that someone can purchase to take home to bake or a cash donation. Rev. Marja Coons-Torn, our Conference Minister, will be our featured speaker, and will talk about Church Vitality. A camp style meal of barbecue, salads, and coffee cake will be served, at a cost of \$6 per person. **Reservations for the meal are due by Sunday, April 26.** Please call Secretary/Registrar Cherry Snyder at 717-762-7628 or e-mail C5M7Snyder@gmail.com to reserve your meal and let her know if you will bring a bake sale item. Payment will be accepted at registration.

**BAKE SALE ITEMS FOR SPRING MEETING** – If you can not make it to the meeting and would like to donate a baked good item or the pre-measured ingredients along with the recipe for a baked good, please bring it to the Church on the morning of May 3<sup>rd</sup> and place in the Kitchen. Thank you.

**CABINS AT HARTMAN CENTER** - St. Paul's UCC Adult II Sunday School Class is participating in a project to refurbish the cabins at Hartman Center. The Mercersburg Association has been given the task of raising money to renovate one cabin at our church camp in Milroy. Each Association in the Conference has been challenged to raise \$17,000 to make the much needed renovations to the cabins. Our Sunday School class at St. Paul's has decided to encourage members to go to Hartman Center for the work days in May. Those workers are seeking sponsorships for the volunteer work they will be doing from church members who are not able or available to help with the work themselves. These sponsorships/donations will then be put toward the fund to renovate the Mercersburg Association's cabin. We are hoping to raise \$1,000 to put toward the cabin and will be challenging the other churches in the Association to each raise \$1,000. Please prayerfully consider donating to a member of the Adult II Sunday School Class who will be collecting donations after church services. Look specifically for Mike Aumiller or Art Williams who will be strutting their "tool belts".

**IT IS NOT TO LATE TO JOIN ST. PAUL'S TOUR DE CURE CYCLING TEAM TO HELP FIGHT DIABETES!** The 2009 Tour de Cure for the American Diabetes Association, will be held on Saturday, May 30 in Boiling Springs. **To join St Paul's team or make a contribution you can go to the following link: <http://main.diabetes.org/goto/st.pauls.ucc>** For more information, contact Craig Martek (432-1572(h), 514-6560(c) or email at [lizardbiker@hotmail.com](mailto:lizardbiker@hotmail.com)). Be sure to check out the poster on the bulletin board.

\*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

\*THE GLORIA PATRI

10:30 SERVICE

SING THE CHILDREN TO THE FRONT

Jesus Loves the Little Children

**Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world  
Red and yellow, black and white  
They are precious in his sight  
Jesus loves the little children of the world.**

THE WORD FOR THE YOUNG

SING THE CHILDREN TO THEIR SEATS

Jesus Loves Me

**Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so  
Little ones to him belong. They are weak but He is strong.  
Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me  
Yes, Jesus loves me. The Bible tells me so.**

THE NEW TESTAMENT READING

Acts 3:12-19

THE READING OF THE PSALM

Psalm 4

THE RESPONSE

One: God is still speaking.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

THE GOSPEL READING AND MESSAGE

"Persistence"

Luke 24:36B-48

\*THE HYMN NO. 241 "Joy Dawned Again on Easter Day"

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.**

THE CHORAL RESPONSE (Unison)

**Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.**

THE OFFERTORY

8:15 Chancel Choir

10:30 Youth Choir

“Jesus Speaks to Me”

“Rain Down”

Kellner

Cortez

\*THE DOXOLOGY (#780)

\*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

We give with joy, gracious God, for You have been with us even when we were unfaithful. You have kept us in safety through times of grave distress. We can call on You in all times and places, in life and in death, knowing that Your strength is available to sustain us. We give now that Your church may be empowered in the proclamation of good news and the transformation of human life. Amen.

\*THE HYMN NO. 251 “I Greet You, Sure Redeemer”

\*THE BIDDING TO MISSION

\*THE WORLD PEACE PRAYER

One: Lead us, O God.

All: Lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth.

Lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust.

Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace.

Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe. Amen.

\*THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE 1<sup>st</sup> Service

“Go Forth in Faith”

Paxton

THE POSTLUDE 2<sup>nd</sup> Service

“The Lord Reigns, Alleluia!”

Petersen

\*Those who are comfortable doing so are invited to stand.

We welcome warmly all who are visiting with us. Please register your attendance on the Friendship Form so that others may greet you in the name of the Living Christ. The person at the end of the pew should place the finished sheet in the offering plate.

References:

The Prayer of Confession is from A New Zealand Prayer Book, The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia, 1997, Harper, San Francisco.

The Prayer of Dedication is from Led By Love, by Lavon Bayler, 1996, United Church Press.

“The World Peace Prayer” is a paraphrase of a verse from the Upanishads, the most ancient scriptures of Hinduism, and is also prayed daily by Roman Catholic Benedictine Sisters.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Susan and Ed Thorn  
In Honor of Amy and Chad Hall

PRAYER CONCERNS: John Scott and Sandra Miller

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK of April 26-May 3, 2009

TODAY	8:15/10:30 am	Worship Services
	9:00 am	Choristers
	9:15 am	Sunday School
	12:00 pm	Vacation Bible School Meeting after 10:30 Service
	6:00 pm	Youth Fellowship (FH & Rm 7/8)
Mon	7:00 pm	Pastor Parish Meeting (Parlor)
	7:00 pm	Bible Study (Anna Thompson’s)
TUES	1:00 pm	Pollyannas (Bonnie Plymette’s)
	5:30 pm	TOPS
	6:00 pm	Consistory
WED	6:00 pm	Hand Chime Choir (Rm. 5)
	6:30 pm	Youth Choir (S)
	7:15 pm	Chancel Choir (S)
SAT	9:00 am	ONA (FH)
	9:00 am	PFLAG Board Meeting(Adult 11 Sunday School Rm)
SUN May 3	8:15/10:30 am	Worship Services
	2:30 pm	Mercersburg Association Spring Meeting (FH)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**GRADUATION** is quickly approaching. All college and high school graduates, please turn a wallet size senior picture into the church office for St. Paul’s graduation display. The pictures will be returned. Pictures and graduation information (name, school, and degree) should be turned into the church office as soon as possible.

**FAMILY CELEBRATION LUNCHEON** – Mark your calendar’s now for the Family Celebration Luncheon that will be held in Fellowship Hall immediately following the 10:30 Worship Service on Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>. Worship with your Family and then enjoy a ham loaf dinner with your Church Family. Please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the common area so we have a count for the luncheon. A plate will be put out if you wish to leave a donation to help offset the costs of the Luncheon. We hope you come and join us.