St. Paul's United Church of Christ
626 Williams Grove Road
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
Phone: 717/766-7931

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AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST!

The Epistle

is a monthly publication of St. Paul's UCC.

Comments, suggestions, and submissions are welcome!

Worship Schedule – one service at 9:00 am through September 6th, one service at 10:30 am September 13th, Back to two services 8:15 am & 10:30 am September 20th, Sunday School at 9:15 am.
Childcare available

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST STAFF

Pastor . . . . John J. Ward-Diorio
Administrative Assistant . . . .Terry Shaner
Director of Educational Ministries . . .Jonneke A. Dundore
Director of Music . . . . . Eric R. Dundore
Choristers' Director . . . . . .Jonneke A. Dundore
Organist . . . . . Sarah A. Myers
Assistant Organist . . . . . Patrice G. Miller
Sexton . . . . . .Michael W. Hatz
Consistory President . . . . . .Kevin B. Allison

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00-4:00 ♦ Office email: stpaulstaff@verizon.net
Phone: 717/766-7931 John's email: revjohnwd@verizon.net
FAX: 717/766-7374 Web Address: www.saintpaulsucc-mech.org

The Epistle

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST **SEPTEMBER 2009**

I hope one and all are enjoying the end of summer. I may well still be on vacation when you receive this, and I can say, even before I have begun my time away, I am very grateful for the time off and the rest.

My hope is we can all move into the fall recharged and ready to go. Summer was far from a quiet time of no activity. On top of the Penn Central Annual Meeting, Peace Church, General Synod of the national UCC, Vacation Bible School, and the Gay Pride Parade, we also received twelve new members into our Congregation. There is much to be grateful for and celebrate and much to look forward to.

We will have our Rally Day and Church Picnic on Sunday September 13. We will have one Service that day beginning at 10:30 AM. The following Sunday we will return to our regular Worship Service Schedule with the two Services at 8:15 and 10:30, and a Baptism. On the last Sunday of September we will be receiving more new members into our Congregation.

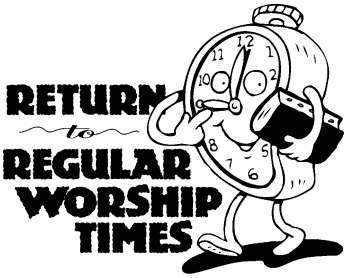
Please look for the announcement about a unique Adult Christian Education opportunity this fall. We will be "taking a class" in conjunction with Lancaster Seminary on the Parables of Jesus. The opening lecture is on Saturday September 12. Please look for more details later in the Epistle.

Our Bazaar work is proceeding nicely. We have some new volunteers and need some more. Please consider how you might help with this event which is both a fundraiser and a long standing tradition for our Congregation.

And we will continue to seek how God is speaking to us, calling us to be disciples in this time and place. There is much good work to be done. Let us join together in doing it.

Peace, John

Thanks go out to Allyssa Boyer, the Rev. Anna Thompson and to **the Rev. Brian Medkeff-Rose** for preaching while Rev. John was away on vacation. Thanks also to Rev. Anna and Rev. Brian for providing emergency pastoral coverage.



Sunday, September 20th back to 8:15 and 10:30 am Worship Services, Sunday School at 9:15 am.

WORSHIP STARTING TIMES - This might be a bit confusing, so please bear with me. We are going to try some "experiments" with our Liturgy over the next year. The first is we are going to go over Announcements five minutes before the Service "officially" begins.

It will work like this. I will begin Announcements at 8:10 AM and 10:25 AM each Sunday. The Prelude will begin at 8:15 AM and 10:30 AM. If you would like to hear the Announcements, please come at those times. If not, you can come at the regular times. Our hope is that, particularly for the early Service, we will be able to finish at close to an hour.

As is always the case, please do not hesitate to enter the Sanctuary, even after a Service has begun. We would rather have you there than not. If the Service has begun, it is often easiest to enter during a hymn or a prayer when people are already standing. Thank you.

Peace, John

THOSE IN NEED OF PRAYER:
Mayme Alfano (Paula Boyer's mother); **Rev. Ken Arthur** (friend of Tom Stone); **Walter Amtower;** ; **Stacey Barnet and her infant; Lisa Benoist** (Dave Ritter's nephew's wife); **J.B. Black & Family** (husband of Lois Ritter's friend); **Peggy Baum**; **Pam Boland** (mother of Pam MacKinnon); **Eleanor Boreck** (friend of Phyllis Hershey); **Charles Breon** (step-father of Sue Miller); **Shar Briner** (sister of good friend of Susan Gabriel);**Rev. Lila Butz; Mary Jane Chipriano; David Chronister** (father of Ron Chronister); **Kevin Clancy** (neighbor of Chronister's); **Amy Clarke** (Susan Gabriel's niece); **Cleason Cromer; Ellie Deeble** (great-granddaughter of Jean Myers); **Blake Dietterick** (neighbor of Kay and Don Coldren); **Bob Diorio** (Rev. John's uncle); **Jackie Diorio** (Rev. John's mother); **John Diorio** (Rev. John's father); **Edna Dreibelbis** (Anna Burn's mother); **Ingrid Eberly; Emily (**daughter of friend of Susan Gabriel); **Abby Freeland** (daughter of Assistant Principal at MASH); **Debbie and Joe Gartland; Nancy Girard** (sister of Belva Garman); **Bob Gladwin; Liane Gladwin; Chuck Goodhart** (friend of Anna Thompson); **Lucy Goodridge** (Betsy Rushong's sister); **Tom Grammer; Ryan Greenawalt** (son of a friend of Dave and Jane Hall's); **Ken Groff; Cheryl & Mike Gundrum** (friends of Shirley Keith-Knox); **Joy Hafer & her sister** (friends of Shirley Keith-Knox); **Shirley Harmon** (friend of Melba & Herb Bomberger); **Sandy Heckman; Phyllis Hershey; Travis Hessom; Sue Higgins** (friend of Anna Thompson); **Dorothy Hiltebeitel** (mother-in-law of friend of Anna Thompson); **Mary Kathryn Hunt** (mother of Kimberly Leonard); **Betty Hyde**; **Alberta Jamison** (Betty Olsen's mother); **Dan Jones** (Jean and Willard's son); **Beverly Kahn; Brian Keefer** (high-school classmate of Christy Aumiller); **Nancy Keith (**Martha and Gene's daughter)**; Caleb Kilgore** (brother of a co-worker of Colleen Eichman's husband); **Rev. George Klinefelter** (former pastor of St. Paul's); **Shirley Knisely; Mae Kozlowski** (cousin of Phyllis Hershey); **Barbara Lumby (**friend of Betsy Rushong); **Kelly MacCarthy** (Rev. John's niece); **JoEllen Reed & Robert McAleer** (former neighbors of Ward-Diorio family in Maine); **Peter McGinn** (Beth Mihmet's Uncle); **Clyde & Treva Miller**; **Sally Miller** (friend of Anna Thompson's); **Dory Milletics; Mary Louise Miller; Lynn Mosher** (sister of co-worker of Brenda Kern); **Jean Myers**; **Patricia Nalepka** (Jon Nalepka's mother); **Nancy** (friend of the Chronister family); **Craig Parker** (Ruth Wrightstone's nephew); **Julia Paroda & Family** (friends of the Shaner Family); **Ann Patch** (friend of Ruth Wrightstone); **Dave Petko** (former co-worker of Tim Kern); **Kristen Pike** (sister-in-law of Christal Pike-Nase & Jonathan Nase); **Tim Powell Family** (friends of Victoria Velez); **Doris Rhoads** (Jack Rhoads' mother); **Candice Rush** (friend of Phyllis Hershey); **Carolyn Rutherford; Irv Sanders (**Brenda Kern's father); **John Scott; Don and Peggy Seiler; Gail Siemons; Mary Smith** (Herb Sutton's sister); **Rena Smith; Lester Starner**; **Clarence Steck; Tom Stone & his family** (son of Tom and Cindy Stone); **Alex Szeles** (friend of Jean and Willard Jones); **Jon Tubman** (friend of Peg & Don Seiler's oldest son Tom); **Dolores Tucker (**wife of co-worker of Kevin Allison); **Leah van Olden; John White; Eric Williams** (Art & Kathy Williams son); **Frank Williams** (friend of Tom Stone's), **Ruth Wrightstone.**

Please keep the office informed if there is anyone who should be added to or removed from the prayer list.

Hayden Elaine Miller" on Friday July 3rd. Hayden weighed 3 lbs 7 oz and has lots of strawberry blonde hair. **Our Congratulations** go out to parents Devon and Leroy Miller and grandparents Patrice and Greg Miller. Hayden came home from the hospital on August 9th.

Kya Isis Prunty" on Tuesday August 11th. **Our Congratulations** go out to parents Monica Flory and Jason Prunty and grandparents; Ron and Carol Flory.

Jonathan Ellis" was born on Tuesday August 18th to Becky Frey (Phyllis Hershey's Granddaughter) **Our Congratulations** go out to mom and to Great Grandma Phyllis.

SEPTEMBER LECTIONARY TEXTS

6 14th Sunday after Pentecost
Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23 — James 2:1-17
Psalm 125 — Mark 7:24-37

13 15th Sunday after Pentecost
Proverbs 1:20-33 — James 3:1-12
Psalm 19 — Mark 8:27-38

20 16th Sunday after Pentecost
Proverbs 31:10-31 — James 3:13-4:3,7-8a
Psalm 1 — Mark 9:30-37

27 17th Sunday after Pentecost
Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22 — James 5:13-20
Psalm 124 — Mark 9:38-50

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

ACOLYTES

06 9:00
13 10:30 Audrey Runkle
20 8:15 Jeff Dundore
10:30 Erin Moyer
27 8:15 Matt Paulus
10:30 Katelyn Chamberlain

GREETERS

06 9:00 Mary Louise Miller & Joanne Miller
13 10:30 Joan & Jim Quick
20 8:15 Connie & Herb Sutton
10:30 Carol & Jack Rhoads
27 8:15 Belva & Leo Garman
10:30 Pat Cleland & Marilyn Aust

LECTORS

06 9:00 Dave Hall
13 10:30 Amy Paulus
20 8:15 Mike Gray
10:30 Melba Bomberger
27 8:15 Joanne Miller
10:30 Colleen Eichman

USHERS

Head Usher: Randy Murphy

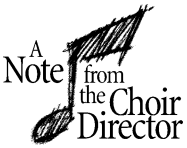
06 9:00 Consistory
13 10:30 Brenda & Tim Kern
Christine & David Grice
20 8:15 Carolyn & Jere Rutherford
10:30 Susan Williams & Darene Murphy
Kim & James Pirtle
27 8:15 Rhonda & Douglas Jacobsen
10:30 Pamela & Allan Mackinnon

FLOWER DELIVERY

06 Pat Cleland
13 Daryl & Winnie Wentz
20 Eichman Family
27 Pat Cleland

COMMUNION PREPARATION-INTINCTION

06 Jane, Leroy and Amy Wentz



COME ONE, COME ALL!!! Choirs at St. Paul's will be starting their new season on **Wednesday, September 9th**. We want you to be a part of the festivities.

We still have lots of room for anyone who would want to try their hands at playing Hand Chimes. Musical talent is certainly not necessary to be a part of this group – but time commitment will be. Everyone who plays a Hand Chime will have to be at each rehearsal in order for this to work.

Singing (and playing those fun chimes) is so positive for the soul, challenges the mind, and energizes the body. It also allows those who hear us to move closer to a worshipful experience every Sunday morning. Please consider sharing your talents with us. You don't have to be a great singer in order to participate – just have an open heart and mind.

Please call or email Eric Dundore (766-2601 or edundore@mbgsd.ord) with any questions or concerns about our music program at St. Paul's.

Sept 9th - All Choirs resume Wednesday evening rehearsals:

Hand Chimes (ages 5 thru 105) 6:00 to 6:30 pm in the Choir room (Rm. 5).
Youth Choir (grades 6-12) 6:30 to 7:15 pm in the sanctuary.
Chancel Choir (post HS to more mature ages) 7:15 to 8:30 pm in the sanctuary.

13 10:30 Chancel Choir
20 8:15 Chancel Choir
10:30 Youth Choir
27 10:30 **All Choirs (including Hand Chimes).**

Choristers will begin practice on **Sunday September 20** at 9:00 a.m. All children in grades 1-5 are invited to participate. We usually sing one Sunday per month. Practices will be held in the Choir room (5). Come join us! Contact Jonneke Dundore at 766-2601 with any questions.

What Is Pockets? - Pockets are a fun devotional magazine geared for children around the ages of 6-12. It comes out 11 times a year (the January/February issue is a combined one), and each issue has a different theme. It includes stories, games, activities, poems, daily Bible readings, recipes, and more! **Who reads Pockets?** Besides children around the ages of 6-12, many parents and Sunday school teachers read **Pockets**, too. The current month's edition is available for you to take home in the shelf on the wall in the common area. Please stop by and pick one up.

Calling all students 5th grade and up. Would you like to be trained as an acolyte? Contact Pam MacKinnon at 796-1064, email p.mackinnon@yahoo.com

***Christian One Liners*:**

People are funny; they want the front of the bus, the middle of the road, and the back of the church.

The good Lord didn't create anything without a purpose, but mosquitoes come close.

The Parables of Jesus -- Another Look - The Adult 2 Class begins the Fall Season with the start of an exciting journey – relooking at the parables of Jesus with Dr. Greg Carey from the Lancaster Theological Seminary. Get ready to look at the parables from a new and creative light, integrating solid scholarship with everyday life! Dr. Carey is a New Testament Professor at the Seminary and is the author of *Ultimate Things and Sinners: Jesus and his Earliest Followers.* Greg is also an UCCer; a member of Grace UCC, Lancaster. This adult study series includes two sessions at the Lancaster Theological Seminary, weekly discussion during the church school hour and a workbook for personal reflection and study during the week. **EVERYONE is welcome to join us in this exciting adventure, even if you do not normally attend Adult 2. You do not need to attend the opening and closing lectures or attend every week.**

Sessions at Lancaster Theological Seminary
Opening Introductory Session – Saturday, September 12, 2009, 9:30 a.m – 11:00 a.m.
Closing Session – Saturday, November 14, 2009, 9:30 a.m – 11:00 a.m.
(Car pooling will be arranged.)

Some St. Paul's folks have heard Dr. Carey speak on a number of issues and know how dynamic and thought provoking he is. Any questions, please contact Shirley Keith Knox at 697-6946 or at skeithknox@comcast.net. If you know you will be attending some or all of the sessions, please let Shirley know so we can plan accordingly, especially room choice. Thanks and we hope you join us!

Looking for volunteers to staff the Nursery – please see sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the common area if you are interested in helping out in this area.

CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS – July 28, 2009

Extended Ministries Council – Reorganization meeting was held on June 28 – Shirley Keith Knox and Kathy Aumiller have agreed to co-chair this Council. Participants at this meeting looked over the responsibilities and volunteered to share the activities. Ruth Wrightstone and Joan Quick (former co-chairpersons) will serve as consultants. **Property Committee –** Bill Cashman reported that Don Coldren has submitted his resignation as Chair of this committee, at which time he has brought in his file and has agreed to meet with other members to share the scope of his responsibilities. **Called to Care** – Rev. John reported that Martha Keith will be placing an article in the Epistle to recruit other members for this committee.**Finance Audit Endowment Committee** – The Committee met to review the Endowment Fund Policy dated 1/12/03. The review was to determine whether the recent bequeath of $200,000 should be applied to the Endowment Fund according to the rules of this fund. The committee unanimously agreed that the terms did not indicate that this was the case, due to the way the bequeath was written in the will. The decision was made to place $100,000 in a 6 month CD, $50,000 in a 3 month CD and the remaining in a money market account. **Bazaar Committee –** there is a need for a Co-Chair to assist Jean Mogel during the day. **Pastor's Report** – Meetings were held regarding the search for a Christian Ed. Director and Youth Minister; VBS week of July 20th went well; Gay Pride Parade – 50 people from St. Paul's participated, it was inspiring to be part of the event; 12 new members joined St. Paul's on July 26th. **New Business:** Job Descriptions and proposed salaries for Director of Christian Ed and Youth Minister was reviewed and approved by Consistory; Increased pay for Substitute Ministers and Organists were presented and approved; increased fees for Weddings and Funerals were presented and approved; Handicapped Parking – Complaint was made that Day Care Parents were parking in Handicapped spaces. It was decided that this issue would be brought up to MLC in hopes of a resolution. Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.

CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS – August 18, 2009 – **Treasurer's Report –** Change to Members 1st is complete and going well. The $200,000 bequeath is now split up between CD's and a money market account. Questions were brought up about the Endowment Fund that is sitting in Vanguard. The amount in this account is $92,697. As is common with endowment funds we can only use the earnings. The original amount of the Endowment was $90,000. Bill Cashman wondered if we should look into reinvesting as it doesn't appear we are earning a lot of interest. Bill is going to investigate that possibility and if it looks like it could be more appropriately invested, he will make a recommendation to the finance committee to bring that to Consistory. **Stewardship Council –** Kathy Williams reported that the Stewardship Gala at Allenberry is scheduled for October 23rd starting at 6 pm with Dinner at 7 pm. Invitations will be sent to the congregation in mid September. Other committee actions include developing a timeline for the annual stewardship campaign. **Christian Ed Council** – Job Postings for both the Christian Ed Director and Youth Minister are now on St. Paul's Website with a separate email address that has been established for candidates 'resumes and questions". **Property Committee –** Bill Cashman reported that Dave Scott is going to plan a reorganization meeting for this committee and hopefully solicit old and new members to attend. **Daycare Committee –** Dennis Plymette has spoken to MLC about the handicapped parking restrictions. MLC sent a letter to all parents to be returned signed, and has posted a notice of the parking guidelines. **Old Business:** Don Wood is working on the development of policy/contract for use of church facilities. Currently, he has already developed the liability contract, and will work on updating fees. **New Business:** Outside door to Sanctuary was fixed. It was noted that it is still difficult to open and you cannot get your key out of the door. Don Wood said that to fix it appropriately, there is a new piece needed that will cost $200. It was decided to have this replaced. Meeting was adjourned at 8:15. The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday September 15.

TREASURER'S CORNER

As the first half of the fiscal year approaches an update of the current financial status is in order. Giving by our congregation continues to be very close to the budgeted amount for the year. I thank each and every member for their conscientious effort to maintain their pledge amounts. This certainly contributed to our ability to meet our weekly and monthly expenses. As the summer months quickly approach I urge every member to continue their current pattern of committed giving.

The special outpouring of benevolent giving above and beyond the individual obligations already pledged was readily evident. The One Great Hour of Sharing receipts were over $1,300 and the special campaign for the cabin at Hartman Center raised more than $1,700, well over the initial $1,000 sought. Your generosity will affect so many in the world and also provide better facilities for our youth campers.

We are currently in the process of transferring our accounts from PNC Bank to the Members 1st Federal Credit Union. When this transfer is made membership with Members 1st will be open to any member of the congregation who is not a member of a credit union. I urge anyone who is not a credit union member to take advantage of this opportunity.

Your continuing commitment of pledges and gifts to the church is greatly appreciated and allows us as a congregation to run our physical plant, pay our salaried personnel in a timely manner, and continue the ongoing internal and outreach programs that we have so graciously adopted as part of our Christian mission.

Remember to keep your commitments for 2009 current and thank you for your continuing support to Saint Paul's.

Dave Hall, Treasurer

01 Lucas Kern
Thomas Milletics
Dennis Plymette
Leroy Wentz Jr.
02 Joan Quick
Rebecca Thompson
04 Tim Kern
05 Jo Ann Paulus
Audrey Runkle
Jean Winter
06 Charles Mille
07 Joseph Eichman
09 Carol Reighter
12 Pam MacKinnon
13 Michael Aumiller
Leonard Graff
14 Ron Flory
Justin Steck
15 Kelly Wentz
17 Cleason Cromer
18 David Grice
Craig Hershey
Jacquelyn Kreitzer
Anita Miller
19 Lee Jackson
21 Scott Gates
Patti Watson
22 Fred Briggs
23 Laura Dye
24 Janet Wotring
25 Joseph Cawley
Leroy Miller Jr.
27 Colleen Eichman
Grant Jacobsen
28 Lindsey Costello
Donna Sponsler
29 JoAnn Grubbs
Kelli Miller
30 Craig Martek

02 Brenda and Robert Gossard
03 Jennifer and Craig Martek
08 Lori and Brian Foust
09 Sue and Dayne Miller
09 Devon and LeRoy Miller III
10 Catherine and Brandon Thomas
11 Martha and Eugene Keith
12 Linda Till
13 Joan and Ernest Moyer
17 Rita and James Smithson
21 Jennifer and Thomas Sheaffer
22 Jean and David Winter
23 Norma Jane and John McMillan Jr.
25 Susan and Ronald Gabriel

NEEDED: PERSONS WILLING TO SERVE ON CALLED TO CARE TEAM.

The Called to Care program plays a vital role in our congregation. It is administered entirely by laypersons, with the support and assistance of the pastor.

Some of the activities we do include but are not limited to: Visit persons in nursing homes, hospitals or in their own homes; Visit those who are ill, grieving loss of loved ones, lonely, or for other reasons; provide transportation for medical appointments; Provide meals during a crisis period. We try to match persons on the team with another to make visits. Individuals are requested to do what they are able and feel comfortable doing.

The Called to Care team has decreased in size due to persons no longer able to serve for various reasons. Also, many of us who have been on the team for many years are aging and not physically able to continue all the activities we once were doing. For these reasons, we are seeking volunteers who are willing to complete the training and become part of the team.

The training includes strengthening skills in communication, crisis, attitude, dependency, healing, scripture, confidentially, prayer, problem solving and etc. If you are willing to consider the training you are still not obligated to become part of the team until it is completed and you are willing to do so. The training could start the beginning of October after the Bazaar and end before Thanksgiving, meeting weekly or over a weekend, depending on the wish of the group.

We on the team feel we are called to follow the way of Christ in caring for others and hope you are willing to help us become stronger and better able to fill the needs within St. Paul's congregation.

Please contact Martha Keith at 258-0591 or Rev. John if you would like more information or will consider completing the training in preparation for becoming part of the Called to Care Team of St. Paul's UCC.

Thank you in advance for considering being a part of this important ministry of our congregation.

EXTENDED MINISTRIES OPPORTUNITY: Hospice of Central Pennsylvania - Semiannual volunteer training program begins on October 1, 2009, Thursday evenings from 6 to 9 p.m. It is a 33 hour training that covers such topics as end of life issues, patient care, pain control, listening skills, family dynamics, spiritual aspects of death, dying and loss, bereavement, and the hospice concept of care. If interested: call the Hospice of Central PA office at 732-1000 or 1-866-779-7374 or visit website at www.hospiceofcentralpa.org and click on *volunteer opportunities*. **Applications are due by September 4.** Applicants will be contacted for an interview prior to the start of the training.

SUPPORT FOR BRYAN NEWELL - September 13, 2009 - For those of you who may not be aware, the son of a good friend of Susan Gabriel, Bryan Newell, was shot on Dec. 29, 2008 during a home invasion in Carlisle. The bullet entered his spine, fragmented and shattered several vertebrae, leaving him paralyzed from the chest down. A special needs trust fund has been established for Bryan and fundraisers are being coordinated. There will be a Longaberger Basket Bingo on September 13, 2009, at the Newville Fire House in Newville, PA. To help support this event, St. Paul's Consistory would like to invite anyone who feels so inclined to contribute by placing either a check (made payable to Bryan R. Newell Special Needs Trust Fund) or cash in a pew envelope. Please make sure you mark "Bryan Newell Benefit" on the outside of the envelope. On September 8th, we will put what we have collected together and send it in one packet from the member's of St. Paul's UCC. If you would like to attend the Basket Bingo or would like to read more on Bryan, please see the posters on the bulletin board in the common area. There are also some copies on the table in the common area, feel free to pick up one to take home with you. These contributions are not tax deductible but are a great way to help support a family in need. Thanks in advance.

Birthday, Food Donations and St. Paul's on a Mission – See Separate attachment

Your Rights, Our Rights, Human Rights"

An inspiring celebration of Gay Pride energized the Central PA community during the weekend of July 24th and the United Church of Christ was there. Many community groups, floats, and bands marched in the early morning parade in recognition of "Your Rights, Our Rights, Human Rights". This year's theme honored the 40th Anniversary of the Stonewall Rebellion.

The 4th Annual Pride Parade was bigger and more elaborate than ever. St. Paul's UCC, joined with Central PA PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) to march in the parade. And we had a fabulous float - "Over the Rainbow: A Tribute to Judy Garland". (Note: The Stonewall Rebellion began as a result of gays gathering at a local establishment following the death of Judy Garland.) Children were dressed in Wizard of Oz characters. We had Dorothy's, Good Witch Glenda's, Lions, Wicked Witches and Scarecrows. The children along the parade route loved the float and especially seeing other children as participants. Adult UCCers marched behind the float performing a *carefully choreographed* rainbow flag routine. AND, this year's Community Choice Award went to St. Paul's UCC/PFLAG group in recognition of our group's spirit and community appeal

St. Paul's joined Journey's UCC, our Central PA new church start, to staff a festival booth. We gave out free ice pops to the hot festival goers and shared information about the various ONA churches of the United Church of Christ in Central PA. St. Paul's UCC was there on Sunday night as Pride Weekend came to a close with Spirits United – an interfaith service held at the Unitarian Church in downtown Harrisburg.

Why has St. Paul's United Church of Christ been present at Pride? So often folks who are GLBTQ (Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered, Questioning) feel/are excluded from their religious community because of their sexual orientation. It's important for all folks to know that "wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!" And we mean everyone!

Thanks go out to all who participated and helped in the preparation of and on the day of the Parade and to Shirley Keith-Knox for her numerous hours in coordinating the event, to Martin Velez, Steve Lantz, Lee Jackson and Brian Medkeff Rose for all of their work on the Float and to Martha and Gene Keith for storing and hauling it the day of the Parade.

VBS Update… Noah was the official winner of our favorite handy person contest, bringing our total collection to over $500!! The money will be given to Cumberland Valley Habitat for Humanity. Thank you to all who contributed!

Our Habitat for Humanity Playhouse has a home! After much rain and incredible heat and humidity, our playhouse was finally completed! It was delivered to the Snouffer family in Newville on Saturday August 22. The two youngest children, Lonnie and Consuela, were overjoyed with it. Our thanks go out to our building crew, **foreman Mike McCorkel, with Ron Gabriel, Aaron Miller, Tim Davinroy, Dennis Plymette, Dave Simpson, and Art Williams, and to Martin Velez** for his magnificent design on the exterior. The crew of painters, **Logan Velez, Maddie, Gracie, Shawna and Dave Simpson, Jeff Dundore, Jonne Dundore, Linda Alburger, Katelyn Chamberlain, Josh Fickes, Chelsey Wirth, Allyssa and Paula Boyer, and Dar Murphy**, worked hard over the past few weeks between rain storms, coloring the design to make it truly a one of a kind playhouse! On August 22, **Mike McCorkel, Dennis Plymette, Dave Simpson, Ron Gabriel, Eric, Jeff and Greg Dundore**, helped move the house with the volunteer services of **Mr. Barry Turner, owner of GA Smith Towing in Lemoyne**, from our church parking lot to the Snouffer's home in Newville. It was quite an operation!! Stop by the Common area to see the photos on display! Again, a **BIG thank you to all involved!**

Confirmation – see separate attachment.

See separate attachment

On July 26th, we welcomed 12 new members here at St. Paul's. **OUR THANKS** go out to the Sponsors: Deb and Bill Cashman, Jane and Dave Hall, Bonnie and Dennis Plymette and Victoria and Martin Velez.

Truc Anh and Shawn Elliott
2199 Bradford Dr
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
791-0370 shawntruc@verizon.net

Shawn and Truc Anh Elliott – Shawn is from the Rochester, NY area. He is a Penn State Graduate and works as a Structural Engineer with Gannett Fleming. Shawn likes to work out at the gym, ski and hike. Truc Anh was born in Vietnam and came to the US in 1975; she grew up in Wormslyburg and is also a Penn State Graduate and Structural Engineer. Truc Anh works part time at Gannett Fleming and also likes to ski and hike. They have two children, a son Mason who is 8 years old and going into 3rd grade at Upper Allen and a daughter Norah, age 5 starting in the Kindergarten Academy this Fall. Shawn and Truc Anh came to the Mechanicsburg area about 5yrs ago from the suburbs of Washington DC. They were married in 1995.

Dale Guanowsky
637 Dunkle St
Harrisburg, PA 17104-2340
232-6811

Dale attended Metropolitan Community Church in Harrisburg before coming here to St. Paul's. He found St. Paul's to be a very warm and friendly church. He just retired after 30 years working in the PA Department of Labor and Industry. He enjoys all kinds of art and music but is especially a Beatles fan, collecting all their records from the time we was 5 years old. He played drums in his youth and currently volunteers at the Humane Society. He has one cat and a great love of all animals. He grew up in the Harrisburg area.

Robert (Bob) Heisler
6400 Salem Park Cir.
Mechanicsburg, PA 17050
645-4033

Bob attended Metropolitan Community Church in Harrisburg before coming here to St. Paul's. He collects and sells antiques and he used to have an antique shop on Main Street in Mechanicsburg. He is currently part of a co-op in Lewistown called, "The Dragonfly." He has a great love for all animals and has two cats. He has taken care of many feral cats in the past and now enjoys feeding the hundreds of wild birds in his neighborhood. He enjoys listening to music, especially "The Blues." He grew up in the Harrisburg area. **Thanks go out to Bob** for sponsoring the Brunch that was enjoyed by many in Fellowship Hall following the church service on July 26th**.**

Melissa (Missy) Luce/Scott Gates
577 Miller Blvd
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
512-0761 missyluce@comcast.net

Missy is a graduate of Mechanicsburg High School and Empire Beauty School. She works at Changes Salon and Day Spa as a Hair Stylist. Missy has a daughter, Bella age 4. Scott is a graduate of Bald Eagle Area High School and Center County Vo-Tech where he graduated at the top of his class in welding. He is also a graduate from Lock Haven University where he holds a B.S. degree in Accounting Information Systems. Currently, Scott is employed at D&H Distributing in Harrisburg as a Senior Accountant. Missy and Scott will be married at St. Paul's on Sunday, September 6th.

Cheryl and Kenneth (Ken) Malick
909 Peachtree Drive
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
790-0712
kennethmalick@yahoo.com

Ken is originally from Lykens, PA and is employed by the Carlisle Barracks. Cheryl is originally from Camp Hill, PA and is employed by Fresh Express. Ken and Cheryl have two sons, ages 30 and 27. Together Ken and Cheryl enjoy traveling in their motor home. They both are Penn State alumni and enthusiastically travel in their motor home to the games. They were attracted to St. Paul's because it was different…a good different…from their prior church.

Terry & Gene Shaner
23 Edgewood Dr
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
697-8329 gene_ski@yahoo.com

Terry and Gene Shaner are both lifelong residents of Mechanicsburg and Graduates of Mechanicsburg High School. Upon graduation, Gene went into the Navy for 4 years. On his return, he met Terry and they were married in November of 1975. They have two children Missy and Andy and two grandchildren, Bella (Missy's daughter) who is 4 and Brennan (Andy's son) who is 3 and they are the delight of their grandparent's life. Gene worked at the Mechanicsburg Navy Depot until he retired in January of 2008 and is busy babysitting, reading and skiing when the weather is right. Terry upon graduation from Mechanicsburg went to work at Book of the Month Club and worked there for 34 years until she left in March of 2008. In December of 2008 Terry and Gene started coming to Church at St. Paul's and both love it here. In February of 2009, Terry joined the staff at St. Paul's as the administrative assistant to Rev. John.

Carol & William (Bill) Sizemore
2604 Sedgwick Ave
Dover, PA 17315-4640
764-5862 wrscls2604@aol.com

Bill is originally from North Carolina and is a Project Engineer for FES. Carol is originally from Ossining, NY and is a 3rd grade teacher in the Dover School District. Bill and Carol have two sons, ages 33 and 31. Together Bill and Carol like to garden, read and ride bikes. They started attending St. Paul's on and off a few years ago and started attending on a more regular basis about one and half years ago. They appreciate that St. Paul's is an open and affirming congregation and they can feel comfortable bringing their son, who is gay, with them to worship when he is in the area visiting.

New Consistory Member (Addition to Elders)
Bill Cashman 766-6799

Paula and Mark Boyer
New Email pbstwins@aol.com

Deb and Bill Cashman
New Email
billyc73@comcast.net (Bill's)
deborahc318@comcast.net (Deb's)

Bethany Grubbs
Chg of Address
14 E. Cache la Poudre
Colorado Springs CO 80903

Amy and Travis Kern
7102 Creek Crossing Dr.
Harrisburg, PA 17111
717-475-2742

Megan Kern
Correction on City
2744 Hampshire Rd Apt 12
Cleveland Heights, OH 44118

Glenn and Esther Kline
New Email gk76@comcast.net

Valerie Lill
New Email vlill@verizon.net

YOUTH YARD SALE---Don't forget about the Yard Sale on **Saturday, September 5th** from 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. While the spaces have all been reserved, it's not too late to donate your items for the youth to sell. Items can be placed on the stage in Fellowship Hall (mark them for yard sale) prior to Saturday morning. You might even want to stop by Saturday morning to check out the great deals! Thanks for all for your support of our annual project.

Note to Youth: Please plan to come to the church Friday evening anytime after **7:00** to help set up. We'll have a lock-in that evening (food, friends, movies!) so you can be ready to go by 6:00 Saturday morning. Questions? -- Call Patty Scott, 737-3139.

THE MONDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY GATHERING will meet for the first time this fall at 7:00 PM on Monday, September 14. Please join us at the home of the Rev. Anna Thompson (608 York Circle, Mechanicsburg) as we share in fellowship. The book we will be using is "Healing" which focuses on the healing narratives from the New Testament in order to redefine and better understand the concepts of healing and wellness. The group meets the second and fourth Monday evenings of the month for about an hour and a half. We'd love to have you join us! Please feel free to contact Anna (766-5626) with any questions.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY - The next meeting of the Prayer Shawl Ministry will be held during the 9:15 Sunday School hour on September 20th, the first Sunday in September with 2 services. We will be meeting in the Fellowship Hall. The weekday meeting on the second Tuesday will not be held in September. It is hoped that all of you who work and cannot come on Tuesdays will be able to join us. The Shawls will be blessed during worship on the following Sunday, September 27th, during both services.

Our first meeting was held last September and now one year later 111 items have been completed. This is outstanding. The majority have been placed with persons needing the comfort or support that a prayer shawl brings.

At our last meeting in August it was brought to our attention that October is Breast Cancer Awareness month. We discussed the possibility of making pink shawls for this. Jane Hall has found someone that would be very happy to accept our shawls and get them to women who need them. Therefore, if you are interested in making a pink one to be completed in October, we can be a part of this effort.

We have received 3 blue shawls without a name of who made them. We appreciate them and want to be able to put your name on the card which gets attached. Please contact Martha Keith at 258-0591 with this or any other questions or concerns about this ministry.

Pollyannas - "Pay Your Own Way**"** annual luncheon will be held on Tuesday September 22, 11:30 am at Snappers in Mechanicsburg. Please RSVP Mary Louise Miller (766-6615) if you are attending. This is open to all women of the Church who are interest in joining Pollyannas.

Upcoming Disaster Relief Trips - Two more disaster relief trips have been scheduled by Rick Clay from the Myerstown UCC. The first is to New Orleans departing October 17, 2009 and will run for up to two weeks or until scheduled work is completed. Staying for the first week only is also an option. The second trip will be to Florida in February 2010. Exact dates are not yet final. Additional details are available from Ron Flory. If you would like to be part of this effort but can't make the trip, financial contributions are always welcome to cover the cost of travel, food and lodging and/or the purchase of gift cards for building materials.

Church Family Picnic – see separate attachment.

2009 BAZAAR – ONE DAY ONLY! FRI. OCT 2nd 9 AM to 8 PM – IT'S CLOSER THAN YOU THINK!!!

SPECIAL PLEA – WE NEED A CO-CHAIRPERSON TO ASSIST JEAN DURING THE DAY – PLEASE CALL TODAY TO VOLUNTEER! Thanks to Everyone Who Has Responded So Far!!!

There are flyers on the table in the common area, please help us get the word out about the Bazaar. Ask your local stores if you can put one up on their bulletin board or windows! It helps a lot.

Bring in your Halloween, Fall, Thanksgiving & Christmas items for the Bazaar on set up day Thursday October 1 so we can put them on display.

We know the good folks at St. Paul's rise to the occasion when there is a need. People come and help the day of the event which is great and always appreciated. But it would REALLY help everyone's anxiety levels if we could get people signed up in advance so we know where to concentrate our efforts of recruiting more or new volunteers. There is a job for everyone and we can use any time you are willing to help. **Won't you please consider signing up today or very soon to volunteer? Contact the Church Office or Jean Mogel (phone 697-1088). If you need ideas on what you could do to help, please talk with one of the Chairpersons.**

General Chairperson: Jean Mogel, Evening Co-chairperson**:** Chris Bowers-Paris **(**We Need a Co-Chairperson for the day hours to assist Jean!)

Attn: Church Members! Stop by for a preview of our craft items on Thursday evening, October 1st while we are setting up. We're usually here until 7 pm. Some items will be available for purchase at that time.

Dining Room/Kitchen: Chairpersons: Donna Chronister, Mary Runkle and Joann Paulus - Pot Pie will be served on Friday from 11 am - 7pm, Take Out meals and Quart Pot Pie Sales will be available while supplies last. Bodies needed here – keep the dates open. **WATCH FOR THE SIGN UP SHEETS ON THE BULLETIN BOARD OR CALL NOW & VOLUNTEER!**

Country Cupboard (Bake Sale/Food sale): The Country Cupboard will need your donations of baked goods, candy, snack items, canned goods from your garden, jams/jellies, and pickles, etc. Please let **Chairpersons: Jane Hall (697-2087) or Sue Miller (795-1875**) **know what you will be donating**. If we don't hear from you, you will be contacted. Donated items should be brought to the church on Thursday, October 1 or early the day of the Bazaar.

Country Gifts & Crafts: Chairpersons: Anita Miller, Susan Thorn, Betty Olson, Patty Scott and Carol Rhoads. Knitted or Crocheted items, ornaments, handmade decorations, Wreaths, holiday themed items (Halloween/Christmas), pillows, etc are needed here! **Need something to do while watching TV, waiting for the kids at soccer practice--the Calico Shoppe is in need of a few people willing to do some hand sewing (seam finishing and /or embroidery) to complete items for the bazaar. Your help will be greatly appreciated. Please volunteer by calling Susan Thorn 737-0672.**

Flea Market: Chairpersons: Dale Thorpe & Becky Thompson - Go through your things and get them ready to bring in starting Sunday 9/27 – drop them off on the stage in fellowship hall (Please no clothing or computers). We'll also need help for set up and to work at the flea market the day of the bazaar. Please let Dale or Becky know if you can help!

Clean up: **Chairpersons: Dave Scott, Terry & Gene Shaner** - Let them know if you can help put the church back in order after the Bazaar.

Children's Sabbath Fair – see separate attachment.

<u>Stewardship Event –</u> see separate attachment.

Thanks go out to Dayne Miller for taking the time and effort to replace the Dimmer Switch in the Sanctuary and the faucet in the men's restroom; to **Dave Ritter** who applied the Windows 2007 update to Rev John and Terry's word, outlook and excel and also for his patience and time spent in showing us how to use it; to **Jonne Dundore** who coordinated VBS and to the many teachers and helpers: **Linda Alburger, Karen Allison, Katie Amtower, Kris Amtower, Ashley Bergstresser, Sherri Bergstresser, Alyssa Boyer, Jim Boyer, Mike Brown, Deb Cashman, Lauren Cashman, Katelyn Chamberlain, Leann Davinroy, Eric Dundore, Greg Dundore, Jeff Dundore, Mark Dundore, Amy Elicker, Susan Gabriel, Chris Grice, Brenda Kern, Ally Moyer, Erin Moyer, Joan Moyer, Dar Murphy, Amy Paulus, Matt Paulus, Lois Ritter, Mary Runkle, Dave Scott, Patty Scott, Shawna Simpson, Becky Thompson, Sue Ward-Diorio and Chelsey Wirth;** to **Jack Rhoads** who coordinated the dinner each evening, the kitchen helpers and those who donated cupcakes and cookies; **Karen Allison, Donna Chronister, Ron Chronister, Susan Gabriel, Dave Hall, Jane Hall, Amy Kern, Aaron Miller, Greg Miller, Patrice Miller, Joanne Miller, Sue Miller, Dar Murphy, Carol Rhoads, Wes Rhoads, Mary Runkle, Terry Shaner, Gail Siemons, Jim Siemons, Nancy Steck, Donna Sterner, Shannon Trout and Merikay Wood;** to **Don Wood & Dave Scott** for helping out while Mike our Sexton was away on vacation; to **everyone who provided the special music** during Offertory over the Summer Worship Services; to **Melissa Cawley** for sponsoring the Ice Cream Social after the service Sunday August 23rd and to **all** who donated toppings.

Dear Church Family, Thank You for the beautiful altar flowers. They remind me of the many memories I have of St. Paul's. May God Bless. Arlene Sealover.

Jere and I would like to thank *the congregation for the prayers and flowers for our family as we work through this cancer storm. We are reminded that "**Life isn't waiting for the storm to pass. It's learning to dance in the rain". Author unknown.***
Smiles, Carolyn Rutherford.

To Members of St. Paul's, Friends and Family – Our sincere thanks and appreciation for the beautiful cards received by us in honor of our 56th wedding anniversary. Each mailing I would cut-open the envelopes, take them over to Clyde and look at them together until finally # 61 came Friday the 27th. Today # 62 came. It certainly was a fun week for both of us. Our sincere thanks to all of you. Gratefully Yours, Clyde and Treva Miller.

To St. Paul's Congregation and Rev. John; Thank you so much for your prayers, cards and flowers that I have received upon my mother's death. I certainly appreciate your thoughtfulness and again it only proves what I know in my heart that you are such a caring congregation. Fondly, Barb Casner.

To St. Paul's; Thank you so much for the beautiful Rosebud in honor of our daughter Molly's birth. Also, we greatly appreciated the visit in the hospital from the Minister, that was very touching. Molly and I are both home and doing very well, and we look forward to having her baptized and raised in the Church. Amy and Brett Hockenberry.

Dear Friends and Family of St. Paul's: Thank you for your thoughts, prayers, cards and Altar Flowers. The nerve blocker is installed and working well. I feel much better and am beginning to work my lazy muscles back into shape. This whole process has been made much easier knowing I have the support of my Church Family. Yours in Christian Friendship, John White.

Dear Friends of St. Paul's: Thank you for the beautiful flowers. I'm still enjoying them. I also want to thank Rev. Bryan for his call at the hospital. Mary Louise Miller