

Welcome to St. Paul's United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

October 4, 2009

TODAY AT ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Worship Leadership

Preacher: The Rev. John Ward-Diorio

Lector: 8:15 Eric Dundore

10:30 Rick Ayers

Ministry of Music

Organist: Sarah Myers

Minister of Music: Eric Dundore

Ministry of Service

Head Usher: Shirley Keith Knox

Ushers: 8:15 Consistory

10:30 Consistory

Greeters: 8:15 Esther and Glenn Kline

10:30 Bonnie and Dennis Plymette

Acolyte: 8:15 Mike Brown

10:30 Slater Ward-Diorio

Children's Sermon: 10:30 Rev. John

Nursery:

Flower Delivery: Merikay and Don Wood

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

626 Williams Grove Road

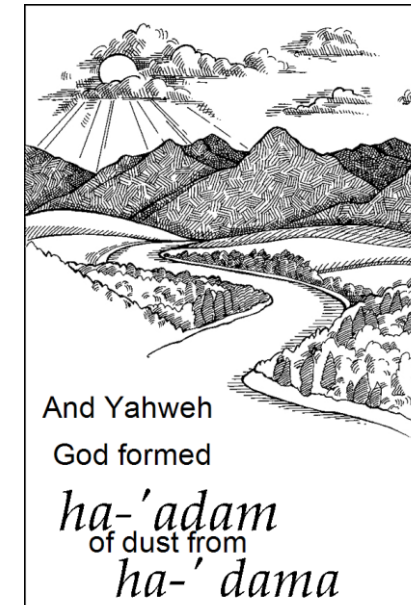
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

717/766-7931

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John's email: revjohnwd@verizon.net



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

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

OCTOBER 4, 2009

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES
THE GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
THE PRELUDE AND LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Organ "Communion"

Martin

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Call and Response) From Psalm 9

*THE HYMN NO. 8 "Praise to the Living God"

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)

Creator God, we are grateful for the fearful and wonderful ways we each and all have been made. Help us to celebrate the gift of life that You have bestowed upon us. Help us to recognize the high value that You have placed upon relationship, between us and You, and between ourselves. Amen.

THE CALL TO CONFESSION

In our desire to define "right" relationships we often seek to limit what constitutes a right or proper relationship. If a relationship does not fit into a particular mold, we claim it is not appropriate. We lose sight of the big picture, of the concept that what God desires is relationship. God wants us to choose to be in relationship with God. The way we learn to do that best is through our intimate human relationships. And still we seek to limit those. 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.



Thanks to all of you who donated your craft items, baked goods, flea market item & time to the Bazaar. Your effort is greatly appreciated! - The Bazaar Chairpersons.



Come out and join us at a **Halloween Party, Sunday October 25th, 5:30 to 7:30 PM at Paulus Farm Market, 1216 S. York St. in Mechanicsburg.** Bring your blankets, flashlights and appropriate footwear is suggested. There will be Hayrides, a corn maze to explore and refreshments to enjoy. Children are welcome to play in the Fall Fun Fort. Please see signup sheet on the bulletin board in the commons area if you are willing to provide refreshments. Traditionally this event is geared toward children and youth but folks of all ages are invited to come out for this fun event.

THORNWALD HOME HOLIDAY BAZAAR – Friday, November 6, 2009 – 10:00 am to 2:00 pm - Thornwald Home and UCC Homes' Auxiliary are busy making plans for the annual Holiday Bazaar. There are several ways you can help make this a success: donations of jewelry (the residents enjoy choosing items that they can purchase for their own use or as Christmas gifts), baked goods for the bake sale table, or items that can be placed on the "Attic Treasures" table AND please plan to attend. There will be over 20 different craft vendors on site for your shopping pleasure. As always, there will be lots of good food available, so come for lunch. Thanks again for your support of Thornwald Home and UCC Homes' Auxiliary! Contact Marilyn Aust at 766-2025 should you care to donate.

ST. PAUL'S ON A MISSION is registered online for the **2009 Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk** to be held **October 17th**. Go to: makingstrides.acsevents.org/Harrisburg to register, or see Brenda Kern for a registration form. If you are unable to participate in any of the events and would like to make a donation, you may do so after services in the Common or let Brenda Kern know, 796-0939. Thank You!

Stewardship Campaign Kickoff Party and Silent Auction - by now you should have received your invitation to the dinner at Allenberry on October 23. This party will be so much more fun if you are there too. Reservations can be made by sending your RSVP along with a check to Jane Hall, or you can place it in the church office or even in the offering plate. Our silent auction has been more successful each year. Last year there was friendly, yet competitive, bidding on several items, which ultimately led to some people making new friendships. Our auction also raised \$2100 toward the 2009 budget. We are hoping to equal or surpass that amount this year. Your donations to the silent auction may be left in the church office or contact Jane Hall.

TUES Noon Ecumenical Food Pantry
 5:30 pm TOPS (Rm 6)
 7:00 pm Bear Den (FH)

WED **6:00 pm Hand Chime Choir (Rm. 5)**
6:30 pm Youth Choir (S)
7:15 pm Chancel Choir (S)

THURS 7:00 pm Pack Committee Meeting (Rm 7/8)
 7:00 pm **Worship Committee Meeting (Parlor)**

SUN Oct 11th **8:15/10:30am Worship Services/Baptism @ 10:30 Service**
9:00 am Choristers
9:15 am Sunday School
Youth Event-Corn Maze

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Neighbors in Need Information: Many years ago members of the Reformed Church gave money to a special mission project called the Winnebago Indian Mission of the Reformed Church in America which was situated in Wisconsin and specifically located at Black River Falls, Neillsville, and Mission House College. In 2009 Neighbors in Need offering still supports our American Indian Neighbors in the UCC. One third of the offering supports the UCC’s Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM). Historically the UCC has established churches and worked with other tribes such as the Lakota, Dakota, Nakota, Mandan, Hidatsa, Arickara, and Hockak located in North and South Dakota, northern Nebraska, and Wisconsin. Today there are twenty UCC congregations on reservations and one urban multi-tribe UCC congregation in Minneapolis, Minnesota. These churches and their pastors are supported by CAIM. CAIM is also an invaluable resource for more than 1,000 individuals from dozens of other tribes and nations who are members of other UCC congregations in the United States. Neighbors in Need helps to make another world possible. It needs your support!

CHILDREN’S SABBATH FAIR, SUNDAY OCTOBER 18, 2009 – There will be one worship service that day @ **9:30** followed by Special activities and social time in Fellowship Hall. **HOME AND CHURCH SAFETY/EMERGENCY PREPARATION** - Various community organizations will be here to educate us in fire safety and emergency management, including a fire suppression demo after the 9:30 worship service. Learn how to keep your family and church family safe in an emergency! **POSTER CONTEST ends today** – Please turn any posters into the Church Office today.

HELP NEEDED IN NURSERY - We need help staffing the nursery during the second service. Please consider signing up to assist in this area. The signup sheet is on the bulletin board in the Common Area. Thank you

*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 GOSPEL SCRIPTURE READING Mark 10:2-16

PSALTER RESPONSE (sung in unison) Psalm 8 New Century Hymnal Page #624

THE RESPONSE
 One: God is still speaking.
 All: **Thanks be to God!**

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING AND MESSAGE Genesis 2:18-24
 “Creating Two From One”

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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 Youth Choir “We Gather at Your Table” Ehret.
 10:30 Chancel Choir “The Greatest Gift is Love” Hayes

*THE DOXOLOGY (#780)

*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

As long ago You spoke through the prophets, O God, speak now through us and through the fruits of our labor which we share. We dedicate to Your service all the good things we have received from Your hand. May we proclaim Your name to our brothers and sisters in this congregation. May our gifts carry the good news throughout our community, making a difference in the quality of life experienced by many, near and far. Amen.

THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

*THE COMMUNION HYMN NO. 332 “As We Gather At Your Table”

THE INVITATION

THE COMMUNION PRAYER

One: God Be With You.

Many: And Also With You.

One: Lift Up Your Hearts.

Many: We Lift Them Up To God.

One: Let Us Give Thanks To God.

Many: It Is Good To Give God Thanks And Praise.

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD’S PRAYER (Unison)
(Debts and Debtors)

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

(We will share in the Sacrament in our pews this Sunday. Please hold the elements until all have been served and we will eat and then drink together. There will be bread and gluten-free wafers on each plate and wine and white grape juice in each cup holder. All are welcome to participate. Thank you.)

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (Unison)

Eternal God, You have called Your people from east and west, and north and south, to feast at the table of Jesus Christ. We thank You for Christ’s presence, and for the spiritual food of Christ’s body and blood. By the power of Your Holy Spirit, keep us faithful to Your Will. Go with us to the streets, to our homes, and to our places of labor and leisure, that whether we are gathered or scattered, we may be the servant church, of the servant Christ, in whose name we rejoice to pray. Amen.

*THE HYMN NO. 556 “God Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens”

*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 “Ceremonial March”

Wetherill

*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 that is located in the red pad on the aisle side of the pew so that others may greet you in the name of the Living Christ. Remember to place a check mark under the communion heading if you partake of communion. The person at the end of the pew should place the finished sheet in the offering plate.

References:

Front Cover translation Genesis 2:7 is from God and the Rhetoric of Sexuality, by Phyllis Trible, 1978, Fortress Press.

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

The Prayer of Dedication is from Taught By Love, by Lavon Bayler, 1998, 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
Bill and Deb Cashman “In Honor of our 26th Wedding Anniversary”

PRAYER CONCERNS: Jim Sufrin (Noel’s Dad)

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK of October 4, 2009 – October 11, 2009

TODAY 8:15 & 10:30 am Worship Services/Communion (Pew)
Neighbors in Need Special Mission Offering
9:00 am Choristers
9:15 am Sunday School