

TODAY AT ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Worship Leadership

Preacher: The Rev. John Ward-Diorio
Karen Kirk

Lector: Tom Stone

Ministry of Music

Assistant Organist: Patrice Miller
Minister of Music: Eric Dundore

Ministry of Service

Head Ushers: Shirley Keith-Knox

Ushers: Betracy and Jeffrey Nye
Winnie & Daryl Wentz

Greeters: Patty and Dave Scott

Acolyte: Jeff Dundore

Children's Sermon: Ruth Wrightstone

Stewardship Moments: Susan Gabriel

Nursery: Cathy Thomas

Flower Delivery: The Eichman Family

Fellowship Time: Adult II Sunday School Class

Welcome to St. Paul's United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

October 18, 2009



*Therefore keep
watch, because you
do not know the day
or the hour.*

Matthew 25:13

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
717/766-7931**

**Web: saintpaulsucc-mech.org
Office email: stpaulstaff@verizon.net
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

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

OCTOBER 18, 2009

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES
THE GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
THE PRELUDE AND LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES
Organ "We've A Story To Tell"

Turner

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Call and Response) From Psalm 104

*THE HYMN NO. 427 "God Made from One Blood"

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)

Loving God, You desire that we all be as safe as possible. Help us to do what we can to be ready for the chaos that is possible in our world. Help us to be people who look after not only our own and our loved ones' safety, but the safety of all. Amen.

THE CALL TO CONFESSION

We can often wait too long to prepare ourselves for what might or will happen to us. Few of us prepare well for our deaths, which will occur for all at some point. We prepare even less for potential dangerous situations, even when such preparation could save lives. We quite often look the other way from things we fear, refusing to accept the courage God offers us to face those fears. 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.

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

*THE GLORIA PATRI

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! - Hello, willing and able weekday drivers. We need your help. Our list of volunteer drivers has dwindled. These are the kind folks who take church members who are unable to drive themselves to medical appointments. One member, in fact, has consistent appointments 2 Wednesdays each month and needs a driver in order to go to, and later come home from, these appointments. Other appointments, scheduled at least a week ahead, require more driver volunteers. If you think you could volunteer to drive, even once a month (or much less often if we can "grow" our volunteer list), please contact Betsy Rushong at 691-0124. Or, if you prefer, e-mail me at brushong@verizon.net or put your name and phone number on the sign up list in the common area. I will get back to each of you, and we will see what suits you best. In advance, our members and I thank you.



ATTENTION FAMILIES OF COLLEGE STUDENTS – FINALS

SURVIVAL PACKAGES - We need your college student's updated address for this year! It's almost time for College Care Packages to be prepared by our Youth Group. The Youth will be baking hundreds of cookies on Nov. 29th and shipping them off in time for finals. If anyone would like to donate any items from the list below, you may place them in the box I have marked College Care Packages in the youth room by November 25th. Items like mini

candy bars, granola bars, rice krispie treats, microwave popcorn, hot cocoa mixes are all great to send. Monetary donations can also be made if anyone wishes to "Sponsor a Box" to help us out with the shipping of packages (Just write College Care Boxes on the memo line of your check). Please contact Linda Alburger at talburger@comcast.net or call 649-1301 with their information or any questions. Thank You!

THORNWALD HOME HOLIDAY BAZAAR – Friday, November 6, 2009 – 10:00 am to

2:00 pm - 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. Contact Marilyn Aust at 766-2025 should you care to donate.

Mercersburg Association Fall Meeting will be at Solomons, Chambersburg on Sunday, November 1 - All clergy, delegates, and laypersons of the Mercersburg Association are invited to this meeting. Each local church is entitled to be represented at this meeting by 2 lay delegates. **Non delegated members may attend without privilege of vote.** Registration begins at 2:30 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 3:00 p.m. For more details on this meeting, please see the bulletin board in the common area. **Registration is due by Sunday, October 25.** Please contact Secretary/Registrar Cherry Snyder at 717-762-7628 or e-mail her at C5M7Snyder@gmail.com by October 25, so that sufficient materials and refreshments will be available.

Stewardship Campaign Kickoff Party and Silent Auction – Friday October 23rd at Allenberry. 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, in the church office or place in the offering plate by Sunday, October 18th.** Our silent auction has been more successful each year. Last year’s auction raised \$2100 toward the 2009 budget. We are hoping to equal or surpass that amount this year. Please see the posters on the bulletin board in the common area for suggestions for silent auction items. Your donations to the silent auction may be left in the church office or contact Jane Hall.

Information for Free Babysitting Service – Children’s Movie and Popcorn Night, Friday October 23rd, 5:30 PM - For parents who are in need of babysitting the evening of the Stewardship Campaign Kickoff Party and Silent Auction, Jonathan and Christal Nase will be offering a movie and popcorn night for all **children up to 12 years of age** in St. Paul’s Fellowship Hall starting at 5:30 p.m. Registration forms for this event can be found on the table in the common area. **Please fill out one form per child and turn it in to the church office no later than Sunday, October 18, 2009.** The movie that will be shown is the classic - **Chitty Chitty Bang Bang** - followed by **Tom and Jerry** cartoons. Popcorn, pretzels, and punch will be provided. Stewardship campaign donations are most welcome. Adult and youth volunteers are being sought for helping with the babysitting service. Please contact Jonathan and Christal Nase at 432-7104 or jandcnase@aol.com.

A SIGN-UP SHEET FOR POINSETTIAS, which will help beautify our Christmas Services, is on the bulletin board in the Common. The cost this year is **\$6.25** each. Orders and payment must be into St. Paul’s no later than November 11th. Please print your information neatly on the signup sheet as it will be printed in the Worship Bulletin.

HAYRIDE



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 small 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 for this event.** Traditionally this event is geared toward children and youth but folks of all ages are invited to come out for this fun event.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS for the **Post Bazaar Meeting on Thursday, November 5th at 7 pm in the Parlor.** While the Bazaar is still fresh in your mind, come and share your thoughts of how it went.

POLLYANNAS will be meeting 1 pm Tuesday, October 27th at Bonnie Plymette’s house. Please remember your food donations. Any questions, call Bonnie at 697-2938.

STEWARDSHIP MOMENTS

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 HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING

Job 38:1-11

THE READING OF THE PSALM

Psalms 91:9-16

THE RESPONSE

One: God is still speaking.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

THE GOSPEL READING

Matthew 25:1-13

THE MESSAGE

Karen Kirk

*THE HYMN NO. 429 “God, Bless Our Homes”

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER (unison)

(Debts and Debtors)

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

Choristers

*THE DOXOLOGY (#780)

*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

We give with joy, loving God, in thanks for all You have allowed us to experience. By Your love, we have survived and learned and grown. We dedicate these gifts that more people may be brought to the feet of Jesus, who is the eternal source of salvation. Equip us to be an inviting, caring community in which all Your wayward people find a genuine welcome and are lifted up to new understanding and joy. Amen.

*THE HYMN NO. 597 “Shall We Gather at the River”

*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 “All Things Bright and Beautiful”

Scott

*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, HarperSan 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

Betsy Rushong “In Honor of Russell’s and Mandy’s October Birthdays

PRAYER CONCERNS: Ron Flory; Shannon (Watson) Sweeney; Clyde Strock

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF October 18 – October 25, 2009

| | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|---|
| TODAY | 9:30 am | Worship Service/Children’s Sabbath |
| | 9:00 am | Choristers |
| | | Special Activities/Fellowship in FH after Worship Service |
| | 2:00 pm | Youth Group leave from Church for Corn Maze |
| TUES | 1:00 pm | Prayer Shawl Ministry (Parlor) |
| | 5:30 pm | TOPS (Rm 6) |
| | 5:30 pm | Consistory (For Our Churches Mtg – Rm 7/8) |
| | 7:00 pm | Consistory (Rm 7/8) |
| | 7:00 pm | MLC Board Meeting (Rm 13) |
| WED | 6:00 pm | Hand Chime Choir (Rm. 5) |
| | 6:30 pm | Youth Choir (S) |
| | 7:15 pm | Chancel Choir (S) |
| FRI | 5:30 pm | Rehearsal (Sanctuary) |
| | 5:30 pm | Children’s Movie/Popcorn night (FH) |
| | 6:00 pm | Stewardship Dinner/Silent Auction (Allenberry) |
| SAT | 2:00 pm | Ceremony (Sanctuary) |
| SUN Oct 25 th | 8:15/10:30 am | Worship Services/Blessing of the Prayer Shawls |
| | 9:00 am | Choristers |
| | 9:15 am | Sunday School |
| | 12:00 pm | Chancel Committee Meeting (Parlor) |
| | 5:30 pm | Halloween Party at Paulus Farm Market |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE WELCOME Karen Kirk as our Preacher today. Karen is the Community Outreach Coordinator for Ready Mom’s Alliance. We thank her for her participation in our worship service today.

CHILDREN’S SABBATH FAIR – Please join us in Fellowship Hall after the service today for special activities and social time. 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! **Our Thanks** go out to the following individuals who are responsible for today’s special programs: **Rev. John, Jonneke Dundore, Ruth Wrightstone, Ron Flory, Devin Flickinger, Melba Bomberger and Herb Bomberger.**

COME SUPPORT ST. PAUL'S YOUTH AT HOSS'S. Our Community Night Fundraiser will be held on **Thursday, November 19, 2009** at the Mechanicsburg Hoss's located at 61 Gettysburg Pike. The youth will receive 20% of your total check. Cards will be available after each service in the commons, or see a member of the youth group. Any questions, please contact Joan Moyer at 766-3325 or joanmoyer@msn.com.