

TODAY AT ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Worship Leadership**

Preacher: The Rev. John Ward-Diorio

Lector: 8:15 Mary Runkle

10:30 Lois Ritter

**Ministry of Music**

Organist: Sarah Myers

Minister of Music: Eric Dundore

**Ministry of Service**

Head Ushers: Dennis Plymette

Ushers: 8:15 Betty and Tom Olsen

10:30 Allan MacKinnon and Mike Aumiller

Susan and Ron Gabriel

Greeters: 8:15 Joan and Ernie Moyer

10:30 Rhoda Rupp and Bonnie Plymette

Acolyte: 8:15 Mike Brown

10:30 Kevin MacKinnon

Children's Sermon: Rev. John

Nursery: Shawna Simpson

Flower Delivery: Catherine and Brandon Thomas

Fellowship Time: Alternative Holiday Market/Family Advent  
Celebration

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

**626 Williams Grove Road**

**Mechanicsburg, PA 17055**

**717/766-7931**

**Web: [saintpaulsucc-mech.org](http://saintpaulsucc-mech.org)**

**Office email: [stpaulstaff@verizon.net](mailto:stpaulstaff@verizon.net)**

**John's email: [revjohnwd@verizon.net](mailto:revjohnwd@verizon.net)**

# Welcome to St. Paul's United Church of Christ

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

November 22, 2009



## **REIGN OF CHRIST**

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

REIGN OF CHRIST

NOVEMBER 22, 2009

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

Organ "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come" Mansfield

\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Call and Response) From Hebrews 10

\*THE HYMN NO. 301 "Crown With Your Richest Crowns"

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

**Gracious God, we give You thanks for the many ways You have blessed us as individuals and as a congregation. Help us to allow You to be the One who guides us and leads us. May we express our thanksgiving through the giving of our lives in service to You. Amen.**

THE CALL TO CONFESSION:

We find it difficult to allow anyone, even God, to rule over us. We have strong independent streaks. While God gave us such wills, God also asks us to submit to God's will. Even as we offer thanks for our many blessings, we struggle to more faithfully follow God's way. 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.**

**Bring a quality of life to others and to yourself by becoming a**

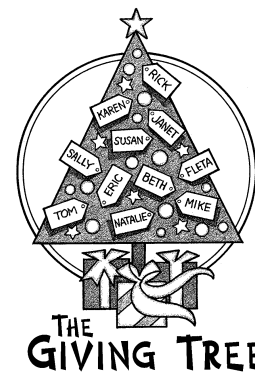
**PinnacleHealth Hospice Volunteer!** See the Bulletin Board in the Common Area for more information on how you can sign-up.

**Christmas Gift Wrapping and Breakfast - OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY - Saturday, December 5th, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm.** Let us take away the hassle of wrapping your Christmas presents. Bring your Christmas presents and have us wrap them for you while you enjoy a free light breakfast. St. Paul's is opening its doors to the community for this event, so be sure to invite your friends, too. This event will be advertised at New Hope Ministries and on the WHTM website. **We need donations of gift wrap, bows, gift tags, scotch tape and breakfast items. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the common area for breakfast food donations and helpers...young and old alike are needed.** If you have any questions, you can contact Chris Grice at 432-7917.



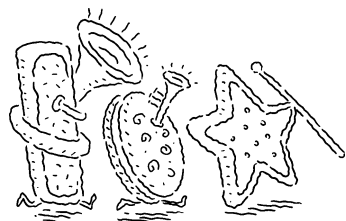
Gifts for Sarah Todd and Thornwald Residents

**UCC Homes is asking** congregations to help brighten the lives of residents by remembering them with gifts of love at Christmas time. Once again we invite you to share with those who are less fortunate. Please see the bulletin board in the common area for a list of suggestions to assist you in purchasing gifts for the residents. **Please remember that gifts are to be new.** Together we can provide a better quality of life for the residents of UCC Homes and together we can strengthen the greater community ... God's community. **There is a box in the Commons to place your gifts. The deadline is next Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>.** Any questions, please contact Donna Sponsler at 766-3249. Thank you for sharing with those less fortunate.



**Looking for a way to spread your holiday cheer?** The Adult II SS Class and Council for Extended Ministries are asking for your support of our annual project in support of New Hope Ministries. St. Paul's will be providing Christmas gifts and dinner for 25 persons who will not receive Christmas Gifts without our help. **Please see the bulletin board in the common area for the ornaments with individuals' names on them and a gift they have requested (through New Hope).** Each person will have between 2 and 3 gifts they have requested. In addition, a master list of the individuals will be hung near the ornaments in order to keep track of who in our congregation is supplying which gift. When you take an ornament, please make sure you sign your name beside that individual on the master sheet. Please be generous in taking as many gift ornaments as you would like. The wrapped gifts must be returned to the church no later than Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, with a tag securely attached to it. The tag should have the family #, first name and age of the individual who the gift is for. Your support of this project will enable us to provide a wonderful Christmas to some deserving families this holiday season.

**ALTERNATIVE GIVING MARKET & Family Advent Celebration – after the second service in Fellowship Hall today** – Buy gifts to support the 4 H’S: **H**EIFER, **N**EW **H**OPE MINISTRIES, **H**ABITAT FOR HUMANITY & **H**artman Center. Make cool Christmas gifts and decorations at each market stand and nibble on yummy foods while you shop and craft! **ADVENT CALENDARS** will be available for purchase at \$10.00 each. If you already signed up for a calendar and have not gotten it yet, we have one for you. You may pick up after the 2<sup>nd</sup> service in Fellowship Hall or in the Church Office. A portion of the purchase price will be applied as a donation to the Four H’s. If we sell out today and you want one, please let us know so we can quickly place another order.



## Cookie Walk

December 12th, 10 am to noon. The money raised at last year’s cookie walk went toward the purchase of the Choir Robes.

**THE POLLYANNAS** are having the second annual **COOKIE WALK** in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> after both services. **This year the Pollyanna’s are asking members of the congregation to help with the baking of cookies for this event.**

Please pack your cookies in baggies priced to sell at \$1.00 per bag and drop off in the Adult 2 Sunday School room on Saturday



**Mechanicsburg Ministerium’s Inter-Faith Thanksgiving Eve Service, Wednesday, Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> 7 PM** at Temple Beth Shalom, 913 Allendale Road in Mechanicsburg. The offering on this evening of nonperishable food items and cash donations will be given to New Hope Ministries. Rabbi Jordi Gendra-Molina will have a presentation about the temple and the Jewish community beginning at 6:30 PM that evening.

The Thanksgiving service begins at 7 PM. The Rev. Kathryn Johnston, pastor of the Mechanicsburg Presbyterian Church, will be preaching. Special music will be provided by the Singing Men of Messiah Village.

**YOUNG ADULT BREAKFAST-** All current college students and recent high school/college graduates are invited to attend an informal breakfast get together on Sunday, November 29th from 9:15 to 10:15 in Fellowship Hall. Come catch up with your St Paul’s friends while you are home for Thanksgiving! All other young adults are also welcome. **Parents, if your young adult will be attending the breakfast, please sign up on the signup sheet on the Youth Bulletin Board to bring a breakfast item.** If you have any questions, please contact Martha Brown at [vbrown5325@aol.com](mailto:vbrown5325@aol.com) or 697-3522.

\*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 HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING

2 Samuel 23:1-5

### THE READING OF THE PSALM

Psalm 93

### THE RESPONSE

One: God is still speaking.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

### THE GOSPEL READING AND MESSAGE

John 18:33-37

“What Kind of King Is This?”

\*THE HYMN NO. 28 “For the Beauty of the Earth”

### 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

8:15 Youth Choir “Lord of Creation”  
10:30 Chancel Choir “O Lord of Hosts, My God and King”

Pethel  
Courtney

\*THE DOXOLOGY (#780)

\*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

**Our offerings measure our faithfulness to You, mighty God. They witness to the importance we place on sharing Your Word, ministering to one another, and reaching out to make a difference in Your world. As we have been influenced by Your love in Jesus Christ, help us to communicate that love by what we do and say. Let us become as lamps brightening a cloudy day, as light breaking forth at dawn. To that end, we dedicate ourselves with our gifts. Amen.**

\*THE HYMN NO. 422 “Come, O Thankful People, Come”

\*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 “We Plow the Fields, and Scatter”

Hughes

\*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  
Bob Heisler “ In Memory of Brad Myers”

PRAYER CONCERNS:

**It’s a Boy! “Ethan Gregory Dixon”** was born at 2:20 am Wednesday November 18<sup>th</sup> . He was 7 lbs 4 oz and 20 ½ inches long. **Our Congratulations** go out to the proud parents; Sabrina (Thompson) and Chris Dixon, big brother Caleb and Grandma Anna Thompson.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF November 22 – 29, 2009

	<b>TODAY</b>	<b>8:15/10:30 am</b>	<b>Worship Services</b>
		<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Choristers</b>
		<b>9:15 am</b>	<b>Sunday School</b>
		<b>12:00 pm</b>	<b>Alternative Holiday Market/Advent (FH)</b>
<b>MON</b>			<b>EPISTLE DEADLINE</b>
		<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Bible Study @ Ron and Donna Chronisters</b>
<b>TUES</b>		<b>1:00 pm</b>	<b>Pollyanna’s @ Jane Hall’s Home</b>
		5:30 pm	TOPS (Rm 13)
		<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Reorganization of Property Committee (Parlor)</b>
<b>WED</b>			<b>No Choir Rehearsals</b>
		<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Interfaith Thanksgiving Eve Service</b>
<b>THUR</b>			<b>Thanksgiving Holiday – Church Office Closed</b>
<b>FRI</b>			<b>Church Office Closed</b>
<b>SAT</b>			<b>Sanctuary – Christmas Decorating</b>
<b>SUN NOV 29th</b>	<b>8:15/10:30 am</b>		<b>Worship Services/1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>
		<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Choristers</b>
		<b>9:15 am</b>	<b>Sunday School</b>
		<b>9:15 am</b>	<b>Breakfast for College Age Students (FH &amp; Kitchen)</b>
		<b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>YF Cookie Baking (Kitchen/FH/Rm 7/8)</b>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Save the dates: Saturday December 12th - 2 pm to 6 pm** Christmas/Advent Open House at the Ward Diorio’s. **Sunday December 13th** - Plan now to attend the Budget Meeting after the second service.

**PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING** – both current members and anyone interested in helping out in this area. Please join us for a reorganization meeting of the property committee, **Tuesday evening, November 24<sup>th</sup> in the Parlor at 7 PM.**

**POLLYANNA’S** – will be meeting 1 pm Tuesday, November 24<sup>th</sup> at Jane Hall’s house. Please remember your food donations. Any questions, call Jane at 697-2087.