

TODAY AT ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Worship Leadership

Preacher: The Rev. Brian Medkeff-Rose

Lector: 8:15 Mary Runkle

10:30 Kathy Aumiller

Ministry of Music

Assistant Organist: Patrice Miller

Minister of Music: Eric Dundore

Ministry of Service

Head Usher: Shirley Keith-Knox

8:15 Martha and Gene Keith

10:30 Victoria and Martin Velez

10:30 Deb and Bill Cashman

Greeters: 8:15 Cheryl and Ken Malick

10:30 Jill Morell and Becky Thompson

Acolyte: 8:15 Jeff Dundore

10:30

Children's Sermon: Deb Cashman

Nursery:

Flower Delivery: Donna and Don Sponsler

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

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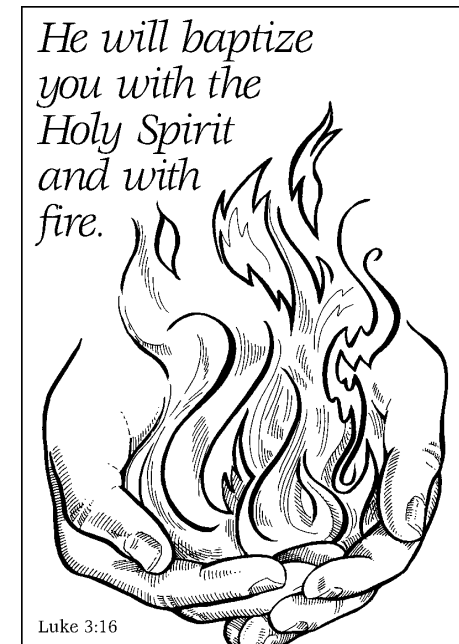
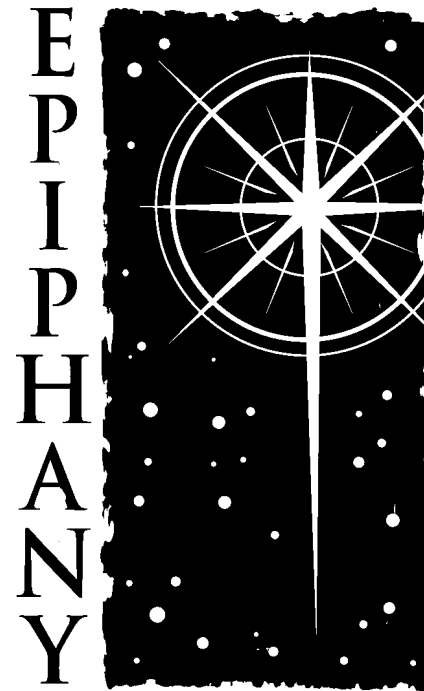
John's email: revjohnwd@verizon.net

Welcome to

St. Paul's United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

January 10, 2010



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

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

JANUARY 10, 2010

THE GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES

THE PRELUDE AND LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Organ

“In A Quiet Sanctuary”

Bartlett

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

L: Gather from East and West, from North and South.

God is calling us; listen, for God is naming you.

P: The voice of God thunders through our midst.

The voice of God is powerful and full of majesty.

L: Bow in awe before the one who created you.

God knows you completely, yet accepts you.

P: The voice of God commands our attention.

The voice of God is like fire and tornado.

L: God reaches out to strengthen, not condemn us.

God brings us through terror to a place of peace.

P: Ascribe to God glory and strength.

Worship God in awe, wonder, and joy!

*THE HYMN NO. 157 “Brightest and Best”

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

God of cleansing waters and purifying fires, touch our lives today to recall us to the power of our baptism and reconfirm our commitment to Jesus Christ. Name us again as Your own people: precious, gifted, created to glorify You in fullness of life, in peace with ourselves and one another. Send Your Holy Spirit once more to energize our worship and enliven our witness in the world. Hear us as we pray for one another and for Your church in every place. Amen.

THE CALL TO CONFESSION:

We are baptized, set apart to be a ministering people, called to be agents of change, created to give glory to God in word and deed. The Holy Spirit has claimed us to be praying, caring, giving disciples of Jesus Christ. In this time of confession, we acknowledge how far we are from what we were created to be.

THE 2010 ENVELOPES are on the table in the Common area. Please pick up your box of envelopes and any of those that you can deliver. If you don't see yours, please check with Terry in the church office. Thank you.

If you have hugs to spare, consider sponsoring a child through the Global Ministries Child Sponsorship Program, a global children's ministry of the United Church of Christ and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). **THE SIGN-UP SHEET FOR THE 2010 CHILD SPONSORSHIPS** is on the bulletin board in the Common. The cost per month to sponsor a child in 2010 will be \$30.00.

THE SIGN-UP SHEET FOR THE 2010 ALTAR FLOWERS is on the bulletin board in the Common. Please neatly fill in the information as you want it in the Worship Bulletin. The price for the altar flowers is \$32.00.

Please check out the Bulletin Board for other signup sheets; Fellowship Time and to help out in the Nursery.

ST. PAUL'S ANNUAL MEETING and CONGREGATIONAL DINNER WILL BE HELD ON JANUARY 17, 2010 following the 10:30 Worship Service. The Pork and Sauerkraut dinner will begin after the annual meeting. Mark your calendars now and plan to attend and enjoy the delicious food that is prepared for you and the fellowship of your church friends. Sign up now on the sheet in the Commons so we have a count for the Dinner.

Do you shop at Giant? If so, please consider buying **Giant Gift Cards from the Youth Group**. The Youth Group earns \$25.00 for every \$500.00 in gift cards they sell. What do you get? If you purchase a \$50.00 gift card, it costs you \$50.00 and you can use it for \$50.00 in Giant. You do earn bonus points when you shop with a gift card. See Mary Runkle if you would like to purchase.

NEEDED: PERSONS WILLING TO SERVE ON CALLED TO CARE TEAM – The Called to Care program plays a vital role in our congregation, administered entirely by laypersons, with the support and assistance of the pastor. The training for this program includes strengthening skills in communication, crisis, attitude, dependency, healing, scripture, confidentially, prayer, problem solving, etc. Please contact Martha Keith at 258-0591 if you would like more information or if you are interested in attending the training. If you are willing to consider this you are still not obligated to become part of the team until the training is completed. The next training session is scheduled to begin **Thursday, January 14, 2010 at 7:00 PM** in the church parlor. It will continue the next 5 consecutive Thursday evenings at the same time ending on Thursday February 18th. It is important to plan on attending all of the six sessions. Thank you in advance for considering joining the Called to Care Team.

January 10, 2010



Tim Davinroy
 Ron and Donna Chronister and Family
 Shannon Collins
 Tyler Derr
 Jackie Diorio
 Jacque and Grace Drager
 Pat Eakin
 Scott Eichman
 Paul Heaney, Sr.
 Betty Hyde
 Les Gerber and Elaine McCracken
 Clyde and Treva Miller
 Dayne and Sue Miller
 Steve Mitchell
 Ally, Erin, Joan and Ernie Moyer
 Jean Myers
 Rev. John
 Dave Scott
 Peg and Don Seiler
 Clyde Strock
 Susan and Natalie
 Dave Thomas
 Ruth Wrightstone
 All the people in the Middle East struggling for peace
 All the people in the military and their families
 All the people who have lost jobs and their families

Celebrations

Our Thanks go out to Rev. Brian for preaching today in Rev. John's absence.
 Thank You to Dave Scott for taking care of the Epiphany Tree Burning.

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION(Unison)

O God, the waters of faithfulness run deep, and we have been afraid they will overwhelm us. The fires of Your Spirit burn brightly, and we fear we may be consumed if we display too much enthusiasm. We retreat to safe places where we hope to avoid challenges, conflicts, and uncertainty. When we shrink from risks, we miss much that enriches life. We fail to notice Your amazing activity among those who respond to Your leading. Free us, we pray, for daring service. 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

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

Isaiah 43:1-7

THE READING OF THE PSALM

Psalm 29

THE RESPONSE

One: God is still speaking.

All: Thanks be to God!

THE GOSPEL READING AND MESSAGE
“Remembering”

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

*THE HYMN NO. 168 “O Radiant Christ, Incarnate Word”

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 “In This Very Room”
10:30 Chancel Choir “Be Not Afraid”

Harris
Courtney

*THE DOXOLOGY (#780)

*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

For bringing us safely to this hour, we give You thanks, O God of wind and fire. May our offerings honor You. May our lives reflect Your mercy. May our hands bestow on others the blessings we have received. May our prayers unite us with one another and with Christ, in whose name we celebrate the privilege of giving. Amen.

*THE HYMN NO 132 “Joy to the World!”

*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 “Awake, Thou Wintry Earth”

Birchwood

*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.

References:

The Call to Worship, Prayers of Confession, Dedication and Thanksgiving are from Gathered by Love, by Lavon Bayler, 1994, 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

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF January 10th – 17th 2010

TODAY	8:15/10:30 am	Worship Services/Epiphany Tree Burning after 2 nd Serv
	9:00 am	Choristers
	9:15 am	Sunday School
	6:00 pm	Youth Fellowship (FH & Rm 7/8)
MON	6:00 pm	MASH Color Guard (FH)
	6:30 pm	Tiger Den (Rm 13)
	7:00 pm	Bible Study @ Donna and Ron Chronister’s
TUES	1:00 pm	Prayer Shawl Ministry (Parlor)
	5:30 pm	TOPS (Rm 13)
	6:30 pm	MASH Sewing (FH)
	7:00 pm	Pastor Parish Meeting (Parlor)
WED	6:00 pm	Hand Chime Choir (Rm. 5)
	6:30 pm	Youth Choir (S)
	7:15 pm	Chancel Choir (S)
THUR	6:30 pm	MASH Sewing (FH)
	7:00 pm	CTC Training (Parlor)
SUN JAN 17th	9:00 am	Choristers
	9:15 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship Service (one)
	11:30 am	Congregational Meeting (sanctuary) followed by Pork and Sauerkraut Dinner (FH)
	5:00 pm	Youth - Hershey Bears Hockey Game doors open 3:30

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE WELCOME THE REV. BRIAN MEDKEFF-ROSE this morning as our preacher. Brian is an ordained minister with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and has pastored churches in Ohio, Iowa, and Pennsylvania. Over the last twelve years, Brian has served as the Chaplain for Pinnacle Health Hospice.