

TODAY AT ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Worship Leadership

Preacher: The Rev. John Ward-Diorio

Lector: Youth

Ministry of Music

Assistant Organist: Patrice Miller

Minister of Music: Eric Dundore

Ministry of Service

Head Usher: Kevin Allison

Greeters: Youth

Acolyte: Clayton Pirtle

Children's Sermon: Youth

Nursery: Cathy Thomas

Flower Delivery: Betsy Rushong

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

626 Williams Grove Road

Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

717/766-7931

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Office email: stpaulstaff@verizon.net

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

February 14, 2010

Youth Sunday: A Mountaintop Experience



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

LAST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY/TRANSFIGURATION FEBRUARY 14,2010

THE GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES

THE PRELUDE AND LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Organ "Jesus, Lover of My Soul" Benjamin

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Call and Response) Audrey Runkle

**I lift up my eyes to the hills—from where will my help come?
My help comes from God, who made heaven and earth.
Extol the LORD our God, and worship at his holy mountain;
for the LORD our God is holy.**

*THE HYMN NO. 433 "In the Bulb There Is a Flower"

THE OPENING PRAYER (Responsive Reading) Mike Brown

For seeing God's beauty through the fishing hole and the experience of hiking the Knob,

Thanks be for God's Creation.

For being able to worship God freely in a beautiful, natural setting,

Thanks be for outdoor ministry.

For all who make the "Son-shine place" a great experience,

Thanks be for Camp Directors, counselors, and the support of all our churches.

For becoming a different person than I was when I went to camp because of the things I

learned, the people I met, and the way I experienced God,

Thanks be to Hartman Center for the outstanding outdoor ministry it provides! Amen.

THE CALL TO CONFESSION: Kevin MacKinnon

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; but we esteemed it not and turned away. Let us confess our unfaithfulness and the limits of our trust.

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



Ash Wednesday Service, February 17th at 7:30 PM. Come join us this coming Wednesday for a Service of Readings, Prayers, Imposition of Ashes and The Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Check out the signup sheets on the bulletin board in the commons: CHILD SPONSORSHIPS - cost per month to sponsor a child in 2010 will be \$30.00; ALTAR FLOWERS - cost per Sunday for altar flowers is \$32.00; FELLOWSHIP TIME ; UCC Homes AUCTION- items needed; ST. PAUL'S ON A MISSION EASTER EGG SALE; LENTEN READING SERIES and to sign up to help in the NURSERY.



REBUILDING TOGETHER WORK DAY - St. Paul's will again be participating in the Rebuilding Together national work day on **Saturday, April 24, 2010**. Please reserve that date if you are interested in being part of our team. A signup sheet will be posted on the bulletin board in March. If you have any questions about this event, please contact Ron Flory

IS OUR CHURCH BUILDING ACCESSIBLE? Help us find out on Sunday, February 21st! - St. Paul's has made a number of adjustments in our parking and facilities to allow better access for people with physical disabilities. We have designated parking spaces, designated seating in our sanctuary, and added automatic doors to enter the bathrooms to make our building accessible. We recognize that accessibility applies not only to persons with physical and mobility limitations, but also to those of hearing and sight and mental abilities. With this in mind, we need to ask ourselves have we done enough? Is there more that we can do to better welcome members, guests and visitors with disabilities?

Next Sunday, February 21st, a small group of folks will be conducting an Accessibility Audit of our church. This accessibility audit is designed to help us analyze our church facilities, and our methods of communication and attitudes. The results of the audit will help us identify barriers that can cause persons with disabilities to be excluded from full participation in worship and other congregational activities. Realizing that the goal of full accessibility is a continuing process, this audit of our building and communications will be a starting point for working towards greater accessibility.

If this is an issue of interest to you, please join us on Sunday, February 21st to complete the church audit. We will meet immediately following the 10:30 am service and expect to complete our work by mid afternoon. A lite lunch will be served.

RSVP to Shirley Keith Knox at 697-6946 or at skeithknox@comcast.net. Questions: See Shirley Keith Knox or Dennis Plymette.

TUES 5:30 pm TOPS (Rm 13)
 6:30 pm MASH Sewing (FH)
7:00 pm Consistory (Rm 7/8)
7:00 pm MLC Board Mtg (Rm 13)

WED **7:30 pm ASH Wednesday Service (Pew Communion)**

THUR 6:30 pm MASH Sewing (FH)
7:00 pm CTC Training (Parlor)
7:00 pm Property Committee Meeting (Rm 7/8)

SUN Feb 21st 8:15/10:30 am Worship Services/Blessing of the Prayer Shawls
9:00 am Choristers
9:15 am Sunday School
Noon Accessibility Workgroup (Rm 7/8)
 2:00 pm Blue & Gold Banquet (FH & Kitchen)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Property Committee Meeting, Thursday February 18th 7 PM. Calling all members or anyone wishing to join the Property Committee to a meeting this coming Thursday February 18th at 7PM in the Youth Room (Rm 7/8). Hope to see you there.

Today on Youth Sunday, we will kick off a special giving opportunity to enable members of our congregation to attend Hartman Center summer camp programs. Hartman Center is our UCC Penn Central Conference Outdoor Ministries and Retreat Center located 20 miles below State College in Milroy, PA. Throughout the summer, programs are offered for all ages, including Family, Grandparent/Child, and Adult camps, in addition to those geared to Youth. There is something for everyone!

A special offering to go towards offsetting the costs of camp will be accepted from today through March 28th. Specially marked envelopes are available in the pews. Just place them in the offering plates with checks made payable to St. Paul's UCC. If you have any questions, please contact Jonneke Dundore, St. Paul's Hartman Center advocate.

REMINDER: St. Paul's on a Mission Turkey Corn Soup /Bean Soup will be available for pick up in the kitchen after both services today. There are a few extra quarts available. \$6.00 per quart.

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.

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 Rise and Shine

**Rise and shine, and give God the glory, glory,
 Rise and shine, and give God the glory, glory,
 Rise and shine, and give God the glory, glory,
 children of the Lord!**

THE WORD FOR THE YOUNG Erin Moyer and Katelyn Chamberlain

SING THE CHILDREN TO THEIR SEATS Peace Like a River

**I've got love like a mountain,
 I've got love like a mountain,
 I've got love like a mountain in my soul!**

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING Exodus 34:29-35 Erin Moyer

THE GOSPEL READING Luke 9:28-36 Ally Moyer

THE READING OF THE EPISTLE 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2 Jeff Dundore

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

THE MESSAGE "A Mountaintop Experience"
Reflections from Katelyn Chamberlain,
 Clayton Pirtle, and Chelsey Wirth

THE HYMN NO. 286 "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Version from the New Zealand Prayer Book Unison) Mike Brown

**Eternal Spirit,
Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:
The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the earth!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.**

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 OFFERING

Kevin Rudisill

All good gifts around us come from you, O God. You have given us life, and new life in Christ. As you have given us gifts, so we offer our gifts that we may be gifts to one another, even as Jesus so taught and lived. Amen.

THE OFFERTORY

8:15 Handchimes

“Shine, Jesus, Shine”

Kendrick

10:30 Youth Choir and Choristers

“Come, All Children”

Lowenberg

*THE DOXOLOGY (#780)

*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Audrey Runkle

O God, giver of all good, who continually pours your benefits upon us, age after age the living wait upon you and find that of your faithfulness there is no end and that your care is unfailing. We praise you that the mystery of our life is a mystery of infinite goodness. We praise you for the order and constancy of nature; for the beauty and bounty of the earth; for day and night, summer and winter, seed time and harvest; for the varied gifts of loveliness and usefulness which every season brings. We give you thanks for all the comfort and joy of life, for our homes, for our friends, and for all the love and sympathy and goodwill of all people. Accept now these gifts we bring in your service. Amen.

*THE HYMN NO 593 “Lift Every Voice and Sing”

*THE BIDDING TO MISSION

*LAKOTA PRAYER (unison)

Ally Moyer

**My spirit is one with you, Great Spirit.
You strengthen me day and night to share my very best with my brothers and sisters.
You, whom my people see in all of creation and in all people, show your love for us.
Help me to know, like the soaring eagle, the heights of knowledge.
From the Four Directions, fill me with the four virtues of fortitude, generosity, respect and wisdom;
so that I will help my people walk in the path of understanding and peace**

*THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE “The Lord Reigneth!”

Glyncannon

*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 and The Lord's Prayer is from A New Zealand Prayer Book, The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia, 1997, Harper, San Francisco.
The Prayer of Dedication and The Lakota Prayer is from The New Century Hymnal, 1995, The Pilgrim Press.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by
Lori Obrock and Family “In Memory of Elmer & Edith Schaeffer”
The Stada Family “In Loving Memory of Chrissy”

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF February 14 – 21, 2010

TODAY 8:15/10:30 am Worship Services/Youth Sunday

9:00 am Choristers

9:15 am Hartman Center Program and Breakfast (FH)

MON

President's Day Holiday – Church Office Closed

February 14, 2010



Bill Cashman Jr.
Ruth Chronister
Shannon Collins
Tyler Derr
Jackie Diorio
Pat Eakin
Les Gerber and Elaine McCracken
Lucy Goodridge
Shirley Grammer
Paul Heaney, Sr.
Bob Heisler
Betty Hyde
Bill Ingraham
Glenn Kline
Dayne and Sue Miller
Dot Miller
Ally, Erin, Joan and Ernie Moyer
Jean Myers
John Scott
Peg and Don Seiler
Jim Sufrin
Kaylen Walker
Ruth Wrightstone

All the People affected by the Earthquake in Haiti
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

Thanks go out to our **Youth** for their participation in today's services, and to **Holly Yeuell** and **Jonne Dundore** for their creation of our liturgy today.

ST. PAUL'S ON A MISSION EASTER EGG SALE! This year we are taking orders for Peanut Butter and Coconut Cream eggs. Both flavors can be ordered in Milk or Dark Chocolate. The eggs are \$1.00 each or 13 for \$12.00. An order form is posted in the Common. If you wish to take outside orders, use the form found in the February Epistle or see Brenda Kern for an order form. All orders must be made by March 7th please. Eggs will be available for pick up Sunday, March 21st & the 28th (Palm Sunday) after both services. A signup sheet is also posted if you want to help make the eggs. Please sign up to help! All proceeds go to Making Strides Against Breast Cancer!

LENTEN READING SERIES

During Advent this past year we read and discussed The First Christmas by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan. Our group very much enjoyed what we talked about and learned, and asked to do something similar around the topic of Easter.

For Lent then, we will read and discuss The Last Week: What the Gospels Really Teach About Jesus' Final Days in Jerusalem, also by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan. The book is divided into eight chapters, with each chapter devoted to what the different Gospels say happened on that day, beginning with Palm Sunday and ending with Easter. We will discover that sometimes the Gospels will have similar accounts and sometimes not. We will talk about why that is true and what it might have meant for the writers and early listeners, and what it might mean for us today. This is an opportunity to delve deeper into Holy Week, taking time to talk over stories we have heard many times but perhaps have not had the chance to discuss.

We will meet on Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM in the Parlor. **We will begin meeting on February 25** and conclude on March 25 (though sometimes we decide to add extra day(s)). The meetings will last between 1 1/2 to 2 hours. We will have a prayer and silent meditation time at the beginning, check-in, discussion, check-out and prayer. It will be a good idea to bring your Bible each week. Any translation is fine. The book itself lists for about \$14.00, but we can get it at a discount if we order through the church. **There will be a sign-up sheet posted in the Common Area, and you can mark if you would like us to order a copy. We will be placing the order on February 16th so it is here in time for the first session.** I have a copy of the book already, for anyone who would like to see it ahead of time.

I believe this will be a very interesting and fruitful discussion. I hope to see you there. Any questions, please do not hesitate to speak with me, or call, or email. Thanks.

Peace, John

February 14, 2010



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