

Welcome to St. Paul's United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

April 11, 2010

Worship Leadership

Preacher: The Rev. John Ward-Diorio

Lector: 8:15 Patrice Miller

10:30 Lois Ritter

Ministry of Music

Assistant Organist: Patrice Miller

Minister of Music: Eric Dundore

Ministry of Service

Head Usher: Susan Williams

8:15

10:30 Brenda and Tim Kern

10:30 Betracy and Jeff Nye

Greeters: 8:15 Dot and Bud Miller

10:30 Missy and Scott Gates

Acolyte: 8:15

10:30 Slater Ward-Diorio

Children's Sermon: Choristers

Nursery: Melissa Cawley

Flower Delivery: Patty and Dave Scott



"Peace

be with you.

As God has
sent me,
so I send you."

John 20:21, NRSV

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

626 Williams Grove Road

Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

717/766-7931

Website: www.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

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 11, 2010

THE GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES

THE PRELUDE AND LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Organ

“One Shepherd, One Fold”

Southbridge

CALL TO WORSHIP (Call and Response):

From Revelation 1

*THE HYMN NO. 230 “Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain”

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

Awesome and Mysterious God, Your works, ways and reactions are beyond our comprehending. You do not expect us to fully understand You, rather You want us to be in relationship with You. Through that relationship we come to know You in deeper and deeper ways, accepting the mystery of Your being and actions. Amen.

THE CALL TO CONFESSION:

In the face of the fathomlessness of God, we can try and turn our speculations about God into ‘truths in stone.’ Then, those that have questions or doubts are looked down upon or cast aside as believing the wrong things and/or having too little faith. Yet having faith has never been about being certain about everything, seeing everything in strict terms of good and evil, right and wrong, in or out. Rather faith is about believing certain things while continuing to have questions, uncertainty and doubt. Being in a community of faith does not require all of us to believe the exact same things but to commit to seeking to act out of faith together, regardless of our differences. Being a person of faith and part of a faith community is about deepening our relationships with God and each other. We squash differences, questions and doubts to the detriment of ourselves and our community, both the gathered and scattered community. Let us join in the unison Prayer of Confession.

The Mechanicsburg Meals on Wheels is having a fund raiser at Hoss in Mechanicsburg. That is the one located on Old Gettysburg Road. It will be all day on **Tuesday April 20, 2010**. All you need to do is to present the ticket and 20% of your check will be donated to MOW. Tickets are free and can be picked up the table in the common area. Thanks for your support.



We are planning a **Spring clean-up day on Saturday, April 24th starting at 9 am**. Bring your favorite yard tools. We will clean up all of the branches that have come down during the winter and any other general cleanup. Please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the commons so we have an idea on who can help. Rain date will be May 1st. If you have any questions, please contact Don Wood.

Church Pictorial Directory – It has been decided that it is time for our new pictorial church directory. There are a lot of new faces and this will truly allow all of us to get to know each other better. The Council has selected Universal Church Directories to help us with this process. The **dates for pictures to be taken here at St. Paul's are Monday May 24th through Thursday May 27th**. Pictures will be taken in ten minute intervals from 2:30 to 9:00 pm on these days. You can sign up any Sunday in April, see sign-up sheets on the table in the Commons, or you can sign up online Monday through Friday starting April 5th through April 23rd.

Would you be willing to give a fellow member a drive to worship services? There have been times that members cannot get to Worship Services either because they do not have a car, do not drive or their regular ride is unable to pick them up that week. We are looking to set up a list of volunteers who would be willing to drive a member to worship when they need a ride. **If you are willing to have your name put on a volunteer driver list for worship services, please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the common area or call Terry in the Church office. Thank You!**

MON 6:30 pm Tiger Den (FH)
7:00 pm Easter Reading Series (Parlor)

TUES **1:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry(Parlor)**
 5:30 pm TOPS (Rm 13)
 7:00 pm Bear Den (FH)

WED **6:00 pm Council for Extended Ministries Mtg (Parlor)**
6:00 pm Hand Chime Choir (Rm 5)
6:30 pm Youth Choir (Sanctuary)
7:15 pm Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)

FRI **Church Office Closed**

SAT 9:00 am PFLAG Board Meeting (Adult SS 2 room)

Sunday **8:15/10:30 am Worship Services/Blessing of Prayer Shawls/
 Presentation of St. Paul's Team Tour de Cure
 plaque @ second service.**
9:00 am Choristers
9:15 am Sunday School
Noon Blessing of the Bikes in the Parking Lot.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meetings and Reception of New Members - We will have two meetings for those people interested in becoming members of our congregation. Both meetings will occur after our late Sunday Worship Service; the first is today and the second on April 25. This is your chance to gather together and ask questions, receive materials, and learn more about St. Paul's and the United Church of Christ. You only need to attend one of these meetings. We will be receiving New Members on Sunday May 16 during the 10:30 Worship Service. If you have any questions please see, call and/or email Rev. John. Thank you.

Council for Extended Ministries Meeting - Calling all current members and anyone else interested in joining the Council for Extended Ministries to a very important planning meeting **Wednesday April 14th at 6 PM in the Parlor.** We plan to update folks on assignments and review activities that the council will support this year. If you have other areas of interest, please feel free to share them at this meeting

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

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 CHORISTERS 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.

CHORISTERS "He's Alive" Blacklaw

SING THE CHORISTERS 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 EPISTLE SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 5:27-32

THE READING OF THE PSALM

Psalm 150

THE RESPONSE

One: God is still speaking.

All: Thanks be to God!

THE GOSPEL SCRIPTURE READING AND MESSAGE

John 20:19-31

“Doubt Is Not a Four-Letter Word”

*THE HYMN NO. 256 “We Live by Faith and Not by Sight”

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

Organ

“Peace and Calm Within”

Scott

*THE DOXOLOGY (#780)

*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

**For the breath of life, for eyes to see, for insight to believe, for courage
to witness, we give thanks, gracious God. The signs of Your presence
are everywhere. Your glory and dominion are forever and ever. May
this offering witness to Your grace and peace. Grant Your Spirit as a
transforming power among us that inspires and enables our service.
Amen.**

*THE HYMN NO 253 “Yours Is the Glory, Resurrected One!”

*THE BIDDING TO MISSION

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*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 “Christ is the Way, the Truth, the Life”

Kendall

*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 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 April 11 – April 18, 2010

TODAY 8:15/10:30 am Worship Services

9:00 am Choristers

9:15 am Sunday School

Noon New Member meeting (Sanctuary)

6:00 pm Youth Fellowship (FH & Kitchen)

April 11, 2010



Lois Alander and Lehman Families

Tim Davinroy

Bob Drager

Deb Gartland

Family of Dorothy Heckman

Les Gerber and Elaine McCracken

Bob Heisler

Betty Hyde

Terry Keller

Megan Kern

Ally, Erin, Joan and Ernie Moyer

Jean Myers

Rev. George Martz

John Scott

Peg and Don Seiler

Jim and Kathy Short

Clara Sizemore

Leah van Olden

Pete and Patti Watson

Scott Watts

Brian Wickard

All the People affected by the Earthquake in Haiti and Chile; 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 the Pollyanna's for providing the Hyacinths in the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday and Thanks go out to Marshall Bender for planting the Easter flowers around the Church.

Please note, names dropped from the Prayer List in the Worship Bulletin may or may not be on the Epistle list of those we are praying for. Please refer to the Epistle for a more complete listing of those we are praying for.

Beginning with the month of April starting with Easter through Pentecost Sunday, the Penn Central Conference Spirituality Task Force and the Congregational Vitality Team are asking the Churches of the Penn Central Conference to include prayers for our conference and for our Wider Church as part of their prayer life. We will be printing the prayer in each week's worship bulletin and it is also available for download at www.pccucc.org.

Week of April 12th - Might we pray for our small churches in our conference that are seeking new vitality. They have gathered together several times for help and hope. Please remember our small churches are our lifeline in the small communities.

--Might we pray to support the work of **Our Church's Wider Mission**. Help us to teach the love of Christ in areas around the world who do not know his love, peace and hope. Let us continue to pray with our partners of the Church World Service that our gifts may be a light as our missionaries go forward building loving relationships around the world.

To Our St. Paul Family,

Thank you for the beautiful altar flowers. We are also so thankful for the prayers, cards, and positive thoughts we received over the last few months. We ask for your continued prayers for Ally while in remission. We are truly blessed to be part of this Family. Love, the Moyers

St. Paul's Family:

My sincere thanks for the beautiful altar flowers, for many greeting cards, and the Call to Care visits. All are appreciated so much. Arlene Sealover

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