

Welcome to St. Paul's United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

July 18, 2010

Worship Leadership

Preacher: The Rev. John Ward-Diorio

Lector: Lois Ritter

Ministry of Music

Assistant Organist: Patrice Miller

Minister of Music: Eric Dundore

Ministry of Service

Head Usher: Herb Sutton

Greeters: Donna and Ron Chronister

Acolyte: Slater Ward-Diorio

Children's Sermon: Holly Yeuell

Flower Delivery: Julie Patton

Fellowship Time: Sandy and Skip Kline & Cassidy Westbrook

"St. Paul's UCC aims to be a fully accessible congregation. Folks having an issue related to accessibility in the church building or a church program should contact the church office or contact a head usher on Sunday mornings."

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

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 18, 2010

THE GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES

THE PRELUDE AND LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Organ "Berceuse"

Paxton

CALL TO WORSHIP (Call and Response):

From Psalm 136

*THE HYMN NO 12 "I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

Creator God, we are surrounded by the awesomeness of all You have made. Help us to stop and appreciate the wonder of the whole of creation, and how You continue to speak through it. May we sense as well as hear Your words and direction for us. Amen.

THE CALL TO CONFESSION:

We often get caught up in our "responsibilities." While God certainly desires us to follow through on what we have been called to do, and choose to do, we can uncritically continue doing things because we think we have to. In the same way God continues to speak to us, God continues to ask us to reexamine why and what we are doing. At times we need to change our focus, our work, our direction. This can be very hard to do and so we stay stuck. 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.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

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July 18, 2010



Cindy Bensel
Bill and Alice Crouse
Julie DeLuca
Floyd Gouse Jr.
Dale Guanowsky
Bob Heisler
Megan Kern
Glenn & Esther Kline
Ralph Kiner
Dave Leber
Elaine McCracken
Ally, Erin, Joan and Ernie Moyer
Jean Myers
Jack Rhoads
Rhoda Rupp
John Scott
Peg and Don Seiler
Leah van Olden

All the People affected by the Earthquakes; All the People and the Environment affected by the oil spill in the Gulf Coast, 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 to all who assisted with the VBS program this year. It was a "Galactic Blast" for all! Thanks also to Holly, Jonne and the VBS Children for the program today.

Announcements

Voices United –A Choral Celebration of Pride with The Central PA Womyn’s Chorus, The Choir of MCC of the Spirit and The Harrisburg Men’s Chorus, Friday July 23rd @ 8:00 PM at the Market Square Presbyterian Church in Harrisburg. Tickets - \$15.00 are available at the door. Members of our Choir are singing at this event!

Young Adults come and join us for our second meeting **today at 6:00 p.m.** We’ll meet at the pavilion (or inside if it’s raining). Pizza and soda will be provided. Topics of discussion might include, but aren’t limited to, mission ideas, concerns specific to young adults, and how to better connect with the other generations that make up our congregation and community. If you have any questions contact Allyssa Boyer at 697-5390. See you there!

Every hour of every day, someone is diagnosed with MS. The National Multiple Sclerosis Society is dedicated to ending the devastating effects of MS but they can't do it without our help. On July 24-25 Craig Martek will be riding 150 miles in the MS150 bike tour to help raise funds for the National MS Society. If you would like to support Craig in his efforts, you can make a tax deductible donation by going to the website <http://main.nationalmssociety.org/goto/cmartek>, or you can donate to Craig directly with a check made out to The National MS Society. For more information, feel free to contact Craig at 514-6560 or by e-mail lizardbiker@hotmail.com

YARD SALE!!! Don’t throw that good stuff out! The Youth Group of St. Paul’s is again sponsoring the annual **St. Paul’s UCC Community Yard Sale on Saturday, September 4th on the church parking lot from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** Church members may rent a space for \$10, non-members’ cost is \$15 (includes table for first 30 spaces) OR you may donate your items to the Youth Fellowship space for them to sell. **NOTE:** No computers, monitors or printers please!! Donations (*marked, please*) can be placed on the designated space on the stage in Fellowship Hall during the month of August. All proceeds will benefit St. Paul’s youth program and a local mission project. To reserve your space, please call Terry at the church office, 766-7931, or contact Joan Moyer at 766-3325 or joanmoyer@msn.com

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

Prayer of Blessing (Unison):

May God’s grace be upon these shawls...warming, comforting, enfolding and embracing. May these mantles be safe havens... sacred places of security and well-being...sustaining and embracing in good times as well as difficult ones. May the ones who receive these shawls be cradled in hope, kept in joy, graced with peace, and wrapped in love. Blessed Be!

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.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

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

Genesis 1:1-5, 14-19; 2:1-3

THE READING OF THE PSALM

Psalm 148:1-6

THE RESPONSE

One: God is still speaking.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

THE GOSPEL READING AND MESSAGE

Luke 10:38-42

“The Big Picture and Priorities”

*THE HYMN NO 312 “We Love Your Realm, O God”

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

Vacation Bible School Children

*THE DOXOLOGY (#780)

*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Through our offerings, loving God, we proclaim Christ to the world. We dedicate all we are giving to preaching, teaching, and outreach that move people toward Christian maturity. We offer ourselves as advocates for the poor and needy, as seekers for justice, as stewards of hope. We turn from false securities to put our confidence in You, that the mystery of Your glorious Word may be opened up among all Your people. Amen.

*THE HYMN NO 566 “Heaven and Earth, and Sea and Air”

*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 “Rise Up and Serve the Lord”

Harris

*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 Blessing is by Janet Bristow, 2008, www.shawlministry.com.

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 by
Tom and Cindy Stone “In Honor of 47th Wedding Anniversary”
Leah van Olden “In Loving Memory of husband, Albert van Olden”

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF July 18 – July 25, 2010

- TODAY** 8:30 am Singing for non-singers (Choir Room)
- 9:00 am Worship Service/Blessing of Prayer Shawls
- 4:00 pm Called to Care Picnic @ Keith’s home.
- 5:00 pm YAMS (Pavilion, FH and Kitchen)
- MON** 7:00 pm Pastor’s Relation Meeting (Parlor)
- TUES** 5:30 pm TOPS (Rm 13)
- 7:00 pm Consistory (Rm 7/8)
- 7:00 pm MLC Board Meeting (Rm 13)
- WED** Mid-Atlantic Regional Youth Event Begins
- THUR** 7:00 pm Summer Reading Program (Parlor)
- FRI** Church Office Closed
- SAT** 11:00 am Central PA Pride Parade
- Sunday** 8:30 am Singing for non-singers (Choir Room)
- 9:00 am Worship
- Mid-Atlantic Regional Youth Event Concludes