

**Worship Leadership**  
Preacher: The Rev. John Ward-Diorio  
Lector: 8:15 Anna Thompson  
10:30 Melba Bomberger

**Ministry of Music**  
Assistant Organist: Patrice Miller  
Minister of Music: Eric Dundore

**Ministry of Service**  
Head Usher: Bill Cashman  
Ushers: Consistory  
Greeters: 8:15 Belva & Leo Garman  
10:30 Susan & Ron Gabriel  
Acolyte: 8:15 Chelsey Wirth  
Children's Sermon: Rev. John  
Nursery: Shawna Simpson  
Flower Delivery: Cindy & Tom Stone  
Communion Prep: Tracy & Jeff Nye  
Fellowship Time: Gift Wrap Committee

*“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

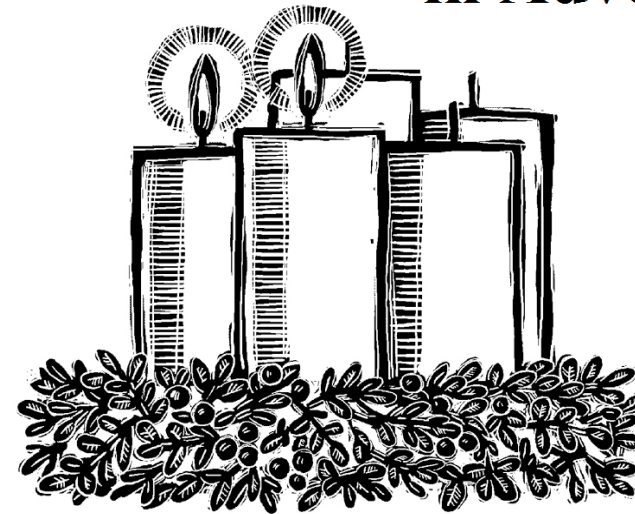
Website: [www.saintpaulsucc-mech.org](http://www.saintpaulsucc-mech.org)  
Office email: [stpaulstaff@verizon.net](mailto:stpaulstaff@verizon.net)  
John’s email: [revjohnwd@verizon.net](mailto:revjohnwd@verizon.net)

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

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

December 5, 2010

## Second Sunday in Advent



## Peace Is Possible

**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 THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Second Sunday of Advent

December 5, 2010

THE GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES

THE PRELUDE AND LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Organ

"O Morning Star"

Ritter

\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Call and Response):

From Luke 1

\*THE HYMN NO. 104 "We Hail You God's Anointed"

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

**Giving God, grant us peace. May we know Your peace amidst all that is going on in our lives. May we dream of peace, when all wars and hostilities come to an end, between nations and between people. May we work toward this peace, Your peace, which You have dreamed for all creation since the beginning. Amen.**

THE CALL TO CONFESSION:

Despite the visions of peace we find in Scripture, those that have been passed on to us and emerge from visionaries today, we continue to act as if such peace is not achievable, not possible, even for God. We stop hoping; stop working from a place of personal peace that can lead to a great communal peace. 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

1



Bill and Alice Crouse

Julie DeLuca

Kathleen Dubois

Pat Eakin

Dave & Jane Hall

Bob Heisler

Phyllis Hershey

Galen Holtzapple

Mary Hunter

Jaryd and Family

Corine Kayer

Carrie Kramer

Megan Kern

Glenn Kline

Bud Miller

Jean Myers

Ursula R. Pike

Jack Rhoads

Emily Rieger

Joyce Sealover

Peg and Don Seiler

Tamara

Leah van Olden

Karen Walborn and Family

Judy Ward

Sue Worley, Jean and Willard Jones and Family

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**

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (Unison)

**Eternal God, You have called Your people from east and west, and north and south, to feast at the table of Jesus Christ. We thank You for Christ's presence, and for the spiritual food of Christ's body and blood. By the power of Your Holy Spirit, keep us faithful to Your Will. Go with us to the streets, to our homes, and to our places of labor and leisure, that whether we are gathered or scattered, we may be the servant church, of the servant Christ, in whose name we rejoice to pray. Amen.**

\*THE HYMN NO. 115 (vs. 1,3,4 & 6) "The Baptist Shouts on Jordan's Shore"

\*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

"God of Glory"

Paxton

\*\*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 that is located in the red pad on the aisle side of the pew so that others may greet you in the name of the Living Christ. **Remember to place a check mark under the communion heading if you partake of communion.** 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 Taught By Love, by Lavon Bayler, 1998, 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.

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

*Lighting of the Second Advent Candle*



***PEACE***

8:15 Reading by Becky, Layne, Rachel, Jordan and Calvin Thompson

10:30 Reading by Jen, Mike, Lindsay and Luke McCorkel

SING THE READERS (Both Services) AND THE CHILDREN (10:30 Service Only) TO THE FRONT Advent Hymn (Sung to the tune of Away in the Manger)

**A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright;**

**A candle of Hope in December's dark night.**

**While angels sing blessings from heav'n's starry sky,**

**Our hearts we prepare now, for Jesus is nigh.**

THE WORD FOR THE YOUNG (10:30 Service)

ADVENT MEDITATION AND CANDLE LIGHTING

UNISON RESPONSE (8:15 & 10:30 Service):

Everyone: **Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is sadness, joy; and where there is darkness, light. Grant that we may not seek so much to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, in pardoning that we are pardoned, and in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen!**

SING THE READERS (Both Services) AND THE CHILDREN (10:30 Service only) TO THEIR SEATS Advent Hymn (Sung to the tune of Away in the Manger)

**A candle is burning, a candle of *Peace*;  
A candle to signal that conflict must cease.  
For Jesus is coming to show us the way;  
A message of Peace humbly laid in the hay**

THE GOSPEL READING

Matthew 3:1-11

THE PSALTER RESPONSE (sung together)

Psalm 72:1-7

New Century Hymnal Pages 667-668

THE RESPONSE

One: God is still speaking.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING AND MESSAGE

Isaiah 11:1-10

“Peace is Possible”

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

“People Look East”

Phillips

10:30 Chancel Choir

“Prepare the Way of the Lord”

Newbury

\*THE DOXOLOGY (#780)

\*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

**What a joy to give! What a delight to join our efforts to Your purposes, amazing God! You inspire us to oppose wickedness, to stand up for the oppressed, to work for harmony among all Your children. Lead us, together, to Your holy mountain, where all are valued and no one is excluded. May our offerings spread the knowledge of Your ways across this earth, widening the circle of exclusion to embrace all Your children, in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

\*THE COMMUNION HYMN NO. 345 (vs. 1,2 & 4)

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

THE INVITATION

THE COMMUNION PRAYER

One: God Be With You.

**Many: And Also With You.**

One: Lift Up Your Hearts.

**Many: We Lift Them Up To God.**

One: Let Us Give Thanks To God.

**Many: It Is Good To Give God Thanks And Praise.**

THE PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER (Unison)

**(Debts and Debtors)**

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

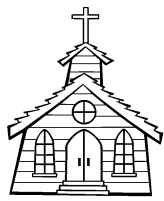
(We will share in the Sacrament in our pews this Sunday. Please hold the elements until all have been served and we will eat and then drink together. There will be bread and gluten-free wafers on each plate and wine and white grape juice in each cup holder. All are welcome to participate. Thank you.)

**ST. PAUL'S CHRISTMAS MUSICALE** will take place on Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at the one service at 10:30 am. We will need several non-speaking actors and lots of children to carry the stick puppets and banners. Please see the sign-up chart on the table in the common area. You **MUST** be able to attend the one and only rehearsal from 9:00-12:00 Saturday morning, December 18. All elementary children are invited and encouraged to be part of this enriching and fun activity. Preschool children are also invited, ages three and up, as parents think they are ready and would enjoy participating. Youth not singing in the choir are also needed to help direct! Please see Jonne or Eric with any questions.

**THANKS TO ALL** who attended the youth group's Hoss's Community Fundraiser. The total amount raised was \$135.87. Thank you for your support!

**Next Sunday at the Second Service, we will be receiving new members.** We are asking that you wear your name tags to the second service and additionally if you are a Church School teacher, member of Consistory or part of the Youth Ministry, please put on the appropriate pin as found in the basket on the table in the Consistory. This way if a new member or anyone else has a question for any of these areas, it will make it easier for them to know who to ask.

**HERSHEY BEARS HOCKEY GAME-** Everyone is welcome to join the Youth at a Hershey Bears Hockey game on Saturday, 1/15/11 at 7 PM. Please see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Commons. **Please sign up and pay for your tickets by Sunday, 12/12/10.** If you have any questions, please email Martha Brown at [vbrown5325@aol.com](mailto:vbrown5325@aol.com). We hope to see you there!



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

**A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** will be held on **Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup>** following the 10:30 a.m. worship service. The purpose of this meeting is to hold a discussion and vote on the 2011 budget. **Copies of the budget are available for you to take on the table in the common area today. Please pick one up so you have time to review it**

**prior to next week's meeting.** We hope to see you at the meeting.

## ALTAR FLOWERS

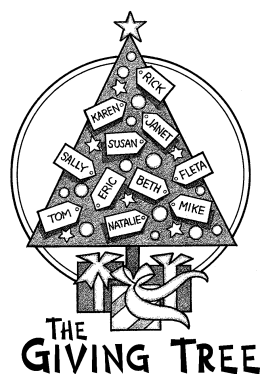
The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God

### CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF December 5 – 12th

- |              |  |
|--------------|--|
| <b>TODAY</b> | <b>8:15&amp;10:30 am Worship/2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent/<br/>Pew Communion<br/>9:00 am Choristers (Rm 5)<br/>9:15 am Sunday School<br/>9:15 am Prayer Shawl Ministry (FH)<br/>Noon Gift Wrap Event (FH)<br/>Noon Disaster Readiness Meeting (Parlor)<br/>Noon Bazaar Committee (Rm 7/8)</b>   |
| <b>MON</b>   | <b>6:00 pm MASH Indoor Guard (FH)<br/>7:00 pm Pastor Parish Relations Meeting (Parlor)</b>   |
| <b>TUES</b>  | <b>Noon Ecumenical Food Pantry<br/>5:30 pm TOPS (Rm 13)<br/>6:30 pm Yoga Class (FH)</b>  |
| <b>WED</b>   | <b>6:00 pm Hand chimes(Rm 5)<br/>6:30 pm Youth Choir (Sanctuary)<br/>7:15 pm Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)<br/>7:00 pm Webelos 1 (FH)</b>  |
| <b>THUR</b>  | <b>6:00 pm MASH Sewing (FH)<br/>7:00 pm Advent Discussions (Parlor)</b>  |
| <b>FRI</b>   | <b>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</b>  |
| <b>SAT</b>   | <b>9:00 am FH and Kitchen in Use (Garman)<br/>9:30 am Drop off Cookies for Cookie walk in I spy Classroom<br/>2:00 pm Open House at Ward-Diorio's</b>  |
| <b>SUN</b>   | <b>8:15&amp;10:30 am 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent/Worship/ Blessing<br/>of Prayer Shawls/ New Members Received @ 10:30 Service<br/>9:00 am Choristers (Rm 5)<br/>9:15 am Sunday School<br/>Pollyanna's Cookie Walk after both Services (FH)<br/>Noon Budget Meeting (Sanctuary)<br/>6:00 pm 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Youth Fellowship @ Bergstresser Home</b> |

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Today is St. Paul's 2nd Annual Gift Wrapping event...**following the 10:30 service in Fellowship Hall until 2:00. Bring your gifts to be wrapped by "semi-professional" wrapper elves. While your gifts are being wrapped enjoy refreshments, fellowship time and sounds of the season. This event will be open to our community. Invite friends and family to worship with us on the 5th and stay to have their gifts wrapped. This event is free, but monetary donations will be gladly accepted and will be given to our church. **Please join us for a great holiday experience!**



**Looking for a way to spread your holiday cheer?** The Council for Extended Ministries is asking for your support of our annual project in support of New Hope Ministries. St. Paul's will be providing Christmas gifts to 10 persons who will not receive Christmas Gifts without our help. Please see the bulletin board in the common area for ornaments with individuals' names on them and a gift they have requested (through New Hope.) Please stop by and pick up a tag on your way out of Church today! **We are asking that you return your wrapped gift to the Church by next Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, with the ornament tag securely attached to the gift.** Thank you in advance for supporting this project that will enable us to provide a wonderful Christmas to some deserving families this holiday season.



### Cookie Walk

**THE POLLYANNAS** are having their third annual **COOKIE WALK** in Fellowship Hall next Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup> after both services. **Donations of Cookies are needed for this Event.** Please pack your cookies in baggies priced to sell at \$1.00 per bag and drop off in the "I Spy Youth Classroom" next Saturday morning December 11<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 to 11:30 am. **The money raised at this year's cookie walk will go towards the cost of the second phase of the roof repairs.**

**2011 OFFERING ENVELOPES** \_ We are in the process of assigning offering envelope #'s for 2011. If you are planning on using bill payer through your Financial Institution for your 2011 offering and do not wish to receive offering envelopes, please let Terry ([stpaulstaff@verizon.net](mailto:stpaulstaff@verizon.net) or 766-7931) in the Church office know by Tuesday December 7<sup>th</sup>. At that time, please also indicate if you desire weekly or monthly coupons that you can place in the offering plate in lieu of the envelopes. The 2011 offering envelopes or coupons will be available for pickup starting next Sunday December 12<sup>th</sup> in the commons.

**The Christmas Fund** – During the Advent Season members of the United Church of Christ are asked to contribute to the Christmas Fund, a ministry of compassion and care to those who have served and are serving our church. This offering enables the Pension Boards' Ministerial Assistance program to provide financial assistance to individuals and families in need such as low-income retirees and emergency assistance to those who are serving today. The Christmas Fund combines the former Veterans of the Cross Fund and the Emergency Fund appeals. The goal for this offering for the entire United Church of Christ is \$1,650,000 for 2011. Please consider giving to the Christmas Fund on December 19, 2010. More information about the needs of the recipients and an envelope will be provided in next Sunday's bulletin, December 12<sup>th</sup>.



Christmas/Advent  
OPEN HOUSE

**At the Ward-Diorio's.** We would like to invite each and every one of you to our home for our second annual Advent/Christmas Open-House on **Saturday December 11 from 2 to 6 PM.** Giving to others helps us to remember the great gift of the Christ Child we are preparing to celebrate on Christmas Day. In that spirit, we are hoping you might be willing to bring a non-perishable food item or other useful product. People's needs are great again this year, and the people in Boiling Springs are served by Project Share in Carlisle. I know they have been running into some serious shortages. It would please us to no end to be able to deliver donations to them during Advent. If you have any questions please see Rev. John or Sue (probably your better avenue) or give us a call at home 249-6239. Our home address for those map questing or GPSing: 4 Jenny Drive, Boiling Springs, PA 17007. (Just in case things look strange, we are off Tanger Road, which runs between Mountain and Petersburg Roads.)

**ADVENT DISCUSSIONS** – It is not too late to join in on the Advent Discussions in the Parlor on Thursday evenings, December 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> (and the 23<sup>rd</sup> if the group desires), from 7 to 8:30 PM. We will be discussing the booklet “Take Back the Season”. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the commons. You are invited to come to as many as you can. Missing a week will not hinder your ability to take part in the discussion. We will take the time to light candles on an Advent Wreath, offer some prayers, listen to some music and in general prepare together for the coming of the Christ Child. The booklet is available on the table in the commons (\$2.00 donation accepted for the book) to anyone who would like one. I hope to see you there. Peace, John



Christmas Eve  
CANDLELIGHT  
SERVICES

This year the Christmas Eve Candlelight Services will be held at 4 PM and 10:45 PM.

At the 10:45 pm service, Patrice Miller and Sarah Myers will be providing prelude music beginning at 10:15 pm. Plan now to come early and enjoy both the beautiful music and feel the holiday spirit in our Sanctuary decorated so nicely by the decorating committee led by Jonne Dundore.



If you ordered Poinsettias, you may start to pick them up after the 4:00 or 10:45 Christmas Eve Services. **If you have not paid for your poinsettia (\$6.25 each), please place your payment, in the offering plate or drop off at the Church Office, make sure you mark Poinsettia on the envelope.** Thank you for purchasing the flowers that will help beautify the Sanctuary on Christmas Eve. Poinsettia's that are not picked up by Sunday afternoon December 26<sup>th</sup> will be delivered to the residents at Sarah Todd and Thornwald nursing homes. If you want your poinsettia and cannot pick it up prior to the afternoon of December 26<sup>th</sup>, please let Terry in the Church Office know and we will hold it for you.



Don't forget to bring mittens, gloves and scarves for all ages not only to decorate the tree but to help bring warmth to those in need. Items collected will be taken to New Hope Ministries. **Deadline to drop off is Sunday, January 2nd.**

**ADVENT CALENDARS:** We have two Advent Calendars left for sale and available for a **discounted price of \$8.00 each** (original price \$10.00). First come, first served. Inside each day/door is a verse or two of the Birth story and a delicious Fair Trade piece of chocolate. If you would like to purchase one or both of them, they are located on the table in the commons, please help yourself and drop off your payment (check made payable to St. Paul's or cash) in the offering plate or in the Church office with Advent Calendar noted on it



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS** for St. Paul's Annual Pork and Sauerkraut Dinner on Sunday, January 16, 2011. There will be one worship service on this day at 10:30, followed by the annual meeting and then a delicious pork and sauerkraut dinner in FH. **Please sign-up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the common area so we have an idea on the # to plan for.**

**THE SIGN-UP SHEET FOR THE 2011 CHILD SPONSORSHIPS** is on the bulletin board in the hall outside of the Church Office door. The cost for a child in 2011 will be \$30.00. **If you signed up to sponsor a child in 2010 and have not paid yet, please be sure to get your money into the church office before the end of the year so that the final payment can be made for the children.**

**THE SIGN-UP SHEET FOR THE 2011 ALTAR FLOWERS** is on the bulletin board in the Commons. Please neatly fill in the information as you want it in the Worship Bulletin. The price for the altar flowers is \$32.00. **Don't forget to pay for your 2010 flowers if you have not already done so.**

**Don't forget our Note Cards are still available for purchase.** Each of the twelve different note cards showcase the beauty of the stained glass windows in our church sanctuary. The back of each card includes the name and the meaning of each window. **Get cards for holiday giving or brighten someone's day with a photo of our beautiful church.** Each set of 12 cards is \$10.00. Note cards will be available on the table in the common area during Sunday worship or see Terry in the Church Office. **Payment can be made either by check (payable to St. Paul's UCC) or cash and placed in the offering plate or dropped off in the secretary mailbox in the church office (please indicate it is for note cards).**

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