

Welcome to St. Paul's United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

May 29, 2011

Worship Leadership

Preacher: The Rev. John Ward-Diorio

Lector: 8:15 Joanne Miller

10:30 Kevin Allison

Ministry of Music

Organist: Sarah Myers

Minister of Music: Eric Dundore

Ministry of Service

Head Usher: Kathy Williams

8:15 Marshall Bender & Richard Gray

10:30 Joan & Ernie Moyer

Julie Patton & Kim Pirtle

Greeter: 8:15 Tom Milletics &

Mary Louise Miller

10:30 Martha & Vic Brown

Acolyte: 10:30 Ally Moyer

Children's Sermon: Rev. John & Allyssa Boyer

Nursery:

Flower Delivery: Joan & Jim Quick

Fellowship Time: Alburger, Brown, Moyer & Pirtle

"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



*"I will not leave you orphaned;
I am coming to you."*

John 14:18

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

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 29, 2011

THE GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lector

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES

THE PRELUDE AND LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Organ "Eternal Father, Strong to Save" Thomas Chesterton

CALL TO WORSHIP From Matthew 28:5-7

*THE HYMN NO. 28 "For the Beauty of the Earth"

*THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

Loving God, help us to seek relationship with You in the same determined way You have sought and seek relationship with us. Help us to see the many ways You are present with us and Your on-going attempts to deepen Your relationship with each of us. Amen.

THE CALL TO CONFESSION:

Relationships end. This is a harsh reality we have learned. These endings often cause us pain and can make us question the strength of other current relationships. We may become hesitant to enter into new relationships. We begin to believe this is what our relationship with God is like. God might stop being present with us, for appropriate reasons or reasons we just cannot fathom. We continue to underestimate the strength of God's love for us and God's deep desire for relationship with us. Let us join in the unison Prayer of Confession.

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Easter is a wonderful holiday, but we have often failed to make it a way of life. The best gift, the understanding that new life is available for us all, is a gift we often leave in the basket, leave at church, and/or leave in the tomb. Loving God, life-giver, new life-giver, forgive our hesitation, our fear, and our stubbornness. May our "Easter Best" not be limited to new clothes but include our transformed lives. Amen.



Judy Aumiller & Family

Bill and Alice Crouse

Julie DeLuca

Tom & Shirley Grammer

Fenton Fox & Rick Holtzapple

Dave & Jane Hall

Russell Haas

Bob Heisler

Shirley Knisely

Doug Knox

Bob Madden

Mateusz Kott & Family

Jerry McCartney

Steve Mitchell

Jean Myers

Ursula R. Pike

Bonnie Plymette

Sandi Ritter-Butz

John Scott

Joyce Sealover

Peg & Don Seiler

Pete & Linda Shea

Sue Stada

Nancy Steck

Eric Trout

Leah van Olden

Sue Worley, Jean and Willard Jones and Family

All affected by the disaster in Japan, All those in the Middle East struggling for peace; All in military and their families; All who have lost loved ones; All affected by lost jobs & economy.

Celebrations

Let us celebrate with all our Graduates, all our 'promoted' Sunday school students, and all our Sunday school teachers. We also want to celebrate all the students and teachers who participated in the OWL program.

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 Organ "O Lord Most Holy" Franz Abt
10:30 Youth Choir "Rain Down" arr. By Pethel

*THE DOXOLOGY (#780)

*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

May all that we give today be used to express Your love among us and beyond us, God of all people. We are thankful for Your gift to us in Christ Jesus, who was so committed to sharing Your love that he risked rejection and death. We are grateful that even though his suffering resulted in death in the flesh You made him alive in the spirit. May Christ live today in us, in our caring, in our giving, in our speaking, in our doing. We rededicate ourselves to Your service. Amen.

*THE HYMN NO. 593 "Lift Every Voice and Sing"

*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

Organ "Praise to the Living God" Franklin Ritter

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Words of Assurance (Responsive):

Minister: Once again during the Easter Season, we are reminded of the depth of God's love for us and what God is willing to go through in order for us to receive that love. God receives our apologies and repentance, has assured us that our sins are forgiven, and eagerly awaits a deeper relationship with us all.

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE & Delegates Commissioning – 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 Recognition of Graduating Seniors

Christine Aumiller	James Boyer	Mike Brown
Katelyn Chamberlain	Mark Dundore	Andrew Hall
Shane Morell	Ally Moyer	Beth Pirtle
Atle Walter	Andrew Wentz	Chelsey Wirth

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

Commissioning of Delegates to the Annual Meeting of the Penn Central Conference (MY Conference)

LEADER: June 10 to 12 delegates to the 49th Annual Meeting of the Penn Central Conference will assemble at Susquehanna University in Selingsgrove. Our delegates: Katelyn Chamberlain, Shirley Keith Knox, Dennis Plymette and Chelsey Wirth will participate in this annual gathering of MY Conference. There will be inspiring speakers to challenge with new ideas.

DELEGATES: *We will listen attentively to glean ideas to share with this Congregation.*

CONGREGATION: **There will be workshops to equip you with tools for Spiritual growth and to equip us for ministry in this Congregation.**

DELEGATES: *We will attend those events which will benefit us personally and us as a congregation.*

LEADER: There will be displays, literature, and resources to acquaint us with the work of MY conference and the United Church of Christ.

DELEGATES: *We will take advantage of these opportunities and bring back materials to enrich our congregation.*

CONGREGATION: **There will be social times to meet old friends and to make new friends, to meet some whom we have known in the past.**

DELEGATES: *We will celebrate being part of the larger family, like a family reunion! We will convey your greetings to brothers and sisters.*

LEADER: There will be worship opportunities, using new forms that will touch our spirits in new ways

DELEGATES: *We will return home with an expanded view of worship, the Church, our ministry and our mission. We will share these to enrich our life as a part of the larger family.*

LEADER: We send you as our delegate to experience and to learn.

CONGREGATION: **We send you as our delegates to return to us with new understandings, new ideas, and renewed passion for the church of Jesus Christ. We send you as our delegates with our blessing.**

DELEGATES: *We accept your blessing. We go with anticipation. We shall return and bring back to you ideas to consider, resources to use and a fuller vision of MYConference and its mission.*

LEADER: As you are sent out to be a part of the wider church, we commission you as our delegates.

Unison Prayer: **Gracious God, we send these persons on our behalf. Bless them and touch them with your Holy Spirit. We pray for your Spirit to hover over the 49th Annual Meeting of the Penn Central Conference, that moments of joy, insight, and learning may abound. Grant safe travel to all those who gather. Equip those who provide leadership to be challenging, insightful and faithful in all they do. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

THE EPISTLE READING Acts 17:22-31

THE READING OF THE PSALM Psalm 66:8-20

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

THE GOSPEL READING AND MESSAGE John 14:15-21
"We Are Not Left Alone or Behind"

*THE HYMN NO. 351 "I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry"

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)
(Debts and Debtors)

FREE Chair Yoga Classes All Summer Long!! - St. Paul's Yoga Club is expanding to offer Chair Yoga classes every Monday night from 6:30-7:30pm. Classes will run from June 6th – August 29th and promise to be a wonderful chance to stretch, breathe, and relax. While the class will use chairs for the majority of poses, we will also use mats, straps, and blocks to assist us along the way. A sign-up sheet is posted in the Commons. ****Please be sure to consult with your physician before starting any exercise program****

Chair Yoga is great for people who want to discover all of the healthy benefits of a traditional yoga class, but are currently experiencing limited mobility due to age, prior injuries/surgeries, or other health concerns. Lots of options will be offered for every pose presented in the class and students are encouraged to listen to their bodies and modify the pose to fit their individual needs. The goal of every class is for each individual student to “get what they need” from the class and to go home feeling like it was time well spent. Maybe what you “need” on a given Monday night is to stretch your muscles to their fullest or maybe you’d rather concentrate on breathing through each pose for a more relaxing end to the day. It’s your choice! Our instructor, Becky Thompson, is happy to answer any questions you may have. Call or e-mail: 761-3127, beckythompson@verizon.net Hope to see you there!!

Question: How can I enjoy good food and contribute to the Church at the same time?

Answer: Join us for an evening of dining and fellowship on Tuesday June 21 at Isaac's Restaurant and Deli in the *Rossmoyne Business Center*. The Stewardship Council is sponsoring a Dining Out Evening at that Isaac's Restaurant and Deli location. Come and enjoy wonderful soups and unique sandwiches, and help us support the Church at the same time. Diners will need to take a flyer along with them in order for the Church to receive a contribution. You will get a flyer in your June Epistle. Extra flyers are available on the table in the commons.

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. The person at the end of the pew should place the finished sheet in the offering plate.

References:

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.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by
The Paulus Family “In Loving Memory of Mother
and Grandmother, Catherine Rider”

Bill & Deb Cashman “In Honor of Rachael’s Birthday”

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF May 29th – June 5th

TODAY 8:15/10:30 Worship
10:30 Graduate Recognition and Commissioning of Delegates for Annual Meeting.
9:15 am Sunday School Promotion (FH)
Noon Blessing of Bikes (Parking Lot)
Noon Fellowship Time – Graduates Recognition
 1:30 pm Fellowship Hall & Kitchen in Use
Memorial Day – Church Office Closed
MON
TUES 5:30 pm Tops (Rm 13)
6:30 pm Yoga (FH)
WED **7:15 pm Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)**
SAT 3:00 pm Fellowship Hall & Kitchen in Use
SUN **9:00 am Peace Church/Communion**
 Noon Pavilion in Use/Fellowship Hall if it rains (Peachtree Picnic)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. Paul's on a Mission Cookbook! Today is the deadline to submit recipes. Please submit, up to 3 recipes, to bkern59@verizon.net or drop your recipe(s) in the pot in the Common. Cookbooks will be ready in the early Fall for purchase.

Spread the Love - Support the Strengthen the Church annual offering -

The Strengthen the Church offering grows the United Church of Christ. This offering funds the UCC's Still Speaking Ministry, new and renewing churches, youth and young adult ministries. Funds from this offering support the lay and pastoral leadership development - especially among women and people of color. Won't you help the UCC grow? Help us grow the UCC's presence as a community of extravagant welcome. St. Paul's will collect this offering on Pentecost Sunday, June 12, 2011. *No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here. God is Still Speaking.*



Peace Church, next Sunday June 5th – 9 AM

– Our Summer worship schedule will begin with this special service held at Peace Church, Intersection of Trindle & St. Johns Roads in Camp Hill.

St. Paul's on Wheels Tour de Cure Update

The time is finally here! The 3rd year of St. Paul's on Wheels participation in the Tour de Cure to fight diabetes will be on Saturday morning, June 11. Help encourage our riders with a tax deductible donation to the American Diabetes Association, either by dropping a contribution in the jar in the common area, or on-line at <http://main.diabetes.org/goto/StPaulsUCC>. If you're not doing anything on Saturday, come on out to the Boiling Springs High School and cheer the riders as they depart or return. A great time will be had by all! For more information you can contact Craig Martek at (717) 514-6560 or e-mail at lizardbiker@hotmail.com

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP SENATORS BASEBALL OUTING, Sunday July 31st – Please join us for the Youth Group's Annual Senators Baseball Game! All St. Paul's members and friends welcome! Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the commons. *Please sign-up and give your check to Sue Ward-Diorio or leave in the church office with Terry Shaner no later than Friday July 15th! Any questions, feel free to contact Sue at 525-4690 or swdiorio250@comcast.net*

Come Celebrate Pentecost

Sunday June 12th we will celebrate Pentecost during our single Worship Service at 9:00 AM. We are asking that each person **WEAR RED** to remember the gift of the Holy Spirit that came to the Apostles and the new church. Also, we are inviting you to **BRING A RED GERANIUM** which will be placed in our sanctuary for Worship. After which, the geraniums will be planted outside the church building. Pentecost takes place each year 50 days after Easter. It is a day of celebration. It is our time to remember the beginning of the church. We will also recognize our new members who have joined our church family this year. We look forward to seeing you all at 9:00 A.M. June 12th. The Worship Committee



It's Not Too Late to Party!

Don't miss out on THE church social event of the year, the **SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNIC!** You don't even have to be in a Sunday School class to celebrate kicking off the summer with hot dogs, water balloons, baseball, and general fun on Sunday afternoon, June 5. Come on out to Gene and Martha Keith's house at 4:00. The Keith's are supplying hot dogs and rolls. Place Settings and Drinks will be provided. Bring a food item to share, lawn chairs and your summer gear for relaxing with your church family! Sign up in the Commons and look for directions to the Keith's. **EVERYONE IS INVITED!**