

Worship Leadership
Preacher: The Rev. John Ward-Diorio
Lector: Becky Thompson

Ministry of Music
Organist: Sarah Myers
Minister of Music: Eric Dundore

Ministry of Service
Head Usher: Mike Gray
Greeters: The Boyer Family
Acolyte:
Children's Sermon: Allyssa Boyer
Nursery:
Flower Delivery: Martha & Gene Keith

Pastor Emeritus
The Rev. Dr. Thomas Herrold

“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

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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

July 17, 2011



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

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 17, 2011

THE GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lector

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES

THE PRELUDE AND LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Organ "Jacob's Ladder"

Franklin Ritter

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Call and Response): From Psalm 139

*THE HYMN NO. 609 "Now Is the Time Approaching"

*THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

Grace-filled God, help us to extend similar tolerance and love for others as You do. Help us to recognize we may not always be able to differentiate between "wheat and weed." Help us to allow one and all, including ourselves, the chance to grow into the people You created us to be. Amen.

THE CALL TO CONFESSION:

We think we can tell who is good or bad, or right or wrong. We think we can say with absolute certainty that someone is not worth anything. We ignore the reality that so many of our judgments are based on prejudice, lumping people into certain groups or categories, or ill-informed in other ways. We ignore God's willingness to forgive and offer people the chance to change. 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.



Mayme Alfano
Earl Artz Sr.
Dan Blacker
Kevin, Bill & Pauline Conwell & Family
Bill and Alice Crouse
Julie DeLuca
Tom & Shirley Grammer
Richard Gray
Fenton Fox & Rick Holtzapple
Bob Heisler
Phyllis Hershey
Charlene Jehle
Gene Keith
Steven Keith
Doug Knox
Jerry McCartney
Deb Milford
Tim Morrow
Jean Myers
Nancy
Judy Null
Mel Pike
Emily Rieger & Bill & Judy Grove
John Scott
Joyce Sealover
Peg & Don Seiler
Pete & Linda Shea
James Sowell
Sue Stada
Phoenix Trout
Leah van Olden
Victoria Velez
Sue Worley, Jean and Willard Jones and Family

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Thanks go out to Shawna, Allyssa and the whole crew who assisted with the VBS program & dinners this year and to Paulus Farm Market and Hans Custard for their donations toward the dinners and refreshments that was enjoyed after the VBS program Thursday evening. It was a “SHAKE IT UP” good time for all! Thanks also to Jonne and the VBS Children for the program today.

Sunday evening, July 31 - 7 PM - Spirits United - St. Paul's will host this year's Interfaith Service. Spirits United is an event designed to provide an outlet for the diverse spiritual and religious expression of the GLBT community along with its friends and allies. Spirits United seeks to provide a safe, non-judgmental, non-confrontational outlet for spiritual expression during Pridefest weekend.



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 3rd in 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 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 Joan Moyer at 766-3325 or joanmoyer@msn.com



Mark your calendars for the start of a new year of Sunday School on Sunday, September 11. All are invited to this fun church-wide event that will include games, songs, and snacks as we kick-off Sunday School for the 2011-2012 year. If you'd like to donate a Rally Day snack, please sign the sign-up sheet posted in the commons. We can't wait to see you there!

2nd QUARTER GIVING STATEMENTS are in the box on the table in the Commons Area. Please stop by and pick yours up on the way out.

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

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.

THE WORD FOR THE YOUNG

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 28:10-19a

THE READING OF THE PSALM

Psalms 139:1-12

THE RESPONSE

One: God is still speaking.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

THE GOSPEL READING AND MESSAGE

“Are We Wheat or Weeds?”

Matthew 13:24-30,34-43

THE HYMN NO. 500 “We are Climbing Jacob’s Ladder”

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 Kids

*THE DOXOLOGY (#780)

*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

**Thank You, God, for the rich heritage of faith we have received from our
ancestors. We are grateful that Your Spirit is ever with us, assuring us of
Your acceptance and love. May our offerings share this good news with
other children of God who have not yet discovered their identity. May all of
us grow in righteousness that we might together experience the reality of
Your realm in our daily lives, here and now and for all eternity. Amen.**

*THE HYMN NO. 80 “Savior, Again to Your Dear Name”

*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

Improvisation on “Diademata”

Robert J. Hughes

*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.

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 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
Don & Merikay Wood “In Appreciation of Family & Friends”

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 17th – 24th

TODAY 9:00 am Worship/Blessing of the Prayer Shawls

MON Terry on Vacation all week

6:30 Chair Yoga (FH)

7:00 Worship Committee @ Rev. John’s

TUES 5:30 Tops (13)

6:30 Yoga (FH)

7:00 Consistory (7/8)

7:00 MLC Board Meeting (13)

FRI Church Office Closed

SAT Fellowship Hall in use (1 to 5 pm)

SUN 9:00 am Worship

5:00 pm CTC Picnic at Gene & Martha Keith’s