

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

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

September 25, 2011

## **Worship Leadership**

Preacher: The Rev. John Ward-Diorio

Lector: 8:15 Mike Gray

10:30 Rick Ayers

## **Ministry of Music**

Organist: Sarah Myers

Minister of Music: Eric Dundore

## **Ministry of Service**

Head Usher: Randy Murphy

Greeter: 8:15 Belva & Leo Garman

10:30 Chris & David Grice

Acolyte: 8:15

10:30 Jeff Dundore

Children's Sermon: Rev. John

Nursery: Cassidy Westbrook

Flower Delivery: Mary Runkle

## **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**

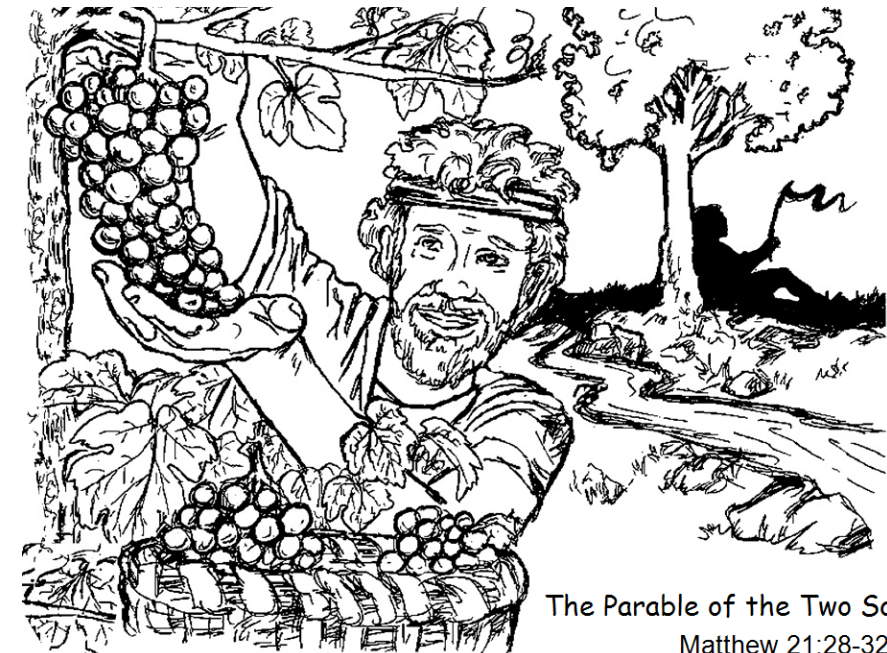
**Mechanicsburg, PA 17055**

**717/766-7931**

**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)**



The Parable of the Two Sons  
Matthew 21:28-32

**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

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST September 25, 2011

HAND CHIMES (10:30) "Prayer" Sherman

THE GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Lector

MISSION MOMENT-Our Neighbors in Need

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES

THE PRELUDE AND LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Organ "Living Wafer" Michael Shea

CALL TO WORSHIP 8:15-From Philippians 2 //10:30 Choral Introit –Chanel  
& Youth Choirs

\*THE HYMN NO. 304 "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

\*THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

**God of care and action, we are grateful that You not only love us but out of that love You are active within our lives, and within all creation, seeking to help us become all we were created to be. Help us to serve others, to be active on Your behalf in similar ways. Amen.**

THE CALL TO CONFESSION:

We do not intend to only pay lip-service to what we have promised to do. We have good intentions but they do not always become fully realized actions. God needs us, calls us to serve in various ways and all of creation awaits our response. We often do not respond to God's call. 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  
Susan Bowers  
Bryan  
Wayne Chapman Sr.  
Jim Coons-Torn  
Woody Cox  
Bill and Alice Crouse  
Tom & Shirley Grammer  
Richard Gray  
Fenton Fox & Rick Holtzapple  
Bob Heisler  
Clay Henry  
Betty Hyde  
Scott Jackson  
Steven Keith  
Susan Kinzer  
Doug Knox  
Treva Miller  
Jean Myers  
Bob Neis  
Guy Romito  
The Rev. Galen Russell  
John Scott  
Joyce Sealover  
Peg & Don Seiler & Family  
Pete & Linda Shea  
Sue Stada  
Phoenix, Shannon & Eric Trout and the Miller Family  
Deloris Tucker & Family  
Leah van Olden  
Sue Worley, Jean and Willard Jones and Family

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

**Celebrations**

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](http://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  
Mary Runkle “In Memory of my Mother, Elizabeth Randolph”  
Melissa Cawley “In Honor of Joseph’s Birthday”

**CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF September 25<sup>th</sup> – Oct 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**TODAY 8:15/10:30 Worship/Blessing of the Prayer Shawls/Affirmation of Ministries @ 2<sup>nd</sup> Service**  
**9:00 am Choristers (Rm 5)**  
**9:15 am Sunday School**  
**Noon New Member Class (Sanctuary)**

**MON 6:30 pm Chair Yoga (FH)**  
**7:00 pm Bible Study (Parlor)**  
**7:00 pm Pastor Parish Relations (Rm 7/8)**

**TUES 11:30 am Pollyannas @ Snappers**  
**5:30 pm Tops (Rm 13)**  
**6:30 pm Yoga (FH)**  
**7:45 pm C.E. Meeting (Rm 7/8)**

**WED 6:00 pm Hand Chimes (Rm 5)**  
**6:30 pm Youth Choir (Sanctuary)**  
**7:15 pm Adult Choir (Sanctuary)**

**FRI CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**  
**4:00 pm St. Paul’s on Mission Soup Making**

**SAT St. Paul’s on Mission @ Willow Mill Festival**

**SUN 8:15/10:30 Worship/World Communion (Pew) Sunday**  
**9:00 am Choristers (Rm 5)**  
**9:15 am Sunday School**  
**Noon New Member Class (Sanctuary)**  
**6:00 pm Youth Fellowship (FH/ Kitchen/Rm 7/8)**

**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!**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE – 10:30 SERVICE**

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**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**

**AFFIRMATION OF MINISTRIES (10:30)**

<b>Ministries of Worship &amp; Music &amp; Service</b>	<b>Ministries of Education</b>	<b>Ministries of Leadership</b>
E.g. Choir members, Lectors, Word for Young, Greeters, Communion Preparer’s, Acolytes, etc.	Teachers, Students, Small group leaders & participants, etc.	Consistory, Staff, All Committee Members, Bazaar Helpers, Food Pantry Helpers, Meal Makers, etc.

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

The Litany of Commitment

One: Sisters and brothers, you have been called by God to fulfill the responsibilities of your ministry. Will you commit yourselves by giving enough time to fulfill this ministry?

**Many: We will, with the help of God.**

One: Do you understand that by responding to God’s call to this ministry you are becoming agents of the work of this church and of the realm of God?

**Many: We do understand.**

One: Will you share your love, peace and Christian joy with everyone so people may see in you the life of the Christ?

**Many: We will, with the help of God.**

One: God has called these people to a special ministry in the church. They have accepted their call and are before us in witness to their willingness to serve. You have heard the promises they have made. Let us affirm our intention to live in covenant with them. Will those who are able rise and witness to the commitment we now make?

**All: We gather in celebration of the joy that is ours to be partners with you in the service of Jesus the Christ. We promise to love you, honor your leadership, pray for you and assist you that together we may be a faithful church. Amen.**

THE EPISTLE READING

Philippians 2:1-13

THE READING OF THE PSALM

Psalms 78:1-4,12-16

THE RESPONSE

One: God is still speaking.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

THE GOSPEL READING AND MESSAGE

“Doing, More Than Saying”

Matthew 21:23-32

\*THE HYMN NO. 533 “Children of 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

8:15 Organ                      Offertory on “Lovingkindness”                      Gerald Peterson  
10:30 Chancel, Youth & Choristers                      “Kum-ba-yah”                      arr. Raney

\*THE DOXOLOGY (#780)

\*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

**We empty our pockets, trusting You, O God. We empty our selfish ambitions, believing that the common good is of greater concern. We give because You have richly blessed us. We present ourselves in Your service because You have gifted us in so many ways. We reach out helping hands because we care about all those You have called us to love. May every tongue confessing Christ as Savior share in that mind which so powerfully demonstrates Your love. Amen.**

\*THE HYMN NO. 543 “Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life”

\*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                      “Great Is The Lord”                      Donald Lee Moore

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.

**Important Save the Date** - Please mark your calendars **NOW** for the 5th Annual Stewardship Campaign Kickoff Party to be held Friday, October 21, 2011 6 p.m., at the exciting Allenberry Resort Inn where you will have a delicious buffet and the opportunity to participate in a silent auction stewardship fundraiser. All members and friends of St. Paul's are encouraged to come to this fun night of fellowship that will allow you to help the church. Cost per person is \$35.00. To make a reservation, please give your payment (check made payable to St. Paul's UCC or cash) to Terry in the Church office or place in the offering plate by October 17th. Please be sure to note on your payment who is attending.

**Wanted - Stewardship Gala Auction Ideas** - We are looking for new and different items to offer for this year's Stewardship Gala Auction!

Can you...

Paint a room? Offer babysitting services? Wash a car? Rake leaves? Clean a house? Bake a pie or cake? Offer some other services?

By offering your special talent, you benefit the buyer of your service, AND St. Paul's gets the donation!

If you have something to offer, contact Kathy Williams to discuss the details. [kjlwms@gmail.com](mailto:kjlwms@gmail.com) or 717-979-9255. All donations of services must be received by October 14, 2011.

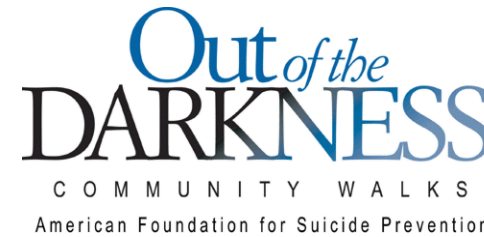
If you are donating a basket, please contact Victoria Velez at 766-9879. All baskets are needed by Oct. 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Hartman Center Fall Festival – Saturday October 15<sup>th</sup> 9 AM – 3 PM.** Activities will include Silent Auction, Inflatable Joust Game and Bounce House, Chicken BBQ and other delicious food, Youth-Led Activities, Home-made Baked Goods, and Hayrides & More! They are looking for donations for the Silent Auction, people willing to provide activities or entertainment at the Festival, etc. For a full listing of events and how you can help with this event, please see the poster on the Bulletin Board in the Common outside Youth Room.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Neighbors in Need Special Mission Offering** - *Imagine a World without Discrimination and Oppression. Your gifts to Neighbors in Need help in this area and much more!* Please read the enclosed insert and find the envelope for the Neighbors in Need offering that will be collected next Sunday, October 2, 2011.

**New Members' 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 is next Sunday, October 2nd. 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 October 30<sup>th</sup> during the 10:30 Worship Service. If you have any questions please see Rev. John.



Lace up your sneakers and support St. Paul's Youth Group as they walk in the **Out of the Darkness Community Walk for suicide prevention on Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 to 4:00 pm** at City Island and River Front Park in Harrisburg. To join our team and walk with us, contact Tina Bowers-Paris or Allyssa Boyer. If you'd like to make a donation, please give your contribution to one of the youth stationed by the table in the commons after worship, or go to [www.outofthedarkness.org](http://www.outofthedarkness.org) and search for St. Paul's UCC in the team search box. We need at least a few adults to help chaperone/provide transportation, so please sign up!

The **Pollyanna's "Pay Your Own Way"** annual luncheon will be held on this coming **Tuesday September 27, 11:30 am at Snappers** in Mechanicsburg. Please RSVP Mary Lousie Miller at 766-6615.



**We are DAYS away from the 2011 Fall Bazaar on Friday Oct, 7<sup>th</sup>. NOW is the time to sign up to help at the Bazaar! We need YOUR HELP to make the Bazaar successful.**

**BAZAAR POSTERS** - are on the table in the common area. Please help us get the word *out* about the Bazaar! Stop by on your way out and pick up some to distribute. Ask your local stores and businesses if you can put one up on their bulletin board or windows! **It helps a lot.**

We will have a Country Store, Flea Market & Country Cupboard (Bake Sale). Chicken Pot Pie will be served on Friday from 11 am – 7 pm with Take Out Meals and quart Pot Pie available while supplies last.

**General Chairpersons:** Linda Alburger & Dar Murphy. Please contact Linda at 649-1301 or Dar at 571-4731 with any questions or ideas you may have. **Dishwashers, Parking Control & a crew to clean up the Kitchen after the bazaar are needed.** If you can help, please let Linda and Dar know.

**Country Cupboard (Bake Sale/Food Sale)** – Jane Hall (697-2087). Sue Miller (795-1875). Help is needed the day of the bazaar- please see the signup sheet on the bulletin board in the Commons. **Lots of Baked Goods are needed.** Please drop off your donations on Thursday or Friday morning before the bazaar begins.

**Country Gifts & Crafts** – Anita Miller (766-7850), Betty Olsen (697-5621), Carol Rhoads (697-3539), Patty Scott (737-3139), Susan Thorn (737-0672). Please drop off any donations of crafts you may have for the Bazaar on Thursday while we are setting up. **Help is needed the day of the bazaar – if you can help, please let Betty Olsen know.**

**Dining Room**– Mary Runkle (766-7577), Terry Shaner (697-8329). See signup sheet on the bulletin board or check with Mary or Terry. **Can't help the day of the bazaar? We also need help on Thursday evening wrapping silverware and setting the tables.**

**Kitchen** - JoAnn Paulus (432-3916), Joanne Miller (697-9620). Please let JoAnn or Joanne know if you can help in the Kitchen.

**Flea Market** – Becky Thompson (691-1512), Dale Thorpe (713-7689). **Help is needed Thursday Evening setting up and on Friday.** Please let Becky know if you can help.

**Clean Up** – Don & Merikay Wood (761-3036) – **Help is needed Friday evening after the bazaar to put the Church back together.** Please let Don or Merikay know if you can help.

If you can't help the day of the bazaar, please plan to stop by to check out the flea market, crafts and baked goods that are offered. And don't forget to stop by for lunch or dinner in the dining room. **Your patronage would be greatly appreciated!**

**ST. PAUL'S ON A MISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Today St. Paul's on a Mission will be taking donations in the common which will in turn be given to Making Strides Against Breast Cancer. NEW THIS YEAR!! We are selling "Honor Cards." These 4" x 6" cards will be available to purchase for \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00. You will be able to write the name(s) of those whom you wish to honor or remember on the card. The goal is to fill the wall in the Common with these cards between September 11th and the walk.

REMEMBER to register online to walk with St. Paul's on a Mission team on Saturday, October 15th! Or see Brenda Kern for a registration form. Last year we raised \$8,993 and were the #10 team in fundraising. Start collecting donations from friends, co-workers and neighbors!!

We will be selling our "Famous" Chicken Corn Soup at the Fall Festival at Willow Mill Park next Saturday; October 1st. Soup making will take place this coming Friday, September 30th starting at 4:00 in the church kitchen. If you would like to help make the soup or if you would prefer to make a monetary donation to help defer the cost, please contact Brenda Kern, 796-0939. We will also be taking donated baked goods to sell at the festival. If you can donate a baked good, please drop it off in the church kitchen between 4:00 pm and 6:30 pm on September 30th, or at the Fall Festival by 9:00 a.m. on Saturday October 1st.