

Worship Leadership
Preacher: The Rev. John Ward-Diorio
Lector: 8:15 Tom Stone
10:30 Melba Bomberger

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

Ministry of Service
Head Usher: Rick Ayers
Greeter: 8:15 Betty & Tom Olsen
10:30 Leann & Tim Davinroy
Acolyte: 8:15
10:30 Slater Ward-Diorio
Children's Message: Allyssa Boyer
Nursery:
Flower Delivery: Karen & Kevin Allison

Pastor Emeritus
The Rev. Dr. Thomas Herrold

Ministers
The Entire Congregation

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

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

October 23, 2011

Children's Sabbath



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

CHILDREN'S SABBATH

October 23, 2011

THE GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lector

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES

THE PRELUDE AND LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Organ "Christians, While on Earth Abiding"

Logan

CALL TO WORSHIP 8:15: From Matthew 19// 10:30: Choral Introit: Youth
Choir

*THE HYMN NO. 350 "Now in the Days of Youth"

*THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Responsive)

Leader: Jesus said, Let the little children come to me...

People: We come, each of us a child of God.

Leader: Jesus said, Do not stop them.

People: We come to remove obstacles before children.

Leader: Jesus said, It is to such as these that the reign of God belongs.

People: We come to recognize that each child is already part of God's realm.

Leader: Jesus said, Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the reign of God as a little child will never enter it.

People: We come to worship with the trust and vulnerability and dependence of a child.

All: Come, let us worship God. Amen.

THE CALL TO CONFESSION:

Jesus told this story: if a shepherd had a hundred sheep, and one of them was lost, the shepherd would go out and look for the one that was lost. When the shepherd found the lost sheep, the shepherd would carry it home rejoicing. Jesus told this story so we would know that God rejoices when we, who have lost our way, turn in a new direction and feel ourselves caught up in God's loving embrace. Let us now confess our sins with confidence that God rejoices when we turn in a new direction.



Diana Bitting

Paula, Mark, Allyssa & Jim Boyer and the entire family of Mamie Afano

Cleason Cromer

Bill and Alice Crouse

Clem Domaricki

Don and Roseanne Frymoyer

Floyd Gouse Jr.

Richard Gray

Jane Hall

Russell Haas

Bob Heisler

Clay Henry

Phyllis Hershey

Betty Hyde

Scott Jackson

Steven Keith

Mary Kilgore

Kingston Wyatt

Susan Kinzer

Pat Miller

Jean Myers

Raymond "Lee" Negley

Rynne

Joyce Sealover

Peg & Don Seiler & Family

Pete & Linda Shea

Sue Stada

Phoenix, Shannon & Eric Trout and the Miller 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

THE POSTLUDE

Organ "Praise Canon"

Taylor

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 Invocation, Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession, Assurance of Pardon and the Charge and Benediction are written by Shannon Daley-Harris, from Christian Resources for the Children's Sabbath from the Children's Defense Fund.

The Prayer of Dedication is from Taught By Love, by Lavon Bayler, 1998, United Church Press.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by
Betsy Rushong "In Honor of Russell's and Mandy's October Birthdays"

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF October 23rd – 30th

TODAY 8:15/10:30 Worship/Children's Sabbath
9:00 am Choristers (Rm 5)
9:15 am Sunday School

MON 6:30 pm Chair Yoga (Commons)
6:30 pm Tiger Den (FH)
7:00 pm Bible Study (Parlor)

TUES 1:00 pm Polyanna's at Bonnie Plymette
5:30 pm Tops (Rm 13)
6:30 pm Yoga (FH)

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

FRI Church Office Closed

SUN 8:15/10:30 Worship/All Saints Day/Mission 1 Mission Moment
New Members join @ 10:30 service
9:00 am Choristers (Rm 5)
9:15 am Sunday School
4:00 pm Halloween @ Paulus Farm Market
7:00 pm Youth Fellowship @ Paulus Farm Market

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

God of new beginnings, we confess that we are stuck in our old ways. You taught us about an upside down reign, and yet we still live our lives seeking power, wealth, and status. We have failed to protect those who are most vulnerable, to stand with and for those who live in poverty, to put children first. Forgive us, we pray. Shake us up, open our hearts and our hands, our eyes and our ears that we hear again your calling and live our lives in grateful obedience. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Words of Assurance (Unison):

Like a parent racing out to welcome home the prodigal child who had lost his way, God greets our return with joy and love. Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

*THE GLORIA PATRI

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE – 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

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

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

THE READING OF THE PSALM

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17

THE RESPONSE

One: God is still speaking.

All: Thanks be to God!

THE GOSPEL READING AND MESSAGE

“Who Is My Neighbor?”

Matthew 22:34-46

*THE HYMN NO. 325 “Child of Blessing, Child of Promise”

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Readers @ 10:30 Service : Katie Amtower, Jonne Dundore, Christian Nase, Shawna Simpson, Slater Ward-Diorio, Cassidy Westbrook

When the basket is passed to you, please take one item. At the end of each prayer section, please respond in unison: **“LORD, hear our prayers.”**

THE LORD’S PRAYER (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 “A Country Road” MacDowell
10:30 Youth & Choristers “Love’s Sweet Lesson”

*THE DOXOLOGY (#780)

*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

As we give ourselves and our offerings, we pray, O God, that they may reveal Your love in such a way that many will respond. Awaken in us a love for You and for one another that is contagious. Remove from us all apathy, pretension, and greed that we may grow in holiness and compassion, living joyously in communion with You. Amen.

*THE HYMN NO. 531 “God, Speak to Me, That I May Speak”

*THE BIDDING TO MISSION

THE CHILDREN

Rushing to school, their faces red and expectant,
Dancing and smiling through the classroom doors,
Hopeful for another day, another chance
To live, to grow, to learn.

Many come from loving families,
Eager for new adventures.
For others, school is a welcome change,
A haven from chaos and fear.

A few come in anger and rage,
Daring another one to disappoint,
Afraid to try, to trust, to care
Their hatred masking years of hurt.

How to reach you, little child,
How to touch your heart with peace,
How to remove the hurts ingrained,
How to give your spirit release.

Our God, the answers lie with you.
Let your love and wisdom flow through me.
I place each precious one in your hands.
Give me courage and strength to do your work.
(By Celeste Rossetto Dickey)

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Go forth recognizing each child as a blessing from God.
Go forth knowing yourself to be blessed by God.
Go forth to be a blessing in God’s name.

Now may the blessing of God
Who created each child in God’s image
Who redeemed us through God’s own Child,
Who works through us to seek justice for every child
Be with you and every child of God this day and ever more. Amen.



Leaf Raking – The trees are beautiful this time of the year but lots of leaves have been falling. Please come out and help us in raking them up. **We will be raking leaves, Saturday October 29th, starting at 10 AM (weather permitting.)** Bring your favorite rake and if you have a tarp, bring that too. Come on out and help, there are more than enough leaves for everyone. Thanks in advance for your help!



Slips to sign-up to sponsor the POINSETTIAS, which will help beautify our Sanctuary for the Christmas Services, are on the table in the Common Area. The cost this year is **\$6.75** each and we will be getting them from Ashcombe's again. The completed slip along with payment (cash or checks made payable to St. Paul's United Church of Christ) should be dropped off at the Church Office or put in the offering plate no later than November 13th.



Need a way to take the beauty of our church home or want to share it with others? Note cards are now on sale, just in time for the holiday season. Twelve note cards showcase the beauty of the 12 stained glass windows in our church sanctuary. The back of each card includes the name and the meaning of each window. Get your cards for holiday giving or brighten someone's day with a photo of our beautiful church. **These beautiful sets of 12 cards each are now sale priced at \$7.00 each or 2 for \$12.00.** See Terry in the Church Office to get yours.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Come out and join us at a Halloween Party, Sunday October 30th, 4:00 to 6:00 PM at Paulus Farm Market, 1216 S. York St. in Mechanicsburg. Bring your blankets, flashlights and appropriate footwear is suggested. There will be hayrides, a corn maze to explore and refreshments to enjoy.

Children are welcome to play in the Fall Fun Fort. Please sign up on the bulletin board to bring food to share. Traditionally this event is geared toward children but all are welcome. **The Youth Group is invited to enjoy snacks and hot cider and a special hayride later that night, 7:00 to 8:00 PM.** We hope to see you there!

A big THANK YOU to everyone who supported St. Paul's efforts in our first ever "Out of the Darkness" Walk for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. Not only was St. Paul's a very visible sponsor of the walk; our 11-member team raised \$374.17 (nearly double our goal of \$200)! This will help to fund much-needed efforts to curb suicide in our country. But perhaps most importantly, it will start a conversation about what we can do as people of faith to help those at risk, and to heal the families and friends whose lives have been shattered. To all of the walkers, to those who staffed the booth, and to all of the people who made a donation, thank you!

Are you looking for a way to help the church and get a good meal? Well, look no further! **St. Paul's Youth Group is sponsoring a fundraiser at Hoss's Family Steak & Sea Restaurant, 61 Gettysburg Pike, Mechanicsburg.** Step 1: Pick up a ticket from the table in the commons. Step 2: Invite your family and friends to dine with you at Hoss's on **Tuesday, November 8th** (lunch or dinner... or both!) Only one card is needed per party. If you have any questions, please contact Allyssa Boyer at allyssaboyer@verizon.net.

The **Pollyanna's** will meet at 1 PM, this coming Tuesday October 25th at the home of Bonnie Plymette. Please remember your food pantry donations. Any questions, call Bonnie at 697-2938."

Watch out for these Mission: 1 Opportunities:

October 30 – “Offering of Letters” Table set up for letter writing campaign. Check out the table in the Commons. Prepare your letter for Congress and don't forget to send it.

Food Collection (November 1 thru November 13) - Food and household items can be dropped off at the church in the Commons. Drop off food at the “Drop Off” location. Do not place food in the display area. All food/household items need to be counted before placing it on the display table. The donations will be dropped off at local food banks starting the week of November 14th.

November 6 – Poverty: In Our Community? A representative from New Hope Ministries will speak at both worship services and in FH during the Sunday School Hour. New Hope Ministries is a Christian social service agency that shows the love and hope of Christ by serving our neighbors in times of need and supporting their efforts towards stability. New Hope Ministries, with our assistance and support, provides a variety of assistance and services in the Dillsburg, Dover, Mechanicsburg, and West Shore areas of Pennsylvania. We hope you will join us in Fellowship Hall starting at 9:15 to learn more about poverty in our community.

November 13 – Can you survive in Poverty? Join us in fellowship hall during the Sunday school hour to explore the impact of generational poverty on families and society. Take the "Could you survive in poverty" quiz. Learn about the hidden rules that facilitate life in poverty and how the "Tyranny of the Moment" robs folks of the time needed to plan for the future.

Following the 10:30 Service on November 13th - Public Commitment to Fighting Hunger/Demonstration. This Public Demonstration will showcase the passion and compassion that St. Paul's UCC has for the community. Grab a sign and join us in front of the church for a 30

minute demonstration. We will be publicly sharing our commitment to combating hunger and encouraging our community to do the same. Local Press will be invited.

On Sunday November 6th - The Rev. Dr. Ed Higginbottom will speak at the end of the 10:30 worship service about OWCM

St. Paul's will be hosting the Mercersburg Fall Meeting on Sunday November 6th in the afternoon. We are looking for donations of pastries, cookies and other finger foods for the refreshments. Please see signup sheet on the bulletin board in the commons if you are can help us out with the refreshments. Thanks

Sunday November 13th is Stewardship Sunday. Please plan on joining us at one of our Services and offering your pledge cards and Time & Talent sheets. Your Stewardship packets will be mailed soon.

JUST IN TIME FOR HOLIDAY GIFT GIVING! ST. PAUL'S COOKBOOK "SHARING OUR BEST" is available for purchase. This 200+ recipe cookbook has recipes from past cookbooks as well as new recipes. The cost is only \$10.00. Half the proceeds go to our church and the other half to Making Strides Against Breast Cancer. The cookbooks will be available for purchase thru November 20th after both services in the common.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO WALKED WITH ST. PAUL'S ON A MISSION IN THE MAKING STRIDES AGAINST BREAST CANCER last Saturday. We were 27 members strong, women, men, children, young and "older." What a wonderful experience walking in the "sea of pink." We raised over \$9,200 so far. Remember if you get late donations, they must be mailed into ACS by October 31st. Thank you also to our team for providing an awesome Fellowship Time after service last Sunday! Thank you to everyone who supported St. Paul's on a Mission this year. Our congregation is so generous and loving!! God is GOOD!!