

Worship Leadership
Preacher: The Rev. John Ward-Diorio
Lector: 8:15 Anna Thompson
10:30 Jonathan Nase

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

Ministry of Service
Head Usher: Tina Bowers-Paris
Greeter: 8:15 Joanne Miller & Mary Louise Miller
10:30 Jill Morell & Bonnie Plymette
Acolyte: 10:30 Becca Ward-Diorio
Children's Sermon: Allyssa Boyer
Nursery: Grice Family
Flower Delivery: Betsy Rushong
Fellowship Time: Melissa Cawley

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
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

November 6, 2011



*Therefore keep
watch, because you
do not know the day
or the hour.*

Matthew 25:13

GOD IS STILL SPEAKING

No Matter Who You Are, or Where You Are on Life’s Journey You
are Welcome Here!



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.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by

Pat Cleland “In Memory of Elizabeth Bagley”

Shaner/Gates Family “In Loving Memory of Mother/Mom-mom”

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF November 6th – 13th

- TODAY 8:15/10:30 Worship/Communion Intinction**
- 9:00 am Choristers (Rm 5)**
- 9:15 am Sunday School**
- 2:30 pm Mercersburg Fall Meeting**
- MON 6:30 pm Chair Yoga (Commons)**
- 7:00 pm Bear Den (FH)**
- TUES 1:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry (Parlor)**
- 5:30 pm Tops (13)**
- 6:30 pm Yoga (FH)**
- 7:00 pm 150th Anniversary Meeting (Parlor)**
- Youth Fundraiser @ Hoss Restaurant**
- WED 6:00 pm Hand Chimes (Rm 5)**
- 6:30 pm Youth Choir (Sanctuary)**
- 7:15 pm Adult Choir (Sanctuary)**
- 7:00 pm Webelos 2 (FH)**
- THUR 7:00 pm Post Bazaar Meeting (Rm 7/8)**
- FRI Church Office Closed**
- 6:00 pm Scout Popcorn Sort/Pack Meeting (FH)**
- SAT 10:00 am Scout Popcorn Pickup (FH)**
- SUN 8:15/10:30 Worship/Stewardship/Mission 1 Celebration Sunday**
- 9:00 am Choristers (Rm 5)**
- 9:15 am Sunday School**
- Noon Public Demonstration (in front of Church)**
- 6 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

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 Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

THE PSALTER RESPONSE (sung together) Psalm 78:1-7
New Century Hymnal Page #669

THE RESPONSE

One: God is still speaking.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

THE GOSPEL READING AND MESSAGE
“Always Ready?” Matthew 25:1-13

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 Chancel Choir “He Is Here” Larson
10:30 Youth Choir “Let Us Break Bread Together” Gallina

*THE DOXOLOGY (#780)

*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

We set our hope in You, God of all ages, and seek to serve You through our offerings and our efforts to encourage and equip one another for ministry. Help us decide daily to live according to Your will, preparing ourselves for the opportunities and challenges You give us. May Your rule shape our lives in ways that introduce many to the joys of eternity in the midst of time. Amen.

THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

*THE COMMUNION HYMN NO. 410 “If You But Trust in God to Guide You”

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 the elements of Communion by Intinction. Please come forward to receive the bread from the server. You will dip the bread in the cup and consume both elements at once. There are gluten free crackers available. There is both wine and white grape juice available. As you return to your seat, use the time of quietness to offer your prayers of thanksgiving to God. Thank you.)

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. 303 “Rejoice, Give Thanks 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 “A Joyous Acclimation” Lani Smith

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.



Attention all recent high school or college grads, or current college students! Come to the 3rd annual Young Adult Breakfast on Sunday, November 27th at 9:15 AM! Enjoy a light breakfast and catch up with your friends at St Paul's while you are in town for Thanksgiving! If you are the parent of a young adult, please invite your young person to the breakfast, and sign up on the bulletin board in the Commons to donate a breakfast item. If you have any questions, please contact Martha Brown at ybrown5325@aol.com. Hope to see you there!



It's almost time for **College Care Packages to be prepared by our Youth Group**. The Youth will be baking hundreds of cookies on **Monday evening December 5th** starting at 6 PM in the Kitchen and shipping them off in time for finals. If anyone would like to donate any items from the list below, you may place them in the box I have marked College Care Packages in the youth room by November 27th. Items like mini candy bars, granola bars, rice krispie treats, microwave popcorn, hot cocoa mixes are all great to send. **Monetary donations** can also be made if anyone wishes to "Sponsor a Box" to help us out with the shipping of packages (note it is for College Care Boxes.) **Please contact Kim Pirtle jpirtle@verizon.net or 796-1647 with your students address or if you have any questions.** Thank You!

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.

The **St. Paul's HANDCHIME CHOIR** is looking for a few more ringers! Rehearsals are Wednesday nights from 6 to 6:30. All are welcome; no prior musical experience is needed...only a willingness to learn and have fun! If interested, contact mark Dundore at 717-460-8345 or DundoreMusik@aol.com.

Next 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



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 **next Sunday, November 13th**.

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 on your way out today.** **Step 2: Invite your family and friends to dine with you at Hoss's this coming 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 Serrv Chocolate Advent Calendars are in - cost is \$10.00 each, cash or check made payable to St. Paul's UCC. Any profit helps fund our Christian Education programs. Signup on the sheet on the bulletin board in the commons and see Terry or Rev. John to get yours. If they sell out, we will attempt to get more but cannot guarantee it.

Advent/Lent Book Study – Please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the commons for the Advent/Lent Reading Program starting Thursday December 1st. We will be using *Hallelujah: The Bible and Handel's Messiah* by Carol M. Bechtel and part of the Kerygma Bible Study program. For the four Thursdays in December we will study the pieces related to Advent and Christmas. During Lent in the Spring, we will have a six week study of the pieces related to Lent and Easter. We have a recording that we will listen to. The cost of the book will be about \$17.00.

St. Paul's Mission: 1 Campaign

ONE UNITED CHURCH ON A SHARED MISSION FOR 11 POWERFUL DAYS TO FEED THE HUNGRY AND CONFRONT FOOD-RELATED INJUSTICE. THIS IS MISSION :1.

ST. PAUL'S GOAL:

111 Letters to Congress
1,111 food & household items donated to local food banks
Increased awareness of poverty and food – related injustice
WITHIN 11 DAYS!

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

Food Collection through November 13th - Food and household items can be dropped off at the church in the Commons 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 delivered to local food banks starting the week of November 14th.

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.

Track our Progress - Check out the tote board to see how we are reaching our goal. Check out www.ucc.org website for the national tote board – a recording of all UCC efforts to combat hunger. Find Mission: 1 on face book!

St. Paul's Yoga Club Supports Mission 1! Beginning Nov. 1st through Nov. 11th, the cost to attend Chair Yoga on Mondays or Vinyasa Flow Yoga on Tuesdays is a donation of FOOD for the Mission 1 Project! Leave your money at home and instead bring in canned goods and other needed items to help support a great cause. See you there!

Look in the common area for the designated box to put **Christmas Gifts for the residents of Sarah A. Todd Memorial Home and Thornwald Home.** Please remember that gifts are to be new. Donations of money will be used for gifts for the residents. **Please make your checks payable to “UCC Homes”** and be sure to indicate (1) that your check is intended as a Christmas gift for a resident(s), and (2) the UCC Homes' facility where the gift is to go. Check out your Nov. Epistle for gift suggestions or pick up one of the lists on the table beside the box in the commons. Thank you for your support of this ministry. Please drop off your gifts in the box no later than Sunday November 27th.

Check out the Christmas Tree on the wall in the commons. The ornaments on the tree represent gift requests for **New Hope's “Christmas Blessing Express”** that benefit area families in need this Christmas Season. Take one or as many ornaments as you would like to purchase items for and return them **unwrapped** to the designated box in the commons by Nov. 30th. We hope that you will again open your hearts during the Holidays and support again this worthwhile program which helps deserving families. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact Kathy Aumiller (580-6292) or Shirley Keith Knox (697-6946).

Leaf Raking – We will be raking leaves, next Saturday November 12th, 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 and let's hope we don't get another snowstorm!