

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
47 South Whiteoak Street
Kutztown, Pennsylvania 19530
610-683-3393

Our Mission

*We, the family of St. Paul's UCC,
guided by the teachings of Jesus Christ,
are committed to carry His good news.
We celebrate God's presence by sharing
God's unconditional love with fellow-
ship, worship and service to others.
We pray for God's wisdom and
compassion to lead us
in our endeavors.*

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Kim Adamson.....Pastor
Barbara Merkel.....Admin Assistant
Judy Heffley.....Organist
Carol Reinhard.....Choir Director
Donna Sheaffer.....Bell Choir Director
Jan Lenich.....Sexton

CHURCH OFFICERS

John Keiser.....President
Steve Leinbach.....Vice President
Barbara Merkel.....Secretary
Cheryl Ziegler.....Treasurer
Marjorie Weida.....Financial Secretary

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Louise Moyer.....President
Sherry Leinbach.....Secretary

Pastor's email
pastorkim@stpaulskutztown.org

Church email
office@stpaulskutztown.org



Dear St. Paul's Family:

The church year is so interesting. Rally Day begins the Christian Education Year shortly after students return to school for the Academic Year. Advent begins the New Year of the church and precedes the secular calendar version of New Year on January 1. When the Advent season closes, we have a few short months to prepare for the Lenten Season which extends into the Easter season.

In the weeks in between seasons we have "Ordinary Time," which may sound sort of boring, but "ordinary" refers to counting. It is a time to focus on things we wish to focus on together as a congregation and is anything but ordinary. Our Consistory begins their term of service on February 1 and conclude it on January 31.

During my time in higher education, we had the Federal Fiscal Year which began October 1 and ended September 30 and we also had the college's fiscal year, which began July 1 and ended June 30. That's a lot of calendars to keep track of and I haven't mentioned the IRS Tax Filing deadline of April 15, which will be Tuesday, April 18 this year!

There are those who approach time one day at a time and that is especially a good practice when in recovery or in the midst of life's other challenges. I usually approach time a week at a time, so that I don't feel overwhelmed by the calendar and my "to do" lists.

I bring up time because we are about to enter a very busy season, Lent. Aside from our Sunday worship, we will have a weekday book study of Max Lucado's "He Chose the Nails" in partnership with our friends from Trinity on the five Tuesdays after Ash Wednesday at 10:00 AM in Fellowship Hall. We used this resource here at St. Paul's in the Wednesday evening worship during covid. The Because of Bethlehem Advent group requested that we repeat "He Chose the Nails" since many of them were not able to attend. Our Mid-Week Lenten worships will also be with our friends from Trinity. Each service will begin with a Soup and Bread meal at 6:00 PM followed by worship in the sanctuary at 7:00 PM – check your Lenten Calendar for the locations.

The second annual World Day of Prayer Brunch, hosted by Spiritual Council, will be held in Fellowship Hall on Friday, March 3 at 11:00 AM and the theme will be Taiwan.

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THANK YOU!

On Friday, March 17 at 7:00 PM we are delighted to share that the PennWest Clarion University Concert Choir will present a concert in the sanctuary. St. Patrick's Sunday will feature Ethan Hardy on bagpipes. For the Youth Worship on Sunday, April 23 Serafina Salvaterra will be playing her violin and the youth will be leading worship. There will also be some activities in the community during these busy months which we will share with you as details become available.

As we begin this Lenten journey together, let's not allow our overly packed schedules to overwhelm us. Please prayerfully consider the time you have available and what you feel the Holy Spirit is calling you to do. Constant time on the treadmill could deflate your spirit rather than uplifting your spirit. Lent is a time of prayer, reflection, almsgiving, and renewal. It is a time to reconnect with God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. Let it be so.

Lenten blessings,

Pastor Kim

Dear St. Paul's Church Family,

Thank you for the many cards and greetings I received in celebration of my 98th birthday and also during the Christmas season. It was nice to hear from so many of you. I also want to thank the Women's Guild for the Christmas bag filled with the many holiday items, gifts and goodies.

The kindness and thoughtfulness extended to me by the congregation have been greatly appreciated.

God Bless you all,

Erma Angstadt

Thank you to my St Paul's church family and Pastor Kim for the generous gift cards I received during the holiday season.

I am truly blessed to have so many caring people in my life.

Marge Weida



My Favorite Hymn by Judy Heffley

When I asked Brian Beck what his favorite hymn was, he quickly replied, "Here I Am, Lord." When Brian is asked to do something, he has a hard time saying, "no." The words to this hymn reflect his feelings when he is called on to do things. Thank you, Brian, for all that you willingly do for the church.

The words and music to this hymn are written by an American composer, Daniel L. Schutte. The text is based on Isaiah 6:8 which reads, "Then I heard the Lord asking, 'Whom shall I send as a messenger to my people? Who will go?'" And I said, "Lord, I'll go! Send me." Schutte wrote the song at age 31 when he was studying at the Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley. Also known as "I, The Lord of Sea and Sky," it was written in 1979 and published in 1981. The song was a result of a request to write a song for the ordination Mass of a deacon. It was sung at Pastor Kim's ordination.

A poll conducted by the National Association of Pastoral Musicians found among its members that it came in second among "songs that make a difference." Schutte has published over 165 hymns and Mass settings. He continues to compose new music and write about spirituality.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

March

- 1 Susan Conrad
- 5 Doris Weiser
- 6 Lynn Hilbert, Emily Bray, Brian Beck
- 7 Karen Werley
- 8 Hailey Bauscher
- 10 Lamar Bailey, Steven Geist
- 11 Bradley Balthaser
- 12 Allison Harris
- 15 Christine Diltz, Will Bray
- 16 Sandra Madeira
- 18 Rosaria Angstadt
- 19 Lucas Moyer, Daryn Keim
- 21 John Davies
- 22 Danette Seidel
- 24 Shirley Delcamp, Brodie Kutzler
- 27 Rob Rhodes, Jeremiah Schwalm
- 28 Charlotte Diehl
- 29 Fern Kline
- 30 Judith Heffley, Grant Fitzgerald

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

April

- 1 Lori Balthaser, Ashley Stofflet, Carlee Hilbert, Lori Reidenhour
- 4 Amelia Harris
- 5 Owen Seidel
- 6 Stephen Lobb
- 7 Katelyn Boyer, Everly Ferris
- 9 Keith Wuchter
- 10 Catherine "Kitty" Frederic
- 16 Christina Luckenbill
- 18 Anna Burrows
- 19 Daniel Heffley, Patricia Fritz
- 20 Boyd Lenich, Thomas Lenich,
- 22 Jaclyn Diehl
- 23 Kim Adamson
- 24 Lamont Hilbert
- 26 Carol Reinhard, Isabel Gollatz
- 28 Brett Rocha
- 30 Cristin Ferris, Karter Kutzler

MARCH



APRIL





The Wall That Heals* **Coming to Kutztown September 21-24, 2023**

The mobile exhibit of the Vietnam Memorial “The Wall That Heals” will be arriving in September. It gives local veterans and their families an opportunity to experience The Wall in person.

When Jody Reidenhour visited with the Young at Heart Senior Club last year, she shared with us that Kutztown had submitted an application to bring The Wall here. She also said that there will be many volunteer opportunities while the wall is here.

The Wall is a 75% replica that will be 375 feet long and stands over 7 feet tall at its highest point. Visitors will be allowed and encouraged to do rubbings of names on The Wall.

The exhibit will also include digital photos displays of “Hometown Heroes” including veterans who returned home and passed away later, the history of the Vietnam War to educate visitors on the historical significance and cultural context of the time.

Jody also told us that when The Wall comes into Kutztown on a 53-foot trailer that they envision the community lining the route to welcome it. As we learn more details, we will share them with you.

***Adapted from the article on the Kutztown Community Partnership website.**

One Great Hour of Sharing

When you give to **One Great Hour of Sharing**, you deploy resources to people in need all around the world, and in our own communities. When man-made or natural disasters strike, love responds. Not just for the immediate future, but for the long haul. When you give to One Great Hour of Sharing, you are working alongside families to restore not only structures, but hope. Your giving ensures that no matter how difficult the situation, **Love remains**.

On **March 19th** we will be collecting for this Mission. Look for further information in your bulletins in the upcoming weeks. Please use the special envelope included with your March giving envelopes. Thank you

Colin's Quips by: Colin Heffley

1. “What are the prices of the seats, mister?”
“Front seats a dollar, back seats a half a dollar, and programs are a quarter.” “I’ll sit on a program.”
2. Father: “Don’t you think Junior gets his intelligence from me?”
Mother: “He must have. I still have mine.”
3. The photographer had just taken a picture of an old man on his ninety-ninth birthday. He thanked the old gentleman, saying: “I hope I’ll be around to take your picture when you’re one hundred.”
“The old man replied: “Why not? You look healthy to me.”
4. Diner in a restaurant: “Do you serve crabs here?”
Waiter: Sure, we serve anyone. Sit down.”
5. Dentist: “What kind of filling do you want?”
Timmy: “Chocolate, please.”

Recipes from the kitchen of Mayor Jim and Merry Schlegel

Mushroom Soup

1 large, sweet onion
1 pound of mushrooms
2 big carrots
1 teaspoon caraway seeds
1 32-ounce container beef broth
1 10.5 ounce can beef consume - undiluted
2 tablespoons butter.



Chop the onions and carrots up, thin slice the mushrooms sauté in the butter. Add the caraway seeds and broths. Cook until carrots are soft.

French Onion Soup

4 Tablespoons butter
5 large, sweet onions, sliced thin
1 32-ounce container beef broth
1 10.5 can Campbell's soup consommé - undiluted
1 teaspoon granulated sugar



Sauté the onions and sugar in the butter until caramelized. Add the broth and consommé (some people add a small amount of sherry). Cook on medium heat for about 30 minutes, then lower to simmer while prepping the bread.

While the soup is simmering, slice some good French or Italian bread and toast it. Put the soup in bowls and place the toasted bread on top of the soup and put your favorite cheese on top of the bread. (I use a mixture of Mozzarella, Parmesan, Romano, or Swiss.) Place bowls in the microwave to melt the cheese for 1 and 1/2 minutes or place all of the bowls in the oven and broil them for 2-3 minutes.

YOUTH SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE & GUEST PERFORMANCE BY SERAFINA - APRIL 23

Please join the youth of St. Paul's as they help to lead worship service on April 23. In addition, Serafina, a talented 9-year-old local violinist, will be playing several musical pieces. Serafina was one of the top award winners at the Berks County Fiddle Contest.

MARIAN & FRIENDS VENTRILOQUIST SHOW - MAY 21

The Board of Christian Education invites all congregation members to join us on Sunday, May 21 from 9:00-10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall for a ventriloquist performance by Marian Gehman. This will celebrate the end of our Youth Sunday School Year with our Last Class Party.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - SAVE THE DATE

Our St. Paul's/Trinity joint VBS program is back for another exciting year with the theme "Monumental: Celebrating God's Greatness" as we wander through the desert landscape of the southwestern United States. VBS is tentatively scheduled for July 31 thru August 4 from 6:00-8:30 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church. Please watch for a flyer and sign-up details coming in May.

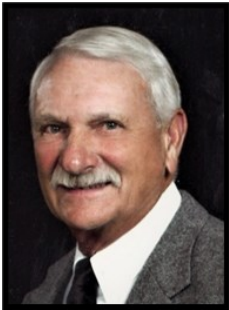




IN LOVING MEMORY



Christine M. Mattern, 70 of Kutztown, formerly of Mertztown, died Friday, December 9, 2022, in the home of Marie, with whom she resided. She was the widow of Clifford P. Scholl, Jr., who died in 1970, during combat. Born in Allentown, Christine was daughter of the late Charles W. and Helen J. (Haberstumpf) Hilbert. Chris was employed in the food service of the Lutheran Home of Topton, for over 30 years until her retirement.



Donald R. Grider, 87 of Kutztown, died Thursday, December 29, 2022, in Tower Health – Reading Hospital, West Reading, where he had been a patient. He was the loving husband of Brenda J. (Scheidt) Grider, whom he married September 29, 1961. Don was a graduate of Allentown High School, Class of 1953. Donald honorably and faithfully served our Country as a Veteran of the United States Army.



Eddie Reilman, 83 of Richmond Township passed away December 31, 2022, in Tower Health – Reading Hospital. Eddie was employed by the former Saucony Shoe Company, until he was drafted into the US Army. He was an avid woodworker who enjoyed making tables and other wood pieces. He also enjoyed recycling copper material for reuse. Eddie was the brother of Ethel DeMatteo-Beck.



William "Bill" Eschbach, 65, of Tilden Township died January 27, 2023. He was the loving husband of Sharon L. (Williams) Eschbach. They were married December 27, 1975. Bill was employed as a battery breaker for over 35 years, at East Penn Manufacturing Company, Lyon Station, until his retirement. Bill was a dedicated and active volunteer fire fighter. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, playing pool, golfing, small engine repair and spending time with his family.



COME
Worship
WITH US!



St. Paul's United Church of Christ Kutztown Lenten Calendar 2023

Wednesday, 02/22

Ash Wednesday

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM Drive-thru Ashes (Parking Lot off Lambert Alley)

7:00 PM – Ash Wednesday Service

Sunday, 02/26

Luncheon after Worship

Tuesday, 02/28

10:00 AM – He Chose the Nails - Pastor Ritter, Worship Leader

Wednesday, 03/01

6:00 PM – Trinity Lutheran Church – Soup and Bread Meal

7:00 PM – Mid Lenten Worship – Pastor Kim, Worship Leader

Tuesday, 03/07

10:00 AM – He Chose the Nails – Pastor Kim, Worship Leader

Wednesday, 03/08

6:00 PM – St. Paul's UCC – Soup and Bread Meal

7:00 PM – Mid Lenten Worship – Pastor Ritter, Worship Leader

Thursday, 03/14

10:00 AM – He Chose the Nails – Seth Noggle, Worship Leader

Wednesday, 03/15

6:00 PM – Trinity Lutheran Church – Soup and Bread Meal

7:00 PM – Mid Lenten Worship – Pastor Kim, Worship Leader

Friday, 03/17

7:00 PM The PennWest Clarion University Concert Choir

Tuesday, 03/21

10:00 AM – He Chose the Nails – Seth Noggle, Worship Leader

Wednesday, 03/22

6:00 PM – St. Paul's UCC – Soup and Bread Meal

7:00 PM – Mid Lenten Worship – Pastor Ritter, Worship Leader

Tuesday, 03/28

10:00 AM – He Chose the Nails – Pastor Kim, Worship Leader

Wednesday, 03/29

6:00 PM – Trinity Lutheran Church – Soup and Bread Meal

7:00 PM – Mid Lenten Worship – Pastor Ritter, Worship Leader

Sunday, 04/02

10:15 AM – Palm Sunday Worship

Thursday, 04/06

7:00 PM – Maundy Thursday Worship

Friday, 04/07

3:00 PM – Good Friday Service

Saturday, 04/08

6:00 PM – Midnight - Easter Vigil

Sunday, 04/09

10:15 AM – Easter Service

MARCH 2023

Worship—10:15 AM

Sunday School—9:00 AM Adult SS 8:45 AM

Office/Pastor Hours; Monday 9AM—12 Noon, Tuesday—Thursday 9 AM—1:00 PM

(Due to church schedule, appointments suggested for Pastor)



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Lenten at Trinity 6 PM Lenten Meal 7 PM Service	2 6:15 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Voice Choir	3 11 AM World Day of Prayer Brunch 6-8 PM VBS Hauling	4 8:30 AM Manna at Grace 9AM-1PM Button Club (Lounge)
5 Pastor Sunday 3 PM Re-joining Spirits Worship	6 6PM Yoga	7 10 AM He Chose the Nails 7 PM Theology w/ a Twist 7 PM Bible Study	8 Lenten at St. Paul's w/Trinity 6 PM Lenten Meal 7 PM Service	9 6:15 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Voice Choir	10 7:30 PM KFMS Concert Keith Brintzenhoff	11 9 AM Prayer Walk 9:30 AM Yoga
12	13 6 PM Yoga	14 10 AM He Chose the Nails 11 AM Worship Mtg. 6:00PM Spiritual Council 7:00 PM Consistory	15 10AM—12 Noon Young @ Heart Seniors Lenten at Trinity 6PM—Lenten Meal 7 PM Service	16 2—9 PM H & H Quilters Meeting 6:30 PM Lion Club Mtg. (Lounge) 7:30 PM Voice Choir	17 7 PM Penny West Choir	18 9AM—10 PM Crafting 9:30 AM Yoga
19 Easter Shut-In Project Homebound	20 6 PM Yoga 6:30 PM Fellowship 7:00 PM Missions 7:30 PM Property	21 10 AM He Chose the Nails 7 PM Bible Study	22 Lenten at St. Paul's w/Trinity 6 PM Lenten Meal 7 PM Service	23 7:30 PM Voice Choir	24	25 9:30 AM Yoga
26 Easter Shut-In Project Homebound	27 6 PM Yoga	28 10 AM He Chose the Nails	29 Lenten at Trinity 6 PM Lenten Meal 7 PM Service	30 7:30 PM Voice Choir	31	

[illegible]

APRIL 2023



Worship—10:15 AM

Sunday School—9:00 AM Adult SS 8:45 AM

Office/Pastor Hours; Monday 9AM—12 Noon, Tuesday—Thursday 9 AM—1:00 PM

(Due to church schedule, appointments suggested for Pastor)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 Pastor Sunday PALM SUNDAY Folding of the Palms after worship 3 PM Rejoicing Spirits	3 6 PM Yoga	4 7 PM Theology w/ a Twist 7 PM Bible Study	5	6 7:30 PM Maundy Thursday Service Communion	7 3:00 PM Good Friday Service	1 8:30 AM Manna at Grace 9AM-1PM Button Club (Lounge) 9:30 AM Yoga
9 EASTER SUNDAY Communion Scavenger Egg Hunt Easter Flowers	10 6 PM Yoga	11 11 AM Worship Mtg. 7 PM Finance Mtg.	12 7 PM Consistory	13 6:15 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Voice Choir	14 7:30 KFMS Concert Berks Fiddle Fest Champs	8 9 AM Prayer Walk 9:30 AM Yoga 6 PM—Midnight Easter Vigil
16 Practice— Youth Worship Service Guest Pastor—Rev. Marian Shearer Snyder Wedding	17 6 PM Yoga 6:30 PM Fellowship 7:00 PM Missions 7:00 PM Property	18 2:15 PM Prayer Links 7 PM Bible Study	19 9AM-12Noon Young @ Heart Seniors 2-8:30 PM H & H Quilters	20 6:15 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Voice Choir	21	22 9:30 AM Yoga
23 Youth Worship Service 12:00—5:30 PM East Penn Chapter #336	24 6PM Yoga	25 6:30 PM Personnel 7 PM Christian Ed	26	27 6:15 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Voice Choir	28	29 9:30 AM Yoga
30 Sunday School Project Earth Day						

WORSHIP SCHEDULE	April 2, 2023	April 9, 2023	April 16, 2023	April 23, 2023	April 30, 2023
	Sixth Sunday in Lent	Easter	Second Sunday of Easter	Third Sunday of Easter	Fourth Sunday of Easter
Daily Devotions	Psalms 118:1-2, 19-29	Acts 10:34-43	Acts 2:14, 22-32	1 Peter 1:17-23	Acts 2:42-27
	Matthew 21:1-11	Colossians 3:1-4	Psalms 16	Acts 2:36-41	Psalms 23
	Philippians 2:5-11	John 20:1-18	John 20:19-31	Luke 24:13-35	John 10:1-10
Fellowship/Events	Folding of the Palms	4/6 Maundy Thursday Worship 7:00 PM	Deacons - Cindy, Ethel, Steve		
	Rejoicing Spirits Worship 3:00 PM	4/7 Good Friday Worship 3:00 PM	Deacons - Gregg, Sandi, Erin		
Worship Leaders	Ethel DeMatteo-Beck	Daryn Keim	TBD	Youth of St. Paul's	Karen Rhode
Deacons	Tom Lenich	Tom Lenich	Cindy Swan	Gregg Hartman	Tom Lenich
	Denise Keim	Denise Keim	Ethel DeMatteo-Beck	Sandi Madeira	Denise Keim
	Daryn Keim	Daryn Keim	Steve Leinbach	Erin Webb	Daryn Keim
Flower Sponsors					
Center	In memory of Lillian Hartman	Keith & Mandy Boyer			
		In memory of her grandparents,			
		Mr. & Mrs. Warren Weidner			
		& her friend, Tim Trout			
Sides		Easter Flowers in the Sanctuary			
Bulletins			Erin Webb		
			In memory of loved ones		



Psalm 98:4 Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all the earth: make a loud noise, and rejoice, and sing praise.

Rejoicing Spirits has been providing a “no shush” worship service for the past 6 months. What a truly wonderful experience! Volunteers from various local churches have come together to provide a meaningful worship service for everyone. Our Rejoicers have found a worship service where they can participate through song, playing musical instruments, dancing, and prayer. God’s word is shared through stories, skits and song.

We have been truly blessed. One parent told us that her Rejoicer loves Rejoicing Spirits and talks about it to everyone he sees. He tells his friends how great it is and invites them to come to the service. We have parents thanking us for facilitating the worship services. One father said he and his wife have not been able to attend church for years. Now they are regular attendees and their son actively participates in the Rejoicing Spirits service. Please join us the first Sunday of every month and see God at work.

Two and a half years ago, members of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Kutztown identified the need for a worship experience that invites people with intellectual disabilities to participate fully in worship services and provides an opportunity for fellowship. They sought to provide a no-shush, no-judgement service just for them that allows each to embrace the Holy Spirit with opportunities for the praise and support of their families and caregivers.

A team of members researched what was being offered and decided that the Rejoicing Spirits ministry model was a good match. It was suspected that there is an underserved population of people with intellectual disabilities in Eastern Berks County. 43 churches in the area were invited to a meeting to explore it further. Several churches responded favorably and began meeting toward the goal of hosting a monthly worship service for individuals with disabilities, their families, and caregivers. St. Paul’s UCC, Kutztown was selected as the host site, due to its accessibility. The steering committee is blessed to have 5 retired Special Education teachers and a current teacher of the visually impaired leading this endeavor.

Rejoicing Spirits Ministry falls under the umbrella organization MOSAIC, which required that a feasibility study was conducted to determine if there was a need for such services in our area. This required reaching- out to the nine adult service agencies that provide services for people with intellectual disabilities in our community. Six of the agencies responded and provided information about the best days and times for services that would include their clients. They also provided information about the style of worship that would best serve these individuals. They further suggested we offer a sensory room to provide a safe space for a Rejoicer to retreat to in the event that they felt overwhelmed.

MOSAIC has provided materials and mentorship during the approval process to become an official Rejoicing Spirits site. One advantage of this status is that MOSAIC has congregations throughout the United States that could accommodate Rejoicers who have relocated. We had two counseling calls with their director which resulted in their suggestion that we set a date for our first worship service.

Along the journey we learned that there is a church in Emmaus that has been hosting monthly services for more than 14 years. They have been mentors and supporters throughout the process. We have also learned of the Kutztown Buddy program which pairs college students with adults who have cognitive disabilities for the purpose of facilitating socialization. There has been such an outpouring of support from more than seven local congregations that has boosted creative collaboration and volunteerism.

The inaugural worship service was held on Sunday, October 2 which included welcomes from Rev. Kevin McLemore, Associate Conference Minister of the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference of the United Church of Christ and Bishop Christopher deForest. There were at least 9 Rejoicers among the 41 in attendance in this fun and meaningful worship and fellowship event. Join us the first Sunday of each month at 3:00 PM to experience that will touch and inspire you.



St. Paul's will be hosting the PennWest Clarion University Concert Choir on Friday, March 17 at 7:00 PM.

Previously called the Clarion University Chamber Singers, they have been renamed due to the recent merger of Clarion, California, and Edinboro Universities of Pennsylvania. They were scheduled to perform here in the Spring of 2020, but the concert was cancelled due to Covid 19. We are a stop on their tour which includes performances at the National Cathedral in Washington, DC and at the Harrisburg Capitol Rotunda. Their underlying theme of “love and forgiveness” is perfect for the Lenten Season including music of a variety of musical styles.

Making “In Kind” Donations

You may wonder “What is an “In Kind” donation?” An “In Kind” donation is a donation that is not monetary. For example, when we bake cookies for the Bazaar, people sign up to donate ingredients. Let's say you purchased 12 pounds of butter. Right now the average price of a pound of butter is \$3.18. 12 pounds of butter would total \$38.16. You put it in the fridge in the kitchen. Thanks to you and other generous people like you, all proceeds from cookie sales is a profit.

You may wonder “Why are “In Kind” donations important?” They are important because you are sharing resources with St. Paul's that save us money. If you would like to receive credit in your contributions for your “In Kind” donations, please provide a copy of your receipt to the Financial Secretary with the amount of your “In Kind” donation and the purpose. These donations help to stretch our church budget further and we thank you.

Here is another example. If you have offered to bring 60 100% fruit juice boxes for Rejoicing Spirits and they are \$33.90 for a pack of 32 and you buy two, you have spent \$67.80.

In the case of “In Kind” donations to Rejoicing Spirits, we have received a grant to defray expenses and are required to do an accounting of other resources to support the ministry. People have been so generous with “In Kind” donations, but we must keep track of them to show that the grant is not the only source of funding supporting the ministry. If you have any questions about “In Kind” donations for St. Paul's, please contact Marge Weida. If you have any questions about “In Kind” donations for Rejoicing Spirits, please contact Erin Webb.



Spiritual Council Financial Communication

The year 2022 is now history and we are happy to report St. Paul's enjoyed a good year both spiritually and financially. Attendance held steady and we have been able to fill all open positions on Consistory. The live-stream and YouTube recordings draw more than 20 families each week.

Despite a difficult economy, we were blessed to receive a 3.4 percent increase in our general contributions when compared with 2021. Through the generosity of Jim Ludwick, we enjoyed a major upgrade of our kitchen facilities and support through the "Property Maintenance Fund" continued to be strong.

When the 2022 Budget was presented to Consistory, our Finance Committee estimated we would be required to transfer \$75,805.00 from our Trusts to pay for our approved operation and programs. That's the bad news! The good news is that most programs were completed, requiring \$25,000.00 to be taken from our Trusts.

We have also embarked on several new programs in 2022. Young at Heart Seniors celebrated its first-year anniversary in February. It is a time of fellowship for seniors in St. Paul's and the community, which we hope will continue to expand.

Our partnership with the St. Barnabas Center has been fruitful in creating a spiritual and community space. Our commitment to this ministry is economical and ecumenical.

Rejoicing Spirits is another community-oriented ministry in which more than 8 churches in Eastern Berks County work together to offer a non-shush worship experience to individuals with disabilities, their family, and caregivers. From a financial perspective, it is supported by grant funds, financial donations, and in-kind gifts. Please see the article that appears on the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference website in this edition of the PULSE.

Many thanks to Committee Chairpersons and Members, Consistory Members, Volunteers, and our generous Congregation.

In future articles we will address the status of our Trusts and how our shrinking membership could affect future programs.

P.S. There are some really good seats still available for the Sunday Service. Sorry we can't accept reservations – early arrivals get the best seats!

MARCH 20, 2023

Turn your clock ahead 1 hour



APRIL 30, 2023

Sunday School Project



REPRINTED FROM DECEMBER 2022
CONSISTORY MEETING

PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING
November 28, 2022 – MINUTES

Location/Time: Sharadin Lounge of St. Paul's UCC, 7:00 PM.
Attendance: Brian and Ethel Beck, Joan Gangewere, John Keiser, and Fernando Garcia

Announcements and Old Business:

Overnight Parking: A Memo was presented summarizing Property Committee's decision on Oct. 17 to try an overnight/7-day week parking program on the Whiteoak parking lot. The Memo requested from Rhode Ins. Agency a written response as to St. Paul's liability and recommendation.

Parking Policy: Was reviewed as well as 8 existing "No Parking" signs that will be put up on both parking lots, weather permitting.

25ft Flagpole: Installed.

Metal cabinet: Acquired. It will be installed under the defibrillator to keep special supplies.

Sink Faucet: New cartridges were put in.

New Business: None presented

Pending on To-Do List:

- Verify functioning of emergency lights throughout the building and replace if needed.
- Replace "blue" lights
- Install 4 extra fire extinguishers
- Consider improving back parking lot lighting replacing existing lights with LED
- Reset Parking lot light timers to winter
- Verify functioning of front door lights

There being no other business, meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Next Meeting: TBA

Fernando Garcia, secretary

Young At Heart Seniors

The Young at Heart Senior Club continues to meet on the third Wednesday of the month.

December was quite a hit with Jim Gray of SOAP (Spirit of the Airwaves Players) leading the Young at Heart Players in three seasonal Radio Shows. Kathy Landis and Carl Mantz portrayed the Bickersons, a couple who humorously bicker at one another constantly, but always have a happy ending. The second show was Fibber McGee and Molly in a very humorous story about Christmas trees. The final show was a heartwarming story of Duffy's Tavern that had a humorous and inspiring Christmas message.



Special thanks to Jim for being our organizer and emcee – he even brought a few sound effects! Jim will come back again in the Summer with more radio plays to delight us. And special thanks to our refreshment crew!



January's edition of Young at Heart welcomed a small but appreciative group to play BibleOpoly. It is a fun game that takes a little while to plumb the depth of the rules, but then it is lots of fun. The properties on the board are biblical cities (with pronunciations!) with churches. Rather than building homes and hotels, the goal is to build a church with a cornerstone, bricks, and a steeple on top. The steeples are used as game pieces until the steeple is added and someone wins the game. Although we did not have time to build any churches, Anna Mae Kline from St. John's UCC was our "Money Bags" big winner. Thanks to Kathy, Marcia, and John for our delicious refreshments.

Please join us and bring a friend.

Our February edition of Young at Heart Seniors was a celebration of Valentine's Day and our first anniversary. Our guest was the incredible Hallie Vaughan who portrayed women spies of three historic periods. She had trivia questions for us about women spies, one of whom was the singer Josephine Baker!

First, she portrayed colonial era spy Lydia Daragh, a Quaker who felt that what the British did was not right. Her greatest objection was the British edict that if British military personnel needed your home, you needed to move out. Lydia's husband was away and she had two young children and nowhere to go when they requisitioned her home. She successfully appealed to them to allow her to stay in her home where she hid in the linen closet to overhear British plans. The most dramatic one involved a plan to ambush Washington and his soldiers, including her son. She passed messages back and forth to her son in the compartment of his buttons and saved the lives of many.

Her second spy portrayal was Sarah Emma Edmonds a master/mistress of disguise who was able to blend into any crowd. One of the most interesting disguises involved rubbing silver nitrate on her skin to make it dark to take on the guise of a slave who was in a position to listen in – in plain sight - as she did all of the menial tasks they gave her.

Hallie then presented herself as Virginia Hall, the subject of the book "A Woman of No Importance." She was fluent in French, German, Italian, and Spanish and began as a British intelligence officer during WWII demonstrating incredible bravery and even planning the bombing of several bridges. Hallie had a tattoo stocking on one leg that depicted the prosthetic she wore after a grave injury. The prosthetic, which she named "Cuthbert," gave her a limp and this ultimately blew her cover due to her identification as "The Limping Lady". She fled to Spain – a three day walk in the snow - to avoid capture but was arrested immediately because she crossed the border without permission. A released prisoner helped to secure her release, but the British would no longer allow her to work for them due to the prosthetic leg. Undaunted, she went to the American Embassy where they determined she should be a member of the OSS (precursor to the CIA) and became their first female agent. She continued to do incredible work and she was honored with the Distinguished Service Cross.

Our first anniversary gathering was our highest attendance yet with many first time visitors. In March we will be playing "The Price is Right." Please join us and bring a friend.

"THE OLD BELL TO RING AGAIN"

The bronze bell, dated 1886, and containing the names of the building committee, will ring out again Sunday morning at St. Paul's Evangelical Church, heralding the rebuilding of the tower.

Among the worshippers will be Architect Paul deRagon, a member of the congregation, who found it a challenge to restore what was best in the age-old structure, and convert it into a simplified Georgian style. He also restored the "wheel" window above the entrance, heretofore not visible.

Bell Cast in 1886

(Continued from page one)

weighs 1,690 pounds, was lowered four feet during the rebuilding of the tower. It rests on a cast iron frame, and a wheel revolves the bell, pendulum fashion. In addition to the date, the names of the 1886 building committee are cast on the bell: Lewis Butz, Dr. Edward Hottenstein, Dr. Nathan C. Schaeffer, J. D. Sharadin, A. G. Neff and William F. Stimmel. The tone of the bell is "G." The tower retains loud speakers, and is to be lighted.

The new front of the edifice, which rises to a height of 60 feet, is of true Flemish bond Colonial brick. In addition to the double-door front entrance, there are two new doors to the right and the left of the chancel, at the "Crossing."

The entire organ is under expression, the pipes in the organ chamber; and the console has been moved to the opposite side of the chancel. The exterior of the church is to be repainted in the near future.

During renovations an old chimney was discovered resting on six by tens, directly over the nave. Originally St. Paul's was heated by two furnaces, each connected with the chimney by means of terra cotta pipes. When the new roof was put on the church, the upper part of that chimney was removed, leaving the balance of it in mid-air, "a definite hazard."

The architects were Koch and DeRagon, Reading, the latter counting the assignment a special one, since he is a member of the congregation. "It was a challenge," Mr. DeRagon says, "to retain the good and reconvert it as near to the Colonial style as we could, thus keeping within the local tradition."

E. A. Reider, Reading, was the contractor. It was Sam Hepner's first big-job assignment as foreman. "Because it was a church," Sam told Pastor Paul E. Schmoeyer, "I took extra pains to make it good." Gilbert Babb was his assistant.

Harvest Home

Harvest Home will be celebrated Sunday, at 10:15 A. M., when the chancel will be decorated with fruits of industry and field.

Bell Cast in 1886 To Be Rung Sunday From a New Tower

St. Paul's Members to Enter
Church by Front Door;
"Harvest Home"

The McNeely, cast-bronze bell, dated 1886, will ring again Sunday morning at St. Paul's Evangelical and Reformed church, heralding the erection of the new simplified Georgian tower. The bell-ringer will be Nicholas Wiley. The scaffolding in front of the church has also been taken down, and worshippers will be privileged to again use the front entrance. They will also notice the "wheel" window above the entrance, heretofore, hidden, which Designer Paul DeRagon, a church member, has uncovered. Accented with limestone, its "spokes" are of wood, and the original glass is in blue, orange and other colors. Limestone also outlines the front entrance, and the steps are made of the same material.

The tower, which is 65 feet from the ground, represents the modern trend in architecture, "away from tall steeples, and practicable both as to design and maintenance." Built around the old framing timbers, it is 12 feet square and 25 feet high, on a structural frame of brick and steel. The bell, which

(Continued on page ten—column three)



HISTORY OF THE BELL ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

From the collection of

Erma Angstadt

Kutztown Folk Music Society Concert

If you missed the January edition of the Kutztown Folk Music Society, you missed an incredible concert. Ken and Henry each brought several instruments with them and traded back and forth frequently – this is very difficult to do due to the number of strings, bows, and hammers that went along with them, but they made it look easy. I cannot overstate how talented each of them were and the quality of their combined skills.

Ken and Henry started out with “Foggy Mountain Breakdown”, which inspired the writing of the next piece Ken’s own “South Mountain Breakdown.” Next was “9 Pound Hammer” with Henry in perfect harmony. “St. Anne’s Reel” was played by Ken on Banjo and Henry on Dulcimer. Henry said he was a little rusty on the dulcimer, but if that is rusty what is well-prepared?

Ken switched to Dobro Guitar, which is made of shiny metal played on the lap - like a steel guitar you don’t plug in – while Henry played Ukelele for the hauntingly beautiful Hawaiian tune “Farewell to Thee.” They followed it with an bluesy/jazz Horn Pipe, which is not traditionally played with this instrumentation. I have never heard such twangyness for a Horn Pipe! I would describe it as Gilligan’s Island meets Thelonious Monk meets Celtic culture.

Then they switched to a Martha Trachtenberg’s Buffalo Gals piece, the Blue Grass “I Know Its Spring. It was bouncy and fun. Next Ken played a Django guitar for the “A Minor Swing” and my favorite tune of the evening: “Autumn Leaves.” They surprised us with a Willie Nelson tune I would never have guessed he wrote. It was a jazz piece called “Night Life.”

In New Year’s mode, they played the New Year’s Wish song “Auld Lang Syne” to banish misfortune. Then they played “The Eighth of January” about the Battle of New Orleans written by Arkansas songwriter, Jimmy Driftwood, who also wrote the very popular Celtic tune “St. Brendan’s Fair Isle.”

This concert was the second most well attended KFMS concert with sixty-two guests! We are truly blessed to have musicians of this caliber in Kutztown and our very own sanctuary. Join us in March to hear Keith Brintzenhoff take us on a folk journey around the globe and in April to hear the incredible Berks Fiddle Champions.



WOMEN’S GUILD REPORT

WOMEN’S GUILD MET ON FEBRUARY 1ST. THE GUILD RAISED OVER \$7,000 AT THEIR CHRISTMAS BAZAAR. SINCERE THANKS TO ALL MEMBERS OF ST. PAUL’S WHO HELPED IN ANY WAY TO MAKE THE BAZAAR A SUCCESS.

SOME OF THE MONIES RAISED ARE BEING GIVEN TO MISSION COMMITTEE, RELAY FOR LIFE, SPECIAL NEEDS IN OUR COMMUNITY. WE ARE ALSO UPDATING BLINDS IN FELLOWSHIP HALL AND THE KITCHEN.

AN ELECTION OF OFFICERS WAS HELD. THE NEW OFFICERS ARE ETHEL DEMATTEO-BECK PRESIDENT, DENISE KEIM VICE PRESIDENT, BARB MERKEL SECRETARY, JANE GRIM TREASURER.

A BIG BIG THANK YOU TO MARILYN ECKERT WHO SERVED AS PRESIDENT FOR MANY YEARS. YOU’RE THE BEST!

ALL WOMEN OF THE CHURCH ARE MEMBERS OF THE GUILD. IT IS UP TO YOU IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO GET INVOLVED OR NOT. WE HAVE FUN AND FELLOWSHIP AS A GROUP. PLEASE JOIN US AT OUR NEXT MEETING.

Kutztown Folk Music Society – February Concert



Hannah Violet deserves the popularity she has – multi-talented singer, guitarist, and fiddle player. She is also the sweetest young woman! There were 81 people in our sanctuary for her concert on February 10 – the largest concert in more than 10 years! St. Paul’s was also well-represented in the audience. There was a hint on the poster that she might be joined by a special guest - and she was. Her father, Mitch Miller joined her for the performance.

The first tune was a Hannah Violet original called “Get Outta My Truck,” which is apparently a fan favorite when she performs at other venues. On the second tune, which sounded like “Golden Slippers” (often played by string bands in the Mummers Parade) Mitch played a “cross tuned fiddle,” which is a southern tuning.

Mitch switched to mandolin for their next song “Walking After Midnight.” Then Hannah noticed a little girl named Emma in the audience and asked her to join them to sing a song in the microphone. She agreed and sang “Jesus Loves Me” with Mitch and Hannah.

Hannah switched to fiddle, and they played Eric Weisberg’s “Reuben’s Train.” They went back to a Hannah original “Out of These Woods,” a very moving song of loss which explored wanting to pull away yet feeling tethered by memories.

They did an interesting arrangement of Fleetwood Mac’s “Go Your Own Way” followed by a Bill Staines tune from Mitch’s new CD of all instrumental music set to be released any day. The CD is called “Fishing for the Right Tune-a” and features a painting his granddaughter, Everly, did on the cover. They switched gears to some Cajun tunes: “Mama Lou” and “Let’s Talk About Drinking.”

My favorite tune of the evening was Dolly Parton’s “Jolene.” I once heard Dolly mention during an interview that a woman was chasing her husband and Dolly knew he wouldn’t stray. She wrote this song to warn the other woman to stay away from him. Next they turned to some Celtic tunes, which is natural due to Mitch’s long time membership in the Shanachians. (They are playing on St. Patty’s Day at the Peanut Bar in Reading.) The first was an Aire, a haunting, traditional Irish tune that really relocated us to the place where spirits hovered over the ground. We were also treated to an unusual medley of a polka, jig, and reel. Mitch forgot his spoons and used two from our kitchen to make his music.

Hannah and Mitch invited Keith Brintzenhoff (also a member of the Shanachians) to join in the second to last tune “Traveler.” But the final piece was the one that left no dry eye in the sanctuary. Hannah and Mitch invited her mother, Sharon to join in the finale. Sharon rolled forward in her padded wheel chair. 5 years ago, she was diagnosed with Guillen Barre Syndrome (Miller-Fisher variant) which left her able to move only her eye brows to communicate. She had to learn to do everything all over again. Once she regained her speech, her therapist told her she could sing again. The family trio sang “You Are My Sunshine” with Sharon on lead vocals. Sharon is grateful that she has been able to sing with her family the way they always sang together.

We could each feel the presence of God in a father and daughter performing together. We felt it more strongly when lifelong family friend, Keith joined them on stage and incredibly strongly when Sharon sang so beautifully with her family.

Only three fabulous concerts to go in this year’s concert series. Please join us and bring a friend.



Kutztown Folk Music Society

Second Friday of each month 7:30 PM

March Concert: Friday, March 10:

Keith Brintzenhoff, Pennsylvania Dutch

humorist and multi-talented folk musician will play songs from around the world.

April Concert: Friday, April 14:

Berks Fiddle Fest Champions - a real treat

\$9.00 - Adults

\$7.00 - Seniors (62 and older), Students, and

Veterans/Active Duty Military,

Free - Children 12 and under

St. Paul's UCC

47 S. Whiteoak Street Kutztown, PA 19530

- enter through the back door located on Lambert Alley

Call Barb at the church office for more info 610.683.3393

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Sent With A Prayer To:

MARK YOUR CALENDARS MARCH

**March 3rd
World Day Of Prayer Brunch—11AM**

**March 10th
KFMS Concert—7:30PM
Keith Brintzenhoff**

**March 11th
Prayer Walk –9AM**

**March 12th
Daylight Saving Time –Spring Ahead
Guest Ethan Hardy on bagpipes**

**March 17th
PennWest Choir—7PM**

**March 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th
Lenten Meal—6PM
Lenten Services—7PM
(see schedule for location)**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS APRIL

**April 2nd
Palm Sunday**

**April 6th
Maundy Thursday—7:30PM**

**April 7th
Good Friday Service—3:00 PM**

**April 8th
Prayer Walk—9AM
Easter Vigil - 6PM to 12AM**

**April 9th
SS Easter Egg Hunt
Easter—Communion**

**April 14th
KFMS Concert—7:30PM
Berks Fiddle Fest Champs**

**April 23rd
Youth Worship With Guest
Serafina on fiddle**