Finding Life in the Good News

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 fellowship, 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

| hn Keise | President |
| :---: | :---: |
| Steve Leinbach. | .Vice President |
| Barbara Merkel. | Recording Secretary |
| Cheryl Ziegler. | Treasurer |
| Marjorie Weida | Financial Secretary |

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
Louise Moyer........................................entent
Sherry Leinbach................

## Pastor's email: <br> pastorkim@stpaulskutztown,org

Office email: office@stpaulskutztown.org

## Website: www.stpaulskutztown.org



Dear St. Paul's Family:


In Exodus 20:8 we are admonished to "Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy." As American Christians I wonder if we know what that means and how to do that.

What is our Sabbath day? I used to think it was Sunday until I began to work full time and had to work on Sundays. My "days off" were Monday and Tuesday at my first full time job, but I had to do all my errands on Monday and Tuesday to be prepared for the marathon the rest of the week. I don't think I had a Sabbath back then, which didn't give me years of practice for future Sabbaths.

After many years of employment in different places, I have drawn the conclusion that we may each need to select our weekly Sabbath day based on our own schedule - and it may change each week. My grandparents were farmers and always tried to preserve Sunday afternoon and evening for rest and family time. That doesn't always happen for us, does it? Sundays have changed for many of us since the days of Blue Laws and no activities outside of church.

How do we observe our Sabbath day? My friend, Leslie is Jewish, and she said that her family prepared their food the day before the Sabbath so that they didn't need to work at all on that day. To be honest, I admire anyone who remembers to pack their lunch the evening before school or workdays. And I enjoy cooking, so perhaps that is a Sabbath activity for me.

How do we keep the Sabbath holy? I think attending worship is a good start, but is there another way to add to the holiness? My friend's father was a pastor and she told me that her family dedicated a bit of afternoon time to scripture reading, which she still does with her own family. Perhaps if we take the bulletin along home with us and take some time to read and reflect upon the devotional on the back cover it might be a holiness boost.

Summer is a season in which many of us take time away for a vacation. If we design our vacations so that we are not on the move every moment of it, perhaps we can set aside some time for holy pursuits. When you are on vacation do you visit another church? I try to do that and have visited UCC churches where possible, but I have also ventured into other churches I felt called to visit.

I don't know the remedy for keeping or making the Sabbath day holy, but I hope that I have given you cause to reflect upon the notion of Sabbath and perhaps find ways to embrace it. Even God rested after six days, and maybe we should follow God's example.

Happy Summer and Happy Sabbath.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

## July

1 Finnegan Ferguson
2 Kevin Kulp
4 Daniel Hawkins, Carly Hawkins Jeremy Adamson
5 Scarlett Unger
7 Matthew Diehl
8 Thomas Luckenbill
10 Gary Fritz
12 Carolyn Ordway, Todd O’Neil
13 Bradley Schwalm
14 Jessica Rhodes
15 Marjorie Weida
18 Laraine Wuchter
19 Kelly Monroe, Tayson Merkel
21 Mary Steltz
22 Amy Bray
23 Ryan Kulp, Janet Haas
24 John Keiser, Jr.
25 Daniel Follweiler
28 Brenda Grider, Jan Weller
29 Nancy Thomas, Steven Steltz, Jr,
30 Thomas Merkel Jr
31 Caleb Heffley, Gautham Heffley


BIRTHDAYS

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

## August

1 Ronald Newhard, Colin Heffley
2 Judith Magee, Jarad Luckenbill
4 Barbara Merkel, Brian Unger, Elaine Musser
5 Erin Webb
6 Brandi Long
9 Amy Rakowiecki
11 Lori Lobb
12 David Swan
13 Karen Rhode
15 LeAnn Silberman, Lindsey Derstine
17 John Kutz
18 LaRoy Haas
21 Aaron Snyder
24 Nicole Weaknecht
25 Taynara Rocha
27 Tyler Schmoyer, Emily Harris
31 Ray Oswald


## MONUMENTAL VBS IS COMING! JULY 30-AUGUST 3 at TRINITY

The Trinity/St. Paul's Combined VBS Program is back for another fun summer in-person program: "Monumental: Celebrating God's Greatness" as we wander through the desert landscape of the southwestern United States. Please plan to preregister as soon as possible by completing the attached form or contacting Seth Noggle at 570-529-2325 or seth.noggle@gmail.com or Louise Moyer at 610-641-0507 or LouiseMoyer13@gmail.com. Children from preschool thru Grade 6 will have a blast! We are also looking for adult and older youth helpers. There is no charge for the program. Come and celebrate God's Greatness with us!


## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2023: <br> "MONUMENTAL"

July 30-Aug. 3 (Sunday-Thursday) 6:00-8:30 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church (Kutztown)

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## "MONUMENTAL" VBS at Trinity (Kutztown)

Child's Name: $\qquad$ Child's Age \& Grade Next Yr: $\qquad$
Parent's Name: $\qquad$ Parent's Phone: $\qquad$
Emergency Contact Phone Number (during VBS): $\qquad$
Parent's Email Address:
I am willing to help by:
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$ Registration/Check-In

## Congratulations to our graduates!!!

## Christina Richard

King's College
Master's of Education in Reading/Multisensory Structured Language Education
Christina's plans for the future are to become a Reading Specialist and continue helping students with reading disabilities develop literacy skills.

She was also inducted into the Alpha Epsilon Lambda National Honor Society during her studies at King College.

Caleb Moyer<br>Brandywine Heights High School<br>May 31st

Caleb is a member of the National Honor Society
His future plans are to attend Alvernia University for a BS in Nursing with an interest in emergency medicine


If you know of anyone who has graduated or will be graduating over the summer, please send the information to Marjorie Weida at maweid69@hotmail.com. It will be posted in the next Pulse coming out in September.


JULY 4, 2023

## HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY 4TH!!

## RELAY FOR LIFE <br> ANGELS OF HOPE

This year our relay was held at the Bowers Park. The day was somewhat rainy off and on all day, but that didn't dampen our spirits. We had quite an amazing turnout!! Our tent was voted Best Themed Tent this year and we want to thank Laraine for the sign that she contributed to our site. (See photo below)

Denise would like to thank everyone that helped to make this event a huge success. So much goes into this event and we are blessed to have a congregation that helps. People are walking, putting up and taking down signs, donating raffle prizes, sponsoring luminarias, and giving monetary donations.

Our total for this event was $\$ 34,284.00$ which includes a generous donation of $\$ 11,000.00$ from the F.O.E. Great job everyone!!! Our team had over 375 purple signs, alone. The total number of purple signs was 585 . The grand total raised by all the relay teams for the whole event is $\$ 117,996.96$ which is $\$ 17,996.96$ over our goal of $\$ 100,000.00$.

Next year's event is scheduled to be held at the Bower's Park. We hope to see everyone there.


## BEST <br> THEMED <br> TENT <br> TROPHY



## Visitation

In light of the changes that have recently been enacted regarding Covid protocol, it was suggested we explore returning to in-person visitation. Since the visitation team doesn't meet, many of the people actively visiting pre-covid were contacted to determine their thoughts on visitation. The majority of those who responded agreed it is time to restart visitations and that they are comfortable being part of the visitation team. If you are interested in serving as a member of the visitation team please contact Pastor Kim or Erin Webb (610-894-9949).

What you need to know before you visit:

1. Your safety and the safety of the person you are visiting is a top priority. Masking should be discussed with the person you are visiting prior to the visit.
2. You should not visit alone. Always visit in pairs.
3. Call ahead to schedule a date and time.

As you may know, local hospitals no longer maintain a list of patients and their church affiliation. Therefore, if you or a loved one is hospitalized please contact Pastor Kim. If you our a loved one is ill or homebound and would appreciate a visit, please contact Pastor Kim or Erin Webb to schedule a visit.

"Eastside Dave," Dave Kline was the final performer of the 2023 KFMS season. The best word to describe Dave's concert is unforgettable! He played several styles of guitar, and a variety of genres of music. What was really fun was that he got the audience involved in almost every song.

Most of the night, he would play a song, and somebody from the audience had to guess the title of the movie it was from, or sometimes something else, like the composer. Whoever guessed it won a prize. They were all older songs, from a variety of movies.

Before he did that, he and Jon Bond* explained and demonstrated their work together. Sometimes Jon would send a painting/picture to Dave, and he would write a song about it. Sometimes Dave would write a song, and Jon would paint a picture to illustrate it. Either way they were terrific! Two very talented people working together to the delight of the audience.

See you in October for the next season of the Kutztown Folk Music Society!
*Jon Bond is the artist who restored the painting in the Sharadin Lounge.

## Colin's Quips

by Colin Heffley

1. "Hello, Reverend Smith, this is the Internal Revenue Service. Is Samuel Jones a member of your congregation?"
"He is."
"Did he donate $\$ 10,000$ to the church?"
"He will."
2. I figured out why they call our language the "Mother Tongue" Some fathers never get a chance to use much of it.
3. Where do polar bears vote? At the North Poll.
4. Where does food go to take a nap? A rest-aurant.
5. Why wouldn't the Pharaoh let the Hebrews go? He was in de-Nile.
6. What do you call a bakery thief that leaves a trail? A crumb-inal.

## YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL RALLY DAY - SEPTEMBER 10

All of the Youth Sunday School Teachers are looking forward to welcoming back our youth, their families, and their grandparents for Sunday School on September 10 from 9:00-10:00! More details will be communicated by email, but please save the date and all extended family members should plan to join in this annual kickoff celebration, We look forward to seeing you on September 10!

## SIX BENEFITS OF VOLUNTEERING AT YOUR CHURCH

1. Get Closer to God. Spending increased time in the church enhances our ability to do our duty - God's work. We have all been called on by the Lord to serve and spread the Word of Christ, so volunteering represents the crux of Christian devotion.
2. Help Your Community. As a lifeline for many community members, a smoothly running church is essential for all. We can all spare a few hours for God. Different perspectives are also helpful in thinking outside the box and finding other ways to serve.
3. Increase Self Confidence. By doing good for the world and spending your time fulfilling the real needs of the people around you, you will discover a sense of accomplishment like never before. Know that your actions are helping people around you and feel good about it.
4. Build your Skillset. Pushing yourself out of your comfort zone in a volunteer position will inevitably help you acquire new skills, too.
5. Get a Sense of Purpose. If you simply cannot find the path you are looking for in life, the consistency and community that come with volunteering can be incredibly helpful to those who are not in the best place. The mental health benefits of volunteering are powerful and stave off loneliness and isolation. Volunteering keeps you in contact with a support system while showing you that you are a valued and loved member of the community.
6. Keep Physically Fit. It is a way to stay active. Signing up to volunteer with people in your community could do incredible things for your everyday health.

Adapted from https://www.playlister.app/blog/six-benefits-of-volunteering-at-your-church

## My Favorite Hymn <br> by Judy Heffley

When I asked Keith Wuchter what his favorite hymn was, he said there are several that he likes. But the one that inspired him the most was "Here I Am, Lord," based on Isaiah 6:8. During the three-year revitalization program under Pastor Jack Davies, Keith prayed to the Lord about what he should do; to show him the way that he could best serve the Lord.

Keith started leading small church groups to speak about salvation or whatever paths God inspired him to follow. When Pastor Jack led him to ponder this journey, Keith jumped right in and has loved every minute he has spent communing with God and helping others to strengthen their relationships with God.
"Here I Am, Lord" was written by the American composer, Daniel L. Schutte and was published in 1981. It remains very popular as one of the "songs that make a difference" in people's lives.

## The Garden

## For the Garden of Your Daily Living

Plant three rows of Peas:
Peace of mind
Peace of heart
Peach of soul
Plant four rows of Squash
Squash gossip
Squash indifference
Squash grumbling
Squash selfishness
Plant four rows of Lettuce
Lettuce be faithful
Lettuce be kind
Let+uce be patient
Lettuce really love one another
No Garden is without Turnips
Turnup for meetings
Turnip for service
Turnip to help one another
To conclude our Garden we must have Thyme:
Thyme for each other
Thyme for family
Water freely with patience and cultivate with love. There is much fruit in your garden because you reap what you sow.

- Author Unknown


## MISSIONS COMMITTEE

The Missions Committee is very thankful for all the people who helped cook, serve and cleanup at our community dinner in May. We had a great turnout for the meal.

Everyone enjoyed the food and fellowship. We are glad that things are getting back to "somewhat" normal. Our committee is always striving to do good things for Kutztown and the surrounding communities.

Thank you again for coming out to share a meal and fellowship. We will be having our next dinner in the fall. Watch the newsletter for more information on upcoming events.
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)
JULY 2023

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 30 <br> 6-8:30 PM VBS @ Trinity | 31 <br> 6-8:30 PM VBS @ <br> Trinity |  |  |  |  | 1 <br> Pastor Kim General Synod through 7/5 <br> 8:30 AM Manna at |
| 2 <br> 9:00 AM Folk Festival Worship <br> 3 PM Rejoicing Spirits | $\begin{aligned} & 3 \\ & 6 \text { PM Yoga } \end{aligned}$ | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 <br> 9 AM Prayer Walk 9:30 AM Yoga |
| 9 <br> Patriotic Sunday | $10$ <br> 6:00 PM Yoga | 11 <br> 11 AM Worship Mtg. <br> 6:30 PM Spiritual Coun- <br> cil | 12 <br> NO CONSISTORY MEETING | $13$ <br> 6 PM Cultural Cuisine | 14 | 15 <br> 9AM-10PM Crafting <br> 9:30 AM Yoga <br> 10 AM—Visit to Padre Pio |
| 16 | 17 <br> 6 PM Yoga 7:00 PM Property | 18 <br> 7 PM Bible Study | 19 <br> 10 AM—Noon Young @ <br> Heart Seniors <br> 2PM-8:30 PM H \& H | 20 | 21 | 22 <br> 9:30 AM Yoga |
| 23 | 24 <br> 6 PM Yoga | 25 | 26 <br> 9AM-1PM Keystone <br> Families Volunteer | 27 | 28 | 29 <br> 9:30 AM Yoga |


Office/Pastor Hours; Monday 9AM—12 Noon, Tuesday—Thursday 9 AM—1:00 PM
(Due to church schedule, appointments suggested for Pastor)
Worship-10:15 AM
Sunday School-9:00 AM Adult SS 8:45 AM
Thank You Lord


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In loving memory of my mother, ш!əә> әs!uәa

In loving memory of my mother,
Leona

11th Sunday after Pentecost
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## CONFIRMATION CLASS

Beginning on October 8, we will welcome our new Confirmation Class: Ava Boyer, Myles Moriarty, Cora Seidel, and Lucy Seidel. We will meet on the second and fourth Sundays each month. An Elder will be present at each session to be a part of the spiritual nurture of the Confirmands.

On Saturday, July 15 we will be visiting the Padre Pio National Shrine in Barto. We will gather at Padre Pio at 10:00 AM and begin with Mass at 10:30. The itinerary includes: a talk on the life and spirituality of Padre Pio, a self-guided tour of the Museum, a film on Padre Pio and the Calandra Family, lunch in the picnic area, and a guided tour of the Lady of Grace Chapel and Spirituality Centre. Our visit will conclude after the 3:00 PM recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

This visit is open to all members of the Confirmation Class, their families, and the congregation. Anyone who wants to carpool can meet in the church parking lot at 9:00 AM. There is a signup sheet across from the church office. Please contact Pastor Kim if you have any questions.

We look forward to this meaningful journey with our Confirmands.

## PRAYER LINKS

Do you feel called to serve St. Paul's but don't have time to be on a committee that meets regularly and also has other responsibilities? Why not join Prayer Links? Members of this group offer daily prayers as requested. Each person does this on their own time and in their own way. There is a booklet that is updated regularly that contains these confidential requests. We have very few meetings but receive regular updates. For more information, call June Rung - 610-683-6563.

## WORSHIP AT KUTZTOWN FOLK FESTIVAL JULY 2ND - 9AM

## PURPLE HEART DAY AUGUST 7TH



## CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

Over the past several months Consistory has continued their coordinated efforts with Pastor Kim to provide the environment at St Paul's where you want to be part of the worship experience.

This includes programing and physical changes within our facility.
Our Worship Committee continues with special Sunday events.
The chairlift project is complete and new parking signs have been placed.
The Property Committee is now investigating the upgrading of our exterior lighting. Our local Police Department has advised us that the best deterrent to break-ins is a well lit exterior. Property has also worked with the Technology Committee to purchase new video and sound equipment to replace equipment on loan from Dave Swan. This will allow us to continue with live streaming.

The two committees have also secured a replacement for the Carillon. The new unit should be operational by the time you read this. We understand it has the capability of storing more than 700 songs.

Our Mission Committee held a "Community Dinner' at St Paul's and in August will host Pizza Parties for the residents of Wilson Manor, Saucony Cross and Saucony Meadows.

Missions has also provided rental assistance to a Ukrainian family struggling to adjust to a new life here in the U.S.

Missions will also be visiting with a local Veterans food bank to provide assistance to families that are receiving support. Sign up sheets are posted on the office windows.

Consistory members have been very committed to providing an environment where all are welcome to worship. Any concerns you may have about St. Paul's, please feel free to discuss with any member of your consistory.

## CATCH THE SPIRIT—EMBRACE THE JOURNEY




## INGREDIENTS

- 2 medium heads of broccoli, cut into bite-size pieces (about 4 cups)
- 1 cup red onion, diced
- 4 slices bacon, diced
- $1 / 2$ cup shredded cheddar cheese
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 2 tbsp granulated sugar
- 2 tbsp red wine vinegar
- 1 tsp garlic powder
- 1 tsp onion powder
- salt and pepper to taste


## DIRECTIONS

In a large bowl combine broccoli florets, diced red onion, cooked bacon and shredded cheddar cheese In a small bowl whisk together mayonnaise, sugar, red wine vinegar, garlic powder and onion powder Pour the dressing on top of the salad mixture and toss to coat. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Refrigerate for 1 hour before serving


## Chocolate \& Peanut Butter Crispy Bars

## Ingredients:

- 1 Package fudge brownies mix
- $1 \frac{1}{2}$ cup chunky peanut butter
- 2 cups semisweet chocolate chips
- 1 cup creamy peanut butter
- 3 cups Rice Krispies


## Directions:

- Line a $13 \times$ 9-inch baking pan with parchment paper, letting end extend up sides.
- Prepare and bake brownie mix according to package directions using the prepared pan.
- Refrigerate brownies until cool.
- Spread chunky peanut butter over brownies.
- Place chocolate chips and creamy peanut butter in a large microwave-safe bowl. Microwave in 30 second intervals until melted; stir until smooth.
- Stir in Rice Krispies and spread over chunky peanut layer.
- Refrigerate, covered at least 30 minutes or until set.
- Lifting parchment, remove brownies from pan. Cut into bars.
- Store in an airtight container in the refrigerator.

Sent With A Prayer To:

## HAPPY 4TH OF JULY



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

July 2nd
Worship at the Folk Festival-9:00 AM
Rejoicing Spirits Service - 3:00 PM
July 9th
Patriotic Sunday
July 13th
Cultural Cuisine
Takkii Ramen - 6:00 PM
Saturday, July 15th
Padre Pio National Shrine
Meet at Church 9:00 AM
July 30th to August 3rd
Vacation Bible School
6:00 to 8:30PM

August 6th Summer Communion
Fellowship after Worship
Rejoicing Spirits Service-3:00 PM

