

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 shar-
ing God's unconditional love with fel-
lowship, worship and service to others.
We pray for God's wisdom and
compassion to lead us
in our endeavors.*

CHURCH STAFF

Vacant.....Pastor
Barbara MerkelAdmin Assistant
Judy Heffley.....Organist
Vacant.....Choir Director
Donna Sheaffer.....Bell Choir Director
Jan Lenich.....Sexton

CHURCH OFFICERS

Kathy Landis.....President
Steve Leinbach.....Vice President
Daryn Keim.....Recording Secretary
Cheryl Ziegler.....Treasurer
Marjorie Weida.....Financial Secretary

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

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

Office email:
office@stpaulskutztown.org

Website: www.stpaulskutztown.org

GREETINGS FROM CONSISTORY

"There's no perfection, instant or otherwise. There's only the good news that grace is in endless supply, that beginning to begin is a holy path, and that all the way to God is God." Prayer: "Help me to want to want to, O God, and to begin to begin. Amen."

(From DAILY DEVOTION, Mary Luti, May 27, 2024)

Here is the GOOD NEWS! WE DID BEGIN! The Transition Team has completed the St. Paul's Short Church Profile. The team did a terrific job by using the former long church profile as a base and updating it to reflect our current status and needs. By now, the Short Profile has been approved by the Consistory and forwarded to Pastor Kevin McLemore, the Search and Call Minister of the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference. He will oversee the approval by the conference. When approved, the profile will be posted in order to make it available to potential Interim Pastors. When an Interim candidate is referred to St. Paul's, a few members of the Transition Team and officers of the Consistory will have the opportunity to interview. The candidate will have already been vetted for background check, qualifications, etc.

Once the Interim Pastor is hired and becomes acquainted with the church and its members, the Transition Team will then work with the pastor to develop the Long Profile. This more extensive profile is necessary to recruit for a settled full-time pastor. When the profile is complete, it will be presented to the congregation. At this time members will have the opportunity to review it and ask questions and offer positive suggestions. Taking these suggestions under consideration, the Consistory will review the profile again and make a decision to approve with any possible revisions.

Before the Long Profile is begun, the congregation will be asked to complete a survey (as mentioned in the last Pulse edition.) The survey will ask what we want more of in the church, what we want less of, and what we want to stay the same. Everyone should take the survey seriously and complete with love and open thoughts leading to what you think will improve our church.

Completing the Long Profile will take place in the next year. After it's approved, it will be forwarded to PSEC to start the search for a settled full-time pastor. Much work ahead, but as long as we keep working toward our goal together as one—praying, loving, forgiving, recognizing differences, but openly communicating and coming to agreement on how we can move forward—we will reap the rewards from God's grace.

Thanks to the Transition Team, the Consistory and everyone else who is helping to keep the church serving God, our congregation and the community!
Help us to want to and continue on your holy path, dear God.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

July

- 1 Finnegan Ferguson
- 2 Kevin Kulp
- 4 Daniel Hawkins, Carly Hawkins,
David Bubbenmoyer
- 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
- 20 Jillian Wessner
- 21 Mary Steltz
- 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



JULY
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, David Abel
- 13 Karen Rhode
- 15 LeAnn Silberman, Lindsey Derstine
- 17 John Kutz
- 18 LaRoy Haas
- 21 Aaron Snyder
- 24 Nicole Weaknecht
- 25 Taynara Rocha
- 26 Joseph Kibler
- 27 Tyler Schmoyer
- 31 Ray Oswald



AUGUST
BIRTHDAYS

STILL YOUNG!

The YOUNG AT HEART program is still young and going strong! It continues with the generous efforts of Marcia Keiser, Sandra Madeira, and Ann Oswald with support from Kathy Landis. Barb Merkel has offered to help as needed. Any others who would like to help especially with refreshments are welcome.

By the time you receive this Pulse, the June 19th meeting will have already taken place. Two of the Kutztown Fire Company volunteer firefighters visited to speak about fire safety and the importance of fire alarms and carbon monoxide detectors. They answered questions about the extent of their training and what motivated them to become volunteer firefighters. Bingo was enjoyed after refreshments.

For the July 17th meeting, Bob Scheidt, local author and painter, will present a program with slides and photographs about his pilgrimages to Europe, his spiritual journey, and how he began writing. Bob also has walked and bicycled across America, often accompanied by friends and family. He learned a lot from many American Indians who became his friends. Last year, he published his first book, Wandering Through Mysterious Labyrinths. There is no charge for the program, but because Bob has been diabetic since 19 years of age, he is also passionate about educating others on how to take care of themselves. Any donations will be given to the American Diabetes Association.

Come and experience Bob's many travels and adventures through his eyes. Come to enjoy fellowship and bring a friend or two. SIGN UP OUTSIDE THE CHURCH OFFICE.

Upcoming programs:

August: Flower Arranging

September: Enactment about the American Revolution featuring Ben Franklin

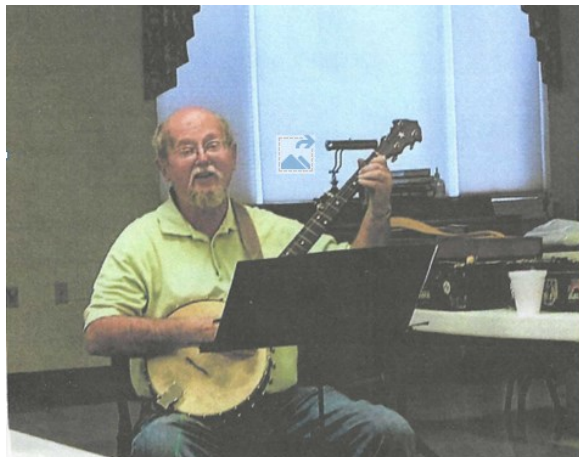
October: Making a holiday wreath

November: Elvis impersonator—Jeff Krick

Kathy Landis

Young at Heart

May Young at Heart featured Keith Brintzenhoff with a Singalong and International Folk Music.



Congratulations to our confirmands!!!



CONFIRMATION

On June 2, 2024, St. Paul's UCC confirmed 4 amazing young men and women.

Myles Moriarty is the football quarterback for his grade, plays basketball and baseball. He enjoys going to Urban Air with his friends. During the summer he likes to paddle board, swim, and play basketball at the park with his friends.

Ava Boyer will be a 9th grader at Hamburg Area High School in the fall. She enjoys doing dance, cheerleading and playing tennis. When Ava grows up she would like to be a nail technician, teacher or a nurse.

Lucille Seidel enjoys playing clarinet and singing in chorus at school. She enjoys being creative and crocheting and reading at home. She is a member of the BSA Troop 163G.

Cora Seidel enjoys gardening, crocheting and reading at home. She is a member of the BSA Troop 163G. Congratulations, Confirmands!

RELAY FOR LIFE ANGELS OF HOPE

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 \$18,422.00 **Awesome job everyone!!!**

The grand total raised by all the relay teams for the whole event is \$133,460.00 which is \$8,460.00 over our goal of \$125,000.00.



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

Thank you to Laraine Wuchter for our awesome sign!!!

GRADUATION

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.



THANK YOU!!

"Thanks to my St. Paul's family for the cards and nice wishes on my milestone birthday. Opening my mailbox and the gift box with all those cards and messages (hand delivered by Lisa Zerwick) was the highlight of my day! The children's messages and drawings were heart warming. Thanks to everyone who helped to organize & participate in this lovely surprise!"

- Nancy Heffner

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

The Missions Committee is very thankful for all the people who helped cook, serve and cleanup at our community dinner in June. We had a great turnout for the meal. We raised \$624.00 to be donated to the Topton Volunteer Ambulance.

Everyone enjoyed the food and fellowship. 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.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

STELLAR VBS -- JULY 29 THRU AUGUST 2 AT ST. PAUL'S

St. Paul's is excited to host the St. Paul's/Trinity Combined VBS Program from July 29-August 2 (Monday thru Friday) from 6:00-8:30 p.m. each night, If you have not already signed your child or grandchild up to attend, please contact Louise Moyer asap at LouiseMoyer13@gmail.com.

SUNDAY SCHOOL MISSION PROJECT: WILLOW BROOK

On Sunday, May 19, the Sunday School Youth and Teachers personally delivered the 80 Goodie Bags that they had collected to residents at Willow Brook. The seniors were excited to meet the youth and receive a goodie bag to let them know that we care.

The students had selected this as their mission project back in March and then collected items throughout April and May. A huge thank you to the congregation for supporting this collection with your donations!



JULY 2024

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



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| | 1 6 PM Yoga | 2 7 PM Bible Study | 3 | 4 | 5 11 AM Free Sr. Lunch @ St. Barnabas Center | 6 8:30 AM Manna at Grace 9:30 AM Yoga |
| 7 Patriotic Sunday 3 PM Rejoicing Spirits | 8 6 PM Yoga | 9 6:30 PM Spiritual Coun- cil Meeting | 10 NO CONSISTORY MEET- ING 2 - 9 PM H & H Quilters | 11 | 12 | 13 9:00 AM Prayer Walk 9:30 AM Yoga |
| 14 | 15 6-8:39 PM VBS Set-Up 6 PM Yoga 7PM Property | 16 6-8:30 PM VBS Set-Up | 17 10AM—Noon Young at Heart Seniors 6-8:30 PM VBS Set-Up 7 PM Tech Mtg | 18 6-8:30 PM VBS Set-Up 6-8:30 PM Lions Club (Lounge) | 19 6-8:30 PM VBS Set-Up | 20 9AM-10PM Crafting 9:30 AM Yoga |
| 21 | 22 6PM Yoga | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 9:30 AM Yoga |
| 28 11:30 AM –2 PM VBS Set-Up | 29 6 PM Yoga Cancelled 6-8:30 PM VBS—Stellar @ St. Paul's | 30 6-8:30 PM VBS—Stellar | 31 6-8:30 PM VBS—Stellar | | | |

| WORSHIP SCHEDULE | July 7, 2024 | | | July 14, 2024 | | | July 21, 2024 | | | July 28, 2024 | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|-------------------------------------|--|--|------------------------------|--|--|------------------------------------|--|--|
| | Seventh Sunday after Pentecost | | | Eighth Sunday after Pentecost | | | Ninth Sunday after Pentecost | | | Tenth Sunday after Pentecost | | |
| Daily Devotions | 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10 | | | 2 Samuel 6:1-5 | | | 2 Samuel 7:1-14 | | | 2 Samuel 11:1-15 | | |
| | Psalm 48 | | | Psalm 24 | | | Psalm 89:230-37 | | | Psalm 14 | | |
| | 2 Corinthians 12:2-10 | | | Ephesians 1:3-14 | | | Ephesians 2:11-22 | | | Ephesians 3:14-21 | | |
| | Mark 6:1-13 | | | Mark 6:14-29 | | | Mark 6:30-34, 53-56 | | | John 6:1-21 | | |
| Fellowship/Events | Rejoicing Spirits Worship 3:00 PM | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Worship Leaders | Keith Wuchter | | | Donna Sheaffer | | | Brian Unger | | | Kathy Landis | | |
| Lector | Karen Rhode | | | Carl Mantz | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Deacons | Denise Keim | | | Sandi Madeira | | | Ethel DeMatteo-Beck | | | Denise Keim | | |
| | Daryn Keim | | | Steve Leinbach | | | Erin Webb | | | Daryn Keim | | |
| | Ann Oswald | | | Sherry Leinbach | | | Sharon Larsen | | | Ann Oswald | | |
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| Flowers-Center | In Loving Memory of | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Mamie Afflerbach | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| Flowers-Sides | | | | Gene & Sandi Madeira | | | | | | Judy & Colin Hefley | | |
| | | | | In Celebration of their Anniversary | | | | | | Celebrating their 50th Anniversary | | |
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| Bulletins | | | | Nancy O'Neil | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | In memory of loved ones | | | | | | | | |
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AUGUST 2024

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



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|
| | | | | 1 6-8:30 PM VBS—Stellar | 2 11 AM Free Sr. Lunch @ St. Barnabas Center 6-8:30 PM VBS—Stellar | 3 8:30 AM Manna at Grace 9:30 AM Yoga |
| 4 Summer communion 3 PM Rejoicing Spirits | 5 6 PM Yoga | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 9 AM Prayer Walk 9:30 AM Yoga |
| 11 | 12 6 PM Yoga | 13 11 AM Worship 7 PM Finance Mtg. | 14 7 PM Consistory Mtg. | 15 PULSE DEADLINE 6:30 PM Lion Club (Lounge) | 16 | 17 9AM-10PM Crafting 9:30 AM Yoga |
| 18 | 19 6 PM Yoga 6:30 PM Fellowship 7 PM Missions 7 PM Property | 20 6:30 Pastoral Relations Meeting 7 PM Bible Study | 21 10AM-Noon Young at Heart Seniors 2-9 PM H&H Quilters | 22 | 23 | 24 9:30 AM Yoga |
| 26 | 26 6 PM Yoga | 27 6:30 PM Personnel Meeting 7 PM Christian Ed | 28 7 PM Women's Guild Meeting | 29 | 30 | 31 9:30 AM Yoga |

| WORSHIP SCHEDULE | August 4, 2024 | | August 11, 2024 | | August 18, 2024 | | August 25, 2024 | |
|---------------------|--|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|--|-----------------|--|
| | 11th Sunday after Pentecost | 12th Sunday after Pentecost | 13th Sunday after Pentecost | 14th Sunday after Pentecost | | | | |
| | Summer Communion | | | | | | | |
| Daily Devotions | 2 Samuel 11:26-12:13 | 2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33 | 1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14 | 1 Kings 8:(1,6,10-11) 22-30, 41-43 | | | | |
| | Psalms 51:1-12 | Psalms 130 | Psalms 111 | Psalms 84 | | | | |
| | Ephesians 4:1-16 | Ephesians 4:15-5:2 | Ephesians 5:15-20 | Ephesians 6:10-20 | | | | |
| | John 6:24-35 | John 6:35, 41-51 | John 6:51-58 | John 6:56-69 | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Fellowship/Events | Rejoicing Spirits - 3:00 PM | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Worship Leaders | Christine Keim | Daryn Keim | Ron Reinhard | Keith Wuchter | | | | |
| Lectors | | Denise Keim | | Karen Rhode | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Deacons | Sandi Madeira | Ethel DeMatteo-Beck | Denise Keim | Sandi Madeira | | | | |
| | Steve Leinbach | Erin Webb | Daryn Keim | Steve Leinbach | | | | |
| | Sherry Leinbach | Sharon Larsen | Ann Oswald | Sherry Leinbach | | | | |
| Elders | *Brian Unger, Nancy O'Neil, | | | | | | | |
| | Jeffrey Schmoyer, Louise Wessner, Sue Kunkel | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Flowers - Center | | Denise Keim | | | | | | |
| | | In loving memory of my mother, Leona | | | | | | |
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| Flowers-Sides | | | | | | | | |
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| Bulletins | | Gene & Sandi Madeira | | | | | | |
| | | In memory of loved ones | | | | | | |
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Rejoicing Spirits of Eastern Berks County

On June 2nd Pastor Chris Angstadt was the lead pastor for our Rejoicing Spirits worship service. Her message revolved around Jesus and his disciples in the boat. Thanks to the Rejoicers and volunteers we had wind, rain, thunder, lightening, waves, the boat (Jan and Barb singing "Row, row, row your boat) and the voice of Jesus!

While attendance was very light we had a great time and our Rejoicers enjoyed the craft. The next Rejoicing Spirits worship service is July 7th with Pastor Jim Schlegel as lead pastor. Pastor Schlegel's message will be "I Believe." Please consider joining us as we praise God through song, prayer and sometimes even dance!

We are in need of a few more volunteers, especially from July through September with many of our volunteers taking vacation and knee replacements on the horizon for 2 of our regular volunteers! Contact me if you are interested in volunteering for 2 hours (or less), once a month (or as needed). Services and fellowship are held the first Sunday of every month from 3:00-4:00.

Erin Webb, Co-chair of Rejoicing Spirits

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.

If you or someone you know needs prayers for health or personal reasons, let us know so members of Prayer Links can pray for these needs.

Call the church office 610-683-3393 or June Rung at 610-683-6563 and leave a message

PURPLE HEART DAY AUGUST 7TH



My Favorite Hymn by Judy Heffley

When I asked Ray Oswald what his favorite hymn was, without hesitation he said, “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” found on page 11 of our hymnal. This hymn was composed by Robert Robinson in 1758.

Robinson experienced a difficult childhood, grew up in poverty, and became a gang member. Ray is fascinated by Robinson, who yearned to be close to God, but had a tendency to wander away at the same time, a very human quality. Man cannot bring that closeness himself. He needs God “like a fetter.” Robinson is a very honest portrayal of a man who wants to be close to God. He invokes God’s strength to help him because his own strength wasn’t enough to “fetter” him to God.

Robinson turned his life around and became a minister at age 23. The lyrics he wrote for this hymn are based on 1 Samuel 7:12, in which Samuel raises a monument saying, “The Lord has certainly helped us.” He calls the stone Ebenezer, meaning the stone of help.

What does “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” mean spiritually? Fix your gaze upon God’s love, learn from the melodious songs, sung by heavenly beings, and join in praises, the mount of his redeeming love. Ray likes the musicality of this hymn and feels the lyrics are a good reflection of the human struggle to get close to God. Robinson’s words continue to inspire and encourage each new generation.

Colin Heffley’s Quips

1. Just when you think food cannot possibly call on your phone,
Boom...onion rings!
2. Did you hear that Dracula decided to become a chef? Now he’s known as
Count Spatula.
3. Imagine how loud a centipede would be if they wore tiny little flip flops
4. Why did Rosie put an elevator in her barn? So she could raise horses.
5. Barb needed a password eight characters long so she picked Snow White
and the Seven Dwarves.

quips



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2024: "STELLAR"

July 29-Aug. 2 (Monday-Friday) 6:00-8:30 p.m.
at St. Paul's UCC (Kutztown)

The St. Paul's/Trinity Combined VBS Program is back for another fun summer program: "Stellar: Shine Jesus' Light" as we explore Jesus' light with an out-of-this-world outer space theme. Please preregister as soon as possible (but no later than July 7) by completing the attached form or contacting Louise Moyer at 610-641-0507 or LouiseMoyer13@gmail.com or Alicia Wood at 610-334-0733 or akhornberger624@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 blast off with us!

"STELLAR" VBS at St. Paul's (Kutztown)

Child's Name: _____ Child's Age & Grade Next Yr: ____/____

Parent's Name: _____ Parent's Phone: _____

Emergency Contact Phone Number (during VBS): _____

Parent's Email Address: _____

I am willing to help by:

____ Station Leader ____ Rotating with Classes ____ Set-Up Decorations
____ Station Helper ____ Registration/Check-In

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

47 South Whiteoak Street
Kutztown, PA 19530-1621

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HAPPY 4TH OF JULY



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

July 7th
Patriotic Sunday
Rejoicing Spirits Service - 3:00 PM

July 15th-19th, 28th
VBS Set-up

July 29th to August 2nd
Vacation Bible School
6:00 to 8:30PM

August 4th
Summer Communion
Fellowship after Worship
Rejoicing Spirits Service - 3:00 PM