

TODAY AT ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Worship Leadership

Preacher: The Rev. John Ward-Diorio
Lector: 8:15 Patty Scott
10:30 Melba Bomberger

Ministry of Music

Organist: Sarah Myers
Minister of Music: Eric Dundore

Ministry of Service

Head Ushers: Don Wood
Ushers: Consistory
Greeters: 8:15 Susan and Dayne Miller
10:30 Susan and John White
Acolyte: 8:15 Mike Brown
10:30
Children's Sermon: Rev. John
Flower Delivery: Kay and Don Coldren

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
626 Williams Grove Road
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
717/766-7931

Web: saintpaulsucc-mech.org
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

May 3, 2009



BEING A GOOD SHEPHERD

”

GOD IS STILL SPEAKING

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

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
SERVICE OF WORSHIP

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 3, 2009

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES
THE GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
THE PRELUDE AND LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES
Organ "Christ, The Cornerstone" Price

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Call and Response) From Psalm 24

*THE HYMN NO. 386 "The Church's One Foundation"

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)

Ever-vigilant God, we thank You for always watching over us, tracking us down when we wander off, and caring for us no matter how frustrated we make You. Please help us to appreciate such love, and to offer it in similar ways to others. Amen.

THE CALL TO CONFESSION

Our vision of Jesus as the Good Shepherd, holding and/or carrying a cute little lamb, can prevent us from realizing just how hard being the shepherd of a flock of sheep is. Sheep can be very stubborn, will often continue to do the same thing over and over again, even when it hurts them, and will not always follow the logical or best path. That's why people are often referred to as sheep in the Scriptures, not because we are cute. We often forget, like sheep, we need lots of watching and good guidance. Let us join in the unison Prayer of Confession.

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Merciful God, we have sinned in what we have thought and said, in the wrong we have done, and in the good we have not done. We have sinned in ignorance: we have sinned in weakness: we have sinned through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry. We repent and turn to You. Forgive us, for our Savior Christ's sake, and renew our lives to the glory of Your Name. Amen.

THE SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

THE 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.

Information for Congregations from PCC Disaster Response Team Chair Herb Bomberger on Swine Flu Outbreak - Herb is suggesting two websites that provide good information. These websites are www.pandemicflu.gov and www.elca.org . Please see additional details on the email received from PCC that is posted on the bulletin board.

GRADUATION is quickly approaching. All college and high school graduates please turn a wallet size senior picture into the church office for St. Paul's graduation display. The pictures will be returned. Pictures and graduation information (name, school, and degree) should be turned into the church office as soon as possible.

FAMILY CELEBRATION LUNCHEON – Mark your calendar's now for the Family Celebration Luncheon that will be held in Fellowship Hall immediately following the 10:30 Worship Service on **Sunday, May 17th**. Worship with your Family and then enjoy a ham loaf dinner with your Church Family. Please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the common area so we have a count for the luncheon. A plate will be put out if you wish to leave a donation to help offset the costs of the Luncheon. We hope you come and join us.

The Tour de Cure for the American Diabetes Association is less than a month away! We're up to 12 riders, and have room for LOTS MORE!! If you'd like to join the St. Paul's on Wheels team (or make a donation), there's still time! For more information see Craig Martek or go to the team web site <http://main.diabetes.org/goto/st.pauls.ucc> . We have a great looking team shirt for only \$5. If interested, see Jenn Martek. If you have a friend or family member that has diabetes and you would like the team to ride for them, let us know - for a donation to the American Diabetes Association, we will wear their name on special St. Paul's on Wheels name cards during the event. If you can't ride but would like to cheer your team on, the Tour de Cure will take place on Saturday, May 30th at the Yellow Breeches Middle School in Boiling Springs.

FREE TRAINING! Fire Extinguisher and Fire Drill Training will be held at St. Paul's on Saturday, May 16th from 10 am to noon. This training is being offered by the Monroe Township Fire Company, Thanks goes out to Devin Flickinger, one of our members and Captain with the Monroe Township Fire Company. Devin has also agreed to offer **CPR and AED Training** on Saturday, June 27 from 8 am to noon at St. Paul's. Both of these training sessions can be extremely valuable to all of our members and especially important for our Sunday Church School teachers, consistory members and ushers. Please see the sign up sheets on the bulletin board in the common area to sign up. **ST PAUL'S UCC – A RED CROSS SHELTER** – St. Paul's is a certified Red Cross Shelter. In the case of a disaster, the Red Cross provides the staff necessary to man the shelter. However, due to the many lessons learned from Katrina, the American Red Cross's current strategy is to train a support team from each certified facility to provide backup. On Saturday, May 30th the Red Cross is offering training from 8 am to 6 pm in Harrisburg (place to be determined based on number to be trained). The agenda for this training is attached to the sign up sheet on the bulletin board. This training can be utilized in any shelter across the country.

PRAYER CONCERNS: Pauline Jaynes, Eric Trout's grandmother, died. Please keep Eric and his family in your prayers; Audrey Hanosky (friend of Mary Jane Huebner) going in for tests to see if cancer is in remission.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK of May 3-10, 2009

TODAY 8:15/10/30 am **Worship Services – Communion (Intinction)**
 9:00 am **Choristers**
 9:15 am **Sunday School**
 2:30 pm **Mercersburg Assn Spring Meeting (FH)**
 3:45 pm **Youth arrive to prepare to serve dinner at Meeting**

TUES 12:00 N Ecumenical Food Pantry
 5:30 pm TOPS
 7:00 pm Den Meeting (Rm. 13)
 7:00 pm **Worship Committee meet at T.J. Rockwell's**

WED **6:00 pm** **Hand Chime Choir (Rm. 5)**
 6:30 pm **Youth Choir (S)**
 7:15 pm **Chancel Choir (S)**

THU 7:00 pm Pack Committee Mtg. (Rm. 7/8)

FRI-SUN **Hartman Cabin Work Weekend**
SUN May 10 8:15/10:30 am **Worship Services**
 Happy Mother's Day!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Strengthen the Church Offering, Sunday May 31st – The God is Stillspeaking Ministry of the United Church of Christ spreads the message of God's extravagant welcome, reaching out especially to those who have felt there is no room for them within Christianity and the church-the excluded and alienated, the spiritually homeless, the questioning. Last year, Stillspeaking reached an estimated 25 million people through national, regional and local advertising. This ministry receives support from the Strengthen the Church Offering-“Spread the Love!”

THANK YOU – The Adult II Sunday school class would like to thank everyone who donated items for the Refugee Resettlement Kit Project. On Saturday, April 25th, members of the class packed 50 kits with personal hygiene items like shampoo, cotton swabs, toothpaste, toothbrush, towel, washcloth and other items needed by people from other countries who are resettling in our area. These kits were delivered to Church World Service in Lancaster by Jane and Dave Hall, where they are needed as they have told us that there are a number of families coming to our area in May. Any items donated over what was needed for the 50 kits were given to New Hope Ministries. Thank you for your tremendous response to this ministry.

FREE KITTENS: Almost 8 weeks old. If you are interested in giving an adorable kitten a home, please call Karen Paulus at 432-3305.

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE
 *THE GLORIA PATRI

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 NEW TESTAMENT READING Acts 4:5-12

PSALTER RESPONSE (sung in unison) Psalm 23
 New Century Hymnal - Page 633-634

THE RESPONSE
 One: God is still speaking.
All: Thanks be to God!

THE GOSPEL READING AND MESSAGE John 10:11-18
 “How Do We Shepherd”

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 Youth Choir “Behold the Shepherd” Sleeth
 10:30 Chancel Choir “Faithful Shepherd” Larson

*THE DOXOLOGY (#780)

*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

How can we express our thanks, O God, for the one who laid down life itself in witness to Your love for all people? We are aware that many have not experienced that love. We see their need, and we want to respond. Use what we offer to You to bring healing and peace to others not of this fold. Draw us together as one flock in the care of one shepherd, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE COMMUNION HYMN NO. 252 “Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us”

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.

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD’S PRAYER (unison)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen

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 wafers available. There is both wine and white grape juice available. As you return to your seat, use the 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. 479 “God Is My Shepherd”

*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 “Christ, Our Strength and Consolation” Broughton`

*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 so that others may greet you in the name of the Living Christ. Remember to place a check mark under the communion heading if you partake of communion. The person at the end of the pew should place the finished sheet in the offering plate.

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, 1996, 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 Bonnie and Dennis Plymette
In Honor of our Children’s Birthdays