

TODAY AT ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Worship Leadership**

Preacher: The Rev. John Ward-Diorio  
Lector: 8:15 Ron Chronister  
10:30 Tom Herrold

**Ministry of Music**

Organist: Sarah Myers  
Minister of Music: Eric Dundore

**Ministry of Service**

Head Ushers: Herb Sutton/Randy Murphy  
Ushers: 8:15 Marshal Bender and Herb Sutton  
10:30 Lois and Dave Ritter  
Cathy and Brandon Thomas  
Greeters: 8:15 Jean and Willard Jones  
10:30 Mary and Audrey Runkle  
Acolyte: 8:15 Kevin Rudisill  
10:30 Beth Pirtle  
Children's Sermon: 10:30 Deb Cashman  
Nursery: Eichman Family  
Flower Delivery: Eichman Family

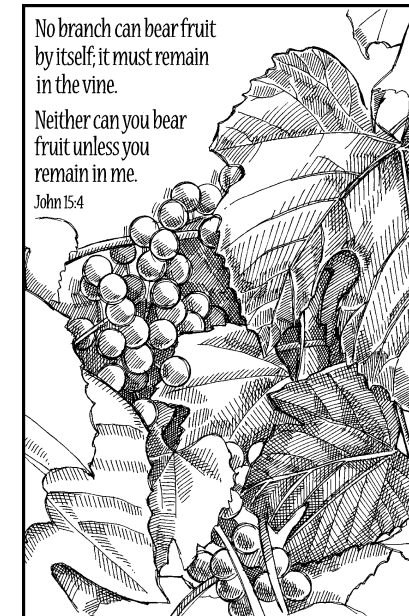
ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
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John's email: [revjohnwd@verizon.net](mailto:revjohnwd@verizon.net)

# Welcome to St. Paul's United Church of Christ

*An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ*

May 10, 2009



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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 10, 2009

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES  
THE GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS  
THE PRELUDE AND LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Organ "God Bless the Mothers"

Moore

\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Call and Response) From 1 John 4

\*THE HYMN NO. 407 "How Firm a Foundation"

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

**Life-giving God, help us to remember Jesus' direction to abide in his love, his presence. We desire a deeper connection with You so we might live most fully, and Jesus' words and way offer us a path. May our lives be nourished by You, and may we seek to nourish others with the Good News of Your presence, care and love. Amen.**

THE CALL TO CONFESSION

We are fiercely independent folks. Such go-it-on-our-ownness has served us well at times. However, this is not the only way God calls us to live. In fact, God through prophets and Jesus, has emphasized time and again the importance of our connection to God and the nourishment we receive from that connection. We understand, though we do not always appreciate, the call for us to allow ourselves to be pruned, our branches cut back, so we might bear more fruit, not just for ourselves but for others. We do not like to be cut back nor have someone else do the pruning. We have a hard time trusting anyone else to do such work, even if it is God. 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.**

**FREE TRAINING! Fire Extinguisher and Fire Drill Training** will be held at St. Paul's on Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to noon. **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. **Red Cross Shelter Training** - Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup> 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.



Calling all faithful and inquiring souls!!! St. Paul's United Church of Christ will be hosting two meetings for people interested in becoming members of our congregation. The first will be **Sunday May 17<sup>th</sup>** during Sunday School time, from 9:30 AM to 10:15 AM. The second meeting will be held after the late Service on **Sunday May 31** beginning at 11:45/Noon. We will be receiving new members during a Worship Service in June, on a date still to be determined. If you are interested in becoming a member, we ask that you attend one of the two meetings. If you have schedule conflicts, but still would like to join, please speak with me (Rev. John). These meetings are informational in nature, sharing a little bit about who we are as a congregation, what the United Church of Christ is like and what being a member of St. Paul's entails. We also try to answer any questions you might have. We will distribute materials relating to our congregation and denomination for your further reference. If you are curious about, absolutely sure or somewhere in-between in your desire to become a member of St. Paul's UCC, please come, listen and ask questions. You are also welcome to ask questions in advance. Please call or email me and I will answer the questions I can, and together we can seek to fathom the mysteries of those I cannot. I hope you will consider routing your journey through and with St. Paul's United Church of Christ. Thank you, John. Rev. John Ward-Diorio 776-7931 or revjohnwd@verizon.net.

**Looking for volunteers to staff the Nursery** – please see sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the common area if you are interested in helping out in this area. **Child Sponsorship slots are still open** – If you interested in sponsoring a child and have not done so yet, please see the sign up sheet on the bulletin board outside the church office as there are open slots to fill.

**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 17<sup>th</sup>. 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.

**ST Paul's on Wheels Tour de Cure Update** - With three weeks to go until the Tour de Cure, St. Paul's on Wheels has 12 riders and is 30 % of the way towards their team goal of \$5000. It's still not too late to join the team or sponsor a team member. If you have a family member or friend with diabetes, let us know and we will put their name on a special card that we will wear during the ride. For more information, to join the team or to make a contribution, contact Craig Martek (432-1572 (h), 514-6560 (c), 630-3567 (w) or go to the St. Paul's on Wheels website: <http://main.diabetes.org/goto/st.pauls.ucc>.

**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 25<sup>th</sup>, 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.

**THE STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH OFFERING** is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ. It is a part of our Church's Wider Mission program. This offering grows the United Church of Christ's future by funding The Stillspeaking Ministry, new and renewing churches, youth and young adult ministries, and lay and pastoral leadership formation especially among women and people of color. Your offerings are directed to your church's Conference, Local Church Ministries, and the Stillspeaking Ministry. Your generosity today ensures our vibrancy tomorrow. "Spread the Love" through your gifts to Strengthen the Church.

**With the recent news of the Swine Flu**, an awareness has arose of the potential possibility that public gatherings and places may be required to be shut down for a period. So that we are prepared in the event that a situation like this would occur affecting St. Paul's; it would truly be beneficial if we had an email on file for everyone or the most up to date phone # so we can contact you to notify you of the closing. Additionally, we are working on an updated directory and hope to issue one shortly. If you would like to verify the contact information (address, phone # and email) we currently have on file for you, please contact Terry in the Church office either by email [stpaulstaff@verizon.net](mailto:stpaulstaff@verizon.net) or phone 766-7931.

**2009 Bazaar Planning Meeting** - Please plan to attend on **Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** in the Youth Room. All new and old ideas would be greatly appreciated. We need lots of help to make this event successful. We are also looking for a co-chairperson to assist Jean with the Bazaar and a chairperson for the flea market. Thank you in advance for your support of this event. Please contact the Church Office (766-7931) or the Bazaar co-chairperson, Jean Mogel (after May 12<sup>th</sup> – 697-1088) if you have any questions. Hope to see you at the meeting.

\*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 8:26-40

THE READING OF THE PSALM

Psalms 22:25-31

THE RESPONSE

One: God is still speaking.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

THE GOSPEL READING AND MESSAGE "Accepting Cut-Backs"

John 15:1-8

\*THE HYMN NO. 396 "Where Charity and Love Prevail"

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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 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 Pastorale

10:30 Choristers

“Prayer for Mothers”

Chaminade

Butler

\*THE DOXOLOGY (#780)

\*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

We give, gracious God, because we are grateful. Your love has sustained us through many trials and temptations. We are thankful for those who have guided our attempts to understand the scriptures. Your loving judgment has provided the pruning our lives require in order to bear fruit. We give in order to extend to others the blessings we have received and to continue the ministry we need as we seek to abide together in Your love. Amen.

\*THE HYMN NO. 28 “For the Beauty of the Earth”

\*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

“Sing to the Lord a New and Glorious Song”

Smith

\*Those who are comfortable doing so are invited to stand.

We welcome warmly all who are visiting with us. Please register your attendance on the Friendship Form so that others may greet you in the name of the Living Christ. The person at the end of the pew should place the finished sheet in the offering plate.

References:

The Prayer of Confession is from A New Zealand Prayer Book, The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia, 1997, Harper, San Francisco.

The Prayer of Dedication is from Led 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

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** John Diorio; Edna Dreibelius (Anna Burns mother) heart by-pass surgery; Dan Jones (Jean & Willard Jones’ son); Tracy, Dave, Chelsey & Jordan Rutherford; Irv Sanders (Brenda Kerns’ father); John White.

Sandra Miller was transferred to Chapel Point Nursing Home, 770 South Hanover Street in Carlisle.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK of May 10-May 17, 2009

TODAY	8:15/10:30 am	Worship Services
	9:00 am	Choristers
	9:15 am	Sunday School
TUES	1:00 pm	Prayer Shawl Ministry (Parlor)
	5:30 pm	TOPS
	7:00 pm	Interfaith Dialogue (FH/Sanctuary)
	7:00 pm	Den Mtg (Rm 13)
WED	6:00 pm	Youth Director Mtg
	6:00 pm	Hand Chime Choir (Rm. 5)
	6:30 pm	Youth Choir (S)
	7:15 pm	Chancel Choir (S)
FRI	6:30 pm	Scout Pack Mtg (FH)
SAT	10:00 am	Fire Extinguisher & Fire Drill Training (Church & Church parking lot)
SUN May 16	8:15/10:30 am	Worship Services/Blessing of the Prayer Shawls
	9:30 am	New Member Meeting (Sanctuary)
	Noon	Family Celebration Luncheon (FH)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**2009 GRADUATIONS** – please notify the Church Office **by May 18<sup>th</sup>** with the following information; name of graduate, school, degree and future plans. We are preparing invitations to the New Member/Graduate Tea and a graduation display. For the display we would also appreciate a wallet sized picture of the graduate. All pictures will be returned.

The **NEW MEMBER/GRADUATE TEA** will be held on **June 7<sup>th</sup>** following the second service. Please plan to attend to recognize the new members that were received into our Church Family this past fall, the class that will be confirmed on Sunday May 31<sup>st</sup> at the second service and our 2009 High School and College Graduates.

**ANNUAL CHURCH SCHOOL PROMOTION SUNDAY** will be held on **June 7 at 9:15.** Fun activities and fellowship are planned for all as we celebrate the end of another year of Sunday School. Please come and join your friends for this very special time!



## PRAYER FOR MOTHERS

God bless the mother who sings to her child,  
Peaceful and calm, her words soft and mild.

God bless the mother awake in the night,  
Rocking her child 'til morning light.

Gather all mothers in tender embrace.  
Grant them your courage, your wisdom and grace.  
Honor their place in your sacred design,  
Of healing the world one child at a time.

God bless the mother forgiving and wise,  
Sharing God's grace through the light in her eyes.  
God bless the mother oppressed by her fears,  
Carried by faith 'til hope reappears.

Words by Kathy Burdette

*Happy Mother's Day*



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## A MOTHER'S LOVE

A Mother's love is something that no one can explain,  
It is made of deep devotion and of sacrifice and pain,  
It is endless and unselfish and enduring come what may  
For nothing can destroy it or take that love away . . .  
It is patient and forgiving when all others are forsaking,  
And it never fails or falters even though the heart is breaking . . .  
It believes beyond believing when the world around condemns,  
And it glows with all the beauty of the rarest, brightest gems . . .  
It is far beyond defining, it defies all explanation,  
And it still remains a secret like the mysteries of creation . . .  
A many splendored miracle man cannot understand  
And another wondrous evidence of God's tender guiding hand.

Helen Steiner Rice.



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