

TODAY AT ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Worship Leadership

Preacher: The Rev. John Ward-Diorio

Lector: 9:00 Rhonda Jacobsen

Ministry of Music

Assistant Organist: Patrice Miller

Minister of Music: Eric Dundore

Ministry of Service

Head Ushers: Herb Sutton

Greeters: 9:00 Deborah and Noel Sufrin

Acolyte: 9:00

Children's Sermon: 9:00 Vacation Bible School Children

Nursery:

Flower Delivery: Mary Runkle

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Welcome to St. Paul's United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

July 26, 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

EIGHT SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 26, 2009

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES
THE GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
THE PRELUDE AND LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES
Organ "I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

Kendall

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Call and Response) From Psalm 145

*THE HYMN NO. 8 "Praise To The Living God"

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)

Gracious God, You invite us to come, listen and be fed by Your Word and Spirit. May we realize there is always more than enough of You to go around. May we remember that we can share with and feed one another as well in this Community of Faith, as we seek to follow Your Way and Word together. Amen.

THE CALL TO CONFESSION

While we know God hopes we can be realistic, God also hopes we can see beyond the limits of our "rational" thinking. We have been blessed by many miracles in our lives. While we cannot depend on them occurring, we need to always be open to their possibility. We do not always pay such close attention; we do not always allow ourselves to see God working in our lives and in the world. Let us join together 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.**



This past week our Church was



as youth ages 3 through 5th grade came to St. Paul's for Vacation Bible School. The focus was on seeing themselves as partners in the work of building Christian Community which requires teamwork and the use of each person's special talent while discovering organizations like Habitat for Humanity which facilitates participation in the caring for our community. Vacation Bible School would not have been possible without the many volunteers who spent numerous hours of preparation in advance of and during the week of Vacation Bible School.

Special Thanks goes out:

To Jonne Dundore who coordinated VBS and the many teachers and helpers: **Karen Allison, Katie Amtower, Kris Amtower, Ashley Bergstresser, Sherri Bergstresser, Alyssa Boyer, Jim Boyer, Mike Brown, Deb Cashman, Lauren Cashman, Katelyn Chamberlain, Leann Davinroy, Eric Dundore, Greg Dundore, Jeff Dundore, Mark Dundore, Amy Elicker, Susan Gabriel, Chris Grice, Brenda Kern, Ally Moyer, Erin Moyer, Joan Moyer, Dar Murphy, Amy Paulus, Matt Paulus, Lois Ritter, Mary Runkle, Dave Scott, Patty Scott, Shawna Simpson, Becky Thompson, Sue Ward-Diorio and Chelsey Wirth.**

To Mike McCorkel who coordinated the building of the playhouse and the construction crew: **Tim Davinroy, Ron Gabriel, Aaron Miller, Dennis Plymette, Dave Simpson, Martin Velez, Victoria Velez and Art Williams.**

To Jack Rhoads who coordinated the dinner each evening, the kitchen helpers and those who donated cupcakes and cookies; **Karen Allison, Donna Chronister, Ron Chronister, Susan Gabriel, Dave Hall, Jane Hall, Amy Kern, Aaron Miller, Greg Miller, Patrice Miller, Joanne Miller, Sue Miller, Dar Murphy, Carol Rhoads, Wes Rhoads, Mary Runkle, Terry Shaner, Gail Siemons, Jim Siemons, Nancy Steck, Donna Sterner, Shannon Trout and Merikay Wood.**

Thank You to the following who are sponsoring the new members who are joining today; **Bill Cashman, Deb Cashman, Dave Hall, Jane Hall, Dennis Plymette, Bonnie Plymette, Martin Velez and Victoria Velez.**

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK of July 26-August 2, 2009

TODAY	9:00 am	Worship Service/New Members Received
	10:30 am	Brunch/Luncheon in Fellowship Hall
MON	6:30 pm	C.E./Youth Director Meeting (7/8)
TUES	5:30 pm	TOPS (6)
	7:00 pm	Consistory (7/8)
THURS	7:00 pm	Room 7/8 in Use
SAT	2:30 pm	Youth Fellowship Mini Golf/Senators Outing
SUN	9:00 am	Worship Service, Communion (Pew)

ANNOUNCEMENTS



little better.

Bob Heisler, one of our New Members, has generously offered to sponsor a Brunch/Luncheon that will be held in Fellowship Hall today immediately following our Service. Everyone is invited to come and share a meal and spend some fellowship time in getting to know our new (and not so new) members a



Thank You Note

Dear Friends and Family of St. Paul's: Thank you for your thoughts, prayers, cards and Altar Flowers. The nerve blocker is installed and working well. I feel much better and am beginning to work my lazy muscles back into shape. This whole process has been made much easier knowing I have the support of my

Church Family. Yours in Christian Loving Friendship, John White.

2nd QUARTER GIVING STATEMENTS are in the box on the table in the Commons Area. Please stop by and pick yours up on the way out.



YARD SALE!!! Don't throw that good stuff out! The Youth Group of St. Paul's is again sponsoring the annual St. Paul's UCC Community Yard Sale on Saturday, September 5th on the church parking lot from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Church members may rent a space for \$7, non-members' cost is \$10 (includes table for first 30 spaces) OR you may donate your items to the Youth Fellowship space for them to sell. NOTE: No computers, monitors or printers please!! Donations (*marked, please*) can be placed on the stage in Fellowship Hall during the month of August. All proceeds will benefit St. Paul's youth program and a local mission project. To reserve your space, please call Terry at the church office, 766-7931, or contact Patty Scott (737-3139).

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE
*THE GLORIA PATRI

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

SHAWN ELLIOTT, TRUC ANH ELLIOTT, DALE GUANOWSKY, BOB HEISLER, MELISSA (MISSY) LUCE, SCOTT GATES, CHERYL MALICK, KEN MALICK, GENE SHANER, TERRY SHANER, BILL SIZEMORE AND CAROL SIZEMORE

ADDRESS

QUESTIONS OF THE CANDIDATES

CONGREGATIONALS ASSENT (Unison)

We, as members of St. Paul's United Church of Christ of Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, and the Church Universal, hear your promises with joy and gladly welcome you as sisters and brothers in Christ into the family of faith. We covenant with you to share in the hopes, labors and joys of the Christian life, supported by God's love through this congregation.

We will weep with you when you weep, rejoice with you in your rejoicing and encourage your growth I the new life Christ gives. These things we promise in the name and spirit of Jesus, our Savior. Amen.

PRAYER

WELCOME AND RECEPTION

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.**

HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING

2 Kings 4:42-44

THE READING OF THE PSALM

Psalm 145: 10-18

THE RESPONSE

One: God is still speaking.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

THE GOSPEL READING AND MESSAGE

John 6:1-21

“Servants Not Rulers”

*THE HYMN NO. 383 “Come Let Us Join With Faithful Souls”

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER (unison)

(Debts and Debtors)

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

9:00 Special Music

*THE DOXOLOGY (#780)

*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

We join with Jesus, Gracious God, in giving thanks for the little things we can see, that our eyes may be opened to the great possibilities we had not imagined. May our efforts be multiplied by Your grace so there is more than enough for all—more comfort in sorrow, more relief from pain, more mercy to meet our treachery, more sense of presence amid our loneliness, more strength to overcome our weakness, more joy and enthusiasm to erase our apathy. Amen.

THE HYMN NO. 546 “Jesus, Lover of My Soul”

*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 “Heroic March”

Callender

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

We welcome warmly all who are visiting with us.

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 by
Beth Mihmet “In Memory of Douglas”
The Wood Family “In Memory of Dale Wood”
Tom and Cindy Stone “In Honor of 46th Anniversary”
Robert Heisler “In Memory of Sister, Margaret Himes”
Robert Heisler “In Memory of Mother and Father”
Robert Heisler “In Memory of Brad Myers”

PRAYER CONCERNS: Ruth Wrightstone; Irv Sanders.