

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

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

July 12, 2009

TODAY AT ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

## **Worship Leadership**

Preacher: The Rev. John Ward-Diorio

Lector: Craig Martek

## **Ministry of Music**

Organist: Mary Ann Morse

Minister of Music: Eric Dundore

## **Ministry of Service**

Head Usher: Herb Sutton

Greeters: Catherine and Brandon Thomas

Acolyte: Katelyn Chamberlain

Children's Sermon: Rev. John

Nursery: Eichman Family

Flower Delivery: Dayne and Sue Miller

Fellowship Time: Dale Guanowsky & Bob Heisler



# CHOICES!

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

717/766-7931

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John's email: [revjohnwd@verizon.net](mailto:revjohnwd@verizon.net)

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

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 12, 2009

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES  
THE GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS  
THE PRELUDE AND LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES  
Organ "Be Thou My Vision"

Manz

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

\*THE HYMN NO. 23 "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)

**Creator God, You have given us the ability and responsibility to make our own decisions. Many factors influence them, some of them far more important than others. Help us to seek Your will for us, and Your will for the world as we ponder our difficult decisions. Amen.**

THE CALL TO CONFESSION

We are faced with many moments in which we have to make decisions that will affect others' lives. In our best moments we ask the hard questions about what God wants us to do and what would be best for the person or people affected. In our worst moments we care more about what the "important or influential" people will think and honoring some spoken or unspoken code of conduct which does not take into consideration the person or people who are negatively affected. 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.**



**Dear Church Family, Thank You** for the beautiful altar flowers. They remind me of the many memories I have of St. Paul's. May God Bless. Arlene Sealover.

*Jere and I would like to thank the congregation for the prayers and flowers for our family as we work through this cancer storm. We are reminded that "Life isn't waiting for the storm to pass. It's learning to dance in the rain". Author unknown.*  
Smiles, Carolyn Rutherford.

**July 3, 2009 - To Members of St. Paul's, Friends and Family** – Our sincere thanks and appreciation for the beautiful cards received by us in honor of our 56<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Each mailing I would cut-open the envelopes, take them over to Clyde and look at them together until finally # 61 came Friday the 27<sup>th</sup>. Today # 62 came. It certainly was a fun week for both of us. Our sincere thanks to all of you.  
Gratefully Yours, Clyde and Treva Miller.



Thanks to Our  
Volunteers!

**Ours Thanks go out to Dayne Miller** for taking the time and effort to replace the Dimmer Switch in the Sanctuary and the faucet in the men's restroom and to **Dave Ritter** who applied the Windows 2007 update to Rev John and Terry's word, outlook and excel and also for his patience and time spent in showing us how to use it.

**NEW DIGS MINISTRY** - The Adult II Sunday School Class will hold its second drive for the New Digs Ministry on **Sunday, July 19<sup>th</sup>**. Please bring any items you wish to donate to church on or before that Sunday and place on the stage area in the Fellowship Hall. Please contact Dave Hall at 697-2087 if you have any questions.

**EVERYONE IS INVITED TO  
VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE HANDYPERSON!**

Please see the decorated bins on the table in the Commons and vote for your Favorite Handyperson by placing money in the bin of your choice. The “Handypersons” are **Noah, Bob the Builder, Handy Manny, Norm Abram and Tim Tooltime Taylor.** The “Handyperson” with the most money by the end of VBS will be announced at our closing. Have a little fun and help a Great cause at the same time. Our overall goal is \$ 500.00 with the proceeds to go to Habitat for Humanity. We can do it!



Calling all Children ages 3 through 6<sup>th</sup> Grade to VBS at St. Paul’s - July 20 – 23 from 6:15 – 8:30 pm (preschool 6:15 – 8:00 pm) where we will learn about the work of Habitat for Humanity.. Registration forms are available on the table in the commons area. Please use one form per child. **Pre-registration is strongly recommended.** We

will be providing a child-friendly dinner at 5:45 each evening for VBS families and staff in hopes of making the evening less hectic after work. Adult and Youth volunteers are needed to fill many positions on our “building crews”. Please contact Jonneke Dundore at 766-2601 or [Jonnekev@aol.com](mailto:Jonnekev@aol.com) if you are interested in helping out. If you are not participating directly with VBS, you can still help out by donating monetarily to help offset the cost of the food.

**CUPCAKES NEEDED FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** – There is still a slot open for 1 dozen white or yellow cupcakes with white icing that is needed for Monday July 20<sup>th</sup> . If you would like to help out by making a dozen cupcakes, please see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the common area. Contact Jack Rhoads at 697-3539 if you have any questions. Thank you in advance for your help.

**Help Fight MS** - Every hour of every day someone is diagnosed with MS. Everyone knows someone suffering from MS whether it is a close friend, work associate or relative. The National Multiple Sclerosis Society is dedicated to ending the devastating effects of MS but they can't do it without our help. On July 18th & 19th Craig Martek will be cycling 150 miles in the MS150 bike tour to raise money for the National MS Society. If you'd like to help fight MS with a tax deductible donation, you can write a check to **The National MS Society** or donate online at [http://main.nationalmssociety.org/goto/craig\\_martek](http://main.nationalmssociety.org/goto/craig_martek) (there is a "-" between craig and martek).

\*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

\*THE GLORIA PATRI

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 CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

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 Samuel 6:1-5, 12-19

THE READING OF THE PSALM

Psalms 85:8-13

THE RESPONSE

One: God is still speaking.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

THE GOSPEL READING AND MESSAGE

Mark 6:14-29

“We Do Have A Choice”

\*THE HYMN NO. 377 “Forward Through the Ages”

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)

**With joyous praise and dancing spirits O God, we dedicate this offering, acknowledging our covenant responsibility to share Your Word and love all Your people. In gratitude for the gospel of salvation, we pledge our first loyalty and highest faithfulness as disciples of Jesus Christ. Thank You for the wisdom and insight we have received. Help us now to live according to the best we know, in Jesus' name. Amen.**

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

\*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 "The Heavens Declare"

Wetzler

\*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 Robert Heisler  
"In Memory of Mother and Father"

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** Belva Gill died 7/7/09, please keep the Stoner and Roth Family in your prayers; Kristen Pike, sister-in-law of Christel Pike-Nase & Jonathan Nase; Joe Tubman, friend of Peggy and Don Seiler's son Tom; Shirley Knisley.

The Red Rose on the Altar is in Honor of the birth of "**Hayden Elaine Miller**" on Friday July 3rd. Hayden weighed 3 lbs 7 oz and has lots of strawberry blonde hair. **Our Congratulations** go out to the proud parents; Devon and Leroy Miller and to grandparents; Patrice and Greg Miller.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK of July 12-July 19, 2009

<b>TODAY</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Worship Service</b>
MON	<b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>Worship Committee meet at Dundores</b>
TUES	<b>1:00 pm</b>	<b>Prayer Shawl Ministry (Parlor)</b>
	5:30 pm	TOPS (6)
	<b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>Youth/CE Director Meeting (7/8)</b>
WED	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Pastor Parish Meeting (Parlor)</b>
SUN July 19th	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Worship Service, Blessing of the Prayer Shawls</b>
		<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr New Diggs Ministry Donation Drop Off Ends.</b>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Saturday, July 25, 2009, 10:00 a.m. - Pride Parade – "Over the Rainbow: A Tribute to Judy Garland" is the name of St. Paul's float in this year's Pride Parade.** Wear your ruby slippers and walk or ride the float. On July 20<sup>th</sup> a group will be getting together to have a "Ruby Slipper Party" to get shoes ready in preparation for the parade. Contact Shirley Keith Knox @ skeithknox@comcast.net for details and if you are interested in participating.

**JOANN FABRIC COUPONS –** Do you have any Joann Fabric Coupons that you are not going to use. If so, please place them in the envelope on the bulletin board in the Common Area to be used for the Fall Bazaar. Thank You.

**LOGO DESIGN CONTEST** for UCC Youth planning on attending Mid-Atlantic Regional Youth Event July 21-25, **2010** at Lebanon Valley College. Winner of the Logo contest will receive a paid registration to this event. The theme is "Take the Journey..Follow the Holy Brick Road". Logo Entries should be submitted to Galen Russell (email [GalenRusl@aol.com](mailto:GalenRusl@aol.com)) **no later than July 21, 2009.** Please see poster on Youth Bulletin Board for additional details