

TODAY AT ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Worship Leadership**

Preacher: The Rev. Brian Medkeff-Rose  
Lector: Dennis Plymette

**Ministry of Music**

Organist: Sarah Myers  
Minister of Music: Eric Dundore

**Ministry of Service**

Head Usher: Bill Cashman  
Ushers: Rick Ayers  
Deb and Bill Cashman  
Greeters: Jen and Craig Martek  
Acolyte: Bethany Pirtle  
Children's Sermon: The Rev. Brian Medkeff-Rose  
Nursery: The Nase Family  
Flower Delivery: Sue and Ron Gabriel

**ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

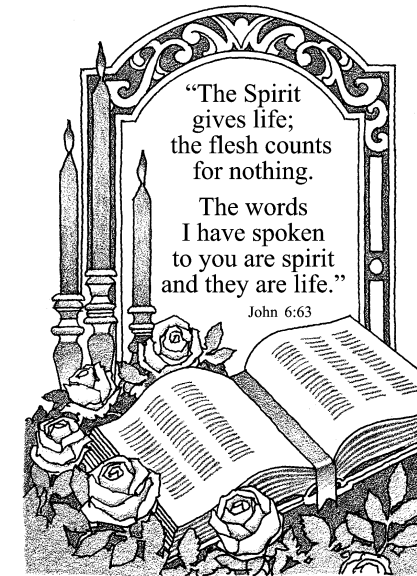
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# Welcome to St. Paul's United Church of Christ

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

August 23, 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

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 23, 2009

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

Organ "How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place" (from "Requiem") Brahms

\* THE CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Welcome this day to worship.

**P: We come, seeking to be fed by the word of God.**

L: Jesus, God's beloved Son, offers to us the bread of life.

**P: Lord, help us to partake of this living bread.**

L: Come; let us worship God who has provided so richly for us.

**P: Let us celebrate our union with God's Son, Jesus. AMEN.**

\*THE HYMN NO. 319 "Sing Them Over Again to Me"

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

**Lord of all joy, you bring to us the offering of yourself, complete, forever. You build us up and challenge us, as strengthened and joyful people, to serve you by helping others. Open our ears this day to hear your words of encouragement and open our spirits to receive your life-giving bread that we might more faithfully serve you. In Jesus' Name, we pray. AMEN.**

THE CALL TO CONFESSION

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

**Forgiving Lord, we hear the words you offer to us about being the bread of life; but we have to admit we really don't understand. We treat your complete gift of yourself, given for our salvation, as though it was commonplace, something to be glossed over or ignored. Forgive us for our lack of understanding. Forgive us when we treat your words of hope and peace with such a lack of appreciation. Heal our spirits. Restore our understanding of your most wonderful gift of life. Challenge us to lives of joyful service to others in your holy name. AMEN.**

THE SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

**The Parables of Jesus -- Another Look** - The Adult 2 Class begins the Fall Season with the start of an exciting journey – relooking at the parables of Jesus with Dr. Greg Carey from the Lancaster Theological Seminary. Get ready to look at the parables from a new and creative light, integrating solid scholarship with everyday life! Dr. Carey is a New Testament Professor at the Seminary and is the author of *Ultimate Things and Sinners: Jesus and his Earliest Followers*. Greg is also an UCCer; a member of Grace UCC, Lancaster. This adult study series includes two sessions at the Lancaster Theological Seminary, weekly discussion during the church school hour and a workbook for personal reflection and study during the week. **EVERYONE is welcome to join us in this exciting adventure, even if you do not normally attend Adult 2. You do not need to attend the opening and closing lectures or attend every week.**

Sessions at Lancaster Theological Seminary

Opening Introductory Session – Saturday, September 12, 2009, 9:30 a.m.

Closing Session – Saturday, November 14, 2009, 9:30 a.m.

(Car pooling will be arranged.)

Some St. Paul's folks have heard Dr. Carey speak on a number of issues and know how dynamic and thought provoking he is. Any questions, please contact Shirley Keith Knox at 697-6946 or at [skeithknox@comcast.net](mailto:skeithknox@comcast.net). If you know you will be attending some or all of the sessions, please let Shirley know so we can plan accordingly, especially room choice. Thanks and we hope you join us!

**THE 2<sup>nd</sup> QUARTER GIVING STATEMENTS** are in the box on the table in the Commons Area. Please stop by and pick yours up. If you have any questions on your statement, please call Terry in the Church Office.

**POLLYANNAS WILL MEET TUESDAY, AUGUST 25<sup>TH</sup>** at noon for a picnic at Peg Wightman's house. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. RSVP Peg at 737-1095.

**IMPORTANT SAVE THE DATE** - for the upcoming 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual St. Paul's Stewardship Campaign Kickoff Party. Please mark your calendars **NOW** for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Stewardship Campaign Kickoff Party to be held **Friday, October 23, 2009**, at the exciting Allenberry Resort Inn where you will have a delicious buffet and the opportunity to participate in a silent auction stewardship fundraiser. All members and friends of St. Paul's are encouraged to come to this fun night of fellowship that will allow you to help the church.

**PLEASE JOIN US AT THE FALL BAZAAR PLANNING MEETING Thursday, evening, August 27th at 7:00 p.m.** in the Youth Room. All ideas and help would be greatly appreciated. We still have a couple of co-chair positions that need filled. If you are interested in filling a co-chairperson position or helping in any of the areas, please plan now on attending this meeting. **We need lots of help to make this event successful.** If you are unable to attend this meeting and want to help or if you have any questions, contact Jean Mogel (697-1088) or the Church Office (766-7931). Please note if you hold a chairperson position and are unable to attend this meeting, please have someone come in your place.

Need something to do while watching TV, waiting for the kids at soccer practice--**the Calico Shoppe is in need of a few people willing to do some hand sewing** (seam finishing and /or embroidery) to complete items for the bazaar. **Your help will be greatly appreciated. Please volunteer by calling Susan Thorn 737-0672.**

*Please help us get the word out about the Bazaar! FLYERS are on the table in the common area; stop by on your way out and pick up some to distribute. Ask your local stores and businesses if you can put one up on their bulletin board or windows! It helps a lot.*



**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. **SPACES ARE GOING FAST SO CALL TODAY TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE.** Call Terry in the church office (766-7931) or Patty Scott (737-3139).



**PASTOR'S VACATION DATES** Rev. John is currently on vacation and will be returning Monday August 31st. Emergency Pastoral Coverage will be provided by The Rev. Anna Thompson through August 30<sup>th</sup>. If you need Pastoral Services please call Terry; weekdays in the Church Office @ 766-7931, evenings and weekends @ 697-8329 (H) or 805-5869(C). If there is no answer, leave a message and she will get back to you as soon as possible. Terry will have contact phone numbers for you. Thank You.

**THE WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

The bread of life has been given for you. Receive the gift of Jesus Christ. Live in His Love and take his words and his deeds into your hearts. You are loved, healed and forgiven in His Name. AMEN.

\*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 "Blessing of Backpacks, Book Bags and Briefcases"  
(Please bring yours up to the front before Service, if you can.)

**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 HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING**

Joshua 24:1-2a,14-18

**THE READING OF THE PSALM**

Psalm 34:15-22

**THE RESPONSE**

One: God is still speaking.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

**THE GOSPEL READING AND MESSAGE**

John 6:56-69

\*THE HYMN NO. 531 "God, Speak to Me, That I May Speak"

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

Special Music

\*THE DOXOLOGY (#780)

\*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

**Accept our offerings of praise in grateful thanksgiving for your presence in our lives and the many blessings you bestow upon us. Consecrate our offering, O God, that it may become bread to fill the emptiness and heal the brokenness of the lives in this community and beyond. And may we be reminded that our real life begins when we give with generous hearts to proclaim the gospel in the name of Christ Jesus. Amen.**

\*THE HYMN NO. 475 "God's Eye Is on the Sparrow"

\*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

"Hark, the Glad Sound!"

Birchwood

\*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 that is located in the red pad on the aisle side of the pew 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.

Reference:

"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  
Susan Gabriel "In Memory of her Mother Joyce Carpenter & Friend Raquel Westfall"  
Sue and Jerry Stada "In Honor of the Marriage of Scott Stada and Christina Smith"

## PRAYER CONCERNS:

**It's a Boy!** "Jonathan Ellis" was born on Tuesday August 18<sup>th</sup> to Becky Frey, Phyllis Hershey's granddaughter. **Our Congratulations** go out to Becky and to Proud Great Grandma Phyllis.

## CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK of August 23-August 30, 2009

|            |          |   |
|------------|----------|---|
| TODAY      | 9:00 am  | Worship Service/Blessing of Book Bags       |
|            | 10:15 am | Ice Cream Social (FH)                       |
| MON        |          | Epistle Deadline                            |
| TUES       | 12:00 pm | Pollyannas picnic at Peg Wightman's         |
|            | 5:30 pm  | TOPS (6)                                    |
| THURS      | 7:00 pm  | Bazaar Meeting (Rm 7/8)                     |
| SUN Aug 30 | 9:00 am  | Worship Service                             |
|            | 6:00 pm  | Youth Planning Meeting (Pavilion/FH/Rm 7/8) |

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WE WELCOME THE REV. BRIAN MEDKEFF-ROSE** this morning as our preacher. Brian is an ordained minister with the Christian Church, Disciples of Christ and has pastored churches in Ohio, Iowa, and Pennsylvania. Over the last 10 plus years, Brian has served as the Chaplain for Pinnacle Health Hospice.

**SEPTEMBER IS COMING!!** Please note that **Sunday September 13<sup>th</sup>** will be Rally Day and Church Family Picnic. We will have one service on this day at **10:30 AM.** We will then move outdoors for the Church Family Picnic. Bring your lawn chairs or blankets and dress casually for our one church service on this day and stay for the festivities. All food (featuring fried chicken and homemade ice cream) will be provided for the picnic. Monetary donations will be accepted to help defray costs. **Everyone is encouraged to attend and enjoy this special time of Fellowship.**

