



Celebrate St. Paul's!



135 years of service

133 Church St. P.O. Box 177 Bowmansville, Pa. 17507 717-445-6256
www.stpaulsucchurch.org Sunday Worship 10:30 am

Volume 18, Number 5
May 2022

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SPRINGTIME WITH JESUS

Yes.....we are approaching the beautiful month of May!

The month when flowers bloom, swimming pools are opened, Mothers and Mother-figures are celebrated (as they always should be!), departed service members are remembered (again, as they always should be), Cinco is De Mayo'd, and Barry walks around singing "it's May it's May, the lusty month of May!!" (don't worry, it's harmless).

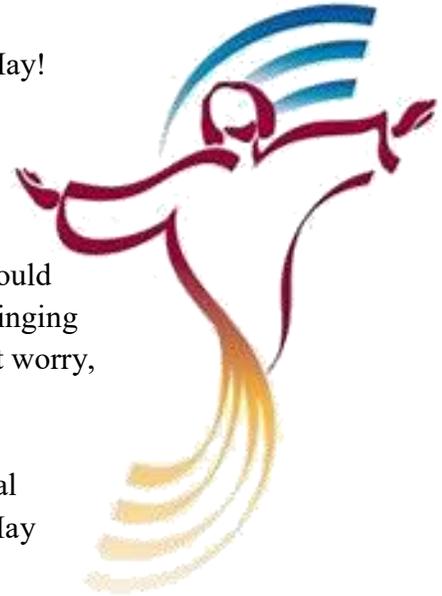
Here's a trivia for you....what does the distress signal "mayday" have to do with the traditional holiday "May Day"? (For the answer....see page 6.).

And during this time of year, we can remember that almost 2000 years ago, the disciples and other followers spent most of this month in the company of the risen Jesus. For 40 days following that first Easter, Jesus appeared to them many times, before finally ascending to Heaven (this year we mark that date on Thursday May 26th).

One of my favorite bible stories from those 40 days of springtime with Jesus is that he often shared meals with the people.....and on at least one occasion he personally cooked breakfast for the very people who had so recently denied him. What a beautiful example of love and grace....and new beginnings.

Have a wonderful May!
Phil

Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." John 21:12



Mission Statement

We, the congregation of St. Paul's United Church of Christ, who have accepted the gift of love and salvation through Jesus Christ, strive to take this message into the world through our prayers, words and deeds. We invite all people to accept these gifts with us.

God's Hands

Exactly a century ago, Irish physician Alexander Irvine published *My Lady of the Chimney Corner*, a book dedicated to his saintly mother. The protagonist, Anna, lives and ministers to others as Irvine's own mother had done.

In the story, Anna visits a neighbor who has just lost a son at sea. After talking for a while, Anna suggests they pray together. With heads bowed, she reaches to place a loving hand on the grieving mother's forehead. Afterward, the woman says, "I think I felt his touch upon my brow," referring to God.

Anna says, "God is everywhere looking for hands to use. Sometimes he takes the hand of a doctor and uses it in healing. Sometimes he takes the hand of a mother to soothe the brow of a fevered child. And sometimes he takes the hand of an old critter like me to bring a bit of help and comfort to a neighbor. But they are all God's hands, and God is everywhere looking for hands to use."

Newsletter Newsletter

People
Reaching
People



A Mother's Day Hymn

Sing praise to our Creator God!
Earth prospers from the way
God "mothers" each new child into
This world day after day.

God fabricates in motherhood
A channel from above
That longs to share with every child
God's comfort, grace and love!

Sing praise to our Creator God,
Who "mothers" us from birth!
Providing what we truly need
Throughout our lives on earth.

Peggy Ferrell



Looking Ahead

May 1	Baptisms
May 5	National Day of Prayer
May 7	Crowder Concert
May 8	Mother's Day
May 22	Carrie Call attends worship service
May 26	Ascension Day
May 30	Memorial Day
June 5	Breakfast Pentecost Sunday Strengthen the Church Offering
June 12	Trinity Sunday/Communion
June 19	Father's Day

Consistory Update

I want to start off this month's report by trying to thank our members for all the hard work in making St. Paul's a great place.



First and in no particular order, I want to thank Kieran for getting the really neat chairs in the social hall. The tables and chairs are a real improvement from the old tables.

I also want to thank Kieran and Barry for making the food for the Lenten lunch that St. Paul was responsible for making. Plus thanks to Phil for a message that day; I heard it was really inspiring. I also want to thank all the other members that helped at the lunch that day.

Dee, Gerri, Sue and Lynda really did a great job of getting everything ready for a very successful egg hunt at St. Paul's on April 16th. I am sorry if I forgot anyone that helped and I did not mention.

Special Guests: Please mark your calendars for May 22nd as we will have two guests that day. One will be Carrie Call from the UCC Conference and our very own Bri will be here to sing.

Projects: We will start to upgrade our zoom service on May 30th. John will have all the necessary equipment by that date. Kieran and Steve will be helping with this project.

Updating the ladies restroom was approved at a congregational meeting on the 10th. Since then, Pat and Dee have gone to Lowes to pick out colors for the stalls, wall, and flooring. They also picked out new recessed lights for the ceiling. The contractor will start the upgrade once he has all the materials needed to start the job. The price of the upgrade will be around \$11,650.00. One of our members has graciously come forward and has offered to pay for the ladies room upgrade. I really want to thank our anonymous donor for this super gesture. Thanks to this kind offer, we have gone back to our contractor and asked him to also upgrade the men's room. We will pay for this upgrade using only a portion of the approved money from the ladies room.



Consistory has approved and is moving forward with improving our parlor room into a welcoming cafe. We hope everyone will enjoy the atmosphere of new tables and new chairs. We will have a second coffee machine with a microwave and we will encourage treats such as pastries, cookies, etc. We hope we can enjoy each others company before the worship service. This will give us a chance to get to know each other better and hopefully welcome new members to our great church. This cafe idea came from the great minds of Phil, Gerri, and Dee and oh yes, also Barry!!!!!!! Seriously, I think this is a great idea and one that I am really looking forward to using.

Tim Lutz
Consistory President



The next consistory meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, May 4 at 7:00 pm**

Prayer Concerns: We will be updating our prayer list monthly by starting a new list at the beginning of every month. Please continue to review the list and if there are any updates during the month please contact Phil Shober or Dee Sprecher. We also have prayer request cards located in the parlor room and in the pews upstairs for your convenience. You can fill out the request and turn it in to the church office or place it in the offering plate.



As you continue your own prayers and concerns outside of the sanctuary this week, please remember the concerns we have raised as a community.

Our list of prayer concerns from April

Adam’s family Alta, Grace, the Goodwin family, Naomi & Pete, Westly, our farmers, our church partners in Liberia, and continued prayers for all the people affected by the war in Ukraine.

Suggested Prayer... “Most gracious and loving God, we lift up our list of prayer concerns this day and every day that all who are listed might know and feel your presence with them in their time of need. God, continue in your support for all of our friends and family listed and those who are forever in our hearts so that they might feel you with them each day, Amen.”

If you would like to ask for prayers for someone please contact Kieran Connelly. Below is a list of the individuals on our Prayer Team that will pray for you throughout the week.



- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Kieran Connelly | 717-471-5018 |
| Lynda Cooper | |
| Gretchen Martin | |
| Gerri Shober | Nancy Caffrey-Schafer |
| Steve Renninger | Chris Storms |
| Phil Shober | Donna Ozga |

Caring for Our Members

Please remember our members and friends in your prayers. Many in retirement villages and their homes are unable to attend church due to the pandemic and other health concerns.

Mary Tamerius
Faithful Living
2015 N. Reading Road
Room 156
Denver, Pa. 17517

Alta Hoshour
Ephrata Manor
99 Bethany Rd
Room# 127A
Ephrata, Pa 17522
717-738-7465



Jane Storms
118 Raybil Drive
Narvon, Pa. 17555

Linda Summers
101 South 2nd Street
Denver, Pa 17517

Bill & Grace Sprecher
Fairmount Homes
2312 Wheat Ridge Drive
Ephrata, Pa. 17522

Harold Good
Garden Spot Village
433 S Kinzer Ave
Apt. 117GW
New Holland, Pa. 17557

Pastoral Visits or Emergencies

If anyone is in need of pastoral assistance please contact Phil Shober anytime via text or call 610-780-3915 or email philipshober@gmail.com. You can also call the church office at 717-445-6256 or email the church secretary at dee@stpaulsuccchurch.org.



The People's Pantry

Below is a list of items requested for the food bank in Terre Hill.

- Laundry detergent unscented
- Toilet paper
- Canned soups & canned chicken
- Cereal, pancake mix & syrup
- Spaghetti sauce

With spring here and summer approaching, below is a list of things the Grace House ladies could use.

- Crew socks
- Baseball caps
- Suntan lotion
- Lip balm
- Face moisturizer
- KCups
- Toilet paper
- Tissues
- Paper towels



Any donations can be placed on the table in the parlor room.

Thank you for your continued support of these ministries.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

May

- 1 Paxton Fair
- 3 James Shober
- 4 Harper Smith
- 11 Patricia Lutz
- 22 Gretchen Martin
- 31 Joyce Shober



Happy Birthday!

Anniversaries



Charlie & Chris Storms – 33 years on May 6

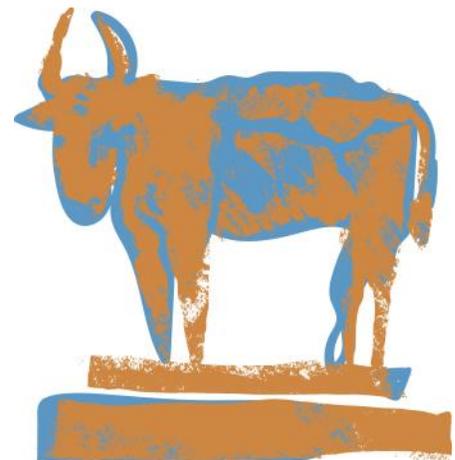


Bible Quiz



When Moses was on the mountain for a long time, who made a golden calf for the people of Israel to worship?

- A. Joshua
- B. Levi
- C. Caleb
- D. Aaron



Treasurer's Report

The monthly report for
March 2022:

Checking Account

Beginning Balance	\$91,645.58
+ Receipts	6,923.89
- Disbursements	22,708.26
- Transfers	0
Ending Balance	\$75,861.21

A copy of this information can also be found at the mailboxes in the slot marked financial reports.

March's offering only total was \$3,812.00.

Financial Report



Trivia answer from page 1:

What is the connection between the “mayday” distress call and the traditional May 1st “May Day” celebration? Absolutely nothing. The “mayday” call (conventionally repeated 3 times in distress) was first used in Europe in the 1920’s and is from the French word “m’aidez”, which means “help me”.



The following individuals are responsible for counting the offering after worship;

May 1	Tim & Pat Lutz
May 8	Gerri Shober & Barry Gehman
May 15	Charlie & Chris Storms
May 22	Sharon Blechschmidt & Lynda Cooper
May 29	Tim & Pat Lutz

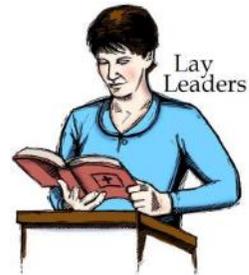
Online Worship: While we are currently holding worship services in person following the CDC guidelines, we also continue to stream our services online.

If you are more comfortable watching from home please use the following link and enter the code 225210 to join the service.

<https://stpaulsuccchurch.org>



Monthly Volunteers



May 1 Gerri Shober
 May 8 Mary Renninger
 May 15 Sara Renninger
 May 22 Cheryl Borja
 May 29 Dee Sprecher

May 1 Grace House
 May 8 Barry Gehman
 May 15 Mary Renninger
 May 22 Sharon Blechsmidt
 May 29 Kieran Connelly

June 5 Gerri Shober
 June 12 Sara Renninger **
 June 19 Mary Renninger
 June 26 Cheryl Borja

June 5 Grace House
 June 12 Lynda Cooper
 June 19 Charlie Storms
 June 26 Tim Lutz

** Indicates communion



May 1 Tim Lutz
 May 8 Dee Sprecher
 May 15 Larry Klaassen
 May 22 Cheryl Borja
 May 29 Barry Gehman

May 1 Naomi Martin
 May 8 Gretchen Martin
 May 15 Lynda Cooper
 May 22 Gerri Shober
 May 29 Grace Smith

June 5 Sharon Blechsmidt
 June 12 Kieran Connelly
 June 19 Ron Frederick
 June 26 Mary Renninger

June 5 Barry Gehman
 June 12 Gretchen Martin
 June 19 Naomi Martin
 June 26 Gerri Shober

Sponsors



May 1	open
May 8	open
May 15	open
May 22	open
May 29	Phil & Gerri Shober
June 5	open
June 12	open
June 19	open
June 26	Tim & Pat Lutz



May 1	open
May 8	open
May 15	open
May 22	open
May 29	open
June 5	open
June 12	open
June 19	open
June 26	open

Flower and Bulletin Sponsor Sheet

The flower and bulletin charts for 2022 are posted. If you would like to sponsor a week please sign your name on the chart for any Sunday you wish. Please fill out the appropriate form and see that Dee gets your dedication information at least one week prior to it going in the bulletin. The cost for the flowers is **\$35.00**. We will place silk flowers in the sanctuary and place your dedication information in the bulletin. If you wish to purchase real flowers you may still do so on your own. The cost of the bulletins is **\$10.00** each week. Payments can be given to Dee Sprecher. Thank you in advance for your support.

St Paul's UCC Celebrate

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St Paul's UCC *Celebrate* is published monthly to keep members and friends informed of programs of the church and to report news about the community and its people.

Deadline for article submissions: The third Sunday of each month.



MAY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Grace House Worship 10:30 Baptisms Fellowship Hall Reserved	2	3	4 Piano Lessons 6-7 pm Consistory 7:00 pm	5 National Day of Prayer Piano lessons 5:30-6 pm	6 Piano lessons 8:00-10:00 am	7 Crowder Concert
8 Worship 10:30 Mother's Day	9	10	11 Piano Lessons 6-7 pm Ladies/Mens Bible Study 7pm	12 Piano lessons 5:30-6 pm Choir 7:00	13 Piano lessons 8:00-10:00 am	14
15 Worship 10:30	16	17	18 Piano Lessons 6-7 pm	19 Piano lessons 5:30-6 pm	20 Piano lessons 8:00-10:00 am	21
22 Worship 10:30 Special guest Carrie Call Newsletter Due	23	24	25 Piano Lessons 6-7 pm	26 Ascension Day Piano lessons 5:30-6 pm	27 Piano lessons 8:00-10:00 am	28
29 Worship 10:30	30 Memorial Day Book Club 7:00	31				