



Celebrate St. Paul's!



137 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 19, Number 2
February 2023

What's Inside?

Basket Bingo

Guest Speaker

Lenten Meals

Fund Drive

Ladies Book Club

Love Aces



HERE COMES ST. PAUL'S!

Our own Cindy Hoffert made a delivery from our church "People's Pantry" to the Terre Hill food bank earlier this week. She told me that Dixie at the food bank thought she was going to have to go out and buy a supply of laundry detergent for the bank, but then....."HERE COMES ST. PAUL'S!".

I had announced a few Sundays ago that the food bank needed unscented laundry detergent. Two Sundays later, we had a nice supply of it on our pantry table. This coincides with Toy Drive bins overflowing; Christmas "shoeboxes" all filled; and Rescue Mission food boxes fully packed.

Our small congregation keeps stepping up. What will it bring us?.....Well, Jesus said that loving and serving others would bring us JOY!

At a recent meeting with about 15 pastors, it was repeatedly mentioned that the "Twelve Steps" program of AA is something that really gets this right. And whether we realize it or not, the "Twelve Steps" of AA is an important part of us here at St. Paul's, directly and indirectly. Here are a few thoughts from the "Twelve Steps":

"good living is the theme.....the deep desire to live usefully and walk humbly under the grace of God.....to serve others, while expecting nothing in return".

And what do you suppose they find?.....JOY!

"(there is) no greater joy, than to watch the eyes of men and women as they move from darkness into light, and awaken to the presence of a loving God".

Thank you for all you do, and will continue to do.

Phil

"I have told you this so that my joy may be in you, and your joy may be complete".
John 15:11



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.

TELL A FRIEND ABOUT ST PAUL'S!

Basket Bingo

Join us for a fun evening of basket bingo, With a variety of theme baskets and fun prizes, you can have a chance to play for each one or just the ones of your choosing.

Where: St. Paul's UCC. Fellowship Hall

When: February 25, 2023
Doors open at 5pm - Bingo starts at 6:00pm

Cost: \$1. per card *Pre-register and receive 3 free cards*
Call 717-445-6256 or email office@stpaulsuccchurch.org



Food will also be available.

Spread the word and bring your family and friends out to St. Paul's.

Proceeds benefit St. Paul's Ministries.

Let's Go Bananas

When the baseball team in Savannah, Georgia, got new owners in 2016, it also received a new name and identity — the Bananas! Adding pep to what often seemed a long, boring game, Jesse and Emily Cole offered a creative new experience, full of entertainment and spectacle. Players wear all-yellow uniforms (sometimes kilts), and the mascot is a banana named Split. Cheering on the team are the Banana Nanas senior-citizen dancers and the Man-Nanas Dad Bod Cheering Squad. The entire organization sets out to bring hospitality and joy, sending people home thinking, “This was the best experience of my life!”



What if Christians, individually and as a community, fully embraced *our* new name and identity, sharing radical hospitality and profound joy with everyone? Jesus has bought us from our former owner, sin, and given us a new name: Beloved of God. This identity may seem silly to some, just as the Savannah Bananas raised eyebrows initially. But before long, the delighted fans were *going bananas* for them!

With the same wild abandon and big-hearted outreach, the church — with its much-greater message — can spread love and goodwill, and have fun doing it!

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Looking Ahead

February 14	Valentines Day
February 19	Communion
February 20	Presidents Day
February 22	Ash Wednesday
February 23	1st Lenten Luncheon
February 25	Basket Bingo
February 26	1st Sunday in Lent
March 3	World Day of Prayer
March 5	Visit from Carrie Call Covered dish luncheon
March 9	Prepare Lenten Luncheon @ St. John's
March 15	Lenten Breakfast Lenten Series @ Lititz
March 17	St. Patrick's Day

Consistory News

Pastor Dan from Liberia will be attending our service on January 29th. We will have an extra collection plate for donations to help with our mission to Liberia and Pastor Dan. We will have a light lunch after the service, being provided by Barry and Lynda.



St. Paul's is going to have a bingo night on February 25th. We have organized a committee to finalize the details. This would include Gerri, Dee and Grace. This will be a basket bingo and we need your help in providing theme baskets for our very first bingo night.



Our community will be holding Lenten Lunches every Thursday during Lent beginning on February 23rd. They will be held at St. John's Center UCC at noon with a short message and a light lunch.



Pastor Phil will be speaking and we will be providing the lunch on March 9th. Hot dogs and mac and cheese has been suggested. If you would like to help with the meal please see Phil.

We will once again serve at least one Lenten breakfast on March 15th from 6am until 9am. The breakfast will be buffet style featuring bacon, scrambled eggs, and potatoes, with coffee, tea, and orange juice. There will be a basket for donations and will be open to the public. If this breakfast is successful we will consider having a few more Lenten breakfasts.

Also, on the same day, March 15th, Phil will take part in a Lenten Series at St. Luke's in Lititz from 7 to 8pm. Aaron, Grace, Tim, and Pat will be accompanying him.

Please don't forget that we are having a fund raiser for St. Paul's to get air conditioning in our social hall. Dee has posted a bar graph in our cafe showing a goal of \$8000.00 and our progress to date. Consistory feels we can utilize our social hall more during the summer months with the goal of getting more hall rentals for income. Any help would be greatly appreciated.



Tim Lutz
Consistory President



The next consistory meeting is scheduled for
Sunday, February 12 at 11:30 am.

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 January

Cheryl, Chris, Dana, Gretchen, Lucy, Jim, Kent, Naomi, Renee & Ron, Taylor, Thad, the Cooper family, the Evans family, the Schuster family, all the people impacted by the severe weather conditions, and the people 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 | Jane Hoshour |
| 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# 123A
Ephrata, Pa 17522
717-738-7697

Betty Musser
566 Springville Rd
Apt 106
New Holland, Pa. 17557

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 at 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 the current need requested for the food bank in Terre Hill.

- Laundry Detergent (unscented)**
- Assorted soups & Ramen noodles**
- Juice packs for children**

With winter among us, below is a list of things the Grace House ladies could use.

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Hats | KCups |
| Gloves | Toilet paper |
| Lip Balm | Tissues |
| Crew socks | Paper towels |

Updated Needs

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

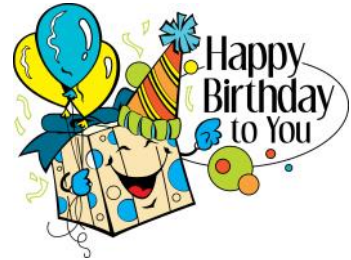
Thank you for your continued support .

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

February

- 3 Jacob Cooper
- 5 Gerri Shober
- 6 Larry Klaassen
- 7 Kaitlyn Sprecher
- 11 Lynda Cooper
- 16 Mary Tamerius
- 19 Dee Sprecher
- 28 Phil Shober



Anniversaries



Grace & Bill Sprecher - 65 years on February 1



Bible Quiz



Fill in the blanks for three qualities Paul, in 1 Corinthians 13, attributes to love: "Love is _____; love is _____. ... it keeps no record of _____."

- A. challenging, important, the past
- B. childlike, innocent, injustice
- C. self-sacrificing, generous, finances
- D. patient, kind, wrongs



Financial Report



Treasurer's Report

The monthly report for November 2022:

Checking Account

Beginning Balance	\$64,715.33
+ Receipts	12,491.67
- Disbursements	8,343.11
- Transfers	0
Ending Balance	\$68,863.89

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

December's offering only total was \$8,339.75.

Ladies Literary Book Club

Please join our bookclub that meets, on Zoom, the last Monday of the month from 6:30 to 7:30.

Upcoming Books:

February 2023-

The Ladies Midnight Swimming Club by: Faith Hogan

March 2023- BYOB
Bring Your Own Book.

If you're interested contact Gerri 717- 575-1720 or let her know when you see her at church.



Online Worship: We are holding worship services in person and streaming LIVE on YouTube.

If you would like to watch our service live on YouTube please click on the link below.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMUzTE3jCqaDyG2WIUzaX9w/live>



Love Aces the Test

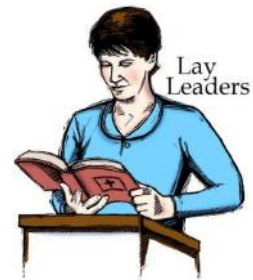
Author Adele Calhoun describes life as “our ‘open-book’ test on love.” How can we ace it?

In *Invitations From God*, she points out that daily decisions are the make-or-break factors: “Day in and day out as we plan, work, produce, commute and relate, we make life-altering choices to either love or neglect others.”

For another study guide, reflect on St. Augustine’s timeless words: “What does love look like? It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of [people]. That is what love looks like.”

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Monthly Volunteers



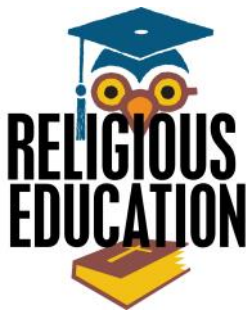
February 5 Sara Renninger
 February 12 Gerri Shober
 February 19 Mary Renninger**
 February 26 Dee Sprecher

February 5 Grace House Blessings
 February 12 Kieran Connelly
 February 19 Lynda Cooper
 February 26 Charlie Storms

March 5 Cheryl Borja
 March 12 Sara Renninger
 March 19 Gerri Shober
 March 26 Mary Renninger

March 5 Grace House Blessings
 March 12 Tim Lutz
 March 19 Grace Shober Smith
 March 26 Gerri Shober

** Indicates communion



February 5 GHB Sunday-no class
 February 12 Gerri Shober
 February 19 Kathleen Roscioli
 February 26 Barry Gehman

February 5 Lynda Cooper
 February 12 Megan Hennigan
 February 19 Gretchen Martin
 February 26 Naomi Martin

March 5 GHB Sunday-no class
 March 12 Gerri Shober
 March 19 Kathleen Roscioli
 March 26 Cheryl Borja

March 5 Lynda Cooper
 March 12 Megan Hennigan
 March 19 Naomi Martin
 March 26 Grace Shober Smith

Sponsors



February 5	open
February 12	open
February 19	open
February 26	open

March 5	open
March 12	open
March 19	open
March 26	open



February 5	Cindy Hoffer
February 12	Brian Martin
February 19	Ron Frederick
February 26	Nancy Connelly

March 5	Jane Hoshour
March 12	Sharon Blechschmidt
March 19	Chris Storms
March 26	Sara Renninger

Altar Flowers

A new flower chart for 2023 is posted. If you are interested in sponsoring flowers on a particular Sunday please sign up. Forms are also available next to the



chart to fill out your information. The cost for real flowers is approximately \$40. Please place the form, along with your payment, in the church office a week before your selected date. Thank you.

St Paul's UCC *Celebrate*

A publication of St. Paul's UCC
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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.



February



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Piano lessons 8:30-10:00 am	4
5 GHB Worship 10:30	6	7 Piano lessons 5:30-7:30 pm	8 Mens & Ladies Bible Study 7pm	9	10 Piano lessons 8:30-10:00 am	11
12 Worship 10:30 Consistory 11:30	13	14 Valentines Day Piano lessons 5:30-7:30 pm	15	16 Choir 7:00	17 Piano lessons 8:30-10:00 am	18
19 Worship 10:30 Communion Fellowship hall reserved	20 Presidents Day	21 Piano lessons 5:30-7:30 pm	22 Ash Wednesday	23 Lenten Luncheons begin @ St. John's	24 Piano lessons 8:30-10:00 am	25 Basket Bingo 5:00
26 Worship 10:30 First Sunday in Lent	27 Book Club 6:30	28 Piano lessons 5:30-7:30 pm				