



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 5
May 2023

What's Inside?

Pancakes at Paul's

The Power of God's Light

Mt Gretna Event

Ladies Book Club

T-Bones are Back

Memorial Tribute



“May---the Force is With You”

May really is a beautiful month—entirely Spring, and a bridge to Summer.

We celebrate everything from Cinco de Mayo and Mothers Day; to Armed Services Day and Memorial Day.

And we remember that almost 2000 years ago, Jesus spent his final days on earth with his followers, before ascending to heaven 40 days after Easter (Ascension Day is May 18th).

And then, 10 days later, the Holy Spirit came “like the blowing of a violent wind from heaven” (Acts 2:2), on the day of Pentecost (this year, May 28th).

Jesus had promised his disciples, and he promises all of us....“when the Spirit comes, he will guide you to all truth”. (John 16:13)

As we study, pray, meditate, and worship together....may we always leave room for the Holy Spirit, to guide us to the truth.

Have a great May! Thank you, veterans. And thanks mom.

Phil

“you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will be my witnesses...to the ends of the earth”. (Acts 1:8)



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!

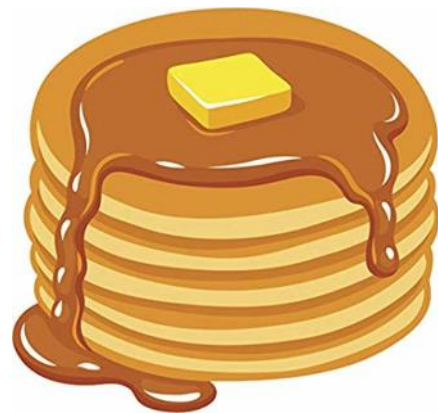
“Pancakes at Paul’s”

FREE Community Breakfast at St. Paul’s UCC Church

*1st Monday of every month 6-9am
Beginning 6/5*

Pancakes Sausage Coffee Juice

St. Paul’s UCC Fellowship Hall
133 Church Street
Bowmansville, Pa. 17507
For more info call 717-445-6256



The Power of (God’s) Light

Do most people truly feel happier in spring? Is the light brighter, the sky bluer? Meteorologists say yes. The shorter, blue wavelengths of sunlight scatter more efficiently than long, red ones; as the sun rises higher in spring, the light passes through less atmosphere, making the sky appear bluer. Outdoor levels of light have proven as effective as Prozac to combat depression — and May is the sunniest month!

The Bible frequently uses light as a metaphor for God: “The Lord is my light and my salvation” (Psalm 27:1); “Let us walk in the light of the Lord” (Isaiah 2:5); “The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world” (John 1:9). Darkness isn’t bad; seeds sprout in dark soil, life begins in the dark womb, and darkness protected the Hebrews fleeing Pharaoh and the holy family fleeing Herod.

But light is one apt image for God because most of us know the joy, health and energy light brings. Both in spring and through faith in the God who enlightens all, may we “live as children of light” (Ephesians 5:8).

Looking Ahead

May 4	National Day of Prayer
May 10	T-Bones @ Ranck's
May 14	Mother's Day
May 18	Ascension Day
May 28	Pentecost/Communion
	Strengthen the church offering
May 29	Memorial Day
	Cemetery Tribute
June 4	Trinity Sunday
June 5	Pancakes at Paul's
June 11	Community Church Service
June 18	Father's Day
June 23	Mt. Gretna Service

Consistory News

Thanks to basket bingo and our super members of St. Paul's, we have reached our goal of \$8000.00.

We should have the new air conditioning unit installed at the end of April. We also gave marching orders to Steve to go forward and order the new vertical blinds and rods for the social hall. The company doing the work has told Steve they are 6 weeks out on installs. The estimate for all the work is \$4600.00. We already have over \$2500.00 in total to cover the bill for the blinds. Once again, I want to thank our members that approved the new blinds. We should be very proud of all that has been accomplished over the past several years at improving our beautiful church.

I want to thank Brian for all his help in making sure the Bowmansville Fire Company received our donation, of the dough spreader and press. Anytime we can help the local community, it's a great thing!



We are still trying to get rid of 8 of our church pews, that at present are taking up space in our upstairs hallway. I have advertised, to no luck, due to the fact that many other churches have pews for sale. If anybody has an idea, please let me know. I looked into 1-800 junk, and they will only take items that two men can carry. So, unless their two men are weight lifters, they are not going to carry the pews down the steps. Now, maybe if we have a way to cut up the pews, I can revisit 1-800 junk and get a price for removal.



Mark your calendars for Friday, June 23rd, at 7pm. Carrie Call is having a service at Mt. Gretna and that service will include Phil and the band playing and singing their latest hits. I am sure Phil will give more information at a later date, but for now, keep this date free. We would like to show our full support from St. Paul's.



Tim Lutz
Consistory President

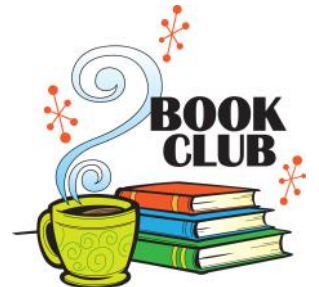
Ladies Literary Book Club

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

Upcoming Books:

May: Darling Dahlias and the Cucumber by Susan Wittig.

June: Burning Justice, A Callie Justice Mystery by Leighann Dobbs.



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

Erin, Gary, Harold, Jane, Kieran, and Sasha.

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 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.

Please note: It will be our turn to fill the orders at the food bank on Thursday, May 18. If you can help please see Nancy Connelly.

- Pasta**
- Canned fruit**
- Rice packs**

Below is a list of every day needs the Grace House ladies could use.

- Toilet paper**
- Tissues**
- Paper towels**

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

Thank you for your continued support .



Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

May

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



Anniversaries

Charlie & Chris Storms – 34 years on May 6



Bible Quiz



According to Peter, at what time of day did the Holy Spirit come upon the disciples on Pentecost?

- A. 9 a.m.
- B. Noon
- C. 3:30 p.m.
- D. 9 p.m.



Treasurer's Report

The monthly report for March 2023:

Checking Account

Beginning Balance	\$74,740.80
+ Receipts	8,607.18
- Disbursements	13,411.68
Ending Balance	\$69,936.30

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

March's offering only total was \$4,156.00.



The T-Bones Are Back!

We will be meeting at Ranck's Restaurant on Wednesday, May 10th, at 5:30pm for dinner.



T-bone steaks, chicken or a vegetarian dish will be available. If interested please sign up on the sheet that will be posted shortly on the bulletin board.

Meal includes a potato, vegetable, drink and dessert. Prices will be included on the signup sheet.

Checks can be made payable to St. Paul's church and placed on Dee's desk.

Hope to see everyone back and some new faces as well!

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>



Memorial Day Tribute

On Monday, May 29th, the United Veterans Council will be having their annual pilgrimage to local cemeteries to pay tribute to our Veterans.

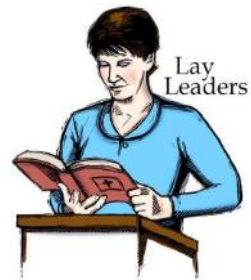


Everyone is invited to Bowmansville Union Cemetery to help remember those who served and continue to serve our country. The pilgrimage is scheduled to begin at approximately 8:15 am at the cemetery with the New Holland Veterans Council and the New Holland Band.

We hope many will attend to pay tribute to our Veterans and their families.

The Bowmansville Union Cemetery is located at 160 Church St in Bowmansville.

Monthly Volunteers



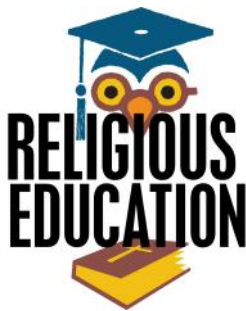
May 7 Dee Sprecher
 May 14 Cheryl Borja
 May 21 Sara Renninger
 May 28 Gerri Shober **

May 7 Grace House Blessings
 May 14 Lynda Cooper
 May 21 Charlie Storms
 May 28 Tim Lutz

June 4 Mary Renninger
 June 11 Dee Sprecher
 June 18 Cheryl Borja
 June 25 Sara Renninger

June 4 Grace House Blessings
 June 11 Gerri Shober
 June 18 Grace Shober Smith
 June 25 Barry Gehman

** Indicates communion



May 7 GHB Sunday-no class
 May 14 Gerri Shober
 May 21 Kathleen Roscioli
 May 28 Barry Gehman

May 7 Naomi Martin
 May 14 Laura-Jeanne Iacono
 May 21 Lynda Cooper
 May 28 Laura-Jeanne Iacono

June 4 GHB Sunday-no class
 June 11 Gerri Shober
 June 18 Kathleen Roscioli
 June 25 Cheryl Borja

June 4 Naomi Martin
 June 11 Laura-Jeanne Iacono
 June 18 Lynda Cooper
 June 25 Laura-Jeanne Iacono

Sponsors



May 7	Charlie & Chris Storms
May 14	Curt & Kim Evans
May 21	open
May 28	Phil & Gerri Shoher
June 4	open
June 11	open
June 18	open
June 25	open



May 7	Judy Enck
May 14	Jane Hoshour
May 21	Troy Cooper
May 28	Sara Renninger
June 4	Barry Gehman
June 11	Naomi Martin
June 18	Cindy Hoffer
June 25	Sue Klaassen

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 available next to the



chart to fill out your information. The cost for real flowers is approximately \$60. 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
 133 Church St., P.O. Box 177
 Bowmansville, Pa. 17507
 Phone & Fax 717-445-6256
office@stpaulsuccchurch.org
www.stpaulsuccchurch.org



Editor:
 Deidre Sprecher
dee@stpaulsuccchurch.org

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	2 Piano lessons 5:30-7:30 pm	3	4 National Day of Prayer	5 Piano lessons 8:30-10:00 am	6
7 GHB Worship 10:30	8	9 Piano lessons 5:30-7:30 pm	10 T-Bones 5:30 Mens & Ladies Bible Study 7pm	11	12 Piano lessons 8:30-10:00 am	13
14 Worship 10:30 Consistory 11:30 Mother's Day	15	16 Piano lessons 5:30-7:30 pm	17	18 Ascension Day Fill Food Bank Orders Choir 7:00	19 Piano lessons 8:30-10:00 am Hall Reserved	20 Hall Reserved
21 Worship 10:30	22 Book Club 6:30	23 Piano lessons 5:30-7:30 pm	24	25	26 Piano lessons 8:30-10:00 am	27
28 Worship 10:30 Pentecost Sunday Communion Strengthen the church offering	29 Memorial Day Cemetery Tribute 8:15	30 Piano lessons 5:30-7:30 pm	31			