



Celebrate St. Paul's!



138 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 20, Number 11
November 2024

What's Inside?

First Sunday
Blessing

Pancakes @ Paul's

All Saints
Remembrance

Christmas Bazaar

Congregational
Meeting

Operation Shoebox

Toy Drive

Poinsettia Orders

"CAST YOUR LOT"

You may have heard that there's an election coming up soon in our great country.

Numerous positions will be filled, but undoubtedly the most important by far is President of the United States. Among other things, this person will be the Commander in Chief of our military, and will take an oath to defend this nation (you, me and all of our children!) against all "enemies" foreign and domestic.



It is an incredibly important office. And for each of us, who we vote for is an important and very personal decision....not to be taken lightly and certainly not to be ridiculed by anyone else. As a citizen of this country, your vote is yours and yours alone.

In the bible, virtually the first "act" of the new Christian church was to hold an election! In the first chapter of the Book of Acts, the disciples nominated 2 men to replace Judas as one of the 12.

Then.....they prayed about it. (Have we been doing that.....or enough of it???)

And then....."they cast lots, and Matthias was added to the eleven." (Acts 1:26).

Presumably, they did not all agree! And yet, there is no indication that anyone acted childishly or acrimoniously during or after this important election. Indeed, from there the church grew, from about 120 people to countless believers worldwide----including a lovely little church family in Bowmansville, PA.

So, let's pray about this. Choose wisely. Cast your lot---it belongs to you!

And then, let's go forth in peace.
Phil

"The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, be with you, brothers and sisters. Amen."
-- Our own St. Paul, Galatians 6:18



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!

“First Sunday Blessing”

Beginning November 2nd

A special service of music and devotions to start off our month.

Featuring musical guest Shelleen Weaver.

Everyone is welcome and bring a friend!

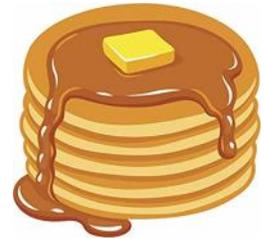


“Pancakes at Paul’s”

FREE Community Breakfast
at St. Paul’s UCC Church
November 3rd

1st Monday of every month 6-9am

Pancakes Sausage Coffee Juice Toast & Homemade Jelly
(featuring the world’s best sausage)



St. Paul’s UCC Fellowship Hall

133 Church Street, Bowmansville, Pa. 17507

more info call 717-445-6256

Veterans Day Salute

After fighting in World War II, Luther Bergeland wasn’t done serving his country — or his God. The Minnesota farm boy, who “came back to faith” during combat, later served for decades as a military chaplain. For his actions in the field in Korea, Bergeland was awarded the Bronze Star. Then during Vietnam, he served in the Army Reserves in Colorado, tasked with informing family members about soldiers’ deaths.



Despite the challenges, Bergeland embraces the special role he was able to play for four decades, sharing Jesus and his love with countless people. “That’s what we did, preaching and reaching out to people,” he told a reporter. “I always liked the military very much because it just did a lot for me, and I hope I did a lot for it.”

On Veterans Day, November 11th, we salute Bergeland and all the men and women who selflessly serve.

Looking Ahead

| | |
|-------------|---|
| November 1 | All Saints Day |
| November 3 | First Sunday Blessing All Saints Remembrance Quilt Blessing Daylight Savings Time Ends |
| November 4 | Pancakes @ Paul's |
| November 5 | Election Day |
| November 9 | Christmas Bazaar |
| November 11 | Veterans Day |
| November 17 | Congregational Meeting |
| November 24 | Communion |
| November 28 | Thanksgiving |
| December 1 | First Sunday of Advent |
| December 2 | Pancakes @ Paul's |
| December 24 | Christmas Eve Service Communion |
| December 25 | Christmas Day |
| December 31 | New Year's Eve |

Consistory News

All Saints Remembrance will take place during worship on Sunday, November 3rd. It is a time we look back to remember our loved ones that passed on last year. If you have someone you would like mentioned during our remembrance please see Phil or Dee. We would like to have everyone's information by October 27th.



A **Christmas Bazaar** is scheduled for Saturday, November 9th in St. Paul's fellowship hall from 8am until 3pm. If you have any questions or would like to participate please see Phil, Lynda, or Kim.



A **Congregational Meeting** is scheduled for Sunday, November 17th immediately following worship. Please plan on attending as we will be reviewing and approving our annual budget.



Shoobox donations: We are participating in Samaritan's Purse's "Operation Christmas Child". Pack a gift-filled shoebox for a girl or boy to send to a child in need for Christmas time. Just pick up a shoebox downstairs in the café. Gift suggestions are enclosed along with a tag to indicate if your purchases are for a boy or girl and what age you selected. Simply return the filled box to church by November 11th and we'll take care of the shipping.



Poinsettia Orders are being taken up until November 17th. They will be used to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas Eve and then can be taken home or donated to a shut-in. If you are interested in placing an order please see Dee Sprecher or pick up a order form today.



Toy Drive: This years toy drive will benefit children who live in the Elanco school district from infants through 12th grade. If you would like to make a donation, suggestions will be provided shortly along with a box in the café area. All gifts must be received by December 1st.



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 Shoher 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 recent prayer concerns.

Aaron, Alex, Allen, Anna’s brother, Candy, Gary, Gina, Helen, Ira, Kim & Curt, Marian, MaryAnn, Mike, Nancy, Neil, Pete & Naomi, Sam, Sara, Sharon, the Frederick family, all the Grace House Ladies, the fighting in the Middle East, and everyone affected by the flooding and hurricanes in the south.



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 Shoher | Nancy Caffrey-Schafer |
| Steve Renninger | Chris Storms |
| Phil Shoher | 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
717-209-0509

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

Pastoral Visits or Emergencies



If anyone is in need of pastoral assistance please contact Phil Shoher anytime via text or call at 610-780-3915 or email philipshoher@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 needs requested for the food bank in Terre Hill.

- Peanut Butter**
- Pancake Mix/Syrup**
- Canned Fruit**

Below is a list of everyday 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



November

- 3 Nate Grubb
- 15 Kallie Lutz
- 18 Hazel Minier

Anniversaries



Kieran & Nancy Connelly – 18 years on Nov 18

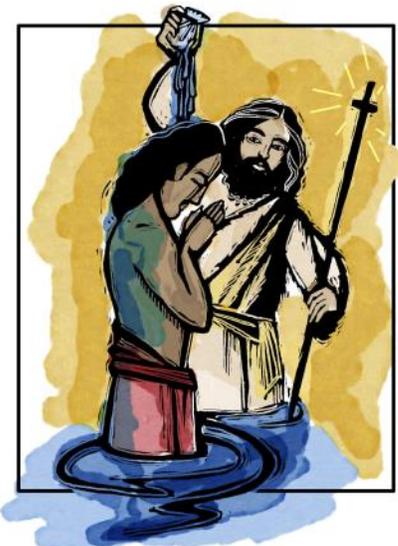


Bible Quiz



Shortly after the birth of the church at Pentecost, which apostle(s) taught an Ethiopian official about Jesus and then baptized him?

- A. Philip
- B. Peter and Andrew
- C. James
- D. Paul and Silas



Treasurer's Report

The monthly report for
September 2024

Checking & MM Accounts

| | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Beginning Balance | \$95,125.57 |
| + Receipts | 8,108.10 |
| - Disbursements | 5,146.59 |
| Ending Balance | \$ 98,087.08 |

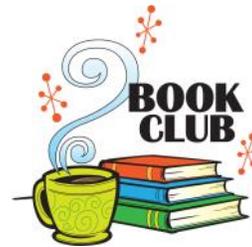
A copy of this information can also be found at
the mailboxes in the slot marked financial reports.

September's offering only total was \$5,891.00.



Literary Ladies Bookclub

St. Paul's Ladies Literary
Bookclub meets the last
Monday of each month.



The meeting is held on zoom and begins at 6:30 PM.

If you're interested in joining contact
Gerri at 717-575-1720.

New Bible Study Update

Starting in November the Ladies Bible Study will
begin a new series, *Jesus and Women In the First
Century and Now*, by Kristi McLelland ([https://
www.lifeway.com/en/contributors/kristi-mclelland](https://www.lifeway.com/en/contributors/kristi-mclelland))

This series includes a short video followed by a les-
son and discussion. If you are interested in joining
this study, please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin
board.

The men will be concluding their series "*The Twelve
Disciples*" this month. Stay tuned for a new series to
begin in December. They meet in the fellowship hall
area.

Both groups gather on the second Wednesday of the
month, 6:30pm to 7:30pm. Anyone is welcome. If
interested or you have any questions please see Gerri
or Phil Shober.

Online Worship: We are holding worship ser-
vices in person and streaming LIVE on YouTube.

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

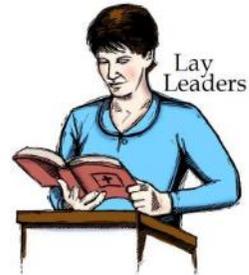
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/
UCMUzTE3jCqaDyG2WIUzaX9w/live](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMUzTE3jCqaDyG2WIUzaX9w/live)



**Daylight Savings Time ends on
November 3rd.** Turn your
clocks back one hour before you
go to bed on Saturday night.



Monthly Volunteers



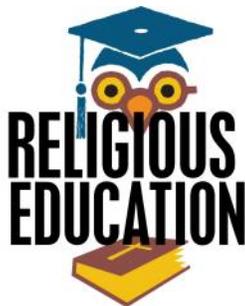
November 3 Judy Enck
 November 10 Mary Renninger
 November 17 Dee Sprecher
 November 24 Cheryl Borja **

November 3 First Sunday Blessing
 November 10 Mary Renninger
 November 17 Sharon Blechschmidt
 November 24 Kieran Connelly

December 1 Sara Renninger
 December 8 Gerri Shober
 December 15 Judy Enck
 December 22 Mary Renninger
 December 24 Dee Sprecher **
 December 29 Cheryl Borja

December 1 First Sunday Blessing
 December 8 Lynda Cooper
 December 15 Charlie Storms
 December 22 Tim Lutz
 December 29 Grace Shober

** Indicates communion



November 3 FSB—no class
 November 10 Jane Hoshour
 November 17 Children's Church –Grace
 November 24 Cheryl Borja

Month of November Laura-Jeanne Iacono

December 1 FSB—no class
 December 8 Gerri Shober
 December 15 Children's Church –Grace
 December 22 Jane Hoshour
 December 29 Cheryl Borja

Month of December Laura-Jeanne Iacono

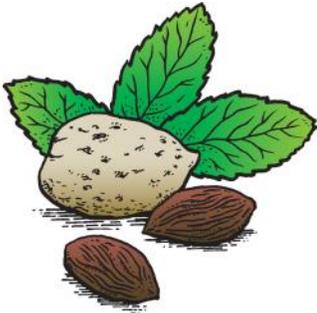
Sponsors



| | |
|-------------|------|
| November 3 | open |
| November 10 | open |
| November 17 | open |
| November 24 | open |

| | |
|-------------|------|
| December 1 | open |
| December 8 | open |
| December 15 | open |
| December 22 | open |
| December 24 | open |
| December 29 | open |

Christian Symbol



ALMOND — In Numbers 17:1-8, God settles a dispute among the Israelites by directing Moses to obtain a staff from each of Israel's 12 tribes and to place the staffs in the

Tent of Meeting. The one representing the tribe God chose would sprout. The next day, not only had the staff of Aaron, representing the tribe of Levi, sprouted; it had blossomed and borne ripe almonds. Thus, the almond came to symbolize God's approval. By extension, it also represents the Virgin Mary, who found divine favor and was chosen to bear God's Son.

Altar Flowers

A flower chart for 2024 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. We are no longer ordering real flowers due to the cost. If you prefer real flowers you must order them yourself, otherwise we will use the artificial flowers we have.

Please place the completed form 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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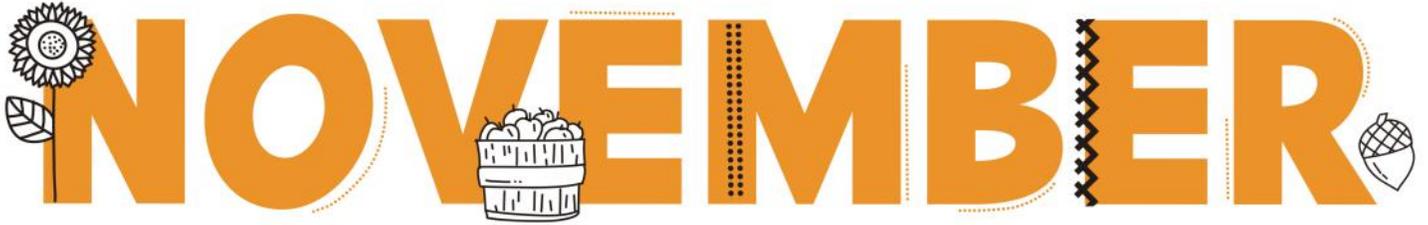


Editor:
Deidre Sprecher
dee@stpaulsuccchurch.org

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.

2024



NOVEMBER

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|--|---|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 1 All Saints Day | 2 Fellowship Hall Reserved |
| 3 Worship 10:30 All Saints Remembrance Quilt Blessing Daylight Sav Ends | 4 Pancakes @ Paul's Election Day | 5 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm | 6 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm | 7 | 8 | 9 Christmas Bazaar |
| 10 Worship 10:30 | 11 Veterans Day | 12 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm | 13 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm Men's & Ladies Bible Study 6:30pm | 14 Fellowship Hall Reserved 6:30 Choir Practice 7pm | 15 | 16 Fellowship Hall Reserved |
| 17 Worship 10:30 Congregational Meeting | 18 | 19 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm | 20 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 Worship 10:30 Communion | 25 Book Club 6:30 | 26 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm | 27 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm | 28 Thanksgiving | 29 | 30 |
| | | | | | | |