



Celebrate St. Paul's!



139 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 21, Number 3
March 2025

What's Inside?

Pancakes @ Paul's

Fasting & Feasting

Bingo Update

Next Communion

Lenten Luncheons

OGHS Offering



“From Ashes to Easter”

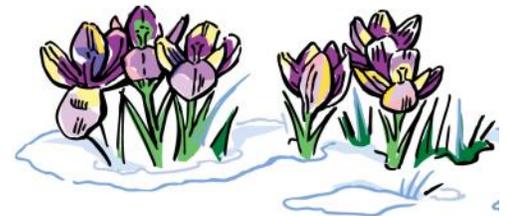
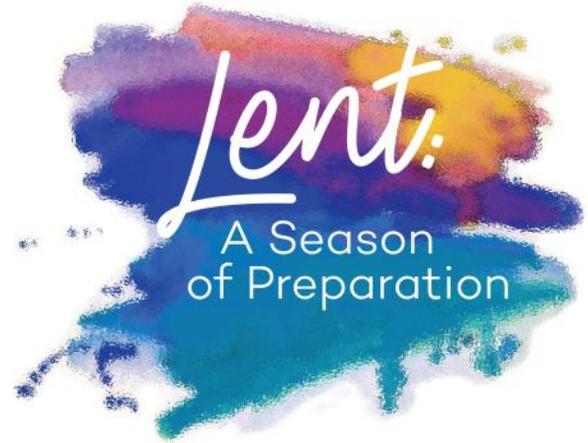
The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, which this year falls on March 5th. Many of you probably have attended Ash Wednesday services, where ashes are placed on the forehead accompanied by the words “remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return”.

Lent is a period of humble reflection, for 40 days leading up to the triumph of Easter! This 40 day period parallels the period of time that Jesus was tormented in the desert prior to beginning his earthly ministry (it also mirrors the 40 day fasts of Moses and Elijah).

While none of us (obviously) should literally fast for the 40 days of lent, it really is very appropriate to do something special in recognition of this special season.....whether that's giving up something, or adding something. One suggestion would be trying to attend the Thursday Lenten luncheons if you are able.

Whatever you decide to do (or not do!) for lent, let Jesus know, you're doing it for him.

Praying for a great month ahead, and a happy Spring.
Phil



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.



“First Sunday Blessing”

March 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

March 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

Fasting and Feasting

During Lent, consider this practical — and biblical — advice from Arthur Lichtenberger, a former presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church:

- Fast from criticism, and feast on praise.
- Fast from self-pity, and feast on joy.
- Fast from ill-temper, and feast on peace.
- Fast from resentment, and feast on contentment.
- Fast from jealousy, and feast on love.
- Fast from pride, and feast on humility.
- Fast from selfishness, and feast on service.
- Fast from fear, and feast on faith.



Looking Ahead

March 2	Communion
March 3	Pancakes @ Paul's
March 4	Philadelphia Flower Show
March 5	Ash Wednesday
March 6	Lenten Luncheons Begin
March 7	World Day of Prayer
March 9	Daylight Savings Time Begins First Sunday in Lent Consistory Meeting
March 17	St. Patrick's Day
March 20	First Day of Spring
March 30	OGHS Offering
April 13	Palm Sunday
April 18	Good Friday
April 19	Egg Hunt
April 20	Easter/Communion

Consistory News

Thank You to everyone who contributed to another successful bingo fundraiser. We had 40 beautifully filled baskets, 4 AMT tickets donated for their Christmas Show, and plenty of food and baked items to enjoy throughout the day.

In spite of the weather not working in our favor, we still had a nice turn out and earned \$2,800.00. We could not have done it without all the volunteers. Thank you again everyone! We are looking forward to next year.



Communion scheduled: Just a reminder our next communion will be on Sunday, March 2nd. Please plan on attending and join us as we share in this special meal.



The Flower Show in Philadelphia is on March 4th. If you purchased tickets to attend, Chris Storms will be notifying you of the departure times from our church and any other detailed information you may need. If you have any additional questions please see Chris.

Lenten Luncheons will begin on Thursday, March 6th at St. John's Center UCC. They start at noon with a brief sermon and a light lunch and continue every Thursday through the Lenten season.



Lenten Luncheon

Our church will be serving the meal and Phil will be delivering the sermon on March 27th. We hope many of you can attend. Anyone is welcome!

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) is a special UCC offering to help support disaster, refugee, and development ministries throughout the world. If you would like to make a donation, please use the special offering envelopes provided in the pews. The official offering date is March 30th.

Daylight Savings Time begins on March 9th. Remember to set your clocks an hour ahead on Saturday night before you go to bed.



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 recent prayer concerns.

Bobby, Bridgette, Carol, Carrie, Chris & Nicole, Don, Grace, Harper, Marian, Nate, Tripp, Caleb's family, & Rosie's family.

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
717-209-0509

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 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 needs requested for the food bank in Terre Hill.

Toilet Paper
Paper Towels
Peanut Butter
Jelly

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



March

- 07 Ted Sprecher
- 11 Wyatt Rucker
- 26 Barry Gehman
Alex Estrada

Anniversaries



Curt & Kim Evans - 46 years on March 3

Steve & Mary Renninger- 48 years on March 12

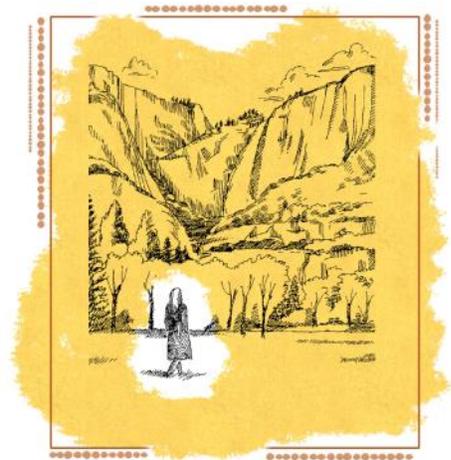


Bible Quiz



Complete this sentence which introduces a well-known Bible story: “The hand of the LORD was on me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of _____.”

- A. flowers
- B. sheep
- C. rocks
- D. bones



Treasurer's Report

The monthly report for
January 2024

Checking & MM Accounts

Beginning Balance	\$104,869.75
+ Receipts	8,173.87
- Disbursements	6,935.49
Ending Balance	\$106,108.13

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

January's offering only total was \$6,135.00.

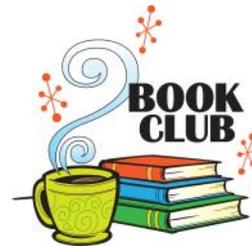


Literary Ladies Bookclub

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.



Bible Study Update

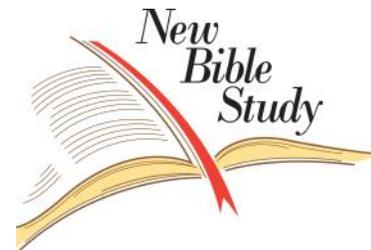
The Ladies started a new
series, *Jesus and Women
In the First Century and
Now*, by Kristi McLelland

(<https://www.lifeway.com/en/contributors/kristi-mclelland>)

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

The men also started a new series titled, "*Twelve Voices for Truth*", covering each of the 12 minor prophets from the Old Testament. 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.



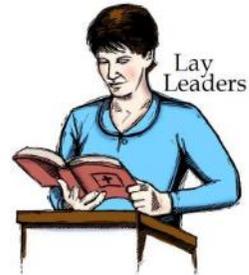
Online Worship: We are holding worship services in person and streaming LIVE on YouTube.

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

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



Monthly Volunteers



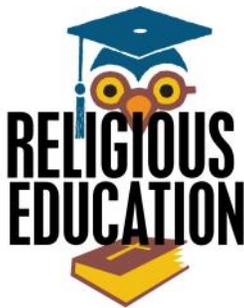
March 2 Dee Sprecher **
 March 9 Mary Renninger
 March 16 Judy Enck
 March 23 Cheryl Borja
 March 30 Sara Renninger

March 2 Grace Shober
 March 9 Julie Schulz
 March 16 Gerri Shober
 March 23 Barry Gehman
 March 30 Mary Renninger

April 6 Gerri Shober
 April 13 Judy Enck
 April 20 Mary Renninger **
 April 27 Dee Sprecher

April 6 Sharon Blechschmidt
 April 13 Kieran Connelly
 April 20 Lynda Cooper
 April 27 Charlie Storms

** Indicates communion



March 2 FSB—no class
 March 9 Jane Hoshour
 March 16 Children's Storytime –Grace
 March 23 Cheryl Borja
 March 30 Gerri Shober

Month of March Laura-Jeanne Iacono

April 6 FSB—no class
 April 13 Jane Hoshour
 April 20 Children's Storytime –Grace
 April 27 Cheryl Borja

Month of April Laura-Jeanne Iacono

Sponsors



March 2	open
March 9	open
March 16	open
March 23	open
March 30	open
April 6	open
April 13	open
April 20	open
April 27	open

Christian Symbol

ANKH, OR ANSATE

CROSS — Originating in Egyptian hieroglyphics, this symbol represented life and regeneration. The shape and meaning made perfect sense to ancient Christians, who appropriated it as a sign of eternal life.



Altar Flowers

If you are interested in sponsoring flowers on a particular Sunday, please see Dee Sprecher.



Forms are available in the church office for you to fill in your dedication information at least one week prior to the Sunday you would like to have it included.

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.

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.

2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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2 1st Sunday Blessing 10:30 Communion	3 Pancakes @ Paul's	4 Flower Show Bus Trip Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm	5 Ash Wednesday Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm	6 Lenten Luncheon 12pm	7 World Day Of Prayer	8
9 Worship 10:30 1st Sun in Lent Consistory Mtg Daylight Sav Time Begins	10	11 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm	12 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm Men's & Ladies Bible Study 6:30pm	13 Lenten Luncheon 12pm Choir Practice 7pm	14	15
16 Worship 10:30	17 St. Patrick's Day	18 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm	19 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm	20 First Day of Spring Lenten Luncheon 12pm	21	22
23 Worship 10:30	24	25 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm	26 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm	27 Lenten Luncheon 12pm	28	29
30 Worship 10:30 OGHS Offering	31 Book Club 6:30					