



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 4
April 2025

What's Inside?

Pancakes @ Paul's

The Blessing of Fellowship

Lenten Luncheons

Quilt Blessing

Holy Week

New Members



“Love In Action”

The Bible tells us clearly to demonstrate our love for God and others with our actions!

This should always be the case but perhaps no more so than during the season of Lent and as we approach the celebration of Easter.

Each month, on the first Monday (starting at a painfully early hour!), our lovely church holds an all-you-can-eat community breakfast. It's free!....but a good-will offering is accepted, and that offering is then sent to our friend “Pastor Dan” and is used 100% for school supplies for children in Liberia.

Here is a brief excerpt from a recent email I received from Pastor Dan:

“—on behalf of the children in Johnsonville, Liberia whose lives are being transformed through your kindness, I extend my deepest and most heartfelt gratitude for your generous donations. Once again you have demonstrated what it means to be the hands and feet of Christ in this world. Your support of these young ones in their pursuit of education is not just a gift, it is a lifeline, and a testimony of love in action”.

(to read his entire email and see current photos of the school children in Liberia, please see our bulletin board).

Thank you for all you do. Have a great Spring, and a happy Easter.

Phil

“Dear children, do not just love with words and speech, but put your love in to action!” 1 John 3:18



See what
great love
the Father has
lavished on us,
that we should
be called
children
of God!

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”

April 6th

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

April 7th

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

The Blessing of Fellowship

Between the death of Christ and the Last Day it is only by gracious anticipation of the last things that Christians are privileged to live in invisible fellowship with other Christians. It is by the grace of God that a congregation is permitted to gather visibly in this world to share God’s Word and sacrament. Not all Christians receive this blessing. The imprisoned, the sick, the scattered lonely, the proclaimers of the Gospel in heathen lands stand alone. They know that visible fellowship is a blessing.

—Dietrich Bonhoeffer



Looking Ahead

April 6	Quilt Blessing Bell Practice
April 7	Pancakes @ Paul's
April 13	Palm Sunday
April 17	Maundy Thursday Fill Food Bank Orders
April 18	Good Friday Prayer Vigil
April 20	Easter/Communion
May 11	Mother's Day
May 26	Memorial Day
May 29	Ascension Day

Palm Sunday is on April 13th and begins our holy week leading up to Easter Sunday. Join us for a special service as we rejoice waving our palms in anticipation of Jesus conquering life over death.



A Prayer Vigil will be held on Good Friday at the church between the hours of 9am to 5pm. Anyone can come in and pray in the church sanctuary during the time Jesus was on the cross.



Barry will be there all day providing hot dogs for a light lunch before leaving.

Consistory News

The Lenten Luncheons will continue every Thursday with the last one on April 17th. They are held at St. John's Center UCC and start at noon with a light lunch and a brief sermon.



Lenten Luncheon

We hope many of you can attend. Anyone is welcome!

Easter Sunday, will be our next communion, along with some special music from our bell choir. Please plan on attending as we celebrate the joy of Easter.



New Members: It is around this time of year we like to ask if anyone is interested in becoming a member of St. Paul's church. If you are interested or have any questions, please see Phil or Dee.

Our next quilt blessing will be on April 6th during our regular worship service. Come and be a part of this ministry as we pray over the new quilts.



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.

Andrea, Bobby, Carol, Clair, Donna, Grace, Jordan, Lawton, Liz, Nate, Pat, Philip, Pope Francis, Randall, Shirley, Katlyn's family, Anthony's family, California, North Carolina, storms in the south, hostages in the Middle East, and peace for Russia and 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
717-209-0509

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

It will be our turn to fill the orders at the food bank in Terre Hill on Thursday, April 17th. If you would like to help, please see Nancy Connelly.

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.



Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays



April

- 7 Katlyn Minier
- 14 Nancy Caffrey-Schafer
Todd Cooper
- 18 Jeffrey Renninger
- 26 Tim Lutz

Anniversaries



Nick & Nancy Schafer - 27 years on April 4

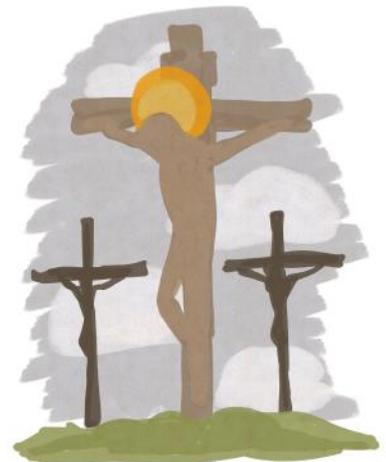


Bible Quiz



From the cross, Jesus prayed words from the book of Psalms. What were they?

- A. "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"
- B. "I thirst!"
- C. "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do."
- D. "It is finished!"



Treasurer's Report

The monthly report for
February 2025

Checking & MM Accounts

Beginning Balance	\$106,108.13
+ Receipts	10,009.84
- Disbursements	5,951.97
Ending Balance	\$110,166.00

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

February's offering only total was \$5,095.00.

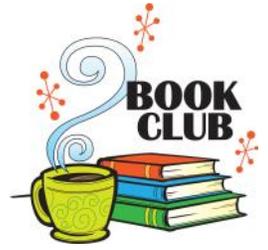


Literary Ladies Bookclub

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

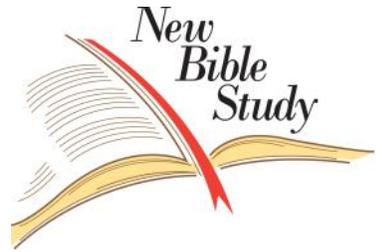
The Ladies started a new
series, *Jesus and Women
In the First Century and
Now*, by Kristi McLelland

(<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.



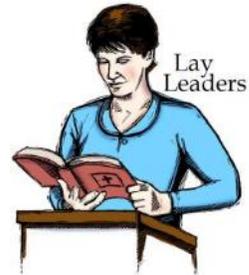
Online Worship: We are holding worship services in person and streaming LIVE on YouTube.

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



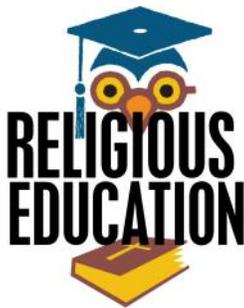
April 6 Gerri Shober
 April 13 Judy Enck
 April 20 Mary Renninger **
 April 27 Dee Sprecher

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

May 4 Cheryl Borja
 May 11 Sara Renninger
 May 18 Gerri Shober
 May 25 Judy Enck

May 4 Tim Lutz
 May 11 Grace Shober
 May 18 Julie Schulz
 May 25 Gerri Shober

** Indicates communion



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

Month of April Laura-Jeanne Buck

May 4 FSB—no class
 May 11 Gerri Shober
 May 18 Children's Storytime –Grace
 May 25 Jane Hoshour

Month of May Laura-Jeanne Buck

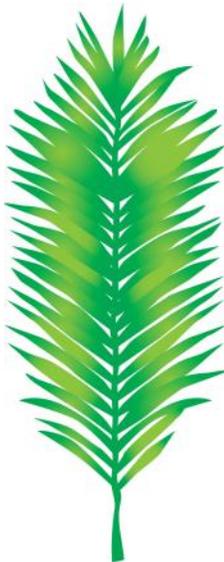
Sponsors



April 6	open
April 13	open
April 20	open
April 27	open
May 4	open
May 11	open
May 18	open
May 25	open

Christian Symbol

PALM BRANCH — When Jesus entered Jerusalem days before his death, crowds welcomed him by waving palm branches, common symbols of victory and rejoicing. Churches still use them to remember that occasion, knowing that Jesus' crucifixion was the ultimate triumph over sin and death. As early as Leviticus 23:40, God commanded Israel to use palms in a festival of rejoicing. In Revelation 7:9-10, Christian martyrs carry palm branches as they praise the Lamb before God's throne.



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
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.

2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm	2 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm	3 Lenten Luncheon 12pm	4	5
6 1st Sunday Blessing 10:30 5th Sun in Lent Quilt Blessing Bell Practice	7 Pancakes @ Paul's	8 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm	9 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm Men's & Ladies Bible Study 6:30pm	10 Lenten Luncheon 12pm	11	12
13 Palm Sunday Worship 10:30	14	15 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm	16 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm	17 Lenten Lunch 12pm Fill Food Bank Orders Choir Practice 7pm	18 Good Friday Prayer Vigil 9-5	19
20 Easter Worship 10:30 Communion	21	22 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm	23 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm	24	25	26
27 Worship 10:30	28 Book Club 6:30	29 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm	30 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm			