



# 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 5  
May 2025

## What's Inside?

Pancakes @ Paul's

Reflecting on  
Resurrection

Happy Mother's  
Day

Guest Speaker

Memorial Day  
Tribute



## *“WARM DAYS, WARM HEARTS”*

This is the season when God does us the great favor of turning up the heat outside!

The month of May is a beautiful transition, from Spring towards Summer, when it can feel like the warmth of nature really is making all things new.

Throughout the Bible, God tells us to crank up the heat in our hearts! Bitterness, resentments—these are human tendencies as old as the Book of Genesis. Cold, hard hearts serve no good purpose in our lives, or God's kingdom.

This is a great season, full of sunshine and warmth, to remember:

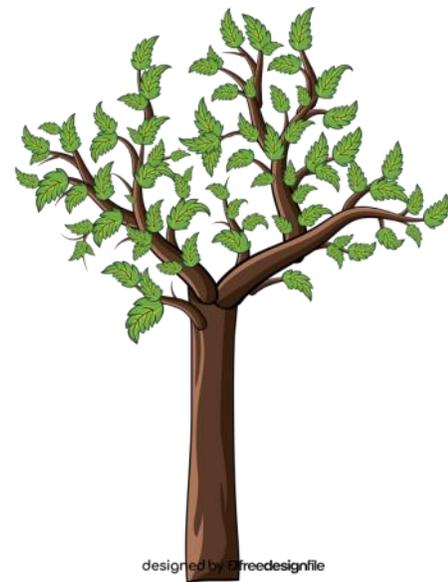
“A warm heart gives life to the body, but a cold heart rots the bones”. (Proverbs 14:30).

So, let's warm up.....and maybe lighten up a bit!  
And let it begin, with me.

Have a great month of May.

Phil

“I will remove from them their hearts of stone”.  
Ezekiel 11:19



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### 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”***

May 4th

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

Featuring musical guest Shelleen Weaver.

Everyone is welcome and bring a friend!

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***“Pancakes at Paul’s”***

***FREE Community Breakfast  
at St. Paul’s UCC Church  
May 5th***

*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

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***Reflecting on Resurrection***

In *Rest Your Dreams on a Little Twig*, poet Joyce Rupp finds in spring flowers the proclamation of the gospel: “we who have died / are alive today.” In another poem in the same volume, she writes: “A green shoot grows / out of an old tree stump, / announcing to the world / that power lies within death.”

As you move about outdoors these springtime days in the northern hemisphere, where do you see nature testifying to resurrection? Where is evidence that what seemed dead — bare branches, dry grass, inactive seeds — was not in fact the final word? What encourages you to believe in renewal, second chances, life that blossoms from death? In what ways are you, who had died, alive today? Part of your life that felt like an old stump might be sprouting green shoots after all!



## Looking Ahead

May 11	Mother's Day
May 18	Guest Speaker
May 26	Memorial Day Cemetery Tribute
May 29	Ascension Day
June 8	Pentecost Sunday Communion Strengthen the Church Offering
June 15	Trinity Sunday Father's Day

### **A Prayer for Mother's Day**

Dear Lord, thank you for the blessings of children and families. Help us rely on you for guidance, patience and even-temperedness throughout our days.



We pray that our children will love you, worship you and serve you with their God-given gifts. Grant us the wisdom to know how to influence them to live godly lives. Prevent us from provoking our children to anger and from manipulating or nagging them.

Fill our households with abiding love and respect. And help us all be united in purpose to do your will. In the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Happy Mother's Day!**

**May 11th**

*NewsletterNewsletter.com*

## Consistory News

**Guest Speaker:** On Sunday, May 18th, Pastor Dan, from End Times Reminder Ministry, will be visiting with us. He will update us on the progress they are making in Liberia with the new church and the learning they are providing in the schools to the children.



Please plan on attending to hear this inspiring update on how we are helping to change lives and restore hope for a better future.

**Memorial Day Cemetery Tribute:** The United Veterans Council will hold their annual pilgrimage to local cemeteries to pay tribute to our Veterans on Monday, May 26th.

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.



**Next Consistory Meeting** is Sunday, May 11th, immediately following worship.

**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.**

Candy, Dave, Ed, Kaitlyn, Kathi, Kathryn, Kayla's friend, Kieran, Mike, Nathan, Natalie, Philip, Grace House Ladies, Doug's family, Tricia's family, and people holding on to resentment and harden hearts.

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.

**Pasta Sides**  
**Hamburger Helper**  
**Rice a Roni**

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.

**Updated Needs**

# Birthdays & Anniversaries

## Birthdays



### May

- 1 Paxton Fair
- 4 Harper Smith
- 11 Patricia Lutz
- 14 Curt Evans
- 16 Jane Hoshour
- 22 Gretchen Martin
- 31 Joyce Shoher

## Anniversaries



Charlie & Chris Storms – 36 years on May 6



## Bible Quiz



What was the name of the wealthy merchant of purple cloth who met Paul and his companions, was baptized and became a leader in the Philippian church?

- A. Priscilla
- B. Lydia
- C. Dorcas
- D. Joanna



## Treasurer's Report

The monthly report for  
March 2025

### Checking & MM Accounts

Beginning Balance	\$110,166.00
+ Receipts	9,532.04
- Disbursements	10,189.71
Ending Balance	\$109,508.33

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

**March's offering only total was \$7,519.75.**

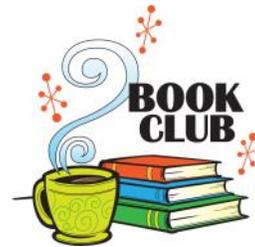


## Literary Ladies Bookclub

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

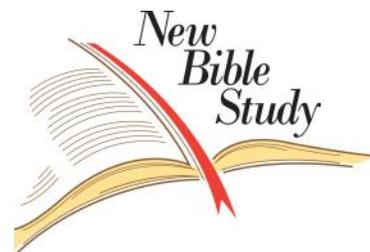
The Ladies started a new  
series, *Jesus and Women  
In the First Century and  
Now*, by Kristi McLelland

(<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.



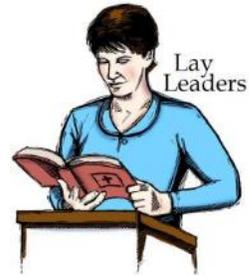
**Online Worship:** We are holding worship services in person and streaming LIVE on YouTube.

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



May 4  
May 11  
May 18  
May 25

Cheryl Borja  
Sara Renninger  
Gerri Shober  
Judy Enck

May 4  
May 11  
May 18  
May 25

Tim Lutz  
Grace Shober  
Julie Schulz  
Gerri Shober

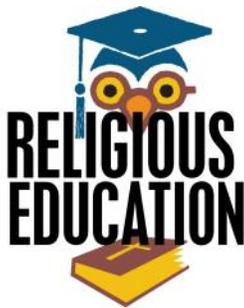
June 1  
June 8  
June 15  
June 22  
June 29

Mary Renninger  
Sara Renninger \*\*  
Cheryl Borja  
Dee Sprecher  
Gerri Shober

June 1  
June 8  
June 15  
June 22  
June 29

Barry Gehman  
Mary Renninger  
Sharon Blechschmidt  
Kieran Connelly  
Lynda Cooper

\*\* Indicates communion



May 4  
May 11  
May 18  
May 25

FSB—no class  
Gerri Shober  
Children's Storytime –Grace  
Jane Hoshour

Month of May

Laura-Jeanne Buck

June 1  
June 8  
June 15  
June 22  
June 29

FSB—no class  
Cheryl Borja  
Children's Storytime –Grace  
Gerri Shober  
Jane Hoshour

Month of June

Laura-Jeanne Buck

## Sponsors



May 4	open
May 11	open
May 18	open
May 25	open
June 1	open
June 8	open
June 15	open
June 22	open
June 29	open

## Christian Symbol



**ALPHA MU OMEGA** — The Greek letters that begin the words *yesterday, today* and *forever* remind us of Jesus’ constant presence with us personally and his eternal nature that transcends time as we know it. “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever” (Hebrews 13:8, NIV). Dozens of psalms and other Bible passages also proclaim that the Lord’s “steadfast love endures forever” (for example, Psalm 100:5, NRSV). What reassurance when life seems tough and fleeting!

## 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  
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www.stpaulsuccchurch.org



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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
				1 National Day of Prayer	2	3
4 1st Sunday Blessing 10:30	5 Pancakes @ Paul's	6 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm	7 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm	8	9	10
11 Worship 10:30 Mother's Day Consistory Meeting	12	13 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm	14 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm Men's & Ladies Bible Study 6:30pm	15 Choir Practice 7pm	16	17 Armed Forces Day
18 Worship 10:30 Guest Speaker	19	20 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm	21 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm	22	23	24
25 Worship 10:30	26 Memorial Day Bowmansville Park Tribute Book Club 6:30	27 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm	28 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm	29 Ascension Day	30	31