



# 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 7  
July 2025

## What's Inside?

Pancakes @ Paul's

Complete Joy

100 Years Young

Next Communion

Café Updates



## *“The Spectrum of Patriotism”*

On July 1st 1775, a young man from New England named Nathan Hale joined the Continental army as a lieutenant.

Nathan was an Ivy League graduate, a Yale man. He left his job as a school teacher to join the army of his fledgling country in the early days of the American Revolution.....shortly after the battles of Lexington and Concord and the “midnight ride of Paul Revere”.



One year later, on July 4th 1776, Hale's country, The United States of America, declared its independence as a nation.....

.....and a few months later, young Nathan Hale was captured by the British, and promptly sent to the gallows.

While he was being held overnight awaiting execution, Nathan Hale had only 2 requests: he asked for a Bible, and he wanted to meet with a pastor. Both requests were denied.

A British officer recorded Nathan Hale's final words and was so moved that he conveyed them to the American side under flag of truce. Hale's final words were: “I only regret that I have but one life to give for my country.”

On the spectrum of patriotism, one end is reserved for men and women like Nathan Hale. It is because of them and their great sacrificial love, that the rest of us are free to choose where we will fall on that spectrum.

God bless you and God bless America!  
Phil

“Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for another”. John 15:13

### 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”***

July 6th

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

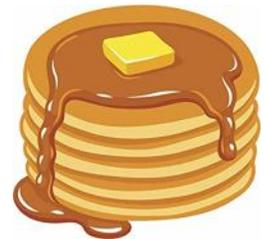
Everyone is welcome and bring a friend!

***“Pancakes at Paul’s”***

***FREE Community Breakfast  
at St. Paul’s UCC Church  
July 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

***Complete Joy***

Because Jesus came to do such serious work, we often imagine him straight-faced. Yet Jesus also enjoyed fun times, such as the wedding celebration at Cana. When the wine ran out, Jesus miraculously produced more.

Jesus also warmly welcomed children. Picture him lifting an infant into the air or tickling a giggling youngster while another child, grinning, climbs on his back.

Summer usually allows more time for fun and play. So use these months to teach the kids in your life — and to remind yourself — that Jesus came so our “joy may be complete” (John 15:11). Laughing, playing, having fun, relaxing and enjoying life are part of living and loving as faithful disciples.



## Looking Ahead

July 4	Independence Day
July 7	Pancakes @ Paul's
July 27	Communion
August 3	Church Picnic @ Woodcrest
September 1	Labor Day
September 18	Fill Food Bank Orders

## Consistory News

We would like to send birthday wishes to our longtime member Pearl Renninger who celebrated her 100th birthday on June 6th.

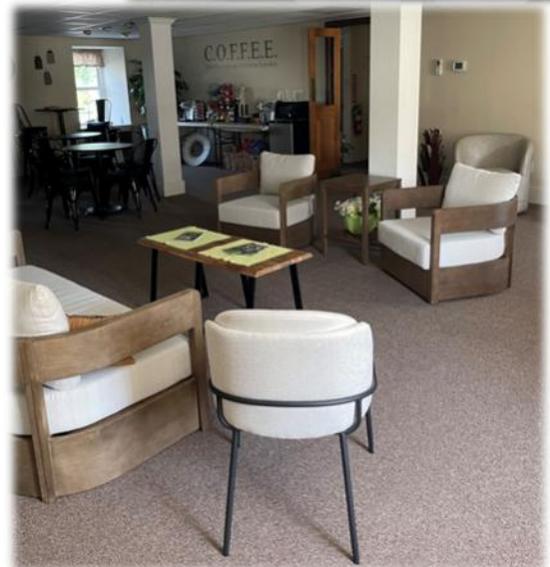
**Happy Birthday Pearl!!**



**Summer communion** will be coming up on Sunday, July 27th during worship. Please plan on attending to share this special meal with us. Everyone is welcome!

**Improvements:** We are always striving to meet the needs of our congregation and update our building as needed. We have noticed that our café area need to be expanded to accommodate the growing fellowship that enjoys the area.

Take a look at some of the pics below to see what updates have been made.



If you have not been at church lately, please stop by or arrive a little early before worship to take advantage of the new space and enjoy some coffee and fellowship.

**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.**

Carol, Christina, Clair, Dale, Diane, Grace, Heath, Jackie, Jill, Kaitlyn, Pearl, Emily & Steve, the Martin family, Philip's cat, the family affected by the tragedy in Washington state, and for peace for our country and beyond.

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.

## Jelly

Any donations can be placed on the table by the side door entrance.

Thank you for your continued support.



# Birthdays & Anniversaries

## Birthdays



### July

- 6 Marian Hall
- 7 Ross Shober
- 8 Steve Enck
- 11 Nancy Connelly
- 15 Ron Frederick
- 16 Alta Hoshour
- 18 Van Burkholder
- 19 Chuck Eckenroth
- 31 Kathleen Shober

## Anniversaries



- Jeff & Dee Sprecher - 34 years on July 12
- Edward & Sharon Blechschmidt - 45 years on July 26

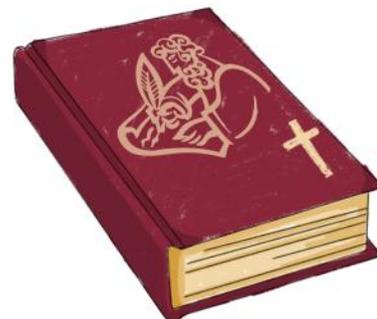


## Bible Quiz



In a parable of Jesus in the Gospel of Luke, someone named Lazarus features prominently while other characters go unnamed. Who is Lazarus in this story?

- A. a friend Jesus raised from the dead
- B. a rich man dressed in fine linen
- C. a poor beggar at the rich man's gate
- D. the brother of the poor man
- E. an angel who carried the poor man to heaven



## Treasurer's Report

The monthly report for  
April 2025

### Checking & MM Accounts

Beginning Balance	\$113,426.88
+ Receipts	11,664.79
- Disbursements	8,006.35
Ending Balance	\$117,085.32

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

**May's offering only total was \$4,260.00.**

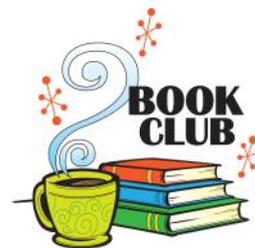


## Literary Ladies Bookclub

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

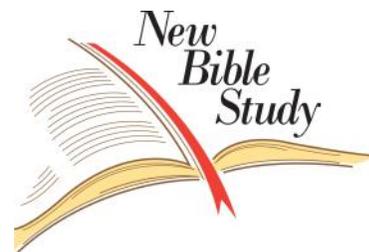
The Ladies started a new  
series, *Jesus and Women  
In the First Century and  
Now*, by Kristi McLelland

(<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.



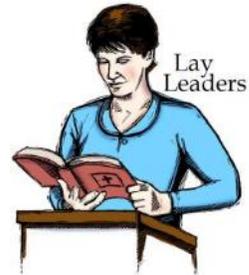
**Online Worship:** We are holding worship services in person and streaming LIVE on YouTube.

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



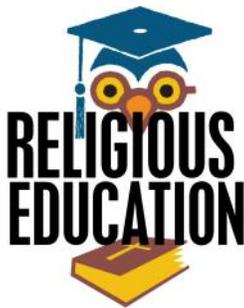
July 6 Judy Enck  
 July 13 Mary Renninger  
 July 20 Dee Sprecher  
 July 27 Cheryl Borja \*\*

July 6 Charlie Storms  
 July 13 Tim Lutz  
 July 20 Grace Shober  
 July 27 Julie Schulz

August 3 Picnic  
 August 10 Sara Renninger  
 August 17 Gerri Shober  
 August 24 Judy Enck  
 August 31 Mary Renninger

August 3 Gerri Shober -Picnic  
 August 10 Barry Gehman  
 August 17 Mary Renninger  
 August 24 Sharon Blechschmidt  
 August 31 Kieran Connelly

\*\* Indicates communion



July 6 FSB—no class  
 July 13 Cheryl Borja  
 July 20 Children’s Storytime –Grace  
 July 27 Gerri Shober

Nursery available as needed

August 3 FSB—no class  
 August 10 Jane Hoshour  
 August 17 Children’s Storytime –Grace  
 August 24 Cheryl Borja  
 August 31 Gerri Shober

## Sponsors



July 6	Julie Schulz
July 13	open
July 20	open
July 27	open
August 3	open
August 10	open
August 17	Tim & Patty Lutz
August 24	open
August 31	open

## Christian Symbol



**PELICAN** — In the Middle Ages, the pelican came to represent Jesus' sacrifice of his blood for the world.

According to legend, a mother pelican, in times of famine, would pluck open

her chest and feed her young with her own blood.

An alternate myth was that she fed her dying young with her blood to revive them, losing her own life in the process. The depiction of a pelican with a drop of blood on her chest is called "the pelican in her piety."

## 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*

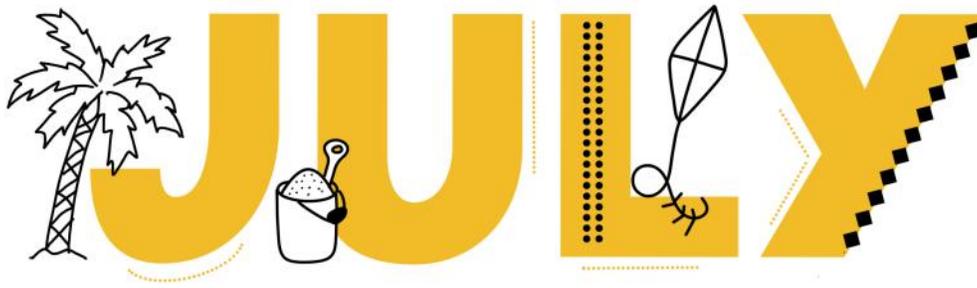
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St Paul's UCC *Celebrate* is published monthly to keep members and friends informed of programs of the church and to report news about the community and its people.

Deadline for article submissions: The third Sunday of each month.



**2025**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm	2 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm	3	4 <b>Independence Day</b>	5
6 <b>1st Sunday Blessing 10:30</b>	7 <b>Pancakes @ Paul's</b>	8 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm	9 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm <b>Men's &amp; Ladies Bible Study 6:30pm</b>	10 <b>Choir Practice 7pm</b>	11	12
13 <b>Worship 10:30</b>	14	15 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm	16 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm	17	18	19
20 <b>Worship 10:30</b>	21	22 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm	23 Piano lessons 5:30-6:30 pm	24	25	26
27 <b>Worship 10:30 Communion</b>	28 <b>Book Club 6:30</b>	29	30	31		