

**W**elcome! Whether you are worshipping with us in-person or virtually, we pray that you and your family are safe and healthy. Visitors please sign the Visitors Card in the pew rack and place in the basket on the chancel rail. We no longer pass the offering plates during the service. You may place your offering in the plate as you enter (by the greeters) or in the basket on the chancel rail after the service.



**T**his week our card is for Ginny Althouse.  
Please sign the card on the stand by the greeters.

## **S**erving Today

Guest Preacher: Mahlon Boyer  
Scripture Reader: Matt Simmons  
Greeters: Paul & Judy Leister  
Acolyte: Bennett Boyer  
Tech: Pat Leady

**L**ast Sunday  
Attendance: 149  
Virtual worship viewings: 39 (as of 6/6)  
Giving: \$4146

## BIRTHDAYS ~ this week

**June 9:** Alan Ross  
**June 10:** Jeff Oxenford, Caroline Harrison  
**June 14:** Joshua Hildebrand  
**June 15:** Alex Falstich, Lisa Casner, Becky Martin

## ANNIVERSARIES ~ this week

**June 2:9:** Bill & Dee Leech  
**June 10:** Dick & Judi Flickinger, Peter & Karen Kulakowsky  
**June 11:** Scott & Lindsey Kopec  
**June 15:** Chad & Amy Gaiser

**Next Sunday:** *Fourth Sunday after Pentecost*  
Guest Preacher: Alan Ross  
Message: **The Miracle of the Seed**  
Texts: *Psalm 20, 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17, Mark 4:26-34\**  
*\*next Sunday's sermon text*

## **Forgot your envelope?**

Scan the QR code to make a contribution.



## St. Paul's United Church of Christ

Amityville, Pennsylvania

June 9, 2024

Ministers: The People of St. Paul's UCC  
The Rev. Dr. Steven Simpson, Pastor - on sabbatical  
Martha Sitler, Minister of Music  
Joe Ceklosky: Leader of Technology/Video Team  
Marlene Dadey, Director of Christian Education/Office Manager  
Emily Dreas, Director of Youth Ministry  
Mike Rackey, Sexton  
Church Office 610-689-9364  
Church e-mail - [office@stpaulsuccamity.org](mailto:office@stpaulsuccamity.org)  
Website: [www.stpaulsuccamity.org](http://www.stpaulsuccamity.org)

## St. Paul's United Church of Christ Mission Statement

**In its life and mission,** St. Paul's UCC seeks to worship the triune God; proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ; practice loving service toward the needy; embody God's reign of peace and justice; establish a Christian community of faith; and be a faithful member of the church universal.



# St. Paul's United Church of Christ

Amityville, Pennsylvania

June 9, 2024

9:45 A.M.

Third Sunday after Pentecost

\* = Those who are able may stand

Prelude *Take Time to Be Holy* -Stebbins/Wells  
*From All That Dwell Below the Skies* -HattonWells

\* Processional Hymn *Come, Thou Almighty King* Hymnal #8

\* Greeting The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Words of Welcome and Announcements

Introit *Spirit of the Living God* (v 1) Hymnal #389

\* The Solemn Declaration (from Psalm 124:8 ) sung response: **Amen!**

\* Call to Worship —from Habakkuk 2:20; John 4:23; Psalm 95:1-4, 6-7

The Lord is in his holy temple,  
let all the earth keep silence before him.  
**God is spirit; and they that worship him  
must worship in spirit and in truth.**  
Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord;  
let us come before the Lord  
**Let us come before him with thanksgiving  
and extol him with music and song.**  
The Lord is the great God,  
the great King above all gods.  
**In his hand are the depths of the earth,  
and the mountain peaks belong to him.**  
O come, let us worship and bow down;  
let us kneel before the Lord our Maker.  
**For he is our God;  
and we are the people of his pasture,  
and the sheep of his hand.**

\* Call to Confession —based on 1 John 1:8-9

\* Silent Prayer

\* Prayer of Confession (in unison)

—from the *UCC Book of Worship*

**Most merciful God, we confess that we are in  
bondage to sin and cannot save ourselves.  
We have sinned against you in thought, word,  
and deed, by what we have done  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart.  
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.  
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,  
so that we may delight in your will  
and follow in your ways,  
to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

\* Assurance of Pardon

—adapted from the *UCC Book of Worship*

In Jesus Christ, God knows and receives us as we are.  
In Christ you are forgiven! **Thanks be to God!**

\* Affirmation *The Apostle's Creed* (inside hymnal cover)

\* Prayer of the Day

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings *2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1, Mark 3:20-35*

Sermon *The Unforgiveable Sin*

\* Responsive Hymn *Rock of Ages* Hymnal #342

Prayers of the People response: *Lord, in your mercy, hear our Prayer!*

The Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

Invitation to the Offering —based on Psalm 104:28

\* Doxology Hymnal #815

\* Prayer of Dedication

\* Recessional Hymn *God Has Spoken by His Prophets* Hymnal #407

\* Benediction

Threefold Amen

Postlude *Allegro* -Corelli

# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

## Camp Firelight - A Summer Camp Adventure with God - June 17-21

From 9 to Noon. If you haven't registered this is your last opportunity to do so.

**VBS Props Needed** - As you know we like to decorate our facility to coordinate with the VBS theme. We have a great theme this year - camping! So if you have any of the following and would be willing to allow us to borrow them for VBS week we would appreciate it. You may bring the items to Marlene's office. Please be sure you put your name on the item so we can return it to you. Items

needed: artificial Christmas trees (no white or snow covered), stuffed forest animals (squirrels, skunks, rabbits, etc.), small canoes or kayaks or inflatable rafts, water safety vests.

**Staffing Needs**- We are thankful for some new volunteers to VBS this year. We are still looking for teen helpers. Please contact Marlene Dadey if you are able to help.



## MAKE a JOYFUL NOISE UNTO the LORD



**Calling all musicians!** Please sign up to provide special music for worship this summer. Sing, play an instrument, demonstrate a sacred dance - share the gifts and talents God has given to you with your church family. The sign-up sheet is on the piano in the sanctuary - or talk with Martha any Sunday.

## HELP NEEDED

**Thursday, June 20** volunteers are needed to help our neighbors recover after damage from flooding in July 2023. We are looking for volunteers with general construction skills and those willing to learn ages 16+.

Registration is required: contact Sharon Sgriccia at [berksrecoveryvolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:berksrecoveryvolunteers@gmail.com) to register or for more information.

You may also contact Martha Sitler or Alan Ross for more information.

## ST. PAUL'S ACTIVITIES—this week

Sunday 6/9	Adult Sunday School Worship	8:30 AM 9:45 AM
Monday 6/10	Boy Scouts Youth Ministry Committee	6:45 PM 7:00 PM
Tuesday 6/11	Narcotics Anonymous	7:00 PM
Wednesday 6/12	Consistory Youth Group 9-12 Cub Scout Meeting	7:00 PM 7:00 PM 7:03PM
Friday 6/14	Amity Chess Club	7:00 PM

## GUEST PREACHER

**Our Guest preacher this morning is Mahlon Boyer.**

Mahlon lives in Exeter Township with his wife, Brittany, and two sons, Alexander and Bennett. He looks forward both to sharing the Good News from the pulpit this summer and to hearing other members of the church as they preach and share their faith.



## SUNDAY SCHOOL for CHILDREN

**Sunday School is on hiatus until September.** Children through first grade may go downstairs to Room 1 (the nursery). Miss Rachael and Miss Crystalynn will provide a fun hour for the children.

## NURSERY SERVICE

**Nursery Service is available** for infants through first grade. Rachael Rogers and Crystalynn will be delighted to see your children during the service throughout the summer. There is NO Sunday School for children during the summer.

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL



**We have one adult class meeting throughout the summer.** This is the Adult III class, but anyone is welcome to join them anytime throughout the summer. They meet at 8:30 AM in Room 11. There are usually goodies to enjoy!

## TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

<sup>13</sup> It is written: "I believed; therefore I have spoken."<sup>[a]</sup> Since we have that same spirit of<sup>[b]</sup> faith, we also believe and therefore speak, <sup>14</sup> because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you to himself. <sup>15</sup> All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God.

<sup>16</sup> Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup> For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. <sup>18</sup> So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

<sup>5</sup> For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands.

Mark 3:20-35

<sup>20</sup> Then Jesus entered a house, and again a crowd gathered, so that he and his disciples were not even able to eat. <sup>21</sup> When his family<sup>[a]</sup> heard about this, they went to take charge of him, for they said, "He is out of his mind."

<sup>22</sup> And the teachers of the law who came down from Jerusalem said, "He is possessed by Beelzebul! By the prince of demons he is driving out demons."

<sup>23</sup> So Jesus called them over to him and began to speak to them in parables: "How can Satan drive out Satan? <sup>24</sup> If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. <sup>25</sup> If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand. <sup>26</sup> And if Satan opposes himself and is divided, he cannot stand; his end has come. <sup>27</sup> In fact, no one can enter a strong man's house without first tying him up. Then he can plunder the strong man's house. <sup>28</sup> Truly I tell you, people can be forgiven all their sins and every slander they utter, <sup>29</sup> but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven; they are guilty of an eternal sin."

<sup>30</sup> He said this because they were saying, "He has an impure spirit."

<sup>31</sup> Then Jesus' mother and brothers arrived. Standing outside, they sent someone in to call him. <sup>32</sup> A crowd was sitting around him, and they told him, "Your mother and brothers are outside looking for you."

<sup>33</sup> "Who are my mother and my brothers?" he asked.

<sup>34</sup> Then he looked at those seated in a circle around him and said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! <sup>35</sup> Whoever does God's will is my brother and sister and mother."

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS



**P**LEASE NOTE: We would appreciate if you **would not** include your contributions to the Capital Campaign / HVAC Work with your weekly offering. Please write a separate check and mark it "Capital Campaign". This makes recording contributions properly a lot easier for our counters and financial secretary.

## CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

**N**ext meeting is Thursday, June 13 at the Inn on Main in Oley at noon. We will meet in the parking lot at church at 11:30 to share rides. If you are tired of the same old lunch, join us and try something new and maybe, make a new friend. Please sign up in the Library so we can have an accurate reservation count.

## ST PAUL'S NIGHT at READING PHILLIES

**J**oin us Sunday, August 4 when Youth Ministry is hosting a fun night at the ballpark. We will be in a reserved spot on the pool deck with buffet starting at 4:15 PM. Game time is 5:15. Don't forget your towel and swim suit! Adult tickets are \$37, St. Paul's youth (Ages 5-18) will be covered by Youth Ministry, children 4 and under are free. Please note child's age in the comment section when signing up. Tickets will be available at Will Call as you come into the park on the day of the event. Sign-up and payment is due July 1. Please make checks payable to St. Paul's UCC with R-Phils in the note. Payment can be mailed to the church Attn: Emily Dreas or left in Emily's mailbox in the church office. Contact Emily ([youthleader@stpaulsuccamity.org](mailto:youthleader@stpaulsuccamity.org)) or Lori ([lorikat00@yahoo.com](mailto:lorikat00@yahoo.com)) for more information.



## CRAFTER/VENDOR FAIR

**S**ave the Date! The Evangelism & Missions Committees are planning a Crafter/Vendor Fair for Saturday, October 12 in Fellowship Hall. If you would like to reserve a table or for more information, please contact Kathy Weller at [itype4ever@windstream.net](mailto:itype4ever@windstream.net) or 610.842.3853 or see any member of the Committees. Tables are \$15 or 2 for \$25. In conjunction with this sale, we will also be selling soup by the quart and shoo-fly pies. Watch upcoming bulletins and newsletters for further information. Proceeds from table rental to support our Christmas Wish Tree program.