

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



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

## **S**erving Today

Scripture Reader: Mahlon Boyer  
Greeter: Nancy Houck  
Acolyte: Carson Weller  
Tech: Pat & Julia Leady

**L**ast Sunday  
Attendance: 138  
Virtual worship viewings: 44 (as of 9/26)  
Giving: \$2460

## BIRTHDAYS ~ this week

**September 29:** Stacey Ambrose, Bob Moore, Sr.  
**September 30:** Kerry Kuhn  
**October 2:** Sue Davidson, Doris Johnson, Wayne Elser  
**October 3:** Karen Kulakowsky  
**October 4:** Samantha Armstrong, Daniel Spotts, Madison Benner  
**October 5:** Bob Jones

## ANNIVERSARIES ~ this week

**October 1:** Joe & Sue Ceklosky  
**October 2:** Chas & Nancy Everhart, Rick & Samantha Henry,  
Scott & Tanya Weller  
**October 5:** Billy & Kristi Harrison

**Next Sunday:** *World Communion Sunday*  
Message: **He Tasted Death For Us**  
Texts: *Psalm 26, Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12\*, Mark 10:2-16*  
*\*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

September 29, 2024

Ministers: The People of St. Paul's UCC  
The Rev. Dr. Steven Simpson, Pastor  
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

September 29, 2024

9:45 A.M.

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

\* = Those who are able may stand

Prelude	<i>Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray Where'er You Walk</i>	-Pleyel/Bartlett -G.F. Handel
Choral Prompt	<i>This is the Day the Lord Has Made</i>	-Patterson
* Processional Hymn	<i>What a Friend We Have in Jesus</i>	Hymnal #630
* Greeting	The peace of Christ be with you. <b>And also with you.</b>	
Words of Welcome and Announcements		
Introit	<i>Hear Our Prayer, O Lord</i>	Hymnal #641
* The Solemn Declaration (from Mark 9:40-41) sung response: <b>Amen!</b>		
* Call to Worship	—based on Psalm 124:1-8	
	If it had not been for God, who was on our side, we would have fallen prey to those who want to harm us; we would have been swept away by sadness and fear. <b>Blessed be the Lord, our protector!</b> God has broken the snare that took away our freedom. Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. <b>Blessed be God's holy name!</b>	
* Call to Confession and Silent Prayer	—based on James 5:15-16a	
* Prayer of Confession (in unison)	—based on Mark 9:38-50	

**God of unity, we live in a world where our lives move between inclusivity and exclusivity. We often move toward the latter, trying to oust from our circles those who do not think like us, act like us, or look like us. Forgive our need to reject and to always be on the lookout for those things that make us different. Give us the eyes of our Teacher, who knows unconditional love and compassion and sees us all as one, for it is in his name that we pray. Amen.**

\* Assurance of Pardon

—based on James 5:19-20

My brothers and my sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Rejoice! You have been brought back by the redemption of God and forgiveness through Jesus Christ our Savior. You can live in peace. **Thanks be to God!**

* Affirmation	<i>The Apostle's Creed</i>	(inside hymnal cover)
Prayer of the Day	—based on Esther 7:3	
Choir Anthem	<i>And There Is Peace</i>	-York/Danner
Prayer for Illumination		
Scripture Readings	<i>Mark 9:38-50, James 5:13-20</i>	
Sermon	<i>James says: Pray!</i>	
* Responsive Hymn	<i>Every Gift</i>	see insert
Prayers of the People	Call: <i>Pour out your healing grace, O Lord;</i> Response: <b>Send forth your Spirit to save us.</b>	
The Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)		
Invitation to the Offering		
* Doxology	Hymnal #815	
* Prayer of Dedication	—based on Psalm 118:1	
* Recessional Hymn	<i>Sweet Hour of Prayer</i>	Hymnal #640
* Benediction		
* Threefold Amen		
* Postlude	<i>Sound the Alarm</i>	—Safety Committee

## CRAFTER/VENDOR FAIR

**J**oin us **Saturday, October 12** in Fellowship Hall between 9 AM and 1 PM for the Evangelism and Missions Committees Crafter/Vendor Fair. We have 40+ vendors signed up to sell a variety of unique crafts and gifts, just in time for holiday gifting or to treat yourself. We will also be selling soup by the quart made by volunteers from the congregation and also shoo fly pies made in our kitchen. All proceeds from this sale will go towards the Christmas Wish Tree program, which unfortunately has outgrown our budget. There are sign-up sheets in the Library to donate quarts of home-made soup to sell and also baked goods, which will be complimentary to all who attend the event... to show the community what a kind and generous congregation we are.



## CROP WALK

**C**alling all walkers! Please join our team for the annual CROP Walk **Sunday, October 13** at the Daniel Boone Homestead. The day begins with a community picnic at 12 PM at the North Picnic Area of the Homestead. Registration begins at 1:30 PM and the Walk steps off at 2 PM. The CROP Walk raises money for international relief and refugee assistance



and is our local church ministerium's principle means of supporting emergency and food assistance in our community with 25% of all funds raised being contributed directly to local food pantries. Please visit our team page

at <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/cropwalks/team/st-pauls-ucc-amityville> to join or support our team! More information can be found in the library.

## NURSERY SERVICE

**N**ursery Service is available for infants, toddlers, and twos. Rachael Rogers and Crystalynn will be delighted to see your children during the service .

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

**C**hildren should report directly to their classroom by 9:45. Ages 3 (by September 1) through second grade meet in Room 9. Children in grades 3 through 6 meet in Room 8. You may pick up your children at their classroom following worship.

## ST. PAUL'S ACTIVITIES—this week

Sunday 9/29	Adult Sunday School	8:30 AM
	Worship/Sunday School	9:45 AM
	Pre-Confirmation/Confirmation	10:45 AM
	Girl Scouts 1709	6:00 PM
Monday 9/30	Boy Scouts	6:30 PM
	Peach Fest/Pre-Turkey Supper Mtg.	7:00 PM
Tuesday 10/1	Women's Bible Study	7:00 PM
	Narcotics Anonymous	7:00 PM
Wednesday 10/2	Ladies Aid	9:00 AM
	Cub Scouts	6:00 PM
	Youth Group	7:00 PM
	Choir Practice	7:00 PM
Thursday 10/3	Evangelism Committee	6:30 PM
Friday 10/4	Amity Chess Club	7:00 PM
Saturday 10/5	Cub Scout Yard Sale	7-3

## FIRE DRILL

**T**ODAY! After the benediction you will hear the fire alarm sound (cover your ears, it's loud!). People on the left side facing the altar should exit through the back to the Weavertown Road side and congregate in the cemetery. People on the right side facing the altar should exit through the back and through the Narthex to the Old Airport Road side and congregate by the Chapel. If you cannot go the steps please exit through the door at the front of the church and go down the handicap ramp toward Old Airport Road. Sunday School children will be exiting to the lower level and out the doors on the Old Swede Road side and congregate in the cemetery. Parents should not go through the church to the Sunday School building when exiting. When the alarm stops sounding, they will return to their classrooms. You may meet them in the cemetery or their classroom.



## GULDIN TRUST

**A**re you currently within a higher education program and an active church member? If so, you should look into applying for a Guldin Trust Scholarship. Information and application packets are available in the church office or on the church website. Deadline to apply is November 15. Questions can be answered by Wendy Elser, [wendy/elser87@gmail.com](mailto:wendy/elser87@gmail.com).

## GOSPEL TEXT

*Mark 9:38-50*

“**T**eacher,” said John, “we saw a man driving out demons in your name and we told him to stop, because he was not one of us.”<sup>39</sup> “Do not stop him,” Jesus said. “No one who does a miracle in my name can in the next moment say anything bad about me,<sup>40</sup> for whoever is not against us is for us.<sup>41</sup> I tell you the truth, anyone who gives you a cup of water in my name because you belong to Christ will certainly not lose his reward.

<sup>42</sup> “And if anyone causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to be thrown into the sea with a large millstone tied around his neck.<sup>43</sup> If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life maimed than with two hands to go into hell, where the fire never goes out.<sup>45</sup> And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than to have two feet and be thrown into hell.

<sup>47</sup> And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell,<sup>48</sup> where

“their worm does not die,  
and the fire is not quenched.”

<sup>49</sup> Everyone will be salted with fire.

<sup>50</sup> “Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with each other.”

## SERMON TEXT

*James 5:13-20*

**I**s any one of you in trouble? He should pray. Is anyone happy? Let him sing songs of praise.<sup>14</sup> Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord.<sup>15</sup> And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven.<sup>16</sup> Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.

<sup>17</sup> Elijah was a man just like us. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years.<sup>18</sup> Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.

<sup>19</sup> My brothers, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring him back,<sup>20</sup> remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of his way will save him from death and cover over a multitude of sins.

## EVERY GIFT

Simpson, 2006

From James 1:17

REFRAIN

**Every gift, every gift, every good and perfect gift  
Comes from God, comes from God,  
comes from God above**

**Every gift, every gift, every good and perfect gift  
Comes from God, comes from God,  
comes from God above**

BRIDGE 1

**So we thank you, O Father  
of the heavenly lights  
You keep showering blessings on blessings,  
forever your love for us shines**

REFRAIN

BRIDGE 1

BRIDGE 2

**Your love is sure, for you never change  
Mighty you stand, not shifting like shadows**

REFRAIN

REPEAT REFRAIN

ENDING (WATCH!)

**(Yes, every gift) comes from God above**

**(Oh, very gift) comes from God above**

**(yes, every gift) comes from God . . . Above**

## FALL FEST

**S**unday, October 28 **EVERYONE** is invited to Fellowship Hall **immediately following worship.** We will celebrate the Fall season with FOOD and fun! Sunday School students may dress in costume (none too scary). The main course and drink will be provided. Please bring a hot or cold side dish and/or a dessert to share if you can. There is a sign-up sheet in the Library to give us an idea how many to prepare for.

## CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

**W**e will meet **Wednesday, October 16** at the church at 12:30 to car-pool to Boyertown's Peppermint Candy Store for ice cream and other treats! Everyone is welcome to join us.

## YARD SALE

**C**ub Scout Pack 597 will be holding a community yard sale in our parking lot on Saturday, October 5, 7 AM to 3 PM. Spaces are 1 for \$8, 2 for \$12 (each space 9.5 ft. x 19.5 ft.). Bring your own table. This fall we will be joined by a food truck, Bread Box, from 10 AM to 3 PM. Proceeds to benefit Cub Pack 597. You may rent a space, or donate items to the Cub Scout table for them to sell. Contact Jason Costa at [610.420.0542](tel:610.420.0542) (call or text), email [jmc364@gmail.com](mailto:jmc364@gmail.com) or Rachel Kennedy at [609.735.8308](tel:609.735.8308) (call of text), email [rachelkomes@yahoo.com](mailto:rachelkomes@yahoo.com). This is a rain or shine event.