

JUNE & JULY 2026

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ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

THE GOOD NEWS

Sharing Life's Journey by Building Our Relationships with Jesus and Each Other

Steven Says . . . Welcome to Summer at St. Paul's



*"Girfy" and "Whoopsie" the Clowns
at the Living Museum
Clowning exhibit on May 17*

Friends, I've been with you one year now. Pastor Trudy departed in April after Easter in 2025 and I arrived for my first day on May 5—*Cinco do Mayo*. You were very welcoming to me, but everything was new. And just as I started getting into the routine (Sunday service starting at 10:15, lay readers serving for a month, a marvelous choir singing a beautiful anthem), then everything changed for the summer (services started at 9:00, no lay readers, no choir). Now that I'm a year older and a year wiser, I know what to expect—do you?

Other things to look for in the summer: special music with different singers and instrumentalists, worship at Perkasio Park on August 9, Wednesday Bible studies continuing year-round, and this special 14-page issue of *The Good News* covering 2-months' worth of news in a single June/July newsletter!

We already kicked off the summer with St. Paul's Living Museum exhibit on Clowning Ministry at St. Paul's on Sunday, May 17. We had a clown-themed CCC reception complete with popcorn in circus-style striped bags.

Steven Says, Welcome Summer!

JUNE WORSHIP SERVICES

*Services are livestreamed on our YouTube channel via our website.
Worship will be held at 10:15am in the sanctuary on June 7 and will change to
9:00am beginning on June 14, 2026*

June 7 | Celebration Sunday

Sermon: **On Your Way**

Guest Preacher: **Rick Moyer**

St. Paul's has a lot to celebrate: new members, recent high school and college graduates, and the 2026 James Frantz Dedication Award recipient.



June 14 | Third Sunday after Pentecost *Summer Worship at 9:00 begins*

Text: *Genesis 18:*

Sermon: **Sarah and the Laugh**

Two times God appears to Abraham, but this time is utterly different from the last time. This time, God has come to get Sarah's attention.

June 21 | Fourth Sunday after Pentecost and Father's Day

Texts: *Genesis 21:8-21*

Sermon: **Hagar and the Son**

When people in the bible have close encounters with God, in almost every situation they say, "I can't believe I'm still alive," and Hagar is one of them.

June 28 | Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Text: *Genesis 22:1-14*

Guest Preacher: **Mike Rackey**

Sermon: **Abraham's Test**

One of the most dramatic passages in Scripture is the testing of Abraham, when God called on Abraham to sacrifice his only son. What was going through Abraham's mind? And what was his son, Isaac, thinking?

JULY WORSHIP SERVICES



July 5 | *Sixth Sunday after Pentecost*

Text: *Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30*

Sermon: **And You Did Not Dance**

Do you ever feel like no one wants to hear about what God is doing? We're not the first to feel this way. In Matthew 13 Jesus voiced his frustration with the generation that just wouldn't dance when they played the pipes and wouldn't mourn when they played a dirge. It's apathy. How do we respond?

July 12 | *Seventh Sunday after Pentecost*

Text: *Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23*

Sermon: **Same Seed—Different Soil**

In Matthew 13 we read a classic Parable of Jesus about the different fates that come to different seeds sown by the same farmer. It differs from the other parables in that the Gospel writer also includes Jesus' explanation of the parable's meaning. This makes Matthew 13 the Rosetta Stone of parabolic exegesis!

July 19 | *Eighth Sunday after Pentecost*

Text: *Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43*

Sermon: **Leave the Weeds (for now)**

We continue with Jesus' agrarian parables this Sunday. This time, the conversation is about weeds. In this parable the weeds are purposely sown by an enemy, but the farmer tells his workers not to pull them up just yet—they'll be removed at harvest time. Is there an application for us today? Let those who have ears hear!

July 26 | *Fifth Sunday after Pentecost*

Text: *Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52*

Sermon: **Four More Parables**

This Sunday we look at four more parables from Jesus. They are diverse, yet they all speak truths about the Kingdom of God.

SPECIAL MUSIC THIS SUMMER



If you'd like to be a part of Special Music this summer, please contact Pastor Steven.

Last summer special music included guitar, banjo, fiddle, mandolin, electric bass, flute, and liturgical dance.

What will we have *this* summer?

LINDA KENYON HITS HOME RUN at PERENNIALS SPRING GATHERING



The Perennials (St. Paul's Senior Social Group) welcomed back actress Linda Kenyon on May 7th. This time Linda presented her one-woman show: *The Greatest Ever: Babe Didrikson Zaharias Story* by Maribeth Theroux. A delicious lunch was also provided.

Everyone enjoyed the show that Linda presented. It made us truly realize just how far women have come through the years in performing athletics/sports and are now encouraged to compete in the many worldwide events.



Our Growth & Hospitality Team met on May 21 and has begun plans for a *semiquincentennial* August event that *may* feature a Revolutionary War Reenactment program and an indoor picnic.



CONSISTORY CORNER

Highlights from the May Consistory Meeting:

- Finance: The May Endowment allotment was used to pay for boiler repairs. We can anticipate drawing the June Endowment allotment at the end of May to pay for other repairs.
- Building: A faulty outlet in the Green Room was replaced. Plans are in place to replace outlets in the Sanctuary.
- Technology: Jim met with three contractors about upgrading the sound system. He has received one quote and is awaiting the other two for comparison.
- Facility Usage Voting in Fellowship Hall on May 19th, Blood Drive in Fellowship Hall on May 27th 2-7 pm, BuxMont Academy Graduation in Fellowship Hall on June 15th.
- Upcoming dates to note: Celebration Sunday on June 7th, summer worship at 9 am will begin on June 14th.

SEARCH TEAM NEWS

From the Search Team:

The Search Team continues to meet monthly to develop the “Profile” of St. Paul’s. This month in addition to recording historical information of ministerial positions, we also looked at other staff and volunteer positions.

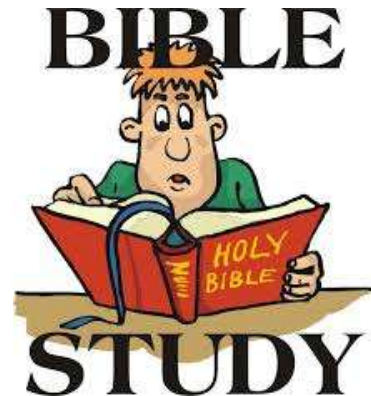
At our May12 meeting, Pastor Steven posed 7 thought-provoking questions to us, so we spent the majority of our meeting time reflecting on the many stories, past and present, that make us a family and about our dreams for the future of St. Paul’s. We will meet twice in June. Please continue to pray with us and for us as we continue to prepare the “Long Profile” which will eventually be submitted to the UCC Conference and posted for candidates that we will consider for becoming our next pastor.



WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

All are welcome at our weekly Bible Study in Fellowship Hall on Wednesdays from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. No prior experience is required or expected. In 2025 and early 2026 the group studied the Gospel of Luke. In April the focus was on Spiritual Gifts.

Beginning in May the group has been doing a “deep dive” in the sermon text for the upcoming Sunday. If you’ve never participated in a group Bible Study before, feel free to “drop in” any time!



CALLING ALL BETTY CROCKERS



There are now two ways you can sign-up for CCC. You can volunteer to host any Sunday by going into our website and going to the “forms” section where CCC is listed and sign-up there or you can sign-up using the clipboard located in Fretz Hall at the coffee station.

IMPORTANT UPDATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

- Choir and Handbell rehearsals are on break until the fall after June 7.
- Sunday, **August 2** - worship service will be a Communion Sunday. All who wish to receive Communion are encouraged to come.
- This summer we will take the Church on the road and worship at Perkasio Park on Sunday, August 9.



ALTAR FLOWERS

A sign-up sheet is posted in the Narthex to sign up to sponsor altar flowers. If you are sponsoring flowers in honor of a person or a special occasion, such as a birthday or anniversary, please call or email the office with the information you would like in the bulletin by Tuesday of the week you are sponsoring the flowers.

St. Paul's provides silk flowers on the altar at no charge; however, if you'd like to purchase real flowers you may pay a florist directly to do so. We strongly recommend **Perkasie Florist** (101 N. 5th St. Perkasie) for real flowers as they have inserts for our vases and will deliver your flowers to the church. They are happy to accommodate color choice. Order at least one week in advance: 215-257-7011.



DO THESE BELONG TO YOU?



These two items were left behind from when St. Paul's hosted one of the Lenten Services back in March/April. Please let us know if they belong to you by sending an email to cathy@St.Paulsucc.net or nancymoyer525@gmail.com, or you can call the office at 215-257-7268. Thank you!

THANK YOU

Dear St. Paul Family:

Many thanks and much appreciation to each and everyone of you for your prayers, cards, and phone calls over the past several months. You have helped me get through a really difficult year because of my very poor vision. I thank God that I can now see faces and objects. It was a wonderful blessing to finally see my great-granddaughter's face. I look forward to seeing all of your faces again. Thank you for your prayers and concern.

In Christian Love, *Carol Kuhn*



CONFIRMATION CLASS SERVICE PROJECT

Three confirmands from St. Paul's have been participating in ecumenical confirmation classes with students and pastors from four other churches (all Lutheran). On May 2 St. Paul's got to be the host church and two of our members, Oliver Moyer and Caroline Hendricks took the lead in introducing their fellow students to Fostering Hope and RamPacks, leading their peers in a mini mission project.



It was a great experience of hands-on learning and serving—important components of the kind of Christ-like development the Confirmation program is meant to nurture.



NOTES OF APPRECIATION



We received a lovely acknowledgement from Phoebe Ministries thanking St. Paul's UCC for our generous donation during the past fiscal year. Our support helps Phoebe in a variety of initiatives such as care services, capital projects, charitable care, community life programs, pastoral care services, special projects and the Phoebe Institute on Aging.



RAMPACKS

Dear St. Paul's Endowment Fund,



Thank you for your contribution of \$1,000 to RamPacks in support of our mission to provide food on weekends and school holidays to children in the Pennridge School District so they can come to school ready to learn. We truly appreciate your support of the children in the Pennridge area. Remember to check our website RamPacks.com and Facebook page to keep up with our progress toward the goal of serving all schools in the district.

SPECIAL REMINDER TO SAVE THE DATE
JUNE 7, 2026



Please join us on June 7, 2026, to show our joy in recognizing and honoring our new members, our high school and college graduates, and the 2026 James Frantz Dedication Award recipient!

JAMES FRANTZ DEDICATION AWARD

On Celebration Sunday this award will be given to a young person between the ages of 13 and 19 who exemplifies dedication to the church, similar to that which was shown by the late Jim Frantz. Jim was a lifelong member of St. Paul's from 1919 through 1999. Last year's award recipient was Jocelyn Ziegenfuss.

Nominations can be made by any St. Paul's member on our website. If you're unable to use the online form, there are forms in the Narthex. Submit your nomination online or to Rick Moyer's mailbox by June 1.

Nominees should show dedication to the life of the church in such ways as volunteering at church activities, church event and worship attendance, etc.

The award will be a monetary gift from a CD we have invested and will be donated to a charity of the recipient's choice in his/her name. The recipient's name will be placed on the James Frantz Dedication Award plaque located in Fretz Hall.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are available to students planning to attend college or a specialty school or who are presently a full-time student and a member of St. Paul's. The scholarship application is on our website or there are paper copies in the Narthex. Submit your nomination online or to Rick Moyer's mailbox by June 1.



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

6/1	Richard Moyer	6/9	Troy Weaver	6/18	Brianna Link
	Isabella Potoczny	6/10	Thomas Koehler	6/19	Aaron Clark
	Daniel Wenger	6/14	MaryBeth Baringer		Hope Derstine
6/3	Judy Potoczny	6/16	Ric Landis	6/22	Cynthia Bibic
6/5	Harleigh Benner		Walt Landis	6/27	Carolyn Schmidt
	Nicolas Sherm		Renay Nice	6/29	John Delikat
6/6	Harvie Brooks	6/17	Lucille Moore	6/30	Jeffrey Souder

JULY BIRTHDAYS

7/1	Jocelyn Ziegenfuss	7/23	Peter Ziegenfuss	7/27	Debra Koehler
7/5	Helen Roth	7/25	Knox Link	7/31	Aaron Clark
7/15	Geraldine Fosbenner		Marie Runkle		Taylor Hawkins

**AUGUST
NEWSLETTER
SUBMISSIONS DUE
WEDNESDAY,
JULY 15, 2026**



Girfy the Clown (Ann Bosch) with her surprised, but very proud parents

CONSISTORY

Rick Moyer, President
Jim Chrastina, Treasurer
Nancy Ziegenfuss, Secretary

Scott Huff, vice-president
Chris Fosbenner
Lori Milkowich

McKenna Milkowich ^{Youth Rep}
Clarence Runkle
Mary Beth Barringer

Consistory minutes are available in the Narthex

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Rev. Dr. Steven Simpson, Interim Pastor
Office Hours: Wednesdays or by appointment

Cathy Vogeding, Church Secretary
Office Hours: Generally Wednesdays & Thursdays

Nathan Gulla, Organist

Cindy Bibic, Financial Secretary

Christopher Ziegenfuss, Choir Director

Peter Ziegenfuss, Handbell Choir Director

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SECRETARY'S NEW OFFICE HOURS

Beginning in June, Cathy will be in the church office Wednesdays and Thursdays 10-5.

June 2026

Services are livestreamed on our YouTube channel via our website.
 Worship will be held at 10:15am in the sanctuary on June 7 and
 Summer Worship begins at 9:00am on June 14, 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Just for Kicks 4:30 – 8:30 Handbell choir 7pm	Prayer Shawl 1:00–3:00pm Finance Committee 7:00pm	Bible Study 2:00pm Choir 7:00pm	Just for Kicks 4:30 – 8:30		Just for Kicks 8:00 – 11:00
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Worship 10:15am 	Just for Kicks 4:30 – 8:30	Search Team 7:00pm	Bible Study 2:00pm	Just for Kicks 4:30 – 8:30		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Summer Worship 9:00am 	Bux Mont Academy Graduation 10:00 – 2:00 Just for Kicks 4:30 – 8:30	Prayer Shawl 1:00–3:00pm	2:00pm 	Just for Kicks 4:30 – 8:30 RamPacks Board Meeting 6:00pm		Just for Kicks 8:00 – 11:00
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Summer Worship 9:00am 	Just for Kicks 4:30 – 8:30		Bible Study 2:00pm	Just for Kicks 4:30 – 8:30 		
28	29	30				
Summer Worship 9:00am		Prayer Shawl 1:00–3:00pm Search Team 7:00pm				

July 2026

Services are livestreamed on our YouTube channel via our website.
 Summer Worship will be held at 9:00am in the sanctuary every Sunday

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			Bible Study 2:00pm	Just for Kicks 4:30 – 8:30		AMERICA 
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Summer Worship 9:00am	Just for Kicks 4:30 – 8:30	Prayer Shawl 1:00–3:00pm	Bible Study 2: 00pm	Just for Kicks 4:30 – 8:30		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Summer Worship 9:00am	Just for Kicks 4:30 – 8:30	Search Team 6:00pm	Bible Study 2:00pm AUGUST Newsletter Submissions Due	Just for Kicks 4:30 – 8:30 RamPacks Board Meeting 6:00pm		Just for Kicks 8:00 – 11:00
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Summer Worship 9:00am	Just for Kicks 4:30 – 8:30 	Prayer Shawl 1:00–3:00pm	Bible Study 2:00pm	Just for Kicks 4:30 – 8:30		
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Summer Worship 9:00am						