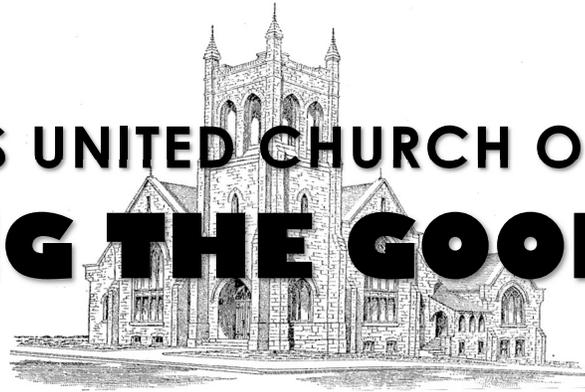


ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS



APRIL 2023

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

A colorful poster for an Easter Egg Hunt. It features three bunnies (yellow, pink, blue) and two decorated eggs. Text includes 'St. Paul's EASTER EGG HUNT', 'Saturday April 8 | 10AM', '104 Green St. Sellersville', and 'CRAFTS, PRIZES, SNACKS & A VISIT FROM THE EASTER BUNNY!'. Callouts mention 'fun for the whole family!' and 'hunts for toddlers - 5th graders'.

ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 8 | 10:00am

All children ages 0 - 5th grade are invited to come out to the annual Easter Egg Hunt! Come hunt for eggs and make a craft. There will also be a jelly bean guess, refreshments, and a visit from the Easter Bunny. Plan to join us for a memorable time! Bring a friend!

**Anyone 6th grade and up is invited to help hide the eggs.*

Thank you to everyone who donated candy for the Easter Egg Hunt. We really appreciate your love and support! Thank you to Chris & Cindy Fosbenner for the homemade chocolate crosses which will be given to the children at the Egg Hunt.

A poster for Holy Week events. It lists four days: Palm Sunday (April 2), Maundy Thursday (April 6), Good Friday (April 7), and Easter Sunday (April 9). Each entry includes the time and location of the service. Contact information at the bottom includes the website www.stpaulsucc.net, phone number 215-257-7268, and Instagram handle @stpaulssellersville.

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday – Maundy Thursday
Good Friday – Easter Sunday

You are invited to participate in the various services taking place from Palm Sunday through Easter. We have a meaningful Easter Sunday planned with two services and a delicious breakfast in between. Holy Communion will take place at both services on Easter Sunday at St. Paul's. The 10:15am service will include many vocal and instrumental music selections and a special song by Kingdom Kids.

Enclosed is an envelope for a special Easter offering for Love In Action.

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Christ has been raised from the dead. “O death, where is your victory? O grave, where is your sting?” Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ! The Passion of Jesus, His pain and suffering and death on a cross, leads to Victory! In the letter of First John, chapter 5, verse 4 is written: “Every child of God can defeat the world, and our faith is what gives us this victory.” (CEV).

There is also a hymn that became more familiar to me in my time of serving in North Carolina called “Victory in Jesus.” The first verse of this old hymn says, “I heard an old, old story, how a Savior came from glory, how He gave His life on Calvary to save a wretch like me; I heard about His groaning, of His precious blood’s atoning, then I repented of my sins and won the victory. O victory in Jesus, my Savior, forever! He sought me and bought me with His redeeming blood; He loved me ere I knew Him, and all my love is due Him – He plunged me to victory beneath the cleansing flood.”

Victory in Jesus! We walk through Holy Week knowing the end of the story; knowing the story doesn’t end at all!! Mid-week Lenten gatherings had us singing “I Love to Tell the Story;” and this is our never-ending story! How glorious! How wonderful! How breath-taking! “O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High!” And all for us! God sent His One and Only Son for us! Christ died on the cross for us! Christ has Risen from the dead for us! Alleluia! Amen!

Easter blessings, Pastor Trudy



PALM SUNDAY – HOLY WEEK – EASTER – PENTECOST

Just before we enter Jerusalem on a road paved with branches and cloaks, we find ourselves in the wilderness of grief, asking harrowing questions of God and ourselves. At that tomb, we hear a call to unbind each other. No one asks these questions alone, but we share in the dream of what new life will be after all that has happened.

It is vision and hope that we join the chorus of voices that cry for justice on Palm Sunday (and throughout Holy Week). Here, we realize how much we have changed and continue the transformation into the great 50 days of Easter.

Easter arrives dressed in white and gold and a flurry of Alleluias. It is a feast for our senses when Mary becomes the first witness to the resurrection of Jesus. Thomas uses his hands to proclaim his faith, and two see the risen Christ when bread is broken and shared. We come into our senses as we consider life that continues beyond the tomb, beyond doubt, beyond trials.

In stories from the Acts of the Apostles and the early Christian church, we reflect on what brings life, what it means to live in community and the cost and risk of proclaiming the truth of God. We find new meaning in what it is that we believe and find strength in the prayer of Jesus for all disciples as we continue the Christ-life.

The great 50 days culminate in celebration as we experience, with the first followers, the life-giving work of the Spirit.

*(The above is taken from “About Lent and Easter 2023” found in Seasons of the Spirit SeasonsFusionLent*Easter 2023.)*

EASTER FLOWERS

The Altar Guild is looking forward to having your help in creating a beautiful and colorful Easter display for 2023. **We are asking you to purchase whatever color or type of potted flower(s) you like and drop them off at church Saturday, April 8th between 9:00 and 11:00am.** Please include a tag with your name on your flower. We will then create a “garden” at the base of the cross with all of the beautiful flowers you have chosen. You may take your flowers home after the service.

There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for you to indicate if your flowers are “In Loving Memory of” or “In Honor of” someone. This will then be included in the Easter Sunday bulletin.

Any questions, please contact Debbie Koehler either by email (debkoehler@yahoo.com) or by phone (215-206-1743).

APRIL WORSHIP SERVICES

In-person Sunday worship service in the sanctuary at 10:15am. Virtual worship (livestreaming) services are also available each Sunday. Hymns are from the Hymns for the Family of God unless otherwise indicated. A Children’s Chat followed by Kingdom Kids is included in each Sunday morning worship service.

Lay Liturgist: Rick Moyer

April 2, 2023 – Sixth Sunday in Lent/Palm Sunday

Scriptures: Matthew 21:1-11; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29
Theme: *Among Palms*

April 6, 2023 – Maundy Thursday

UCC Cooperative of Upper Bucks Churches
hosted by St. Andrew’s UCC, Perkasie at 6:00pm
(begins with a meal)

April 7, 2023 – Good Friday

UCC Cooperative of Upper Bucks Churches
hosted by St. Stephen’s UCC, Perkasie at 12:00pm

April 9, 2023 – Easter Sunday

8:00am worship with Holy Communion
Scripture: John 20:1-18
10:15am worship with Holy Communion
Scripture: Matthew 28:1-10

April 16, 2023 – 2nd Sunday of Easter

Scriptures: Acts 2:12a, 22-32; Psalm 16;
1 Peter 1:3-9; **John 20:19-31**
Theme: *Resurrection Witness*

April 23, 2023 – 3rd Sunday of Easter

Scriptures: Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19;
1 Peter 1:17-23; **Luke 24:13-35**
Theme: *Eyes of the Heart*

April 30, 2023 – 4th Sunday of Easter

Good Shepherd Sunday
Scriptures: **Acts 2:42-47**; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2:19-25;
John 10:1-10
Theme: *Sensing Awe*

LIVING MUSEUM

Many thanks to ReCharge youth and leaders (and a few others!) for removing chairs, other items, and the rug from the Alcove. They also cleaned the walls, windows, ceilings and floors. *Simon, Jocelyn, Tessa, Isaiah, Jude, Marley, Knox, Sailor, Nancy, Holly, Brandon, Kevin, and Neil* — we appreciate you and thank you again for a job well done!



Sunday, April 30th | 6:30 – 8:00pm

We will focus on the beauty and renewed life of Spring. We will meet at the ReCharge center to touch base and then head out for a walk through our neighborhood. The sun sets that day at 7:55 pm so we should have plenty of time to look for Spring flowers and other signs of renewed life. We'll stop at Kool-licks for water ice before heading back to the church (everybody bring \$5).



Decoration Team Meeting | Sunday, April 16

We will meet briefly immediately after worship. Anyone who signed up to help with decorations for **Camp Sonshine** is encouraged to attend. If you didn't get a chance to sign up, but are interested in helping with decorations, please join us!



Show Us Your Pets!

This year's **Camp Sonshine** theme is centered around pets. While you can't actually bring your pet to **Camp Sonshine**, we want to see your pets! Between now and the beginning of July, all members of St. Paul's are encouraged to share a picture of your furry friend with Nancy Ziegenfuss (nancy@stpaulsucc.net).

Pennridge FISH Current Needs

(The following list can be found in the Narthex on green paper)

800 W. Chestnut St., PO Box 9 Perkasie, PA 18944 | 215-257-7616

Monday/Wednesday 3:00-5:00pm | Thursday 6:00-8:00pm | Friday/Saturday 9:00-11:00pm

Canned Meats (spam, canned ham, beef stew)
 Canned Chicken
 Canned Sardines
 *Meal Helpers (hamburger, tuna, rice, pasta)
 Shelf Stable Meals (i.e. Hormel Compleats)
 *Canned Pasta (Ravioli, Spaghettios, Beefaroni, etc)
 Boxed Mashed Potatoes
 Brown Rice
 White Rice
 Spaghetti
 *Boxed Pasta Noodles
 Bagged Dry Beans
 Canned Soups
 Canned Vegetables
 *Canned Spinach
 *Canned Beets
 *Canned Fruit
 Applesauce
 Oatmeal
 *Jelly
 Misc. Nuts (pistachios, walnuts, pecans, etc)
 *Coffee
 Salt/Pepper

Grated Cheese (shelf stable parmesan, 3-cheese, etc)
 Ketchup
 Mustard
 Mayonnaise
 *Salad Dressing
 Alfredo Sauce
 *Diapers 2-3-4T-5T-6T
 *Diapers Size 4,5,6,7/Trainer/Night Time Pull-Ups
 *Baby Wipes
 *Laundry Detergent
 *Toothpaste
 *Toothbrushes
 *Facial Tissues
 *Paper Towels
 Toilet Paper
 *Bar Soap
 *Shampoo/Conditioner
 Razors
 *Dish Soap
 Apples/Oranges/Onions/Potatoes – Take directly to FISH after purchase
 *Hot Chocolate
 Cooking Oil
 *indicates items are out completely or almost out

As you can see, there are quite a few items that are out completely or almost out. It is that time of year when the FISH shelves are showing the post holiday/winter let down of donations. Please consider adding an item or two to your shopping list each week and place them in the cupboard out in the hallway at the bathrooms. It really does make a difference in the lives of these families to have these items to get them through. Thank you as always for your help in feeding the hungry in our community!



FISH takes its symbol, the Ichthys fish, from early Christianity, and its' acronym stands for:
Fellowship In Serving Humanity

“Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.”

Thank You!

Your church has donated 2,049 pounds of food and \$3,320. Thank you for your generous support of the Pennridge FISH Organization.

Thank you so much for your congregation's generous donation of \$50 to Phoebe. We can't thank you enough for your support and commitment to those we serve.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

2nd – Victoria Potoczny
 4th – Marquise Stokes
 5th – Andrew Nase
 6th – Brenda Bishop
 7th – Marlena Weideman
 Michael Milkowich, II
 8th – Doris Myers
 Joann Allen
 9th – Bryn Hendricks
 Michael Myers
 10th – Steve Gallaher
 11th – Caryn Skalon

12th – Jeffrey Moyer
 13th – Jodi Wenger
 Donna Tomlinson
 14th – Gerry Sheetz
 15th – Simon Ziegenfuss
 16th – Scott Huff
 18th – Jeremiah Link
 19th – Faye Gable
 Gregory Koehler
 20th – Gina Koehler
 Cassie Wells
 Adam Fuhs

22nd – Janet Dunlap
 Brandon Barndt
 23rd – Tim Frank
 25th – Patricia Wenger
 27th – Marcus Milkowich
 Levi Wenger
 Robin Renner
 28th – Karen Weikel
 Amelia Moyer
 Danielle Hauptert
 29th – Theresa Hawkins
 30th – Jennifer Roush

EXPANDING OUR REACH

The weather is changing and with it, our communication style at St. Paul's. In addition to my administration role, I'm thrilled to have a hand in the communications and marketing here at the church. I'm excited to think through and execute ideas that will strengthen our reach and our connection in an effort to share the good news of Jesus with the community. I am observing and researching the ways in which we can be most effective and efficient and it may not come as a surprise to you that a significant way forward in our communication is through online resources.

More of life is done through a computer or phone than ever before and it would behoove us to stay relevant. Each generation increasingly spends more time online and is more familiar accessing information through social media, apps, email, and other online platforms. This is true of my own life experience. For example, at my children's school, teachers communicate through an app and volunteers sign in and out via a QR code. Sports and extracurriculars use online registration forms. My doctor's office uses an app for checking patients in and information is shared through an online patient portal. I'm on social media as a way to keep up with friends, family, local businesses, and the news.

Some of the paper-and-pencil practices St. Paul's has used for decades are no longer the most effective way to communicate if our goal is to reach more people and to

welcome younger families. As the culture shifts, so should we reevaluate if our approaches are still the most beneficial. As it stands, unless physically in the church building, members and visitors are unable to sign up to volunteer. We utilize livestream worship; however, those viewing church this way cannot volunteer unless they come to the building. Even those of us attending in-person worship can be distracted or simply forget to visit the Narthex.

That being said, I am thrilled to help us take steps forward! We are beginning to use online sign-ups in addition to the paper sign-up sheets in the Narthex. Our bulletin announcements now have QR codes that enable us to check out information via our phones. The codes and links make it easy to share information with friends and family using text or email.

We also want a more meaningful presence on social media. In addition to our Facebook page, please follow us on Instagram: @stpaulssellersville. Sharing our posts to your personal Instagram or Facebook stories is a great way to inform and invite your friends and followers.

Your flexibility and your willingness to adapt is appreciated. Please ask a friend or a pew neighbor or reach out to me if you could use a knowledgeable helping hand – we are in this together!

Brianna Link, Secretary

Tip: Most of us will be able to use the camera app on our smart phones to scan a QR code. Open the camera app and put the QR code in view. After a second or two a link will pop up on your screen. Click the link and you will be directed to the online information. If this does not work for you, you may need to download a QR code reader app. Again, please ask for help if you are unsure and need assistance.



ALL SUBMISSIONS FOR THE MAY NEWSLETTER ARE DUE BY APRIL 15

If you have a recipe you'd like to share in our May newsletter, please email Nancy Moyer:
nancymoyer525@gmail.com

ENDOWMENT

Aaron Clark
Neil Clark
Robin Frank
Debbie Koehler
Rick Moyer
Terry Weikel
Chris Ziegenfuss

CONSISTORY*

Aaron Clark, *President*
Marty Milkowich, *Vice President*
Jim Chrastina, *Treasurer*
Karen Weikel, *Secretary*
Brandon Barndt
Neil Clark
Paul Koehler
Rick Moyer
Arlene Peters
Marie Runkle
Patti Steich

CEMETARY TRUSTEES

Alex Potoczny
Terry Weikel
Jay Wenger

CEMETARY CONTACT

Carol Nase: 267-374-9045

**Consistory minutes are now available in the Narthex*

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor Trudy Irving

Office Hours: Tuesday 9:00am - 12:00pm

Day Off: Friday

Nancy Ziegenfuss, Director of Christian Education

Christopher Ziegenfuss, Choir Director

Peter Ziegenfuss, Handbell Choir Director

Nathan Gulla, Organist

Cindy Bibic, Financial Secretary

Brianna Link, Church Secretary

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peter@stpaulsucc.net

nathan@stpaulsucc.net

cindy@stpaulsucc.net

brianna@stpaulsucc.net



ROAST BEEF DINNER

**SATURDAY APRIL 29
4:00-7:00PM**

MASHED POTATOES,
PICKLED CABBAGE, & DESSERTS

ALL MADE FROM SCRATCH

PLUS APPLESAUCE, CORN, GREEN BEANS, & ROLLS

ADULTS: \$15
KIDS 6-12: \$8
UNDER 6: FREE

Family Style

DINE-IN OR TAKE-OUT

ST. PAUL'S UCC

104 GREEN ST. SELLERSVILLE

215-257-7268

TAKE-OUT ORDERS:

www.stpaulsucc.net



St. Paul's
UNITED CHURCH
of Christ



Your favorite community dinner tradition is back! Sign up in the Narthex or scan the QR code to help. Detach the bottom portion of this page and post the flyer somewhere in the community!