

FEBRUARY 2025

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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



JOIN US SEASONALLY FOR A TIME OF FOOD, FUN, AND FELLOWSHIP!

Winter Gathering

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

11:00AM - 1:00PM

**ST. PAUL'S UCC
104 GREEN ST. SELLERSVILLE**

Julia Child will visit us through
Linda Kenyon's one-woman show.

Light lunch provided. Free will offering.

**RSVP BY 1/31 AT STPAULSUCC.NET/PERENNIALS
OR SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX**

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

One of my favorite scripture passages is from Paul's letter to the church in Corinth and contains the words: Love is patient, love is kind, it isn't jealous, it doesn't brag, it isn't arrogant, it isn't rude, it doesn't seek its own advantage, it isn't irritable, it doesn't keep a record of complaints, it isn't happy with injustice, but it is happy with the truth. Love puts up with all things, trusts in all things, hopes for all things, endures all things. Love never fails...Now faith, hope, and love remain—these three things—and the greatest of these is love. (1 Corinthians 13:4-8, 13).

If you do some research, you will find that there are many types of love relationships. The Greeks summarized this indescribable word by splitting it into four different kinds – *agape*, *philia*, *eros* and *storge*. Some authors say we should not regard any love more important than another stating that they often intertwine with each other. No, I'm not going to cover all these types of love relationships in detail though I do know, Valentine's Day held on February 14th each year – is most times associated with "eros" - the Greek word for love which brings to mind what is described as intimate romantic love. The Greeks named their god of love Eros, but you may be more familiar with his Roman equal, Cupid!

But what about the love that God expresses through his children, The Church? God's love for us is most times described by the Greek word, *agape*. Thayers Lexicon describes *agape* as "to take pleasure in the thing, prize it above other things, be unwilling to abandon it or do without it." God has proven his *agape* love for us by sacrificing his one and only Son. And yet, for me, I think that God's love for us, like his peace, goes beyond our human understanding. There is no greater love than God's love for us, but it is a love we strive to live out and share on faith's journey.

As I shared in a recent sermon, a footnote in the Discipleship Study Bible states: "Until his "hour" – when Jesus shows God's power and presence in his death and return to God (John 12:23; 13:1-3), Jesus reveals God's purposes in words AND actions!" I think Jesus, too, reveals God's love in words AND actions!"

God expresses his generous love and power through The Church as God calls us to be His hands and feet. **Love in Action** is the theme for our February 2nd Annual Congregational Gathering to be held in the Fellowship Hall immediately following our Sunday morning worship service. St. Paul's shows God's love in many ways – especially through their commitment and support of various mission projects and non-profits. Come and see and hear from St. Paul's various staff members and ministry teams on February 2nd, as they lift up how they envision St. Paul's sharing God's love in 2025. How will you be sharing God's love in 2025?

In Christ's love, *Pastor Trudy*

The apostle John wrote, "Don't just talk about love as an idea or a theory.
Make it your true way of life, and live in the pattern of gracious love."
(1 John 3:18 VOICE)



FEBRUARY WORSHIP SERVICES

Services are livestreamed on our YouTube channel via our website.

Worship is held at 10:15am in the sanctuary.

Kingdom Kids is available for preschool and elementary-aged children during worship.



Lay Liturgists: The Ziegenfuss Family

February 2 | 4th Sunday after Epiphany

Scripture: Luke 4:21-30

February 16 | 6th Sunday after Epiphany

Scripture: Luke 6:17-26

February 9 | 5th Sunday after Epiphany

Scripture: Luke 5:1-11

February 23 | 7th Sunday after Epiphany

Scripture: Luke 6:27-38

Looking ahead – March 5: Ash Wednesday

SUNDAY MORNING CHRISTIAN EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Middle & High Schoolers | Sundays | 9:00am

Meets in the Parlor. Facilitated by Jeremiah Link.

Men's Group | Sundays | 9:00am

Meets in Fellowship Hall.

Kingdom Kids | Sundays | During 10:15am Worship

Preschool and Elementary-aged kids are dismissed after Children's Chat during worship to the Nursery where they will learn a Bible lesson and play. Facilitated by Jeremiah Link.

2025 ALTAR FLOWERS

A sign-up sheet is posted in the Narthex to sign up to sponsor altar flowers. Please note there is **no charge** to sponsor these silk flowers. If you are sponsoring to honor a person or a special occasion, such as a birthday or anniversary, please call or email the office (215-257-7268 or secretary@stpaulsucc.net) with the information you would like in the bulletin by Tuesday of the week you are sponsoring the flowers.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, February 2 after worship

Members attending the meeting should bring their own place settings and a dish or dessert to share. Consistory will provide meat, rolls, and drinks. We will enjoy lunch together and have a business meeting where ministry teams may speak briefly about 2024 as well as future plans for 2025.

Sign up in the Narthex so we know how many people to expect – thank you!

FOSTERING HOPE

Finally, the third initiative of Fostering Hope is the **Share Closet**. The “share closet” is a place where foster parents and children can “shop” for essential items such as baby gear, diapers, wipes, toiletries, clothing, shoes, toys, books, and furniture. Upper Bucks foster families shop here at St. Paul’s. During 2024, at our closet, **625 people** were served – **162** people just in December!

Fostering Hope relies on donations and volunteers to keep the Share Closet open. Currently we have **76 volunteers** who help with the many tasks required to serve the foster families in our community! Volunteers are currently taking inventory of the pajama supply. Please look for information in the February bulletins and on the screen before worship to see what gender/sizes of pajamas are needed. Your donations of new pajamas will be appreciated!



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2/1 – Adam Fosbenner

2/3 – Jacob Baringer

2/12 – McKenna Milkowich

2/16 – Cameron Allen

Matthew Milkowich

2/20 – Jay Wenger

2/21 – Gary Anglemoyer

2/22 – Walter Brooks

2/23 – Patricia Guth

2/24 – William Benner

2/25 – Faith Hawkins

2/27 – Mike Hendricks

2/28 – Martin Bosch

Scott Bosch

Share the Love
FOOD DRIVE

Accepted Food Items

Hormel Compleats 10 oz. microwave meals
Pearl Milling Company Pancake on the Go 2.11 oz. cups
Fruit/Applesauce cups, 4 oz.
Mac-n-cheese microwavable cups
Canned pasta, soup, chili (pop tops ONLY)
Instant oatmeal packets (NOT cups)
Microwave popcorn
GoGo Squeeze Yogurts (non refrigerated- NO squeeze fruit)
Packs of crackers (peanut butter/cheese)
Pure Protein Bars
Peanut Butter
INDIVIDUAL boxes of cereal
Family sized boxes of mac-n-cheese
Nature Valley Soft Baked Muffin bars

February 10-26

Thank you for your support!



RamPacks

designed by jk@jennakrauss.com

St. Paul's is a RamPacks Food Drive drop off location



In the event of inclement weather, Pastor Trudy and the Consistory President will make a decision regarding delays or cancelations by 7:00am. Information will be shared by email, on our website and Facebook page, and on the office answering machine (215-257-7268).

MARCH NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS DUE:
February 17

ENDOWMENT

Cindy Bibic
Robin Frank
Debbie Koehler
Paul Koehler
Rick Moyer
Terry Weikel
Chris Ziegenfuss

CONSISTORY

Rick Moyer, *President*
Marie Runkle, *Vice President*
Jim Chrastina, *Treasurer*
Nancy Ziegenfuss, *Secretary*
Chris Fosbenner
Scott Huff
Debbie Koehler
Lori Milkowich
Arlene Peters
Jocelyn Ziegenfuss
McKenna Milkowich, *Youth Representative*

CEMETERY TRUSTEES

Alex Potoczny
Terry Weikel
Jay Wenger

CEMETERY CONTACT

Carol Nase: 267-374-9045

Consistory minutes are available in the Narthex

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Trudy Irving, Pastor

Office Hours: Tuesday 9:00am – 12:00pm
Off: Friday

pastortrudy@stpaulsucc.net
267-733-4153

Brianna Link, Church Secretary

Office Hours: Tues./Wed. 11:00am – 2:00pm

brianna@stpaulsucc.net
215-257-7268

Jeremiah Link, Director of Christian Education

jeremiah@stpaulsucc.net

Nathan Gulla, Organist

nathan@stpaulsucc.net

Cindy Bibic, Financial Secretary

cindy@stpaulsucc.net

Christopher Ziegenfuss, Choir Director

chris@stpaulsucc.net

Peter Ziegenfuss, Handbell Choir Director

peter@stpaulsucc.net



February 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Worship 10:15am Congregational Meeting	Bells 7:00pm	The Perennials 11:00am – 1:00pm Prayer Shawl 1:00 – 3:00pm Consistory 7:00pm	Choir 7:00pm			
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Worship 10:15am	Bells 7:00pm		Choir 7:00pm			
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Worship 10:15am	Bells 7:00pm <i>Newsletter Submissions due</i>	Prayer Shawl 1:00 – 3:00pm	Choir 7:00pm			
23	24	25	26	27	28	1
Worship 10:15am	Bells 7:00pm		Choir 7:00pm			