

JANUARY 2024



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St. Paul's United Church of Christ

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

THE GOOD NEWS

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

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

From Pastor Trudy & Kevin

As we begin this new year in our Lord, we just want to express to you, our sincere thanks for your thoughtfulness in the Christmas season; we received so many cards and delicious cookies and candies, and more! We enjoyed and appreciated every 'gift.' We also greatly enjoyed every special event – Winterfest, Christmas Caroling, hosting the annual consistory Christmas gathering at the parsonage, The Merry Little Christmas Show, all our Advent and Christmas worship services including The Hanging of the Greens and decorating our beautiful sanctuary tree...practicing with the choir!! Now, we anticipate and look forward to this new year – 2024 – and all the year may hold for us.

There are no guarantees that all will go smoothly, but there is most certainly so many new opportunities that will come before us. And the only guarantee is that God is with us always. Jesus Christ is born! The Light Shines. The Holy Spirit leads us, guides us, supports us. As challenges come and go – and concerns accompany joys – may we remain faithful to God, our Creator, our Redeemer, our Sustainer!

Prayer for the New Year taken from *Together We Pray* by Carmen L. Caltagirone

As men and women of faith, we are grateful for the regular rhythm of beginnings and endings and the opportunity to start anew. We begin this new year filled with hope, recalling the words of St. Paul to the Philippians: *This one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus (3:13-14).* Loving God, we face this new year with courage and conviction to do what is necessary to enhance life, to celebrate life, and to grow in you. Holy God, help us to discover the resources we have within each one of us and together. May we use our time, our talents, and our resources wisely. God of wonder, open to us what we have not seen or felt before. Give us wisdom to recognize the good things you send us this year and the patience we will need to work for them. Keep us from discouragement and disappointment, from weariness and complacency. Show us when to say "yes" and when to say "no." God of all time, as we move forward year after year, help us to deepen our faith and focus our vision on those things that truly matter. May we stand firm in all that grounds us in truth and holiness, going where your Spirit leads us with clear purpose and sure resolve. Multiply our faith, our dedication, and our resources and let us find new joy in serving you. Amen.

New Year Blessings,
Pastor Trudy & Kevin

JANUARY WORSHIP SERVICES



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).

Services are livestreamed on our YouTube channel. See the website for more information. Worship is held at 10:15am in the sanctuary. Kingdom Kids is available for children during worship.

January Liturgist: Marty Milkowich

**January 7, 2024 | 1st Sunday after Epiphany;
The Baptism of Christ**
Installation of 2024 Consistory and Endowment leaders
Scripture: Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm 29; Acts 19:1-7;
Mark 1:4-11

January 14, 2024 | 2nd Sunday after Epiphany
Scripture: 1 Samuel 3:1-10, (11-20); John 1:43-51;
Psalm 139:1-6,12-18; 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

January 21, 2024 | 3rd Sunday after Epiphany
Scripture: Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Psalm 62:5-12;
Mark 1:14-20; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

January 28, 2024 | 4th Sunday after Epiphany
Scripture: Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 111;
1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28

*Various resources used for worship services including UCC Worship Ways; Feasting on the Word: Liturgies for Year B, Volume 1, Advent through Pentecost, Worship Companion; Hymns for the Family of God; Worship & Praise songbook.

Looking Ahead to February 2024:
Ash Wednesday – February 14

2024 ALTAR FLOWERS

A flower chart will be up in the Narthex in early January. Any questions before then, contact Brenda Clark.



KINGDOM KIDS
ST. PAUL'S CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Under the leadership of Kate Clark, kids ages 3 through 5th grade are invited to the nursery after Children's Chat to learn, play, and craft together.

In order to maintain this program, according to our Safe Church Policy we need a second volunteer each Sunday. These volunteers need valid clearances on file with St. Paul's for safety and security purposes. Please consider serving the families in our church by volunteering. There is a sign-up sheet located in the Narthex. Email Brianna if you need assistance obtaining your clearances.

2024 GIVING ENVELOPES

Envelopes are available in the Narthex. If you would like envelopes but have not been assigned a set or if you are unable to come to the church to pick up your envelopes, please contact Brianna in the church office: brianna@stpaulsucc.net. If you have a family member who requested envelopes, we appreciate you taking their envelopes to them in order to avoid the cost of postage. Thank you!

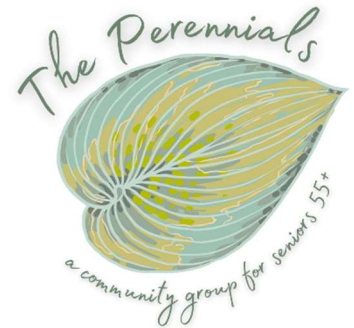
UPCOMING EVENTS



ReCharge is celebrating two years!
 Students in grades 5 through 12 are invited to join us Sunday, January 28
 from 6:30 to 8:00pm for our monthly gathering.
 Friends, food, and fun will be had!

The Perennials is our new group for seniors ages 55 and over. The group will meet seasonally, welcoming both members of St. Paul's and the community.
 Invite your friends and enjoy food, fellowship, and fun with us!

The Perennials' winter gathering will be at St. Paul's on February 8, 2024.
 In addition to sharing a meal, Eleanor Roosevelt will visit us through Linda Kenyon's one-woman show.



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- | | | |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| 1/1 – Jessica Bergey | 1/20 – Rachael Fernandez
Danny Long | 1/19 – Leah Hough
Tom Long, Jr.
Trisha Souder |
| 1/3 – Bess Angelmoyer | 1/21 – Christopher Hough | 1/29 – Stacey Moyer |
| 1/6 – David Moyer | 1/25 – Dennis Schappell | 1/31 – David Nemeč
Kendall Souder |
| 1/13 – Logan Fuhs | 1/26 – Ellie Fernandez | |
| 1/15 – Jeremy Mask | | |

Celebrating 40+ Years of Marriage

January 27, 1972 – Mr. and Mrs. David Renner (52 years)



Notes of Appreciation

Dear St. Paul's UCC Friends,

Barry wants to thank you for all of the kindnesses you have shown him after he fell while on a November hunting trip, when he broke three of his ribs and one of his vertebrae. He appreciates all of the cards, calls, and offers to help us. Most of all, he thanks you for your many prayers for his healing.

Carol also wants to thank everyone who sent her cards, called, brought meals, and offered to help because of her persistent back pain. She really appreciates your many prayers and concern, which have helped her get through rough days and nights.

We both want to send a "big thank you" to the dear children of St. Paul's UCC who brought us big smiles after we opened the Christmas card each one had signed with colorful magic markers.

Thank you so much to each one of you wonderful Carolers who really surprised us on a rainy, dreary day, bringing us sunshine, smiles, and joy with your beautiful, angelic Christmas Carols.

We are truly blessed to have such loving, caring church friends who are dear to us like family. Your love, concern, and many prayers have helped us much more than you realize.

With Christ's Love,
Barry and Carol Kuhn

Sellersville Borough thanks you for participating in Winterfest!

Thank you for your visit. We enjoyed seeing everyone. Sorry the weather was so nasty but the carols sounded great.

Bob & Nancy Booz

Thank you to Nancy Ziegenfuss and her carolers for bringing the Christmas spirit to the people they visited. Also thank you to Kate Clark and the entertainers who participated in A Merry Little Christmas Show – it was great!

Robin Frank

We would like to wish everyone a Blessed Christmas and Happy New Year! We were not able to send our Christmas cards this year because Carolyn tore her right rotator cuff and needs surgery.

Love and Peace,
Pastor George and Carolyn

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your gift of \$250.00 to the ministry of Samaritan's Purse.

This year, as we celebrate the joyous occasion of the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, the world seems especially dark. Conflicts in the Middle East and Ukraine sadly continue to threaten the lives of many. Closer to home, residents of Acapulco, Mexico, struggle to recover from a horrific hurricane.

Your gifts and prayers equip us to go into these crisis zones to share the wonder of that first Christmas: Christ has come to be our eternal hope! You are helping us tell the hurting in numerous locations around our nation and world, "Arise, shine; for your light has come! And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you" (Isaiah 60:1). Thank you, and God bless you.

Sincerely,
Franklin Graham (President, Samaritan's Purse)

Pennridge FISH

CURRENT NEEDS - JAN 2024

High Priority Needs

- meal helpers
- boxed pasta noodles
- salad dressing
- canned: fruit, spinach, beets, spam, pasta
- hot chocolate
- coffee
- mayonnaise
- jelly
- shelf-stable meals (ie Hormel)
- pancake mix & syrup
- paper towels
- baby wipes
- diapers (size 2, 3, 4T-6T)
- pull-ups/trainers/nighttime (size 4-7)
- bar soap
- toilet paper
- facial tissues
- detergent for clothes
- dishwashing soap

Other Needs

- canned: soup, chicken, sardines, vegetables, meat
- alfredo sauce
- shelf-stable grated cheese
- pickles
- salt & pepper
- bagged dry beans
- boxed mashed potatoes
- misc. nuts
- applesauce
- oatmeal
- spaghetti
- cooking oil
- white & brown rice
- sugar
- fresh: apples, oranges, onions, potatoes
- toothpaste
- shampoo
- razors
- toothbrushes



<https://penridgefish.org/current-needs>



THE 150 FUND

Celebrate Our Past. Invest in Our Future.
1 Chronicles 22:14

Tower Repairs: \$263,847 – completed
Parsonage Roof: \$22,950 – completed
Kitchen Fire Suppression: \$15,325 – completed
Handicapped-Accessible Entrance: \$18,900 – completed

ALL SUBMISSIONS FOR THE JANUARY NEWSLETTER ARE DUE BY MONDAY, JANUARY 22

ENDOWMENT

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

CONSISTORY

Aaron Clark, *President*
Jim Chrastina, *Treasurer*
Brandon Barndt
Neil Clark
Paul Koehler
Rick Moyer
Arlene Peters
Marie Runkle

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

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/Thurs 10:30am – 1:30pm

brianna@stpaulsucc.net
215-257-7268

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



January 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Prayer Shawl 1:00 – 3:00pm	Choir 7:00pm	Christian Ed. 6:30pm		
	AA	AA				
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Worship 10:15am	Bells 7:00pm	Consistory 7:00pm	Choir 7:00pm			
	AA	AA				
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Worship 10:15am	Bells 7:00pm	Prayer Shawl 1:00 – 3:00pm	Choir 7:00pm			
	AA	AA				
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Worship 10:15am	Bells 7:00pm		Choir 7:00pm	American Red Cross Blood Drive 2:00 – 7:00pm		
	AA	AA				
28	29	30	31			
Worship 10:15am	Bells 7:00pm	Prayer Shawl 1:00 – 3:00pm	Choir 7:00pm			
ReCharge 6:30 – 8:00pm 	AA	AA				