

MAY 2024

 [www.stpaulsucc.net](http://www.stpaulsucc.net)  [@stpaulssellersville](https://www.instagram.com/stpaulssellersville)  [St. Paul's United Church of Christ](https://www.facebook.com/St.Pauls.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*

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MAY 19 | 10:15 AM

**CELEBRATION**  
*Sunday*

Please join us as we  
recognize and honor  
our high school graduates,  
Christian education leadership,  
and the James Frantz Dedication  
Award recipient!

## **A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR**

Forty days after Easter (May 9<sup>th</sup>) we celebrate Ascension Day which is recorded in Acts 1:6-11; Eugene Peterson's, *The Message*, translates the passage this way: <sup>6</sup>When they were together for the last time they asked, "Master, are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel now? Is this the time?" <sup>7-8</sup>He told them, "You don't get to know the time. Timing is the Father's business. What you'll get is the Holy Spirit. And when the Holy Spirit comes on you, you will be able to be my witnesses in Jerusalem, all over Judea and Samaria, even to the ends of the world." <sup>9-11</sup>These were his last words. As they watched, he was taken up and disappeared in a cloud. They stood there, staring into the empty sky. Suddenly two men appeared—in white robes! They said, "You Galileans!—why do you just stand here looking up at an empty sky? This very Jesus who was taken up from among you to heaven will come as certainly—and mysteriously—as he left."

Yes, Jesus's physical presence then and now is gone from our sight – but God did not leave us alone! "What you'll get is the Holy Spirit," Jesus said, ".....you will be able to be my witnesses.....even to the ends of the world."

*When the Feast of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place (Acts 2:1).* Yes, the day of Pentecost came (the 50<sup>th</sup> day after Easter – "Pentecost" means 50<sup>th</sup>)\* - and so did the blessing of the coming of the Holy Spirit – just as Jesus promised – a kind of "Heavenly Helper" – a "Counselor" – a "Comforter" - teaching us, leading us, inspiring us, encouraging us. In the guide to understanding & celebrating the Christian church year, Arden Mead and King Schoenfeld state: "Some people say that the second chapter of the book of The Acts of the Apostles ('apostle' means someone who is sent to do something) should really be "The Acts of the Holy Spirit" because the Spirit is the one who moves the apostles to do what they do in the name of Jesus and works through them to accomplish wonderful things."

I hope that on the Day of Pentecost this year, May 19<sup>th</sup>, the Holy Spirit moves you to gather together in one place – that one place being at St. Paul's United Church of Christ at 10:15am – to celebrate Pentecost! May 19<sup>th</sup> will also be our Celebration Sunday traditional service – where we honor graduates, the Jim Frantz Award recipient, and leaders of our Christian Education ministries – a time of celebrating what has been done by the movement of the Holy Spirit!

May the Holy Spirit continue to move in the lives of God's people everywhere! And may we at St. Paul's United Church of Christ be moved by the Holy Spirit to do what we do in the name of Jesus and may the Holy Spirit work through us to accomplish wonderful things!

Blessings to you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit!  
Pastor Trudy

***Wear RED to worship on Celebration Sunday, May 19th - which is also PENTECOST SUNDAY!***

***NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE,  
OR WHERE YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY,  
YOU'RE WELCOME HERE!***

\*(The Jewish festival of Pentecost, 50 days after Passover, was observed by the first Christians, including St. Paul; see Acts 20:16. Most Christians have since tied their Pentecost to the date of Easter.)

# MAY WORSHIP SERVICES

*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 preschool and elementary-aged children during worship.*

## May Lay Liturgist: Brenda Clark

### May 5 | 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

Scripture: Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98; John 15:9-17;  
1 John 5:1-6

### May 12 | 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter | Mother's Day

Scripture: Acts 1: 15-17,21-26; Psalm 1; John 17:6-19;  
1 John 5:9-13

### May 19 | Pentecost Sunday | Celebration Sunday

*Strengthen the Church Special UCC Mission Offering*  
Service leaders will include Growth & Hospitality leaders  
(Rick Moyer & Donna Huff)

Scripture: Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b;  
John 15:26-2, 16: 4b-15

### May 26 | Trinity Sunday | Memorial Day Weekend

Scripture: Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 29; John 3:1-17;  
Romans 8:12-17



**Kingdom Kids is our children's church experience for kids ages 3 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade.**

**After Children's Chat, kids will be dismissed to the nursery with their leaders for a time of play and learning.**

*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.*

## 2024 ALTAR FLOWERS

We are looking for sponsors! Sign up in the Narthex on the *St. Paul's Sign-Ups* bulletin board. Brenda Clark will contact you with more details as the date of your sponsorship approaches. You may contact her at 215-285-0294.

*Available May dates: 5/19, 5/26*

## CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2025

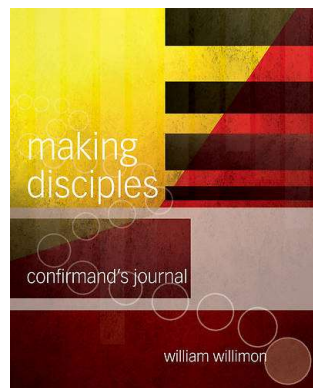
Confirmation classes are open to our young people in 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades that are ready to enter this time of faith formation. In the United Church of Christ, when an infant or young child is baptized, one or both parents and/or one or more sponsors promises to assume certain responsibilities for the Christian nurture of the baptized. The entire congregation also assumes the role of sponsors as its members promise to provide a supportive Christian community in which a child may grow in awareness and understanding concerning the meaning of life in Christ. At the end of the faith formation sessions (May 2025) – each confirmand decides if they are ready to make public agreement to the baptismal promises previously made by their parent(s).

Email me at [pastortrudy@stpaulsucc.net](mailto:pastortrudy@stpaulsucc.net) if your son or daughter will be joining the confirmation class of 2025. A full registration form will be made available to you when your email is received. The primary resource used in our faith formation sessions is *Making Disciples*, which is a mentor-based resource. Mentors are required to have a background check on file with the church office. Instead of using an existing list of mentors, your son/daughter is encouraged to select a mentor that is not a relative. Your son/daughter must make this request of an active member of the congregation. If the person agrees to mentor your son/daughter, I will need to confirm that there is a background check on file in the church office for that individual.

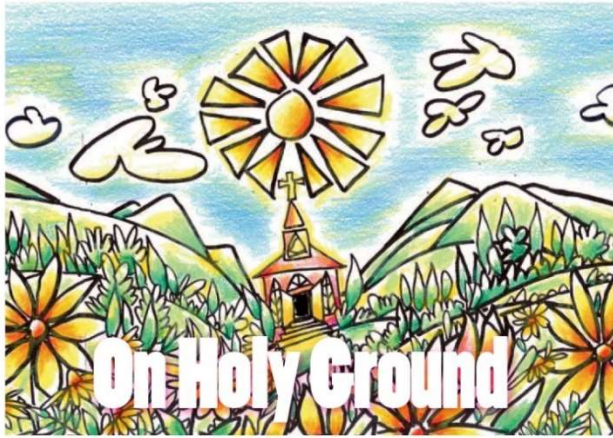
Mentors will be required to attend some of our group sessions and also to periodically and individually meet in-person with the confirmation candidate. There must always be a second adult present with me when I lead any of the sessions. Not all sessions will be held at the church. I have contacted FISH about meeting at the FISH location in the Fall; this gathering would include a service project while we are at their location. We will also be holding a session at Camp Men-O-Lan and be participating in outdoor activities – connecting with God's creation.

An in-person “Welcome” and information gathering will be held in July for all participants (candidates, parents, and mentors) to review confirmation requirements. All participants must attend this gathering to begin the confirmation journey in September.

Looking forward to hearing from you!  
Pastor Trudy



*Making Disciples* is a 13-session mentor-based confirmation program that pairs confirmands with adult mentors and guides them through a variety of learning experiences that will strengthen the student's understanding of the faith while connecting him or her with the community of believers in a personal way.



## **STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH**

### **Special UCC Mission Offering**

**Collection:**  
**Sunday, May 19**

*How to donate:*

- [stpaulsucc.net/mission/donation](http://stpaulsucc.net/mission/donation)
- use the attached envelope
- use an envelope provided in church 5/19

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS & OPPORTUNITIES**

Moving forward, we are unable to promote individual church member's non-church related event announcements in the bulletin and slides.

We have a special spot on the Narthex bulletin boards for community resources and event announcements. If you are involved in an upcoming event outside of St. Paul's, such as a fundraiser, please put your flyer in Brianna Link's church mailbox or email her a copy to post.

If you want a verbal announcement made during community life in our time of worship, please let Pastor Trudy know via email or text before Sunday service and she will invite YOU to come forward and make the announcement.

You are also welcome to email members of our church family your announcement as emails that have been provided to us are listed in the church directory. Copies of the church directory can be found at the phone across from the hallway kitchenette.

We are so blessed to be part of an active community!

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## **ROAST BEEF DINNER**

THANKS to everyone who helped make this year's dinner successful, both veteran and new helpers! Whether you baked, cooked or prepared food, set up, cleaned up, served, seated, greeted, washed dishes, assembled takeouts, picked up supplies, advertised, came to eat or bought leftovers - it would not have happened without all of you!

Although our overall numbers were down a bit, our 45 volunteers served 150 meals, had a great time, received many compliments from our guests and raised approximately \$1600 with the help of a donation towards the cost of the beef.

We will meet shortly to review the dinner and determine a use for the money.

*The Roast Beef Dinner Team*

Hello to all my St. Pauls' family!

I am celebrating the 10 yr. anniversary of my bone marrow stem cell transplant this year! Praise the Lord! And thank you for your support & encouragement to me throughout my cancer journey and recovery. I am running the Broad Street Run again on May 5th. 10 miles to commemorate 10 years! This year I am running on the AACR (American Association for Cancer Research) team to raise money for cancer research. It would be an honor if you would join with me and donate to the AACR. It has been an incredible journey and I'm so thankful to say that I'm still here. You can read my story & make a donation by going to [donate.aacr.org/participant/5524](https://donate.aacr.org/participant/5524) or scanning the QR code.



Thank you!  
Gina Koehler

Dear Pastor Trudy,

Thank you for choosing to make a difference in the lives of our seniors at Phoebe! We have received your gift amount of \$60. We are grateful that you believe in our mission and support our work to provide compassionate, person-centered care to every resident who calls Phoebe home, and charitable care for those in need. Because of you, our residents will continue to experience programs and services that improve quality of life, including seasonal celebrations, enriching community life activities, and uplifting spiritual programs.

With gratitude,

Kristin Paupini, Donor Relationship Coordinator

Dear donor,

Thank you for your donations of 929 pounds of food and \$1,235 in 2023. Thank you, too, for your recent donation of \$130. It is with your generous support that FISH is able to continue its outreach to those in need in the Pennridge community.

Sincerely,

Harry Tucker, President

## MAY BIRTHDAYS

5/6 – Trudy Irving

5/8 – Terry Weikel

5/9 – Oliver Moyer

Gary Wenger

Ally McNeff

5/10 – Geraldine Milkowich

5/12 – Andrew Haupert

Eric Tomlinson

5/14 – Tessa Hawkins

5/15 – Nancy Ziegenfuss

5/16 – Beverly Raudenbush

5/17 – Holly Jacoby

Hal Hough

5/18 – Justis Bergey

5/19 – Alexander Potoczny, Jr.

5/23 – Carol Bonsted

Susan Landis

5/24 – Angela Benner

5/25 – Nancy Moyer

Lori Graver

5/26 – Camdin Stokes

5/28 – Stephen Nace

Patti Stover

5/31 – Shirley Delikat

Matthew Schmidt

## CELEBRATING 46 YEARS OF MARRIAGE

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Koehler

May 21, 1978



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

# **Spring Gathering**

**Thursday, May 9 | 11:00am**

**St. Paul's UCC**

**104 Green St. Sellersville**

Game day!

We'll have a variety of card and board games, including pinochle. You may bring your own, too.

Light snacks, sweets, and beverages will be provided

**RSVP  
BY 5/1:**



# Pennridge FISH

## CURRENT NEEDS - MAY 2024

- 100% fruit or vegetable juice
- coffee
- tea
- hot chocolate
- spaghetti & other pasta
- spaghetti sauce
- pasta sides
- rice sides
- dry potato flakes
- gravy & broth
- soups (all kinds)
- peanut butter
- jelly
- canned goods: fish/tuna, meat, fruit  
chili/stew, beans,  
vegetables
- dried fruit
- pancake mix
- pancake syrup
- cold & hot cereals
- cake mix & frosting
- flour
- sugar
- condiments
- spices
- cooking oil
- snacks
- gluten free foods
- diabetic foods
- white & brown rice
- diapers: size 5 & 6
- pulls ups: all sizes
- diaper wipes
- laundry detergent
- cleaning products
- paper towels
- toilet paper
- tissues
- feminine hygiene products
- toiletries
- shaving products
- deodorant
- toothpaste
- bath soap
- shampoo



Purchase items via  
Amazon Wish List  
<https://bit.ly/3Weq4et>



*On average, the Pennridge FISH food pantry serves 725+ individuals in the Pennridge School District each month. Your support helps us provide a wide variety of nutritious food and more to our neighbors in need.*



**ALL SUBMISSIONS FOR THE JUNE NEWSLETTER ARE DUE BY MONDAY, MAY 20**

**ENDOWMENT**

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

**CONSISTORY**

Aaron Clark, *President*  
Paul Koehler, *Vice President*  
Arlene Peters, *Secretary*  
Jim Chrastina, *Treasurer*  
Brandon Barndt  
Neil Clark  
Rick Moyer  
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](mailto:pastortrudy@stpaulsucc.net)  
267-733-4153

**Brianna Link, Church Secretary**

*Office Hours: Tues/Wed/Thurs 10:30am – 1:30pm*

[brianna@stpaulsucc.net](mailto:brianna@stpaulsucc.net)  
215-257-7268

**Jeremiah Link, Director of Christian Education**

**Nathan Gulla, Organist**

**Cindy Bibic, Financial Secretary**

**Christopher Ziegenfuss, Choir Director**

**Peter Ziegenfuss, Handbell Choir Director**

[jeremiah@stpaulsucc.net](mailto:jeremiah@stpaulsucc.net)  
[nathan@stpaulsucc.net](mailto:nathan@stpaulsucc.net)  
[cindy@stpaulsucc.net](mailto:cindy@stpaulsucc.net)  
[chris@stpaulsucc.net](mailto:chris@stpaulsucc.net)  
[peter@stpaulsucc.net](mailto:peter@stpaulsucc.net)



104 GREEN STREET  
SELLERSVILLE, PA 18960

215-257-7268  
WWW.STPAULSUCC.NET



# MAY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			Choir 7:00pm	Growth & Hospitality 1:00pm  Christian Ed. 6:00pm		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Worship 10:15am	Bells 7:00pm  <i>Pastor Off</i>	Prayer Shawl 1:00 – 3:00pm  Choir 7:00pm  Finance Mtg. 7:00pm	Consistory 7:00pm	The Perennials 11:00am		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Worship 10:15am  <i>Mother's Day</i>	Bells 7:00pm		Choir 7:00pm			
19	20	21	22	23	24	26
<i>Celebration Sunday</i>  Worship 10:15am	<i>Newsletter Submissions due</i>	Prayer Shawl 1:00 – 3:00pm	<i>Red Cross Blood Drive</i> 2:00 – 7:00pm			
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Worship 10:15am	<i>Memorial Day</i>					