

OCTOBER 2024

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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



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2024

The 41st Annual Penridge CROP Walk is Sunday October 13, 2024 – rain or shine. Please consider walking, rocking or donating to help end hunger. 25% of the proceeds goes to Penridge Fish and the remaining 75% goes to Church World Service and their partner agencies for hunger in the US and globally.

Both the 5 mile walk and Golden Mile walk begin at St Andrew's Lutheran Church, 20 Dill Ave, Perkasio. Registration begins at 12:30pm and the walk begins at 1:00pm. The CROP Rock for people who want to participate but are unable to do the CROP Walk will be held at St Michael's Lutheran Church, Sellersville and St Stephen's UCC, Perkasio. It will start at 1:00pm. Please bring canned goods to donate to the Penridge Fish pantry.

Walkers and rockers are encouraged to register online with their team – St Paul's UCC Sellersville – so people can donate online. For online donations please go to crophungerwalk.org/perkasiepa. Look for team St Paul's UCC Sellersville and the walker's or rocker's name. People can still donate with checks or cash if that is easier for them. Please make the checks to CWS/CROP and on the memo line put CROP/St Paul's.

Sponsor forms for walkers and rockers are in the Narthex. The *Count Your Blessing* calendars are also there.

Any questions please ask me. My phone number is 215-257-3515 and email is rfrank1956@yahoo.com

Thank you for your continued support of the Penridge CROP Walk to help end hunger.

Robin Frank, St. Paul's CROP Walk Coordinator

Pastor Trudy will be on vacation October 11 and 12.

The Chicken Pot Pie dinner, originally scheduled for October 19, has been cancelled.

November newsletter submissions are due By Monday, October 21.

FROM THE PASTOR

World Communion Sunday will be celebrated on October 6th! This tradition, always held on the first Sunday in October, was originally conceived by Dr. Hugh Thompson Kerr of Shadyside Presbyterian Church (USA) in Pittsburgh, PA, in 1933. He had served as a moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church. The U.S. Presbyterian Church adopted World Communion Sunday in 1936, then in 1940, the National Council of Churches endorsed it and promoted it to churches globally. Since that time, the practice has grown and expanded beyond denominational lines, emphasizing ecumenical partnership and unity throughout the Christian tradition.

World Communion Sunday is a celebratory Sunday that invites us to think beyond the walls of our own congregation. On this day, people around the world celebrate Communion as an act of radical unity. While we gather at our own Table to celebrate Christ's joyful feast, we will also remember, with fondness, our siblings in faith celebrating this same meal around the world.

As members of the United Church of Christ, on October 6th, World Communion Sunday, we will also celebrate the presentation of our Neighbors in Need Special Mission Offering which supports ministries of justice and compassion in the United States. In 2024, the Neighbors In Need theme is "**Mental Health Justice For All!**" This year's focus is on Mental Health Justice. In 2015, the General Synod of the United Church of Christ passed a resolution to become WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged) for mental health.

A just world for all is a world where the human rights and well-being of people with mental health challenges are respected, no matter who you are or where you are in life's mental health journey. Thank you for your generosity and support of our Neighbors in Need Special Mission Offering.

So, mark the date and time: Sunday, October 6th, 10:15am, World Communion Sunday worship celebration with the presentation of our generous Neighbors in Need Special Offering. Come and gather at the Table set for you – remembering all that God has done for you; remembering God's love for you; remembering that God's love is to be shared around the world – today and always!

A Pilgrim on the Journey, *Pastor Trudy*

**Information in the above letter was taken from Special Sundays: Liturgy for World Communion Sunday written by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed and Neighbors in Need <https://www.ucc.org/neighbors-in-need-special-mission-offering/>*

M E N T A L H E A L T H J U S T I C E F O R A L L

Mental health is
a universal
human
right

"God will not falter or lose heart until justice
prevails throughout the earth." (Isaiah 42:4)

UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
NEIGHBORS IN NEED 2024
ucc.org/nin



OCTOBER 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 Liturgist: Deb Koehler

October 6 | 20th Sunday after Pentecost

World Communion Sunday! Neighbors in Need Offering

Scripture: Mark 6:30-44

October 13 | 21st Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: Mark 10:17-31

October 20 | 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

Joyful Noise Collection

Scripture: Mark 10:35-45

October 27 | 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

Reformation – Reconciliation Sunday

Scripture: Mark 9:30-37

Worship and reflection resources: Feasting on the Word, Liturgies for Year B, Volume 2, Trinity Sunday through Reign of Christ, Worship Companion, Kimberly Bracken Long, editor, © Westminster John Knox Press; Worship & Praise Songbook; Hymns for the Family of God; New Century Hymnal.

November 3: All Saints Sunday

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 October dates: 10/20, 10/27

SUNDAY MORNING CHRISTIAN EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Middle & High Schoolers | Sundays | 9:00am

Facilitated by Jeremiah Link. Meet in the Parlor.

Men's Group | Sundays | 9:00am

Facilitated by Neil Clark. Meet 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.

BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday afternoons in October | 2:00pm

Words of Life: Jesus and the Promise of the Ten Commandments Today
Adam Hamilton

There are still two Bible study books available. If you are not attending the study, but would like to purchase a book, please see Pastor Trudy; the cost is \$14. For those participating in the in-person study, if the Fellowship Hall is not available, we will meet in the Church Parlor. The pastor will notify participants if the study time will be held in the Church Parlor.

CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2025

The members of St. Paul's Confirmation Class of 2025 are Jaxon Moyer and Simon Ziegenfuss. Jaxon is the son of Dave and Stacey Moyer and his mentor is Nancy Moyer. Simon is the son of Chris and Nancy Ziegenfuss and his mentor is Kevin Irving. There will be several sessions that will involve only the meeting of the mentor and student; and other sessions will be group sessions led by the Pastor or Director of Christian Education. Not all sessions will be held at the church as some sessions will be held at the Pennridge FISH Food Pantry and Camp Men-O-Lan. Please hold our confirmands, their mentors and leaders in your prayers. The Rite of Confirmation will be celebrated on Pentecost Sunday, June 8th, 2025.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Delivering Great Joy and the Good News of Jesus Christ

"I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people." Luke 2:10, ESV

Are you ready to join the fun of packing an Operation Christmas Child gift box? Here are the details for this mission opportunity: Christmas gift boxes will be available for you to take along after worship on Sunday, October 27th; the boxes need to be returned by Sunday, November 17th, when they will be blessed during our time of worship. All of the materials you need (gift ideas for different age groups, etc.) will be available with the gift boxes. The knitters will also have a special small handcrafted item for you to take and put in your gift box. Endowment will be providing payment for shipment of all Operation Christmas Child gift boxes. Nancy Ziegenfuss will share more information with St. Paul's about Operation Christmas Child during upcoming worship services!!



Since 1993, Samaritan's Purse has provided an Operation Christmas Child shoebox gift to more than 220 million children in over 170 countries and territories. Local ministry partners hand out these tangible expressions of God's love at child-friendly, Gospel-focused outreach events. Afterward, many of the boys and girls are invited to attend The Greatest Journey discipleship program. Through 12 Bible lessons, children learn how to follow Christ and share Him with others. They tell friends and family what they are learning, and more people put their faith in Christ—and go on to tell still others. Through these dynamic evangelism and discipleship efforts, believers and churches are multiplying!

THE KEYSTONE PROJECT

Greetings! The **Keystone Conference vote will be taken on November 9th**. It is a wonderful opportunity for each congregation to send 2 delegates, along with all authorized ministers to our Fall Meeting, whether in person at St. Thomas in Harrisburg, at various watch parties in our Associations, or from the comfort of your own home.

Our meeting on November 9th is pivotal. We will discuss three key agenda items to inform the ministry of our conference: the **2025 PCC budget**, a resolution to General Synod concerning **Rural and Small Town Churches (STAR)**, and a formal motion to General Synod proposing the **formation of one united Keystone Conference of the United Church of Christ**. Each congregation's participation is vital as we foster unity and collaboration across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

There are Sunday morning bulletin inserts that will be shared and available in order to ensure The Keystone Conference shared purpose resonates throughout our congregations.

Registration for Nov. 9th will be announced soon. Registration is already open for the **Fall Town Halls!** There is a QR code on the inserts. ***Let's work together to inspire active participation and meaningful dialogue around these significant matters!***

Keystone Project Transition Timeline

Dear participants of the PA UCC Spring Meeting –

You requested more information on aspects of the Keystone Project, and we heard you! Please find our [Transitional Timeline attached to this message](#). We hope this will provide some clarity about what would happen next if all the Conferences vote to pass the Motion for the creation of a Keystone Conference.

Please keep the following things in mind as you review the timeline:

1. **This timeline is evolving.** More information will be added to it in the next few months including timeframes for financial decisions, sale of real estate, office location, legal paperwork submission, and the like. New versions will be released on a regular basis.
2. **The full transition of four Conferences into one takes several years.** A crew of transitional staff is necessary to carry the work of the new Conference into and through its first year, especially as a transitional Board is getting established. The timeline for staff transitions (current to transitional to settled) is a dynamic operation and we will adapt as needed.
3. **Following the official start of the Keystone Conference (01/01/2026) there will remain four 'skeletal' boards of the original conferences.** At this point the current four Conferences will come to be the "Historic Penn Northeast Conference" etc. This is necessary as we move toward financial integration, which will happen over the following few years.
4. **All our significant timeline decisions are made with the knowledge and counsel of the National setting of the UCC, including our General Counsel, Heather Kimmel.**

Please share your feedback and questions at:

Keystone.Conference.project@gmail.com

In Peace,

Your Conference Ministers

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

10/1 – Terry Raudenbush
 10/2 – Zachary Hauptert
 10/9 – Krystal Frank
 Dennis Hurchalla
 10/10 – Josh Fosbenner

10/15 – Deborah Weaver
 10/17 – Surrey Link
 Lucas Moyer
 Karen Weaver
 10/22 – Michael Potoczny

10/25 – Robin Frank
 10/26 – Breanna Barndt
 10/27 – Sailor Link
 10/30 – Selina Koehler
 Cheryl Murray

ENDOWMENT

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

CONSISTORY

Paul Koehler, *President*
 Neil Clark, *Vice President*
 Arlene Peters, *Secretary*
 Jim Chrastina, *Treasurer*
 Brandon Barndt
 Marie Runkle
 Rick Moyer
 Scott Huff
 Jocelyn Ziegenfuss

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

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Off: Friday

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 267-733-4153

Brianna Link, Church Secretary

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

brianna@stpaulsucc.net
 215-257-7268

Jeremiah Link, Director of Christian Education

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Nathan Gulla, Organist

nathan@stpaulsucc.net

Cindy Bibic, Financial Secretary

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Christopher Ziegenfuss, Choir Director

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Peter Ziegenfuss, Handbell Choir Director

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