



www.stpaulsucc.net



@stpaulssellersville



St. Paul's United Church of Christ

# ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST SHARING THE GOOD NEWS



SEPTMEBER 2023

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

## EVERY SUNDAY IS A SPECIAL SUNDAY IN SEPTEMBER

### **September 3rd**

Labor Day weekend and the unofficial end of Summer

### **September 10th**

10:15am Worship returns

### **UCC Upper Bucks Cooperative Rally Day Picnic**

**Where:** St. Peter's Tohickon UCC | 1071 Old Bethlehem Road, Perkasie

**When:** 1:00 - 4:00pm

**What's provided:** hot dogs and fixin's, beverages, plasticware

**What to bring:** covered dish to share, lawn chair, paper goods  
*optional: S'mores items; cake/dessert if participating in the Cake Walk*

**What's included:** activities for all ages; music including a hymn sing; face painting; balloon animals; corn hole; ladder ball; a labyrinth and more!

### **September 17th**

Join us for a brunch after 10:15am worship

### **September 24th**

Welcome Sunday!

Celebrate the return of Kingdom Kids as we also look forward to another year of ReCharge and new and renewed faith formation opportunities at St. Paul's!

## A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Are you experiencing the ‘end of Summer blues?’ That was the question Kelly and Ryan were asking of their viewing audience as I waited for my car inspection to be completed on August 14th. I was not thinking about the end of Summer – I was not feeling “blue” - my mind was simply on the new adventure before us as we planned to leave in six days for vacation time with our granddaughter. Since newsletter deadlines come the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month before the published newsletter – I’ll have to wait to share with you some news of our August travels in the October newsletter – and since those travels were to Salem, MA, maybe October will be the perfect month for those tales 😊

Anyway, I enjoy the changing seasons so much that I mostly look forward to each season – Fall, Winter, Spring and Summer - and the spectrum of varied beauty revealed in each season. Instead of viewing the “end” – I envision another “beginning” of something new – honoring and appreciating the season that came before - but looking ahead to the mystery of a new season about to be revealed – yes, like the song, *Hymn of Promise* proclaims: *unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.*

In reflecting upon the history of St. Paul’s and her amazing 152 years of her presence in the Sellersville community, we have so much for which to be thankful – so many seasons that have come and gone – and yet new seasons that still come before us. The leadership of St. Paul’s, from pastors, to staff, to lay leaders has always been a dynamic, faithful, and committed group of leaders. In our long history, I am now number twelve of called settled pastors that have served this congregation – and as number twelve in a 152-year history – I recognize the very long tenures of those that came before me. There are long tenures of staff in our history also and a few of those with which I’m familiar that held leadership positions as custodian, church secretary, organist/choir director, Christian Education (Nancy Ziegenfuss most recently resigning as our Christian Education Director after a fourteen-year tenure). Then there’s Pete Ziegenfuss, our longest serving member of staff at 35 years, as he continues to lead our handbell choir!!! Awesome!! Ring on Pete.....and handbell choir!

Additionally, we are reminded once more of how blessed we are to have a group of folks working together – a ministry team - in this season of the church – creating a Living Museum where St. Paul’s history can be displayed and archives be kept safe and secure for this generation and future generations; a place where memories of the past can be honored and shared with others who may wander through our doors and hallways as we celebrate what God is doing here and now!

There are seasons of change in the church just as there are in God’s creation. Our newest staff member is our church secretary, Brianna Link. Her duties and responsibilities are different than those that served before her in this position because of the myriad of technology changes that have become a part of our everyday lives. There are new areas of ministry to explore. New opportunities waiting to be discovered. There is truly only one constant in the life of the church - God is always at work and God is always prepared to reveal something new – *something God alone can see.* I give thanks that in this season of my life I am here with you – watching, waiting, working, serving in the name of Jesus! Praise be to God!

September blessings,  
Pastor Trudy

# SEPTEMBER WORSHIP SERVICES

## Season of Creation

In the month of September as we gather for worship, we enter the **Season of Creation** with our companions and teachers: Forest, Land, Wilderness-Outback, and River. We sit with them, enjoy their company, and listen attentively to their stories, cries, and longings.

**September Liturgist:** Debbie Koehler

### September 3, 2023 – 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost *Labor Day Weekend*

Scripture: Genesis 2:4b-22; Psalm 139:13-16;  
Acts 17:22-28; John 3:1-16

### September 10, 2023 – 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost *Return to 10:15am worship time*

Scripture: Genesis 3:14-19, 4:8-16; Psalm 139:7-12;  
Romans 5:12-17; Matthew 12:38-40

### September 17, 2023 – 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: Matthew 3:14-4:2 or Mark 1:9-13;  
Joel 1:8-10; Psalm 18:6-19; Romans 8:18-27

### September 24, 2023 – 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost *Welcome Sunday – Kingdom Kids returns*

Scripture: Genesis 8:20-22, 9:12-17; Psalm 104:27-33  
Revelation 22:1-5; Matthew 28:1-10

Worship and reflection resources: Seasons of the Spirit TM SeasonsFusion Pentecost 1 2023, Copyright © Wood Lake Publishing Inc. 2022; Worship & Praise Songbook; Worship & Rejoice; New Century Hymnal; Hymns for the Family of God.

Services are livestreamed on our YouTube channel. See the website for more information.

**September 10:** return to 10:15am worship

**September 13:** choir rehearsal resumes, 7:00pm\*

**September 24:** Kingdom Kids and Welcome Sunday

**October 2:** Handbell choir resumes, 7:00pm\*

\*dates are subject to change if necessary

## Altar Flowers

Speak with Brenda Clark if you'd like to sponsor altar flowers for any of the following dates:

**September:** 10, 17, 24

**October:** 22, 31

**November:** 5, 12, 26

**December:** 3, 10, 17, 31

# 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL PENNRIDGE CROP WALK

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8TH, 2023 | 1:00pm



Take a hike for hunger during the 40th annual Pennridge CROP walk. Both the 5 mile and the Golden Mile will start at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church at 20 Dill Ave in Perkasio. Registration begins at 12:30pm and the walk begins at 1:00pm. It is held rain or shine. Please bring canned goods to donate to Pennridge FISH. Twenty five percent of all proceeds go to Pennridge FISH for local hunger. The remaining funds will be used by Church World Service and its partner agencies for hunger in the US and globally.

This year there is also a new addition called CROP ROCK. It is for people who want to participate but cannot do the 1 or 5 mile trek. They will take part in the event by rocking in rocking chairs throughout the duration of the walk and be sponsored to "rock" through the entire event. We will have more details about it. If you plan to walk or "rock" sponsor forms will be in the narthex. You can also scan the QR code above to register online or visit [www.crophungerwalk.org/perkasiepa](http://www.crophungerwalk.org/perkasiepa).

Any questions, please ask me.

Robin Frank  
St. Paul's CROP Walk Coordinator

**Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup>**  
**6:30 – 8:00pm**  
**ReCharge Youth Center**

Students in 5<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to join us for our monthly gathering with friends, snacks, and games!

We'll also be planning our fall and winter events – including our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual spaghetti dinner coming up on November 11<sup>th</sup>.



# Camp SONSHINE

## MANY, MANY THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO PLAYED A ROLE IN THIS SUMMER'S CAMP SONSHINE: PETS UNLEASHED PROGRAM

- Families who sent their children
- Camp Sunshine staff: Kate & Aaron Clark, Jerry Fosbenner, Fay Gable, Holly Weideman, Brandon Barndt, Marty & Lori Milkowich, McKenna Milkowich, Marley Weideman, Tessa Hawkins, Taylor Hawkins, Faith Hawkins, Pastor Trudy
- Ken Gable and Jackie Kemmerer who manned the registration table
- Kitchen Crew: Brenda & Neil Clark, Sam Clark, Kevin Irving, Arlene Peters, Chris & Cindy Fosbenner, Brandon Barndt, and Ron Murray
- Decorations Imagineer: Jocelyn Ziegenfuss
- Decorations Team: Chris & Cindy Fosbenner, Kevin Irving, Robin Frank, Holly Weideman, Brianna Link, and Debbie Koehler
- Donna Huff and Lauren Hendricks for the name tags and cut-out letters
- All who decorated: Marty & McKenna Milkowich, Tessa Hawkins & Isaiah, Chris & Jocelyn Ziegenfuss, Holly Weideman, Aaron Clark, Neil Clark, Chris & Cindy Fosbenner, Robin Frank, and Brandon Barndt
- Brandon and Jocelyn for helping re-locate decorations for Sunday's worship service
- ALL the folks who helped un-decorate
- Arlene Peters for making beef BBQ and puppy chow snack mix
- Jocelyn Ziegenfuss for making chocolate chip cookies
- Clark family for purchasing the soft pretzel bites and mini pretzel dogs
- Irvings for purchasing the hamburgers, hotdogs, and buns
- Kevin Irving for grilling and for taking care of climate control in the building
- Pete Ziegenfuss for letting us borrow lighting for the Bible Adventures shadow play
- Olivia and Teddy, our furry guests on Friday and Saturday evening (and their human friends, Jocelyn Ziegenfuss and Mary Beth Baringer)
- The congregation: for the money you gave in the VBS giving envelopes (which totaled \$595), for the money you gave to support the Last Chance Ranch mission project (an additional \$540), and for the tangible items donated to Last Chance Ranch (leashes, collars, towels, sheets, etc.)
- Pastor Trudy for her support, encouragement, and partnership in this ministry



## CAMP SONSHINE MISSION PROJECT UPDATE

As of Sunday, July 30<sup>th</sup>, Camp Sunshine attendees and our generous congregation donated \$610 to the spay and neuter program at Last Chance Ranch. Combined with the \$500 dollar-for-dollar matching offer from Endowment, a total of \$1,110 will be sent to Last Chance Ranch! With those funds, 11 animals will benefit from your generosity! Thank you everyone!

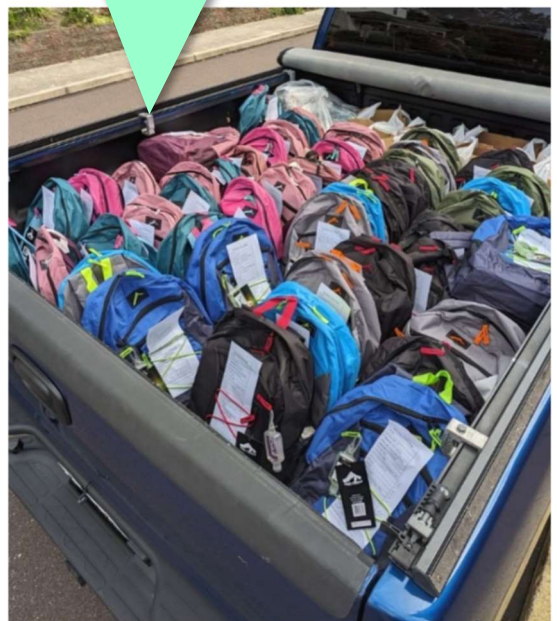


## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 9/3 – Kate Clark  
Dylan Ferris  
Bonnie Hayden
- 9/6 – Wm. Hart Rufe, III
- 9/7 – George Schmidt, Jr.
- 9/8 – Jim Chrastina  
Lauren Hendricks  
Chris Ferris  
Linda Sweigart  
Matthew Milkowich  
Jenessa Bergey
- 9/9 – Karen Nace
- 9/11 – Jason Kelly
- 9/12 – Ella Ferris
- 9/14 – Arlene Peters  
Greg Landis
- 9/15 – Clarence Runkle  
Michael Milkowich
- 9/16 – Jean Houpert  
Rowyn Wells
- 9/17 – Megan Ferris
- 9/18 – Roy Roth
- 9/19 – Lucy Chrastina  
Maria Long
- 9/21 – Julius Hayden, IV
- 9/23 – Nancy Booz
- 9/24 – Braylon Stokes  
Jacoby Bergey  
John Roush
- 9/25 – Joy Fulp  
Angela Kelly  
Tracy Molettieri
- 9/26 – Evelyn Derstine  
Nicholas Fernandez
- 9/28 – Donna Huff

A huge thank you to those who sponsored a backpack and for those who volunteered their time to pack and deliver the bags.

Brenda Clark is still accepting sponsorships – reach out to her or the office to donate. More info to come in next month's newsletter!



The 2023 Summer Lunch Program has ended and the faithful here at St. Paul's stepped up as usual. 20 plus bags of items were delivered to FISH, in addition to monetary donations to assist in feeding the kids home for summer who needed lunches. You know every donation, no matter how big or small, makes an impact on the families FISH serves. Thank you all for your dedication to this program!

# Pennridge FISH

## CURRENT NEEDS - SEPT 2023

### 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>



## From the Conference Minister of the Hawaii Conference UCC

*How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity! Psalm 133: 1*

Dear Friends,

We live in unity with UCC friends in the 117 congregations that make up the Hawaii Conference. Four of those congregations are on Maui. While the island is 4,800 miles away, the suffering there is as close as a next breath or tear. Conference Minister David Popham shared the following thoughts August 11. The latest news on how to help follows that.

Pastor Bill

Rev. Bill Worley, Conference Minister

*"Once again, thank you all for your kind words, prayers, and holding us in the light of God. Many of you have been through disasters before and I appreciate your insights and hard-earned wisdom.*

*...the fire has become the worst natural disaster for the islands since becoming a state. The Hilo tsunami of 1960 killed 61 people, Hawaii's deadliest disaster. The death toll for Lahaina is now 67 [96 as of today, Tuesday, 8/15]. Authorities are letting residents back in. But it's over a dirt road that runs along cliffs. On top of that once you get in there is no electricity, water, or phone service. A few hearty folks are remaining in town. 80% of the town of Lahaina (1700 buildings) were destroyed or damaged.*

*Waiola UCC, the first church on Maui, is the 200-year-old home to Christian friends who have rebuilt their building in part or whole four times: 1858 following wind damage; 1894 following an accidental fire started by the caretaker; 1947 following a rubbish fire; 1951 following wind damage. This congregation's DNA is resiliency. Their church campus did burn. The concrete walls of the sanctuary remain. Interestingly the front lawn and historic cemetery were not touched by the fire...All members of the church have been accounted for except for one couple [no update about them was available at the time of eNews publication]. All totaled, four UCC churches were under threat by the fires.*

*Along with what's being carried in the news, Maui regularly has brush fires this time of year. It is the midst of our dry season and August heat does not help. On Tuesday [August 8] multiple brushfires broke out across Maui, the four large ones and I've heard about five small ones as well. Living on islands, we cannot call in the fire brigade from the next county over. The fire above Lahaina had been contained and was all but extinguished when the winds picked up - 60 to 80 miles-per-hour gusts. The fires broke out and thinly stretched personnel could not keep up with them.*

*The magnitude and longevity of recovery is just now becoming a reality for our Maui clergy. The adrenaline rush is fading and grief and a sense of being overwhelmed is on the rise. Pacific Island culture is about pulling together and that is happening across the neighboring islands, but access to Maui is limited to essential workers and residents and much of "pulling together" means "presence" for our folks. I am not sure how this will play itself out.*

*I will be on Maui on Tuesday [August 15] as part of an ecumenical prayer service. The Catholic Bishop got that declared an essential activity. Woot! Woot! Bisho Silva. Mahalo for all the kind words and prayers.*

Rev. David Popham

Conference Minister - Hawaii Conference, UCC



(continued from previous page)

There are multiple ways to contribute to the response. We recommend:

1. Donate to UCC Disaster Ministries through the Conference Office. You can either mail contributions to the office (1441 Laura Lane, Suite 100; Pottstown, PA 19464) and indicate "Hawaii wildfire relief" or through the [Donation](#) button on our website (indicate the amount under "OCWM Special Support - Wider Church" next to "Wider Disaster Relief for:" and indicate "Hawaii wildfire relief" in the space to the right.
2. Gifts can also be made specifically to help rebuild Waiola UCC. Those gifts can be sent to the Conference Office as noted above, but must specify "Waiola UCC" or they will be forwarded for the general Hawaii Wildfire Relief Fund.

## **Save the date! PSEC Annual Lay Leadership Convocation**

The Second Annual Lay Leadership Convocation of Pennsylvania Southeast Conference UCC will be held Saturday, April 6, 2024, at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Boyertown. Keynote speaker will be Dr. Sarah B. Drummond, Dean of Andover Newton Seminary at Yale Divinity School and author of *Sharing Leadership*. The convocation will include numerous workshops on topics of interest to Elders, Deacons, and other church leaders. Registration should open by the end of January. For now, please save the date!

## **Notes of Thanks**

*Thank you for your gift of \$305 to the ministry of Samaritan's Purse. Your gifts and prayers equip us to invest in the marriages of combat-wounded veterans and their spouses through Operation Heal Our Patriots; as well as provide disaster relief at home and around the globe.*

*Franklin Graham, President – Samaritan's Purse*

*Thank you for your continued support of high-quality, safe, affordable homes for Bucks County families! Footers are nearing completion on two of our three new single-family homes in Croydon, PA, and we're excited to begin welcoming volunteer teams to the construction site next week. This happens only through partnerships with organizations like yours!*

*Jennifer Drayer-McDonald, Donor Relations Director – Habitat for Humanity Bucks County*



**ALL SUBMISSIONS FOR THE OCTOBER NEWSLETTER  
ARE DUE BY SEPTEMBER 18**

**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**

**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

**Nathan Gulla**, Organist

[nathan@stpaulsucc.net](mailto:nathan@stpaulsucc.net)

**Cindy Bibic**, Financial Secretary

[cindy@stpaulsucc.net](mailto:cindy@stpaulsucc.net)

**Christopher Ziegenfuss**, Choir Director

[chris@stpaulsucc.net](mailto:chris@stpaulsucc.net)

**Peter Ziegenfuss**, Handbell Choir Director

[peter@stpaulsucc.net](mailto:peter@stpaulsucc.net)



# September

2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
	AA	AA				
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Worship 9am 	AA	AA Prayer Shawl 1:00 – 3:00pm		Christian Ed. 6:30pm		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Worship 10:15am	AA	AA Growth & Hospitality 1:30pm Consistory 7:00pm	Choir 7:00pm			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Worship 10:15am & Brunch	AA	AA Prayer Shawl 1:00 – 3:00pm	Choir 7:00pm			
24	25	26	27	28	29	
Worship 10:15am Welcome Sunday 	AA	AA	Choir 7:00pm			