



The St. Paul's Spirit

Pottstown, Pennsylvania

November 2018

From Our President

One of the nice things about living in our area is the changing of the seasons. After what seemed like one of the rainiest summers I can remember, fall started out fairly warm too. Then, almost overnight, we went from the eighties to the sixties. And here we are, suddenly into fall. The changing colors of the leaves. Sweatshirts instead of short sleeves. Maybe put an extra blanket on the bed. Daylight savings time is coming, and be sure to change the batteries in your smoke detectors by the way. Next thing you know and it'll be winter with it's cold and snow. Short days and long nights. And then, spring. Ah, beautiful spring. It almost seems like the rebirth of God's creation, doesn't it? The plants blooming, birds returning, longer days, shorter nights.

No matter how old you are, when you're from our area, you experience all of these changing seasons and probably have a favorite. If I had to pick mine, it would be all of them. They all have their unique and enjoyable attributes. (Sorry, I can't decide). Whatever yours is, there's no denying that you have to experience, or endure, the others in order to come back to your favorite.



In some ways, this parallels where we at St Paul's are as a church. As a congregation. Most of you have been members at St Paul's for many years. You've been through the seasons of growth, when there was a lot of activity and outreach in the community. When there was stability on the pulpit, and full pews. Youth groups, youth and adult choirs. You've also seen the slow steady decline in attendance and membership over the past years as well. A lot of different pastors. We've seen our share of seasons.

Several years ago, the UCC had a slogan, "God is still speaking." I never doubted it. God is still speaking because He is alive. Always, forever. That's what our faith is based on. I think we all can agree that He is alive. And in our midst. Always, forever. All you have to do to see that he's always been with you is look back over your life. It's hard to see when you're in the middle of the storms in your life, but when you take time during the sunny moments to reflect on where you are and where you came from, you'll see that He was there all along. Waiting, patient, working as only He can. He loves you.

So as you reflect, think of St Paul's for a moment. Pray for our congregation, our consistory, our leaders in the UCC. Think about where we are. What season are we in? What is God calling us to be? What is God calling you to be? Where is He leading?

Please review the materials in this booklet and try to attend the congregational meeting on November 18th. There will be a potluck lunch following the meeting. I look forward to seeing you all there, and wish you and your families a safe and happy holiday season. God Bless!

Peace,

Vince Kehrer,
Consistory President

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
927 North Franklin Street
Pottstown, Pennsylvania 19464
Church Office: 610-323-2295
Church E-Mail: StPaulUCCPtn@aol.com
Fax: 610-323-0178
Website: www.StPaulsPottstown.org
Office Hours: Monday–Thursday
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Sunday Morning Schedule

Worship Service – 9:00 a.m.
Social Hour – beginning at 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School For All – 10:15 a.m.

Church Staff

Andrea Shollenberger, Secretary
484-333-2640
Andiatchurch@aol.com

Barbara Faison, Director of Music,
Yoga Instructor
Robert and Barbara Stouch, Sextons

Consistory 2018

President – Vince Kehrer
610-406-8702
Vice President – Scott Moyer
610-212-7979
Secretary–Cheryl Albright-Repko
610-367-8839
Treasurer – Barbara Toroney
610-323-6927

Frank Chesney
Dave Risko
Dottie Yocom

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
was founded in 1884 by members
from Zion's Reformed Church in
Pottstown. Our first church building
was located at Penn and Walnut
Streets.

In 1957, we relocated to our current
site. Our Christian Education wing
was built in 1962 to meet the needs
of our expanding congregation. In
1978, our present sanctuary was
begun; it was dedicated in 1980.

2018 is our 134th year of ministry.
St. Paul's continues to grow in faith
and service with an expanding
ministry to its members, to our
community, and to the world. We
invite you to join us and to make St.
Paul's your church home.

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927 North Franklin Street
Pottstown, Pennsylvania 19464

St. Paul's United Church of Christ



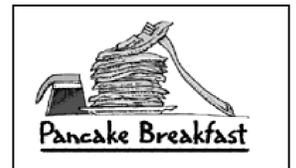
CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING

*Call to the
Annual Congregational
Meeting*

November 18, 2018

Your presence is encouraged!

**PANCAKE
BREAKFAST**



The next breakfast will be held on **November 11th**. Ticket prices are \$6 for Adults, \$3.50 for ages 6-12, and kids 5 and under are FREE! Join us for delicious pancakes, eggs, sausage, and baked goods!

CHURCH BAZAAR

Our Annual Church Bazaar will be held on Saturday, **November 24**. Applications for vendors are now available. See Dottie Yocom for more information.



**CHANGE TO BULK
MAILING IN 2019**

The Consistory has approved to end the bulk mail permit with the US Post Office, effective the end of the year. The church no longer has a need to mail the minimum of 200 pieces to get the bulk mail rate.

The newsletters will be e-mailed to members who wish to receive them in this manner. If we do not have your current e-mail address, please notify the church office. Newsletters are also posted on the church's website (www.StPaulsPottstown.org). Several hard copies will also be available on the Welcome Table in the narthex for those who do not have access to internet service.

All other mailings will be mailed out at the first class postage rate, or made available in hard copies on a Sunday morning.

These changes are made in order to be more efficient, and there would also be a cost savings of about \$500 per year. Any questions can be directed to the church office.



THANK YOU NOTES

Thank you to all who attended or contributed food, desserts, time, help, and monetary donations for our Pot Pie dinner. We had a great turnout and all our efforts helped make our dinner a success! **We were able to contribute \$2,505 to the General Fund.** When we all join together, we can do great things!

**DAYLIGHT
SAVINGS TIME
ENDS**



Daylight savings time ends Sunday, November 4. Remember to turn your clocks back one hour before you go to bed on Saturday night.



Mark your calendars for the following upcoming events. You don't want to miss out on the fun!!

- December 8 – Breakfast with Santa
- January 2019 – Bakeless Cake Sale
- February 2 – “Souper” Bowl Sale
- March 2 – Basket Social
- April – Dinner
- May 4 – Flea Market

More information to follow. Anyone willing to help is welcome. All proceeds from fundraisers go to the General Fund.

STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCES

Financial Snapshot

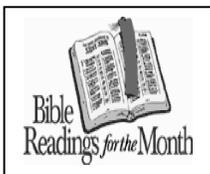
General Fund Income as of 9/30/18	\$81,921.29
General Fund Expenses as of 9/30/18	<u>\$85,727.73</u>
Year to Date Shortage	(\$ 3,806.44)

FUEL OIL INCREASE



We have received our payment coupons for the upcoming 2018-2019 heating season. Due to increased costs of fuel and increased usage last year (which used up our surplus from the year before), our payments will be increased from \$550 per month to \$887 per month.

Please carefully consider this increase when you are planning your giving. You can use the designated monthly envelopes in your envelope pack, or use one of the Special Offering envelopes on the welcome table.



FOR YOUR REFLECTION

The following are the lectionary scriptures for this month:

- November 4** – Ruth 1: 1-8; Psalm 146 or Deuteronomy 6: 1-9; Psalm 119: 1-8; Hebrews 9: 11-14; Mark 12: 28-34
- November 11** – Ruth 3: 1-5; 3: 14-17; Psalm 127 or I Kings 17: 8-16; Psalm 146; Hebrews 9: 24-28; Mark 12: 38-44
- November 18** – 1 Samuel 1: 4-20; I Samuel 2: 1-10 or Daniel 12: 1-4; Psalm 16; Hebrews 10: 11-14 (15-18) 19-25; Mark 13: 1-8
- November 25** - 2 Samuel 23: 1-7; Psalm 132: 1-12, (13-18) or Daniel 7: 9-10, 13-14; Psalm 93; Revelations 1: 4b-8; John 18: 33-37
- December 2** – Jeremiah 33: 14-16; Psalm 25: 1-10; 1 Thessalonians 3: 9-13, Luke 21: 25-36

ADOPT A BILL

If you would like to adopt this bill or any of the church's regular monthly bills, please mark your check appropriately, and drop it in the offering plate or mail it to the church office. If you have any questions, please contact Andi in the church office.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Celebrate with these
members and friends of

St. Paul's family having birthdays in
September. If we missed your birthday,
notify the office.

- 1 Justin Risko
- 4 Paul Davis
- 11 Suzanne Bohner
- 12 Doris Kandler, Dave Risko
- 16 Andi Shollenberger
- 23 Carol Eckroth, Devaughn Frederick
- 24 Alice Moses
- 25 Nash Ohlinger
- 26 Tracey Kehrer

ST. PAUL'S VISITATION LIST



Sue Bohner, Magnolia 1308, P.O. Box 548,
Frederick, PA 19435, 610-754-0019

Ginny Bernhart – 12 S. Reading Ave., Boyertown,
PA 19512, 610-369-1430

Betty Essick – Manatawny Manor, C-318, 30 Old
Schuylkill Rd., Pottstown, PA 19465; Phone 610-
326-5664 (this is a direct line)

Pat Gaugler – Villa St. Elizabeth, 1201 Museum
Rd., Reading, PA 19611

Dolly Gift – LifeQuest #D12, 2450 John Fries
Highway, Quakertown, PA 18951

Barbara Lessig - Keystone Villa, Room 126, 1180
Benjamin Franklin Hwy., Douglassville 19518,
610-385-5126



Greeters

- November 4** – Donna Risko
- November 11** –
- November 18** – Lynda Zeleznick
- November 25** –
- December 2** – Peggy Davis

Ushers

- November 4** – Kim & Andy Astheimer,
Andi Shollenberger
- November 11** – Barb Stouch, Carol Eckroth, Tina
Ludy
- November 18** – Steve & Barb Toroney, Terry &
Angie Hallman
- November 25** – Mike Faison, Fred Faison, Jackie
Turnbach, Betty Turnbach
- December 2** - Kim & Andy Astheimer,
Andi Shollenberger

Soundboard

- November 4** – Frank Chesney
- November 11** – Mike Faison
- November 18** – Nash Ohlinger
- November 25** – Terry Hallman
- December 2** – Frank Chesney

Serving Communion

- November 4** – Frank & Linda Chesney,
Betty Turnbach, Dave Risko
- December 2** – Kim Astheimer, Barb Hurter, Dave
& Dottie Yocom

NOVEMBER 2018

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1 FIWC 7 -9 pm Worship Team - 7 pm AA 8:30 p.m.					2	3 Turn your clocks back one hour tonight
4 COMMUNION Worship 9:00 a.m. FIWC – 11 a.m.	5	6	7 Choir 6:30 p.m. NA 8:00 p.m.	8 FIWC 7 -9 pm Worship Team - 7 pm AA 8:30 p.m.	9	10
11 PANCAKE BRKFST. Worship 9:00 a.m. FIWC – 11 a.m.	12	13	14 Choir 6:30 p.m. NA 8:00 p.m.	15 FIWC 7 -9 pm Worship Team - 7 pm AA 8:30 p.m.	16	17
18 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING Worship 9:00 a.m. FIWC – 11 a.m. & 4 p.m.	19	20	21 Choir 6:30 p.m. NA 8:00 p.m.	22  thanksgiving OFFICE CLOSED FIWC 7 -9 pm Worship Team - 7 pm AA 8:30 p.m.	23	24  BAZAAR
25 Worship 9:00 a.m. FIWC – 11 a.m.	26	27	28 Choir 6:30 p.m. NA 8:00 p.m.	29 FIWC 7 -9 pm Worship Team - 7 pm AA 8:30 p.m.	30	

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Return Service
Requested

Thanksgiving Delights

On Thanksgiving Day we're thankful for
Our blessings all year through,
For family we dearly love,
For good friends, old and new.
For sun to light and warm our days,
For stars that glow at night,
For trees of green and skies of blue,
And puffy clouds of white.
We're grateful for our eyes that see
The beauty all around,
For arms to hug, and legs to walk,
And ears to hear each sound.
The list of all we're grateful for
Would fill a great big book;
Our thankful hearts find new delights
Everywhere we look!

---By Joanna Fuchs



What are you thankful for?