



Newsletter of St. Paul's United Church of Christ

The St. Paul's Spirit

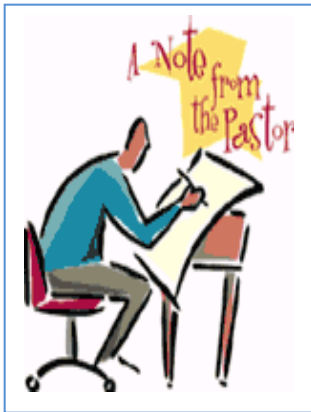
Pottstown, Pennsylvania

May 2019

From Our Pastor

Dear Members and Friends of St. Paul's,

I am delighted to be among you to help in your time of transition as you continue to seek a called Pastor on a more permanent basis. I have enjoyed my time with you and look forward to the days ahead. I do have some thoughts as we begin our time together.



There has been a great deal of discussion around the current condition of the church both in the wider society and in the confines of St. Paul's United Church of Christ. There are a host of "fixes" often suggested to increase worship attendance. There is also a concern regarding the waning influence of the church on the wider society. As your Stated Supply Pastor, I am just as concerned about these things as the next person. I would suggest, however, that we must be careful not to sell our soul for the sake of numbers. Perhaps we can draw some wisdom from Ralph Waldo Emerson who said, "What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us."

If we claim that we are disciples of Jesus Christ, then we need to take seriously the spiritual disciplines that help guide our lives. It is vital that we as members of the church avail ourselves of opportunities for spiritual development. These opportunities include worship and learning, as well as prayer and study in the home and participation in the community of our fellow believers. It includes taking seriously our life outside the walls of the church building as we live out our lives in the community. We need to make our spiritual life a priority. If Lent teaches us anything, it is that we need to challenge ourselves to live our faith more intentionally. Easter, of course, gives us the hope that resides within us as well as our hope for the world.

There are so many choices vying for our time and attention these days. We have a choice to make. Is our spiritual welfare important enough to invest our time? As Emerson said, "What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us." What God did for the church in the past is in the past and what God has in store for the church in the future is also in God's hands. Are we willing to place ourselves in God's hands in the present and find inspiration and purpose? If we strengthen our inner spiritual life, our faith will be deepened and we will be amazed as we watch the future unfolds before us. I look forward to the weeks ahead with you as we live our faith together.

Peace,
Pastor Stewart

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: Tuesday - Thursday
9:30 a.m. – 1:30 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

Rev. Dr. Robert Stewart,
Stated Supply Pastor
H: 610-775-2836 C: 610-413-7567

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

Barbara Faison, Director of Music,
Yoga Instructor

Barbara Stouch, Sexton

Consistory 2018

President – Vince Kehrer
484-256-1455
Vice President – Scott Moyer
610-212-7979
Secretary–Dave Risko
610-326-7834
Treasurer – Barbara Toroney
610-323-6927

Frank Chesney
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.

2019 is our 135th 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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The St. Paul's Spirit
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927 North Franklin Street
Pottstown, Pennsylvania 19464

FLEA MARKET

Saturday, May 4th, from 8 am -1 pm.



St. Paul's is sponsoring a Flea Market. Bring your own table & rent a space for \$10, or rent a table for \$13 (100% rentals goes to the church). The sale will be held rain or shine, outside or inside. We will also be selling breakfast/lunch items in Fellowship Hall. This is not a yard sale. Items are not to be dropped off at the church before the sale. Sellers are to stay during the market to sell their items. Anything not sold must go home with the seller at the end of the day. **Please see Scott Moyer or Linda Chesney** for a table reservation form & payment. Call Linda Chesney with any questions: 610-413-9284

PANCAKE BREAKFAST



**Sunday
May 5th**

**Tickets
Adults \$6
Ages 6 – 12 \$3.50
Age 5 and Under - FREE**

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

Financial Snapshot

General Fund Income as of 4/1/19	\$35,313
General Fund Expenses as of 4/21/19	<u>\$26,698</u>
Year to Date Surplus	\$ 8,615



FOR YOUR REFLECTION

The following are the lectionary scriptures for this month:

May 5 – Acts 9: 1-6 (7-20); Psalm 30; Revelations 5: 11-14; John 21: 1-19

May 12 – Acts 9: 36-43; Psalm 23; Revelations 7: 9-17; John 10: 22-30

May 19 – Acts 11: 1-18; Psalm 148; Revelations 21: 1-6; John 13: 31-35

May 26 – Acts 16: 9-15; Psalm 67; Revelations 21: 10, 22 – 22: 5

June 2 – Acts 16: 16-34; Psalm 97; Revelations 22: 12-14, 16-17, 20-21; John 17: 20-26

LAWN MOWING

Special donations needed!

A sponsor sign up sheet is on the Welcome Table for those who would like to make an additional donation to support this expense. Please print your name in the number of blocks (\$45 per block) that you will sponsor, and use one of the “Special” offering envelopes on the table to make your donation.



ADOPT A BILL

If you would like to adopt 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 May. If we missed your birthday, notify the office.

- 4 Jason Stouch
- 8 Arnold Romig
- 14 Jasmine Lucas, Lynne Sands
- 15 Rick Moser, Jennifer Risko
- 17 Jacob Arms IV
- 20 Amanda Harris, Shane Harris, Alyssa Ludy
- 22 Lea Hetrick
- 27 Dave Mackewicz
- 29 John Griesemer
- 31 Glenn Shirey, Ashley Wilhelm



Greeters

- May 5** –
- May 12** – Lynda Zeleznick
- May 19** –
- May 26** – Barb Stouch
- June 2** – Peggy Davis

Ushers

- May 5** – Kim & Andy Astheimer, Andi Shollenberger
- May 12** – Barb Stouch, Carol Hunter-Stouch, Kay Miller
- May 19** – Laurie & Jasmine Lucas, Chery Albright-Repko, Scott Moyer
- May 26** – Steve & Barb Toroney, Frank Chesney, Dave Risko
- June 2** – Kim & Andy Astheimer, Andi Shollenberger

Soundboard

- May 5** – Nash Ohlinger
- May 12** – Terry Hallman
- May 19** – Mike Faison
- May 26** – Frank Chesney
- June 2** – Nash Ohlinger

Serving Communion

- May 5** – Barb Toroney, Betty Turnbach, Dave Risko, Barb Hurter
- June 2** – Dottie Yocom, Barb Stouch, Terry Hallman, Kim Astheimer



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

May 2019

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
			1	2 FIWC 7 -9 pm Worship Team - 7 pm AA 8:30 p.m.	3	4 FLEA MARKET 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.
5 COMMUNION PANCAKES Worship 9:00 a.m. FIWC – 11 a.m.	6	7	8 Choir 6:30 p.m. NA 8:00 p.m.	9 FIWC 7 -9 pm Worship Team - 7 pm AA 8:30 p.m.	10	11
12  CONSISTORY MEETING Worship 9:00 a.m. FIWC – 11 a.m.	13	14	15 Choir 6:30 p.m. NA 8:00 p.m.	16 Service 7 pm FIWC 7 -9 pm Worship Team - 7 pm AA 8:30 p.m.	17	18
19 Worship 9:00 a.m. FIWC – 11 a.m. & 4 p.m.	20	21	22 Choir 6:30 p.m. NA 8:00 p.m.	23 FIWC 7 -9 pm Worship Team - 7 pm AA 8:30 p.m.	24	25
26 Worship 9:00 a.m. FIWC – 11 a.m.	27  MEMORIAL DAY	28	29	30	31	

Why Did God Make Mothers?

The following are different answers given by school-age children

Why did God make mothers?

She's the only one who knows where the scotch tape is.

How did God make mothers?

Magic plus super powers and a lot of stirring.

What ingredients are mothers made of?

God makes mothers out of clouds and angel hair and everything nice in the world.... and one dab of mean.

Who's the boss at your house?

Mom. You can tell by room inspection. She sees the stuff under the bed.

Describe the world's greatest mom?

She would make broccoli taste like ice cream!

If you could change one thing about your mom, what would it be?

I'd make my mom smarter. Then she would know it was my sister who did it and not me.



Mother's Day
May 12, 2019



Memorial Day
May 27, 2019