



# Celebrate St. Paul's!



132 years of service

133 Church St. P.O. Box 177 Bowmansville, Pa. 17507 717-445-6256  
www.stpaulsuccchurch.org Sunday Worship 10:30 am

Volume 14, Number 7  
July 2018

## What's Inside?

**Summer Communion**

**Alpha Course  
Continues**

**Next Shelter Meal  
Scheduled**

**Bowmansville Days  
Approaching**

**Church Picnic**



## *Symptoms...harmful or healthy?*

I don't think any of us enjoys being sick. I certainly don't. But not all forms of sick are created equal. Some are far easier to put up with than others.



If I had to rank, by misery level, the symptoms that come along with the everyday bugs that tend to infect relatively healthy humans, I think vomiting would be highest on my list. That one is truly miserable, and it's hard to do anything else when your body is focused on expelling its contents.

I think a fever would fall next on my list. It's a less violent symptom, but it can be highly debilitating. Most other common symptoms allow a person to keep functioning at a respectable percentage of normal. But a fever can quickly take down even the most hardy and energetic of people. And if the fever is high enough, many of us become desperate to feel better.

For anyone with a fever, it's easy to believe the fever is the problem. And since we have medications that can calm a fever, it can seem like a good idea to take them just to make ourselves feel better. But most of the time, a fever is not a threat to our health, and it's almost never the actual problem. It's an indication that our bodies are functioning as they should. A fever is both a symptom and a productive response--it's trying to fight off the real problem. Ironically, when we try to make ourselves better by getting rid of a fever, we can actually impair our own ability to fight the real problem. A fever raises our body temperature, making the body less hospitable to infection. Getting rid of it can prolong an illness and lull us into a false sense of wellness and into resuming our normal lives, infecting others along the way.

*Continued on page 2*

### Mission Statement

We, the congregation of St. Paul's United Church of Christ, who have accepted the gift of love and salvation through Jesus Christ, strive to take this message into the world through our prayers, words and deeds. We invite all people to accept these gifts with us.

## *Symptoms...harmful or healthy?...continued from page 1*

Our lack of spiritual and emotional satisfaction in life is similar; it's not the real problem. And like a fever, most of us are willing to try all kinds of interventions to try to make it go away. But all our efforts leave us feeling unsatisfied--sometimes less satisfied than we were before. That's because our unsatisfied condition is a symptom of human sin--our rebellion against God. We have all inherited it from our ancestors and chosen it for ourselves. And we don't have the power to eradicate it; only God can do that. That means all our efforts amount to merely striking out at a symptom that often gets worse the more we try to address it.

**Thank you GOD,  
I am very Happy Today**



Here's the good news: "If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God" (2 Corinthians 5:17-21). The work of atonement is done, and Jesus--the only one with the power to do so--has provided a direct and perfect remedy to the real problem.

It's important to recognize that while our problem is solved, in his mercy Jesus has yet to bring his perfect and complete justice and grace fully to bear upon our world and to lift the curse that creates distance between us and him. That means we still live with a symptom that, if we pay attention to it, can help us recognize the real problem and live in anticipation of the full realization of our status as forgiven people made whole again.

Don't be fooled. Your lack of satisfaction isn't a problem for you to solve. It's an indicator of a deeper problem that only God can solve. Let your unsatisfied heart pull you toward him and his ultimate redemption plan.

Pastor Bob



## Looking Ahead

July 4	Independence Day
July 26	Shelter Meal
July 29	Summer Communion
August 5	Church Picnic
August 10-12	Bowmansville Days
August 12	Community Service

### **Shelter Meal:**

We will be providing another meal at the Women's Shelter in Ephrata on Thursday, July 26th. If you would like to help with the meal by preparing a dessert or side dish or to help serve please see Tim, Nancy or Ron. We prepare a meal for approximately 15 women and children once a month on an ongoing basis.



**Bowmansville Days** will soon be here! The dates are August 10, 11 and 12th.

St. Paul's will be participating again with their pastry stand. We will need lots of help to setup and take down, donate baked goods, and help work in the stand throughout the weekend. There will be signup sheets posted shortly for volunteers. If you have any questions please call or stop by the church office.



## Consistory Updates

**Summer Communion** will be held on July 29th during worship. Please plan on attending to share in this meal at God's table.



### **Alpha Course:**

Alpha is a series of sessions exploring the Christian faith, typically run over eleven weeks. Each talk looks at a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation. Alpha is run all around the globe, and everyone is welcome.



Different sessions are being held throughout the week at St. Paul's. If interested please see Pastor Bob for more details.

### **A Summer Prayer**

Lord,  
What about you and me? I don't want to forget you just because I'm off my normal routine for the summer months. Keep close to me, Lord, and remind me that my relationship with you should never take a break. Amen.



The next consistory meeting is scheduled for **Friday, July 6th at 9:30 AM.**

**Prayer Concerns:** We will be updating our prayer list monthly by starting a new list at the beginning of every month. Please continue to review the list and if there are any updates during the month please see Dee Sprecher. We also have prayer request cards located in the parlor room and in the pews upstairs for your convenience. You can fill out the request and hand it to Pastor Bob or place it in the offering plate.



As you continue your own prayers and concerns outside of the sanctuary this week, please remember the concerns we have raised as a community.

**Our list of prayer concerns from June**

Bob, Brian, Christina, Deb, Dick, Doris, Gary, Linda, Naomi, Patty, Richard, the Palm family, caregivers, and our congress.

Suggested Prayer... “Most gracious and loving God, we lift up our list of prayer concerns this day and every day that all who are listed might know and feel your presence with them in their time of need. God, continue in your support for all of our friends and family listed and those who are forever in our hearts so that they might feel you with them each day, Amen.”



If you would like to ask for prayers for someone you may contact Pastor Bob. Below is a list of the individuals on our Prayer Chain that will pray for you throughout the week.

- |                    |                       |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Pastor Bob Peiffer | Lynda Cooper          |
| Kieran Connelly    | Nancy Caffrey-Schafer |
| Donna Ozga         | Steve Renninger       |
| Chris Storms       |                       |

**Remember our Shut-Ins**

Please remember those members and friends in nursing homes and retirement villages in your prayers:

Ray Freeman  
Brethren Village Retirement  
Community Room 230  
3001 Lititz Pike  
Lancaster, Pa. 17606

Betty Sweitzer  
Jim Waddell  
Lois Kirkpatrick  
Retirement Villages in Garden Spot Village  
433 South Kinzer Ave, New Holland, Pa. 17557

Richard Pennypacker  
The Gardens at Stevens  
400 Lancaster Ave Room 306W  
Stevens, Pa. 17578



**Pastoral Visits or Emergencies**

If anyone is in need of any pastoral assistance you may contact Pastor Bob Peiffer at 717-925-6520 or at his email rpeiffer55@gmail.com. You can also call the church office at 717-445-6256.



Church office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 8:00 am until 1:00 pm.



Hear all the latest...

### Church Picnic

Mark your calendars for the annual church picnic!

Where: Woodcrest Retreat in Ephrata  
Cedar Lane Pavilion

When: Sunday, August 5th  
11:00 am

We will begin with worship followed by a picnic lunch. Pool tickets and the waterslide will also be available at 1:00 pm.

Watch for signup sheets to be posted shortly.



### Teachers' Meeting



Our next Christian Ed meeting will be held in July at Ranck's Restaurant. The time and date has yet to be determined.

### Connecting the Dots

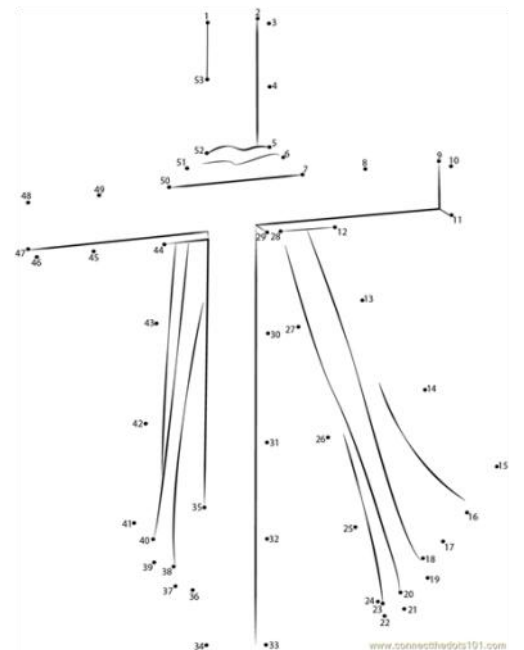
Commencement speeches and greeting cards are full of advice for graduates, yet good intentions and careful plans can't guarantee a perfect life — whatever that might mean.

“You can't connect the dots looking forward,” said Steve Jobs. “You can only connect them looking backwards. So you have to trust that the dots will somehow connect in your future. You have to trust in something — your gut, destiny, life ...”

As Christians, we can do more than that: We can trust in God. Yes, he may speak to us through a “gut” feeling, and our eternal “destiny” is assured. And we know that life, not death, will win out. But recent grads — and all of us — need not just sit and wait to see how the dots of our lives will someday connect. God has shown us through Scripture, the church and, above all, Jesus that the dots connect this way: from God's heart, to Jesus' sacrifice for us, to our entry into relationship with God, to our heart and finally to our own loving outreach to others.

Whatever shape your education, work and family take through the years, “commence” with this: God has drawn your life to connect with him and your neighbors. If you follow those Spirit-etched lines, you'll be fine.

Heidi Mann





**Birthdays**

**July**

- 5 John (Hen) Lessley
- 11 Nancy Connelly
- 13 Grace Sprecher
- 15 Ron Frederick
- 16 Alta Hoshour
- 19 Chuck Eckenroth
- 24 Ida Klaassen



**Happy Birthday!**

**Sandwich Sales:**

The Women's Guild will not be having any sandwich sales during the summer months of July and August. We will start up again in September. Have a great summer and thank you for supporting our fund raisers.



**Food Bank News**

**July need**– During the past several months we have been serving more families resulting in a growing need for more donations.

Currently, the food bank is asking for the following items; ketchup, pancake mix & syrup, macaroni & cheese, rice side packets, diced tomatoes, and tomato paste.

If you can provide any of these items please place them in the shopping cart by the side door entrance.

Thank you!



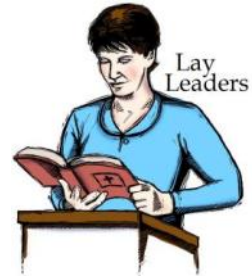
**Anniversaries**



- Jeff & Dee Sprecher - 27 years on July 12
- Dave & Melissa Detrick - 32 years on July 19
- Ron & Renee Frederick - 49 years on July 19
- Edward & Sharon Blechschmidt - 38 years on July 26



# Monthly Volunteers



July 1 Cheryl Borja  
 July 8 Mary Renninger  
 July 15 Dee Sprecher  
 July 22 Sara Renninger  
 July 29 Mary Renninger \*\*

July 1 Lynda Cooper  
 July 8 Lynda Cooper  
 July 15 Mary Renninger  
 July 22 Sharon Blechschmidt  
 July 29 Kieran Connelly

August 5 Picnic  
 August 12 Community Service  
 August 19 Cheryl Borja  
 August 26 Dee Sprecher

August 5 Picnic  
 August 12 Community Service  
 August 19 Mary Renninger  
 August 26 Lynda Cooper

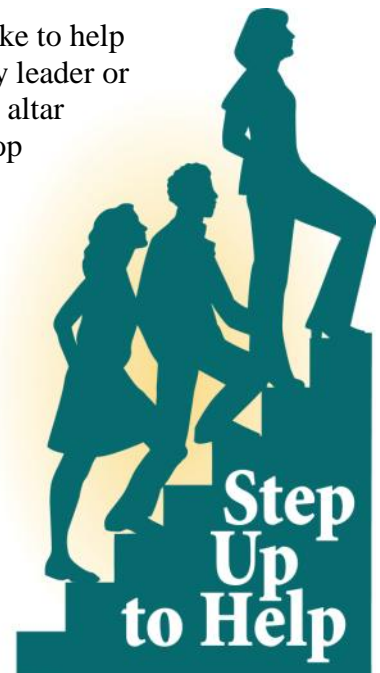
\*\* Indicates communion



July 1 Clint Cooper  
 July 8 Gretchen Martin  
 July 15 Patty Lutz  
 July 22 Dee Sprecher  
 July 29 Nancy Connelly

If you would like to help as a greeter, lay leader or be a part of the altar guild please stop by the church office for details.

August 5 Picnic  
 August 12 Community Service  
 August 19 Chuck Eckenroth  
 August 26 Kieran Connelly



## Treasurer's Report

The monthly report for  
May 2018:

Checking Account

Beginning Balance	\$66,640.46
+ Receipts	7,413.06
- Disbursements	13,892.32
- Transfers	0
Ending Balance	\$60,161.20

A copy of this information can also be found at  
the mailboxes in the slot marked financial re-  
ports.

**May's offering only total was \$3,884.00.**



## Offering Ushers



July 1	Tim Lutz Patty Lutz Chuck Eckenroth Dee Sprecher
July 8	Kieran Connelly Sharon Blechschmidt Ron Frederick Sara Renninger
July 15	Brian Martin Gretchen Martin Charlie Storms Chris Storms
July 22	Clint Cooper Lynda Cooper Cheryl Borja Sara Renninger
July 29	Tim Lutz Patty Lutz Deb Shelly Steve Renninger



The following individuals are responsible for counting  
the offering after worship;

July 1	Tim Lutz & Patty Lutz
July 8	Sharon Blechschmidt & Pete Martin
July 15	Gretchen Martin & Brian Martin
July 22	Alta Hoshour & Clint Cooper
July 29	Tim Lutz & Patty Lutz

If you are unable to usher on your Sunday please  
find a replacement. If you have any questions re-  
garding the schedule please see any one of the  
Deacons.





## Sponsors



July 1	open
July 8	open
July 15	Ron & Renee Frederick
July 22	open
July 29	open
August 5	Picnic
August 12	Community Service
August 19	Tim & Patty Lutz
August 26	open



July 1	open
July 8	open
July 15	open
July 22	open
July 29	open
August 5	Picnic
August 12	Community Service
August 19	open
August 26	open

## Flower and Bulletin Sponsor Sheet

The flower and bulletin charts for **2018 are posted**. If you would like to sponsor a week please sign your name on the chart for any Sunday you wish. Please fill out the appropriate form and see that Dee gets your dedication information at least one week prior to it going in the bulletin. The cost for the flowers is **\$30.00**. We will place silk flowers in the sanctuary and place your dedication information in the bulletin. If you wish to purchase real flowers you may still do so on your own. The cost of the bulletins is **\$10.00** each week. Payments can be given to Dee Sprecher. Thank you in advance for your support.

## *St Paul's UCC Celebrate*

A publication of St. Paul's UCC  
133 Church St., P.O. Box 177  
Bowmansville, Pa. 17507  
Phone & Fax 717-445-6256  
office@stpaulsuccchurch.org  
www.stpaulsuccchurch.org



Editor:  
Deidre Sprecher  
dee@stpaulsuccchurch.org

Pastor:  
Rev. Dr. Robert B. Peiffer  
rpeiffer55@gmail.com

St Paul's UCC *Celebrate* is published monthly to keep members and friends informed of programs of the church and to report news about the community and its people.

Deadline for article submissions: The third Sunday of each month.

# July 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <b>Worship 10:30</b> Fresh Hope 1:00	2	3	4 <b>Independence Day</b>	5	6 <b>Consistory 9:30</b>	7
8 <b>Worship 10:30</b>	9	10 Depression & Bipolar Support Mtg @ Zion's	11 <b>Christian Ed Mtg 11:30 am</b> <b>Card Club 6:00</b>	12	13	14
15 <b>Worship 10:30</b> Fresh Hope 1:00 <b>Newsletter Due</b>	16 <b>PRC @ Zions 7:00</b>	17	18	19	20	21
22 <b>Worship 10:30</b>	23	24 Depression & Bipolar Support Mtg @ Zion's 7:00	25 <b>Card Club 6:00</b>	26 <b>Good Samaritan Shelter Meal 5:00</b>	27	28
29 <b>Worship 10:30</b> <b>Communion</b>	30	31				