



Celebrate St. Paul's!



131 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 13, Number 6
June 2017

What's Inside?

Pentecost

Strengthen the Church

New Outreach

Thank our Teachers

Happy Father's Day

Next Sub Sale



What Will You Do With Pain ?

It seemed like a good idea at the time. They would borrow the camping gear collecting dust in the garage, and they would head to the mountains to enjoy a night under the stars. Two college buddies enjoying the great outdoors.

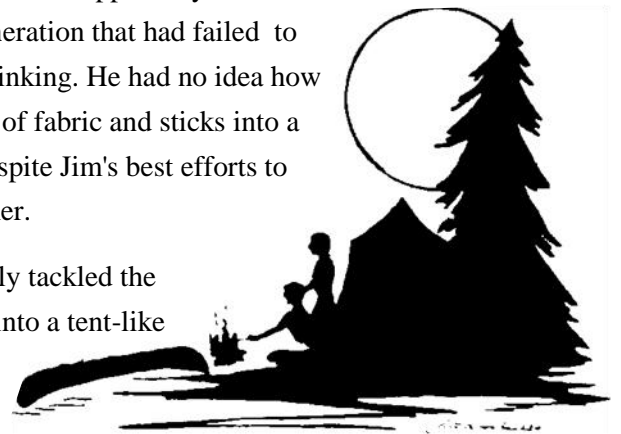
Trevor, my son's roommate, grew up in Colorado. His dad loved the outdoors, and the family had a collection of camping equipment they would use from time to time on getaways in the mountains. His friend Jim, who grew up in Chicago, was visiting during summer break. A camping trip to the mountains was a must-do.

The day was warm, but the alpine air held a hint of the chill to come, when nighttime temperatures might dip below freezing. So the two young men wisely planned to set up their campsite first thing. They found a campground in the forest and pulled out the dusty supplies they had packed.

That's when the problem unfolded. Literally.

The heavy canvas-and-wood tent Trevor had found, carefully folded and stored in the garage at home, was older than the hills and apparently manufactured by some long-gone generation that had failed to pass along its wisdom and ways of thinking. He had no idea how to transform it from an unwieldy pile of fabric and sticks into a passable shelter for the night. And despite Jim's best efforts to help, he couldn't solve the puzzle either.

With no better alternative, they bravely tackled the challenge and wrestled the materials into a tent-like shape that would never stand on its own. They tried another approach, producing something that looked more like a boat.



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.

What Will You Do With Pain ? ...continued from page 1

They tried every configuration they could envision, and nothing worked. They were still staring at an awkward and stubborn pile of canvas and poles.

Just when these two unhappy campers were thinking they might have to simply crawl under the fabric for the night, help arrived in the form of a middle-aged couple who had been watching the show from another campsite. "You fellas look as if you could use some help," they said. And incredibly, they knew what to do. Just to be nice, they let the boys help a little as they quickly and efficiently brought order from chaos and fashioned the mass of materials into an actual tent. It was old, it had a bit of a funny smell, it wasn't very breathable, but it was sturdy. And it was shelter.

Profoundly grateful, Trevor and Jim thanked their rescuers, who seemed to want to linger and chat. So they talked for several minutes, with the older couple asking a lot of friendly questions. They asked if the guys needed anything else, if there were any other ways they could help. And they invited Trevor and Jim to come to their campsite later for a home-cooked dinner. Exhausted and famished from their labors, they accepted.

After the couple left, Jim commented on how genuinely nice they seemed, and how generous they were. Trevor, highly intuitive, made a guess: "I'll bet they had a son who died young."

And over dinner, sitting around the fire and eating from bowls of stew, they discovered he was right. The couple shared their story of agonizing loss--their son had been about their same age when he died. This mother and father had been heartbroken. They had lost a child--one of the most tragic forms of suffering. Yet they had not allowed their pain to close their hearts. Instead, they had let it make them hospitable, generous, and helpful.

In the wake of pain, you and I have a choice. We can let our pain fool us into believing we are the only ones who have suffered. We can use our pain as an excuse to stop doing hard things. We can refuse to deal with it, covering it over with smiles or things that make us feel good or lies we tell ourselves. Or we can let it soften us and make us more open to others. We can let it make us more aware of what others need from us--and decide to respond in offering what we can.

Pain can take a lot from us--from happiness to energy to focus and even portions of our personalities. But pain does not take away our freedom of choice. Perhaps while we're suffering, or perhaps long afterward, we get to choose how we will respond to our experiences.

This is as true for the pain of mental illness as it is for anything else. I think a lot about how individuals and organizations--notably churches--can do more to support and promote healing for people with mental illness and their loved ones. But we who have been affected by this kind of pain have our own choices to make. We can hide, or we can be open with our stories for the sake of other people who need to know they're not alone. We can choose to let anger rule our interactions with other people and with God, or we can practice forgiveness and faith and absorb this pain into a new sense of purpose. We can embrace victimhood, believing the lie that survival produces weakness rather than strength and pulling others into the mire of self-pity. Or we can tap into the toughness that endurance has put at our fingertips, and we can step into our power to heal, to tell the truth, and to engage in life with the fullness of who we are.

What has pain produced in you? What will you do with it?

Looking Ahead

June 4	Pentecost Strengthen the Church Offering
June 9-11	PCC Annual Meeting
June 11	Trinity Sunday/Communion
June 18	Father's Day Quilt Blessing
July 4	Independence Day
July 30	Summer Communion

Consistory Updates

Pentecost

Join us for a worship Sunday as we celebrate Pentecost with the choir. Bring your friends, family, neighbors, and singing voices as we cap off the music ministry's 2016-2017 season on June 4 at 10:30!



Strengthen the Church Offering

On June 4 we will be participating in a special UCC Collection titled "Strengthen the Church" during our regular worship hour. This offering helps to establish new churches and support new creative ideas for Christian ministry. Special offering envelopes will be available in your mailboxes soon.



New Community Outreach



We have started a new outreach here at St. Paul's. Once a month we will be preparing and serving a meal to the people at the Good Samaritan Shelter in Ephrata. This shelter is for abused women and children who need a safe place to live while they transition to a healthy environment.

St. Paul's has volunteered to serve on the 4th Thursday of each month at 5 pm. There can be anywhere from 5 to 15 people staying at the shelter. Due to the smaller size we will only need 3 individuals each month to help serve. We are looking for people willing to cook a meal or serve the meal. Any cost for the food will be paid by the church. If you prepare a meal you do not have to go into the shelter to serve it. Folks volunteering to serve the meal will also be able to eat with the residents in a family setting.

If anyone would like to make a meal or help serve please see Nancy Connelly, Tim Lutz, or Ron Frederick. We are very much looking forward to this new adventure.

"Jesus never says to the poor: 'come find the church', but he says to those of us in the church: 'go into the world and find the poor, hungry, homeless, imprisoned.'"

-Tony Campolo



The next consistory meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, June 6 at 7:00 PM.**

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 May:

Betty Lou, Brian's family, Candy, Carl, Carol, Catherine, Clint, Ida, Jeanie, Joe, Kahler family, Linda, Margaret & her family, Mary, Mike, Mrs. White's family, Roy, Sally, Sharon, Sandy, Shirley and her family, The Weinhold family, friendships, the heroin epidemic, and all the college graduates.

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

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 445-6256.



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



Hear all the latest...

Honoring our Teachers

We give thanks that you lead us in the ministry of Christian education. We offer you our pledge of support. As you teach, may all be open to God's truth and be inspired to live the Christian life as fully as possible. Remember that we appreciate greatly the time and effort you expend as teachers of our church family. May God grant you strength and joy in your important role.



Teachers' Meeting



Our next Christian Ed meeting is tentatively scheduled for July 19th at Ranck's Restaurant at 11:30 am.

Fathers are Wonderful People

Fathers are wonderful people
Too little understood,
And we do not sing their praises
As often as we should...

For, somehow, Father seems to be
The man who pays the bills,
While Mother binds up little hurts
And nurses all our ills...

And Father struggles daily
To live up to "HIS IMAGE"
As protector and provider
And "hero or the scrimmage"...

And perhaps that is the reason
We sometimes get the notion,
That Fathers are not subject
To the thing we call emotion,

But if you look inside Dad's heart,
Where no one else can see
You'll find he's sentimental
And as "soft" as he can be...

But he's so busy every day
In the grueling race of life,
He leaves the sentimental stuff
To his partner and his wife...

But Fathers are just WONDERFUL
In a million different ways,
And they merit loving compliments
And accolades of praise,

For the only reason Dad aspires
To fortune and success
Is to make the family proud of him
And to bring them happiness...

And like OUR HEAVENLY FATHER,
He's a guardian and a guide,
Someone that we can count on
To be ALWAYS ON OUR SIDE.

Helen Steiner Rice

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Birthdays



June

- 1 Jim Waddell
- 6 Pearl Renninger
- 10 Thelma Sprecher
- 17 Randy Kring
Andrew Shelly
Brandon Shelly
- 18 Pete Martin
- 19 Chris Storms
Jodie Sprecher
- 25 Stacey Swavely
- 28 Cheryl Borja
- 29 Chris Lutz
- 30 Troy Cooper
Clint Cooper

Sandwich Sale: The Women's Guild will be having their next sandwich sale on June 24. We will be selling Italian, ham and turkey subs for \$4.00 each. If you would like to place an order please see Alta or Dee prior to June 20. All subs must be picked up between 8 and 9 am in the fellowship hall.



This will be our last sub sale until September. Thank you for continuing to support our fundraisers.

Food Bank

The Terre Hill Food Bank has developed some new procedures for distributing food more productively in our area. If you would like to be involved in that ministry and hear about the changes please see Alta Hoshour.



The following is a list of the current foods that are needed:

- June 4 juice
- June 11 cereal
- June 18 canned soups
- June 25 canned vegetables

- July 2 crackers

Donations can be placed in the shopping cart by the side door entrance. Thank you

Happy Birthday!

Anniversaries



- Bob & Karen Peiffer -
5 Years on June 7

- Clint & Lynda Cooper -
47 years on June 13

- Brian & Stephanie Akers -
11 Years on June 17

- Robert & Laura Brackbill -
7 year on June 23

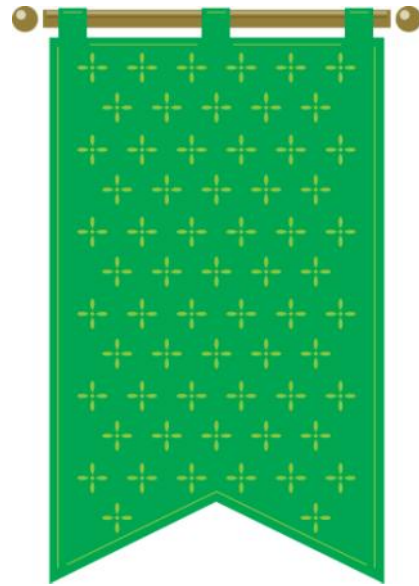
Happy Anniversary!

Christian Symbol

Green

Green is the traditional liturgical color for the weeks after Pentecost (as well as the season of Epiphany). The Pentecost season largely overlaps with spring and summer, which is fitting because green symbolizes growth: growth of plant life and crops, and growth of the church in discipleship and faith.

Join us on Pentecost, June 4



Scouting News



Meetings:

Cub Committee Meeting will be held on June 19th at St. Paul's beginning at 7:00 PM. This will be a planning meeting for next year. Anyone is welcome to attend.


If interested in joining the scouts contact Matt Schnader at 717-484-1072 or Alta Hoshour at 717-445-6069



? **Bible Quiz** ?

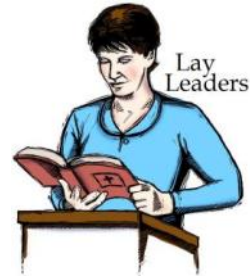
The "Trinitarian formula" occurs only once in the Bible. In which New Testament book do we read "in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit," and who said these words?

- A. Romans; Paul
- B. 1 Peter; Simon Peter
- C. The Acts of the Apostles; Luke
- D. Matthew; Jesus



Answer: D (See Matthew 28:19)

Monthly Volunteers



June 4 Mary Renninger
 June 11 Sara Renninger **
 June 18 Dee Sprecher
 June 25 Cheryl Borja

June 4 Kieran Connelly
 June 11 Samuel Tarasenko
 June 18 Bill Sellers
 June 25 Lynda Cooper

July 2 Mary Renninger
 July 9 Dee Sprecher
 July 16 Sara Renninger
 July 23 Cheryl Borja
 July 30 Mary Renninger **

July 2 Mary Renninger
 July 9 Kieran Connelly
 July 16 Deb Shelly
 July 23 Lynda Cooper
 July 30 Bill Sellers

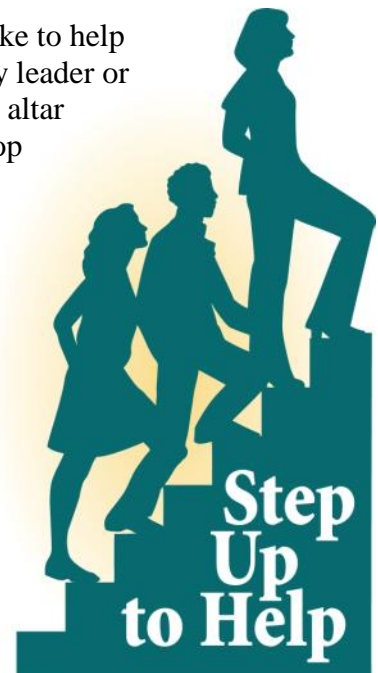
** Indicates communion



June 4 JoAnn Starks
 June 11 Grace Sprecher
 June 18 Nancy Connelly
 June 25 Patty Lutz

July 2 Larry Klaassen
 July 9 Gretchen Martin
 July 16 Willie Starks
 July 23 Betty Musser
 July 30 Brian Martin

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.



Treasurer's Report

The monthly report for
April 2017:

Checking Account

Beginning Balance	\$69,702.46
+ Receipts	18,090.53
- Disbursements	12,531.28
- Transfers	0
Ending Balance	\$75,261.71

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

April's offering only total was \$6,749.00

Financial Report



Offering Ushers



June 4	Charlie Storms Chris Storms Bill Sprecher Grace Sprecher
June 11	Tim Lutz Patty Lutz Cheryl Borja Chuck Eckenroth
June 18	Pete Martin Steve Renninger Bill Sellers Lauri Sellers
June 25	Lynda Cooper Brian Martin Willie Starks Ron Frederick



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.

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

June 4	Charlie Storms & Nancy Connelly
June 11	Tim Lutz & Chuck Eckenroth
June 18	Pete Martin & Alta Hoshour
June 25	Ron Frederick & Clint Cooper



Sponsors



June 4	Nancy Caffrey-Schafer
June 11	open
June 18	open
June 25	open
July 2	open
July 9	open
July 16	Ron & Renee Frederick
July 23	open
July 30	open



June 4	open
June 11	open
June 18	open
June 25	open
July 2	open
July 9	open
July 16	Ron & Renee Frederick
July 23	open
July 30	open

Flower and Bulletin Sponsor Sheet

The flower and bulletin charts for **2017 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

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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.

JUNE 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Choir 9:30 Pentecost/ Worship 10:30 Special Offering Fresh Hope 1:00	5 Boy Scouts 7:00	6 Consistory 7:00	7	8	9 Annual PCC Weekend	10
11 Trinity Sunday/ Worship / Communion 10:30	12 Boy Scouts 7:00	13 Depression & Bipolar Support Mtg @ Zion's 7:00	14 Flag Day Card Club 6:00	15	16	17
18 Father's Day Worship 10:30 Fresh Hope 1:00 Newsletter Deadline	19 Boy Scouts 7:00 Cub Committee Mtg 7:00	20 Summer Begins Sandwich Orders Due	21	22 Good Samaritan Shelter Meal 5:00	23	24 Sub Sale
25 Worship 10:30	26 Boy Scouts 7:00	27 Depression & Bipolar Support Mtg @ Zion's 7:00	28 Card Club 6:00	29	30	