



St. Paul's Happenings

A Publication of St. Paul's United Church of Christ, Manheim

March 2023

Making a Difference Through the Love of Christ – to Know God, Love God & Serve God

Renewal

We are heading into the spring season! The trees, plants and flowers are becoming green and colorful. Nature has renewed itself once again. This season can bring to one's mind ideas of personal renewal, a time to start fresh and new. As believers we have the great blessing of renewal in times of spiritual difficulty or weakness. When we first come to Christ the scriptures say that we put off our old life and are renewed in the spirit of our mind but it doesn't stop there. We'll still struggle with worldly desires and thoughts but have the continued opportunity to avoid conforming to this world but rather being transformed by the renewing of our mind.

Living the life of a Christian can be overwhelming at times, especially when combined with the physical and mental stresses of everyday life. But our confidence can be found in the following verse. "Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day." (2 Corinthians 4:16). Just as the tree puts out new leaves, the birds build new nest and the grass grows green again, we have the great blessing of spiritual renewal!

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead – 1 Peter 1:3.

- Karen Brandt, Council President



INSIDE this issue



Page 3



Page 3



Page 4

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StPaulsuccManheim.org

Lenten Worship – In His Steps

In the introduction to the Lenten Worship series, “In His Steps” by A. Trevor Sutton, the reader is told “If you are lost, simply retrace your steps.”

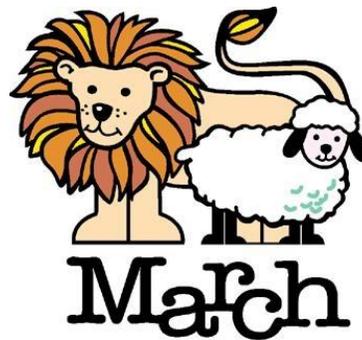
Though this advice sounds easy enough, it never seems to work all that well in real life. If you are lost, you need a navigator, an intrepid rescuer. Jesus knows the way. That’s because he is the Way: Jesus said, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” (John 14:6)

During Lent, we will explore what it means to walk in the footsteps of Jesus. We will tread toward the empty tomb of Easter to explore anew Jesus’ path to victory that

guarantees us eternal life. We will rejoice in the truth that, “Just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.” (Romans 6:4)

If you are lost, discouraged, tired, or longing for the truth, then lace up and embark on this journey. If you are looking for adventure, forgiveness, and the greatest news the world has ever heard, then come along and walk in his steps.”

Lenten worship is held each Wednesday in March in Fellowship Hall. Worship begins with a light meal @ 6 pm, followed by the worship service @ 6:30 pm.



Inclement Weather

It’s looking like March will come in like the rest of the winter – a lamb! But it may just end like a lion! Here’s what to do if the weather is more lion-like and wintry:

Call the church office at 717.665.2447 (after 8 am on Sunday mornings) for service or event changes and cancellations. Postings will also be on WGAL, WGAL.com and our website. Never miss a service due to weather or vacation! Online sermons and bulletins are posted on our website:

www.stpaulsuccmanheim.org

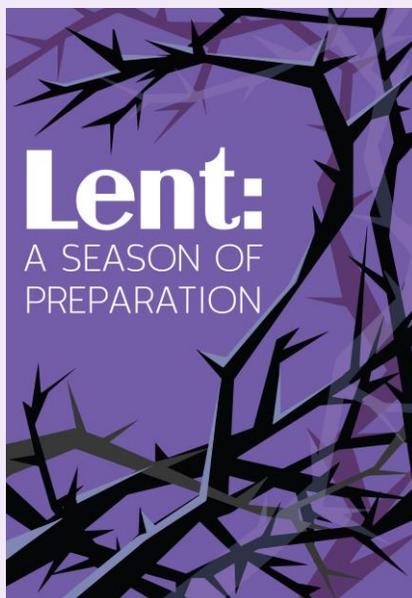
March Scripture Readings

March 5 – Lent 2: Genesis 12:1-4/
Psalm 121/Romans 4:1-5, 13-17/
St. John 3:1-17

March 12 – Lent 3: Exodus 17:1-7/
Psalm 95/Romans 5:1-11/St. John
4:5-42

March 19 – Lent 4: 1 Samuel 16:1-13/
Psalm 23/Ephesians 5:8-14/St. John
9:1-41

March 26 – Lent 5: Ezekiel 37:1-14/
Psalm 130/Romans 8:6-11/ St. John
11:1-45



Holy Communion

- ◆ The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be served every Sunday in March.
- ◆ A Communion Service will be held at Pleasant View Retirement Community on **Wednesday March 15 @ 1:30 pm in Hoffer Auditorium.**

March Happenings

Lenten Meals & Worship

Mid-week Lenten meals and worship will be held on Wednesdays in March. Light meals will be served at 6 pm in Fellowship Hall, with the worship services held @ 6:30 pm. The focus for the services will be "In His Steps." If you would like a copy of the devotional prayer booklet, please contact the church office at 717.665.2447.

March 1 – the meal will be served by Jerry Weller, Carol Blanchard & Cheri Long and will feature Potato Soup and Grilled Cheese Sandwiches.

March 8 – the meal will be served by Council and will feature Beef Vegetable Soup with bread.

March 15 – the meal will be served by Women's Fellowship and will feature Chicken Corn Soup with Ham and Cheese Sandwiches

March 22 – New Voices will serve Cheeseburger Soup with Crusty Bread

March 29 – The Matthew Bible Study will serve Chili & Corn Bread.

Craft & Game Night

Everyone who likes to do crafts or play games is invited to attend the next Craft & Game Night on Monday, March 13 from 6-8:30 pm in Fellowship Hall.

Bring your favorite crafts to work on, or bring your favorite game to share

Adult Coloring Books and word puzzles will be on hand for those who don't feel crafty but would enjoy a night out. Snacks and drinks will be provided as well.

FREE Community Breakfast

The next FREE Community Breakfast will be held on Saturday, March 18 from 8:30-10 am in Fellowship Hall.

On the menu this month is pancake sausage casserole served with fruit and beverage.

Come on out and enjoy the great food and camaraderie on March 18!

Fellowship Breakfast

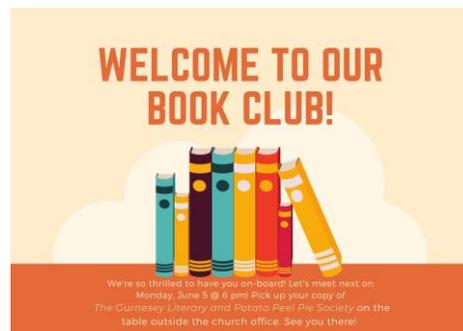
Join your friends from St. Paul's at the Kountry Kitchen Restaurant north of Manheim on Rt. 72 on Thursday, March 23 @ 8:30 am.

Please RSVP to Claire Reed at 717.951.4325 by Monday, March 20.

Book Club

Save the date for the next Book club meeting on Monday, June 5 @ 6 pm in Fellowship Hall.

Copies of *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barros are available on the table outside the church office.



Easter @ St. Paul's UCC



A Maundy Thursday worship service will be held at St. Paul's on Thursday, April 6 @ 7 pm. Come and experience the last few days of Jesus' life as he passes the torch to his disciples (and us!) in the building up of the church.

A Community Good Friday Tenebrae Service will be held on Friday, April 7 @ 2 pm @ Manheim Brethren in Christ Church on Penryn Road, Manheim.

On Easter Sunday, April 9 there will be two worship services – an early worship service @ 8 am in the Memorial Garden (weather permitting) and @ 9:30 am in the Sanctuary. Coffee and baked goodies will be available in Fellowship Hall between the two services – there will be no coffee hour following the 9:30 am service.

Women's Fellowship

Since we are getting ready to say farewell to Winter, that means it is time to get on board and support our early Spring Sub Sale!

We will be taking orders for subs on Sundays, March 5, 12, 19 & 26. The pick-up date is Thursday, March 30 from 2:30-5:30. The cost is \$6 per sub.

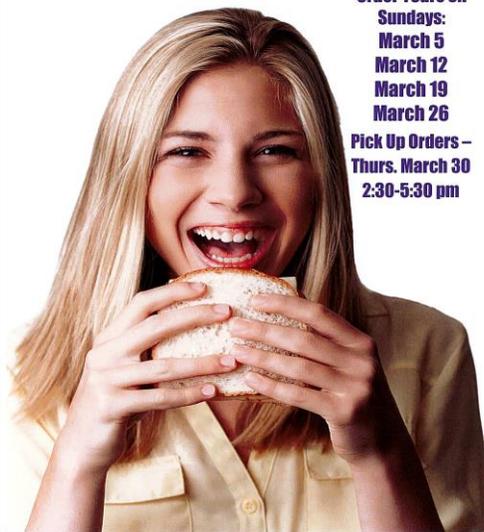
Our Women's Fellowship will be hosting the Lenten Supper on Wednesday, March 15 @ 6 pm with homemade chicken corn soup, ham and cheese sandwiches. See you there!

Our first meeting of the year will be held on Thursday, April 27 @ 1:30 pm to take care of business and to get caught up with each other.

In the meantime, please don't forget our homebound members. They always need our love and support.

In His Love, June Y. Smith & Dorothy Drumheller

Women's Fellowship Sub Sale



Order Yours on
Sundays:
March 5
March 12
March 19
March 26
Pick Up Orders –
Thurs. March 30
2:30-5:30 pm



It's time for Easter Flowers!

It's that time again to order your Easter Flowers to celebrate Our Risen Lord!

Easter flowers offered to order are White Lily 3-4 blooms, Tulips in a 6" pot, or Daffodils in a 6.5" pot. The cost is \$8.50 each.

Please use the order form with the payment from your bulletin or contact the church office at [717.665.2447/stpaulsmanheim@ptd.net](tel:717.665.2447) to place your order.

Deadline to order is Sunday, March 12.

3 Ways to Worship

As the cold and flu seasons continues, St. Paul's continues to offer 3 ways to worship.

- In person in the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings
- In our parking lot by tuning into FM 88.1 on Sunday mornings
- Livestream our service online at www.stpaulsuccmanheim.org click on the Online Sermon tab

Souper Bowl Results – Many Winners!

There were many winners from the St. Paul's UCC vs. Zion Lutheran Souper Bowl challenge. St. Paul's collected 416 soup cans vs. Zion's 405!

St. Paul's continued the collection until February 26 and 587 cans in total were collected. All soup collected will go to the Manheim Central Food Pantry for those in our community that are in need.

Thank you all for your help in making this Souper Bowl collection such a great success. Jesus continues to feed the 5,000 over and over again - thanks to you!



Missions

The March Mission of the Month is Heifer International & for March 12 One Great Hour of Sharing.

Both Heifer International and One Great Hour of Sharing helps to feed families in need. Heifer helps to empower families to raise their own food and One Great Hour of Sharing supports families in times of disaster and provides refugee services as well.

Please use your March special envelope to help families in need through Heifer International and on March 12 with the OGHS envelope to support One Great Hour of Sharing.

Food Pantry Update

The food pantry serves many families in need in the Manheim Central School district.

In January:

Total households served – 148

Total Individual served – 450

New Households served – 7

New Individuals served – 18



Current needs are:

- cereal
- crackers
- toilet paper
- egg noodles
- juice
- Spam
- paper towels
- canned pineapple
- shampoo
- grocery bags
- diapers

Please drop your donations off directly at the food pantry at 334 W. Gramby Street, Manheim. Drop off times are Monday & Thursdays 9 am-1 pm or call Ruth Ellen Brown at 717.664.1097.

For more information, go to www.manheimcentralfoodpantry.org.

Deep Roots Mission Trip Set

Deep Roots @ Clairvaux Farm in Earleville, MD will be the sight of our next Mission Trip which is set for Wednesday, June 21 through Saturday, June 24, 2023.

Deep Roots is a beautiful farm near the beaches in Maryland which provides housing for families in need while providing mentorship and life skill training. In the past the team has served in mission by painting, cleaning, performing small repairs, and in the evening providing Vacation Bible School-type lessons for the children while having fun.

If you'd be interested in Serving God and travel to Deep Roots, please contact Sandy Bareford at 717.341.5931 or by email at sandybareford@gmail.com.

The team will also serve in the Manheim Mission project in July as well.



Directory Photos

This is the year for a new Pictorial Directory! However, we're doing things a bit differently this time. Rather than use a company to create the directory, we're going to create the directory in-house!

There won't be a high pressure sales pitch to purchase the pictures and there's no need to dress up to have your picture taken either. The idea is to have a directory full of photos of families much like we see you on Sunday mornings. Hopefully, we'll have more people participate!

On Sundays, March 12 & 26 we will be taking family photos during coffee hour for the new directory in Bright Library.

Or maybe you already have a family photo you'd like to use – we can certainly do that!

And then by late spring, we should have not only a new Pictorial Directory, but also a new way for you to access the directory – more on that later.

Questions? Contact Pam Herman at 717.665.2447 or by email at stpaulsmanheim@ptd.net

Council Highlights

Church Council met on Tuesday, February 21, 2023 @ 7 pm. Highlights of the meeting include:

Memorial Gifts & Endowment:

Endowment Fund is up \$32,000 due to recent market activity.

Treasurer's Report:

Benevolence: \$1,017 was received for UCC Homes for January's Mission of the Month.

Operating: Current expenses are in just over budget. Insurance refund of \$5,684 was received.

Capital: Income is ahead of budget.

Pastor's Report:

- ◆ Lenten services start Wednesday March 1.
- ◆ A Baptism will take place on March 5 as well as reception of 2 new members.

Committee Reports: No report

New Business:

- David Miren of Samaritan Counseling Center discussed the Holy Cow Survey time line with Council. The survey will begin in March.
- Council will serve the March 8 Lenten meal.
- A proposal for a video doorbell for the parking lot door was proposed and accepted.



Open Discussion:

- 1st Thursdays start in April. St. Paul's will not participate in that one as it is Maundy Thursday.
- Mike Givler has agreed to serve on council.

Next meeting date is Tuesday, March 21 @ 7 pm.

Council packets are posted:

- On the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall
- In the 2nd floor hallway
- In the church office for your review.

If you would like a copy, please contact the church office at 717.665.2447 or by email at stpaulsmanheim@ptd.net.



From the Church Office

The new pictorial directory will soon be published, but before it is, please contact the church office at 717.665.2447 or by email at stpaulsmanheim@ptd.net if you have a new address, new email address, phone number change or a different family situation.

Please also contact the church office if you or someone you know are not receiving any of the church publications, weekly emails, or daily devotionals. For those who are worshipping from home, these connections are such an important way for all of us to come together as one in Christ!

If you are hospitalized or in crisis during weekday hours please call the church. For emergency weekends, please call the church office and leave a message. Messages are monitored daily and your call will be returned shortly.

All Things Spring



Remember to Spring Forward one hour before going to bed on Saturday, March 11 as Daylight Savings Time Begins Sunday, March 12.

The first day of Spring in 2023 is Monday, March 20! Enjoy!



March 2023

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

		<p>1 6:00pm Lenten Meal & Worship 7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>2 5:30pm Simply Yoga 7:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm AA Meeting @ Zion Lutheran</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	
		<p>5 Lent 2 9:00am Prayer Group 9:30am One Worship 10:30am Sub Sale 10:30am Coffee Hour</p>	<p>6 7:00pm Property Board</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 6:00pm Lenten Meal & Worship</p>	<p>9 5:30pm Simply Yoga 7:00pm AA Meeting @ Zion Lutheran 7:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal</p>
<p>12 Lent 3 9:00am Prayer Group 9:30am One Worship 10:30am Directory Photos 10:30am Coffee Hour 10:30am Sub Sale</p>	<p>13 6:00pm Craft Night</p>	<p>14 7:00pm Women's Club of Manheim Meeting</p>	<p>15 1:30pm Pleasant View Communion Service 6:00pm Lenten Meal & Worship 7:00pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>16 5:30pm Simply Yoga 7:00pm AA Meeting @ Zion Lutheran 7:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>17 St. Patrick's Day </p>	<p>18 8:30am FREE Community Breakfast</p>
<p>19 Lent 4 Newsletter Deadline 9:00am Prayer Group 9:30am One Worship 10:30am Sub Sale 10:30am Coffee Hour</p>	<p>20 1st Day of Spring </p>	<p>21 6:15pm Spiritual Council 7:00pm Church Council</p>	<p>22 6:00pm Lenten Meal & Worship</p>	<p>23 8:30am Fellowship Breakfast @ Kountry Kitchen 5:30pm Simply Yoga 7:00pm AA Meeting @ Zion Lutheran 7:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26 Lent 5 9:00am Prayer Group 9:30am One Worship 10:30am Directory Photos 10:30am Sub Sale 10:30am Coffee Hour</p>	<p>27 6:00pm New Voices Vision Team</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 6:00pm Lenten Meal & Worship</p>	<p>30 2:30pm Sub Sale Pick-Up 5:30pm Simply Yoga 7:00pm AA Meeting @ Zion Lutheran 7:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>31 </p>	

MARCH

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Anniversary & Birthday
Blessings to all who
celebrate these occasions
this March!

Worship Attendance

1/29 – 85

2/5 – 97

2/12 – 110

2/19 – 88

2/22 – Ash Wednesday – 35

2/26 - 82



Christian Symbols

SHAMROCK

St. Patrick used the shamrock to teach people about the Godhead. Holding up a shamrock, he challenged them, “Is this one leaf, or three?” Inevitably, people replied that it was both, prompting St. Patrick to draw the analogy that so, too, is God: one God in three Persons — the Holy Trinity.

Requests for Prayer

For prayer requests, please contact Joan Hess at 717.665.4705. Our homebound members will remain on the list permanently as a reminder to keep these individuals wrapped in prayer and to remember them with cards, phone calls, and visits.

Susan Gates

Nancy Gible

Nancy Lishman

Maybelle Martin

Terry Myers

Jane Moyle

Andre Ressler

Burt Savitz

Bob & Joanna Schreiber

Julia Shreiner

Eric Smeltz

Phyllis Smeltz

Linda Steiner

Linda Coe*

Lamar Dourte*

Lois Givler*

In the Military:

Jessie Dutt

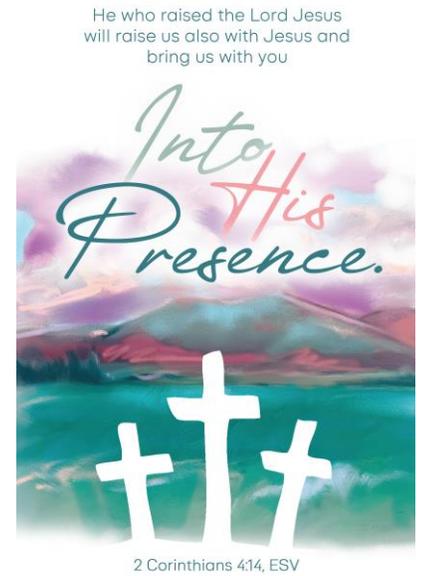


The God Who Hides

Isaiah declares, “Truly, you are a God who hides himself, O God of Israel, the Savior” (45:15, ESV). But why would God hide? Isn’t our knowing God the point? Martin Luther explained that God hides in unexpected places so as not to be found where the world assumes a god would be — in power, status, fame, wealth — but to be found in weakness, humility and places of suffering.

“Those who have found God in the cross of Jesus Christ,” said 20th-century theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer, “know how wonderfully God hides himself in this world and how he is closest precisely when we believe him to be most distant.” So God assures us of his presence in the humble manger, among the poor and outcast during his ministry, in the excruciating suffering of the cross, and with us in every struggle.

God hides not to avoid us but so we will discover him precisely where we need him most, and where others need us most.



Communication Deadlines

St. Paul’s Happenings is printed monthly except for the July/August and the December/January combined issues. The deadline to submit articles is the 3rd Sunday of the month before publication. **The April issue deadline is Sunday, March 19, 2023.** Bulletin announcements are due to the church office by Wednesday mornings @ 8 am.

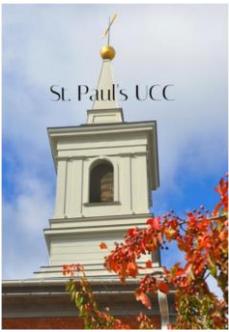
St. Paul’s Staff & Leaders

Staff:

Pastor – The Rev. Bill Long
Church Administrator – Pam Herman
Organist – June Smith
Chancel Choir Director – John Degler
Bell Choir Director – Jim Hoffman
Praise Team Coordinator – Steve Smith
Custodian – Mark Lowe
Kitchen Managers – Sandy Bareford & Jerry Weller

Council:

Ministers – All Church Members
Lynn Brewer – Secretary
Karen Brandt – President
Rick Conley – Vice President
Dani Fair – Assistant Treasurer
Ron Forry
David Ludwig
Gretchen Miller – Treasurer
Karen Weiss



St. Paul's United Church of Christ

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Manheim, PA 17545

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www.StPaulsuccManheim.org

In this the
Love of God
was made manifest
among us, that
God sent his
only Son
into the world,
so that we
might live
through him.

1 John 4:9, ESV

