

# St. Paul's Happenings

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

May 2025

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

## Easter Continues!

The first three weeks of Easter feature vivid encounters with the risen Christ: with Mary Magdalene perceiving Jesus as the gardener; Thomas and the other disciples beholding Jesus' wounds; and the disciples being welcomed to breakfast with Jesus on the lakeshore before His commission to care for his sheep; and Paul along the Damascus road hearing Jesus in the voice of those Paul has persecuted.

Each witness demonstrates some unique insight in seeking and perceiving the risen Christ even as each also experiences some type of elusiveness in Christ's risen presence. This helps us as relate as our encounters with a risen Jesus can be profound and varied, yet also elusive and puzzling.

After the three weeks of encounters with the risen Jesus, the final four weeks of the Easter Season, along with Pentecost, evoke the mystical union of our dwelling in Christ, in the Trinity, and in the beloved community of the church. In these gospel lessons, Jesus prepares his followers for discipleship beyond encounters with his immediate bodily presence. If the first three weeks of Easter are filled with drama of discovering and encountering the risen Christ, these final weeks of Easter help us learn to dwell in the resurrection as an enduring way of life.

The full Easter season in year C is a rare treasure trove of readings from the book of Revelation. While some of the texts make additional isolated appearances elsewhere in the lectionary, this year's season of Easter includes a text from Revelation every week, and indeed, every text from Revelation that appears in the Revised Common Lectionary is read during this season. This is an opportunity to engage Revelation with sustained attention focusing on hope and renewal, which connect perfectly with the images of Easter, Passover, Baptism and Spring. (from Preaching: Sundays and Seasons, Year C 2025, Augsburg Fortress)

Easter Blessings, Pastor Bill Long



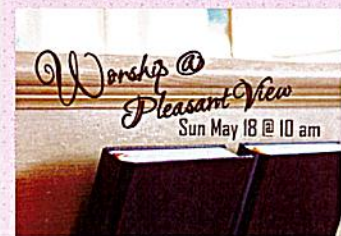
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# Ascension Day

Ascension Day is the day that the resurrected Jesus returns to God our Father as told in Acts 1:6-11. In 2025, Ascension Day is on Thursday, May 29.

During his earthly ministry, Jesus could be physically present in only one place at any given time. "Only those could speak to him who came to where he was," explained Archbishop William Temple. "If he was in Galilee, people could not find him in Jerusalem; if he was in Jerusalem, they could not find him in Galilee" (from Readings in St. John's Gospel).

Spiritually speaking, Christ's Ascension means he is with us wherever we find ourselves. Christ desires to be present with us everywhere we go. His presence is universal. He is here now. "Believed in throughout the world, taken up in glory" (1 Timothy 3:16, NRSV) — that is what the Ascension affirms.



## Next Steps

Come and enjoy some coffee and light refreshments and you'll have a chance to mingle and get to know a great group of people that make up the heart of St. Paul's. You'll even have a chance to chat with Pastor Bill Long about membership too. **New members will be received next on Pentecost Sunday, June 8, 2025.**

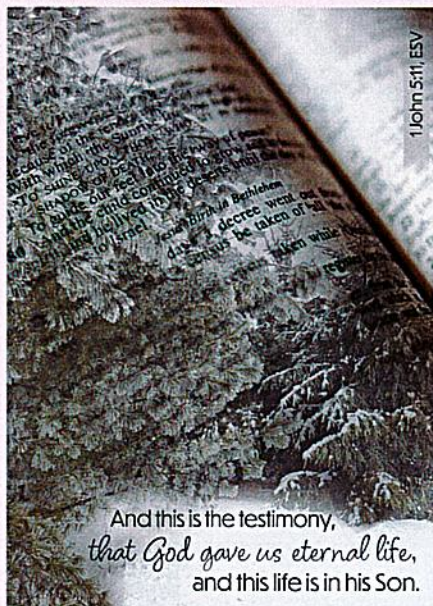
## Holy Communion

The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated every Sunday in May for the Easter Season.

A Communion Service will be held at Pleasant View Retirement Community on **Wednesday, May 21 @ 1:30 pm @ Hoffer Auditorium.**

**If you worship from home and need communion elements, please contact the church office at 717.665.2447.**

## May Scripture Readings



Sunday, May 4 – Easter 3: Acts 9:1-20/Psalm 30/Revelation 5:11-14/St. John 21:1-19

Sunday, May 11 – Easter 4: Acts 9:36-43/Psalm 23/Revelation 7:9-17/St. John 10:22-30

Sunday, May 18 – Easter 5: Acts 11:1-18/Psalm 148/Revelation 21:1-6/St. John 13:31-35

Sunday, May 25 – Easter 6: Acts 16:9-15/Psalm 67/Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5/St. John 14:23-29





## Spring Happenings @ St. Paul's

### 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday

Celebrate Spring with us @ 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday in Manheim on Thursday, May 1 from 5-8 pm! Stop by for a butterfly ornament craft kit. Free water bottles and snacks will be given to all visitors (including dogs).

### Women's Fellowship Sub Sale

No need to cook on Thursday, May 22 – just order your subs from Women's Fellowship on Sundays, May 4 or 11! The cost is \$6 each and you have many favorite varieties from which to choose. So be sure to stop by the table outside the church office and place your order!

### Mother's Day

St. Paul's will once again honor all mothers and women on Sunday, May 11 for the Mother's Day holiday.

### Psalm Bible Study

The Psalm Bible Study will begin again on Wednesday evenings @ 6:30 pm starting Wednesday, May 7 in Fellowship Hall. We'll begin with Psalm 99. All are welcome to attend this wonderful time to discuss and learn more about the emotional ups and downs of everyday life and how God responds to our pleas for help!

### Worship @ Pleasant View

On Sunday, May 18, our regular worship service will be held in Pleasant View's Hoffer Auditorium @ 10 am. Coffee Hour will follow in the Gathering Place. This will be the only worship service held that day.

### Fellowship Breakfast

Come out to Kountry Kitchen Family Restaurant on Thursday, May 22 @ 8:30 am and enjoy good food with great friends.

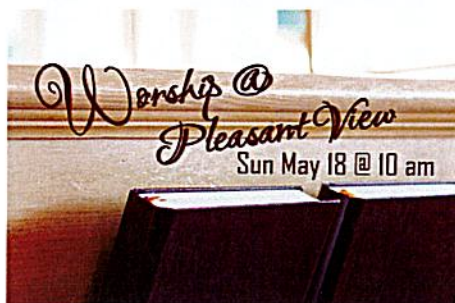
Please contact Claire Reed @ 717.951.4325 by Monday, May 19 to RSVP.

### Women's Fellowship

Women's Fellowship will meet @ The Shack on Thursday, May 29 @ 1 pm.

Come out and enjoy lunch or just ice cream together with a great group of women!

Of course, there will be a bit of business happening, but there will also be lots of fun, good food with friends! All women are invited to attend!



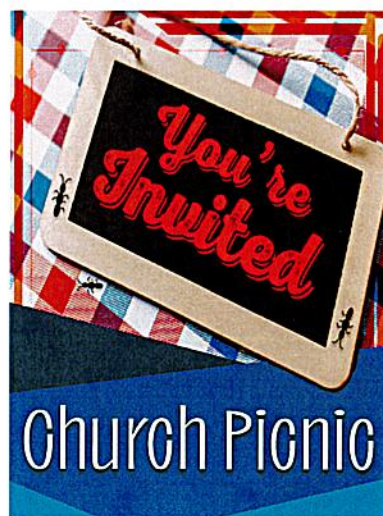
## Pentecost & The Church Picnic



**RED** is the color for the day for Pentecost Sunday and the Church Picnic to be held on Sunday, June 8 with worship @ 9:30 am and the Church Picnic to follow. Be sure to **Wear RED** as we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit to us!

**Order your Pentecost Geraniums** – cost is \$8 each. Please use the order form in your bulletins or contact the church office at 717.665.2447 or by email at [stpaulsmanheim@ptd.net](mailto:stpaulsmanheim@ptd.net).

**The Church Picnic** will be held in the parking lot – on the menu is Andy Ressler's world famous Chicken BBQ. Everyone is asked to bring a side dish, so please sign up on the sheet outside the Sanctuary. Games and Ice Cream will round out the day of celebration!







## Women's Fellowship

Thank you to our ladies for preparing and serving our Lenten Supper. It takes all hands-on deck to accomplish some of these labors of love and we are thankful that we were able to do our part as unto the Lord.

Our thanks also to Bonnie and Margie for placing the Easter flowers so beautifully in the Sanctuary for Easter Sunday. Another labor of love.

Get ready to place your orders for our **Sub Sale** beginning April 27th, May 4th and May 11th with the Sub Pick-up date of May 22nd from 2-4:30 pm. Thank you in advance for your support.

**Our next meeting will be held at The Shack, by popular request, on May 29th at 1 pm.** Please feel free to bring your spouse, friend or neighbor. We have great fellowship.

I received a number of thank-you telephone calls for the cards our homebound members received

during the Easter Season. These are greatly appreciated.

In His Love,  
June Y. Smith and  
Dorothy Drumheller

## May Mission

**The May Mission of the Month is the UCC's Strengthen the Church Fund.** This Fund supports leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. By your generosity to this fund, you build up the Body of Christ. As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults. Please use your May special envelope to Strengthen the Church!

## Food Pantry Update

In March, 163 total households or 472 total individuals were served at the Manheim Central Food Pantry. There were 10 new

households or 19 individuals in March. Current needs include: pasta sides, egg noodles, canned beef stew, canned pineapple, cream of mushroom soup, crackers, cereal, rice sides and shampoo.

**Also needed are newborn diapers size 1, 5 & 6 and adult pullups without tabs in sizes medium and large.**

## About the FREE Community Breakfast

At their March meeting, Church Council made the tough decision that if a leader for the breakfast does not come forward, that the April breakfast will be the last breakfast before being put on hold, likely until the Fall. We have received some feedback and there are several interested people who have come forward to keep the breakfast going.

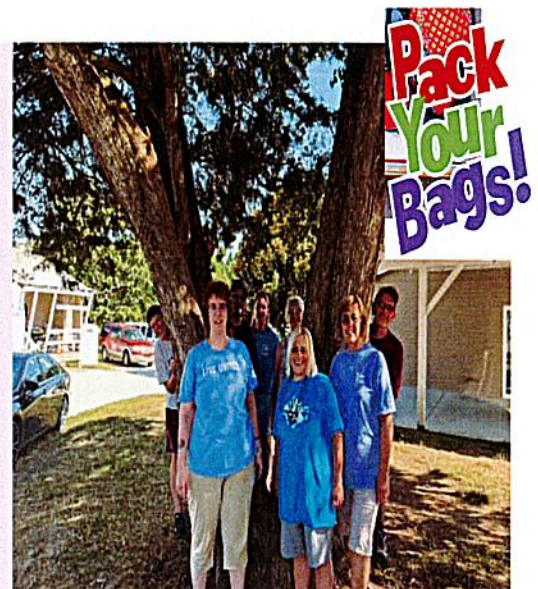
Be sure to look for more information to follow in upcoming newsletters and bulletins.

## Important Mission Trip Information!

Once again, St. Paul's Mission Team will travel to Deep Roots/Clairvaux Farms in Earleville, MD to serve in mission to the families in that area experiencing homelessness. In the past, we have served by holding vbs for the kids, painting both interiors and exteriors, replacing doors and screendoors, updating lighting, general clean-out, and even helped with office chores.

Deep Roots is a wonderful opportunity to make a difference through the love of Christ to share how we Know God, Love God & Serve God. For more about Deep Roots, go to [www.deeproootsinc.org](http://www.deeproootsinc.org)

**A Mission Trip Informational Meeting will be held on Sunday, May 11 @ 10:30 am in Fellowship Hall (during Coffee Hour). If you have any interest in serving at Deep Roots/Clairvaux Farms on Wed. June 11-Sat., June 14 please plan to attend.**





## Council Highlights

Church Council met on Tuesday, April 15, 2025. Below are highlights of that meeting. Please note that these highlights are shared before the minutes are approved by council at their next meeting, when corrections to details may occur.

### Treasurer's Report:

Benevolence: \$1,951 was received for Heifer Project, and \$65 for One Great Hour of Sharing, both March Missions of the Month (MOM). OCWM giving was \$500 in March.

Operating: \$12,381 was received in March for current operating expenses.

Capital: \$2,524 was received for the capital fund with expenditures of \$5,295.79 for the Sanctuary lighting upgrade in March.

### New Voices Update:

- New Voices met with council to give an update on their visioning for the future. A list of initiatives has been developed and next steps will include prioritizing the initiatives based on need, impact, and future discernment.

### Pastor's Report:

- An upcoming Baptism will be held in the near future.

### Committee Reports:

New Voices: see written report.

Property Board: Concrete work will begin in June in the both the front and back of the church. A new coffee pot was purchased. A plumber will be sought re: a clog in the church's down spout; and suggested renovations to the Fellowship Hall were discussed.

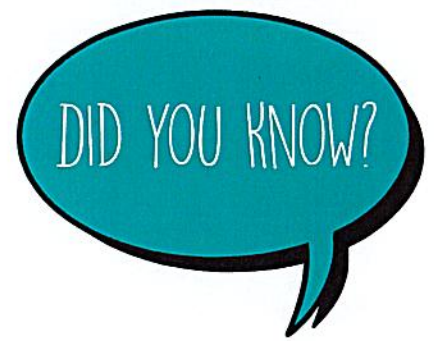
**Old Business:** An update was given on the potential sale of the 32-34 N. Main Street property.

**New Business:** none

**Next meeting date is Tuesday, May 20, 2025 @ 6 pm.**

Council packets are posted:

- On the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall
- In the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor hallway
- In the church office



Did you know that a Yoga Class meets right here @ St. Paul's UCC?

Karen Jiwa leads the class called Simply Yoga on Thursday mornings @ 9 am in the Bright Library. There is a minimal cost for each class payable to Karen and all are welcome to attend any class any time. Please contact Karen at 717.989.0360 for more information.

## Contact Us!

Please contact the church office if you or a member you know is hospitalized or in need of care at 717.665.2447. If you call on the weekend, please leave a message, as calls are monitored daily and your call will be returned shortly.

Please note that the church office will be closed on Monday, May 12, 2025 and on Memorial Day, Monday, May 26, 2025

## Graduation Recognition



If you would like to honor a member who is graduating from high school or college, please contact the church office at 717.665.2447 or by email at [stpaulsmanheim@ptd.net](mailto:stpaulsmanheim@ptd.net) no later than May 25, 2025. Please include your graduates' name, school graduating from, and their plans for the future.

Graduates will be recognized in early June in worship and in the the June issue of *St. Paul's Happenings*.



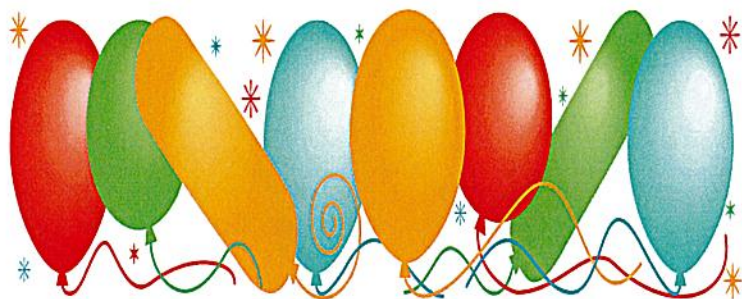


# May 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b> 9:00am Simply Yoga 5:00pm First Thursday 7:00pm AA @ Zion Lutheran 7:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	<b>2</b> Women's Retreat	<b>3</b> Women's Retreat
<b>4</b> Women's Retreat 9:00am Prayer 9:30am One Worship 10:30am Coffee Hour 10:30am Sub Sale	<b>5</b> 7:00pm Property Board	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 6:30pm Psalm Bible Study 7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	<b>8</b> 9:00am Simply Yoga 7:00pm AA @ Zion Lutheran 7:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> Mother's Day 9:00am Prayer 9:30am One Worship 10:30am Coffee Hour 10:30am Mission Trip Meeting 10:30am Sub Sale	<b>12</b> Office Closed 6:00pm New Voices Vision Team	<b>13</b> 6:00pm Manheim Women's Club	<b>14</b> 6:30pm Psalm Bible Study 7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	<b>15</b> 9:00am Simply Yoga 7:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm AA @ Zion Lutheran	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> 10:00am Worship @ Pleasant View 11:00am Coffee Hour	<b>19</b> Set-Up for Elections	<b>20</b> Primary Elections 6:00pm Church Council	<b>21</b> 1:30pm Communion @ Pleasant View 6:30pm Psalm Bible Study	<b>22</b> 8:30am Fellowship Breakfast @ Kountry Kitchen 9:00am Simply Yoga 2:00pm Sub Sale Pick-Up 7:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm AA @ Zion Lutheran	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> 9:00am Prayer 9:30am One Worship 10:30am Coffee Hour	<b>26</b> Office Closed  	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 6:30pm Psalm Bible Study 7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	<b>29</b> Ascension Day 9:00am Simply Yoga 1:00pm Women's Fellowship @ The Shack 7:00pm AA @ Zion Lutheran 7:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>



## Blessings to all celebrating a May Anniversary or Birthday!

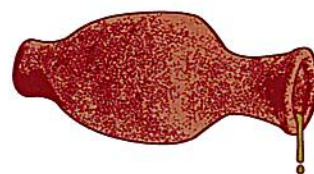


## Worship Attendance

Total attendance = those who worship in the Sanctuary, those in the nursery and those viewing the service online.

3/23 - 86      3/30 - 85  
4/6 - 86      4/13 - 103  
4/16 (Preparatory) - 27  
4/17 (Maundy Thursday) - 46  
4/20 (Early Easter) - 19; 4/20 - 119

## Christian Symbols



### Oil

In the Old Testament, oil symbolized consecration to God. The temple altar and king's heads were anointed with oil to set them apart as holy. In the New Testament, oil often represented the Holy Spirit. Jesus and his followers were anointed for their ministries (see Luke 4:18 and Acts 10:38).



## Requests for Prayer

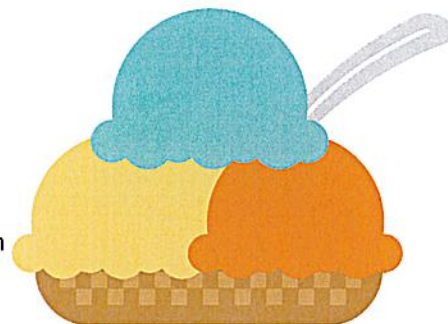
For prayer requests, please contact Joan Hess at 717.665.4705. Our homebound members will remain on the list permanently as a reminder to keep these individuals wrapped in prayer and to remember them with cards, phone calls, and visits.

Alex & Trish Bairos	Sue Frederick	Nancy Gibble	Jay Hess	Bev Hockenberry
Erica Hoffman	Bridget Irons	Sally Lewis	Becky Long	Jim & Mary Long
Maybelle Martin	Jane Moyle	Richard Moyle & Lynn Shoemaker		Glen & Delores Mumma
Joanna Schreiber	Michael Shelley	Julia Shreiner	Eric Smeltz	Phyllis Smeltz
Menno & Betty Lou Stoner		Barry & Scott Christ*	Linda Coe*	Wyatt Dull*
Ted Eckert	Jona Green*	Stephen H.*	Blakely Kling*	Rachel Martin*
Karen Miller*	Verdella Stauffer*	Bible2School & Teen Central Kiids	In the Military: Jessie Dutt, Ben Ryan	



## Give Back to Teen Central @ The Shack

Join Teen Central @ The Shack on Wednesday, May 25 for food and fun and 10% of your check will be donated to Teen Central for all sales from 11 am-8 pm. Eat in, carryout, and mini golf are included. Be sure to pick up a coupon on the table just outside the church office to present when paying to benefit Teen Central. If you fill in your name and phone number on the coupon, you'll be entered to win 2 mini golf tickets too!



## Thank You Notes

We sincerely appreciate your generous donation to our Backpack program. Your support helps provide meals to children in need over the weekends. Thanks to your kindness, we can continue making a meaningful impact in our community. We are truly grateful for your commitment to supporting local children and their well-being. – Sara Payne, MCSD  
Director of Food Services & Danielle Gessinger, Executive Assistant, MCSD

We thank you for donating 521.06 lbs. of food in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2025 and your financial donation of \$120 in April to the Manheim Central Food Pantry. It is donations like yours that allow us to help those families in need in the Manheim Central Community. – Ruth Ellen Brown, Manheim Central Food Pantry



## Communication Deadlines

St. Paul's Happenings is printed monthly except for the July/August and December/January combined issues. The deadline to submit articles is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month before publication. **The June 2025 issue deadline is Sunday, May 18, 2025.** 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

Custodian – Mark Lowe

Kitchen Managers – Jerry Weller

### Council:

Ministers – All Church Members

Karen Brandt – President

Danette Fair

Ron Forry

Mike Givler - Secretary

Gretchen Miller – Treasurer

Carolyn Peters – Vice President

J. D. Young



Non-voting Ex-Officio Member by Position:

The Rev. Bill Long



# Another Thank You

## *Impacting the World with Capabilities*

1149 East Oregon Road, Lititz, PA 17543 | 717.656.2466 | 717.656.0459 Fax  
FriendshipCommunity.net | FriendshipART.net  



April 28, 2025

St. Paul's UCC  
Manheim, PA

Dear friends,

Thank you so much for hosting our Friendship Community Worship Team on Sunday April 27, 2025.

We were blessed to have our Worship Team as a part of your service. I trust that God was glorified and that many were encouraged as we worshipped with you.

We were also blessed to be able to share refreshments with you. Thanks for the hospitality. We enjoyed the interaction and friendliness of your congregation.

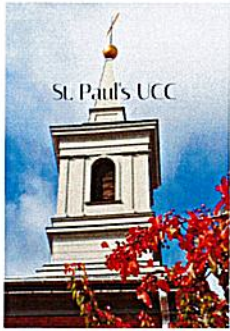
Friendship Community is blessed to partner with you and we trust that the ministry of Friendship Community will continue to be of interest to your congregation. Thank you for supporting Friendship Community with prayer, encouraging service at Friendship via employment or volunteering and with your financial support.

Thanks so much and may God bless the ministry of St. Paul's UCC.

*Milt Stoltzfus*

Milt Stoltzfus  
Spiritual Nurture & Community Life Advisor





## St. Paul's United Church of Christ

50 N. Main Street, P. O. Box 129

Manheim, PA 17545

Phone: 717.665.2447

[www.StPaulsuccManheim.org](http://www.StPaulsuccManheim.org)

You will  
be like a  
*well-watered*  
garden,  
like a spring  
whose waters  
*never fail.*

Isaiah 58:11, NIV

