

Opportunities to Know God, Love God & Serve God

- ◆ **TODAY, come and celebrate the New Year with us!** We'll begin worship @ 11 am in the Sanctuary followed by a [Pork & Sauerkraut](#) meal in Fellowship Hall. De-decorating will happen after the meal to prepare us for the season of Epiphany.
- ◆ The [Hebrews Bible Study](#) will resume again on Wednesday, January 7 @ 6:30 pm. All are welcome!
- ◆ **Reports for the Annual Report** are due from all committee chairs to the church office by Monday, January 5, 2026.
- ◆ **The FREE Community Breakfast** will be held on Saturday, January 17 from 8:30-10 am. Come out and enjoy a delicious, warm breakfast with even warmer friendships!



From Pastor Bill Long:

If you have questions about anything you've heard today, please feel free to contact us. We'd love to talk with you and get to know you! Pastor Bill Long's office hours are Monday-Thursday 9 am-1 pm. For other times, call the church office at 717.665.2447.

If you need Pastoral Care: If you are hospitalized or in crisis, please notify the church office at 717.665.2447 during weekday hours, or for **emergency** weekends, please call the church and leave a message – messages are monitored daily and your call will be returned shortly.

Church Calendar

Sunday: 11 am [One Worship](#)
Noon [New Year's Pork & Sauerkraut Dinner](#)
Followed by DeDecorating
Monday: 7 pm Property Board
Tuesday: Epiphany
Wednesday: 6:30 pm [Bible Study](#)
Thursday: 9 am Simply Yoga
7 pm AA @ Zion Lutheran

Next
Sunday: 9 am Prayer
9:30 am [One Worship](#)
10:30 am [Coffee Hour](#)

St Paul's United Church of Christ

50 N. Main St., P. O. Box 129 ♦ Manheim PA 17545

Phone: 717.665.2447 **Email:** stpaulsmanheim@ptd.net **Web:** stpaulsuccmanheim.org

Welcome to
St. Paul's United Church of Christ
January 4, 2026

A close-up photograph of a lit candle in a glass holder. The flame is bright yellow and orange, and the glass holder is dark and reflective. The background is dark.

JOHN 1:9, ESV

The
TRUE LIGHT,
WHICH GIVES
LIGHT TO EVERYONE,
WAS COMING INTO
THE WORLD.

January 4, 2026

WELCOME to ST. PAUL'S

Making a Difference through the Love of Christ to
Know God ♦ Love God ♦ Serve God

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude/Call to Prayer/Prayer of the Day "Providence" - Doige

Call to Worship ([Psalm of the Day](#)) Celebrate Insert Page 2

♦ Hymn #45 "[Crown Him with Many Crowns](#)"

Call to Confession/Prayer of Confession

P: Holy Child, Loving Savior, we sensed the coming of your birth. We felt the creeping hustle and bustle that pushed you to the side. We still feel the burden of lists and obligations that drain our joy and dull our spirit. We continue to see the flurry of holiday bargains that know not of the holy day that you were born. So we join with prophet Isaiah and pray, "Tear the heavens open and come down." Come and make your presence known and felt. Continue to guide us through this wondrous and hectic season. Come and open our hearts to the unexpected moments of joy. Come and fill us with your patient love. Holy Child, loving Savior, come. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

♦ Offertory #815 "Praise God from whom all blessings flow...."

Prayers of Intercession Celebrate Insert Page 4

Confession of Faith - Colossians 1:15-20

P: He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Reading of Scripture [Jeremiah 31:7-14](#)/[Ephesians 1:3-14](#)/♦ [St. John 1:1-18](#)

Sermon "[Making God Known](#)" - Pastor Bill Long

The Sacrament of Holy Communion See Insert

♦ Hymn #56 "[To God Be the Glory](#)"

♦ Benediction

♦ Postlude "To Thee, O Lord, Our Hearts We Raise" - Turner

♦ All who are able may stand

Announcements

Welcome! It's so great to worship with you once again!

Worship Assistants:

Greeters/Ushers: Kermit & Dottie Drumheller
Music Provided by June Smith, Organist
The Altar Flowers are placed To the Glory of God.

Offering Options: Your offering is a part of worshipping God. St. Paul's offers several ways to give your offering:

- ♦ Drop your envelope in the donation box as you leave church today.
- ♦ Mail your offering to the church.
- ♦ If you use online banking, use the Bill Pay option.
- ♦ Or set up direct withdrawals – contact the church office at 717.665.2447 for more information.

Thank you for your continued support of the ministry here @ St. Paul's UCC!

You're Invited to A [Pork & Sauerkraut Dinner!](#)

After worship today, please follow the crowd downstairs to Fellowship Hall to enjoy a delicious New Year's meal of Pork & Sauerkraut – there's something for everyone and you'll have a chance to get to know the people of St. Paul's UCC and Pastor Bill Long!

[Inclement Weather Policy](#)

In case of inclement weather, please call the church office at 717.665.2447 (after 8 am on Sundays) for service/event cancellations or delays. WGAL.com, WGAL and our website are other options to check as well.

Mission of the Month

The January Mission of the Month is [UCC Homes](#). Please use your January special envelope to support this ministry that helps to provide gracious retirement living which includes all types of care for people of all faiths and live experience. UCC Homes in our area include Ephrata Manor, Lebanon Valley Home in Annville and Kindred Place in Annville.

Prayers of the People



To update the prayer list, please contact Joan Hess at 717.665.4705.

Please pray: God of life, you claim us as your own and care for us as Christ's siblings Pour out your compassion in every place your people suffer, and protect them in the palm of your hand.

Today's Prayer: God, you reveal yourself in new life. Support those beginning a new job, a new relationship, or a new living situation, especially those displaced because of tragedy or loss. Be with all others who need your life-giving touch this day. Amen.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

L: The Lord be with you. **P: And with your spirit.**

L: Lift up your hearts. **P: We lift our hearts up unto the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God. **P: It is right for us to do so.**

♦ Gloria Patri

P: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Prayer of Consecration

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Seraphic Hymn (Hosanna)

P: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabbaoth: Heaven and earth are full, are full of the majesty of Thy Glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

L: Consecrate, therefore, by your Holy Spirit, these gifts of bread and wine, and bless us that as we receive them at this table, we may offer you our faith and praise, we may be united with Christ and with one another, and we may continue faithful in all things. In the strength Christ gives us, we offer ourselves to you, eternal God and give thanks that you have called us to serve you. **P: Christ has died. Christ is Risen. Christ will come again. Amen.**

Hymn #219

["Surely the Presence \(of the Lord Is in This Place\)"](#)

Sharing of the Elements

♦ Prayer of Thanksgiving

P: We thank you God for this time together and these gifts to make us strong enough to stand fast in hope of the Prince of Peace; to make us tender enough to embrace each sign of new life, to make us bold enough to sing praise and carols to the whole world. To make us humble enough to work for the common good of rebuilding this community, and to make us loud enough or soft enough to touch someone's heart today and all through the week. God, let the Light of Christ shine in and through us. Amen.

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