

# St. Paul's Happenings

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

November 2025

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

## What Is Advent?

Advent begins as the days begin to get darker. Light fades to the shortest day of the year. But in the church, we see a different kind of Light breaking into the darkness. This Light can shine into our darkness, into our very hearts, into our deepest hopes, and our most profound pain. This Light brings to us the truth of God's grace.

Advent is the prolog to Christmas. It is not only about Christmas Past, The Birth of Christ, it is also about a Christ Day into our hearts, into our Church! As the Light breaks into our life, things change – **New Things Happen!** St. Paul says that we look through a glass darkly yet behind this dark glass shines The Light of Christ!

Advent means: Come, Lord Jesus, into our heart, our church, our world. The Advent seasons look to the past, the birth of Christ, but it also dramatically points to the future. *"For unto us a child is born"* becomes the hope of Christ's return. Christ with us in the Now, but also leading us into the a new future.

Advent is our present moment. John the Baptist becomes the Forerunner who does not say Merry Christmas, but Repent! Clean up your heart; clean up the Church!

Advent, the presence of Christ in Word and Sacrament; Advent, a Dinner Church, a new way to reach out to others? As I write this advent could also mean an elevator that can "lift" us up to hear the word in a Holy Place called the Sanctuary, and even a furnace to warm our bodies as the Word warms our hearts!

Advent begins Sunday, November 30: Come Lord Jesus. This is your day now and into eternity. Amen.

In Christ, Pastor Bill Long

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### INSIDE this issue

#### FREE Community Breakfast

Sat. Nov. 15  
8:30-10 am



St. Paul's UCC  
50 N. Main St.  
Manheim

Page 3

#### Veterans Dinner

HONORING ALL  
WHO SERVED  
Sat. Nov. 15 @ 6 pm

Page 3



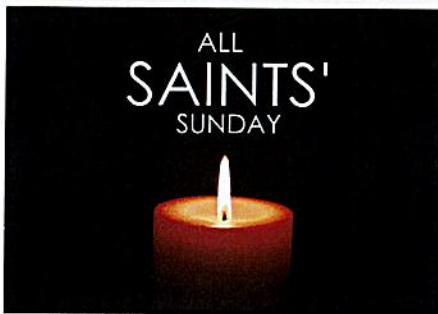
VISIT US ONLINE AT

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

## All Saints' Sunday

All Saints' Sunday will be celebrated @ St. Paul's on Sunday, November 2 during the 9:30 am worship service. We remember the following:

Carrie P. Guaspari  
Evelyn P. Dutt  
Mehabub N. "Boo" Jiwa  
William Berrier  
Jere A. Hoffman  
The Rev. Dr. J. Christopher Nichols  
Alison A. Dyer  
Edith R. Walsh  
Sharon Collins  
Carol Shutt Stoltz  
Elaine K. Hollinger  
Terry L. Eckert  
Julia M. Shreiner



## Christ the King

On Sunday, November 23, we celebrate Christ the King Sunday which is the culmination of the liturgical year to testify that our Lord Jesus is Ruler of all.

On this day, we honor Christ the King, the shepherd who gathers and rescues us, the one in whom all things hold together (Jeremiah 23:1-6; Colossians 1:11-20).

We joyfully welcome all worshipers to this celebration of his reign—ushering us into the peace and justice of God's kingdom. Come, take your place among the gathered faithful, and offer your worship to the King of all.



## Coffee Hour

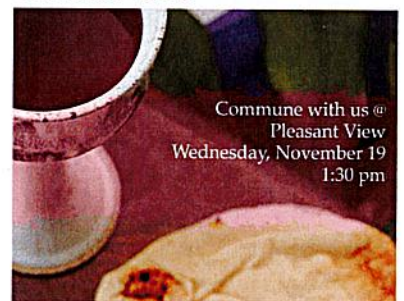
Feel free to enjoy a delicious cup of Whiff Roasters coffee during worship! After worship, you'll have a chance to grab some tasty treats, and mingle and get to know a great group of people that make up the heart of St. Paul's. You'll even have a chance to chat with Pastor Bill Long.

## Holy Communion

The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated every Sunday in November.

A Communion Service will also be held at Pleasant View Retirement Community on **Wednesday, November 19, 2025 @ 1:30 pm @ Hoffer Auditorium.**

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



Commune with us @  
Pleasant View  
Wednesday, November 19  
1:30 pm

## November Scripture Readings

**Sunday, November 2 – All Saints' Sunday:** Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18/Psalm 149/Ephesians 1:11-23/St. Luke 6:20-31

**Sunday, November 9 – Pentecost 22:** Job 19:23-27/Psalm 17:1-9/2 Thess. 2:1-5, 13-17/St. Luke 20:27-38

**Sunday, November 16 – Pentecost 23:** Malachi 4:1-2/Psalm 98/2 Thess. 3:6-13/St. Luke 21:5-19

**Sunday, November 23 – Christ the King:** Jeremiah 23:1-6/Psalm 46/Colossians 1:11-20/St. Luke 23:33-43

**Sunday, November 30 – Advent 1:** Isaiah 2:1-5/Psalm 122/Romans 13:11-14/St. Matthew 24: 36-44



# Fall Happenings @ St. Paul's

## Fall Bible Study

Bible Study will continue studying Hebrews on Wednesday evenings @ 6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to attend.

## FREE Community Breakfast

The FREE Community Breakfast will be held on Saturday, November 15 from 8:30-10 am. The breakfast includes a warm entrée of scrambled eggs with bacon and toast, fruit and a beverage. If you'd like to help out, please contact Erica Hoffman at 717.898.8452 or by email at [ejhoffman826@gmail.com](mailto:ejhoffman826@gmail.com)

## Veterans' Dinner

Women's Fellowship will sponsor a Veterans' Dinner on Saturday, November 15 @ 6 pm in Fellowship Hall.

Pastor Bill Long will be the keynote speaker. All Veterans and their plus one are invited to attend. Please RSVP to 717.665.2447 no later than Sunday, November 9.

## Communion @ Pleasant View

Join us for a Communion Worship Service on Wednesday, November 19 @ 1:30 pm in Hoffer Auditorium.

## Fellowship Breakfast

Come out to Kountry Kitchen Family Restaurant on Thursday, November 20 @ 8:30 am and enjoy good food with great friends.

Please RSVP to Claire Reed @ 717.951.4325 by Monday, Nov. 17.

## Women's Fellowship

Women's Fellowship will meet next on Thursday, November 20 @ 1 pm in Fellowship Hall. All women are invited to attend. See more on page 4.

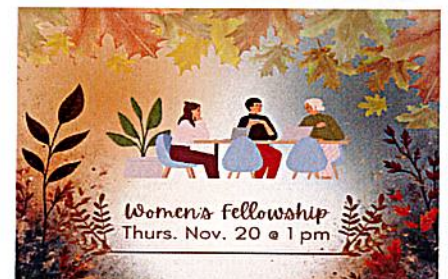
## Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Come, give thanks and praise God for all the ways we have been blessed. The worship service will be held on Wednesday, November 26 @ 7 pm.

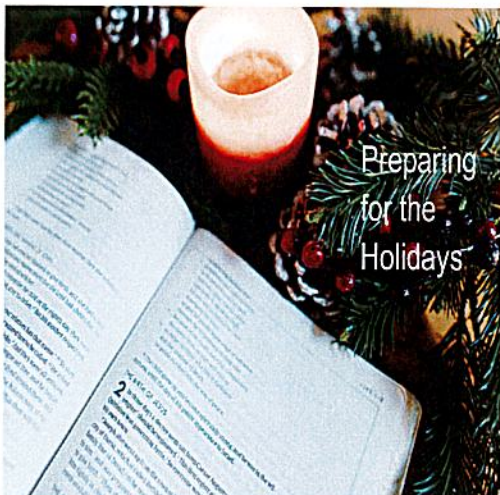
## Check Out Our Website

Be sure to check our website for the most recent information on our upcoming events. Our website can be found at [www.stpaulsuccmanheim.org](http://www.stpaulsuccmanheim.org)

To receive email invites or notifications about events, contact the church office at 717.665.2447 or [stpaulsmanheim@ptd.net](mailto:stpaulsmanheim@ptd.net).



# Coming Up in December



**Decorating Night:** On Friday, December 5 @ 5 pm, we'll prepare the church for the Advent/Christmas season. Come out and enjoy a great meal together with friends and experience the joy of decorating together!

**Breakfast with Santa:** This fun event will be held on Saturday, December 6 from 8:30 – 10 am in Fellowship Hall. The FREE breakfast will include pancakes and sausage; Santa will be here for photo opportunities and there will be a game and craft too! Each child will receive a goody bag and hats, mittens/gloves and scarves will be available for the kids as well thanks to our Women's Fellowship.

**Christmas Eve Worship with Candlelight** will be held at 7 pm & 11 pm on Wednesday, December 24. The services will both include lessons and carols of the season and at 11 pm will also include Holy Communion.



## Women's Fellowship

First, we want to THANK YOU for your support of our recent sub sale. You came through once again!

We are now making our final plans for our upcoming **Veterans' Dinner on Saturday, November 15 @ 6 pm** in Fellowship Hall. All that we ask is that you call the office to make your reservations, so that we will know how to prepare. All Veterans and a plus one are invited to a delicious dinner. Our speaker will be our very own beloved Pastor Bill Long! How does it get any better!

**Our final meeting for 2025 (which I can hardly believe) will be held on Thursday, November 20 @ 1 pm** in Fellowship Hall. This will be a busy meeting, as we decide on our yearly contributions through our giving to community and church projects. Bring your hats and scarves along to that meeting as we will also be preparing gift bags for the Santa Breakfast in December.

As you can see, we are very busy beavers/workers for the Lord. Wouldn't you like to be a part of that?

In His Love,  
June Smith & Dottie Drumheller

## Mission of the Month

**The November Mission of the Month is St. Paul's FREE Community Breakfast.**

Each month, St. Paul's holds a FREE Community Breakfast typically held on the third Saturday. The exception is in December when the breakfast is held as part of the Breakfast with Santa on the first Saturday.

The breakfast features a warm entrée, fruit and a beverage and is a great opportunity to get to know our neighbors right here in the heart of Manheim. Our next breakfast will be held on Saturday, November 15 from 8:30-10 am.

The Breakfast with Santa will be held on Saturday, December 6 from 8:30-10 am and will feature pancakes with sausage, a chance to visit with Santa and take some pictures, a game and craft and each child will receive a goody bag.

Please use your November special envelope to Make a Difference through the Love of Christ to Know God, Love God & Serve God through this breakfast to those in our wonderful community of Manheim!



## Food Pantry Update

In September 172 total households or 545 total individuals were served at the Manheim Central Food Pantry. New Households totaled 15 or 49 new individuals.

Items needed are diapers, applesauce, beef stew, canned chili, canned beets, and rice sides as well as plastic and reusable grocery bags.

Please make sure your donations are not expired, opened, or used please. Contact is Ruth Ellen Brown at 717.6654.1097 or drop off non-perishables in our 1<sup>st</sup> floor hallway near the kitchen.

## Looking Ahead to Christmas

**Christmas Poinsettias** will once again glorify our worship space on Christmas Eve. If you would like to sponsor poinsettias, please complete an order form to be found in your November 9, 16, or 23 bulletin, or contact the church office at 717.665.2447 to place your order. Poinsettias will be offered in Red or White Glitter (red with white speckles) in a 5+ bloom, 6.5" pot at a cost of \$9.75 each. Plants have been preordered and will be reserved on a first come, first served basis and **the deadline to place your order is Sunday, November 23, 2025.**

**Gift Cards** will once again be available to order for your Christmas gift giving. Cards to Dunkin, Tractor Supply, Cabela's, Starbucks, etc. will be on sale on Sundays, November 30 through December 14. Order forms will be available starting November 9 – contact Karen Brandt at 717.341.1517/ [kcbwno38@ptd.net](mailto:kcbwno38@ptd.net) for place your order or for more information. Proceeds benefit St. Paul's Mission Team.



## Council Highlights

Church Council met on Tuesday, October 21, 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.

**Endowment Fund:** \$4,000 was received in total income from the rental properties in September.

### Treasurer's Report:

Benevolence: \$1,960 was received for the September Mission of the Month, which was the Shepherd's Fund. OCWM giving was \$315 in September.

Operating: \$8,448 was received in September for current operating expenses.

Capital: \$1,069 was received in September for the capital fund.

In comparison we are \$7,309 under last year's giving so far this year.

### Pastor's Report:

- Pastor Bill asked if Hope Served could use Fellowship Hall on the third Tuesday each month for the next few months for clerical activities – council approved.
- Council agreed to a June 28, 2026 date for church to be held at Pleasant View next year.

### Committee Reports:

- New Voices: see written report.
- Property Board

Both Property Board and New Voices gave a presentation re: upcoming projects for 2026.

### Old Business:

- The September and October Community Breakfast were well received and will continue for the foreseeable future.
- JD Young announced that the settlement for the rental property @ 32 N. Main St. will likely occur in early November.

**New Business:** none

**Next meeting date is Tuesday, November 18, 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



## Women's Retreat

This year, women from St. Paul's are welcome to be part of Camp Hebron's annual Women's Retreat complete with rest, fellowship, encouragement, as we engage in worship, teachings and prayer. All ladies are welcome – easy access lodging and meals are included with activities like crafts, games and hikes and a keynote speaker as well. There is a cost.

The dates are Friday, February 20 @ 6 pm-Sunday, February 22 @ 1 pm.

If interested in attending, enlist your friends and go to Camp Hebron's website to register at:

<https://www.camphebron.org/events-1/womens-retreat-2026>

For more info, contact Pam Herman @ 717.665.2447 or [stpaulsmanheim@ptd.net](mailto:stpaulsmanheim@ptd.net)

## Budget Meeting & Giving Information



The proposed budget for 2026 will be presented to Church Council at their November meeting for approval and a **Congregational Meeting has been set for Sunday, December 14, 2025** following worship for congregational approval. Thank you for your continued support of the ministry here at St. Paul's!

To receive giving envelopes, change to direct withdrawal or if you no longer need giving envelopes, please contact the church office at 717.665.2447/[stpaulsmanheim@ptd.net](mailto:stpaulsmanheim@ptd.net).

**New Giving Envelopes for 2026 will be available in mid to late November.**



# November 2025

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

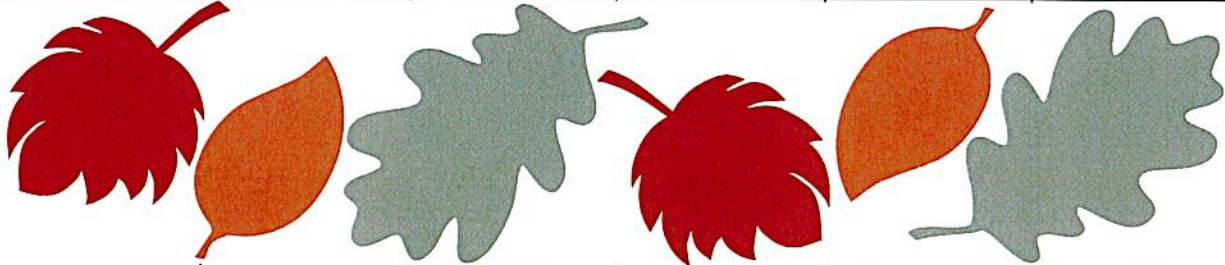
Thursday

Friday

Saturday

# November



|                                                                                                   |                                                                                      |                                    |                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                   |           |                                                                         |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>2</b><br>All Saints' Sunday<br>9:00am Prayer<br>9:30am One Worship<br>10:30am Coffee Hour      | <b>3</b><br>Set-Up for Elections<br>5:30pm Budget Meeting<br>7:00pm Property Board   | <b>4</b><br>Elections              | <b>5</b><br>6:30pm Bible Study                                      | <b>6</b><br>9:00am Simply Yoga<br>7:00pm AA @ Zion Lutheran<br>7:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal                                                                                        | <b>7</b>  | <b>8</b>                                                                |
| <b>9</b><br>9:00am Prayer<br>9:30am One Worship<br>10:30am Coffee Hour                            | <b>10</b><br>6:00pm New Voices Vision Team Meeting                                   | <b>11</b>                          | <b>12</b><br>6:30pm Bible Study                                     | <b>13</b><br>9:00am Simply Yoga<br>7:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal<br>7:00pm AA @ Zion Lutheran                                                                                       | <b>14</b> | <b>15</b><br>8:30am FREE Community Breakfast<br>6:00pm Veteran's Dinner |
| <b>16</b><br>9:00am Prayer<br>9:30am One Worship<br>10:30am Coffee Hour                           | <b>17</b>                                                                            | <b>18</b><br>6:00pm Church Council | <b>19</b><br>1:30pm Communion @ Pleasant View<br>6:30pm Bible Study | <b>20</b><br>8:30am Fellowship Breakfast @ Kountry Kitchen<br>9:00am Simply Yoga<br>1:00pm Women's Fellowship<br>7:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal<br>7:00pm AA @ Zion Lutheran         | <b>21</b> | <b>22</b>                                                               |
| <b>23</b><br>Christ the King Sunday<br>9:00am Prayer<br>9:30am One Worship<br>10:30am Coffee Hour | <b>24</b>                                                                            | <b>25</b>                          | <b>26</b><br>7:00pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service                | <b>27</b><br>Thanksgiving Day - Office Closed<br>8:00am Private Event<br>7:00pm AA @ Zion<br> | <b>28</b> | <b>29</b>                                                               |
| <b>30</b><br>Advent I<br>9:00am Prayer<br>9:30am One Worship<br>10:30am Coffee Hour               |  |                                    |                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                   |           |                                                                         |



## Worship Attendance

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

9/28 – 90      10/5 – 100      10/12 – 88  
10/19 – 78      10/26 – 94

# Blessings to all celebrating a November Anniversary or Birthday!

## Christian Symbols



### Crown

A crown, of course, symbolizes royal authority. As a Christian symbol it represents both Christ as King of kings (Revelation 17:14, for example) and the eternal life promised to Christ's followers: "Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life" (Revelation 2:10, ESV).



## 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                     | Nancy Gibble   | Jay Hess                        | Bev Hockenberry    | Erica Hoffman                          | Bridget Irons |
| Maybelle Martin                         | Jane Moyle     | Richard Moyle & Lynne Shoemaker |                    | Glen & Delores Mumma                   |               |
| Joanna Schreiber                        | Eric Smeltz    | Phyllis Smeltz                  | Donna Snavelly     | 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* | Teen Central & Bible2school kids/staff |               |
| In the Military: Jessie Dutt & Ben Ryan |                |                                 |                    |                                        |               |

# Take Me to the River

God often works in unexpected ways. Just ask Naaman, the army commander in 2 Kings 5:1-14. Stricken with leprosy, he traveled to Israel seeking healing from the prophet Elisha. Instead of an impressive display or a grand ceremony, Elisha sent word for him to simply wash seven times in the Jordan River.

Naaman was not impressed. “Aren’t the rivers of Damascus better than all the waters of Israel?” he asked. Why bathe in a foreign, muddy river when the clean, sparkling rivers of home were far more appealing? It didn’t make sense. Yet what seemed absurd became the very path to his healing.

We may not be told to wade into an actual river, but we all face “Jordan moments” in life — times when God calls us to take a step that feels uncomfortable, humbling or completely illogical. It is in those moments that trust and obedience matter most.

Naaman’s story reminds us that God’s power is not limited by appearances or human reasoning. Sometimes the action that feels least likely to work is the one that opens the door to blessing. When God invites you to take the plunge, step into the water. You may find healing and hope waiting there.

—adapted from Homiletics.com

## Communication Deadlines

St. Paul’s Happenings is printed monthly except for the December/January and July/August combined issues.

The deadline to submit articles is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month before publication. **The combined December 2025/January 2026 issue deadline is Sunday, November 16, 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

## A black and white line drawing of a steam locomotive. The word "PUZZLE" is written in large, bold, outlined letters across the side of the train's body. The locomotive has a smokestack emitting a large plume of smoke, a smaller smokestack, and a star on its side. It is on wheels with visible axles.

# GIVE PRAISE

Solve this puzzle to read a Bible verse about praising God for all his blessings.

**Directions:** In each group, circle the word that doesn't belong. Then write the circled words on the lines below.

|                             |                               |                                         |                                  |                                                                                    |                              |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1<br>Give<br>Take<br>Grab   | 2<br>peanut<br>praise<br>pear | 3<br>temple<br>house<br>LORD            | 4<br>proclaim<br>past<br>present | 5<br>name<br>boy<br>lad                                                            | 6<br>ruin<br>destroy<br>make |
| 7<br>pine<br>acorn<br>known | 8<br>train<br>nations<br>bus  | 9<br>done<br>donut<br>muffin            | 10<br>Sing<br>Sleep<br>Yawn      | 11<br>she<br>him<br>girl                                                           | 12<br>sun<br>praise<br>moon  |
| 13<br>tell<br>fast<br>slow  | 14<br>red<br>all<br>blue      | 15<br>horrible<br>dreadful<br>wonderful | 16<br>acts<br>sisters<br>aunts   |  |                              |



\_\_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 to the \_\_\_\_\_ 3, \_\_\_\_\_ 4 his \_\_\_\_\_ 5;  
\_\_\_\_\_ 6 \_\_\_\_\_ 7 among the \_\_\_\_\_ 8 what he has \_\_\_\_\_ 9.  
\_\_\_\_\_ 10 to \_\_\_\_\_ 11, sing \_\_\_\_\_ 12 to him; \_\_\_\_\_ 13 of  
\_\_\_\_\_ 14 his \_\_\_\_\_ 15 \_\_\_\_\_ 16.

*PSALM 105:1–2, NIV*

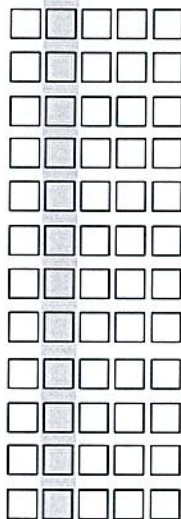
Answer: Give, praise, Lord, proclaim, name, make, known, nations, done, sing, him, praise, tell, all, wonderful, acts

# Puzzle!

Write the words below in alphabetical order inside the squares. Then read down the second column of letters to complete the hidden phrase below.

FEAST, KHAKI, MOUTH,  
ESSAY, LLAMA, ORBIT, CARRY,  
UDDER, BRUSH, ITEMS,  
~~APPLE~~, LEARN, CIDER

A P P L E

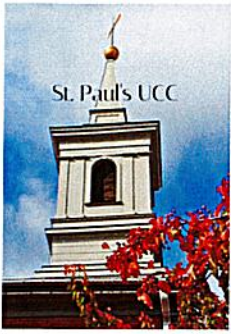


**P**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Answer:** Praise the Lord!





## 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)

A collage featuring a pie, a glass of orange juice, and a peach, with a central text overlay. The pie is on the left, the glass is on the right, and the peach is at the bottom right. The central text is on a dark red background.

# GOD'S LOVE

*is like  
a pie!*



*Best when  
you share  
a piece with  
someone  
else.*