



St. Paul's Happenings

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

September 2020

Making a Difference Through the Love of Christ for all to Know God, Love God, Serve God!

Driving Lesson

By Pam Herman, Church Administrator

Do you remember when you had to teach someone how to drive? Do you remember how nerve-wracking it was, to literally put your life in their very incapable hands? Remember that feeling as you read Matthew 16, where Jesus hands his disciple Peter the keys to the kingdom of heaven.

Can you imagine? Peter, the same man who jumps out of the boat to walk on water with Jesus who then finds himself sinking. Peter, the disciple who can't wait to build a tent up on the mountain with Moses & Elijah and totally misses the point of why Jesus has ascended the mountain in the first place.

On this Rock, I will build my church.

Makes you wonder – what exactly is it that Peter did to qualify to receive the keys to heaven? Let's find out together. Notice that right before Jesus gives Peter the keys, Peter answers Jesus correctly when asked "Who do people say that the Son of Man is? Peter says "You (Jesus) are the Messiah, the Son of the living God. And Jesus replies that, "you are Peter, and on this rock, I will build my church."

Did you know, the name Peter means Rock in Greek? It is on this rock that Jesus will build his church, so no wonder Jesus gives Peter the keys to the kingdom of heaven, right?

But there's more! Right after Jesus tells Peter that on this rock, he will be his church, he says "the gates of hell will not prevail against it (the church).



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St.PaulsuccManheim.org

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Driving Lesson

Jesus already knows the outcome for His church! He knows that nothing will keep His church from prevailing!

I don't know about you, but if I knew that my car would prevail against anything my child could do to it, I'd have no problem handing over the keys!

But our church will only prevail if we lean on our Rock – Jesus Christ! He is our sure foundation. We must keep our eyes on Jesus Christ! When we deviate, it's like taking our eyes off the road. You know how when you take your eyes off the road, the car follows, and it can be very dangerous! Keep your eyes on Jesus, and we'll prevail with Him! Isn't that one of the first driving lessons you receive? Keep your eye on the road or in this case, on Jesus!

Keeping your car fueled and in good running condition is another rule of the road. And that applies to us as well. Keeping our bodies nourished and our minds in tune with God keep

us open to what God has in store for us as individuals and for our church. It gives us purpose and direction.

And knowing what direction you're going is important once you've been given the keys. Yes, as new drivers, we tend to enjoy our freedom, learning as we go, to destinations unknown. But with our spiritual freedom, having a clue to where we are going, it can really help to know God's plan for your life. That's why we need to keep our eye on Jesus! He will guide and direct our path to where we could never have imagined we would go.

Safe travels!



3 Ways to Worship

- ◆ Online Worship will be available on our website for those who wish to worship safely at home, are experiencing fever or recent symptoms of Covid-19 or have been exposed to Covid-19 in the last 14 days.
- ◆ If you wish to hear the entire service on Sundays @ 9:30 am, but do not feel safe to be in the Sanctuary, please feel free to park in St. Paul's UCC parking lot and turn to FM radio station 88.1 to access the worship service.
- ◆ Worship in the Sanctuary will be held at 9:30 am on Sunday mornings. Masks are required and social distancing protocols are in place.

Giving Options

To continue the ministry of St. Paul's UCC Manheim, your contributions are greatly appreciated.

Ways to give include:

- Send a check to St. Paul's UCC, 50 N. Main St. Manheim, PA 17545
- Use the Bill Pay Option through your bank's online bill pay
- Sign up for Direct Withdrawal by requesting a form to be completed and returned to the church office.



September Scripture Readings

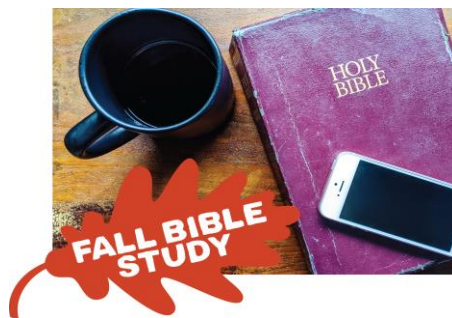
Sunday, September 6 Pentecost 14: Ezekiel 33:7-11; Psalm 119:33-40; Romans 13:8-14; St. Matthew 18:15-20.

Sunday, September 13, Pentecost 15: Genesis 50:15-21; Psalm 103: 1-13; Romans 14:1-12; St. Matthew 18:21-25.

Sunday, September 20, Pentecost 16: Jonah 3:10-4:11; Psalm 145:1-8; Philippians 1:21-30; St. Matthew 20:1-16.

Sunday, September 27, Pentecost 17: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32; Psalm 25:1-9; Philippians 2:1-13; St. Matthew 21:23-32.

September & October Events



Parking Lot Prayer

St. Paul's UCC is starting a new venture with **Parking Lot Prayer on Wednesday evenings from 6-7 pm starting Wednesday, September 16.**

If you or someone you know is going through a difficult time right now due to anxiety related to Covid-19, is experiencing a job loss or other financial crisis, having relationship or spiritual issues or just needs the prayer support, drive through Parking Lot Prayer is for you!

Our Prayer Partners will have masks on to keep you safe while in prayer and will pray with you while you are in the safety of your vehicle.

To prepare our Prayer Partners to serve, a two-session "Teach Us How to Pray" video series will be held. All are welcome, whether you serve as a prayer partner or not. The series will be held on Wednesday evenings, September 2 & 9 @ 6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. For more information, contact Pam Herman at 717.665.2447 or by email at stpaulsmanheim@ptd.net.

Isaiah Bible Study

The Isaiah Bible Study will continue with week 8 of our study guide beginning again **on Wednesday, September 16 @ 7 pm in Fellowship Hall.**

Please wear a mask; social distancing protocols will be in place.

Fall Fest

Once again, St. Paul's UCC will team up with Teen Central to create an evening of fall fun for our neighborhood kids.

Fall Fest will be held on Sunday, September 27 from 4-6 pm in St. Paul's UCC's parking lot. Rain date is Sunday, October 4. Social distancing protocols, including wearing masks, will be in place to keep everyone safe.

There will be lots of Fall food, music, and fun will be on hand – so mark your calendar now!

Book Club

The Book Club will meet with Pastor Bill Long in Fellowship Hall on Monday, October 26 to discuss "The Great Gatsby." Social distancing protocols will be in place. To sign up and get your copy of the book, please contact the church office at 717.665.2447 or by email at stpaulsmanheim@ptd.net.

PLEASE NOTE: All events are subject to change during this time of Covid-19. Should a community outbreak occur, the events may be postponed and rescheduled or cancelled completely. Please check our website at www.stpaulsuccmanheim.org for updates or call the church office at 717.665.2447 for more information.

FREE Community Breakfast - September 19

St. Paul's UCC will restart the **FREE Community Breakfast on the third Saturday of each month starting Saturday, September 19 from 9-10 am.**

Due to Covid-19, the breakfast will be served takeout style at the back entrance off the parking lot of the church. Social distancing protocols will be in place - please wear a mask to pick-up your breakfast.

Volunteers are needed – contact Sandy Bareford @ 717. 341.5931 or by email at sandybareford@gmail.com.



Women's Fellowship

Things have certainly been different for all of us during this pandemic. However, life goes on! During this time I am sure all of us have had time to sit, think, pray and reflect how all of this reflects on our lives. I know I have done a lot of the above.

However, just because we can't physically get together and reflect on this difficult time, I personally wanted to point out a few things to you. We, as a Church Family, recently lost one of our own when Carole Meckley was called "home." She was a wonderful help to me re: Women's Fellowship and in many other ways at St. Paul's. Carole and I spoke by telephone almost every week, just to keep in touch, since we could not get together. I am so thankful for this telephone contact with her. Please remember how important it is to keep in contact with each other, one way or another. I personally have received many telephone calls and cards during this period of time and honestly each and every one came when I needed them the most. I trust that the calls I made and cards I sent had the same effect on the receivers of these contacts.

Please remember our homebound members in any way that you are able. I am especially thinking of those who are in nursing and/or assisted living facilities, especially when personal visits are not possible. **That telephone call or thinking of you card might be the highlight of their day!**

We have been especially blessed to have Pastor Bill in our midst. What a blessing to us when our Lord sent him to us. We trust he will have had a good rest, so that he will be refreshed physically and spiritually to continue to lead us in the months ahead in whatever way possible. We are all aware of our limitations, which is important for us to keep in mind. Our prayers and support to Pastor Bill and Church Council at this difficult time are so important.

I have spent a good bit of time at the piano, practicing and playing through our Hymn Book. What a wealth of music and words in that book. I have especially become fond of Hymn #580 Through It All.

The words are as follows: Through it all, through it all, I've learned to trust in Jesus, Through it all, through it all, I've learned to trust in God. Through it all, through it all, I've learned to depend upon His word. **Continue to pray without ceasing!**

In His Love and Service,
June Y. Smith

Mission of the Month

The September Mission of the Month is St. Paul's UCC's Mission Team. The 2021 Mission has been set for the team, which will travel next summer to Clairvaux Farm (now called Deep Roots) in Earleville, MD to serve. Past missions for the team members include:

- ◆ Manheim Project
- ◆ Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, Mississippi
- ◆ Philadelphia, PA
- ◆ Eagle Ranch, Tennessee
- ◆ Dominican Republic

Please use your September envelope to support the missions of St. Paul's UCC.

Missions



Manheim Project:

Thank you for all who served in the Manheim Project on July 27-29! You truly made a difference to those that were served!

Mission Trip:

The mission trip to Earlesville, MD to serve at Deep Roots homeless shelter, formerly known as Clairvaux Farms has been rescheduled to **Thursday, June 17-Sunday, June 20, 2021** due to the Coronavirus. If you would like to serve, please contact Sandy Bareford at 717.341.5931 or by email at sandybareford@gmail.com.

Food Pantry Update:

In July, the Food Pantry served 116 families for a total of 336 individuals. Here are some items need for the Food Pantry:

- ◆ Canned fruit, including applesauce
- ◆ Canned potatoes
- ◆ Mixes vegetables and carrots
- ◆ Peanut Butter
- ◆ Jelly

Please drop food off at the Pantry. For more information, contact Ruth Ellen Brown at 717.664.1097.



Council Highlights

St. Paul's Church Council met on Monday, July 21 @ 7 pm. Below are the highlights of that meeting:

- Endowment/Memorial Fund Report:
 - Endowment Fund is down about \$5,000 for the year which considering the scope of the pandemic and fluctuating markets isn't bad thanks to investing diversity.
- Treasurers' Report:
 - Current income was above budget by \$500 for June. Could be due to a late May deposit.
 - Benevolence – June's mission of the month was Strengthen the Church - \$915 was contributed and dispersed.
 - Capital income continues to be good likely thanks to the capital campaign.
- Pastor's Report:
 - Pastor Bill stated that the 3 forms of worship will continue. Attendance has been about average for this time of year.
 - A baptism has been scheduled for early fall and a wedding scheduled for 2021.
 - Christmas Eve planning has begun.
- Old Business:
 - Some church events can begin in September as long as social distancing protocols can be in place.
 - No outside group events will be scheduled to use church facilities until at least Jan. 1, 2021.
 - St. Paul's will not be participating in the food stand @ Manheim Farm Show (now cancelled).
- New Business:
 - Parking Lot Prayer was approved by council. (See page 3 for details).
 - Tech Team: David Ludwig will chair the tech team to research, get approval and implement technology aspects of the church. First order of business will be to tackle how to livestream our worship service.
- Open Discussion
 - Council members will continue to serve as ushers until further notice.

- 2021 Mission of the Month Change: Hartman Center is in the process of being decommissioned (see more below) and should therefore be removed from our roster of missions to support. Options for replacing that mission will be discussed at the next meeting.

Council will meet next on Tuesday, September 8 with Spiritual Council @ 6 pm and Church Council @ 7 pm. August Communion/Closer is Gretchen Miller; September is Karen Weiss.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pamela Herman, Recording Secretary

Church Council Minutes/Packets are posted in Fellowship Hall, in the 2nd floor hallway and are also available to you in the church office by request.

Decommissioning Service @ Hartman Center

We are heartbroken to share with you that in light of our current situation, Penn Central Conference has made the difficult decision to close and sell Hartman Center due to declining occupancy and programming which led to a decline in income in the past 15 years.

On September 12, 2020, a Service for the Decommissioning of Hartman Center will be held. Join your Hartman Center friends and family for a day of auctions, crafts, worship, fellowship, and songs as we bid a prayerful farewell to our beloved Sunshine Place.

Bring your own chairs, a picnic lunch, photos, and memories. Masking and physical distancing is expected of everyone and much appreciated.



Just Be and Be Still

Various versions of the following sentiment are posted online: “I am a human being, not a human doing. It’s okay to just *be* sometimes.” Many of us get anxious if we think we’re not *doing* enough, but peace activist Thich Nhat Hanh insists it’s not a waste of time to just be: “To be alive, to be peaceful, to be joyful, to be loving ... is what the world needs most.”

During the pandemic, when people were urged to stay home to slow the virus’ spread, we had to think hard about how to continue being the church while limited in what we could go out and “do.” Yet church leaders reminded us that we were actually loving our neighbors by staying home — by being less active.

It’s sometimes okay — ideal, even — to just be. In quieting our bodies, minds and hearts, we may find ourselves more often in prayer, more aware of God’s presence and more nourished for when the time is right to again take up more active forms of ministry, peacemaking and love. “In quietness and trust is your strength” (Isaiah 30:15, NIV).

—Heidi Mann

Daily Bread Devotionals Available

The new Daily Bread Devotionals are now available for September-November for the small print; large print editions are available for October-December.

If you would like a copy mailed to you, please contact the church office at 717.665.2447.

Bottle Cap/Lids Collection Project

St. Paul’s UCC is collecting Plastic Bottle and Container tops/caps/lids to be recycled and then turned into a Park Bench. 63 lbs. have been received so far! Below is a list of lids that are acceptable for recycling. It takes 250 lbs. and \$300 to create a new park bench from Green Tree Plastics, Evansville, IN.

Lids/caps can be dropped off in the marked container outside the kitchen area (near the Food Bank drop off).

Please weigh your bag and note the weight on your bag before dropping off in the container.

Acceptable Caps – Recycle #2, 4 or 5:

- Medicine Bottle Caps w/info packet removed (**no bottles**)
- Milk jug caps
- Detergent caps
- Hair spray caps
- Toothpaste caps
- Deodorant Caps
- Apple Sauce pouch caps
- Drink bottle caps (soda, water, juice, sports drink)
- Flip top caps (ketchup)
- Spout caps (mustard)
- Spray paint caps
- Ointment tube caps
- Baby food Caps
- Shampoo/condition caps

Acceptable Lids – Recycle #2, 4 or 5:

- Cottage/Cream Cheese container lids
- Mayonnaise jar lids
- Yogurt lids
- Peanut butter lids
- Ice Cream bucket lids (under 8”)
- Cool whip container lids
- Coffee Can lids
- Butter container lids
- Pringles lids

NOT Acceptable Caps/Lids:

- **ANY Metal caps/lids**
- Drink Bottles
- Plastic Ziploc type bags
- Trigger Sprayers
- ALL Fast Food drink lids
- Plastic that is not a cap/lid, plastic pieces and parts
- Human/Animal Medical Supplies
- ALL Food containers
- Soap/Lotion Pumps
- Grocery Bags
- Cap lids or Med bottles w/ #1, 3, 6 or 7 recycle #
- K-cups & Straws

For more information, contact Dave or Judy Palfrey at palfrey9758@gmail.com.

RightNow Media

Since the pandemic continues on longer than originally anticipated, RightNow Media offers a chance to catch up on a Bible Study, engage kids in learning more about Jesus or even create your own small group in the safety of your own home.

To get access to this “Netflix” of Bible Studies for all ages, contact the church office at 717.665.2447/ stpaulsmanheim@ptd.net or click on the qr code here.



September 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 1:30pm Staff Meeting	2 6:30pm Parking Lot Prayer Preparation	3 7:00pm AA Meeting @ Zion Lutheran	4	5
6 9:30am One Worship	7 Labor Day - Office Closed	8 8:30am Lancaster Association Meeting 6:00pm Spiritual Council 7:00pm Church Council	9 12:00pm Manheim Ministerium 6:30pm Parking Lot Prayer Preparation	10 9:00am Mercersburg Bible Study 7:00pm AA Meeting @ Zion Lutheran	11	12
13 9:30am One Worship	14 7:00pm Property Board	15	16 6:00pm Parking Lot Prayer 7:00pm Isaiah Bible Study	17 7:00pm AA Meeting @ Zion Lutheran	18	19 9:00am FREE Community Breakfast 
20 Newsletter Deadline 9:30am One Worship	21	22 	23 6:00pm Parking Lot Prayer 7:00pm Isaiah Bible Study	24 7:00pm AA Meeting @ Zion Lutheran	25	26
27 9:30am One Worship 4:00pm Fall Fest 	28	29	30 6:00pm Parking Lot Prayer 7:00pm Isaiah Bible Study			

September Birthdays & Anniversaries

Warm well wishes to all those celebrating a birthday or anniversary this month!

Celebrate!

Thank You Notes

St. Paul's Friends,
Thank you for all your expressions of sympathy and support during the difficult time of my father's passing. Your support has been most appreciated.

- Donna Hlavacek

I want to thank everyone who remembered me with phone calls and cards during my recent bout with cancer. A special thanks to Pastor Bill for his calls and prayers. It is nice to know we have such a loving congregation.

- Terry Myers

Thank you to Women's Fellowship for the lovely get-well card following my recent surgery. Your thoughtfulness is most appreciated!

Blessings, Pam Herman

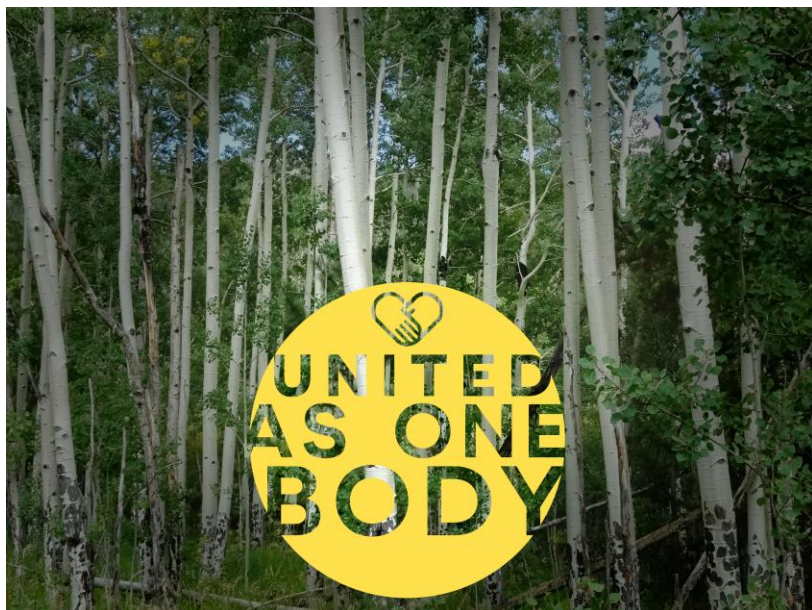
St. Paul's UCC<

I am eager to thank you for your recent donation to Heifer International. Our program continues to forge ahead towards ending hunger and poverty while caring for the earth. Sincere thanks for your partnership.

- Melanie Kapinos, Heifer International

Thank You!
THANK YOU!

One Body, Many Parts



Through the teaching, support, sacrifice, worship and commitment of the church, utterly ordinary people are enabled to do some rather extraordinary, even heroic acts, not on the basis of their own gifts and abilities, but rather by having a community capable of sustaining Christian virtue. The church enables us to be better people than we could have been if left to our own devices.

—Stanley Hauerwas and William Willimon, *Resident Aliens*

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.

Hannah Fisher	Brooke Gabster	Jennifer Green
Dawn Hoffman	Mike Kennedy	Nancy Lishman
Anna Mary Peters	Marie Rhodes	Burt Savitz
Carole Shank	Michael Shelley	Robert & Joanna Schreiber
Polly Stoner	Doris Stroud	Lisa Weaver
*Nancy Brosey	*Ralph Givler	*Betz Klopp
*Carrie Mathiot	*Linda Osborn	*Jack Reed
*Connie Shirk	*Eric Smeltz	
*Cindy Zdradzinsk	*Maya	

Worship Attendance

Worship Attendance equals in person worship in the Sanctuary, those attending worship in the parking lot and online views of the sermons:

6/28 - 84 7/5 - 66 7/12 - 72

7/19 - 63 7/26 - 68

8/2 - 73 8/9 - 72 8/16 - 57



In the military:

Cindy Dieterly

Kyle May

Doug Pearson

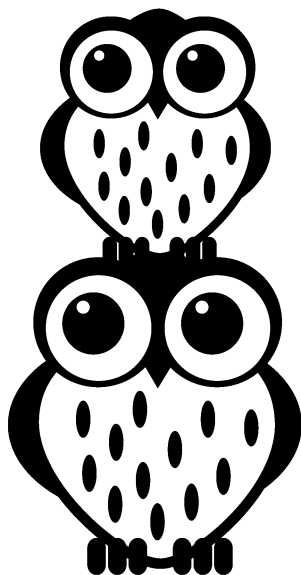
Nathaniel Sexton



WISDOM FROM THE WORD

God makes a special promise to people who study Scripture.

Directions: Arrange the word list in alphabetical order. Then write the circled letters in order below to complete Joshua 1:8, NIV.



school	— ○ — — —
paper	— ○ —
wisdom	— — ○ —
read	— — — ○
play	— — — — —
learn	○ — — — —
grow	— ○ — — — —
pencils	— — — — —
pray	— ○ — — —
art	— — — — —
student	— — — ○ — —
kids	— — ○ — — —
apple	— — ○ — — —

“... meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be _____ and successful.”

JOSHUA 1:8, NIV

Answer: apple, art, grow, kids, learn, paper, pencils, play, pray, read, school, student, wisdom, prosperous

A BUSHEL OF BOOKS



Design a handy bag to tote your books this fall.

What you need:

- Plain canvas bag
- Cardboard scrap
- Acrylic paints (2 colors)
- 2 small paper plates
- Apple
- Knife (and adult help)
- Foam brush
- Scrap paper

What you do:

1. Lay the bag flat on a table, and place cardboard inside for protection.
2. Pour a paint dollop on each plate.
3. Slice the apple in half, keeping the core intact.
4. Brush a thin layer of paint on the cut side of an apple half. Practice making stamps on scrap paper. Use the other color on the other apple half.
5. Paint and stamp the bag with your final design. When dry, remove the cardboard.
6. Use the bag for school and Sunday school. Happy reading!





Ushers & Greeters

The act of greeting will look slightly different than before the Coronavirus so that we can keep in line with social distancing practices.

As you arrive for One Worship, you'll be greeted by several council members and other leaders to direct you and assist you if help is needed.

Communication Deadlines

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

The deadline to submit articles is the 3rd Sunday of the month before publication. **The October newsletter deadline is Sunday, September 20, 2020.**

Bulletin announcements are due to the church office no later than 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
Nursery Coordinator – Rhonda Raia
Custodian – Mark Lowe
Kitchen Managers – Sandy Bareford & Jerry Weller

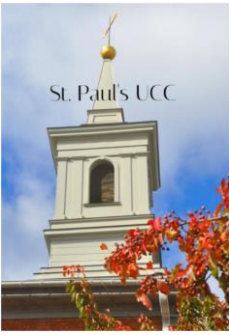
Council:

Ministers – All Church Members
Sandy Bareford, Secretary
Lynn Brewer
Rick Conley – Vice President
Danette Fair
Joan Hess – President
Gretchen Miller - Treasurer
Dave Palfrey – Assistant Treasurer
Karen Weiss

Non-voting Ex-Officio Member by Position:

The Rev. Bill Long, Pastor & Pam Herman, Church Administrator & Recording Secretary





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

Manheim, PA 17545

Phone: 717.665.2447

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