

# St. Paul's Happenings

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

October 2025

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

## Hearing from God Part 3

*"For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope" (Jeremiah 29:11)*

Clean out, Update - You'll Grow. What does that mean to you? Update can mean renovate. Our church is a beautiful old building. To keep our church looking beautiful we must maintain and at times renovate our church. The word renovation has many synonyms, including restoration, revamping, makeover, reconditioning, overhauling, and repair. When a building is "under renovation," things can get pretty messy. But it only lasts a while, and then everything turns back to "normal."

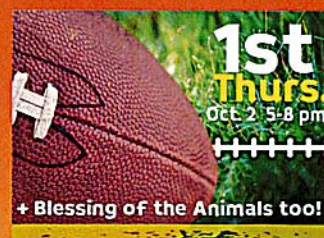
Life often feels like a constant state of renovation, whether it's changing our bodies, relationships, or even our home environments. Sometimes, these renovations are welcome and expected, while other times they are unexpected and disruptive. But to not change, means to be stagnant, complacent, lukewarm. In Revelation 3:16, 19-22, John, while in the Spirit, shares this warning from Jesus to the seven churches, specifically the church of Laodicea: *"So, because you are lukewarm and neither cold nor hot, I am about to spit you out of my mouth." I reprove and discipline those whom I love. Be earnest, therefore, and repent. Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in and eat with you, and you with me. To the one who conquers I will give a place with me on my throne, just as I myself conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne. Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.*" Reading these words makes me realize how necessary it is for us to change, to update, to renovate, to conquer our fears about staying safe in the here and now and trust how God is working in our church for a new day, a new generation.

Continued on Page 2

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

## Hearing from God Part 3 Continued

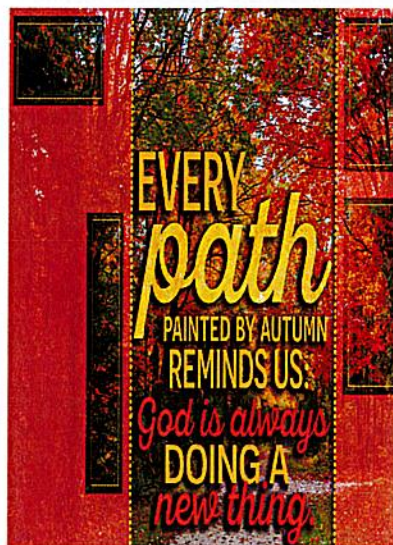
The word "renovation" itself comes from the Greek word for "renewed" or "re-created". This is what Paul refers to when he speaks of the "new self" we put on in Christ. God desires to renovate us from the inside out, not by changing the external circumstances alone, but by renewing our minds and hearts to be more like Him.

When you face a difficult "renovation" in your life, whether it feels like a messy construction site or a painful tearing down, remember that God is the Master Builder. He is patiently working to create something beautiful and new in you, even when you don't see the finished product.

Trust that His faithful plans are long-conceived, and that even in the midst of disruption, you are being transformed into His image.

Dear Lord, thank you for Your promise to renew us. When life's renovations feel overwhelming, please give us patience and humility. Help us to trust Your faithful work in our lives, knowing that You are creating a new self within us. Amen.

- Karen Brandt, Council  
President & Pam Herman,  
Church Administrator



## Coffee Hour

Follow the crowd down to Fellowship Hall after worship and enjoy some coffee and light refreshments. You'll also 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.

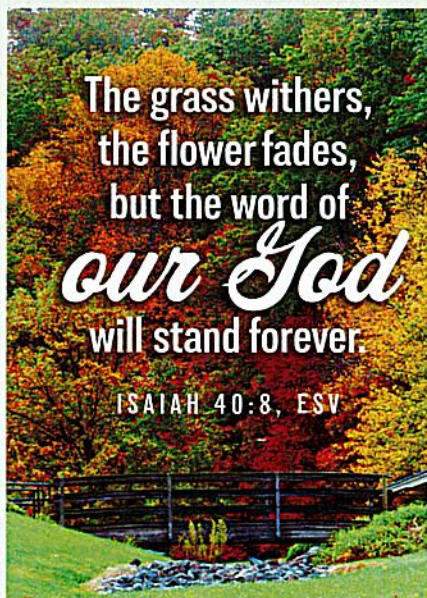
## Holy Communion

The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated next on Sunday, October 5, 2025.

A Communion Service will be held at Pleasant View Retirement Community on **Wednesday, October 15, 2025 @ 1:30 pm @ Hoffer Auditorium.**

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

## October Scripture Readings

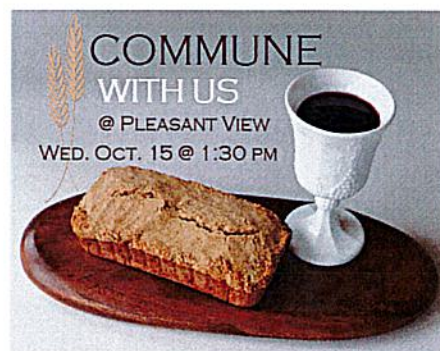


**Sunday, October 5 – Pentecost 17:**  
Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4/Psalm 37:1-9/  
2 Timothy 1:1-14/St. Luke 17:5-10

**Sunday, October 12 – Pentecost 18:**  
2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15/Psalm 111/  
2 Timothy 2:8-15/ St. Luke 17:11-19

**Sunday, October 19 – Pentecost 19:**  
Genesis 32:22-31/Psalm 121/  
2 Timothy 3:14-4:5/St. Luke 18:1-8

**Sunday, October 26 – Reformation Sunday:** Jeremiah 31:31-34/Psalm 46/  
Romans 3:19-28/St. John 8:31-36



# Fall Happenings @ St. Paul's

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

Are you ready for some football? Play our mini-football toss game, and select a football-themed prize. We will also have free water and snacks for all visitors (including dogs). We will also hold a **Blessing of the Animals** for anyone who brings a pet to be blessed.

## Fall Bible Study

Bible Study will continue on Wednesday evenings @ 6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to attend this wonderful time as we discuss the book of Hebrews.

## FREE Community Breakfast

The FREE Community Breakfast will be held on Saturday, October 18 from 8:30-10 am. On the menu this month is sausage gravy and biscuits or breakfast casserole, fresh fruit and 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)

## Communion @ Pleasant View

A Communion Worship Service will be held on Wednesday, October 15 @ 1:30 pm @ Pleasant View's Hoffer Auditorium. All are welcome to attend.

## Fellowship Breakfast

Come out to Kountry Kitchen Family Restaurant on Thursday, October 23 @ 8:30 am and enjoy good food with great friends.

Please RSVP to Claire Reed @ 717.951.4325 by Monday, October 20.

## Women's Fellowship

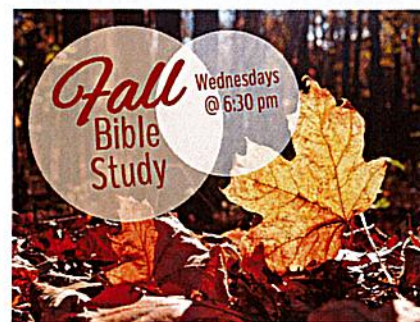
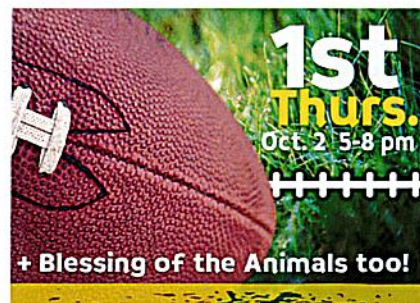
Women's Fellowship will meet next on Thursday, October 30 @ 1 pm in Fellowship Hall. All women are invited to attend.

See more on page 4.

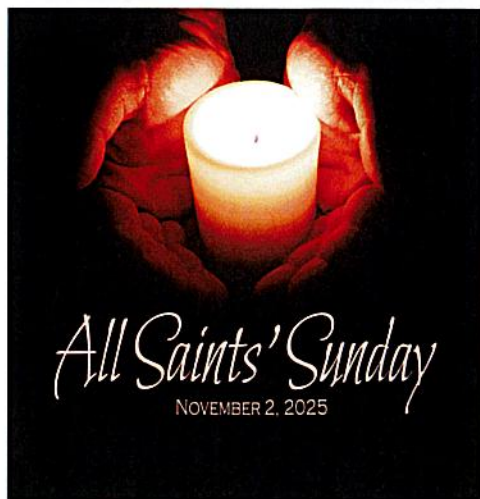
## Check Out Our Website

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)

If you'd like receive email invites or notifications about events, please contact the church office at 717.665.2447 or by email at [stpaulsmanheim@ptd.net](mailto:stpaulsmanheim@ptd.net).



# All Saints' Sunday



All Saints' Sunday will be celebrated at St. Paul's during the 9:30 am worship service on Sunday, November 2, 2025. This is the day that we honor and remember the saints who have gone before us—those whose faith and lives have pointed us to Christ.

Join us in worship as we give thanks for their witness.

If you would like to remember your loved one who passed away since last All Saints (November 4, 2024), please contact the church office at 717.665.2447 or by email at [stpaulsmanheim@ptd.net](mailto:stpaulsmanheim@ptd.net) with the name of your loved one, their birthday and date of death as well as their relationship to you.

**The deadline to include your loved one is Sunday, October 19, 2025.**



## Women's Fellowship

Well, the Fall season is upon us! We will see a lot of beautiful leaves turning color as we prepare for Winter.

Change is happening all the time within our group and sometimes it is hard to keep up, but we know who is in charge. We are so grateful for the service and dedication all these ladies have given to our Lord and we must adjust the best way we are able and know they are now at peace.

Our **Sub Sale** is in the works. The price will stay the same at \$6 each. Look for one of our ladies in the hallway across from the church office on Sunday, October 5 to place your order. The pick-up date is Thursday, October 16 from 2-4 pm. Thank you for your continued support.

**Our next meeting will be Thursday, October 30 @ 1 pm in Fellowship Hall.** Please try to attend this meeting.

At our last meeting, we made some important decisions. We will be sponsoring a **Veterans' Dinner on Saturday, November 15 @ 6 pm**. We will need some servers, so if you are able to help us, please let me know. We will make some final decisions regarding the dinner so please try to attend.

Just a reminder, if you are knitting or crocheting hats and scarves for our Christmas Giveaway, held during the Breakfast with Santa, we will need them by our November meeting. We do have a nice supply of yarn to be used for that purpose.

Keep supporting our homebound members. They are greatly appreciative and like knowing they have not been forgotten.

In His Love,  
June Smith & Dottie Drumheller

A blanket doesn't sound like much, but the warm soft fabric can keep you from freezing on a chilly night, it can provide shelter for your family, and it can give you a sense of HOPE.

Please use your October special envelope to give to the CWS Blanket Appeal and you can be certain that your gift will make a difference through the Love of Christ to someone most in need.

## Food Pantry Update

In August, 166 total households or 538 total individuals were served at the Manheim Central Food Pantry. New Households totaled 16 or 51 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.

A volunteer to weekly clean the pantry is needed – call Cathy Knittle at 717.572.2795.

## Mission of the Month

**The October Mission of the Month is Church World Services' Blanket Appeal.**

Imagine a hurricane, tornado, or act of violence taking away all that you have. You have no place to go to warm up and nothing to keep you warm. That's where CWS's Blanket Appeal steps in to help.

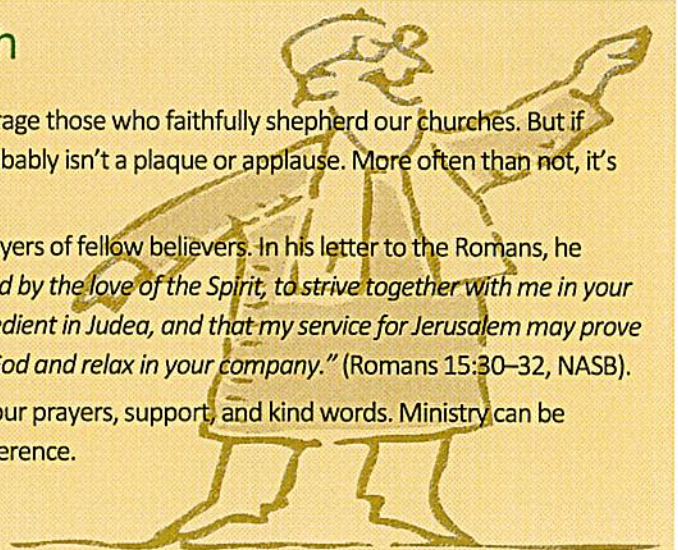
## October is Pastor Appreciation Month

October is Pastor Appreciation Month—a time to recognize and encourage those who faithfully shepherd our churches. But if you've ever asked a pastor how to show your gratitude, the answer probably isn't a plaque or applause. More often than not, it's simple: "Pray for me."

Even the Apostle Paul didn't ask for much personally, except for the prayers of fellow believers. In his letter to the Romans, he wrote: *"Now I urge you, brothers and sisters, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God for me, that I may be rescued from those who are disobedient in Judea, and that my service for Jerusalem may prove acceptable to the saints; so that I may come to you in joy by the will of God and relax in your company."* (Romans 15:30-32, NASB).

This October—and every month—encourage your pastor by offering your prayers, support, and kind words. Ministry can be demanding, but knowing the church is lifting them up makes all the difference.

*From the Newsletter Newsletter, October 2025*



# Council Highlights

Church Council met on Tuesday, September 16, 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:** \$6,000 was received in total income from the rental properties in July and August.

## Treasurer's Report:

**Benevolence:** \$861 was received for Teen Central, the August Missions of the Month (MOM). OCWM giving was \$290 in August.

**Operating:** \$7,872 was received in July and \$10,816 in August for current operating expenses.

**Capital:** \$974 was received in July and \$1,249 in August for the capital fund.

In comparison we are \$3,100 under last year's giving so far this year.

## Pastor's Report:

- 14 people turned out to help out on the workday prior to the outdoor worship service – thank you! Two new members were received at that service.
- Pastor Bill will hold confirmation classes for a new member with the plan for this youth to join the church next Easter or Palm Sunday.

## Committee Reports:

- New Voices: see written report.
- Property Board: Ron Forry reported that the permit to repave the sidewalks was granted but the permit to do the concrete and railing work at the back of the church was denied. Steps are being taken to get the permit passed and to complete the project. Estimates were also received for new flooring and ceiling tiles in Fellowship Hall and the large Sunday School room.

**Old Business:** JD Young updated council on the sale of the church rental property @ 32-34 N. Main St. An agreement has been signed with Homes for Manheim, a local non-profit organization to purchase the property at a price of \$450,000. A \$50,000 down payment was made, which will go into the church's escrow account.

**New Business:** A budget committee has been formed – Gretchen Miller, Karen Brandt & Pam Herman. **The congregational budget meeting will be held on Sunday, December 14 following worship.**

**Next meeting date is Tuesday, October 21 @ 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>

Don't delay ladies – this is a great opportunity to take a step back from ordinary life and find rest in deepening your relationship with God. Several ladies have already registered to attend, so you'll have friends already there! For more info, contact Pam Herman @ 717.665.2447 or by email at [stpaulsmanheim@ptd.net](mailto:stpaulsmanheim@ptd.net)



## Celebrating 256 Years!



**Church  
ANNIVERSARY**

On Reformation Sunday, October 26 @ 9:15 am, we'll begin worship at the monument just outside the Church Library (near June Smith's parking spot) to honor the ministry of St. Paul's UCC's 256<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Worship will then continue in the Sanctuary beginning @ 9:30 am.

# October 2025

| Sunday                                                                                                                     | Monday                                     | Tuesday                            | Wednesday                                                           | Thursday                                                                                                                                     | Friday                                                                                                                 | Saturday                                                                                               |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                            |                                            |                                    | <b>1</b><br>6:30pm Bible Study                                      | <b>2</b><br>5:00pm First Thursday<br>7:00pm AA @ Zion Lutheran<br>7:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal                                                | <b>3</b>                                                                                                               | <b>4</b>                                                                                               |
| <b>5</b><br>9:00am Sub Sale<br>9:00am Prayer<br>9:30am One Worship<br>10:30am Coffee Hour                                  | <b>6</b><br>7:00pm Property Board          | <b>7</b>                           | <b>8</b><br>7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal                          | <b>9</b><br>7:00pm AA @ Zion Lutheran<br>7:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal                                                                         | <b>10</b>                                                                                                              | <b>11</b>                                                                                              |
| <b>12</b><br>9:00am Prayer<br>9:30am One Worship<br>10:30am Coffee Hour<br>1:00pm Private Event                            | <b>13</b><br>6:00pm New Voices Vision Team | <b>14</b>                          | <b>15</b><br>1:30pm Communion @ Pleasant View<br>6:30pm Bible Study | <b>16</b><br>9:00am Simply Yoga<br>2:00pm Sub Pick-Up<br>7:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal<br>7:00pm AA @ Zion Lutheran                            | <b>17</b>                                                                                                              | <b>18</b><br>8:30am FREE Community Breakfast<br>7:30pm Musser Marimba Festival Concert @ Middle School |
| <b>19</b><br>9:00am Prayer<br>10:30am Coffee Hour                                                                          | <b>20</b>                                  | <b>21</b><br>6:00pm Church Council | <b>22</b><br>6:30pm Bible Study<br>7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal   | <b>23</b><br>6:30am Fellowship Breakfast @ Kountry Kitchen<br>9:00am Simply Yoga<br>7:00pm AA @ Zion Lutheran<br>7:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal | <b>24</b>                                                                                                              | <b>25</b>                                                                                              |
| <b>26</b><br>Reformation Sunday<br>9:00am Prayer<br>9:15am Worship @ Monument<br>9:30am One Worship<br>10:30am Coffee Hour | <b>27</b>                                  | <b>28</b>                          | <b>29</b><br>6:30pm Bible Study                                     | <b>30</b><br>9:00am Simply Yoga<br>1:00pm Women's Fellowship<br>7:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal<br>7:00pm AA @ Zion Lutheran                     | <b>31</b><br>Happy Halloween!<br> |                   |

## Blessings to all celebrating an October Anniversary or Birthday!

### Worship Attendance

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

8/24 – 90      8/31 – 76      9/7 – 97

9/14 – 53      9/21 - 91

### Christian Symbols



#### Lion

A lion represents watchfulness and alertness. It also symbolizes Christ, the Lion of Judah (Revelation 5:4-5).

A winged lion is the symbol of St. Mark, whose gospel focuses on Jesus' royalty and resurrection.



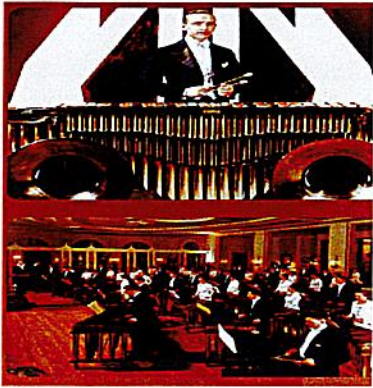
### Requests for Prayer

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

## Cleaning Out More Treasures

More treasures are now available from our recent work day. These items pictured on the right and more on our website at [stpaulsuccmanheim.org](http://stpaulsuccmanheim.org) are now available for a limited time to view on our website. If you see an item you'd like, please contact the church office at [717.665.2447](tel:717.665.2447)/[stpaulsmanheim@ptd.net](mailto:stpaulsmanheim@ptd.net). Items are available for FREE unless otherwise noted on a first come, first served basis. If not taken, these items will then be sold, given away or put out for disposal.



## Musser Marimba Festival

Whether or not you are a music fan, you will not want to miss the 60-piece Marimba Orchestra Concert to be held on Saturday, October 18 @ 7:30 @ the Manheim Central Middle School. The concert is part of the Musser Marimba Festival and features the Heartland Marimba and the Lancaster Marimba Ensemble which includes our own Janelle (Fair) Heying. Tickets are available online at <https://www.heartlandmarimba.com/events/musser-marimba-festival-orchestra> and are \$33 or \$20 for students and seniors. Tickets may also be available at the door. For other events go to [www.heartlandmarimba.com](http://www.heartlandmarimba.com).

## 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 November 2025 issue deadline is Sunday, October 19, 2025.** Bulletin announcements are due to the church office by Wednesday mornings @ 8 am.



## St. Paul's Staff & Leaders

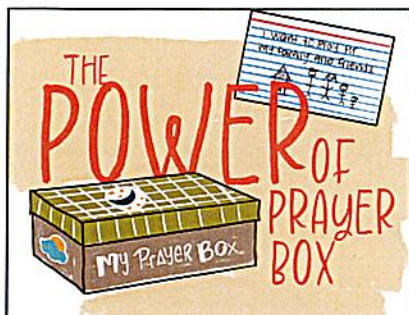
### Staff:

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





Create a simple and meaningful prayer box your family can use to share requests and pray together all week long.

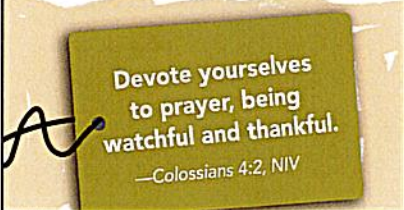
## What you need:

- Shoebox with lid
- Wrapping paper or decorative paper
- Scissors & tape
- Markers or crayons
- Stickers and other craft material (optional)
- Pens or pencils
- Index cards or small pieces of paper



## What you do:

1. Wrap the shoebox like a gift, wrapping the lid separately so it can be opened.
2. As a family, decorate the box with drawings, favorite Bible verses, photos, or stickers.
3. Place the box somewhere central, like the kitchen or living room.
4. Keep index cards and pens nearby. When someone has a prayer request, they can write or draw it and drop it in.
5. Throughout the week, take turns praying over the requests as a family, or have a parent lead prayer time.



# PUZZLE



## JESUS TRAVELED TO MANY PLACES

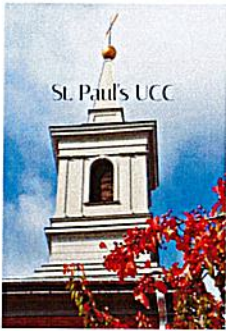
Jesus traveled to many regions, cities, towns and villages to preach the Good News. In the puzzle below, find and circle the names of some of the places. Can you find the names on the list?

Words can go left to right, up, down or diagonal—so look carefully in all directions!

|                   |              |                 |
|-------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| BETHANY           | EPHRAIM      | MOUNT OF OLIVES |
| BETHLEHEM         | GALILEE      | NAZARETH        |
| BETHSAIDA         | JERICHO      | PEREA           |
| CAESAREA PHILIPPI | JERUSALEM    | SAMARIA         |
| CANA              | JORDAN RIVER | SIDON           |
| CAPERNAUM         | JUDEA        | TYRE            |
| DECAPOLIS         | MAGDALA      | WILDERNESS      |
| EGYPT             |              |                 |

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
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## St. Paul's United Church of Christ

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Manheim, PA 17545

Phone: 717.665.2447

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

