



The Courier

St. Paul's United Church of Christ of Indianland

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2024



A NEW YEAR!

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." (Matthew 2:1-2)

We are in the season of Christmas heading for Epiphany and then, as the calendar turns into February, we begin to look to the season of Lent. It is hard to understand at times how quickly we go from a baby born in the manger to a man being crucified like a common criminal. For those persons who want information quickly, this New Year seems to bring us from life to death and back to life in a heartbeat.

The greatest aspect of Jesus' life is not how quickly life passes, it is how steadily his presence is in our busyness and quickness. We are truly blessed to not only celebrate Immanuel, "God with us", but to shout "Hosanna" when Christ triumphantly enters into our life as humbly as he entered this earth and the lives of the people with whom he ate, healed, taught and indeed lived.

No matter how hectic life around us becomes, Jesus' peace is an oasis that will allow us to take a step back, if we allow it, and to breathe in His love and grace. The challenge has always been for Christ, what we will allow. I am uncertain as to how my life would have turned out if I did not have my faith and the many faith communities that have helped to shape me, in both blessed and not so blessed ways, throughout the past years of my life. I am uncertain as to how Christ will call on me to continue my walk with him into the future, yet I know completely, that wherever he leads, I am willing to trust and follow.

Christmas joy has come and will soon go as the festive decorations are removed and our worship spaces, homes and communities go back to normal, whatever that is! We move on in the church year and begin to plan ahead for the Season of Lent which begins on February 14th. We begin to walk towards the cross with Him. Lent does not bring the anticipation that Advent bears, yet it is meant to be a time of preparation for us also; to prepare for the Salvation that comes not in the birth of Christ, but in the Resurrection of Christ. God is with us throughout the year and perhaps in this year as we hear the many promises of those who wish to lead our country into the future, we need to rely on God even more as we experience the advertisements, the propaganda, the allegations, the downright mistruths, the innuendoes and the so-called promises of a better tomorrow. As was made popular in the musical, Annie, tomorrow is always a day away. So we need to look forward to the tomorrows that might come, and where we will be in them, as well as be thankful for the todays and our life with them.

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Christian Education News

Advent Children's Messages

For the second year my children's message have been **how our wild animals prepare for the winter as we are preparing for Christ's birth**. This year we learned how the Little Brown Bat hibernates to a place where the temperature is between 42-45 degrees F. The male cardinal eats seeds and berries that will enhance his scarlet color to attract mates. The chipmunk digs tunnels for his winter bed and also to be deep in the earth to avoid predators. All female honey bees cluster together to keep the queen and their honey supply at a 92 degrees F throughout the cold of winter. This continues to be a very interesting learning experience.

Children's Christmas Play

I would like to thank all the children who participated in our 2023 Children's Program. I would also like to thank all who helped with the play and Dawn Vilanova for taking time to organize and practice the chimes and bells with the children and AY Hughes for helping the children with their costumes.

Sunday School

Our Sunday school Program continues to meet each **Sunday at 9AM**. We meet in the Fellowship Hall for approximately 15 minutes for a time of gathering, Bible Trivia and prayer. Our Average November attendance was 10 children attending Sunday school.

Weekly Sunday Program

Just as a reminder: If you or your child/ren are not able to attend the in person Christian Education hour each Sunday, Pastor Nuscher does have a Christian Education message on the St. Paul's Facebook page.

Bible Study

We continue to meet the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of each month for Bible Study at 10AM. We are studying the Book of Acts, Paul's conversion and the birth and growth of the early church. Please join us as you are able to learn more about the early church and how the Holy Spirit empowered believers to spread the Gospel. If you have any questions, please see Beth Sikorsky.

ADULT EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

The Christian Education Committee will be meeting in January to make plans for 2024. If you have any subjects, places, films you would like to explore, please talk to one of our committee members or Beth Sikorsky. The 4-part series of God's Not Dead was well attended and very informative.

CALLING ALL YOUTH GRADES 6 & UP

In the last couple of months, we have talked about and celebrated our 275th anniversary. We now need to look ahead to the next 5 to 15 years and how St Paul's will be a light in the darkness.

We need YOU to help brainstorm of how we can use technology to share the stories of Jesus and the HOPE we have in Jesus.

YOU ARE NOT THE FUTURE OF THE CHURCH YOU ARE THE CHURCH. You are needed to keep St. Paul's Alive thru the 21st century and beyond.

I hope we can gather on Sunday, January 7, 2024 after church to brainstorm ideas for a new and exciting years to come and of course there will be Pizza to feed our bodies.

News From The Pews

UN-DECORATE THE CHURCH

As we come to the end of the Christmas Season once Epiphany arrives, we will be un-decorating the Sanctuary on **Saturday, January 13th beginning at 9:00am**. The tree, garland and other decorations will be put away after Epiphany. The more hands we have, the easier the task. All are welcome to help.

Annual Reporting Meeting

Our annual reporting meeting will be held on Sunday, February 4th after the worship service. We will once again have a covered dish meal so those whose last names begin with N to Z, please bring a main dish or side to share and those with last names of A to M please bring a dessert item to share. If you are unable to bring something, bring yourself as there will be plenty to share as always. **Reports from groups and teams are due to the office by January 21st**. If there are any questions, please see a Consistory member or Pastor Martin. **Snow date will be Sunday, February 11th**.

PRAYER LIST

Please spend a few minutes and look through our prayer list on the next page. There are many names that have been on the list for some time and may or may not be able to be removed. While it certainly does not ever hurt to pray for people, no matter what their life circumstance is, it is also good to know that some folks have returned to stronger health. If you know that someone on the list has passed away, please let the office or Pastor Martin know that as well. Thank you for your prayers for all of those who are currently on our prayer list. Thank you to those who have offered updates already!

HELP WANTED

We are looking for a few volunteers to assist in the process of streaming our church services on Sunday mornings. You do not need to be a computer genius, just have a willingness to assist to connect the Webinar through Zoom, place it on Facebook Live, make the Powerpoint presentation advance throughout the service, adjust the microphones that are being used, change the camera shot depending on where we are in the service (not done often), and then ending everything when the service is over. It is not a difficult duty, after all, I have been doing it for sometime, and greatly appreciate when Terrence Field is available to manage the technology. We will train you and guide you. It is just nice to have a few more people able to manage this important part of our worship experience. If you are interested, please see Pastor Martin or Terrence Field. Thank you! We will be upgrading the systems soon and will have some exciting changes for the livestream of our services to enjoy.

PRAYER LIST

Current Need:

| | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Emma Fritz | Debbie Budinetz | Brenda Usher | Kirsten Bickert | Dustin Miller |
| Sallie Weaver | Linda Hartzell | Marion Heffelfinger | Mary Ann Miller | Leon Borger |
| Ken Stott | Pat James | Kylie Schneider | Joe Vandonya | Marc Messinger |
| Linda Baumgartner | Logan Krick | Carol Samuels | Ann Hurban | Bev Minninger |
| Carol and Angela | Debbie | Roseanne Achey | Michael McCarthy | Robert Henry |
| Eric Hantz | Robert Knot | Johnny | John Weaver | Robert Moyer, Jr. |
| Mike Hartman | Angie | Terry Carlton | Cheryl Rank | Mabel Bonner |
| Kim Mickey | Jimmy Hurstman | Mike Miller | Luther Achey | Terry McRell |
| Robbie Moore | Judy Silnik | Evan Hantz | Nancy Green | Andrea Coughlin |
| Zachary Long | Kristen Meeker | Kay Bolus | Carol Williams | Beverly Henry |
| Harold Frable | Jeff Reihoff | Donna Whitman | Charles Wagner | Jerry |
| Nadia Cospier | Julie Gelfuso | Jessica Harris | Kayla Bartholomew | Jeanette Haram |
| Alyzah Borger | Sergio Nino | Kathryn Strohl | Nancy | Carol |
| Kathy Heist | Greg | Michelle | | |

Longer Term Need:

| | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Theresa Carbonell | Darryl Wentz | Jessica Smith | Tina Rehrig | Janet Erickson |
| Brandon Snyder | Franklin Dorshimer | Joe & Deb McGeary | Mary Beatrice | Gary Kresini |
| Vicki Hall | Cole Ruch | Kevin Reilly | Nigel Mease | Ryan Holmes |
| Cindy Hogman | David Jones | Linda Barkley | Aryiah | Becky |
| Russell Blakeslee | Deborah Peterson | Dawn Stattler | Karen Bet | Bob Bakross |
| Michelle Brosious | George Borger, Jr. | Marion Bossard | Sharlene Weaver | Shirley Cressman |
| Lori Rader | Eileen Vesely | Susan Zachary | Ashley Henninger | Peter Rosales |
| Stan Butz | Kim Rey | Sam Steinmetz | Clark Plummer | Edie |
| Jim Miller | Howard & Ida Bachman | | John Hine | Darlene Hock |
| Joanne Peters | Rose Lanus | Dorian Arnwine | Margo Roberts | Robert Custard |
| Vicki Eltz | Jeannie Yehl | Linda Becker | Laura Rannella | Gail Bauer |
| Noah Iucci | Lisa Dotson | Amber Steffie | Corey Doolan | Louise King |
| Karen White | Katie & Maggie Paules | | Anne Harrity | Joe Samanka |

Those Who Mourn:

The family and friends of Pat Neff.

The family and friends of Vincent Snyder.

The family and friends of Karla Scheirer.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

People & Places

- 1 — Ronald Graver
- 5 — Dorothy Biscarr
- 6 — Marissa Marsh
- 8 — Kenda Rhodes
- 22 — Stephanie Prutzman
- 23 — Nathaniel Angstadt
- 26 — Tara Field
- 27 — Irene Smith
Robert Litsch
- 28 — Robin Laponuke
- 29 — Linda Ehret
- 30 — Robert Langley III



Sensational 70's Club

- 5 — Dorothy Biscarr
- 27 — Irene Smith
Robert Litsch

Exceptional 80's Club

- 1 — Ronald Graver
- 29 — Linda Ehret

Wedding Anniversaries

- 21 — Sandra & Doug Niebell —
13 years
- 25 — Robin & Wilson Beers —
53 years



If we missed your birthday or anniversary, we apologize. Please contact the church office so we can add you to our listing! Thank you.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

People & Places

- 1 — Phyllis Geiss
Bryan Fritz
- 2 — Wendy Fritz
- 3 — Robert Litsch
Andrew Bickert
- 4 — Ayden Silfies
- 5 — Mark Thomas
- 9 — Linda Hartzell
- 10 — Karen Bradberry
Brennan Field
- 11 — John "Jack" Doll III
- 12 — Michelle Walker
- 13 — Jacob Christman
Leah Prutzman
- 16 — Phyllis Balliet
Judith Frankel
- 17 — Gary Geiss
Diane Cimo
- 18 — Ashlynn Angstadt
- 20 — Kim Biechy
- 21 — Matthew Bellesfield
Kagen Balco
- 22 — Brandon Christman
- 23 — Dean Deppe
Lee Strohl
- 26 — Donna Fritz
Cassandra Langley
- 27 — Emily Golden
- 28 — Elizabeth Sikorsky

Sensational 70's Club

- 9 — Linda Hartzell
- 11 — John "Jack" Doll III
- 23 — Dean Deppe
- 28 — Elizabeth Sikorsky

Exceptional 80's Club

- 1 — Phyllis Geiss
- 16 — Phyllis Balliet
Judith Frankel
- 17 — Gary Geiss

Wedding Anniversaries

- 14 — Rochelle & Gary Salabsky —
27 years



If we missed your birthday or anniversary, we apologize. Please contact the church office so we can add you to our

OUR MISSIONS

Noisy Offering for January is: Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley

HISTORY: Recognizing a growing need, a small group came together in 1976 to establish "May Day Anonymous." This dedicated group answered hotline calls from women who were victims of domestic violence in the area.

In 1978, the group was granted nonprofit status and evolved into Turning Point of Lehigh Valley. Since its incorporation, Turning Point of Lehigh Valley (TPLV) has helped more than 100,000 victims of domestic abuse.

The agency's first emergency shelter opened in Bethlehem in 1980 with a capacity to house three families, and a new, larger shelter opened in Allentown the following year.

In 1983, Turning Point established a counseling and advocacy office in Easton, which remained open for the next six years.

In 1986, the Junior League of the Lehigh Valley began a project to establish a Northampton County shelter for Turning Point. That facility opened in 1989 with the capacity to house seven families.

In 1995, Turning Point received a gift of 2 buildings for the new Lehigh County shelter and an Easton counseling and advocacy center. The new Lehigh County Shelter opened in 1996 and the former shelter in Allentown was converted to a counseling and advocacy office. A new Easton area counseling and advocacy center opened in 1999.

Turning Point began a formal community education program in 1998 and began a medical advocacy program in 1999.

The current administration and community education building at 444 E. Susquehanna St. in Allentown opened in 2003. The same year, the agency began offering counseling services in the Wind Gap area to reach victims in a rural area of Northampton County.

In 2005, the Outreach Department was established to coordinate the efforts of the community education, prevention, medical advocacy and volunteer programs

Turning Point's Children's Advocates developed innovative outlets for child victims to express their feelings, through play therapy, individual counseling, support groups, and specialty groups.

In 2014 Turning Point expanded its Rural Outreach program.

In 2014, The Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV) was one of 11 agencies chosen from throughout the country by Futures Without Violence to participate in Project Connect. Turning Point of Lehigh Valley was the only pilot agency selected by the PCADV to offer these services within our Safe House. Turning Point hired a nurse to work in the Safe House to provide wellness checks and vital prevention information.

In 2015, Turning Point established a collaborative relationship with the Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT Community Center, Allentown, and will be providing victim counseling to the Lehigh Valley LGBT community upon completion of the new center.

In April 2016, Turning Point's new counseling services opened in the new Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT Community Center, downtown Allentown, to better serve LGBT victims of domestic violence.

In 2018, Turning Point of Lehigh Valley celebrated 40 years of service within Lehigh and Northampton Counties. In addition to their offices in the Allentown/Bethlehem area and the Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT Community Center, they have opened satellite counseling offices at Third Street Alliance for Women & Children, Slatington Borough Hall, and VAST. Furthermore, Turning Point of Lehigh Valley has offices within the Lehigh and Northampton County Courthouses which gives survivors and court advocates a safe space for counseling before and after PFA hearings.

OUR MISSIONS

Noisy Offering for February is: The Northampton Area Public Library

Mission:

To be the first point of access for information, self-enrichment, leisure, and social connections

Vision:

The Northampton Area Public Library strives to be a dynamic source of information, services, and programs in an ever changing community, always something new

History of the Library

The first public library in Northampton opened its doors on August 23rd, 1965. It was located in the bay at the north end of the Northampton Memorial Community Center. At the end of 1966 it was determined that the library location was inadequate for the public needs and a building fund was established by Dr. George A. Eichler, with a contribution on October 19th, 1966, but the fund grew very slowly. In October 1971, Mr. and Mrs. George H. Schisler announced that they would provide \$125,000.00 for the construction of an Area Public Library Building. Mr. Jay Ferreira of Bond and Miller, Associates, was selected to be the architect for the building. In October 1971, the Borough of Northampton deeded the land, located on Laubach Avenue, for the new building. On April 17th, 1972, the charter of incorporation was issued. The charter lists it as a nonprofit corporation which can accept tax deductible monetary gifts. The area it serves includes the boroughs of Northampton, Bath, and Chapmans, as well as the townships of Allen, East Allen, Lehigh, and Moore. On September 30th, 1973, the George H. Schisler Building of the Northampton Area Public Library, Inc., was dedicated in honor of Mr. and Mrs. George H. Schisler.

There are many different ways in which the public can help the Library. Charitable contributions help the growth of our materials, technology and program offerings for our community.

Memorial, Honor, and Birthday Books:

The library accepts monetary contributions in memory or in honor of a person or event and Birthday Books. When you contribute money the library will purchase a book and place a bookplate in the front of the book. If you wish, you may inform us of the interests of the honoree and we will purchase the book on that subject. Birthday Books will be chosen from a selection of picture books. Read our Memorial and Honor Book Form for more information!

Endowment:

The library also accepts monetary contributions for endowment. When the library receives this money, it is placed in a special fund and the interest is used to buy books. When the book is added to the collection, a bookplate is placed in the front of the book listing the name of the fund.

Book Donations :

The Library accepts book donations during regular operating hours only. We will accept hardcover and paperback books, CDs, and DVDs that are in good condition. Items may be added to the library collection or they may be sold to benefit the Library in our book sale. Once donated, items become the property of the Library. **Thank you for supporting the Northampton Area Public Library!**

OUR MISSIONS

January Mission: The Christmas Fund

The Christmas Fund has been caring for active and retired clergy and lay employees of the United Church of Christ for over 100 years, providing emergency grants, supplementation of small annuities and health premiums, and Christmas "Thank You" gift checks each December to our lower-income retirees.

The Christmas Fund for Veterans of the Cross is managed by the Pension Boards.

"Your check arrived just in time!"

Each year, the Pension Boards receives many notes and letters of thanks from retired United Church of Christ pastors, their surviving spouses, and children, letting us know what a difference your gifts to the Christmas Fund have made in their lives. Here are just a few excerpts:

"On behalf of my mother, I would like to thank you for the generous check from the Pension Boards. She has recently moved to assisted living at the age of 101! She was choir director at her church up until last year and was playing the organ for worship services once a month for the past 20 years. As a member of the UCC, I have often contributed to the Veterans of the Cross offering and it is wonderful to know that my Mom is a beneficiary."

"What a joy to receive a check from the United Church Board for Ministerial Assistance as a surprise Christmas gift! My wife (88) and I (95) thank you! It will help greatly in paying our bills at year's end."

"I want to thank you for the generous \$500 that was given to my by your board. It really has been appreciated as I paid my house taxes for the winter. It would have been a very difficult burden without your check."

"Your check arrived just in time! It helped pay for a much-needed repair to my car, which I rely on since I live in a remote area and need transportation to medical appointments. I feel blessed to be remembered by you and the members of our UCC churches!"

Gifts to the Christmas Fund in 2022 supported

Monthly pension supplementation for 218 retired clergy and lay employees (\$1,042,726)

Health benefits supplementation for 86 retired clergy and lay employees (\$181,389)

Emergency grants for 55 individuals and families (\$138,022)

Christmas "Thank You" gift checks to 479 retired clergy and lay employees (\$278,500)

Grace upon grace.

From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. (John 1:16)

OUR MISSIONS

February Mission: One Great Hour of Sharing

One Great Hour of Sharing® is one of four special mission offerings of the United Church of Christ. This Lenten Offering supports the disaster, refugee, and development ministries of the United Church of Christ within Wider Church Ministries.



IT'S TIME TO SHARE

In Galatians, the Apostle Paul encourages followers of Jesus to generously help and care for others. Though there is great need in the world and we can grow weary because we do not know how to help, God's Spirit energizes and re-energizes us in every season.

We can make a difference. We do make a difference. Your generosity makes all the difference. Your gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing provide immediate aid and long-term support to people experiencing hunger, thirst, disaster, or crisis around the world.

The need has never been greater. The opportunity is now. **It's time to share.**

YOUR GENEROSITY MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE.

Esmerelda Robles lives in rural Honduras. She and her neighbors participate in a "pass chain" program. A family receives a pregnant pig, sheep, or cow; families are taught how to feed and care for the animals. When the next piglet, lamb, or calf is born, it is passed on to another family, which in turn will do the same. "A dream we have as a family is to have a micro-business for the production and sale of meat," Esmerelda says. Families now envision a future not possible before. This is just one part of a program to improve food security. This program and its components are made possible because of your contributions to One Great Hour of Sharing.

So let's not allow ourselves to get
fatigued doing good. At the right
time we will harvest a good crop
if we don't give up...

— Galatians 6:9



**One Great
HOUR**
OF SHARING

 UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

Lay, Life and Work

Happy New Year from the Lay Life and Work committee!! Thank you to all who made 2023 such a successful year. This was a year of more traditional events as we are able to gather together more comfortably. The final event of the year included a purchase for a local family to help make this Christmas special. The support was overwhelming and very much appreciated. The 2024 calendar is planned and will be listed in the annual report with all the typical yearly events. Please keep in mind the schedule is tentative and may change as needed.

As the year begins, it is again time for a **SOUP sale**. During the cold snowy days nothing warms our bodies better than a hot and steaming bowl of soup and we all know that St. Paul's sure makes great food!! This year 3 varieties will be available including **chicken noodle, beef vegetable and creamy cheddar potato**. The deadline for ordering is Sunday, January 21st and the date of pick up will be after church Sunday, January 28th. Soup will be made Friday, January 26th for those who are available to help prepare. The cost is \$8/ quart. Please call the office or look for the sign up sheet in the Narthex to place an order.

Faschnaut Donut Day is REALLY early this year on Tuesday, February 13th. We will be making donuts Saturday, February 10th with pickup after church Sunday the 11th. Each dozen will be \$6 and a half dozen will be \$4. Orders are due by February 4th. Please call the office or look for the signup sheet in the Narthex to place an order.

This year the **Spaghetti Dinner** is planned for SUNDAY, February 25th 4p-7p. Eat in or take out will be available and tickets will be \$9 for adults and children 12 and up and \$5 for 11 and under. Please call the office or speak with Dawn Vilanova or Pastor for tickets. As expected the meatball making crew will meet Friday February 23rd.

A **Hoagie Sale** planned for Tuesday March 12th, pick up between 4-5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. Orders are due March 3rd and a sign up sheet will be available in the Narthex or call the office. Hoagies will be \$5 each and the profit will benefit the Sunday School fund preparing for the next Sight and Sound bus trip for the children planned in November 2024.

The **Ham and Dandelion Dinner** is planned for April 13th, a **Hot Bacon Dressing Sale** is anticipated at the end of March to prepare for Easter and the **Basket Social** will be held May 9-11 with details to follow. Just as a reminder the office phone number is (610)767-4572.

Have a great start to a new year!!

WOMEN UNITED FOR CHRIST

The November sweet roll sale was a successful fundraiser.

Many members took advantage of the opportunity to share Christmas greetings with other members. Thanks to Mary Ann Miller, Carol Bloss and Donna Henninger who helped to sort and bundle all the cards that were placed in the Christmas card box this year. Cards were arranged alphabetically in a box in the Narthex for members to take along. If anyone knows members who could not get their cards and can deliver the cards to them, it would be appreciated.

An annual donation of \$100.00 was forwarded to Bethany Children's Home for Christmas. Christmas cards were mailed to the homebound members of St. Paul's.

Worship Information

January 7th — Epiphany Sunday

Flowers: None presented.

Bulletins: Presented to the Glory of God.

OT — Isaiah 60: 1 — 6

NT — Ephesians 3: 1 — 12

G — Matthew 2: 1 — 12

January 14th

Flowers: None presented.

Bulletins: Presented to the Glory of God.

OT — I Samuel 3: 1 — 20

NT — I Corinthians 6: 12 — 20

G — John 1: 43 — 51

January 21st

Flowers: None presented.

Bulletins: Presented to the Glory of God.

OT — Jonah 3: 1 — 5, 10

NT — I Corinthians 7: 29 — 31

G — Mark 1: 14 — 20

January 28th

Flowers: None presented.

Bulletins: Presented to the Glory of God.

OT — Deuteronomy 18: 15 — 20

NT — I Corinthians 8: 1 — 13

G — Mark 1: 21 — 28

The consistory for January and February are Tara and Terrence Field and Micheal Petruska.

Communion will be served on Sunday, January 7th and at the 7:30am Contemporary Praise Service on Sunday, January 14th.

Communion will also be served on Ash Wednesday, February 14th and on Sunday, February 18th.

February 4th

Flowers: The first vase is presented by The Family Trust Fund in memory of Lydia Hall.

Bulletins: Presented to the Glory of God..

OT — Isaiah 40: 21 — 31

NT — 1 Corinthians 9: 16 — 23

G — Mark 1: 29 — 39

February 11th — Transfiguration Sunday

Flowers: None presented.

Bulletins: Presented by Jean Shoemaker in memory of William Shoemaker.

OT — 2 Kings 2: 1 — 12

NT — 2 Corinthians 4: 3 — 6

G — Mark 9: 2 — 9

February 14th—Ash Wednesday

OT — Joel 2: 1 — 2, 12 — 17

NT — 2 Corinthians 5: 20b — 6: 10

G — Matthew 6: 1 — 6, 16 — 21

February 18th—The First Sunday in Lent

Flowers: None presented.

Bulletins: Presented to the Glory of God.

OT — Genesis 9: 8 — 17

NT — I Peter 3: 18 — 22

G — Mark 1: 9 — 15

February 25th—The Second Sunday in Lent

Flowers: None presented.

Bulletins: Presented to the Glory of God.

OT — Genesis 17: 1 — 7, 15 — 16

NT — Romans 4: 13 — 25

G — Mark 8: 31 — 38

More News from the Pews!

This is the schedule of events planned at the LLW meeting for 2024.

| | | |
|-----------|---------------------|---|
| January | Soup Sale | Pick up after church Jan 28th |
| February | Donuts Sale | Make Sat Feb 10th and pick up after church the 11th |
| | Spaghetti Dinner | SUNDAY February 25th, 4p-7p |
| March | Hoagie Sale | Tuesday March 12th |
| | Bacon dressing sale | Sunday March 24th, Ready for Easter |
| April | Ham and Dandelion | Sat April 13th 3p-7p |
| | Hoagie Sale | Tuesday April 30th |
| May | Basket Social | May 9, 10, 11 |
| June | Hoagie Sale | Tuesday, June 4th |
| July | Church Picnic | July 28th at Indian Trail Park |
| September | Chicken/Pork Dinner | September 14th, 2p-6p |
| | Hoagie Sale | Tuesday, September 24th |
| October | Dream Come True | Sunday Oct 6th, Rain date Oct 13th |
| | Chili Dinner | Saturday October 12th 4-7 |
| | Joint Purse BINGO | Sunday October 27th |
| November | Hoagie Sale | Tuesday November 5th |
| | Filling Sale | Pick up after church November 24th, orders due Nov 17th |
| | Thanksgiving Dinner | November 28th |
| December | MERRY CHRISTMAS!! | |

Pastor's Article continued from Page 1

As many of you knew and participated in, we celebrated our 275th anniversary throughout 2023, so 2024 may seem like a let down, nothing more to celebrate. Yet, there is as in every year, something to look forward to, to anticipate, and to participate in. Sometimes the uncertainty of something new can cause us to worry, or be afraid! Other times we are excited for what is to happen, perhaps a milestone birthday or anniversary for the family, a graduation or birth or something else that is anticipated gets us excited as well. Whatever happens or will happen or is scheduled, may it be far more a joy than a fear!

As we turn to the New Year, may we be blessed with God's peace as we offer a piece of ourselves to God and to others. No matter how quickly things appear to move, God still moves mysteriously around us. May we be peaceful in that mystery and presence!

Pastor Martin

JANUARY 2024

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|----------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|  | | 2 | 3 10:00A — Bible Study | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 9:00A — Christian Education Online 9:00A—Christian Education for all Ages 10:30A — Worship Service — on-line, in person or in the parking lot Epiphany Sunday | 8 | 9 7:00P — Elders | 10 7:00P — Worship and Arts 7:30P — Lay, Life and Work | 11 | 12 | 13 9:00A — Undecorate the Church |
| 14 7:30A — Contemporary Praise Service 9:00A — Christian Education Online 9:00A—Christian Education for all Ages 10:30A — Worship Service — on-line, in person or in the parking lot | 15 7:00P — Confirmation Class | 16 7:00P — Consistory | 17 10:00A — Bible Study 5:00P — Hall Usage | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 9:00A — Christian Education Online 9:00A—Christian Education for all Ages 10:30A — Worship Service — on-line, in person or in the parking lot | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 9:00A — Make Soup | 27 |
| 28 9:00A — Christian Education Online 9:00A—Christian Education for all Ages 10:30A — Worship Service — on-line, in person or in the parking lot Soup Pickup after Worship | 29 7:00P — Confirmation Class | 30 | 31 |  | | |

OFFICE HOURS: The office hours vary. Please call the office to schedule an appointment if you need to. General messages may be sent to office@indianland.org or call 610-767-5751. In case of emergency, please contact Pastor Martin Nuscher on his cell phone, 484-707-7006 or by email to pastor@indianland.org. Church website is www.indianland.org. Thank you.

FEBRUARY 2024

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|---|--|---|---------------------------------|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 9:00A — Christian Education Online 9:00A —Christian Education for all Ages 10:30A — Worship Service — on-line, in person or in the parking lot Congregational Meeting after Worship | 5 | 6 7:00P — Elders | 7 10:00A — Bible Study | 8 | 9 | 10 9:00A — Making Donuts |
| 11 7:30A — Contemporary Praise Service 9:00A — Christian Education Online 9:00A —Christian Education for all Ages 10:30A — Worship Service — on-line, in person or in the parking lot Donut Pickup | 12 | 13 | 14 7:00P — Ash Wednesday Service at St. Paul's | 15 Newsletter Articles for March are Due! | 16 | 17 |
| 18 9:00A — Christian Education Online 9:00A —Christian Education for all Ages 10:30A — Worship Service — on-line, in person or in the parking lot 1st Sunday in Lent | 19 7:00P — Confirmation Class | 20 7:00P — Consistory | 21 10:00A — Bible Study | 22 | 23 9:00A — Making Meatballs | 24 |
| 25 9:00A — Christian Education Online 9:00A —Christian Education for all Ages 10:30A — Worship Service — on-line, in person or in the parking lot 4:00P to 7:00P — Spaghetti Dinner 2nd Sunday in Lent | 26 7:00P — Confirmation Class | 1 | 28 | 29 |  | |

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St. Paul's UCC of Indianland

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Please note that the next Courier for publication will be the **March 2024 newsletter**. Please plan your submissions accordingly and submit no later than **February 15th**. If there are any questions or concerns please call the office at **610-767-5751** or email them to **office@indianland.org**.
Thank you very much.

Traditional Worship Service — Sundays at 10:30 am — in person, on-line, FM transmitter (.25 mile radius from church)

Christian Education Hour — Weekly lessons will be on Face Book at 9:00am. Formal class gatherings for all ages at 9:00am.

Contemporary Praise Worship — in person only service on the 2nd Sunday of the month at 7:30am.

Please send any prayer requests to office@indianland.org or call and leave them on our answering machine at 610 — 767 — 5751. We love to **PUSH** — that is **Pray Until Something Happens**.

In case of inclement weather, please tune into Channel 69, WFMZ TV for cancellation or delay information.

Celebrating Our 276th Anniversary — 1748 — 2024