



The Courier

St. Paul's United Church of Christ of Indianland
JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2025



THE LOVE OF GOD

As we are winding down this Christmas season and moving into a New Year as well as looking through the month of February, there are many topics that could be written about for us to ponder. As I thought about what to write to you, the Love of God kept coming up as my thoughts focused on what has come and what will come. With Christmas passing by us, we celebrated the Love of God in human form, our Savior Jesus Christ! As we enter into the depths of winter, may we be warmed by the knowledge that God certainly does love us in our current conditions, however, wants to lift us up out of our doldrums and into a greater sense of and feeling of His love. You all know John 3:16, so I am not going to write those words here, and if I have presumed incorrectly, you have the text referenced so you will find it in your Bible!

Yet, what is love all about? It is shared between humans in connection with other humans. It is shared between objects and hobbies, pasttimes and careers, people and creation in all of its varied forms, plant, animal, mineral, etc. And yet, we sense a feeling of unloving in others for us, in our relationship with God, because life is not what we expect it to be, and for many other reasons that could fill this entire newsletter if I took the time to list them. However, let's get to the point of my thoughts about God's love. We have been given an opportunity to come into the presence of God because of Jesus. We are not worthy of God's presence as we are, because of our many sins. Yet, God washed us clean of those very sins and we continue to confess our sins because we knowingly and unknowingly continue to commit them. This, for me, was Christ's purpose on earth. God's Love For Us!

It certainly is not easy to love us at times, is it? We face many opportunities to feel God's love and share God's love and enjoy that love and offer that love and ours to those around us. So you see, there is a choice here for all of us. We can blow someone out of the water with harsh words as we react to how they might be treating us. We can walk away, which God does not do! We can believe in His love and share that love with everyone as Jesus did. Let each person make up their minds about God's love by offering God's love. Yet, we often choose the more destructive pathways instead. We hear so much "bad news" that the "God News" is drowned out. And that is a shame! We have a gift, not a Christmas gift, a real everlasting gift, to offer and we want to keep silent, act brutally, and wonder why are things so terrible? Yet, God keeps waiting to love us even more than we possibly know.

As the New Year spawns for us, perhaps we resolve to be better examples of God's love, and not get caught up in taking everything people do and say so seriously and offensively! We are human, I get that. We make many mistakes, I live that! Yet God has seen it all, and still offers grace upon mountains of grace through His love for us. So, my friends, things may seem bad, however, I ask you to try another lens and see that with God, we have a fresh opportunity in a fresh New Year,

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Christian Education News

CHRISTMAS PLAY

I would like to thank all the children who participated in our 2024 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.

FAITH FORMATION CLASSES

Each Sunday our children and a few adults meet at 9AM to learn more about our Faith and how we are to follow Jesus as our example in this world we live. We meet in the fellowship hall for approximately 15 minutes for a time of gathering in order to have community with one another. Our average attendance for November was 6 children.

WEEKLY SUNDAY PROGRAM

Just as a reminder: If you or your child/ren are not able to attend the in person Faith Formation hour each Sunday, Pastor Nuscher does have a Faith Formation message on the St. Paul's Facebook page each week. **The online lesson is available after 9AM on Sunday mornings.**

BIBLE STUDY

For the month of **JANUARY Bible study** will be held Wednesdays **January 8 & 22 at 10AM** in the Church House. **In February, we will resume our 1st & 3rd Wednesday meetings at 10AM in the Church House.**

We continue to study the Bible in Chronological order using the The Chronological Bible Workbook. We are learning and remembering things about the people and our God of the Old Testament. All are welcome to join this amazing journey.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

The confirmands will have sessions on **Monday, January 20th and Monday, January 26th at 7:00PM** and on **Monday, February 17th and Monday, February 24th at 7:00PM** via the Zoom link that will be sent out for each month. Any questions, please contact Pastor Martin.

ADVENT CHILDREN'S MESSAGES

For the third year, my children's messages have been how our wild animals prepare for the winter as we are preparing for Christ's birth. This year we learned how the Common Loon travels 800 miles along the East coast for a warmer climate, the striped Skunk will share a den with a groundhog, the Porcupine spends his night in a tree eating the bark rather than sleeping, and the opossum is a very ancient animal who hunts all winter since his metabolism doesn't slow down but rather speeds up. Every year it is an amazing journey to understand more about the wild creatures our amazing God has created.

News From The Pews

WOMEN UNITED FOR CHRIST

We extend a big thank you to everyone who supported the Sweet Roll Sale in November. Through the fundraiser, we were able to give \$800.00 to St. Paul's Fuel Fund. We look forward to having the sale next year and reach higher sales. We hope we will have your support again.

Thanks also for all the cards that were collected for St. Paul's members. Sharing a greeting card reflects the joy and sharing of the spirit of Christmas, a simple act of showing that we think of others and care about each other in our church family. The cards that were sorted are in a box in the Narthex in alphabetical order. Please take your cards along if you haven't done so.

Annual Reporting Meeting

Our annual reporting meeting will be held on Sunday, February 2nd after the worship service. We will once again have a covered dish meal so those whose last names begin with A to M, please bring a main dish or side to share, and those with last names of N to Z 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 19th.** If there are any questions, please see a Consistory member or Pastor Martin. **Snow date will be Sunday, February 9th.**

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 11th 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.

PRAYER LIST

Current Need:

Emma Fritz	Jean Shoemaker	Brenda Usher	Kirsten Bickert	Dustin Miller
Sallie Weaver	Linda Hartzell	Mary Ann Miller	Steve Kovalchick	John Weaver
Marc Messinger	Joe Vandonya	Glenn	Sharon	George
Linda Baumgartner	Logan Krick	Carol Samuels	Ann Hurban	Robert Green
Carol and Angela	Debbie	Joan Cottier	Robert Henry	Kathryn Strohl
Eric Hantz	Robert Knot	Melanie Hoderusky	Audrey Blickensderfer	
Mike Hartman	Angie	Terry Carlton	Cheryl Rank	Mabel Bonner
Kim Mickey	Jimmy Hurstman	Mike Miller	Chrissy	Daruis
Robbie Moore	Judy Silnik	Evan Hantz	Andrea Coughlin	Zachary Long
Kristen Meeker	Kay Bolus	Carol Williams	Beverly Henry	Danielle Bowser
Harold Frable	Jeff Reihoff	Donna Whitman	Charles Wagner	Jerry
Nadia Cospier	Julie Gelfuso	Jessica Harris	Kayla Bartholomew	Jeanette Haram
Alyzah Borger	Sergio Nino	Darryl Beck	Nancy	Carol
Kathy Heist	Greg	Michelle	Johnny	Robert Moyer, Jr.

Longer Term Need:

Debbie Budinetz	Theresa Carbonell	Darryl Wentz	Jessica Smith	Tina Rehrig
Janet Erickson	Marion Heffelfinger	Pat James	Mary Berger	Nancy Green
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	Nancy Kovalchick	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	John Hine	Darlene Hock	Anne Harrity	
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

Those who mourn:

The family and friends of Kylie Schneider

The family and friends of Tommy Haithcox

The family and friends of Ginger Graver

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

People & Places

- 1 — Ronnie Graver
- 5 — Dorothy Biscarr
- 6 — Marissa Marsh
- 8 — Kenda Rhodes
- 10 — Faith Fritz
- 11 — Kelly Demjanick
- 12 — Sarah Demjanick
- 18 — Austin Rabenold
- 22 — Steph Prutzman
- 23 — Nathaniel Angstadt
- 26 — Tara Field
- 27 — Irene Smith
Robert Litsch
- 28 — Robin Laponuke
- 29 — Linda Ehret
- 30 — Robert Langley III

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

Sensational 70's Club

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

Exceptional 80's Club

- 1 — Ronnie Graver
- 29 — Linda Ehret

Wedding Anniversaries

- 21 — Sandra & Doug Niebell.—
14 years
- 25 — Robin & Wilson Beers —
56 years



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

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

Sensational 70's Club

- 9 — Linda Hartzell
- 23 — Dean Deppe
- 28 — Elizabeth Sikorsky

Exceptional 80's Club

- 1 — Phyllis Geiss
- 11 — John "Jack" Doll III
- 16 — Phyllis Balliet
- 16 — Judith Frankel
- 17 — Gary Geiss

Wedding Anniversaries

- 14 — Rochelle & Gary Salabsky.—
28 years
- 14 — Diane & Anthony Cimo —
24 years



OUR MISSIONS

Noisy Offering for January is: 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 23, 1965. It was located in the bay at the north end of the Northampton Memorial Community Center (next door). 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 19, 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 17, 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.

In 1984, George and Hattie Schisler donated funds for the construction of the Children's Wing. Seibert, Ferreira, Schlicting were selected as the architect and John F. Simock Inc. was selected as the general contractor for the addition. The Children's Wing was dedicated to George and Hattie Schisler on Sunday, October 27, 1985.

Support the Northampton Area Public Library

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, such as a birthday or anniversary. 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 for children will be chosen from a selection of picture books. All donors will receive recognition for the books they helped purchase in addition to notifying the honoree(s).

OUR MISSIONS

Noisy Offering for February is: Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels of Lehigh County's history dates back to 1970, when a task force of concerned citizens began meeting with Lehigh County Commissioners to address the problem of malnutrition among seniors. On Feb. 1, 1971, 50 volunteers from Meals on Wheels of Lehigh County delivered a hot meal and cold bagged meal to nine clients on three separate routes.

We provide homebound senior citizens and adults with disabilities with home-delivered meals, grocery shopping and other services.

Also in 1971, the Mayor of Bethlehem's Task Force on Health and Welfare started Meals on Wheels of Northampton County (then called Bethlehem Area) to provide nutritious and well-balanced meals Monday through Friday to seniors, homebound individuals, and adults with disabilities. Under the direction of Board President Dr. Edwin Frey, the Meals on Wheels board and staff began serving meals to 15 clients on Valentine's Day, 1972.

In the fall of 2016, the Board of Directors from both these organizations began to meet to explore the possibility of a merger. A synergy grant from the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation and the United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley fueled this process. After 2 years of collaboration and 3 distinct phases of planning, Meals on Wheels of the Greater Lehigh Valley officially began on Sept. 1, 2018. In 2019, the organization expanded into parts of Carbon County. As we look back on our rich history, we recognize that our success is not just measured in years but in the lives touched and the connections forged. Meals on Wheels is more than a service; it is a community of dedicated individuals, volunteers, and clients coming together to make a meaningful impact.

Join us in celebrating our history, embracing our present, and building a future where no one goes hungry, and every individual is valued and cared for. Together, we continue to write the story of Meals on Wheels, one meal, one connection at a time.

Join the Meals on Wheels community, where more than 1,500 individuals, just like yourself, are actively contributing to making a positive impact. Together, we've accomplished remarkable feats, delivering over 4,651 emergency food boxes and 373,176 meals annually to seniors and individuals with disabilities!

Daily Meal Delivery Volunteers

Typically, these volunteers offer their availability on a daily, weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly basis. Delivery volunteers start their routes between 10 a.m. and 11 a.m., Monday through Friday, with most routes lasting approximately 90 minutes. Volunteers will pickup meals from one of our convenient pick-up sites and deliver the meals to clients on their assigned route.

Grocery Shopping Order-Takers

Additionally offered on a weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly schedule, grocery shopping order-takers visit the Meals on Wheels Sherman Street office on Monday and Tuesday mornings. Their role involves accepting client grocery orders over the phone and inputting them into the computer. The orders are transmitted to the specified stores.

Grocery Shopping Shoppers

Offered on a weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly schedule, grocery shopping shoppers receive notifications on Monday or Tuesday to fulfill client shopping requests for the week. Shoppers retrieve the client's order from the assigned store, conduct the grocery shopping, and deliver the groceries to the client's residence. The days and times for grocery shopping trips are adaptable to accommodate flexibility.

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 the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund is one of the UCC's special mission offerings. Churches are encouraged to hold an offering on a suggested day in December each year or select a date that works for them. Advent worship resources are created each year for congregations. Individuals can also donate directly online or by mail.

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

"And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them..."
—Luke 2:9

United Church of Christ congregations and members have blessed the Christmas Fund with their generosity for many years. This year, your care and compassion will be especially appreciated by those servants of the church who are facing a time of need. Thank you!

Blessings

Among the many letters and notes the Pension Boards receives from recipients of gifts made possible by contributions to the Christmas Fund were these words: As I have been blessed, I hope that this gift will be a blessing to the many faithful servants in the United Church of Christ - especially widows and clergy families - in perpetuity. Lydia Morrow Annapolis, MD

Thanks to your generosity, last year the Christmas Fund provided over \$1.9 million in pension and health benefits, emergency grants, and thank-you checks to retired church servants and their families. Every gift came from people like you. This year, please give what you can to continue supporting those who've devoted their lives to serving others.

Power of Community

Among the many letters and notes the Pension Boards receives from recipients of gifts made possible by contributions to the Christmas Fund were these words: As a lifelong member of the UCC, I have fond memories of the Annual Christmas Fund. I never thought we would be in a situation where we too would need assistance as medical expenses and caregiving costs increase. We are grateful that Christmas Fund is here to assist us. Reverend Christopher Gilmore, Lead Pastor Sixth Avenue - United Church of Christ in Denver, CO

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.

SHINING THE LIGHT ON FOOD SECURITY.

Orfelina works with families in the northern regions of Honduras to help them understand how to transform their families and communities through agriculture. The list of things she does is mindboggling: Checking on local farmers' harvest. Monitoring water projects. Teaching the women in the community how to prepare more nutritious meals for their families. Chatting up community leaders for support. Running workshops for things like creating organic fertilizers and sprays. But Orfelina doesn't just work with farmers and their families, she supports and encourages them. Visiting them in their homes. Bringing God's light to everyone she meets. And all of this is made possible through your giving to One Great Hour of Sharing. Because of your giving, projects like these and thousands more around the world are changing lives. Transforming communities. And spreading God's light. Be the Light. Give to One Great Hour of Sharing.



Lay, Life and Work

Happy New Year from the Lay Life and Work committee!!

Thank you again to all who made 2024 such a successful year. 2024 was a busy year and we look forward to a new fun filled 2025. The 2025 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 broccoli. **The deadline for ordering is Sunday, January 19th** and the date of **pick up will be after church Sunday, January 26th**. Soup will be made Friday, January 24th for those who are available to help prepare it. **The cost is \$8/ quart**. Please call the office or look for the sign up sheet in the Narthex to place an order.

The Spaghetti Dinner is planned for SUNDAY, February 16th 4p-7p. Eat in or take out will be available and **tickets will be \$10 for adults and children 12 and up and \$6 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 14th.

Faschnaut Donut Day this year on Tuesday, March 4th. We will be making donuts Saturday, March 1st with pickup after church Sunday the 2nd. **Each dozen will be \$6 and a half dozen will be \$4. Orders are due by February 23rd.** Please call the office or look for the sign-up sheet in the Narthex to place an order.

A **Hoagie Sale** is planned for **Tuesday March 4th, pick up between 4-5:30pm** in the Fellowship Hall. **Orders are due February 23rd** 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 for November 2025.

The Ham and Dandelion Dinner is planned for April 5th, a Hot Bacon Dressing Sale is planned to prepare for Easter, the Basket Social will be held May 8th-10th and 2 other hoagies sales, one in April and one in June, are planned with details to follow. **Just as a reminder the office phone number is (610)767-4572.**

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, January 8th at 7:30pm after Worship and Arts which meets at 7:00pm.

Have a great start to a new year!!

Worship Information

January 5th — Epiphany Sunday

Flowers: None Presented.

Bulletins: The bulletins are presented by Pat and Carl James to the Glory of God.

OT — Isaiah 60: 1 — 6

NT — Ephesians 3: 1 — 12

G — Matthew 2: 1 — 12

January 12th — The Baptism of the Lord

Flowers: None Presented.

Bulletins: The bulletins are presented by Pat and Carl James to the Glory of God.

OT — Isaiah 43: 1 — 7

NT — Acts 8: 14 — 17

G — Luke 3: 15 — 17, 21 — 22

The consistory for January is Tara and Terrence Field and Lisa Strohl

Communion will be served on Sunday, January 12th at both services.

January 19th

Flowers: The first vase is presented by the Nuscher family in memory of Jean M. Nuscher.

Bulletins: The bulletins are presented by Pat and Carl James to the Glory of God.

OT — Isaiah 62: 1 — 5

NT — I Corinthians 12: 1 — 11

G — John 2: 1 — 11

January 26th

Flowers: None Presented.

Bulletins: The bulletins are presented by Pat and Carl James to the Glory of God.

OT — Nehemiah 8: 1 — 3, 5 — 6, 8 — 10

NT — I Corinthians 12: 12 — 31a

G — Luke 4: 14 — 21

There are several slots available to sponsor flowers in both months. If you would like to sponsor a vase please contact the office or Alice Rehrig our flower secretary.

The Nuscher family extends our sincerest thanks to all for your warmest holiday wishes along with the many cards and thoughtful gifts. We are truly blessed by the love and appreciation from our church family.

Worship Information

February 2nd

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

Bulletins: The bulletins are presented by Pat and Carl James to the Glory of God.

OT — Jeremiah 1: 4 — 10

NT — I Corinthians 13: 1 — 13

G — Luke 4: 21 — 30

February 9th

Flowers: None Presented.

Bulletins: The bulletins are presented by Jean Shoemaker and Family in memory of William Shoemaker.

OT — Isaiah 6: 1 — 13

NT — I Corinthians 15: 1 — 11

G — Luke 5: 1 — 11

February 16th

Flowers: None presented.

Bulletins: The bulletins are presented by Pat and Carl James to the Glory of God.

OT — Jeremiah 17: 5 — 10

NT — I Corinthians 15: 12 — 20

G — Luke 6: 17 — 26

February 23rd

Flowers: The first vase is presented by Jay Shoemaker and daughters in memory of Nancy Shoemaker.

The second vase is presented in memory of Nancy Shoemaker by her Grandchildren.

Bulletins: The bulletins are sponsored in memory of Nancy Shoemaker by her Great grandchildren.

OT — Genesis 45: 3 — 11, 15

NT — I Corinthians 15: 35 — 38, 42 — 50

G — Luke 6: 27 — 38

There are several slots available to sponsor flowers in both months. If you would like to sponsor a vase please contact the office or Alice Rehrig our flower secretary.

The consistory for February is Tara and Terrance Field and Lisa Strohl

There are no communion services this month.

More News from the Pews!

(continued from page 1)

to work harder at listening to Jesus and following what God has offered to us in commandments and in love. As we move into February, we encounter Valentines Day, a day supposedly dedicated to love! Yet history has offered us the Valentine's Day Massacre. Doesn't sound too loving to me. Yet His Story, to me, is very much about love. Love for my imperfection, my impatience and my frustration and for all of ours as well. And God keeps moving, keeps waiting, keeps speaking and most assuredly keeps LOVING!

Let us all seek the ways of God's love this year and see if we can't change the world around us a tad bit for the better. While many may have misunderstood Jesus's teachings, there is one teaching that I have come to cherish. That is God's Love for me, for you and for all. If God loves us, why are we against that love instead of on board? Christ changed the world, one person at a time, so can we. May that be the resolution, the prayer, the goal, the love.

In service to the One God sent to save us from ourselves—Jesus the Christ, let us love one another as God first loves us!

Pastor Martin

LAY READERS

Now that we have upgraded our sound system and all of our microphones will carry over into the live streamed services, it is time to add some lay readers to the service. We are also willing to set up a reading area, on the Sanctuary floor, for those who do not feel comfortable managing the steps up to the Nave of the Sanctuary. Please let Pastor Martin or the office know if you would be interested in reading the Old and New Testament lessons on a Sunday and if you would desire to stay of the Sanctuary floor on come up the steps to the Nave. Thank you all for considering adding some other voices to our worship experience though the Words God inspired others with and each of us as well!

MINISTRY OF CONCERN

St. Paul's has had a discretionary fund for the Pastor to use for many years now. Funds are available for people who demonstrate great need while facing an emergency situation. It is solely up to the Pastor whether to provide funds or not. Over the years we have been able to help with utility payments, heating expenses, food items and medical expenses. The Ministry of Concern fund has been funded by donations from the congregation and others. The fund had been depleted and Consistory and Pastor Martin are asking each of you to consider a special donation to the Ministry of Concern fund in order to continue helping people who are in need. A fund transfer was authorized by the Church leadership to add to the Ministry of Concern fund so that others may be helped. Thank you for your support of the Ministry of Concern fund which allows us to show Christ's love to many over the years and thank you to those who have made recent contributions which has amounted to **\$1,885.00** through **Sunday, November 17th**. **There has been another need that has come to the Pastor's attention and we are working on helping someone out, so if you are able to continue to give to this fund, we greatly appreciate it.**

Pastor Martin

More News from the Pews!

This is the tentative schedule of events planned at the LLW meeting for 2025.

January	Soup Sale	Pick up after church on 26th
February	Spaghetti Dinner	SUNDAY February 16th
March	Donuts Sale	Make Sat March 1st and pick up after church on the 2nd
	Hoagie Sale	Tuesday March 4th
April	Ham and Dandelion	Sat April 12th 3p-7p
	Bacon dressing sale	Ready for Easter
	Hoagie Sale	Tuesday April 29th
May	Basket Social	May 8,9,10
June	Hoagie Sale	Tuesday, June 3rd
July	Church Picnic	July 27th at Indian Trail Park
September	Chicken/Pork Dinner	September 13th, 2p-6p
	Hoagie Sale	Tuesday, September 23rd
October	Dream Come True	Sunday Oct 5th, Rain date Oct 12th
	Chili Dinner	Saturday October 11th 4-7
November	Hoagie Sale	Tuesday November 4th
	Penny Party	Sunday November 9th
	Filling Sale	Pick up after church November 23rd, orders due Nov 16th
	Thanksgiving Dinner	November 27th
December	MERRY CHRISTMAS!!	

PRAYER LIST

Please spend a few minutes and look through our prayer list on page four. There are many names that have been on the list for some time and may or may not be able to be removed. Pastor Martin has removed some of the names for this publication. 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 or gotten better, please let the office or Pastor Martin know that. 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!

JANUARY 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 	2	3	4
5 9:00A —Spiritual Formation Online and In Person 10:30A — Worship Service — on-line, in person or in the parking lot	6 7:00P — Confirmation Class	7 7:00P — Elders	8 10:00A — Bible Study 7:00P — Worship and Arts 7:30P — Lay, Life and Work	9	10	11
12 7:30A — Contemporary Praise Service 9:00A —Spiritual Formation Online and In Person 10:30A — Worship Service — on-line, in person or in the parking lot	13	14	15 5:00P — Hall Usage 7:00P — Consistory	16	17	18
19 9:00A — Spiritual Formation Online and In Person 10:30A — Worship Service — on-line, in person or in the parking lot Soup Orders Due!	20 7:00P — Confirmation Class	21	22 10:00A — Bible Study	23	24 9:00A — Make Soup	25
26 9:00A — Spiritual Formation Online and In Person 10:30A — Worship Service — on-line, in person or in the parking lot Soup Pickup	27	28	29	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 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9:00A —Spiritual Formation Online and In Person 10:30A — Worship Service — on-line, in person or in the parking lot	3 7:00P — Confirmation Class	4 7:00P — Elders	5 10:00A — Bible Study	5	13	7
9 7:30A — Contemporary Praise Service 9:00A —Spiritual Formation Online and In Person 10:30A — Worship Service — on-line, in person or in the parking lot	10	11	12 7:00P — Worship and Arts 7:30P — Lay, Life and Work	13	14 9:00A — Making Meatballs	15 Newsletter Articles are Due
16 9:00A — Spiritual Formation Online and In Person 10:30A — Worship Service — on-line, in person or in the parking lot 4:00P to 7:00P — Spaghetti Dinner	17 7:00P — Confirmation Class	18	19 10:00A — Bible Study 7:00P — Consistory	20	21	22
23 9:00A — Spiritual Formation Online and In Person 10:30A — Worship Service — on-line, in person or in the parking lot	24	25	26	27	28	

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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 2025 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), streamed live on Facebook

Faith Formation Hour — Weekly lessons will be on Face Book at 9:00am. Formal class gatherings for all ages on Sunday morning 9:00 am.

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. You may also check their website for cancellation information as well.

Celebrating Our 277th Anniversary — 1748 — 2025