



The Courier

St. Paul's United Church of Christ of Indianland

OCTOBER 2024



AT THE TABLE

On the first Sunday in the month of October we gather with Christians all over the world to share in the Sacrament of Holy Communion as part of World Communion Sunday. This sacrament symbolizes our sharing of the Lord's salvation with all Christians and remembers the sacrifice Christ made for each one of us. Yet, how do we share the Lord with others?

Are we too busy to see the importance of Christ in our lives and in the lives of those around us? Do we care not to share someone so special and expect others to carry the Word of hope into the world while we do the things that only benefit ourselves? If Jesus did not give himself, that would be an acceptable way to live, however, because he sacrificed for our sake, should we not be willing to do the same for Him? On these pages you will see opportunities to share the Lord within the church and within the world. Let us stop complaining about what is wrong with the world and begin to place some faith in the Savior of the world to actually save. And for that to happen, I believe, we as believers and disciples of Jesus, need to stand up and offer what it is that Jesus offers to each of us every day; forgiveness and a new start.

To me, that is what happens when I come to the table of the Lord. Yes I may get there a few more times than most people, but that only refreshes and renews my spirit so that I may experience Christ's Spirit as I am guided and as I develop a greater trust in what Christ calls me to experience, to preach, to teach and to share. Yet, it is not only my discipleship that matters. We are all invited to the table with Jesus! No matter how small we may feel, no matter how hopeless we may be, no matter how often we have been to the table, Jesus counts this time as the best time. Each time we come, He is there for each of us, not any select few. You might not be happy with someone, you might be worried about the world, you might be getting fed up with the election rhetoric that we face; that is okay, we all have had similar experiences and the only one who truly knows how you feel is Christ. It is His love that opens up an energy that allows these many life distractions to seem somewhat less of a problem because He focuses us on the important treasures of life. No matter how hard someone tries, they cannot take your faith away. And the table is the place, where we remember and can solidify our faith and imagine, this specific Sunday, the whole Christian world, comes to the table of the Lord! All I can say is WOW!

The disciples who were walking with Jesus on the road to Emmaus that Easter afternoon did not recognize the Risen Savior, until he sat at the Table and broke the bread. Where do you recognize the Risen Savior, or have you decided that it needs to be everyone else who shares while I sit back and hoard? You truly know in your heart that this is not what Jesus requires of people of faith. And the best part is that He will forgive us and allow us to live in Him and strive to do better.

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WEEKLY SUNDAY PROGRAM

Just as a reminder: as our in-person Sunday school program is back in session, Pastor Nuscher will continue to offer a Christian Education message on the St. Paul's Facebook page. This message does follow the Revised Lectionary which are the Scriptures used in our Worship Service. **Please join us on Facebook for either the Christian Education Message or our Weekly Worship Service OR BOTH! And join us for Sunday school as often as you are able.**

Adult Faith Formation Class

The words "Sunday school" seem to send a message these are classes only for our Children. Maybe if we change the name to Faith Formation, we can understand how each one of us no matter old/young everyday learn/understand more about our FAITH and OUR WALK WITH JESUS. We do have an adult class which also meets at 9am on Sunday mornings. The class uses the Common Lectionary passage for study of the same passages you will hear in Pastor Nuscher's sermon. Please come join us each Sunday at 9AM to learn more about your WALK with Jesus.

Bible Study

We have started **The Chronological Bible Workbook** study. We are starting on a Chronological journey through God's Word as events occurred in time. We began with God's Creation and will end with His revelation to John. There is room for 1,2,3 or 4 more as we journey. We meet in the Parish House the **1st & 3rd Wednesday's at 10AM**, of each month. If you would like to join us on this fascination journey, please see Beth Sikorsky. **This month we will meet in the 1st and 4th Wednesdays!**

Faith Formation Rally Day

On September 8, 2024, a new program year began. Our Rally Day program was a bit different than other years. Times are changing and sometimes a little too fast. A letter was sent to parents asking them to join us for Rally Day. Also our Adult Faith Formation Class joined us for a discussion about how things are different and also how we, the church, can help our children and adults to have a closer relationship with Jesus/God. We had a very lively discussion and Christian Ed will be working on some changes. If you have any questions, please see Beth Sikorsky or a member of the Christian Education Committee, Pat James, Joy Muffley, Ellen Nuscher, or Gladys Polgar.

FALL Faith Formation Mission

It seems Fall is here and Winter is not far behind. As your children grow and outgrow items, maybe that Fall or Winter coat also needs an upgrade. **Becky's will have their Coat Drive in November.** Please watch the November Newsletter and the bulletins for more information.

News From The Pews

Bus trip to see "Daniel" at Sight and Sound in Lancaster

As part of Christian Education for our children we are planning a bus trip to see "Daniel" at Sight and Sound Theatre on **Saturday, November 16, 2024**. The show will begin at 11:00 a.m. followed by a buffet meal at Bird-in-Hand Family Restaurant. We plan on leaving the church parking lot at 8:00 a.m. – bright & early! Through hoagie fundraisers we hope to cover the cost of our Sunday school children that are enrolled and attended regularly in the 2023-24 year. The child must be accompanied on the trip by a paying adult. A sign-up sheet is located on the Narthex Bulletin board.

Feel free to invite friends and family as we are looking to fill 48 seats on the bus to keep prices as reasonable as possible. Please contact me with questions or to let me know if you are interested in joining us. We always have a great time. Pricing is \$130.00 for St. Paul's Members and \$135.00 for non-members. There are graduated children's prices as well. We are excited to do something special with our congregation and especially our children!. **There are four seats still available for the trip!!**

Thanks to everyone that supports the Thomson's hoagie sales and to both Dawn and Pastor for making them possible. Sale dates are announced, and sign-up sheets are in the Narthex.

See you in church and Sunday school at St. Paul's --- Lisa Strohl

WOMEN UNITED FOR CHRIST

The ladies of WUFC will again have the holiday sweet roll sale before Thanksgiving. If you would like to order one or more for the holiday, please contact any member of the group. The varieties available are: **walnut, apricot, red raspberry, poppyseed, lekvar and pumpkin cheese. The price is \$17.00 for each one;** the price remains the same as last year. Payment must accompany orders. Checks should be made payable to WUFC. **Money and orders are due by October 31 to Beverly Putt.** Rolls will be delivered on November 21st, with the pickup time to be announced.

If you would like to help by getting orders for any of the holiday rolls and would like an order form, please call Beverly @ 610-767-3634. Our group is small and extra help is always appreciated.

This is the only fundraiser of the Women United for Christ and we thank you for your support.

PRAYER LIST

Current Need:

Emma Fritz	Jean Shoemaker	Brenda Usher	Kirsten Bickert	Dustin Miller
Sallie Weaver	Linda Hartzell	Mary Ann Miller	Leon Borger	Ron Graver
Marc Messinger	Kylie Schneider	Steve Kovalchick	Joe Vandonya	Jeff Hantz
Linda Baumgartner	Logan Krick	Carol Samuels	Ann Hurban	Robert Green
Carol and Angela	Debbie	Joan Cottier	Robert Henry	Nancy Kovalchick
Eric Hantz	Robert Knot	Kathryn Strohl	John Weaver	Melanie Hoderusky
Mike Hartman	Angie	Terry Carlton	Cheryl Rank	Mabel Bonner
Kim Mickey	Jimmy Hurstman	Mike Miller	Chrissy	Dr. Mike Nelson
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.
Glenn	Sharon	Jere Sikorsky		

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	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	Bev Minninger

Those who mourn:

The family and friends of Brandon Bitler.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

People & Places

- 2 — Jessica Long
- 3 — Dean Beers
- 4 — Julie Beltz
- 5 — Donna Miller
Parker Long
- 6 — Christopher Rehrig
- 9 — Eve Langley
- 13 — Amber Bickert
- 14 — Danielle LaBarge
- 16 — Kristina Demjanick
- 21 — Tammy Marsh
Katelyn Bickert
- 22 — Shane Hershman
- 25 — Emily Fritz
- 27 — Monroe Balliet
- 30 — M Robyn Hill
- 31 — Richard Meckes 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.



Exceptional 80's Club

- 27 — Monroe Balliet

Wedding Anniversaries

- 3 — Tami & Wes Miller.—
9 years
- 6 — Barbara & Robert Jennings —
23 years
- 7 — Sherri & David Penchishen —
29 years
- 7 — Lydia & Tanner Beruta —
1 year
- 15 — Melissa & Scott Fritz —
25 years
- 22 — Melissa & Daniel Siegfried —
19 years
- 25 — Inge & Joe Nierer —
55 years
- 25 — Diane & Frank Cseve —
11 years
- 27 — Tina & Michael Ressler —
34 years
- 31 — Marlene & Richard Kriner, Jr —
43 years

OUR MISSIONS

Noisy Offering for October is: **THE ALLENTOWN RESCUE MISSION**

OUR PURPOSE:

The goal of the Allentown Rescue Mission is to rescue, rehabilitate, and restore homeless men. Since 1900, dedicated employees, volunteers, and donors have worked hard to understand and address the needs of homeless men in our community.

We are a non-denominational, social services organization that provides critically-needed goods and services to homeless men regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, sexual orientation, or religion. The Allentown Rescue Mission is not a church but does cooperate with various churches concerned about poverty and homelessness.

Our motivation for helping those less fortunate goes back for more than 100 years. We believe that we all deserve a second chance and work to provide hope and renewal to the homeless men of the Greater Lehigh Valley.

OUR HISTORY:

"Ten years ago I was called to be a Rescue Mission Worker. I said I could not do it," said Obadiah Becker, the Mission's founder, at a National Federation of Gospel Missions convention in 1908. "I wrestled with it for two years because I did not feel I was well enough educated. When I wrestled with the Lord, He laid it on my heart to work for the cause of rescue missions-a poor drunkard to wrestle with the work of God."

"About that time our little baby fell and struck the back of her head. Three weeks after the accident, she fell over, and one side of her body was completely paralyzed. I prayed to God that our baby might be saved."

Obadiah prayed that if his daughter would get well, he would take it as a sign to dedicate his life to rescue work. "My prayer was answered," Obadiah explained. "The little girl is now running around, and I have consecrated my life to the work of God."

Beginning in 1900, he and Mrs. Becker ran the Allentown Rescue Mission in rented apartments at 104 N. 7th Street, and four years later at 161 Hamilton Street. Upon inheritance of Mrs. Becker's family home at 14 N. 3rd Street, it was remodeled to accommodate 200 worshippers and lodge 78 men. It has been located at 355 Hamilton Street since 1961. Since the early 1900's, the Allentown Rescue Mission's goal for each man is self-sufficiency.

HOW TO HELP:

Whether you donate food and supplies, participate in our Adopt A Room program, become a Changed Lives Champion, or volunteer, your generosity will go a long way to rescue, rehabilitate, and restore homeless men. Explore the different ways YOU can get involved and help change the life of a man in need today

CONTACT INFORMATION:

55 Hamilton St. Allentown, PA 18101

610.740.5500

changinglives@armpa.org

OUR MISSIONS

October Mission: Neighbors in Need

In 2024, **the Neighbors in Need theme is "Mental Health Justice For All!"** This year's focus is on Mental Health Justice. In 2015, the General Synod of the United Church of Christ passed a resolution to become WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged) for mental health.

A just world for all is a world where the human rights and well-being of people with mental health challenges are respected, no matter who you are or where you are in life's mental health journey

Please join us in promoting this year's NIN "Mental Health is a Universal Human Right" campaign at your church.

As you may recall, one-third of the offering supports Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds are used by Justice and Witness Ministries to provide grants to UCC churches and organizations as well as supporting a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects.

While many of our churches collect the offering on October 6, 2024, as part of World Communion Sunday, contributions to this offering will be collected during the months of October and November at St. Paul's. We thank you for your support and generosity.

The 2024 Neighbors in Need theme

"Mental Health Justice for All:

Mental Health is a Universal Human Right" provides us with an opportunity to rekindle our efforts to build a more just world for all, dismantling the shame and stigma of mental health challenges.

We invite you to be part of God's work of mental health justice, join the WISE movement for mental health in your congregation, and support the Neighbors in Need offering.



Lay, Life and Work

Greetings from the Lay Life and Work Committee. As fall is beginning, we look forward to many new adventures.

A Chicken and Pulled Pork Dinner was held on Saturday, September 14th 2p-6p. Each meal included a half chicken or a generous serving of pulled pork and every meal included a baked potato, green beans or corn, applesauce or cole slaw, a roll and dessert. Approximately 153 meals were served via takeout or eat in. **Thank you to all who supported this meal by purchasing tickets, helping, or supplying desserts for the event!**

Another **Hoagie Sale** was planned for **Tuesday, September 24th** pick up in Fellowship Hall **between 4-5:30pm**. The profit from this fundraiser will benefit the Sunday School Students for the bus trip to Sight and Sound. **The next hoagie sale will be on Tuesday, November 5th with orders due in Sunday, October 27th. Each hoagie is \$5.00 and pick up will be between 4:00 and 5:30pm on the 5th. Thank you.**

Dream Come True is coming on **Sunday, October 6th** with a rain date of Oct 13th and more information will follow. Anyone willing to donate some time in the main stand is welcome to join us. This is a generous opportunity to fund raise for DCT as well as our church.

Our **Chili Dinner** is planned on **Saturday, October 12th from 4p-7p**. This is a church fellowship dinner although all are welcome so invite your friends to enjoy various styles of chili, salad and bread and a dessert bar. **Tickets are now available and are \$8.00 and available at the door for this event. Chili donations are also welcome.**

We have also begun collecting for **College Care Packages**. Please consider donating small items and snacks to accompany a gift card sent to our students who are enrolled in college.

At the end of this month, we have our first shared **Purse Bingo** with St. John's on **Sunday, October 27th, 2024** at the American Club of Coplay. We look forward to a fun filled day and **tickets are now available for \$25 each. There is a limited amount of tickets so please do not wait if you wish to play. Planning is in progress with a sign up sheet to volunteer in the Narthex.** Please speak with Dawn, Lisa or Pastor for more information or to purchase tickets.

Finally, stay tuned for more information about a Filling Sale in time for Thanksgiving and a Community Thanksgiving Dinner anticipated on Thursday November 28th.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wed, October 9th at 7:30pm.

Christ's Love in Action

In the past, a group called Christ's Love in Action (CLIA) was formed to assist church family members. In 2016, a mission statement was written and states the purpose of this committee is to give assistance to members of the congregation who may need help due to age or health issues. The committee members visit shut ins, deliver meals to members who are in need and are willing to transport people to doctor's appointments. For many years this committee was quite inactive, however, it is the hope of the current church leadership to reestablish this committee and possibly expand the scope of the committee. If you need help with a task that someone in our church family may be able to complete, please feel free to speak with Pastor, Larry, or Dawn.

Worship Information

October 6th—World Communion Sunday

Flowers: The first vase is presented by Janet Gaston in honor of her daughter Jessica's birthday on October 2nd.

Bulletins: None presented.

OT — Job 1: 1, 2: 1 — 10

NT — Hebrews 1: 1 — 47; 2: 5—12

G — Mark 10: 2 — 16

October 13th

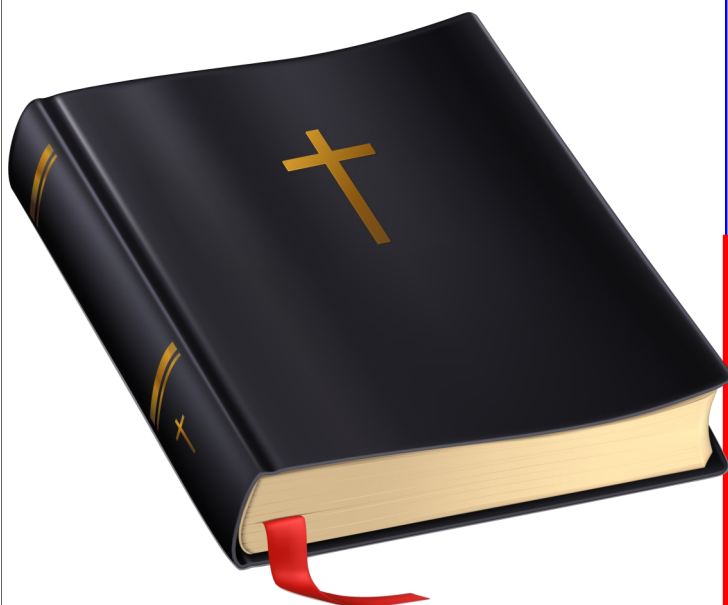
Flowers: The first vase is presented by the Family Trust Fund in memory of Elda Bachman.

Bulletins: None presented.

OT — Job 23: 1 — 9, 16 — 17

NT — Hebrews 4: 12 — 16

G — Mark 10: 17 — 31



October 20th—Harvest Home

Flowers: The first vase is presented by Leon, Stephanie, and Leah Prutzman in memory of Debbie Prutzman.

Bulletins: None Presented.

OT — Job 38: 1 — 7, 34 — 41

NT — Hebrews 5: 1 — 10

G — Mark 10: 35 — 45

October 27th

Worship service today is at St. John's UCC — Howertown at 9:00AM in order to adequately prepare for the Purse Bingo Event which begins at 11:30AM. Sunday school will be offered after the children's message in worship. 22 Atlas Road, Northampton, PA.

OT — Job 42: 1 — 6, 10 — 17

NT — Hebrews 7: 23 — 28

G — Mark 10: 46 — 52

The consistory for October is Larry Carbonell and Stephanie Prutzman.

Communion will be served on Sunday, October 6th for World Communion Sunday and on Sunday, October 13th at the Contemporary Praise Worship Service.

More News from the Pews!

(continued from page 1)

We live in Christ and at times, we have failed miserably. We desire power, riches and glory, not servanthood and sacrifice. Yet Jesus is calling us, actually commanding us to go and make disciples in the world. We are to be His hosts for those who have not felt His invitation to the table. It is an amazing feeling, sharing the Lord with others. Something (religion) I was truly scared to talk about when I was called by God to ministry, yet as time goes on it gets more important for me and each of us to drop our fears and trust in the one who invites us to His table, to His life. Crucifixion is not what He is asking, yet we might have things that need to die in order for our faith to live and flourish. Let us come to the table, share and remember our Lord's sacrifice and love, and then share it! Otherwise, Jesus gave His life for an ungrateful people who do not deserve it. Jesus did not think that was the case and neither can I. It is time for us to prove whose we are. Friends, it is not about anyone of us, it is all about Sharing the Lord!

May each of you be blessed in your sharing at the table and in your faith always. In Jesus' invitation, let us come to His table!

Pastor Martin

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. Currently however, the fund has 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 a recent contribution which has amounted to **\$785.00** through **Sunday, August 25th.** Pastor Martin

HARVEST HOME

On Sunday, October 20th, we will celebrate Harvest Home during our worship service. We are invited to bring non-perishable items to church during the month of October that will be donated to the Northampton Area Food Bank. The front of the Sanctuary will again be adorned for the harvest celebration and remain through Thanksgiving. They do not accept home canned items. Items that are currently needed are as follows:

Jelly	Pancake syrup	Pancake mix	Boxed potatoes	Tuna
Shelf stable milk		Cereal	Paper products (toilet paper, paper towels)	
Macaroni & cheese		Canned pasta	Canned soup	Crackers

NOVEMBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 7:00P — Elders	2 10:00A — Bible Study	3	4	5
6 9:00A — Christian Education Online and In Person 10:30A — Worship Service — on-line, in person or in the parking lot WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY DREAM COME TRUE	7	8	9 7:00P — Worship and Arts 7:30P — Lay, Life and Work	10	11	12 4:00 to 7:00 pm — Chili Dinner
13 7:30A — Contemporary Praise Service 9:00A — Christian Education Online and In Person 10:30A — Worship Service — on-line, in person or in the parking lot	14	15 7:00P — Consistory NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE!	16	17	18	19
20 9:00A — Christian Education Online 10:30A — Worship Service — on-line, in person or in the parking lot	21 7:00P — Confirmation Class	22	23 10:00A — Bible Study	24	25	26
27 9:00A — Worship at St. John's UCC — Howertown 9:00A — Christian Education Online In-person Christian Education to follow the Children's Message. 11:30AM — Purse Bingo at The American Club in Coplay.	28 7:00P — Confirmation Class	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.

St. Paul's UCC of Indianland

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Please note that the next Courier for publication will be the **November 2024 newsletter**. Please plan your submissions accordingly and submit no later than **October 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 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**.

Celebrating Our 276th Anniversary — 1748 — 2024