



# The Courier

St. Paul's United Church of Christ of Indianland  
January/February 2020



## A New Year!

Christian  
Education  
2 and 14

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; 4he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." 5And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." 6Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life." (Revelation 21: 1-6, NRSV)

General  
News  
3 and 10

As we begin a new calendar year many will stop and think about the prior year and perhaps set some expectations for the year to come. We all have hopes and fears for the upcoming year as well as for the upcoming days. And in those hopes and fears is the ongoing promise of God's presence and love.

Prayer List 4  
Calendar  
5 and 6

Very rarely do our resolutions focus on God. They might tackle other relationship issues; however, if we all thought about our spiritual relationship for a moment, what would we wish to improve? There are so many self help guides available and some may be worthwhile, yet we have a self help guide in our pews. Some of us might have one or two of them at home, and I know that this particular self help guide is available on line. Yes, the pastor is talking about the Bible. The book that tells a story of God's love for His creation—all of it. Yet we ignore this book, except for the short doses we receive on a Sunday morning in worship. There is so much more to the Bible story than just what we get each week. There is more back story to uncover for some of these lectionary readings, and there is more dialogue and "fill in the holes" information as we read forward as well. Each biblical book has a great deal of information in it about our relationship with God, but more importantly, God's relationship with each of us. I encourage you to pick up the Bible again. Many of you are already doing so with your daily devotionals. I encourage you to reread the Sunday scriptures and perhaps read some chapters in front of the selections as well as some chapters after the selected weekly readings. I am not asking you to become a biblical scholar. I am asking you to work on your relationship with God. Not a bad resolution in my eyes. God will make something new out of each of us and has been doing that since the beginning of time. Until that time that we see in the book of Revelation occurs, what shall we do? Read on and listen to God's word and hear God's love and forgiveness for each of us. Then, perhaps we will find it a bit easier to love and forgive others because God can make changes in people that we cannot. Whatever you attempt in this new year, may God's blessings, strength and light be with you always.

Birthdays and  
Anniversaries  
7 and 8

Missions  
9, 10, 11 and  
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Pastor Martin

# Christian Education News

## Children's Christmas Play

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the children who participated in the play, "Christmas Gifts". I would also like to thank everyone who helped with our 2019 Play, whether it was on Saturday with the rehearsal or the party, or on Sunday the day of the play. Without the people behind the scenes, the play and the party would not happen. The children/youth did a wonderful job not only with the play but also the added songs with the chimes and bells. I would also like to thank Dawn Vilanova for taking time to practice with the children. We have a wonderful group of children in our Sunday school program. It is fantastic to see so many young people involved in the Ministry here at St. Paul's.

## Sunday School Fall Mission

The Sunday school's Mission for November & December was collecting coats, hats, scarves, gloves and other winter outerwear. We participated with Harding Funeral Home to help provide individuals and families with needed items to stay warm this winter. Thank You everyone who donated items.

## Upcoming Events

As we look toward 2020, the Christian Education Committee will be planning educational opportunities for children, youth, and adults alike. Please watch future bulletins and newsletters for these opportunities such as a possible youth lock-in, the Easter egg hunt, and some adult educational opportunities. If you have any type of suggestions for educational opportunities here at St. Paul's, please see Beth Sikorsky or a member of the Christian Education Committee.

## A New Year & A New Service Opportunity

As a New Year has begun in the church year and soon in our secular world, we look to the future for hope and new beginnings. Our Sunday school grew last year and most weeks the classes are full. The teachers are a group of dedicated individuals who are interested in helping our children/youth have a personal relationship with Jesus. However, there are times they too need a day off. I encourage everyone to visit our classes on a Sunday morning. Before you know it, the children in our nursery class will be graduating from high school and then off to college or to the working world. Our teachers see them for one hour a week to help them know, guide and give them tools so they can have a personal relationship with our Savior and King, Jesus Christ. I know everyone in our congregation is happy to see all the young faces when they come forward for the Children's message.

It is **wonderful news** that our Sunday school is growing and young faces are seen in our Worship Services. However, with younger, new faces comes the responsibility to teach, guide, help, **love, support, and care** for those younger new faces. We need **you** to share your stories, your wisdom, and your understanding by telling how wonderful a relationship with Jesus can be.

As you read this article and **JESUS** is giving you that **nudge** to guide our children, please let me know and I will make sure you are able to share, guide, mentor and care for the children of God within our midst.

# *Church Happenings Now and Yet to Come*

## **Financial Update**

We have now received financial information **through October** of this year, we are comfortable with our current financial situation, even though we are still in an overall deficit position in our General Fund. Here are some of the highlights of our financial year so far. Thank you to everyone for your continued generosity and support for the ministry and mission of St. Paul's church!

For the year, through October, we have spent **\$9,313 more** than we have received. Our overall deficit, however, is **\$2,270** better than it was at the same time last year. There are a few significant factors that are contributing to this as well as expense timing and those seasonal challenges we always face. **Last year**, at this time, **our deficit was \$11,582. Fuel oil purchases and snow removal costs** are a large expense from the winter season as well as grass cutting in the summer season which are all weather dependent. **Generosity and receipts through October are \$4,916 less than they were at this time in 2018** which is also contributing to our deficit position. We are hopeful that the November/December months were as generous as they have been in the past as we celebrated the joy of Christ's birth and the greatest gift for our lives.

**We offer our thanks to all of you for your generosity and support for the ministry of Jesus Christ** in our midst, in our community and in the world. Blessings and peace to all as we celebrate God's love for us in Jesus Christ. We are looking forward to your participation with us. Blessings!

## **Confirmation Class**

Confirmation class, online, is scheduled for **Monday, January 20th and 27th at 7:00pm.** Please contact Pastor Martin if you have any questions. His email address is [pastor@indianland.org](mailto:pastor@indianland.org). Thank you.

## **Annual Reporting Meeting**

Our annual congregational reporting meeting will be held on **Sunday, January 26th** following the 10:30am worship service. In case of inclement weather the meeting will be held on Sunday, February 2nd. We will have a covered dish meal prior to the meeting. Those with the last name beginning with **A-M should bring a dessert item** and those from **N-Z should bring a main dish** to share. We will review the 2019 year and share our faith for the future. **Committee reports are due to the church office by Friday, January 17th please.**

## **Souper Bowl of Caring**

On **Super Bowl Sunday, February 2nd**, we will once again be collecting soups, crackers and monetary gifts for the Northampton Area Food Bank as part of the Souper Bowl of Caring national event. Please plan to bring items to church that day and we will once again have the cook pots in the Narthex for your generous donations. Souper Bowl of Caring was originally founded by a church youth group. Even though the movement has since expanded from the faith community to many types of participating groups, we continue to be fueled by those coming together to worship and make a difference in their community. St. Paul's also participated last year in the Souper Bowl of Caring!

# PRAYER LIST

## Current Need:

Debbie Budinetz	Jessica Smith	Gary Geiss	Leon Borger	Sheila Doll
Dustin Miller	Sallie Weaver	Mark Thomas	Karen Hantz	Lilly Field
Beverly Putt	Angie	Robert Knot	Carol McDonald	Mike Hartman
Charlene and Michael	Petruska	Theresa Carbonell	John Weaver	Jean Hankee
Robbie Moore	Nancy Costenbader	Judy Silnik	Evan Hantz	Nancy Green
Zachary Long	Courtney Bloom	Kristen Meeker	The Bauer Family	Kay Bolus
Pat Neff	Vicki Hall	Cole Ruch	Kevin Reilly	Nigel Mease
Joseph Vadenya	David Jones	Linda Barkley	Aryiah	Becky
Harold Frable	Derrick Redcay	Jeff Reihoff	Donna Whitman	Charles Wagner
Linda Baumgartner	Logan Krick	Alyzah Borger	Jimmy Hurstman	Mark Nuscher, Jr
Nadia Cosper	Julie Gelfuso	Jessica Harris	Kayla Bartholomew	Jeanette Haram
Terry Carlton	Debbie	Keith Lenhart	Carol and Angela	Mike Miller
Carol Williams				

## Longer Term Need:



Darryl Wentz	Tina Rehrig	Brandon Snyder	Franklin Dorshimer	Joe & Deb McGearry
Russell Blakeslee	Deborah Peterson	Dawn Stattler	Karen Bet	Bob Bakross
Michelle Brosious	George Borger, Jr.	Marion Bossard	Sharlene Weaver	Shirley Cressman
Smokey Hartzell	Lori Rader	Wanda Trexler	Susan Zachary	Joan Drey
Stan Butz	The Thomson Family	Kim Rey	Sam Steinmetz	Faye Neff
Jim Miller	Howard & Ida Bachman	Edie	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	Pat James	Amber Steffie	Corey Doolan
Katie & Maggie Paules	Karen White	Ryan Holmes	Peter Rosales	Clark Plummer
Janet Erickson	Cindy Hogman	Larry Rehrig	Gary Kresini	Louise King
Ashley Henninger	Mary Beatrice	Joan Cottier		
Richard Vesely	Pamela Martin			

## Those Who Mourn

The family and friends of Pauline Santee.  
 The family and friends of Nadine Yakowy.  
 The family and friends of Rick Martin.



# JANUARY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				2	3	4
5 <b>9:00A</b> — Christian Education <b>10:30A</b> — Worship Service <b>Epiphany Sunday</b>	6	7 <b>7:30P</b> - Elders	8 <b>7:00P</b> —CLIA and Worship and Arts <b>7:30P</b> —Lay, Life and Work	9	10 <b>6:00—8:00 pm</b> Family Fun Night	11 <b>10:00A</b> — Undecorate the Church
12 <b>7:30A</b> — Praise Worship Service <b>9:00A</b> — Christian Education <b>10:30A</b> — Worship Service	13	14	15	16	17 <b>Annual Reports are Due</b>	18
19 <b>9:00A</b> — Christian Education <b>10:30A</b> — Worship Service <b>Soup Orders Due</b>	20 Confirmation Class— <b>7:00P</b>	21 <b>7:00P</b> — Consistory	22	23	24 Soup Making	25
26 <b>7:30A</b> — Praise Worship Service <b>9:00A</b> — Christian Education <b>10:30A</b> — Worship Service <b>Annual Congregational Meeting</b>	27 Confirmation Class— <b>7:00P</b>	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](mailto:office@indianland.org) or call 610-767-5751. In Case of emergency, please contact Pastor Martin Nuscher at his home, 610-262-2906 or by email to [pastor@indianland.org](mailto:pastor@indianland.org). Church website is [www.indianland.org](http://www.indianland.org). Thank you.

# FEBRUARY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>GROUND HOG DAY</b> 		1
2 <b>9:00A</b> — Christian Education <b>10:30A</b> — Worship Service <b>Souper Bowl of Caring</b>	3	4 <b>7:30P</b> - Elders	5	6	7	8
9 <b>7:30A</b> — Praise Worship Service <b>9:00A</b> — Christian Education <b>10:30A</b> — Worship Service	10	11	12 <b>7:00P</b> —CLIA and Worship and Arts <b>7:30P</b> —Lay, Life and Work	13		15
16 <b>9:00A</b> — Christian Education <b>10:30A</b> — Worship Service <b>4:00 to 7:00P</b> - Spaghetti Dinner	17 Confirmation Class— <b>7:00P</b>	18 <b>7:00P</b> —Consistory	19	20	21	22 <b>Making Fast-nachts</b>
23 <b>7:30A</b> — Praise Worship Service <b>9:00A</b> — Christian Education <b>10:30A</b> — Worship Service <b>Pickup Fastnachts</b>	24 Confirmation Class— <b>7:00P</b>	25	26 <b>Ash Wednesday Service</b> <b>Location TBA</b>	27	28	29

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# JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

## People & Places

### Sensational 70's Club:

- 1 — Ronnie Graver
- 5 — Dorothy Biscarr
- 27 — Irene Smith
- 29 — Linda Ehret

### *Wedding Anniversaries*

- 21 — Doug & Sandra Niebell —  
9 years

- 1 — Ronnie Graver
- 5 — Dorothy Biscarr
- 6 — Marissa Marsh
- 10 — Faith Fritz
- 22 — Stephanie Prutzman
- 23 — Nathaniel Angstadt
- 26 — Tara Field
- 27 — Irene Smith  
Robert Litsch
- 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.

# FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

## People & Places

- 1 — Phyllis Geiss  
Bryan Fritz
- 2 — Wendy Fritz  
Lillian Field
- 3 — Al Walton  
Robert Litsch  
Andrew Bickert
- 4 — Ayden Silfies
- 5 — Mark Thomas
- 9 — Linda Hartzell
- 10 — Brennan Field
- 11 — Jack Doll III
- 13 — Jacob Christman  
Leah Prutzman
- 16 — Phyllis Balliet  
Judy Frankel
- 17 — Gary Geiss  
Diane Cimo
- 18 — Ashlynn Angstadt
- 20 — Kim Biechy
- 21 — Kagen Balco
- 22 — Brandon Christman
- 23 — Dean Deppe  
Lee Strohl
- 26 — Donna Fritz  
Cassandra Langley
- 28 — Nancy Shoemaker  
Elizabeth Sikorsky



### Sensational 70's Club:

- 9 — Linda Hartzell
- 11 — Jack Doll III
- 16 — Phyllis Balliet  
Judy Frankel
- 28 — Nancy Shoemaker  
Elizabeth Sikorsky

### Exceptional 80's Club

- 1 — Phyllis Geiss
- 3 — Al Walton
- 17 — Gary Geiss

### *Wedding Anniversaries*

- 11 — AY & Michael Hughes —  
36 years
- 14 — Rochelle & Gary Salabsky —  
23 years
- Anthony & Diane Cimo —  
19 years
- 27 — Jack and Sheila Doll III —  
55 years
- Jay & Nancy Shoemaker —  
55 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.





# OUR MISSIONS

## Noisy Offering for January is: Meals on Wheels

At Meals on Wheels of the Greater Lehigh Valley, we care for and support some of the most important people in our community. We provide homebound senior citizens and adults with disabilities with home-delivered meals, grocery shopping and other services. Most importantly, we provide them with the kindness and respect that they deserve.

### About Us

We pride ourselves on being the leading Lehigh Valley provider for healthy, medically-tailored meals. Beyond simply providing a meal, Meals on Wheels is dedicated to providing customized meals that are designed by a licensed nutritionist to meet 1/3 of the Recommended Daily Allowance and accommodate special diets such as diabetic, renal, pureed, and some food allergies. Nearly 2,000 seniors and people with disabilities depend on us every day to deliver meals directly to their homes and senior centers. We incorporate local seasonal produce into our meals when possible.

### Our History

While Meals on Wheels of the Greater Lehigh Valley is a new organization, it has nearly a century's worth of experience providing quality care and services to seniors and adults with disabilities. Our services include grocery shopping, pet food/supply delivery, emergency meals, and more.

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 9 clients on 3 separate routes.

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.

1,494      Clients served each day

417,138      TOTAL MEALS MADE IN 2019

70%      live on less than \$16K/Year

# OUR MISSIONS

## Noisy Offering for February is: The Northampton Area Food Bank

The Northampton Area Food Bank (NAFB) is a nonprofit, volunteer-driven organization serving residents of the Northampton Area School District and adjacent areas. Formed in 1992 by a group of local churches, NAFB initially helped about 50 families, and functioned out of a very small borrowed building. As years passed, the needs of the community increased, and the Food Bank continued answering the clarion call to assist our neighbors. A new facility was opened in 2007, constructed entirely with funds made possible by the generosity of donors, the contributions of local businesses, and the time and talents of hardworking, dedicated volunteers.

The Food Bank presently has over 500 families registered and serves an average of 400-450 families per month – a number that continues to rise. We now offer the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) for clients age 60 and older with proof of an income level of 130% of the federal poverty level or below. If they qualify, they receive a monthly box of food which is provided through Second Harvest, in addition to their distribution through our food bank.

To sustain our efforts, to meet the growing needs and to develop innovative programs and additional services, we welcome the community's compassion and ongoing financial support, as well as donations of food throughout the year. The Food Bank is a 501-c-3 charitable organization and all monetary contributions are tax deductible as allowed by the law.

The Northampton Area Food Bank is affiliated with the Northampton Ecumenical Clergy Association, and is also a participating member agency of the Second Harvest Food Bank of Lehigh Valley and Northeast Pennsylvania.

### **Eligibility**

Client eligibility is based upon the income guidelines of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Emergency Food Assistance Program. We serve any individuals residing within the Northampton Area School District who meet criteria and referrals from Second Harvest (610-434-0875). If a person is unsure of eligibility, they should call Second Harvest. New clients may register any Wednesday between 9:30 am and 12 noon or the two Saturdays we distribute between 11 am and 12 noon. They must bring photo ID with a current address/posted mail with correct address. The Northampton Area Food Bank distributes bags filled with basic foods to meet client's minimal needs and relative to the number of people in the family. Extra items may be personally selected (according to availability) from the miscellaneous shelves in the foyer – such as beauty aids, soap, paper products, etc. We now have clothing, shoes, seasonal items, household items, etc. During Winter distribution we try to have coats, hats, gloves, scarves and socks available and accept donations of these items also.

### **Our Mission**

The organization is committed to distributing wholesome food, free of charge, to individuals and families who are in need and unable to adequately obtain nourishment with their own resources.

# OUR MISSIONS

## January Mission: The Christmas Fund

The Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund is a Special Mission Offering that congregations have been supporting for over 100 years. The offering is administered through the United Church Board for Ministerial Assistance, the charitable arm of the Pension Boards. Funds provide direct financial support to those who serve the church and are facing financial difficulties. Active and retired clergy, lay employees, and their surviving spouses may be eligible for the Supplementation of Small Annuities, Supplementation of Health Premiums, Emergency Grants, and/or Christmas "Thank You" Gift Checks.

Our joy at Christmas is a response to God's promise of new life through the birth of Jesus. It is a joy we are called to share widely, through our witness and gifts, both to loved ones and to distant neighbors.

"It wasn't easy picking up the telephone to share with you my present situation. In fact, it was one of the most humiliating experiences of my life although it reminded me that grace still happens. Sometimes we as clergy persons lose sight of God's grace when the negative stuff comes into our lives."

"...thanks so much for sharing your time and ministry with me. Your most gracious gift is appreciated more than words can say as I continue to live in the 'meantime.'"

These eloquent words are from a pastor who is the recipient of the caring and concern of those who contribute to the Christmas Fund Offering.

You have the opportunity to be a part of this ministry that cares for the active and retired clergy and lay employees of the United Church of Christ through your participation in this year's Christmas Fund Offering.

Your gift to the Christmas Fund will not only assist pastors like the one above, but also provide for the Supplementation of Small Annuities, Supplementation of Health Premiums, Emergency Grants, and Christmas "Thank You" Gift Checks next December to lower-income retirees.

Your gifts are needed more than ever to help the growing number of retirees whose low-income annuities make it difficult to meet increasing living costs. This is your opportunity to participate in God's promise of renewal by enabling this ministry of compassion and care.

### **2018: How the Funds Were Used:**

379 lower-income retirees received a monthly Pension Supplement totaling \$1,435,050.

174 lower-income retirees received health premium supplementation totaling \$429,903.

401 retirees received a Christmas "thank you" gift check totaling \$214,100.

49 active/retired UCC clergy and lay employees in urgent need received emergency assistance totaling \$60,526.

# OUR MISSIONS

## February Mission: One Great Hour of Sharing

The **One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)** special mission offering of the United Church of Christ involves you in disaster, refugee/immigration, and development ministries throughout the world. When a disaster strikes or people are displaced or made refugees by violence or extreme poverty, you are part of the immediate response and of the long-term recovery. Through OGHS you engage in holistic development programs including health care, education, agriculture, food sustainability, micro-financing and women's empowerment. Because the UCC relates in mutual partnership to churches and organizations through Global Ministries and worldwide response & recovery networks, your contributions to One Great Hour of Sharing put you in the right place at the right time for the relief, accompaniment and recovery of the most vulnerable. You meet immediate needs and you address the underlying causes that create those needs in the first place. Thank you for your generous contribution.

**How can one person change the world?** Sponsor a child . . . Plant a tree . . . Rebuild a home . . . Visit a prisoner . . . Be a mentor . . . Teach . . . Serve a meal . . . Bring water to the desert . . . Pray . . . Donate . . . the opportunities are endless. And they're all right here. What part of our world is waiting for you to make a difference?

Oebaki (pronounced Oe-ba-key) is a small village in West Timor, Indonesia. It is considered one of the poorest communities in the country. The prefix "Oe" means water, but the drought has stolen this town's identity. Poverty abounds, and families struggle to feed their children.

Imagine having a garden, but not being able to feed your family, or digging into the sand of a dry river bed in search of drinking water.

Imagine your child has been diagnosed with stunted growth, a preventable early childhood condition with lifelong consequences.

Now imagine the world the way God intends.

God imagines a world where all are fed, everyone has access to clean water, and all children grow up healthy. The author of Ephesians writes, "Now to God be the glory, who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine..." (Ephesians 3:20).

Your gifts to One Great Hour of sharing help make this world look more like the world God imagines. In Oebaki, your gifts help support well-trained savings and loan groups that allow families to buy resilient vegetable seeds for farming, yarn for weaving stunningly beautiful traditional fabric, and egg-laying chickens for a sustainable source of protein essential to prevent child stunting. These enterprises produce excess goods that families sell to generate income.

Today in Oebaki, those who once struggled during the dry season and drought can now maintain a diversified diet by eating stored root vegetables from the last harvest, supplemented with greens purchased at the market.

Nelci Tlonaen works hard in Oebaki with her husband and three children—two in elementary school and one entering high school. Despite the current drought, she feels confident that her family will persevere. "Even now, I can afford clothes and food for my children. I don't have any difficulty paying for their school."

That's what happens when we imagine the world as God intends. Through your gifts, a new reality exists for families in Oebaki and around the world. Please give generously!

# Lay, Life and Work

**Happy New Year** from the Lay Life and Work committee!! Thank you to all who made 2019 such a wonderful and productive year. We had lots of fun enjoying fellowship along the way and look forward to more of the same as the new year begins. The 2020 calendar is planned and will be listed in the annual report with all the typical yearly events and a few of our newer events back by popular demand.

January has approached very quickly and it is time for **SOUP**. During the cold snowy days nothing warms our bodies better than a hot and steamy bowl of soup and St. Paul's sure makes great food!! Please refer to the bulletins and sign up sheet in the near future for varieties available. The **deadline for ordering is Sunday January 19th** and the date of **pick up will be** after church **Sunday the 26th**. Soup will be **made January 24th** if you are available to help prepare. The order form will be available in the Narthex and the cost is \$6/ quart.

Our next game night is planned to be on **Friday, January 10th from 6p-8p**. A light meal will be served and small sides will be greatly appreciated to share with others. All are welcome to fellowship with our church family as this is a wonderful time to play board games and to spend time with each other. Please feel free to invite others because the more the merrier!! Also, refer to the bulletin for a game night to be scheduled in February.

As the weather stays cold in February there is no better time to join in fun and fellowship than during the **Spaghetti Dinner** planned for **SUNDAY February 16th from 4-7**. Skip the cooking and enjoy all you can eat spaghetti, salad bar and dessert. Tickets will be available at the door and take out meals will be available.

Finally, it is hard to believe that **Fastnacht Donuts** will also be coming soon. We will be making donuts **Saturday February 22nd** with pickup after church **Sunday the 23rd**. This is a fun time to hang out with folks you may not socialize often with and sample great donuts all at the same time.

Stay tuned for upcoming information about the Ham and Dandelion Dinner and Hot Bacon Dressing Sale which will take place at the end of March and in time for Easter. We look forward to seeing and spending time with each of you at the events. Have a great start to a the new year!!

Respectfully submitted by Dawn Vilanova





# Additional News For the Palms

## Women United for Christ

The WUFC ladies enjoyed the lunch/meeting at the Blue Mountain Family Restaurant on December 3rd.

There will be **no meetings during January and February**. The next scheduled meeting is **Tuesday, March 3, at 10 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall.

It was decided to have a spring fundraiser and sell chances on a basket of food again. At the March meeting, tickets for the basket will be distributed,

WUFC was able to donate \$600.00 to St. Paul's Fuel Fund from the profit of their recent holiday sweet roll sale. We thank everyone for the continued support of our fundraisers.

## Sunday School/Faith Formation: Adults Modeling Behavior for our children

As a New Year begins and also a new decade, we have an opportunity to show our children, grandchildren, neighbors and strangers that St. Paul's is a church dedicated to learning, caring, sharing our Christian Faith.

But how do we do that???? Well, for the learning, even though most of us have a personal relationship with Jesus, we are still learning. So I invite all adults to attend the **Adult Faith Formation class on Sunday mornings at 9:00AM**. This is a chance to discuss and learn about the scripture passages you will hear in Pastor Nuscher's message. What a great way to understand more fully the message and possibly ask Pastor Nuscher questions about the passages. We didn't stop learning about our Christian Faith after confirmation. When we read scripture, or study the stories of Jesus' life among us, we can be given new ideas and understanding or even seeing scripture in a new light which is something that can happen when a group meets for discussion. Our Christian Education Program **succeeds with you!!!!** We are the disciples of the 21st Century.

## Thank You Very Much

On behalf of Ellen, Max and Eli, I offer you our thanks for all of the wonderful Christmas greetings and the generosity in your gifts provided to us as well. It is a pleasure to continue to minister with you throughout the whole year and we also offer our thanks for your love, support and care throughout these past thirteen years together. May God's blessings be with each of you always. Pastor Martin

# Worship Information

## **January 5th — Epiphany Sunday**

Flowers: None Presented.

Bulletins: Presented by Pat and Carl James to the Glory of God.

OT: Isaiah 60: 1 — 6

NT: Ephesians 3: 1 — 12

Gospel: Matthew 2: 1 — 12

## **January 12th**

Flowers: None Presented.

Bulletins: Presented by Pat and Carl James to the Glory of God.

Lay Reader: Nancy Stott

OT: Isaiah 42: 1 — 9

NT: Acts 10: 34 — 43

Gospel: Matthew 3: 13 — 17

## **January 19th**

Flowers: None Presented.

Bulletins: Presented by Pat and Carl James to the Glory of God.

Lay Reader: Beth Sikorsky

OT: Isaiah 49: 1 — 7

NT: I Corinthians 1: 1 — 9

Gospel: John 1: 29 — 42

## **January 26th**

Flowers: None Presented.

Bulletins: Presented by Pat and Carl James to the Glory of God.

Lay Reader: Ken Stott

OT: Isaiah 9: 1 — 4

NT: I Corinthians 1: 10 — 18

Gospel: Matthew 4: 12 — 23

## **February 2nd—Souper Bowl of Caring**

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

Bulletins: Presented by Pat and Carl James to the Glory of God.

Lay Reader: Steph Carbonell

OT: Micah 6: 1 — 8

NT: I Corinthians 1: 18 — 31

Gospel: Matthew 5: 1 — 12

## **February 9th**

Flowers: None Presented.

Bulletins: Presented by Pat and Carl James to the Glory of God.

Lay Reader: Kim Drey

OT: Isaiah 58: 1 — 12

NT: I Corinthians 2: 1 — 16

Gospel: Matthew 5: 13 — 20

## **February 16th**

Flowers: None Presented.

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

Lay Reader: Larry Carbonell

OT: Deuteronomy 30: 15 — 20

NT: I Corinthians 2: 1 — 9

Gospel: Matthew 5: 21 — 37

## **February 23rd—Transfiguration Sunday**

Flowers: None Presented.

Bulletins: Presented by Pat and Carl James to the Glory of God.

Lay Reader: Jeff Hantz

OT: Exodus 24: 12 — 18

NT: II Peter 1: 16 — 21

Gospel: Matthew 17: 1 — 9

**The Consistory for January and February is to be decided.**



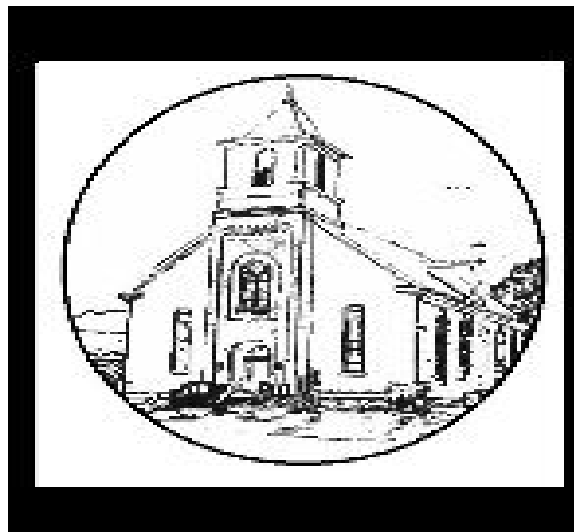
**ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF  
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Submissions for **The Courier** are welcome at any time. If you have submissions please contact the church office by phone or email before the 20th of the preceding month.

Thank you for taking the time to “catch up” with St. Paul’s UCC of Indianland. We look forward to seeing you soon at worship or anywhere else God has our paths cross!

## Celebrating Our 272nd Anniversary — 1748 — 2020



Please note that the next Courier for publication will be the **March 2020 newsletter**. Please plan your submissions accordingly and submit them by **February 20th**. If there are any questions or concerns please call the office at **610-767-5751** or email them to **[office@indianland.org](mailto:office@indianland.org)**.  
**Thank you very much.**

**Traditional Worship Service — Sundays at 10:30 am—the 1st Sunday of each month is Holy Communion**

**Christian Education Hour— 9:00 am every Sunday**

**Praise Contemporary Worship — 2nd and 4th Sundays at 7:30 am—Holy Communion served**

Please send any prayer requests to [office@indianland.org](mailto: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 or 790AM, WAEB—AM Talk Radio for cancellation or delay information.