



The Courier

St. Paul's United Church of Christ of Indianland

March 2020



STONES

"Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. 25The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock. (Matthew 7: 24 — 25)

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As we have entered into the Season of Lent with our Ash Wednesday celebration, we now begin to face the Cross of Jesus. However, Lent is also a time for learning and growing together as we pray, as we worship, as we learn, and as we build up through mission and love. Jesus, our foundation for faith and life, calls us to be wise and act upon His teachings. This is putting faith in action. What we can do for others becomes a living stone of our faith as we grow and serve in His name. We are doing many great works together and as individuals. While we are not always in agreement with one another may we not pick up the stones we find along the way to cast at one another or to build walls of protection and exclusion. May we use these stones as a solid footing on which to stand when all seems to be falling apart around us and within us. Lent is the ideal time for us to once again take a look at whom do we serve and believe in. Lent affords us the opportunity to stand firm, even in the midst of storms around us. The political process will be getting even hotter as our nation faces an upcoming election for president of the US. There are many viable individuals who have the desire and ability to lead our nation. Yet, we are so very divided and have been for far too long. Politics, religion and money are often taboo subjects, yet all three impact the very core of who we are.

Jesus proclaims that "the wise would act upon His words". Yet, we face a spiritual dilemma on what faith and politics means to each of us. There are strong followers of Christ throughout this world and we do not belong to the same political party and yet we all belong to Christ. Let us stop throwing the stones that the candidates are hurling towards one another and build each other up. I know we can accomplish this because it has been done before. Yes the past is far different than the current and the future will be even more of change, however, the love of Christ is not gone, has not failed us, and is calling us to radically change the world. How? By heaping burning coals of love on one's enemies. That is radical. Imagine if the political candidate strived for that effect. Imagine if all church members strived for that effect. Imagine what would happen if we truly listened to Jesus' words and acted upon them instead of using them to condemn and judge. We wonder what will happen to our

Christian Education News

Sunday School Spring Mission

The **Sunday school mission will run through Lent**. We will be collecting snack items for first responders. There will be containers in the Narthex as well as in the Fellowship Hall. The items will be distributed between the Fire Department, Police Department and the Ambulance Corp.

Some examples of items: Individual packaged pretzels, potato chips, crackers, trail mix, candy bars, popcorn, hard candy or cookies.

The youth will be dividing the snacks between the agencies which will be delivered after Easter. If you have any questions, please speak to Beth Sikorsky.

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

As adults 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 sermon. What a great way to understand more fully the sermon 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, it can give us new ideas, 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 NEEDS YOU!!!! We are the disciples of the 21st Century.

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.

Lenten Series

Our Lenten journey began on Ash Wednesday as we gathered to begin the Season of Lent. This year's Lenten Theme is "**Facing the Cross**". We will gather, at St. Paul's, every Wednesday evening during Lent for special services focused on Facing—Temptation, Our Fears, Our Worldliness, One Another and Suffering. There will be a meditation on each of these topics based on Scripture texts, as well as a time of confession and writing of



Church Happenings Now and Yet to Come

Confirmation Class

Confirmation class, online, is scheduled for **Monday, March 16th and 30th at 7:00pm.** Please contact Pastor Martin if you have any questions. His email address is pastor@indianland.org. Thank you.

Choir

All ye who have a desire to sing: please join us to rehearse for Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday on **Wednesdays @6 pm during the Lenten season.** First rehearsal will take place on Wednesday, March 4th. Any questions feel free to contact Robyn @ 570.710.8880

Women United for Christ

The **next regular meeting** of WUFC will be **Tuesday, March 3, at 10 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall.

The ladies decided to chance off another basket of food in spring so anyone who wishes to contribute items for the basket may do so now. There will be a box in the Narthex for donations of food. We will be collecting food in the coming weeks and the date to announce the winning ticket will be discussed at the March meeting. Watch future bulletins and newsletters for more information. If anyone would like to sell tickets for **WUFC (3 for \$1.00)**, contact Beverly @ 610-767-3634. **Members can purchase tickets from any of the ladies in the group.**

Memorial Service

The family of Pauline Santee invites you to join them on **Saturday, March 21st, 2020** in the Sanctuary at **10:00am** for a **service of celebration and remembrance** for Pauline who passed away on December 23, 2019. This is open to all who wish to come and celebrate Pauline's life. Thank you.

Daylight Savings Time

On **Sunday, March 8th**, Daylight Savings time begins so remember to change your clock **forward one hour** before you go to bed on Saturday night or you will be late for Sunday school³ and church!



PRAYER LIST

Current Need:

Debbie Budinetz	Jessica Smith	Gary Geiss	Leon Borger	Sheila Doll
Dustin Miller	Sallie Weaver	Karen Hantz	Jack Doll, Jr	Beverly Putt
Janice Beck	Angie	Robert Knot	Carol McDonald	Mike Hartman
Charlene and Michael Petruska		Theresa Carbonell	John Weaver	Jean Hankee
Robbie Moore	Judy Silnik	Evan Hantz	Nancy Green	Ashley Coughlin
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	Diane Cimo
Nadia Cospier	Julie Gelfuso	Jessica Harris	Kayla Bartholomew	Jeanette Haram
Terry Carlton	Debbie	Carol and Angela	Mike Miller	Hannah Hill
Carol Williams	Carol Gardner	The Chupa Family	Kim Mickey	

Longer Term Need:

Darryl Wentz	Tina Rehrig	Brandon Snyder	Franklin Dorshimer	Joe & Deb McGeary
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		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	Edie		
Ashley Henninger	Mary Beatrice	Joan Cottier		
Richard Vesely	Pamela Martin			



Those Who Mourn

The family and friends of Betty Handwerk.

The family and friends of Tommy Ellis.



MARCH 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00A — Christian Education 10:30A — Worship Service	2	3 10:00A — Women United for Christ 7:30P — Elders	4 6:00P — Choir Practice 7:00P — Mid-week Lenten Service	5	6	7 Hall Usage— Ferrals Basket Social
8 7:30A — Praise Worship Service 9:00A — Christian Education 10:30A — Worship Service Hall Usage 1:00P	9	10 7:00P — CLIA and Worship and Arts 7:30P — Lay, Life and Work	11 6:00P — Choir Practice 7:00P — Mid-week Lenten Service	12	13 9:00A — Bacon Fry in Kitchen 6:00P to 8:00P — Family Fun Night	14 9:00A — Bell Choir
15 9:00A — Christian Education 10:30A — Worship Service	16 7:00P — Confirmation Class	17 7:00P — Consistory	18 6:00P — Hall Usage Choir Practice 7:00P — Mid-week Lenten Service	19	20 April Newsletter Articles are Due!	21 10:00A — Pauline Santee Memorial Service
22 7:30A — Praise Worship Service 9:00A — Christian Education 10:30A — Worship Service	23	24	25 6:00P — Choir Practice 7:00P — Mid-week Lenten Service	26	27	28 9:00A — Bell Choir 3:00P to 7:00P — Ham and Dandelion Dinner
29 9:00A — Christian Education 10:30A — Worship Service	30 7:00P — Confirmation Class	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 at his home, 610-262-2906 or by email to **pastor@indianland.org**. Church website is www.indianland.org. Thank you.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

people & Places

- 1 — Dylan Penchisen
- 3 — Larry Carbonell
- 4 — Jeanette Beltz
- 5 — Ellen Nuscher
- 7 — Rachel Prutzman
- 8 — Nikki Miller
- 9 — Chris Kuntz
Joseph Langley
- 10 — Daniel Fritz
- 11 — Stacy Kleppinger
- 13 — Raelynn Angstadt
- 14 — Donna Henninger
- 15 — Jean Shoemaker
- 18 — Pearl Weber
- 19 — Jeff Hantz
- 22 — Wilson Putt
- 23 — Kim Geiss
Connor Carbonell
Logan Carbonell
- 24 — Brenda Usher
Marlene Kriner
Taylor Langley
- 25 — Diane Cseve
- 29 — Denise Koch
- 31 — Linda Bowman
Sabrina Heffelfinger

Sensational 70's Club:

- 18 — Pearl Weber
- 24 — Brenda Usher

Exceptional 80's Club

- 14 — Donna Henninger
- 15 — Jean Shoemaker
- 22 — Wilson Putt

Wedding Anniversaries

- 21 — Tina & Rodney Christman —
24 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 March is: Allentown Rescue Mission

About Us

Here at the Allentown Rescue Mission we are a team of dedicated employees and volunteers who meet people where they are at and give them the resources to get where they are going.

We are a non-denominational, Christian, social services organization, which provides critically-needed goods and services to homeless and impoverished men, without regard to race, color, creed, national origin or religion. The Mission is not a church, but does cooperate with many different churches that are concerned about poverty and homelessness.

Our motivation for helping those less fortunate goes back for more than 100 years and is rooted in Jesus Christ. We believe he has given us all a second chance in life-we've been saved, rescued and now get to provide that same hope and renewal to others here in the Lehigh Valley and the surrounding communities.

Our Mission

For more than a century, the Allentown Rescue Mission has addressed the changing face of homelessness, tackling the root causes of homelessness, and helping to end homelessness one life at a time throughout the Lehigh Valley. Thousands have come to us and received life-changing help throughout the decades.

The Mission continues to reinvent itself to address the increasingly complex root causes and issues of homelessness. Many of our clients experience dual-diagnosis; they have both a chemical addiction and some form of mental illness. Staff is educated and experienced, professional and compassionate. For more than 100 years, the Mission has been a place where men have begun to experience restoration with God, their families, and their communities.

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 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

OUR MISSIONS

March Mission: One Great Hour of Sharing

"You are God's field; God's building."

Through the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering, we are planting seeds of new life.

Together, we are investing in communities worldwide: providing education to girls and boys, empowering communities through vocational training, supporting microcredit lending and seeing people through to self-sufficiency, empowering families with skills to support themselves and their neighbors, and participating in sustainable solutions that offer dignity to all.

These are just a few ways the OGHS offering touches God's children, in addition to disaster relief and refugee initiatives.

Through your generosity, the world is a better place. But more is needed. Today, you have an opportunity to plant seeds into the lives of others. Be a co-worker with God. Building, planting, watering...and trusting that God gives growth to all good gifts shared in faith. Thank you for your partnership. Thank you for your generosity!

Invest in Futures

In Thailand, a 13-year-old girl arrives at the New Life Center, seeking relief from the cruel conditions that have brought her here. Her life up to this point has been mostly about survival. Here, she meets others like her. Some are survivors of sexual abuse, domestic violence or human trafficking. Some have been forced to work when they wanted to go to school. What will the future be like when she is empowered to share her gifts with her community and the world?

At the New Life Center, she is met with the investment of time, support, and resources. And she is loved. She is allowed to imagine a new future. Finishing school. Learning a trade. Even going to University to earn a degree. In I Corinthians 3:9 Paul writes that we are all co-workers together in God's service. Some of us plant. Some of us water. But God gives the growth. Paul reminds us that we are all called into the service of God, who cares for each and every one of us. What could the future be like when we work to plant and water together, and trust God to give the growth?

When you give to One Great Hour of Sharing, you invest in the futures of these girls and countless others like them. Your gifts go to provide education, vocational training, basic necessities, and much-needed community support. When we share the love of Christ in this way, we see lives transformed. Not



Lay, Life and Work

Greetings from the Lay Life and Work committee!! The next few months will be busy and fun as the warm weather approaches. The year started with a **SOUP** sale. Over 100 quarts were made and sold with **the \$63 tithe** used to buy warm weather items and non perishable food needed and requested by a new committee established in Carbon County to help the local homeless get through the cold months. **The Spaghetti Dinner** was also a huge success. This small meal is a time for fellowship while enjoying a home cooked meal with family and friends. Over 125 people attended and the committee will discuss a tithe at the next meeting. Thank you for all the support for both events.

Game night is planned on **Friday, March 13th from 6p-8p**. A light meal will be served but please plan to bring a side dish to share. 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!!

The **Ham and Dandelion Dinner** will be held on **Saturday March 28th, 3p-7pm**. Tickets and flyers are available from Pastor or Dawn. The menu will remain unchanged with ham, mashed potatoes, veggies, lettuce or dandelion with hot bacon dressing, a dessert and drink available. An all you can eat **adult ticket can be purchased for \$11, children 6-10 \$6 and under 6 FREE**. Take-out meals are available as well. Please spread the word about our famous bacon dressing as this is one of the church's largest fundraisers.

Bacon dressing will be sold again this year in time for Easter. Orders are **due March 29th** and orders will be **available after church Sunday April 5th**. The prices are similar to last year because we do have the BEST dressing in the area. Dressing will be sold for **\$11 a quart or \$6 a pint**. An order form will be available in the Narthex or call the office for orders. The **bacon fry will be in the kitchen Friday March 13th at 9am** to prepare for the dinner and dressing sale.

The spring collection for **College Student Care Packages** will begin mid March. Please consider providing snacks or small items needed while away for or traveling to classes. LLW will provide a gift card to accompany the treats. These packages are enjoyed by the college students of the congregation with expressions of gratitude received after each semester. There are 5 students who are attending classes this semester.

LLW will again host a **Penny Party on April 26th from 2pm-4pm**. This event was well received last year and the plan is to host another one and set the profit aside to use for the next bus trip to benefit the Sunday School Students. The doors will open at 1pm and the kitchen will be open after church for lunch and throughout the event. **Donations of small items or basket prizes are greatly appreciated** and will be accepted during the next 2 months. Flyers are available to advertise the event.

The **Basket Social** will be held **May 9th 11am to 4pm**. Flyers for this event are also available




Additional News For the Pews

Quilt Raffle

The quilters of St. John's UCC — Howertown, are **raffling off their latest award winning quilt** on **Sunday, March 29th** at the church's Holiday Happening event. It is a white queen size quilt and is currently on display in the Sanctuary of St. John's. Pictures do not do this quilt justice as it is white on white. **Tickets** for the raffle are available from Pastor Martin for **\$1.00 each or 6 tickets for \$5.00**. You do not need to be present at the drawing to win this quilt.

Easter Flowers

There are Easter flower order forms in the church Narthex if you wish to place any **flowers** in church on **Easter morning**. **The order deadline is Sunday, March 22nd**.



*Be alert, be present. I'm about to do something brand-new.
It's bursting out! Don't you see it? There it is!
I'm making a road through the desert, rivers in the badlands.
(Isaiah 43:19)*

**You are Invited to the Installation of
Rev. Dr. Bonnie Bates**
as the Fourth Conference Minister of the Penn Northeast Conference of the
United Church of Christ
Saturday, April 4, 2020
2:00 p.m.
UCC Greenawalds, 2325 Albright Avenue, Allentown, Pennsylvania

There will be a reception following the service in the Fellowship Hall.
There will be procession of clergy; please wear your favorite stole.

"Behold, I do a new thing." Isaiah 43:19

Installation of PNEC Conference Minister

Worship Information

March 1st — 1st Sunday in Lent

Flowers: The first vase is presented by Mrs. Wesley Miller in honor of daughter Nikki's birthday on March 8th.

The second vase is presented by Pastor Martin, Max and Eli in honor of Ellen's birthday on March 5th.

Bulletins: Presented to the Glory of God.

Lay Reader: Joe Nierer

OT: Genesis 2: 15 — 17; 3: 1—7

NT: Romans 5: 12 — 19

Gospel: Matthew 4: 1 — 11

March 8th — 2nd Sunday in Lent

Flowers: The first vase is presented by Janice Angstadt in celebration of Raelynn Angstadt's 8th birthday on March 13th

Bulletins: Presented by Mary Ann Miller to the Glory of God.

Lay Reader: Beth Sikorsky

OT: Genesis 12: 1 — 4a

NT: Romans 4: 1 — 5, 13 — 17

Gospel: John 3: 1 — 17

March 15th — 3rd Sunday in Lent

Flowers: The first vase is presented by the Rehrig family in honor of Jean Shoemaker's birthday today, March 15th.

Bulletins: Presented by Janice Angstadt in honor of Nathaniel Angstadt's 10th birthday.

March 22nd — 4th Sunday in Lent

Flowers: The first vase is presented by Ron Graver and Gladys Polgar in memory of Sandy Graver's birthday on March 20th.

Bulletins: Presented by Mary Ann Miller to the Glory of God.

Lay Reader: Ellen Nuscher

OT: I Samuel 16: 1 — 13

NT: Ephesians 5: 8 — 14

Gospel: John 9: 1 — 41

March 29th — 5th Sunday in Lent

Flowers: None Presented.

Bulletins: None Presented.

Lay Reader: Charlene Petruska

OT: Ezekiel 37: 1 — 14

NT: Romans 8: 6 — 11

Gospel: John 11: 1 — 45

If you would like to sponsor flowers or bulletins for worship, **please see Alice Rehrig or contact the church office.** Thank you.

**The Consistory for March is
Jeff Hantz and Charlene
Petruska.**



**ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF
CHRIST OF INDIANLAND**

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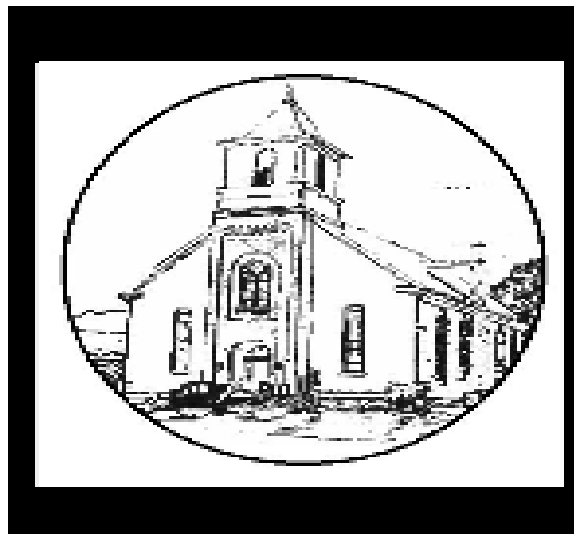
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WWW.INDIANLAND.ORG

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 **April 2020 newsletter**. Please plan your submissions accordingly and submit them by **March 20th**. 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—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 or call and leave them on our answering machine at 610—767—5751. We love to **PUSH**—that is **Pray Until Something Happens**.