



The Courier

St. Paul's United Church of Christ of Indianland

NOVEMBER, 2019



GIVING THANKS

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, 2To Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. 3I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. 4Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. 5I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. (II Timothy 1: 1—5, NRSV)

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Worship

November is a month of many transitions within the life of the church. We begin the month remembering and honoring those who have left this earth and entered in to God's heavenly home. All Saints Day allows us a time to be reflective as well as offering continued support and prayers to those who are bereaved.

As the month progresses there is a time of Thanksgiving as well as a time of closure of this church year before Advent begins and a new liturgical year begins. Giving thanks is something we should actually practice everyday, yet on Thanksgiving, we tend to over eat, over watch and get ourselves prepared to perhaps over shop as well. Where is God in all of this and what should we be doing? God is present with us and we should be, like Paul, giving thanks. Giving thanks for the people around us who have touched our lives. Giving thanks to God for the blessings we have received and the blessings we can most certainly be to others because of God's goodness to us. While thanks is often hard to accept, I hope you all will hear my words of thanks for each of you here at St. Paul's. It does not matter how often you attend, what age you are or what gifts you share. It just matters that you have come into this community of faith. Somewhere in his letters, Paul often wrote of his thanks to the church he was writing to. However, he did not forget to offer thanks for Jesus Christ, the One who gave him forgiveness and called him to be the evangelist he became. Do we wait for thanksgiving to offer God true thanks? Perhaps we get into a routine of forgetting to give God thanks for life and its goodness. For the challenges we face which have us negotiating with God or challenging God or even hating God, we might want to stop and, like Paul, see if there is something good in that challenge. Paul gave thanks for the chains that bound him, the trials that, in the long run, strengthened him and for the love that never abandoned him. Now isn't that a new way to think about giving thanks and adoration to God even in the midst of challenge and hardship? Thanksgiving is almost here and many of us will pause to offer thanks.

Christian Education News

Adult Education Opportunities

On **September 25, 2019**, Ruth Fillebrown came to St. Paul's to speak about the services of **Lehigh Valley Hospice**. Ruth spoke about her experiences as a Hospice nurse of 28 years. She gave us valuable information about the services and compassion hospice patients receive. Please watch the newsletters and bulletins for the next Educational Opportunity.

Children's Program

This year our children's program will take place on **Sunday, December 22, 2019**, during our regular Worship Service. This will be a time for our children to tell the story of Jesus' birth. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for this special program. If you have any questions, please see Beth Sikorsky.

Bible Sunday

On **Sunday, October 27, 2019**, 3 children in our Sunday school received Bibles from St. Paul's. Those receiving Bibles were Ashlynn Angstadt, Jaclyn Bickert, and Thomas Snyder. Please take time to congratulate these children.

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

I am inviting 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 we will hear in worship and 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, so let's model the need for continual learning and discussion. When we read scripture, or study the stories of Jesus' life among us, new ideas, understandings, or even seeing scripture in a new light is something that can happen when a group meets for discussion. We are **all** responsible for the Faith Formation of the people within our congregation. Faith Formation is a lifelong process. Our Christian Education Program **needs you** not only as teachers but also as students willing to learn and share your faith stories with our children/youth and also with other adults. We are the disciples of the 21st Century. If you have any questions, please see Beth Sikorsky.

Homecoming Sunday

Homecoming Sunday will be held on **November 24, 2019**. This is to be a time to reflect and welcome past and present church family members. Come and enjoy some music from our chil-

Church Happenings Now and Yet to Come

Ringers and Singers Needed

Our **2019 Cantata** is scheduled for **Sunday, December 15th** during the 10:30 am worship service. Those who are interested in singing with the Cantata choir are invited to join us on **Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm** in the Sanctuary. If you have any questions please see Robyn Hill on a Sunday morning.

For those who would like to ring bells, please speak to Dawn Vilanova or AY Hughes. These practices will be on Saturday mornings beginning in the near future as well.

Decorate the Church

While we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving, Christmas is not far away. Advent begins on Sunday, December 1st so we will be preparing and adorning the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall on **Saturday, November 30th beginning at 10:00AM**. A lite lunch will be offered after the decorating has been completed. All are welcome to join us as we beautify our church for the Advent and Christmas season.

Financial Update

As we have now received financial information **through September** 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 September, we have spent **\$7,751 more** than we have received. Our overall deficit, however, is **\$91** better than it was this 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 \$7,842. 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 September are \$2,165 less than they were at this time in 2018.**

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 getting back to our full schedule and activity levels and for your participation with us. Blessings!

PRAYER LIST

Current Need:

Pauline Santee	Debbie Budinetz	Jessica Smith	Gary Geiss	Leon Borger
Dustin Miller	Joy Muffley	Sallie Weaver	Sheila Doll	Mark Thomas
Karen Hantz	Angie	Theresa Carbonell	John Weaver	Jean Hankee
Charlene and Michael Petruska		Robbie Moore	Nancy Costenbader	Judy Silnik
Zachary Long	Courtney Bloom	Warren Kuntz	Kristen Meeker	Bob Fredericks
Pat Neff	Elaine Watto	Vicki Hall	Cole Ruch	Kevin Reilly
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	Nadine Yakowy
Nadia Cospier	Julie Gelfuso	Jessica Harris	Kayla Bartholomew	Jeanette Haram
Stan Butz	The Thomson Family	Kim Rey	Jamie Hughes	Sam Steinmetz
Jim Miller	Howard & Ida Bachman	Edie	John Hine	Darlene Hock
Terry Carlton	Debbie	Keith Lenhart	Carol and Angela	Mike Miller
Carol Williams	Kay Bolus	Mike Hartman	Nigel Mease	The Bauer Family
Faye Neff	Evan Hantz	Nancy Green		

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
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 Jane Jones Dougherty.

The family and friends of Nadine Glovas.



NOVEMBER 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9:00A — Christian Education 10:30A — Worship Service ALL SAINTS SUNDAY 2:00P — Gift Card Bingo Event	4	5 7:30P — Elders	6 7:00P — Cantata Rehearsal	7	8	9
10 7:30A — Praise Worship Service 9:00A — Christian Education 10:30A — Worship Service	11 7:00P — Confirmation Class Online	12 10:00A — Women United for Christ	13 7:00P — Cantata Rehearsal 7:00P — Worship and Arts 7:30P — Lay, Life and Work	14	15 6:00P to 8:00P — Family Fun Night	16
17 9:00A — Christian Education 10:30A — Worship Service	18	19 7:00P — Consistory	20 6:00P — Hall Usage 7:00P — Cantata Rehearsal NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE	21	22	23
24 7:30A — Praise Worship Service 9:00A — Christian Education 10:30A — Worship Service HOMECOMING SUNDAY	25 7:00P — Confirmation Class Online	26	27 7:30P — Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service	28 11:30A to 1:00P — Community Thanksgiving Dinner	29	30 10:00A — Decorate the Church for Christmas

OFFICE HOURS: The office hours vary. Please 262-29call 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, 610-06 or by email to pastor@indianland.org. Church website is www.indianland.org. Thank you.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

people & Places

- 2 — Irene Jones
- 5 — Sherri Heffelfinger
- 8 — Kirsten Bickert
- 11 — Ruth Doll
- 12 — Randy Trapp
- 17 — Beverly Putt
- 18 — Robin Beers
Cynthia Hantz
- 19 — Mikayla Bickert
- 20 — Karlee Farley
- 21 — Susan Lilly
- 22 — Carl James, Sr.
Joy Muffley
- 23 — Lisa Stohl
- 26 — Kensley Rodney
- 27 — Marissa Rodney



Spectacular 70's Club:

- 21 — Susan Lilly
- 22 — Joy Muffley

Exceptional 80's Club:

- 17 — Beverly Putt
- 22 — Carl James, Sr.

Noble 90's Club

- 2 — Irene Jones
- 11 — Ruth Doll

Wedding Anniversaries

- 2 — Pastor Martin & Ellen Nuscher —
23 years
- 14 — Robert & Cassandra Langley —
4 years
- 21 — Gary & Phyllis Geiss —
60 years



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



OUR MISSIONS

Noisy Offering for November is: Bethany Children's Home

Mission & Vision

The mission of Bethany Children's Home is to continue an open and affirming Christian ministry, begun in 1863, to serve children and families within our care. We strive to provide a safe place of nurture, protection, and supportive care to aid our residents in their self-understanding, growth, and healing toward a brighter, healthier future.

Our vision is of a community where all youth and staff are safe in their environment and feel safe within themselves. To bring this vision into reality, we provide the resources needed to children and families to work through their losses, enabling them to have a brighter future.

Programs

Bethany Children's Home follows the model of trauma-informed care in all of our programs. Each program is hosted on our scenic campus in Womelsdorf, PA. Bethany follows the house-parent model; and there are On Call Campus Supervisors (OCCS) available 24 hours a day.

Youth in all of our programs are provided the following:

Intake Health Screening

Health oversight and referral

Psychiatric Services on site

Spiritual Assessments at intake

Spiritual Services including character and moral development

Siblings can be placed together and receive sibling counseling

Sibling and family visits available

Bethany Education Coordinator located on Conrad Weiser School District Grounds responsible solely for Bethany Youth

Daily life skills training for all youth through cottage living

Music Therapy facilitated by Board Certified Music Therapists

Arts and Crafts and Recreation with dedicated recreation staff

Our campus facilities include an in-ground pool, full gymnasium with fitness center, multipurpose room, racquetball courts, basketball-volleyball-tennis courts, low ropes course, hiking trails,

OUR MISSIONS

November Mission: Neighbors in Need

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. This year, special consideration will be given to projects focusing on serving our immigrant neighbors and communities.

In 2018, the Neighbors in Need special mission offering and grant pool committee examined the ways in which it could spotlight, the UCC identity and missional initiative: 3 Great Loves campaign, LOVE OF NEIGHBOR. Emmaus United Church of Christ, in Vienna, Virginia, applied and received a \$3,500 NIN grant to aid them to work for justice within their community. They partnered with VOICE (Virginians Organized for Interfaith Community Engagement) in hopes of securing the outcome they desired. Emmaus UCC senior pastor, Rev. Kristen McBrayer shares, "In 2018 we set out to listen to our neighbors. We learned that the greatest concerns in our schools this year are student support for mental health counselors as well as the retention of 'good teachers'. From these listening sessions and meetings with key leaders, we set forth an agenda to increase the funding for mental health counselors so that students have a 250:1 ratio. This ratio is the minimum needed to provide basic support for our students. Retaining our best teachers is key to the success of our school system. Increasing teacher pay is essential to this goal." Additionally, Rev. McBrayer reports, "In October, 1,300 people from our VOICE institutions met with Virginia's Governor and Attorney General to ask for their support on our agenda. Among those present were more than 600 students, parents, and teachers concerned about our schools. The Governor continues to work with VOICE on funding for mental health and good teacher pay and we believe the ground work we did in 2018 has set the stage for some big wins for our students in the 2019 budget cycle and general assembly." As people of faith, we are encouraged to advocate for all those who are marginalized by institutional systems as well as individuals. Being able to use one's voice, even at the ballot box, is a key to fulfilling that biblical missional mandate. We are proud to have been a partner with Emmaus UCC as they embarked to make a difference in their community to aid their neighbors in need.

St. Peter's UCC in Louisville, Kentucky was a recipient of a \$5,000 NIN advocacy grant to work for justice in their community. Their project focused on helping women and men who had been incarcerated to reintegrate into society once released. According to St. Peter's pastor, Rev. Dr. Jamesetta Ferguson, MOLO Village, a nonprofit ministry of the church, "provides a foundation of support for persons as they reestablish and stabilize their lives when entering the Russell Neighborhood following a period of incarceration and/or recovery from drugs and/or alcohol. The reentry and recovery programs will help lead participants to a life of sobriety as well as a reduction in incarceration through education, job preparation, case management and advocacy." Dr. Ferguson further states, "Since implementation in January 2018, MOLO has served 138 participants various 12

Lay, Life and Work

Fall is here and the LLW committee has been and continues to be quite busy planning several fun events!!

Family Game Night on Friday, October 18th, 2019 was a fun time fellowshiping indoors because unfortunately it was too windy to enjoy time around the fire pit. This is a fun time to fellowship with others while enjoying a simple dinner and games. The next **Family Game Night** is planned for **Friday, November 15th from 6p-8p**. All are welcome. Feel free to bring a light dish to share and a game to play. St. Paul's will provide main dish and drinks.

Dream Come True was a cool and rainy day outdoors but full of good food and fun indoors. Thank you for all the support of the church and the Dream Come True event.

The **Chili Dinner** was also a fun day of food and fellowship with several kinds of chili and bars of all kinds. This laid back meal is a great time to chat and come together as a church family. Again thank you to all who attended or provided food or physical help.

Our **Gift Card BINGO** is planned for **Sunday, November 3rd from 2pm-4pm** in the Fellowship Hall. The doors will open at 1pm and the kitchen will be open for lunch following our 10:30am church service. Tickets will be \$20 for 20 games if purchased (paid for and picked up) prior to the day of the event. Tickets purchased at the door will be \$25 each. Extra games packets will be available for purchase for \$5/pack, limited to 3 additional packs. There will also be a 50/50 cash drawing and tricky tray. Rules will be clearly communicated and consolation prizes will be available for multiple game winners. Please invite friends and family and plan accordingly as seating is limited and tickets are selling quickly.

The **collection box for the College Care Package** items has been placed in the Narthex. We are asking the congregation to supply snacks and simple microwave meals that can accompany a gift card provided by LLW. Packages will be distributed prior to finals of the fall semester. Please forward information for college students to Dawn Vilanova. Currently, we have identified 5 young adults continuing their education after high school.

Also, a **filling sale** will accompany the planning for the Thanksgiving Dinner. The sign up sheet for the Filling sale will be in the Narthex. **Please place orders by Sunday, November 17th**. Filling can be picked up after church on **Sunday, November 24th** and the **cost is \$7.00/ 2# container**. More details about making filling which is planned for **Friday, November 22nd** will be in the upcoming bulletins.

Finally, mark your calendars for the **Community Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday, November 28th, 2019**. Details will follow in the bulletin but if you know someone who would like to enjoy a home cooked meal will others please feel free to invite them to join us. Donations of turkeys and desserts will be accepted. Please let Dawn Vilanova, Pastor or AY know if you could cook a turkey or bring a dessert.

Additional News For the Ladies

Women United for Christ

The ladies met on October 1st in the Fellowship Hall. There was discussion about future meetings and activities. Because of election day, the next meeting will be held on the second **Tuesday, November 12th**, in the Fellowship Hall at **10 a.m.**

Orders and money for holiday sweet rolls (nut, apricot, lekvar, poppyseed, raspberry, and pumpkin cheese), are due on November 1st to Beverly Putt. Ladies of WUFC will accept orders up to November 1st. Contact any lady of WUFC and order yours today! **Delivery will be made on Thursday, November 21st. Pick-up time will be from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. on the 21st.** If you are unable to pick up an order at that time, please call Beverly to arrange a specific time to get your order. If there are any questions or calls to order, please contact Beverly Putt @ 610-767-3634.

Looking ahead, the ladies will again provide a Christmas card box for members to exchange greetings. The Christmas card box will be placed in the Narthex on **Sunday, November 24th**, and members may bring cards in through **Sunday, December 15th**. Donna Henninger and Phyllis Geiss will be in charge of sorting and distributing the cards, which will be distributed on Sunday, December 22nd and on Christmas Eve.

A Christmas gift was made to the Child Fund for the sponsored child and a gift to Bethany Children's Home will be forwarded.

Also, WUFC members will bring photos or memorabilia to the church for the Homecoming Sunday on Sunday, November 24th.

The ladies were told to think about St. Paul's homebound members and a restaurant for their Christmas meeting. The group will discuss these items at their next meeting.

The December meeting will be held on the second Tuesday, December 10th.

Thanksgiving Eve

Worship Information

November 3rd — All Saints Sunday

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

The second vase is presented by Pastor Martin in celebration of our wedding anniversary on November 2nd.

Bulletins: Presented by Max and Eli Nuscher for their parents' wedding anniversary on November 2nd.

OT: Daniel 7: 1 — 3, 15—18

NT: Ephesians 1: 11 — 23

Gospel: Luke 6: 20 — 31

November 10th

Flowers: The first vase is presented by Doug Niebell in memory of loved ones.

Bulletins: None Presented.

OT: Haggai 1: 15b — 2: 9

NT: II Thessalonians 2: 1 — 5, 13—17

Gospel: Luke 20: 27 — 38



November 17th

Flowers: None Presented

Bulletins: None Presented

OT: Isaiah 65: 17 — 25

NT: II Thessalonians 3: 6 — 13

Gospel: Luke 21: 5 — 19

Lay Reader: Jeff Hantz

November 24th — Homecoming Sunday

Flowers: The first vase is presented by Donna Henninger in memory of Wallace and Mildred Henninger.

The second vase is presented by the Nuscher Family in honor of all we are thankful for.

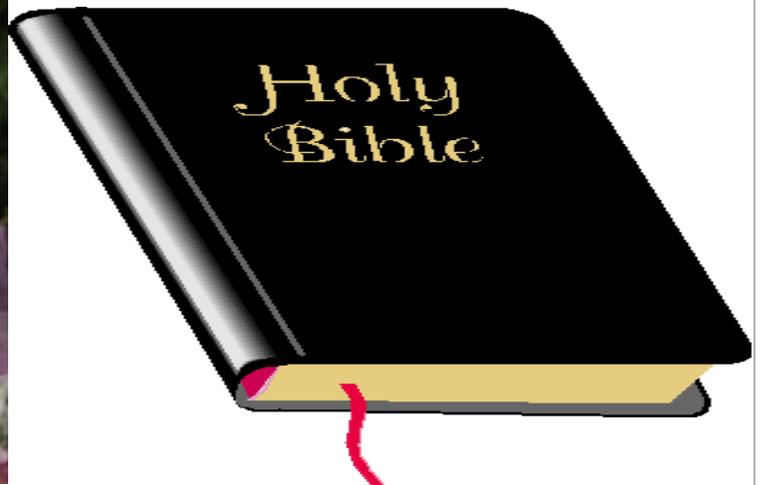
Bulletins: None Presented.

Bulletins: OT: Jeremiah 23: 1 — 6

NT: Colossians 1: 11 — 20

Gospel: Luke 23: 33 — 43

Lay Reader: Kim Drey



The Consistory for November is Steph Prutzman and friends.

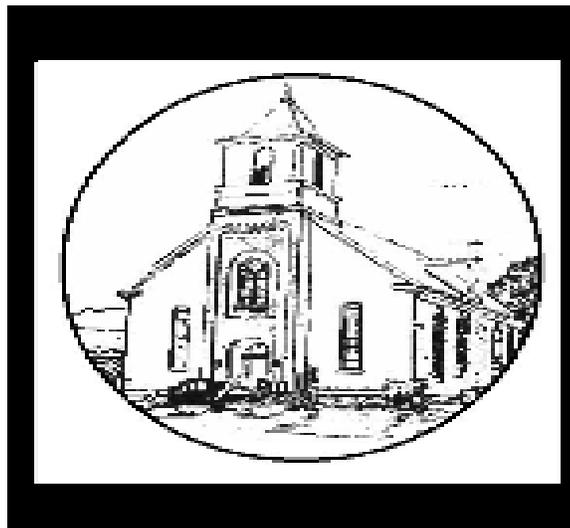


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Submissions for The Courier are welcome at any time. If you have submissions please contact the church office by phone or email before the 20th of the preceding month.

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 271st Anniversary —1748-2019



Please note that the next Courier for publication will be the **December 2019 newsletter**. Please plan your submissions accordingly and submit them by **November 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**.