



St. Paul's United Church of Christ

A welcoming Christ-centered community...

Epiphany Sunday

Jan 4, 2026
9:30am Worship

We're Glad You're Here!

Welcome: *St. Paul's creates experiences of joyful fellowship where children, youth, adults, and the elderly build open and honest relationships of mutual support. In welcoming the ongoing transformative power of the Holy Spirit, we find freedom from social stigmas and shame. This in turn empowers us to address isolation and marginalization in ourselves and in our wider community.*

Today's Scripture Readings

Isaiah 60:1-6 + Matthew 2:1-12

Worship Leaders

Ministers of the Gospel – All Who Gather for God's Worship

Worship Leader– Rev. Deborah Parker-Hill

Reader – Andy Headman

Ushers – Diane & Dave Johnson

Accompanist – Barb Moyer

Acolyte – Wanda Druzba

Flower Dedication

To the Glory of God in memory of John D. McQuate on his birthday, Jan 5, 1942,
and entered into new life on September 23, 2024,
by wife Donna McQuate and son, Aaron McQuate

Join us for Sunday Morning Music & Worship
9:30 – 10:30am Sunday In-Person / Zoom Worship

Connect online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86359317508>

Or by phone to listen to the service:

Call 1-646-876-9923 and when prompted, enter the meeting ID: 863 5931 7508

300 West First Street, Birdsboro PA 19508
610-582-8461 + office@stpaulsbirdsboro.org +
www.stpaulsbirdsboro.org
Church wifi: StPauls / havefaith

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

(please rise, in body or in spirit)

Call to Worship

Leader: Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

People: We have seen the star in the sky and have come to worship the Christ Child.

Leader: The star is resting over Bethlehem, and we come rejoicing, overwhelmed with joy.

All: Let us bring the gift of our hearts and the gift of our lives to worship our God of light and everlasting love. Let us worship God together!

Opening Hymn: “Arise Your Light is Come”

NCH #164

[New Century Hymnal]

Prayer of Transformation and New Life

Leader: Friends, on this Epiphany Sunday we stand at the start of a new year and there is nothing better about a new year than the chance to begin again. That is exactly what we do in the Prayer of Confession. That is why we call it the Prayer for Transformation and New Life! When we speak honestly with God and God surrounds us with grace, we are able to begin again. So may we start this new year, this new season, this new week with God's grace. Let us pray.

All: O God of Light and Love, who shines in our hearts as brightly as the Bethlehem star, we come together to give you praise. You have come to us in the form of a newborn baby, and our hearts are filled with awe and with joy. We rejoice in your love for us, and we are grateful. Yet there are times when we are drawn away from your light. We may feel inadequate, unworthy, or less than perfect. We forget that we are your children, your beloved creations, and that you reach out for us even when we turn away from you. Forgive us, God...

Offering

Holy Communion

Invitation to the Table

Remembering the Story

Blessing of the Meal

Sharing the Meal

(Communion will be served in the pews today. All are welcome to share in the meal. The ushers will bring the bread and fruit of the vine to you. Please serve the person sitting next to you, until all in your pew are served, then pass the tray back to the usher. Hold the bread until everyone has been served. Consume when the pastor invites everyone to eat together. Do the same for the wine/grape juice. The wine is the darker liquid, the grape juice lighter. The bread is gluten free.)

Prayer after the Meal

Leader: Holy God, who lights our way, we thank you for this moment of respite along the journey, a moment to be filled with good things, to be reminded of our belovedness and sent out to be your hands and feet in the world.

Leader: Though we'd often prefer a straightforward, step-by-step plan for our lives, you've instead given us an invitation

All: to wander, to seek, to take a different road, to be guided by a star.

Leader: May the star words we received today be a map to you, guiding us to look under every rock and around every corner, seeking you out everywhere,

All: because everywhere is exactly where you are.

Leader: And next year, when the road leads back to this very place,

All: may we find that you were with us every step of the way. With hope and thanksgiving we pray. Amen.

(please rise, in body or in spirit)

Sending Hymn: “I Am the Light of the World” NCH #584
[New Century Hymnal]

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude

Liturgy adapted from:

Worship Ways “The Gift of Light: Service Prayers for January 6” by Debbie Gline Allen, Commissioned Minister of Christian Formation, who serves as Minister of Faith Formation for the Southern New England Conference and as the Director of its Faith Formation Leadership Program, ©2021 Faith INFO Ministry Team, United Church of Christ. Permission granted to reproduce or adapt this material for use in services of worship or church education. All publishing rights reserved.

Communion Liturgy adapted from:

“Words for the Beginning: Liturgy for Epiphany Star Words” by the Rev. Anna Strickland, ©A Sanctified Art, www.sanctifiedart.org

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Announcements

Congregational Meeting is scheduled for February 1, 2026. This meeting will be held in the church immediately after Sunday Service.

Altar Flowers for January – We have openings for altar flower dedications. If you’d like to honor or memorialize someone, contact Wanda Druzba at 610-385-3382 or see her at church for information and to reserve a date. Thank you.

Meet & Greet – Join us on Sunday, Jan 11th, following worship.

Bible Study is held in the upper room in the church each Sunday beginning at 8:30am. Join us for good conversation and discussion about the books of the bible.

“Prayers of the People” – Our current Elders will be holding meetings on the 4th Thursday evening of each month at 6pm via Zoom. All are welcome including phone participants. Contact Pat Babel at 484-949-5033 to be included in the email distribution. Thank you!

Caring Closet starting for 2025-2026 school year

Ashley Griffith, the coordinator for the Daniel Boone School District’s “Caring Closet” sent a flyer to the church asking for the following:

- * Boys underwear for our Primary Center & Intermediate Center, S-XL & 4/5-12; & all sizes for Middle & High School
- * Girls underwear for our Primary Center & Intermediate Center, S-XL & 4/5-12; & all sizes for Middle & High School
- * Universal items such as applesauce squeeze pouches & individual goldfish snacks; children’s toothpaste & toothbrushes; deodorant; tampons & panty liners

Boyer’s 1% Caring & Sharing – When shopping at Boyer’s don’t forget to have the cashier scan your 1% Caring & Sharing card (this card has St. Paul’s name printed on the back of it). Every time you use the card Boyer’s will give St. Paul’s a rebate check totaling 1% of the total purchases made by those who used the card. This is a simple and easy way to help St. Paul’s. If you don’t have a card but would like one, please contact the church office.

Redner’s Save-A-Tape – We are still collecting Redner’s tapes for which St. Paul’s can receive 1% of the total bill (Excluding items controlled by the government such as tax, milk and tobacco products). Redner’s accepts receipts for redemption up to three years from their printed date and there is no dollar limit. Start saving tapes today! You can drop your receipts in the weekly offering plate or mailed to the church office.

Electronic Giving is available with the Vanco Mobile App or through our website “Give” page.

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St Paul's Weekly Calendar

Sun, Jan 4	Worship (C) New Millennium (CE)	9:30am 7pm-8pm
Tues, Jan 6	Nancy Moyer Counseling (CE-LL)	5:30pm-7pm
Wed, Jan 7	Disciple Bible Study (CE)	9:30am-10:30am
Thurs, Jan 8	Nancy Moyer Counseling (CE-LL) Currently Sober (CE)	5:30pm-7pm 6:30-7:30pm
Fri, Jan 9	Beginners Meeting (CE)	7pm- 8pm
Sat, Jan 10	Nancy Moyer Counseling (CE-LL)	8:30am –2pm
Sun, Jan 11	Worship (C) Meet and Greet (C) New Millennium (CE)	9:30am following worship 7pm-8pm

This Week: Church Office Hours

Tues – Thurs 9:00am-1:00pm

This Week: Pastor Deb's Office Hours

Tues/remote 9:00am-1:00pm

Wed/in-office 9:00am-1:00pm

Thurs/remote 9:00am-1:00pm