



St. Paul's United Church of Christ

A welcoming Christ-centered community...

3rd Sunday of Advent (A)

Dec 14, 2025
9:30 am 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

Jeremiah 1:4-10 + Luke 1:26-39

Worship Leaders

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

Worship Leader– Rev. Deborah Parker-Hill

Reader – Barb Headman

Ushers – Derek & Marian Prince

Accompanist – Barb Moyer

Acolyte – John Herold

Flower Dedication

“To the Glory of God by Anna Oister in memory of loved ones”

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: Jeremiah said, "I am only a boy."

People: Moses said, "Who am I to do this work?"

Leader: Mary said, "How can this be?"

People: We often say, "But God, I am afraid."

Leader: Even when we are afraid, God invites us closer,

People: so we summon our courage and sing God's praise.

All: Let us worship God together!

Advent Candle Lighting

Reader: In a world full of fear, where do you see glimmers of joy?

People: We see glimmers of joy in birthday candles and homemade cards.

We see joy in the laughter of children and the delight of grandparents. We see joy in meals around the table and in the singing of Christmas songs.

Reader: Even in a fearful world, joy is all around us. Today we light the candle of joy as a reminder of this good news. May this flicker of light help us remember that even in a fearful world, joy is here. Joy is real. We only have to look for it.

(lighting of the candle of joy)

Opening Hymn: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” WHM #120
[Worship His Majesty Hymnal]

(please be seated)

Invitation to Transformation and New Life

Leader: Friends... Let us pray.

Prayer of Transformation and New Life

Leader: Courageous God,

All: you invite us to live into our call. You invite us to act, to serve, and to trust. Instead of responding with a resounding “yes,” we often hide our face. We dig in our heels. We look for someone else to volunteer. Spark courage in us. Remind us that every person is capable of making a difference. Remind us that even when we’re scared, we are not alone. You are with us, companionship us as we follow you...

(a moment of quiet reflection)

Words of Grace

Leader: Family of faith, no matter where your path has led you in the past, today is a new day! Join me in declaring the good news:

People: We are known. We are forgiven! We are sent to serve. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Passing the Peace

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

We Listen For God’s Word: Scripture

Jeremiah 1:4-10 [page #541] + Luke 1:26-39 [page #43]

Reader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God!

Announcements

Daily Advent: Copies of a daily Advent breath prayers and daily Advent devotional created by area pastors are still available. Pick one up today for yourself or to share with a friend!

Christmas Eve Service – We will celebrate Christmas Eve on Wednesday, December 24th at 4:00pm. Celebrate Christ's birth with communion, candlelight and special music. All are welcome.

The Pension Boards – Donate to The Christmas Fund

The Christmas Fund has been caring for active and retired clergy and lay employees of the United Church of Christ for over 100 years, providing emergency grants, supplementation of small annuities and health premiums, and Christmas “Thank You” gift checks each December to our lower-income retirees. Please consider making a donation.

“...when they saw the STAR, they were filled with JOY...” Matthew 2:10

The Southeast Berks Ministerium will be collecting Redners and Boyers gift cards for Christmas meals for 40 families in the Daniel Boone School District. Our last Sunday to collect the gift cards or money designated for their purchase is December 17th.

Our Daily Bread for December/January/February 2025-2026 has arrived! Pick up your copy today!

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

“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!

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.

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, Dec 14	Worship (C) Meet and Greet New Millennium (CE)	9:30am <i>following worship</i> 7pm-8pm
Tues, Dec 16	Nancy Moyer Counseling (CE-LL)	5:30pm-7pm
Wed, Dec 17	Disciple Bible Study (CE)	9:30am-10:30am
Thurs, Dec 18	Nancy Moyer Counseling (CE-LL) Currently Sober (CE)	5:30pm-7pm 6:30-7:30pm
Fri, Dec 19	Beginners Meeting (CE)	7pm- 8pm
Sat, Dec 20	Nancy Moyer Counseling (CE-LL)	8:30am –2pm
Sun, Dec 21	Worship (C) New Millennium (CE)	9:30am 7pm-8pm

This Week: Church Office Hours

Tues- Fri 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