



St. Paul's United Church of Christ

A welcoming Christ-centered community...

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

Psalm 16 [Common English Bible] + John 20:19-31

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

Worship Leader– Rev. Deborah Parker-Hill

Reader – Doug Johnson

Ushers – Stuart & Lenette Wells

Accompanist – Barb Moyer

Acolyte – John Herold

Flower Dedication

“To the Glory of God in memory of Mary Jane Doaty by Ruth Grant”

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: Let us say to the Holy One: You are our God. We have no good apart from you!

All: Holy One, you are our God. We have no good apart from you!

Leader: The Holy One is our portion and our cup. God holds our future.

All: Holy One, you are our God. We have no good apart from you!

Leader: The Holy One provides us with protection and refuge, and shows us the way of life.

All: Holy One, you are our God. We have no good apart from you!

Let us worship God together!

Opening Hymn: **“The Day of Resurrection”** **NCH #245**
[New Century Hymnal]

Prayer of Invocation

Leader: Let us pray... Transform us evermore into the people you are calling us to be, as we join together in the prayer of confession:

Prayer of Transformation

Leader: Living God,

All: you never abandon us the way that we sometimes abandon you. We doubt your power and your compassion. We call upon your name, but too often without expectation that you will answer. We often blame you for the bad things, yet give ourselves credit for the good that comes our way. We offer empty apology devoid of real repentance. We want to be absolved without engaging in repair. Help us to cherish grace as a gift and mercy as a miracle. Have mercy on us, O God...

(a moment of quiet reflection)

Words of Grace

Leader: Beloved, the Redeemer of our souls meets us in our doubts, uncertainty, and questions. When we call, God responds. When we do not call, God remains present with us. Receive the grace of God to trust the Holy One with our struggles, pain, and brokenness. And hear the good news: We have life in the name of the One who came to us, comes to us, and will come to us again and again.

All: 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

Psalm 16 *[Common English Bible]* [page #385] + **John 20:19-31** [page #88]

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

All: Thanks be to God!

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon

Hymn: "We Live by Faith and Not by Sight" NCH #256
[New Century Hymnal]

Gathering the Prayers of the People

After each petition, we will say the following -

Leader: Holy One, in your mercy (*or the appropriate phrase*),

All: Hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

**All: Our Creator, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.**

Offering

(please rise, in body or in spirit)

Sending Hymn: "Peace I Leave with You, My Friends" NCH #249
[New Century Hymnal]

Benediction

Postlude

Liturgy adapted from:

*"So I Send You: Service Prayers for Easter 2A," by Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for
Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ, © 2026. <https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/easter-2a-april-12/>*

Announcements

Altar Flower Chart There is an opening on April 26th. If you would like to sponsor the flowers to memorialize or commemorate someone, please contact Wanda Druzba at 610-385-3382 or see her at church.

Congregational Meeting will be held on June 14th following worship.

Save the Date for the church picnic. It will be on July 12th! Details to follow.

50 DAYS OF EASTER FOOD CHALLENGE: Let's focus on our giving to the DBASD Caring Closet for the 50 days of Easter, April 5-May 24, 2026! See the list of item for what is requested by the School District. Most needs are canned fruits and vegetables, whole grain cereal, pasta, and toiletries. Our impact in the community will be reported at the 1st Annual Keystone Conference Meeting, to be held Jun 5-7, 2026.

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

Our Daily Bread for March/April/May 2026 has arrived! Pick up your copy today!

GOOD NEWS TO SHARE!!! BIRDSBORO SHARES IS LIVE!!!!

Birdsboro Shares is a mutual aid network that we have been working on. This is a network of neighbors helping neighbors. Whether you have a need, a resource/skill to share, or both, we all enter the network the same way., through the Birdsboro Shares form on St Paul's website. See link:

<https://stpaulsbirdsboro.org/birdsboro-shares-mutual-aid-network/>

Your help is needed to get the word out, so please share with friends and neighbors!!.

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!

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.



St Paul's Weekly Calendar

Sun, Apr 12	Sunday Worship (C) New Millennium (CE)	9:30am 7pm-8pm
Tues, Apr 14	Nancy Moyer Counseling (CE-LL)	5:30pm-7pm
Wed, Apr 15	Disciple Bible Study (CE)	9:30am-10:30am
Thurs, Apr 16	Nancy Moyer Counseling (CE-LL) Currently Sober (CE)	5:30pm-7pm 6:30-7:30pm
Fri, Apr 17	Beginners Meeting (CE)	7pm- 8pm
Sat, Apr 18	Nancy Moyer Counseling (CE-LL)	8:30am – 2pm
Sun, Apr 19	Sunday Worship (C) New Millennium (CE)	9:30am 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



Keystone

CONFERENCE
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

The Covenant Association of the Keystone Conference UCC News from around the Association

April 5, 2026

CHRIST IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED!

On this Sunday, as we celebrate Christ's triumph over sin and death, I extend heartfelt greetings to you and your congregation from the Covenant Association.

Over the past two months, our bulletin inserts have aimed to inform every member of UCC congregations within the Covenant Association. I hope these updates have helped you better understand how your congregation connects with the 45 other UCC communities across Berks County.

This April, I'm reaching out for your support. Just as our congregations rely on volunteers for ministry, the Association also depends on willing hands. Below are several committees along with their purposes. As you review them, consider whether your gifts and talents might serve in these areas. You'll find contact information after each committee description.

Currently, the Covenant Association is looking for a **SECRETARY**. According to our bylaws (October 27, 2019), the Secretary records minutes for all Association and Executive Committee meetings, ensures proper record-keeping for all standing committees at regular meetings, and manages relevant correspondence. The Secretary also serves as the second signatory for the checking account and is bonded through the Conference. The Executive Committee meets monthly (except August and December), and the Secretary also takes minutes at the Spring and Fall Association Gatherings, which fall on the last Sunday of April and October each year.

THE FORMATION COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY (COM)

The Formation COM supports Members in Discernment (MID), mentors for MIDs, and oversees authorized clergy offering guidance in field education settings (licensed, commissioned). This committee determines both ordination eligibility and what qualifies as an ordainable call. They also manage scholarship funds for MIDs and decide who should enter the MID process. Contact: Mr. Carl Altenderfer at carl1801@comcast.net

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY (COM)

This committee provides preparation, support, and oversight for ministerial leaders as granted by the United Church of Christ. Committees on Ministry act on behalf of their Association to carry out these responsibilities. Contact Rev. Steven Simpson at pastorstevensimpson@gmail.com

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee maintains accurate records of all offices and committee positions as outlined in the By-Laws, including terms and home churches. They announce open positions in the Covenant E-Blast, through emails to churches and pastors, and via individual outreach that emphasizes matching talents and personalities to each role, always seeking those called by God. Staying alert throughout the year, they look for potential candidates and strive for balance between clergy and lay members. They present candidate recommendations to the Executive Committee for approval. Contact Rev. Mary Etta Mest at maryettamest@gmail.com

Please take time to prayerfully consider how you can contribute your gifts to our Association.

Rev. Sharon S. Morris, Moderator, Covenant Association

APRIL EVENTS

Sunday, April 19, 3 pm, Installation of Rev. Tammie Wisniewski at One UCC, 1730 New Holland Road, Kenhorst, PA 19607

Sunday, April 26, 3 pm, Covenant Association Spring Meeting, at St. John's (Gernants), 13 Gernants Road, Leesport, PA 19533