



# **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**

Acts 2:14a, 36-41+ Luke 24:13-35

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

Guest Worship Leader– Rev. Marian P. Shearer

Reader – Janeen Adil

Ushers – Barb Kerper & Pat Babel

Accompanist – Barb Moyer

Acolyte – Doug Johnson

## **Flower Dedication**

“To the Glory of God and in honor of my family by Esther Bill”

**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](mailto:office@stpaulsbirdsboro.org) +  
[www.stpaulsbirdsboro.org](http://www.stpaulsbirdsboro.org)  
Church wifi: StPauls / havefaith

## Welcome and Announcements

### Prelude

*(please rise, in body or in spirit)*

### Call to Worship

Leader: The Lord is risen!

**All: He is risen indeed!**

Leader: At early dawn, when the light was just emerging and the shadows still long and deep, the earth began to sing a tender and persistent hallelujah.

**All: And the resurrection smelled like death and dirt. Christ, the Power of Love, is risen indeed. Hallelujah!**

Leader: At early dawn, with the salt of tears still crusting their eyes, the women began to sing a grieving and faithful hallelujah.

**All: And the empty tomb sounded like weeping and questions. Christ, the Wounded One, is risen indeed. Hallelujah!**

Leader: At early dawn, when no one could remember the sound of hope or the promise of a new day, rising the world began to sing a fierce and determined hallelujah.

**All: And the rising up tasted like bread and rejoicing. Christ, the Way of Truth and Life, is risen indeed. Hallelujah!**

Leader: At early dawn, as each day brings forth new agonies and injustices, we gather to sing a grateful and liberating hallelujah.

And this Easter feels like protest and praise. Christ is risen!

**All: Christ is risen indeed! Hallelujah!**

**Opening Hymn:**

**“In the Garden”**

**WHM #270**

*[Worship His Majesty Hymnal]*

## **Call to Confession and Prayer of Confession**

Leader: Friends in Christ, there is nothing we cannot say to God, who loves us more than we can imagine or name.

**All: Let us bring imperfect selves to God in prayer.**

Leader: Holy one, we bring our dappled selves to you, pausing in this moment to admit that we forget to call on you when we are in distress, and we forget to thank you when goodness prevails and joy breaks in.

**All: We resist slowing down to listen, and we resist rising up to demand justice. Forgive us, for the sake of Jesus, who walks alongside us and is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.  
Amen.**

## **Assurance of Forgiveness**

Leader: Every day is made anew by our gracious Creator, and we are made new every day by the grace of Jesus Christ. We are a forgiven people!

**All: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

*(a moment of quiet reflection)*

## **Passing the Peace**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## **We Listen For God's Word: Scripture**

**Acts 2:14a, 36-41 [page #91] + Luke 24:13-35 [page #68]**

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

**All: Thanks be to God!**

## **Sermon: "Two Tables"**

**Hymn: "Break Thou the Bread of Life"**

**WHM #317**

*[Worship His Majesty 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 Father, 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:**

**“He Lives”**

**WHM #264**

*[Worship His Majesty Hymnal]*

## **Benediction**

## **Postlude**

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## **Announcements**

**Altar Flower Chart** There is an opening on April 26<sup>th</sup> . 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 14<sup>th</sup> following worship.

**Save the Date for the church picnic.** It will be on July 12<sup>th</sup>! 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 19   | Sunday Worship (C)<br>New Millennium (CE)              | 9:30am<br>7pm-8pm         |
| Tues, Apr 21  | Nancy Moyer Counseling (CE-LL)                         | 5:30pm-7pm                |
| Wed, Apr 22   | Disciple Bible Study (CE)                              | 9:30am-10:30am            |
| Thurs, Apr 23 | Nancy Moyer Counseling (CE-LL)<br>Currently Sober (CE) | 5:30pm-7pm<br>6:30-7:30pm |
| Fri, Apr 24   | Beginners Meeting (CE)                                 | 7pm- 8pm                  |
| Sat, Apr 25   | Nancy Moyer Counseling (CE-LL)                         | 8:30am – 2pm              |
| Sun, Apr 26   | Sunday Worship (C)<br>New Millennium (CE)              | 9:30am<br>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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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