



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 2:1-21

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

Worship Leader– Rev. Deborah Parker-Hill

Reader – Pat Babel

Ushers – Lenette & Stuart Wells

Accompanist – Barb Moyer

Acolyte – Diane Johnson

Flower Dedication

**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 rejoice and call upon God's name.

People: Holy God, your people have gathered in this space.

Leader: God, pour out your Spirit:

**People: upon all people, young and old, near and far, friend and stranger
– all neighbors.**

Leader: God, pour out your Spirit:

People: Empower us to speak for justice.

Leader: God, pour out your Spirit:

People: Grant us visions of peace.

Leader: God, pour out your Spirit:

People: Inspire us with dreams for the future.

Leader: God, pour out your Spirit:

People: Renew the face of the earth.

Leader: God, pour out your Spirit:

All: Come, Holy Spirit, come! Let us worship God together!

Opening Hymn: "Gather Us In"

W&R #649

[Worship & Rejoice Hymnal]

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Marty Haugen

1. Here in this place, new light is stream-ing, now is the
2. We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the
3. Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will
4. Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin - ing, not in some



1. dark - ness, van - ished a - way, See, in this space, our
2. old who yearn for your face, We have been sung through-
3. take the bread of new birth, Here you shall call your
4. heav - en, light years a - way, but here in this place, the



1. fears and our dream-ings, brought here to you in the light of this
2. out all of his - t'ry, called to be light to the whole hu - man
3. sons and your daugh - ters, call us a - new to be salt for the
4. new light is shin - ing, now is the King - dom now is the



1. day. Gath - er us in the lost and for - sa - ken, Gath - er us
2. race. Gath - er us in the rich and the haugh - ty, Gath - er us
3. earth. Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, Give us to
4. day. Gath - er us in and hold us for - ev - er, Gath - er us



1. in the blind and the lame; Call to us now, and we shall a -
2. in the proud and the strong; Give us a heart so meek and so
3. eat the bread that is you; Nour - ish us well, and teach us to
4. in and make us your own; Gath - er us in all peo - ples to -



1. wa - ken, we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
2. low - ly, give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
3. fash - ion, lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
4. geth - er, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Prayer of Invocation

Prayer of Transformation and New Life

Leader: Jesus promises that the Spirit of truth – the Spirit we encounter at Pentecost – abides with us, comforts us, and advocates for us. It is by the inspiration of this very Spirit that we come before God, trusting that we can name out loud our brokenness and our need for grace.

Let us pray together:

All: God of mercy, we confess to you the ways in which we have grieved your Spirit: by ignoring the needs of others to avoid our own discomfort, by being afraid of differences and slow to seek understanding, by letting our boundaries become barriers and our identities become idols. We have fanned the flames of anger and division. We have neglected our stewardship of your good creation. Forgive us, renew us, and remove from our hearts all fear, anger, and greed. Lead us by your Spirit into the way of compassion and mercy, for the sake of the world you love. In Christ, we pray...

(a moment of quiet reflection)

Words of Grace

Leader: Hear the good news: In Christ we are forgiven and called to live as witnesses to God's unfailing mercy.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Passing the Peace

Leader: When Jesus first appeared to the disciples after his resurrection, he breathed his Spirit into them and gave them his peace. May the Spirit and peace of the risen Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

We Listen For God's Word: Scripture

(please rise, in body or in spirit)

Sending Hymn: “Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

NCH #286
[New Century Hymnal]

Benediction

Postlude

*Liturgy adapted from:
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Announcements

Church office will be closed the week beginning May 11th and will reopen the week beginning May 25th. Voice mail messages and email messages will be monitored by Nancy Hughes. Thank you Nancy!

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.

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

Our Daily Bread for March/April/May 2026 has arrived! Pick up your copy today!
Save the Date for the church picnic. It will be on July 12th! Details to follow.

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!

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.



St Paul's Weekly Calendar

Sun, May 24	Sunday Worship (C) New Millennium (CE)	9:30am 7pm-8pm
Tues, May 26	Nancy Moyer Counseling (CE-LL)	5:30pm-7pm
Wed, May 27	Disciple Bible Study (CE)	9:30am-10:30am
Thurs, May 28	Nancy Moyer Counseling (CE-LL) Currently Sober (CE)	5:30pm-7pm 6:30-7:30pm
Fri, May 29	Beginners Meeting (CE)	7pm- 8pm
Sat, May 30	Nancy Moyer Counseling (CE-LL)	8:30am – 2pm
Sun, May 31	Sunday Worship (C) New Millennium (CE)	9:30am 7pm-8pm

This Week: Church Office Hours

The office is closed this week. Phone messages and emails will be monitored by Nancy Hughes. Thank you Nancy

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

Greetings!

May 3, 2026

On Sunday, April 26, 2026, the Covenant Association met at St. John's Gernants Church in Leesport. It was a wonderful gathering, and we thank the Rev. Fran Merkel and the members of St. John's Gernants for their hospitality and refreshments. It was great to see friends, colleagues, and new faces as 70 people from around Covenant Association came together as one body.

As we worshiped God together, you could feel the Holy Spirit with us. Thanks to the Rev. Linda Kozlowski, the Rev. Selina Hamilton, the Rev. Rebecca Hoover, and the Rev. Fran Merkel for a wonderful worship experience.

With the creation of the Keystone Conference there was a lot of work that we needed to be about. The first item was to adopt The Conflict-of-Interest Policy. You can find this policy on the Covenant Association Website (covenantassociation.org). Each member of the Executive Committee will be asked to sign that they will abide by that policy. This will be done on an annual basis.

Our second item was to create the "Clergy Care Team" (CCT). Here is a short description of what this team will be about:

The Clergy Care Team serves as a vital support resource for authorized ministers, their spouses, and families within the Covenant Association. Committed to fostering well-being, the team coordinates prayer requests, stays in touch with Conference leadership, and offers both training and guidance to ensure the needs of clergy are met. With a dedication to confidentiality and a strong understanding of United Church of Christ beliefs and theology, members are respected for their administrative and visitation skills.

After much discussion about this proposal around the "term limits" that each of these folks would serve, this proposal was accepted.

The Rev. Mark Johnson, the Rev. Melissa Burkhart, the Rev. Bob Witmyer, the Rev. Mark Stryak, and the Rev. Linda Meredith were introduced as our new Clergy Care Team.

Our third item was discussion about what to do when people were not available for open positions on the Executive Committee. As you may or may not know, we have not had a Vice Moderator for one year. With concerns raised that our lay people need to know how important they are to the well-being of the Covenant Association, the following sentence was added to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Covenant Association:

“Though it is desired to alternate between authorized ministers and lay persons for the position of Moderator and Vice-Moderator, and if this is not possible, then an appropriate volunteer (authorized ministers and lay persons) may fill the role.”

One of the final items we discussed was the election of offices. The following were elected to positions in the Covenant Association:

Mrs. Alexis Ames: Standing side of the (COM)

(COM stands for the Committee on Ministry)

Rev. Domenik Ackerman to the COM

Rev. Jayme Babczak to the COM

Rev. Donald Epps to the COM

Mrs. Linda Lash to fill the unfinished term of Vice Moderator

Rev. Tammie Wisniewski as Treasurer

Mr. Rick Deerfield as Secretary

We celebrated our work and worship together by ending our gathering with communion and singing.

I would like to thank everyone who attended and everyone who helped to make this an amazing gathering! It was a beautiful day in the life of the Covenant Association.

If you missed this gathering, we will be gathering again on Sunday, October 25, 2026, at Huff's Church, 540 Conrad Road, Alburtis, PA. **MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!** Spread the word in your congregation!

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the Covenant Association, feel free to reach out to your Executive Committee and we will be happy to meet with you.

In the June insert, we would like to begin to highlight our churches in the Covenant Association. PLEASE send one or two pictures of your congregation and include the exciting things that are happening. Send to Rev. Sharon Morris at revsmorris@gmail.com.