



# **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**

Genesis 18:1-14 + Psalm 116:12-13 + Matthew 9:35-10:23  
Ministers of the Gospel – All Who Gather for God's Worship

Worship Leader– Rev. Deborah Parker-Hill

Reader – Doug Johnson

Ushers – Diane & Dave Johnson

Accompanist – Barb Moyer

Acolyte – John Herold

## **Flower Dedication**

To the Glory of God in memory of Kenneth Oister, “Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard, but always near, so loved, so missed, so very dear.” By wife, Anna

**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: We gather as God's people.

**People: We will call on the Holy One as long as we live!**

Leader: What shall we return to the Holy One for God's bounty to us?

**People: With love and laughter, we praise the Lord!**

Leader: What shall we return to the Holy One for God's bounty to us?

**People: Lifting the cup of salvation and offering a sacrifice of thanksgiving, we praise the Holy One!**

Leader: What shall we return to the Holy One for God's bounty to us?

**People: With the fruit of our worship and the fruit of our lives, we praise the Holy One!**

**All: Let us worship God together!**

**Opening Hymn: "God of Grace and God of Glory" NCH #436**  
*[The New Century Hymnal]*

## Prayer of Transformation and New Life

Leader: Let us pray. God who calls us, we are here, here to serve, and here to worship. We are here to sing and to pray, to let the word resound in us and through us. We are here, O God, to know you and be known by you. We enter with thanksgiving and praise. We enter in the safety of love and the hope of peace. Transform us by your grace as we pray together:

**All: God of Grace, we give you thanks for love that transcends our shortcomings, that greets us with mercy, and that offers the possibility of transformed life. Plant seeds in us that will stretch our faith in you and in each other. Nurture us to live miraculous lives. Let our faith and our work join with your power to make us fruitful despite our limitations, doubts, and fears. May the fruit we produce add sustenance and hope in your kin-dom. Amen.**

*(a moment of quiet reflection)*

### **Words of Grace**

Leader: Friends, hear the good news: God is with us, transforming us, nourishing us and encouraging us to be fruitful beyond our wildest expectations. We can expect an abundant and bountiful harvest, as we witness to God's grace at work in and through us.

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

### **Passing the Peace**

Leader: May the Spirit and peace of the risen Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

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

**Genesis 18:1-14 [page #10]**

**Psalm 116:12-13 [page #439]**

12 What shall I return to the LORD  
for all his bounty to me?

13 I will lift up the cup of salvation  
and call on the name of the LORD;

**Matthew 9:35 – 10:23 [page #7]**

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

**All: Thanks be to God!**

### **Sermon: *Where's Our Focus?***

**Hymn:**

**“We Would Be Building”**

**NCH #607**

*[The New Century Hymnal]*

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

## **Affirmation of Faith UCC Statement of Faith**

Leader: We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to your deeds we testify:

**ALL: In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior, You have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to yourself.**

**You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.**

**You call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be your servants in the service of others, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.**

**You promise to all who trust you, Forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, your presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in your realm which has no end.**

**Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen.**

## **Gathering the Prayers of the People** *After each petition, we will say the following -*

Leader: Holy One, in your mercy,

**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.**

## **Invitation to Generosity**

### **Offertory**

### **Doxology**

[The New Century Hymnal- tune #780, words #778]

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

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;***

***Praise God, all creatures here below;***

***Praise God for all that love has done;***

***Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.***

## **Offering Dedication Prayer**

### **Holy Communion**

*(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. )*

## Invitation to the Table

### Praise and Thanks

#### Remembering the Story

Leader: Now, O God, with grateful joy, we remember Jesus. He sided with the poor, made the sick well, welcomed sinners, and ate with outcasts.

**All: We remember, we refuse to forget.**

Leader: He told the truth at the cost of his life.

**All: We remember, we refuse to forget.**

Leader: Betrayed and deserted by his friends, he was killed as a common criminal, shamed and despised.

**All: We remember, we refuse to forget.**

Leader: Death could not hold him. God raised him in power from the grave.

**All: We remember, we refuse to forget.**

Leader: He returned to us without vengeance, only mercy in his hands. He is with us now, to the end of the age.

**All: We remember, we refuse to forget.**

Leader: And we remember that on the night of betrayal, he fed us with signs of love: a loaf, divided and shared;  
a cup, poured and passed from hand to hand;  
a meal to eat in resistance, grace and courage for the struggle that goes on.

**All: “Whenever you do this, “ he said, “remember me.”**

## **Blessing of the Meal**

Leader: Come, Holy Spirit, Life of our life! Bless this grain from the earth, this fruit of the vine. Make them food and drink of abundant life.

**All: As we share this meal, help us rejoice that Christ is present with us here. Give us love for one another, and make us servants of peace until your new age of justice comes and every creature beholds it. Amen.**

## **Sharing the Meal**

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

## **Prayer after the Meal**

Leader: Let us give thanks for all we have received..

**All: Thank you, gracious God, for life in the Spirit of Jesus: for the witness we cannot forget and the mission of justice you have made our own. Thank you for the gifts of Holy Communion that make us one body, your body, and send us into the world rejoicing. Amen.**

**Sending Hymn: “Let Us Break Bread Together”** **WHM #377**  
*[Worship His Majesty Hymnal]*

## **Benediction**

## **Postlude**

*Liturgy adapted from:*

*Worship Ways, “Shall I Be Fruitful? Service Prayers for the Third Sunday after Pentecost Year A,” by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ, ©2026.*

*Communion Liturgy adapted from:*

*Do This: Communion for Just and Courageous Living, ed. by Mary Luti and written by the God is Still Speaking Writers’ Group, www.thepilgrimpress.com, ©2023.*

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## **Announcements**

**Vacation for Pastor Deb!** Pastor Deb will be away from June 15<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup>. Pastor Marian Shearer will be covering for her. Any concerns, feel free to reach out to Doug Johnson at 610-633-9879.

### **50 DAYS OF EASTER FOOD CHALLENGE. The results are in!**

St Paul's UCC Birdsboro contributed 447 items. At the 1st Annual Keystone Conference Meeting, Russell Redding, who is the PA Sec of Agriculture, reported that across all of Keystone Conference churches, they collected 39,328 items. Thanks to Wanda for delivering these items to the school and to all of our congregation for their participation!

**Congregational Meeting** will be held today, following worship.

**Meet and Greet!** The next meet and greet is today, following the congregational meeting.

**Our Daily Bread** for June/July/August 2026 has arrived! Pick up your copy today!

**Save the Date for the church picnic.** It will be on July 12<sup>th</sup>! 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 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!

**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

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

This Week: Church Office Hours

Tues, Wed, Thurs 9:00am-1:00pm

This Week: Pastor Deb's Office Hours

Monday Pastor's Sabbath Day; available for emergencies only  
 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!**

June 7, 2026

Summer has officially arrived! With children out of school, I hope this season brings a slower pace—though that may be wishful thinking—and time to rest in the presence of Almighty God.

Activity in the Covenant Association does ease somewhat during the summer, and I am grateful for that. Even so, I have some wonderful news to share.

The Covenant Association now has a Clergy Care Team. Since the merger of the four Pennsylvania conferences, 20 Associations have been served by just 4 staff members. In the Covenant Association alone, we have 75 clergy. Because all authorized ministers—commissioned, licensed, and ordained—fall into this group, one conference staff member cannot adequately care for all clergy in region 1 of the Keystone Conference, which includes 7 Associations. In response, we created this Clergy Care Team to support you.

This team is here to care for clergy as they celebrate joys, grieve losses, or face health concerns. It is made up of five respected and trusted clergy members.

If any clergy member needs pastoral support, please email [covenantclergycareteam@gmail.com](mailto:covenantclergycareteam@gmail.com). One of the five team members will be in touch.

This team does not report to the Committee on Ministry, which oversees clergy standing. The process is confidential, and the team will walk alongside clergy throughout their ministry journey.

**REMINDER:**

The Fall Association gathering will take place on Sunday, October 25, 2026, at Huff's Church, 540 Conrad Road, Alburtis, PA. **MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!** Spread the word in your congregation!

Your Executive Committee stands ready to answer any concerns or questions that you or your congregation may have. Please feel free to contact us at [covenantassociation@yahoo.com](mailto:covenantassociation@yahoo.com)

**REQUESTS!!!!!!**

1. Please send details about your church events taking place in July or August 2026 so we can include them in this newsletter. This will help promote your event to members across our 43 congregations. Send submissions to Rev. Sharon Morris at [covenantassociation@yahoo.com](mailto:covenantassociation@yahoo.com) by June 25, 2026. Thank you!
2. How can Covenant Association strengthen relationships among our churches and members? We welcome your ideas—perhaps a shared meal, a workshop, conversations about shared pastoral leadership, a fun event, or a mission project. Please send your suggestions to [covenantassociation@yahoo.com](mailto:covenantassociation@yahoo.com)
3. Are you interested in how the wider church works? Contact the Executive Committee, and we will gladly help you find ways to use your God-given gifts in service to our churches. Covenant Association needs people who are passionate about strengthening both the church and our communities. Contact us at [covenantassociation@yahoo.com](mailto:covenantassociation@yahoo.com)

Thank you for taking time to read this insert!

Blessings,  
Rev. Sharon S. Morris  
Moderator, Covenant Association