

*St. Paul's
United Church of Christ
104 Green Street
Sellersville PA 18960*

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Staff

- ◆ Rev. Patti Thomas, Pastor
- ◆ Nancy Ziegenfuss,
Director of Education
- ◆ Christopher Ziegenfuss,
Choir Director
- ◆ Peter Ziegenfuss,
Handbell Choir Director
- ◆ Nathan Gulla, Organist
- ◆ James Stover,
Assistant Organist
- ◆ Karen Weikel, Secretary,
Newsletter Editor
- ◆ Cindy Bibic, Financial Secty
- ◆ Dennis Hurchalla,
Custodian

*Weekly Worship ~
8 and 10:15 am.
Sunday School ~ 9 am.*

~ The Voice of Consistory ~

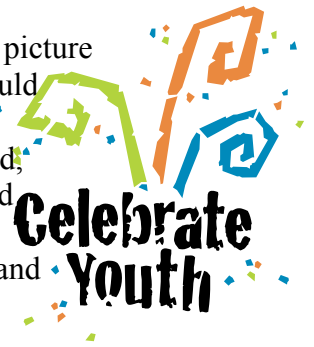
On March 10th, the youth of our church were the worship leaders. They were *Ric Landis, Renay Landis, Jeremy Mask, Kristen Tomlinson, Griffin Allen and John Roush.*

They reflected on their participation in the 30 Hour Famine with the other youth from St. Andrew's UCC, Perkasio, and Trinity UCC, Telford.

The youth did an excellent job in presenting their message as to the effect the 30 Hour Famine had on each participant. The only disappointing part of the service was the pews weren't filled more. Unfortunately, many people see the Sunday when the pastor doesn't preach as a vacation Sunday for themselves.

There are definitely some perks when the youth do the worship. Their message is concise and to the point as well as heartfelt. For those of you that think the service shouldn't last an hour, then the Youth Service is for you. The youth need our encouragement, recognition, and participation when they need sponsors in different worthwhile events they participate in. We need to keep our youth active and involved in our church as they are our future.

As I grew up in this church, I can hear and picture Jim Frantz always talking to our youth. He would talk to the parents at a baptism. He would acknowledge the youth anytime they performed, participated, or were seen in church. We should all take a page or two from the book of James (Frantz, that is), when it comes to recognition and especially supporting our youth.



Hopefully, we will get that chance again in June if the youth are willing to do one of the services during Pastor Patti's sabbatical. I certainly hope they will!

~ Richard Moyer, V. P., Consistory



Welcome

- **Sunday, April 7th ~**
Second Sunday of Easter
- **Worship at 8 am. / Rejoice and Praise in the Parlor.**
- **Sunday School for all ages, 9 am.**
- **Crossroads, 9 am. in Fellowship Hall**
- **Worship, 10:15 am.**
- **Theme:** Resurrection Witness
- **Scripture:** Acts 5:27-32
John 20:19-31
- **Coffee, Cookies and Conversation.**

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- **Sunday, April 14th ~**
Third Sunday of Easter
- **Worship at 8 am. / Rejoice and Praise in the Parlor**
- **Sunday School for all ages, 9 am.**
- **Worship, 10:15 am.**
- **Rite of Confirmation for Kristen Tomlinson**
- **Theme:** The Way Forward
- **Scriptures:** Acts 9:1-6
John 21:1-9
- **Coffee, Cookies and Conversation**



- **Sunday, April 21st,**
Fourth Sunday of Easter
- **Worship at 8 am. / Rejoice and Praise in the Parlor**
- **Sunday School, for all ages, 9 am.**
- **Worship, 10:15 am.**
- **Theme:** Life-giving Acts
- **Scriptures:** Acts 9:36-43
John 10:22-30
- **Coffee, Cookies and Conversation**

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- **Sunday, April 28th,**
Fifth Sunday of Easter
- **Worship at 8 am. / Rejoice and Praise in the Parlor**
- **Sunday School for all ages, 9 am.**
- **Worship, 10:15 am.**
- **Theme:** Imagine
- **Scriptures:** Revelation 21:1-6
John 13:31-35
- **Coffee, Cookies and Conversation**

“Little Seeds”

Raindrops tumble to the ground
‘cause God directs them to come down.
Little seeds sprout from the ground
‘cause God directs them up, not down.
Tender roots sink in the ground
‘cause God directs them to go down.
Pretty flowers will be found
Where raindrops tumbled to the ground.

~MaryAnn Sundby

ALL ABOUT VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Ready for the adventure of a lifetime?

When: July 15-19, 2013

Where: St. Andrew's U.C.C., Perkasi

At Kingdom Rock, kids discover how to stand strong for God! Kingdom Rock is filled with incredible Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, touch, and even taste! Scency-Fun Gizmos™, team-building games, cool Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the royally rockin' activities that help faith flow into real life.

Mark your calendars and plan to attend this faith-filled, fun-filled week of VBS: July 15-19. VBS will take place once again at St. Andrew's United Church of Christ, Walnut Street, Perkasi. Registration will take place in the near future.



HOW YOU CAN HELP. . . are you interested in helping decorate for Kingdom Rock VBS? If so, contact Nancy Ziegenfuss and plan to attend a planning meeting at St. Andrew's UCC on Thursday, April 18th at 7 pm. Bring your creative juices!

Are you a faithful VBS volunteer who helps year after year or are you someone who has always considered volunteering, but never actually did? Whatever the case, WE NEED YOU! VBS planning is in full-swing and we hope to have all our volunteers recruited by the end of April. Following are the areas where help is needed and a description of what that opportunity requires:

- **Music** - 1 or 2 assistants; aid the music leader in singing songs and doing motions
- **Bible Story Center** - 1-5 people; teach the Bible story of the day to 4 different age-level classes
- **Class Leader** - 8 people (2 per class); lead a group of children around VBS to the various stations
- **Snack** -3 assistants; aid in preparing and serving the snack each day
- **Games** - 1 leader & 2-3 assistants; plan and lead children in theme-related games
- **Science** - 1-2 people; demonstrate & lead children in science experiments and tie them to the Bible story & point
- **Crafts** - 5-10 people; develop age-appropriate & theme-related crafts for the children to make
- **Decoration Team** - as many creative people as possible; transform a church into a Kingdom



Mother's Day Tea

Attention: All mother's of children in the Pre-K, K & 1st Grade, and Primary Classes:

Save the date! You are invited to attend a Mother's Day Tea with our child(ren) on Sunday, May 12th at 9:00 AM in Fellowship Hall.

Please join us for a special time of refreshments and activity as your child celebrates YOU!



Opportunities to serve. . .

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS for the month of April.

- April 7 - Marty Milkowich and Sam Clark
- April 14 - Nancy Ziegenfuss and Griffin Allen
- April 21 - Donna Huff and Nancy Moyer
- April 28 - Lori Milkowich and Jackie Kemmerer



COOKIES, COFFEE, CONVERSATION follows late church ~

All Dates in April are open ~ ask a friend to join you in preparing a small assortment of goodies and a cold drink. Sign up on clipboard in Fretz Hall.

BULLETIN CHART OPENINGS:

Please consider signing up for one or more of the following dates to sponsor the bulletin (\$10.00)

April 14 / April 21 / May 5 / May 12 / May 19

FLOWER CHART OPENINGS:

Please sign up to sponsor the Altar flowers for one or more of these Sundays:

April 14 / April 21

This is a great way to remember a loved one,
honor someone special,
or celebrate an important event in one's life.
~ please sign up on the sheets posted in the Vestibule ~



**Welcome to our new Church Secretary,
Stacey Moyer!**

Beginning in April, Stacey Moyer will be the new voice answering the phone and greeting you in the church office. Stacey comes to us with well rounded office experience, most recently working at Grand View Hospital. Stacey and her family – husband, David and sons, Nicolas, age 9, Lucas, age 4, and Jaxon, age 1 – live in the old parsonage, so she will have a short commute to work! We look forward to working with you at St. Paul's, Stacey.



“Honor and Preserve All of God’s Creation”

“Planting the Garden”

Spring has finally arrived and though some fancies may turn to thoughts of love, many are turning to their gardens. Here are some things to consider when starting to plant.

- ✓ Research before you plant. The prettiest plant may not be the most practical. Choose plants that will thrive in this climate*
- ✓ Make use of shaded areas on your property so plants won't need more water to make it through the warmest months.
- ✓ Maintain a healthy soil to allow water to penetrate effectively.
- ✓ Aerate your lawn once a year and cultivate the soil before planting.
- ✓ Be timely when planting. Spring and fall are best. Planting in summer makes it more difficult for plants to establish themselves.
- ✓ Choose pots made from glazed ceramic or plastic that won't soak up the water needed by your potted plants.

Next month: Responsible Watering

*Perennials may need more water when first planted but need less over time than annuals.

~ Nancy Lyons

JAMES FRANTZ Dedication Award~

On Celebration Sunday, this award will be given to a young person between the ages of 13 and 19 who exemplifies dedication to the church, similar to that which was shown by the late Jim Frantz. Jim Frantz was a lifelong dedicated member of St. Paul's, 1919-1999. Last year's award recipient was *Renay Landis*.

Nominations can be made by any member of the church by filling out a nomination form found in the black wall bracket in a folder in the Narthex. Please return the form to Rick Moyer's mailbox.

The award will be a monetary gift from a CD we have invested and will be donated to a charity of the recipient's choice in his/her name. The recipient's name will be placed on the James Frantz Dedication Award plaque located in Fretz Hall.

We have some wonderful youth who are just beginning their lives as church members. Nominees should show dedication to the life of the church in such ways as volunteering at church activities, Sunday School and church attendance, helping in the Nursery, etc. Let's support them and their efforts.



HAPPENINGS IN THE PSEC

Pa Southeast Conference

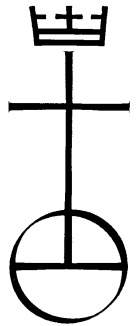
. . . Keeping you informed on the transition of the Pa Southeast Conference with this Note from the Interim Conference Minister. . .

Lenten Grace and Peace to All:

The major transition that the Conference is engaged in is multifaceted. We are on the move, figuratively and literally. We are sorting through the life of the Conference - what an administrative center is responsible for, how it fulfills those responsibilities; and, how it holds the memories, cares for the symbols, and continues the work with which it is charged.

We are aware of the many questions floating around and trust that it is generally understood that the Relocation Committee gathered by the Consistory is working diligently to ensure a smooth transition to a new location. Bob Fogal, on its behalf, has previewed many properties. One property stood out from the rest. It is at 1441 Laura Lane in Pottstown. It is a new building and the builder is working with us to make the space fit our needs. Members of the Relocation Committee walked through the building and unanimously agreed to begin negotiations. That is where we are at this moment.

We give thanks for those who are working on sorting through closets, bins, drawers and files. Tony Dooley is photocopying files. Jay Meier and Merlin Getz are inventorying books and artifacts, and making decisions about what goes where. Wanda Craner and Patti Thomas are sorting through worship related items. Sally Jarinko and Becca Stephens are sorting through stewardship materials. The Annual Meeting Planning Team is sorting through all Conference Meeting items. Martha Kriebel has taken Luther to Trinity Church, and he will make the rounds of churches relating to German partners. Chairs of other Conference Committees are going through storage related to their work to determine what to keep. Chuck Galley has done the first sort through of the Resource Center. Amelie Sell and others will also be involved with the sorting. Care is being taken here, as it has been at Mensch Mill, to ensure that we do this right.



We are planning a closing worship service, and time of fellowship tentatively set for the afternoon of May 19th at the Church House. All are invited. Special invitations will be sent to those who have worked in the Conference Office throughout the years.

There are other things going on but this time of preparing to move is foremost in everyone's mind. It is major. Staff and volunteers are working together to make it as smooth as possible, while continuing to care for churches and clergy, gathering members in discernment, meeting with committees, and overall, doing the work we are called to do.

With you on the journey,

Handwritten signature of Judith Youngman

Judith

HAPPENINGS IN THE PSEC



Spring Stewardship Event ~

In their UCC published resource, "*Are You Ready to Talk About Money In Your Church?*", Lillian Daniel and Martin Copenhaver present a series of multiple choice questions. One of them reads:

When our church talks about money....

- a. We argue
- b. We change the subject as quickly as possible
- c. We envision
- d. We don't

Why is it so hard for us to talk about money in the church? It seems we put our relationship with God in one box and our relationship with money in another and never the twain shall meet. Come to this Spring Stewardship Event ~

Where: St. Paul's UCC, Amityville

Time: 9 am. – 3 pm.

Leader: Mike Little of the Faith and Money Network. He will place our relationship with money in the context of our relationship with God.

Early Bird deadline: April 8th for \$20.00, after that date, \$25.00

Registration: www.psec.org, click "Faith and Money" under Register for Events.



...Thanks to the many, many helpers who made the Roast Beef Dinner a terrific event! Though the

snow did factor into attendance, many diners showed up to enjoy the delicious food. A very special "Thank You" to over 40 members coming together to serve the community. Your hard work is priceless!

~ Terry & Karen Weikel



...Thank You to everyone who donated candy for the Easter Egg Hunt. We really appreciate your love and support!

~ Nancy Ziegenfuss



"We at the **Quakertown Food Pantry** would like to thank you for your generous donation of \$339.90 collected during your Lenten Service. Your gift goes toward the purchasing of food to stock our shelves."

~ Barbara Horner, Secty.



"The **Sellersville Museum** wants to thank you for the contribution the church made for the Sellersville Churches exhibit last month.

We had a nice turnout on Sunday. Everyone enjoyed the display on Sunday and being informed about the church through pictures, objects and History. Thank you again for your help."

~ Your Friends at the Sellersville Museum

~Totally Awesome ~

“I cannot begin to express my appreciation to everyone who participated in my retirement celebration held for me at the Pennridge Community Center in Silverdale. The Center was beautifully decorated, the food was yummy delicious, but the people who were there was what made this event meaningful to me. Sharing these memories with my friends and family made it all that more special.



Again, I want to thank the Committee that planned the event and the Consistory who approved this celebration. I cannot neglect to mention thanking the many, many volunteers who have helped me throughout the years ~ you are all special to me.

I have been blessed to have been able to be St. Paul's secretary for 30 years and thank every one of you for your constant support. As I mail out my final newsletter as the Church Secretary/Newsletter editor, I do so with mixed emotions, however, I look forward to spending more time with my family and plan to do some traveling in the near future.

The generous monetary gift and check for a family photo was a pleasant and lasting surprise. Thank you so much.”

With God's Blessings, Karen

P.S. See you around St. Paul's!



...**Men's Softball** ~ Church Softball season will be here soon! St. Paul's team plays in the Bucks-Mont Fastpitch Church League. We play 2 nights per week May through July ~ a total of about 18 games, Monday-Thursday nights, beginning at 6:30 or 8:30 pm. If you are interested, contact Neil Clark, 215-257-2584 for more information.

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...**Red Cross Blood Drive coming to St. Paul's** ~ Wednesday, April 24th, 1 pm – 7 pm., this blood drive will be hosted by St. Paul's. Appointments are preferred. Please register at www.redcrossblood.org, sponsor code 02215568 or contact Richard Moyer at familymoyer@yahoo.com.

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...**Start saving those empty water bottles!** It's only April, but we're planning and preparing for Kingdom Rock VBS already! Please save empty water bottles with lids and empty, **clear** 2-liter soda bottles with lids (made certain they are clean, please). You may leave your donations in the Narthex or at Nancy Ziegenfuss' desk in the office. Thank you!

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...**Applebee's Flapjack Fundraiser Breakfast for Keystone Opportunity Center**

When: Saturday, April 13

Where: Applebee's, Rt. 309 in Quakertown

Time: 8 am. – 10 am.

How: Tickets can be purchased online by going to www.keystoneopportunity.org and click on Applebee's

News from Pennridge FISH

Benefit for Pennridge FISH Building Fund Come to Perkasio Pizza and Pasta (615 W. Market St., Perkasio) Tuesday, April 16th.

- ✓ FISH will receive 10% of the whole day's sales (lunch and dinner).
- ✓ Even if you cannot make it, order take out! Every order will bring them closer to their goal!
- ✓ This is a great fundraiser and will help jump start the rest of the capital campaign. FISH still needs \$200,000 to reach its goal, having raised \$113,000 thus far.
- ✓ There is a new Home for FISH ~ 800 West Chestnut St., Perkasio ~ read more about this at their website.

Social Media at FISH ~ Check out Facebook for FISH, one where you make 'like' the page and one where you may find them. If you are on Twitter, follow them at @Pennridge FISH.

Additional Volunteer Opportunities ~

- **Development/Fundraising** ~ are looking for volunteers with fundraising, grant-writing, event planning, experience to form a development/fundraising committee. (Group would meet, plan, organize and carry out different ideas/event with goal of raising funds for new building.)
- **Publicity/Speaking Committee** ~ are looking for volunteers with publicity experience to contact news organizations with press releases, help with brochure creation, etc.
- **Training** ~ in this process of moving to a new building, there is an increased need for training volunteers prior to putting them out onto the floor with clients. The new building will bring new challenges for volunteers. Dedicated volunteers who would be willing to be trained to train others and would work closely with Paige and Ted.

As always, the time you spend volunteering at FISH is very much appreciated. They are now serving close to 1,800 residents in need in the school district! It cannot be done with you!

Pennridge FISH Organization / 215-257-7616

Hours: Mon & Wed. 3-5 pm. / Thurs. 6-8 pm. / Fri & Sat 9-11 am.



Thoughts to Ponder

Trusting the Unseen

A gardener planted two peony bulbs side by side.
In a few weeks, as expected, the first one poked a single stem through the ground.
The other would soon follow, the gardener thought.
But it didn't. Many more weeks went by with no sign of life.

Then one day, to his surprise, not one but five leaf points poked through the soil at once.
When the peony bloomed, its flowers were more beautiful and numerous than those of the first bulb.
John Piper said, "In every situation God is doing a thousand things that we cannot see and do not know."

When God seems to have forgotten you and hope fails, don't despair.
God is at work, and someday you will see.



One Liners

A little boy opened the big family Bible. He was fascinated as he fingered through the old pages. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible. He picked up the object and looked at it. What he saw was an old leaf that had been pressed in between the pages. 'Mama, look what I found,' the boy called out.

'What have you got there, dear?' With astonishment in the young boy's voice, he answered, 'I think it's Adam's underwear!'