

Sharing the

GOOD NEWS



St. Paul's United Church of Christ

November, 2020

~ NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS ~

ALL-SAINTS SUNDAY ~ NOVEMBER 1st~ 10:15 am.

Join the celebration, in person or virtually, of all the saints, remembering and thanking God for the lives of those who have gone before us since November 2019. Those adult(s) and child(ren) who were baptized since November 2019 will also be recognized.

PSEC FALL MEETING, 2020

Sunday, November 15th, 2:00-5:00 pm
Being held Via Zoom



COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE

Unfortunately there will be no Community Service this year. Please stay tuned for a special, virtual, Thanksgiving Eve reflection.



Sunday, November 29th
First Sunday of Advent

~ Letter from the Pastor ~

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United Church of Christ
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*Weekly Worship ~
Sanctuary, in-person, 10:15 a.m.
as we continue to follow all
safety guidelines. Worship
Services will be recorded and
posted later for virtual viewing.*

I've never travelled to the Jersey Shore so late in the Autumn season, so our beach trip the week of October 12th was a fresh new experience and so enjoyable. After all the hubbub of activity of the Summer season, of friends and family enjoying some vacation time even if that meant staying in their own 'family bubble,' the shore community had entered into a sort of 'hibernation' period. The ocean was the calmest that I had ever seen it; no strong, loud waves crashing into the shore. There was a very large cluster of birds – I'm sorry I can't tell you what type of birds they were – but they swarmed together like bees as they flew low, but quietly, above the dunes every morning. Most of the restaurants and cafes were closed with a few still offering limited outdoor dining hours. I'd like to say that this 'hibernated' state meant folks were entering into a time of needed rest and renewal, but the quiet and gentle nights transformed in the daytime hours to a hum of cranes and other heavy equipment as the contractors worked on new drainage systems, working slowly and methodically across the sandy beaches. There were also signs of needed repairs and shop owners working diligently to restore their places of business, including a hotel that was completely stripped down to its bare walls for renovations and improvements to be made in the weeks ahead. Though there were a few cool and breezy days, the warmth of the sunshine still felt good on us as we walked on the boardwalk – occasionally passing by a few other folks – or bicyclists - enjoying this late beach season visit, too.

God just continues to raise my awareness to the beauty of every season in God's creation – every season has something to offer – God's gift to us. I think it's the same with the seasons of our lives. After these wonderful vacation days and upon my return to the church office, thru many emails I learned of life changes that occurred for a few of my colleagues over the seven days I was out-of-town: one colleague got married, one colleague and his wife welcomed their first child – a baby girl – into their lives, and one colleague entered into retirement – all in one week!!! Each of these life changing events are meant to be celebrated!!! Every season of life is also God's gift to us. God continues to work His purpose out in your life and in mine – whether we are enjoying the "Spring" days of youth or experiencing a few "Winter" senior moments. As you prepare for another Thanksgiving Day, in whatever way your family plans to celebrate this year, may there be deep thanks on your hearts to our God that loves us and will always love us – in each and every season of our lives!

Autumn blessings, *Pastor Trudy*



News from Our Pastor ~

All Saints Day



November 1st - is a time to remember the saints who have gone before us and to give thanks for the blessings God has given to us to share with others. When we faithfully place ourselves in God's presence, new possibilities for life and service become visible. We have a role to play, along with the saints of old, in the story of God's saving work. What might we do as individuals and as the church, to welcome all people to live in God's promise?

The Church Season of Advent begins Sunday, November 29th.

The Season of Advent traditionally invites us to focus on hope, peace, joy, and love. Our Seasons FUSION worship resource will invite us to also focus on some "re-themes," like reshape, reclaim, remember. Out of the study and preparations for the resource emerged the writing "*A Re-Themed Christmas*," as the writers saw that God wanted to remind us and re-frame us as a people created for relationship during a time when God breaks into the world to be in an intimate relationship with us. God restores and redeems all creation through the birth of God's child, Jesus Christ. This intimacy is unparalleled and causes us to re-imagine why we might want God to be so close with us. There are lots of meetings being scheduled in the coming weeks by our St. Paul's Ministry Teams to make decisions on how and in what ways we will celebrate Advent and Christmas this year. Please watch for upcoming notices, emailblasts, and website postings that will be shared with you in the coming weeks regarding our worship services including details on the family lighting of the Advent Candles each week throughout the Season of Advent. We are re-made, re-enlightened, re-engaged when we re-visit the timelessness of spending time in Advent.

(above article includes excerpts from About Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany 2020-21 by Mason Todd and Abigail Vizcarra Perez which appears in our worship resource Seasons of the Spirit SeasonsFusion Advent, Christmas, Epiphany 2020-2021 Copyright © Wood Lake Publishing Inc. 2020 Used with Permission)



Pennridge FISH Christmas for Families



This year for Christmas there won't be a FISH Christmas tree in our narthex or a Community Christmas Tree at our museum; however, Christmas is still coming – and FISH has established a great alternate way to reach out to the families: **a gift card only distribution to the parents.** FISH is in need of **\$25 (twenty-five dollars) gift cards for Walmart or Target by December 1st.** Brenda and Neil Clark will be collecting and delivering the gift cards or monetary donation(s) for the purchase of the gift cards. Please place your gift cards and/or monetary donations in the designated drop boxes in the narthex for Neil to collect after our Sunday morning worship service. Or you have these other mailing options: mail to Brenda Clark, 412 Campus Drive, Perkasie, PA 18944 OR mail to Pennridge FISH, PO Box 9, Perkasie, PA 18944; OR drop off your donation directly to FISH on Monday/Wednesday 3-5pm, Thursday 6-8pm, Friday/Saturday, 9-11am. If you send to FISH directly, they will send a receipt for your donation for tax purposes. As you can imagine, they will be in need of a huge number of gift cards to sufficiently assist the 400 plus children, aged -15, anticipated!

≈ SUNDAYS IN NOVEMBER ≈



In-person Sunday worship service in the sanctuary ~ 10:15 a.m.; Virtual Worship services are also available each Sunday. A "Children's Chat" by Nancy Ziegenfuss will be included in each Sunday morning worship service.

- **Sunday, November 1st ~ Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost**
All Saints Sunday

-Worship, 10:15 am

-Scriptures: Revelations 7:9-17
Psalm 34:1-10, 222
1 John 3:1-3
Matthew 5:1-12

-Theme: "Blessed by God"

ALL-SAINTS SUNDAY ~

*We will have the lighting of candles during the service in memory of deceased loved ones from November 2019 to November 1, 2020. However, there will be one designated candle lighter; the family member of the deceased will stand where they are seated in the congregation during the naming of their deceased loved one and lighting of the candle. Also, those child(ren) and/or adult(s) who were baptized since November of 2019 will be recognized.

- **Sunday, November 8th ~ Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost**

-Worship, 10:15 am

-Scriptures: Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25
Psalm 78:1-7
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 25:1-13

-Theme: "Door Shut or Open?"



November, 2020

- **Sunday, November 15th ~ Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**

-Worship, 10:15 am

-Scriptures: Judges 4:1-7
Psalm 123:1
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Matthew 25:14-30

-Theme: "Rejecting Fear-Embracing Joy"
-Joyful Noise Offering

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- **Sunday, November 22nd ~ Reign of Christ Sunday/Thanksgiving Sunday**

-Worship, 10:15 am.

-Scriptures: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
Psalm 100
Ephesians 1:15-23
Matthew 25:31-46

-Theme: "Do You See Me?"

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- **Sunday, November 29th ~ First Sunday of Advent (Year B)**

-Worship, 10:15 am.

-Scriptures: Isaiah 64:1-9
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Mark 13:24-37

-Theme: "Reshape, Reclaim, Remember"



~ Operation CHRISTMAS CHILD Samaritan's Purse ~



It's that time of year again ~

Shoeboxes and brochures have been distributed, but if you still need one, please let Stacey or Pastor Trudy know. These shoeboxes go to over 100 countries.

If you don't have one of the shoeboxes, you can purchase a plastic box from Walmart. Walmart also has small toys like a slinky, etch-a-sketch and lots of cars, and t-shirts for one dollar. Did you know the plastic shoeboxes are used by the families to mix their dinners in, for they have few utensils.

We will begin collecting shoeboxes on November 1st, and each Sunday after that until November 15th when there will be a special dedication during Worship. There will be two collection spots located in the Narthex for the shoeboxes. If you are unable to attend Worship, you can drop off your filled box to Pastor Trudy on Wednesday, November 12th, from 3-5 pm on the front porch of the parsonage.

Give some child joy and a chance to learn about our Savior.

Jesus said, "Give to the least of them and you give to me."

Deadline for boxes: Before November 18th



Winterfest!!

~ This year's Winterfest has been Cancelled. See you all next year!

Advent/Christmas Goodies



Parents of Sunday School children (ages 2 - 5th grade): be on the lookout for an email informing you of a date and time to stop at church to pick up some Advent/Christmas goodies for the children in your family.

Christmas Pageant

It is with great sadness that I announce the cancellation of the annual Christmas Pageant. Let's all pray that this festive tradition will be able to resume in December 2021.





Make a Difference: Join Consistory

Big things are happening at St. Paul's UCC. Join Consistory and help us set a course for 2021 and beyond.

We will soon be looking for new members to serve on Consistory beginning in 2021. Consistory generally meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7pm and addresses business by email in between meetings. Consistory members also serve on a ministry team so that they can report back to Consistory, as needed. Terms are for three years, with the opportunity to extend a term for another three years.

If you are interested, or have questions about Consistory, please email Aaron Clark (aaron.clark319@gmail.com), any member of Consistory, or Pastor Trudy, to learn more.



Stewardship of the Earth Know That You Can Make a Difference

It's Thanksgiving Time

It's been a difficult year and you may not be feeling very thankful. Here at Rockhill we've been given five things to think about with gratitude. I'll share them with you.

1. Something big and wondrous that you're thankful for right now. (maybe a wedding, a birth, an anniversary.)
2. Something small or often overlooked that you're thankful for right now. (a hot shower?)
3. A book or a song or album or film you're thankful for right now. (Andrea Bocelli)
4. Something beautiful you're thankful for right now. (Autumn leaves)
5. An unexpected moment of gratitude in this past year.

Let's make November a month of gratitude and thanksgiving for all that God continues to provide.



~ Nancy Lyons

Finance

This is the time of year when our Finance Ministry Team begins development of the church budget for the next year. A letter is sent to the chairperson of each ministry team with a record of their team’s budgeted and actual spending for the past three years, as well as how much has been spent to the end of September. Their team is asked to consider this past spending and their hopes for the coming year to provide a budget request for the coming year. This year we are asking every team to shake up their creative juices and objectively assess the purpose and mission of their team, and how they can make a real difference at St. Paul’s.

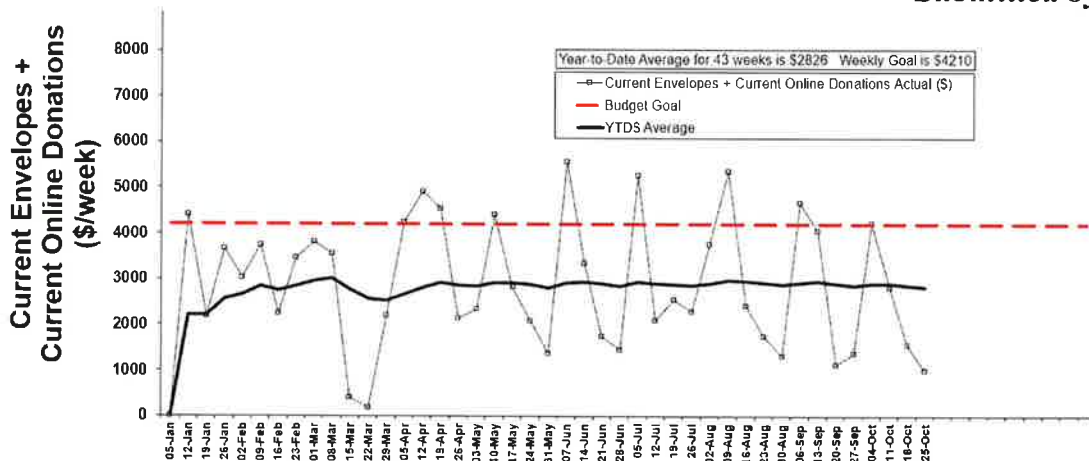
So ... you might be wondering how we are fairing in the midst of the pandemic. Prior to March, we had been investigating several companies that provide online donations. Covid-19 forced us to pick one and run with it. The one we chose, Vanco, has proven to be easy to implement, easy to use, and relatively low in usage fees. We decided the church would absorb all fees, instead of “charging” the donor. We thank all of you who have taken advantage of this offering. So far this year (late October), ONLINE donations to our General Operating Fund (which pays all of our bills) has averaged \$934 per Sunday. The ENVELOPE donations (mailed in or dropped off at the office) averaged \$2,302 per Sunday. The combination is \$3,236 per Sunday. Our BUDGETED amount needed to meet our spending needs is \$4,210 per Sunday. That’s a shortfall of \$934 per Sunday. As a consequence, we have drawn \$25,000 from our Endowment Fund, as approved at the December, 2018, Congregation meeting. We have also drawn \$20,000 of the \$50,000 approved at the December, 2019, Congregation meeting.

Our total income from ALL sources EXCEPT Endowment to the end of October has been \$137,799. Endowment contributed \$64,200 for a total of \$197,999. Spending has been \$197,656, but we can subtract \$13,914 for extraordinary spending to renovate and make repairs in the parsonage for Pastor Trudy. This work was actually covered by Endowment.

Obviously, there are two ways for anyone to achieve a balanced financial status: increase income or decrease spending or both. We are truly hard-pressed to reduce spending. In early December, you will find the proposed 2021 budget in the narthex to see for yourself where our money is used.

If you have any questions about church finances, please ask any member of the Finance Ministry Team, Bob Booz, Marie Runkle, Jeff Moyer or me.

Submitted by Jim Chrastina



FISH PANTRY NEEDS LIST OCTOBER 2020

Canned Meat—Spam, Canned Ham
 Canned Beef Stew
 Canned Pasta
 *Dried Potato Flakes
 White Rice
 *Crispy Fried Onions
 *Canned Green Beans
 *Cranberry Sauce
 Canned Fruit
 Pancake Mix (add water)
 *Flour
 Salad Dressing
 Ketchup
 *Hot Chocolate
 Baby Wipes
 *Dishwashing Soap

*Cream Soup-Mushroom, Chicken, etc.
 Meal Helpers-hamburger, tuna, rice, pasta
 *Ramen Noodles
 Brown Rice
 *Stuffing Mix
 *Canned Yams/Sweet Potatoes
 Canned Vegetables
 *Gravy
 Raisins
 Cooking Oil
 *Sugar
 Mayonnaise
 Mustard
 *Diapers Size, 5, 6, 7/Pull Up Trainers
 *Laundry Detergent **Dollar Tree \$1**
 Toothbrush/*Toothpaste



*items are out completely or almost



FISH PANTRY HOLIDAY DINNER LIST NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2019

Boxed Mashed Potatoes	Stuffing Mix
Canned Fruit	Canned Vegetables
Canned Yams/Sweet Potatoes	Applesauce
Cranberry Sauce	Gravy
Cream Soups (mushroom, chicken, celery, etc.)	
Durkee type fried onions	Canned Green Beans
Muffin Mix	Cake Mix/Frosting
Box Jello/Pudding	

Turkey, Roasting Chicken, Ham or Large Ham Slices **Take directly to FISH**

FISH, 800 W. Chestnut St. Perkasio, Pa. 215-257-7616

Monday/Wednesday 3:00-5:00PM

Thursday 6:00-8:00PM

Friday/Saturday 9:00-11:00AM

***Curbside drop-off and pick-up**



11- 1- Krista Striano
Emily Stokes
11- 2- Dolores Wilhelm
11- 3- Fred Koehler
11- 4- Neil Clark
Andrew Benner
Jazlynn Weaver
11- 5- Jill Brown
11- 6- Evan Jacoby
Kelton Jacoby

Our Church Family

11- 8- Richard Wilhelm Samuel Clark	11-19- Baily Bishop Jeremy Buckley
11-10- Debbie Raudenbush Ava Milkowich	11-20- Rebecca McNeff
11-12- Bradley Delikat	11-21- Iain Murray
11-14- Sarah Seiler	11-22- Ronald Bortree Annabelle Benner
Brittany Hough	11-26- Lori Milkowich Holly Weideman
11-17- Trevor Fuhs	11-27 Evan Hendricks Robin Maurer
11-18- Elizabeth Heath Carter Fuhs	11-30- Caroline Skalon
Juliette Benner	



...**Bulletin and Flower Charts** have been put on hold for the remainder of 2020. However, please stay tuned for new information about the charts for 2021.

...**One of Our Very Own** ~ Even though the 2020 Thanksgiving Day Parade in Philadelphia has been cancelled due to the abundance of caution for the spread of Covid-19, that will not keep dozens of performers from Miss Cindy's School of Dance from sharing their talents via prerecorded segments to be shown via a televised Thanksgiving Day Celebration that will begin at 8:30 AM on 6ABC. Original picture of McKenna Milkowich and her fellow dancers is hanging on the Narthex Bulletin Board.

...**Extra Life Fundraiser** Our organist and pianist, Nathan Gulla, is participating once again this year in the Extra Life Fundraiser. Nathan told me, *"I am, indeed, participating, though I started very late in the game."* An excerpt from their website states: Extra Life unites thousands of gamers around the world to play games in support of their local Children's Miracle Network Hospital. Since its inception in 2008, Extra Life has raised over \$70 million USD for sick and injured kids. Right now, children's hospitals need YOUR support...Sign up today and raise funds for the Children's Hospitals COVID-19 Impact Fund. Nathan is playing in support of Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) and this is his 8th year of participating in this event. Here is Nathan's fundraising link: <https://www.extra-life.org/participant/nathan-gulla>. Just click on the link to support Nathan in his fundraising efforts for CHOP. Nathan extends his "thanks" for your consideration of making a donation today.



...**Pennridge CROP Walk**. So far over \$17,000 has been recorded for the CROP Walk. Thank you to all those who walked and for those who supported those walkers by donating. Please stay tuned for more information and final totals in our next Newsletter.

Bethany Children's Home Gift Suggestions

We will begin collecting wrapped gifts on November 22nd, and each Sunday after that until December 6th, when there will be a special dedication during Worship. There will be two collection spots located in the Narthex for the Bethany Children's Home wrapped gifts. If you are unable to attend Worship, you can drop off your wrapped gifts to Pastor Trudy on Thursday, December 3rd, 3-5 pm on her front porch.

Wish List 2020

COVID-19 Update from Bethany:

Due to the health risk of the coronavirus (COVID-19), Bethany Children's Home is not able to accept used goods at this time. This is a temporary change and we look forward to returning to previous practices in the future.

We have updated our wish list with new items. Items may be shipped. To make other arrangements, please contact Carolyn Spano, Director of Development, at 610-598-6828 or

Residential Youth Wishes

Bath Towels
Twin Sheet Sets
Twin Size Comforters
Overnight Travel Bags
Shower Caddies

Electric Digital Alarm Clocks (no radio)
MP3 Players
Phone Chargers for all types of phones
Ear Buds

White & Black Athletic Sport Socks – Young Women and Men's
Bath Robes – Young Women and Men's
Athletic Shorts – Men's Small, Medium, Large and XL
Pajamas – Young Women and Men's – Small, Medium and Large and XL
Slippers – Women and Men's Sizes
Men's White t-shirts
Sports Bras – Medium, Large, XL
Men's Boxers – Small, Medium, Large
Rolling Luggage

Gift Cards: Lowes, Home Depot, Michaels, Wal-Mart, Target, McDonald's and Kohls, GameStop, Boyer's and Redner's

School Supplies

Backpacks
Poster board
Colored pencils
5-subject notebooks
Folders
USB drives

Cottage Needs

DVDs (G, PG and PG-13 Only)
Acrylic Paints and Canvases for Artwork
Sketch Pads
Journals
Board Games for Teens
Card Games for Teens
Crochet Hooks

Body Wash (standard size)
Toothpaste
Shampoo & Conditioner for all hair types (standard size)

Dishcloths
Pots & Pans
Cookie Sheets
Muffin tins
Kitchen Utensils
Serving Utensils

The official registration and financial information of Bethany Home Inc. and Bethany Children's Home, Inc. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, (800) 732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

Bethany kindly requests for all donations to be New Purchases. Unfortunately, we are unable to provide our youth with used items. Thank you for your support!

Kid's Page 'for any age'



Glad gatherings

The first Christians met together over a meal. Today church families still gather to break bread and thank God.

Follow the instructions below. Then write the remaining words in order from left to right and top to bottom to complete the verses.

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	They	found	broke	bread	acts	in
2	houses	their	homes	beautiful	and	round
3	ate	world	beginning	together	follow	thought
4	with	numbers	glad	happiness	lesson	and
5	thanks	sincere	disciples	gathering	hearts	tradition
6	celebrate	good	praising	Christian	God	river

- Cross out all words in column E with double letters.
- Cross out all words that are books of the Bible.
- Cross out all words in column B that end in d.
- Cross out all words in column A that have more than 4 letters.
- Cross out all words in row 5 with 3 syllables.
- Cross out all words in the table with 9 letters.
- Cross out all words in column F with 2 or more vowels.

ACTS 2:46-47, NIV

Answer: They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God. Acts 2:46-47, NIV

Puzzle!

Write the words below in alphabetical order inside the squares. Then read down the second column to discover the sentence that begins and ends Psalms 146, 147, 148, 149 and 150.

- FEAST
- KHAKI
- MOUTH
- ESSAY
- LLAMA
- ORBIT
- CARRY
- UDDER
- BRUSH
- ITEMS
- APPLE
- LEARN
- CIDER

A				

Answer:

_____!

Answer: Praise the LORD!

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**104 Green Street
Sellersville, PA 18960**

Return Service Requested



Prepared Especially for.....

Mailed, 10-28-20
Time-sensitive materials



November 1st

Thanksgiving Offering

November 22nd



November 26th