



A Tale of Two Kitties

Remember the little orange kitten, “Jamie,” from the August newsletter? He disappeared for a while; then he came back, and he brought an even tinier black-and-white kitten whom we named “Scout.” And then Jamie disappeared, but we coaxed Scout in, got him to the vet, and now he is our new #3 cat at the parsonage.

Cats #1 (Dave) and #2 (Craig) have responded differently to their new brother. Dave perceives little Scout as an annoyance, and tries to avoid him as much as he can. But Craig, previously the quintessential curmudgeonly leave-me-alone-because-I’m-a-cat cat, has turned into the most wonderful older brother and mentor for our little kitten. We can already see Scout adopting behaviors, antics, and even postures from Craig. Watching them play-fight and run around the house together, I have every confidence that little Scout is getting just the nurturing he needs to eventually become a full-fledged Cat #3.

If Scout had only Dave to look up to, who knows how he would turn out, since Dave doesn’t give his little brother the time of day. Scout would never learn how to be a cat, never mind become a loving and gentle cat. But thankfully, Scout has more than one cat to look up to. And with the attention and role-modeling of Craig, Scout is learning the ropes of cat-hood.

Of course, this isn’t about cats. It’s about us, as Christians, and how we nurture the young people in our midst. Some people are like our Dave cat, not giving young people the “time of day” by reading Bible stories to them, or even having basic moral discussions with them. Instead, they leave them to their own devices. And these days, “devices” isn’t just a saying – many adults literally leave the work of nurturing young people to whatever our young people come across on their devices.

Lord knows, for as good and helpful and amazing as the internet and technology can be, there’s also a lot of harmful garbage out there. And with no adult guide to help young people discern good from bad, we can only imagine what bad influences they are encountering. (Actually, we don’t have to imagine – the daily news gives us story after tragic story of young people who have been exposed to and pursued the wrong path because of what they “discovered” online when unsupervised.)

So don’t be like Dave cat. Don’t ignore young people’s need for good Christian guidance and nurturing. Instead, for the young people you interact with – your children, grandchildren, neighbor children – please be like Craig cat. BE THERE for them. Be a ROLE MODEL of Christian behavior and Christian values. MAKE TIME to discuss things with them from a Christian perspective, whether it’s as small as something that happened at school, or as big as something affecting our world. READ BIBLE STORIES to them, and show them how these “old” stories still apply directly to their lives today. AND BRING THEM TO CHURCH. Please – be a good eat mentor.

Peace and Blessings, Pastor Ray

Upcoming St. Paul's and Wider Church Activities

Worship – Sundays, 8:45am

- Large-print bulletins available
- Busy Bags available in side room for children
- Sunday School for Children – during worship, after Children's Message
- Youth Classes – schedule TBD
- Choir Rehearsal – following worship
- Handbell Rehearsal – see Amy Ney for schedule
- September 29, 11:30am-2:30pm – Salem's Fall Festival
- October 5, 9am – Annual church cleanup
- October 5, 11:15am – Worship & Parish Life meeting
- October 5, 5pm – Dine-Out Night @ The Red Lion
- October 6 – World Communion; Neighbors in Need Offering
- October 6, 2:30pm – Bible study at Doris Shade's house, Gratz
- October 8, 7:30pm – Consistory
- October 9, 9:30am – Prayer Chain (DATE CHANGE FOR THIS MONTH ONLY)
- October 16, 6-11am – Mr. Sticky sale (volunteers needed 4am-noon)
- October 20, 10am – Homecoming Service
- October 20, 2:30pm – Bible study at Doris Shade's house, Gratz
- October 26, 6pm – Hayride @ Crum Pavilion, Carsonville
- October 27, 2pm – Harrisburg Association Fall Meeting, Colonial Park UCC

Acolyte Assignments:

- Oct 6 – Alex Peay
- Oct 13 – Broc Dreisbach
- Oct 20 – Chase Coleman
- Oct 27 – Emma Brandenberger



HOMECOMING 2019 – OCTOBER 20, 10AM SAVE THE DATE!!!

Inspiring music will be provided by southern gospel singer Jeremy Goodling from McAllisterville. Our guest speaker will be Ashley Rothermel. Light refreshments will be served upstairs following the service.



Annual Church Cleaning



In preparation for this year's Homecoming on October 20, 10am, we would like to give the whole church an extra special cleaning. Please join us on Saturday, October 5, 9am, to make our church sparkle. See the sign-up list in the side room for specific tasks.

Mr. Sticky Fundraiser

Wednesday, October 16, 6am-11am, we will have a Mr. Sticky fundraiser at the church. We'll be counting on you to help sell pre-orders for Mr. Sticky sticky buns (and of course, buy some yourself!). So get your appetites and orders ready! Pre-Order forms are available at church. Please see Pastor Ray for more information, or to volunteer (4am-noon). Deadline for pre-orders is October 6. All proceeds will benefit several local community organizations: St. John's Emergency Food Closet, Hegins Area Ambulance Association, Tri-Valley Charities, Tri-Valley Library Raise the Roof Campaign, and the Sacramento Fire Company.



Behind The Scenes

Thank You to Leslie Mayer for always tallying our Redner's Cash Register receipts. As of September, our 2019 refund total is \$544.43. Also Thank You to everyone who places their receipts in the box at church. We appreciate everything you do for St Paul's UCC.



Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup – Recap

Many thanks to our volunteers for keeping our little stretch of God's creation along Route 25 clean. Now we can take a break until next Spring!



Harvest Home Service – Wow!

St. Paul's annual Harvest Home/food drive for St. John's Emergency Food Closet set a new record this year: 258 items donated! FYI, previous years were: 2018, 110 items; 2017, 152; 2016, 175; 2015 n/a; 2014, 235; 2013, 181; 2012, 170; 2011, 221. On behalf of the many people who will be blessed by our donations, thank you, thank you, thank you!

Booth at the Gratz Fair – Thanks!

Thanks again to all our volunteers for staffing the Northern Cluster Booth at the Gratz Fair. This is a wonderful and important outreach to our community, letting them know that there are people who care, because there is a God who cares.



Combined-Church Dine-Out Night – October 5, 5pm

This year our combined-church dine-out night will again be held at The Red Lion Café & Restaurant, 697 Deturksville Road, Pine Grove. Please sign up at church **by September 29**, so we can give them an accurate headcount. We will meet at the restaurant at 5pm (or if you need a ride, please let Doris Shade know, and we can arrange for carpooling). Please plan to join us for a relaxing time of church fellowship, and good food.

Celebration of World Communion Sunday – October 6

On Sunday, **October 6**, many Christian denominations around the world a visible sign of our invisible unity in Christ. Our church will participate using breads representing different parts of the world.



celebrate communion, as in this unifying service,

Churchwide Neighbors in Need Offering



Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. Neighbors in Need grants are awarded

to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. **Our church will receive this special offering during worship on October 6.**

All-Ages Hayride in Carsonville

October 26th will be the annual Hayride in Carsonville at Crum's Pavilion (members of Salem UCC). Hot dogs and sausage and other food items will be provided as well as hot and cold drinks. We will eat around 6pm, with the hayride following shortly after. If you would like to come but do not have a ride, we will try to find a ride for you. Come and enjoy the fun. Dress warmly. All are welcome.



Directions from the Square (Kopyy's) in Elizabethtown: Take 225 south to Mountain House Road on left. Go to stop sign, turn left. Go to next stop sign at Powell's Valley Road, turn left. Go 2 miles to Carsonville. Turn left at Hotel. Go two tenths of a mile to Hemlock Road. Turn left. At next stop sign turn left. Follow to Crum's pavilion on the left. **JOIN US FOR FUN, FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP.**

Please let Pastor Ray know by October 20 if you are interested in going or need a ride.



New Church Directories Available

A new 2019 church directory is now available for you to pick up in the side room at church. Many thanks to Pat Miller for compiling all the updates submitted by our members over the past several months.

Northern Cluster Hymnsing Recap

Many thanks to all who shared their voices, their love of song, and goodies for our annual Northern Cluster Hymn Sing. This was held on Sunday, August 25, at 5pm, at St. Peter's UCC (Crossroads). St. Paul's handbell choir once again shared their music with the group. Thanks, to all!



Bethesda Mission Volunteer Opportunity – Thank You

Many thanks to our volunteer crew from both churches. Together, we helped provide food and clothing to many homeless people in Harrisburg on August 30. We also distributed the mats that Salem's volunteers had woven from plastic bags (they went fast!). Stay tuned for our next opportunity to fulfill Christ's command to feed and clothe those in need.

Annual Congregational Meeting – December 1

This year's annual congregational meeting will be held on December 1, following worship. To accommodate this new format, and to improve communication within the church, we are asking EVERY COMMITTEE TO SUBMIT A REPORT to the Consistory, no later than November 17. This will enable us to create a booklet-type report that captures all the activities and projects of our church family. FYI, our Nominating Committee, comprised of outgoing Consistory members, Glenn Deibert, Doris Shade, and Ann Strohecker, will be contacting folks to encourage them to serve on Consistory.



Stewardship Dinner – Saturday, November 9, 4:30-6:30pm

This will be an Italian Night – All You Can Eat Supper! The menu includes: Homemade Stuffed Shells, Lasagna, Spaghetti, Salad, Italian Bread, and Homemade Desserts. Take out is available. Come Join Us for Great Food & Fellowship!

Adults - \$10.00; Children Ages 5-12 - \$5.00; Children Ages 4 & Under – Free. We look forward to seeing you there! **WE WILL NEED VOLUNTEERS TO HELP.**

Ten Days for Peace Service

The Northern Cluster of Churches, as part of the partnership between the Penn Central Conference and the UEK Churches in Germany, hosts an annual worship service dedicated to peacemaking. This year's service will be held on Sunday, November 17, 4pm, at St. Peter's UCC (Crossroads). The Rev. Carrie Call, Penn Central Conference's Minister and President, will be the guest speaker.



Daylight Savings Time Ends at 2am, Sunday, November 3

It's that time of year – you get an extra hour of sleep! Don't forget to turn your clocks **BACK** one hour before going to bed on **Saturday, November 2.**

Wedding Joys!

Congratulations to Jonene Adams and Kyle Matter, who on September 5. We wish the newlyweds health and together!



were married at St. Paul's happiness in their new life

Official Call: Harrisburg Association of the United Church of Christ Fall Meeting

2pm on Sunday, October 27, 2019, at Colonial Park UCC.



This is a business meeting, and will include the presentation of the 2020 Proposed Ministry and Mission Spending plan for the association. Please contact Pastor Ray if you wish to serve as a delegate for our Association's fall meeting. (We can carpool.)

Summer Special Music

Many thanks to Angela Grassmyer for sharing her musical gifts with us



on August 25!

Are you registered to vote this fall???

If anyone asks you why you do kind acts, tell them, "I am a disciple of Jesus. I am serving him by serving you, because that is what he came to do."

Treasurer's Report – August 2019

	Aug 19
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Building Fund	
Improvement fund	60.00
Total Building Fund	60.00
Offerings	
Envelopes	2,682.00
Loose	213.50
Total Offerings	2,895.50
Reimbursement from Salem	
Electric-Parsonage	169.22
Oil-Parsonage	154.51
Payroll-Dental	82.00
Payroll-Health	1,108.30
Payroll-Life/Disability	70.12
Payroll-Pension	654.46
Payroll Pastor Salary	5,559.80
Rent Value-Parsonage	500.00
Water-Parsonage	39.60
Total Reimbursement from Salem	8,338.01
Total Income	11,293.51
Gross Profit	11,293.51
Expense	
Building & Maintenance	
Fire Protection	54.75
Repairs-Parsonage	57.72
Trash Removal	60.00
Total Building & Maintenance	172.47
Dues and Subscriptions	48.00
Landscaping Expenses	348.50
Local Income tax past due	
2018	431.55
2019	311.14
Late fees/Penalties	50.00
Total Local Income tax past due	792.69
Ministry Expenses	
Bulletins	275.47
Supply Pastor	368.44
Worship Supplies	23.17
Total Ministry Expenses	667.08
Office Supplies	
Copier Lease	172.20
Postage	61.25
Printing Supplies	24.85
Total Office Supplies	258.30
Payroll expenses	
Dental Insurance	82.00
Health Insurance	1,108.25
Life/Disability	70.12
Medicare for Spouse	203.25
Mileage Reimbursement	256.65
Pension	654.45
Payroll expenses - Other	4,364.33
Total Payroll expenses	6,739.05
Utilities	
Electric-Church	248.33
Electric Parsonage	195.16
Telephone	50.50
Total Utilities	493.99
Total Expense	9,520.08
Net Ordinary Income	1,773.43
Net Income	1,773.43

Friendship and People with Mental Illness (Part 2 of 2)

Adapted from an Interview with Psychiatrists Warren Kinghorn and Abraham Nussbaum (12-02-13)

Churches are the front line of encountering suffering in large portions of our culture, and have the opportunity and responsibility to minister to people with mental illness, say two psychiatrists trained in theology.

The best way to cultivate the ability to be friends with people with mental illness is to cultivate the ability to be friends with people, period. The practices of friendship, both individually and in community, are essential, regardless of whether mental illness is present. Respecting human dignity, of people both with and without mental illness, is a matter of respecting people as agents in the world, as those whose beliefs and actions and ways of being matter. So any friendship with people with mental illness needs to focus on how can I really respect this person as an agent and honor that.

This might mean, actually, to hold people accountable for actions and for ways that people are present or not in communities. It doesn't mean simply to adopt a position of thinking that this person is sick and needs some kind of treatment, but rather that this person is a human being in our community or in my relationship, and needs to be treated primarily as such and not as anything else.

One way to think about mental illness that also helps explain why it's often so challenging for people who have mental illness, and for the people who are in relationship with them, is that people with mental illness often suffer from a diminishment of their own agency. ***(Personal agency refers to one's capability to originate and direct actions for given purposes. It is influenced by the belief in one's effectiveness in performing specific tasks, which is termed self-efficacy, as well as by one's actual skill.)*** This is one of the ways of understanding it that ties together the very different kinds of things that we call mental illness in contemporary life. A personality disorder and bipolar disorder and alcoholism are all very different, but in each case there's a diminishment in somebody's agency. So one of the things that you want to do in the context of being in relationship with people with mental illness is to increase agency.

In Christian terms, agency comes in healthy relationship. We gain ourselves and our selfhood in relation with each other and with God, so cultivating good, healthy relationships is central to that ability to encourage agency.

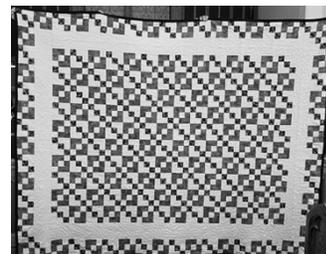
There's a humanity that is often concealed through the medical language that we use to describe psychiatric disorder. So context is important in terms of where somebody lives and what the home situation is like and what kinds of relationships do people have and what are the experiences that have formed people in the way that they're formed. *People will do their best with what they've learned to get what they think they need in any given situation.* That applies not just to people diagnosed with mental illness but to all of us, and because it applies to all of us, it is helpful in being friends with people with mental illness.

Churches can be a place where we learn to be friends with each other, not just with the people that we choose, but with the people we are given by God. It's not about learning to be friends with people with mental illness. It's about learning to be friends in general. Throughout church history, different churches have responded in different ways to persons with mental illness. Rather than perpetuate stigmas toward people with mental illnesses, the hope is that today's church, through practices of intentional befriending, can welcome people with mental illnesses can as an integral part of the Body of Christ.

https://www.faithandleadership.com/warren-kinghorn-and-abraham-nussbaum-friendship-and-people-mental-illness?utm_source=albanweekly&utm_medium=content&utm_campaign=faithleadership

Handmade Quilt Raffle at Salem UCC

A lot of love and hard work went into the creation of this quilt. Tickets are \$3 each, or two for \$5. You can call Dorrine Eckel at 717-905-2259 if you are interested in purchasing tickets. The quilt will be raffled off during the Fall Bazaar at Salem UCC on November 22nd and 23rd. The quilt is queen size, and the design is Crossing Pathways.



Reminder: Food Collection Program



Remember, we have a collection box in the side room for donations of non-perishable food items and paper products. These items are given to St. John's UMC Emergency Food Closet, Hegins. For the past thirty plus years, St. John's has been helping families in the Tri-Valley area with emergency food needs. Monetary donations will also be accepted in the form of a check made out to St. John's Emergency Food Closet. **Shopping list: pasta/noodles, spaghetti sauce, peanut butter, jelly, canned soups, paper towels, napkins, pancake mix, anything non-perishable.** For more information, or if you are in need of emergency food, please call the St. John's Food Closet at 570-682-9036 or 570-682-9187. Since we began our year-round collection in September 2013, we have collected 3235 items. **MONETARY DONATIONS to the Food Closet are also needed.**

SPECIAL REQUEST FROM THE FOOD CLOSET:

Due to increased demand on the Food Closet, there is an immediate need for:

Egg Noodles 16oz	Instant Mashed Potatoes 13.75oz	Pancake Mix 32oz
Syrup 24oz	Jello – lime, orange, strawberry	Mustard
Ketchup	Peanut Butter	Jelly
Pears 29oz	Peaches 29oz	Fruit Cocktail 29oz



Wheelchair Available at Church

St. Paul's has a wheelchair located in the side room at church. This is available for use during worship, as well as short-term loan, e.g. if someone needs a wheelchair at home while healing from surgery, to get to doctor appointments, etc. You are welcome to borrow the wheelchair – but please use the sign-out sheet (on a clipboard), so we can keep track of it. Thanks.

Local Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) Meetings

- **Millersburg:** Trinity United Church of Christ, 235 Center Street, Tuesday evenings: go around back of the church - through double-steps to pastor's study
- **Lykens:** Our Lady of Help Catholic Church, 732 Main Street, Lykens, and Sunday evenings: go up the outside set of black metal steps (like a second floor. For more information about A.A., contact Tom Moulfair 717-648-3656.



Millersburg, 7pm on glass doors, down

7pm on Thursday fire escape) to

Thrivent Investment Opportunity for Our Church

Thrivent Financial, a national investment company, provides a unique charitable grant opportunity for its investors, called Thrivent Choice Dollars. Our church is now registered with Thrivent as a potential recipient for these contributions. If you are a member of Thrivent and wish to have your Choice Dollars directed to our church, please contact your Thrivent representative, or go to Thrivent.com/thriventchoice.

Young People's Page

GOD'S LOVE

"But God loves us deeply. He is full of mercy. So he gave us new life because of what Christ has done. He gave us life even when we were dead in sin. God's grace has saved you" (Ephesians 2:4-5 NIV).

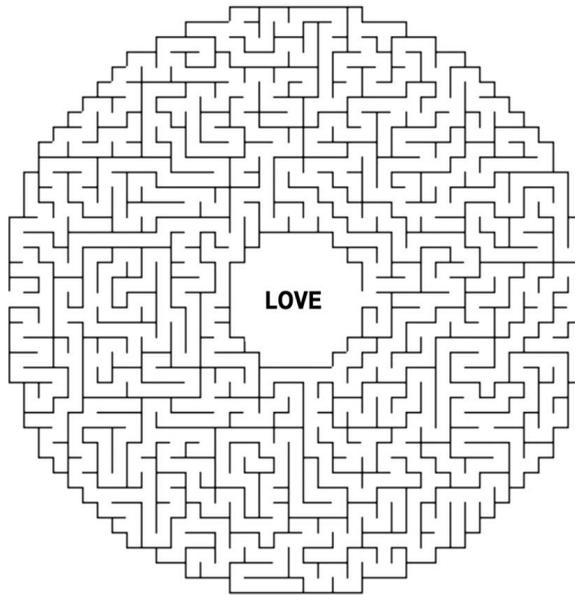
Word Find

CANDY	LOVE
FEBRUARY	PINK
FLOWER	RED
HEART	SPECIAL

L	O	V	E	F	E	D	O	Q	O	V
A	D	W	I	E	N	D	V	A	V	C
I	C	Y	H	B	I	H	D	E	R	X
C	N	D	F	R	T	T	W	N	L	Y
E	Y	N	H	U	N	R	D	I	F	J
P	S	A	H	A	E	A	V	W	L	E
S	V	C	K	R	L	E	K	L	O	S
L	R	Y	D	Y	A	H	N	G	W	U
O	Q	N	Y	K	V	Q	I	L	E	S
G	W	U	E	N	X	U	P	G	R	A

Find your way to
the love Jesus
has ready to give us!

Start Here →



If you love your kids, *please* bring them to church.
If you love your church, *please* bring your kids.

THOSE WHO SERVE IN OCTOBER

Altar: *Leslie Mayer* Lay Reader: *Brenda Long*
 Newsletter Sponsor: *Tom Leitzel* Greeters: *Brenda Long*
 Financial Assistants: *Volunteers Needed* Ushers: *Volunteers Needed*

A clipboard with sign-up sheets is located on the table in the side room. Please volunteer your time to be a greeter, usher, financial assistant, altar committee or a newsletter sponsor. Your help is greatly appreciated every week. There are a lot of empty spaces.



Elva Gresavage	All the churches in our area	Mary Bowman	Stephanie Lyons
*Ginger Fishel	Victims of mass-murders & their perpetrators		Alzheimer's patients
Upper Cheyenne UCC	Migrants and Refugees	Edna Reed	Victims of Abuse
Degnitz Family	Military, Police, First Responders	Cancer patients	Ann Fay Brady
Mike Wolfgang	Victims of fires/floods/storms	All caregivers	Our nation
Rev. Jimmie Schwartz	Racial & justice issues in the U.S.	The people of the Middle East	
*Lynn Dietrich	American farmers & their families	Doris Shade	

* Indicates a new addition. Names will be on the list for one month. If you wish to continue to have a name on the prayer list please contact Ruth Koppenhaver at 570-682-3617 or to add someone to the prayer list. **Please remember to notify Pastor Ray if someone is ill or needs a pastoral visit.**

Flower Calendar

10/06/19 *****OPEN DATE*****
 10/13/19 *****OPEN DATE*****
 10/20/19 *****OPEN DATE*****
 10/27/19 *****OPEN DATE*****

DON'T FORGET TO SIGN UP FOR ALTAR FLOWERS ON OUR FLOWER CHART, POSTED IN THE SIDE ROOM.

The flower chart for 2019 is in the side room. Please help make our altar beautiful each Sunday. Flowers can be given in honor of someone's birthday, anniversary or in memory of a loved one.

(Fresh flowers may be ordered from: Dee's Flowers, 22 East Main Street, Tremont 570-695-2269 or Flowers & Friends, Ridge Road, Pitman 570-847-5353.)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



10/1	Mary Bixler	10/2	Brenda Long	10/5	Logan Roadcap
10/7	Adam Deibert	10/8	Luke Null	10/9	Bonnie Deibert
10/14	Farren Miller	10/19	Cortney Koppenhaver	10/21	Amy Wolfgang
10/26	Rebecca Heim	10/26	Richard Heisler	10/29	Kevin Fertig

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

10/09	Mr. & Mrs. Michael Wolfgang	10/09	Mr. & Mrs. Charles Smith, Jr
10/14	Mr. & Mrs. Michael Brandenberger	10/16	Mr. & Mrs. Kim Harner
	10/22	Mr. & Mrs. Mark Long	

Staying in Touch With Our Shut-Ins

Some of our older sisters and brothers in Christ are homebound, or now reside in assisted living or convalescent homes. But we can STILL be in touch with them, and they would LOVE to hear from us. A list of our shut-ins is posted in the side room at church, including names and addresses. Please Check it out, and send out some cards. You will be bringing warmth and hope to some old friends.

And if you know someone we should add to the list, please let us know.



Red Prayer Bowl at St. Paul's



Remember that you can always place your written prayer requests in our red prayer bowl, located in the side room. Our Prayer Chain meets monthly to review and pray over all requests. And if YOU feel called to join this prayer ministry – perhaps you have the spiritual gift of intercessory prayer – then please let Ruth Koppenhaver or Pastor Ray know, and we will be sure to include you at the monthly prayer gatherings. Note: when the group meets and prays over requests, they are added to our newsletter's prayer list, and are removed from the prayer bowl. **Any Military Personnel to Pray For?** *Do you have family or friends serving in the military? Our Prayer Chain members want to keep them in prayer – please let us know.*

**National Suicide
Prevention Hotline:**
1-800-273-TALK
(1-800-273-8255)

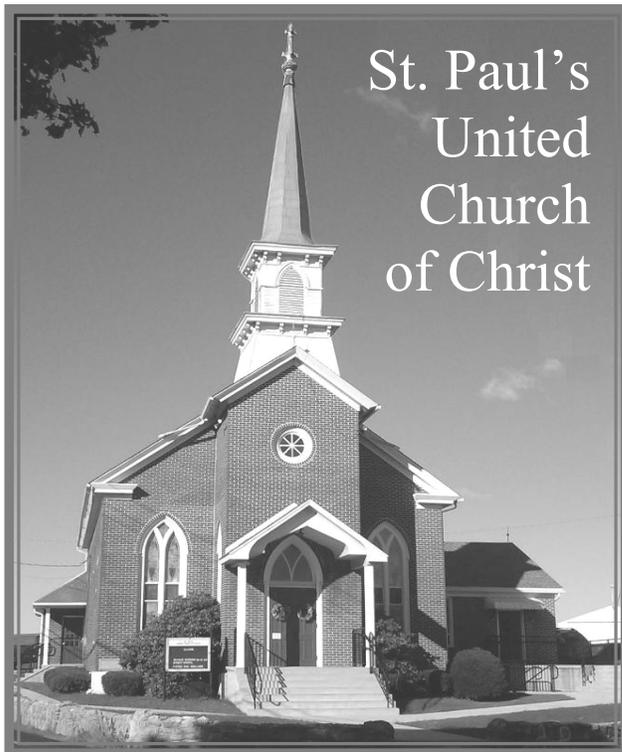


BULLETIN & NEWSLETTER DEADLINES – the deadline for information for the church bulletin is TUESDAY and the deadline for the newsletter is the 20th OF THE MONTH. You can contact Pat Miller at 570-682-3720 with your information.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
2300 EAST MAIN STREET
SACRAMENTO, PENNSYLVANIA 17968

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

OCTOBER 2019 NEWSLETTER



PASTOR

Pastor Ray Holland 570-452-0050
Email: rayholland03@gmail.com or
stpaulsucc.sacramento@gmail.com

ORGANIST/PIANIST

Amy Ney

CHURCH SECRETARY

Pat Miller

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE

Sandy Deibert

WORSHIP SERVICE & SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays, 8:45 am