

**W**elcome! Whether you are worshipping with us in-person or virtually, we pray that you and your family are safe and healthy. Visitors please sign the Visitors Card in the pew rack and place in the basket on the chancel rail. We no longer pass the offering plates during the service. You may place your offering in the plate as you enter (by the greeters) or in the basket on the chancel rail after the service.



**T**his week our card is for Peggy Maurey.  
Please sign the card on the stand by the greeters.

## **S**erving Today

Scripture Reader: Barb Kulakowsky  
Greeters: Bob & Debbie Kellar  
Acolyte: Alexander Boyer  
Tech: Diana Dadey

**L**ast Sunday  
Attendance: 153  
Virtual worship viewings: 59 (as of 5/2)  
Giving: \$2954

## BIRTHDAYS ~ this week

**May 12:** Jennifer Blevins, Kathy Samsel, Linda Curtis  
**May 16:** Christine Darrah, Sandy Sekulski  
**May 17:** Mark Sitler  
**May 19:** Scott DeMild, Mike Thompson, Brenda Haas

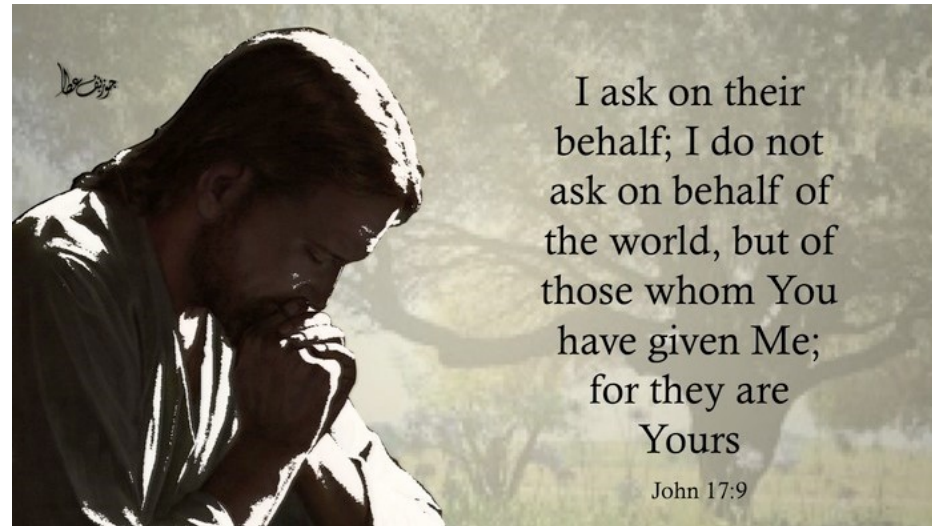
## ANNIVERSARIES ~ this week

**May 12:** Rich & Anita Zuber  
**May 13:** Ben & Amy Schiavone  
**May 14:** Robert & Teri Yarmush

**Next Sunday:** *Pentecost / Communion / Confirmation*  
Message: **We Don't Know How to Pray**  
Texts: *Psalm 104:24-34, Acts 2:1-21, 35b, Romans 8:22-37\**  
*\*next Sunday's sermon text*

### **Forgot your envelope?**

Scan the QR code to make a contribution.



## St. Paul's United Church of Christ

Amityville, Pennsylvania

**May 12, 2024**

Ministers: The People of St. Paul's UCC  
The Rev. Dr. Steven Simpson, Pastor  
Martha Sitler, Minister of Music  
Joe Ceklosky: Leader of Technology/Video Team  
Marlene Dadey, Director of Christian Education/Office Manager  
Emily Dreas, Director of Youth Ministry  
Mike Rackey, Sexton  
Church Office 610-689-9364  
Pastor Steven's cell - 610-858-0921  
Pastor's e-mail - [pastor@stpaulsuccamity.org](mailto:pastor@stpaulsuccamity.org)  
Church e-mail - [office@stpaulsuccamity.org](mailto:office@stpaulsuccamity.org)  
Website: [www.stpaulsuccamity.org](http://www.stpaulsuccamity.org)

### St. Paul's United Church of Christ Mission Statement

**In its life and mission**, St. Paul's UCC seeks to worship the triune God; proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ; practice loving service toward the needy; embody God's reign of peace and justice; establish a Christian community of faith; and be a faithful member of the church universal.



# St. Paul's United Church of Christ

Amityville, Pennsylvania

May 12, 2024

9:45 A.M.

Seventh Sunday of Easter / Mother's Day / Baptism

**Guard us and protect us from evil, and sanctify us in truth; in Jesus' name. Amen.**

\* = Those who are able may stand

Prelude *Prelude for Mother's Day* -Warriner  
*All Glory Be to God on High* -Prentiss

Choral Prompt *Holy Spirit Thou Art Welcome In This Place*

\* Processional Hymn *We Are God's People* Hymnal #399

\* Greeting The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**  
Christ is risen! **He is risen, indeed!**

Introit *There Is a Redeemer* (v. 1) Hymnal #308

\* The Solemn Declaration (from John 5:11 & 12) sung response: **Amen!**

\* Call to Worship —from Psalm 1:1-4, 6

Blessed is the one  
who does not walk in step with the wicked  
or stand in the way that sinners take  
or sit in the company of mockers,  
but whose delight is in the law of the LORD,  
and who meditates on his law day and night.  
**That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,  
which yields its fruit in season  
and whose leaf does not wither—  
whatever they do prospers.**  
Not so the wicked!  
They are like chaff that the wind blows away.  
**For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.**

\* Call to Confession and Silent Prayer —based on Psalm 1:6

\* Prayer of Confession (in unison) —based on John 17:15, 17

**God, though you call us to delight in your teachings,  
we can become cynical and full of doubt. Do not  
judge us, we pray, but heal us and restore us to you.**

\* Assurance of Forgiveness

In Christ Jesus, God has promised to forgive us and reconcile us to God and each other. In Christ you are forgiven. **Thanks be to God!**

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proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ;  
practice loving service toward the needy;  
embody God's reign of peace and justice;  
establish a Christian community of faith;  
and be a faithful member of the church universal.**

\* Prayer of the Day

Baptism *Jaylen Archer Sturz* (see insert)

Choir Anthem *Our Lord Reigns* -Pethel

Prayer for Illumination —based on John 17:17, 13

Scripture Readings *1 John 5:9-13, John 17:6-19*

Sermon *How Would Jesus Pray for You?*

\* Responsive Hymn *Make Us One* Hymnal #418

Prayers of the People  
response: *May we be . . . like trees planted by streams of water.*

The Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

Invitation to the Offering —based on 1 John 5:10

\* Doxology Hymnal #815

\* Prayer of Dedication —based on John 17:6

\* Recessional Hymn *They'll Know We Are Christians* Hymnal #429

\* Benediction

Threefold Amen

Postlude *Christ Ascends!* -Kendall

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

### **C**amp Firelight - A Summer Camp Adventure with God - June 17-21

From 9 to Noon. VBS is open to children who turned 3 prior to September of 2023 through Grade 5. Come join our campers for crafts, science, games, songs, Bible stories, snacks and more!

**T**eam Members Needed - Currently we are in need of team leaders. This is not a difficult job. There is nothing to prepare. You lead your group of children from station-to-station. We are also in need of a photographer and recreation co-leader. Teen helpers are also needed. Please contact Marlene Dadey if you are interested.



**V**BS Registration - It's time to get your children registered for VBS! Registration forms were emailed in March to families that participated previously. If you did not get one please email [ss@stpaulsuccamity.org](mailto:ss@stpaulsuccamity.org) or pick up a registration form in the Library. Don't forget to share with family, friends and neighbors.

## MAINTENANCE

**S**t. Paul's belongs to ALL of us. It is a beautiful facility and we are very proud of it and like to show it off to the community through various events. Our facility is large, and small maintenance issues get overlooked. We need your help in identifying issues that need to be addressed. Maintenance Request Forms (orange) can be found on the right side of the bookcase in the Library. Please complete a form and place in the basket and the Facilities Committee will make every effort to address these concerns. We appreciate your help in keeping our facility beautiful and safe.

## PLEASE HELP

**I**f your committee or group uses the facility at any time please turn off lights and close all doors when leaving. Check that the door to the outside is properly closed. If there are other groups in the building when you leave it is not necessary to turn off the hall lights. But if you are the last to leave, please do so. Many mornings we are finding hallway lights on, classroom doors open and fire doors open.

**H**elp is needed for set up and tear down of Fellowship Hall and Social Room for special events. This could be for as few as 20 people, or as many as 200. Randy VanFleet has done an excellent job for many years doing this on his own, but as our facility is getting more used we need to have more help. If this is something you feel called to help with, please reach out to Kathy Weller for more information. With a few people the time constraint could be minimal.

*Many hands make light work!*

## ST. PAUL'S ACTIVITIES—this week

Sunday 5/12	Adult Sunday School	8:30 AM
	Worship & Sunday School	9:45 AM
	Girl Scouts 1709	6:00 PM
Monday 5/13	Committee on Ministry	10:00 AM
	Boy Scouts	6:45 PM
	Worship Committee	7:00 PM
	Youth Ministry Committee	7:00 PM
Tuesday 5/14	BORSEA	10:00 AM
	Circle of Friends	12:00 PM
	Women's Bible Study	7:00 PM
	Narcotics Anonymous	7:00 PM
Wednesday 5/15	Cub Scouts	6:00 PM
	Daisy Troop 1689	6:30 PM
	Youth Group 9-12	7:00 PM
	Choir Rehearsal	7:00 PM
Thursday 5/16	Facilities Committee	7:00 PM
Friday 5/17	Amity Chess Club	7:00 PM

## CEMETERY WORK DAY

**P**art of the beauty of St. Paul's is the fact that we are "surrounded by a such a great cloud of witnesses" (Hebrews 12:1).. We have saints from our congregation from four different centuries buried in the graveyards around the church building and in the cemetery across the street. St. Paul's Cemetery Foundation is planning a volunteer day so we can clean up and maintain these sacred grounds in a way that preserves the memory and dignity of our forefathers and foremothers in the faith. If you're willing and able, we'd love to have your help on Saturday morning, May 18 at 9:00. Volunteers will be meeting in the church parking lot. There's a sign-up sheet in the Library or tell Randy VanFleet if you are able to help.



## CIRCLE of FRIENDS

**F**ire and Ice - Iceland has been in the news a lot lately. Volcanoes and beautiful frozen vistas come to mind. Our Circle of Friends meeting on May 14 will feature Eliza Mann, a local retired teacher, who will share her slide show and memories of Iceland. There will be hot soup and cold desserts at noon. The presentation will begin at one. All are welcome. Bring your sense of adventure, curiosity and a friend!

# SACRAMENT of BAPTISM

## *Words of Institution*

People of St. Paul's United Church of Christ:

Let us hear our Lord's command concerning the sacrament of holy baptism in Matthew 28:18-20.

**After he had risen victorious from the grave, Jesus said to his disciples: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."**

In obedience to this command, the church baptizes believers.

## *The Meaning of Baptism*

Sacraments are holy signs and seals for us to see. They were instituted by God so that by our use of them he might make us understand more clearly the promise of the gospel and might put a seal on that promise.

**Obedying the word of our Lord Jesus, and confident of his promises, we baptize those whom God has called.**

In baptism, God claims us and seals us to show that we belong to God. God frees us from sin and death, uniting us with Jesus Christ in his death and resurrection.

**By water and the Holy Spirit, we are made members of the church, the body of Christ's ministry of love, peace, and justice.**

## *Response of Faith*

Pastor (addressing the parents): Do you desire to have your son baptized into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?

Parents: **We do.**

Pastor (addressing the godparents): Will you support the parents in their commitment to raise this child in a Christian home?

Godparents: **We will, with the help of God.**

Pastor: Will you encourage Jaylen to renounce the powers of evil and to receive the freedom of new life in Christ?

Parents and Godparents: **We will, with the help of God.**

Pastor: Will you teach Jaylen so that he may be led to profess Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior?

Parents and Godparents: **We will, with the help of God.**

Pastor: Do you promise, by the grace of God, to be Christ's disciples, to follow in the way of our Savior, to resist oppression and evil, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work and word of Jesus Christ as best you are able?

Parents and Godparents: **We do, with the Help of God.**

Pastor: Do you promise, according to the grace given you, to grow with Jaylen in the Christian faith, to help him become a faithful member of the church of Jesus Christ by celebrating Christ's presence, by furthering Christ's mission in all the world, and by offering the nurture of the Christian church so that he may one day come to affirm his baptism?

Parents and Godparents: **We do, with the help of God.**

Pastor (addressing the congregation): Jesus Christ calls us to make disciples of all nations and to offer them the gift of grace in baptism. Do you who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support, and care to the one about to be baptized, as he lives and grows in Christ?

All: **We promise our love, support, and care.**

## *The Apostle's Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## *Prayer of Baptism*

### *Act of Baptism*

### *Presentation of the newly baptized child to the congregation*

### *Hymn*

**Baptized in Water, sealed by the Spirit  
Cleansed by the blood of Christ our King  
Heirs of salvation, trusting his promise  
Faithfully now God's praises we sing**

**Baptized in Water, sealed by the Spirit  
Marked with the sign of Christ our King  
Born of one Father, we are his children  
Joyfully now God's praises we sing**

### *Prayer for the Baptized*

*Jaylen Archer Sturz, son of Jocelyn and Richard Sturz  
born May 26, 2023 in Reading, PA*

*Godparents: Jacqueline and Anthony Kline*

