



# St. Paul's Summer Hill UCC

## July 2024 Newsletter



### Pastor's Page

Greetings Summer Hill!

Our 2024 Vacation Bible School program was a huge success! Each evening during the week of June 17-21, close to 35 children, 15 volunteers, and lots of parents gathered inside and outside of St. Paul's Summer Hill UCC to celebrate God's wonderful gifts and blessings, and to learn more about the Saving Grace of Jesus Christ. This year was extra special as we joined with St. Paul's Summer Hill Lutheran church to combine our efforts and kids. But perhaps you never attended VBS and have wondered what all the excitement was about or if VBS is still relevant in today's world! Here's a quick summary of why we continue to sponsor our program each year.

VBS is a vital mission of our church: The purpose of VBS is to minister to children and families in the church, create outreach to the surrounding communities, and to create evangelism opportunities. This mission is supported with creatively themed Bible study, activities, worship, and even time for some tasty snacks.

VBS is a dependable ongoing ministry. Kids that attend a VBS program typically come back year after year. Even some of the shyest little ones have surprised their parents by exclaiming, "I can't wait to go back!" VBS creates lasting memories. Parents and our volunteers shared stories of their days attending VBS, to include the friends they made, crafts they created, and the Bible lessons they learned. It is a blessing to know that our children still have the opportunity to experience these activities that will create lifelong memories and help start them on their faith journeys. VBS is a special event that creates memories that help lock Bible truths in a child's heart and mind for a lifetime.

Birthday parties and other special events have themes that use creativity to evoke feelings of excitement. Games, food, decorations and fun all link together in a total package. VBS does the same thing. When we connect with kids through this ministry, the biblical

truths that permeate all aspects of VBS also connect with their hearts and minds.

VBS is an opportunity to share the gospel and is an intentional evangelistic opportunity. Some of the children who attend do not have the opportunity to go to weekly church or Sunday school. They may have limited exposure to Bible stories or Jesus' teachings at home. Even some of the parents have a limited knowledge of what our faith community is all about. VBS is a great way to introduce the story of Jesus Christ and how God's love for each of us leads to eternal life.

This year our VBS program theme was "Scuba, diving into friendship with God," and was full of cool underwater ocean referenced fun. During the week, kids explored themes like, 'God is a friend who's real,' 'God is a friend who loves,' 'God is a friend we can trust,' 'God is a friend forever,' and 'God is a friend for everyone.' Kids participated in memorable Bible-learning activities, sang catchy songs, played teamwork-building games, made and devoured yummy treats, experienced one-of-a-kind Bible Adventures, collected Bible Memory Buddies to remind them of God's love for us, conducted science experiments that demonstrated the wonders of God's world, and made awesome crafts they got to take home to remind them about God the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.

The good news is that our VBS program did not end with the closing program on June 21st. It will continue all year long with three bonus dates throughout the year where the kids will meet for an afternoon of crafts, snacks, games and fellowship. Keep a look out for those dates to be announced.

If you know of children that would love to join us, or if you would like to be part of the fun and volunteer your time to help introduce Jesus into the lives of our children, come to our next Board of Christian Education meeting on Tuesday, July 2nd at 7:00 PM in room B1 off the fellowship hall. We would love to have your help as we continue to dive into friendship with God.

VBS Blessings, Pastor Ken

## Communion Offerings

The July Communion offering is designated to the One Rock One Community Music Concert.

The August Communion offering is designated to the Alzheimer's Association.

---

## Summer Worship Schedule

During the months of July and August worship is held at 9:30am on Sunday mornings. There is no Sunday school during this time. Worship will resume at 10:30am on Sunday, September 1.

---

There will be a Board of Christian Education Meeting on **Tuesday, July 2** beginning at 7:00 PM.

---

## Fellowship Hour

Join us for conversation, along with a cup of coffee and light refreshments following our 9:30am worship service on **Sunday, July 14**. We will gather in the rear of the Sanctuary the Second Sunday of each month. Catch up with old friends, make new ones, and stay up to date on everything happening at St. Paul's. And best of all, it's free of charge!! Help is needed: If you would be interested in helping to assist in hosting a fellowship hour, please contact the church office or speak to Pastor Ken.

---



The Schuylkill Haven Food Pantry is in great need and accepts all non-perishable food items and paper

products. Items can be dropped off at the church during the week or placed in the shopping cart at the back of the sanctuary. **NO OUTDATED FOOD PLEASE.** We will be helping **Monday, July 15** at 8:30am and **Friday, July 19** at 12pm. Please speak to Verna Ebling or the church office if you would like to help or donate items.

---

The next Consistory Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, July 16** at 7:00pm.

## Blood Drive

There will be a Blood Drive sponsored by the Schuylkill Haven Council of Churches on **Thursday, July 18** from 1-6pm at Jerusalem Lutheran Church in Schuylkill Haven.

---

## Motorcycle Ministry

The third Sunday of the month is designated as "Bring your motorcycle to church" Sunday. The upcoming dates are **July 21, August 18, and September 15**. Spread the word, invite your friend, and join us for some fun and fellowship. If you would like to be notified of other rides throughout the summer, please notify the church office to have your name added to the "Biker" email list!

---

## Outdoor Worship

Outdoor worship services will be held once a month, the fourth Sunday of the month: **July 28, Sunday, August 25 and Sunday, September 22**. Grab your lawn chair or favorite blanket and join us once again amidst the beauty of God's creation. Please note: in case of inclement weather, the services will be moved inside and held in the sanctuary.

---

## Mailing Addresses, Phone Numbers and Email Addresses

In an effort to keep our records up to date, we are asking that if you have had a change to any of your information, would like to add a cell phone number or email address, or just want to be sure we have your most current info., please contact the church office.

---

## AV System Volunteers

We are still looking for some additional people to help run our sound and video equipment on a Sunday morning! Please let us know if you would be willing to help. We will then figure out a good mutual time to "train" those who are interested! Ideally, we will get a few people interested, and then sign up for Sundays either on a weekly or monthly basis, somewhat like the lectors.

## Altar Prep Volunteers

We are still in need of altar prep volunteers. Everyone is welcome! It will be a rotation schedule on a weekly basis. You can sign up for one week or multiple weeks. Your assistance is needed to change the altar paraments, make sure altar flowers are changed and the oil candles are filled. "Training" will be provided! It's a minimal commitment, but a great help in keeping our services running smoothly. If you would like to learn more about how you can help, please speak to Kelly Palerino.



## College Graduates

**Ashley Brown**

**Milena Krause**

**Sarah Palerino**

Sarah, daughter of Jeff and Kelly Palerino, graduated from Western Governor's University where she received her Bachelor's of Science in Nursing (RN to BSN). She has worked as an RN for 5 years: 1 year with Lehigh Valley Health Network and 4 years at Hershey Medical Center. During this time she has worked in Med-Surg and Adult Perianesthesia. In August she will take a new position in Pediatric Perianesthesia.

**Natalie Rubinkam**

Natalie, daughter of Michael and Amy Rubinkam, graduated from Ursinus College with a Bachelor of Science degree. She majored in Psychology and Communications. During her time in college, Natalie received the following honors: Valedictorian and Phi Beta Kappa. Her future plans are to work as a Truancy Case Manager in Carbon County.

## High School Graduates

**Eliza Kline**

**Jordyn Moyer**

**Jane Phillips**

**Jenna Reber**

Jenna, daughter of Michael and Justine Reber graduated from Blue Mountain High School. During high school, she took the following courses: AP Biology, Anatomy, AP Statistic, AP Chemistry, AP Physics, English, Government and CPR. She participated in the following activities: Aevium (mental health awareness club), Mini-Thon, Phi Sigma and SAAD. Jenna was also active in dance. Her future plans are to attend Penn State Schuylkill

---

## Thank You!!

-to Bonnie and Bill Reber for sponsoring the shut-in mailing for July 2024

-Dear St. Paul's,

Thank you for the prayers during my recent surgery and hospitalization. It was greatly appreciated.

Dave Heim

-THANK YOU ST. PAUL'S! We challenged again and you accepted again! Our summer food drive was another example of the generosity of our community of faith here at St Paul's. All items have been delivered to the Schuylkill Haven Food Pantry for distribution. I am so happy to announce that we collected 640 food items to be distributed to needy local families. We knew St Paul's would come together and are so grateful for your help and support! We hope you will continue supporting this mission by donating a few items each month. Keep an eye out in future newsletters for the information on our Thanksgiving Food Drive. We will again be looking for 31 families to donate 31 items during October so we can help provide those in need with the components of a traditional Thanksgiving meal.

Sincerely,

The Guers Family

-to our weeding elf for keeping the church flower beds looking beautiful

-to Bill Reber who mowed the church lawn in April and May, and to Mike Fessler for the month of June. We appreciate your effort in keeping the church grounds looking beautiful!

for a major in nursing and minor in neuroscience, with hopes of becoming a NICU or Pediatric nurse and later down the road gaining a PhD to conduct research on Pediatric Neurological conditions.

**Colby Ulsh**

**Augustus Warke**

*Congratulations to all graduates!*

---

*Welcome Baby Boy*



**Mathias Joseph Nagle**

Mathias, son of Joseph and Tamara Nagle was born on April 10, 2024 at 4:41pm. He was born at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia where he survived surgery before he was even born! He was born weighing 7 lbs. 5oz. and was 18 inches long. Mathias has proud siblings: Elias, Abram, Jeremiah and Hannah. His grandparents are Kenneth & Lucinda Nagle and Jim & Tammy Hossler. Mathias will be baptized on Sunday, July 14 and his Godparents are Alex & Sophie Smith and Jarred & Sara Wilhelm.

---

**Baptism**

**William James Carll**

William, son of Adam and Laura Carll was baptized during the outdoor service on Sunday, June 23, 2024 by his “Pap Pap”, Rev. Ken McDowell. He has a proud big sister, Caroline. His grandparents are Rick & Gale Carll, and Ken & Ann McDowell. His Godparents are Steve & Samantha McFarland.

## Special Dates

- Canada Day, *July 1, 2024*
  - U.S. Independence Day, *July 4, 2024*
- 

## Bible Quiz

What musical instrument is mentioned in the final poem of Psalms as a means to praise the Lord?

- A. brass
- B. percussion
- C. strings
- D. woodwinds
- E. all of the above

Answer: E (See Psalm 150:3-5.)

---

*“You can always give without loving,  
but you can never love without giving.”*

—attributed to various sources

---

## Christian Symbol



**CATHEDRAL FLOOR PLAN** — Traditionally, a cathedral is laid out in the shape of a cross. The lower section or nave (from Latin for *ship*), along with the transepts (the arms of the cross), is where the congregation sits. The choir sits on either side of the chancel. Despite our common terminology, the sanctuary (from Latin for *holy*) isn’t the full worship space but the area right before the altar. The location of the lectern, from which Scripture is read, and pulpit, used for preaching, may vary.

# Confirmation Class Sign-ups

It's time to register for Confirmation class. 1st year confirmation classes are available to any young adult turning 12 or entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade this year.

To register, please turn in a completed form to the church office by **Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup>**. Confirmands will identify someone to serve as their mentor. Mentors must be either persons currently serving on Consistory or a member of the Spiritual Council and may not be immediate family members.

Confirmation Classes will begin on Rally Day **Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>** at 9:15 AM, with a confirmand, parent and mentor meeting. At this time, confirmation requirements and expectations will be reviewed with confirmands, their parents and mentors signing the Confirmation Covenant. A blessing of the Confirmands will be conducted during Worship after the meeting.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Pastor Ken McDowell.

\* \* \*

## Eligible Mentors:

### Current Consistory Members...

Pam Clauser	Clint Clauser
Mike Fessler	Robin Ferguson
Kathy Kline	Carol Mengel
Lori Moyer	Jeff Palerino
Mike Reber	Terri Saunders
Tom Saunders	Trevor Smith

### Spiritual Council Members...

Deb Bailey	Brian Clauser
Rob Clauser	Verna Ebling
Debra Koch	Lori Moyer
Paul Moyer	Earl Phillips
Bill Reber	Libby Zimmerman
Pam Clauser	Cookie Mengel
Jeffrey Palerino	Eric Reber
Tom Nagle	Helen Michelson
Ray Riegel	Mike Fessler
Kathy Kline	Robin Ferguson

## Confirmation Class Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(please include middle name)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Grade Entering in Fall: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Baptismal Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Baptismal Church: \_\_\_\_\_

Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_



## July Birthdays

- 2 - Emma Wolfe
- 3 - Bonnie Reber
  - Jenna Reber
  - Wesson Hoppes
- 4 - Becky McBreen
- 5 - Evan Borger
  - Grant Borger
- 6 - Damien Wolfe
- 10 - Linda Clauser
  - Carla Lassandro
- 11 - Dean Ulsh
  - David A. Peiffer Sr.
  - Skyler Brown
  - Melissa Eckert
- 13 - Douglas Clauser
- 14 - Matthew Mengel
  - David Zimmerman
  - Gavin Guers
- 15 - Jacob Cotroneo
- 16 - Debbie Koch
  - Dustin Deibert
  - Elsie Strauser
- 17 - Isaac Meck
- 18 - Pam Clauser
- 19 - Nancy Clauser
  - Robert H. Reed
  - Colby Ulsh
- 21 - Aaron Honyara
- 22 - Wade Sterner
  - Lilly Krause
- 24 - Sharon Shealer
  - Kristy Reber
- 25 - Lori Ulsh
- 26 - Nancy Dewald
- 29 - Nicholas Rivera

## July Wedding Anniversaries

- 1 - Ronnie and Debbie Koch
- 3 - Linda and Dick Clauser
- 6 - John and Nancy Ulsh
- 9 - Franklin and Ann Reichert
  - Robert and Lauren Marra
- 15 - Jason and Brandi Kline
  - Gregory and Jessica Kehl
- 16 - David and Crystal Lehr
- 21 - Kathy and Ed Kline
- 22 - Donna and Ken Krammes

- 25 - Mike and Amy Rubinkam
- 27- Kevin and Carolyn Richards
- 28 - George and Carol Sullivan
- 30 - Bradley and Katie Miller

## July Baptismal Anniversaries

- Abel Wilson, son of Jim and Laura Richardson
- 

## Lectionary Readings:

### Seventh Sunday after Pentecost, July 7

- 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10
- Psalm 48
- Ezekial 2:1-5
- Psalm 123
- 2 Corinthians 12:2-10
- Mark 6:1-13

### Eighth Sunday after Pentecost, July 14

- 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19
- Psalm 24
- Amos 7:7-15
- Psalm 85:8-13
- Ephesians 1:3-14
- Mark 6:14-29

### Ninth Sunday after Pentecost, July 21

- 2 Samuel 7:1-14a
- Psalm 89:20-37
- Jeremiah 23:1-6
- Psalm 23
- Ephesians 2:11-22
- Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

### Tenth Sunday after Pentecost, July 28

- 2 Samuel 11:1-15
- Psalm 14
- 2 Kings 4:42-44
- Psalm 145:10-18
- Ephesians 3:14-21
- John 6:1-21

### Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost, August 4

- 2 Samuel 11:26 - 12:13a
- Psalm 51:1-12
- Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15
- Psalm 78:23-29
- Ephesians 4:1-16
- John 6:24-35

# WHAT IS STEWARDSHIP?

Christian stewardship is grateful and responsible use of God’s gifts in the light of God’s purpose as revealed in Jesus Christ. Christian stewards, empowered by the Holy Spirit, commit themselves to conscious, purposeful decisions.

Stewardship is lived out in:

- Living and telling the Good News
- Sharing God in seeking justice, peace, and the integrity of creation in an interdependent universe
- Wisely employing God-given human resources, abilities, and relationships
- Sharing the material resources we hold and giving them in service, justice, and compassion
- Providing for future generations
- Sharing in the life, worship, and responsible stewardship of the Church and of its mission
- Both for the individual and for the community, stewardship is a joyful act for the sake of God’s world.

**Use this chart to guide you in determining your level of generosity.**

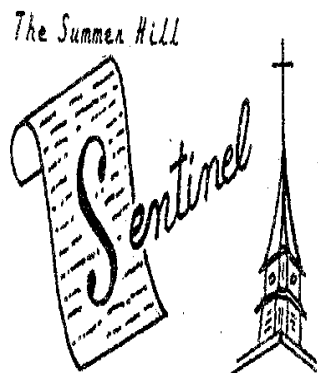


Weekly Giving Guide			4%	6%	8%	10%	12%	15%
ANNUAL INCOME	MONTHLY INCOME	WEEKLY INCOME						
18,000	1,500	346	14.00	21.00	28.00	35.00	42.00	52.00
25,000	2,083	481	19.00	29.00	38.00	48.00	58.00	72.00
30,000	2,500	577	23.00	35.00	46.00	58.00	69.00	87.00
40,000	3,333	769	31.00	46.00	62.00	77.00	92.00	115.00
45,000	3,750	65	35.00	52.00	69.00	87.00	104.00	130.00
50,000	4,167	962	38.00	58.00	77.00	96.00	115.00	144.00
60,000	5,000	1,154	46.00	69.00	92.00	115.00	138.00	173.00
75,000	6,250	1,442	58.00	87.00	115.00	144.00	173.00	216.00
100,000	8,333	1,923	77.00	115.00	154.00	192.00	231.00	288.00
125,000	10,417	2,404	96.00	144.00	192.00	240.00	288.00	361.00
150,000	12,500	2,885	115.00	173.00	231.00	289.00	346.00	433.00
175,000	14,583	3,365	135.00	202.00	269.00	337.00	404.00	505.00
200,000	16,667	3,846	154.00	231.00	308.00	385.00	462.00	577.00
225,000	18,750	4,327	173.00	260.00	346.00	433.00	519.00	649.00

*Fear closes the hand and hoards – Faith opens the hand and shares.*  
 --Bruce A. Barkhauer

**July 2024**

**St. Paul's United Church of Christ  
1235 Summer Hill Road  
Auburn, PA 17922**



**Church Phone: 570-754-7225**  
**Rev. Ken McDowell, Pastor: 610-207-4783**  
**Office Hours: Tues.– Friday 9am - 2pm**  
**Email: [summerhillucc@gmail.com](mailto:summerhillucc@gmail.com)**  
**Website: [www.summerhillucc.com](http://www.summerhillucc.com)**

**Address Service Requested**

**Visit the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference –**  
**[www.psec.org](http://www.psec.org)**  
**Visit the United Church of Christ – [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org)**

### **Church Staff**

**Pastor:** Rev. Ken McDowell  
**Church Administrator & Cleaning:** Kelly  
Palerino  
**Music Director/ Pianist:** Rae Ann Borger  
**Organists:** Jacob Challenger/ Colin Andrew  
(Supply)

### **Lay Leaders**

**Consistory President:** Pam Clauser  
**Consistory Vice President:** Jeff Palerino  
**Secretary:** Trevor Smith  
**Assistant Secretary:** Mike Fessler  
**Treasurer:** Lori Moyer  
**Financial Secretary:** Kathy Kline

**Board of Christian Education:**  
**Chairperson** - Laura Carll  
**Vice-Chairperson** - Vicky Borger  
**Secretary** - Amy Zimmerman  
**Sunday Morning Coordinator:** Trevor Smith  
**Assistant Sunday Coordinator:** David Deibert  
**Stewardship/Mission:** Lori Moyer, Tom  
and Terri Saunders, Kathy Kline, Carol  
Mengel and Trevor Smith  
**Budget Committee:** Pam Clauser  
**Personnel Committee:** Lori Moyer  
**Prayer Shawl Ministry Chair:** Nancy Dewald

**July 2024**