



The Beacon

He has showed you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Micah 6:8

The Newsletter of
St. Paul's
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
McConnellsburg, PA
Trinity
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
Fort Loudon, PA

October 2019

Sunday, October 27th.

Trinity will be observing their 200th Anniversary during morning Worship. A few members will be reflecting on their own faith journey by remembering those who helped shape their walk.

Additional Plans for The 185th Anniversary Observance on All Saints Day ST. PAUL'S

The morning worship of All Saints Day and the appropriate observance of the 185th Anniversary of St. Paul's will feature a few members of the congregation reflecting on past members of their respective families who were very much a part of the history of St. Paul's.

The observance of the 185th Anniversary will continue in the mid afternoon at the Chris and Christian Hann residence. Planned activities will be for youth and adults. A special hayride will travel nearby to the site of the former Nazareth church and cemetery, one of the Reformed congregations formed in 1844 and moved to town and joined with St. Paul's in 1917.

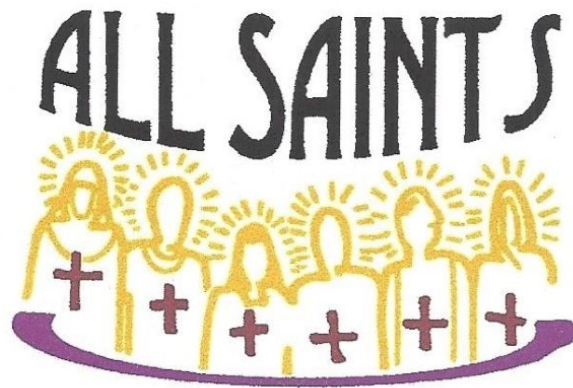
Other activities will include games for the youth, light refreshments, and fellowship for everyone. Times for the afternoon event to be determined later.

The Fort Loudon-McConnellsburg Charge
United Church of Christ
228 North 2nd Street
McConnellsburg, PA 17233

STAMP

OCTOBER 2019

BLESSINGS FROM THE PASTOR



"For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

~Romans 8:38-39

Ahhh, October. Perfect weather and beautiful colors make this my favorite month of the year. This October will be particularly special as we observe the long history of our two congregations. As part of Sunday morning worship services on October 27th, we will celebrate Trinity's 200 years and St. Paul's 185 years of ministry! What amazing milestones! And what a testament to the dedication and deep faith of generations of our members.

I very much hope everyone can make it, and that you will invite any and all people who have been part of our church families throughout the years. Members, longtime friends, and anyone with a connection to our congregations are especially invited to attend. We invite all in the community to celebrate with us as well!

It is fitting that we should take time to honor our past on the Sunday prior to All Saints Day. This is the time of the church year when we recognize the bond we share with all of our ancestors in faith: both those we know and those we only know through their impact in building up Christ's church. It is also an opportunity to remember those everyday saints who have supported us and nurtured us in our Christian walk.

At Trinity, a few members will share remembrances of those who have shaped their own faith journeys. At St. Paul's, we will hear from members who have historic ties to the congregation. They will share information about family members who were part of St Paul's history.

A special bulletin insert will include the names of our members who have died. Please look out for the sign-up sheet to add members you would like included, or email their names to the church office by October 20th at mcbucc@embarqmail.com.

You are also invited to bring photos or mementos to display in remembrance of your loved ones who have died.

While there is sadness in our mourning, there is gratitude in remembering their gifts to us. There is also so much joy as we are reminded that we are never truly separated from those we love. We are part of something bigger than life, and stronger than death, an eternity with our God. Thanks be to God!

REMEMBER
THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE US. 



WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

OCTOBER 6
TRINITY AND ST. PAUL'S

This Sunday congregations around the globe will celebrate World Communion Sunday. We will join in Spirit with our brothers and sisters in Christ around the world in the universal Christian practice of breaking bread. We will share a circle communion as we remember Jesus' prayer for his church, that we might all be one. (*John 17:21*)

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

IN MEMORY

In conjunction with our special anniversary services on "All Saints Sunday" Oct. 27, we would like to honor members who have passed away. Looking at the pews every Sunday there are many empty seats that once held cherished members of our church. If you have a loved one, relative or friend you would like to have honored and who was a member of the church please fill in the sign-up sheet at church, or email their names to the church office by October 20th at mcbucc@embarqmail.com.

COMMUNION HELP

TRINITY UCC

After many years of faithful service Rosie Shives and Sam and Betty Burns decided that they wished to retire from preparing communion for our services. A big thanks to you all for your service. Communion is held 11 times during the church year and takes about 1 hour or less to prepare each time. It may be prepared either right before the service or the day before the service. As "many hands make light work," if you would be interested in helping with all or some communions please contact Linda Best so a schedule can be prepared.

In line with this request we would like to know how you feel about the use of the communion flat bread instead of our traditional bread cubes. We have had some positive feedback on the flat bread but do not want to completely disregard those who are more traditional. The question is this, should we keep using the traditional bread cubes, switch to the flat bread or a combination of both with cubes for some services and flat bread for others. Please let us know what you think. Your opinion matters.

SCRIPTURE READING

TRINITY UCC

We need scripture readers! Please consider signing up to read the scripture during the service. There is a sign-up sheet outside of the Sanctuary on the bulletin board. We'd love to have you read to us. We'd especially like to hear from our young people! Thank you!

OCTOBER SCRIPTURES

TRINITY AND ST. PAUL'S

- Oct 6 "Power & Love" 2 Timothy 1:1-14
- Oct 13 "Unchained Life" 2 Timothy 2:8-15
- Oct 20 "Equipped" 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5
- Oct 27 "The Good Fight" 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

NOTES

St. Paul's Christian Education Committee Meeting

August 28, 2019

6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

Attendees: Seleen Shives, Renee Earley, Kylene Arwood, JoAnn Sheffield, Pam Carmack, Christian Hann, Donna House, Loy & Linda Garber, Rev. Marleen Shepherd

→ 2019/2020 Sunday School Classes & Teachers

- ◆ Preschool – none
- ◆ **K-4 to 1st grade – Donna** = Boone & Brynley
- ◆ **2nd to 4th grade – Linda** = Canon & Cruz, Esty & Hayes, Blaire and Liam Pistner
- ◆ **5th to 8th grade – Loy** = Reese & Clint, Bodie, Shaffer, Jake, Kendall, Henry and Ella Pistner
- ◆ **9th grade and up – Jo** = Nevaeh, Bronson, Abby, Theo, Hannah and Ashley
- ◆ **Substitutes** – Seleen & Renee; the teens may be able to help too
 - **Check-in with teachers: How's it going? Class needs? Substitute needs?**
 - Jo found a Keurig and is requesting K-cup donations for the teens
 - Linda requested name tags for her class
 - Kylene has agreed to take care of birthday gifts for the kids this year
 - Snacks - Seleen will create a sign-up sheet.

→ **Start date: September 15th; end date May 17th**

→ Sunday School Funds

- ◆ **Total available balance as of 8/16/19 (as per Denise's records): \$1,606.94**

→ Curriculum & Materials

- ◆ Materials have been ordered for all classes. Loy reported that the fall curriculum for Donna, Linda and his classes cost nearly \$400.
- ◆ Loy will be utilizing the book of Bible object lessons purchased for his class.

→ Changing up the morning routine

- ◆ **From 9:30 - 10:00 AM:** Kids can trickle in, give them time to socialize and have their snack (wake up!), have some praise & worship music playing in the background.
- ◆ Renee is working on creating a "Snack Shack" space in the basement.
- ◆ Loy is creating a "Worship Center" space where the kids will then gather after their snack for an intro to the scripture and lesson for that Sunday.

→ Kickoff Event: Movie "The Pilgrim's Progress" & Hot Dog Bar

- ◆ There are conflicts right after worship service for several of our kiddos, so we decided to hold the event later in the afternoon at 4:00 PM.
- ◆ The committee will take care of the **hot dogs (Renee), rolls (Donna) and popcorn (Renee). Renee will bring her popcorn machine from home. Christian will bring seasonings/toppings/containers for the popcorn.**
- ◆ **Seleen will create a sign-up sheet** to circulate in church for the rest of the food we will need.
- ◆ Kids should bring sleeping bags, bean bags, blankets to sit on - will be showing the movie in the basement. **Seleen will bring a projector and screen.**
- ◆ Free screening of the movie in exchange for a **free will offering - Jo will take care of this.**

→ 2019/2020 Group Activities & Projects

- ◆ **FALL Activity: Secret Pals**
 - Committee generated a list of adults.
 - Kids will draw names at the kickoff event.
 - Christian will put together little brown sacks with name tags on them; kids will fill the sack with a little something for their Secret Pal and place them on their pew the first Sunday of the month.
 - Secret Pals will be revealed the Sunday before Christmas.
- ◆ **FALL Project: Shoebox Ministry**
 - The kids will be doing this as a group with the Adult Sunday School Class on **November 3rd.**
 - Have congregation start bringing in items to fill the boxes; teens can separate items into bins for the day we fill the boxes.
 - No lessons on this day.
- ◆ **SPRING Activity: Monthly Memory Verses**
- ◆ **SPRING Project: Heifer Project (or support Dani Paruch in some way?)**

FALL Fun



You Are Invited...

HAYRIDE TO NOB HILL CEMETERY

3 P.M. SUNDAY, OCT. 27
@ HANN HOME
ST. PAUL'S UCC

In association with our 185th anniversary service Sunday, Oct. 27, the Hann family cordially invites you to their home at 3 p.m. for a hayride over to the old cemetery in Nob Hill. We will tour the history and headstones associated with our church and return to the backyard for s'mores around the fire. Bring chairs to sit on and blankets to keep warm on the hayride. Soups and crockpots will be ready for everyone to enjoy for dinner. The more the merrier!

TRINITY'S COOKING!

OCTOBER 12 POTPIE SUPPER
OCTOBER 26 BBQ

What a delicious way to support the ministry of Trinity UCC! Join us for our famous Slippery Potpie Supper from 3:30-6:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12 at the Fort Loudon Community Center.

All-you-can-eat beef, ham, and chicken with sides of pepper slaw, applesauce, pickles, cake, onions, vinegar, coffee and punch. Eat-in or carry-out. Purchase adult take-out meals or quarts in single flavors.

Adults	\$9
Ages 7-12	\$5
Under 7	FREE!
Quarts	\$7

Dinner closes at 6:30 p.m. or when we run out. It's recommended to come early as we often sell out. Proceeds of both dinners benefit church projects. Cosponsored by Thrivent Financial.

FALL FUN NIGHT

6-8 P.M. FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25
TRINITY UCC

S'mores! Food! Games! Music!

All ages are welcome to join the youth and their church family for this fall get-together at Trinity's Pavilion.

FALL STUDY

FINANCIAL PEACE
ST. PAUL'S UCC

St. Paul's UCC is considering hosting a 7-week course based on the book, "Financial Peace" by Dave Ramsey. The course will be held during Adult Sunday School class at 9:30 a.m. It is open to the public and for anyone to participate. We will need a headcount to place an order for the books and materials. The cost is \$109 per household. If you are interested, please let Renee or Todd know. Learn more about "Financial Peace" at Dave Ramsey's website, www.daveramsey.com.



TRINITY

“All Saints Sunday”

In conjunction with Trinity’s 200th Anniversary we would like to honor, during our “All Saints Sunday”

service, members who have passed away. Looking at the pews every Sunday there are many empty seats that once held cherished members of our church. If you have a

loved one, relative or friend you would like to have honored and who was a member of Trinity please contact Marleen by October 20th or use the sign up sheet in the hallway.

Communion at Trinity

After many years of faithful service Rosie Shives and Sam and Betty Burns decided that they wished to retire from preparing communion for our services. A big thanks to you all for your service. Communion is held 11 times during the church year and takes about 1 hour or less to prepare each time. It may be prepared either right before the service or the day before the service. As “many hands make light work”, if you would be interested in helping with all or some communions please contact Linda Best so a schedule can be prepared.



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Scripture Readings

We need scripture readers! Please consider signing up to read the scripture during the service. There is a sign-up sheet outside of the Sanctuary on the bulletin board. We’d love to have you read to us.

Hebrews 10:24-25 New International Version (NIV)

²⁴ And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds,
²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.



Hebrews 10:24-25 The Message (MSG)

²²⁻²⁵ So let’s *do* it—full of belief, confident that we’re presentable inside and out. Let’s keep a firm grip on the promises that keep us going. He always keeps his word. Let’s see how inventive we can be in encouraging love and helping out, not avoiding worshipping together as some do but spurring each other on, especially as we see the big Day approaching.



TRINITY YOUTH FALL FUN NIGHT

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2019

6:00—8:00 pm

TRINITY UCC—PAVILLION

Please join us for fun, food, games and music!

If you would like to make a monetary

creative

YOUTH



donation please see Sharon Zeis. Thank you.



St. Paul's

TIME TO GET PACKING FOR SHOEBOXES

St. Paul's UCC will again be participating in the world's largest Christmas project of its kind, by packing shoeboxes filled with gifts of joy for children around the world. Mary Haubrick reports that since 2007, St. Paul's has donated a total of 454 boxes with simple gifts and the message of hope through Jesus Christ that these children are loved and not forgotten.

gotten.

Empty shoeboxes and information will be available at the church beginning Sunday, Oct. 6. You may also use your own empty cardboard shoebox or purchase a plastic shoebox with lid.

The Children and Adult Sunday School classes are going to fill boxes on November 3rd in lieu of lessons that day. You may start bringing in donations to fill the boxes any time. There will be a "collection area" for items in the upstairs Sunday School Room. A list of suggested items to donate is included in this newsletter.

DEADLINE FOR RETURNING THE FILLED BOXES TO ST. PAUL'S IS SUNDAY, NOV. 17.

A donation of \$9 is requested for each shoe box to help cover shipping and project costs. If you are not able to shop to fill a shoebox, you can still participate by your donations that will be a great help to this special ministry. A gift to Operation Christmas Child helps cover processing and shipping expenses and allows teams to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with children and their families. Make checks payable to Samaritan's Purse with a note on the memo line "Operation Christmas Child", and give donation to Mary Haubrick.



SUGGESTIONS TO PACK IN AN OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX

First determine the age category and gender for each box..... Boy or Girl

Age 2-4 years	Age 5-9 years	Age 10-14 years.
Crayons	Coloring Books	Pencil & Pens
Pencil Sharpener	Glue Sticks	Scissors
Small Notebook	Highlighters	Chalk
Watercolor Paint Set	Colored Pencils	Glitter
Small Crafting Kit	Paper (can be rolled to fit)	Post It Notes
Small Etch a sketch	Play Doh	Silly Putty
Card Games	Puzzle in small box	Pom Poms
Tape	Small Back Pack	Finger Puppets
Travel Size Games	Jump Rope	Balloons
Comb/Hair Brush	Hair ties...barrettes..ribbons	Bracelet
Bandana	Hat Cap or knitted	Sunglasses
Socks	Ball of any sport	Scarf
Toothbrush (Toothpaste cannot be included !)		Washcloth
Bar of soap..(Put in plastic bag to keep scent contained)		Chap stick
Travel Pack of Tissues	Flashlight with extra batteries	Harmonica
Plastic Cup	Matchbox cars,trucks,etc.	Dolls
Flip Flop shoes	Small Stuffed Animals	Doll Accessories
T Shirts	Pants...short or long	Dresses



FOR OLDER BOYS:

Tools—hammer, screwdriver, wrench or pliers, duct tape, measuring tape
 Small Fishing Kit, fishing line, hooks Binoculars
 Watch Collapsible Water Bottle Small calculator
 Handkerchief Soccer ball (collapsed) and Ball Pump

FOR OLDER GIRLS:

Small sewing kit Clip on earrings Jewelry
 Coin Purse Ink Pad and stamp set Colored Sharpies

A friendship bracelet with extra string so they can make more.



DO NOT INCLUDE: Used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures; Candy or food; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans

TOYS: include items that children will immediately embrace such as dolls, toy cars, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, balls, toys that light up and make noise (with extra batteries), etc.

- **SCHOOL SUPPLIES:** pens, pencils and sharpeners, crayons, markers, notebooks, paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.
- **NON-LIQUID HYGIENE ITEMS:** toothbrushes, bar soap, combs, washcloths, etc.
- **ACCESSORIES:** t-shirts, socks, hats, sunglasses, hair clips, jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries), etc.
- **A PERSONAL NOTE:** You may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself or your family. If you include your name and address, the child may be able to write back.
- *Additional tips that may help:* **DO NOT PACK ANY CANDY OR TOOTHPASTE !**

Remove packaging from your items so that you allow for more room in your box and so that they don't have much trash to throw away.

2019

OCTOBER

3 Rosie Shives
6 Donna House
7 Betty Burns
12 Connor McElhinny
13 Zereau Higgins
15 Kimberly Pryor
Matt Pryor
17 Loy Garber
Karen Rosenberry
18 Jeanne Sweeney
18 Benson Mester
19 Barb Hurst
21 Cecil Mester
24 Bethany Wynn
Skip Daniels
25 Kadence Lake
28 Mary Lou Fritz
29 Linda Garber
30 Amanda Zeis



Trinity's Ushers:

Betty and Sam Burns

St. Paul's Ushers:

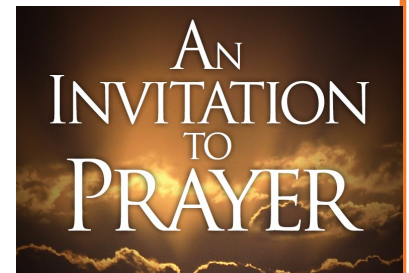
Scott, Theo, Henry Arwood

St. Paul's Flowers:

Seleen Shives and Jody Shimer



**Jane Houghland, Linda Best's Mother
Bill Anderson
Family of Frank Mellott
Chase Andrews
Hunter Buterbaugh
Tyler Long
Charlie Pryor
Bill and Ann Hays
Donna Keefer
Betty Keefer
Barb Hurst and family
Korbyn
Mary Haubrick
Skip and Betty Daniels
Nicole Hummel
Carl and Carol Mellott
Evelyn Zeis and family
Dennis Hess
Robert Door
Nancy Barmont
Sawyer and Jan Bye family
Meril Feters
Military and families
All Sunday school classes
Our Church & ministries
Prayers for the following pregnancies:
Jenna (Armstrong) Wilhelm
Bethany (Crouse) Wynn
Amanda Zeis
Kara Hess**



If you have any additions or corrections to the prayer list or the birthday list, please contact the church office, mcbucc@embarqmail.com



If you would like to get your newsletter emailed to you, please send an email with your name to: mcbucc@embarqmail.com and help us save paper and postage. Thank You!

2019



OCTOBER

Wednesday, October 2

St. Paul's Christian Education Committee meet 6:30 p.m.

Trinity Choir practice, 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, October 6

World Wide Communion, 9:00 a.m. (both churches)

St. Paul's SS "Sunday Funday"

Both churches Thank Offering (St. Paul's-\$100.00 of the morning offering will be sent to Neighbors in Need)

St. Paul's Contemporary Worship Service and Luncheon, bring a covered dish to share

Tuesday, October 8

Trinity Consistory meeting, 7:00 a.m.

Wednesday, October 9

St. Paul's Church Women meet at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 12

Trinity Potpie Supper, 3:30 p.m. –

Sunday, October 13

Trinity Elder Care Collection (every second Sunday)

Tuesday, October 15

St. Paul's Consistory meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 20

Trinity Building Fund offering (every third Sunday)

Friday, October 25

Trinity Youth Harvest Party

Saturday, October 26

Trinity Fall Chicken BBQ, 10:30 a.m. – lunch

Thursday, October 31

Trinity Trick or Treat 6-7 a.m. and Community Halloween Party, 7-8 a.m.

St. Paul's Halloween to be announced

Things to be on the look out for...

Sunday, November 3 Shoebox packing party, the kids will be doing this as a group with the Adult SS class. Asking the congregation to start bringing in items to fill boxes, teen class can separate items into bins for the box filling day.



St. Paul's UCC

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Trinity UCC

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www.ucc.org

www.mercersburgassociation.wordpress.com