

FRIENDLY NEWSCASTER

OCTOBER 2011
Volume 1, Issue 10

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"We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ."- Thessalonians 1:1-3, NRSV

Dear Friends,

The heart of the Apostle Paul overflows with a goodly theme, and it shows itself in these earliest verses written to the congregation at Thessalonica. The congregation, against some tall obstacles, is standing firm in the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ. The people there demonstrate gracious hospitality and loving outreach on behalf of the community around them. They face social pressure and even persecution, because their standards and values are no longer a part of the culture that has influenced them in the past.

These are ever and always features of the church of Jesus Christ. We are, indeed, people living "within" the world, grappling with it's problems and issues of pain, but we are not people "of" the world. We belong to Jesus Christ and his style of living is the inspiration for all we say and do. We proceed through our days with a "steadfastness of hope," because, moment by moment, we belong to Christ and in the really big picture of things we have a home eternal in the heavens with Christ, no matter the trials and temptations and afflictions we face in this world.

This is the steady hope I see shining within you good folks of St. Paul's. We live at a time when economic stresses are high, jobs are scarce, home values are deflated. We live in a society that scarcely knows what the value of a faith community should be; recent statistics show that eighty percent of young people under the age of twenty have never set foot inside a church. We live in a society wherein pressures are exerted upon us, regarding how we should act and dress and what correct politics we should follow. Yet there is encouragement for our spirits and a joyfulness of our hearts whenever we gather in this congregation for worship and service and learning and fellowship. "Steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ" is indeed the characteristic which enables us to stride lightly through this world.

My prayers are filled with thanksgiving for the love and compassion evident throughout this community of faith.

Yours In Christ,

Pastor Dennis



OCTOBER SPECIAL DAYS:

Birthdays

2 Sally Kern
3 Barbara Pate
3 Skylar Chinault
4 Jane Bankert
5 Ginny Thoman
5 Karlee Bosley
7 Toni Bollinger
7 Kelly Fritz
8 Brook Senft
10 Deborah Fake
11 Dwight Shaffer
11 Joy Gobrecht
12 Layne Stover
15 Grant Kern
19 Annie Delp
19 Samantha Syester
19 Noah Church
19 Tanner Hoffman
21 Steve Hoke
29 Marcie Riddle

**A Happy Belated Birthday to Mike Bollinger. Mike's birthday was September 29.



Baptismal Birthdays

2 Linda Herman
14 Diane Klinedinst
20 Cody Bollinger
24 Timothy Jacoby
24 Robert Henry
25 William Bankert



Wedding Anniversaries

2 Steve & Sally Kern
6 Stefan & Sara Hartman
14 Michael & Deb Fake
17 Larry & Sara Bare
17 Jim & Michele Wherley
25 Travis & Jess Hoffman

Please remember the following in your prayers:

Members

Bob & Deb Henry
John Slenker
Families in crisis

Members & Friends in assisted living and nursing homes

Janet Booz
Gerry Gentzler
Grace Gladfelter
Mildred Gobrecht
John and Rachel Lau
Anna Smith
Jeannie Wallick
June Whitecomb

Members of the military and their families

Eric Brown
Chris Glass (Husband of Sarah Glass)
Matthew Mitzel
Brian Miller
Jake Pate (civilian)
David Stricker Jr.
Benjamin White

Friends

Jo Feeser
Noah Wischhusen
Catharine Dubarow
Janet Zeigler
Kristen Shank

October Offerings:

Sunday School: Freedom Paths Ministries
Worship: Neighbors in Need

Please contact the church office (stpaulsstoverstown@comcast.net , 225-6357) or Nancy at 225-4443 to make corrections or additions to the newsletter contents.

Grocery cards may be purchased following worship each week. This program is an easy way for us to increase funds for our budgetary needs. See Maryann Brenneman or Joyce Kain if you have questions about how to get started.

School Kit Thank You!!

Thanks to the generous response from our congregation, 50

school kits were put together on September 4th during our Sunday School time. These



kits were delivered to Church World Service in New Windsor, MD. The extra items will be given to children locally through Access, York.

Please consider **saying yes** to Matt Gobrecht in his quest to fill leadership positions. Better yet, seek out Matt and volunteer for a **committee, Consistory, or delegate** to the wider church activities.

Check this out

Choir rehearsals (Thursday evenings):

- + Sonshine Singers (for ages 3 to 3rd grade) 6:30 – 7:00
- + Yahweh Singers (4th grade on up) 7:00
- + Shalom Choir (High School on up) 7:30
- + The Agape group rehearse on the Thursday evening prior to the first Sunday – the band practices at 6:30 and the singers at 7:00

Contact Joy Gobrecht (225-0540) for more information.

College Address for
Garrett Bollinger:
1155 Tremont Street #8008
Roxbury Crossing, MA 02120

STARS: Our congregation has been chosen by Penn Central Conference for the Striving To Achieve Real Stewardship award for 2010. This is based upon several criteria in our church life and our stewardship. Congratulations to all of us as we move forward in faith and service. A PDF copy of the award is sent along with this newsletter.

Bible Study Continuing!

The Bible Jesus Read (An exploration of our Old Testament) by Philip Yancy will be our Bible Study for Wednesday evenings this fall. When Jesus meditated on God’s word he used the Psalms, the Prophets and the Books of Moses; it’s where Jesus relationship with God was formed and nurtured. It is great for us to have several weeks in which we may become more comfortable in reading and interpreting these Old Testament scriptures.

We will meet each Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., beginning September 28, in the church Narthex.

More Upcoming/Continuing Events...

Tupperware anyone? The Outreach and Fellowship Committee will be coordinating a Faith Challenge fund-raiser by having Tupperware brochures available from mid-October through mid-November. Christmas is just around the corner and the containers and gadgets may be just the things to make cooking, baking, and storing much better. Many other items for general home use are available for purchase.

York Association and Penn Central Conference events: Check the attached York Association newsletter for information about events (many involving good food) held at various UCC churches and other special places, notable, the **Hartman Center Fall Festival** to be held Saturday October 15.

Harvest Home was held Sunday, September 18. Our gifts of food and money help to support the York Rescue Mission. Thank you for your support!



Nancy's church **office hours:** Monday, Wednesday, Thursday: 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Bulletin information must be in on Wednesday as they are printed on Thursday.

Remember to help fill our **Food Pantry** cart. In addition to food items, paper and cleaning products are also accepted.

St. Paul's receives requests for assistance when families incur hardships. These requests may be received when individuals have become unemployed, when fire or other disasters have destroyed homes or when illness has made it impossible to continue working on a regular basis. The Consistory has approved establishing an **Emergency Assistance Fund**. This fund is not part of our annual budget, but members can make donations through offering envelopes at anytime by just making a notation of the amount and designating it to the Emergency Assistance Fund or by using the envelopes designated for Special Offerings in the pew racks. The Officers of Consistory will be preparing guidelines for use of funds in the account and will evaluate requests to determine the level of assistance. A form will be available for members of the congregation to make confidential requests. Funds will not be given directly to individuals, but checks will be written and made payable to utilities, social services or other such organizations. Gift cards to grocery stores will be another option for helping when appropriate. You may, at anytime, contribute to the fund through offering envelopes. If you have any questions regarding this fund, please speak with a Consistory member.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION / SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

SKY GROUP NEWS—Check out the web site page devoted to Christian Education information (http://stpaulsstoverstown.org/MAIN_PAGES/christian_ed.htm) for upcoming events. Oct. 17 is a tentative date for a camp-out and Dec. 3rd is slated for a Progressive Dinner.

The Christian Education committee is excited to welcome everyone to join a Sunday School class! This fall the classes for children and youth, and adult class led by Chip Hoover will all be using a **brand new curriculum**. This curriculum is based on the weekly scriptures shared during the worship service and the teachers are excited to try it with their students!

Classes will be divided for PreKindergarten and Kindergarten, students grades 1-4 and youth (fifth grade on up). In addition to the Willing Workers class with Chip, there will be an adult discussion class. The First Place for Health class (see information below) will continue, led by Sally Kern and Jean Weidler. Even if you did not participate in this program last year, they are welcoming new members. See Sally or Jean for more information.

Children's Worship will continue during the 10:15 am Worship Services as well. This year, we will be splitting our children into two different age groups - children age 4 through Kindergarten and children in grades 1 -4. Dates are listed on the calendar. Please see any member of the Christian Education Committee if you have any questions about our Sunday School or Children's Worship program: Pastor Dennis, Tim Bankert, Darlene Hoover, Shannon Kern, Jen Miller, Nancy Miller, Terry Miller.

The **First Place For Health Class** will meet again this fall during the Sunday School hour. We are exploring materials to use for our weekly discussion which will focus on total body wholeness – heart, soul, body and mind. In addition to meeting on Sunday morning, several members gather to walk one night a week and also to do aerobic exercise one night a week. If you are interested in learning more about this class or the exercise time, please talk to Jean Weidler or Sally Kern or join us on Sunday mornings.

LAY LIFE ANNOUNCEMENTS / HELPERS

Council for Lay Life and Work will be collecting membership dues for the Homewood Auxiliary following worship on Sunday, October 16th and Sunday, October 23rd. The low cost of \$2.00 per member helps provide extra special support to the residents of Homewood's retirement facilities.

Beginning Monday October 10 at 7:00 PM Lay Life will be sponsoring a Bible study series titled, "Real Women, Real Faith", life-changing stories from the Bible for women today. The short DVD will be followed by a time of discussion. The first lesson is "Eve, Finding Lasting Contentment in the Truth". Everyone is welcome to attend as you are able the second Monday of each month.

The Kitchen Committee will be preparing a meal for **Our Daily Bread** on Wednesday, September 28th. Please note change in date. We will be making turkey pot pie and are **asking for sheet cakes for dessert. All donations will be appreciated.**

St. Paul's is honored to welcome **Rev. Matthias Ratz**, a newly ordained pastor from Germany during a 9:00 am breakfast social time October 8 at Ryan's restaurant at 341 Eisenhower Drive. Rev. Ratz will be among us and two congregations in the Gettysburg Association during the next six months as part of an exchange program between Penn Central Conference and the UEK(Union Evangelischer Kirchen).

Oct	Acolytes	Greeters	Lay Readers	Nursery
2	Cole Sterrett	Cindy Gruver & Joyce Dubbs	Jen Fritz	Jen Fritz
9	Kayce Gentzler	John & Jeni Brenneman	Dan Fake	Jess Hoffman
16	Drue Allison	Bill & Jane Bankert	Skip Clancy	Darcey & Jena Hull
23	Caitlin Hoffman	Sterling & MarySauble	Joy Gobrecht	Juanita Bupp
30	Kira Hull	Mark Sterrett Family	John Brenneman	Shannon Kern

ATTENTION ALL CROP WALKERS!!!!!!! This year's CROP Walk will be held on **Sunday, October 9th**. You can choose to walk in either York or Jefferson. Registration for the York Walk begins at 12:30 p.m. at Sovereign stadium, and the walk starts at 1:30. Registration for the Jefferson Walk begins at 1 p.m. at Hanover Junction, and the walk starts at 1:30. In addition, the Hanover Walk will be held at South western High School on **Sunday, October 16th**, with registration at 12:30 and the walk at 1 p.m. Thanks to all for your walking and for your monetary support!