



THE MESSENGER

OUR MISSION IS TO GROW IN FAITH, TO WORSHIP GOD, TO SERVE OTHERS, AND TO WELCOME ALL.

All Church Picnic with Messy Church



June 13 and July 11 at 4 PM
East Snyder Park



“ God says, “Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.” (Isaiah 43: 18-19)

This devotion by Dan Martin from Richfield UCC touched my heart. Dan presented it at the UCC Central Association meeting. I hope it will inspire you and give you hope.

I am wearing my heart on my sleeve a little bit today. I am transitioning through a lot of personal change if I may share. I am all too suddenly facing retirement age; becoming a grandfather for the first time; have been dealing with some unexpected health issues; and reading too many obituaries of both friends and strangers who are my age, or younger. I don't know what I want to be when I grow up, and, well, numerically and biologically, that time has come and gone. All the books and experts say by now my life should be stable and on firm foundation – and yet every day, chaos seems to be my middle name, the only direction I know is “any”; and I am as stable as a sandcastle in an earthquake. So now, what... How did I just turn around and in the blink of an eye, my child is grown. I have pinned two different careers, and I am old. The hair is gray, there is drooping and sagging where it just shouldn't be and my sense of adventure consists of deciding between chocolate or butter brickle.

I will be the first to admit that it is very easy to fall into the dark chasm called “If

only I had”. It's a very dangerous place to go because it wants to suck you in and toss you about in its churning waters of regret, self-denial and missed opportunity.

And then I think of what can I do. At one time, many years ago, I painted... and I liked it. To see my granddaughter means I will have the opportunity to travel to Seattle again...and I have always wanted to cross country by Canadian rail and by car. And you can't just travel to the Mediterranean just once...for once you go, there is an inherent call to go back. At the age when getting down is not as difficult as getting up...we've decided to plant a huge vegetable and flower garden at the side of the house...and I don't like vegetables.

I am transitioning. You are transitioning. Every living thing; every organization; even inanimate things, if you will, transition. Change. We build on our past to create our future. We move from “basic” to “new and improved”. The decisions we make; the paths we follow, all serve to take us on a direction of self-discovery; new outcomes and realizations. And so it is.

Jeremiah 29 details Jeremiah's letter from Jerusalem to the elders, priests, prophets, and all the people who had

been exiled to Babylon by King Nebuchadnezzar. Verse 11 reads: “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

These are words for us today. Our theme today is so on point for the church universal. “May we grow back not to what was but instead towards what we can become”. When we don't understand the life situations unfolding about us; when we seem to be dazed by the disorder of our world; when we long for Mayberry of a time and period lost, there is the constancy of God, ever-present; never-changing who reminds us of His plan; HIS PLAN, in His time, on His terms, but ALWAYS, ALWAYS about and for us – plans to give us hope and a future.

Not one of us knows what the next hour or years holds for our individual lives, our church's future; or our world's order. But two things are certain...the future WILL become the present...too soon and without fanfare and God WILL be with us, for us, strengthening and guiding us. God will have his say, because God has his plan, and God will prevail.

No harm, no hurt...but to give us hope and a future.

Cont'd on page 3

ALL CHURCH PICNIC WITH MESSY CHURCH



Join us for an **All Church Picnic** in the Park with Messy Church at East Snyder Park at the end of University Avenue on Sundays June 13 and July 11 at 4:00 PM. We will provide hot-dogs, chips and cookies. In order to cut down on waste, we encourage you to please bring your own dishes and silverware, but we will also have paper products available.

Please invite your friends and neighbors for a relaxing Sunday afternoon where we can reconnect with one another and enjoy each other's company after this dreadful pandemic. Shane Sanders will offer a tour of the Community Garden and the Green Team will provide some sustainability resources. We will still be cautious to offer single serve food items and will use hand sanitizer and wipes. If you are not yet ready to take off your mask, please wear it. Bring your own lawn chair and beverage.

Please let us know if you plan to come so we can ensure we have enough food and crafts prepared. Please register [on our website](#) or call the church office (570-374-8749). In case of inclement weather on June 13, we will postpone our Picnic in the Park with Messy Church to July 11.

Our theme for June is Don't Bury Your Talents, and our theme for July is Jonah's Messy Olympics. The Messy Church Team has all kinds of fun (some messy) activities planned, that even the adults may enjoy. Come dressed for play, not in your Sunday's finest!

All are invited. You can just sit and watch the kids play and chat with friends. We can't wait to see many of you at this picnic.

Sigrid and the Messy Church Team

Cont'd from page 2

Transition, change,,, what is there to fear...only that which we fail to place in the hands of God. We can choose to live in the past, to drown in the waters of the Sea of What if, to allow ourselves to be paralyzed by the fear of change that we miss the opportunity to enjoy new expe-

riences, engage new relationships; and evolve ourselves and the church into what we can become.

Let us pray:

Gracious and glorious God – we come before you today ready to be your servants in a world that calls us to be all we can be in discipleship. You call us into

fellowship with you to BE the church in a world sorely lacking in compassion, understanding, kinship, justice and love. May we as your people and as your church grow back not to what was but instead towards what we can become - that we may all be one. In your Son's most holy name , Amen.

CELEBRATING ST. PAUL'S GRADUATES

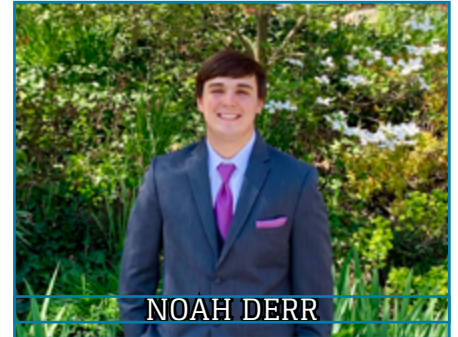
We celebrated the great achievement of St. Paul's High School and college graduates in worship on Sunday, May 16. We are so very proud of them! The following students graduated from High School: Mason Beaver, Hailey Bingaman, Megan Campbell, Noah Derr, Jillian Haddon, Natalie Imhoof, Luke Lybarger, Isabel Proger, Marley Showers, Jessica Smith, and Cullen Straub. From College graduated Eric Dahlmann and Abby Wolfe. We blessed those who were able to join us in worship and wished them Godspeed! All of the graduates received a small gift from St. Paul's. Here you see the pictures and brief info on those graduates who provided us with it. We pray for blessings, guidance, and God's presence to surround these special graduates. Congratulations!



I love playing sports. I am grateful for being able to attend a college to further my education. I hope I am able to stay healthy and injury free while playing soccer in college. I will be attending the Pennsylvania College of Technology to major in Plastics and Polymer Engineering, and continue my soccer career.



I love playing field hockey and spending time with my friends and family. I'm grateful for my close friends and family, especially my parents. I'm also thankful that I am a part of such a great community. I am attending Wilkes University this coming fall. I am majoring in nursing and playing field hockey.



Spending time with my family and friends brings me joy. I love fishing, playing soccer, drawing, enjoying school activities such as Honors Choir and attending other sports to support my friends. I'm grateful for my health, family and friends, and having the opportunity to attend college. I hope for a great 5 years at Alvernia University and look forward to meeting new people. I am attending Alvernia University for Occupational Therapy.



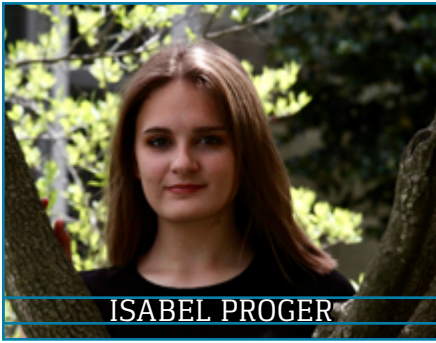
I like racing and working on cars and cruising with my friends in the cars that we work on. I'm grateful to have been able to live the life I've had so far and for every opportunity, past, present and future. And the next steps in my life's journey are: Currently I'm working on my apartment that I have with my girlfriend that her family owns in Bedford County, and I have a job at JLG that I'm starting soon.



I find great passion in making art. Whether that is dancing ballet, drawing, or singing, it makes me very happy. I am incredibly grateful for my loved ones and for being able to grow up with such an open and inviting community like Saint Paul's. I am also very grateful for my relationship with God and how it continues to blossom as I learn to place trust in him. One of the next steps I am taking on my journey in life will be attending Susquehanna University for graphic design.



I love to travel and spend time with my family and friends. Snowboarding and playing tennis are some activities that bring me joy. I am grateful for my family, my friends, and my dog, Rudy. I hope for new opportunities to grow as a person and meet new people who share similar interests and goals. I am going to attend college at Syracuse University and major in engineering.



ISABEL PROGER

I am very passionate about my art-work and using it to make a positive difference in the lives of others. I am eternally grateful for my family, friends, and community who have continually supported and inspired me in everything I do. I will be attending Juniata College this fall to study biology and art.



JESSICA SMITH

Friends and family bring me joy. I love to play soccer, going shopping, and hanging out with friends. I am grateful for everything God has given me, a house, food, family and friends who love me. My next steps are to go to Walsh University in Ohio for physical therapy and to play for their women's soccer team.



ABBY WOLFE

Spending time with animals brings me joy. I love being with my dog back home, or my new housemate, a labradoodle. I'm grateful to have grown up in this small town with a supportive church community and family. I'm also thankful to have met some lifelong friends in college. I'm finishing up the school year as an Occupational Therapist at 2 public schools in western PA. I hope to spend some time traveling this summer.

THANK YOU NOTES

I want to thank the congregation for all the cards and well wishes. I appreciate all that you have done in contacting me with prayers. I am still in a sling for at least 3 more weeks . Physical therapy started with limited movement. Thank you !!!!

Lori Rathfon

To my St. Paul's family,

Words cannot express my appreciation for all the support shown to me during my recent recovery from surgery.

I am so thankful for all the cards, the flowers, the phone calls from Pastor Dietmar checking on my progress - but more importantly all your thoughts and

prayers!

I know our Lord is the great healer but I also know the power of prayer!

Thank you again from the bottom of my heart!

I'll see you in church!

Love & hugs,
Cheryl Reddinger



Congratulations to Daria and Ty Richline from all their friends at St. Paul's as they got married in Williamport on May 22 with Pastor Dietmar officiating. Daria and Ty have been coming to St. Paul's for worship and have volunteered with the Loaves and Fishes food outreach ministry.

May 2021

Covid-19 Guidance

ST. PAUL'S UCC



MASKS

If you are fully vaccinated (two weeks after your last shot), you can be present in the church building without a mask. If you are not yet fully vaccinated, please continue to wear a mask at all times while at St. Paul's.

SINGING

We are not singing at St. Paul's at this time.

SOCIAL DISTANCING

We are observing social distancing at all times at St. Paul's whether it is in worship service or during committee meetings.

CARING

Please be patient and understanding while we are emerging from the pandemic. We all are at our own comfort level, both physically and emotionally. We thank you for your support!

If you have any questions, please contact Council president Susan Bolig at (570) 898-0574 or Pastor Dietmar at (570) 541-0121.



KITCHEN CUPBOARD DONATIONS

We are asking that all donations be stopped until further notice. This is due to the Community Action Agency taking on the role of providing emergency food needs to our community during Covid-19. We will revisit their needs when CAA discontinues this service and/or specific items are needed for the SACC Holiday food boxes. Thank you for your continued support of this and all ministries!

Randy Tanner,
Volunteer Coordinator



LOAVES AND FISHES

APRIL 2021

Total families 58
Total children 23
Total adults 44
Total seniors 56
Total persons served 123



FROM THE MUSIC COMMITTEE

As the country moves toward various versions of normal, I'm hoping the CDC soon let's us singers know we can rehearse and sing for the congregation again. Stand by.

Our summer music program will be similar to other years, except we can still use recorded videos too. We've been inspired by soloists, duets, and more. Musicians, this is the call to use your gifts for St. Paul's. Please make your plans now and let me know: Rudnitsky@rhplegal.com.

— Marv

PRAYER LIST

Members:

Al & Dot Deans
 Helen Hannah
 David Lauer, Sr.
 Sally Lauer
 Jack Lewis
 Cheryl Reddinger
 Allen Wetzel

Friends:

Darrell DeMar
 Ginny Lloyd
 The family of Delia Ludwig
 The family of Mike
 The family of Dolores Tanner
 The family of Jerry Turner
 All affected by Covid-19
 All who lost their jobs
 All who keep working in critical situations, especially the health care workers

All who are grieving
 Those in leadership positions
 Our country - for peace, respect, understanding

Special prayers for all those who are serving in the military, leaders of the world, those who are working for peace and understanding, and all the children of the world.

JUNE & JULY BIRTHDAYS



		7/01	Robyn Carper Angela Hoot
		7/02	Bruce Burkhart
		7/03	Mason Beaver Daniel Brian Herrold
6/01	Lauren Shambach	7/05	Landyn Lukens
6/02	Michael Bingaman	7/06	Danika Burd
6/03	Robert Drumheiser Sorley Mercer	7/08	Erin Smith
6/04	Diane Spoons	7/09	Carolyn Fairl Henry Lewis Jacob Smith
6/05	Donnell Kelly		
6/07	Edna Gingrich Clema Kline Melinda Martin	7/10	Beverly Brown Brenda Campbell
6/08	Michael Proger	7/11	Angela Brouse
6/09	Ivana Lluveras	7/13	Russ Delp Riley Hermann
6/10	William Weader		
6/12	Lori Kershner Archie Passmore	7/15	Dan Herrold Kathy Rising
6/13	Bill Bowers Patty Erdly	7/16	Stacey Hawk
6/14	Nolan Derk Dietmar Plajer	7/17	Sam Edmiston Duane Rigel Sara Wenrich
6/15	Bob Bressler Ellen Miller	7/19	Bryan Lybarger
6/18	Magnolia McCabe Rebecca Wilson	7/21	Timothy Reed
6/19	Chyrl Gemberling Suzanne Radel	7/22	Janeen Longer
6/20	Patricia Gordon	7/24	Peter Namet
6/25	Beverly Heinemann	7/25	Wyatt Allan Beaver Susan Bolig Mary Ann Weader
6/26	Chris Burd Don Sears	7/26	Debra Witkop Michael A. Zettlemoyer
6/27	Trevor Garbo	7/29	Noah Derr Wendy Houck
6/28	Wilbur Reddinger		Troy Frymoyer
6/30	Tanya Loss	7/30	Gavin Taylor

JUNE & JULY



ANNIVERSARIES

6/01	Sharon & Andrew Womer
6/02	Stacey & Rick Hawk
6/03	Linda & Ray Adams Darin & Jaime Namminga
6/05	Fritz & Beverly Heinemann Kyle & Jennifer Kelly
6/06	Tami & Michael Long
6/08	Jim & Jane Taylor
6/09	Kara & Jason Taylor Corey & Ruthann Troup
6/14	Sara & Josh Wenrich
6/17	Mary Ann & Bill Weader
6/20	Sally & Barry Hayhurst
6/22	Helen & David Hannah
6/25	Casara & Nathen Beaver Michael & Cheryl Gibson-Doyne
6/27	Angela & Jeremy Brouse
6/28	Sue & Lamar Henise
6/30	Sharon & Charles McCuen Allen & Sue Wetzel
7/08	Bob & Dolores Bressler
7/12	Gene & Wendy Houck
7/20	Steve & Kelly Feiler
7/21	Jeffrey & Lisa Taylor
7/22	Janeen & Joe Longer

St. Paul's Council Meeting May 11, 2021

In Attendance: Sara Adams, Marty Blessing, Susan Bolig, Rick Campbell, Amy Caron, Bob Engel, Beverly Heinemann, Jack Lewis, Peggy Peeler, Pastor Dietmar Plajer, Shane Sanders, Linda Turner, Kathy Ulrich.

Excused: Stacey Heinemann, Ivana Lluveras.

Devotions: Marty Blessing – Romans 8:28.

Minutes: A motion was made by Linda Turner and seconded by Jack Lewis to approve the minutes from April 13th. The motion was approved.

Financial Report: Linda Turner reported. Bob Engel motioned to accept the financial report as read. Rick Campbell seconded, and the motion was approved.

Pastor's Report: Included in newsletter.

Unfinished Business & New Business:

- **Worship in person, via internet and by phone- How do you feel it is going? Any suggestions or concerns?** Nothing will be changing for the time being. We will continue to hold service in person, online and over the phone. The amount of greeters needed was discussed and it was decided that only one greeter is needed for now.
- **Messy Church** - Sigrid Plajer reported: We have a smaller number of people signed up for this Sunday because it's May and the weather is nicer, so people are outside. For June and July, it will be held outside and Messy Church will host more of a church-wide event, not just "Messy Church". Not everyone who comes has to do Messy Church. As part of the event, Shane will facilitate a tour of the Community Garden across the street for anyone interested. These will take place June 13 and July 11.
- **Media Policy** – Sigrid Plajer and Jevan Beaver wrote a media policy to ensure that we are following copyright laws during our live broadcast. The media policy will be shared with anyone who submits anything that would be broadcasted during service. Linda Turner moved to adopt the Policy (available upon request), which was seconded by Jack Lewis and approved by the council.
- **"Planning for the Fall Program Year - small groups; worship; etc. - Pastor Dietmar invites your thoughts, feelings, experience, feedback"** – Kick off Sunday – basic theme of prayer and different aspects of prayer. This would include a parallel study to go along with it. It would also be great to have a small group where people who are new to St. Paul's can plug in to St. Paul's. Grief support group offered with the support of Lois Bruno. Support groups are one of the greatest things that churches can offer, so where and how can we create more opportunities for community?
- **When is it safe and advisable for Pastor Dietmar to take off his mask while speaking during worship?** Some members of the congregation have commented that they would like Pastor Dietmar to remove his mask while he's speaking in order to better understand him when he's speaking. Pastor Dietmar does not want people to think he isn't being safe and wanted to wait until he was fully vaccinated and had approval from the Council. We discussed that if Pastor Dietmar is feeling safe taking off his mask, he will remove it when he is actively speaking at the podium.
- **Treasurer Position Report/update:** Marty reported on the proposed re-written job description and salary range, as well how the position is to be advertised – in the eNews for 2 weeks. Rick Campbell moved to approve the proposals connected to the treasurer position, with a second by Jack Lewis, and it was approved by the council.
- **Bob Engel and Marty Blessing attended the UCC Central Association Annual Meeting on Sunday, April 25, at 3:00pm via Zoom.** There was nothing of great consequence from the meeting that needed to be reported back to the council.
- **Dolly Klingler's funeral** went well according to the hospitality team's reports. Marty suggested that there be a quick overview/training session for the team of how some simple things get done – like dimming the lights or changing the parameters if requested by the family, etc.
- **Creation Care: When and how will we continue to learn, explore, act and advocate for Creation Care and become more sustainable congregation? - Green Team leader Shane Sanders:** The children's message for the upcoming Sunday is from the Green Team, and a tour of the garden was proposed to go along with the two Messy Church events in June and July. Outdoor gatherings can help people feel better and ease into events.
- **Pentecost Sunday, May 23. Rev. Carrie Call will give the message: Gathering after worship?** Two options were discussed: going out to a restaurant or staying in the church building and having pick up food style lunch in the lower level. The consensus is that as long as we don't need to use the kitchen, it would be better if it took place at the church. This is our chance to get to know her and Pastor Dietmar would invite any church member who wishes to attend.
- **Roof Repair Update Report:** Rick Campbell reported.

Mike Proger sent an email saying he talked to the roofer, but there wasn't an exact date to start. He will include tarring the Bridal Shop roof in the cost. Because of the rain, his schedule has been pushed back, so we just have to wait for him.

- **Wednesday Study Group School Class w/Nooma videos:** The group will take a summer break.
- **Visitation Ministry Coordinator:** Search is ongoing.
- **Fellowship Committee:** Something we need to be thinking about in the coming months.
- **What is St Paul's Vision:** We are postponing that discussion until Jan. 2022
- **Vacation Bible School:** We will not have one as there is currently no one to coordinate as we search for Stacy Heinemann's replacement.
- **2021 Graduates May 16:** Pastor Dietmar reached out to 11 High School graduates and 2 College graduates; 5-7 of them will be coming.
- **Pastor Dietmar is requesting vacation June 18-28th.** Rev. Darin Namminga will fill in both Sundays. Jack Lewis made the motion to approve the request, with a second by Bob Engel and unanimously approved by the council.

Committee Reports:

- **Personnel Report: Youth Leader, Choir Director, Children's Choir Director, Bell Choir Director:** Marty reported. What they need first is information from the chairs of the 2 affected committees (Music and Christian Ed) to come up with job descriptions/what they want. Amy Caron brought it up to Marv Rudnitsky for the Music committee, so TBD. They're just waiting to get that information. Pastor Dietmar reiterated his thanks to Stacy Heinemann for her

work.

- **Christian Education:** Sara Adams reported. There is no summer VBS. They'll connect with the Green Team/Shane about connecting Messy Church with the garden. We will discuss the OWL (Our Whole Lives - Sexuality Education) program for the fall.
- **Property and Grounds:** Rick Campbell reported (written report available upon request). The report was as detailed as possible, so he would be happy to answer any questions anyone may have.

Other Committee Reports

- **Finance Committee:** A recommendation was given to use memorial funds to purchase a visual and audio device that allows people to remotely join meetings in person. Peggy Peeler moved to approve the recommendation, Bev Heinemann seconded and the motion was approved.
- **East Snyder park "Everyone's Playground":** They are looking for donations for their project to build restrooms that are going to be handicapped accessible. The finance committee is recommending that we use \$1,000 of the funds in the account with the funds from the van sales to donate to that project. Susan suggested maybe we could also hold a "Rally Day" to support the project. Sara Adams made the motion to approve the recommendation and Linda Turner seconded, with the motion being approved.

Important Dates:

Next Council Meeting: June 8, 2021

Respectfully submitted,
Shane Sanders, Council Secretary

Spirit Week Camp - August 8-14 at Camp Mount Luther, Mifflinburg

I invite you to join me in participating in the Spirit Week Camp during the week of August 8-14! My soul breathes more freely outdoors. This camp will help you feel closer to God. It is a wonderful way to explore faith hands-on in a relaxed setting, playful, engaging. For sure, this camp will open you up to God and refresh your faith.

You have many options to choose from for children, youth, families, adults to participate as commuters or staying overnight, for one day, half a week, or for the whole week. And it's going to be very affordable. St. Paul's pays half the cost and the Penn Central Conference another 25%. You pay only a quarter of the cost and if money is an issue, let me know. You can find the camp brochure [on our church website](#). Please contact me at dietmar@saintpauls-ucc.org or 570-541-0121 for more info. Camp is one of the best ways to grow in faith and to feel close to God. I invite you to join me in Spirit Week Camp this August.



— Pastor Dietmar

Pastor's Report - April 2021

Our St. Paul's Mission is to grow in faith, to worship God, to serve others, and to welcome all.

"Dare to Dance Again: Rising with Jesus to a New Life" is our Easter Season worship theme. The Easter Pageant on April 4 was phenomenal. Thank you to Stacy Heinemann and Joanne Lauer for directing it and to Sigrid Plajer for editing it. It's moving and inspiring to have people share their gifts of dance with us as part of this "Dare to Dance Again" series: Becky Wilson and Rick Campbell, Brooke Alvieri (Susan Bolig's granddaughter) and the dancers of Laura Strawser's Susquehanna Valley Dance Company (Laura is Susan Bolig's daughter). Again, the worship team decorated the sanctuary to perfection! I'm grateful to all who provided Children's Messages in April, Jane Taylor and Joanne Lauer and for all who functioned as lectors, Bob Engel, Hailey Beaver, and Margaret Weirick.

Messy Church on April 18 focused on Caring for God's Creation, a theme in coordination with Earth Day. All participants receive the craft and snack items on their door step the day of Messy Church. I am grateful to all on the planning team who help children, families, and adults experience faith hands-on through arts, crafts, story, and games. In the summer we plan to be outdoors at East Snyder Park and Messy Church invites the whole congregation and friends of St. Paul's for an outing with crafts,

games, and picnic style food.

I participated in a book study on "White Too Long" by Roger Jones who vividly traces the influences of white supremacy through American Christianity. As followers of Jesus we are called to reckon with our past and seek ways of reconciliation. It's so much easier to live in denial than to wrestle with the demons of our nature and nation. "White advantage" seems to be more easily understood by many than "white privilege."

Together with Marty Blessing and Bob Engel I participated in the UCC Central Association Annual Meeting on April 25. I was touched by the devotion of Dan Martin, who painted a beautiful vision for us, inviting us to trust God wholeheartedly and to work toward the future God calls us to as we crawl out of the pandemic.

Several members of St. Paul's participated in the Interfaith Earth Day Worship service on April 20, focusing on the sacredness of the earth and the challenge to care for it as such. Creation Justice is a key moral challenge we are facing.

Dolly Klinger (91) died peacefully at home surrounded by her loving family on April 28. Caring for Dolly and her family as well as for others from our congregation who face challenging situations is a key aspect of my ministry that is demanding as well as rewarding. We cele-

brated Dolly's life, love, and legacy with a funeral service in St. Paul's sanctuary on May 3. A great thank you to the Hospitality Team and its leader Susan Bolig for making the visitation and funeral run smoothly.

Our Loaves and Fishes food outreach ministry continues to be a key support to local families in need. I am grateful to all who support this vital ministry and specifically to coordinator Randy Tanner.

I am grateful to Rev. Darin Namminga and Rev. Sally Dries for filling in and for being available for pastoral care emergencies while I was on vacation from April 5-11.

Thank you for your prayers, your witness, your giving, your service, and your faithfulness to God and to God's work through St. Paul's. You are the hands and heart of Jesus in action.

April 1-30, 2021

Days worked	18
Days off	05
Continuing Education	00
Vacation days	07
Holidays	00
Total Days	30

Respectfully submitted,
Pastor Dietmar Plajer



WHAT WE LEARN FROM THE VISIT OF OUR CONFERENCE MINISTER

It was a delight to have Rev. Dr. Carrie Call visit with us and deliver the message in worship on Pentecost Sunday, May 23. Carrie Call is a great leader. She holds a PhD from Cornell University, has a beautiful soul and loves the church deeply. She is also very practical and pragmatic, living by the motto, "Start where you are, do what you can, use what you have!"

In the conversation with our church leadership following our worship service Carrie Call shared what makes for vital

and vibrant congregations: Great leadership (lay and pastoral); clarity of mission and purpose (why are we here as St. Paul's, what is our purpose, what difference are we making in our community); meaningful and lively worship; a sense of joy; and resources (financial and human). Markers of great pastoral leadership are: Being grounded in faith and nurturing a spiritual life (being deeply connected to God through spiritual practices), having a sense of mission and vision for the future of the congregation, being emotion-

ally intelligent, and being organized.

Carrie Call noticed that we are very much alive as a congregation and are considered one of the large churches in the Penn Central Conference which is currently comprised of 175 churches. A great thank you to the Hospitality Team under Susan Bolig's leadership for making the Conference Minister and her husband feel welcome and for making a great time of sharing after the service possible!





St. Paul's United Church of Christ
an Open and Affirming congregation

400 North Market Street
Selinsgrove, PA 17870
Tel 570-374-8749
office@saintpauls-ucc.org
www.saintpauls-ucc.org

Worship Sunday at 10:00 AM
either on Facebook or our website

“God is Still Speaking”

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

We thank God for...



Rev. Dr. Carrie Call and Pastor Dietmar at the communion table.