



# Independence Day

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
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Rev. Patrick W. Morris	Senior Pastor	610-370-7226 (Home) 610-207-7361 (Cell)
Rev. John Folk	Associate Pastor	484-926-2546 (Home) 610-468-8200 (Cell)
Jill Haley	Music Ministry Coordinator	<a href="mailto:jilhaley@ptd.net">jilhaley@ptd.net</a>
Greta Ertel	Organist	<a href="mailto:ertelb@msn.com">ertelb@msn.com</a>

### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Sunday, July 2 – Saturday, July 8, 2016

**Hospitalized:** *If you or someone you know is hospitalized or ill, please call the church office at 610-944-0406. If you do not want the name listed in the bulletin, please notify the church office as well. Thank you for your help.*

**On-going Prayer Needs:** Ross McKently, Fern Shankweiler, Steven Sutherland, Elizabeth Ressler, Jane Folk, Bruce Schutt, Eleanor Wanner, Roger and Lilli Simon, Dennis Raudenbush, Brian Arndt



**Carl Bieber...** Please sign the "Thinking of You" card in the Narthex. It will be mailed tomorrow. **Please sign the birthday card for Mae Border. She will be 102 on July 6<sup>th</sup>**



**The pantry** will be collecting bottles of salad dressing and toppings to make a healthy salad for the families of the food bank. These items can be dropped off in the grocery cart in the church narthex or in the box by the church office.



1. In the interest of saving postage expense, we will NOT be sending out mid-year contribution statements as we have in previous years. If you would like a mid-year statement, please contact the church office.
2. This is a reminder that we will continue to take contributions to the sewer upgrade project. The estimated cost is 30,000 to \$50,000. At this point we have slightly more than \$20,000 committed. Thank you.
3. The 2016 Financial Report is available for pick-up in the Narthex or the church office.



**The Helping Hands Coordinator is Lynda Shenk. Contact her at 610-451-6732 or [shenklynda@gmail.com](mailto:shenklynda@gmail.com)**



**Prayer Shawl Group will not meet in July!**



## Christmas in July Toy Drive

We often use the term "Christmas in July" to feel cooler in the hot summer, to celebrate a joyful time of year in another month, at church to sing beloved Christmas carols, or in the case of stores, to run special sales. Perhaps we can take this idea a step further and reach out to children whose "real" Christmas is not always the happy time of year it may be for us.

Locally, each year Berks Connections/Pretrial Services and Opportunity House's [2nd Street Learning Center](#) are in need of gifts. BCPS hosts a Christmas party for the children of incarcerated parents. Gifts are distributed at the party. Opportunity House distributes gifts to the children at the learning center.

How can we help? An easy way to participate is to buy a gift for a less fortunate child in one of these programs. We hope to divide the gifts giving half to each group.

What kinds of gifts? Baby dolls, Barbie dolls, other dolls, clothes for these dolls, cars, trucks, footballs, soccer balls, craft kits, games, infant toys, most anything that your young children and grandchildren like to play with.

If you prefer, the Mission Committee will accept money donations and buy the gifts for these children.

Please see Laura Walizer or Leona Wright with any questions for information or clarification. **The Mission Committee thanks all of you for reaching out to a child in love and caring.** Here is a list of toys that are always kid "favorites": 1) Legos for all ages 2) Footballs, soccer balls, basketballs 3) Disney Princess toys and dolls 4) Disney DVD's and books 5) Crayola Art Sets 6) Playdoh sets 7) Matchbox cars and racetrack sets 8) Leapfrog toys for infants and toddlers 9) children's books, coloring books, stickers

Happy shopping! Toys can be dropped off in the Christmas box in the narthex and outside the church office.



## Youth Ministry Scrips Gift Card Fundraiser

Support St. Paul's Youth Ministry by purchasing gift cards for groceries, gas, restaurants, & clothing at over 375 retailers like Sheetz, Weis, Giant, Dunkin Donuts, Target, Walmart, & Olive Garden. The complete list can be found in the social room or at [www.shopwithscrips.com](http://www.shopwithscrips.com). Each card has a

rebate of 2% to 16% that comes back to the Youth Group. Cards can be ordered at any time and there will be some for sale in the narthex on the first Sunday of each month. Contact Kim Levan 610-823-7677, [klevan@comcast.net](mailto:klevan@comcast.net) or John Folk for more information or to place an order. This will be an ongoing fundraiser, so consider a gift for Mother's Day, Father's Day, and Graduations that are coming up.



## Open and Affirming: Save the dates: July 16, 2017 Meeting #9 Drafting our Statement #3

Aug 2017 Submit Statement to Consistory  
Aug 2017 Submit Statement to Congregation  
Oct 2017 Vote on Statement by Congregation

A statement is a definite or clear expression of something in speech or writing. So, why do we write an "open and affirming statement"? Our statement is a description and expression of the people who are welcomed and affirmed as part of St. Paul's United Church of Christ in Fleetwood, PA. Our statement is far more than about sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression. Our statement reveals our beliefs about such things as racial matters, physical and/or mental abilities, ethnicity, class, age, and marital status. Our statement will be our words, our thoughts, our feelings, and most of all an example to the world of what this Christian community believes. Please continue to pray for our church as we discern the words we use that will help write this next chapter in the life of our congregation. As always our meetings are open to anyone who would like to attend and are held after the 10:25 services on the third Sunday of the month. A light lunch is served prior to our conversation.



**There is a signup sheet** next to the choir room for anyone who would like to share their musical talent during the summer months. Please consider this if you are interested- there is a lot of talent in this church and everyone loves to hear it!!



**TODAY**

**Music in the Park concession**

**5-9pm**



## ALL ABOARD!

7 day 6 night Caribbean Cruise October 21 to the 28th! We start our trip by taking a bus from Blandon to New Jersey Port on Royal Caribbean's Anthem of the Sea.

Balcony Sale - \$1068.00 - includes port charges and taxes, your food and room.

Ocean view - \$1157.00

Single person in a room pay \$1732.00 for a Balcony room

Insurance is available to cover the cost of the cruise and illness.

Now we sail to the port Canaveral, Coco Cay, and the Bahamas!

This is a nice way to do a Fundraiser for St. Paul's. Hope you will join us for a good time!

Please call Janie Folk at 610-926-2673 for more information, or call Joyce at White Star Travel at 610 775-5000. Please let her know you're with Janie's group.