

## ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Senior Pastor

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Rev. John Folk

Associate Pastor

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Jill Haley

Music Ministry Coordinator

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Greta Ertel

Organist

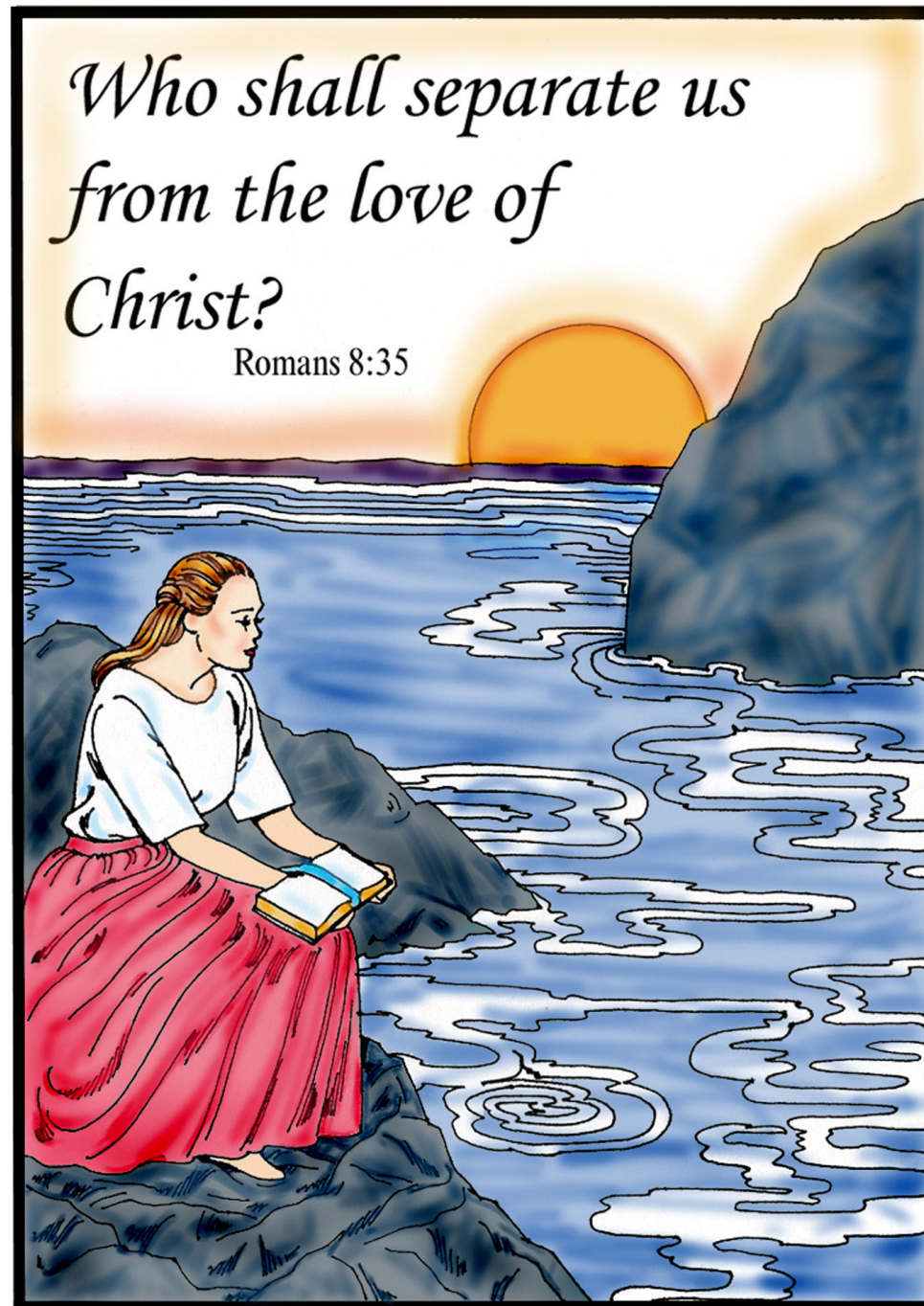
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## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Sunday, July 30 – Saturday, August 5, 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



*Who shall separate us  
from the love of  
Christ?*

Romans 8:35

Our Shut-In  
of the Week

**Betty Bleiler** ...Please sign the "Thinking of You" card in the Narthex. It will be mailed tomorrow.

FOOD  
COLLECTION

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.

Finance  
Update

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.

New Member  
Sunday

**New Members...** We will be taking in new members on Sunday, August 13<sup>th</sup> at either service. Please contact Pastor Morris if you are interested in becoming a member of St. Paul's UCC.



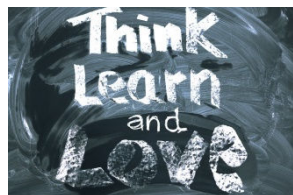
### Christmas in July Toy Drive

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.

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.



### St. Paul's Think Tank

Merriam-Webster.com defines a think tank as "an institute, corporation, or group organized to study a particular subject...and provide information, ideas, and advice."

Over the past several months, some amazing ideas have come out during facility planning, open & affirming, and other conversations. We want to keep these ideas moving forward, as well as get your ideas on how St. Paul's can actively... **SHARE GOD'S LOVE**

Come join our **St. Paul's Think Tank**

Sunday Mornings at 9 a.m. in the Conference Room Starting August 6<sup>th</sup> and help us come up with even more amazing ideas for St. Paul's.



**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!!



Youth Group

### 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.



### Open and Affirming: Save the dates:

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.



**Annual Summer Concert in the Park** by Philharmonic Band, under the direction of Jay A. Smith, sponsored by the American Legion will be **Sunday, July 30 at 6 p.m.** Rain date is Monday, July 31 at 6 p.m. Refreshments will be available at 5p.m. by our own Kitchen Committee. Please come out and support them and the band.



### Fleetwood Friends Relay for Life team is looking for new members...

We're looking to add new members to our team. Many families have had a member or friend who has had to deal with cancer, so if you have an interest or desire to help find a cause for this terrible disease, please consider taking part in Fleetwood Friends. We meet five or six times a year to plan fund-raisers such as shoo-fly pie and mum sales which benefit the annual Relay for Life Walk at Kutztown University that takes place on a weekend in June. Erin Goldman is the team captain - feel free to contact her to learn more about this worthwhile activity.