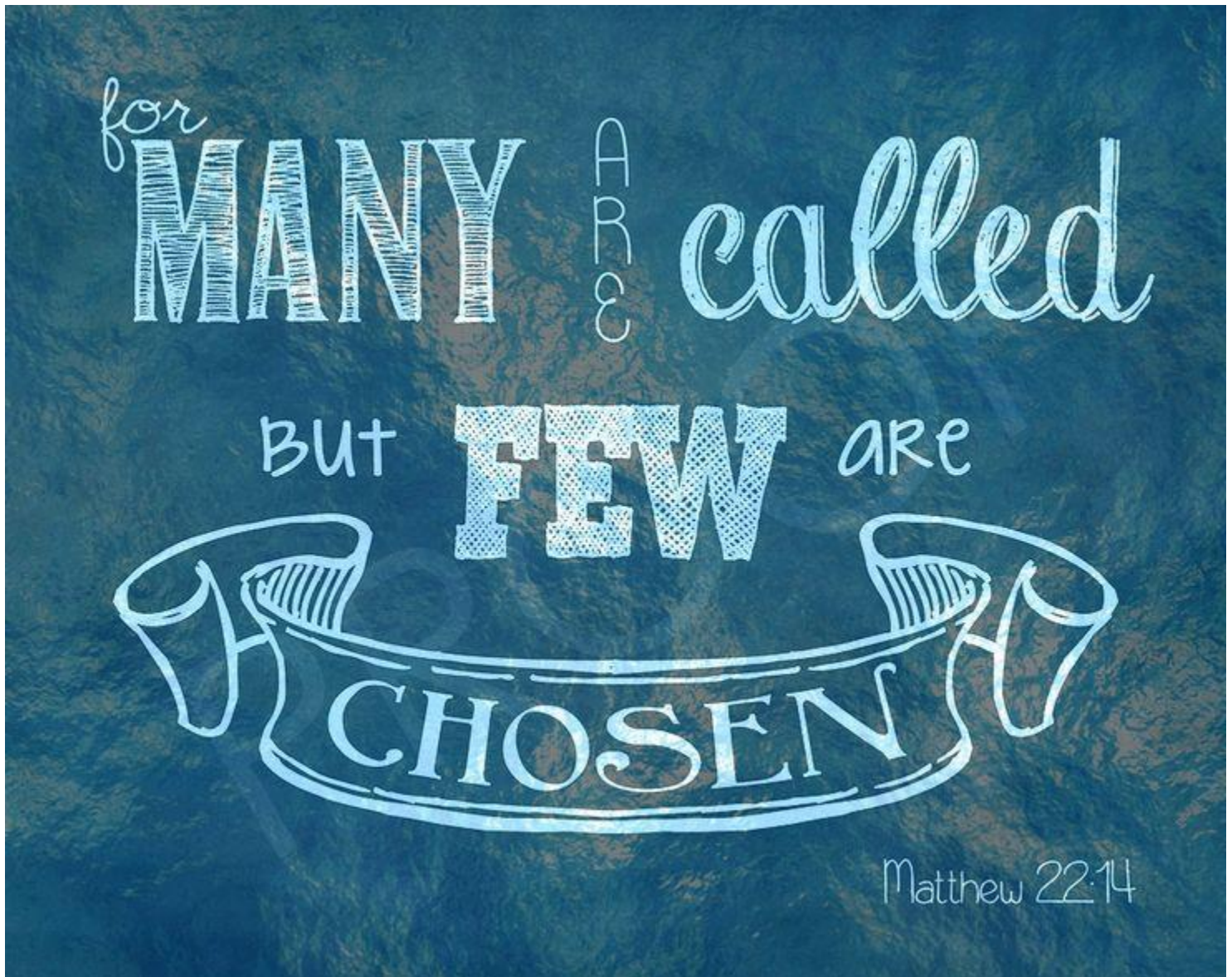


ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday, October 11, 2026



1235 Summer Hill Road, Auburn, PA 17922

Pastor: Rev. Ken McDowell, cell phone: 610-207-4783

Church Office Phone: 570-754-7225

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9am–2pm; Closed Friday

Church Email: summerhillucc@gmail.com

Website: www.summerhillucc.com

Livestream: www.facebook.com/summerhillucc

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Ken McDowell, Pastor

Music Director and Pianist- Rae Ann Borger

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

This morning we remember in prayer **Zion's Red Church UCC & ELCA, Orwigsburg** from our Schuylkill Association Prayer Calendar.

Please read the announcements that are in this bulletin, the online bulletin, as well as what we post on Facebook, emails, and phone calls, and then help spread the word to those who do not have access to any of those messages.

INVOCATION

GATHERING FOR THE WORD

PRELUDE

The congregation may stand.

SOLEMN DECLARATION.....Sung "Amen"

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Rejoice in God always!

People: Rejoice in God's steadfast love.

Pastor: Rejoice in Christ's enduring grace.

People: Rejoice in God's saving Word.

Pastor: Rejoice in the Spirit's gentle guidance.

People: Rejoice in God's healing presence.

Pastor: Again, I say, rejoice!

OPENING HYMN NO. 113....."Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart"

CALL TO CONFESSION

CONFESSION OF SIN (Unison)

Holy God, following you is seldom easy. Forgive us when we allow this world to overshadow the world to come in your Kingdom. When worry and doubt cloud our vision, bless us with your peace. When work and social obligations rob our strength, grant us rest. We yearn to focus our hearts and minds on things that are excellent, admirable, and worthy of praise. Shine the light of your love in our lives, that we may bring your light to the world. Amen.

MOMENT OF PERSONAL CONFESSION

KYRIE

Pastor: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Pastor: Christ, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Pastor: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: The peace of God, which passes all understanding, is ours through Christ Jesus.

People: We rest secure in this assurance, for it is trustworthy and true.

Pastor: Rejoice, for in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

People: Thanks be to God! Amen.

THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, it is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The congregation may be seated.

ENGAGING THE WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

READING OF THE WORD.....Lector, Joe Branca

Old Testament: Exodus 32:1-14 (Page 74)

Psalm: Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23 (**Read Responsively**)

Lector: Praise the Lord! O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.

People: Who can utter the mighty doings of the LORD, or declare all his praise?

Lector: Happy are those who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times.

People: Remember me, O Lord, when you show favor to your people; help me when you deliver them;

Lector: that I may see the prosperity of your chosen ones, that I may rejoice in the gladness of your nation, that I may glory in your heritage.

People: Both we and our ancestors have sinned; we have committed iniquity, have done wickedly.

Lector: They made a calf at Horeb and worshiped a cast image.

People: They exchanged the glory of God for the image of an ox that eats grass.

Lector: They forgot God, their Savior, who had done great things in Egypt,

People: wondrous works in the land of Ham, and awesome deeds by the Red Sea.

Lector: Therefore he said he would destroy them—had not Moses, his chosen one, stood in the breach before him, to turn away his wrath from destroying them.

Epistle: Philippians 4:1-9 (Page 1024)

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14 (Page 856)

Lector: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE.....“Let Thy word abide in us, O Lord.”

SENIOR CHOIR ANTHEM.....“Rejoice in the Lord Always”

Words by Nan Allen; Music & Arr. by Dennis Allen

SERMON.....“I’ll Give You Something to Rejoice About”

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

The congregation may remain seated.

Ushers will receive tithes and offerings at this time.

HYMN OF REFLECTION NO. 442.....“’Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus”

The congregation may stand.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH.....Apostles Creed in the form of a Litany

Pastor: Do you believe in God?

People: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

People: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**People: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The congregation may be seated.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

SILENT PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

Hear our prayer, O Lord; Hear our prayer, O Lord; Hear our prayer, O Lord, And grant us Thy peace. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING

The congregation may stand.

OFFERING RESPONSE & DEDICATION.....DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

OFFERING PRAYER

GOING WITH THE WORD

COMMISSION

Pastor: As partners with God, go to serve God's world.

People: As friends of Christ, we go to share Christ's love.

Pastor: Go with the blessing of God,

People: We go with the strength of Jesus Christ, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

BENEDICTION

THE THREEFOLD AMEN.....*Amen. Amen. Amen.*

CLOSING HYMN NO. 61....."There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

SILENT MEDITATION

Acolytes take the Light out into the world.

POSTLUDE

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Portions of today's worship resources were reproduced or adapted from the UCC's Book of Worship, Worship Connection by Nancy C. Townley on MinistryMatters.com, and by Michael Beu from the 2026 Abingdon Worship Annuals edited by Mary J. Scifres and B. J. Beu.

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-The altar flowers are in memory of Lewis Reber and William A. Spotts by the family.

-The bulletins are in memory of Myrtle Kohr by Wayne and Cathy Krause.

-Offering on Sunday, October 4, 2026: \$2,129.00

-Weekly envelope & plate budget for 2026: \$3,368.52

-The October Communion Offering is designated to the Schuylkill Haven Food Pantry.

-Join us for Fellowship Time following worship TODAY. Enjoy conversation, along with a cup of coffee and light refreshments. We will gather in the rear of the sanctuary.

-Thanksgiving Food Drive collection: As always, the CHALLENGE is for AT LEAST 31 families to donate 31 items throughout the month of October! Flyers with suggested items are located on the bulletin table in the narthex. The goal is to collect 1000 or more items. If we have 31 families donate, our family will donate the remaining items to make sure we meet our 1000 items. This year, as a BONUS incentive, if the congregation donates at least 1000 items, our family will donate an additional 100 items. If the congregation donates 1500 items, we will donate an additional 200 items! If you are unable to shop but would like to donate, we will do the shopping for you! If you need us to deliver your items to the church let us know. Feel free to contact Brook Guers at 570-449-0825. LET'S GO ST PAUL'S! We can make this our most successful food drive yet!!!

-We are participating in Operation Christmas Child again this year, with a goal of collecting **50 shoeboxes** to share the love of Jesus with children around the world. Shoeboxes and packing instructions are available. **Deadline to return boxes is November 1st.** For questions or additional information, please contact **Laura Carll at (484) 269-4405.**

-The Schuylkill Haven Food Pantry is in great need and accepts all non-perishable food items and paper products. Items can be dropped off at the church during the week or placed in the shopping cart at the back of the sanctuary. **We will be helping tomorrow** beginning at 8:30am and **this Friday**, beginning at 12pm. Please speak to Verna Ebling, Bill Reber or the church office.

-The Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet this Tuesday, October 13 from 10am-12noon in the conference room. If you are interested in knitting and/or crocheting, we can hook you up! Please speak to Nancy Dewald for more information. If you know of someone who could use a prayer shawl, please contact the church office.

-A Budget Meeting will be held this Tuesday, October 13 beginning at 6:00 PM.

-Summer Hill Youth Group – Disaster Relief Bucket Challenge: The Summer Hill Youth Group will gather this Saturday, October 17 from 4:00–7:00 PM at St. Paul's Summer Hill UCC to assemble five-gallon Disaster Relief Buckets for people in need. Youth will learn about serving their neighbors while working together in a fun, friendly relay-race competition! Food will be provided. RSVP to Laura Carll at (484) 269-4405 is appreciated but not required.

-There will be a Schuylkill Association Fall Meeting next Sunday, October 18 beginning at 3:00 PM at Christ Church Barnesville. Please speak to Pastor Ken to learn more.

-The Consistory will meet on Tuesday, October 20 at 7:00 PM in the conference room.

-This year we will celebrate All Saints' Day on Sunday, November 1. That morning during the service of worship and communion, we will honor the saints of our congregation who passed away in the past year. **We will also collect the All Saints Offering, which assists retired pastors from our conference who are in need of financial assistance.**

-Anyone interested in learning more about our Sunday School program is welcome and invited to attend the Board of Christian Education Meeting on Tuesday, November 3 at 7:00 PM. The meeting will take place in the conference room. Please speak to Laura Carll, any Sunday School teacher, Pastor Ken or the church office for more information.

-Mark your calendars! We need your help!! Our outdoor church grounds fall clean-up day will be on Saturday, November 14 at 9:00 AM. With enough help, we can have it completed in just a few hours! Bring rakes, tarps, clippers and pruners. Invite your friends and family and neighbors too!

-The Keystone Conference Fall Meeting will be held online only on Saturday, November 14 beginning at 9:00 AM. Please speak to Pastor Ken to learn more.

-We are looking for youth to serve as acolytes on Sunday mornings during the worship services. If your child is interested in helping and would like to learn more, please speak to Laura Carll, Pastor Ken or the church office. Training will be provided.

-In an effort to keep our records up to date, please contact the church office if you have had a change to any of your information, including phone or cell phone numbers, email or home addresses, or any family updates.

-When you or a loved one is sick or in the hospital for an extended stay, do not assume that the pastor will know you are there. Please call or email the church office so that Pastor Ken can provide you with spiritual care!

-Prayer is Powerful! Please call or email the church office with your prayer concerns. We believe in the power of prayer and want to pray for you. **We have a prayer concerns email group AND also a prayer phone call chain for anyone interested.** Please contact the church office if you would like to be added to these lists.

-Prayer Concern Privacy: As Christians, we fervently believe in the power of prayer — that's why we include prayer concerns in the weekly bulletin and lift folks up in prayer during worship! That said, the Consistory respectfully asks that before you add somebody to the prayer list or bring up their name during worship, please obtain that person's permission. We take medical privacy very seriously and make every effort to respect the wishes of individuals who do not want to be named publicly in a bulletin or live-streamed worship service. Thank you for your cooperation!

PRAYER CONCERNS: All those earnestly seeking God's help in difficult times, Military personnel & National leaders, Joe Palerino, Ron Koch, Dick Clauser, Ronnie Mengel, Brian Moyer, Earl Phillips

CANCER PATIENTS: Rev. Gene Aulenbach, Al Basci, James Connelly, Bill Dobrotsky, Alex DuVee, John Eckert, Glennis Eifert, Kristen Gately, Laura Haupt Grapsy, Rebecca Henderson, Lisa Hoynoski, Donna Jenan, Sherri Jo Jennar, Deb Kemmerling, Clara Kramer, Joan Krause, Lori Krug, Mary Anne Maccarone, Carol Mallory, Meir Mazuz, Nicole McFarland-Bish, Tara Moss, Judy Ohl, Dana Osborne, Nick Reading, Pat Reading, Amy Reed, Noah Richardson, Jen Semenco, Jim Thompson, Tim Wapinsky

FOR THE WEEK OF SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11

Sunday, October 11

-Fellowship Hour following worship

4:00 PM -Cub Scout Den Meetings

Monday, October 12 -Indigenous Peoples' Day

8:30 AM -Help at the Schuylkill Haven Food Pantry

10:30 AM -Pastor Ken conducts Chapel Service at Luther Ridge

Tuesday, October 13

10:00 AM -Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting

6:00 PM -Budget Committee Meeting

Wednesday, October 14

7:00 PM -Senior Choir Rehearsal

Friday, October 16

1:00 PM -Help at the Schuylkill Haven Food Pantry

Saturday, October 17

4:00 PM -Summer Hill Youth Group Disaster Relief Bucket Event

Sunday, October 18

9:15 AM -Sunday School

10:30 AM -Worship

3:00 PM -Schuylkill Association Fall Meeting at Christ Church, Barnesville

***Lectionary Readings for next week:**

Exodus 33:12-23

Psalm 99

Isaiah 45:1-7

Psalm 96:1-9, (10-13)

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Matthew 22:15-22

QR Code for Online Giving

Our members, friends, and visitors give their offerings and donations to the church in many different ways, including electronically via apps like Tithe.ly and bank transfers. To accommodate the varied ways of giving, we have an offering box at the rear of the sanctuary for placing Sunday morning offerings as you enter or leave. We will also have ushers accept offerings during the Offertory as another option. Thank you for your financial support of the ministries of St. Paul's and your faithful giving in response to what God has given us!





SUMMER HILL YOUTH GROUP = EVENT =

DISASTER RELIEF BUCKETS

We'll be building five gallon
Disaster Relief Buckets packed
with supplies to help people
in need!

= We'll build them in a
team relay-race style! =



OCTOBER 17

4PM - 7PM



ST. PAUL'S

SUMMER HILL UCC
1235 SUMMER HILL ROAD
AUBURN, PA 17922



FOOD

**WILL BE
PROVIDED!**



RSVP to Laura Carll
(484) 269-4405

is appreciated, but not required.

= Make a difference. Together. =