



MISSION

To form faithful followers of Jesus Christ for the transformation of State College and the world.

VISION

MEETING new people
MAKING real relationships
MOVING into new expressions of love and service.

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NEXT DEADLINE:

May 14 at noon for the June 2025 newsletter

The Messenger

A publication of St. Paul's United Methodist Church & Wesley Foundation

May 2025

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Acts 1:8, NRSV

Easter morning may come and go—leftover ham in the fridge, empty candy wrappers on the counter, and a calendar marching us steadily toward summer. We know that Easter isn't just one day, but a whole season, and a way of life. As one of our hymns reminds us, "We are Easter people." Resurrection isn't just something we celebrate—it's something we live. We are resurrection people; this is our story. But what does that actually mean?

This Eastertide—the 50 days between Easter Sunday and Pentecost—we'll spend time in the book of Acts, asking: Who are the resurrection people? What did it look like for those first followers of Jesus to live out the good news after the empty tomb? And what might it look like for us?

We'll read stories of early believers who bore witness to resurrection — not just with their words, but with their lives.

People who welcomed others in, broke down barriers, shared what they had, and sang even when things were hard. People who practiced resurrection day by day, with boldness and with love.

Each week, we'll explore what it means to be witnesses of new life in our world today. How are we practicing resurrection—not just in church, but in our homes, our workplaces, our neighborhoods? How can we be known as people of love, of life, of an ever-widening circle of welcome?

We hope you'll join us in worship through the weeks of Eastertide as we ask these questions together. Come and see what it means to be resurrection people.



Pastor Greg Milinovich

STAY CONNECTED!

St. Paul's sends out a regular email update, "What's Happening," with information about upcoming activities, mission and service opportunities, and worship services. Contact the Church Office today to receive these updates!

stpauls@stpaulsc.org



St. Paul's UMC
State College



@SPWFUMC
@abbajavacoffeehouse
@StPaulsMusicSCE
@stpaulsshoebank



[st.pauls.sc](https://www.stpauls.sc)



venmo

Church Notes & Opportunities

★ First Sunday of the Month Lunch

Join us this Sunday following the 10:30 AM service (~11:30 AM) for lunch in the social room. We would love for you to bring a side or a dessert to share! We will provide coffee, lemonade, and water. Come and sit around the table with us -- it's a great time to get to know one another more AND eat good food!!

★ Women of Faith, Hope, and Love

Women of Faith, Hope, and Love meet on Wednesdays at 9:30-11:30 am, share our prayer concerns and praises, and have coffee and tea on the third floor of the Education Building. Both in-person and Zoom options are available. Contact Linda Keisling for more information (bltoadhall@comcast.net or 814-861-4127).

★ Food Bank Sundays

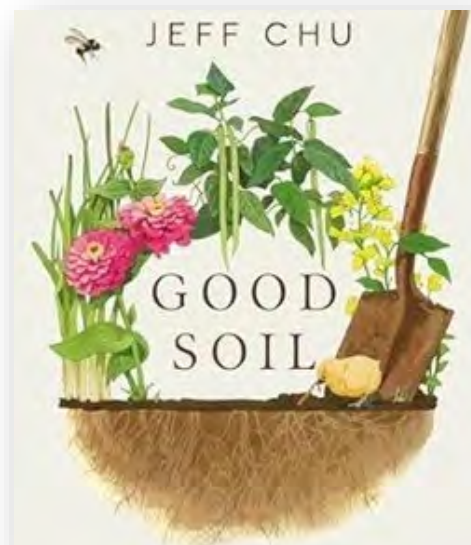
The first Sunday of the month is a Food Bank Sunday at St. Paul's. To see what items are currently needed, go to [scfoodbank.org](https://www.scfoodbank.org). There are tubs marked "Food Bank" at both the College Avenue and Calder Way entrances of the church for your donations. Please, no baby food or formula, expired food, or opened food packages. The Food Bank truly appreciates the help you give to their clients and thanks you for your donations.

★ St. Paul's Prayer Group

St. Paul's Prayer Group meets each Wednesday at 5:30 pm via Zoom to pray together. If you would like to join us in prayer, please contact Linda Keisling (bltoadhall@comcast.net) or Eileen Rotthoff (esr16801@yahoo.com) for more information. Each week, we also send out a prayer list, with ways we can pray for our Church, the community, and the world. To receive this list, send an email to prayers@stpaulsc.org.

★ Book Study

If you are looking for a group of people with whom to read and have conversation, come and join us as we read and discuss Good Soil by Jeff Chu. Beginning Tuesday, May 6th, we will meet in person in the Wesley Lounge. Email Pastor Sarah at svoigt.wesley@gmail.com if you are interested in being part of this group.



★ Congratulations, Renae!

Congratulations to our own Director of Care Ministries, Renae Schunk, who was recently awarded the “Ann Graybill Cook Volunteer of Distinction Award” by Centre County Council for Human Services. For over 20 years, this award has been given to an individual who has contributed significantly as a volunteer to the council in a variety of ways. Honoring the legacy of the late Ann Cook, who worked towards a vision of connecting agencies and organizations with volunteers, Renae is an apt recipient of this award, due to her stellar work at St. Paul’s, connecting individuals with appropriate service across our community, making sure that people receive the help that they need. Please join with us in congratulating Renae on this well-deserved recognition.



★ Support St. Paul’s Shoe Bank

HELP US HELP OTHERS! Centre Gives is on May 14 and 15. St. Paul’s Shoe Bank relies on this online giving event for the majority of our funds to buy new sneakers for children in need. As the price of sneakers rises, so does our budget! There are two stretch pools this year, which means that the more that is donated, the more we receive from the stretch pools. Please save a few minutes on May 14 or 15 to participate in Centre Gives and donate to St. Paul’s Shoe Bank. There are two ways to donate using a credit or debit card:

- ⇒ Go to CentreGives.org and select the Shoe Bank from the dropdown menu
- ⇒ Call 814-237-6229 to donate over the phone



Thank you in advance for your help! If you are interested in volunteering with St. Paul’s Shoe Bank or have questions, please contact Jan Becker (shoebank@stpaulsc.org).



United
Women
in Faith

Being bold for mission for 2025

Our Unit Spring Banquet (Potluck): June 2 in the Social Room. Gathering at 4:30 pm, eating at 5:00 pm. Program: Jill Swanson will play several piano pieces, and we will Honor the Woman of the Year. *Watch for more information.*

Reading Program Discussion Group: June 9 at 1:30 pm in the Foxdale Board Room. We will discuss *All You Can Ever Know: A Memoir* by Nicole Chung. Contact Suzy Lutz for more information.

Executive Board Meeting: April 30 at 1:15 pm at Glenda Manbeck’s home.

Circles

Contact Circle leaders for the most current information.

All ladies are welcome to attend!

Deborah: Watch for details. Contact Virginia Flick for information.

Friendship: Contact interim leader Virginia Flick for information.

Mary and Martha: TBA Contact Nancy Guild for information (njeg2@verizon.net).

Ruth: May 8 at 11:30 am, we will meet in the apartment living room at Foxdale to continue our discussion of *An Altar in the World* by Barbara Brown Taylor. Contact Peggy Hoover for more information (pxh6@psu.edu).

Have questions or need more information?

Contact Suzy Lutz (814-466-6389) or Virginia Flick (814-441-1743)

EASTER FLOWERS

Glenn and Louise Albert

*In loving memory of
James and Emma Miller
Jean and Harold Albert*

*In loving honor of our
children and grandchildren*

The Alexander Family

In honor of Dave and Patsy Nelson

Mary Bahnfleth

In loving memory of Mom and Dad

Deborah Dormady

In loving memory of Sarah LaCour

Jean Doyle and Family

*In loving memory of
Mark Doyle, Karen, and Jim Miller*

Gary and Ralphine Gentzler

In memory of loved ones

Lou and Judy Geschwindner

*In loving memory of all those dear church
friends who have passed away this year*

Michel Haigh

*In loving honor of
Emily Winnett
Jay and Suzy Lutz
Cheryl Mattas*

In loving memory of

Betty Blazer

Helen and Roger McClurg

John Winnett

Tammy and Bill Jones

*In loving memory, with such fond
memories of her mother, Dot Wian*

*In loving honor of her father and second mother,
Hubert Wian and Bonnie Wolfe*

Carol Justice

*In loving memory of
Mack Justice and Elaine Miller*

McMillan Family**George and Janet Mitchell**

*In loving memory of our parents, J. Russel and
Eleanor Hoy, and J. Hutchinson and Mildred Mitchell*

*In loving honor of our daughters,
Suzanne, Karen, and Kathleen*

Philip and Leann Mohr

*In loving memory of our parents,
Rev. Warren and Dottie Mohr,
and James and Emma Miller*

Jane Moore and Family

In loving memory of Louis Moore

David Nelson

*In loving honor of our
children and grandchildren*

Gary and Marcia Perdew

*In loving honor of our grandchildren,
Miles and Riley Perdew*

Phyllis Stuby and Family

In loving memory of Dick Stuby

Cindy Regel

*In loving memory of
Jack Regel*

Joe and Helen Hess

Paul and Kathryn Shelly

In loving honor of J. J. Regel

The Soules

In loving memory of Terry Adams

Tim, Heather, Kim and Brian Winck

In loving honor of Susan Winck

Susan Winck

In loving memory of James Winck

In loving honor of

Tim, Heather, Kim, and Brian

Cal and Pam Zimmerman

*In loving honor of our
children and grandchildren*



Our main goal at SPYF (St. Paul's Youth Fellowship) is to be a safe space where we can grow in relationship with God and one another, and we do that each week by spending time together. But we need you to make our connection complete! We know that youth are busy with so many activities, but we would love to have you commit a couple hours each week for the sake of your own spiritual journey, and our own mutual benefit.

If you are in 6th-12th grade, join us for SPYF each Sunday evening at 6pm as we gather each week to grow closer to God and to one another through a fun evening of games, dad jokes, snacks, casual conversation, and deep discussion about where we see God in the world around us, and how God is inviting us to be people of love. Over the past month we have played dodgeball, empire, family feud, 9-square, balderdash, and so much more. We have had some great conversations about how we notice God around us, and how God feels about our bodies, among other things. In all of this, we are building relationships, community, trust, and safe space that is helping us to have a foundation of Love in our whole lives. Come and join us!



Wesley Foundation & Campus Ministry

Sarah Voigt 814-238-6739 ext.139 svoigt@stpaulsc.org www.wesleypsu.org

DEEP GREEN JOURNEY



In April, we enjoyed a forest therapy walk with Rev. Beth Jones from Deep Green Journey as we utilized all of our senses to settle into the forest, finding a home in the ground beneath our feet, breathing deeply, and noticing the world around us in new ways (despite the drizzly conditions!). It was a gift to have Beth as our guide!



Lenten Bake & Pray Practice

During Lent, Wesley students practiced mixing, shaping, making, and scoring loaves of bread; during these weeks, we gave attention, with our hands and our prayers, to strength, formation and transformation, weakness into beauty, and the gift it is to see the holy in what we have made and shared together. As we mixed flour into water, we learned new things about gliadin and glutenin, the value of rest and taking a breath, and the ways that the practice of prayer can be woven into our daily lives.

Here is a breath prayer to try from *Bake and Pray* by Kendall Vanderslice:

Inhale:

Oh God, who comes

Exhale:

Fill my life, my spirit, my heart



Spring Finals Week Hours

After May 8, Abba Java Coffeehouse will be closed for the month; however, we will have the Abba Java pantry open for students on Tuesdays at 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. At the pantry, students can find free non-perishable goods, bread, and bakery items.

Abba Java Make-Over

Our construction project has finally finished and passed all of the state and local code inspections! We would love to show you the changes we have made, including: two new restrooms, a new entryway, an ADA lift into the coffeehouse, and new artwork welcoming students into our space. Come by and say hello! A huge thank you to all those involved in this project—we are SO thankful for your expertise and time given so generously to our work.



To read more about the Wesley Foundation at Penn State, visit
wesleypsu.org

abba java finals week schedule

sunday, may 4 : 3-8pm*
monday, may 5: 9am-8pm*
tuesday, may 6: 9am-8pm*
wednesday, may 7: 9am-5pm
thursday, may 8: 9am-5pm

dinner available

Monday - Thursday
craft & de-stress activities
(look on rainbow table)

FREE STUDENT YARD SALE

Collections starting:
MAY 11TH
Wesley Rm. 205:
kitchen items, small
appliances, bath
towels/mats,
storage/organizational
bins, decor

see What's Happening for more info

ABBA JAVA
WESLEY FOUNDATION AT PENN STATE



St. Paul's Care Ministries

Renee Schunk 814-237-2163 ext.152 rschunk@stpaulsc.org

Frequently Asked Questions about Stephen Ministry

Who are Stephen Ministers?

Stephen Ministers are members of your congregation trained to provide one-to-one, Christ-centered care. They have a compassionate heart for those who are hurting, and they're equipped with caring ministry skills by your congregation's Stephen Leaders. A Stephen Minister typically has one care receiver at a time and meets with that person once a week to listen, care, pray, encourage, and offer emotional and spiritual support.

Who are Stephen Leaders?

Stephen Leaders are those who are equipped to oversee Stephen Ministry in your congregation. Stephen Leaders have gifts and skills in areas such as leadership, teaching, and organizing people, along with a heart for caring ministry. In what types of situations do Stephen Ministers provide care?

Stephen Ministers provide care to individuals facing difficult times in life – grief, cancer, divorce, financial difficulties, hospitalization, chronic illness, job loss, disability, a spiritual crisis, or other life struggles.

Why the name Stephen?

In Acts 6, Stephen was among those chosen to provide caring ministry to those in need. Since Jesus'

time, caring ministry has been a hallmark of the Christian faith community.

What is the Stephen Ministries organization?

Stephen Ministries St. Louis is a not-for-profit Christian education organization founded in 1975. Their staff carries out their mission to “equip God’s people for the work of ministry” (Ephesians 4:12). Helping congregations get involved in Stephen Ministry is a major way they accomplish this mission.

How many congregations have Stephen Ministry?

More than 13,000 congregations and other organizations have enrolled in Stephen Ministry – representing more than 190 Christian denominations and come from all 50 US states, 10 Canadian provinces, and 30 other countries. Many of these congregations have had Stephen Ministry going for over 30 years. St. Paul's

UMC & WF have been enrolled about 15 years!

What does the Stephen Ministry logo mean?

The Stephen Ministry logo represents a care receiver's journey from brokenness toward wholeness through the cross of Jesus. In this way, it illustrates “Christ caring for people through people.”



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Children's Ministry

Liz McMillan

emcmillan724@gmail.com

Easter Basket Mission

On Palm Sunday, children from our 2nd - 5th grade Sunday School classes worked together to assemble Easter baskets for Park Forest preschoolers. Each preschooler received a coloring and sticker book, a stuffed animal, bubbles, snacks, and even some light up bunny ears! Our Sunday Schoolers had a great time putting these Easter baskets together with all of the goodies purchased through so many generous donations. Thank you for helping us to show God's love and bless these preschoolers with some Easter fun!



May Sunday School Classes

Throughout the month of May, our Sunday School classes will be reading stories from Acts about Paul's origin story as a faithful follower of Jesus. The classes will learn how Paul belonged to a group determined to make trouble for Jesus and his followers before he actually met Jesus, truly felt his love, and believed in the power of that love. Then once he decided to share the good news of Jesus, Paul's life was filled with danger and adventure (even escaping down a wall in the middle of the night!), and still he continued on! There is a lot about Paul's faith journey that can keep us grounded and give each of us strength on our own faith journey. We can all carry out God's work and show God's love, no matter where we started. Life will not always be smooth sailing, but we can always share God's love and the good news no matter the ups, downs and in-betweens of life.





Mission & Justice

Rwanda Update

New Life

The community birthing center, located across the street from Urukundo, brings joy to many families. We are thrilled to present layette kits with much needed items, many from our St. Paul's families: receiving blankets sewn by Betty Knouse; knitted sweaters by Dawn Boyer and her sister, Norma, Marsha Willenbrock, and Shirley Wormley; baby socks and hats from the Mommy Shoppe; and baby clothes from many sources. Two 50 lb. suitcases carried all these free items with Carol Falke in April. To find out more about Hope Made Real, contact Carol Falke (falkes248@gmail.com) or visit the website (hopemadereal.org).



HOPE
MADE
REAL



**MISSION
CENTRAL**

School Activity Kits

Mission Central has a goal of assembling 1,000 School Activity Kits during this year's Susquehanna Annual Conference (May 29-31). Churches in our district have been asked to provide blue or black ink pens and erasers for the kits. Mission Central is also seeking sewers throughout the conference to con-

struct simple tote bags using the Activity Kit Bag Pattern. Please place all donations (pens, erasers, bags) in the box in the Calder Way entrance by Sunday, May 25. If you have questions, email Debbie Harwell at djph19@outlook.com.

May 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7:00a Thursday Morning Small Group 10:00a Staff Meeting	2 6:30a Accountable Disciples	3 7:30a Walk To Emmaus 8:00a Confirmation Class 9:00a Shoe Bank
4 9:00a Worship with Communion 9:00a Children Sunday School 9:00a Youth Sunday School 9:00a Parent's Sunday School 9:00a Seekers & Servants 10:30a Live & Livestreamed Worship with Communion 11:30a First Sunday of the Month Lunch 11:45a Worship Discussion 12:00p Life After Loss Class 1:00p Troop 31 Eagle Court of Honor 2:00p Troop 31 Eagle CoH Reception 3:00p Forum Sunday School 6:00p SPYF	5	6 6:00p Troop 31 Adult Leaders 6:00p Troop 31 Adult Planning 7:00p Troop 31 7:00p Troop 31 PLC 7:00p Book Conversation: Good Soil	7 9:30a Women of Faith, Hope, & Love 5:30p Prayer Gathering 6:00p Pack 31 Den	8 7:00a Thursday Morning Small Group	9 6:30a Accountable Disciples	10 7:30a Walk To Emmaus 9:00a Shoe Bank
11 Mother's Day 9:00a Worship with Communion 9:00a Children Sunday School 9:00a Youth Sunday School 9:00a Parent's Sunday School 9:00a Seekers & Servants 10:30a Live & Livestreamed Worship 11:45a Worship Discussion 3:00p Forum Sunday School	12	13 7:00p PPRC 7:00p Troop 31	14 9:30a Women of Faith, Hope, & Love 5:30p Prayer Gathering 7:00p Troop 31 Committee	15 7:00a Thursday Morning Small Group 10:00a Staff Meeting	16 6:30a Accountable Disciples	17 7:30a Walk To Emmaus 8:00a Confirmation Class 9:00a Shoe Bank
18 9:00a Worship with Communion 9:00a Children Sunday School 9:00a Youth Sunday School 9:00a Parent's Sunday School 9:00a Seekers & Servants 10:30a Live & Livestreamed Worship 11:45a Worship Discussion 3:00p Forum Sunday School	19	20 7:00p Book Conversation: Good Soil 7:00p Troop 31	21 9:30a Women of Faith, Hope, & Love 5:30p Prayer Gathering 6:00p Pack 31	22 7:00a Thursday Morning Small Group	23 6:30a Accountable Disciples	24 7:30a Walk To Emmaus
25 9:00a Worship with Communion 9:00a Parent's Sunday School 9:00a Seekers & Servants 10:30a Live & Livestreamed Worship 11:45a Worship Discussion 3:00p Forum Sunday School 6:00p SPYF	26 Memorial Day Church Closed for Holiday	27 7:00p Troop 31	28 9:30a Women of Faith, Hope, & Love 5:30p Prayer Gathering	29 7:00a Thursday Morning Small Group 10:00a Staff Meeting	30 6:30a Accountable Disciples	31 7:30a Walk To Emmaus 9:00a Shoe Bank



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The Messenger is a publication of
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www.wesleypsu.org

Pastors

Greg Milinovich
Sarah Voigt, Director of the Wesley Foundation

Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9:00 am-3:30 pm

Custodian Scheduled Hours

Monday - Friday 9:00 am -3:30 pm

The Messenger is a monthly newsletter. Articles must be 200 words or less. Please plan ahead!
The submission deadline is the second Wednesday of each month at noon for the next month's issue
(May 14 at noon for the June 2025 issue). Email mboffemmyer@stpaulsc.org.

Please note when submitting articles for St. Paul's Messenger: This publication appears on our website.
If you prefer to keep your address and/or phone number private, please do not include them in your article.
If a contact is necessary, you may refer people to the Church Office to get your contact information.