



CIRCUIT RIDER

ST. PAUL'S
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH
714 Herbertsville Road
Brick, NJ 08724
www.StPaulsBrick.org

SUMMER 2026



Dear St. Paul's:

Grace and peace in Christ's name. Summer is here! This means vacation, leisure time, kids home from school, and, hopefully, a little less busy schedule for a season. We are blessed to live in an area where God's gift of beauty and recreation in creation is readily available. May you experience the joy of summer as a true gift from above.

Summer is also an historically low period for churches, in terms of attendance and giving. I want to encourage you to stay connected to St. Paul's, even as our schedules might take us away for a time. How can you do that? First of all, *pray*. This is THE most important work any of us can do to support and love each other and our church. Pray for your pastors and staff, your friends at St Paul's, our ministries, our outreach, our evangelism, our witness, and more. Pray that the gospel continues to go forth from this place with power, and pray for God's peace to be more and more prevalent in our world. Secondly, *stay connected online*. If you are traveling, take advantage of our live-streamed services and other social media/website offerings. You can connect with us on Instagram, Facebook, YouTube, and our church website. Don't forget your tithes and offerings! Use Vanco or text options for financial giving; our website can help you with this. Finally, *share your faith this summer*. Maybe you'll be on the beach and an opportunity will arise to speak of Jesus to someone. Perhaps you'll be travelling and you can offer a word of encouragement to the gas attendant when you refuel. Live out your faith!



Summer Worship Schedule is Effective
Through September 6th
One Service at 10am

July's
Communion
Offering
Will
Benefit the
Ministry of the
Haiti Clinic



GriefShare is set to begin next session at St. Paul's on September 8th

GriefShare is a network of 15,000+ churches worldwide equipped to offer grief support groups. It is designed for people grieving the death of a family member or friend. GriefShare groups meet weekly to help you face challenges and move toward rebuilding your life.

Sessions will be held in the Youth Room from 7pm – 9pm
Sessions will run September 8th – December 15th

You are welcome to begin attending the GriefShare group at any session. Each is “self-contained,” so you do not have to attend in sequence. You will find encouragement and help whenever you begin. You will be able to continue with GriefShare through the next 13-week cycle and view any of the videos you have not seen.

Each GriefShare session has three distinct elements:

- Video seminar with experts
- Support group discussion with a focus
- Personal study and reflection

Healing from your grief is not easy. It is a long, sometimes painful process.

The program is nondenominational and features biblical concepts for healing from your grief. St. Paul's has been hosting this important program with tremendous success.

Learn more about GriefShare at www.griefshare.org

“GriefShare is a safe place to talk about hard things—and heal from them.” *Julie, GriefShare participant*

Communion Offerings in 2026

To be better “pre-prayered” for upcoming Communion Offerings,
here is the list of 2026 benefactors:

- January: Evangelical Church of Libonik (Boy's Home)
- February: Pastor's Discretionary Fund
- March: UMCOR
- April: Rise Against Hunger
- May: United Methodist Communities
- June: Aslan Youth Ministries
- July: Haiti Clinic
- August: Matt Kay - CRU
- September: Step Of Faith – Maple Leaf Tutoring
- October: World Wide Communion Sunday
- November: Plator & Nicole Collaku
- December: Cypress Missions

August's
Communion
Offering
Will
Benefit
Matt Kay
of
CRU



During the summer months of July and August, the
church office will be open from 10 – 2pm
Monday through Friday.
Normal office hours of 10-3 will resume after Labor Day.

Thank You!

Sunday School Staff Appreciation

As we come to the close of another Sunday School year, our hearts are full of gratitude for the incredible team of teacher, nursery staff, office staff and volunteers who pour love, patience, and faith into our children week after week. Their quiet acts of kindness, their steady presence, and their willingness to serve have shaped this year in ways that reach far beyond the classroom.

To all of our Sunday School staff:
THANK YOU

for showing up with joy, for planting seeds of faith, and for helping our children grow in their understanding of God's love. Your dedication has made a lasting difference, and we are truly blessed by each of you. Please join us in celebrating and thanking these wonderful servants who help make our church a place where children feel welcomed, known and loved:

Abbey Buechler
Dylan Buechler
Sharon Buechler
Vikki Britton
Tammi Burton
Janice Bush
Megan Compitello
Gary Deal
Kathy Deal
Debbi Henry
Melissa Jensen
Beverly Miller

Janet O'Sullivan
Dianne Palifroni
Cathy Porzio
Bill Propert
Bernadine Rabe
Jordyn Scaperotta
Elaine Schmidt
Samantha Scott
Christina Tello
Kelly Thornely
Melissa Turner



Mark your calendars and invite your neighbors! We are thrilled to host the Gears and Grace Classic Car Show right here at St. Paul United Methodist Church on Saturday, August 8th from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

It's going to be a fantastic community day filled with beautiful classic cars, great fellowship, and fun for the whole family. Whether you are a car enthusiast or just looking for a great afternoon out, there is something for everyone:

- **Classic Cars & Trophies:** Walk the lot and vote for your favorites!
- **Food Trucks & Vendors:** Enjoy delicious local eats and shop with community vendors.
- **Kid Activities:** Plenty of fun to keep the little ones entertained.
- **Free Admission:** This event is completely free for all spectators!

(Please note: In the event of inclement weather, our rain date will be Saturday, August 22nd).

We can't wait to see you there for a day of chrome, community, and fun! If you are interested in volunteering, sponsoring, or registering a vehicle, please reach out to the event coordination team at chantellmendez@gmail.com, crsty47@aol.com, or sharon.arena@gmail.com.



Cypress Missions and St. Paul's Mission Team joined together over Memorial weekend to honor a veteran's memory. Shown above, along with Veteran John Bentham's wife, Sharon and their dog, Penelope, many hard workers came together to help clean up the property in Lakewood. Contact Doug Buechler for more information on future projects. Get involved ... all for His Glory!

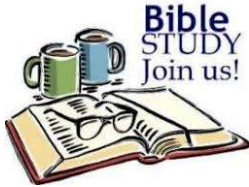


"Where was Noah when the lights went out?"

In D'Ark!

Keep 'em coming!

We always love hearing from Ralph Baker!



**Bible
STUDY**
Join us!

Look for starting dates of new bible studies beginning this fall. Always a good thing to get back into the Word with fellow believers!



Choir has wrapped up for its season . . .

Let's hear from you this summer!

***Why not share your musical gifts
one summer Sunday service?***

Whether it is a solo, small group or instrumental, Director of Music, Amanda Rohrs would love to hear from you. There is a sign-up sheet on the choir bulletin board outside the main office. There is so much God-given musical talent within our congregation! Let's share it!



**Coffee Hour
during the summer
begins at 9am.**

Come join us Sunday mornings at 9am. As long as enough people show up, we will continue to offer coffee, tea or juice every week. Stop by and see everyone before heading down to the 10am service. It is an enjoyable, casual time to chat with friends and welcome new visitors.

And remember, if you or a group would like to host a fellowship hour, call the church office for more details.

Summer Work Days at the Church

Saturday, July 18th

Saturday, August 15th

Come out for just an hour and make a difference!

**MID-WEEK WORSHIP
EVERY WEDNESDAY
NIGHT!**

Join us for a casual "coffeehouse" style service. Looking for a moment of peace in the midst of a hectic week? Every Wednesday at 7:00 pm, we gather together in the youth room to pray, worship, and meditate on God's word over coffee, tea, and sweet treats. Everyone is welcome to attend!

CIRCUIT RIDER

Francis Asbury (1745–1816), the founding bishop of American Methodism, established the precedent for circuit riding. Together with his driver and partner "Black Harry" Hosier, he traveled 270,000 miles and preached 16,000 sermons as he made his way up and down early America supervising clergy. He was quoted as saying, "We must reach every section of America, especially the raw frontiers.



We must not be afraid of men, devils, wild animals, or disease. Our motto must always be FORWARD!" It's difficult to comprehend the hardships faced by Methodist "circuit riders" in early America. Methodist Church records from 1844 show a church membership of over 1 million, with 4,000 ministers riding circuits in the U.S.

**Send Your Kids on an
Out-of-this-World Adventure!**



To Mars and Beyond:

**Explore Where God's Power Can Take You!
St. Paul's 2026 Vacation Bible School Program**

**We are inviting all children Pre-K (age 4) through
5th grade to be a part of the excitement!**

**Join us during the week of
August 3rd through August 7th
between 8:45am – 12:30pm**

**Invite your friends & neighbors to register their
children. Registration forms may be requested via
email or paper copies are available in the church
office. If you have any special placement requests,
please note them on the registration form and we
will try our best to accommodate you.**

**If you have any registration questions,
email Melissa Jensen at
Melissa.familyministries@stpaulsbrick.org**



Prayer Requests

*Please let us know how we can pray for you. Simply fill
out a prayer request slip found in the pews or email
the church office.*

*Remember our weekly online prayer check-in is
Wednesday at noon*

The JAMIE COOK Mission Walk for Kids



Thank you, everyone, for being part of our annual Sunday School Mission Walk this year. Each step taken, each snack shared, each moment of time and talent offered — it all came together in the most beautiful way. Because of your generosity, our children have spent years learning what it means to give, to serve, and to love others well.

Through this Mission Walk, they have been able, in the past, to bless so many organizations: Haiti Missions for Children, the UMC Food/Pet Pantry, the Brick Police K9 Unit, Locks of Love, Ocean Harbor House for Teens, Rise Against Hunger, Hands of Providence for Children in Albania, the Jersey Shore Animal Shelter, Cypress Missions, and many more. Your kindness reaches far beyond our church walls. While the children always enjoy being part of this special tradition, it truly takes a “village” to make it happen. And this year, that village was *you*. Every one of you played a part in turning this event into something meaningful, joyful, and full of heart.

From all the children and all the staff: thank you — deeply and sincerely — for your generosity, your spirit, and your love. You helped make this Mission Walk another year of fun, purpose, and blessings. We are grateful for you.



OCTOBER 4, 2026

Our 15th Annual Blessing of the Animals!

**This is a family friendly event and all animals are
welcome! Contact Ivy Kirn at ivykirn@aol.com
with any questions.**



Catch the Excitement!

BACK TO SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday, September 6th at 9:00 AM

AGES PRE-K THRU HIGH SCHOOL



Bring a Friend!

LEARN ABOUT JESUS

BE A PART OF A LOVING, SUPPORTIVE GROUP WITH OTHER KIDS

DEVELOP INTEGRITY & MORAL CONSCIENCE

EXPLORE SPIRITUALITY

HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD



**JESUS SAID, "LET THE CHILDREN COME TO ME."
MATTHEW 19:14**

DON'T WORRY

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?
- MATTHEW 6:26-27 NIV

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Altar Flowers

Say it with Flowers!

If you would like to honor a special someone or mark a special event, say it with flowers! Dedicate a Sunday Service flower arrangement on the altar. Just reserve the date on the Flower Chart located in the narthex. Cost is only \$30 and the church office can help you with any questions.

REMEMBER

TUESDAY AT NOON

is the deadline for submitting announcements for the Sunday bulletin.

THURSDAY AT 2 PM

is the deadline for submitting announcements for the Sunday morning pulpit.



KNIT. CROCHET. PRAY.

Joy Phillips heads up the Prayer Shawl Ministry. She would like to remind the congregation that prayer shawls and lap robes are available anytime. Perhaps you know of someone who is ill, hospitalized or house-bound. Maybe you have heard of a neighbor in need of comfort. A prayer shawl is a creative, thoughtful way to let someone know they are loved. Call Joy during office hours for more information. The Prayer Shawl Ministry would also like to remind the congregation that donations of supplies are always needed and always appreciated.

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Happy 250th Birthday!



Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Romans 12:12



Interested in Joining St. Paul's?

Pastor Even and Melissa will be leading a "New Member" seminar

Sunday, July 5th

Session will begin after the 10am service in the Youth Room. If you are transferring to St. Paul's or have a desire to become a member of the congregation, please save the date to attend.

Light refreshments will be available.

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Would you like to read the scripture or lead us in our morning prayer? There are openings for both at our Sunday service. We would like everyone to have the opportunity to participate in our worship service. Please reach out to Jim Kroeze

j.kroeze@me.com

if you are interested or want more information.

1on1 PRAYER MINISTRY
THURSDAY 10am – 12 noon
ANNE MACALUSO OFFERS ONE-ON-ONE SPIRITUAL COMPANSHIP FOR ANYONE STRUGGLING WITH A NEED. LET HER BE THE LISTENING EAR YOU DESIRE. LET HER PRAY JUST FOR YOU. YOU DESERVE IT.
EMAIL: AnneMacaluso@hotmail.com



Shown above, St. Paul's Mission Team waits to give the congregation an update on their trip to Albania.

MISSIONS UPDATE

Every first and third Saturday mornings, from 9 to noon, St. Paul's volunteers help to operate the "Clothing Closet" in Asbury Park. Donations are sorted and shoppers are assisted in selecting their free clothing items. The "Clothing Closet" is a friendly, upbeat atmosphere and a great opportunity with minimal time and effort needed. For information, see Sharon Buechler.

The mission trip to Albania in May was a busy one. Recently, Doug showed the congregation an informative video produced by Claire Kroeze and each mission team member shared their experience. They made improvements in many areas and in different villages. The team thanks everyone for their prayers and support throughout the planning and execution of their itinerary.

Mission updates are also posted in "News From The Pews"

Doug Buechler, Missions Team Leader



August 3rd – August 7th

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Ephesian 2:10



Shown above are a few of the members of St. Paul's who joined the "Rise Against Hunger" meal packaging event. St. Paul's was the host this year and the turnout was great! Many area churches and neighbors came together to assemble and pack up

10,000 meals!

Check out RiseAgainstHunger.org for more information. The meals packaged on this day are on their way to school children in the Philippines. As you can see, there were chores for every skill level. Consider coming out to help next time.



Melissa Sends a Huge SHOUT OUT to all who participated in Youth Sunday!

"It was a joy to team up with these teens in worship and I am grateful for the time and talents each of them shared. Also, a big THANK YOU to my youth team leaders. Their encouragement and guidance helped our youth gain the confidence to lead the service."

**Adult support included: John Corallo, Kathy Deal, Mike Jensen,
Jordyn Scaporetta and Christina Tello**

Youth Participants

*(many of whom are pictured
on this page)*

Nathaniel Brown

Amelia Colby

Melinda Farrales

Abby Johnson

Jonathan Schower

William Scott

Lily Straehle

G.J. Straehle

Paige Teller

Doug Teller

Leah Teller

Addie Williams



**Interested in joining
St. Paul's Youth Group?**

That is Great News!

Just email Melissa for more information

melissa.familyministries@StPaulsBrick.com



Great job, Acolytes!