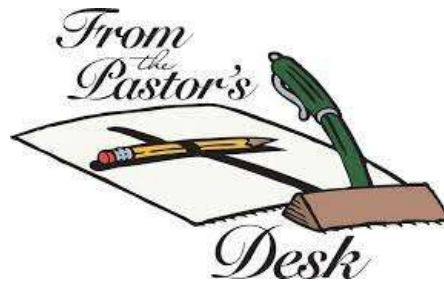




CIRCUIT RIDER

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

APRIL 2026



Dear St. Paul's:

Poetry has always helped me approach God. The language of the poetic, which relies on symbolism, imagery, metaphor, and imagination, helps me come into the presence of the One who is beyond human comprehension. That's why, perhaps, I'm so attracted to the Psalms, which are poetry.

I recently re-read this poem by A. E. Houseman, famous 19th/20th century poet. This speaks to the transcendence yet closeness of God, who came to us in Jesus the Christ. The risen ascended Christ loves us and works on our behalf. May it speak to you also during this Easter season.

*If in that Syrian garden, ages slain,
You sleep, and know not you are dead in vain,
Nor even in dreams behold how dark and bright
Ascends in smoke and fire by day and night
The hate you died to quench and could but fan,
Sleep well and see no morning, son of man.*

*But if, the grave rent and the stone rolled by,
At the right hand of majesty on high
You sit, and sitting so remember yet
Your tears, your agony and bloody sweat,
Your cross and passion and the life you gave,
Bow hither out of heaven and see and save.*

April's
Communion
Offering
Will
Benefit
RISE
Against
Hunger



This cup
is the new
covenant
in my blood.
Which is
poured
out for
you.
Luke 22:20



**JOIN US ON SUNDAY, JUNE 7th
2pm – 4pm**

Our communion offering in April will go to Rise Against Hunger, an international hunger relief organization, now in its 27th year. At RAH, "It Starts With a Meal" and it leads to resilience, self-sufficiency, education, empowerment and bright futures in communities worldwide. Every day RAH's meals are served around the globe in medical clinics, vocational training programs, elder care facilities and schools. Each meal is a moment to celebrate. Targeting remote, last-mile communities within hunger pockets worldwide, RAH is instrumental in helping entire families get nourishment. This year's location will be announced soon.



Stewardship Spotlight

Periodically we would like to honor members of St. Paul's using their God-given gifts, time and talents in remarkable ways. If you would like to nominate someone for this segment please email "media@stpaulsbrick.org" with your reasons for why this individual or group deserves recognition.

Easter Services Schedule



MAUNDY THURSDAY 7pm
April 2nd

GOOD FRIDAY - Tenebrae Service 7pm
April 3rd

EASTER SUNDAY Sunrise 7am
outside - weather permitting.
Bring your own chair

EASTER SUNDAY 9am
Traditional
EASTER SUNDAY 11am
Contemporary



There will be **NO**
Midweek Service on
April 1st
during Holy Week

Save The Date

Easter Cantata!

03 . 28 . 26

ONE PERFORMANCE
7PM ST. PAUL'S UMC SANCTUARY

Search me, O God and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me and lead me in the way everlasting."

Psalm 139:23-24



Look at all the opportunities!

ALBANIA – St. Paul's Mission team will be heading to Albania May 1st – May 10th. We currently have a team that will travel over to lend support to Hands of Providence International, headed by Plator and Nicole Colloku. The team will be busy assisting in the building projects in the Boy's Home and also focusing on improving children's programs throughout the community. As the departure dates draws nearer, a more detailed "to-do" list as well as what is hoped to be accomplished will be shared with the congregation.

LOCAL MISSIONS – Every first and third Saturday morning, from 9 to noon, St. Paul's volunteers operate the "Clothing Closet" in Asbury Park. Donations are sorted and shoppers are assisted in selecting their FREE clothing items. The "Clothing Closet" ministry is a friendly, upbeat atmosphere with a great opportunity of serving that requires minimal time and effort.

Mark your calendars for the upcoming RISE Against Hunger event on June 7th. Location will be announced.

While partnering with Cypress Missions, there are ongoing volunteer opportunities galore to consider, including Sisters Academy in Asbury Park, Dina's Dwelling in New Brunswick and Delanco Camp in Tabernacle. If you would like to sign up to help with restoring and painting cabins at Delanco Camp, the following dates are open:

- ✓ Saturday, March 28th
- ✓ Saturday, April 11th
- ✓ Weekend overnight, April 24th – 26th
- ✓ Friday, May 8th

In our continuing effort to show our appreciation to Veterans and their families, we will once again be teaming up with Cypress Missions during Memorial Day Weekend. We will come together on Saturday, May 23rd to complete minor home repairs at three different locations.

SUMMER YOUTH MISSION TRIP - Plans are underway for St. Paul's Summer Youth and Family Mission Trip to Delanco Camp in Tabernacle, NJ. Fellowship, games and cabin repairs will fill the days of June 23rd through June 26th.

If anyone sees a fellow believer in need and has the means to help him, yet shows no pity and closes his heart against him, how is it even possible that God's love lives in him? 1 John 3:17 (*Passion Translation*)

Mother Theresa said, "Prayer is not asking. Prayer is putting oneself in the hands of God, at His disposition, and listening to His voice in the depth of our hearts."

C. S. Lewis wrote, "I don't pray to change God. I pray because I have to. I pray because I can't help myself. It doesn't change God. It changes me."

Come Ring Bells!

Anyone from middle school to adults is welcome to come be a part of this unique musical group. As long as you can count to 4 and know your right hand from your left, there is a place for you at the (bell)table!

Contact Amanda Rohrs for more information or if you are interested in joining.



What a beautiful way to honor someone or to mark that special occasion!

Dates can be reserved on the Flower Chart posted in the Narthex. Cost is still only \$30.

Come out and enjoy the spring weather and help with a few chores!



Saturday, April 18th

Stay and pitch in for just an hour or two... totally your schedule. Come and help around the building and the church grounds. Call with any questions.



Senior Joy is BACK!!

The next Senior JOY luncheon program will be on

Thursday, April 16th

Our time together will begin at 11:30 with lunch and fellowship, followed by our devotion time.

Join us in the Youth Room. Please bring your own sandwich, but beverages AND desserts will be provided. Extra desserts are always appreciated.

All are welcome!

Our definition of "Senior" is "Anyone available in the daytime!"

STRONGER HEARTS FOR CHRIST

Come on out and see what fun this is! Stronger Hearts For Christ is led by Don Blair. It is a fun; hour long work-out of cross training exercises for every skill level. Classes are held every Monday and Thursday beginning at 6pm



Thank you to all who participated in this year's Variety Show. We enjoyed a great selection of acts and talent. We hope you will join us again next year! Pictured below: St. Paul's own Village People, Tony and Mary, Christina Tello



TODDLER time

Location:
St. Paul's UMC
Gymnasium
714 Herbertsville Road
Brick, NJ

JOIN US EVERY THURSDAY FROM
9AM - 11AM
NO PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Still just a \$10 donation payable at the door.

Join us for a morning of fun, learning, and movement! Our Toddler Time program is designed for children aged 1 - 4 years old and their caregiver to attend together. Come meet our caring staff, explore our big and bright indoor play space, and experience how we help children grow through play and movement!

Now hosted by The Mustard Seed Preschool

ALBANIA BOUND!

St. Paul's Missions Team will be working in Albania this May. Planned projects will support some of the many operations under Hands of Providence International in Maliq, Albania. H.O.P. currently runs a residential home for boys, a women's ministry, a daycare center, a food distribution facility and a center for Gypsy and ethnic communities. The municipality of Maliq has ninety-eight villages with no other Evangelical churches. The vision of Hands of Providence is to plant a church in each village that is located within the municipality. They currently have nine church plants. Their evangelical teams preach in the villages every day via door to door! Your prayers and support are very much appreciated. Thank you.

Offering Envelopes



St. Paul's Money Counting Team would like to remind everyone to fill out offering envelopes as completely as possible. For example, they might receive cash in an envelope with only a last name, like "Smith" written on front. They have no way of knowing to which Smith Family the donation belongs. In addition, it is common to have a donor write an amount next to the "OTHER" line. Perhaps you intended it to go to Communion or to the Pantry. However, because it is not specified, it will automatically go into the Unified Account. The Money Counting Team strives to be accurate in recording all your tithes and offerings and appreciate you making your intentions clear. If you have any questions or need clarification on the envelope system, please contact the Church Office.

If you are unsure if you have wholeheartedly trusted in Christ as your Savior until now, make this commitment today. And if you have, how about you reaffirm your trust in him today? There is not a specific prayer you must recite to become a Christian, but if you pray these words and they are truly from your heart, God will hear you and create in you a new creation...

"Dear Lord, thank you for loving me. I thank you that Jesus died on the cross to pay for my sins. Create in me a clean heart, Oh Lord. I turn from my sins and ask you to forgive me for them all. I trust you as my Lord and Savior. Thank you for hearing me and for making me your child today."



Want to include a bible study in your life?



Faith

Do you feel you are unable to lose weight?



Food

Are you finding it hard to exercise?



Focus

Do you find it hard to stay connected to God through your busy day?



Fitness

Do you want to be free from making unhealthy life choices?



Friends

Would you like to meet new Christian friends?

If any of these apply to you, join our support group.



Supportive Community of Other Christians who have discovered just what it means to submit their health to God



St. Paul's UMC Church
714 Herbertsville Rd
Brick, N.J 08724

Most Wednesdays
at 6:30 p.m. the
church library
See Liese DeBona or
Ann Blais
Call Church Office
732-458-2080

What to Expect:

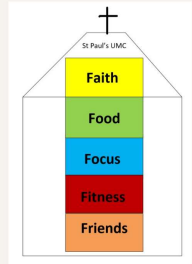
Bible studies
Video presentations
Discussions
Guest Speakers
Dining Out Nights
Chair Yoga
Lasting Friendships

Samples of Studies we are working on or have completed



Sample Topics

Healthy Eating
Weight Loss Techniques
Recipes
Mindfulness
Positive Thinking
Health Concerns
Managing our Emotions
Having a relationship with God
Faithfully Fit
Curb your Cravings
Focus your mind
Creating healthy relationships
Affirmations
Creating New Habits
Stress Relief
Prayer & Meditation
Nutrition Wisdom



Building Your Temple One Small Step at a Time

**EASTER FLOWERS ON SALE
FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY!**

Thursday, April 2nd

Noon - 2:00pm

Friday & Saturday, April 3 & 4

9:00 am - 5:00pm

You're Invited to a



May 9, 2026

Come out (while staying indoors!) and join the rest of us "que" lovers for some good fun and great food!

Ribs and Chicken! Yummy! Reservation deadline is Tuesday, May 5th. For more information, please call the church office.

Reserve early!

Free-will donation box at entrance.



Join us for coffee, tea, juice and a snack during Fellowship time every week after 1st service. Just follow everyone else down the hallway into Norcross Hall. It is an enjoyable, casual time to chat with friends and welcome new visitors.

And remember, if you or a group would like to sign up to host a fellowship hour, call the church office for more details or find the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

Donations of baked goods are always needed and very much appreciated.

Thanks for the laughs, Ralph Baker!



Ralph says,

"I went running with my Bible and now my Psalms are all sweaty!"

"Wash your hands and say your prayer – 'cuz Jesus and germs are everywhere!"

WOSP's Annual Craft and Vendor Show was a great event!

Thank you for all your support!

Many hands make light work

One person = 20 hours

Twenty people = 1 hour

The math is simple. Whether it is a work day around the church, helping set up the rummage sale or cleaning up after an event, please consider donating 60 minutes to help us to help others

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.

Do you have any...

Christkindlmarket

is seeking larger sized Christmas lawn ornaments, Christmas decorations and lights. They are also in need of pop-up canopies. Contact Kim Gavaletz for more information

VBS

is seeking various size cardboard boxes. They may be left at Youth Director's door.

If anyone is looking to get rid of any of the above items, please let the office know.

A four-year-old prayed,
'And forgive us our trash baskets
as we forgive those who put trash
in our baskets.'



Amanda and Auden "Livin' on a Prayer" at the Variety Show.
Great job!

Bible Studies Available

Please check out the new bulletin board in the hall outside of Joy's office. On it, you will see a current list of all Bible Studies at St. Paul's.

Also, if you have a study that you would like added, please let Bev Miller know.



What a voice! Thank you, Sharon for sharing your talent at the recent Variety Show. We loved it!



Thank you to all people of St. Paul's who have donated food, treats or monetary donations to the Pet Food Pantry. Since we opened to the public, we have been helping many, many neighbors in feeding their cats and dogs. As our requests grow, so do our needs. Please consider purchasing ten-pound bags of dog or cat kibble for our shelves.

The Pet Ministry is always looking for new members to join our Team. Our first Organizational Meeting will be in early April. If you would like to join our group and bring your ideas, contact Ivy Kirn,.



Pet Food Pantry Hours

4pm – 6pm

2nd & 4th Tuesdays

Open to the Public

Food Pantry Hours

4pm – 6pm

2nd & 4th Tuesdays

Open to the Public

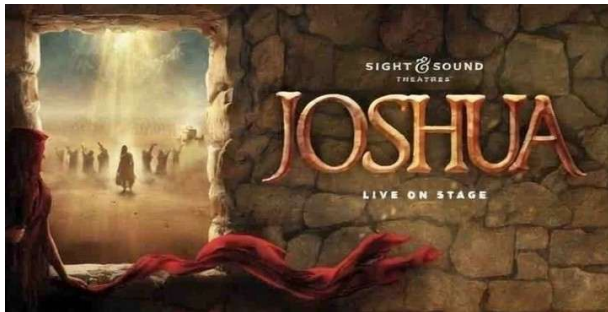




Even the intermission at the Variety Show was fun with Nathaniel at the wheel.



Please support our objective to keep our sanctuary clean. Only water will be allowed. Thank you



TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2026

From the banks of the Jordan River to the majestic walls of Jericho, JOSHUA presents a miraculous adventure for the entire family. Accompany the people of Israel as they navigate their newly found freedom in a harsh wilderness. As Joshua steps in to succeed Moses as their devoted leader, tensions rise up amid dwindling resources and impending armies. With only one fortified city left between the Israelites and the Promised Land, unexpected aid appears behind enemy lines testing Joshua's faith in God's plan.

\$188. PACKAGE PRICE INCLUDES:

- ✓ Show Ticket
- ✓ Lunch at Shady Maple
- ✓ Round trip motorcoach transportation



**As members of St Paul's United Methodist Church,
our commitment is to**

PRAISE God through worship, **GROW** as disciples through study, **SHARE** our faith through testimony, and **SERVE** others through ministry. Part of this commitment is to share our time, talents, and treasures to further the work and missions of the Church. People may wish to give of themselves to St Paul's by volunteering their time for the various services and projects of the Church. They may also share their talents by performing certain skilled tasks for the Church for a reduced fee or on a pro bono basis. In addition, people may wish to contribute part of their treasures.

In contemplating various mechanisms by which one could contribute part of their treasures, one strategy is to consider making a future gift by way of life insurance that they may have gotten for their family years ago. The policy may have been obtained when a family's needs were large but now maybe the children are older, financially independent, or the owner of the policy's needs may have changed. While it is always wise to review such policies, their coverage and beneficiaries, there may be less of a need for the size of any given policy as time passes. We do not recommend just canceling the policy, but entertain the thought of contacting the Church to see if there is a way to benefit the Church. One way is to continue making premium payments and name the Church as the beneficiary or a partial beneficiary. Another example: it may be possible for the Church to take over premium payments and have it named as the beneficiary. In addition, it may be possible (depending upon the insurance company and policy type) to convert the life insurance policy to an annuity from which the Church may be named as the income beneficiary.

This information is meant to offer ideas to people, but is not intended to substitute as tax advice or legal advice. We urge anyone who is interested in pursuing one or more of these strategies to consult with the Church in addition to their tax advisor and / or estate planning attorney. Specifically, the Finance Committee has asked that you refer any inquiries, or if you would like to discuss any of these options in further detail, to Richard Dworzak CFP® through the Church. Rest assured that any inquiries will be treated with tact and confidentiality. As with anything of this nature, consult your estate planning attorney and / or tax advisor.

CAN YOU HELP?

It takes a lot of effort and participation to ensure our rummage sales generate funds to support over three dozen organizations throughout the year. The WOSP appreciates your help by donating clothing, linen, jewelry and white elephant items on the day before the sale or baked goods the morning of the sale.

The WOSP could also use help from church members on either of these days:

- May 15th for room set-up
- May 16th for sales assistance and clean-up assistance

In an effort to improve overall rummage sale operations, the committee is seeking a few more church members to join the team.

The church office can provide more information.



May 16, 2026

Saturday, 10am – 2pm

Come for the treasures...
Stay for the tasty treats!

No price increase.... Still **only \$5** to fill a bag with clothing! Shop early for the best selection. Bring a friend.... Enjoy lunch after you find your bargains. It is a great time for a great cause!



Palm Sunday

March 29th

Kid's Easter Egg Hunt

During Sunday School



Learn from the Pro!

Sue Miller has been making our Palm Crosses for many years. Join us at 7pm on Friday, March 27th in the youth room, when Sue will give instruction on how to create these Palm Crosses. Learn or help. Both will be fun!

Elegant Tea

Sunday

SOLD OUT! THANK YOU!

April 18th

1on1 PRAYER MINISTRY

ANNE MACALUSO IS GENEROUSLY OFFERING HER ONE-ON-ONE PRAYER MINISTRY AND SPIRITUAL COMPANSHIP FOR ANYONE STRUGGLING WITH A NEED, BE IS SPIRITUAL, PHYSICAL OR EMOTIONAL.

LET HER BE THE GODLY LISTENING EAR YOU DESIRE.
LET HER PRAY JUST FOR YOU. YOU DESERVE IT.