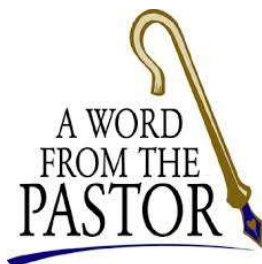




ST. PAUL'S
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH
714 Herbertsville Road
Brick, NJ 08724
www.StPaulsBrick.org

OCTOBER 2026



Dear St. Paul's:

A few weeks ago, the great teacher, farmer, and naturalist Wendell Berry passed away. I've been a fan of his work for years - I especially enjoy his poetry. I like to use this forum as a way to pass along writing that is meaningful to me, so in that spirit, here is a Wendell Berry poem that might be meaningful to you, too. This poem is a reminder of the deep peace we can experience in God's creation, especially as we move into the colorful beauty of the fall season:

*When despair grows in me
and I wake in the night at the least sound
in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be,
I go and lie down where the wood drake
rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.
I come into the peace of wild things
who do not tax their lives with forethought
of grief. I come into the presence of still water.
And I feel above me the day-blind stars
waiting for their light. For a time
I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.*

October's Communion Offering Will Benefit World Communion Sunday



Communion Offerings in 2026

To be better "pre-prayered" for upcoming Communion Offerings, here is the list of this year's 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 Communion Sunday
- November: Plator & Nicole Collaku
- December: Cypress Missions



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!



GriefShare Already in Session Still Time To Join

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 began, but will run until 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



SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS

Tuesday, November 10TH

7pm – 9pm

Join us for encouragement, support and valuable tools to navigate the season.



Welcome New Members! Congratulations!



Recently, St. Paul's held its New Member Sunday. During this service we welcomed 16 members into the church!

What a glorious day and an exciting new chapter for us all!

God is Great!

St. Paul's congregation welcomes those pictured above. Please seek them out and show them a "well-deserved welcome"

Pictured above L-R:

Leigh Anne Shaffer, Young Asbury, Erica Garofalo, Johnny Corallo, Sarah Equils, Lily Shaffer, Kyle Cotta, John Henry, June Hullings, Ken Hullings, Amanda Rohrs, Ann Kleiner, Karl Kleiner, Terry Waterhouse, Linda Young and Rick Young.

One of the clearest passages about attending church is found in Hebrews 10:24-25,

"And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near." (English Standard Version)



BUSY! BUSY! BUSY!

BIBLE STUDY BUSY!

Find a bible study that fits your schedule and interest. Many have already started up this fall. But, there is still time to jump right in. There is definitely one just for you!



Back by Popular Demand!

Pastor Evan and Rick Young will, again, lead a unique Bible study using the storyline from the charming coming-of-age movie *Secondhand Lions*. The film will be shown in the church library on Friday night, October 9th, beginning at 7:00 p.m. The next morning, October 10th, from 8:00 a.m. until noon, the study will be held in the Youth Room. Participants will be provided a study handout. They should bring their Bible and a pen or pencil. Because this is an interactive study, attendees will discuss the issues the movie raises, participants will be limited to 14 persons so everyone has a chance for discussion. However, if there is enough interest the study will be conducted more than once. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.

Would you like to read the scripture or lead us in our morning prayer? There are openings for both during Sunday services. 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.

JOIN US!



Come join us Sunday mornings between services. Stay a bit after 1st service or come early enough before 2nd service. It is an enjoyable, casual time to chat with fellow members and welcome new visitors.

And remember, if you or a group would like to host a fellowship hour, call the church office. There is also a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.



*Keep 'em coming, Ralph!
We always love hearing from Ralph Baker*

*"A woman prayed for patience.
The next day she got put in charge
of the church's Youth Group!"*

*If we are thinking that God didn't hear us, maybe,
instead, we should ask ourselves if we didn't hear
God. OR If we are thinking that God didn't hear us
and isn't listening – maybe we should instead wonder
if we didn't hear HIM and aren't listening.*

(source unknown)

STRONGER HEARTS FOR CHRIST

Every Monday & Thursday at 6pm
New program begins September 10th
The "lazy" days of summer are over!

This is a fun hour of working out. These are sessions of cross training for every skill level. See Don Blair for more info

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.

You're Invited!

Does singing Christmas music get you in the spirit of the holiday season?

Join the choirs of
St. Paul's UMC in our
annual Christmas cantata!

Rehearsals will begin
Thursday, Oct. 15th at
7:30pm in the Music Room.

We would love to have you
join us and be a part of our
church's musical tradition!

NEED TO MAKE A DECISION TODAY?

Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

Save
the
Date

**TRUNK OR
TREAT
SATURDAY
OCTOBER 31ST**



**Saturday
October 3, 2026**

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 "thrifting".**

A great time for a great cause!



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

PURGE....So others can splurge!

**GET YOUR
RED OF
STUFF**

**Is your house feeling
"Stuffed"?**

**Now is the perfect time to get rid
of your clutter. Donate it to the
Rummage Sale! Donation day is
Friday, October 2nd**



**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 to set up the rummage sale or cleaning up after any event, please consider donating just 60 minutes to help us, so we can help others.

**CAN YOU
HELP?**

The WOSP could use help on either of these days:

- October 2nd for room set up
- October 3rd for sales and clean-up assistance

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

For more details, please contact
Christine Arena at crsty47@aol.com

Save The Date

The next Senior JOY luncheon program will
be on
Thursday, October 15th

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!"*

1on1 PRAYER MINISTRY

**ANNE MACALUSO OFFERS ONE-ON-ONE
SPIRITUAL COMPANIONSHIP 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

MISSIONS UPDATE and SCHEDULE

St. Paul's Missions Team and Cypress Missions have been busy over the summer. Locally, some of the recent projects that have been completed include work at the homes of two military veterans. Repairs were also done at a foster home and recently, the team assisted in readying an apartment at Dina's Dwelling for a survivor of domestic violence and her small child.

While partnering with Cypress Missions, there are a variety of volunteer opportunities ahead. All skill levels are welcome. Everyone is encouraged to learn more about the upcoming work projects listed below. There is sure to be one that fits your schedule.

- 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.
- Beginning September 30th and continuing every Tuesday from 3pm – 4pm throughout the academic year, after-school opportunities are available at Sisters' Academy in Asbury Park.
- Sister Jean's Kitchen and other AC sites will have work days in the near future.
- Dina's Dwelling and the Town Clock CDC will have projects scheduled for October 29th.

Mission updates are also posted in "News From The Pews"
Contact Doug Buechler, Missions Team Leader.

There are sooo many ways to share your talents. Consider volunteering with Cypress Missions

We all know Freddie has always stayed busy. This fall is no exception! He truly has the heart for missions. Contact Doug Buechler for information on more volunteer opportunities with St. Paul's and Cypress. As Cypress moves into the next few months of helping communities in need, here is an update on recent projects: Work has been completed at two Veterans' homes in Neptune. Also, repairs were done quickly to help relocate a domestic violence survivor and her small child into a safe apartment at Dina's Dwelling. In addition, improvements continue at Sister Jean's Kitchen in Atlantic City, the After School program at Sisters' Academy will be going strong throughout the school year. As you can see, while Cypress remains focused on navigating numerous natural disasters, its ongoing local and national initiatives remain consistent with its objectives.

As natural disasters are happening in the country, Freddie is in contact with several areas including a trip back to Wisconsin, a new location in North Carolina and helping some of our neighbors in Northern New Jersey. Soon, Cypress and St. Paul's Mission Team will be helping facilitate over 500 volunteers, collaborating with Home Depot, leading them in demolition, building, and repairs of a facility known as Haven for Hope in San Antonio, TX. This dynamic organization helps over 2,000 people per week with support and transformation.

All this and more can only be achieved by all of you working together with Cypress with your time and resources. Freddie adds, *"Thank you for that continued confidence in our vision of helping restore communities one relationship at a time".*

Check out The Joy Of Wellness Program at St. Paul's

Most Wednesdays at 6:30 in the church library

"Grow in faith. Nourish your body. Focus your mind. Walk in love."

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



*Strength for Today, Hope for Tomorrow.
Together in Christ.*

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



"For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things He planned for us long ago."
Ephesians 2:10



Building Your Temple One Small Step at a Time

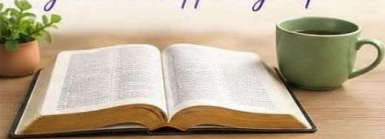
"Let everything you do be done with love."
1 Corinthians 16:14

*Grow in faith. Nourish your body.
Focus your mind. Walk in love.
You are never alone on this journey.*

Is this you?

- ? Want to include a bible study in your life?
- ? Do you feel you are unable to lose weight?
- ? Are you finding it hard to exercise?
- ? Do you find it hard to stay connected to God through your busy day?
- ? Do you want to be free from making unhealthy life choices?
- ? Would you like to meet new Christian friends?

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



Our Focus Areas

- Faith**
Grow closer to God through His Word, prayer, and encouragement.
- Food**
Make healthier choices and build a better relationship with food.
- Focus**
Find balance, reduce stress, and stay connected to God each day.
- Fitness**
Move your body, build strength, and boost your energy.
- Friends**
Build lasting friendships in a supportive Christian community.

"Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."
1 Corinthians 10:31

♥ Encouraging Healthy Bodies & Strong Faith

The Joy of Wellness



A Christian Support Group for Mind, Body & Spirit

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

Come as you are. You are not alone.

Come check out the first annual

"Pop Up Pet Store"

At the Pet Blessing Event

Helping our Pet Ministry to feed the animals
is as easy as

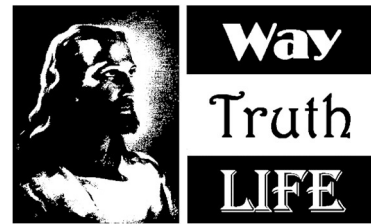
\$1 \$2 \$3

Yes, that's right. Better prices than the Dollar Store. All pet items are priced no higher than three dollars. Most items are only **ONE DOLLAR** (or less)

Shop early for the best selection. An assortment of pet items including collars, leashes, pet costumes, pet toys, dog coats, crates, pet beds, holiday accessories. Huge **THANK YOU** for the generosity of The Jersey Shore Animal Center of Brick and Rescue Ridge Animal Welfare Organization of Howell, the majority of the donated items are brand new. All are in excellent condition.

A HUGE SELECTION!

Now is the time to load up on pet stocking stuffers and pet gifts for all your furry friends. 100% of the proceeds will go to purchasing dog and cat food for our Pet Food Pantry, dedicated to feeding our neighbors' pets. Please pass the word if you know of any pet owner facing hardship at this time. The Pet Food Pantry is open on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month and we are here to help



Thank you, Bill Probert for putting the "I AM" statements together for us. Bill has faithfully been offering them up to the congregation and we couldn't be more grateful.

John 4:26	I WHO SPEAK TO YOU AM HE
John 5:17	I MYSELF AM WORKING
John 6:35, 41, 48	I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE
John 6:51	I AM THE LIVING BREAD OF LIFE
John 7:29	I AM FROM GOD
John 8:12	I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD
John 8:15	I AM GOING (to the cross)
John 8:18, 24, 28	I AM HE
John 8:58	I AM
John 9:5	I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD
John 10:9	I AM THE DOOR
John 10:11, 14	I AM THE GOOD SHEPARD
John 10:36	I AM THE SON OF GOD
John 11:25	I AM THE RESURRECTION
John 12:32	I AM LIFTED UP
John 13:13	I AM TEACHER AND LORD
John 13:19	I AM HE
John 14:6	I AM THE WAY, TRUTH, LIFE
John 14:10	I AM IN THE FATHER
John 15:1,5	I AM THE TRUE VINE
John 16:5	I AM GOING TO HIM WHO SENT ME
John 18:5,6,8	I AM HE
John 18:37	I AM A KING
John 19:28	I AM THIRSTY



**WANTED:
AMAZING
VENDORS**

We are now accepting reservations for Crafters, Vendors, Business'. Our spaces cost only \$25 for a 10x12 space. Contact Lori McLachlan for any vendor information at Ms.Hummy@yahoo.com or call the church office for further information. We will offer waitress service for vendors/crafters attending solo and women volunteers to sit your booth, should you need to use the facilities.

We always offer complimentary space to all Non-Profit organizations, our way of giving back and to help them gain exposure for their mission. For further information to become a Non-Profit at our event, send an inquiry to IvyKirn@aol.com.

Please include the best contact phone number.

Use the QR code on event poster to access Pet Ministry website and necessary registration form. Please print pet registration forms and bring to day of the Blessing. The new form for Pet Ashes is also on the website. Please note: we cannot accept registration forms via email for vendors. Forms for non-profits may be mailed to the church office by deadline.

15th Annual Blessing of the Animals Festival St. Francis of Assisi Day The Patron Saint of Animals

The Pet Ministry Team is busy preparing for our 15th Annual Blessing of the Animals.
Sunday, October 4th from 1 until 5pm

The Pet Ministry Team has planned a fun filled day centered around pets, families and the community celebrating the incredible bond we share with our animal companions. Throughout the afternoon you will enjoy individual pet blessings, the Brick Police K9 Unit demonstration, "adorable adoptables" from local shelters/rescues, pet and children's activities, food, shopping and opportunities to connect with local businesses and organizations.

Families are invited to bring the ashes of their Angel Pets who are *"no longer by our side, but forever in our hearts."* We will provide a special certificate to honor their memory.

Be sure to treat yourself and your family to the "Yummy Food" creations of Terry Waterhouse. Come hungry and ready for an enjoyable day celebrating the relationship between pets and their owners.
Who knows? You just may meet your new best friend.

