

# PROCLAIMING A TIMELESS CHRIST IN A CHANGING WORLD



# THE SPIRE

SAINT PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH † CUMBERLAND, MARYLAND

## 2019 CONGREGATION OFFICERS

**President:**  
Dr. Burton Streicher  
**Vice President:**  
Kathleen Ball  
**Secretary:**  
Debbie Szymanski  
**Treasurer:**  
Stephanie Wade

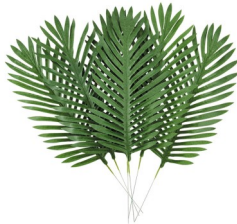
## 2019 CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS

**Education (Faith Formation):**  
Debbie Metheny  
**Evangelism:**  
Jane Roderick  
**Finance:**  
Suzanne Umstott  
**Ministry in Daily Life:**  
Nancy Lohr  
**Property:**  
Edward Ayers  
**Social Ministry (Fellowship):**  
Cindy Read  
**Stewardship:**  
Burton Streicher  
**Worship and Music:**  
Kathleen Ball  
**Youth:**  
Gary Miller

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## APRIL 2019



Dear friends in Christ:

As I compose this note on the last afternoon in March, snow pellets are bouncing around on our deck. March, which came in like a lion, apparently didn't get the memo about its anticipated departure. Ah, well. Easter *is* just three weeks away. Lenten Taize-tradition services will continue through Wednesday, April 10, at 6:30 p.m., and then several special services and events will mark our observance of Holy Week:

- **Palm Sunday, April 14, 10:00 a.m.** – Distribution of palms and procession around in the church sanctuary at the beginning of the service
- **Maundy Thursday, April 18, 7:00 p.m.** – Holy Eucharist followed by the stripping of the altar. Then any who wish to are welcome to remain for a time keeping quiet vigil in the “garden”
- **Good Friday, April 19, 7:00 p.m.** – Service of Reflection, Intercession, and Veneration of the Cross
- **Saturday, April 20** – Plans are afoot to sing Easter hymns with our shut-ins – stay tuned for further details of the afternoon's schedule
- **Easter Sunday, April 21, 9:00 a.m.** – Potluck breakfast in the Parish Hall, followed by Holy Eucharist at **10:00 a.m.** with St. Paul's Hand Bell Choir

We will also make announcements of other Holy Week services at our sister Presbyterian and Episcopal churches on Washington Street.

*I'm reminded why this all matters:* If it weren't for the first Easter, “Christianity” would likely have long since died out as an obscure, short-lived Jewish sect. Hmm.

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Steve



STEVE HAPTONSTAHL  
Interim Pastor

DAVID RANKIN  
Director of Music

DEBBIE SZYMANSKI  
Parish Assistant

STEPHANIE WADE  
Treasurer

RAMON ROCHE CARDONA  
Sexton

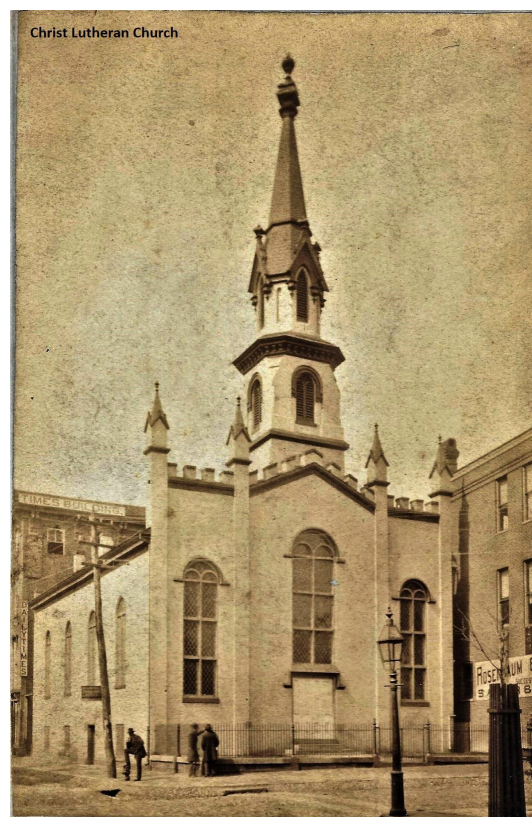
## A Word from the President

Spring and Easter are around the corner as we look forward to warmer weather, blooming trees, and spring flowers. At our March council meeting we approved the design and installation of a proposed black vinyl-coated fence around our front lawn to protect the Montessori and our children as they play outside. It should be installed within the next couple of months. The council also approved the Montessori school request to plant two fruit trees in the front lawn as part of their Earth Day celebration in April. The coded keyless entry lock installed on the interior double doors is now being used to provide additional physical security for the building and is working well. If you need to obtain the code and access instructions, please stop by the church office. Most of our on-going building repairs have been completed. A new transformer has been installed and our sanctuary ceiling cove lights on the left side are now working. The coffee house ductwork installation has started which will allow cool air from the existing air conditioning system to make the room more comfortable in the summer and useable as a classroom and meeting room. Many thanks go to Ed Ayers and Ramon Cardona for their diligence and hard work in completing these much-needed facility repairs and improvements.

The Call Committee has completed their work on the Congregational Ministry Site Profile. The council anticipates reviewing and approving the submission to the ELCA at our next council meeting. This is the document that is used to inform interested pastors of our call opportunity. The next step will be to interview pastors as they are provided to us by the Synod.

Hopefully, you have had a chance during this Lenten season to participate in our Wednesday night Lenten meditation services done in the Taizé style. As we prepare ourselves for the joy of Easter, be in thoughtful prayer about the future of our congregation as we celebrate our 225<sup>th</sup> anniversary year.

(Burt Streicher, Council President)



### **225 Tidbits: The Second Church, Built in Pieces**

By the 1830s, the log church that had been Christ (St. Paul's) Lutheran Church's home since 1794 had become dilapidated, and congregations from other denominations that had been "incubated" in the old church had left and built churches of their own.

By 1836, the Vestry had begun discussions about building a new church home, but an effort to raise funds from the congregation failed, then the banks failed a year later. Banks and businesses closed, so the plan was delayed. Nevertheless, time and decay marched on. While the Vestry considered whether to renovate or replace the old church, it was deemed to be in "run-down condition, unfit and unsafe for worship."

The decision was made to build anew, and the space next to the log church, which faced Centre Street, was designated for the new church, oriented to front on Baltimore Street.

The congregation agreed that the new church would be 70 feet long and as wide as the lot would allow, with a 20-foot setback from Baltimore Street. (Incidentally, one vestryman felt a larger building was necessary, and since he could not sway the Vestry, he simply arrived at the site overnight and moved the stakes designating the building's dimensions forward by 10 feet. The building was under way when the deception was discovered.)

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**225 Tidbits: The Second  
Church,  
Built in Pieces  
continued**

This church building was a work in progress for better than a decade. Much of the work was donated by members of the congregation. The cornerstone was laid in 1842, (the same cornerstone found in the front of the current St. Paul's near the Smallwood Street door). By 1843, a single room to hold services had been achieved. In 1844, a basement lecture hall was added, along with pews and a pulpit in the sanctuary. In 1845, another basement room was created for the Sunday school primary department.

The exterior was simply a plain front until the Vestry adopted a resolution saying that, "in view of the unfinished and unsightly appearance of the Church Front," a new one "shall be completed in a style demanded by the growing importance of the town and the central position occupied by the church."

A new women's group, the Ladies Organization, raised the funds for the new church front, but not trusting the Vestry to act, they held back the money until a definite plan was in place. That didn't happen until 1848, and the work was completed in 1854.

The steeple was another sticking point, as a half-finished structure topped the building until 1859, when a more-imposing steeple costing \$450 was installed. Gas lighting was installed in 1860.

The final church was a two-story brick building, with a narrow yard between the church and the street enclosed by an iron fence. The first story, housing two gathering rooms (one called St. Paul's, the first use of that name by this congregation) and a kitchen, was partially below ground, entered by stairs from Centre Street. The main entrance was from Baltimore Street.

The front of the church held a vestibule that covered the width of the building, with doors leading to the "auditorium" at either side. The chancel was formed by an altar rail setting off a 12-by-20-foot space.

The Pulpit stood on a platform in the center of the rear of the chancel. A table in front of the pulpit served as the altar.

**The Luther League Puppet Ministry  
Team News**



On **Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>**, the APPS youth and their families will enjoy dinner together followed by an Easter presentation. Youth from APPS have been practicing with us for the past few weeks and are excited to be part of it. The title of the presentation is "Jack and Sully's Easter Adventure". Jack is a rabbit and Sully is a turtle. Along with fun songs like *Wake-Up World* and *The Easter Turtle Ballad*, the story of Easter will be told by a storyteller through songs and visuals. Come and See!

On **Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>** the team will travel to visit those who are homebound or in nursing homes for an Easter Vigil. In July the team will participate in the Fellowship of Christian Puppeteers National Conference in Hagerstown, MD. Practice times vary. If you would like to learn more about the team, please call Debbie Streicher (703-303-7255) or email her. ([dstreicher52@gmail.com](mailto:dstreicher52@gmail.com)).

"Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in springtime."

*Martin Luther*



"Bear one another's  
burdens, and so fulfill  
the law of Christ."

-Galatians 6:2

Praying on behalf of others is a powerful gift we can give to one another. The St. Paul's Intercessory Prayer Team prays each week for those who have requested prayer. We pray regularly, in detail, with faith and love, knowing that God hears us.

St. Paul's offers two ways to request prayer for oneself or for another. You may request to have your prayer request on one list or the other, or both.

On Sunday mornings we pray corporately for those on the prayer listing in the church bulletin. During the week, our prayer team prays each day for those requests received in the prayer box in the narthex or by word of mouth or email. These requests are more specific to the need of the individuals prayed for and treated with complete confidentiality.

If you would like to be part of this ministry, please call me at 240-727-1798, or email me at [mutmab43@gmail.com](mailto:mutmab43@gmail.com) if you would like to know more or join us.

Kathleen Ball  
Prayer Team Coordinator

## Living Our Faith Together LOFT



During Lent, all ages have been meeting weekly on Sunday mornings for 45 minutes in Fellowship Hall after Loaves and Fishes (food and fellowship) following worship. The first Sunday, households were given a Lenten Cross Candle to use in their home. Each week during Lent one purple candle is lit after doing devotions and reading the prayer and blessing from the Taking Faith Home bulletin insert we receive during worship. Easter Sunday the white candle in the center will be lit.

***LOFT will not meet on Easter Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup> or on Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup>.  
The last gathering for the school year will be on Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>.***

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## **Mortimer C. and Elizabeth Ann Schaidt Scholastic Tuition Fund**

On April 15<sup>th</sup> St. Paul's will begin accepting applications for the Mortimer C. and Elizabeth Ann Schaidt Scholastic Tuition Fund for the 2019-2020 academic year. Instructions and the application form can be found online by visiting [www.stpaulcumberland.org](http://www.stpaulcumberland.org) or by requesting the information from the church office. The scholarship is competitive and available only to members of St. Paul's. The award can be used for the payment of tuition only at an accredited institution offering a 2 or 4 year degree, graduate degree, technical or vocational training. In order to establish the applicant as a member, the applicant must have communed **and** contributed – in their own name - at least once in the past year. Additional questions should be directed to Debbie Metheny: [stpaulsscholarship2015@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsscholarship2015@gmail.com). **Applications are due by June 15, 2019.**

## **Bowersox and Frick Scholarship Information**

Separate letter of application must be submitted for each scholarship.

Address all applications to the Vestry of St. Paul's Lutheran Church. **ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE CHURCH OFFICE BY 4:00 PM ON JUNE 25th.**

The **GLADYS FRICK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP** is available for young adults who are members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church or whose parents are members. To qualify as an applicant you must be a current high school graduate accepted at a four-year college, two-year junior college, community college, nursing school or accredited trade school.

This award shall be made to the applicant who has the highest level of scholastic achievement during his/her senior year in high school.

Please include the following information:

- a) name and telephone number
- b) home address and college address (if known)
- c) senior year transcript
- d) any comment you, the applicant, wish to make (list school at which you have been accepted.)

The **BOWERSOX MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP** is available for all members of St. Paul's or for young adults whose parents are members. To qualify as an applicant, you must be a high school graduate, accepted by either a graduate school, a four-year college, a two-year college, a community college, nursing school or an accredited trade school either as a part-time or as a full-time student.

This award shall be made on the basis of need and the expressed determination of the student to gain this educational experience.

Please include the following information:

- a) name and telephone number
- b) home address and college address (if known)
- c) major course of study
- d) the degree for which you, the applicant, are a candidate and the date it is expected to be awarded
- e) last semester's grade transcripts
- f) list school at which you have been accepted
- g) expected cost for the year
- h) the amount you, the applicant, expect to earn
- i) any loan which you, the applicant, or your parents have previously obtained for the purpose of defraying schooling costs
- j) a statement concerning the need for assistance
- k) any comment you, the applicant, wish to make

## **St. Paul's Website**



The St. Paul's website is located at:

[www.stpaulcumberland.org](http://www.stpaulcumberland.org)

Visit our website regularly to download the monthly newsletter, check the calendar for events, and become familiar with the ministries at St. Paul's.





**Easter flower orders are being taken now through Thursday, April 11th.** Tulips, hyacinths, lilies and mums will be delivered from a greenhouse in Pittsburgh. The cost is \$6.00 per plant. They will decorate the altar Easter morning and can be taken home after the service. Please call the church office to place your order and let us know how you'd like the order designated in the Easter bulletin.

## VBS 2019 Vacation Bible School



The congregations joining together for VBS this year are excited about the theme, *Who is My Neighbor?* It will provide opportunities for us to invite persons and organizations from our area to share the work they do with us. We will also include a service activity so that the children and youth can give to others in our community. We will engage daily in learning about Jesus' love through Scripture, activities, daily worship, and songs.

**Dates: June 17-21**

**Time: 5:30 to 8:30pm (includes dinner)**

**Location: St. Paul's**

The next planning meeting will take place at St. Paul's on Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm. If you would like to know more about our VBS theme and plans this year, please join us.

## Easter Breakfast

We will gather at 9:00 a.m. Easter morning to share breakfast. Please plan to bring a breakfast casserole, fruit or baked good. The church will provide coffee and juice. Please sign up on the bulletin board.



## Celebrate !

**April**

- 2 – Daniel Highland
- 9 – Patty Graham
- 12 – Linda Zeller
- 17 – Joe Graham
- 18 - 1960 - Sabra (Hast) and Art Isom -**  
**First couple married in current sanctuary**
- 20 – Dot Rhoads
- 21 – Larry Goldizen
- 29 – Kathleen Ball

If you would like your birthday, anniversary or special occasion recognized in The Spire, please contact Debbie in the office (301-722-6604) or Linda Zeller (301-724-9064) and we'll add it to the list so that we can celebrate with you.



## Monday

9:30 AM  
5:00 PM  
6:00 PM

## Tuesday

7:00 PM

## Wednesday

9:30 AM  
3:30-6:00  
5:30-6:30  
6:30-7:00  
7:30 PM

## Sunday

10:00 AM  
11:15 AM  
11:30 AM

## Monday

9:30 AM  
5:00 PM  
6:00 PM

## Tuesday

5:30 PM

## Wednesday

9:30 AM  
3:30-6:00  
5:30-6:30  
6:30-7:00  
7:30 PM

## Thursday

9:00 AM  
4:00-6:00

## Friday

1:00 PM

## Saturday

10:00-1:00  
2:00-4:00

## Sunday

10:00 AM  
11:15 AM  
11:30 AM

## April 1

Heavenly Bodies aerobics  
Beginnings Board meeting  
Handbell practice

## April 2

225th anniversary planning meeting

## April 3

Heavenly Bodies aerobics  
APPS afterschool program  
Luther League puppet practice  
Midweek Lenten service  
Sanctuary Choir rehearsal

## April 7

Worship Service  
Loaves and Fishes fellowship  
LOFT-  
Living Our Faith Together

## April 8

Heavenly Bodies aerobics  
Vacation Bible School meeting  
Handbell practice

## April 9

Council Meeting

## April 10

Heavenly Bodies aerobics  
APPS afterschool program  
Luther League puppet practice  
Midweek Lenten service  
Sanctuary Choir rehearsal

## April 11

Ramblers Altoona shopping trip  
Bountiful Blessings

## April 12

Beginnings Energy Program in  
Fellowship Hall

## April 13

Mountainside Baroque rehearsal  
Mountainside Baroque Academy  
Auditions

## April 14-Palm Sunday

Worship Service  
Loaves and Fishes fellowship  
LOFT-  
Living Our Faith Together

## Monday

9:30 AM  
6:00 PM

## Wednesday

9:30 AM  
3:30-6:00

## Thursday

7:30 PM

## Friday

7:00 PM

## Sunday

9:00 AM  
10:00 AM  
9:30 AM  
3:30-6:00  
7:30 PM

## Monday

9:30 AM

## Wednesday

9:30 AM  
3:30-6:00  
7:30 PM  
4:00-6:00

## Friday

6:00 PM

## Saturday

10:00 AM  
11:15 AM  
11:30 AM

## Sunday

10:00 AM  
11:15 AM  
11:30 AM

## April 15

Heavenly Bodies aerobics  
Handbell practice

## April 17

Heavenly Bodies aerobics  
APPS afterschool program-

## Easter dinner /Puppet presentation

Sanctuary Choir rehearsal

## April 18

## Beginnings-1/2 Day

Maundy Thursday service

## April 19

## Beginnings-No School

Good Friday service

## April 21-Easter

Easter Breakfast  
Worship Service

## April 22

Heavenly Bodies aerobics

## April 24

Heavenly Bodies aerobics  
APPS afterschool program  
Sanctuary Choir rehearsal

## April 25

Bountiful Blessings

## April 26

Potomac Concert Band-conference room

## April 27

Cumberland Music Academy recital

## April 28

Worship Service  
Loaves and Fishes fellowship  
LOFT-  
Living Our Faith Together



## 25-Year Time Capsule Opening Mother's Day Luncheon May 12, 2019

Watch for details in the Sunday  
announcements and May newsletter!

### APRIL WORSHIP LEADERS

	April 7	April 14	April 21	April 28
<b>Lectors</b>	Lisa Rowley	Caitlin Hudgins	Jay Cochrane	Kathleen Ball
<b>Ushers</b>	Terry Hostetler and Art Isom	Mark Seib and Bob Davis	Terry Hostetler and Art Isom	Mark Seib and Bob Davis
<b>Crucifers</b>	Daniel Highland	Mia Broadwater	Emily Metheny	Meadow Wagus
<b>Greeters</b>	Mary Ann Hiester and Jane Roderick	Dennis and Cindy Read	Dave and Rena Christopher	Nancy Lohr and Joy Zembower
<b>Sound/Screen Technicians</b>	Ed Ayers and Debbie Szymanski	Jim Squires and Debbie Szymanski	Rick Metheny and Connor Manthey	Jim Squires and Debbie Szymanski
<b>Children's Church</b>	Rena Christopher	Christine Miller	Debbie Metheny	Rena Christopher
<b>Comm. Asst.</b>	Jim and Patti Squires	Gary Miller and Jane Roderick	Emily and Erica Metheny	Brenda Marvin and Debbie Streicher
<b>Loaves and Fishes fellowship</b>	Methenys	Streichers	EASTER BREAKFAST	Deana Emerick