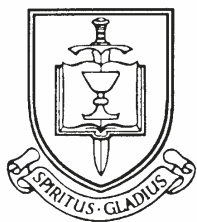


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PROCLAIMING A TIMELESS CHRIST TO A CHANGING WORLD

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# THE SPIRE

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SAINT PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH † CUMBERLAND, MARYLAND

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## 2018 CONGREGATION OFFICERS

### **President:**

Dr. Burton Streicher

### **Vice President:**

Kathleen Ball

### **Secretary:**

Debbie Szymanski

### **Treasurer:**

Stephanie Wade

## 2018 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

STEVE HAPTONSTAHL

Interim  
Pastor

DAVID RANKIN

Director of Music

DEBBIE SZYMANSKI

Parish Assistant

STEPHANIE WADE

Treasurer

RAMON ROCHE CARDONA

Sexton

## FEBRUARY 2019

### **Dear friends in Christ,**

Since the new year began we have shared our first full month together in prayer, study, and service. And what a month it's been: on one Sunday a small, hardy (or were we foolish?) bunch of us shoveled out to come for worship and learning, while on the next weekend the snow, ice, and cold were simply too much for anyone to venture out. This week as I write, we're looking toward a rollercoaster of bitter cold and then a day or two of deceptively spring-like temperatures. I hope we can all simply relax and enjoy Mother Nature's ride!

Notwithstanding the extremes of the weather, though, how rewarding these four weeks have been. With the holiday break over, regular sessions of *A Place People Share* have resumed each Wednesday afternoon, filling the church hall/gym with the boisterous energy of youngsters from West Side Elementary School. In a few short years, leaders, students, and parents have come to share a heartening trust and camaraderie that swells, I am confident, well beyond the walls of your building.

And I believe that this same spirit of mutual good will fills the church hall each Thursday that it is busy with volunteers and participants in *Bountiful Blessings*, the distribution of needful household goods that cannot be purchased with food stamps. Visitors awaiting their turn also make a contribution (that bolsters the givers' *own* spirits) by making greeting cards for St. Paul's shut-ins or those in the service.

And this past Sunday, St. Paul's Church and many individual members supported an afternoon of sharing a meal, grocery items, and food or gas cards with unpaid federal workers and contractors just as the federal shutdown was lifted... at least for now.

In all of this, I am *sure of this*: that the Good News takes many forms, but it is ever aimed toward the needs of God's children. Bless you as you share that Good News!

Faithfully yours,  
Pastor Steve

## A Word from the President

We are now in the Epiphany season with Lent closely approaching. The January council meeting was spent planning for the Annual Congregational Meeting. We approved the agenda, new council nominees of Cindy Read, Sue Umstott, and Jane Roderick who had served in an interim role for 2018, and approval of the 2019 budget for submission to the congregation. It was also suggested that we should have a congregational pot-luck luncheon during *Loaves and Fishes* fellowship prior to the congregational meeting. This proved to be very successful as there was time for fellowship prior to the meeting.

At the congregational meeting on 27 Jan 2019 we reviewed last year's accomplishments and approved the three continuing council members for a three year term. We also approved the 2019 church budget. Our goal is to maintain the consistency and stability of our current programs and to continue to support the foundational ministries of our congregation. Given the uncertainty of the stock markets effects upon our investment accounts and when we will find a pastor for our congregation, we were conservative and allowed some flexibility within our 2019 budget. This will allow the council to better execute our budget during the coming year.

Most questions at the congregational meeting related to the timing, how, and availability of pastors to answer our upcoming call to our congregation. Our call committee is still working on completing our Ministry Site Profile documents which when submitted to the Synod and the ELCA will serve as our pastor opening announcement. At that point, interested pastors will apply and be provided for our call committee to interview. When the call committee unanimously agrees on a candidate, they will submit the nomination to council for review and concurrence. If the council agrees that the candidate is a good match for our congregation, then a special congregational meeting will be called to review and approve a call to the pastor. This can be a lengthy process depending on the number of potential candidates and the many

steps which have to be taken. The most important thing is to find the best pastoral shepherd for our congregation as we go forward. The new church council will next have a planning retreat on 9 Feb 2019 to select council officers and plan events for the rest of the year. As we go forward into this New Year, please stay warm and enjoy the Epiphany season.

(Burt Streicher, Council President)

## The Luther League Puppet Ministry Team News



The Luther League Puppet Ministry team will work with the youth from APPS beginning at the end of February. The youth will be part of an Easter presentation for APPS families on April 17.

Practice times for the team for LOFT (Living Our Faith Together) and other presentations have changed and will vary. In July the team will participate in the Fellowship of Christian Puppeteers National Conference in Hagerstown, MD. If you know of someone who 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)).

The APPS After-School Family Christmas Party was wonderful...THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone for once again providing a wonderful evening for the APPS children and their families. The meal provided by the kitchen crew was delicious (as it is every Wednesday!). The Puppet Team's show was enjoyed by everyone, and this year the older APPS children participated with the puppets. They did a great job! Thank you to Debbie, Tammy, and Katie for teaching the kids how to work the puppets. And to end the evening the kids were very excited by a visit from Santa. We always have a great visit with Santa. He can somehow get even the shyest kids to talk to him. The children loved their gifts and other goodies. I want to pass along the many thanks we receive from children and their families to the entire congregation and add my own big thank you. We could not minister to these children and their families without your donations of time, talents, and, of course, the goodies and gifts. Thank you all!

Stephanie Wade

## Living Our Faith Together LOFT



LOFT includes all ages and meets weekly on Sunday mornings for 45 minutes in Fellowship Hall after Loaves and Fishes (food and fellowship) following worship. During February, we will learn about Paul and his writings.

February 3 – The Journeys of Paul Part 1  
(Philippians 3:13b-14)

February 10 – The Journeys of Paul Part 2

February 17 – The Letters of Paul Part 1  
(2 Corinthians 5:17)

February 24 – The Letters of Paul Part 2

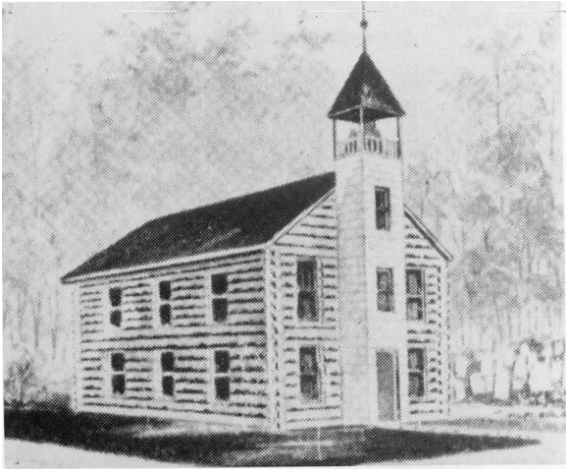
March 3 – Review of Paul

March 10<sup>th</sup> is the first Sunday in Lent and our studies will follow the scripture readings we hear in worship this year. Join this group for one week, every week, or when you are able. We share Highs and Lows, read and highlight scripture in our Bibles, pray together, and bless one another. Come and See!

Please call the church office  
(301) 722-6604 if  
you would like a copy of your  
giving statement for 2018







## 225 Tidbits: The Old Log Church

The first church building for St. Paul's Lutheran Church, then called the German Evangelical Lutheran Congregation, was constructed late in 1794, just months after the congregation was organized and the lot was purchased in downtown Cumberland. This building faced Center Street, not directly on the corner with Baltimore Street, as the two subsequent churches were.

Cumberland was beginning to make the transition from frontier town to settlement, and this congregation attracted German, mostly farmers, many via earlier settlements in Pennsylvania, where churches there helped nurture this new congregation, a favor that would be returned later.

The first pastor, the Rev. Friedrich Wilhelm Lange, had started out serving a wide area in Pennsylvania and Western Maryland. Rev. Lange served the congregation until 1805.

Services were held whenever the pastor made it to town (his home was in Berlin, Pa., and he served churches as far away as Somerset), apparently every six to 10 weeks, based on the clusters of child baptisms recorded in the Kirchen Buch. It's unlikely that there were catechism classes or funerals, but baptisms and marriages were performed at the end of the occasional service. There are no good estimates of the size of the congregation in those days.

The log church continued to serve the Lutheran congregation, and on occasion the Episcopalian and Presbyterian congregations until both had built their own buildings, the last around 1839. It was around this time that the Lutherans started to recognize the need for a new building, as the log church was suffering from age and neglect.

Nonetheless, the new building took many years to build, until the unsafe nature of the old building forced their hand. But that did not prevent them from turning the log church into a parsonage, where it was renovated to house the pastors and their family for a number of years until the pastors finally refused to live in it because of the state of disrepair. The building was finally taken down in the 1850s.

Fun fact: For the 175th anniversary in 1979, someone created a scale model of the log church, which sat in the corner of St. Paul's parking lot next to Smallwood Street for a period of time. (Does anyone know who built it and what happened to it?)

Source: From Generation to Generation - St. Paul's Lutheran Church - 1794-1994.



***Congratulations!!***

***Mia Broadwater***

***Peacebuilder for the months of  
November and January***

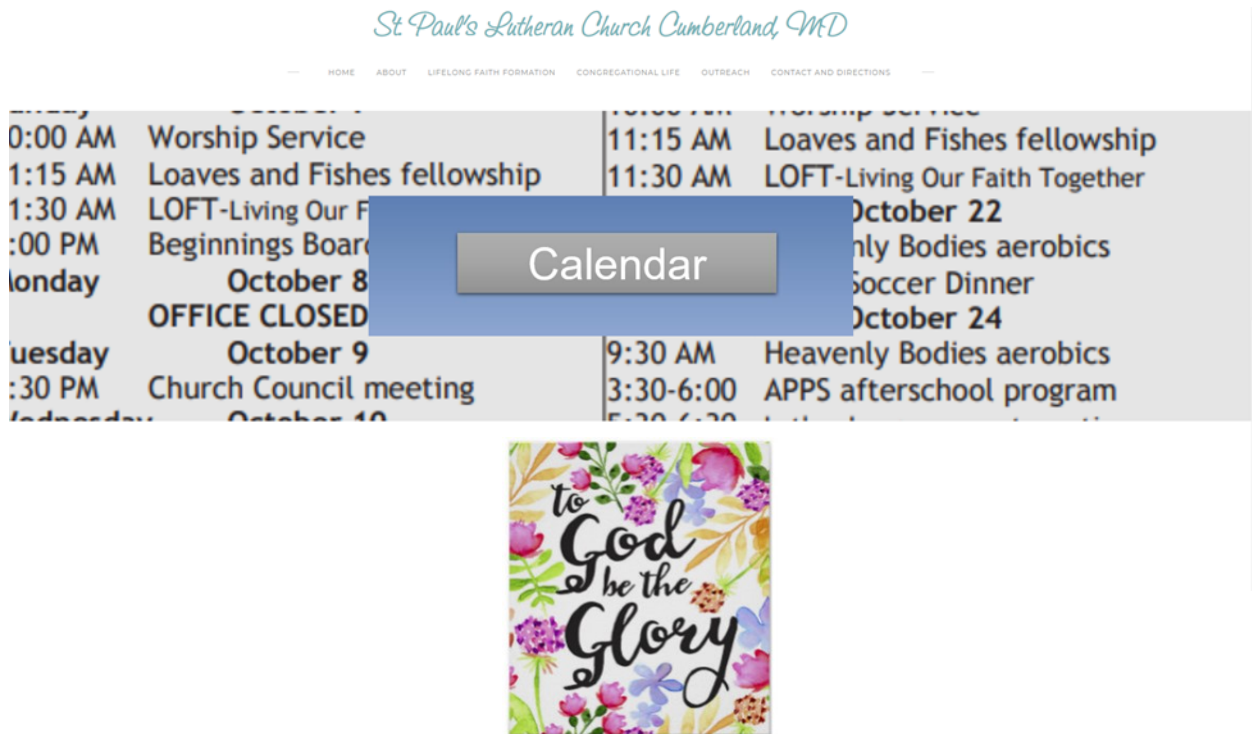
***West Side***

***Elementary School***

# St. Paul's Website

The new St. Paul's website is located at: [www.stpaulcumberland.org](http://www.stpaulcumberland.org)

Updates include the monthly calendar and newsletter download under the drop-down tab for Congregational Life. The website continues to grow as more pages and updated information are added regularly.



Altar flowers give glory to God, beautify the sanctuary and can commemorate an important person or event in your life. You can give flowers for many reasons: in memory of loved ones who have died, in honor of the birth of a child, or any other important event in your life or theirs – or in thanks to God for a blessing or simply to give glory to God. When you give the flowers, your commemoration is shared with the congregation in the worship bulletin.

After the service, the flowers are yours to take home. They will continue to glorify God and will beautify your home, or you may share them with family and friends. Often, the Shepherd Ministry takes them to the home bound if they are not otherwise used.

Soon there will be a **Flower Chart** sign up on the bulletin board as you enter Fellowship Hall. You are invited to choose one of the following open Sundays for 2019: **February** 3, 17 and 24; **March** 3, 17 and 31; **June** 9, 24, and 30; **July** 28; **August** 25; **September** 22 and 29; and **December** 16, 22 and 29.

The cost of the flowers, for two arrangements, is \$42.50 through **Flowerland**, but there are vase inserts available if you choose to purchase your own from another source. The order can be done by our Parish Assistant, with the invoice sent directly to you at home. If two people want to use the same date, the cost can be shared.

**“To God be the glory, great things He has done.”**

Kathleen Ball  
Chairman  
Worship and Music Committee



Recipes from Kay Cochrane  
enjoyed during Loaves and Fishes  
Fellowship

Recipe from Linda Zeller enjoyed  
during the annual meeting  
potluck luncheon

## REESE CUP CAKE

Bake your favorite chocolate cake (can be a box mix) in a 13x9 pan. I use a chocolate fudge cake recipe. Cool the cake and make your favorite vanilla buttercream icing. I use the Wilton decorator recipe. Add approximately 14 oz. of peanut butter, Jif works best. If icing becomes too stiff to spread, add vegetable oil one tablespoon at a time until the icing is smooth and creamy.

After frosting the cake, top with small Reese cups to decorate. You can buy the itty bitty ones in bulk at the Fruit Bowl. Enjoy!!

## MOUNDS CAKE

Bake your favorite chocolate cake (can be a box mix) in a 13x9 pan. I use a dark chocolate cake recipe. Cool the cake for just a few minutes. Poke holes in the cake with a straw. Pour approximately 15 ounces of Coco Lopez cream of coconut that has been well shaken or stirred over the cake allowing it to run into the holes.

Allow cake to completely cool and frost with Cook Whip. (one small container is usually not quite enough) After frosting the cake, top with flaked coconut and store in the refrigerator until served.

\*\*\*For an ALMOND JOY cake, add sliced almonds in with coconut for the topping.

## CHERRY RIBBON SALAD

3 oz pkg cherry Jello  
2¼ C boiling water, divided  
1 21 oz cherry pie filling  
3 oz pkg orange Jello  
1 8 oz crushed pineapple, undrained  
1 C whipped topping  
1/3 C mayonnaise  
¼ C chopped pecans, optional

In a bowl, dissolve cherry gelatin in **1 ¼ C** boiling water. Stir in pie filling. Pour into a 7 cup ring mold coated with nonstick cooking spray.\* Refrigerate until set but not firm, about an hour.

Meanwhile, in a bowl, dissolve orange gelatin in **remaining** boiling water. Stir in pineapple. Chill until thickened but not set, about 1 hour.

Combine the whipped topping, mayonnaise (& pecans, if desired); fold into orange mixture. Spoon over cherry layer. Refrigerate for at least 1 hour, overnight or until firm. Unmold onto a serving plate.

\*I use my 3 piece Tupperware ring mold, don't spray it and it hasn't failed me yet when I remove this salad. (Looks pretty for an Easter meal.)



**The Ramblers** will meet for a noon lunch at the Culinary Café on Thursday, February 14th. Please sign up on the bulletin board no later than Sunday, February 10th.



**Sunday**  
 10:00 AM  
 11:15 AM  
 11:30 AM  
  
 5:00 PM  
**Monday**  
 9:30 AM  
**Wednesday**  
 9:30 AM  
 3:30-6:00  
 7:30 PM  
**Saturday**  
 9:00-12:00  
**Sunday**  
 10:00 AM  
 11:15 AM  
 11:30 AM  
  
**Monday**  
 9:30 AM  
**Tuesday**  
 5:30 PM  
**Wednesday**  
 9:30 AM  
 3:30-6:00  
 7:30 PM  
**Thursday**  
  
 12:00 PM  
 4:00-6:00  
**Friday**  
 6:00-8:00  
  
**Sunday**  
 10:00 AM  
 11:15 AM  
 11:30 AM

**February 3**  
 Worship Service  
 Loaves and Fishes fellowship  
 LOFT-  
 Living Our Faith Together  
 Beginnings Board Meeting  
**February 4**  
 Heavenly Bodies aerobics  
**February 6**  
 Heavenly Bodies aerobics  
 APPS afterschool program  
 Sanctuary Choir rehearsal  
**February 9**  
 Church Council retreat  
**February 10**  
 Worship Service  
 Loaves and Fishes fellowship  
 LOFT-  
 Living Our Faith Together  
**February 11**  
 Heavenly Bodies aerobics  
**February 12**  
 Council Meeting  
**February 13**  
 Heavenly Bodies aerobics  
 APPS afterschool program  
 Sanctuary Choir rehearsal  
**February 14**  
**Beginnings 1/2 day**  
 Ramblers to Culinary Cafe  
 Bountiful Blessings  
**February 15**  
**Beginnings**  
**Valentine Dance**  
**February 17**  
 Worship Service  
 Loaves and Fishes fellowship  
 LOFT-  
 Living Our Faith Together

**Monday**  
**OFFICE and SCHOOL CLOSED**  
**Wednesday**  
 9:30 AM  
 3:30-6:00  
 7:30 PM  
**Sunday**  
 10:00 AM  
 11:15 AM  
 11:30 AM  
  
**Monday**  
 9:30 AM  
**Wednesday**  
 9:30 AM  
 3:30-6:00  
 5:30-6:30  
 7:30 PM  
**Thursday**  
 4:00-6:00

**February 18**  
**February 20**  
 Heavenly Bodies aerobics  
 APPS afterschool program  
 Sanctuary Choir rehearsal  
**February 24**  
 Worship Service  
 Loaves and Fishes fellowship  
 LOFT-  
 Living Our Faith Together  
**February 25**  
 Heavenly Bodies aerobics  
**February 27**  
 Heavenly Bodies aerobics  
 APPS afterschool program  
 Luther League puppet practice  
 Sanctuary Choir rehearsal  
**February 28**  
 Bountiful Blessings

## VBS 2019

### Vacation Bible School

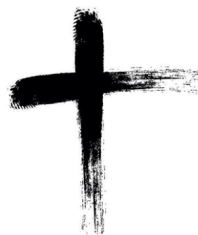
St. Paul's will once again host Vacation Bible School. Eight congregations from the Cumberland area come together for this action-packed week. This year's dates are June 17-21. The time is from 5:30 to 8:00pm and includes dinner. The first planning meeting will take place at St. Paul's on Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm. Mark your calendar and save the dates now!





**February** – 14 ~ Joy Douglas  
 23 – Claire Rowley  
 28 – Robin Douglas

**St. Paul's Ash Wednesday Service**  
 March 6 7:00 p.m.



	2/3/19	2/10/19	2/17/19	2/24/19
<b>Lectors</b>	Kathleen Ball	Jay Cochrane	Lisa Rowley	Rick Metheny
<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	Erica Metheny	Meadow Wagus
<b>Greeters</b>	Roy and Jean Lee	Ed Ayers and Nancy Lohr	Kathleen Ball and Mary Ann Hiester	John and Sylvia Hixon
<b>Sound/Screen Technicians</b>	Ed Ayers and Debbie Szymanski	Jim Squires and Debbie Szymanski	Rick Metheny and Connor Manthey	Daniel Highland and Debbie Szymanski
<b>Children's Church</b>	Stephanie Wade	Rena Christopher	Debbie Metheny	Christine Miller
<b>Comm. Asst.</b>	Jim and Patti Squires	Diane Rhoads and Jane Roderick	Emily and Erica Metheny	Brenda Marvin and Gary Miller
<b>Loaves and Fishes fellowship</b>		Art and Sabra Isom	Dennis and Cindy Read	Deana Emerick