

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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May 2019

Dear friends in Christ:

A blessed and joyous Eastertide be with you all! The season of Lent, now behind us, drew weekly worshippers to rewarding Taize-tradition services in the chapel. Holy Week began with a Palm Sunday congregational procession around the sanctuary, continued with solemn services on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, hymn sings at Golden Living Nursing Home and the Kensington Senior Residence, and reached a high point with Saint Paul's Bell Choir heralding the Good News of our Risen Lord on Easter morning.

Less consequential, but still good news: we've just passed our *average* "last frost" date, though not the last date on *record* for frost (which was May 22 many years ago). So me, I'm keeping the Ice Melt near the door for now... I guess after our twenty years in northern Minnesota my PTSD (Post Tundra Stress Disorder) still kicks up now and again.

The big event at Saint Paul's this month is the May 12 kickoff to the celebration of 225 years since the congregation was organized on May 11, 1794. After the 10 a.m. service on Sunday the 12th, there will be a catered luncheon for which there is no charge, but reservations are required. Contact the church at 301-722-6604, or debbie@stpaulcumberland.org by Friday, May 3rd. The year's observance will include recurring events on the theme of "I Love to Tell the Story" on through to Reformation Day in October. Stay tuned!

May all your May flowers blossom in rich and colorful abundance.

Yours in Christ, our Risen Lord,

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

At our April council meeting we approved the design and contents of a folder sized visitor welcome and greeting packet which will have a bulletin, a *Taking Faith Home* insert, a welcome letter from the pastor, a welcome letter from the congregational president, a short two page summary of the congregation's history, the latest issue of *The Spire*, an inspirational booklet, and a small wooden cross. They will be made available for visitors in our sanctuary narthex.

We have relocated the Good Shepherd stained glass window from the downstairs classroom to the end of the hallway under the sanctuary narthex in honor of the 225th anniversary of the congregation. This addressed concerns the council had about unintentional damage to the window as it was previously located in an active classroom. Our appreciation and thanks to Ed Ayers for quickly coordinating the relocation of the window in time for our May 12th celebration. Please take time to look at the window in its' new location. It is wonderful to have this part of our congregation's history back in view so that it can be appreciated and enjoyed.

The Call Committee has completed their work on the Congregational Ministry Site Profile. The council members are currently reviewing the document and the council anticipates approving the submission to the ELCA at our May council meeting. This is a major step forward in the pastor call process as this is the document that is used to inform interested pastors of our call opportunity. We hope to begin interviewing pastors this summer as candidates are provided to us by the Synod.

Please join us on May 12th for the 225th anniversary celebration, luncheon, time capsule opening, and Mother's Day observances. I ask that we all be in thoughtful prayer and contemplation about the future of our congregation as we celebrate our 225th anniversary year.

(Burt Streicher, Council President)

225th Anniversary

The Congregation of St. Paul's will kick off the 2019 celebration of its 225th anniversary on May 12, 225 years and one day after the congregation's official organization on May 11, 1794.

A special service at 10 a.m. will open with the call to worship using the same bell, currently in the church's belfry, that has called worshipers and tolled at deaths since the 1700s and resided in all four church buildings. With the theme of "I Love to Tell the Story," we will start by recognizing our generations of worshipers, and we will be asking for stories to share throughout the nearly six months between the kickoff on May 12 and our wrap-up on Reformation Sunday, Oct. 27. Watch for more about this.

Following the May 12 service will be a catered luncheon (**RSVP to the church office by May 3**) and a program highlighted by the opening of a time capsule, sealed on the 200th anniversary in 1994.

Throughout the year, the 225th anniversary and telling of stories will be revisited for a number of activities.

For Heritage Days on June 9, interpretive tours of the windows in the Nave will be offered.

Vacation Bible School, with a "Who is My Neighbor" theme will be June 17-21.

In the month of July, we will be doing a collection of items for Bountiful Blessings, with a goal of collecting 225 personal care or cleaning supply items. (If that seems like a lot, think of it this way: 30 people donating 8 items adds up to 240 items.)

In the month of August, we will be collecting school supplies – again with a goal of 225 items – for a local school.

In the month of September, we will strive to collect 225 items of nonperishable food for the Interfaith Food Pantry.

Wish lists for these collections will be posted in future issues of the *Spire*.

More is being planned, and volunteers interested in participating are always welcome.

As was stated at the beginning of the *Kirchen Buch*, or this congregation's founding document, it's all "In the Name of Jesus."

If anyone has St. Paul's memorabilia that can be displayed on May 12th please bring it to the church office and it will be returned following the luncheon. Thank you!

The Luther League Puppet Ministry Team News



“Jack and Sully’s Easter Adventure” was a big hit with the APPS families on April 17th. After the fun presentation, the evening finished with the ever-popular Bunny Song with the catchy chorus, “Easter is all about J-E-S-U-S”.

The puppet team partnered with the shepherd ministry team on April 20th and visited Golden Living and The Kensington. The Easter story was told to the residents through scripture readings and well-known hymns. All were invited to sing along and entertained following the story by the puppets presenting The Bunny Song.

June 17th to June 21st, the puppet team will lead openings and closings for this year’s Vacation Bible School with the theme, “Who is Your Neighbor?”. And in July the team will participate in the Fellowship of Christian Puppeteers National Conference in Hagerstown, MD. If you would like to learn more about the team, please call Debbie Streicher (703-303-7255) or email her. (dstreicher52@gmail.com).

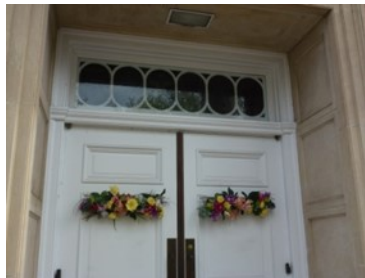
Living Our Faith Together LOFT



LOFT meets after worship and fellowship on Sunday mornings. May 5th and May 19th will be the last two times this intergenerational group meets for the school year. The year will finish learning about The Great Commission, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” (Matthew 28:19). Come, join us as we share Mountain Highs and Valley Lows, read and highlight scripture, pray together, and bless one another.

***LOFT will not meet on Sunday, May 12th.
The last gathering for the school year will be on
Sunday, May 19th.***

THANK YOU!!!



Many, many thanks to Jane Roderick for making St. Paul's beautiful for Easter, and to each and every one who donated the altar flowers.



And to Jill Wagner for her annual donation to the outdoor cross in honor of and memory of her family.



Birthdays & Anniversaries !!

May – 6 – Doris Giornesto
11 – Patti & Eric Cosner
anniversary
(daughter of Pat & Joe Graham)
12 – Lisa Rowley
20 – Debbie Szymanski
21 – Liz Medcalf
31 - Stephanie & Marty
Sharpless anniversary
(daughter of Donna & Larry Goldizen)



Mountainside Baroque will present
All in the (Extended) Family
at St. Paul's on Sunday, May 12th
at 4:00 p.m.

In this final concert of the 2018-2019 season, focus is on music composed by the earlier Bach family, especially Johann Ludwig Bach and Johann Christoph Bach, as well as some of Johann Sebastian's most influential predecessors, including Dietrich Buxtehude.

VBS 2019

Vacation Bible School



Eight congregations from the local community are once again meeting and planning for VBS this summer. Registration forms can be downloaded on the website. Ages 4 through those completing grade 5 are invited to participate. Grade 6 through adults are invited to be part of the volunteer team. We will engage daily in learning about Jesus' love through scripture, activities, daily worship, and songs.

Dates: June 17-21
Time: 5:30 to 8:00pm
(includes dinner)
Location: St. Paul's



The Rev. Dr. David W. Anderson, an ELCA pastor, is Co-Director at Milestones Ministry and will preside and preach during worship on May 5th. David has written numerous books and articles about faith formation and partnering the ministry of the congregation with the ministry of the home. He is known ecumenically and internationally for his work in cross+generational faith formation and outreach. His most recent book, ***Shepherd of Souls: Faith Formation Through Trusted Relationships***, highlights one of Milestone Ministry's five principles of faith formation, "Where Christ is present in faith, the home is church, too", and has been at the heart of his work as a pastor, speaker, coach, and author. David and his wife, Gloria, have six granddaughters with whom they actively engage in faith practices. They will join us for fellowship and LOFT. Come, meet them!

Mortimer C. and Elizabeth Ann Schaidt Scholastic Tuition Fund

On April 15th 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 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.

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 Lutheran Church Cumberland, Maryland



St. Paul's website is located at:

www.stpaulcumberland.org

The Vacation Bible School Registration form can now be downloaded from the website under the VBS tab. Visit our website regularly to download the monthly newsletter, check the calendar for events, and become familiar with the ministries at St. Paul's. Stay abreast of the 225th Anniversary celebrations happening throughout the year. Updates are added regularly.



Wednesday
 9:30 AM Heavenly Bodies aerobics
 3:30-6:00 APPS afterschool program-last day for the 2018-2019 school year
 7:00 PM Potomac Concert Band rehearsal
 7:30 PM Sanctuary Choir rehearsal
Friday
 3:00 PM Set-up for Community Health Fair
Saturday
 9:00-4:00 Community Health Fair
Sunday
 10:00 AM Worship Service
 11:15 AM Loaves and Fishes fellowship
 11:30 AM LOFT-
 Living Our Faith Together
Monday
 9:30 AM Heavenly Bodies aerobics
 5:00 PM Beginnings Board meeting
Wednesday
 9:30 AM Heavenly Bodies aerobics
 11:15 AM Ramblers lunch at Casselman Inn
 7:00 PM Potomac Concert Band rehearsal
 7:30 PM Sanctuary Choir rehearsal
Thursday
 4:00-6:00 Bountiful Blessings
 Mountainside Baroque rehearsal
Friday
 Mountainside Baroque rehearsal
 Beginnings Mother's Day Lunch
Saturday
 Mountainside Baroque rehearsal
Sunday
 10:00 AM Worship Service –
225th Anniversary celebration
 11:15 AM Luncheon/Time Capsule opening
 4:00 PM Mountainside Baroque
 All in the (Extended) Family

Monday
 9:30 AM Heavenly Bodies aerobics
Tuesday
 5:30 PM Council meeting
Wednesday
 9:30 AM Heavenly Bodies aerobics
 7:00 PM Potomac Concert Band rehearsal
 7:30 PM Sanctuary Choir rehearsal
Thursday
 11:00 AM Sanctuary Window Tour
Friday
 6:00-8:00 Beginnings Spring Dance
Sunday
 10:00 AM Worship Service
 11:15 AM Loaves and Fishes fellowship
 11:30 AM LOFT- (*Last for school year*)
 Living Our Faith Together
Monday
 9:30 AM Heavenly Bodies aerobics
Wednesday
 9:30 AM Heavenly Bodies aerobics
 7:00 PM Potomac Concert Band rehearsal
 7:30 PM Sanctuary Choir rehearsal
Thursday
 4:00-6:00 Bountiful Blessings
Friday
 Beginnings last day-1/2 day
Sunday
 10:00 AM Worship Service
 11:15 AM Loaves and Fishes fellowship
 7:30 PM Potomac Concert Band Memorial
 Day concert-rain site

DO YOU KNOW?

There are two bushes planted in the fenced area of the Washington Street yard.
Does anyone know if the bushes were planted in memory of a former member of St. Paul's?
Please call the church office if you have any information.

Thank you!

| | May 5 | May 12 | May 19 | May 26 | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Ushers | Terry Hostetler and Art Isom | Mark Seib and Bob Davis | Terry Hostetler and Art Isom | Mark Seib and Bob Davis | | |
| Crucifers | Andrew Highland | Mia Broadwater | Erica Metheny | Meadow Wagus | | |
| Greeters | John and Sylvia Hixon | Roy and Jean Lee | Dave and Rena Christopher | Deane Emerick and Jane Roderick | | |
| Lectors | Tamela Rankin | Rick Metheny | Travis Medcalf | Debbie Streicher | | |
| Communion Assistants | Jim and Patti Squires | Andrew and Daniel Highland | Emily and Erica Metheny | Brenda Marvin and Gary Miller | | |
| Children's Church | Rena Christopher | Christine Miller | Debbie Metheny | Rena Christopher | | |
| Loaves and Fishes Fellowship | Dennis and Cindy Read | Anniversary/ Mother's Day Luncheon | Art and Sabra Isom | Jay and Kay Cochrane | | |
| Technicians | Ed Ayers and Debbie Szymanski | No Screens | Rick Metheny and Connor Manthey | Daniel Highland and Debbie Szymanski | | |
| Counters | Stephanie Wade and Debbie Szymanski | Burt Streicher and Debbie Szymanski | Jay Cochrane and Terry Hostetler | Debbie Szymanski and Stephanie Wade | | |