

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Dover & Trenton Roads
Upperco, Maryland 21155**

To:

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Dover & Trenton Roads
Upperco, Maryland 21155
410-239-3456**

The Rev. Melvina Stricklin

December 2011 & January 2012



St. Paul's Lutheran Church Council Directory



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410-374-1133

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410-239-7483

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John Kelly Jayme Folfas

Shriver Foster Derek DuBois

Wade Hilgartner Suzi Lyons

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SAINT PAUL 'S VOICE

December 2011/January 2012

What do you do during Advent to prepare yourself for the coming Christ child? Do we go on with things as usual or do we take time to reflect on the meaning of Jesus' coming to us in human form? What are some things we can do to receive this wonderful gift God is bringing us?

One thing we can do is take time each day to pray. One could also read devotions or spend time reading the Bible. To relieve stress, cut back on all the shopping and worldly preparations. Spend more quality time with the family. Be still and rest in the Lord and feel God's presence. Listen for God's voice. Make sure you attend worship service and rejoice in God's gift, the most important gift of all. Putting Christ first in every moment of our life is of utmost importance. These are things we should make a habit of doing at all times.

We will hear the message of Christmas in many ways at St. Paul. Our children will be presenting the Christmas story on Sunday, December 11 during worship. Again, there will be two Christmas Eve services, the family service at 4:30 and the candlelight service at 9. Then to fill us with more joy we will have a Lesson and Carol service on January 1 with Mary Neuheisel giving a temple talk about what Christmas personally means to her. We will get to sing some of our favorite Christmas hymns.

Hopefully, as we move forward into the year 2012, we will be refreshed and filled with much joy. May God bless us and all our effort as St. Paul lives out the gift of Christmas throughout the New Year.

My family and I wish you a most blessed Christmas and much joy during the coming year.

Love in Christ,

Pastor Mel Stricklin



THOSE IN NEED OF PRAYER

WE PRAY FOR:

MEMBERS: Helen Armacost, Lois Armacost, Mary Armacost, Hazel Ashe, Ruth Bare, Mary Burk, Sue Bosley, Rosalie Croft, Matilda Griffin, Amy Goerner, Lee Hardesty, Shirley Harris, Selena Kelly, Mildred Hasson, Sydney Henry, Matthew Jones, Mary Louise Miller, Matthew Moore, Sara Moore, Anna Schultz, Bill Stratton, Leslie Vink-Hood, George Walter, Lorraine Walter, and all homebound members.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Genny Casper, Debbie Hahn, Bill Peters, Jim Howard, Braylynn, Joyce Rhoten, Shirley, Becky Norwood, Bill Higgins, Georgia Winiecki, Emma Miller, Jesse McGee, Will Franz, Chance Nichols, Fred & Lillian Baber, Bert Mooney, Christine Wimert, Heather Lord, Bud Cole, Jake Boerner, Tim and Shari Underhill, Bethany Drew, Sam Meister, Joan Prall, Tammy Severe, Arnold Wagner, Betty Roderick, Lee Flannery, Sue Cavnor, Mary Albright, Wilma Yingling, June Hilyard, Glenda Reynolds, Shelby, Barbara Bamford, Carl Schroeder, Elizabeth Richards, Alex Neese, Ken Dunn, Ginny Gable, Fonda Brooks, Brenda Keyser, John Stevens, Nancy Walburn, Bettie Panagakos, Phyllis Henderson, Jan Gorecki, Lucia Macfarlane, those facing job loss, and those in broken relationships.

WE ALSO PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE LOST LOVED ONES: family and friends of Jim Kesseling, Waldemar Stein, Al Dequirous, John Sherba, Emma Seagraves, Mandy McLaughlin, Pat Dowd, and Ruth Hardesty.

May the promises of our resurrected Lord bring them peace and comfort.

THE PRAYER: Shepherd God, you are the source of life and health. Surround those who struggle with illness or other difficulties of life and bring them to wholeness and healing, especially (names). We pray this in Jesus name. Amen.

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement.

Helen Keller

Pray as though everything depended on God. Work as though everything depended on you.

St. Augustine

Preach the Gospel at all times. If necessary, use words.

St. Francis of Assisi

If you haven't any charity in your heart, you have the worst kind of heart trouble.

Bob Hope

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BIBLE TRIVIA

1. Who looked up steadfastly into heaven and saw Jesus on the right hand of God?
2. Who foretold Jesus' birth and ministry to Mary?
3. Who appeared with Jesus at his miraculous Transfiguration?
4. When Jesus healed ten lepers, how many came back to thank him?
5. Who parted the Jordon by striking it with his mantle?

THANK YOU, THANK YOU

to our new confirmation class who has begun studying the Ten Commandments.

to Bill and Shirley Stratton for their decorating the sanctuary and to all those who contributed to our Harvest Home celebration and our World Hunger offering.

to all those who donated money for the CROP WALK that will benefit NESAP. \$200 was collected.

to the parents who brought their children to First Communion Classes. The students are Louisa Neuheisel, Christian Neuheisel, Ashley Mountcastle, and Carrie Moore. They received for the first time on Nov. 27.

to the men (Leon Fleming, Shriver Foster, and John Kelly) who attended the fall Lutheran Men's Dinner Meeting in New Windsor and Pastor Mel who accompanied them.

to Laura Grabowski who headed up and organized a very successful indoor Halloween party.

to our Carroll Lutheran School delegates who attended the fall meeting.

to Sandy Baber who organized a SPY evening of fun when the bon fire event had to be canceled.

to the council members who came to the workshop to set goals and the calendar of events for 2012.

to Ginny Harris for helping organize our Christmas bazaar and to all those who volunteered and donated items..

to all those who took time to give thanks to God by attending the Community Thanksgiving Service held at Greenmount Methodist Church.

ANSWERS TO BIBLE TRIVIA

ANSWERS TO BIBLE TRIVIA 1.Stephen (Acts 7:55) 2.The angel Gabriel (Luke1:26-38) 3. Elijah and Moses (Matthew 17:1-9) 4.One (Luke 17:11-19) 5.Elijah (2Kings 2:8-14)

NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS AND WELCOME

We rejoice in the baptism of Robert (goes by Bob) Martin and receiving him as a member of St. Paul's. His wife, Geraldine (prefers being called Gerri), joins us as an associate member. It was a special day for them on Nov. 20.

Bob is a purchasing agent and machinist for these last 14 years. He likes to go motorcycle riding and has a 3-wheel trike. He does some charity rides on his trike. He loves his two dogs Samantha and Precious. Bob has read through the Bible 3 or 4 times and the King James version another 2 or 3 times. He even spends his lunch time reading it. Bob is also the primary caregiver for his mother who lives with them. In his free time he likes to go fishing.

Gerri is semi-retired. She worked at Black and Decker. She also loves to ride the trike. She says she makes sure they are both well-balanced on the trike and keeps an eye on the speedometer to keep Bob in the speed limit. She loves to spoil the grandchildren and they love spending the night with them, even the 17 year old. She, also, is primary in caring for Bob's mother. In her free time she likes to go dancing to 50's or 60's music or even country music. Baking is another thing she enjoys doing.

They have 4 children between them: Bob, 2 daughters and Gerri, two sons and they have 8 grandchildren. Bob's birthday is September 12, Gerri's September 6, and their anniversary is February 14. Welcome to our church family Bob and Gerri.

PASTOR MEL MESSAGE

I would like to clear up any misunderstanding from our congregational meeting on Sunday, November 13. I want it to be known that I **DO NOT** want to work part time. My personal choice is to work full time.

With that thought in mind and considering the financial difficulties the church is experiencing, I have scheduled **A PRAYER SESSION** for Thursday, December 8 at 7:30. This is not a Bible Study. You can bring a favorite Bible verse if you would like. We will come together to pray for the future of our church.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

This is to remind you that our Family Christmas Eve Service is at 4:30 and our Candlelight Service is at 9 p.m.

OUR CHRISTMAS PROGRAM IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER:

Don't forget our Christmas Program will be held on December 11th during the church service. We invite families, grandparents, aunts and uncles, and friends to be with us on this date. (Church Service – 9 am)

LESSONS AND CAROLS SERVICE

Our Lesson and Carol Service will be January 1 during regular worship time. Come and hear Mary Neuheisel give a temple talk.

The Lord's Laughter

From the *Joyful Noiseletter*, January-February 2012 edition

“Dear God, my prayer for 2012 is for a fat bank account and a thin body. Please don't mix these up like you did last year. Amen”

via George Goldtrap
Ormond-by-the-Sea, FL

A man living in a rural Kansas area reported: “We recently had a new neighbor call the local township administrative office to request the removal of the ‘Deer Crossing’ sign on our road.

His reason: “Too many deer are being hit by cars out here! I don't think this is a good place for them to be crossing.””

Via Lowell Yoder
Holland, OH

A little boy came home from Sunday school and told his mother he got a part in a play.

“What part is it?” she asked.

“I play the part of the husband,” he replied.

“Go back and tell the teacher you want a speaking part,” the mother said.

Author unknown

On the first day of Sunday school, a five-year-old handed his teacher a note from his mother. It read, “The opinions expressed by this child are not necessarily those of his parents.

via George Goldtrap
Ormond-by-the-Sea, FL

Signs: In Charleston, WV, there is a Chinese restaurant called, “Wok and Roll.”

Celebrations for December & January

December Birthdays

2 Leslie Vink-Hood
6 Heather Lord
7 Ginny Harris
9 Lisa Brinebrink
Jen Brown
11 Charles Baber
Luke Meadowcroft
13 Cindy Schmidt
16 Chrissy Warehime
18 Sophia Panagakos
23 John Kelly, Jr.
24 Nadine McGee
Shirley Stratton
28 Sue Benson

30 Becky Harris Miller
Joe Smith

January Birthdays

1 Ashley Mountcastle
5 Christian Neuheisel
8 Laura Grabowski
11 Nelly Warren
20 Mary Louise Miller
21 Felicity Meadowcroft
26 Sarah Morris
30 Angela Bell
Mary Graff






December Anniversaries

10 Calvin & Mary Armacost

January Anniversaries

9 Rick & Meg Jones
26 Jesse & Claudia McGee

December

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
				1 Pastor's Vacation	2 Pastor's Vacation 600pm HANGING OF THE GREENS 	3 Pastor's Vacation
4 900am – Worship Youth Sunday Food Collection Pastor's Vacation	5 Pastor's Vacation	6 1000am-1200pm Treasurer's Office Hours Pastor's Vacation	7 730 pm AA Pastor's Vacation	8 7:30 pm Prayer Session	9	10 1200 pm -130pm Pastor's Office Hours
11 900am – Worship  Children's Christmas Programs Second Offering St. Dysmas 12:15pm - Confirmation Class Fellowship after Worship	12	13 1000am-1200pm Treasurer's Office Hours 300 pm – 430pm Pastor's Office Hours 7:00pm – Council	14 730 pm AA	15	16	17 1200 pm -130pm Pastor's Office Hours
18 900am – Worship – 12:15pm - Confirmation Class	19	20 1000am-1200pm Treasurer's Office Hours 300 pm – 430pm Pastor's Office Hours	21 6:45pm – Healing Service @ St. Paul's 730 pm AA	22	23	24 430pm  Family Christmas Eve Service 900pm Candlelight Service 
25  Merry Christmas!	26 Pastor's Vacation	27 1000am-1200pm Treasurer's Office Hours Pastor's Vacation	28 730 pm AA Pastor's Vacation	29 Pastor's Vacation	30 Pastor's Vacation	31 Pastor's Vacation 8

January

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1 9:00am - Service of Lessons and Carols Food Collection Sunday Youth Sunday Pastor's Vacation	2 Pastor's Vacation	3 Pastor's Vacation	4 730 pm AA Pastor's Vacation	5	6	7 9:30am - Fund Raising Workshop
8 900am – Worship Un-trim the Christmas Tree Party 12:15pm - Confirmation Class	9	10 1000am-1200pm Treasurer's Office Hours 300 pm – 430pm Pastor's Office Hours 7:00pm - Council	11 730 pm AA	12	13	14 1200 pm -130pm Pastor's Office Hours
15 900am – Worship Fellowship after worship Second offering NESAP	16	17 1000am-1200pm Treasurer's Office Hours 300 pm – 430pm Pastor's Office Hours	18 645pm -Healing Service @ Christ Lutheran 730 pm AA	19	20	21 1200 pm -130pm Pastor's Office Hours
22 900am – Worship 12:15pm - Confirmation Class	23	24 1000am-1200pm Treasurer's Office Hours 300 pm – 430pm Pastor's Office Hours	25 730 pm AA	26	27	28 12:00 pm - 1:30pm Pastor's Office Hours
29 900am – Worship	30	31 1000am-1200pm Treasurer's Office Hours 300 pm – 430pm Pastor's Office Hours				
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SUNDAY SCHOOL

Thinking Spring in October

St. Paul's Sunday school students are thinking ahead to Spring by planting over eighty Tulip Bulbs around the church. Helping with this project were Leon Fleming, Sam Jones, Ben Baber, Shriver Foster, and many students.

We are looking forward to seeing bright colorful Tulips after the cold weather.



Sunday School Teachers 2011-2012:

Pre-school: Mrs. Tiffany Meadowcroft

Kindergarten: Mrs. Colleen Geldmacher

1st Grade: Mrs. Kelly Mountcastle

2nd – 3rd Grade: Mrs. Carol Hilgartner

4th – 5th Grade: Mrs. Sue Benson

6th Grade and Up: Mr. John Kelly and Mr. Derek DuBois

Music: Mrs. Mary Neuheisel

Snacks: Mr. Joshua Neuheisel - Mrs. Patti Schunk

Substitute Teacher: Mrs. Carol Hunt – Mrs. Patti Schunk

A big **THANK YOU** to all who signed -up to provide snacks during the Sunday school year.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding Sunday school please contact Patti Schunk (410) 239-7585 or Carol Hilgartner (410) 374-8827.