

**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 2012 & January 2013



**St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Council Directory**



President Charles Baber
410-751-7511

Vice President Suzi Lyons
410-239-7656

Secretary Kelly Mountcastle
410-239-2605

Treasurer Richard Harris
410-239-7483

Council Members

Josh Neuheisel Jayme Folfas

Jed Geldmacher Becky Miller

Wade Hilgartner

Committee Representatives

OUTREACH
Suzi Lyons
410-239-7656

FINANCE
Charles Baber
410-239-7483

HOSPITALITY
Jed Geldmacher
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EVANGELISM
Becky Miller
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PROPERTY
Wade Hilgartner
410-374-8827

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
Kelly Mountcastle
410-239-2605

MUSIC & WORSHIP
Josh Neuheisel
410-239-9634

YOUTH
Kelly Mountcastle
410-239-2605

CEMETERY
Maidie Brown
410-429-0907

FINANCIAL SECRETARY
Charles Baber
410-751-7511

PARK
Richard Harris
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PARSONAGE
Wade Hilgartner
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MUTUAL MINISTRY
Suzi Lyons
410-239-7656

SHEPHERDS
Jamie Folfas
410-840-8485

HISTORIAN
Josh Neuheisel
410-239-9634



SAINT PAUL 'S VOICE

December 2012/January 2013

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior..." (Luke 1: 46-47).

Mary, the mother of our Lord, rejoices in what God has called her to do. As we get ready to celebrate this Christmas season with the birth of Jesus, we should be rejoicing along with Mary. What a blessing to have God come to us in human form. Without Jesus birth, there would be no celebration, there would be so little we would know about God through Jesus teachings, and most of all, we would not have received the promise of salvation that was given to us through Jesus' crucifixion on the cross.

As we scurry about in preparation for the celebration of Jesus, let us not get caught up in secular ways but, to put God first in our celebration. Be sure to come to our Family Service or Candlelight Service on Christmas Eve. Continue that celebration singing joyously all those wonderful Christmas hymns at our Lessons and Carols service the Sunday after Christmas.

Be sure to give thanks to God for all the blessings that have been bestowed on us this past year, both individually and corporately. Our church has had a wonderful year and is alive and well. The council has set goals to accomplish even more next year. Let us continue our prayer life, building on a stronger relationship with God and watch how God will magnify our souls with even more blessings. Praise the Lord.

My family and I wish you a very blessed and joyful Christmas and may the New Year bring you much peace and joy. May the love of God be in all our words and actions in the coming days ahead.

Love in Christ,

Pastor Mel Stricklin



THOSE IN NEED OF PRAYER

WE PRAY FOR:

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

FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Genny Casper, Jim Howard, Joyce Rhoten, Georgia and Ed Winiecki, Bethany Drew, Bettie Panagakos, Phyllis Henderson, Jan Gorecki, Melissa Dowd, Brandon, Phil Cieri, Bob Durham, Jr., Darlene Price, Ian Boyer, Dave Dawson, Carol Lauer, Tony Dietz, Kathy Hale, Bill Lueberman, Jeanne Braly, Kitty Macon, Shelby, Jane Benson, Lillian Baber, Dr. Dean Swank, Christine Palmimor, Erin Kranz, Kelly Thomas, Bill Jacobs, Barbara Bramford, Keith Schenning, Joe Herfergh, Margaret Shipley, Ed Welch, Jordan Lourey, Matthew Long, Frank Minor, Gina Henry, Pattie Amato, Emma Baker, Wendy Bonas, Brandi Bueczyk, Kathy Inman, Dorothy and Russell Ball, Alice VanOber and those facing job loss, and those in broken relationships.

WE ALSO PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE LOST LOVED ONES: family and friends of Bill Higgins, Vernon Bolte, Vernon Bud Shearer, Toni Nelson, Dorothy Miller, Timmy Gogle, Christine Wimert, Arnold Wagner, Frances Merryman, and Linda Nunas.

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

THE PRAYER Refuge of the weary, uphold the lives of all who call upon you in need especially (names). Give them the joy of your presence that their spirit will again rejoice. We pray this in Jesus name. Amen.

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

One word or a pleasing smile is often enough to raise up a saddened and wounded soul.
St. Therese of Lisieux

A happy family is but an earlier heaven.

Sir John Bowring

When I stand before God at the end of my life, I would hope that I would not have a single bit of talent left and could say: "I used everything you gave me."

Erma Bombeck

This is Christmas: not the tinsel, not the giving and receiving, not even the carols. But the humble heart that receives anew the wondrous gift – the Christ.

Frank McKibben

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BIBLE TRIVIA

1. What was the name of the angel who appeared to Mary and to Zacharias?
2. According to Jesus, what causes the angels to rejoice?
3. Who foretold Jesus' birth and ministry to Mary?
4. Who announced Jesus' conception to Mary?
5. What is the proper name for "God with us"?



to all those who helped Sarah Morris with her last flea market of the year.

to all who helped with our basket bingo fund raiser, those who sponsored items, those who filled the baskets, and those who donated time and money to make it a big success. We especially thank Carol Hilgartner for heading up this big event.

to Ginny Harris who decorated our sanctuary for our Harvest Home service.

to all who donated to the CROP walk, with a portion of those funds to benefit NESAP.

to Brinlee DuBois and Reid Smetzer who donated boxes of baby food to NESAP.

to all those who decorated for Halloween so our children could have fun with trunk or treat. Because of rain it became pew and treat.

to those going off our council and who faithfully served our church: John Kelly, president, Susan Fleming, secretary, Derek DuBois and Shriver Foster.

to those who have agreed to serve on our council: Kelly Mountcastle as secretary and council reps, Josh Neuheisel, Becky Miller, and Jed Gelmacher. Charles Baber has volunteered to be the president and Suzi Lyons was elected vice president.

to Sarah Morris and Susan Fleming who have served as our sextons for several years. We thank Tiffany Meadowcroft and her family for volunteering to replace them.

to all those who helped make our Christmas bazaar a big success. Thanks to Ginny Harris for leading this project.

to all those who supported Pastor Mel at the death of her brother, Arnold Wagner. Your prayers, cards, and caring are sincerely appreciated.

ANSWERS TO BIBLE TRIVIA

ANSWERS TO BIBLE TRIVIA 1. Gabriel (Luke 1:5-38) 2. A repentant sinner (Luke 15: 10) 3. the angel Gabriel (Luke 1: 26-38) 4. the angel Gabriel (Luke 1: 26-38) 5. Immanuel (Matthew 1: 23)

NEWS

A NEW MEMBER AND BAPTISMS

We rejoice in the baptism of Paige Ellen Jenkins and Brianna Emily Murphy on October 21 during worship. Rachel Murphy was received as a new member that same day.

Paige is the daughter of Michael Jenkins and Kim Boose. She is the sister of Shelby and Jasmine. She attends Franklin Middle School and is now attending confirmation classes. Her birthday is July 14.

Brianna is the daughter of Rachel and Shannon Murphy and attends North Carroll Middle School. She, too, is attending confirmation classes. She is the only child of Rachel and Shannon. Her birthday is December 9.

Rachel is the secretary at Immanuel Lutheran Church. She is a college graduate of Villa Julie, now Stevenson University. Her degree is in business administration. Previously, she was in banking as a customer service rep in finances. She is married to Shannon and is the mother of Brianna. When asked what she likes to do in her leisure time, she responded, "What leisure time?" Rachel did admit she likes to read, play electronic games and go to the beach. She even plays co-ed softball as either catcher or second base. She likes to travel, help her friends and neighbors, even doing household painting. Rachel has already helped with many events and activities here at St. Paul's. Quite a versatile lady. Her birthday is September 18 and anniversary is December 12.

We say a **BIG** welcome to Paige, Brianna, and Rachel and are glad you are part of our church family.

OUTREACH

Our busiest season is fast approaching! We've adopted 3 families in the Hampstead area for the holidays and will have their Christmas wishes on the tree very soon. Please take as many as you wish to help these families enjoy the holidays. We purchased and donated "2" full-sized food warmers to the Meals on Wheels program based in Westminster. Our sandwich-makers are taking all 300 cheese sandwiches to the Food Pantry in Westminster where they are very much appreciated. We have reached out to a local Veterans facility and have decided to adopt their 1st floor of residents---all 54 of them! Their needs are mostly personal hygiene, in addition to hats and gloves. We'll be inviting our congregation to participate and making those deliveries mid-December. If anyone would like to help out, please let me know. Suzi

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Our Christmas Eve Services will be: Family Service at 4:30 which will include candle lighting. This is a less formal service and is geared towards the children. The Candle Light Service will be held at 9 p.m. Come to one of these services and worship the celebration of the birth of Christ.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Our children will be putting on a Christmas play on Sunday, December 9 during the worship service. Come hear a variety of music and readings.

The Lord's Laughter

From the *Joyful Noiseletter*, January/February edition 2013

How to keep warm in church:

- *Rush to the front of the sanctuary. That will warm you up, and you'll avoid the draft in the back.
- *Invite your neighbors and friends and sit 12 people to a pew.
- *Seat yourself near the pulpit. Much hot air is emitted from that area.
- *Wear thermal underwear (in the appropriate liturgical colors, of course).
- *Wait for an unfamiliar hymn – and then watch the sparks fly.

Pastor Dale Schoening
Bussey, IA

Signs you overdid it this Christmas:

- *Paramedics bring in the Jaws of Life to pry you out of your recliner.
- *You set off three earthquake seismographs on your morning jog.
- *You receive a Sumo wrestler application in your e-mail.
- *That rash on your stomach turns out to be a steering wheel burn.

Rev. Dr. Karl R. Kraft
Dover, DE

Senior Humor from Dr. Bimler's book, *Joyfully Aging*

- *You forget where you parked your car – and you are at home.
 - *Your brush your teeth with Preparation H.
 - *You get tired just waking up.
 - *You sit in front of the microwave waiting for a clearer picture.
 - *Your favorite drink is prune juice on the rocks.
 - *You forget your children's names but can remember when Jeopardy is on television.
 - *You have to store all your medicine in a walk-in-closet.
 - *You wake up yelling bingo.
-

Celebrations for December & January

December Birthdays

2 Leslie Vink-Hood
7 Ginny Harris
9 Lisa Brinebrink
Jen Brown
Brianna Murphy
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
Becky Harris Miller
30 Joe Smith

30

January Birthdays

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





December Anniversaries

10 Calvin & Mary Armacost
12 Shannon & Rachel Murphy

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>
					Nov.30 600pm HANGING OF THE GREENS 	1 1200 pm -130pm Pastor's Office Hours
2 900am – Worship Youth Sunday Food Collection Pastor's Vacation	3 Pastor's Vacation	4 Pastor's Vacation	5 730 pm AA Pastor's Vacation	6 7:30 pm Prayer Session	7	8 1200 pm -130pm Pastor's Office Hours
9 900am – Worship Children's Christmas Program Second Offering St. Dysmas Fellowship after Worship 12:15pm – 2 nd year Confirmation Class	10	11 300 pm – 430pm Pastor's Office Hours 7:00pm – Council	12 730 pm AA	13	14	15 1200 pm -130pm Pastor's Office Hours
16 900am – Worship –	17	18 300 pm – 430pm Pastor's Office Hours	19 6:45pm – Healing Service @ St. Paul's 730 pm AA	20 730 pm Prayer Session	21	22
23 900am – Worship – 12:15pm – 2 nd year Confirmation Class	24 430pm  Family Christmas Eve Service 900pm Candlelight Service 	25  Merry Christmas!	26 730 pm AA Pastor's Vacation	27 Pastor's Vacation	28 Pastor's Vacation	29 Pastor's Vacation
30 900am – Worship – Lessons and Carols Service 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 Pastor's Vacation	2 730 pm AA Pastor's Vacation	3	4	5 1200 pm -130pm Pastor's Office Hours
6 900am – Worship Food Collection Sunday Youth Sunday Un-trim the Christmas Tree	7	8 300 pm – 430pm Pastor's Office Hours 7:00pm - Council	9 730 pm AA	10	11	12 9:30am - Fund Raising Workshop 1200 pm -130pm Pastor's Office Hours
13 900am – Worship 12:15pm – 2 nd year Confirmation Class	14	15 300 pm – 430pm Pastor's Office Hours	16 645pm -Healing Service @ Christ Lutheran 730 pm AA	17 700 pm Prayer Session	18	19 1200 pm -130pm Pastor's Office Hours
20 900am – Worship Fellowship after worship Second offering NESAP	21	22 300 pm – 430pm Pastor's Office Hours	23 730 pm AA	24	25	26 12:00 pm - 1:30pm Pastor's Office Hours
27 900am – Worship 12:15pm – 2 nd year Confirmation Class	28	29 300 pm – 430pm Pastor's Office Hours	30	31		

ELCA Youth Gathering 2012



By Madison Baber

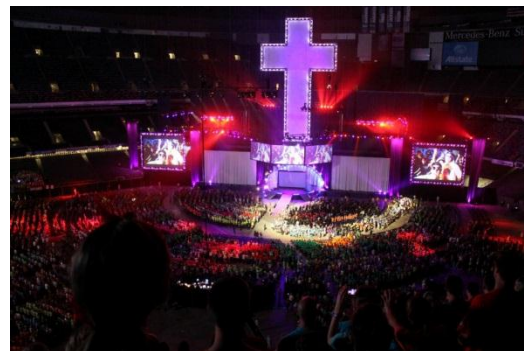
I was given the opportunity to attend the ELCA Youth Gathering in July. I traveled with a group from St. John's Leisters Church which had nine youth and three adults. The kids were from St. John's, St. Benjamin's, and a church in Fredrick County. We flew to New Orleans on Wednesday, July 18th. We arrived in time to attend the evening Gathering event at the Superdome, there were over 33,000 people there! Each night there



was a gathering in the Superdome, the first night we had noise bleed seats way up high but each night we were able to sit in different locations moving closer and closer to the stage. The last night we were on the floor near the stage.

Each gathering opened with music, people talked about things like: homelessness, bullying, being accepted for who you are, finding your purpose, etc... There was lots of music and prayer; it was very moving. You can watch many of the presenters on this website:

<http://www.elca.org/elca/youth-gathering.aspx>



Some of our daily activities were: we went on a scavenger hunt, painted a high school that was being turned into a charter high school (70% of the kids from the school do not graduate from high school), built houses for Habitat for Humanity, went to seminars in the convention center (heard our Bishop Herz-Lane speak), and went to concert by AGAPE. During the day we also explored the city, met lots of people, went on a trolley ride, and ate great food.



The last night of the Gathering the ELCA's Bishop Hanson spoke to us about how we can make a difference and be the change in the world. For the last time we got to hear Rachel Kurtz sing, she was one of my favorites. We flew home very late on Sunday night and arrived back to Baltimore at 1 a.m. The entire experience was awesome and inspirational, and, something that I will never forget.



I want to thank my St. Paul's family for their help with my fundraising and for praying for me while I was on my trip. In three years the next Gathering will be in Detroit and we hope to get a group together from St. Paul's. We can do it! It will be an experience that will never be forgotten!!



Thank you!!

