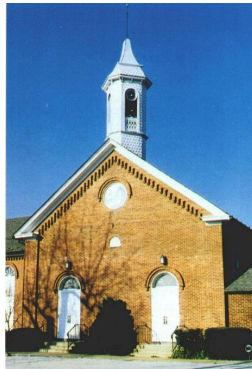


ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

The Rev. Melvina Stricklin

October & November 2007



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

**Non-Profit Organization
US Postage Paid
Permit # 5
Upperco, Maryland 21155**

To:

St. Paul's Lutheran Church Council Directory

President

Bill Stratton

Vice President

Vivian Chenoweth
410-374-1712

Secretary

Carol Hilgartner
410-239-6465

Treasurer

Richard Harris
410-239-7483

Council Members

Maidie Brown
410-426-0907

David Frazer

Carol Hunt

Meg Jones

Cindy O'Bryan

Committee Chairpersons

OUTREACH

Suzi Lyons
410-239-7656

CEMETERY

Maidie Brown
410-429-0907

NEWSLETTER

Carol Hunt
410-429-4229

EVANGELISM

Carol Hilgartner
410-239-6465

MUSIC & WORSHIP

Vivian Chenowith
410-374-1712

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Charles Baber
410-751-7511

MUTUAL MINISTRY

Suzi Lyons
410-239-7656

FINANCE

Bryan Benson
410-526-2817

AUDIT

Carol Hilgartner
410-239-6465

YOUTH

Sandy Baber
410-751-7511

PARK

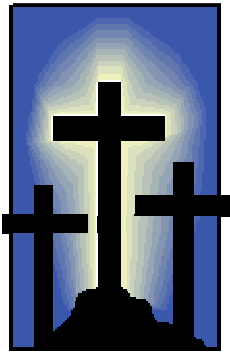
Richard Harris
410-239-7483
Carol Hunt
410-429-4229

SHEPHERDS

Ginny Harris
410-239-7483

HOSPITALITY

Charles Baber
410-751-7511



SAINT PAUL 'S VOICE

October/November 2007

What is the number one thing in your life? What do we make as the most important thing that has top priority of our time and talents? Is it a possession? Money? A family member? Self? How good are we at being followers of Christ? Have we taken up the cross and followed Jesus?

To be a Christian and a follower of Jesus means we either give 100% and say yes to Jesus or we don't. We can not be $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, or $\frac{1}{2}$ Christian. It is either all or nothing. We may be spellbound by the heroic miracles of Jesus and his wise words. We may hang on to every word and deed. We may be quite taken with him when things are going smoothly. What about when the trials and tribulations come? Here is the real test of our commitment to Jesus. We may be tempted to succumb to the powers of the enemy, to the things of this world.

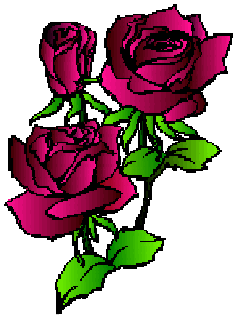
Discipleship is not for the faint of heart or the partially committed. God requires our complete surrender. It's all or nothing. We have the good life here in our country and it has such a hold on us, the ways of the world. We are spoiled by them. We make feeble excuses about our true discipleship. Do we just tip our hats to the truths of God? Does it mean it is okay to go to church just when we feel like it? Does it mean we give of our little bit of spare cash for the ministries of the church?

If we are going to be affective in the role to which God has called us, we need to be prepared. How do we do this? First, pray, pray consistently and fervently that God will give us strength for the task at hand. Ask God to help you put Jesus first in your life. Study the Bible, attend Sunday School classes, go to Bible Study classes. Be sure you attend church each week. There you will be refreshed and renewed so that you will have the strength to walk the walk of a disciple. Give of your possessions and money to God first. When you do, you will be amazed that somehow your money multiplies. Make quiet time everyday to be with God. Talk to God as you would a friend. Think of others first and reach out to them. Be a vehicle of God's love and help others grow spiritually. Now is not too late.

As we commit to God 100%, I'm sure God will whisper in our ears, "Well, done that good and faithful servant".

Love in Christ,

Pastor Mel Strucklin



THOSE IN NEED OF PRAYER

WE PRAY FOR:

MEMBERS: Calvin Armacost, Lois Armacost, Hazel Ashe, Ruth Bare, Maidie Brown, Mary Burk, Sue Bosley, Matilda Griffin, Dorothea Gross, Olan "Eli" Harris, Shari Harris, Mildred Hasson, Carol Hunt, Matthew Jones, Jesse McGee, Leslie Vink-Hood, George Walter, and all homebound members.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Jenny Casper, Peter Hoffman, Esther Watson, Ann Stricklin, Jeffrey Beverd, Candice Dorsey-Davis, Mary DeBord, Bill Wellien, Alice Hubbert, Emily Smith & family, Sarah O'Keefe, Bob Foster, Pat Gray, Ryan Mahoney, Melanie Martin, Ron Hill, Carol Graff, Ken Hasson, John Scharf, Rick Jones, Tonya, Tara, Darlene, Kim Mays, Jennifer, Louis Roser, Tammy Hill, Charity Porbin & baby, Helen Flanagan, Wade Leese, Charles Sackman, Matthew Walker, Flo, Karin Littlefield, Ruth Horner, Tracey Headley, Chris Buckley, Sheila Redding Debbie Hahn, Kade, Rita Alexander, Brandon Peele, John McCubbin, Doug McGee, Deacon Richard Spies, Eleanor Zour, Terry Wolfe, Tom Botts, John Latimer, Bill Peters, Franklyn Miller, Jeff Yablan, Lauren Bryant, Joyce Rhoten, Pastor Gene Alexander, Jamie Lease, Lisa Van Lil, Paul Durham, Brian Lally, Clyde Utz, Steve Hannon, Doris Hoffman, Keith Williams, Robert Sewell, Julia Wagner, Jim Howard, Ed Winiecki, Russell Ball, Lisa & Mark Rill, Gail Wood, Ashley, and those in broken relationship.

WE ALSO PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE LOST LOVED ONES: Family and friends of: Justin Hook, Charlotte Bollinger, Lois Hogarty, Sharon Stonesifer, and Maxine Krajovic.

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

THE PRAYER: Let us pray for those afflicted with chronic diseases, those cut off from family and loved ones, the homeless, and the sick and dying (names). Help us to be your hands and your heart. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

+++++

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Cast yourself into the arms of God and be very sure that if God wants anything of you, God will fit you for the work and give you strength.

St. Philip Neri

It is never too late to give up your prejudices.

Henry David Thoreau

I will attempt day by day to break my will into little pieces. I want to do God's holy will, not my own.

St. Gabriel Possenti

BIBLE TRIVIA

1. What foreign prophet had a talking donkey to ride on?
2. What former shepherd boy is supposed to have written, "The Lord is my shepherd?"
3. Who did Jesus command to shepherd his church?
4. In which gospel does Jesus speak of separating the sheep from the goats?
5. Who said, "Behold, the lamb of God"?

+++++



HALLOWEEN PARTY ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN UPPERCO

WHO: Anyone who dresses in costume

WHAT: A fun Costume Party with Crafts, Games, Food and gifts for the kids

WHERE: Sunday School rooms at St. Paul's

*WHEN: Friday, October 26th
6:30-8:30 PM*

WHY: To have FUN!!!!!!

THANK YOU, THANK YOU THANK YOU, THANK YOU

We thank everyone who made our blood drive a success. Many people will be helped by the gift of life by all the blood donations. We especially thank Suzi Lyons for heading this up and Maidie Brown who assists with the set up. A blood drive is held here at our church every April and September. Be sure to sign up to give your gift of life to someone at our next blood drive.

RALLY DAY AND SUNDAY SCHOOL

We thank everyone who made our Rally Day such fun. The children even had a scavenger hunt. An ice cream social was enjoyed by all. We thank Pattie Schunk for her creativeness used in this event. We also thank her for making a Sunday School Teacher Directory. See her to receive a copy. The first class of Sunday School began the new year on Sunday, September 16. The teachers were also installed on that date during worship. We thank all who help teach our children about being a faithful Christian.

FLEA MARKET SCHEDULE:

Our next flea market event, the last for this season, will be held, Saturday, October 13 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. The number of vendors has increased significantly over last year. It is growing. We are able to do more outreach work and also the funds are helping to pay for new playground equipment. Our next effort will be to raise enough funds for a pavilion. We thank Sarah Morris for heading up this fund raiser that is held each month from April through October.

ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING

Our annual congregational meeting will be held Sunday, November 11, immediately following our worship service. The agenda includes approval of the updated constitution (copies are available in the narthex) and our annual budget. Election of council members and officers will also be held. Please plan on attending this important meeting. Installation of council members and officers will be held Sunday, November 18th during worship.

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

St. Paul will once again join in the Community Thanksgiving Service. This year the event will be held at St. Mark Lutheran Church, Hampstead. The service will be held, Wednesday, November 21, at 7 p.m. Do come out and give thanks to God for the many blessings God has given us.

FRIENDS OF THE VILLAGE

Friends of the Village of Carroll Lutheran Village will hold their annual luncheon and fashion show, Saturday, October 14, 1:00

p.m. at Martin's Westminster. Cost: \$35.00 per person. Call 410-848-0090 for tickets. Proceeds benefit residents of the Village.

NESAP

NESAO would welcome some new volunteers. If you have 2 or 3 hours a week to spare; it's a friendly and fun place to work. Call Alba at 410-374-9099 to volunteer.

SPY

It's that time of the year again to plan monthly (or more) SPY (St. Paul Youth) events! Last year we had a family or parent volunteer for each month (or event) and it seemed to work out well. The family planned the event and took care of whatever was involved (with help, if needed). Some events in the past have been: skating, bowling, movie night, lock-ins, Christmas party, organizing packages for deployed troops, etc...

Our first event was our Labor Day camping a few weeks ago, I think it was a huge

success with 39 people at dinner on Saturday night! We are already talking about where to go next

If you would like to volunteer for an event, please contact Sandy Baber.

BREThEREN HOME

We are still collecting used stamps for the Bretheren Home at New Oxford. This is a fund raiser as well as therapy for some of the residents. Please leave a portion of the envelope with the stamp. A container for the stamps is in the Narthex.

SALLY FOSTER

Our Sally Foster fund raiser (wrapping paper, cards, ribbons/bows, candies, gifts, etc.) has begun. This fund raiser benefits Outreach. Please be sure to pick up your catalogue packet in the Narthex. Thank you for your enthusiastic help in selling the gift wrap this year!

ANSWERS TO BIBLE TRIVIA

1. Balaam of Moab (Numbers 22:28)
2. David (Psalm 23:1)
3. Peter (John 21:15-17)
4. Matthew (25:32)
5. John the Baptist (John 1:29)

Christians are like the flowers in a garden, that have each of them the dew of Heaven, which, being shaken with the wind, they let fall at each other's roots, whereby they are jointly nourished, and become nourishers of each other.
... John Bunyan (1628-1688)

A BRIEF SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Tenth Biennial Assembly**

August 6-11, 2007, Chicago

The Tenth Biennial Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) was held Aug. 6-11, 2007, at Navy Pier, Chicago. About 2,000 people participated, including 1,069 voting members. The theme was “Living in God’s Amazing Grace: Thanks Be to God!”

Presiding Bishop Mark S. Hanson Re-Elected

The Rev. Mark S. Hanson, 60, was elected to serve a second six-year term as presiding bishop. Hanson was re-elected on the second ballot with 888 votes of the 1,029 cast. Seventy-five percent of the ballots cast are required for election on the second ballot. The runner-up nominee, the Rev. Karl P. Donfried, received 73 votes. Hanson fell two votes short of being re-elected on the first or nominating ballot. He begins his second term Nov. 1. Hanson was first elected presiding bishop at the 2001 Churchwide Assembly. In 2003 he was elected president of the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and will serve in that role until 2010.

David D. Swartling Elected Secretary

David D. Swartling, 60, a Seattle attorney, was elected to a six-year term as ELCA secretary. Swartling was elected on the fifth ballot, 611 to 366, over the Rev. Paul A. Schreck, executive for constitution and rostering interpretation and oversight, ELCA Office of the Secretary. Swartling will succeed the Rev. Lowell G. Almen, who has been secretary since the ELCA was formed in 1987. Almen announced last year he would not seek a fifth term and will leave office Oct. 31. He was presented the Servus Dei (Servant of God) Medal at the assembly, given to churchwide officers who are completing their terms.

Assembly Encourages Restraint in Discipline of Congregations, Leaders

The Churchwide Assembly made no changes to ELCA standards for professional leaders, declining proposals that suggested specific policy changes. By a vote of 538 to 431, the assembly asked its synods and bishops to “refrain from or demonstrate restraint in disciplining” people and congregations that call otherwise-qualified candidates in mutual, chaste and faithful committed same-gender relationships, and it called for restraint in disciplining rostered leaders in committed same-gender relationships. The proposal was adopted as a substitute for a recommendation of the Memorials Committee.

Following the decision, Hanson said, “These are words of counsel. They are not words that change the standards of the church. They reflect the mind of this assembly as it seeks to give counsel to the leaders of this church.”

The Task Force for ELCA Studies on Sexuality is currently developing a social statement on human sexuality for consideration by the 2009 Churchwide Assembly. Voting members referred to the task force memorials regarding same-sex blessings, ELCA clergy standards and other matters. The assembly added an amendment to its referral on clergy standards, directing the task force to “specifically address and make recommendations to the 2009 Churchwide Assembly on changes to any policies that preclude practicing homosexual persons from the rosters of this church.”

“Book of Faith” Initiative Affirmed

The assembly endorsed “Book of Faith: Lutherans Read the Bible,” a five-year initiative to promote study of the Bible. The initiative grew out of a proposal the North Carolina Synod made to the 2005 Churchwide Assembly. One recommendation stressed the importance of Scripture for believers “throughout the ages” and thanked the North Carolina Synod for proposing the initiative. It was adopted by a vote of 1,000 to 19. A companion recommendation, adopted 956 to 68, gave specific suggestions for ways to “invite and encourage all members, expressions, institutions and partners of this church to commit themselves regularly and increasingly to hearing, reading, studying, sharing and being formed by God’s Word.”

Education Social Statement Adopted

With a 949 to 35 vote, the assembly adopted a social statement, “Our Calling in Education,” which addresses issues of children’s faith formation, equitable access to education, quality of U.S. public schools, and support for Lutheran schools, colleges and campus ministries. The assembly also adopted the statement’s accompanying implementation actions. Several amendments were adopted, including the addition of language that addresses the specific needs of American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian communities as well as students with disabilities. Social statements are significant documents adopted by the Churchwide Assembly. There are now nine ELCA social statements.

Assembly Strengthens ELCA’s Financial Future

Striving to strengthen the future financial resources of the ELCA, voting members accepted a report with recommendations from the Blue Ribbon Committee on Mission Funding, appointed to study the ELCA’s funding policies and practices. By a 623 to 52 vote, the assembly received “with gratitude” the committee’s report, commended the content of the report for study and reflection throughout this church, and fostered a renewed commitment to “vigorous mission-support efforts.” The assembly called for the development of a resource for presentation to the 2009 Churchwide Assembly to “help congregations assess their responsible and accountable use of God’s resources commended to their care.”

Assembly Asks for Social Statement on Criminal Justice by 2013

By a vote of 957 to 68, the assembly directed the ELCA Church in Society program unit to develop a social statement on criminal justice for consideration by the 2013 Churchwide Assembly. Requests for the statement grew out of memorials from three synods. The social statement will be developed following consultation with church members and others involved in criminal justice, and it is expected to deal with topics such as the prison system, rehabilitation for those convicted of crimes and the current cost of incarcerating criminals.

ELCA Assembly Extends Full Communion Relationship with Moravian Church

Voting members extended the ELCA's full communion relationship with the Moravian Church in America to the East West Indies and the Alaska Provinces of the Moravian Church in America by a vote of 999 to 23. The 1999 Churchwide Assembly adopted a proposal for full communion with the Northern and Southern Provinces of the Moravian Church in America.

The assembly adopted several other proposals:

+ *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* was "received with thanksgiving" as this church's primary worship resource. Released in 2006, about 725,000 volumes of the book have been distributed.

+ It called for a churchwide strategy for responding to **HIV and AIDS** to build on and deepen current denominational engagement with the pandemic in the United States and around the world. The resolution urged further prayer, charity, advocacy and education efforts. The ELCA committed \$1 million to be used for the strategy's implementation. The assembly asked the Church Council to consider committing up to \$1 million more for implementation of the strategy.

+ The assembly invited renewed efforts by members and congregations to "reach and surpass, as soon as possible," a goal of \$25 million in annual giving to the **ELCA World Hunger Appeal**.

+ The assembly said Lutherans should study the situation in **Darfur, Sudan**, and advocate to federal officials on behalf of Darfur, a place where the U.S. government has called the mass killing "genocide." The action praised the presiding bishop for the efforts he and the LWF have made to address the situation in Darfur.

+ Voting members declared their opposition to "any escalation of the war" in **Iraq** and asked this church to

call on the U.S. government to "take immediate and comprehensive steps to end the violence and establish a peaceful, stable, and just society in that country." They urged the ELCA to engage in "moral deliberation about the situation in Iraq," urged concern for military personnel and their families, and asked ELCA members to make their views known to members of Congress.

+ ELCA congregations and other Lutheran agencies should provide a "welcoming and supporting environment for returning **military veterans**," according to an assembly resolution.

+ The assembly called on the ELCA to recommit to this **church's strategy for engagement in Israel and Palestine**, including a call for economic initiatives. An assembly amendment said that economic initiatives could, in consultation with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land, include "purchasing of products from Palestinian providers and exploration of the feasibility of refusing to buy products produced in Israeli settlements." The assembly also called for examination of investment activity by the ELCA and added an amendment that specifically excludes "the option of divestiture." Awareness-building, accompaniment and advocacy activities are components of the strategy, adopted by the Church Council in 2005, and the ELCA "Peace Not Walls: Stand for Justice in the Holy Land" campaign that the 2005 Churchwide Assembly adopted.

+ With a 318 to 309 vote, the assembly asked **synod bishops to discuss their accountability** "to the adopted policies, practices and procedures of the ELCA" and requested that a report be brought to the 2009 Churchwide Assembly.

+ **Budgets for the ELCA churchwide organization for 2008 and 2009** were adopted.

+ The assembly acted on several other memorials by pointing out previous actions on the specified subject, declining to act or referring them to the Church Council and churchwide units.

Eleventh Biennial Assembly AUGUST 17-23, 2009 Minneapolis

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Communication Services
8765 W. Higgins Rd., Chicago, IL 60631
800/638-3522
www.elca.org

Celebrations for October & November

October Birthdays

2	Ruth Hardesty Mary Steger
5	Bill Peters.
9	George Walter
10	Jim Bosley
11	Tammy Boose
13	Rosalie Croft Gene Zepp
14	Rodney Hale Helen Utz
15	Vivian Chenoweth
16	Samantha Henry
19	Alicia Warren Brinlee Dubois
20	Jon Armacost
21	Carrie Durham Mike Durham
24	J.C.S. Bosley
28	Logan Bradford
29	Kimberly Kelly
30	Scott Hale

November Birthdays

2	Bobby Watson
6	Bob Durham, Jr.
7	Mike Armacost
10	Anne Durham
12	Eric McGee
14	Tommy Green, Sr.
16	Sue Bosley
18	Jeff Hale
20	Bobby Fuller, Jr.
22	Lauren Hancock
23	Benjamin Baber
24	Olan Harris
29	Rick Jones

October Anniversaries

6	Wade & Carol Hilgartner
11	Olan & Shirley Harris
26	Charles & Sandy Baber

November Anniversaries

5	Bryan & Sue Benson
18	Vernon & Gladys Walter
26	Jesse & Claudia McGee

October

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	1	2	3	4	5 530 pm Basket Bingo fund raiser – Arcadia Firehall	6 1200 pm -130pm Pastor's Office Hours
7 900am – Worship Youth Sunday Food Collection	8	9 1000am-1200pm Treasurer's Office Hours 300pm – 430pm Pastor's Office Hours 7:00pm – Council	10 730 pm AA	11	12 Mar-Lu-Ridge Family Outing	13 1200 pm -130pm Pastor's Office Hours Mar-Lu-Ridge Family Outing 800am-200pm Flea Market
14 900am – Worship Mar-Lu-Ridge Family Outing 1215 pm Confirmation	15	16 1000am-1200pm Treasurer's Office Hours 300 pm – 430pm Pastor's Office Hours	17 6:45pm – Healing Service @ St. Paul's 730 pm AA	18	19	20 1200 pm -130pm Pastor's Office Hours 930am Shared Ministry Workshop
21 900am – Worship Fellowship after Worship Harvest Home Sunday Second Offering for World Hunger	22	23 1000am-1200pm Treasurer's Office Hours 300 pm – 430pm Pastor's Office Hours	24 730 pm AA	25	26 630 pm Halloween Party	27 1200 pm -130pm Pastor's Office Hours
28 900am – Worship 1215 pm – Confirmation	29	30 1000am-1200pm Treasurer's Office Hours 300 pm – 430pm Pastor's Office Hours	31			

November

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
				1	2	3 1200 pm -130pm Pastor's Office Hours
4 900am – Worship Food Collection Sunday Youth Sunday	5	6 1000am-1200pm Treasurer's Office Hours 300 pm – 430pm Pastor's Office Hours	7 730 pm AA	8	9	10 1200 pm -130pm Pastor's Office Hours
11 900am – Worship Second Offering for Farmers & Hunters Feeding Hungry Annual Congregational Meeting Confirmation 12:15	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 9:30 Council Workshop 1200 pm -130pm Pastor's Office Hours
18 900am – Worship Installation of Council and Officers Fellowship after service	19	20 1000am-1200pm Treasurer's Office Hours 300 pm – 430pm Pastor's Office Hours	21 700pm – Community Thanksgiving Service, St. Mark's Hampstead 730 pm AA	22	23	24 10 am – 3 pm Christmas Bazaar 12:00 pm - 1:30pm Pastor's Office Hours
25 900am – Worship 12:15 pm - Confirmation	26 130pm – Worship & Music Committee	27 1000am-1200pm Treasurer's Office Hours 300 pm – 430pm Pastor's Office Hours	28	29	30	