



SAINT PAUL'S VOICE

May & June 2020

Volume 3, Number 3

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“From the Pastor”

Living with coronavirus for nearly two months now, most of us have learned not to be surprised by anything. We have learned more than we ever wanted to know about statistical modeling (flattening the curve), about medical testing procedures, to say nothing of the frailties of our medical structure, the dangers of viral infections and person to person transmission.

That is only the beginning as countless hundreds of thousands have found themselves out of work, the victims of the very “social spacing” that is designed to keep the whole system from collapsing in the wake of the pandemic. And that raises the double edge of struggling between the human cost of the disease and the economic cost, not only of the pandemic but also of the cure.

The interesting thing is that while some are paying a much bigger cost than the rest of us, ultimately all of us are in in this soup together, and we will get out of it together. By now you know what the opening act of this crisis is and what it means for the community that we call St. Paul's. We began the year with the best average Sunday attendance in a long time, with finances in good shape and plans well developed for an exciting season. Then the rumors of trouble became reality and on the second Sunday of March with half the congregation at Mar-Lu-Ridge and the rest of us trying at “social spacing” we worshiped in the church building for what seems like it will be the last time in a long time. We ended Lent and began the Easter season learning how to do virtual worship. (If you haven't tuned in yet, look for instructions in this newsletter – page 4.) We have learned how to use the program called “Zoom” to conduct council meetings and other gatherings. On the last Sunday of April, we will invite everyone to join a “Zoom” meeting using a computer or an iPad type device or a smart phone. Look for directions elsewhere in this newsletter on page 4. We are aiming to have a Zoom “coffee hour” every Sunday morning at 10:00am for whoever can tune in.

The implications of all of this is that we are working hard to find appropriate ways to be community as the family of God's people dealing with new realities. I am grateful for the creativity of many of your fellow members whose contributions will ultimately become known to all of you. If you have gifts to help us creatively meet the future, please let those gifts be known. The simplest thing is that it is necessary to stay in touch with one another. We are fortunate that many of us have access to and familiarity with smart devices, but there are some among us for whom the telephone is that only means of communication. Please keep in touch.

There are more things that we will face in the months ahead... there is a large question about communion – is there such a thing as a virtual sacrament? And all church constitutions simply assume that we will always be able to have face to face meetings, particularly congregational ones. We will figure all of that out eventually, and with a little guidance we will find creative solutions. It is hard to know what all of this means, but I believe that how we do ministry together in the months ahead will shape our future together. We will never be quite the way that we were only months ago, but with prayer, wisdom, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit we will continue to share the good news of the Gospel in ways that speak loudly the Love of God.

Pr. Carl Myers

Newsletter submissions are due the 15th of each month
Please send submissions to
lori@stpaulsupperco.org.

Church News



Online Sunday Worships

Until we can meet in person – please continue to worship with us online at: [St Paul's Lutheran Upperco](#) YouTube channel or [Facebook Page](#).



Coffee & Conversation

We plan to do a Live Coffee & Conversation via Zoom each Sunday at 10 am. Please check your email for the Zoom link.



Sunday School in your Home

Sunday school lessons & activities are being emailed out each week while we are all staying at home. If you would like to be added to the email group, please email the office at office@stpaulsupperco.org.



Flea Market Dates

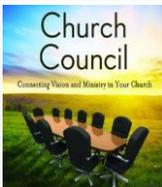
Saturday, May 30th from 8:00am – 2:00pm and June 20th. Spaces still available – see our website for potential updates due to COVID-19.



Mother's Day, May 10th

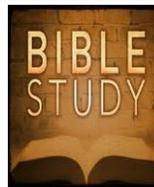


Father's Day, June 21st



Council Meetings

The upcoming council meetings are May 19th and June 16th at 7:00pm. Please give any topics for discussion to Suzi Lyons before these dates.



Adult Bible Study

Adult Bible Study may start to be held via Zoom – please watch your email for more information.

Celebrations!

MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 9 Michael Armacost
- 13 Joseph Geldmacher
- 24 Matthew Meadowcroft
- 26 Barb Utz

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

- 8 Tim & Maidie Brown
- 29 Jed & Colleen Geldmacher



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 9 Owen Howard
- 9 Tim McGee
- 12 Leon Fleming
- 12 Steve Howard
- 15 Mary Armacost
- 15 Ray Grabowski
- 17 Bud Eichelberger
- 22 Ryan Meadowcroft
- 23 Emily Niles

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Michael & Beth Armacost
- 6 Kimberly & John Kelly, Jr.
- 12 Ray & Suzi Lyons
- 17 Mike & Helen Armacost

Behind the Scenes

Since the COVID19 crisis, St Paul's has had to find a new way for our church to connect and everyone to continue to worship 'together'. Here is an inside view at what it takes to make online worship happen.



Each week Pastor Carl, Beth, and a few church members meet at the church to record our virtual worship, of course, keeping our social distancing. To record worship we use Pastor Carl's iPhone and his tripod. It usually takes about one hour to get set up, go through what's happening, and to record. A few times we have had to record more than once, it's all a learning process.



After the recording is complete, Pastor Carl air drops the recording to Madison's iPhone. Madison then takes the recording and saves it to her Mac Book. She then works through editing the recording, adding a title and ending credits, and adding the text for the hymns.

After editing is complete, Madison starts the process of uploading and publishing the video to the church YouTube page, the editing and uploading steps can take two hours to complete. Meanwhile, Pastor Carl works with Lori to get the weekly bulletin together so it matches the recorded service.

After the video is published to YouTube and links to the bulletin and our weekly giving website are added, Lori updates the church website, Sandy updates the church Facebook page, and Lori sends out an email to everyone with the appropriate links for that week's service.



Keeping in touch until we can be together again!

- [St Paul's YouTube](#)
- [St. Paul's Webpage](#)
- [St. Paul's Facebook page](#)

Worshipping Together...Virtually



- **Sunday Worship (pre-recorded video)**
 - [St Paul's YouTube](#) - turn on closed captioning if you have trouble hearing (click on the 'cc' on the bottom of the video window when the video starts).
 - [View past sermons on YouTube](#)
 - [St. Paul's webpage](#)
 - [St. Paul's Facebook page](#) (be sure to 'Like')

- **Sunday Coffee Hour & Fellowship (Live Sundays at 10am)**

- Coffee and Conversation via Zoom
 - Zoom is free and easy for you to use. Just click on the link sent to your email at 10am Sunday morning, and you will be joined in the Fellowship Gathering with your Church Family. Click on/off Video and click on 'join audio' (lower left corner of the window).



- **Sunday School at Home**

- Sunday school lessons & activities are being emailed out each week while we are all staying at home. If you would like to be added to the email group, please email the office at office@stpaulsupperco.org or check [St Paul's Upperco website homepage](#).

Flea Market News

St. Paul's May Flea Market has been Moved to May 30th

Due to the Governor's current order, St. Paul's May Flea Market has been moved to **May 30th**. Since this is the 5th Saturday of the month, we're hoping it works out with everyone's vendor schedule. It is our intent and duty to keep our vendors, customers and ourselves safe during this unprecedented pandemic.

We thank you for your continued support and hope that we'll see those of you who have signed up for May on the 30th. Take care and stay safe.

St. Paul's Flea Market - fleamarket@stpaulsupperco.org

Fundraisers

Outreach Is Collecting Stamps

Thank-you to those who are collecting cancelled stamps for the Cross Keys Village.



They started their Stamp Group in 1981 and it's still going strong with 30-40 volunteers. Their mission is to provide fellowship, therapy and purpose to their day.

Over the years, their efforts have purchased many items including an underwater treadmill, various types of wheelchairs, hand chimes, defibrillator, the list goes on and on.

Please continue to bring in your cancelled stamps so the Stamp Group can continue their projects. Ask your friends and businesses to save them too! If you would like further information, see Suzi.

2020 Flea Market Calendar

May 30, 2020 * June 20, 2020 * July 18, 2020 * August 15, 2020 * September 19, 2020 *
October 17, 2020

Cost: \$ 25.00 Lawn space, Pavilion space \$30.00
(No Rain Date – Non-Refundable – Non Transferable)

Time: 8 AM – 2 PM

To reserve your space, send a completed application form along with your check to:

St. Paul's Lutheran Church 15773 Dover Rd Upperco, MD
21155
Attn: Flea Market



Download an application for a space reservation at: <http://stpaulsupperco.org/flea-market/>

Phone: 410-526-7598 Email: fleamarket@stpaulsupperco.org

Sunday School...now Virtual



We miss seeing everyone, and hope you all are staying well!

Ms. Rachel has been sending out lessons and activities, and will continue till the end of May or until we can all meet back in person.

On May 31st we will have Sunday School via Zoom at 11:00am. Watch your email for the Zoom link the last week of the month or look on the [St Paul's Upperco home webpage](#).

We will decide then which disaster to send our Lenten monies to. We earned about \$250.00 for ELCA disaster relief from the birdseed wreaths and a second offering.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in the fall!

2nd Offering for VBS on Tithe.ly

Even in our uncertain times you can be certain that we will still have a Vacation Bible School (VBS) program. While it may or may not look like our traditional VBS program, it will be interactive and FUN!

Monies donated help us to offset costs for the program materials. It allows us to purchase needed supplies to make this year's VBS better than ever!

We hope that you will continue to be generous so we will be able to "Teach God's word" in a fun and meaningful way through our VBS Program.



2nd Offering for VBS is on Tithe.ly - click link below

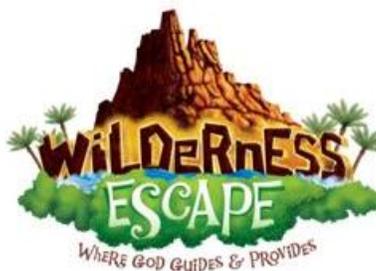
Give: your donation amount To: select VBS on the dropdown

Vacation Bible School
July 20—24, 2020

9am - 12pm · Monday—Friday

held at

St Paul's Church
15773 Dover Rd
Upperco, MD 21155



Virtual Youth Shared Ministry Events

Greetings —

If memory is correct, our last Youth Group meeting was held at Immanuel on Friday, February 14. Little did we know that would be our last opportunity to be together for a while. We pray that each of you are each safe and healthy and making the best of this situation.

Before this COVID 19 issue, our Youth group gatherings were fun and well attended. We can't wait to get back together and make that happen again. We miss seeing each of you! Ms. Rachel and Ms. Bri have been working to find a project that we can do together virtually. **We are happy to announce a Zoom Paint Night!**

The first 12 youth who respond will be signed up and will then receive additional details. Please remember this is our first attempt at planning something like this and we are all learning the process. If, indeed, this paint night goes well, we will attempt other activities. Let us know of any ideas you might have, we are open to trying other things virtually - YOU could even "host" an activity!

Middle and High School Youth

You are invited to join our first
Virtual Paint Night

7pm Friday, May 15
using Zoom

Limited to the first 12 people that register.
Art supplies will be provided.



Please be respectful—if you reserve a spot:
*be available (plan for about 2 hours)
*have your area set up and ready to paint
*try your best

Email Rachel.Murphy@hotmail.com
or call/text 410.259.8861

Mar-Lu-Ridge Retreat - March 13-15



Just as the State of MD was preparing to shut down because of the coronavirus, St Paul's was able to enjoy a weekend retreat at Mar-Lu-Ridge. It had been years since our last retreat, and it felt great to get back on the ridge and to introduce MLR to those first timers.



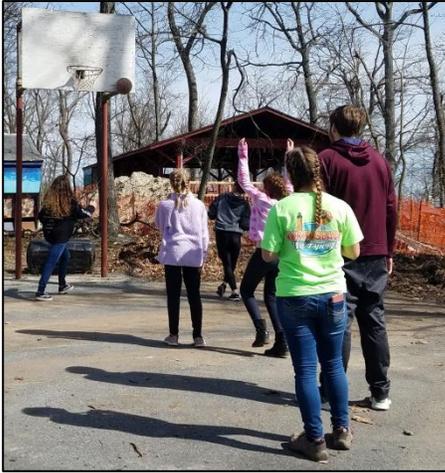
We had a group of 12 spend the entire weekend, and a total of 27 there for Saturday dinner and worship in the Salem on the Mount Chapel. Friday evening we arrived, settled in our cabins, and played some games. Saturday morning started with breakfast at 8 am, then a walk to the chapel with a group photo by the cross overlooking the valley and the Potomac River.



After a mid-morning rest we took a hike to the challenge course area and the youth had fun while Madison led them in different challenge and team building activities. We then continued our hike to Shock Rock and spent time enjoying the view of the valley and shocking each other!



Mar-Lu-Ridge Retreat...con't



Time for lunch! Then, a game of Knockout on the basketball court for the youth. The afternoon had most of the group take a hike to Three Ponds which is down the east side of the mountain. Those that stayed behind drove down the mountain to pick up the hikers; on the way back we stopped at the Ridge Inn to see more of MLR.

Dinner and evening worship in the chapel found us enjoying a large group of 27!

After worship, our day visitors left and we spent the evening playing games (a new favorite that Madison taught the group was Ticket to Ride), making a fire in the fireplace, and enjoying all of the s-mores that we brought.

Sunday breakfast was again bright and early at 8 am. Unfortunately, the day started out rainy so we spent the morning packing up, cleaning up our cabins, and playing more games. After a yummy lunch prepared by Chef Tim, Sarah Lefler, Executive Director at MLR, asked Madison and our youth to participate in a video she was putting together for frequently asked questions by summer campers. They had fun pretending to be campers, enjoying the cookies, and teaching grace before a meal. It was then time to say our good byes and head back home.



Our time together at MLR is even more special now that we have not been able to worship together since that weekend. We hope to plan a retreat again next year, we hope more of you are able to join us!



Thank You!

To everyone finding a way to keep the church 'running' – it takes a community....

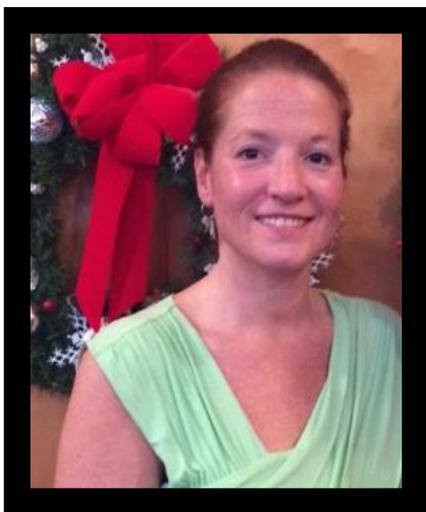


To the Council for continuing meeting via Zoom; all the emails and phone calls reaching out to the church family to say hello and be sure everyone is doing well.

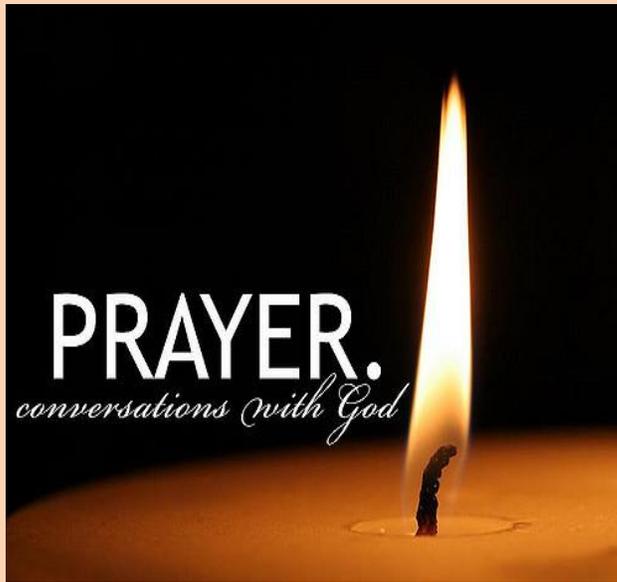
To everyone who gets the recording put together for Sunday's Worship video for YouTube and the new live Coffee & Conversations via Zoom on Sunday mornings.



Ms. Rachael and all the other teachers that bring Sunday School to your home each week.



Those in Need of Prayer



Members: Helen, Mark, Calvin & Mary, Hazel, Ruth, Jen, Maidie, Vivian, Colton, Bud, Carolyn & John, Carliana, Shriver, Andy, Denise, Glenys, Matthew, Nadine, Moore family, Neuheisel family, Shirley, Gene, and all homebound members.

Family & Friends: Jerry, Carol & Carroll, Bernie & Chris, Nunan Family, Mike, Chuck, Darlene, Frank, Erin, Clyde, Kary, Gloria, Jim & Barbara, Kevin, Jack & Elinor, Liz, Heidi, Peggy, Laura, Bruce & Jamie, Karen, David, Caroline, Sonia, Addison, Julia, Doris, those facing job loss, and those in broken relationships.

PRAYER: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you called light into being. Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ. Shed his healing light on those for whom we pray. Bring into the fullness of your light all who live in the darkness of doubt, fear and hopelessness. Let the fullness of day break into all of our lives but especially those who need it most. **AMEN**

Helping Our Neighbors

NESAP Pantry Needs

- canned pasta (beefaroni, spaghetti O's, etc)
- pudding
- Jello
- cereal
- breakfast bars/pop tarts
- oatmeal
- jelly
- Hamburger or tuna Helper
- rice
- canned fruit
- canned beans (pinto, black beans, etc.)
- canned carrots
- canned potatoes
- canned mixed vegetables
- canned beets
- juice (apple, etc.)
- canned chicken or salmon
- brownie mix
- soup
- bar soap
- dish detergent
- laundry detergent
- diapers size 5 & 6
- wipes





SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 Worship via YouTube Coffee & Conversation via Zoom – 10am Virtual Sunday School	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 Mother's Day Worship via YouTube Coffee & Conversation via Zoom – 10am Virtual Sunday School	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 Worship via YouTube Coffee & Conversation via Zoom – 10am Virtual Sunday School !	18	19 Church Council via Zoom – 7:00pm	20	21	22	23
24 Worship via YouTube Coffee & Conversation via Zoom – 10am Virtual Sunday School	25 	26	27	28	29	30 Flea Market – 8:00am 
31 Worship via YouTube Coffee & Conversation via Zoom – 10am Virtual Sunday School via Zoom – 11am						

June 2020



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
*All dates and times are tentative based on the COVID-19 crisis – please watch your email for updates						
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9:00am – Worship						
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
9:00am – Worship 2nd Offering - Carroll Rape Crisis		Church Council – 7:00pm				Flea Market – 8:00am 
Father's Day	21	22	23	24	25	26
9:00am – Worship Fellowship after service						
28	29	30				
9:00am – Worship Supply Pastor: Faye Snyder						

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

15773 Dover Road
Hanover Pike & Dover Road
Upperco, Maryland 21155

www.StPaulsUpperco.org

410-239-3456

Pastor: The Rev. Carl Myers
Office: office@stpaulsupperco.org

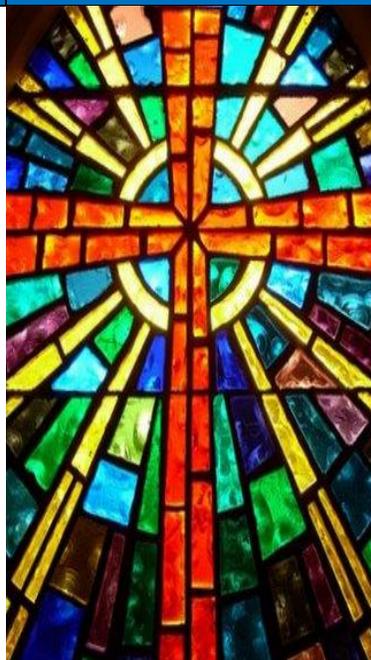


Worship Leader Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Assisting Minister</u>	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Communion Asst.</u>	<u>Head Usher</u>	<u>Acolyte</u>
5/3/2020	Rachel Murphy	Youth Sunday	John Kelly	Youth Sunday	Chris Geldmacher
5/10/2020	Madison Baber	Carol Hunt	Suzi Lyons	Bob Martin	Jake Lowe
5/17/2020	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
5/24/2020	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
5/31/2020	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
6/7/2020	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
6/14/2020	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
6/21/2020	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
6/28/2020	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD

Council Directory

PRESIDENT	Suzi Lyons
VICE PRESIDENT	John Kelly
SECRETARY	Laura Grabowski
TREASURER	Carol Hilgartner
MEMBER	Sandy Baber
MEMBER	Susan Fleming
MEMBER	Bob Martin
MEMBER	Brad Mountcastle
MEMBER	Rachel Murphy



Council Committee Representatives

CEMETERY	Maidie Brown
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	Susan Fleming
EVANGELISM	Laura Grabowski
FINANCE	Suzi Lyons
FINANCIAL SECRETARY	Charles Baber
FLEA MARKET	Carol Hilgartner
	Suzi Lyons
HISTORIANS	Sandy Baber
	Susan Fleming
HOSPITALITY	Susan Fleming
	John Kelly
MUSIC & WORSHIP	Susan Fleming
OUTREACH	Suzi Lyons
	Bob Martin
PARK	Brad Mountcastle
PROPERTY	Susan Fleming
SHEPHERDS	Rachel Murphy
	Laura Grabowski
STEWARDSHIP	John Kelly
	Bob Martin
YOUTH	Sandy Baber
	John Kelly