



# SAINT PAUL'S VOICE

## July & August 2023

Volume 6, Number 4

### In This Issue:

- Church News Page 2
- Worshipping Together Page 3
- Prayer List Page 3
- Thank You Page 4
- Celebrations! Page 4
- Flea Market Page 5
- Pavilion Rental Page 5
- Parish Highlights Page 6
- Synod Assembly Pages 7-8
- Mar Lu Ridge Page 9
- VBS Page 10
- Youth Pages Page 10
- Council Minutes Pages 11-15
- Church Calendar Pages 16-17
- Worship Leader Calendar Page 18

## “From the Pastor”

*“Beginning with Moses and all the prophets, Jesus interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures...When he was at table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him.” Luke 24:27, 30-31a*

*“The baptized devoted themselves to the breaking of bread and prayers.” Acts 2:42*

*“On Sunday all are gathered together in unity. The records of the apostles or the writings of the prophets are read for as long as time allows. The presider exhorts and invites us into the pattern of these good things. Then we all stand and offer prayer. When we have concluded the prayer, bread is set out together with wine...The presider then offers prayer and thanksgiving and the people sing out their assent, saying the “Amen.” There is a distribution of the things over which thanks has been said and each person participates, and these things are sent to those who are not present.*

*Those who are prosperous give what they wish according to each one’s own choice, and the collection is deposited with the presider, who aids orphans and widows, those in want because of disease, those in prison, and foreigners who are staying here. We hold this meeting together on Sunday since it is the first day, on which God, having transformed darkness and matter, created the world. On the same day Jesus Christ our Savior rose from the dead. On Sunday, he appeared to his apostles and disciples and taught them these things we present to you.” Apology of Justin Martyr circa 150 A.D.*

The readings above are descriptions of how the early church gathered together and worshiped. Several things stand out to me as I read these: scriptures were read (Moses and the prophets, apostles and the prophets), interpretation was offered (Jesus interpreted to them, the presider exhorts and invites), bread is broken, wine is poured, prayers are offered up, offering is taken up in thanksgiving to support the church and to aid those in need. These things sound like the very things we do in worship today. This means that the very form of our Lutheran liturgical worship has its roots deep within the history of...all the way back to the very beginning of that history when Jesus first gathered his disciples to teach and eat with them.

Good things happened during worship. As they remembered darkness being transformed into light, creation itself was celebrated. The baptized were fortified and blessed through the confession and forgiveness and the singing and praying. Those gathered were renewed for the daily witness of faith, hope, and love. Guest, strangers, and all in need, were offered these good things through God’s grace freely given and celebrated. Jesus, himself, was present in the reading and exhorting of the scripture and through the bread and wine of communion. These good things still happen as we are gathered in worship even today.

School is almost over, summer is almost in full swing. As you take time to refresh and renew this summer, whether it be through time spent on vacation, time spent with family and friends, or just time spent enjoying God’s creation, remember the importance of worshipping together. Remember the good things that come as we gather with friends, family, and strangers to lift our hearts is song, prayer, and communion. Come to worship here when you are at home. Seek this gathering out online when you are away. Continue to support the ministries that we are doing together. Be renewed and blessed as you do so. Have a safe and blessed summer.

Because He lives, so can I,  
Pastor Dot

# Church News

	<p><b>Church Services</b> Church Services are held on Sundays at 9am, in the sanctuary. Please join us for Worship Services online on <a href="#">YouTube</a> Sunday mornings.</p>		<p><b>Flea Market, 8:00am – 2:00pm</b> Saturday, July 15<sup>th</sup> &amp; August 19<sup>th</sup>. A few spaces still available. Registration forms are online at: <a href="http://stpaulsupperco.org/flea-market/">http://stpaulsupperco.org/flea-market/</a></p>
	<p>Happy Independence Day!</p>		<p><b>VBS - Bible Blast to the Past</b> Monday, July 17<sup>th</sup> - Friday, July 21<sup>st</sup> from 9:00am-12:00 noon at St Paul's Church.</p>
	<p><b>St. Abrahams Church Community Picnic - Saturday, July 9, 4pm - 8pm</b> Forget the chores and grab a lawn chair and Come join us for an afternoon of fun! 4029 Beckleysville Road, Hampstead. Free Food, Free Music, and Old Fashioned Cake Walk. All are welcome!</p>		<p><b>St Paul's Council Meetings</b> The upcoming council meetings are July 18<sup>th</sup> &amp; August 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. Please give any topics for discussion to a Council Member before these dates.</p>
	<p><b>Babylon: Daniels Courage in Captivity</b> Sunday, July 9<sup>th</sup> - Thursday, July 13<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-8:00pm at Immanuel Church.</p>		<p><b>Bingo Under the Pavilion</b> St Paul's will hold their Annual Bingo Event on August 26<sup>th</sup>. Doors open at 3pm. Games start at 4pm. Tickets on sale now!</p>
	<p><b>Youth Group</b> Come join us on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday evening each month at Immanuel Church. <b>Friday, July 14<sup>th</sup> and August 11<sup>th</sup>:</b> Fishing &amp; Kickball Tournament at Mary's Farm</p>		<p><b>Food Distribution at Immanuel</b> Bags of food will be distributed every Wednesday, from 10:00am – 11:20am to all who need it. Volunteers are invited to come help.</p>

## Installation for the Pastoral Team of Resurrection Lutheran Parish



The installation for the pastoral team of Resurrection Lutheran Parish is going to be on Sunday, September 17 at 3 pm at Christmas Tree Park in Manchester.

We will begin that day (3pm) with the Service of Installation led by Bishop Gohl and Pastor Robin Litton and afterwards the churches will provide food. More information to follow.

# Worshiping Together



Please Join Us....

**In-Person Worship**

**9:00am in the Sanctuary**

**Live & Recorded Worship Videos**

[St Paul's YouTube](#)

[St. Paul's webpage](#)

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

**Sunday School – On summer break**

## Vacation Bible School



**VBS @ St Paul's - Monday, July 17- Friday, July 21 - 9am-12pm**

This year's theme is: Bible Blast to the Past (free event). For more information or to register, please contact Susan Fleming (susanf795@gmail.com / 443.744.6511) or go to <http://stpaulsupperco.org/vacation-bible-school/>.



**VBS @ Immanuel Church - Sunday, July 9- Thursday, July 13 - 5:30-8pm**

This year's theme is: Babylon: Daniels Courage in Captivity (free event). For more information or to register, contact Chris Crouch [crouchchristine@msn.com](mailto:crouchchristine@msn.com) / 410.746.0260) and Brenda Wulforst ([brenjw1@comcast.net](mailto:brenjw1@comcast.net) / 410.596.5415). We also need individuals with artistic talent to paint displays.

# Those in Need of Prayer



**Members:** Calvin Armacost, Maidie Brown, Vivian Chenoweth, Carolyn Eichler, John Eichler, Carliana Folfas, Shriver Foster, Andy Geldmacher, Hannah Hilgartner, Denise Holtz, Glenys Hunt, Matthew Jones, Nadine McGee, Bob & Gerri Martin, Steve Hannon, and all homebound members.

**Family & Friends:** Alicia Minor, Gwyneth Hann, Ms. Heather, Ashlee Kopp, Andrea & Cotey Kopp, Jerry & Jan Herfurth, Linda Nunan & family, Tim Hoyt & family, Debb Webb, Susan Davidow, Pat & Ron Webb, Graydon, Dacia Osborne, Osborne family, Joy Eagan, Bernie and Chris Harmon, Karyn Carpenter, Holly Hudson, Brandon Akers, Brandi Bubczyk, Tim Hoyt, Rosemary Johnson, Rick Schaefer, Bethany Ferguson, Abbott Family, Carol Kahlert, Steve Turek, Melinda Chernesky, Joan Jasmin, Pete Panagokos, Nancy Rose, Dave and Marie Davis, Carol Wissel, Jean Yeakel, David Henry, Brandon Akers, Torie Osborne, Ed Burnham,

Joe Kusterer and Teri Geppi, Michael Long, Bruce Fleming, those facing job loss, and those in broken relationships

**PRAYER:** Ever-present God, in this time when busy-ness is exalted and there seems so much to do, keep our focus on your abiding grace. Help us to let go of those things that add stress or distract us so that we may sit in your splendor even for a moment, and be present to that which gives us life. We pray for your life-giving care for those that we know and all who need your healing hand. In the name of your Son, Jesus, for whom we wait expectantly. Amen.

# Celebrations!

## JULY BIRTHDAYS

9 Michael Armacost  
11 Tom Lewis  
13 Joseph Geldmacher  
15 Scott Litz  
21 Maureen Litz  
24 Matthew Meadowcroft  
26 Barb Utz

## JULY ANNIVERSARIES

6 Patrick & Sherry Moore  
22 Rob & Denise Holtz  
24 Tom & Carol Lewis  
26 Tim & Denise McGee  
30 John & Carolyn Eichler



## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

1 Carrie Moore  
4 Carol Lewis  
6 Evelyn Barrett  
8 Cheyenne Kelly  
15 Patti Graff  
15 Payton Kelly  
17 Susan Fleming  
22 Rachel Mountcastle  
22 Steve Utz  
23 Sara Moore  
24 Kelly Mountcastle  
24 Clara Neuheisel  
26 Peter Meadowcroft

## AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

No anniversaries

# Thank You!



*To Pr Ellen and Susan Fleming for manning our booth at Hampstead Day and sharing God's love with our community.*

*To Madison Baber and everyone that coordinated the 'Parish School's Out Picnic' and came out to celebrate with us!*



# St. Abrahams Community Picnic



**Come out and join St. Abrahams for a FREE Community Picnic on Saturday, July 8<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 to 8:00 pm.**

There will be Free Food, Music, Old Fashioned Cake Walk, Raffles, and Ice Cream.

Bring a friend! Everyone Welcome!

# Flea Market

Our monthly flea markets continue to be a huge success. Not only as a fund raiser for our church, but as a community "social" event. 40 vendors signed up and prepaid for the entire 7-month season! So far, our Flea Market has made \$11,460 this year! Thank you to all our volunteers!

**July 15 \* August 19\* September 16 \* October 21**

**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, please complete our application and return it with your payment to:**

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



Click link to download application for space: [2023 Flea Market Application](#)

PLEASE NOTE: ONLY Vendors who prepay for the entire 7-month season will be guaranteed the same space each month. If you have any questions, please email us at [fleamarket@stpaulsupperco.org](mailto:fleamarket@stpaulsupperco.org).



Outreach will again operate the food grill at our monthly flea markets. Come out and enjoy a burger and soda for lunch and support the church!

## Rent Our Pavilion For Your Next Event!

Rent the Pavilion for your ...

\*Family Reunion

\***Birthday Party**

\***Graduation Party**

\*Special Event



**Reserve Your Date Now!**

**Only \$100**

**Conveniently located off Rt 30**

~  
**15773 Dover Rd  
Upperco, MD 21155**

Park is about two acres and consists mostly of lawn and mature trees. The pavilion is 36' x 60' with concrete floor and wood arch roof. There are ten 8' picnic tables made of galvanized metal and PT wood. The pavilion will hold 100 people.



Everything you need  
for a great event.

- Covered Pavilion
- Picnic Tables
- Grill
- Lawn Space
- Playground
- Portable Bathrooms
- On-site Parking

[Click here to download the Pavilion Lease](#)

Please fill out the lease agreement and return to St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Make checks payable to St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

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

Call 410-239-3456 · Email [Pavilion@StPaulsUpperco.org](mailto:Pavilion@StPaulsUpperco.org)



Large raffles, specials and door prizes!  
Food available for purchase. Prizes include a variety of gift cards with an item featuring *Thirty-One, Yeti, Vera Bradley.*

**August 26, 2023**

(Rain date: Sept 9)

Held outside at church pavilion

For more information,  
email [Bingo@StPaulsUpperco.org](mailto:Bingo@StPaulsUpperco.org)  
or call 410-239-3456.

## Hampstead Day

On May 20th Resurrection Lutheran Parish had a booth at Hampstead Day.

Prayers were offered for any in need. Information on our parish was handed out, along with snack packs with a bible verse.

Pastor Ellen and Susan Fleming interacted with lots of people, young and old.



## Lutheran Night at Camden Yards



It's time to get together again to root on our amazing Orioles!

Come to Camden Yards on Friday, August 4 at 7:05 p.m. with fireworks after the game. The Orioles are playing the New York Mets.

Tickets are \$30 with \$4 going toward the St. Andrew's roof fund. Contact Margie DeLong by email ([madelong1162@gmail.com](mailto:madelong1162@gmail.com)) or at 410-292-9089 to reserve your tickets. Checks should be made out to the Delaware-Maryland Synod.

## Outreach

We are again supporting the Alpha Pregnancy center in Reisterstown. Baby bottles were distributed on Mother's Day and returned on Father's Day. The money collected will be used for counseling, medical supplies, formula, diapers, toys, etc.

Another giant bag of cancelled stamps was delivered to the Cross Keys Village. They were extremely happy to receive our donation and sent a thank you note.

# Synod Assembly Update



Kelly and Sandy attended the 36th annual Delaware-Maryland Synod Assembly on June 9-10, at Grace Lutheran Church in Westminster. Typically, the Assembly is held in Ocean City, with a few years in Hunt Valley. This year the Synod decided to try something different and hold it at a Synod church. The changing of the venue was met with positive feedback; one being that it saved over \$50,000 in registration fees.

The Westminster Conference was on full display during the two day event with a lunch option at Carroll Lutheran School, tours of Carroll Lutheran Village, CLV buses being used to shuttle participants from parking lots, a walk/run event Saturday morning, and many participants taking advantage of being in beautiful downtown Westminster. The members of Grace Lutheran did a wonderful job hosting the event.

The annual assembly is held to conduct business that is an important part of our church lives and ministry together as a Synod. This year's assembly theme was, "But for the grace of God we go!", and all offerings were divided between relief ministries of our synod and the ELCA.

There were more than 360 voting members attending the event. Kelly and Sandy officially represented St Paul's, but since there were no other lay voting members from the other parish churches, we were also recognized as members of the Resurrection Lutheran Parish, which was mentioned at least two times for being the only five church parish in our Synod. Pr Ellen and Deacon Don also attended, and Madison was a visitor on Saturday.

## Highlights from the Assembly

- Approved various reports, the financial audit, and the 2024 Faith Spending Plan
- Elected a new Synod Vice President - Ms Jada Wright (Jerusalem, Baltimore)
- We recognized outgoing Vice President (of seven years) John Auger (Grace, Hockessin)
- Appointed various lay people and pastors to committees within the Synod organization, including:
  - Consultation Committee - David Magoon (Grace, Hockessin) and the Rev. Zachary Wright (Bethel, North East)
  - Discipline Committee - April Parvzian (Epiphany, Baltimore) and the Rev. Kelley Ketcham (St. Mark's Wilmington)
  - Rev. Christopher Schaefer (Divinity, Towson) as Team Leader for the Communications Team
- Adopted three resolutions:
  - Resolution 2023-1: Global Church Sunday
  - Resolution 2023-2: Compensation Guidelines
  - Resolution 2023-3: Promoting Transgender Competency in the Delaware-Maryland Synod
- The Rev. Dr. Surekha Nelavala (Global Peace, Frederick) lead two thought provoking Bible Study sessions
- We heard reports from Mar-Lu-Ridge, who is starting a Capital Campaign to make the Ridge accessible to all, and from Youth and Family Ministry and their programs throughout the year for our youth.
- Opening worship was held in the sanctuary with Rev. Harvard Stephens preaching.



... Synod Assembly Update continued

- Closing worship was held in Grace Hall with Grace's Praise Singers and Praise Band leading us in worship.
- The Synod Worship Team selected music from the new Evangelical Lutheran Worship supplement, *All Creation Sings*, and each attendee received a copy.
- Bishop Bill Gohl enjoyed his time with all of us.
- Kelly and Sandy catching up with Pr Carl.

If you have any questions or would like to read additional information on any of the proceedings, please see Sandy or Kelly.



Each week, Pastor A.J. Houseman will have conversations with guest speakers who are pastors, deacons, professors, and other rad folks. We will explore the original Biblical languages of Greek or Hebrew, the historical settings, and implications of the speakers (or non-speakers) in the Bible. We will discuss the uncomfortable parts of the Bible with scholarship, grace, and authenticity. Listen wherever you listen to podcasts or on our website!

TEN FOOT POLE  
CONVERSATIONS ABOUT THE UNCOMFORTABLE BIBLE

WWW.TENFOOTPOLEPODCAST.COM

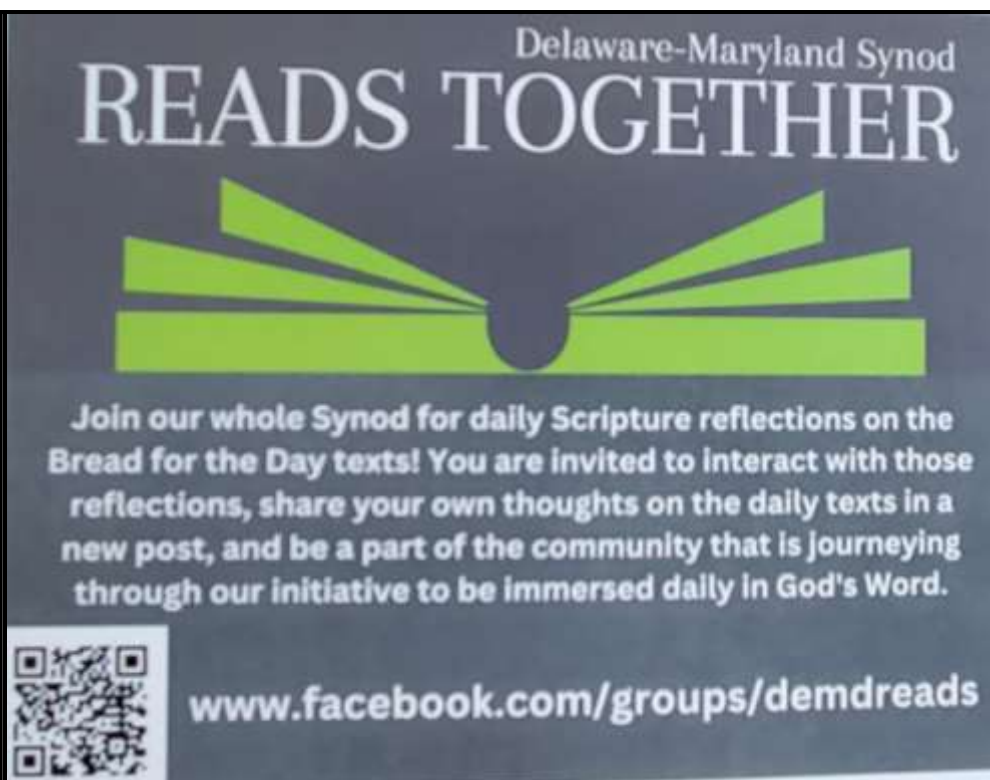
@TENFOOTPOLEPODCAST

## Ten Foot Pole Podcasts

*Conversations about the uncomfortable Bible*

## Daily SYNOD Scripture Readings

*Reflections on the Bread for the Day texts*



Delaware-Maryland Synod  
**READS TOGETHER**

Join our whole Synod for daily Scripture reflections on the Bread for the Day texts! You are invited to interact with those reflections, share your own thoughts on the daily texts in a new post, and be a part of the community that is journeying through our initiative to be immersed daily in God's Word.

www.facebook.com/groups/demdreads



# Mar-Lu-Ridge

## Confirmation Camp

Mar-Lu-Ridge is excited for the return of **Confirmation Camp** as part of our summer programming! Confirmation Camp is open to campers ages 11-14 who are interested in "diving deeper" into their faith and affirming their baptism. **This program will take place July 23-28.**

Each day, Confirmation Campers will explore connections between the summer theme "The Water of Life" and their confirmation promises. In-depth, interactive sessions will be led by pastors and lay leaders from DE-MD and Metro DC synods, as well as trained MLR staff members. And, of course, campers will experience all the fun of a week at summer camp...arts & crafts, archery, high ropes, hiking, pool time, and more!



## 2024 Youth Gathering

The 2024 Youth Gathering will be held in New Orleans, July 16-20, 2024  
<https://www.elca.org/youthgathering>



Youth currently in 7<sup>th</sup> grade through 11<sup>th</sup> grade are eligible. An email has gone out to families with eligible youth. If you did not receive an email, please reach out to Sandy Baber.

Registration for the Gathering starts this September. For budget planning we would like to know who is going from St Paul's by September 1<sup>st</sup>. As part of the registration process we will request our hotel rooms and then we will make airline reservations near the end of the year. Final payment for everything will be due in April 2024. The plan would be to fly to New Orleans on Monday, July 15<sup>th</sup> and return late on Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup>. Once we get to New Orleans, all events should be within walking distance, if not the Gathering will provide transportation. To give you an idea of our time in New Orleans, our days are spent in interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service and fellowship, as our youth grow in faith and are challenged and inspired to live their faith in their daily lives.

If you have interested youth, a non-refundable deposit of \$150 is due by September 1<sup>st</sup>. Because of our on-going fundraising efforts and generous friends of St Paul's, this should be the only out of pocket for each St Paul's participant. The cost per person is approximately \$1,200 per person. If you have any questions, please reach out to Sandy.

## Mar-Lu-Ridge Fall Retreat

Save the date: Our fall retreat will be November 10-12.



# VBS - Invite a Friend!



**Babylon: Daniels Courage in Captivity**  
**Sunday, July 9- Thursday, July 13 - 5:30-8pm – Immanuel Church**

Click [here](#) to register.

Contact: Chris Crouch (crouchchristine@msn.com / 410.746.0260) and Brenda Wulforst (brenjw1@comcast.net / 410.596.5415)



**Bible Blast to the Past**  
**Monday, July 17- Friday, July 21 - 9am-12noon - St Paul's Church**

Click [here](#) to register.

Contact: Susan Fleming (susanf795@gmail.com / 443.744.6511)

## Parish Youth Events

**Everyone** (of all ages) is welcome to join us for any activity or event!

Youth Group Night is typically held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month in Immanuel's Social Hall.

We share a meal at 6:30pm then participate in a combination of fun activities and/or community service projects.



**Friday, July 14<sup>th</sup> and August 11<sup>th</sup>: Fishing & Kickball Tournament at Mary's Farm**

A poster for '2023-2024 YOUTH EVENTS' with a blue background and a yellow border. It features a logo for 'DELAWARE MARYLAND MESSIAH YOUTH + FAMILY MINISTRY' and lists four events: Middle School Event (Nov 17-19, 2023), High School Event (Feb 9-11, 2024), Seekers (Grades 3-5) (March 9-10, 2024), and Middle School Leadership Retreat (April 12-14, 2024). Locations are Potomac Park Retreat & Conference Center in Falling Waters, WV and Mar-Lu-Ridge in Jefferson, MD.

**2023-2024 YOUTH EVENTS**

**Middle School Event**  
November 17-19, 2023

**High School Event**  
February 9-11, 2024

at Potomac Park Retreat & Conference Center in Falling Waters, WV

**Seekers (Grades 3-5)**  
March 9-10, 2024

**Middle School Leadership Retreat**  
April 12-14, 2024

at Mar-Lu-Ridge in Jefferson, MD

# Council Meeting Highlights

## 4/18/2023 Approved Council Meeting Minutes

### Reports

Pastor's Report, Pastor Ellen Reported:

- Preached and presided at 10 worship services, including 5 Sundays, and Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday
- Led midweek worship/prayer & Lectio Divina Bible reflection on March 15, 22 & 29
- St. Paul's
- Attended the visitation and funeral of Paul Dattilio, officiated by Pastor Dot and priest from St. Bartholomews, at Eckhardt's Funeral Home on April 2 and April 3
- Officiated graveside service for Larry Shaffer, New Lutheran Cemetery, and attended visitation at Eckhardt's Funeral Home, March 25
- Attended 3 Confirmation classes led by Deacon Don Helfer
- Attended monthly Council meetings at
- Immanuel
- Jerusalem
- St. Paul's
- St. Peter's
- Attended Parish Council meeting on March 30 at St. Abrahams
- Had pastoral visits with 10+ Resurrection Parish members; and made several pastoral phone calls, as needed
- Attended 2 clergy team staff meeting during this period
- Assisted with Social Ministry's food distribution at Immanuel every Wednesday
- Participated in Immanuel's monthly Christian Education meeting with Deacon Don
- Met with Jeff Branch, Director at Carroll Lutheran Village, along with Pastor Dot

Pastor Dot Reported:

- During the months of February thru April, I presided over 27 regular worship services, two Ash Wednesday Services. I missed 1 Sunday due to the emergency fly out to be with my Mother at the beginning of March. I also led three Midweek Lenten Prayer/Taize services. I had to cancel two services. One due to the emergency fly out to be with my Mother and the second, due to being in the hospital with a family as they moved through the dying process with their loved one. Taught a First Communion Class, presided over a First Communion Service and Blessing of a new Paschal Candle.
- Trying to work into this new role, as Senior Pastor of the Pastoral Team, I worked with the Team and churches to develop the Pastoral Rotation Schedule, collected information and assisted with 1099's and filing tax forms, assembled and reported Synodical Congregational Reports (and am still in this process with some congregations), setting up, combining, and cleaning up various visitation lists and separating out shut-ins from regular home visitations (with the help of various members of the congregations and Pastor Ellen), and other reports, inquiries, etc., as needed for the Parish and the congregations. Working with bulletins, newsletters, Monthly Update, working with everyone to set up Lenten, Holy Week
- Attended two Westminster Conference meetings, at least 2 meetings with the Bishop's staff, our own Pastoral Team meetings, Stephen Ministry meetings, 9 congregational council meetings, and at least 30 pastoral counseling (some by phone and some in person), 6 funerals/Memorial Services, 33 home communions with shut-ins, hospital visits, and many phone calls and emails. Attended the Synod Renewal of Vows Service.
- Supported Deacon Don and Pastor Ellen by attending a confirmation class, a few Youth activities, a Mario's Dinner, and assisting in a small part at a Mar-Lu-Ridge Chapel service. Met with Kelley and Pastor Norma for the Ukraine Parish Project.
- I know that there is more that I have done over the months of February and March but during my flight back from my emergency fly out to my Mother's, I lost my calendar book in one of the airports so do not have the total written report of activities.
- Looking ahead to streamlining some of the paperwork systems, computer systems, etc. Also, working with Pastor Ellen to set up a regular shut-in visitation schedule and then on to setting up a plan for reaching out to the community to grow our churches.
- The Lord has blessed us with His tremendous gift of love and renewal and with and through the gifts of each other. Even though we may struggle as we are forming this parish, I know the Holy Spirit is hard at work among us. Looking forward to serving on our continuing journey together as the Resurrection Lutheran Parish, our Pastoral Team, and the individual churches that make up this Parish.

Treasurer's Report, Ms. Mountcastle Reported:

- The PNC credit card was still open, will work on closing the card
- The Go Daddy! Account will be switched over to the new credit card

### **Committee Reports**

Parish Council, Ms. Caine Reported:

- The minutes from our January 25th meeting were approved. (in the 2023, Secretary, Minutes folder)
- Will be included in the April St. Paul's newsletter
- The treasurer report was approved. (in the 2023, Secretary, Minutes folder)
- Will be included in the April St. Paul's newsletter
- The pastors gave very substantial reports – please be assured that they are working hard for the parish and our church.
- The Call Committee reported that the 5 church councils all approved Pastor Dot, Pastor Ellen, and Deacon Don as the slate for the Parish Call. All congregations will vote on May 7th with either the Bishop or the Assistant to the Bishop. (details to come...) The congregations will vote on the team as a whole, not for individuals. Pastor Dot is considered the senior pastor, as she has been doing this the longest and has the most experience. She is ultimately the one person held responsible by the Bishop (and any law enforcement agencies) if there is a problem in the parish. The pastoral team is working on ironing out a list of responsibilities for each of the three pastoral team members that will be forwarded to each congregation. At this time, if you need anything, contact any of the three and they will be happy to help or point us in the correct direction. If any of the pastoral team members decide to leave, it would be handled as if a regular pastor left a church – an interim would be assigned and we would proceed like any other call to find a new pastor.
- We invited all of the parish churches to join St. Paul's at Hampstead Day. Whether they would like to participate in person, or just have information available for us to hand out is TBD. Mary would suggest that we send a parish-wide email (somehow?) to invite them again.
- As of right now, we are going to keep with a monthly parish newsletter email update, with the option to send out "emergency" emails, as needed. If you have thoughts/concerns please speak to Sandy or Mary.
- At our next meeting Pr Dot will present a draft 2024 budget. The draft budget will then be presented at the five church council's and any comments/changes will be brought back to the parish council meeting in July. A final budget will be available to the churches by September to allow time to work all numbers into our individual budgets.

Outreach, Ms. Lyons Reported:

- With the help of several youths, we delivered 80 Easter bags to the residents of Autumn Lake at Long View on Palm Sunday. We also brought them palms from our service which several residents commented on how much they appreciated those.
- Delivery of Tide pods was made to the Women's Housing Coalition. We were made aware of their Amazon Wish List-- mostly kitchenware.
- The weather kept us from opening the grill this month. I'll apply the expenses to May's report.

Flea Market, Ms. Lyons Reported:

- Our April 15th Flea Market was sold out! 84 vendors prepaid. (kept "2" spaces as security) 78 lawn spaces (\$1950.00) and 6 pavilion spaces (180.00)
- Out of those 84 vendors, only 27 showed up because of the bad weather. Apparently whoever made the effort sold very well! Susan found a couple new potential spaces in the lawn area. Will be asking Rachel to update our map.
- So far, our Flea Market has made \$9,930.00 this year!

Sunday School, Ms. Fleming reported:

- 5 students participated in the Easter egg hunt

Property Report, Ms. Fleming reported,

- The lock on the pavilion bulletin board has been replaced
- Looking into stripping the parking lot (both upper and lower lot) and interior painting (whole upstairs)

### **Old Business**

- Honorary tree dedication day

MOTION: to move forward with purchasing plaques in honor of Pastor Carl and memory of Pastor Mel for two trees in the park area, with a cap of \$1,000 by Ms. Caine. Motion seconded by Ms. Lyons. All in favor. Motion carried.

- Ukraine
- Housing has been found in Westminster for the family
- A report with information about the funds will be brought, monthly, to each congregations council
- Special meeting for calling the pastoral team
- Sunday May 7th
- Email has been sent to notify the congregation

## **New Business**

- Synod assembly
- June 9th and 10th, at Grace Lutheran Church in Westminster, MD
- Sandy Baber and Kelly Mountcastle will be attending as the St. Paul's representatives
- Envelopes
- Ordered 55 last year for \$129.13
- Will order 35 envelopes this year
- Encourage Tithely Online Giving with members
- Easter Breakfast Free Will Offering
- A basket was not out at the breakfast, an email will be sent out about donating. Funds will go to the MLR camp fund

## **Good of the Church**

- A discussion followed about the pastors involvement with confirmation classes
- The pastors will work on the pastoral rotation schedule to have Sunday's where the pastors can stay after church
- Orioles Game- looking into an event for the church/parish
- Resurrection Parish Council members will serve either a 2 or 3 year term, the next term will start in January 2025. The vote should occur at the November 2024 congregational meeting to replace the 2 year term council member

## **5/16/2023 Approved Council Meeting Minutes**

### **Reports**

Pastor's Report, Pastor Ellen Reported:

- Prepared sermons for, preached and presided at 8 worship services on 5 Sundays
- Led worship for Westminster Conf. of pastors at Trinity Lutheran Deer Park -- April 13
- Co-facilitating parish Bible study at St. Paul's on Women of the Bible – April 19, May 3 and 17, June 7 and 21
- Attended monthly Council meetings at
- Jerusalem
- St. Paul's
- St. Peter's
- Missed Immanuel's April Council meeting due to caring for my Mom
- Participated in 2 Confirmation classes at Immanuel led by Deacon Don Helfer
- Participated in 3 Immanuel Christian Education committee meetings
- Attended Stephen Ministry meeting facilitated by Connie Dattilio -- April 18
- Participated in Mental Health First Aid for Teens course at St. Paul's -- April 20 & 21
- Attended Lutheran Men's Dinner at Trinity Lutheran Deer Park -- April 24
- Attended Immanuel's Worship & Music Committee -- April 16
- Attended Parish Worship Planning Committee meeting – April 27
- Participated in weekly Scripture study zoom sessions with other clergy -- April 11, 18, 25, May 2 & 9.
- Enjoyed breakfast and fellowship at Immanuel's Community breakfast -- April 15
- Made 12 pastoral care visits with our homebound parish members, and those in care facilities. Made 20 pastoral phone calls – during period of April 11 – May 15
- Attended 2 clergy team staff meeting -- April 16 & 30
- Wrote pastoral message for May issue of Parish E-Newsletter, and helped prepare additional content
- Continuing to update the Parish Visitation List
- Assisting with Social Ministry's food distribution at Immanuel every Wednesday & attended Social Ministry meetings in April.
- Helped with apartment set up for the Ukrainian family, on Saturday -- April 29
- Attended Welcome Reception for the Ukrainian family on Sunday – May 14 Narrative
- There are so many exciting and new things going on within our Parish which are breathing life into our community of faith: The Ukrainian family has arrived and we welcomed them on May 14th; Nine of our young people are being confirmed on May 28th and June 4 th; participation in Hampstead Day on May 20 th; Vacation Bible School at Immanuel and St. Paul's on the July horizon.

Pastor Dot Reported:

- During the month of April through May, I presided over 9 regular worship services. Worked on Pastoral Rotation schedule, Parish budget for 2024, bulletins, newsletters, Monthly Update, and other administrative items as necessary or requested.
- Attended one Westminster Conference meetings, at least 3 meeting with the Bishop's staff, a Synod Shared Ministry Leadership Team meeting, own own Pastoral Team meeting, Stephen Ministry meeting, 5 congregational council meeting, Parish Worship Committee meetings, and 10 pastoral counseling (some by phone and some in person),

2 funerals/Memorial Services, 24 home communions with shut-ins, hospitals visits, and many phone calls and email. Attended the Mental Health First Aid for Teens at St. Paul's.

- Supported Deacon Don and Pastor Ellen by attending a confirmation class, a Youth activity, the Women of the Bible Study at St. Paul's, and welcomed Max, Siana, and Mira from Ukraine at their reception Meet and Greet.
- Still looking ahead at streamlining some of the paperwork systems, computer systems, etc. Also, working with Pastor Ellen to set up a regular shut-in visitation schedule and then on to setting up a plan for reaching out to the community to grow out churches
- Looking ahead to serving on our continuing journey together as the Resurrection Lutheran Parish, our Pastoral Team, and the individual churches that make up this Parish

President's Report, Ms. Fleming Reported:

- Attend youth mental health first aid class
- Opened special congregational meeting
- Attended VBS meeting
- Preparing for Hampstead Day

### **Committee Reports**

Music and Worship Committee, Ms. Caine Reported:

- Communication from this committee to individual congregations will be expedited by my notes that I will send for everyone to take along to their home church.
- Pastoral Rotation - The pastoral team is working to revamp the schedule (Again!) in an attempt to get all of the pastors to the places they need to be. The culmination of our confirmation classes has thrown a wrench into things, but the pastors are still doing their best to make the rounds!
- Review of Lenten Soup Suppers and Holy Week Services - Last minute choices were made concerning what was done at which church. Hopefully going forward, we will have better planning, and more time to do so. We will do a better job of advertising the options across the parish ahead of time! We will start planning next year's activities at our fall meeting, especially since Easter is early next year.
- Upcoming Fall Events:
- Reformation Sunday - October 29th. Carolyn Krause will have a hammer at St. Peter's and there will be an awesome spectacle.
- All Saints' Sunday - November 5th. What would your church like to do? Do you want candles as we did last year? Please find out from your individual church.
- Thanksgiving Eve Service - Wednesday, November 22 - We will plan to have a joint parish service again this year. St. Paul's hosted last year. Would any of the other churches care to host this year??
- Upcoming Advent Events:
- Changes to Sunday Services - removal of the Hymn of Praise (Check Sundays and Seasons)
- Christmas Sunday School Pageants -
- St. Paul's - 2nd Sunday
- Immanuel - 3rd Sunday
- Blessing of Trees - Immanuel - 2nd Sunday
- Would anyone like to do a Christmas in a Barn Service?
- Thursday, December 21 - Blue Christmas Service at Jerusalem
- Christmas Eve Services - Sunday December 24th. We will have regular morning services (4th Sunday in Advent)
- What Afternoon/Evening Church Services would your congregation like to have?
- It was unanimously decided that no congregations would like to have Christmas Day Services.
- There will be an Installation of the Pastors' Service some time in the near future, and it will be held as a joint Resurrection Parish Service at a neutral location. Details TBD.
- Our next meeting will be June 29th at 7pm at St. Paul's

Outreach, Ms. Lyons Reported:

- Our 2nd delivery of teddy bears was made to the Sheriff's office on May 1st. Carson Fogerty is our contact person. Susan is checking with the Hampstead Fire Dept. to see if their supply needs to be replenished.
- We are again supporting the Alpha Pregnancy center in Reisterstown. Baby bottles are in the narthex if you would like to participate in this program by making a donation. The money collected will be used for counseling, medical supplies, formula, diapers, toys, etc. Bottles are due back on Father's Day, June 18th.

Flea Market, Ms. Lyons Reported:

- So far, our Flea Market has made \$10,505.00 this year!

Sunday School, Ms. Fleming reported:

- End of year picnic/Confirmation celebration is June 4 directly following service

Property Report, Ms. Fleming reported:

- Parking lot striping done
- Alarm system registration was updated with Baltimore county
- Carol Hunt removed as alarm contact, would like another to be added
- Added a few members to the list to be in contact when there are problems with the alarm at church
- Been watering the new trees, all look good
- Trimmed some trees on park property

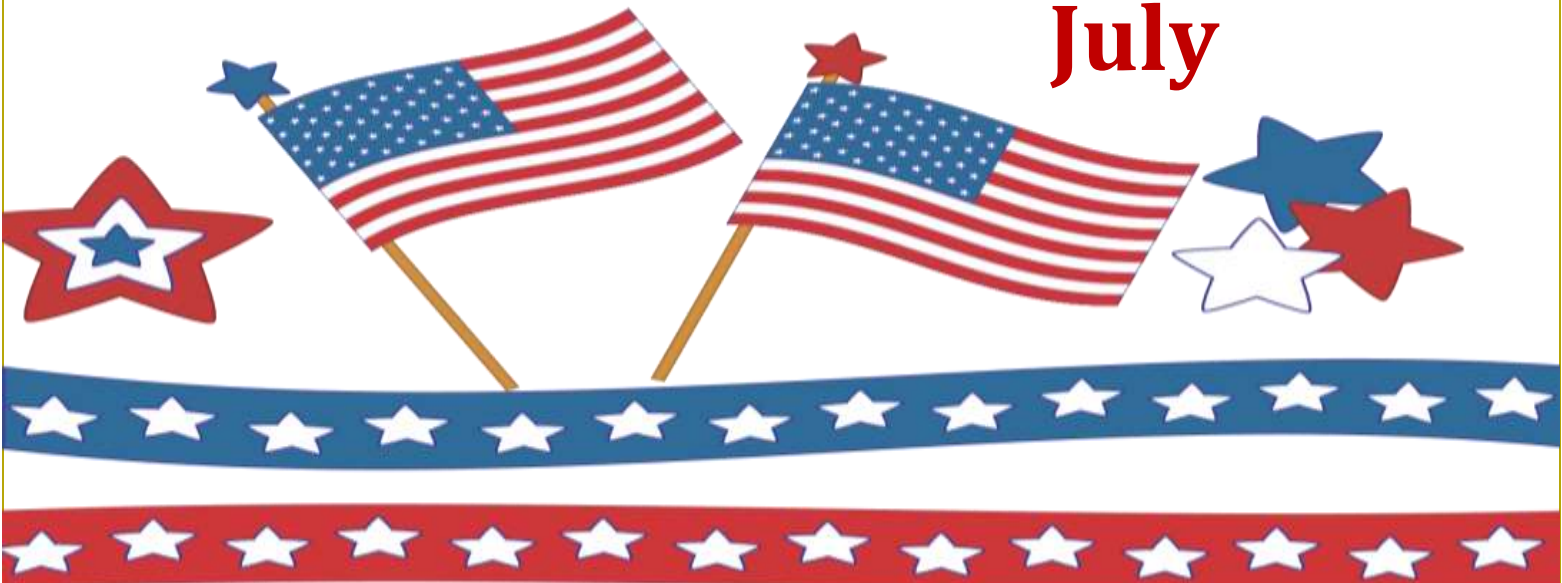
#### **Old Business**

- Memorial tree dedication day
- Investing Bare funds
- Will look into the budget to see what budgeted items can be used with the funds
- Tree plaque
- After a discussion about the quotes, the topic has been tabled until next month's meeting

#### **New Business**

- Donation from Pastor Mel estate
- There was no designation for the funds
- It was suggested that some of the funds be designate to the SPY account and the Hoffman scholarship fund
- Hampstead Day
- The church will have a table with flyers and coloring pages

# July







SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9am – Worship Food Collection						St. Abrahams Community Picnic 4pm - 8pm
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
9am – Worship 2nd Offering - Immanuel Food Pantry VBS at Immanuel 5:30-8pm	 VBS at Immanuel 5:30-8pm	 VBS at Immanuel 5:30-8pm	 VBS at Immanuel 5:30-8pm	 VBS at Immanuel 5:30-8pm	 Youth Fishing & Kickball Tournament at Mary's farm	 Flea Market – 8:00
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9am – Worship	 VBS at St Paul's 9am-12pm	 VBS at St Paul's 9am-12pm 7pm – Council Mtg	 VBS at St Paul's 9am-12pm	 VBS at St Paul's 9am-12pm	 VBS at St Paul's 9am-12pm	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
9am – Worship						
30	31					
9am – Worship						





# August

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
	6	7	8	9	10	11
9am – Worship Food Collection						 Fishing & Kickball Tournament at Mary's farm
	13	14	15	16		18
9am – Worship 2nd Offering-Carroll Lutheran Village		 7pm – SPC Council Meeting				 Flea Market – 8:00am
	20	21	22	23		25
9am – Worship						 SPC BINGO Doors Open 4pm & 5pm BINGO Begins!
	27	28	29	30		
9am – Worship		 Table of Grace at Immanuel				

# ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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


[www.StPaulsUpperco.org](http://www.StPaulsUpperco.org)

410-239-3456

Pastors: The Rev. Dot Lundgren  
The Rev. Ellen Lichtfuss  
Deacon Don Helfer

Office: [office@stpaulsupperco.org](mailto:office@stpaulsupperco.org)



Council Directory			Council Committee Representatives	
PRESIDENT	Susan Fleming		CEMETERY	Maidie Brown
VICE PRESIDENT	Rachel Murphy		CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	Susan Fleming
SECRETARY	Madison Baber		EVANGELISM/ FELLOWSHIP	Colleen Geldmacher
TREASURER	Kelly Mountcastle		FINANCE	Madison Baber
MEMBER	Mary Caine		FINANCIAL SECRETARY	Charles Baber
MEMBER	Carol Lewis		FLEA MARKET	Suzi Lyons
MEMBER	Suzi Lyons		HISTORIANS	Susan Fleming
MEMBER	Bob Knight		HOSPITALITY	Susan Fleming
MEMBER	Colleen Geldmacher	MUSIC & WORSHIP	Mary Caine	
		OUTREACH	Suzi Lyons	
		PARK	Bob Knight	
		PROPERTY	Susan Fleming	
		SHEPHERDS	Rachel Murphy	
		STEWARDSHIP	Brad Mountcastle	
		YOUTH/CHRISTIAN ED	Mary Caine	
			Madison Baber	
			Rachel Murphy	