



# SAINT PAUL'S VOICE

## January & February 2024

Volume 7, Number 1

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## “From the Pastor”

*“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth... God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.”* Genesis 1:1; 1:31.

As I am sitting at my desk looking out the window at the snow still falling outside and covering everything in a blanket of white, I can see the goodness that God created. Everywhere I look, it is filled with the bright light of snow as it piles up on all the trees, cars, parking lots, and rooftops. It is beautiful. It is also truly amazing to me how God’s creation still works even though we know it has been changed by our neglect sometimes as we have been living in it.

If you read the first chapter of Genesis, it tells the story of how much delight God has in what God created. All that God formed is meant to bring forth life and the life it brings forth is the joy and the light of the world that we were created and formed to live within. God declared it good! Just as God declares each of us good as we are welcomed into this light at our birth. But as our world continues on into brokenness, and our lives overwhelm us at times, it is hard to hold on to or even see that light. This is the amazing thing about the time in the church year called Epiphany! It reminds us that the light, God’s light, is still there and we still matter.

I want to share with you a reading, a poem really, a resource called “How does a weary world rejoice?” from Sanctified Art. It is called “The Bravest Thing We Can Do” and is written by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed.








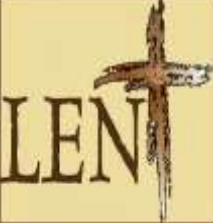


*“ Trust your belovedness. Let it be a protest, an act of resistance, a song of celebration. Trust your belovedness in a world that is rarely satisfied. Wear it like a badge of honor. Speak it as confidently as your last name. Tattoo it to your heart. When outside forces chip asway at your sense of self, when life asks you to hand over the keys, remember the water. Remember creation. Remember how it was good, so very good. Let that truth hum through your veins. Sing it so loud that it drowns out the weariness of the world, for the bravest thing we can ever do is trust that we belong.”*

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This time after Epiphany and before Lent begins is a time for us to remember that God created good and that includes us. Seek the light of Christ in the midst of the weariness. Hold on to the memory that we were created for good and the hope that can bring. Share the hope of that light with others. Because, no matter what, we are loved.

Blessings,  
Pastor Dot

# Church News

 <p><b><u>Church Services</u></b> Church Services are held on Sundays at 9am. Please join us for Worship Services online on <a href="#">YouTube</a> Sunday mornings.</p>	 <p><b><u>Sunday School</u></b> Children will be attending Sunday School during the worship. Come out and join us!</p>
 <p><b><u>Bible Study</u></b> Bible Study is held at St Paul's at 7:00pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday's of the month. All are welcome to join us!</p>	 <p><b><u>Shrove Tuesday and Pancake Supper, Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup></u></b> Please come join us for a pancake supper at 6pm. All are welcome! Bring your friends and family.</p>
 <p><b><u>Youth Group</u></b> Come join us on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday evening each month at Immanuel Church. Come join us on January 12<sup>th</sup> and February 9<sup>th</sup> for food, fun and fellowship.</p>	 <p><b><u>Ash Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup></u></b> 3:00-5:00pm Drive-Through Ash Wednesday 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service</p>
 <p><b><u>Prayer Ministry Meeting</u></b> The prayer ministry team will meet on January 11<sup>th</sup> and February 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.</p>	 <p><b><u>Lenten Soup and Services</u></b> February 21<sup>st</sup> at 6pm – St Paul's February 28<sup>th</sup> – Immanuel, noon &amp; 6pm March 6<sup>th</sup> – St Abrahams at 6pm March 13<sup>th</sup> - St. Peter's at 6pm March 20<sup>th</sup> - Jerusalem at 6pm</p>
 <p><b><u>Council Meetings</u></b> The upcoming council meetings are January 16<sup>th</sup> and February 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. Please give any topics for discussion to a Council member before these dates.</p>	 <p><b><u>Snow Tubing at Ski Liberty</u></b> Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup> – Youtherans, please let Deacon Don know if you are interested in going.</p>

# Mario's Italian Restaurant

Save the Date!

Mario's Italian Restaurant will be on Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup> from 5-7 pm.

**Menu will include:** Spaghetti with homemade marinara or meat sauce, Baked Ziti, Salad bar, Bread, Drinks, and Dessert.

Your freewill offering will benefit the youth programs of St Paul's.



# 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**

Held during the service, from after the children's message to start of communion

## Those in Need of Prayer

### **Members:**

Calvin Armacost, Maidie Brown, Vivian Chenoweth, Carolyn Eichler, Carliana Folfas, Shriver Foster, Andy Geldmacher, Hannah Hilgartner, Denise Holtz, Glenys Hunt, Nadine McGee, Bob & Gerri Martin, Robert and Pastor Ellen Lichtfuss and family, and all homebound members.

### **Family & Friends:**

Alicia Minor, Ms. Heather, Ashlee Kopp, Andrea & Cotey Kopp, Jerry & Jan Herfurth, Linda Nunan & family, Debb Webb, Pat & Ron Webb, Bernie and Chris Harmon, Karyn Carpenter, Holly Hudson, Brandi Bubczyk, Rosemary Johnson, Rick Schaefer, Nancy Rose, Ed Burnham, Teri Geppi, Emily Burnham, Randy Brown, Steve Daugherty, Dustin Leer, Jennifer Monroe, Tony Black, Jennifer Black, Tim Black, Greg Horner, Kevin Murphy, Carol Kahlert, Kinleigh Connelly, Geraldine Lewis, Mary Manning, Becki Long, Todd Smith, Thad Martin, Alex Guggenheim, Matthew Jones, Pam Reed & family, Butch Morganster, Deacon Charlie Barnhart, Carol Miller, Reagan Row, those facing job loss, and those in broken relationships.

**PRAYER:** Gracious God, the strength of the weak and comfort of all who suffer, hear pleas for help for all who reach out in need. Especially I pray on behalf of those I lift up for your life-giving strength and comforting grace. In the name of Jesus, my Lord. AMEN.

## Celebrations!

### **JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

5 Christian Neuheisel  
7 Ashley Mountcastle  
8 Laura Grabowski  
21 Felicity Meadowcroft  
30 Mary Graff

### **JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES**

9 Rick & Meg Jones



### **FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

2 Suzi Lyons  
2 Rob Holtz  
4 Maidie Brown  
8 Calvin Armacost  
9 Derek Dubois  
12 Matthew Jones  
14 Pat Graff

### **FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES**

14 Bob & Gerri Martin

# Celebrating Baptism



During Fellowship on December 10<sup>th</sup>, we celebrated Sophia's Baptism and welcomed her and Jen to St Paul's.

*Welcome!*



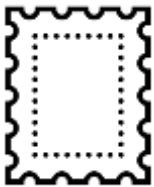
# Outreach



Leon and Ray are our outstanding cooks at each monthly Flea Market held April through October. This season was extremely successful and most months sold out of vendor spaces! (All 87 of them!!) If you'd like to volunteer to help out with the Flea Market or with our food grill, please contact Suzi Lyons.

Thank you to everyone who participated in our 2023 adopted family and vets program. Our congregation is extremely generous and we are truly appreciated by the

families and veterans. Blessings to all!



Please remember to save your cancelled stamps from all your mail for St. Paul's. We have an ongoing collection for The Brethren Home Community in New Oxford, PA. Any questions, please contact Suzi.

# Online Giving

We have an easy way for you to give to St Paul's!

Our Tithe.ly account was set up during COVID to allow giving when we were not together, and we have continued with our account for easy giving at your convenience. You can set up weekly giving or give at your discretion. You will receive a yearly statement for your giving.



Thank you to those that use Tithe.ly!

If you cannot be with us each week, please consider using Tithe.ly. There are multiple giving types: Current, Benevolence, Building, Second offering of the month, Abiding Memorial, etc... If you are not comfortable using an online site, please mail your offering.

Click here: [Donate online via Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly)

Send offering by mail: 15773 Dover Road, Upperco, MD 21155



# Mar-Lu-Ridge

## Summer camp registration is now open & St Paul's has scholarships available for our youth!

Contact Council President Leon Fleming for more information on scholarships.



Mar-Lu-Ridge Summer Camp 2024 Registration is NOW OPEN!

View our [schedule](#)

Register [online](#)

Mar-Lu-Ridge is committed to inclusion and welcomes ALL people into community at camp.  
See you this summer

## Parish Youth Events

### Youth Group Night at Immanuel

Everyone, of all ages, is welcome to join us for any activity or event!

Youth Group Night is 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.

### Our 'New' Teen Ministry Group 'Youtherans'

Our 'new' teen ministry group, the 'Youtherans', will meet each 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at St Paul's Church from 1:00pm to 2:30pm. Each month we will do fun and interesting events.

Please contact Deacon Don at [ksgfarmer@yahoo.com](mailto:ksgfarmer@yahoo.com) for more information or to request to be put on the mailing list.



# Synod High School Youth Event (formally RoadTrip)



**Save the date!** The Synod's High School Youth weekend retreat will be held February 9-11, 2024. This was formerly known as RoadTrip and is now a DE/MD Synod and Metro DC Synod joint event. This year's event will be held at the Potomac Park Retreat & Conference Center in Falling Water, WV.

**JUST ANNOUNCED!** Lutheran singer and songwriter Rachel Kurtz will be at the event to lead us in music! Some of us have seen Rachel in the past - she is awesome!!! You can learn more about Rachel and her music here: <https://www.rachelkurtz.com/about>

The retreat is for youth in grades 9 - 12. This is a small group centered event, where high school youth will be grouped with other youth of the same age/grade. In addition to the small groups, large group gatherings will introduce the theme through worship and music; games will help form the weekend's community; and service projects will invite youth to apply what they're learning to hands-on service. There are also workshops for adult participants.

Cost is \$200 per person which includes program, lodging, meals, activities, and a t-shirt!

## 2024 Youth Gathering

St Paul's has 8 youth and 4 adults attending the Youth Gathering in New Orleans  
July 15-20, 2024!

Two of the youth are tagalongs from other congregations and are excited to join us! There is still opportunity for any youth currently in 8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade to register. Please let Sandy know by February 1<sup>st</sup>.

Our time in New Orleans will be spent with thousands of other youth and their adult leaders in interactive learning, Synod time, Community service, fellowship, music, and FUN! We will fly to New Orleans the afternoon of July 15<sup>th</sup> and return late evening July 20<sup>th</sup>. We will have time to do sightseeing while in New Orleans and enjoy the Louisiana cuisine. Thank you for your continued support of our youth!



# Christmas Pageant Memories

On December 17<sup>th</sup>, our youth put on the Christmas Pageant. Thanks to all who participated and coordinated this special tradition.



# Installation of Council Members

On November 26, 2023, the new Council was celebrated New Year's style!



# Council Meeting Highlights

## St. Paul's Lutheran Church Council Workshop

01/06/2024 @ 9:00am

**Attendees:** Leon Fleming, Susan Fleming, Carol Lewis, Pastor Dot, Pastor Ellen, Deacon Don, Colleen Geldmacher, Tom Battillo, Laura Grabowski, Kelly Mountcastle

### Church Goals:

1. Strengthen our relationship with the other parish churches
2. Continue fundraising and planning Youth Events
3. Expand our community presence and awareness (CPR/AED, First aid classes, Signage)
4. Have our family return to in-person worship

### Council Member Assignments:

- Christian Education - Madison Baber
- Evangelism/Fellowship - Colleen Geldmacher
- Finance - Kelly Mountcastle
- Financial Secretary - Charles Baber
- Flea Market - Suzi Lyons
- Historian - Carol Lewis
- Hospitality - Susan Fleming
- Music & Worship - Mary Caine
- Outreach - Suzi Lyons
- Park - Bob Knight/Wade Hilgartner
- Property - Leon Fleming
- Shepherds - Rachel Murphy
- Stewardship - Mary Caine/ Carol Lewis
- Youth Christian Ed - Madison Baber & Rachel Murphy
- Parish Council Reps - Mary Caine & Sandy Baber
- Parish Worship and Music Reps - Mary Caine & Susan Fleming
- Mutual Ministry - Kelly Mountcastle

### Non-Council Assignments:

- Cemetery - Maidie Brown
- Newsletter - Lori Teitelbaum
- Shepherds - Laura Grabowski
- Audit - Charles Baber, Kelly Mountcastle, Colleen Geldmacher



### **Established Calendar Dates:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Youth Sunday & Food Collection & Bring a Friend
  - Continue to mention the monthly food collection items in the bulletin
  - Actively invite a friend to attend church!
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday – Second Offering & Fellowship immediately after Church Services
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 7:00pm – Council Meetings
  - Via Zoom and in-person
- Every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday @ 7:00pm Bible Study
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays @ 6:00am – 2:00pm - Flea Market
  - Dates: April 20, May 18, June 15, July 20, August 17, September 21, October 19
  - \$25.00 Lawn Spaces benefit Current Expenses; \$30.00 Pavilion Spaces benefit the Park Upkeep Fund
  - Coffee Sales benefit Current Expenses
  - Food Grill Sales benefit the Outreach Fund
- Sunday School
  - Every Sunday during Worship Service
  - 2nd Sunday/Fellowship - Preparing craft for shut-ins and fellowship
- Wednesdays from 8:00am – 12:00pm – Immanuel Food Pantry volunteers needed

### **Ash Wednesday & Lenten Envelopes:**

- Mar-lu-Ridge Scholarship at Mar-Lu-Ridge & St. Paul's Church (50/50)

### **Christmas Envelopes:**

- Benevolence

### **Second Offering Donations go to:**

- 1/12 – ELCA Disaster Relief
- 2/9 – With Open Arms, Capital Campaign for Mar-Lu-Ridge
- 3/9 – Hampstead Little Free Pantry
- 4/13 – First Fruits Farm
- 5/11 – Carroll Lutheran School
- 6/8 – Vacation Bible School
- 7/13 – Immanuel Food Pantry
- 8/10 – Carroll Lutheran Village, designated to Resident Assistance
- 9/14 – With Open Arms, Capital Campaign for Mar-Lu-Ridge
- 10/12 – Union Seminary Students
- 11/9 – Farmers & Hunters Feeding the Hungry
- 12/14 – Carroll Hospice
- 1/12/25 – ELCA Disaster Relief

# Tentative 2024 Schedule

## January

- 3 - Bible Study
- 6 @ 9:00am - Annual Planning Meeting
- 7 – Youth Sunday & Food Collection & Bring a Friend
- 11 - Prayer Group
- 14 - Second Offering & Fellowship
- 14 @ 1:00pm - Mutual Ministry, at St. Paul's
- 16 @ 7:00 pm – Council Meeting
- 17 - Bible Study
- 18 @ 7:00pm - Parish Worship and Music, at St. Peter's
- 21 @ 1:00pm - Youtherns
- 24 - Joint Council Meeting, at Jerusalem
- 30 - Table of Grace Westminster

## February

- 4 – Youth Sunday & Food Collection & Bring a Friend
- 4 @ 1:00pm - Youtherns
- 5 @ 2:00pm - Worship and Music
- 7 - Bible Study
- 8 - Prayer Group
- 9-11 - High School Weekend Synod Retreat (formerly "Roadtrip"), West Virginia
- 11 – Second Offering & Fellowship/ Souper Bowl skit
- 14 from 3-5:00pm - Drive-Through Ash Wednesday
- 13 @ 6:00pm – Shrove Tuesday & Pancake Supper
- 14 @ 7:00pm – Ash Wednesday Service at St. Paul's
- 20 @ 7:00pm – Council Meeting
- 21 - Soup Supper at St. Paul's
- 25 - Youtherns - Snow Tubing at Ski Liberty
- 28 - Soup Supper at Immanuel 12:00 and 6:00pm

## March

- 3 - Youth Sunday & Food Collection & Bring a Friend
- 6 @ 6:00pm - Soup Supper St. Abrahams
- 9 - 10 - Synod Seekers, grade 3-5, Mar-Lu-Ridge
- 10 - Second offering/fellowship
- 13 @ 6:00pm - Soup Supper St. Peter's
- 14 - Prayer Group
- 16 – Mario's Dinner to benefit the Youth
- 19 - Council meeting
- 20 @ 6:00pm - Soup Supper Jerusalem
- ? – Snow Date for Mario's
- ? – Mar-Lu-Ridge Family Retreat
- 24 - Palm Sunday - Outreach to deliver bags and palms to Autumn Lake Nursing Home
- 28 @ 6:00pm - Maundy Thursday supper and service at St. Paul's

- Good Friday services offered at Immanuel, St. Abrahams, and Jerusalem
- 31 @ 6:30am - Easter sunrise St. Paul's

## April

- 3 - Bible Study
- 7 – Youth Sunday and Food Collection & Bring a Friend
- 7 – Easter Celebration
  - Sunday School Easter Program, Breakfast & Egg Hunt
- 7 @ 1:00pm - Youtherns
- 11 - Prayer Group
- 12 - 14 - Middle School Leadership Retreat, Mar-Lu-Ridge
- 14 – Second Offering
- 16 @ 7:00pm – Council Meeting
- 17 - Bible Study
- 20 – Flea Market
- 21 @ 1:00pm - Youtherns
- 22 @ 6:30pm- Mens' Dinner @ Carroll Lutheran Village
- 28 @ 1:00pm - A Puzzling Event & Bake Sale (Open to Parish)

## May

- 1 - Bible Study
- 5 – Youth Sunday & Food Collection & Bring a Friend
- 5 @ 1:00pm - Youtherns
- 9 - Prayer Group
- 12 – Second Offering & Fellowship
- 12 – Mothers' Day ~ Distribute Alpha Pregnancy Baby Bottles
- 15 - Bible Study
- 18 – Flea Market
- 18 – Hampstead Day Table, Parish Invitation
- 19 @ 3:00pm - Choir-Palooza, Carroll Lutheran Village take the Youtherns
- 21 @ 7:00pm – Council Meeting
- 30 - Table of Grace Westminster

## June

- 2 – Youth Sunday & Food Collection & Bring a Friend
- 2 @ 1:00pm - Youtherns
- 18 – Hampstead Day, Parish Invitation
- 5 - Bible Study
- 7 & 8 - Synod Assembly, at Grace Lutheran, Westminster
- 9 – Bible Buck Boutique/EOY Sunday School Picnic at St. Paul's Pavilion
- 9 – Second Offering
- 13 - Prayer Group
- 15 – Flea Market
- 16 @ 1:00pm - Youtherns
- 16 – Fathers' Day ~ Collect the Alpha Pregnancy Baby Bottles
- 18 @ 7:00pm – Council Meeting

- 19 - Bible Study

## July

- 3 - Bible Study
- 7 – Food Collection
- 11 - Prayer group
- 14 – Second Offering
- 7 - 11 – VBS at Immanuel
- 16-20 - ELCA Youth Gathering, New Orleans
- 16 @ 7:00pm – Council Meeting
- 17 - Bible Study
- 20 – Flea Market
- 22-26 – VBS at St. Paul’s
- 30 - Table of Grace Westminster

## August

- ? - VBS at St. Abraham’s
- 4 – Food Collection
- 7 - Bible Study
- 8 - Prayer group
- 11 – Second Offering
- 17 – Flea Market
- 20 @ 7:00pm – Council Meeting
- 21 - Bible Study

## September

- Parish Confirmation Classes begin for eligible youth
- 1 – Food Collection
- 4 - Bible Study
- 8 – Second Offering
- 8 – Rally Day and Potluck luncheon
- 12 - Prayer Group
- 15 - First day of Sunday school
- 15 @ 1:00pm - Youtherns
- 17 @ 7:00pm – Council Meeting
- 18 - Bible Study
- 21– Flea Market
- 28 – BINGO at St. Paul’s Pavilion
  - Noon Set-up; 3:00pm Doors Open & 4:00pm BINGO Begins!
  - Food Donations to Immanuel Food Pantry

## October

- 2 - Bible Study
- ? - Mar-Lu-Ridge Retreat, Parish Event
- 5 - BINGO Rain Date
- 6 – Youth Sunday & Food Collection & Bring a Friend



- 6 @ 1:00pm - Youtherns
- 10 - Prayer Group
- 13 – Second Offering & Fellowship & Harvest Home Sunday
- 15 @ 7:00pm – Council Meeting
- 16 - Bible Study
- 19 – Flea Market
- 20 @ 1:00pm - Youtherns
- 27 @11am – Trunk-or-Treat, Parish Event & Pizza Party
- 29 - Table of Grace Westminster

## **November**

- 3 – Youth Sunday & Food Collection & Bring a Friend
- 3 - All Saints Sunday
- 3 @ 1:00 - Youtherns
- 6 - Bible Study
- 10 – Congregational Meeting & Second Offering & Fellowship
- 14 - Prayer Group
- 17 – Installation of Council Members
- 17 @ 1:00pm - Youtherns
- 17 - Christmas Wishes on the Tree
- 19 @ 7:00pm – Council Meeting
- 24 - Decorate the church for Christmas after the church service
- 27 - Thanksgiving Eve Service, Parish Event, location TBA

## **December**

- 1 – Advent begins
- 1 – Youth Sunday & Food Collection & Bring a Friend
- 4 - Bible study
- 8 - Second Offering
- 8 – Christmas Wishes are due back for our adopted families
- 12 - Prayer group
- 15 - Fellowship
- 15 – Christmas Program
- 17 @ 7:00pm – Council Meeting
- 18 - Bible Study
- 22 @ 2:00 – Christmas Caroling & 5:00pm Potluck
- 24<sup>th</sup> @ 4:00pm – Christmas Eve Services
- 24<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00pm - St. Abraham's

## Highlights from the October 17, 2023 Council Meeting

Reports:

Pastor's Report, Pastor Ellen Reported:

- Pastor Dot and I continue to make regular pastoral care visits and calls to those on our parish visitation list. Deacon Don makes visits also when he has time. I visited 8 homebound and 1 hospitalized parishioner since September 19, and made 20 pastoral phone calls. All visits included communion and prayer.
- Pastor Dot, Deacon Don, and I continue to have regular staff meetings. They are now weekly on Mondays at 6:30 pm at Carroll Lutheran Village. I remain active with the weekly food pantry and distribution on Wednesday mornings at Immanuel, a subgroup of their Social Ministry Committee. We are also helping a woman and her son who were previously on the streets to get set up in their apartment in Manchester with used furniture, and other household items.
- Attending as many of the 5 congregation's Council meetings as I am available for. I attended the Christian Education meeting at Immanuel in October.
- Had a good women's retreat at MLR on Saturday, October 14. 20 participants from Grace Lutheran and Immanuel Lutheran. Theme was Sabbath rest, and holy leisure.
- Immanuel women are already talking about wanting to start a parish women's group, similar to the 'Holy Girlfriends' group at Grace which sponsored the retreat. Talking to Debbie Mace about it. She is keen to get something started. More news to follow on that once I meet with Debbie.
- Parish Bible study continues to go well, I think. Our new study is on Genesis, using the Book of Faith Series by Augsburg Fortress. We usually have anywhere from 8 to 12 participants. Continue to meet on 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 7pm here at St. Paul's. All are welcome. Come when you can.
- Saturday evening worship service was "resurrected" at Immanuel on September 23. It is the 4th Saturday evening of the month. These are open to the parish, and I encourage you to come. We had 16 people attend. Saturday evening services have a meditative, intimate, and ethereal feel to them.
- Pastor Dot and I participated in a DE-MD synod sponsored webinar for Women in Ministry with Dr. Crystal Hall, former New Testament professor at United Lutheran Seminary. It was a 4-week webinar during September.
- Pickleball group ministry, still in the works. Rachel got some information for me and a contact for the North Carroll Middle School PB indoor court, but haven't contacted him yet. No one under 18 allowed to play. My idea is that it could be an intergenerational sport ministry, meaning we want to include and encourage youth to participate, if they are interested.
- Monthly pastoral counseling meeting with a young Israeli American woman recovering from an eating disorder. She feels overwhelmed by a number of things in her life, most recently, the Israeli / Gaza conflict. Her dietician and therapist are maintaining frequent contact with her, and she said this is helping. She is a spiritual person and has a lot to share about what she's been through. I am working on writing a book. And would welcome the opportunity to speak to a group of people also. Could we invite her to speak to the parish or the congregations?
- Went on a one-week cruise (Sept 24-30) with a friend I've had since childhood, Andrea Pritts, who is a Methodist pastor in Ohio. She turned 60 in September and "insisted" that I go on a cruise with her to celebrate! How could I say No?!

Pastor Dot Reported:

- During the month of September 13-October 10, I presided over 7 regular worship services and 1 Saturday Night Service. Attended 4 Council Meetings, 3 Staff Meetings, 1 Stephen Ministry meeting, 4 online sessions for continuing education, 2 of the Parish Women's Bible Studies.
- Assisted with bulletins, and worship music CD prep, attended and helped serve at 1 Community Breakfast.
- Had 5 pastoral counseling (some in person and some by phone). Attended two funeral visitations, presided at 2 funerals, 12 home communions, 2 hospital visits, 2 Hospice visits, and many hours of phone calls, texts, and emails.
- Oh, yes, and we were Installed!

President's Report, Ms. Fleming Reported:

- No report to share, away for the month

Treasurer's Report, Ms. Mountcastle Reported:

- Cleaning Company- has not been here to clean at the church for September, therefore has not picked up her check for the month. Ms. Lyons will contact her to check in about cleaning
- Mailbox Checking- two invoices were not paid on time, making sure that the mail is checked weekly

Committee Reports

Parish Council, Ms. Caine Reported:

- Caroling Event has been opened up to the parish
- Will work this year on making joint Lent Soup Suppers dinners and services

Outreach, Ms. Lyons Reported:

- St. Paul's has adopted 15 children through the Salvation Army Christmas Angels, any gifts not picked up by members will be covered by Outreach
- Thank you to everyone who has helped in our food grill this season. This is our only fund raiser for Outreach projects, so your help is needed and very much appreciated!
- September 16:
- Income. - \$633.00
- Expenses. - 202.95
- Net Profit - \$430.05

Flea Market, Ms. Lyons Reported:

- Our final Flea Market for this season is October 21st. By the first week of October, we were completely sold out of vendor spaces. Since then, we've had a couple cancellations so we've been able to sell those spots a 2nd time! All 6 pavilion spaces are filled (\$180.00) and 82 lawn spaces were sold (\$2050.00). Total for 2023 - \$15,220.00
- Thank you to everyone who helps with the Flea Market. It has grown tremendously over the years, so it takes a lot of people to make it work smoothly.

Property, Ms. Fleming Reported:

- Working on fixing the sign spotlight along 30
- Ordered an American flag for pavillion

Old Business

- Upstairs bathroom project
- The project will be presented to the Council on the Congregational Meeting
- Mr. Knight will gather the price information to add to the proposal
- Pastor Mel's Donation- \$25,000
- Split the donation between

- \$5,000 each to Youth Events, Special Events, MLR Retreat
- \$2,500 each to MLR Summer Camp Scholarship (budgeted line item), Good Sam, Abiding Memories, Hoffman Scholarship

#### New Business

- Nominations
- Mary Caine (second term) and Wade Hilgartner (first term) will come onto council
- Still looking for a president
- Discussion followed about adding a youth member to council
- In the future we will look at the bylaws about changing the number of council members, the years required for each term, and removing the same household stipulation
- Budget- Charles Baber
- Shared a balanced budget with the council and answered questions regarding the budget
- Will look into a few line items to make sure that amounts are correct, MOTION has been put on hold to approve the budget
- Office computer

MOTION: to approve the spending for a new office laptop and assorted software to not exceed \$1,000 unless with further approval, by Ms. Caine. Seconded by Ms. Knight. All in favor. Motion carried.






#### Good of the Church

- Sarah Lefler, executive director of Mar-Lu-Ridge, will be coming to the Joint Council Meeting to talk about the parish supporting MLR for their Capital Campaign. A video will be set out to the council





# January

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3  Bible Study – 7:00pm	4	5	6
7 9am – Worship & Sunday School Food Collection Invite a Friend	8	9	10	11  Prayer Ministry Meeting – 7:00pm	12  Youth Group	13 Jerusalem Folk Service – 5:00pm
14 9am – Worship & Sunday School 2nd Offering - ELCA Disaster Relief	15	16  Church Council – 7:00pm	17  Bible Study – 7:00pm	18 7:00pm - Parish Worship and Music, at St. Peter's	19	20 Community Country Breakfast @ Immanuel – 7:00am
21 9am – Worship & Sunday School Fellowship 1pm - Youtherans Youth Group	22	23	24	25	26	27 Immanuel short traditional service - 5pm
28 9am – Worship & Sunday School	29	30	31			



# February

SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
								1			2		3
	4		5		6		7		8		9		10
9am – Worship & Sunday School <i>Food Collection</i> <i>Invite a Friend</i>  1pm - Youtherans Youth Group						 Bible Study – 7:00pm		 Prayer Ministry Meeting – 7:00pm		 Youth Group 6:30pm		Jerusalem Folk Service – 5:00pm	
	11		12		13		14		15		16		17
9am – Worship & Souper Bowl skit <i>Fellowship</i> <i>2nd Offering - Capital Campaign for MLR</i>				6:00pm – Shrove Tuesday & Pancake Supper		3:00-5:00pm - Drive-Through Ash Wednesday  7:00pm – Ash Wednesday Service							
	18		19		20		21		22		23		24
9am – Worship & Sunday School				 Council Meeting 7:00pm		6:00pm – Lent Soup Supper & Service at St. Paul's						Immanuel short traditional service - 5pm	
	25		26		27		28		29				
9am – Worship  1pm - Youtherans Snow Tubing at Ski Liberty						Lent Soup Supper & Service at Immanuel 12:00 & 6:00pm							



# 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

PRESIDENT	LeonFleming
VICE PRESIDENT	Mary Caine
SECRETARY	Madison Baber
TREASURER	Kelly Mountcastle
MEMBER	Wade Hilgartner
MEMBER	Carol Lewis
MEMBER	Suzi Lyons
MEMBER	Bob Knight
MEMBER	Colleen Geldmacher



## Council Committee Representatives

CEMETERY	Maddie Brown
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	Madison Baber
EVANGELISM/ FELLOWSHIP	Colleen Geldmacher
FINANCE	Kelly Mountcastle
FINANCIAL SECRETARY	Charles Baber
FLEA MARKET	Suzi Lyons
HISTORIANS	Carol Lewis
HOSPITALITY	Leon Fleming
MUSIC & WORSHIP	Mary Caine
OUTREACH	Suzi Lyons
PARK	Bob Knight Wade Hilgartner
PARISH COUNCIL	Mary Caine Sandy Baber
PROPERTY	Bob Knight Wade Hilgartner
SHEPHERDS	Laura Grabowski Mary Caine
STEWARDSHIP	Carol Lewis Pastor Dot
YOUTH/CHRISTIAN ED	Madison Baber