



SAINT PAUL'S VOICE

November & December 2024

Volume 7, Number 6

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“From the Pastor”

“In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: You will find a child wrapped bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors” Luke 2:8-14

Jesus is God’s love spelled out in a language that humans can understand. S.D. Gordon

Looking back, I remember using the above scripture passage and quote on either a Parish Update or, possibly in a prior St. Paul’s newsletter but I still find that they are relevant for us even now. Halloween has just passed and, with just a nod to Thanksgiving and bypassing Advent altogether, we are being thrown right into Christmas. In the stores, Christmas lights, gifts, and even candy has been changed over to Christmas! I know about the candy conundrum firsthand as I tried to find Halloween candy the night before Halloween. I had to search my way through rows and displays of Christmas tree cookies and chocolates shaped as snowmen before I was able to find the last few bags of candy bars that still had a jack-o-lantern on them. Thanksgiving stuff was relegated to one store shelf and Advent was one box of blue candles in the candle aisle. We seem to be racing into Christmas and, I think, it is because in what seems like growing chaos and uncertainty in the world around us and even in our own daily lives and families, we are wanting something better. Something solid to hold onto. Something that makes sense. Something that brings a moment of peace and hope in the storm around us. We are racing to Christmas perhaps because we are looking for the familiar stories of light and love. We are looking for Jesus.

As we gather for Thanksgiving, may we slow down the Christmas rush long enough to remember why we are thankful. I am thankful for all of you. For the time we have had to get to know one another a little bit and for the wonderful service to and love of the Lord I see in you all each time I am with you. I am thankful for my family, friends, and ministry partners (even as I am saddened by the loss of some, I will be forever thankful for them and their gifts of ministry). I am thankful that as we sit down at our tables, we are always given the chance to remember to be and carry that light and hope out to those in the world around us who are in need. The Lord comes to us in those who are hungry and thirsty, those who are homeless and sometimes helpless. I am thankful for the time we have left to make a difference. Most of all, I am thankful most of all for the gift the angels have and will continue to proclaim each Advent and Christmas season, that the Lord of Light and Hope came and dwelt among us and is still with us now.

The voice of the angel in the familiar and beloved account above from Luke calls us back to a time long ago. It is an ancient call to slow down and hear the good news of hope. A call to come and see what God is doing. Advent gives us this time to stop, look, listen, and prepare our hearts for all that God has done for us. Take time for Advent. Hear the promise of new life and then join in the Christmas Eve celebration and worship as we gather to hear, see, and feel that promise unfold in a little town, long ago, as a manger was filled with a babe, the very presence of God with us.

May you be filled with light, hope, and love this Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas time. Blessings, Pastor Dot Lundgren

Church News



Church Services

Church Services are held on Sundays at 9am. Please join us for Worship Services online on [YouTube](#) Sunday mornings.



Sunday School For All Ages

Children will be attending Sunday School during the worship. Come out and join us!



Bible Study

Bible Study is held at St Paul's at 7:00pm on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday's. All are welcome to join us!



Parish Blue Christmas

Saturday, December 21st

Jerusalem will host a blue church service on December 21st at 7:00pm. All are welcome!



Children of God (CoG) Youth Group

Come join us on the 2nd Friday evening each month at Immanuel Church. Come join us on November 8th and December 13th for food, fun and fellowship.



Christmas Program

Sunday, December 15th

Our Youth will be presenting a Christmas play during worship. Come and join us for this special worship.



Prayer Ministry Meeting

The prayer ministry team will meet on November 14th and December 12th at 7:00pm.



Thanksgiving Eve Service

There will be a Parish Community Thanksgiving Eve Service on November 27th at 7:00pm at St. Peter's. **Have a blessed and happy Thanksgiving!**



Congregational Meeting

The annual congregational meeting is on November 10th following worship. Please attend if you are able.



Christmas Caroling & Potluck

Join us for Christmas Caroling on December 22nd at 2:00 pm. We will come baack to the church for a potluck dinner. All are welcomed to join!



Council Meetings

The upcoming council meetings are November 19th and December 17th at 7:00pm. Please give any topics for discussion to a Council member before these dates.



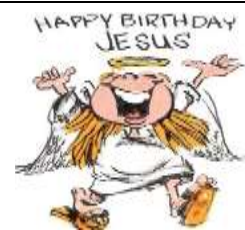
Christmas Eve Service

Friday, December 24th at 4:00pm and 9:00pm. Come and jon us to celebrate Christ's birth. All are welcome!



Fall Retreat at Mar-Lu-Ridge

Mar-Lu-Ridge fall retreat will be held on November 1-3, 2024. Mark your calendars!



Merry Christmas!

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 - after the children's message

Weekly Day Off For Parish Ministerial Team

Monday

Pastor Dot off

Emergency Pastoral Care, Pastor Dot: 240-237-7775

Friday

Pastor Amanda off

Emergency Pastoral Care, Pastor Dot: 240-237-7775

Saturday

Deacon Don off

Emergency Pastoral Care, Pastor Dot: 240-237-7775

Those in Need of Prayer



Members:

Maidie Brown, Vivian Chenoweth, Carolyn Eichler, Carliana Folfas, Shriver Foster, Andy Geldmacher, Hannah Hilgartner, Denise Holtz, Glenys Hunt, Nadine McGee, Bob & Gerri Martin, Jennifer Monroe, Michael Armacost, Pat Graff and Sherry Graff Zour, Gracie Grabowski, Carol Lewis, and all homebound members.

Family & Friends:

Alicia Minor, Ms. Heather, Ashlee Kopp, Andrea & Cotey Kopp, Jerry & Jan Herfurth, Linda Nunan & family, Debb Webb, Bernie and Chris Harmon, Holly Hudson, Brandi Bubczyk, Rosemary Johnson, Rick Schaefer, Nancy Rose, Ed Burnham, Teri Geppi, Steve Daugherty, Carol Kahlert, Kinleigh Connelly, Geraldine Lewis, Todd Smith, Thad Martin, Matthew Jones, Carol Miller, Melinda Chernesky, Lisa Elway, Jim & Dana Hoyt, Bill Lundgren, Sharon Shamer, Janie Szybist, Alex Strawbridge, Steve Lentzer, Tories &

Robert Osborne, Linda Willey, Darcy Stem, Pat Gauthier, Romeo Gauthier, Barbara Mooney, Garrett Bubczyk, the Yodice Family, the Duren family, Jim and Dana Hoyt, Tom Manning, 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.

Celebrations!

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

7 Mike Armacost
8 Jennifer Moore
12 Jack Schunk
23 Benjamin Baber



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

9 Brianna Murphy
11 Charles Baber
23 John Kelly, Jr.
24 Nadine McGee

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

15 Ray and Laura Grabowski



DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

12 Shannon & Rachel Murphy
29 Steve & Selena Howard

Welcome!

On Sunday, October 20th, we welcomed the Carmichael family to our congregation. Parents Brittany and Jay, and baby Chloe. Brittany and Chloe was baptized, Jay affirmed his baptism.



Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes



We will be participating in Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes again this year.

Please pick up a provided box(es) from the overflow room and return them by Sunday, November 24th. They will be delivered to the drop off location that afternoon.

Directions and additional information can be found inside each shoebox. Questions? Contact Sandy Baber.

Holiday Events & Worship



Parish Thanksgiving Eve Service

There will be a Thanksgiving Eve service at 7pm on Wednesday, November 27th at 7:00pm at St. Peter's.
All are welcome!

SPC Christmas Program

Our Youth will be presenting a Christmas play during worship on December 15th. Come and join us for this special worship.



Parish Blue Christmas

Jerusalem will hold a blue church service that honors people that have lost loved ones and are experiencing grief on December 21st at 7:00pm. All are welcomed.

Christmas Caroling

On December 22nd at 2:00 pm we will go caroling and then come back to the church for a pot luck dinner. All are welcomed to join.



Christmas Eve Services

Christmas Eve Services at St. Paul's will be on Saturday, December 24th at 4pm and 9pm. Please plan to come, worship, and bring friends along to feel the magic of Christmas at St. Paul's.



New SPC Sign!

Have you noticed? We have upgraded our sign along Rt.30. larger letters, backlit for better visibility.

The old sign has been repurposed to better identify the building. Our phone number will be added as well.

0



New Sign



Old Sign

Celebration to Honor Deacon Don

On Sunday, November 24, 2024 at 1 pm at Immanuel's Social Hall, we will celebrate Deacon Don's time with us.

Please bring a covered dish if able. There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex, please sign up by November 17th.

Immanuel will provide the paper products, drinks, and cake.

*You are
Invited*

Congregational Meeting - November 10th

The annual congregational meeting will be held in-person at St. Paul's Church on Sunday, November 10, 2024 at approximately 9:45am or immediately following the church service.



The following is the agenda for the meeting:

- Approval of Minutes
- Report of the Nominating Committee and Conduct of Elections
- Reports of Officers and Standing Committees
- Reports of Special Committees
- Presentation of 2025 budget
- Unfinished Business
- New Business

In the event of a cancellation on November 10th, the congregation will meet the following Sunday on November 17th.

Outreach

Thank you to everyone who helps out at our food grill during the flea market events. This function is our sole fundraiser for all the projects we have going on each year.

Some of our projects include: Backpacks for the homeless, as well as tents, handwarmers, personal hygiene products, Easter baskets for nursing home residents, Gifts for our shut-ins, Back to school backpacks, Christmas presents for our numerous adopted families, our VERY popular Christmas Caroling Bus, Teddy Bears distributed to children who are in some sort of distress...just to name a few.

Missing from the photos, but certainly appreciated, are Patti Schunk, Jennifer Browning and Charles Baber.

Thank you everyone!
Suzi



Glenys Wedding



*Congratulations to
Glenys Hunt & Toby Tyler*

*Married in Moab, UT
on October 10, 2024*

*(Picture also has their dog,
Yonder)*



Visit With Carol Hunt

In September, Sandy Baber and Rachel Murphy visited Carol Hunt in Colorado. We've missed her since she moved from Upperco in March 2023. The sights and scenery were beautiful. The fun time spent together was filled with many laughs! Carol sends her love to all at St Paul's!



Group photo at Black Canyon of the Gunnison NP



Group pic from our brunch in Telluride



View at Black Canyon of the Gunnison NP



Beautiful aspen trees



A view from the gondola of the snowy peaks above Telluride

Bingo Under the Pavilion Memories from 9/28



Trunk-or-Treat Memories from 10/27



St Paul's Flea Market

WOW!!! What an amazing Flea Market we have! Not only is this a fundraiser for our church, but an awesome community event!! We have 89 available spaces (including 6 pavilion spaces) and each month we are totally filled! After September's event, we had only "1" available space for October! We SO appreciate our wonderful vendors, 45 of which sign up for the entire 7 month season. Our season runs from April to October and occurs each 3rd Saturday of those months. Come and navigate through all these extremely unique vendor spaces---something for everyone! And if you're interested in becoming a vendor for next season, our application will be posted on our website in February. Thank you to EVERYONE who helps make this such a success.



Men's Fall Dinner on 10/28

The Lutheran Church Men of the Westminster Conference held their Fall Dinner Meeting at 6:30 pm on Monday, October 28, 2024, in the Krug Chapel at Carroll Lutheran Village, Westminster, MD 21158.

CLV as host served a dinner consisting of garden salad with ranch or balsamic vinaigrette dressing, warm assorted rolls and whipped butter, apple stuffed chicken with gravy, red roasted potatoes, green beans, and chocolate cake for dessert.

Pastor Cris Frigm was the speaker for the evening and will present information regarding Martin Luther's Germany.



Parish Youth Events

CoG's Youth Group Night at Immanuel!

COG'S (CHILDREN OF GOD)

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

Youth Group Night is typically held the 2nd Friday of each month in Immanuel's Social Hall from 6:30-8pm. We start with a meal then participate in a combination of fun activities and/or community service projects.



These events are open to all ages! Hope to see you!



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES **MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!!**

Hope to see you soon! Bring a friend, the more the merrier!

November 8: Operation Christmas Child service project.

December 13: Christmas party and making Christmas cards for active-duty military personnel.

We hope to see you on the 2nd Friday of each month for fellowship, fun and service.

Come anytime that you can. Remember, all are welcome!! The young ... and the young at heart!

Youtherans

With Deacon Don leaving the end of November, Pastor Amanda will be taking over the coordination of the Youtherans youth group.

Contact Pastor Amanda at pastor.amanda.mccaffery@gmail.com for more information, request to be put on the mailing list or if you would like to suggest an activity to do.



NEW! - Parish Confirmation Program



If your child is in grades 5th-8th,
(some exceptions can be made)

and you would like them to be a part of this new 2-year program,
please let Pastor Dot or Pastor Amanda know. Or just show up!

The Rev. Dorothy Lundgren
pastordotlundgren@gmail.com
240.237.7775 (text or call)

The Rev. Amanda McCaffery
pastor.amanda.mccaffery@gmail.com
814.327.9471 (text or call)

Each session starts at 10:30am and will be a little over an hour long.
Our fall schedule is as follows:

- Sunday, **November 24** at Immanuel
- Sunday, **December 15** at St. Paul's

We're excited to start on this new journey with our youth!

Youth + Family Ministry - Save the Dates!

Registration is now live for the [Middle School/High School Youth Event](#) on Nov. 15-17 at [Potomac Park](#) in Falling Waters, WV. All youth in grades 6-12 are invited! If you have questions, reach out to [Pastor Laura Sinche, Assistant to the Bishop for Formation](#)

November 15-17		Middle & High School Event (Grades 6-12) Potomac Park Falling Waters, WV
March 15-16		Seekers (Grades 3-5) MarLu Ridge Jefferson, MD
April 4-6		Unlikely Leaders (Grades 6-8) MarLu Ridge Jefferson, MD

YOUNGFAITHMATTERS.COM

Mar-Lu-Ridge Advent Family Gathering

Sunday, December 1st 1 pm - 4 pm



Advent Gathering:

We'll gather together on the first Sunday in Advent for a winter afternoon away from the hustle and bustle. Build a wreath from fresh greenery, create a craft (options for all ages!), and spend time with Mar-Lu-Ridge friends, new and old. Please bring your own wreath form.

Schedule:

1 - 2:45 pm - Wreath-making and crafts

3:00 pm - Light meal, followed by s'mores and carols at the campfire

Carroll Lutheran School Update



This school year marks the 25th year of Carroll Lutheran School! Almost 30 years ago the conversation started amongst a group within the Westminster Conference of Churches (which St Paul's is part of) to open a Christian school within the Conference. Studies were completed and a commitment was made by all churches in the conference to move forward. In Sept 2000, the school opened in classroom space within St Ben's, Westminster, with 38 students in K - 3rd grade. Each year the school continued to grow with students and added grades until they were a K-8th grade school. Over winter break 2006, the school moved to their own new building just west of Westminster, that building is now 18 years old.

The school has been through challenging times with the economy and enrollment swings, with their highest year of enrollment at 120 students before the economic downturn in the mid 2,000's. Who would have thought that a global pandemic would have helped to resurrect the school with sending students to CLS? During COVID, the school grew from around 60 students to over 110. They have been able to maintain enrollment at just over 100 for this school year.

CLS provides an exceptional education, formed in faith. The central purpose of CLS is to provide a quality education where the love of Christ sets the tone to develop, cultivate, and nurture all aspects of learning, including spiritual, academic, and social. They have provided a proven and accredited academic curriculum supplemented with activities that support and challenge learners. The School's wish is to continue to make CLS education accessible to every child by keeping the tuition within reach, reaching new families to grow and renew the CLS community, and continuing to invest in staff attraction, development, and retention.

Over the years, St Paul's has had several members attend CLS and more recently, we had one member as a middle school teacher. Our own Pastor Mel was a huge supporter of the school, having served on the Board and also remembered the school in her will.

CLS recently held their annual meeting for delegates and pastors in the Conference, each church in the Conference has two delegates. Some sobering numbers were presented to the group. It costs CLS almost \$12,000 per student to meet their operating budget each year. With the school's focus on "mission, not money" after scholarships, financial aid, and the conference church member discount the average family pays just over \$6,000 per student, leaving the remaining expenses to be offset by fundraising and generous donations.

This past year, the school was bequeathed with a sizable donation from the estate of our very own Ruth Bare. That donation helped them greatly to offset their budget, but unfortunately those types of donations cannot be built into a budget. Of the 23 churches in the Conference, a total of \$6,000 was donated to CLS last fiscal year from these 23 churches.

We are the same churches that made a commitment over 25 years ago to support CLS. The CLS Board of Trustees understands that many of the Conference churches are also struggling on our own but are asking us to support the school in any way that we are comfortably able to: monetary one-time donations, pledging yearly donations, attending a fundraiser, promoting the school to families with kids, special Sunday collection, and simply praying for the school.

CLS is kicking off their 2024 Fundraising Drive. Please consider making a donation through the below information, through their website <https://clsedu.org/community/donate-online/>, or through Giving Tuesday on December 3rd.

If you would like additional information about CLS, please see Sandy Baber.



1738 Old Taneytown Road
Westminster, Maryland 21158
410-848-1050
www.clsedu.org

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

- \$1,000 per month or \$12,000 per year, you would Make a Difference in the life of one child and fund their Journey with God
- \$2,000 per year for 3 years, you would meet the deficit of one student
- \$3,000 per year for 2 years, you would meet the deficit of one student
- \$6,000 as a one-time donation, you would meet the deficit of one student
- \$12,000 as a one-time donation or over 3 years, you would sponsor an entire child's Journey with God for one school year.
- Other \$ _____

To donate online, please visit:

<https://clsedu.org/community/donate-online/>

- I prefer to donate using my Credit Card
(See back of form)**



Credit Card Payment

I would like to make my gift with a credit card:

- Visa MasterCard American Express Discover

Credit Card #

Card Exp Date (Month/Year)

CSC - MUST HAVE CSC TO PROCESS

Billing Zip

Signature (as it appears on your card)

Jake's Pig Roast and Silent Auction

Pig Roast and Silent Auction to benefit the Jacob Armacost Foundation



Saturday November 23, 2024
6-10pm

Carroll County Ag Center
ShIPLEY Building
706 Agriculture Center Drive
Westminster, MD

Tickets \$20
\$25 at the door

For Tickets Contact:

Donna Armacost
410-967-7748

Della Dell
410-984-7805

Proceeds will pay for therapies and equipment not covered by insurance

In June 1997, our son Jacob suffered a near-drowning accident at the age of 16 months. Due to this accident, Jacob is severely brain damaged. He has lost the ability to walk, talk and eat. We were not sure how much he could see. The doctors told us this is the worst they have ever seen. Although I believe they did the best they knew how, they gave us little hope. We brought Jake home and did our best to keep him comfortable. This was a momentous job, as his brain was always sending the wrong messages to his body, making him stiff as a board, and making it very difficult to take care of his daily needs. He had a Baclofen pump surgically inserted in his abdomen which pumped medicine into his spinal nerves to help deaden the messages from his brain. Initially, this helped a lot.

About three years after Jake's accident, we were at a follow-up appointment with the rehabilitation team. They were impressed that his skin looked nice and he didn't have any bedsores. They said I was doing a great job and to take him home. When I left that appointment, I rode home thinking, "This can't be it. There must be more. Someone needs to tell me what to do next to make his life better."

I began researching alternative therapies. I found Hyperbaric Oxygen. We started treatments and Jake became much more calm and alert, and began swallowing. I was able to take him off most of his medications, and we started reducing the medication in his internal

Baclofen pump. We were able to remove the pump in February 2007! I also found a sensory stimulation program out of England called Brain-Net. It consists of an exercise routine that we do with Jake. He smiles a lot now and laughs out loud. He enjoys riddles and rhymes and being read to. He vocalizes more and seems to be speaking to us in his own language. We visited the Amen Clinic in Reston, VA, where we were told a lot of Jake's brain works really well. Jake receives acupuncture and a special massage for scoliosis each week. It seems to be a great combination. We have started laser therapy to accelerate cell growth and tissue repair and his neuro-optometrist is amazed that Jake's vision continues to improve with every visit. He has received IV stem cells in Largo, FL. We are seeing improvement in Jake's vision with tracking, and his swallowing has increased. This April we visited the laser specialists in Texas for intensive therapy and learned more uses for the laser at home.

We have tried many other therapies. The ones that work we continue and the ones that don't we chalk up to life experience. I know that God had a reason to give this boy back to us. This has been a long road and sometimes lonely, but Jake is our miracle. To see how he touches lives is a priceless gift. Without speaking, he can cross barriers and melt hearts. He has come a long way for a boy who "probably would not make it through the night and if he did would be a vegetable." Jake has shown us how fragile life is and how we need to value it. Deep in my heart I know he will get his life back! He is a fighter!

Jake's therapies are very expensive and many are not covered by insurance. Jake has a fund that was started by friends and family when his accident happened. We need your help to continue the therapies that have helped Jake so much.

Sincerely,
Donna and Doug Armacost

Council Meeting Highlights

Highlights from the August Council Meeting

Reports:

Pastor Dot's Report:

- Presided over 7 regular worship services and 1 Saturday evening service, and 1 Folk Service, 2 Funeral Services. Blessed School Backpacks. Attended 6 Church Council Meetings, 1 Parish Council Meeting, 1 Parish Mutual Ministry Meeting, and 2 Staff Meetings.
- Helped with Immanuel's Community Breakfast.
- Attended 2 Stephen Ministry groups and facilitated a couple of Stephen Ministry Referrals. Co-facilitated one Grief Group Ministry meeting.
- Walked with four families through the death of a loved one and presided over one Memorial Service and working with 2 family to plan a funeral.
- Distributed anointing oil to all churches in preparation for healing/anointing services as requested by the Parish Worship and Music Team as churches chose to participate.
- Worship bulletin creating printing and assisting others to do so.
- Put together the Ministerial Rotation August and September.
- Attended to many emails, texts, and phone calls.
- Attended Westminster Conference Planning Meeting.
- Many Staff meetings with Pastor Amanda as we begin to work together and share ministry with the Parish. We are reorganizing the visitation of shut-ins and others and will begin getting back up to regular monthly visits going forward.
- Played the part of Chavah, the Barnyard merchant for St. Paul's VBS.
- Concluded the marriage counseling for Matthew Bosley and Lexi Schene, a couple from St. Abrahams. Now working on completing the Wedding Service.
- Many hospital visits, house visits, visits to shut-ins. Hours for pastoral counseling and grief counseling/support. Reaching out to and visitation current members and members who have drifted away.
- IT issues and phone issues continue in several churches and have resolved one of them today. Work is being continued with others to work toward solutions still needed.
- Continuing to support where and when I can do so. Praying constantly for the Lord's direction and blessings for all of us.

Blessings, Pastor Dot

Pastor Amanda's Report:

Worship:

- Presided over 6 regular Sunday worship services.
- Assisted at Immanuel's Saturday Worship
- Attended Jerusalem's Saturday Folk Service

Attended:

- Five council meetings (Immanuel (x2), Jerusalem, Joint Council, St. Abraham's)
- Participated in VBS (St. Paul's)
- One Church Related Meeting
- One Mutual Ministry Meeting
- Helped at Table of Grace
- Two Stephen Ministers Meetings
- One Conference Planning Meeting
- One Conference Luncheon
- Donated Blood at Immanuel
- Attended National Night Out with Immanuel
- Visited Immanuel's Food Pantry
- One Pastoral Care Phone Call
- Two Ministerial Staff Meetings
- One Grief Share Meeting

- Lunch Meeting with Bishop
- Attended Funeral and Luncheon for Barb Yingling (Immanuel)
- CoG Pool Party
- Multiple Staff Meetings with Pastor Dot to continue getting acquainted with the parish.

Looking ahead:

- Pastoral Visitations will begin this week as Pastor Dot and I continue to work through the list and figure out the best way to move forward in collaboration. I have three visits scheduled for Wednesday, August 21. We have divided the list and plan on visiting our half of the list before the end of September.
- Continuing attending events and meetings to get acquainted with parish and the people.
- Brainstorming possibilities of new ministries.
 - Working with Deacon Don to connect our college students to a Synod-wide college community that is beginning to form, as well as connecting to our students through care packages.
 - Starting a parish book club

Personal Antidote:

- I am officially licensed and registered to the state of Maryland!
- Began attending a Book Club as a part of my self-care.

I continue to pray for the folks of Resurrection Parish and look forward to what God has in store for us.

Blessings, Pastor Amanda

President's Report, Mr. Fleming Reported:

- Contact CSX railroad about the tree (update)- tree has been removed and CSX will cover half the cost for removal. Will look into replacing the tree with something new
- Sign co. Stricker mailed contract and deposit (update)- we are on the list for installation for this fall, will contact the company about changing the cross on the plan to the ELCA logo

Treasurer's Report, Ms. Mountcastle Reported:

- Gathering costs at the event were around \$1,400. Debit cards were helpful during the event since it was a cashless venue.
- The Gathering CD's interest rolled over into creating a new CD, will look into making sure the correct accounts get the interest that they are owed.
- Three CDs coming due in November- one will be cashed in to cover the costs for the Youth Gathering, the the remaining two CDs will be looked into what other options are available

Committee Reports

Flea Market, Ms. Lyons Reported:

- August was another sellout month. 83 lawn spaces (\$2,075.00) and 6 pavilion spaces (\$180.00) So far, our deposits total \$14,415.00 for 2024.
- Thank you to everyone who helps keep this community event alive!

Outreach, Ms. Lyons Reported:

- We delivered 10 UV tents to our homeless contact who will distribute them accordingly.
- We matched the Youth fund for a Heifer Project donation of \$240.00.
- A family of 4 in the Hereford area lost everything in a house fire two weeks ago. I know the mother and asked if we could help. Outreach filled their Wish List with items needed in their temporary rental totally just under \$200.00.

Property, Mr. Knight Reported:

- Pavilion maintenance, and stove kitchen (update)- received a quote of \$2,170 (for a 50 watt) to bring in an electrical line to the kitchen for a stove, discussion tabled to gather more information/quotes
- Terminix- been about a month and a half without a returned phone call, will call about canceling our plan and receiving a refund for this year
- Signage placed on porta-pot
- Staining Pavillion- getting quotes

Old Business

- VBS Report
 - Report of VBS 2024
 - Budget amount \$200.00
 - Income \$348 (second offering. donations)
 - Total \$548
 - Less expenses \$238
 - Total \$310

Our theme this year was Hometown Nazareth: Where Jesus was a boy.
The stories were all about his life with us.

We had 16 students
13 volunteers (6 teens)

Part of the program was an outreach of allowing the students to vote to purchase animals to help families out of poverty. In the “barnyard” shop each day they learned about animals we could purchase, and that would have been available when Jesus was a boy. The choices were: bees, sheep, goats, fish, and chickens(quail). The vote went to sheep and goats. Each costs \$120 through Heifer International. We have funds to purchase one each, with a remainder of \$70. The outreach committee will match \$240.00 to purchase 2 goats and 2 sheep.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Fleming

New Business

- Will be closing meeting for budget discussion
 - Sandy Baber presented the Parish Proposed Budget

MOTION: To approve the parish budget with the expectation that we will receive more information about mileage actuals by Ms. Lewis. Seconded by Mr. Hilgartner. All in favor. Motion carried.

- Hoffman Scholarship- two applications were received and have been forwarded on to the next step

Highlights from the September Council Meeting

Reports:

Pastor Dot's Report:

- Presided over 9 regular worship services. Assisted 1 Saturday evening service, 1 Funeral Service, Blessing of School Backpacks. Attended 5 Church Council Meetings, 1 Parish Worship and Music Meeting, and 2 Staff Meetings.
- Helped with Immanuel's Community Breakfast.
- Attended and taught 2 Stephen Ministry groups. Co-facilitated/facilitated two Grief Group Ministry meetings. Privately counseled with one community person who attended the grief group.
- Looking to find assistance for house cleaning for one of our parish members.
- Walked with one family through the death of a loved one and working with a family to plan a funeral for a loved one who is in the process of dying.
- Worship bulletin creating, printing and assisting others to do so.
- Attended 1 Holy Girl Friends gathering.
- Facilitated two Parish Bible Studies.
- Working on the next Ministerial Rotation for October thru December.
- Gained access to Parish Update on Constant Contact and in the process of competing and sending out a partial Update this week and a full Update for October.
- Attended to many emails, texts, and phone calls.
- Attended St. Paul's Rally Day.
- Completing the Wedding Service for a couple from St. Abrahams.

- Many hospital visits, house visits, visits to shut-ins. Hours for pastoral counseling and grief counseling/support. Continue working with others to reach out to and visit with current members and members who have drifted away in each congregation.
- Continued work on IT issues and phone access issues and some have been resolved.
- Continuing to support where and when I can do so. Praying constantly for the Lord's direction and blessings for all of us.

Blessings, Pastor Dot

Pastor Amanda's Report:

Worship:

- Presided over 8 regular Sunday worship services.
- Preached and Presided at Immanuel's Saturday Worship
- Presided at Jerusalem's Saturday Folk Service

Attended:

- Two council meetings (Jerusalem & Immanuel)
- One Bible Study
- Joint Worship and Music Meeting
- Holy Girlfriends
- ELCA Webinar on "God's Love Made Real" movement
- Westminster Conference Meeting
- Stephen Ministers Meeting
- Weekly Wednesday morning Synod Pericope study
- Meeting with Assistant to Bishop
- Meeting with Bishop
- Numerous phone calls and emails

Visitation:

- 3 home bound visits completed
- 1 hospital visit
- Pastor Dot and I have worked out a schedule to have every person on our shut-in list visited by the end of September, as well as a plan going forward.

Looking ahead:

- Compiling College Students in Parish for two purposes:
 - Westminster Area College Student ministry that is being started up through the synod our of Grace Westminster
 - To have our parish send care packages to our students during finals time.
- Coordinating an Apple Dumpling Fundraiser from Pennsylvania Dutch Market in Hagerstown to help get some seed money to fund our care packages.
- Creating a Blessing of the Animal service for October 5th (2pm)
- Coordinating a Parish Book Club
- Coordinating a Parish Women's Bible Study

I'm excitedly growing into the way of things here with Resurrection Parish. It's been a lot to get used to, and I'm still learning a lot about the people and traditions of these 5 unique churches. I think as a future, we have a lot to look forward as we all grow into the future of this unique parish and see what God might have in store for us!

Blessings, Pastor Amanda

President's Report, Mr. Fleming Reported

- Contact CSXrailroad about the tree (update)- check has not been received yet for reimbursement of the tree removal

- Sign co. Stricker mailed contract and (update)- \$1,200 to replace the cross on the sign

MOTION: Move to use \$1,260 from the CD interest money to correct the cross on the road sign installed by Stricker, unless there is a cheaper option. Motion made by Ms. Caine. Seconded by Ms. Geldmacher. All in favor. Motion carried.

- Assist placement of curtain on pavilion- to help block road noise and afternoon sun
- Assist with electrician for pricing for stove in kitchen

Treasurer's Report, Ms. Mountcastle Reported:

- A question was raised about investing larger amounts in the bank
- Currently behind \$8,000 on the yearly budget, council will brainstorm ways to increase giving among the congregation

Committee Reports

Parish Council, Ms. Caine Reported:

- The budget for 2024 will remain the same for 2025
- The synod is working on helping to find pastors after Deacon Don's last Sunday

Flea Market, Ms. Lyons Reported:

- All 89 spaces are filled for this Saturday and only 9 are open for October! (\$2,075.00-Lawn and \$180.00-Pavilion) I put 6 on a waitlist and had to turn away 8 more! The vendor message went out Sunday evening and I asked everyone to let me know if they can't make it on the 21st. So far, 1 vendor has canceled, so I can resell that space. The flea market has brought in \$ 15,165.00 to date.

Outreach, Ms. Lyons Reported:

- The Salvation Army sent out the "Adopted Families" request. We will be adopting 4 families for Christmas, each with 2-4 children. We will also be sponsoring a Vet and his/her family.

Food Grill -- (Sole fundraiser for all our projects)

August sales and expenses:

Net Income: \$ 659.00

Expenses: 383.70

Total Profit: \$ 275.30

Help for September: Leon/Ray/Tim, Susan, Bob, Jen and me

Property, Mr. Knight Reported:





- Pavilion maintenance
- Stove kitchen (update)

MOTION: Move to go with the lesser price of \$975 for a new stove from Matt Schultz by Mr. Knight. Seconded Ms. Lyons. All in favor. Motion carried.

- Bathroom faucet replaced in the downstairs bathrooms
- Signage for park sign after dark



November

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Fall Retreat at Mar-Lu-Ridge	2 Fall Retreat at Mar-Lu-Ridge
3 9am – Worship & Sunday School Healing Service Food Collection & Invite a Friend Fall Retreat at Mar-Lu-Ridge	4	5 The Holy Girlfriends Dinner - Immanuel Lutheran Church	6 Bible Study  Bible Study 7:00pm	7	8 Children of God (CoG) Youth Group - 6:30pm	9 Jerusalem Folk Service – 5:00pm
10 9am – Worship & Sunday School Congregational Meeting Fellowship 2nd Offering - Farmers & Hunters Feeding the Hungry	11	12	13	14  Prayer Ministry Meeting – 7:00pm	15	16 Community Country Breakfast @ Immanuel – 7:00am
17 9am – Worship & Sunday School Installation of Council Members Christmas Wishes on Tree	18	19  Church Council – 7:00pm	20	21	22	23 Short Traditional Service at Immanuel 5:00pm
24 9am – Worship & Sunday School Confirmation Class at Immanuel – 10:30am Decorate the church for Christmas - after worship	25	26	27 Parish Thanksgiving Eve Service – 7:00pm at St. Peter’s	28  Happy Thanksgiving	29	30



DECEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9am – Worship & Sunday School Healing Service Food Collection Invite a Friend		The Holy Girlfriends Dinner - Spargo's, Manchester, MD	 Bible Study 7:00pm			
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9am – Worship 2nd Offering - Carroll Hospice				 Prayer Ministry Meeting 7:00pm	Children of God (CoG) Youth Group - 6:30pm	Jerusalem Folk Service – 5:00pm
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
9am – Worship & Sunday School Christmas Program Fellowship Confirmation Class at St. Paul's – 10:30am		 Council Meeting - 7:00pm	 Bible Study 7:00pm			Community Country Breakfast @ Immanuel Blue Christmas – 7:00pm at Jerusalem
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
9am – Worship & Sunday School Christmas Caroling – 2pm Potluck – 5pm		Christmas Eve – 4pm Christmas Eve – 9 pm	 Christmas Day			Immanuel - Short Traditional Service at 5pm
29	30	31				
9am – Worship & Sunday School Lessons and Carols Service		New Year's Eve				

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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410-239-3456

Pastors: The Rev. Dot Lundgren
Pr. Amanda McCaffery (Interim)
Deacon Don Helfer

Office: office@stpaulsupperco.org



Council Directory

PRESIDENT	Leon Fleming
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