



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

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Fulton, Maryland 20759
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News & Notes

Volume 10 Issue 09

September 2017

Fall Worship Schedule

September 3rd—one service at 9:30am

Starting, September 10th we will return to our two service schedule. Worship will be at 8:30am and 11:00am!

Our Thursday evening service continues at 7:00PM each week

Rally Day September 10th 9:45am in the Sanctuary

September 10 is Rally Day for Sunday School we will gather in the Sanctuary at 9:45am to kick off our year together! Classes are for age 3 through 12th Grade.

Our 1st Devotions Group, Tuesday, September 5th 10-11am

Join us on the First Tuesday of the month from 10am-11am in the Parish Hall for a new “Devotions” group. We will reflect on a devotional or scriptural passage and discuss how it impacts our lives.

All are welcome, please come as often as you are able to attend

Coming Summer 2018 -



June 27-July 1, 2018 is the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston Texas

Leading up to this event we will have fundraisers to help our youth attend this trip!

Youth Schedule—

September 10 Youth Night from 6:30pm-8:00pm Parents are welcome to join us as we discuss the schedule for the year!

September 10 Commitment Contracts for the ELCA Youth Gathering are due!!

September 24 Youth Night from 6:30pm-8:00pm



Upcoming Events:

- SEPT 5TH DEVOTIONS GROUP
- SEPT 10TH SUNDAY SCHOOL RALLY DAY.
- SEPT 10TH YOUTH NIGHT 6:30-8PM
- SEPT 24TH AFTER 11AM SERVICE CHILI COOK OFF
- SEPT 24TH YOUTH NIGHT 6:30-8PM

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News and Notes



“The Lord must have loved ordinary people because he made so many of us...”

“In every single day, in every walk of life, ordinary people do extraordinary things. Ordinary People accomplish Extraordinary things!”

Jim Valvano
N.C State
1983

Council President

President's Message

August 25, 2017

Can it really be that Summer is almost past us? I hope that everyone has had an enjoyable season, and if you have been struggling to find time or peace because of life's challenges, you should know that the church family of St. Paul's prays for you often. As a congregation, we are very much a family. We gather for celebrations, in times of sadness or mourning, and to regularly share a meal. We also have differences among ourselves from time to time, and we manage to work through those differences in order to accomplish greater goals. With the greater goal of establishing a solid congregation in the future, St. Paul's has embarked on the L.E.A.D. process. There will be plenty of information coming out about the work of the L.E.A.D. Listening Team, and the program will involve everyone.

If you have been to church in August, you should have noticed the very quick progress of the cemetery expansion. This effort is under the guidance of the Cemetery Committee and it may be a surprise to many of you. But the reality is that this is a continuation of a vision of expansion of the church property that began several years ago. We are also faced with the need to continually maintain and improve our great facility. So, with several pending needs for the buildings and the cemetery expansion, St. Paul's has begun a new capital campaign. It is called **"The Vision Continues"**. With the help of Bob Peters, our Stewardship chair, and Pastor Carolyn, we have refined the goals of the program as this- 3 Years, \$300,000.

We will contribute to the Cemetery Fund in order to replenish money being spent now. The cost to expand the cemetery has grown over the past several years so it makes sense to continue to follow the Vision sooner and not later. We have a current opportunity to convert our oil heat to natural gas with help from BG&E, but there will be costs to upgrade the furnaces in the church and the parsonage. We will fix and upgrade doors, fix drainage and grading that leads to wetness in the basement, improve handicap accessibility, maintain windows and wood trim, improve cooling, and many, many more needs now and in the future.

3 Years, \$300,000

I step back from that goal and think for a moment, "Is this possible?" I quickly conclude that it is not only possible, but necessary. We will grow in numbers. We will be a more welcoming place in outward appearance and in our ability to support a large congregation. And we already recognize that in order to grow, we need to be a welcoming group of Lutheran Christians to any and all who come looking for a church family. I share with you all a vision of growth, of dynamic activity, and of a congregation able to take on the challenge of social outreach and evangelism that we are called to perform. In order to succeed, we will need everyone to participate in and contribute to a variety of activities. This year's Stewardship Campaign will focus on increasing everyone's participation in the life of St. Paul's.

I want to conclude with a thought I shared in May at the Congregational Meeting. The thought is not my own, but I embrace it. "Every day, ordinary people accomplish extraordinary things." I ask all of you to prayerfully consider how you will help us grow. Let's accomplish extraordinary things!

The Vision Continues.

Peace,

Erik Domaas

Stewardship

ELCA



Special Guest preacher at St. Paul's

On September 14 and 17th Pastor Berger will be with us to share his ministry and work with Food for the Poor. Please join us to learn more about this work and how we can work with them!

Lutheran Harvey Relief

Lutheran Disaster Response's affiliate is actively present, collaborating with community leaders and officials to initiate the proper responses, particularly the long-term recovery efforts. Together, we have a strong history of working with Disasters in the Gulf Coast area. The road to recovery will be long, and Lutheran Disaster Response will be there to accompany those affected through every phase of this disaster.

Gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response designated for "Hurricane Response – United States" will be used entirely (100 percent)

for this disaster until the response is complete. Together, we can help provide immediate and long-lasting support. Give today to support the needs in this response and others like it. Give through your congregation or make your check out to Lutheran Disaster Response and send to: Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, ELCA Gift Processing Center P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009 Write "Hurricane Response, United States" or "Lutheran Disaster Response, U.S. DDG0073" on your check's memo line.

"Verily I say **unto you**, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of **the least of these**, ye did it not to me.."

MATTHEW 22:37b-39

For details and updates on the reformation events please visit www.ELCA500.org

Luther and the Reformation

ELCA News

Short Biography of Martin Luther

(<http://www.biographyonline.net/spiritual/martin-luther.html>)

Martin Luther was born 10 November 1483, in Eisleben, Saxony (modern day Germany). His father was relatively wealthy and paid for his son to gain an education in Magdeburg and Eisenach.

In 1501, Martin Luther became a student at the University of Erfurt. At the request of his father he took law, but he soon abandoned law, preferring to study [Aristotle](#) and the subjects of philosophy and theology. Despite admiring aspects of Aristotle and the classics, he was unsatisfied with just reason and intellectual studies and decided to become a monk so he could devote his life to God.

His time as a monk was challenging. Luther engaged in severe austerities – fasting, long hours of prayer and frequent confession, but he felt an inner spiritual dryness. He became very critical of his own failings and felt his sinful nature becoming magnified rather than transformed. Sharing his difficulties, his spiritual director gave him more work so he wouldn't become so introspected.

As well as being aware of his own failing, he became increasingly concerned about malpractice within the church, which he felt was not in keeping with Biblical scripture. In 1510, he visited Rome on behalf of Augustinian monasteries and was shocked at the level of corruption he found.

In 1517, Martin Luther first protested to the Catholic church about the sale of indulgences. (Buying an indulgence gave the person full or partial remission of temporal punishment due for sins which have already been forgiven). Martin Luther argued that it was faith alone that could provide the remission of sin and not monetary payments to the church.

"We believe that the very beginning and end of salvation, and the sum of Christianity, consists of faith in Christ, who by His blood alone, and not by any works of ours, has put away sin, and destroyed the power of death."

Quotes reported in Josiah Hotchkiss Gilbert, *Dictionary of Burning Words of Brilliant Writers* (1895).

95 Theses

On 31 October 1517, Luther posted ninety-five theses, criticising practices of the church on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg. He also posted a handwritten copy to the Archbishop of Magdeburg, Albert of Mainz. The 95 theses of Martin Luther were critical of many practices relating to baptism and the sale of indulgences for the remittance of sin.

News & Notes



Pastor's Corner

This fall, October 31st to be exact, marks the 500th Anniversary of the beginning of the Protestant Reformation. We will be having a festive service commemorating this Anniversary on October 29. Leading up to our commemoration during worship we will have a few things going on!

On September 10th we will return to our two service schedule with worship at 8:30am and 11:00am. That will be a big day as we also begin the Sunday School year with Rally Day. Beginning that week through November we will have inserts in our bulletins that have information about the Reformation. Please be sure to look for these inserts as we learn about things that took place during the time of the Reformation as well as how the Lutheran church grew and spread throughout the world!

This is a big event in the history of our denomination! But, being part of the Church of the Reformation means that we are always changing and evolving. The Reformation wasn't one event to take place many years ago, instead we are part of a tradition that continues to reform.

Here at St. Paul's we have been talking about entering into a time of "reform," a time of growth, a time of visioning through the LEAD (Living Everyday As Disciples) process. Now, we are past the time of just talking, and our work has begun! The LEAD Listening Team has been formed! In August we attended the first Learning Seminar with congregations from throughout the Delaware-Maryland Synod who are also going through this process. During that seminar we learned what we will be working on for the next few years.

Those on our Listening Team are: Ryan Dymek, Judy Hewitt, John Korslund, Liz Morris, Julie Smith, and Patrick Thompson. Over the next few weeks we will be sharing information about a brief survey which is given to us by the national LEAD organization. This will help us to get a picture of where we are at the beginning of the process and will help us to see where we can go! Please watch for this information and take a few minutes to participate!

Already beginning, and after the survey is completed there will be updates about what our Listening Team is doing, but the main focus at the beginning is the team growing together. As we work together, we will also be working with a coach from the Synod who will help us to make sure we are moving in the proper direction, and yet, none of us know where we will end up because that is up to the work of the Holy Spirit!

Please keep our Listening Team in your prayers as well as our congregation! This is an exciting time for us to examine where we fit into the changing landscape around us here in Fulton!

Peace,
Pastor Carolyn

"If you are
not allowed
to laugh in
heaven, I
don't want to
go there."

Martin Luther

Associate Pastor

TEN THINGS I THINK ABOUT MARTIN LUTHER

(as I go to Germany)

1. Luther would wonder what all the fuss was about, after all he was only standing for what he believed in. Shouldn't everybody take a stand for what is truly important to them! Luther's just happened to be Jesus Christ!
2. Luther would wonder why there are so many different churches. After all there is only One, Holy, Catholic Church on earth. If you feel the Reformation was about all these denominations (including Lutheran), you missed the point! Luther was only trying to return the church in his day to what was and is truly important... Christ Crucified for our sins.
3. I am prepared to marvel at the little towns in which Luther grew up, studied, lived and preached. Come to think about it Wittenberg (95 Theses on the church door), Eisleben (birthplace), Eisenach (Wartburg Castle), and Erfurt (Luther's monastery when he was a monk) are likely the size of Bethlehem and Nazareth. Good things come out of small places!
4. Luther would want us to sing lustily in worship. He wrote hymns that have lasted through the ages. When God's people sing in worship they are praising their Creator, learning about their faith, and praying out loud through music. So sing and smile!
5. While on the subject of prayer Luther was huge on prayer. His Morning Blessing is classic; "I give thanks to you heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have protected me through the night from all harm and danger. I ask that you would also protect me today from all sin and evil, so that my life and actions may please you. Into your hands I commend myself: my body, my soul and all that is mine. Let your holy angel be with me so that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen." Try praying it yourself!
6. I would hope that Luther would be shocked by the action of the Nazis in Germany several centuries after him. Luther used an expression often translated "two kingdoms" to describe spiritual and earthly realms. Unfortunately after 1933 some Lutheran churches in Germany interpreted the "two kingdoms" to support inaction against Hitler. Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a Lutheran pastor who was imprisoned and hanged by the Nazis for an attempt on Hitler's life, called this "pseudo-Lutheranism. The two Kingdoms splits reality into two parts leading to the possibility of a spiritual existence that takes no part in worldly existence.
7. For those of us who remember Holy Communion being offered in Lutheran worship once a month or even four times a year, Luther would wonder why so infrequently. Luther spoke of becoming "one cake" with God and others, not just other Communion-takers but also "common and one with all other people on earth".
8. We should serve our neighbor joyfully in part because of Holy Communion. Luther said that only by living in connection with others, not only other Christians but all our neighbors, especially those who suffer, we are truly partaking of Communion.
9. Luther said some terrible things about Jews (of which I hope he has repented). The ELCA repudiated this aspect of our heritage in a formal Declaration to the Jewish Community: "As Lutherans we feel a special burden in this regard because of the catastrophes, including the 20th Century, suffered by Jews in places where the Lutheran churches were strongly represented."
10. I am glad I am a Lutheran Christian because of its emphasis on Grace and Faith!

Faithfully!

Pastor Gerry



The Luther Seal or Luther Rose was designed

for Martin Luther at the bequest of John Frederick Saxony in 1530.

Martin Luther



News & Notes

1st Peach Festival *(more photos page 15)*



St. Paul's Senior Fellowship



Our first Senior Fellowship luncheon of the fall will be held on September 19th beginning at 11:30am. Our guest speaker will be the Executive Director of the Howard County Historical Society, Mr. Shawn Gladden. He will present "*History Show and Tell*" with items from the Historical Society collection. Also, our church archives will be open for our viewing. If possible, please bring a small antique item for other to enjoy. If you plan to attend, please RSVP by calling or emailing Joe and Cathy Dymek at (410-531-1057 or jcdy-mek@verizon.net)



Men's Brotherhood

The Men of St. Paul's gather on the 2nd Saturday of each month for breakfast, a brief business meeting and devotions. All males in the congregation are welcome and invited to attend! The September meeting is Saturday, the 9th at 8:00AM.

Music— Notable Events

Youth Choir-

Tuesdays from 6:15-6:45pm.

Bell Choir-

Meets in the Bells Room, Tues at 7pm

Chancel Choir-

Thurs from 7-8:30pm



Audio Recordings

Check out the website for St Paul's service's recordings. All services from the last 2 months can be found under Gallery/Audio. Just click on the media player link. Hearing assistance is available. Please ask an usher.



BUSINESS NAME

Last But Not Least

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We're on the Web!

www.stpaulslutheran.info

“Like” us on Facebook!

For a while now we have had a St. Paul's Facebook group, well now we have a public page! Find us and click “like” and watch us for announcements! Tell your friends too!

www.facebook.com/StPaulsFulton

Women's Daily Grace August 28th “Follow the Heart of God” (Women of the ELCA)

“Follow your heart,” someone says. That makes sense, considering all the other things that lead us around. But the advice has another angle: Consider how often we follow not our own heart, but someone else's, living up—or down—to their desires and expectations for us.

There is one heart we should pay attention to besides our own and that's the heart of God. We attend to God's heart, not out of duty, but because God's deepest desires for us are our own, if only we realize it. The fourth-century African Christian Augustine put the matter memorably: “Our heart is restless until it rests in you.” Why? He continues, “You have made us for yourself.”

May you find yourself deep in the heart of God.

This message was adapted from a 2008 Lutheran Woman Today (now [Gather](#)) magazine Bible study by Martha E. Stortz.

Lectionary Readings for the Month

Sep 3rd— Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 15:15-21; Psalm 26:1-8; Romans 12:9-21;
Matthew 16:21-28

Aug 10th— Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Ezekiel 33:7-11; Psalm 119:33-40; Romans 13:8-14;
Matthew 18:15-20

Aug 17th— Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 50:15-21; Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13;
Romans 14:1-12;
Matthew 18:21-35

Aug 24h— Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Jonah 3:10—4:11; Psalm 145:1-8;
Philippians 1:21-30;
Matthew 20:1-16





By: Kerry Griffin

St. Paul's Archivist

June 28, 2017

Tales from the Archives is a presentation from the Archives at St. Paul's.

Contributions of items of significance to the Church History or contributions of stories are welcome and encouraged.

It is the goal of the Archive to preserve the Church History and make selected portions of it known to the congregation from time to time.

I can be contacted at:

301.518.8460 cell

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What's happening in the Archive?

- ◆ Cemetery Expansion is in full swing, (See page 10&11 for an update.)
- ◆ September Feature—"The Banners of St. Paul's 2017"

The Banners of St. Paul's

At the suggestion of Donna Beall and as a follow-up to last month's article of St. Paul's history through our stained glass this month's article will feature another perhaps just as unique feature of St. Paul's; our banners that adorn the sanctuary.

The Banner Story—

About 20 years ago, Sandy August got the inspiration that St. Paul's should make its' own banners for the sanctuary and complement worship in addition the purchased banners that had been donated to St. Paul's. She discussed the idea with June Pickett and made a banner for the sanctuary.

The idea took wings and soon other people were making banners for St. Paul's worship for various seasons. Over the years banners have been made by Betty Kerwin, Amie Sibert, Cathy Dymek and Susan Snyder as well as Sandy.

Today, thanks to George Mader and son there are three banner cabinets in the basement of St. Paul's which house about sixty banners.

I will be preparing a booklet, similar to that of the stained glass and make it available to the anyone who would like to request one.

Until then, I have assembled a slide show on line on St. Paul's website.

<http://www.stpaulslutheran.info/photo.php?pageID=33&itemID=12>

I can't do them all justice and present them here, so please visit the website. With the help of Sandy I have selected some representative ones hear and with your help some that at the present whose history is not know will be known. So if anyone out there has any information about any of these banners on-line and in the article please let me know so that proper credit can be given to all your have contributed in one way or another. (More next month)

The unknowns

I will make up a sheet, but on the website, I need help identifying slides: 1, 3, 5, 7, 11, 19, 24, 26, 27, 37, 40, 41, 43, 47, 48, 52, 54, 55, 56, 58 and 59

If anyone has any info. Please help me tell their story.





Made by Betty Kerwin



Made by Amie Sibert



Made by Cathy Dymek



Made by Sandy August



Made by Susan Snyder



Donated to St. Paul's by the Orndorff family.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kerry Griffin

News & Notes

Cemetery Expansion—Progress in pictures



Cemetery Expansion—Continued



Church Council Highlights

Meeting Minutes Synopsis 8/1/2017:

Emma Lehman director of “The Orchard” a homeschool co-op, attended our meeting to discuss the possibility of the co-op to use Sunday School space for the upcoming school year. A motion was passed, however, Emma has chosen a church in Columbia for the upcoming school year.

LEAD (Living Everyday as Disciples) has (6) volunteers, not including Pastor Carolyn (group attended a learning seminar August 11 & 12 at The Claggett Center near Frederick, MD.

VBS had started and 57 children had registered for the week.

Capital Funding Campaign was approved to offset costs of cemetery expansion and new natural gas heating equipment and repair/repaint stain glass windows.

Ken Keefer would like to coordinate a class on Financial Peace University, a nine week course in financial planning and debt reduction from Dave Ramsey, will begin September 13th.

The Peach Festival and Corn Roast were discussed.

Staff changes: Kathleen, the church secretary, had given her resignation notice. Pastor Gerry would like to lighten his schedule beginning October 1st.

Next Council Meeting: September 5th at 7pm.

Peace,

Julie

Brotherhood Corn Roast; August 15, 2017





“In the week that I spent with the people at Kay Anj Village, I have felt and seen the grace of God in ways that I have never experienced in my life.”

Sammi Werner

News and Notes

Thank you!

Mission Trip to Haiti August 26, 2017

To the congregation of St. Paul's,

I will never be able to thank this congregation enough for supporting my mission trip to Haiti. I truly cannot begin to express my gratitude for your kindness and generosity during this journey. In the week that I spent with the people at Kay Anj Village, I have felt and seen the grace of God in ways that I have never experienced in my life.

The people of Cap Haitien and the children and staff at Kay Anj Village do not live an easy life or even a fair life; but regardless of the trials they experience, it is so easy to find joy in what they do have. And not a single person that I met there, didn't thank God for anything and everything.

While we were there, I met a 9 year old boy named Lency, who came to the orphanage about two years ago because he and his younger sister were abandoned at a hospital (his younger sister also lives at Kay Anj). Lency is incredibly shy, but kind and wise beyond his years. When we arrived at the Village, most of the kids came sprinting up to welcome us and show us around. But Lency stayed in the background and watched. Our trip leader told me that Lency didn't have any sponsors so when groups come to the orphanage, he knows there is no one there for him. After spending the week with him, I decided that I wanted to become his sponsor. When we told him, our trip leader said that in the two years he had been there, she had never seen him smile so big.

As his Lency's sponsor, I cover a part of his monthly expenses (including food, school tuition, vaccinations, etc.). But more importantly, I am there to build a relationship with him. I write to him, send him gifts on Christmas and his birthday, and visit him when I can. I am hoping to return in January to spend more time with him and the other wonderful people that I met on this trip.

I am so grateful to have been given the opportunity to build relationships with the children at Kay Anj, but I am especially grateful that God brought me to Lency. The love I felt from him the day that he found out he had a sponsor has changed my heart forever. And it is because of this congregation that this was even possible.



If anyone in the congregation is interested in learning more about Helping Haitian Angels or missions, please let me know. I am so excited to share my experience with all of you!

Mési anpil anko e Bondye beni!

(Thank you so much again and God bless – in Creole)

Sammi Werner

VBS 2017



Our 1st Peach Festival (continued)



“WITH GOD ALL
THINGS ARE
POSSIBLE”

Matthew **19:26**



VBS-

We had 57 children attend
our Bible School this August.

Many thanks to all those who
made it possible!

Peach Festival-

All proceeds went to support
the youth groups' upcoming
trip to Huston, TX summer
of 2018



Peaches from Heyser Farms

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Looking ahead:

Rally Day

On **September 10** we will kick off our Sunday School year with Rally Day.

Classes are for age 3 through High School.

Join us at 9:45am in the Sanctuary!

Your prayers are being asked for the families of those who have entered the peace of Christ:

Jim Aultman, John Corbin and Gloria Wessel

Thanks to all who held on "Clean-Up Day!"

The nursery toys are clean and organized! The clean up of the youth room has begun!

Special thanks to all are contributors and those that make the News & Notes possible!