



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

11795 Rte. 216
Fulton, Maryland 20759
301-725-0241 or
410-792-2223

News & Notes

Volume 10 Issue 12

Regular Worship Schedule

Sunday 8:30am and 11:00am

Thursday evening service 7:00PM each week

Adult Sunday School 9:45am with Dave Shank

Morning Advent Prayers in the Chapel Wednesdays 6:30 & 7am led by Dave Shank

Our Devotions Group, Tuesday, December 5th 10-11am

The Bishop is Coming!

Bishop William Gohl Jr. will be joining us and preaching for worship on December 7 and 10!

Sunday School Christmas Program

The Sunday School Christmas Program will be at 2:00pm on December 10. Join us in the Sanctuary for this wonderful event!

St. Lucia Celebration

Following the Christmas Program, we will go into the Parish Hall for our St. Lucia procession and dessert celebration. Desserts are needed! Please sign up in the Narthex or via the yellow sheet to let us know you are able to bring a dessert to share!

Greening the Church

Following the St. Lucia Celebration we will prepare the Sanctuary for the remainder of the Advent season as well as for Christmas. We should begin decorating around 4:00pm!

Evangelism committee will meet on December 11 at 7:00pm in the Chapel.

Youth Schedule—

Youth Night on December 17 will be a Christmas Party! Join us from 6:30pm-8:00pm. More information will be emailed!



Christmas Schedule -

December 24- 4th Sunday of Advent worship at 10:00am

Christmas Eve Family worship at 6:30pm

Christmas Eve Festive worship at 10:00pm

December 25- Christmas Day worship at 10:00am

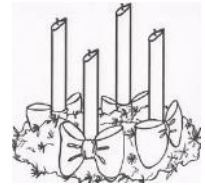
December 28- Worship in the Chapel at 7:00pm

December 31- ONE worship service at 10:00am

January 7th—4pm “From the Manger to a Star”

(details back cover)

December, 2017



Upcoming Events:

- DEC 7 & 10 BISHOP GOHL IS HERE
- DEC 9 BROTHERHOOD IS HOSTING A PRE-HOLIDAY CLEANING PARTY 9AM
- DEC 10 2PM SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM 2PM FOLLOWED BY A ST. LUCIA CELEBRATION DESSERT
- DEC 10 GREENING THE CHURCH AROUND 4PM
- DEC 11 EVANGELISM COMMITTEE MEETS 7PM IN THE CHAPEL.
- DEC 17 YOUTH NIGHT CHRISTMAS PARTY 6:30 TO 8PM
- DEC 24 ONE SERVICE 10AM 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT.
- DEC 24TH CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE 6:30 & 10PM
- DEC 31ST ONE SERVICE 10AM

Inside this issue:

PASTOR'S CORNER	2/3
PRESIDENTS MESSAGE	4
STEWARDSHIP	5
BROTHERHOOD	6, 13
SR FELLOWSHIP & MUSIC	6
READINGS & WOMENS DAILY PRAYER	7
ARCHIVES	8, 9
CEMETERY HIGHLIGHTS & EVANGELISM	10
YOUTH PHOTOS	11
COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS	12
PROPERTY HIGHLIGHTS	12
ALL SAINTS THOUGHT	14
SR. FELLOWSHIP PHOTO	14-15

News & Notes

Pastor's



As I write this, the week of

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

Martin Luther

Thanksgiving has just begun, I realize that outside the doors of this and other churches, the Christmas Season is already in full swing. This year, stores have been having "Black Friday" type sales throughout the month of November. The malls already have their decorations up and Santa is already available in most places for kids to have their photos taken with him. Toy stores are fully stocked with the hottest toys for this year, clothes stores have extra racks out. Floor space in all stores seems to be at a minimum as there is extra inventory for people to choose from (trying to get a stroller through these extra displays has been a challenge!)

After we gather with our families or friends for Thanksgiving Dinner, there are stores that will be open to begin the official shopping

season. Friday brings Black Friday, Saturday is Small Business Saturday, there's Cyber Monday and then giving Tuesday. There's a rush of things going on- homes to prepare, gifts to wrap, parties to attend, a hustle and bustle all around us.

And yet, here at church we will be doing something different. We will be postponing our full Christmas celebration until the evening of Christmas Eve. When we gather here on Sunday mornings, we step away from the hectic pace of the world, into something different. Into a time of waiting. With the waiting we are preparing for a few things. At the beginning of the season, we will be looking ahead, to the future, to the time when Jesus will come again. Then in the midst of the season we turn to our preparation to celebrate when Jesus entered into the world as a baby.

Advent is a season of hope, a season of expectant waiting, it is not a time for us to jump right into our Christmas celebration. Instead, we count the time laid out ahead of us. We use the Advent Wreath to help with this counting. As the nights of the winter season get longer, and the days get shorter, we light the candles on the Advent Wreath and it gets brighter each week! This season also calls for simplicity in worship.

Here at St. Paul's we are very traditional in how we worship and the things we do. Due to that tradition, as we approach 2018 we will be making a change. The

Advent and Christmas- two different seasons

Worship and Music Committee recently discussed our altar flowers. The reason this discussion began was that there were many weeks throughout the past year when flowers are not dedicated by someone, and therefore the cost of the flowers ends up being covered by the church. A proposal was made to supplement those weeks where no one has made a dedication by using artificial flowers. We decided against doing this because of the symbolism that fresh flowers hold. They show us new life, and yet, since they are cut flowers, they quickly wither and remind us of the frailty of life itself.

This also brought us to discussing the fact that we typically have flowers adorn our sanctuary year-round. There are times of the church year when that isn't appropriate. That includes the penitential season of Lent, Holy Week, and Advent. The reason Advent is included with this time when flowers are to be omitted, is the simplicity we are looking for during worship as we wait in hope for our Lord's arrival. This also highlights the celebration that comes with the arrival of Christmas! Because of this, when the sign-up sheets for 2018 flowers are hung in the hallway, the dates for Lent and Advent will be omitted. (We will have flowers during Advent this year because for most of the weeks people have already signed up).

I realize this means there will be people who traditionally dedicate flowers

during these times for the birthday, anniversary or other events in the lives of loved ones and I would like to suggest two alternatives. First, would be to shift the celebration to another date. There are already times when this shift is taking place because someone had already signed up for flowers on the date you were hoping to sign up for as well. Second, would be to make a donation to something else in honor or in memory of your loved one. During Lent we focus on spiritual disciplines and fasting- contributing to a feeding program would be one suggestion. The same could be true during Advent. There are plenty of ways to honor those we love, even during the times of year when flowers on the altar are not used!

While this change may take some time for adjustment, it will be a good change. Not having the flowers adorn the altar for the weeks of Advent and Lent means the flowers for Christmas and Easter will add more to our festivities!

May you all have a wonderful, hope-filled Advent and very Merry Christmas! I hope to see you all for worship throughout this Advent season, for Christmas Eve and Christmas day as well as for the other events we have planned for the congregation!

Peace,

Pastor Carolyn

Associate Pastor

Due to technical difficulties Pastor Gerry's article will not run this month. Pastor Gerry's article will return in January. So instead, since there seems to be a theme this month about the twelve days of Christmas, I present "*The Twelve Days of Christmas*" which was in my personal archive courtesy of Elsie Mae Bassler in a Christmas letter.

¹The Twelve Days of Christmas

There is one Christmas Carol that has always baffled me: what in the world do leaping lords, French hens, swimming swans and especially the partridge in the pear tree have to do with Christmas?

From 1558 until 1929, 271 years, Roman Catholics in England were not permitted to practice their faith openly. Someone during that era wrote this carol as a catechism song for young Catholics. It has two levels of meaning: The surface plus a hidden meaning known only to members of their Church. Each element in the carol has a code word for a religious reality that children could remember.

The **partridge in the pear** tree was Jesus Christ

The **two turtledoves** were the Old and New Testaments.

The **three French hens** stood for faith, hope and love.

The **four calling birds** were the four gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

The **five golden rings** recalled the Torah or Law (The first five books of the Old Testament)

The **six geese-a-laying** stood for the six days of creation

The **seven swans-a-swimming** represented the seven fold gifts of the Holy Spirit: prophesy, serving, teaching, exhortation, contribution, leadership and mercy.

The **eight maids-a-milking** were the eight beatitudes of Jesus. ("Poor in Spirit", "They who mourn", "The meek", "Those who hunger and thirst for righteousness", "The merciful", "Prue in heart", "Peace makers" and "Those who are persecuted for my sake".)

The **nine ladies dancing** were the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

The **ten lords-a-leaping** were the Ten Commandments.

The **eleven pipers piping** stood for the eleven faithful disciples.

The **twelve drummers drumming** symbolized the twelve points of belief in the Apostles' Creed.

So there is a history lesson from Elsie Mae. I found it interesting and enlightening and worth sharing. So perhaps this strange song will have new meaning for you too and be a favorite Christmas Carol.

¹Song first published in England for children in "*Mirth without Mischief*" about 1780 Wikipedia.com



'Oh, we poor people that we should be so cold and indifferent to this great joy that has been given us. For this is indeed the greatest gift, which far exceeds all else that God has created. Yet we believe so sluggishly, even though the angels proclaim and preach and sing, and their lovely song that sums up the whole Christian faith, for 'Glory to God in the highest' is the very heart of worship.'

Martin Luther on Advent and Christmas



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

November, 2017

Greetings, and I hope you are reading this while in good health and in good spirits. My prayers go out to all in need of healing and support. As a member of St. Paul's I am always encouraged and energized when I see the friendly support that we provide each other at services, in our ministries, and in just generally being social with each other. If you step back and look, we are a family. With that in mind, we have embarked on a project to raise over three hundred thousand dollars in 3 years. We will need to encourage each other to keep the commitment we made at the special congregational meeting. Our goal is set and waiting for us to reach it!

As we gather with family and friends to celebrate Thanksgiving, and soon after the season of Advent and Christmas, we are also called to remember and help those in need. We collect food for baskets and an Angel Tree gives us an opportunity to make Christmas a little brighter for a local family. These simple traditions are important-thank you for supporting them. And I can already hear the question, "Are you ready for Christmas?" My hat is off to any of you who will be able to say "Yes", as we have a short Advent season this year. But we will continue with our Christmas program on December 10, and have an opportunity to decorate the church with greens afterwards. What a great way to keep us remembering why Christmas is a holiday. I hope to be able to be there myself, and join with many, many of you to continue this tradition. And speaking of traditions, our youth have again decorated a tree for display at the Kennedy Krieger Festival of Trees way up in Baltimore. Thanks to all who participated and supported this great charitable activity!

Peace to all and see you on Sunday!

Erik

Highlights

2018 Pledges

38 pledges in total

2018 Pledge Details: 25 weekly pledges
12 monthly pledges and 1 annual pledge

Capital Campaign Pledges

23 pledges in total

Capitol Campaign Details: 10 one time
pledges, 8 annual pledges, 3 over the
three years and 2 as able to give

Angel Tree—The “Angle Tree” is in full swing. Please consider making a local family’s wish come true this Christmas Season by taking a tag from the Angel Tree and purchase an item on the “wish list”. Then bring the gift back unwrapped to St. Paul’s by December 10th. Contact Randy Arndt marndt9434@aol.com for full details.



“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

Faith Practices—Living Our Baptism

<https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Congregations-and-Synods/Faith-Practices>

Living Our Baptism is our faith journey as we come from the baptismal waters to live a new life in Christ. Living Our Baptism means living a life nurtured by the faith practices of discipleship.

Martin Luther taught that every morning we are to rise and say, “I am baptized into Christ” and then go about our daily life inspired, guided, and empowered by our baptism as we live a life made new by Christ. The Holy Spirit guides and inspires us to continue in the covenant of holy baptism

Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

live among God’s faithful people;

hear the word of God and share in the Lord’s Supper;

proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed;

serve all people following the example of Jesus; and

strive for justice and peace in all the earth?”

Response: We do, and ask God to help and guide us.

(Evangelical Lutheran Worship, pg. 236)



St. Paul's Senior Fellowship



The next Senior Luncheon (for all those who are 60 years and older) will be held on the December 19th beginning at 11:30am. (The third Tuesday of the month.) We will have an annual gift exchange. Perhaps a newly purchased \$10 max or a "shove-under" where you re-gift any item. Please wrap your gift. We request that you RSVP by Friday, December 15th to Joe and Cathy Dymek (jcdymek@verizon.net, 410-531-1057) or sign up on the yellow sheets in the bulletin.



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 December meeting is Saturday, the 9th at 8:00AM. The entire congregation is invited. Please RSVP to Ken Keefer so we know how much food to prepare. After the meeting we will be hosting a pre-holiday cleaning of the Church.



Music— Notable Events

Youth Choir-

Tuesdays from 6:15-6:45pm.

Bell Choir-

Meets in the Bells Room, Tues at 7pm [**They will be playing Dec 3 (11 am) , Dec 17 (8:30) and for Epiphany in January 7 at (4PM)**]

Chancel Choir- meets

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.



Last But Not Least

11795 Route 216
Fulton MD 20759

Phone: 301-725-0241
e-mail:
st.paulfuton@gmail.com

“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

We're on the Web!

www.stpaulslutheran.info

Women's Daily Grace Smelling the Roses Nov. 20th (Women of the ELCA)

What is the first thing we do when we get close to a rose? We bury our noses in these flowers and inhale deeply. The beauty of the bloom gives us pleasure. The fragrance gives us joy. Paul urges us to bury our noses in the aroma of Christ and embrace the joy.

This message is an excerpt from “Rose Lady” by Terry L. Bowes, in the July/August 2017 issue of Gather magazine.

Lectionary Readings for the Month

December 3- First Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 64:1-9, Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19, 1 Corinthians 1:3-9, Mark 13:24-37

December 10- Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 40:1-11, Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13, 2 Peter 3:8-15a, Mark 1:1-8

December 17- Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11, Psalm 126, 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24, John 1:6-8, 19-28

December 24- Fourth Sunday of Advent

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16, Luke 1:46b-55, Romans 16:25-27, Luke 1:26-38

December 31- First Sunday of Christmas

Isaiah 61:10-62:3, Psalm 148, Galatians 4:4-7

Luke 2:22-40



News & Notes



By: Kerry Griffin

St. Paul's Archivist

November 20, 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

kerrygriffin@verizon.net

What's happening in the Archive?

- ◆ Cemetery Expansion is getting closer to completion. Presently working on getting the post and chain up to match the original sections of the cemetery. About a 1000 ft. of chain has been purchased along with the needed hooks and "eyes".
- ◆ The Lutheran Bells Story (Courtesy of Cathy Dymek, Betty Kerwin and Valerie Groff.) Inspired by "Twelfth Night" "A Star to Manger." Celebration that will be hosted by "The Lutheran Bells" January 7th at 4pm in the Sanctuary.

The Lutheran Bells

Article contributors: Sandy August, Cathy Dymek, Joe Dymek, Valerie Groff and Betty Kerwin

Christmas is coming and hopefully so is the start of a new tradition here at St. Paul's, "Twelfth Night", an Epiphany Celebration of music and food, hosted by The Lutheran Bells. I thought this would be good time to tell the story of The Lutheran Bells with the help of :

Cathy Dymek, Betty Kerwin and Valerie Groff.

In the Beginning there were Bells...

It all began In 1986. At that time, Joe Dymek was on church council as the Worship & Music representative. Joe does not recall who suggested to him that the church should have handbells. However, he ran into Elizabeth Iager and was talking to her about it. Elizabeth offered to donate the funds for the initial octaves that were needed. So a 3-octave set of 'Malmark handbells were donated by Elizabeth Iager in memory of here husband, Ellsworth.

Joe Dymek then asked Betty Kerwin if she would consider becoming the Handbell Director and Betty was willing to do that. Cathy Dymek said, "I don't believe she (Betty Kerwin) had any experience with handbells but she worked hard to learn what was needed and more." Betty has continued to be the director since 1986.

...and it was good



What makes St. Paul's Lutheran Bells ring? (by Valerie Groff)

The *St. Paul's Lutheran Bells* hand bell choir is currently made up of 10 ringers: Linda Alms, Sandy August, Cathy Dymek, Carla Heyser, Daniel Heyser, Steve Groff, Valerie Groff, Jane Hershey, Jan Wilson, Lee VanGundy, and the director, Betty Kerwin. The number and names of players fluctuate as "guest ringers" (i.e. substitutes) fill in when needed. The choir size has varied over the seasons. When it got to be as few as 4 ringers, Betty's mom (Lillian Kerwin) would tell her, "Don't be discouraged. Use what you have and the Lord will give you more." Lillian was right.

A few years ago, the choir asked for donations towards the purchase of another octave of bells (tiny, higher notes) and then a generous donor purchased 5 larger, low notes for the bass. That expansion put us at 4.5 octaves of bells, and let us not forget the 3 octaves of chimes. The chimes were a generous donation in the 1990s and added a very different tonal quality, more mellow, to the notes played. The chimes have also been used by the children since they are not as easily damaged if dropped, are lighter and easier to hold, and the metal finish is more tolerant to finger prints than the shiny brass castings of the bells.

Why do ringers ring?

People join our bell choir for a number of reasons. Playing bells is truly a "team sport." Technically, our entire set of bells is considered to be a single instrument and it is unusual in that it is an instrument that takes many people to play. This team effort attracts some.

(continued page 9)



2017 Lutheran Bells

Back row: (left to right)

Carla Heyser, Daniel Heyser, Betty Kerwin, Sandy August and Kathy Dymek.

Front Row: (left to right)

Jan Wilson, Steve Groff, Valerie Groff, Jane Hersehy and Linda Alms.

Not Pictured: Lee VanGunday.

¹ Malmark handbells are made by the Bell Craftsmen from Malmark and are of the finest quality.

Malmark is a world renown company based in Pennsylvania and widely used by **American Bell Choirs**.

Cathy Dymek, being a piano player, liked the aspect that it was like being in a “band” - playing her part with others in the group to make the music together as a whole.

Some people who are used to playing piano find the bells a “stretch” and challenge as they now play only 2 notes and do it in conjunction and coordination with those around them.

For some, the attraction is in being able to be part of a beautiful song without being good at playing an instrument on your own. In fact, one of our members has a hard time reading music but uses coping mechanisms available only in bell ringing. Bell ringers can learn their “position” and where the notes are located. After that, it is all about counting and staying with the rest of the team during the march to the finish line.

For some, playing bells has been a “family affair.” Linda Alms joined the bells with her twin daughters when they were in 5th grade. They all read music and Linda liked the idea that it was an activity that they could all do together as a family. It was a great fit.

The Alms family of three is the largest number of players from a single family, but we have had husbands and wives, brothers and sisters, and a fa-

ther and son. In addition, the bell choir sometimes recruits other family members to play guitar, piano, and even to help in the set-up and tear-down when the choir plays (affectionately referred to as our “roadies”).

Some of our “helpers” are not family but have felt like kin after spending time with us. Tanya Hoegh-Allan and Bill McWithey have helped by accompanying us with wind instruments, directing or simply lifting a set of bells when our team is in need.

The “team” is very important during set-up and tear-down! Tables, pads (necessary for protecting the bell castings), covers/clothes, music stands, music folders, lights, gloves, mallets, and the bells themselves, all need to be carried from a closet or the basement and arranged properly. This work can make the bell choir members dream of playing a piccolo or almost any lighter and more compact instrument!

Our newest member, Sandy August, was interested in the bells for years, but until retirement, she could not manage one more evening commitment. Sandy says that she enjoys the challenge of this new activity and she recommends it to anyone who has an interest.

A number of years ago, John Murphy was persuaded, by his wife, Sally, to substitute and play “just one song” at a Christmas Eve service. The one song turned into three and he was not allowed to leave the choir for a number of years.

So the ways and reasons that people join vary widely, but what keeps everyone there is the joy of being part of something greater. Your two notes (versus your “two cents”) are a vital difference between random notes and a melody. Just as in professional football teams, sometimes the bell team just does not gel and play as well on Sunday as they ought. However, there is always the knowledge that “a joyful noise is being made unto the Lord.” Go team bells!

Consider joining us. We always need ringers and we are willing to teach you. You know where to find us. We play in the back of the sanctuary.

Respectively Submitted,

Kerry Griffin

News & Notes

Cemetery Expansion—Progress in pictures



The location of the posts are marked. A thousand feet of chain with matching hooks and eyes have been purchased and delivered to the church. Soon the posts will be installed with the chain, hooks and eyes and the expansion will match the original.

One grave has been sold in the new cemetery.

From the Evangelism Committee

We had our first meeting (in many months) November 13th with a great turnout of 9+ people. Hopefully this is the re-beginning of something great. Some of the key things that we are working on included a New Members class, reaching out to our Lost members, planning monthly activities to reinvigorate our congregation, and working on our Outreach programs for the community.

Activities that are in the works:

- “From the Manger to the Star” – set for January 7th at 4:00 pm; musical celebration from various groups in the church with a pot luck dinner to follow; star gazing to follow.
- Potential Bible Jeopardy for Shrove Tuesday (February);
- Youth Dinner in April or May (perhaps on Mother’s Day);
- Columbia Jazz Band performance – late May or early June;
- Church Picnic & Fireworks – July

Our next meeting has been planned for Monday December 11th at 7:00 pm and we cordially invite you to join us with your ideas and thoughts that will energize OUR congregation.

Youth Activity—Decorating our tree at the Kennedy Krieger Festival of Trees way up in Baltimore. “Symbols of Our Faith”



Church Council Highlights

Meeting Agenda November 7 @ 7pm

Opening Prayer-Bible Study by Pastor Carolyn

Old Business

- Approval of October Minutes
- LEAD update
- Past Events—October
- Stewardship Update
- Budget Review
- Capital Campaign and Cemetery

New Business

- Calendar: Farm to Table Nov 11, Congregational Meeting Nov 12 and Evangelism Meeting Nov 13
- Social Outreach needs and requirements
- Entry Door Approval—Ken
- Other New Business—Memoria Funds, Flowers and Newsletter
- Twelfth Night—January 7th

WE CLOSED IN PRAYER

Next council meeting Tuesday, December 5, 2017 at 7pm.

Property Committee November Activity Highlights

Property Committee Notes

The Replacement Doors for the Front Entrance have been ordered. The replacement doors will be metal with a similar window cross pattern. There will be one 36 inch wide operational handicapped accessible door and a smaller 30 inch wide panel that will typically only be opened for funerals. The new doors will have automatic openers and will be able to be opened automatically from the Administrative Assistants Desk during the week when someone is at the outside window.

A Railing Contractor will be adding a railing and gate to the Basement Steps of the Parsonage to make the area safer for children. He will also be modifying the handicapped ramp in the front of the church to allow for full size caskets to be wheeled up the ramp.

The contractor from Constellation Energy had submitted the application for converting the Church and Parsonage Heating, Hot Water and Church Stove to Natural Gas. We are waiting on the approval to get a quote on retrofitting or replacing the appliances.

We plan to have a cleaning party after the December Men's Brotherhood Meeting on December 9th.

Ken Keefer
Property Committee Chair



Farm to Table Turkey Dinner (top left & right)

Brotherhood meeting and Cross polishing (bottom left & right)



Brotherhood Highlights

Men's Brotherhood Notes

In November the Men's Brotherhood held our November Farm to Table Turkey Dinner. The Turkey was provided by Maple Lawn Farms and the Vegetables and other Fixings were provided by Heyser Farms. The result of the event was almost \$1400 going to the Capital Improvement Campaign specifically designated for the Cemetery Expansion.

The Brotherhood also had our monthly breakfast meeting on the 2nd Saturday in November which was especially well attended this month. Following the meeting we set up the parish hall for the Farm to Table dinner and polished the Cross in the Sanctuary and also the Altar in the Chapel.



For our December meeting we are inviting all members of the Congregation to attend the meeting with the breakfast being prepared by the Heyser Family. Please, plan to attend by providing us with an RSVP either via the Sunday yellow sheet or by contacting Ken Keefer via e-mail. Following the December Meeting we will do some cleaning of the church to spruce it up for the Christmas season.

Ken Keefer
Brotherhood President

News and Notes

Senior Fellowship Dinner—November 14th



“ Verily I say
unto you,
Inasmuch as ye
have done it unto
one of the least
of these my
brethren, ye
have done it
unto me.”

The members of the St. Paul's Senior Fellowship would like to thank those who supported their recent social outreach project with food and monetary donations. Because of the tremendous generosity of our congregation, a total of 24 care packages were prepared and mailed to our servicemen overseas. Many thanks to all who contributed!



Matthew



Enjoying a traditional turkey dinner with all the fixings prepared by Joe and Cathy who were at Church at about 5am to get it started. Many thanks! (top left, bottom left and top right.) Beginning our service project. (bottom right)

Sr. Fellowship (continued)



Sr. Fellowship Service project.

As you can see in the surrounding pictures the seniors worked hard at packing for our service members. (Mostly men, but there was one woman). Each package contained an individually addressed letter signed by all present that day offering encouragement.

The event was extremely well attended with about 40 or more participating. Joe & Cathy did an excellent job as around thirty were expected. Everyone enjoyed great food and fellowship.

As you can see we were wearing our Thrivent shirts as Thrivent graciously is providing matching funds to cover the mailing costs overseas which was done in the flat rate postal boxes.

Again, thanks to all! A tremendous Social Outreach for St. Paul's

**"WITH GOD ALL
THINGS ARE
POSSIBLE"**

Matthew 19:26



Parish Staff

Rev. Carolyn Shank

Lead Pastor 443-474-2673

pastorcarolynshank@gmail.com

Rev Gerry Rickel

Associate Pastor 443-326-1115

ric7277@verizon.net

Tom Leeseberg-Lange

Cantor 410-465-8825

tom4813@verizon.net

Open 301-725-0241

Administrative Assistant

st.paulfulton@gmail.com

Parish Council and Contacts

President, Erik Domaas 301-221-4306

edomas@gmail.com

Vice President, Russ Werner 301-421-1815

wwerner@travelers.com

Secretary, Julie Smith tomuchjrs@verizon.net

Treasurer, Mark Slater 301-928-4300

mnslater@verizon.net

Financial Secretary, Donna Frederick 301-776-9598

frederickdonna@verizon.net

Evangelism, Open

Worship & Music, Dave Riethmiller

724-518-1414 astrodave84@gmail.com

Social Outreach, Lisa Slater mnslater@verizon.net

Christian Education Karen Jennings

410-353-4873 jmj8740@verizon.net

Stewardship Bob Peters 301-490-5326

bob.peters31@gmail.com

Youth & Family, Rachel Stephens

rweig486@gmail.com

Property Ken Keefer 301-490-5465

ken.keefe@verizon.net

Communications, Kerry Griffin 301-518-8460

kerrygriffin@verizon.net



Special Notes: Did you know that St. Paul's is offering Advent Early morning spoken prayers and Worship led by Dave Shank? The series will be held Wednesdays (December 6, 13 and 20th) at 6:30am and 7am in the Chapel with silent prayer time between services.

If you missed St. Paul's Lutheran Church Thanksgiving Eve Service, you missed a very moving Worship experience with an interactive sermon and expressions of thanks and caring.

"From the Manger to the Star"
12th Night celebration, Sunday, January 7, 4:00 PM.

This year at St. Paul's we are planning to honor the 12th night of Christmas with a special celebration.

During Advent for four weeks we prepare for the Christ Child, and on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day we hear the familiar Christmas Story and sing Christmas carols. And then it's over and we move on to Epiphany and the afterglow of Christmas.

Ancient Christians celebrated 12th night as the coming of the Magi, the three kings who followed the star to Jesus. But there are many traditions surrounding this holiday. So at our 12th night celebration we will.....

- Sing and hear more of the special music of Christmas
- Share a meal and fellowship
- Create a reminder of the Bethlehem star to take home
- Share a Kings Cake, a traditional dessert
- Star gaze outside as we remember the Star of that first Christmas
- Take down the decorations in the sanctuary as the symbolic end to the Christmas season.

We hope that you and your family will join us for this new and different celebration here at St. Paul's.