



## St. Paul's Lutheran Church

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# News & Notes

Volume 10, Issue 2

## Sanctuary Eagle Scout project

The Eagle Scout project started on Sunday January 8th after the late service. Kurt Knoernschild worked up the project's plan, arranged for Boy Scout help, coordinated the floor re-finishing and new carpet vendors and directed the removal and re-placement of the pews. The Boy Scouts removed the pews and re-placed the pews as directed by Kurt. The project re-spaced the pews adding approximately 2 inches between the pews by removing one pew from each side of the Sanctuary which was shortened and kept in the Sanctuary by placing them against the back wall. There were two pews shortened to accommodate wheel chairs in the middle of the Sanctuary and one pew shortened next to the back door to allow for more access to the exit. The project was completed as projected with the Carpet being installed on January 18th. The carpentry for the pew shortening and donations for materials were provided by the members of the St. Paul's Men's Brotherhood.



## Altar Guild

Thank you, Donna Beall, Janet Jew, Patrick Thompson, John & Sally Murphy for Thursday's Service Chapel Support.

Thank you, Pastor Carolyn, Pastor Gerry and St. Paul's congregation for encouragement, strength and prayers during our son, Ross Manges' cancer surgery.

By Carole Manges



February 2017



### Upcoming Events:

- FEB 11TH- MENS BROTHERHOOD
- FEB 12TH- YOUTH NIGHT
- FEB 21ST- SENIOR FELLOWSHIP
- FEB 28TH- SHROVE TUESDAY- THEOLOGY ON TAP

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

Martin Luther

### Pastor's Corner

*The Small Catechism* was written by Martin Luther to be used as a teaching tool in the homes of believers. His suggestion was that it should be recited each evening at the supper table. Luther found this necessary because he realized people didn't know the 10 Commandments, Creed and Lord's Prayer so he wrote this Catechism to be used in homes. (He wrote *The Large Catechism* for Pastors to learn even more when he realized they lacked understanding as well). For anyone who took Lutheran Confirmation classes, you should have studied *The Small Catechism*, some of you may have had to memorize it! For many that was probably the last time you studied it (or maybe even thought about it). If that's the case, or even if you and your family study the Catechism regularly, this Lent is a time to re-visit Luther's teaching tool.

This year is being called “Reformation 500” since this October 31<sup>st</sup> is the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Martin Luther posting the 95 Theses. Since this is a big anniversary, we are going to be spending more time this year talking about the Reformation than we usually do!

Our theme for Lent this year will be *The Small Catechism*. We have copies of *Free Indeed: Devotions For Lent 2017* for everyone to use at home. For each day there is a reading from *The Small Catechism*, a quote, short reflection and a prayer. Please start by taking one booklet per family. Once Lent arrives, if there are copies left, I will make an announcement and more can be taken. We will also have a limited number of large print editions, please see me to get one of those!

For our mid-week time together we will gather on Wednesdays beginning at 6:00pm in the Parish Hall for soup, salad and bread (watch for sign up sheets coming soon). Around 6:15 we will transition to study time where we will be looking at hymns Luther wrote for each part of the Catechism. The first week we will look at the Ten Commandments Hymn, followed by The Apostles' Creed Hymn, the Lord's Prayer Hymn, Baptism Hymn and finally the Communion Hymn.

To wrap up our evenings together we will move to the Sanctuary for Evening Prayer. This year we will be using a different musical setting for our worship time. It's called Holden Evening Prayer and its quite easy to sing! The choir will be scattered throughout the congregation to help us learn the music quickly!

As always, if you are not able to attend the entire evening, please join us for however much you are able! This is promising to be a wonderful Lenten season! It all begins on March 1 which is Ash Wednesday when we will gather for worship at noon in the Chapel and 7:00pm in the Sanctuary.

Prior to the beginning of our Lenten disciplines, we will have pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, February 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. No tickets are necessary, a free-will offering will be collected for Youth and Family Ministry!

Peace,

Pastor Carolyn

## Associate Pastor

### TO REFORM OR NOT TO REFORM

So this is the year we have been waiting 500 years to celebrate...namely the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation. Actually if you have been waiting anywhere near 500 years to celebrate this event I would have to say you are a real church junkie and you need to get a life (or a job at a seminary but there are fewer and fewer of those).

So to quote Luther “What does this mean?”

After Martin Luther was sprung from his two years in hiding in the Wartburg Castle, he found that a “new” church had begun calling themselves Lutherans. Martin was not impressed. He supposedly remarked; “Who am I, miserable worm that I am, that they should call themselves after me? Better they should call themselves Christians after Christ!” It seems that his advice was not taken because 500 years later we are still calling ourselves “Lutherans”!

Perhaps this is the reason one of my Seminary professors strongly suggested that we should not call ourselves “the Lutheran Church” but “The Church of the Reformation”. Like Luther my professor’s idea for a name change did not catch on either.

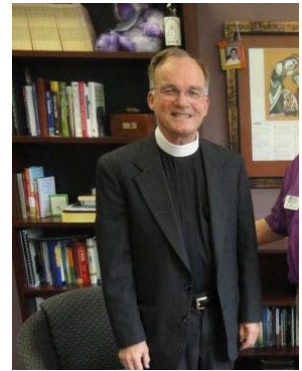
I think the point that both men were making is that if we really are the Church of the Reformation and Luther was a reformer of the Church, then the work never stops. As long as we are this side of heaven the church (and the people who make it up) always need to be striving to be what God would have us be as the People of God. That is what it means to be about “re-forming” the church.

The greatest of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century theologians, Karl Barth, who likely borrowed it from one of the greatest theologians of all time, St. Augustine, said “The church is always in need of reformation.”

So what does it mean? The word reform basically means “to form again”. The church universal along with the Lutheran Church at the bend in the road in Fulton is always in need of re-forming ourselves lest we stray from the true message of the Reformation; “since all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God; they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,” (Romans 3: 23-24).

From One in Need of Re-forming!

Pastor Gerry



"On Easter  
Day the veil  
between  
time and  
eternity  
thins to  
gossamer.  
~Douglas



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## BGE Small Business Energy Solutions

St. Paul's was recently contacted by a representative of BGE who wanted us to consider their Small Business Energy Solutions program. The program replaces old inefficient lighting with new energy efficient florescent tubes, electronic ballasts, LED bulbs and LED lighting fixtures. The BGE program reviews the current lighting and makes a recommendation of bulbs and fixtures that should be replaced. If accepted BGE then pays 80% of the cost of a private contractor making the changes. The proposal that St. Paul's received recommended replacing virtually all the florescent tubes, ballasts, lights and replacing the most of the outside fixtures that hadn't already been replaced. The BGE estimate for the savings that St. Paul's will receive in our monthly electric bill was almost \$200 per month and the cost to St. Paul's for the project was \$3,783 after BGE paid 80% of the total \$18,917. So we expect the cost of the project will be recouped in less than 2 years. The other advantage is that the new cheaper lighting is generating greater levels of illumination within the Church and outside.

Ken Keefer  
Property Committee

## Men's Brotherhood

The Men of St. Paul's gather on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month for breakfast, a brief business meeting and devotions. All males in the congregation are welcome and invited to attend! The February meeting is Saturday the 11th at 8:00AM.

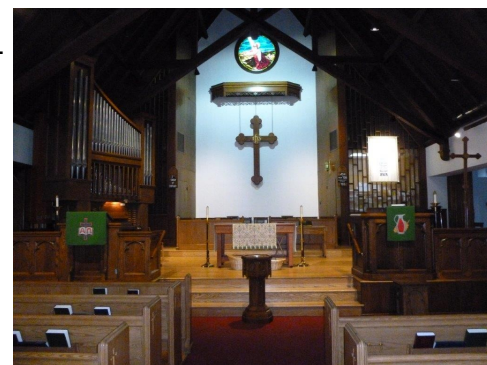
## Stewardship via ELCA

### GROWING WELL-FORMED STEWARDS

In our baptism we were made children of God and members of the body of Christ, the church. God's message of hope and reconciliation strengthens us in our faith walk and calls us to be servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries.

As stewards we embrace perspectives, practices and skills that assist us in being faithful and trustworthy. These would include:

Trust in God's abundance, Ground oneself in biblical and theological principles, Hold a holistic perspective, Perceive connectedness, Engage and critique culture, Embrace financial health as an expression of faith



## Rediscover Macedonia

## News & Notes

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### Youth in the News.

February 12<sup>th</sup>- Youth Night 6:30pm-8:00pm

February 28<sup>th</sup>- Prepare, serve and clean-up Shrove Tuesday pancake supper



### Shrove Tuesday

Join us on Tuesday, February 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm for the Pancake Supper before we begin our Lenten Season. A free-will offering will be taken to support the youth and family ministries.

All youth are welcomed and encouraged to attend and help out!

### St. Paul's Senior Fellowship

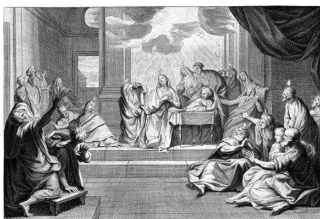
The next gathering of the St. Paul's Senior Fellowship will be February 21st beginning at 11:30am. We will have a Valentine's Day celebration so wear your red! We look forward to lunch, fellowship and laughter. If you know someone that you think might be interested in attending, please invite them. A reminder that if Howard County Public Schools are cancelled or 2 hours late, we will cancel our luncheon. Please RSVP to Cathy and Joe Dymek at 410-531-1057 or [jcdymek@verizon.net](mailto:jcdymek@verizon.net) or sign up on the yellow sheets. We truly appreciate those RSVPs!



### Social Outreach Network

### -Grassroots Meals

Please join us to prepare monthly meals for the residents of the Grassroots Shelter and Crisis Intervention Center in Howard County. Prep work for the meals (chopping, washing, peeling, etc.) is done after church services on the third Sunday of each month; the next date is Sunday February 19th. All are welcome to help in this fun, fellowship-building activity.



"Beautiful music is the art of the prophets that can calm the agitations of the soul; it is one of the most magnificent and delightful presents God has given us. "  
—Martin Luther

### 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.



A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

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## Last But Not Least

### Theology on Tap

We will gather for Theology on Tap in February on the 28th beginning at 6:00pm in the Parish Hall for Shrove Tuesday. For more information please contact Pastor Carolyn.

### “Like” us on Facebook!

We're on the Web!  
[www.stpaulslutheran.info](http://www.stpaulslutheran.info)

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](http://www.facebook.com/StPaulsFulton)

### Daily Grace— Women of ELCA

### AN INSPIRING WOMAN

More than 20 years ago, Women of the ELCA created an endowment fund and named it after Martin Luther's wife, Katharina von Bora Luther—affectionately known as Katie Luther. She was a woman we all can admire for her bold faith. Katie actively lived out her boldness as a wife, mother, farmer, brewmaster, innkeeper and more.

Katie continues to inspire us as we celebrate her birthday on Jan 29th. Do you know a woman who lives out her faith like Katie? Are you supporting and affirming her in her calling?

*This message is adapted from “Celebrate Katie's birthday” by Eva James Yeo on Women of the ELCA's blog*

## Lectionary Readings for the Month

### February 5 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12];  
Psalm 112:1-9 [10];  
1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16];  
Matthew 5:13-20

### February 26 Transfiguration of our Lord

Exodus 24:12-18;  
Psalm 2;  
2 Peter 1:16-21;  
Matthew 17:1-9

### February 12 Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Deuteronomy 30:15-20;  
Psalm 119:1-8;  
1 Corinthians 3:1-9;  
Matthew 5:21-37

### February 19 Seventh Sun after Epiphany

Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18;  
Psalm 119:33-40;  
1 Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23;  
Matthew 5:38-48



**Integrative Medicine**

Pastor Gerry

Patient Centered Care for Optimum Health and Healing

Tuesday, February 21

10:30am – 12:00 noon

Wellspring Center, Lower Level

Guest Speaker:

Dr. Emily Ratner, Medical Director

Center for Integrative Health

MedStar Montgomery Medical Center

Learn how Integrative Medicine seamlessly combines conventional medicine with established practices from other healing traditions to treat each patient's unique conditions and circumstances, including:

Chronic Pain or Illness, Stress/Anxiety, GI Disorders, Treatment Side-Effects, and Needed Behavioral Changes such as Weight Loss, Smoking Cessations, etc.

ALL WELCOME!

Sponsored by St. Andrew "Health Warriors" Support Group

The Lutheran Church of St. Andrew

15300 New Hampshire Ave.

Silver Spring, Maryland 20905

Questions? Contact St. Andrew's Faith Community Nurse

Marilee Tollefson at [marileetollefson@gmail.com](mailto:marileetollefson@gmail.com)