



The Epistle

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | OCT 2019

ST PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
19 W PENNSYLVANIA AVE.
WALKERSVILLE MD 21793
301-845-4600

INFO@SAINTPAULSLUTHERANCHURCH.ORG

Consecration Sunday is October 20th!

**The theme for 2020 is “Serving Together”
(Luke 10:25-37)**

How are we like each of the three main characters?

Our congregation's Finance & Stewardship committees will continue using the new Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program for the 2nd year to continue teaching the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education in 2020.

The new Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. The new Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, “What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?” On Consecration Sunday, October 20th, we are asking our attendees and members to make their financial commitments to our church's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries in this community and around the world.

On the Calendar

- Oct 1st– Congregational Life
- Oct 7th– Finance
- Oct 8th– Council
- Oct 13th– Harvest Home Sunday
- Oct 20th– Consecration Sunday
- Oct 22nd– Executive Council
- Oct 27th– Halloween Party
- Oct 28th– Worship & Arts

November Sneak Peak

- November 3rd– All Saint's Sunday
- November 9th– Youth Yard Sale

Cont.

Consecration Cont.

During the morning worship service, our guest leader will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, followed by every attendee and member completing an Estimate of Giving Card. The process will be done in a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card.

Following the worship service on October 20th, there will be a celebration luncheon in the Parish Hall catered by Mar-Lu-Ridge for a time of fellowship and to announce the campaign results.

We encourage participation in the Consecration Sunday events through the Consecration team and Council. Since we will make no follow-up visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend Consecration Sunday worship.

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in the Consecration Sunday events.

Troy Keeney,
Council President

Harvest Home Sunday

Each year Saint Paul's welcomes autumn by remembering to share our blessings with those in our community who are need by supporting the Glade Valley Community Services Food Bank. **Oct. 13th** this year we ask that you bring in food donations to worship that will be donated to the food bank!

Shopping List

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| • Tuna (URGENT) | • Mac & Cheese | • Cereal |
| • Peanut Butter (URGENT) | • Hamburger Helper | • Pasta/Spaghetti |
| • Canned Peas | • Canned Fruit | • Spaghetti Sauce |
| • Baked Beans | • Boxed | • Soup |

OCTOBER L.A.U.N.C.H.

Sunday October 6th from 12:30-2:30 pm at I Made This! in Frederick

This is an **RSVP required** event as space is limited. Families and youth are invited to join us at I Made This! To create "Believe" mugs for local patients receiving cancer treatment. Lunch will also be provided, carpooling is available please mention it as you RSVP. There is no charge for this event, but you must RSVP by October 3rd to Belinda Burriss, text/call 240-315-5030 or email youthandfamily@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org. Looking forward to learning more about the Believe project and sharing a little hope and love!

What is LAUNCH?

LAUNCH is the new family and youth ministry here at St. Paul's. The old Sunday School model has not been working for the last several years, so the Christian Education Committee has developed a new event based ministry for this program year.

**LAUNCH stands for
Love And Understanding Nourish Changing Hearts.**

We are called as Christians to love one another, what better way to model this for the next generation than through action. Understanding others is a great place to start, when you understand another person and God's love for all of His creation, then our hearts change. We are able to love even in difficult circumstances just as Jesus loved us. In practice LAUNCH will look like this: each month we will host a unique event with a focus on a community service partner and who they are helping in our community and world. We will be agents of love for God beyond the walls of our church. It's faith in action and we are ready to LAUNCH!

German Dinner Thank You!

A big thank you to everyone who helped out with this year's German Dinner! You helped make our 25th year extra special; whether you donated a baked good, helped set-up, ran the food lines, cleaned the dishes, or supported us by buying a ticket, every bit is appreciated.



Vicar's Valley

We are entering the time of the harvest, the time to reap in our lives.

We have sown many things since the spring came, some with excellent results and others not so much. If we look at the spring as the spring of our lives there are those events that we are proud of and those not so much. How are we supposed to revel in the reap when we feel that there are uncertainties or roadblocks in our lives that get in the way of enjoying the harvest and festivals that come along with this season? I know that the congregation of St. Paul's has been through some trying times in the past, yet I am looking forward to a fruitful spring in this fall season as I begin my time with St. Paul's.

In one of the devotionals I read, I found an entry I believe will guide our lives and be a pathway to the great things to come here in Walkersville. The passage talks about the sowing of trees and what it is we should be looking for as we come to know Christ in our lives.

"In Israel, it's amazing how many trees are being planted all the time. In fact, the green line that you hear about so much in the news isn't an actual drawn borderline, but it is a visible line you can only see from the air. It's where Israelis stopped planting trees.

Now suppose I wanted to plant a fig tree -- would I go searching for lemon seeds? Of course not! And even if I planted a fig tree next to a lemon tree, it would still only produce figs, no matter how close it was planted to the lemon tree.

So in our lives, though we may be surrounded with sourness, even planted in a "lemon grove", we are "fig trees" -- and the sweetness of our fruit will remain, because we were planted by the Lord Himself, to produce good fruit under all conditions. There is no question that if we are planted in Him the good fruit we bear will come forth in both good times and bad times.

Life is filled with ups and downs, unforeseen circumstances that send our lives in strange loops we weren't expecting -- nevertheless, we were fashioned to be fruit bearers...unconditionally. You may say 'George, you don't understand, you have no idea what's happening in my life right now!' You're right, I don't -- but I do know the Lord who laid down his life unconditionally for you -- and that He did it so He could abide in you and you in Him -- guess what for...

If life is overwhelming you, then it's time to reach down deep and draw nourishment from the Root of our lives -- Jesus the Messiah. The sap of His Life will produce... MUCH! GOOD! FRUIT! Despite the lemons!"

As we begin to prepare for a new future in the life of St. Paul's, let us go forward with the attitude that planting good seed, nurturing our lives with respectful conversation, patience, understanding, and loving our neighbor are the keys to our relationships with Christ in our lives. I am looking forward to our journey together with Christ by our side growing the good fruit. We know there may be times when we stumble, but it is comforting to know we will have each other to lift up and foster the good fruit of our relationships. Sharing the Good News of God is what we are daily called to accomplish. I know the love of Christ and want to share, won't you please join me in this mission so we can be the hands, feet, and voice of God spreading the gift of Christ throughout our community?

-Vicar Phil

ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

- **Amazon Smile:** As we enter into the fall season, please consider how your online shopping (last minute Halloween accessories or Thanksgiving preparations) can benefit Saint Paul's! We are registered with Amazon Smile; when you shop at Amazon Smile you'll find the same prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon with the added bonus that **0.5% of eligible purchases will be given to St. Paul's.** To shop at AmazonSmile: From your web browser search for AmazonSmile. Your Amazon account, account settings, Wish List, wedding registry are all the same. Or follow [our link](#).
- **GVCS Thank You:** Glade Valley Community Services and Food Bank continues to show their thanks to us for our support in monetary and food donations! Check out the bulletin board in the parish hall to read the thank you notes.
- **Frederick East Classical Partnership:** As we continue to settle into our partnership with FEC Homeschool Co-op, please be aware that Belinda Burriss can be contact with any questions or concerns at youthandfamily@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org or 240-315-5030
- **A Special Message from Vicar Phil:** Susan and I would like to thank you for the warm welcome we received last week as we began our journey here with you at St. Paul's. We were thankful for all who gathered to share Christ's love with one another and to enjoy fellowship together after worship. We are looking forward to getting to know you better and share in the joy that you have for this congregation.
- **Transition Team Report:** We've gotten the old gang back together to continue with our original task of seeing St. Paul's through a time of transition. The Transition Team has met with Vicar Phil and will continue to meet with him regularly to address any needs or concerns that may arise in this first year. Thank you for your continued support of one another as we continue to change and grow. If you have concerns or questions please feel free to see anyone on the Transition Team, Amy Mildenstein, Betsy Galliher, Florence Schell, Gary Wachter or Belinda Burriss. We strive to create avenues for open communication through this transition.



UPCOMING EVENTS

St. Paul's Annual Children's ***HALLOWEEN PARTY***

Sunday, October 27th from 6:30-8pm In the Parish Hall.

Kids 11 and under are invited to wear their costumes (nothing too scary) & join in on the Fall Fun! There will be games, crafts & snacks! Older kids, including young at heart are welcome to come & help out—Don't forget the costume! Please bring a non-perishable baking item such as cake mix or icing to be donated to the food bank. If you have any questions/concerns or would like to help please contact Belinda Burriss youthandfamily@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org or 240-315-5030

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

All Saints Sunday resonates with the conviction that in Christ every saint is a sinner and every sinner a saint. Lutherans especially remember on this feast that it is God's grace, apart from our works, that makes us saints. We find lasting rest only in the mercy of God. At St. Paul's we follow a tradition of honoring all the saints who have passed away since last All Saints Day. We will light a candle and ring the bell for each person named.

Please use worship cards placed in the offering plate to name the person you would like to remember in this way throughout the month of October. You may also call the office with this information. Please give the name, relationship to you and date of death.

You may also bring a photo of that person to church on Sunday Nov. 3, to be placed on a window sill in the sanctuary during the worship service.

Please address any questions to the Worship and Arts Committee.

Betsy Galliher
Worship and Arts Committee Chair