

The Epistle

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2020

SAINT PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

14 & 19 W. PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE

WALKERSVILLE, MD 21793

WWW.SAINTPAULSLUTHERANCHURCH.ORG | 301-845-4600

SOUP-ER BOWL SUNDAY

Goal is 100 cans of soup

You're the MVP in the battle against hunger in our community

Help stock the shelves with soup on February 2nd, by bringing donations of canned soup for the GVCS Food Bank. With your help we can reach our goal of 100 cans of soup. Just think how many warm meals that will provide on these cold winter nights to our neighbors in need.

UPDATE FROM CALL COMMITTEE

Pastor Robin Simpson-Litton will be joining us for worship on Feb 9 and leading a Q & A regarding the next steps for the Call Process. Please join us after service on the 9th (snow date of Feb 23rd) Any questions, please contact anyone on the Call Committee:

Ed Sell, Johanna Waters, BillieJo Kahler, Connie Chesnik, Keith Horton or Trish Valcarcel

Thank you for your continued prayers for our committee and congregation during this exciting chapter!

ASH WEDNESDAY - FEBRUARY 26TH

Service 7:30pm

"..today with the whole church we enter the time of remembering Jesus' passover from death to life, and our life in Christ is renewed."



Church Events

- Feb 2nd - Soup-er Bowl
- Feb 4th – Congregational Life 7pm
- Feb 9th – Pastor Robin and the Call Process 10:40am
- Feb 10th Finance Committee 7pm
- Feb 11th Council 7pm
- Feb 14th Valentine's Day
- Feb 16th Christian Education 8:15am
- Feb 22nd Mardi Gras Game night 4pm-9pm
- Feb 24th – Worship & Arts 7pm
- Feb 25th – Executive Council 7pm
- Feb 26th – Ash Wednesday Service at 7:30pm

Frederick County Youth Collab

The first meeting of the Frederick County Lutheran youth will be February 9th at 6pm at ELC in Frederick. Parents and youth in middle and high school are encouraged to attend. Flyers, with specifics, will be posted throughout the building and sent directly to emails of youth and their families. Ecclesiastes says this: By yourself you're unprotected. With a friend you can face the worst. Can you round up a third? A three-stranded rope isn't easily snapped. Ecclesiastes 4:12 (MSG) Coming together with other Lutherans in our area can only make the youth ministry in all of our congregations stronger. Please pray that this inaugural meeting will glorify God in our community. If you have any questions please see Belinda or Vicar Phil

Life on the Earth

"Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." We commend this body to its place, "earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust" (ELW, p. 284). On this day more than on any other, we acknowledge that we are earth creatures, coming from earth and returning to its soil. We mark that earthiness on ourselves with a cross, the sign of the earthiness also of our God."

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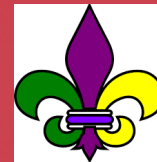
BREAKAWAY 2020

The High School Youth Group is heading to BREAKAWAY in Ocean City, MD on March 6th for a weekend retreat. BREAKAWAY is sponsored by Mason Dixon Youth for Christ. The youth are excited for this opportunity to be together with 1500 other students to praise God, advance their faith journey and have a great time. Be sure to ask them how the weekend went when we get back.

Have you been tidying up?

SAVE THE DATE:

The spring youth group yard sale is scheduled for March 14th from 8am until 2pm. Donation drop off will be Friday, March 13th from 8am until 4pm. The Preview Sale will begin at 4pm on Friday evening. Thank you for continuing to support the youth ministry at St. Paul's.



Mardi Gras Game night (PH) Saturday, February 22nd @ 5pm

Potluck Dinner followed by games!

Please bring a dish to share
and your favorite games.

All are welcome!

Invite your friends and neighbors.
Contact Sheila Kahler 301-845-2820



The Vicar's Valley

Greetings:

As we begin our journey into the Lenten season, we pause to reflect on our faith and how we see ourselves in relation to other individuals in the Passion Story. During our journey we will utilize a Lenten series entitled "Convicted" which includes full worship liturgies and sermons that enable the congregation to step into a courtroom for Ash Wednesday and the following five weeks of Lent. Each Convicted service puts a different biblical person on trial, accused of an actual crime. An overall guiding question leads the arguments of each case while the congregation serves as the jury. We will continue in the tradition of St. Paul's and meet in the Parish Hall for soup and fellowship before we have our worship service. I pray that you will join us as we march with Christ to the Cross and the Resurrection.

Recently St. Paul's has fallen prey to a thief, as well as someone trying to scam money or gift cards from the congregation. Please know that we are taking steps to safeguard you and your information to prevent further incidents from occurring. We will never ask you for money or personal information via text messaging. Should you ever doubt the veracity of someone soliciting funds from you on behalf of the church, you can always contact the Church Office, a councilmember, or me. I ask that you bear with the Social Media Team and the office staff as we make changes to the website, as well as best practices within the office.

Pastor Robin Simpson Litton will join us for worship on February 9, 2020 to update the congregation on the Call Process and be able to answer any questions you may have about the process moving forward. I realize that there may be some trepidation amongst some of you with the method by which this process is progressing and I assure you that I had my reservations at the beginning as well. I have been in a circumstance as a parishioner where a similar process took place, but my fears were allayed when that pastor took over and began their ministry. Please do not hesitate to talk to me at any time with any questions, comments, or concerns. If I don't have the particular answer, I will endeavor to get that answer to you in a timely fashion. Your assistance, accompaniment, and guidance are welcomed and appreciated.

Thank you again for placing your trust in me thus far. I look forward to building our relationships through conversation, prayer, and hearing the Good News of Christ.

Peace Vicar Phil

Email: pastor@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org Cell phone: 202-497-0584

Mar-Lu-Ridge

February 25: 9a.m. – 1p.m. in Potomac Lodge
RSVP: mlr@mar-lu-ridge.org | 800.238.9974

The Enneagram has been used worldwide for spiritual direction since ancient times and benefits individuals seeking personal insight. Interest has expanded significantly in recent years (particularly for millennials). In “*Falling Upwards*”, Richard Rohr calls it a transformative tool and maintains “the only people who do not appreciate the Enneagram are those who do not fully understand it or have used it well.”

Join us for an insightful workshop by advanced academically accredited coach in only approach recognized by American Psychological Association. Those interested in taking a free online Enneagram assessment in advance can email SpiritStrengths@hotmail.com for details.

Robert Driver-Bishop is one of only two ELCA rostered leaders who are both certified as advanced Gallup Strength Finders and Enneagram coaches (the other is Professor Nancy Lee Gauche at Luther Seminary). Bob’s Doctor of Ministry specialized in congregational transformation and spiritual direction. Currently he regularly coordinates staff and leadership workshops for congregations throughout the country and helps synods with congregations in transition.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday, March 6th

The host country for WDP 2020 is Zimbabwe. The WDP 2020 program is based on Jesus’ encounter with a person who, although positioned for healing, had not acted upon the opportunities given (John 5:2-9a). Jesus asked –“Do you want to be made well?” with the theme “Rise! Take Your Mat and Walk”. You are faced with this life-changing question. What are you going to do? Use this opportunity to reflect with your WDP group, community and ecumenical partners. Prayer and action are what link us together around the globe.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flower Committee has made a change regarding Altar flowers.

If you are providing flowers for the Altar, please remove them after the service. You may return the green plastic cups to the sacristy at your convenience. If you have any questions, please contact Patty Rimel or Betsy Galliher.

We still have plenty of dates available for someone to sponsor flowers for the altar for this year. Please check the sign up sheet on the bulletin board for available dates.

NOTE: There will be no flowers needed during the Season of Lent.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, February 9th — Update from the Call Committee with Pastor Robin Simpson-Litton

Saturday, February 22nd — Mardi Gras Dinner and Game Night

Wednesday, February 26th — Ash Wednesday, Service at 7:30pm

Wednesday, March 4th — Lenten Soup & Sandwich with Devotions

Sunday, March 6th — World Day of Prayer

Saturday, March 13th — Youth Group Yard Sale