

Epistle

July 2020

Saint Paul's Lutheran Church

14 & 19 W. Pennsylvania Avenue, Walkersville, MD 21793

www.SaintPaulslutheranchurch.org 301-845-4600

#IN THIS
TOGETHER 
Saint Paul's

Thank you to Linda Yopp who pointed us in the direction of her Home Depot. Her manager, Mr. Andrae Bailey, provided 1100 gloves, 500 masks, assorted sanitizers/soaps, and painters tape to St. Paul's for our efforts in reopening.



July Birthdays

July 5	Michael King
July 5	Barbara Sofinowski
July 7	Marion Ake
July 12	Kathleen St. Denis
July 13	Nicklas Pank
July 15	Kelly Anderson
July 15	Jay Burriss
July 19	Artie Fauble
July 19	Shirley Merando
July 20	Jean Kelley
July 20	Lauren McCloskey
July 28	Mary Ann Conley
July 28	Betty Schubert
July 29	Heather Anderson
July 31	Zachary Zeller

Vacation Time

Heading out of town this summer however still wish to give your tithe to St. Paul's? Consider easy enrollment in our Electronic giving program through our new and improved website:

www.saintpaulslutheranchurch.org/give

"Ask God to help us cherish and not abuse the blessings of freedom and liberty, work to change our society where there is injustice and oppression, and accompany our global neighbors and companion churches striving for freedom, justice and voice."

<https://elca.org/Resources/Prayer-Ventures>

SUMMER CONNECTION

Summer just would not be the same without VBS. While we are not meeting in person this summer, we are blessed to still be able to share the story of God's love with the world especially our youngest seekers. Beginning on July 7th at 10am, we will be exploring those stories through Facebook videos. Every Tuesday in July a new video will be released featuring "The Incredible Stories of Ordinary Things." The following Thursday we will issue a challenge on Facebook as we continue to seek out God in our everyday lives. If you have any questions please reach out to Belinda and don't forget to share with your family and friends

Please see Flyer included for Saint Paul's Sub Fundraiser! Order Instructions on form. Please call Marie Purswell with any questions.



Summer & COVID at the Food Bank

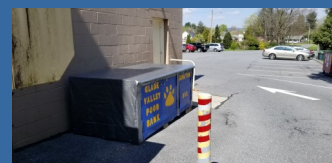
Means fewer donations are received, and our shelves can get bare.

Hunger doesn't stop because of a virus. It doesn't take a summer vacation, and neither do our clients. Donate a food item for every day you are on vacation (or every day you wish you were on vacation).

Items most in need are shampoo/conditioner, toilet paper, cereal, macaroni and cheese, and Hamburger Helper. Other needs are peanut butter, canned fruit, spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, canned peas, and baked beans.

If you have a garden, please remember the Food Bank. Our clients love fresh garden fruit and vegetables throughout the summer. Bank Email: gvfb21w@gmail.com

Please bring them to the donation bin on the side of Town Hall



VICAR'S VALLEY

All that it takes is the offer of a cup of cold water, an act of hospitality that sets us on the road to discipleship.

We have been spending a lot of time in our scriptures this Spring on what it looks like to be a disciple and the benefits that come from being this witness in the world. We have also heard it is not an easy task, one that could lead to injury or even death, but we are assured that Jesus will be with us every step of the way. In this time of stay at home requirements, as well as fears about being in public spaces, some of us may have found it difficult to truly get into the spirit of being a disciple in the world. I know that it has been difficult for me not to be able to visit with folks in person, but I have continued to make those connections over the telephone, though it is just not the same. In Matthew 10:42 Jesus assures us that even a small token of hospitality in the offer of a cup of water is enough for us to realize we have done what it takes to be a disciple in God's eyes.

As we work our way towards gathering in person and with the 4th of July holiday weekend quickly approaching, we are presented with rays of hope in our lives as Christian Disciples. Discipleship, even more-so now, is how we can connect with those we have been distanced from or have lacked a person to person connection. We have been provided with the opportunity to share the Good News in a positive way with our congregation, as well as to reconnect with distanced members, people from across the country, and those who are thirsty for hearing that God is good. We are still searching for ways in which to be good stewards to St. Paul's and to our community as a whole. You can be a disciple in not only promoting your love of God, but that of St. Paul's, and our witness to serving our neighbor. The easiest way for you to "share a cup of water" is to share St. Paul's with your friends, family, and acquaintances. If you are connected to the internet, all you have to do is share

our webpage (<https://www.saintpaulslutheranchurch.org/>)

our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/saintpaulslutheranofwalkersville/>)

and our YouTube channel (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSP6I9JEpgsBUXlow117_-Q/featured)

Even the smallest act of discipleship or supporting a disciple is noticed and can make an impact on someone in your life. We must be cognizant of those who don't connect in this manner and strive to find new avenues of inclusivity. I would love to hear any ideas to make this a reality.

Your leadership is diligently looking at various projects that will enhance the capabilities of St. Paul's to serve our neighbor, with some already underway. I ask you to be faithful in your gifts to the church in order that we can continue to do great things for our future together. I pray for you and your families to have a blessed holiday and that we can be back together soon.

Should you have any questions or concerns, I am glad to speak with you at any time.

Peace Vicar Phil

Office phone: 301-845-4600

Email: pastor@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org

COUNCIL'S CORNER



As we look ahead toward celebrating July 4th, we thought this would be a great time to lift up in joyful praise some of the recent discipleship events and opportunities that are happening at St. Paul's!

- We are incredibly thankful for all the continuing offerings and contributions given during these challenging times. Offerings have remained constant during our virtual worship environment and we have had numerous new donors using the online giving since the pandemic impacted our in-person worship services. Interested in making a bigger impact, consider online giving. Check out the GIVE NOW button at <https://www.saintpaulslutheranchurch.org/> Should you need help to sign-up, contact Joann in the office (301-845-4600), and a member of leadership will assist you with your gift giving!
- Check out the new signage in front of the church the next time you drive through Walkersville. Our stained glass window also lights up at night. Many thanks to Russ for uncovering this treasure and restoring it for our daily use!
- St. Paul's hosted its 1st Blood Drive with the American Red Cross on June 10th. Thanks to all the donors who gave a total of 33 pints of blood and to all the volunteers who worked this event. We are working on organizing the 2nd Blood Drive in September/October.
- The Congregational Life Committee recommended and Council approved the \$400 local benevolence (June to September) to DE/MD Synod for COVID-19 campaign. The DE/MD Synod matched our amount 3x for a total of \$1,200.
- Thanks to Linda Yopp and The Home Depot (McCain Drive) for donating items (masks, gloves, sanitizer, wipes, and painter's tape). All of these supplies will be essential when St. Paul's reopens.
- Many thanks to the Burriss Family for continuing to mow the church property!
- With over \$2,000 in recently allocated memorial funds/donations and \$700 in grants that Vicar Phil applied for and received from the Synod, we have begun purchasing our own AV equipment to continue livestreaming the services. Additionally, our sanctuary building is now equipped with WiFi! Many thanks to Russ, Julio and JT for their many hours of physical and mental labor!!
- Thanks to a member who donated stereo equipment and by using some undesignated memorial funds to cover the cost for new software (we already had an older computer), Russ and Julio were able to restore the Carrollion music in the church bell tower which plays daily at Noon and 6 pm.
- The Worship and Arts committee is diligently and prayerfully working on a draft plan for the reopening of St. Paul's. Council will be reviewing the plan in order to share with the congregation in the very near future.

Our continued thoughts and prayers are with our church family, we miss your faces and chatting with you in person. We know with prayer, patience, and perseverance our Lord will guide us through this time and bring us to greater love for one another.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERED AT THE TABLE

The Wednesday roundtable discussions airing on Facebook Live have been considering the foundations of our faith over the last several months. The last session for this season will be July 1st as we finish up the Ten Commandments. Roundtable discussions will return on Thursdays in the fall beginning on September 10th. We are looking for some more members to join the table. If you are interested, please reach out to the office or directly to Vicar Phil. Thank you for the support as we have pursued new ways of sharing the Word with each other and the world in this challenging time. See you in the fall!

SOUP KITCHEN JULY 11TH

St. Paul's will be providing dinner for the Soup Kitchen on July 11th. At the time of publication details are still unavailable as to how they will be operating the facility on that Saturday. If you are interested in helping with food donations or with preparation/serving please contact the office. Contact information will be given to Belinda. She will put you on a direct contact list and as soon as details become available she will share them through a direct email. Thank you so much for continuing to support this vital ministry for our neighbors in need. You can leave a message at the office

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **July 1st** **Gather at the Table @ Noon**
 Congregational Life 7pm
- **July 3rd** **Walkersville Fire Works**
 Parish office Closed
- **July 4th** **Independence Day**
- **July 5th** **Youth Sunday**
- **July 13th** **Finance Committee 7pm**
- **July 14th** **Council 7pm**
- **July 27th** **Worship & Arts 7pm**
- **July 28th** **Executive Council 7pm**



BEHIND THE SCENES

The last four months have been a time of adjusting to our new normal. It has been challenging, but we, together have continued to worship together and remain a congregational family. Enjoy a glimpse into Sunday Service and Gathered at the Table.



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN SUB SALE FUNDRAISER

Help support St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Walkersville by buying some delicious subs!
Prepared by a local grocer & condiments.

ORDER+PAY BY JULY 15TH

pick up JULY 26TH 11AM-1PM
@ CURBSIDE TENT on FULTON AVE.

HOAGIES	QTY	PRICE	TOTAL
7" TURKEY & PROVOLONE		\$4.50	
7" AMER. COLD CUT & AMER. CHEESE		\$4.00	
12" HAM & AMERICAN CHEESE		\$6.00	
12" TURKEY & PROVOLONE		\$6.00	
12" ROAST BEEF & SWISS		\$6.00	
12" AMER. COLD CUT & AM. CHEESE		\$6.00	
totals			
KAISER ROLLS	QTY	PRICE	TOTAL
COOKED HAM & AMERICAN		\$3.50	
TURKEY BREAST & PROVOLONE		\$3.75	
ROAST BEEF & SWISS		\$3.75	
CHICKEN BREAST & PROVOLONE		\$3.75	
VEGETARIAN (PROVOLONE, CARROTS & PEPPERS)		\$3.50	
totals			
PRETZEL BUNS	QTY	PRICE	TOTAL
COOKED HAM & AMERICAN		\$4.50	
TURKEY BREAST & PROVOLONE		\$4.50	
totals			
FINAL QTY		FINAL TOTAL	
PAYMENT METHOD	CASH*	CHECK*	ONLINE**

Email your order form to info@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org with the subject "Sub Fundraiser"

*if paying cash or check, please mail to the church office with your order form, and address checks to "St. Paul's Walkersville", comment "subs"

**to order online go to <https://www.saintpaulslutheranchurch.org/give>, from the dropdown "FUND" menu, choose "Fundraiser Payment", enter your final total, comment "subs" in the "Notes" & submit!

CONTACT MARIE PURSWELL WITH ANY QUESTIONS