

Epistle



November Birthdays

November 3	Patricia Ferguson
November 5	Bonnie Leins James Titmas Tori Valcarcel
November 6	Michael Plowman
November 7	Kristen Jack
November 9	Kelly Myer
November 10	Marie Anderson
November 16	Florence Schell Samuel Zeller
November 22	Nicholas Kahler
November 26	Cathy Kutz Travis Waters
November 30	Patricia Fellows



Please come join us for our All Saints Sunday Service on November 7th at 9:25am.

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 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.

Join Saint Paul's for our **80th Celebration** *for Members of the Military.*

On November 14, 2021 we will be recognizing our Military Members. If you have served, are serving or if you would like to honor a Service Member Please send the name, year(s) served, Branch, whether they are deceased, have served or is currently serving to the Parish Office by **November 7, 2021.**



"It's not how much we give but how much love we put into giving,"
— Mother Teresa

christkindl

— M A R K E T —



Saint Paul's will be joining the in the Walkersville Christkindl Market on December 4, 2021.

Everyone is welcome to participate. We would love if you could give a few hours of your time to help make this event a success for the community and support small businesses.

There are spots for greeters, cashiers, host/hostess for the craft tables, bake table, and refreshments.

Please reach out to the Congregational Life Ministry through the Parish Office if you have ideas to share, or want to be involved with planning this event.

With last year's Christmas Season being unlike any other in modern history, let's work together to make this event one to remember.

We are searching for donations of no longer needed or wanted items

- * gently used jewelry (for our vintage treasures table)
- * holiday décor (for Mrs. Clause's "Attic" table)
- * giftable items or crafts never used
- * homemade baked items (for our "Sweets & Treats" table)
- * donations of **McCutcheon's Apple Cider** for thirsty customers

Proceeds from the Christkindl Market will support Outreach Projects in 2022



Our Fall Blood Drive is scheduled for **Friday, November 19th** and the link for appointments is now open.

Not able to donate right now? Consider volunteering at the drive to check in the donors. Contact the office to help.

Peace, Belinda Burriss
Youth and Family Ministry Coordinator

PASTOR'S PEACE

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9

Last month we had ten people join us at St. Paul's for a seminar on mental health first aid for youth. While the training focused on adults and their interactions with youth, many of the concepts related to how we as adults can interact with each other as well. I believe we can all employ strategies to counter the effect of stress, depression, and loneliness in our lives and of the lives in which we share Christ's journey. Especially in these times in which we have been in quarantine and may not have necessarily been in contact with our usual group of folks, it is important for us to be connected together and watching out for the signs someone may be struggling. I believe three of the core concepts, listen non-judgmentally, give reassurance and information, and encouraging appropriate professional help can be a life-saver when we are with people we know who might be struggling with the rigors of what life has thrown at us.



I recently returned from a weeklong seminar entitled "Law Enforcement Officer Chaplain" in which we spent most of the week searching our own self in response to critical incident stress management. For me, the week was especially draining as we came beside people who have been struggling with various issues from as far back as 40-50 years, to some who had just experienced significant trauma this past February. We looked at the cumulation of various stressors in each of these circumstances to find the best practices in helping others move forward from the pain and depression we all experience in our lives for whatever reason. Whether it was being shot in the face, blown up by an IED, or the loss of multiple friends in a car crash, it is important to support those who are having difficulty coping with their mental health.

I recently spoke with a parishioner who was obviously upset that another family might be leaving the church because they felt as if they hadn't been connected with members they had held a close bond before the pandemic. I believe it is imperative in this time of virtual worship and concern over health issues that we reach out to those we know to let them know they are loved, appreciated, and cared for. I don't believe it is the time for us to wait for someone else to connect with us, we are encouraged to reach out to everyone whom we have relation and even those we might just know in passing at church or wherever to let them know we care.

When we listen non-judgmentally we affirm for the other person we are going to come beside them, to walk through whatever issues they might have, and affirm our relationship with them as a partner in Christ. We also reaffirm for them there are answers. Though we might not always have a solution, we can potentially refer them to someone who may; perhaps a pastor, physician, or other professional who might be better equipped to handle a particular situation. The reassurance we can share with our neighbor may be just what they need to overcome a particular stumbling block in their lives.

If you are in a place where you know someone is struggling or may have lost touch and you don't know how to connect, remind them they have a relationship with Christ and to go to Him in prayer. We don't need to go through it alone, reach out to me or a trusted friend so that we do not leave someone by the roadside without hope.

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope." Jeremiah 29:11

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

Peace Pastor Phil

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

COUNCIL CORNER

St. Paul's shines beyond our boundaries here in our local community. Through the generosity of several legacy members, we have two dedicated and restricted funds which are available to impact and benefit others beyond our church walls.

The Harp Memorial Fund for Needy Children was created to assist and aid children in a foreign country. We are excited and blessed to share that a recent donation was made to Patty's Heart A House of Love for Kenya's Children. Patty's Heart is a Christ centered home for more than fifty orphaned and abandoned children in Western Kenya, Africa. Today, children receive care, food, and shelter along with educational opportunities through this organization. They also collaborate with local authorities to provide emergency refugee for children who seek a safe shelter on a temporary basis. Presently, the organization is building a new long-term structure to house up to sixty-five children and we were able to donate to their construction fund to help with the completion of the interior portion of

COUNCIL CORNER Continued ...

the orphanage. We are excited about this first step in helping these children along with the possibility of continuing our commitment in the future with potential child sponsorship opportunities when they become available. You can learn more at PattysHeartKenya.org

St. Paul's was also able to impact children closer to our home with a donation to the Mar-Lu- Ridge general scholarship program through the Margaret Powers Campership Fund. Mar-Lu-Ridge was founded in 1959 as the Outdoor Ministry of the Maryland Synod of the Lutheran Church. Their mission statement is "We welcome all people to an experience of Christian community that changes lives, makes disciples, builds friendships, and encourages care of God's Creation. The gift to the general scholarship program will allow all youth to attend summer camp no matter their financial situation.

So, as members of St. Paul's when we sit down and gather with our families around the table this Thanksgiving, we should reflect on our giving through the scripture of 2 Corinthians 9:10-11: ¹⁰ Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹ You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

"Let us be grateful to the people who make us happy; they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom." —Marcel Proust



*"Praise Him
The Lamb
Who's Slain"*

Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified. — Romans 8:30