

# Epistle

SAINT PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | FEBRUARY 2022

19 W. PENNSYLVANIA AVE., WALKERSVILLE, MD 21793

WWW.SAINTPAULSLUTHERANCHURCH.ORG , 301-845-4600

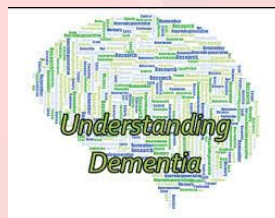
## Wellness Outreach Weekend Feb 4th—Feb 6th

- ♦ Red Cross Blood Drive Feb 4th from 10am to 4pm at the Parish Hall  
19 W Pennsylvania Ave, Walkersville
- ♦ Saturday Feb. 5th from 9am until Noon Free Walk-in vaccine clinic  
in the Parish Hall , 19 W Pennsylvania Ave, Walkersville
- ♦ Sunday Feb. 6th from 1:30pm until 3:00pm Saint Paul's partnering  
with Lutheran Social Services of Maryland to host certified dementia  
instructors from Carroll Lutheran Village to present a 90 minute  
informational seminar on *Understanding Dementia*

## February Birthdays

Doris Alexander	February 1st
Pauline Flanagan	February 4th
Mary Ann Ferguson	February 9th
Christianna Kutz	February 10th
Diane Fauble	February 11th
Trish Lutz	February 13th
Tammy Snurr	February 13th
Sarah Carroll-Clveiekoglu	February 14th
Betsy Galliher	February 16th
Dierdre Kopp	February 18th
David Burriss	February 20th
Gabrielle Zeller	February 20th
Nancy Cochran	February 22nd
Debra Plowman	February 23rd
Johanna Waters	February 23rd
Kathleen Edwards	February 25th
Sam Purswell	February 26th
Cynthia Zeller	February 26th
Cameron Chesnik	February 28th

AMERICAN RED CROSS





# Pastor's Peace

*"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to heal the broken hearted, to proclaim release to the captives, recovering of sight to the blind, to deliver those who are crushed, and to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord." Luke 4:18-19*

On January 23, 2022, I spoke about Jesus's mission statement in my sermon, one that ties in very neatly with the mission statement that we have hopefully adopted as the call for St. Paul's moving forward. A company uses a mission statement to explain, in simple and concise terms, its purpose(s) for being. It is usually one sentence or a short paragraph, explaining a company's culture, values, and ethics. Our mission statement: "Through Christ, we joyfully feed the body, mind, and spirit of all" is one calling us to do varied things in our church, community, and further. St Paul's does a marvelous job of living out this statement in our church and our community through the various ministries hard at work to abide in the call of Jesus. We joyfully support the food bank in a variety of ways including Harvest Home Sunday and Souper Bowl Sunday, as well as supporting the Frederick Soup Kitchen thereby fulfilling our call to nourish the body of those in need. Not only do we nourish the body in these ways, the Annual Strawberry Festival and German Dinner provide ways for us to be in the community with food lovingly prepared to cultivate evangelism with our neighbors.

We also seek new ways to feed the mind of our community. Albert Einstein once said, "If you feed your mind as often as you feed your stomach, then you'll never have to worry about feeding your stomach or a roof over your head or clothes on your back." A few ways we can do this together is to read a book, stop comparing ourselves to others, help another person, take in daily inspiration, and learn a new skill. These activities also feed our spirit, but if we use just one of these activities daily in our lives, our whole mental picture will start to open up the possibilities of what our future can be. We can explore new or different things we might have longed to learn, to seek out knowledge we might not otherwise have challenged ourselves to do.

One of the ways we seek to feed the spirit in our community is through the hearing, speaking, and pondering of the scriptures. In proclaiming God's Good News we are doing exactly as Jesus did in the synagogue, he invites us to share the good news with not only the well to do in our communities, but to share it with the poor, share it with all who have ears. We have dedicated lectors, cantors, faith formation leaders, and others who share this diligently with our membership, but there is more for us to do than just hear Jesus in our church. We have reached out and begun ministering to the community at Victoria Park where our youth have made a tremendous impact on the lives of the residents in such a brief time. This is a community longing for a faith connection and we have the opportunity to make that a reality, to be able to feed the spirit of those who might not have ready access to the Good News. We have the ability to feed the spirit of those outside of these four walls.

We are also presented with an opportunity to serve our fellow humans in supporting an initiative within the Frederick Conference of the DE/MD Synod. Recently, a group from at least six local churches came together to discern a way forward in supporting Afghan refugees in Frederick County. In the weeks to come, we will be presenting ways in which we can all be involved in sponsoring a family in our community. This will include being able to joyfully feed the body, mind, and spirit of this family, highlighting our commitment to living out our new mission. This is how we come together as church through Christ giving everyone a place to be involved. Where will you step up to joyfully feed at St. Paul's.

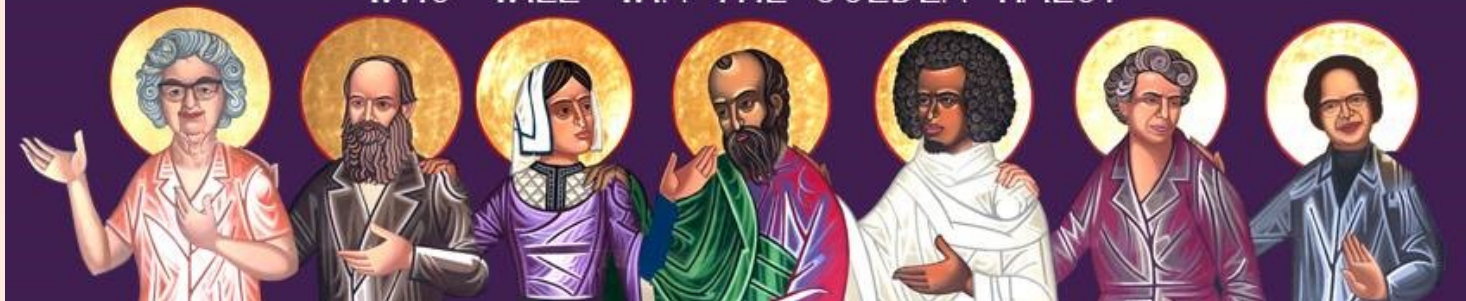
Should you have any questions or concerns, I am glad to speak with you at any time.

Peace, Pastor Phil  
Email: [pastor@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org](mailto:pastor@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org)  
Cell phone: 202-497-0584



# LENT MADNESS

WHO WILL WIN THE GOLDEN HALO?



This is an invitation for you to join a fun, learning experience during the season of Lent. While Lent can be traditionally a more somber time of reflection, this activity has you happy to see the daily email in your inbox. It is loosely based on the springtime college basketball brackets and combines that with the lives of actual historical figures, both famous and little known.

The format is simple. Thirty-two saints, nominated for their deeds and life story by the Global Lent Madness Public, are placed in a tournament-style single elimination bracket. Each pairing remains open for 24 hours to allow you to read your daily email and vote for the person of your choice to continue on to the next round. You can read the biographies from your scorecard booklet or the information you are given online before you vote. The bracket continues to move the “winning” saints forward (Saintly Sixteen, Elite Eight, Faithful Four, Championship) until the final winner is awarded the coveted Golden Halo.

All that you need to do in order to participate is the following:

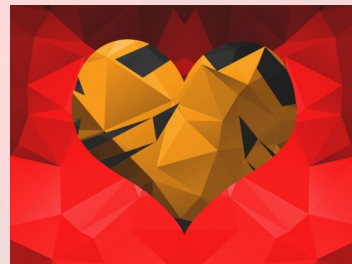
1. Log onto the website [www.lentmadness.org](http://www.lentmadness.org)
2. Check the gray box in the top right corner of the page. Enter your email address to subscribe to Lent Madness and receive notifications of new posts by email.
3. Check your email daily once Lent begins. Remember that you only have 24 hours to register your vote each day. It only takes about 10 minutes to read the biographies. It may take you a bit longer to decide who to vote for and click SUBMIT.
4. Don't worry if you miss a day or two. Life happens. Read and learn as often as you can.

In their own words...Yes, Lent is a sacred time of preparation, penitence, self-reflection, and renewal, but there's no reason a Lenten discipline need to be dreary as we prepare for the Paschal feast. “Taking our faith seriously-but not ourselves- “ is the essence of Lent Madness and it is the opportunity to meet some amazing people who have come before us in the faith. What we learn from the saints is that they, like us, are flawed human beings through whose lives Christ's love shone brightly. If this love can shine brightly in their lives, perhaps we too can be beacons of the Good News.

So, join the growing interest at St. Paul's and experience the fun and the learning this year!

Please contact me if you have questions.

Susan Hayes  
[susanghayes623@gmail.com](mailto:susanghayes623@gmail.com)



Congregational Life ministry made a recent visit to Faith House, (a part of The Frederick Rescue Mission ), serving women and children experiencing homelessness. We provided them with 17 handmade blessed twin quilts; scarves, hats, and gloves for the children there. They were so delighted to accept our offering and gave us so much information on their site and what they try to supply their patrons with to make them more comfortable. We were also made aware of some of their other needs and wishes and we want to fill those too!!

If you would like to join us in some of these projects, please stop in the Parish Hall on Feb. 8th @ 7pm and we can show you what we are envisioning!! It will be FUN and it helps those less fortunate and fills a need in our community! Many hands make light work!



*“Love is either a daring adventure or nothing at all.”*

*Hellen Keller*

## Overview of Gathered at the Table

Gathered at the Table continues with a weekly discussion group livestreaming on Facebook, Thursdays at Noon. We have ventured through the ELCA's Social Statements. We would love your input on future segment discussion topics!

If you miss a week, the videos will remain on our Facebook page under the videos section, please watch at your convenience. It is important that the members of St. Paul's understand and have the opportunity to discuss safely the social statements of our church and topics that we as a congregation would like to talk about. If you would like to pose a question and rather do that in an anonymous way, please email them to the Pastor. They can be addressed without using your name.

Your participation is welcome and vital to our discussions.  
Email to:

[pastor@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org](mailto:pastor@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org)





*"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience,  
kindness, goodness, faithfulness."*

—Galatians 5:22

### **2022 Care Packages!**

Winter Care Packages will be heading out to college students and military personnel. If you have a loved one that you'd like to receive a package, please get their full name and address to Belinda by February 20th. Packages will be assembled the following week and mailed for an early March arrival. If you'd like to contribute items for the packages, bring them to church on Feb 20th or 27th to be included.

Contact Belinda with questions/concerns and addresses: [youthandfamily@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org](mailto:youthandfamily@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org) or leave a message with the office.



### **Soup Kitchen Opportunity**

Save the date for St. Paul's next opportunity to serve at the Frederick Community Action Agency Soup Kitchen on Sunday, February 27<sup>th</sup>. Food item donation sign up will come out mid-month through the weekly email. Please contact Belinda to volunteer or with any questions.



## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Now through February 13<sup>th</sup>**

Souper Bowl Can Drive, now through February 13th.  
Bring in soup cans for the Glade Valley Food Bank



### **Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup>**

5:00pm to 9:00pm, Parish Hall  
Bring your family and friends for food and fun at the annual **Mardi Gras Game Night** with Dinner. Bring your favorite crockpot of soup, sandwiches or dessert to share for the dinner and your favorite board games! Please call the office to sign up 301-845-4600 ***Dress up in Mardi Gras attire and win a prize!***



### **Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Ash Wednesday

