

Epistle

March



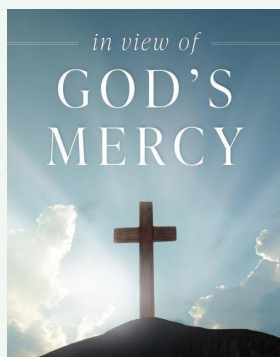
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | SAINT PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH | WALKERSVILLE, MARYLAND
MARCH 2022 – SAINTPAULSLUTHERANCHURCH.ORG

SAINT PAUL'S LENTEN JOURNEY 2022

Ash Wednesday Service:

March 2nd at 7pm in the church

Livestreaming of the service will be available through the church Facebook page.



This year's Lenten series has us explore "In View of God's Mercy;" finding "Mercy in Ashes" during the Ash Wednesday service. During the service, all are welcome to come forward to receive ashes from Pastor Phil. Holy Communion will also be offered to all who wish to receive.

WEEKLY LENTEN SERVICES

Every Wednesday

from March 9th to April 13th at 7pm in the church.

The Soup & Sandwich tradition returns on March 9th at 6pm and all are invited to partake in the meal. We will hold this year's meal in the overflow area of the church and then move to the pews for service at 7pm. Together, we will determine through attendance and interest the continuation of the weekly meal offering for the rest of the season. If you would like to provide soup or sandwich for one of the nights, please contact Patty Rimel through the church office to claim a Wednesday.

*"The Bible is alive, it speaks to me; it has feet, it runs after me;
it has hands, it lays hold of me."
— Martin Luther*

March Birthdays

- Mar 3rd Jaiden Fellows
Jenna Fellows
- Mar 6th Rodney Kahler
- Mar 7th Jake Lutz
- Mar 10th Joey Valcarcel
- Mar 11th Robert Schell Jr.
- Mar 12th Liam McCloskey
- Mar 15th Scott Sube
Betty Walker
- Mar 16th Michaela Zeller
- Mar 18th Abigail Johnson
Joey Lutz
- Mar 19th Lori King
- Mar 24th Ronald Alexander
- Mar 25th Daniel Mildenstein
- Mar 26th Ellen Gupta
- Mar 28th Lauren Barrett

Council Corner

Meet your new Council Members

Due to the events of the last couple years, it feels like we have lost touch with each other. So, to get a little of that connection going we are going to include some information about your council members each month. This month it will be the three newest members Jackie Waas, Mike Harrod and Ellen Bucheimer.

Jackie Waas

I joined St. Paul's Lutheran Church last year, having previously attended Living Grace Lutheran Church in Urbana with my husband Mike Waas. I was born on the outskirts of Philadelphia, but my family moved around a lot (approximately every 2-4 years) growing up. We lived in several places in PA, TX, and NC. Everyone asks if my folks were in the military, they were not. My dad was a realtor and I think he would see a house he liked and off we went! I am a Director of Research and Development for a reinsurer (RGA). I look at medical data and determine if there is a way to streamline life insurance practices. Then work to develop new tools that support that research. I have been very blessed in my life and fully attribute that to God's grace. I didn't grow up in a household that was heavily involved in church. In fact, my father grew up in a Jewish household and converted to Christianity when he met my mother. Over the years I found that being involved in the community was very important. A community that lifts people up and helps them in times of need and promotes the word of God. There were times in my life that I can point to this and say that the church community was instrumental in providing much needed support, more specifically when I was going through cancer treatment in 2012-2013. I have since felt a calling to be that support to others. The council has provided me that opportunity.

Ellen Bucheimer

I'm a Walkesville native. When I was first married, we lived and raised our family on Market St. in Frederick for 30 years but are living in Walkersville again. I have been a member of St. Paul's all my life. I retired from Frederick County Bank after 30 years in its various forms. Two grown children, George, 30 and Kayla, 28, who is married to Nate Willems with our new granddaughter (6 mos.) Delaney. I wanted to join the Council to give back to the Church which has been an important part of my life. Both of my parents have served on the Council in the past so I'm carrying on the Family Tradition!

Mike Harrod

Well, here we go... I'm Married to a wonderful person Michelle Harrod for over 20 years. We have raised 3 men and 1 young lady and live in Sykesville. I have had, 15 years in the military. My main job was Tactical Communications. But the Adventure took me to many places in the world. I Finished college and gained employment as a telecommunications engineer and now in radio management for Howard County Government. My mother and family were very much a part of the Lutheran church, because of our German heritage. My hobbies are very wide ranging, I'm a very outdoorsy person including hunting and fishing as well as Photography, a large part of which is Astrophotography....Nighttime skies. Why did I join the church council? I was asked by Pastor Phil and talked it over with my wife. And wanted to help where I could. With the experiences that God gave me, maybe I could help others.

Welcome Council 2022

Executive Council

President—Russ Mildenstein

Vice President — Trisha Valcarcel

Secretary— Jackie Waas

Treasurer— Amy Mildenstein

Pastor Phil Beck

Ellen Bucheimer

Marcia Gupta

Mike Harrod

Keith Horton

Troy Keeney

Russ Mildenstein

Patty Rimel

Kate Stottlemeyer

Trisha Valcarcel

Jackie Waas

Tom Waters

Linda Yopp

Pastor's Peace

"28 Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. 29 And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. 30 Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him." Luke 9:28-30

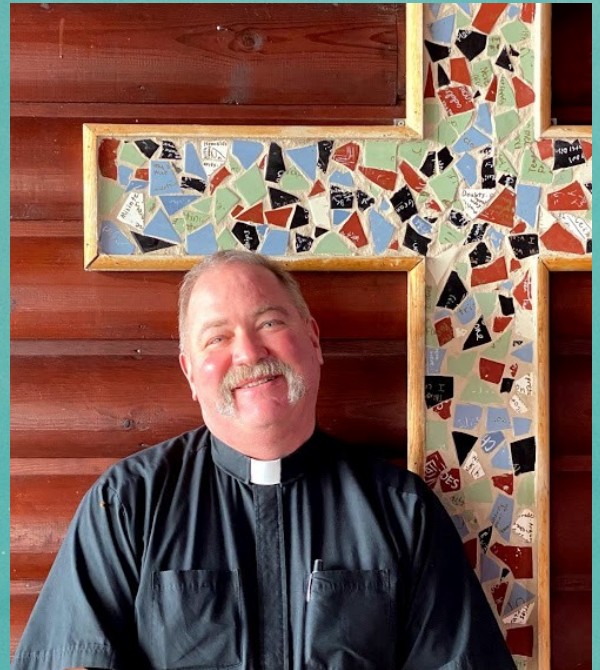
"Today many people have gotten out of the habit of worship, some even believe that gathering together in worship is no longer necessary. This story perhaps has a worthwhile message to once again contemplate:

A member of the church, who previously had been attending services regularly, stopped going. After a few weeks, the pastor decided to visit him. It was a chilly evening. The pastor found the man at home alone, sitting before a blazing fire. Guessing the reason for his pastor's visit, the man welcomed him, led him to a comfortable chair near the fireplace and waited.

The pastor made himself at home but said nothing. In the grave silence, he contemplated the dance of the flames around the burning logs. After some minutes, the pastor took the fire tongs, carefully picked up a brightly burning ember and placed it to one side of the hearth all alone then he sat back in his chair, still silent. The host watched all this in quiet contemplation. As the one lone ember's flame flickered and diminished, there was a momentary glow and then its fire was no more. Soon it was cold and dead.

Not a word had been spoken since the initial greeting. The pastor glanced at his watch and realized it was time to leave. He slowly stood up, picked up the cold, dead ember and placed it back in the middle of the fire. Immediately it began to glow, once more with the light and warmth of the burning coals around it. As the pastor reached the door to leave, his host said with a tear running down his cheek, "Thank you so much for your visit and especially for the fiery sermon. I will be back in church next Sunday."

"There is no one who is insignificant in the purpose of God."
— Alistair Begg



Pastor's Peace con't.)

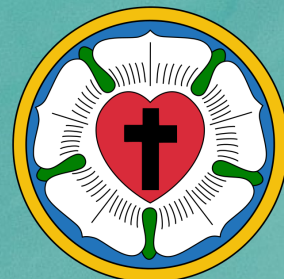
Though we seem to equate Lent as a time of darkness, suffering, contemplation, and a time in which we often give things up in witness to the suffering of Christ, I invite you to turn Lent on its ear to find ways to reestablish relationship with our congregation and be the Light in our clouded world. We will certainly reflect on the journey to the cross, but I envision us embracing the cross as our way to shine in our community with the enthusiasm of Peter. I invite you to be that person who visits or calls one or two of our members who you have not seen in a while and invite them back home. If they say they enjoy wearing their PJs on Sunday morning with a cup of coffee, tell them they are welcome as they are but they might need pants.

We have seen the Glory of God, it's time to come off the mountain and be the body of Christ.

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





Survey/Solutions Sunday

- **Survey:** For those who would like to print out the survey instead of filling it out online, we have a PDF available to print on our website. Also, those who receive their Epistle by mail received a hard copy along with it. We would greatly appreciate if you could please return it the office at your earliest convenience. Results will be discussed at Solution Sunday on March 6th.
- **Solutions Sunday:** March 6th after service. As we prepare for Solutions Sunday on March 6th after service, we would like to update our survey of ministry priorities from 2018. Please take a few moments to complete linked survey below by rating different areas of ministry based on your personal preferences and where you would like to use your time and energy. Together we can discern God's path for St. Paul's. And prayerfully consider joining the discussion on **March 6th**, *many have already been putting forth solutions and we are excited to hear from all.*

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1SXQvQZ0QUjcFpAwKAbmU_NzZINO1TuhHHd79QP6iTjE/viewform?edit_requested=true



Pictorial Directory

Say Cheese! You got it; we want to see you smile. In the next few weeks you will start to hear more about the pictorial directory which St. Paul's will be pulling together. We are excited to see everyone's beautiful faces, sans masks.

With that being said we understand that some may not feel comfortable coming in to take a picture, but we still want to see your family at their best, without masks and all smiles. We will also be accepting your home pictures via e-mail. More details to come

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 2nd — Ash Wednesday

March 6th — Solutions Sunday

March 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th — Soup and Sandwich with Midweek Lenten Service

March 13th — Spring forward! Set your clocks ahead one hour!

March 17th — Saint Patrick's Day



"Life is either a daring adventure or nothing at all"

—Helen Keller