



Epistle

July 2022

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF SAINT PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

19 W. PENNSYLVANIA AVE., WALKERSVILLE, MARYLAND

301-845-4600 | WWW.SAINTPAULSLUTHERANCHURCH.ORG

God is still on the MOVE this summer at St. Paul's!

It's not too late to join in the summer of VBS fun. We have three more Thursdays left in July, beginning back on July 14th from 5:30-7:30pm. We gather in the Social Hall, so follow the sign to the side entrance. The registration link is still up on the website on the Children and Youth Ministry page and we encourage you to invite a friend to join us. Children ages 4 and up are welcome as well as their parents to join Pastor Phil in discussion session as the kids rotate through learning stations.

Walkersville Carnival

The Walkersville Volunteer Fire Company Carnival will be held this year from Monday, July 4th to Saturday, July 9th. In the past members of St. Paul's have been faithful in providing help to the Fire company for this event and that has been greatly appreciated. Again, this year the Fire Company is requesting the help of St. Paul's for this event. Help is needed in the Food Building and various other places on the grounds. If you can help, just show up any night and help for whatever time fits in your schedule. The hours of the Carnival are roughly from 5:00pm until 10:00pm. Feel free to come anytime and stay as long as you wish. Thanks again for your continued support.

July Birthdays

- July 5th - Michael King
Barbara Sofinowski
- July 7th - Marion Ake
- July 12th - Kathleen St. Denis
- July 13th - Nicklas Pank
- July 15th - Kelly Anderson
Jay Burriss
- July 19th - Artie Fauble
- July 20th - Jean Kelley
Lauren McCloskey
- July 23rd - Sue Snyder
- July 28th - Mary Ann Conley
Betty Schubert
- July 31st - Zachary Zeller

"Luther would ask who benefits from our liberty. For Luther, the answer is our neighbors, not ourselves."

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Feeding the Body

Saint Paul's will be serving dinner at the Frederick Community Action Agency Soup Kitchen on Saturday July 30th. If you are interested in volunteering or providing food please contact Belinda. More details will be available throughout the month in the weekly email, so please keep an eye out for that. Thank you for considering being the hands of Christ and serving your neighbor in need.

**"Peace if possible;
truth at all costs."**

-Martin Luther

It's Christmas Time

Wait, what? It's time for Christmas in July at Victoria Park. Save the date, July 24th from 2pm-5pm for a little mid-year Christmas fun. We will host bingo, sing some songs and enjoy a frozen treat and some pizza. All are invited to join in the celebration and spread the cheer! Please contact Belinda to help. youthandfamily@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org

*"People who despise
advice will find
themselves in
trouble; those who
respect it will
succeed"*

-Proverbs 13:13

Quilt Blessing

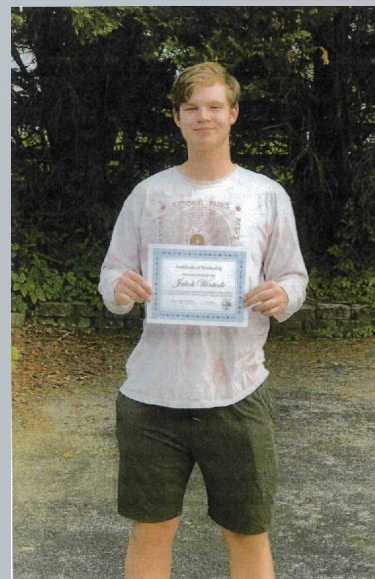
On Sunday, July 3, we will bless 37 quilts. Since last summer, Quilt Ministry has made 103 twin-size quilts, most with children's motifs, for charity. So far, we have placed 25: 15 at Faith House, a local shelter for mothers and children, and 10 at a church in Baltimore for a new ministry. That leaves 78 "homeless" quilts! Now we are taking a break from sewing while we search for homes for these remaining quilts. If you know of any reasonably local charity that serves children or women with children, or even a needy family in your area, please contact Kate Stottlemeyer or the Church Office.

During this hiatus, we will continue to accept donations of cash and fabric and, as always, appreciate your generous support as we feed the bodies, minds and spirits of those in need with this important Ministry of love.

Council Corner

In line with our mission of year-round generosity, Council voted to take advantage of an opportunity to support a local youth through the Walkersville High School Athletic Booster Scholarship. The funding for this came from donations at the Easter breakfast and benevolence.

The recipient of the \$500 scholarship was Jakob Winterle. Jakob played tennis for four years at Walkersville High School as well as ran cross country and was a thrower for the track team this year. He is attending Towson University in the fall majoring in Biochemistry with hopes of being accepted to medical school. We wish him well in his endeavors.



Pastor's Peace

“Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.” Hebrews 13: 2

We have come to the midway of our year and we have been very busy in doing the work of the church. We have made necessary repairs to our church, continued to find new ways to engage our community, and have celebrated the life of our members. COVID has certainly been an experience we don't soon want to encounter again, yet its effects still linger in our minds and our hearts. Life over the last two years has been quite challenging and some of the things we have been through together are not things taught at seminary or anywhere for that matter. We have sustained our congregation through a variety of means to include prayer, worship, service, and giving. We have been fortunate to have been gifted through grants and memorials to our church which have gone towards paying for our heating, electric, and for acquiring technology to share our message with our community. This has reaped benefits for people who have not been able to come to worship for whatever reason so that they have been able to remain connected to their church.

We continue to mail bulletins, Epistles, and sermons amongst other materials to our members so that we remain united with those who still hunger and thirst for the Spirit of God in their lives. We understand that because of health and other considerations there are those who cannot join us in worship, yet we are dedicated to remaining in fellowship and pray for all members of our congregation near and far. The things we do and ministries we serve come with a price and at this juncture in our year, we find ourselves in a significant deficit for a variety of reasons. Some of which are fuel prices, costs of doing business, and the challenges each household finds in balancing the needs of their family against supporting ministry in our church. At some point in our lives I am sure each one of us has looked at our bottom lines and wondered how we would make it through, how would we manage to accomplish the things we want to do versus the things we need to do. Many in our congregation give freely of their time, talents, and finances and continue to do so year in and year out which bolsters our ability to be church in our community.

Pastor's Peace cont'd

These gifts are the backbone of any church whereby we welcome the Holy Spirit in our lives to seek ways to further our ministries and do God's work in loving our neighbor.

As we move through the months of summer where our giving usually takes a dip, I invite you to search your heart and investigate how you might be able to do just a little more to sustain our church. As always, monetary gifts are appreciated but the human capital from our congregation is what emboldens service and nurtures a sense of belonging. Inclusion in the life of our church, sharing in the ups and downs, understanding the needs of others, and committing to being bold in our faith is what makes us family. There are many opportunities for you to engage yourself, your congregation, and community in the months ahead. July 5 will be our ministry Sunday where you can explore our different ministries to discern how you can serve our church. By attending one of these ministry meetings, you don't have to commit to join a particular group, it is a place where you can discern how to better serve our church. Is there a way you might be able to do just a little more, will you be able to search your heart to accommodate further growth, will you be able to embody our mission statement? Through Christ, we joyfully feed the body, mind, and spirit of all.

Do all the good you can, By all the means you can, In all the ways you can, In all the places you can, At all the times you can, To all the people you can, As long as ever you can”

John Wesley, Letters of John Wesley

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

A Note from Council President

As our church family works to get back to a sense of normalcy, there are some housekeeping items that need addressed. We have gone through a lot in the past five years and many people have shouldered heavy loads to get us where we are today. I am thankful for all the fantastic leadership we had that gives me an opportunity to focus on streamlining processes and improvements instead of crisis management. Hopefully you feel the same way. One of the people who was always there for our congregation was Belinda. She has taken on many different roles and tasks which aren't in her job description. We've come to rely on her for just about everything from what is happening with events, leading worship, why doesn't the air conditioner work, fixing I.T. problems, ordering materials for ministry groups and many other items. This isn't a complaint list its more a "these need to be given back to their rightful owners list". The goal is to get Belinda back to the things on her job description, then if she feels called volunteer to do some of the other tasks. I will be sending out a list to the various ministry groups with the items that fall under them. To help with this transition and to show our gratitude, executive council has agreed to a sabbatical for Belinda in the month of August. This allows everyone to have the entire month of July to get prepared. She may still be around just not available for church business. I hope this makes sense if you have any questions feel free to contact me anytime.

Council President
Russell Mildenstein

To:
St. Paul's - I want to personally thank you on behalf of boosters for supporting our scholarship program. Its uncertain times like these... the kids need the influence and →

the support of our church more than ever. I cant thank you enough.

God Bless

☺-Andrea Letora
Walkersville Resident
and NHS Boosters ☺

True gratitude does not depend upon material possessions. It is enriched by accepting the bad with the good. It increases with giving more than with receiving. It flourishes at the moment that we realize that God's grace is over us and around us, and that nothing can separate us from God's loving grace. We rejoice, not because of all the good things in our lives (although we should not fail to do that), but because in grace our names are written in Heaven.

-- Luke 10:20

DID YOU KNOW?

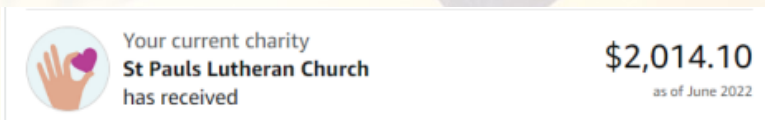
There are several other options to support our church and its mission!! We, as a congregation, are in the time of the year when our giving typically declines. This happens due to vacations, summer holidays, graduations, and other summer events. Below are a few additional options that you might not be aware of to help increase giving *any time* during the year.

Many employers offer a program that will match your donations to a charitable organization of your choice. There are usually limits on the amount, but it's an easy way to maximize your impact and support.



Another easy way is if you purchase items from Amazon. A portion of every purchase can be designated to St. Paul's. Please use the link below to join Amazon Smile and they will donate 0.5% of eligible purchases to St. Paul's. So far, the church has received over \$2,000 from this program!!

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/52-6041763>



If you are a policy holder with Thrivent Financial you may have "Thrivent Choice Dollars" that can be allocated to the church. See the link below for instructions on this program.

<https://www.thrivent.com/making-a-difference/files/26087.pdf>



We continue to offer electronic giving as an easy way to support the church even when you can't attend. As always, we appreciate every contribution to help our church continue its mission of feeding the body, mind, and spirit of all.

SUMMER AT THE FOOD BANK

Summer at the Food Bank means fewer donations are received, and our shelves can get bare.

Hunger 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:: Boxed Crackers, Baked Beans, Hamburger Helper, Bars of Soap, shampoo/conditioner, toilet paper, cereal, macaroni and cheese, Other needs are peanut butter, canned fruit, spaghetti, spaghetti sauce and canned peas.

If you have a garden, please remember the Food Bank. Our clients love fresh garden fruit and vegetables throughout the summer. Food Bank Email: gxfb21w@gmail.com.

Please bring your donations to the donation bin on the side of Town Hall.

Upcoming Events

- ♦ 07/03/2022— Quilt Blessing, 9:25am Service
- ♦ 07/04/2022— Independence Day
- ♦ 07/05/2022— Executive Council 7pm
- ♦ 07/19/2022— Council 7pm
- ♦ 07/24/2022— Christmas in July @ Victoria Park
- ♦ 07/30/2022— Soup Kitchen



PENNSYLVANIA AMISHLANDS!

Featuring the spectacular performance of "David" at Sight and Sound!

8:00AM Depart from
Saint Paul's Lutheran Church
14 W. Pennsylvania Avenue
Walkersville, MD 21793

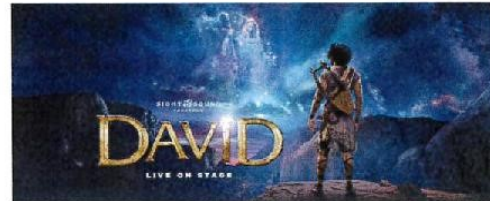
Cost is \$160.00 per person

Full payment due at time of reservation

Package includes:

- Performance of "David" at Sight & Sound
- Smorgasbord Meal at Shady Maple
- Shopping as time allows
- Taxes and Meal Gratuities
- Motorcoach Transportation

*Need to be at Saint Paul's Church by 7:30am



Thursday, October 13, 2022

DAVID

Master Poet, Fearless Warrior, Anointed King, From still waters to shadowed valleys, David's ascent to the throne is filled with towering giants, wild animals, and Philistine soldiers. After unprecedented victories lead to devastating failures, this passionate warrior will face the biggest battle of all: the one within himself. Experience one of the most legendary Bible stories as if it comes to life with spectacular special effects, massive sets and live animals.

For more information and
reservations contact:

Baker's Travel

Kay Wachter

301-693-5256

Make Checks Payable to Kay Wachter

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