

Fourth Sunday of Lent—March 19, 2023

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

14 West Pennsylvania Avenue, Walkersville, Maryland 21793

Worship Service LIVE—9:25 a.m.

Church Phone: 301-845-4600 E-mail: info@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org

Web Site: <http://www.saintpaulslutheranchurch.org>

Saint Paul's Official YouTube Channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSP6l9JEpgsBUXlow1l7_-Q



Through Christ, we joyfully feed the body, mind, and spirit of all.

SERVING TODAY

Minister.....Pastor Phil Beck
Lector.....Marie Purswell
Organist.....Jeff Gentry
Ushers.....Tom and Johanna Waters
Acolyte.....Camden Plog

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS

President—Trish Valcarcel
Vice-President—Patty Rimel
Treasurer—Amy Mildenstein
Secretary—Jackie Waas

****Please stand as you are able.***

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE/CANDLES LIT

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer. **Amen.**

P: God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Fountain of living water,

C: **pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love.**

C: **Amen.**

P: Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus.

C: **Amen.**

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

P: The Peace of Christ be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

***GATHERING HYMN.....Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness.....ELW 843**

1 Praise the One who breaks the darkness
with a liberating light;
praise the One who frees the pris'ners,
turning blindness into sight.
Praise the One who preached the gospel,
healing ev'ry dread disease,
calming storms and feeding thousands
with the very bread of peace.

2 Praise the One who blessed the children
with a strong yet gentle word;
praise the One who drove out demons
with a piercing, two-edged sword.
Praise the One who brings cool water
to the desert's burning sand;
from this well comes living water
quenching thirst in ev'ry land.

3 Praise the one true love incarnate:
Christ, who suffered in our place;
Jesus died and rose for many
that we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness,
seeing what our God has done.
Praise the one redeeming glory;
praise the One who makes us one.

*GREETING (ELW, p. 147)

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

KYRIE (ELW, p. 147) (Sung)

L: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

L: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

L: For the peace of the whole world, for the well being of the church of God and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

L: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

L: Help, save, comfort and defend us gracious Lord.

C: **Amen.**

**LENTEN CANTICLE (Sung)

C: **Print thine image, pure and holy, On my heart, O Lord of Grace. So that nothing, high or lowly, Thy blest likeness can efface. Let the clear inscription be: Jesus, crucified for me, And the Lord of all creation, Be my refuge and salvation.**

*PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Anthem.....**Remember Me** (Jay Althouse).....Steve King

CCLI/1999 Jubilate Music Group

FIRST READING: **1 Samuel 16:1-13**

L: *The Word of the Lord.*

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: **23**

¹The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

²The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.

³You restore my soul, O Lord,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

SECOND READING: *Ephesians 5:8-14*

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW 151) (Sung)*

C: **Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful,
Slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.**

The Holy Gospel according to John the Ninth chapter, *John 9:1-41*

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD*

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMONPastor Phil Beck

Silence for Reflection

HYMN OF THE DAY..... ***Dearest Jesus, at Your Word***.....ELW 520

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Dearest Jesus, at your word
we have come again to hear you;
let our thoughts and hearts be stirred
and in glowing faith be near you
as the promises here given
draw us wholly up to heaven. | 3 Radiance of God's glory bright,
Light of light from God proceeding,
Jesus, send your blessed light;
help our hearing, speaking, heeding,
that our prayers and songs may please you,
as with grateful hearts we praise you. |
| 2 All our knowledge, sense, and sight
lie in deepest darkness shrouded
till your Spirit breaks the night,
filling us with light unclouded.
All good thoughts and all good living
come but by your gracious giving. | 4 Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
praise to you and adoration!
Grant us what we need the most:
all your gospel's consolation
while we here on earth await you,
till in heav'n with praise we greet you. |

Text: Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619-1684, sts. 1-3; *Gesangbuch*, Berlin, 1707, st. 4; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, adapt

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

***THE NICENE CREED**

*We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.*

*We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.*

***PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

P: ... Merciful God,
C: Receive our prayer.

OFFERING Please place your gift in the offering plate, mail to the church office or consider online giving.

***OFFERTORY HYMN: SUNG — Create in Me a Clean Heart (ELW 186)**

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER:*

- P:** God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C:** **We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us - ourselves, our time and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (ELW, p.152)*

- P:** The Lord be with you.
- C:** **And also with you.**
- P:** Lift up your hearts.
- C:** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C:** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**THE PREFACE:*

- P:** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SUNG: (ELW, p.153)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION:*

- P:** Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached the good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

- C:** **Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again. Amen.**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER:*

P: Gathered into One with the Holy Spirit, we now pray as Jesus taught us...

C: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

C: **(ELW, p.194)**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace,
grant us peace.**

HOLY COMMUNION: All are welcome at Christ's Table, come as you are. The feast is prepared, the table is set, come and eat.

*P: May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

**POST COMMUNION CANTICLE: (ELW, 545) (SUNG)*

C: **Lord, dismiss us with your blessing, fill our hearts with joy and peace; let us each, your love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace. Oh, refresh us; oh, refresh us, trav'ling through this wilderness.**

**COMMUNION PRAYER:*

P: Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love.

C: **Amen.**

**BENEDICTION:*

P: God, the giver of love, † Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey.

Amen.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
thou my best thought both by day and by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light. | 3 Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, the first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art. |
| 2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tow'r,
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r. | 4 Light of my soul, after victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all. |

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860-1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880-1931

P: Go in peace. Serve in love.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Announcement regarding livestreaming of the worship services:

St. Paul's intends to continue offering online worship services to share the Gospel through Facebook and Youtube. With the inclusion of in-person attendance during the service, we need to inform you that your presence may be captured in the recording and broadcast through St. Paul's social media platforms. Your comfort and privacy are of utmost importance, if you prefer not to have your image broadcast please contact the office by phone or email or inform the usher as you arrive. The office will keep a list of those wishing NOT to appear in the recording and convey that information to the Media and Technology Ministry.



PRAYER LIST

Joe Collins, *Cousin of Joann Valainis*

Mark Holloway, *Husband of Kate Stottlemeyer*

Bruce Wertz, *Son in law of Betsy Galliher*

Candy Foucart, *Member*

Bob Schmidt, *Brother of Dottie Titmas*

Gary Wachter, *Member*

Michael Wachter, *Son of Gary and Kay Wachter*

The Wynne Family, *Friends of Lin Snider and Sue Snyder*

Lin Snider, *Member*

Sue Snyder, *Member*

The Valcarcel Family, *Members*

Kim Currier, *Daughter of Sam Purswell*

Family of Tommy Sorge, *Nephew of the Purswells and Cousin to the Valcarcels*

Barb Callow, *friend of Marie Purswell*

Pat Poole, *Brother of Joann Valainis*

Jonathan Eshelman, *Nephew of Kay Wachter*

Susan and Paul Holloway, *Family of Kate Stottlemeyer*

Charlie Knapp, *Friend of Pastor Phil*

Robert Hoff, *Member, son of Betty Walker*

Lillian Foucart, *Member*

Eileen Trihoulis, *Sister of Merle Anderson*

PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY AND THEIR FAMILIES

†Admiral Lisa Franchetti, U.S. Navy,
niece to Linwood Snider
†Zachary Williams, U.S. Airforce,
grandson of Jim & Dottie Titmas
†U.S. Navy Corpsman Matthew Kasik,
grandson of Sam Purswell
†Dan Beck, Captain., U.S. Army, son of
Pastor Phil & Susan Beck
†Carlin Rabie, U.S. Navy, Son-in-law
of Marcia & Raj Gupta
†Eric Fong Sam, U.S. Army, friend of
Mary Ann Ferguson
†Leo Tanja, U.S. Airforce, nephew of
Mary Ann Ferguson's sister in
law

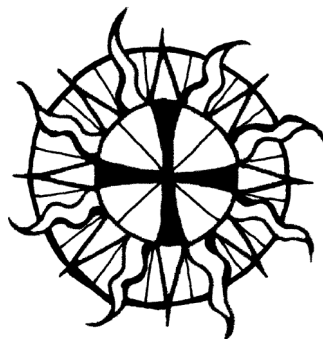
*Do you have need for prayer?
Do you know someone else who has need for prayer?
If so, please know that we have a prayer team at
St. Paul's that is ready to help.
Simply contact the Church Office.
All requests are confidential.*

*****Please remember all the names on our prayer
list, and especially those that are **bold**.
They have a specific current need for
Christian love and support.***

Comments from the Cloud of Witnesses

One thing I see in your light:
this will, which you have given us as free,
seems to receive its strength
from the light of faith,
for by this light
we come in your light to know your eternal will,
and we see that your will wants nothing else
but that we be made holy.
You, light, are also the fuel for the fire,
since it is you
that makes the fire grow in the soul.
—Catherine of Siena

[Catherine of Siena, The Prayers of Catherine of Siena, ed. Suzanne Noffke, OP (NY: Paulist, 1983), 121.]



OFFERINGS

We are so blessed and grateful for your continued offerings during these unprecedented times. It is only with your support we can maintain the everyday activities of the church and our work in the community. Please consider mailing your offering to the church or if you have access to the website, there is an online giving option as well. <https://www.saintpaulslutheranchurch.org/give/>

Please Note: We are not currently making a deposit each week due to the limited number of checks being sent into the office on a weekly basis. Typically we have been making a deposit mid-month and prior to the end of the month.

PAST WEEK'S OFFERINGS:

Current Fund Weekly Need: \$3,390.00

Property Renovation Loan Fund Need: \$360.00

Electronic/Mail ins Income

March 12, 2023:

Weekly Contributions:	\$**
Property Loan Fund:	\$**
Total:	\$**

In Worship Offerings

Weekly Contributions:	\$**
Property Loan Fund:	\$**
Total:	\$**

ATTENDANCE:

March 12, 2023

In person: 43
Virtual: 18

Lent Mid Week March 15, 2023

In person: 29
Virtual: **

This Week at St Paul's

Sunday, March 19th

Worship (Livestream)	9:25am
Fourth Sunday of Lent	
Faith Formation	10:30am
Let's Talk about Strawberry Festival	10:30am

Monday, March 20th

FEC	8am-4pm
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Tuesday, March 21st

FHS	10am-3pm
Council	7:00pm

Wednesday, March 22nd

FEC	8am-4pm
Soup and Sandwich	6:00pm
Lenten Service	7:00pm

Thursday, March 23rd

FHS	10am-3pm
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Friday, March 24th

Red Cross Blood Drive	10am-4pm
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Sunday March 26th

Worship (Livestream)	9:25am
Fifth Sunday of Lent	
Faith Formation	10:30am
Sue Denn Funeral	1:00pm

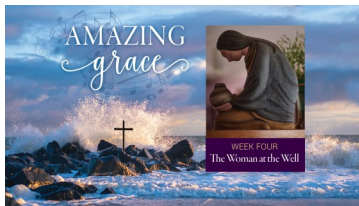
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Help us decorate for Easter by purchasing an Easter Lily. They are available for \$10.00 each. Sign up on line through the link below, on our website or call the Parish Office to purchase with a check or cash. Please don't forget to designate your dedication.

Remember, you don't have to throw these beautiful lilies away; they can be planted in your garden for next year's blooming!

April 2nd is the final date to order!

<https://forms.gle/3YspwDoRRC2qK6dC7>



All are invited to join our Lenten Journey, *Amazing Grace*

**This Wednesday *"The Woman at the Well"*
March 22, 2023 at 7pm.**

**In person in the church and livestreaming
on Facebook**

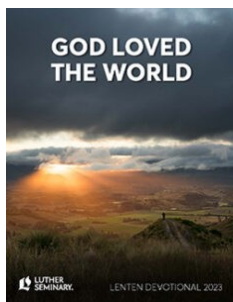


Strawberry Festival is quickly approaching!

Today, we will be meeting after Worship, in the overflow area to brainstorm and begin preparations!

We encourage anyone and everyone who feels called to help in any way to make our 2023 Strawberry Festival amazing and successful to join us!

Hope to see you there!



Join us this Lent for daily devotions on Facebook every morning from Luther Seminary.

Download the full devotion here:

<https://www.luthersem.edu/godpause/lenen-devotional/>



Every Wednesday during Lent, before our Lenten Journey of the week begins, come join us in the overflow area from 6:00pm-7:00pm for soup, sandwiches and fellowship.



We will gather on Friday evenings this Lent to share fellowship and discussion of a variety of moral dilemmas in a different setting than the church.

Come join us this Friday, we will gather to share conversation, libations, and fellowship. at ***Glory Days*** on 7th Street at 5:00pm.

Should you have any questions, feel free to contact of Pastor Phil.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

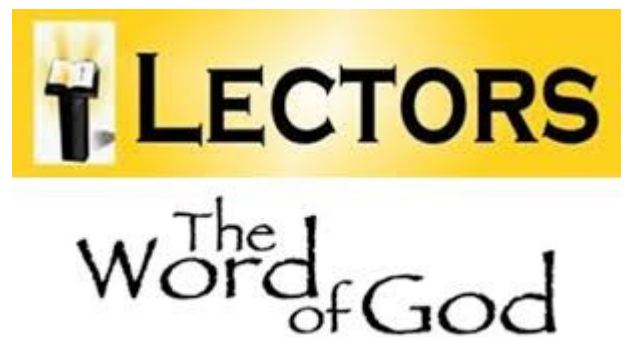


See what's coming up...

MountainTopics: Join Rev. Annabelle Markey as she shares her experience walking the 500-mile Camino de Santiago. We'll gather on March 21 in the Potomac Lodge from 9:00 am. - 1:00pm. Registration costs \$25 and includes lunch. Please register here: <https://form.jotform.com/220455890396060>

Would you like to bring voice to
God's word in our weekly worship while
preparing people to hear the gospel
and the sermon?

If you are called to share the word and would
like to be a lector, please see
Ellen Bucheimer after Worship or feel free to
give her at call at 301-514-9871.



*We invite you to **study, pray, reflect and give** with us during ELCA World Hunger's 40 Days of Giving — for our families, our neighbors and communities around the world.*

Will you join us?

Resources:

1. **40 Days of Giving Lent Calendar** - Find inspirational ideas for daily reflection and action, as well as prayers, relevant Bible passages, hymn ideas and more.
2. **Lenten Study Guide** - Deepen your engagement throughout this season of Lent with the **weekly study guide**, where you can find impactful, motivational stories and information about how your gifts to ELCA World Hunger are at work in the world.

Please go to: <https://www.elca.org/40days> and download

Hard copies of these 2 resources have been ordered and are available. If you would like a hard copy, please contact officeadministrator@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLOOD DRIVE

Because of you, life doesn't stop.



The Red Cross and St. Paul's are teaming up for the first blood drive of 2023 on Friday, March 24th.

Donors can sign up for an appointment by using the Link below or call the Parish Office.

Please help spread the word by sharing our recruiting posts on Facebook and Instagram.

Thank you for supporting this vital ministry!

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=St%20Pauls%20Lutheran%20Walkersville>

Camperships Available!

It's still chilly but summer camp registration is open NOW! Did you know that St. Paul's offers camperships for children and youth who would like to attend a Christian-based summer camp, weeklong or day camp? If you are interested in applying please visit our website: www.saintpaulslutheranchurch.org/youth-ministry/ to print an application. Applications can be returned in person to Belinda or the Christian Education mailbox. You can also email completed forms back to: youthandfami-



Would you like to sew quilts at home?

No cutting or designing involved. See Kate Stottlemeyer for details.

Would you like to knot quilts?

Kate will be knotting on random Saturdays, (TBA), from 9am-3pm. Drop by the Parish Hall for any amount of time to lend a hand. ***Hope to see you there!***

*****NEW DATE*****

Thursday, May 18, 2023

\$160 per person

Reservations and payments due April 15th

Please see flyer on both bulletin boards,
the weekly email or

See Kay Wachter for more details.

Come Join us for some fun and fellowship!



*****IMPORTANT*****

For those without Facebook please tune into our YouTube channel for live streams of last week's service.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g3tjLPi3wk>

Please look for future notices regarding live streaming and YouTube videos at

St. Paul's Official YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSP6I9JEpgsBUXlow1I7-Q>



Donations for Glade Valley Food Bank are always accepted!

Updated Items of need are:

Canned Pasta, Pasta Sauce,
Baked Beans, Canned Fruit,
and toilet paper.

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

After a recent inspection of our sanctuary's stained-glass windows, the report has shown that many are in need of repair.

Please see diagram on church bulletin boards.

The estimate for this work is \$60,470.



In order to complete this, we would like to hold a special offering in order to add to our Stained-glass window fund. If you feel called, please consider donating to this special cause. We will hold this Special collection until May 14th.

Thanks to the work of Mike Waas and Keith Horton, we have been able to compile an updated photo directory for St. Paul's. Should you like to get a copy, please email the church office:

officeadministrator@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org

and one will be emailed to you.



Should you prefer a hard copy, please email the office and one will be printed for you and given to you the following Sunday at worship.

Staff

Minister-202-497-0584 (pastor@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org).....	Pastor Phil Beck
Youth Coordinator-240-315-5030 (youthandfamily@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org).....	Belinda Burriss
Office Administrator- 301-845-4600(officeadministrator@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org).....	Joann Valainis
Music Coordinator	Nancy Cochran
Flower Coordinator.....	Patty Rimel
Administration/Purchasing	Ed Chaney
Sexton	Larry Beard
Stephen Ministry.....	Linda Yopp
Property Coordinator.....	Tom Waters
Financial Secretary.....	Troy Keeney