



Ninth Sunday After Pentecost—July 30, 2023

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

14 West Pennsylvania Avenue, Walkersville, Maryland 21793

Worship Service LIVE—9:00 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/UCSP6I9JEpgsBUXlow1I7_-Q



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

SERVING TODAY

Minister.....Pastor Phil Beck
Lector.....Linda Yopp
Organist.....Jeff Gentry
Ushers.....Linda Yopp and Sheila Kahler
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

CHURCH BELL RUNG

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Most merciful God,

C: **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the **†** Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

***The Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 Here in this place the new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.</p> <p>2 We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry,
we are the old who yearn for your face;
we have been sung throughout all of hist'ry,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,
gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.</p> | <p>3 Here we will take the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.</p> <p>4 Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away—
here in this place the new light is shining,
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever,
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.</p> |
|--|--|

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Text © 1982 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.

****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.**

****Canticle of Praise (Sung)***

L: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

C: Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

****PRAYER OF THE DAY:***

P: Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Anthem.....Jerusalem, My Happy Home ELW 628.....(Soloists Mary Ann Ferguson & Candy Foucart)

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 3:5-12

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 119

¹²⁹Your decrees are wonderful;
therefore I obey them with all my heart.

¹³⁰When your word is opened it gives light;
it gives understanding to the simple.

¹³¹I open my mouth and pant
because I long for your commandments.

¹³²Turn to me and be gracious to me,
as you always do to those who love your
name.

¹³³Order my footsteps in your word;
let no iniquity have dominion over me.

¹³⁴Rescue me from those who oppress me,
and I will keep your commandments.

¹³⁵Let your face shine upon your servant
and teach me your statutes.

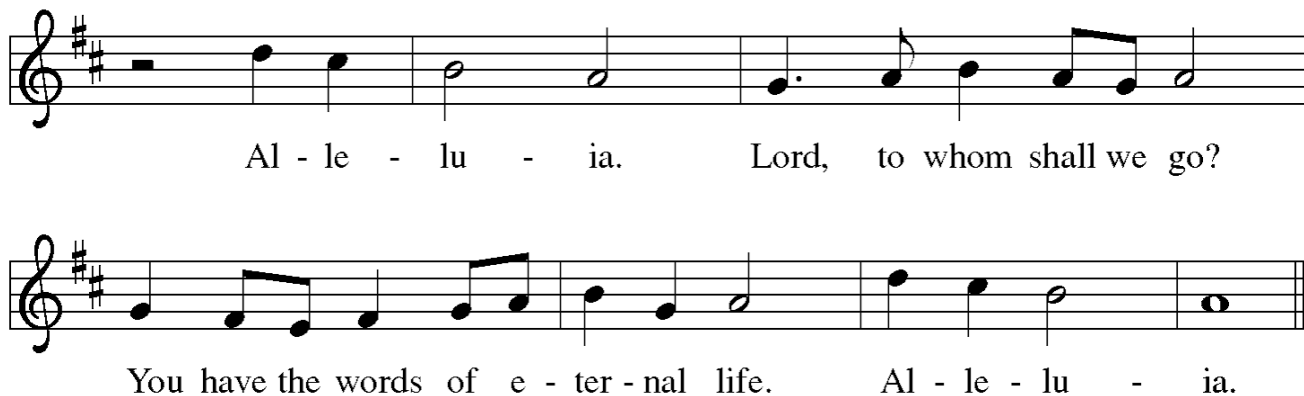
¹³⁶My eyes shed streams of tears,
because people do not keep your teaching.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:26-39

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW, p. 151)**



The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, **13:31-33, 44-52**

C: Glory to you, O Lord. (Sung)

***THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD**

C: Praise to you, O Christ. (Sung)

SERMONPastor Phil Beck

Silence for Reflection

***HYMN OF THE DAY**..... **Be Thou My Vision**.....ELW 793

- | | |
|--|--|
| 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

***THE APOSTLES' CREED**

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's Only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

***PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

P: ... God, in your mercy, **C:** Hear our prayer.

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

***OFFERTORY HYMN Let the Vineyards be Fruitful, ELW 184**

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer.
Grace our table with your presence,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

***OFFERTORY PRAYER:**

P: Living God,
C: you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together in your peaceable reign, and you welcome us all at your table. Reach out to us through this meal, and show us your wounded and risen body, that we may be nourished and believe in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

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

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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 :

C: ***(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: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and 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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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:

P: 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.**

C: Amen.

***POST COMMUNION CANTICLE: (ELW, 204)**

C: Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell everyone what God has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and bear Christ's holy name. Send us with your promises and lead your people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER:**

P: We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

***BENEDICTION:**

P: The God of peace, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always.

C: Amen.

***SENDING HYMN..... My God, How Wonderful Thou Art.....ELW 863**

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 My God, how wonderful thou art,
thy majesty how bright!
How beautiful thy mercy seat
in depths of burning light! | 4 Yet I may love thee too, O Lord,
almighty as thou art,
for thou hast stooped to ask of me
the love of my poor heart. |
| 2 How wonderful, how beautiful
the sight of thee must be--
thine endless wisdom, boundless pow'r,
and awesome purity! | 5 My God, how wonderful thou art,
thou everlasting friend!
On thee I stay my trusting heart
till faith in vision end. |

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814-1863

***DISMISSAL**

GO IN PEACE, LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR,
THANKS BE TO GOD.

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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*
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*
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*
For the Family of Ginny Rousculp, *Former choir Director and Member*
Jeanne Rutz, *friend of Pastor Phil*
Hank Holiday, *Friend and neighbor of Kate Stottlemeyer*
Deanna Meyer, *Personal friend of Joann Valainis*
Artie Fauble, *member*
Marc Johnson, *Brother of Deb Horton*
Marie Purswell, *Member*
Chris Muesing, *Family of Jacki Waas*
Parker Bazarewski, *member of Ed Chaney's extended family*
Riley, *Friend of Robb and Dianne Port*
Kathy, *Friend of Robb and Dianne Port*
John Baker, *Member.*
Marion Lawrence, *Cousin of Kate Stottlemeyer*
Laura Wertz, *Daughter of Betsy Galliher*

How our Prayer List Works:

You may call into the Parish Office (301-845-4600) or email the Office Administrator (officeadministrator@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org). When a prayer list request is added, the request will stay on the list for three consecutive weeks. First week it will be noted in **Super Bold**, the second week it will be noted in **Bold**, and then the third week it will be noted in regular text. Then the request will be removed from the prayer list unless you specifically ask for your request to remain on the prayer list until otherwise noted by you. The power of prayer is amazing!

"For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." **Matthew 18:20**

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

"The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour until all of it was leavened." In a single sentence several ancient stories are evoked, and yet, by the introduction of a few new terms the traditional sense of these stories is radically transformed. Three measures of flour is an ephah, somewhere around a bushel. That is a lot of flour. It is three measures or an ephah that Abraham causes to be prepared for the angels of God at Mamre. In the new temple that is imagined and described by the prophet Ezekiel, the grain offerings will be an ephah of flour baked by the priests apart from the people. Yet the one who welcomes the outsiders to table says this: the dominion of God is like leavened holy bread baked by a woman. No wonder the leaven is hid. All the meal—enough for Abraham, enough for the new temple, enough for meeting God—is leavened, to be feast for all who long to meet with God in the same way that Jesus' unclean death is made to be such a feast. This dominion of God, then, is not what had been expected: it comes with a radical grace to the outsiders and the sinners. —*Gordon Lathrop*

[Gordon W. Lathrop, Holy Things: A Liturgical Theology (Minneapolis: Fortress, 1993), 24-25.]



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/>

LAST WEEK'S OFFERINGS:

Current Fund Weekly Need: \$3,825.00

Property Renovation Loan Fund Need: \$360.00

Electronic/Mail-ins Income **July 23, 2023:**

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

In Worship Offerings

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

ATTENDANCE: **July 23, 2023**

In person: 74
Virtual: 18

This Week at St Paul's

Sunday, July 30th

Worship (Livestream)	9:00am
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost	

Tuesday, August 1st

Executive Council	7:00pm
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Sunday, August 6th

Worship (Livestream)	9:00am
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost	
Ministry Sunday	10:00am



ANNOUNCEMENTS

*******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=hURR_bGp2aQ

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



LAST DAY TO GEAR IT UP!

Saint Paul's will support the Back-to-School Project sponsored by Glade Valley Community Services. You may place your school supply donations in the box at the church through today, July 30th, when they will be delivered for distribution.

***Let's gear these kids up
for a great School Year!***

***The altar flowers are given to
the glory of God and in honor of
Brian Smith's birthday
Given by Roxanne Smith***



St. Paul's Annual Church Picnic in the Park is
Sunday, August 27th @ 11:30am.

**9:00am in-person worship will be at church &
Worship in the Park will begin at 11:00am.**

Our tradition of a time for fun, good food and fellowship continues at Walkersville Community Park (at the end of Kenneth Drive) Pavilion #2.
We hope to see you there!

Fried Chicken, chips, bottled water and tableware will be provided. *Please sign-up with a side dish or dessert, you would like to share*
**Be sure to RSVP to the office by Wednesday,
August 23, 2023**

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: gvfb21w@gmail.com.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.



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.



The Holy Spirit works in mysterious ways.
On June 18, 2023 the Congregations of
Bethel Lutheran and St. Paul's Lutheran
unanimously ratified the Covenant
re-establishing shared ministry between
the two congregations.

***Beginning today, July 9, 2023 worship at Bethel
will begin at 11:15 am and worship will begin at
9:00 am at St. Paul's.***

Congratulations for this renewed partnership.

REPAIRS TO THE PARSONAGE

A basic estimate at this time:

Stove	\$1,000
Dishwasher	\$ 800
Refrigerator	\$1,000
A/C units	\$1,000
Locks	\$ 800

The Congregation has approved up to \$7,000.00 for parsonage repairs. It is not anticipated that all of these funds will be used. Council will provide updates as they come. Please forward questions or concerns to any council member.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Caring for the Body of Christ, July 2023

How about some words about our hydration needs?

Summer heat and activity reminds us about the need to keep ourselves well hydrated. Remember dehydration can creep up on us.

Please see the bulletin board, weekly email or July Epistle for more Summer caring advice.

Deb Horton

SAVE THE DATE!



August 16, 2023

1:00-3:00pm, Parish Hall

Come join us!

We will welcome Savannah Roderick from Frederick Health speaking with us about Stroke Prevention, and Nanette Tummers, speaking about Functional Fitness and Health!

**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, or you can put them in the basket by the side door and we will get them to the food bank for you.



Staff

Minister-202-497-0584 (pastor@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org).....	Pastor Phil Beck
Youth Coordinator-(youthandfamily@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org).....	
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