

16th Sunday After Pentecost—September 17, 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/UCSP6I9JEpgsBUXlow117_-Q



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

SERVING TODAY

Minister.....	Pastor Phil Beck
Lector.....	Kate Stottlemeyer
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

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: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: **Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

C: **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

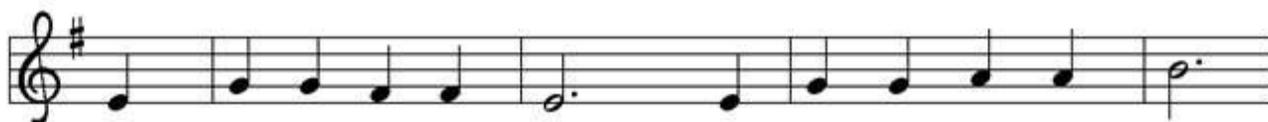
- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Awake, O sleeper, rise from death,
and Christ shall give you light;
so learn his love, its length and breadth,
its fullness, depth, and height. | 4 Then walk in love as Christ has loved,
who died that he might save;
with kind and gentle hearts forgive
as God in Christ forgave. |
| 2 To us on earth he came to bring
from sin and fear release,
to give the Spirit's unity,
the very bond of peace. | 5 For us Christ lived, for us he died,
and conquered in the strife.
Awake, arise, go forth in faith,
and Christ shall give you life. |

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895-1984
Text © 1980 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

***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. 203) (Sung)**



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW Pg. 204)



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for-give us; in your prom-ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

***PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

P: O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. C: Amen.

Anthem.....*Soloist*—James Earlies

FIRST READING: Genesis 50:15-21

L: *The Word of the Lord.*
C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: #103

¹Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

²Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all God's benefits—

³who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases;

⁴who redeems your life from the grave
and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;

⁵who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

⁶O LORD, you provide vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.

⁷You made known your ways to Moses
and your works to the children of Israel.

⁸LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;

⁹you will not always accuse us,
nor will you keep your anger forever.

¹⁰You have not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor repaid us according to our iniquities.

¹¹For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.

¹²As far as the east is from the west,
so far have you removed our transgressions from us.

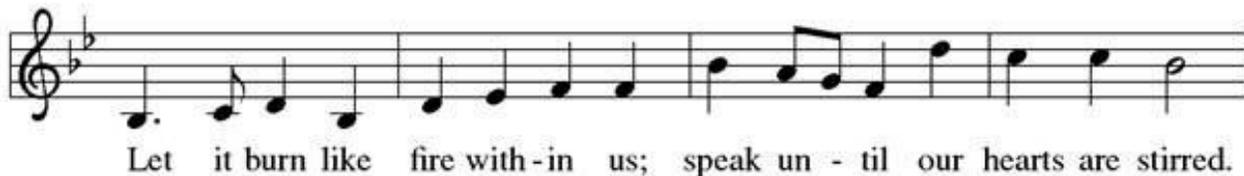
¹³As a father has compassion for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear you, O LORD.

SECOND READING: Romans 14:1-12

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW, p. 205)**



The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 18th chapter, **18:21-35**

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**.....Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive***.....ELW 605

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 "Forgive our sins as we forgive,"
you taught us, Lord, to pray;
but you alone can grant us grace
to live the words we say. | 3 In blazing light your cross reveals
the truth we dimly knew:
how trifling others' debts to us;
how great our debt to you! |
| 2 How can your pardon reach and bless
the unforgiving heart
that broods on wrongs and will not let
old bitterness depart? | 4 Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls
and bid resentment cease;
then, by your mercy reconciled,
our lives will spread your peace. |

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905-1987, alt.
Text © Oxford University Press 1969

***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.

***The Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you all.

C: And also with you.

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

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Offering Song



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

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

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also 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.

PREFACE

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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW Pg. 207)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

COMMUNION HYMN (ELW Pg. 208)



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

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.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray. God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

- 1 Praise the Lord, rise up rejoicing,
worship, thanks, devotion voicing:
glory be to God on high!
Christ, your cross and passion sharing,
by this eucharist declaring
yours the final victory.
- 2 Scattered flock, one shepherd sharing,
lost and lonely, one voice hearing,
ears attentive to your word;
by your blood new life receiving,
in your body, firm believing,
we are yours, and you the Lord.
- 3 Sins forgiven, wrongs forgiving,
we go forth alert and living
in your Spirit, strong and free.
Partners in your new creation,
seeking peace in ev'ry nation,
may we faithful foll'wers be.

Text: Howard C. A. Gaunt, 1902-1983, alt.
Text © Oxford University Press.

***DISMISSAL**

**GO IN PEACE, SERVE THE LORD
THANKS BE TO GOD.**

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*
Susan and Paul Holloway, *Family of Kate Stottlemeyer*
Robert Hoff, *Member, son of Betty Walker*
Lillian Foucart, *Member*
Hank Holiday, *Friend and neighbor of Kate Stottlemeyer*
Chris Muesing, *Family of Jacki Waas*
Parker Bazarewski, *member of Ed Chaney's extended family*
John Baker, *Member.*
Nancy McIntyre, *Friend of St. Paul's*
The Family of Betty Walker, *Member*
Elyse Acosta, *friend of Dianne and Robb Port*
Shannon Smith, *Friend of the Mildenstein Family*
Karin Petrovsky, *Family of the Foucarts*
The Family of Audrey MacDougall, *Member*
Caroline Dunning, *Daughter of John and Regina Baker*
Gail Roehm Costa, *Cousin of Dianne and Robb Port*
The Jones Family, *Close family friends of Joann Valainis*
Greg, Dani and Dax Sorge, *Family of Trish Valcarcel*
Family of Jonathan Eshelman, *Nephew of Kay Wachter*
Jeanne Rodgers, *Friend of Dianne and Robb Port*

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 evil of remembering past offenses is twofold: it is inexcusable before God, and it serves to recall past sins already forgiven and places them against us. Nothing whatsoever does God so hate, and turn away from, as cherishing remembrance of past offenses and fostering our anger against another. If we must remember offenses, let us remember only our own. If we remember our own sins, we shall never store up the sins of others. I shall make bold to say that this sin is more grievous than any other sin. Let us be zealous in nothing so much as in keeping ourselves free from anger and from not seeking to be reconciled with those who are opposed to us. Neither is this my word only, but the word of that God who shall come to judge us. —*John Chrysostom*

[John Chrysostom, in *The Sunday Sermons of the Great Fathers*, IV, 289.]



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 September 10, 2023:

Weekly Contributions:	\$ 592.20
Property Loan Fund:	\$ 120.00
Total:	\$ 712.20

In Worship Offerings

Weekly Contributions:	\$1,490.00
Property Loan Fund:	\$ 350.00
Total:	\$1,840.00

ATTENDANCE:

September 10, 2023

In person: 59

Virtual: 18

This Week at St Paul's

Sunday, September 17th

Worship (Livestream)	9:00am
16th Sunday after Pentecost	
God's Work Our Hands	

Monday, September 18th

FEC	8am-5pm
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Tuesday, September 19th

FHS	9am-3pm
Council	7:00pm

Wednesday, September 20th

FEC	8am-5pm
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Thursday, September 21st

FHS	9am-3pm
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Saturday, September 23rd

Quilt Ministry	9:00am
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Sunday September 24th

Worship (Livestream)	9:00am
16th Sunday after Pentecost	

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=eSjdSmfoojA>

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

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of the September birthdays of Clarissa Rose Walker, Sabrina Mae Walker and Lillian Elise McCloskey by their grandmother, Candace Foucart.



TODAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2023 LOVE THY NEIGHBOR "BLESSING BAGS"

"God's work. Our hands." Sunday



Today is the day! We will fill backpacks with everyday basic hygiene necessities for the displaced and homeless in our community. *It's not too late to lend a hand!*

See Marie or Roxanne for any last minute things or help needed!!

VOLUNTEERS IT'S YOUR TIME TO SHINE!

The Christian Education Committee is seeking volunteers and donations for **Rally Day on September 24th.** We'd like to welcome families with a celebration of the new and great things happening at our church.

We appreciate volunteers of time to help with cooking, donations of food supplies, and general assistance with the festivities. Please see Lauren McCloskey after worship to sign-up or email her through the parish office.



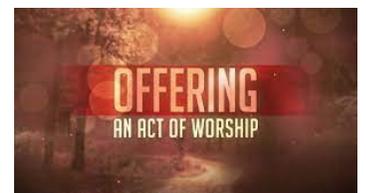
DATE CHANGE



We will be knotting quilts on Saturday, **September 23rd**, 9am until approximately 3pm in the parish hall. Drop by any time and stay for as long as you like. (If you're making a day of it, bring lunch!)
Many hands make light work!

Summer is coming to an end! Help us climb out of the Summer Giving Slump. **Your giving each week really matters.**

Please continue to give electronically through our website or mail directly to the Parish Office.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

PARTNERS NEEDED!



Faith Formation

Are you looking to spread God's word to the future of our church?

We are looking for volunteers to help out our Children's Faith Formation classes! This volunteer position does not have to be for every Sunday. We will work up a schedule to see what days benefit for everyone. Lessons and activities will be created and pre-made by the Christian Education Committee so there is **no prep work needed!** The future of Saint Paul's depends on our youth and spreading the good word of Christ to the next generation.

Please consider becoming a partner in this important mission to spread God's love to our children. Please contact Lauren McCloskey for more information. lefoucart@gmail.com



Can you smile and say "Good Morning", maybe even a "How are you today?" Then you are a perfect candidate to be a greeter at Saint Paul's. We need people like you to share in this ministry. To sign up, please contact Kate Stottlemeyer after Worship or by calling the Parish Office.

"Let brotherly love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares." [Hebrews 13:1-2](#)

HARVEST HOME SUNDAY

An annual tradition in our congregation is to celebrate the harvest by returning a portion of God's gifts to be distributed to others in need.

Sunday October 8th, please bring non-perishable food items to the church. We will be collecting those items at the communion rail. After service they will be counted and taken to the Glade Valley Food Bank. Check the Wednesday newsletter and bulletins for current Food Bank needs.



*It's also pumpkin Sunday!
Please pick up a pumpkin to enjoy
at home, on your way out after
worship.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS



FALL
HEALTH & WELLNESS
TIPS

Caring for the Body of Christ, September 2023

September! The kick-off for fall, with back-to-school activities, fall sports like football and also the beginning of the season of preparation for the winter!

Please see the bulletin board, weekly email or September Epistle for more information on "Falling into Health and Wellness".
— **Deb Horton**

Are you called to serve with a smile?

If you would like to serve St. Paul's congregation by creating a welcoming environment and setting the tone for their worship experience, please consider joining our Usher team. We would love to have you share in this ministry. To sign up, contact Kate Stottlemeyer through the Parish Office.



USHERING
MINISTRY

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace:" [1 Peter 4:10](#)



Thrift Shop –

St. Paul's provides, the space in the Parish Hall basement. There is a drop off box for gently used clothing items, etc. in the front parking lot of the Parish Hall. The Thrift Shop is open on Saturdays from 10 to 2. Members of St. Paul's also volunteer their time to help staff the Thrift Shop during the month of October. *If you are interested in volunteering your time on a Saturday in October or any Saturday through the end of 2023, please contact the Church Office.*



It's Almost Time!

And that means it's time for another fun evening of Trunk-or-Treat!

Saturday, October 28th at 6:00pm
St. Paul's youth will be hosting a Trunk-or-Treat night. *We could use some more volunteers to decorate their trunks and hand out candy. See the sign up sheet!*

If you have never done it before, it's easy and fun and we'd love to help you get started!
Please contact Lauren McCloskey to reserve a spot and help St. Paul's reach out to our neighbors and community with a little fun!

It's Spooky Season!

and that means time for St. Paul's Annual Trunk or Treat hosted by our Youth! Come Join us!



ANNOUNCEMENTS



Even though it is September we are beginning preparations for the 6th annual Christkindl Market. It will happen on **Saturday, December 2nd** from 10am-3pm. Once again, the Walkersville Historical Society will be the event host. St. Paul's will have vendors, food and host the Wreath contest similar to last year. Look for more information on those items as we get closer to the date.

We will be looking for donations of gently used Christmas items for "Mrs. Claus' attic." These are items that are affordable for children or individuals without a lot of funds to buy as gifts or decoration. So, keep on the lookout if you hit up the local yard sales. If anyone has a good idea for a craft to do as a small group that we can add to the sale let us know. We will be looking for volunteers to help with the different areas so make sure you mark it on your calendars.

Co-chairs are Amy Mildenstein and Trish Valcarcel with an assist from Russ Mildenstein

Fall 2023 Mountain Topics at Mar-Lu-Ridge



We will gather at 9 a.m., and end with lunch at 12 p.m. The fee of \$25 includes all supplies and the meal. Please RSVP: <https://form.jotform.com/220455890396060>

September 19: Quilting for Lutheran World Relief—Join us as we sew and assemble quilts for LWR. No experience necessary – we will teach you!

October 17: Dr. Guy Davis – Climate and Antartica—Antarctica, the seventh continent, is one that few get a chance to visit. But global warming is occurring. How will it affect Antarctica and the rest of the world?

November 14: Rev. Madeline Tallman – Deep Roots: What Native Plants Can Teach us About Faith. Learning more about our natural world, our watershed, and native plants through the lens of faith.



Donations for Glade Valley Food Bank are always accepted!

Updated Items of need are:

Soup, hamburger helper, boxed potatoes, canned pasta, peanut butter, canned green beans and corn, baked beans, bar soap and kids juice boxes.

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-240-315-5030 (youthandfamily@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org).....
 Office Administrator- 301-845-4600(officeadministrator@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org).....Joann Valainis
 Music CoordinatorNancy Cochran
 Flower Coordinator.....Patty Rimel
 Administration/PurchasingEd Chaney
 SextonLarry Beard
 Stephen Ministry.....Linda Yopp
 Property Coordinator.....Tom Waters
 Financial Secretary.....Troy Keeney