



Fourth Sunday After Epiphany—January 28, 2024

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.....	Marie Purswell
Organist.....	Jeff Gentry
Ushers.....	Kay Wachter & Marcia Gupta
Acolyte.....	Camden Plog, Kay Wachter

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.

***GATHERING HYMN..... *Songs of Thankfulness and Praise*.....ELW 310**

1 Songs of thankfulness and praise,
Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise;
manifested by the star
to the sages from afar,
branch of royal David's stem
in thy birth at Bethlehem:
anthems be to thee addressed,
God in flesh made manifest.

3 Manifest in making whole
weakened body, fainting soul;
manifest in valiant fight,
quelling all the devil's might;
manifest in gracious will,
ever bringing good from ill:
anthems be to thee addressed,
God in flesh made manifest.

2 Manifest at Jordan's stream,
prophet, priest, and king supreme;
and at Cana wedding guest
in thy Godhead manifest;
manifest in pow'r divine,
changing water into wine;
anthems be to thee addressed,
God in flesh made manifest.

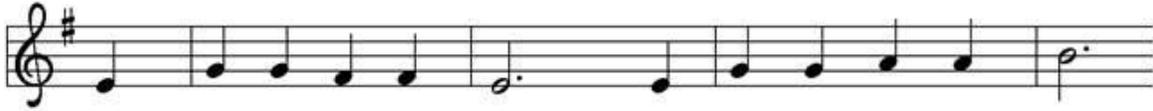
4 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord,
present in thy holy word;
grace to imitate thee now
and be pure, as pure art thou;
that we might become like thee
at thy great epiphany,
and may praise thee, ever blest,
God in flesh made manifest.

***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!

***PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

P: Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Anthem.....To God Be the Glory (Krouse).....Choir

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: #111

¹Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,

in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

²Great are your works, O LORD,
pondered by all who delight in them.

³Majesty and splendor mark your deeds,
and your righteousness endures forever.

⁴You cause your wonders to be remembered;
you are gracious and full of compassion.

⁵You give food to those who fear you,
remembering forever your covenant.

⁶You have shown your people the power of your works
in giving them the lands of the nations.

⁷The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice;
all of your precepts are sure.

⁸They stand fast forever and ever,
because they are done in truth and equity.

⁹You sent redemption to your people and commanded your covenant forever;
holy and awesome is your name.

¹⁰The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
all who practice this have a good understanding. God's praise endures forever.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

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



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

L: The Holy Gospel according to Mark the first chapter, **1:21-28**

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

***THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD**

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

SERMONPastor Phil Beck

Silence for Reflection

Refrain

There is a balm in Gilead
to make the wounded whole;
there is a balm in Gilead
to heal the sin-sick soul.

1 Sometimes I feel discouraged
and think my work's in vain,
but then the Holy Spirit
revives my soul again. *Refrain*

2 If you cannot preach like Peter,
if you cannot pray like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus
and say, "He died for all." *Refrain*

3 Don't ever be discouraged,
for Jesus is your friend;
and if you lack for knowledge
he'll ne'er refuse to lend. *Refrain*

Text: African American spiritual

***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: ... 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.

***OFFERTORY HYMN** *Create in Me a Clean Heart* (ELW Pg. 186)

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.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

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.

***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. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations: in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son, and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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 for the 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 for the 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 is risen. Christ will come again.

Amen (ELW Pg. 207)



***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.

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.

COMMUNION HYMN (ELW P. 208)

A musical staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody consists of the following notes: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4-A4 (half), G4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half). The lyrics are written below the staff:

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.

*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.

**SENDING HYMN..... Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to SingELW 886*

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace! | 5 Look unto him, your Savior own,
O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone,
be justified by grace! |
| 2 My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honors of your name. | 6 To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heav'n. |

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

***DISMISSAL**

GO IN PEACE, TRUST IN GOD, 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*
Hank Holiday, *Friend and neighbor of Kate Stottlemeyer*
Marion Lawrence, *Cousin of Kate Stottlemeyer*
The Jones Family, *Close family friends of Joann Valainis*
Gil Eiker, *Husband of Rebecca Eiker*
Doug Ashbrook, *Family Friend of Pastor Phil*
Roger Stottlemeyer, *Uncle of Kate Stottlemeyer*
Family of Sharon Kahler, *mother of Sheila and Rodney Kahler, members*
Jeff Gentry, *Organist*
Lin Snider, *Member*
Sue Snyder, *Member*
Nancy Wynne, *Friend of Lin Snider and Sue Snyder*
Shannon Smith, *Friend of the Mildenstein Family*
Bob Schmidt, *brother of Dottie Titmas*
Marea Palmer, *Niece of Marcia Gupta*
Parker Bazarewski, *extended family of Ed Chaney*
Family of Ellen Hatgi, *Member*
Joseph Matthew Moschella, *dear friends of the Plowman Family*
Michael Wachter, *Son of Gary and Kay Wachter*

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

Here are several stanzas from St. Patrick's Breastplate that we no longer sing:

Against the demon snares of sin,
The vice that gives temptation force,
The natural lusts that war within,
The hostile men that mar my course;
Or few or many, far or nigh,
In every place and in all hours,
Against their fierce hostility,
I bind to me these holy powers.

Against all Satan's spells and wiles,
Against false words of heresy,
Against the heart's idolatry,
Against the wizard's evil craft,
Against the death wound and the burning,
The choking wave and the poisoned shaft,
Protect me, Christ, till thy returning.



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 January 14, 2024:

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

In Worship Offerings

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

ATTENDANCE:

January 21, 2024

In person: 45

Virtual: 24

This Week at St Paul's

Sunday, January 28th

Worship (Livestream)	9:00am
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany	
Annual Congregation Meeting	10am

Monday, January 29th

FEC	8am-5pm
FEC Open House	5:00pm
Cub Scouts	7:15pm

Tuesday, January 30th

FHC	8am-5pm
-----	---------

Wednesday, January 31st

FEC	8am-5pm
-----	---------

Thursday, February 1st

FHS	9am-3pm
Cub Scouts	5:30pm

Sunday, February 4th

Worship (Livestream)	9:00am
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany	
Ministry Sunday	10am

ANNOUNCEMENTS

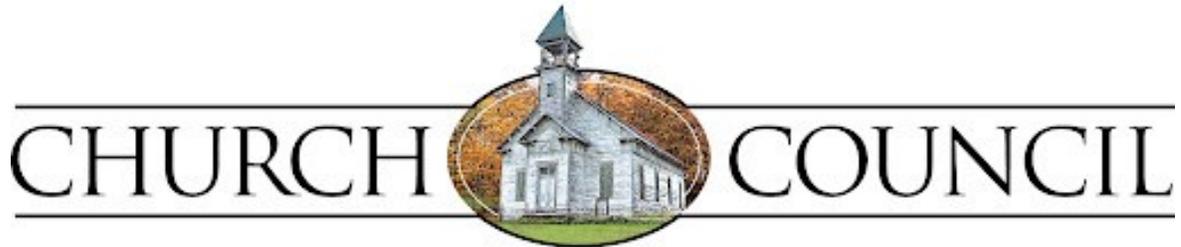
*****IMPORTANT*****

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

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4J5W5qqdePg>

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

St. Paul's Official YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSP6I9JEggsBUXlow1I7-Q>



****IMPORTANT COUNCIL INFO****

The following will be seeking a position as council member:

Lauren McCloskey
Marcia Gupta
Barbara Cartwright

**ANNUAL MEETING IS TODAY,
JANUARY 28, 2024 @ 10:00am**

Your Vote Counts

*Would you like to schedule a date to
sponsor Altar flowers?*

Please contact Patty Rimel through the Parish Office if you would like to arrange a date to offer flowers.

The sign up sheet is also hanging on the bulletin board at the side door.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



Thank you so much for the lovely memorial service for our mother, Sharon Kahler, and the repast following the service. Your compassion, thoughtfulness, prayers, and kind words were such a comfort to my family during this difficult time. We are so appreciative of our St. Paul's family's generosity and their continued love and support for the Kahler family.

Sheila Kahler & Rodney Kahler

Year Round Stocking Stuffer Project



For years St. Paul's has taken on the stocking stuffer project benefitting The Glade Valley Toy Shoppe at Christmas time. Every year the list grows and the number of stockings needed gets higher.

Kay Wachter has devised a plan to help St. Paul's be ready this Christmas! **The Year Round Stocking Stuffer Project.** Each Month the items of need will be announced and published in the Weekly bulletins and emails. There is a box wrapped with Christmas paper in the overflow area where you can drop off your donations each month. You always have the option for a financial donation as well. Please see Kay for more details.

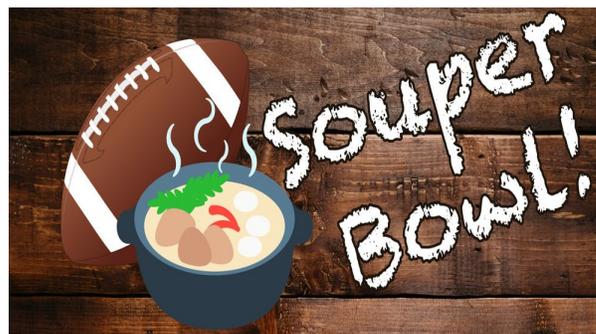
FEBRUARY

Playing cards for the older kids and theme cards for the younger ones (i.e. Old Maid, Go Fish, etc.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Do you have a college student or loved one in the military who would get great joy from getting an Easter Basket?

Please see Lauren McCloskey or the flyer on the bulletin boards for more information!



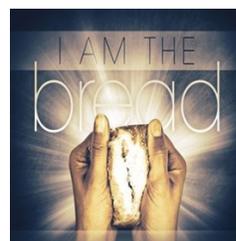
**Souper Bowl Can Drive
Now through February 11th.
Bring in soup cans for the
Glade Valley Food Bank**



This beautiful place is in need of some serious repairs in order to uphold their mission statement, ***"all are welcome in this place"***. Please take the time to read the flyers on the bulletin boards and to watch the video included in the weekly email.

The board of directors has authorized the ***With Open Arms*** campaign to provide funding necessary for repairs needed at Mar Lu Ridge. Please accept the challenge to give and to spread the word.

BREAD IS COMING BACK!



The Worship and Arts Committee has voted to reinstitute bread at communion, starting with the Lenten season. We'll need members of the congregation to volunteer to provide bread on a weekly basis. Bread used will be white only, unsliced/ unbroken, fresh baked or purchased, no nuts or seeds please, and a soft crust rather than hard, please, to lessen the crumbs that fall.

Please contact Candy Foucart at cafoucart@yahoo.com if you are interested and she will get back to you with all with possible dates. If there are any questions please ask Candy or any Worship and Arts Committee member. If no bread is available on a Sunday we will use the wafers.

Thanks for your commitment to St. Paul's!

Candy Foucart, Communion Coordinator

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Our Lenten Journey will be a series entitled "Guided to the Cross" which we will follow each Wednesday during Lent, Holy Week, and Easter Sunday.

Our Lenten Journey will be a series entitled "**Guided to the Cross**" which we will follow each Wednesday during Lent, Holy Week, and Easter Sunday.

Ash Wednesday (February 14, 2024) will be at St. Paul's

Lenten Wednesday worship will be at St. Paul's with soup and sandwich preceding at 6PM.

Sunday February 18, 2024 at 11:15am - Worship will be at Bethel with Pastor being out of town.

Holy Week

Wednesday - St Paul's 7pm (Soup and sandwich at 6pm) (A service of Healing and stripping of the altar)

Maundy Thursday - 7pm at Bethel with a meal beforehand at 6pm

Good Friday - Noon at Bethel and 7pm at St. Paul's

Easter Sunday - 9am at St. Paul's (Breakfast in the Social Hall at 8:00am), 11:15am at Bethel

The Red Cross and St. Paul's continue to partner in 2024 to bring a blood drive into our community. Our first drive for the year is **March 22nd**, please consider making your appointment today, your donation is needed!

See the weekly email for the link to sign up or call the Parish Office for assistance.



Donations for Glad Valley Food Bank are always accepted!

****Items of need are:****

Cereal, peanut butter, spaghetti sauce, canned fruit, boxed crackers, baked beans, canned pasta, canned tuna and mac 'n' cheese.

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 CoordinatorNancy Cochran
Flower Coordinator.....Patty Rimel
Administration/PurchasingEd Chaney
SextonLarry Beard
Stephen Ministry.....Linda Yopp
Property Coordinator.....Tom Waters
Financial Secretary.....Troy Keeney