



Fifth Sunday After Epiphany—February 4, 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.....	Jim Titmas
Organist.....	Jeff Gentry
Ushers.....	Tom and Johanna Waters
Acolyte.....	Camden Plog, Kay Wachter

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS

President—Patty Rimel
 Vice-President—Sheila Kahler
 Treasurer—Bill Cartwright
 Secretary—Kate Stottlemeyer

**Please stand as you are able.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE/CANDLES LIT

CHURCH BELL RUNG

Installation of Council

The following people have been *elected* [by the congregation] to positions of leadership. We give thanks for their willingness to serve. In baptism we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God; we rejoice now that these sisters and brothers will lead us in our common life and our mutual mission as a congregation.

A reading from First Corinthians: There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (1 Corinthians 12:4-7)

You have been elected to positions of leadership and trust in this congregation.

You are to see that the words and deeds of this household of faith bear witness to God, who gathers us into one together with the whole church.

You are to seek to involve all members of this congregation in worship, learning, witness, service, and support, so that the mission of Christ is carried out in this congregation, in the wider church, in this community, and in the whole world.

You are to be faithful in your specific area of serving, that the Spirit who empowers you may be glorified.

You are to be examples of faith active in love, fostering peace, harmony, and mutual understanding in this congregation.

On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you:

Will you accept and faithfully carry out the duties of the offices to which you have been *elected*?

Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

The assembly stands. Those being installed face the assembly.

People of God, I ask you:

Will you support these, your elected leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

We will, and we ask God to help us.

Those being installed face the presiding minister, who addresses them.

I now declare you installed as officers / council members of this congregation.

Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace, that you may be faithful servants of Christ.

Amen.

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever.
C: **Amen.**

P: Trusting in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy One, source of our renewal,
C: **we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name.**
Amen.

P: Thus says our God: “The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare.” God’s mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of † Christ our Savior.
C: **Amen.**

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

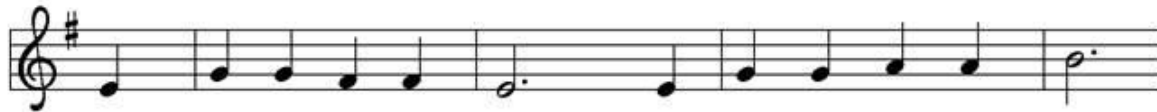
- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 Praise the One who breaks the darkness
with a liberating light;
praise the One who frees the pris'ners,
turning blindness into sight.
Praise the One who preached the gospel,
healing ev'ry dread disease,
calming storms and feeding thousands
with the very bread of peace.</p> <p>2 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.</p> | <p>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.</p> |
|---|--|

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955
Text © 1987 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

***GREETING (ELW, p. 147)**

P: Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
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: Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Temple Talk.....With Open Arms.....Sara Lefler, Mar Lu Ridge

Anthem.....His Hands (Schram).....Choir

Tune: © 2006 Lorenz Publishing Company (admin. By Music Services) One License

FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:21-31

L: *The Word of the Lord.*

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: #147

¹Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God!
How pleasant it is to honor God with praise!

²The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem,
and gathers the exiles of Israel.

³The LORD heals the brokenhearted
and binds up their wounds.

⁴The LORD counts the number of the stars
and calls them all by their names.

⁵Great is our LORD and mighty in power;
there is no limit to God's wisdom.

⁶The LORD lifts up the lowly,
but casts the wicked to the ground.

⁷Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;
make music upon the harp to our God,

⁸who covers the heavens with clouds
**and prepares rain for the earth, making grass
to grow upon the mountains.**

⁹God provides food for the cattle
and for the young ravens when they cry.

¹⁰God is not impressed by the might of a horse,
and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner,

¹¹but finds pleasure in those who fear the LORD,
in those who await God's steadfast love.

^{20c} **Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

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, **1:29-39**

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.....**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty**.....ELW 858

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!
Let all who hear now to his temple draw near,
joining in glad adoration!</p> | <p>3 Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do
if with his love he befriend you.</p> |
| <p>2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning
and, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.
Have you not seen all that is needful has been sent by his gracious ordaining?</p> | <p>4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again.
Gladly forever adore him!</p> |

***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.

***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.

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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.

*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)

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below each staff. The first staff ends with a fermata over the final note. The second and fourth staves end with double bar lines.

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:

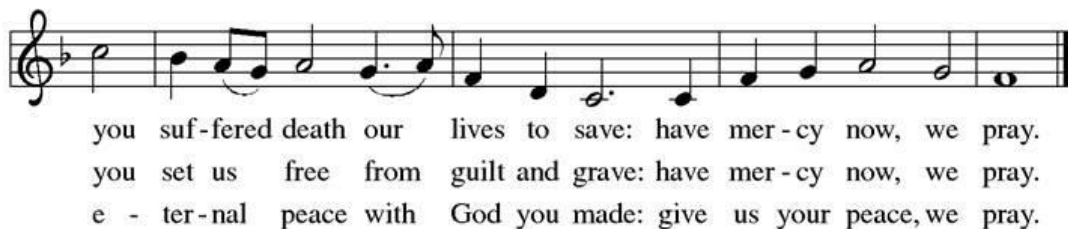
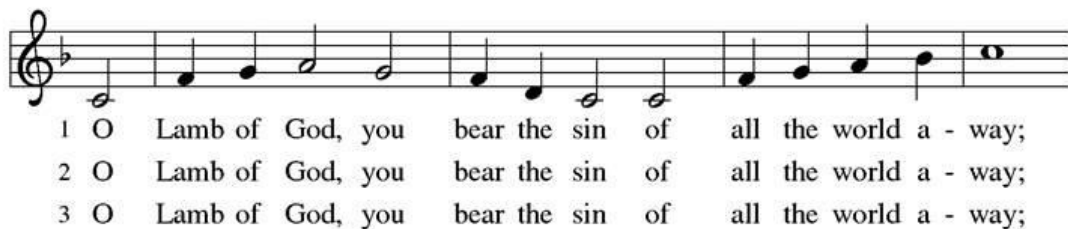
P: Gathered into One with the Holy Spirit, we now pray as Jesus taught us...

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)



*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, Worship the KingELW 842*

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Oh, worship the King, all-glorious above.
Oh, gratefully sing God's power and love;
our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise. | 4 Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;
your mercies, how tender, how firm to the end,
our maker, defender, redeemer, and friend. |
| 2 The earth with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, your pow'r has founded of old;
established it fast by a changeless decree,
and round it has cast, like a mantle, the sea. | 5 O measureless might, ineffable love,
while angels delight to hymn you above,
the humbler creation, though feeble their lays,
with true adoration shall sing to your praise. |

Text: Robert Grant, 1779-1838, 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*
Lillian Foucart, *Member*
Jan and Sam Urick, *Cousins of Candy Foucart*
Betsy Galliher, *Member*
Eileen Trihoulis, *Sister of Merle Anderson*

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

Healing is a sacrament because its purpose or end is not health as such, the restoration of physical health, but the entrance of man into the life of the kingdom, into the "joy and peace" of the Holy Spirit. In Christ everything in this world—and this means health and disease, joy and suffering—has become an ascension to, and entrance into, this new life, its expectation and anticipation. In this world, suffering and disease are indeed "normal," but their "normalcy" is abnormal. They reveal the ultimate and permanent defeat of man and of life, a defeat which no partial victories of medicine, however wonderful and truly miraculous, can ultimately overcome. But in Christ, suffering is not "removed": it is transformed into victory. The defeat itself becomes victory, a way, an entrance into the kingdom, and this is the only true healing.

—Alexander Schmemmann

[Alexander Schmemmann, *For the Life of the World* (Crestwood, NY: St. Vladimir's, 1973), 102-03]



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 28, 2024:

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

In Worship Offerings

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

ATTENDANCE:

January 28, 2024

In person: 54

Virtual: 16

This Week at St Paul's

Sunday, February 4th

Worship (Livestream) 9:00am

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Installation of New Council

Temple Talk, Sara Lefler

Ministry Sunday 10:00am

Monday, February 5th

FEC 8am-5pm

Cub Scouts 7:15pm

Tuesday, February 6th

FHC 8am-5pm

Executive Council 7:00pm

Wednesday, February 7th

FEC 8am-5pm

Thursday, February 8th

FHS 9am-3pm

Friday, February 9th

Annual Family Game Night 5pm-9pm

Sunday, February 11th

Worship (Livestream) 9:00am

Transfiguration Sunday

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=VR3rUeLWMx0>

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>



*The altar flowers are given
to the glory of God and
in memory of
my wife Joan on our anniversary
by Ed Chaney.*



Friday, February 9th

5:00pm to 9:00pm, Parish Hall. Bring your family & friends for food and fun at our annual **Family Game Night!** Bring your favorite Snack, appetizer or dessert to share and your favorite board games! Please call the office to sign up 301-845-4600



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

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.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



WELCOMING WITH OPEN ARMS »

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.

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!



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



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) 7:00pm, no Soup and Sandwich.

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.



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.



****Welcome New Council Members****

President—Patty Rimel
Vice-President—Sheila Kahler
Treasurer—Bill Cartwright
Secretary—Kate Stottlemeyer

Lauren McCloskey
Barbara Cartwright
Marsha Gupta
Jackie Waas
Ellen Bucheimer
Roxanne Smith

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.....	
Financial Secretary.....	Troy Keeney