

Epistle *March*

2024

*Saint Paul's
Lutheran
Church*

Walkersville, Maryland
301-845-4600

Saintpaulslutheranchurch.org

OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

This year our Lenten Services will be from *"Guided to the Cross"*

"Lent is a season when we are guided to the cross. Throughout this holy time, we are drawn to Calvary to live in forgiveness, hope, love, peace, trust and perseverance. Each week, the services in this series reveal how Christ and his cross serve as examples for us of how to live our lives for and through our crucified Lord and Savior."



WEEKLY LENTEN SERVICES

Every Wednesday February 21st through March 27th 7pm in the Parish Hall.

Livestreaming of the service will be available through the church Facebook page.

Lenten Wednesday worship will be at St. Paul's with Soup and Sandwich preceding at 6pm in the Parish Hall, worship starting at 7:00pm.

Holy Week

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

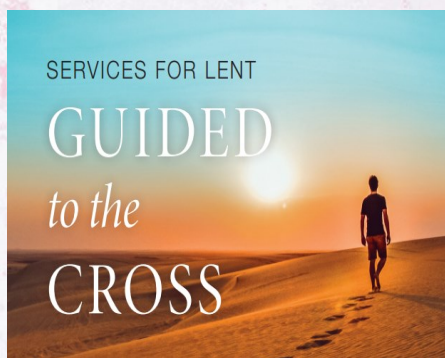
Maundy Thursday - 7pm at Bethel with a meal beforehand @6pm.

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).

March Birthdays

- Mar 3rd Jaiden Fellows
Jenna Fellows
- Mar 6th Rodney Kahler
- Mar 7th Jake Lutz
- Mar 10th Joey Valcarcel
- Mar 11th Robert Schell Jr.
- Mar 12th Liam McCloskey
- Mar 15th Scott Sube
Bill Cartwright
- Mar 16th Michaela Zeller
- Mar 18th Abigail Johnson
Joey Lutz
- Mar 19th Lori King
- Mar 24th Ronald Alexander
- Mar 25th Daniel Mildenstein
- Mar 26th Ellen Gupta
- Mar 28th Lauren Barrett





Help us decorate for Easter by purchasing an Easter Lily. They are available for \$12.00 each.

Sign up using the sign up sheet on the side bulletin board or call the Parish Office to purchase with a check or cash.

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

***Please don't forget to designate your dedication.**

March 24th is the final date to order!



Sunday, March 17th, 2-4 pm

Please join us for an afternoon of games with the residents at Victoria Park! We will be serving a variety of Soups and need food donations as well as volunteers to attend. Please see the weekly email for link to sign up.

You can bring your favorite board or card game and be ready for some trivia too! We are blessed to continue this relationship with the residents and live our mission of "Through Christ, we joyfully feed the body, mind and spirit of all."

Lager for Lent

What questions are you afraid to ask in church?

Join us Fridays at 5PM during Lent for fellowship and conversation at Oscars Alehouse West
906 N. East Street
Frederick, MD 21701



I would like to thank everyone for their confidence in me for the office of President of the Congregational Council. God has a plan, hopefully revealed to me in time, asking for your prayers to be open to hear all he has planned for St. Paul's. Thank you to the Executive committee: Sheila Kahler for being the Vice President and Kate Stottlemeyer for being the Secretary and Jackie Waas as her back up. Also, thank you to the entire council, Lauren McCloskey, Barb Cartwright, Marcia Gupta, Roxanne Smith and Ellen Bucheimer for giving your time and talents to St. Paul's. We are still in need of 3 Council members. I ask you to prayerfully consider serving on council, we would like to represent everyone in the congregation.

Patty Rimel

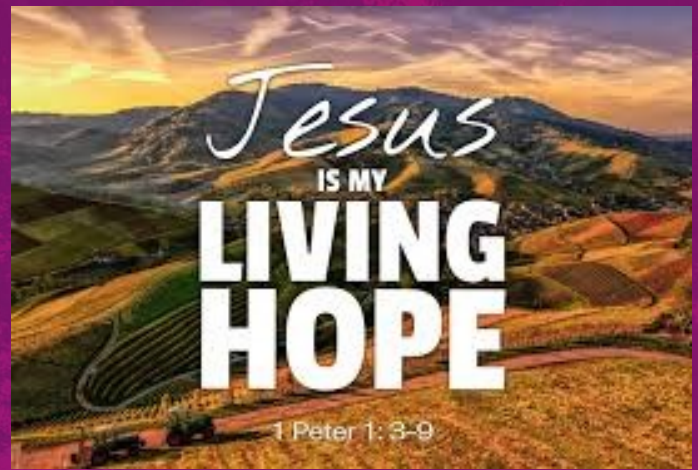
Pastor's Peace

*"Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you."
1 Peter 5:6*

As we continue our Lenten Journey, we are guided to the cross by Jesus who has called us to take up our crosses and follow Him. In taking up our crosses, we are not called to put ourselves on a cross but to acknowledge we are fully committed to Christ in our lives. When we take up our crosses, it is our call to bear one's cross as part of following Jesus, a call to be as submitted to Christ as the condemned criminal was to his death. This is how we follow Jesus; we realize it cannot be done alone and we submit ourselves to Christ as the one who conquers death and restores our right relationship.

During our journey together over the last 5 years, we have experienced growth, healing, and a willingness to try new things. This is a healthy journey and one we can be proud of as we continue to move through our lives together. A big step in this journey was the decision to partner with Bethel Lutheran Church in an effort to share resources and work collaboratively in spreading the Good News in our community. As with anything, there are growing pains and things needing to be tweaked along the way. Thus far, I would say that our partnership together has been fairly smooth sailing and I am grateful for the commitment to join together in worship, meals, and other significant events in the lives of our communities. One thing we sort of addressed when we began our life together was how offerings were going to be received when we visited each other's congregation for worship. We thought we had it planned out well, but there was a bit of confusion and questioning about how this was going to occur.

The Co-Council came together, worked through the issue with many thoughts, and came up with this solution. When visiting one another's churches any cash offerings would remain with the congregation we were present in for that day. Similarly, if you wanted to make an offering to the church we were worshipping in, that offering would remain there. Should you utilize a St. Paul's envelope or place a check in the offering for St. Paul's, I will ensure it makes its way back to St. Paul's for inclusion in our weekly offering. Obviously, Bethel LC will follow the same procedure. I am grateful for the number of you who attended Bethel LC for Sunday worship on February 18, 2024, and members of Bethel LC were glad you were able to join them. This will be the pattern we will follow for days in which I am not available for worship. We will continue to alternate worship locations which means the next joint worship will be at St. Paul's.



Pastor's Peace cont'd.

As has been highlighted in numerous forums, Bethel will be joining us for our weekly Lenten Worship services and have also been invited to join us for Soup and Sandwich. During Holy Week, we will be doing a joint worship on Maundy Thursday (March 28, 2024) at Bethel with Soup and Sandwich at 6pm in their Social Hall. There will be two opportunities for worship on Good Friday with a noon service at Bethel and 7pm service at St. Paul's. Worship times on Easter Sunday will remain as normal, yet we are being blessed with an Easter breakfast at 8am in the St. Paul's Social Hall. We are hopeful you will be able to join us at many of our Lenten worship services, as well as for Easter. Please reach out to a friend and invite them along to hear the Good News you know.

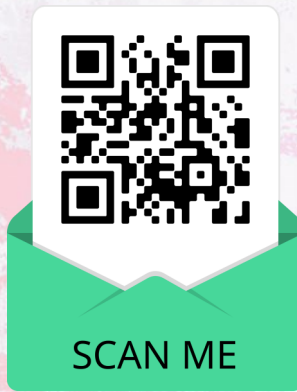
I look forward to sharing the joyful news of our Resurrected Christ and for our future together as we follow our paths to the Cross and beyond.

*"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."
1 Peter 1:3*

Should you have any questions or concerns, I am glad to speak with you at any time.

Peace Pastor Phil

Email: pastor@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org



Don't forget to sign up for our Annual Easter Egg Hunt!
Use the QR code and join the fun!



The Year Round Stocking Stuffer Project.

It's March! We need *Craft Kits and Small Dolls*. There is a box wrapped with Christmas paper in the overflow area where you can drop off your donations.

You always have the option for a financial donation as well. Please see Kay for more details.



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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March

Faith Formation, every Sunday except first Sunday of the Month,
 Ministry Sunday - March 3rd, Midweek Service with soup and Sandwich every Wednesday, Holy Week and Easter!

April

Faith Formation, every Sunday except first Sunday of the Month,
 April 5th-6th Yard Sale, April 7th Ministry Sunday.

May

Faith Formation, every Sunday, May 7th Ministry Sunday, May 18th Strawberry Festival.

