

EPISTLE



Saint Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Walkersville, Maryland 301-845-4460
www.saintpaulslutheranchurch.org

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|----------|------------------------------------|
| April 1 | Hope Donati |
| April 4 | Jack Isenock |
| April 6 | Dianne Port |
| April 13 | Regina Baker |
| April 14 | Hazel Kopp |
| April 16 | Francis Bruning |
| April 22 | Sam Carroll |
| April 23 | Charlotte Jones |
| April 24 | Jon Brundage |
| April 26 | Bethany McLane Vaughn Zimmerman |
| April 28 | Patty Rimel |

"Change can be scary, but you know what's scarier? Allowing fear to stop you from growing, evolving, and progressing."
—Mandy Hale

Holy Week Reflect and Rejoice

Journey through Holy Week with us and Christ's resurrection on Easter. Holy Week, the center of the church's year, is one of striking contrasts: Jesus rides into Jerusalem surrounded by shouts of glory, only to be left alone to die on the cross. We enter this holy week thirsty for the completion of God's astonishing work: from death comes new and abundant life for us and all creation.

Passion/Palm Sunday

We rejoice with the crowds as Jesus enters into the city of Jerusalem, waving palms and shouting "Hosanna!"

Maundy Thursday

"Maundy" means "command" and refers to the new command Jesus gave the disciples after "washing their feet": "Love one another, as I have loved you." The readings also recall the institution of the Lord's Supper "on the night he was betrayed." Join us in person at Bethel @ 7:00pm as we recall the first Lord's Supper.

Good Friday

Good Friday commemorates the day when our Lord gave his life to save us from our sins. It is a very humbling service, as we contemplate the cost that Jesus paid for our redemption. Please join us in person at 7:00pm or virtually on Facebook live or on our website live as we observe the day when our Lord gave his life to save us from our sins. On this day the body of our Lord is broken on the cross—not at the table.

Easter

The resurrection of our Lord. **He is risen!! Alleluia!** Join us for worship at 9:00am or join us via Facebook live or on our website live! A joyous celebration of God's victory over sin and death. Come hear the story of our salvation and celebrate the resurrection together. This year we hear the gospel from John, we share the meal of our Lord, and we sing Alleluia over and over again!

PASTOR'S Peace

Standing on the Threshold

The Epistle – April 2026

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Walkersville

We are not at Easter... not yet.

Holy Week places us on a threshold.

We walk with the crowds waving palms.
We gather at the table in the upper room.
We stand at the foot of the cross.

And through it all, we live in that quiet tension between what has been... and what is about to be.

Because something is coming.

The disciples could feel it, even if they could not name it.
Something was shifting.
Something was ending.
Something new was just beyond the horizon.

They did not yet understand resurrection.

But it was already on its way.

In many ways, this is where we find ourselves as a congregation.

Right here. Right now. On the threshold.

After Easter, we will begin in earnest the process of calling a new pastor. There will be conversations, prayers, meetings, and moments of discernment. There will be opportunities to reflect on who we are and where God is leading us next.

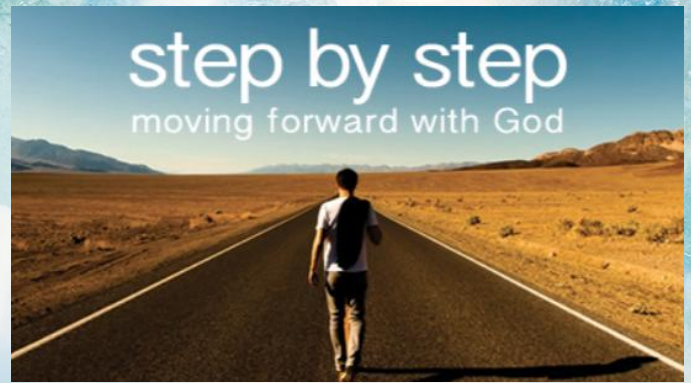
But we are not there yet.

Right now, we are in Holy Week.

And Holy Week teaches us how to stand faithfully in moments just like this.

It teaches us to slow down... to resist the urge to rush ahead... to trust that God is at work even when the full picture is not yet clear.

On Maundy Thursday, the disciples did not know what the meal would mean. On Good Friday, they could not see beyond the cross. Even on that first Easter morning, the story unfolded in confusion before it blossomed into joy.



And yet, in every step of that journey—God was already moving.

So it is for St. Paul's.

Even before the call process formally begins... God is already preparing the way. Even now, the Holy Spirit is stirring hearts—within this congregation and beyond it. Even now, something new is quietly taking shape.

Holy Week reminds us that preparation often happens beneath the surface, in ways we cannot yet see.

And it also reminds us that we are not simply observers. We are participants.

This season ahead will invite each of us into prayerful discernment. Not just about who will be called to serve as pastor—but about who God is calling us to be as a congregation.

So as we move through these sacred days, consider this your invitation to begin preparing your heart:

Pray for St. Paul's and the journey ahead.
Pray for wisdom, unity, and clarity.
Pray for the one whom God is already calling.
And listen... for how the Holy Spirit may be nudging you to take part in what is to come.

We are not at Easter... not yet.

But we are standing at the edge of something new.

And if Holy Week teaches us anything, it is this:

God's greatest work often begins before we recognize it...and new life is already stirring, even now.

So we wait. We watch. We pray.

And soon... we will step forward together into what God has prepared.

— Rev. Peter J. Roy, Interim Pastor



for everyone. No experience necessary. We are continuing the hot dogs and chips, and water will be available. The plant sale will be handled by the Scouts this year. The strawberry shortcake sales area will welcome all volunteers too! There will be a bake goods booth that will be screaming for any and all donations. Quilts will also be for sale. A welcome booth will showcase our church and activities.

It's that time of year again, where the days are longer and plants are greener.

This is the time for anticipating the wonderful enjoyment that the St. Paul's annual Strawberry Festival brings to our community. Our historical festival will happen on May 16, 2026. This event is one of the major draws for Walkersville Days and shows that St. Paul's is active in the Lord's work of bringing all people together in celebration.

We are in the process of planning all the details for this event. *We really need your help.* There is something

It is time to declutter, because our wonderful YARD SALE will be happening as well. If you donate it, Kay Wachter will sell it. We are asking for setup, take down and clean up people. **Bring your extended family.**

The Strawberry Festival is an outreach event. Let others know that St. Paul's cares and that everyone is welcome to join us in service. We all are given gifts from our God to share. Come and share. If you have any ideas or questions, please contact Lauren McCloskey.



We are coming upon the time of change...

Noisy change that is!

Start gathering all those coins laying around and bring them to church! From April 26th through May 24th we will be collecting loose coin offerings to take to the Synod Assembly at the beginning of June.

Bring on the change!

Glade UCC Annual
Spring
Community Concert

Join The Glade Choir,
The Glade Tower Handbell Choir,
Bill Powell and friends
for an evening of

Inspirational Spring Music

**Wednesday, April 8th
at 7 pm**

Light refreshments will be served following the concert.

Glade UCC - 21 Fulton Ave, Walkersville MD

FREE! **FREE!**

**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH OF
WALKERSVILLE
EASTER EGG HUNT**

The Story of Easter! *Games!*

When: Saturday, April 4th 2026

Time: 3:00PM- 5:00 PM

Where: St. Paul's Lutheran Church
14 W. Pennsylvania Ave.
Walkersville

Goats! *Crafts!*

Egg Hunt Times

3:30- Ages 0-2
3:45- Ages 3-5
4:00- Ages 6-9
4:15- Ages 10+

Quilt Pieces

Submitted by Kate Stottlemeyer

Quilt Ministry is like the quilt itself. Quilts have many pieces, sometimes alike and sometimes in different shapes and sizes. Some quilts have strips of fabric between squares composed of pieces in different shapes and colors stitched together. Each bit of fabric has a specific purpose in the composition of the quilt. Likewise, Quilt Ministry is formed by different people whose talents fulfill certain needs in the organization as a whole.

We know about one quilt piece, Margaret Powers and her Quilt Angels, and we know about the piece that is today's Quilt Ministry, but there is a connecting piece—a strip between the squares—that we might not know: Betty Schubert's lap quilt classes.

Betty Schubert, a spunky and tenacious lady, was a member of St. Paul's for many years, leaving our congregation during The Time of Covid. She was a fixture here, involved in as many activities as she could fit on the calendar.



Among her many interests were gardening and sewing. She was often seen on her hands and knees in the dirt, weeding and planting in St. Paul's flowerbeds. I'll never forget the day when I happened to be in the Parish Hall when Betty arrived with an armload of kitchen curtains she had sewn. Peering over the top of the pile, she asked me to spot her on the ladder while she hung them. Quick as a cat, she scaled one of our tallest ladders and stood, tiptoe, on the top rung. White-knuckled, I said, "Betty, you're going to fall and break your neck!", and she replied calmly, "No, I won't; that's why you're here." That's how Betty did things: faithfully and fearlessly.

Betty had a sideline, sewing small quilts to sell. She specialized in baby quilts and ones for people in wheelchairs. After Margaret's passing, Betty offered to teach anyone who wanted to learn how to make these knotted quilts. I'd been praying for something useful to do at St. Paul's, and God started saying, "Do quilts," so I signed up, along with a handful of others. After a few sessions, the group dwindled to me and one other person. Betty became discouraged but kept on.

Then Covid hit. We were meeting the day the order came to "shelter at home", so we packed up our things and left. Afterward, I kept sewing. Betty sent me supplies through Pastor Phil who lived in her neighborhood. Soon we had enough quilts to donate. One thing led to another, and Quilt Ministry was born. But that wouldn't have happened without Betty Schubert's lap quilting classes. Thank you, Betty.

I WILL DO MORE

I will do more than belong,
I WILL PARTICIPATE

I will do more than care,
I WILL HELP

I will do more than believe,
I WILL PRACTICE

I will do more than be fair,
I WILL BE KIND

I will do more than forgive,
I WILL LOVE

I will do more than earn,
I WILL ENRICH

I will do more than teach,
I WILL SERVE

I will do more than live,
I WILL GROW

I will do more than be friendly,
I WILL BE A FRIEND.

Stephen Ministry

We all go through hard times in life. Times that are turbulent and unsettling. During these times it can be helpful to have someone to listen and encourage us. The Teacher writes in Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

Two are better than one,
because they have a good return for their labor
If either of them falls down, one can help the
other up
But pity anyone who falls
and has no one to help them up

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Stephen Ministers complete 51 hours of training to be able to provide a listening ear, supportive perspective and God's word to help those experiencing the hard times of life.

If you feel called to share your talents and gifts in this ministry, please contact Linda Yopp through the Parish Office.

WOODSBORO Lutheran Church

Worship Services - 10:00 am

Serving God & Community

Preorder by Wednesday April 22
Pick up on Saturday April 25 @ 11am-2pm

Turkey & Ham Slippery Pot Pie \$9

By the Quart

Country Ham Sandwiches \$5

Delicious Homemade Baked Goods Also Available



Go to: <https://woodsborolutheranchurch.com/pot-pie/>

Upcoming Events

- April 2nd -- Maundy Thursday, Meal @ Bethel,
Meal at 6:00pm with Worship at 7:00pm
- April 3rd -- Good Friday, Worship @ St. Paul's at 7:00pm
- April 4th -- Easter Egg Hunt, 3pm-5pm
- April 5th -- Easter Sunday, Worship @ St. Paul's at 9:00am
and Bethel at 11:15am
- April 6th -- Easter Monday, Parish Office Closed
- April 7th -- Community Dinner @ 5:00pm,
Executive Council @ 7:00pm
- April 12th -- Bell Court Worship @ 3:00pm
- April 13th -- Worship & Arts @ 10:00am
- April 18th -- Community Dinner @ 5:00pm
- April 21st -- Congregational Life @ 6:00pm
Council @ 7:00pm



Our annual Yard Sale is approaching fast!

Donations will be collected on the Parsonage front porch.

**Donations can be dropped off anytime through
Wednesday, May 13th. If you have things you'd like to
donate but can't get them to the Parsonage, please call the
Parish Office to arrange a pick up.**

**If you can lend a hand please contact Kay Wachter through
the Parish Office or speak to her after Worship. Thank you
so much for your continued support of the annual Yard
Sale at St. Paul's!**

