



*St. Paul
Lutheran Church*

Walking Together

St. Paul Lutheran Church and School
Catonsville, MD
May 2024

St Paul: A Holy Spirit Place

How would you describe St. Paul Lutheran Church? Is St. Paul best seen as ...

- an org chart with responsibilities and lines of authority?
- rules and by laws that must be followed?
- modern abstract art with random actions and activities?
- a budget we have to meet?
- a feeling in our hearts, tradition, nostalgia, a museum?

Of course, none of these things really express what this church is. There may be some truth in all of these but none really capture our life together.

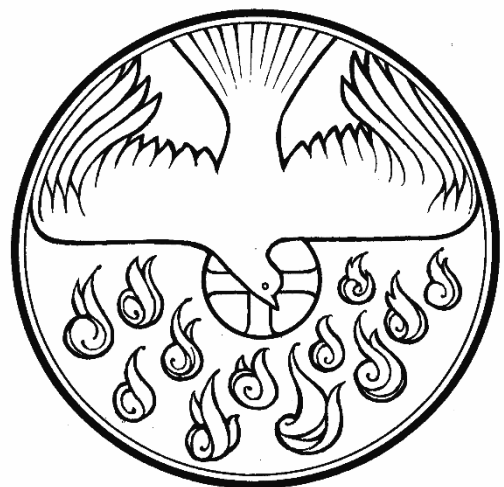
This month on the 19th we will celebrate Pentecost, the festival of the Holy Spirit. Pentecost brings to mind for me two verbs that present what St. Paul is in her essence: gathering and sending. We might think of it of as centripetal and centrifugal forces that move our church life. The Holy Spirit moves us toward the center and also sends us out away.

That center is the Gospel and forgiveness and mercy of God accomplished by Christ. This center is sacramental and external: the Word which is preached and given in the Lord's Supper and Baptism. In these things we have certainty amid all the failures and burdens that follow us around. We are called to this center, out of our daily life to meet God in Christ.

But the Holy Spirit also sends us out to our calling and offices in life, our vocations. Family and civic life and employment and daily life aimed toward the needs of our neighbor. God has commanded this work to be done and has promised that when we do such things honestly and with love to the neighbor, we are pleasing to Him.

Yes, St. Paul is a Holy Spirit place: gathered and sent.

Pastor Alms



FROM THE CONGREGATIONAL PRESIDENT

In my last note, I said I was ready for spring. I forgot about allergies. I'm ready for pollen to disappear, but the temperatures are great and it's nice to get outside.

Security is something that the church and school had to address over the past couple of months. We have installed an alarm system in the building. It is not tied to the door code system. The alarm is set to arm itself and go off during certain times. If there is a meeting that is scheduled on the church calendar, the alarm will be set to arm after the meeting is over. If you have any plans to come into the church in the morning or evening and not for a scheduled meeting, please contact Steve Haar (steve.haar@splscatonsville.org) so the alarm can be disarmed and you don't have to panic. Additionally, we are going to minimize the number of physical keys we have. Over the summer we will be rekeying the church and asking members to use codes to open the red doors and the fellowship hall doors to access the building. The physical keys will be limited to select church leadership. If you need access to the building at any time, please contact Steve Haar so you can get a door code. Any questions on the alarms or the keys can be sent to me or Steve. Reminder that June 2nd is our next voters meeting. The biggest item to discuss will be the budget for next year. As with last year, we will be presenting a deficit budget. The budget we passed last year was large, but there are two things we do when we make these budgets. First, we are conservative with our giving numbers. We base our giving off current numbers with a slight increase. Second, we are liberal with our expenditure numbers. We plan for all the items we think we might need to spend on. Because of this, our current year spending and budget is looking a lot better than what we passed last year. Instead of an ~\$82K deficit, we will be closer to a \$20K deficit. The boards have been diligent and prudent in their spending, making sure we are being responsible with the gifts that God has given us. We look forward to discussing next year's budget. Please take time to review the documentation that will be provided in May.

The council and Capital Campaign committee met to discuss goal, priorities, and strategies. We continue to work on this so we can refine the goals of the Capital Campaign. At this time, we will be looking to begin the campaign in the Fall, but more likely the Spring. This is important and a goal of the council and church, but we want to make sure we are doing it right and for the right reasons.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns about anything feel free to contact me.

Blessings to all,
Aaron Nelson

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We were blessed to receive a large group of new members into our congregation on April 14. Please take time to welcome them among us!

Mark Donahey
Isaac Chinnappan, Jayanthi Samuel, Spencer Isaac, Joanna Isaac
Ben Allston
Dr. Carl E. Roemer and Dottie Roemer
Ruth Payne
Phil Stern and Hyekong Stern
Rachel Forbes

MUSIC EXPO

St Paul Lutheran School will be presenting a music exposition on Friday May 10th. There will be an open dress rehearsal at 1pm for viewing and an evening performance at 6pm. Students will be showcased in choirs, class presentations, and ukulele. Thank you for your support of the fine arts in these young musicians!

Mission Trip 2024

We will have a meeting Monday May 20th at 7 P.M. Anyone interested in going on a mission trip helping with disaster relief and construction and outreach to the affected, please come. We will try to finalize dates and location.

ADULT EDUCATION IN MAY

“Christian Perspectives on War”; -- Bill Oldhouser in the fellowship hall

“Meant for Good – A Study of Joseph” Women’s Bible study in the upstairs conference room.

YOUTH GATHERING 2025

Meeting for parents and youth is May 12th after worship in the fifth-grade classroom. Dates are July 19–23, 2025 in New Orleans, LA. The theme for the 2025 LCMS Youth Gathering is “ENDURE” and is centered around Hebrews 12:1–3. Ages are 14-19. Youth must be 14 years old at the time of the Gathering OR entering the ninth-grade year at the time of the Gathering. All parents and youth who are interested please attend. Any questions, contact Pastor Alms.

WOMEN’S GUILD

Ladies May will be the last official meeting before the summer break. Our usual May meeting is a salad supper, check news and notes for date, time and place.

We will also be hosting fair well reception for Stan and Dana after church on May 19th. I will be reaching out to the congregational ladies for help with goodies and set up as well as clean up

LADIES APPRECIATION TEA, SATURDAY MAY 11TH AT 3 PM

The ladies of St. Paul (of all ages, from 0-100) are invited to a tea party on Saturday, May 11th from 3-4:30 pm in the fellowship hall. The Men’s Group is hosting this event and will provide entertainment as well. Light refreshments will be served in addition to the tea. We have all of the necessary teacups and teapots for the tea party. However, we encourage all ladies to bring in a fancy tea pot from home to put on display! Also, to dust off their party hats to wear! This was well attended pre-Covid, so I hope that as many ladies as possible can join us. Signup will be posted on the bulletin board. Be sure to put this on your calendar. For more information feel free to call Jim Baeder.

FROM THE DAY SCHOOL BOARD

2024/2025 Enrollment

Our Early Childhood Center is full for the Fall and we are seeking students for grades K-3. We continue to have 2-3 tours per week for families interested in the elementary program.

Elementary School Staffing – New 5th and 2nd Grade Teachers

We are pleased to announce that Mrs. Flahn and Mrs. Kiel will join our teaching time to serve as teachers in the 5th and 2nd grades respectively.

Mrs. Flahn holds a B.A. in Elementary Education from the African Bible College (Liberia) and a M.A. in Christian Education from Princeton Theological Seminary (US). She taught for several years at the Eternal Love Winning Africa (ELWA) Academy in Liberia as a upper grade lead teacher.

Mrs. Keil holds a B.S. in Elementary Education from the University of North Carolina. She has taught Kindergarten through 6th grade. She has over 25 years of teaching experience and holds certificates in teaching the Academically Gifted and Orton-Gillingham for Reading especially designed to assist learners with Dyslexia.

Please join me in warmly welcoming these teachers to the St. Paul education ministry team.

ALTAR CARE

I would like to thank those church members who are donating their time to take a month to prepare the altar for communion services and to change the altar paraments as needed. The schedule follows:

January: Irene and Suzanne Giguere

July: Open

February: Robbin and Kevin Dungey

August: Bruce Staudinger

March: Karyn and John Borth

September: Melissa Sunstrom

April: Doreen and Greg McDonald

October: Open

May: Melissa Sunstrom

November: Barb Haar and Lynette Frech

June: Betsy Mitchell and Christina Unglesbee

December: Debbie and Denise Frech

Helpers/Substitutes – Christina and Aaron Nelson / Andrea Wellington

As you can tell from the list above, volunteers are needed to provide altar care in the months of July and October. If you are willing for either one of these months, please contact Robbin Dungey at 410 698-2766 (or see me at church), and I will add you to the list and see that you get training.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

Childrens Sunday school is on break June through August. Adult Education will be having various classes and topics. More information soon.

ST PAUL SPECIAL PURPOSE FUNDS THAT ACCEPT CONTRIBUTIONS

Paul D Lubell, Treasurer

Recently, there have been a number of deaths of long-time church members. Several people have approached me and inquired how they can contribute to St Paul Lutheran Church to commemorate these members who are recently departed. We have a wide variety of Memorial Funds that have been set up for this purpose. Additionally, there are three major funds that are restricted to benevolent use. Only if you regularly peruse the balance sheet would you likely be familiar with their names. So, rather than put you through that effort, I will list them for you.

Memorial Funds

Carillon Fund
English as a Second Language (ESL) Fund
Maintenance Fund
Music Fund
Organ Fund
Paraments Fund
Scholarship Fund
School Ministry Fund
Sound System Fund
Stained Glass Fund
Undesignated-Use where the need is greatest-This is the largest of the memorial funds
Other Designated Funds
(Most of you know these)
Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund
Horlebein Fund
School Endowment Fund

Give to one or more of these funds and you will be helping St Paul while honoring the memory of those who are no longer with us, those who were dear to you. Thank you for your considering and contributing to these funds.

FAREWELL AND GODSPEED FOR THE STIGDONS

Farewell is planned for May 19th. During worship Stan and Dana will be installed in their positions as missionaries in the Dominican Republic. Following worship we will have a special reception. On May 5, 12, 19 there will be a basket in the Narthex for everyone to leave cards and notes and gifts for the Stigsons in appreciation for the works God has done through them at St. Paul. Those gifts and cards will be collected and presented to the Stigsons on the 19th.

PASTOR ALMS ON KFUE

On Tuesday April 30th at noon Pastor Alms will be on KFUE. The topic will be Proverbs 13: 13-25. Tune in here: <https://www.kfuo.org/live-stream/>

KINGDOM GROWTH MINISTRY

FOOD FOR THE POOR (FFTP)

Each year a portion of our Kingdom Growth budget supports Food for the Poor. FFTP is an interdenominational Christian organization that provides food, medicine, housing, emergency relief, clean water and agricultural help to the poor in Latin America and the Caribbean. It is a 501(c) (3) charity, based in Coconut Creek, Florida, and our congregation has been supporting it for many years. When support first began, we chose to put our money towards the building of houses. Because of the greater expense (\$9,800) congregations are encouraged to collect half the amount (\$4,900) and then 2 congregations are paired to fund the 2 bedroom house. Since our support began on 2008, we have helped build 6 houses in Haiti. Founded in 1982, FFTP has built over 88,000 homes for the needy in its 40 plus years of existence. The Mission Statement states that FFTP seeks to link churches of the First World with churches of the Developing World. Their Vision is shaped by the "...belief that Christ is alive and can be served directly by serving those in greatest need." Since 2008, we have helped serve the Lord in this way



4TH ANNUAL MEMORIAL DAY COMMEMORATION AT ST PAUL LUTHERAN CEMETERY

1022 Joh Ave
Baltimore, MD 21229
10:00 AM Monday, May 27, 2024

On Memorial Day at 10:00 am, at St Paul Lutheran Cemetery, we will have a special commemoration for all the war veterans that are buried there. Pastor Gregory Alms will offer prayers and I will talk about the origins and meaning of the holiday. All war veterans' graves will be decorated with American flags and we will have a live rendition of "Taps" plus much more. Be sure to come! You will be glad you did.

Please park either in the center or right hand roadway of the cemetery or use the Violetville Park lot and walk into the Cemetery. Everyone is welcome. Maps will be available in the Narthex prior to the event.

Paul Lubell, for the Cemetery Committee

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Scuba VBS
June 24th - 28th
9am-12pm

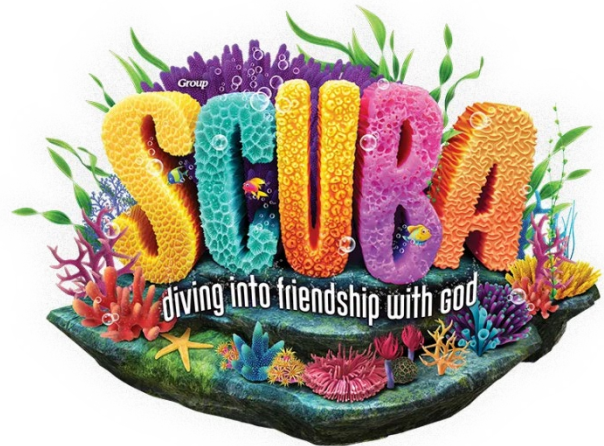
Join us this summer as we dive into friendship with God.

Register your child (ages 3 years old - 5th grade) for this fin-tastic adventure [HERE](#)

If you are willing to serve, or know someone who is, contact Kirsten Hall.

Or volunteers can sign up [HERE](#)

There are many ways to get involved. Hope to SEA you there!



SERVING IN MAY

	Reader	Greeter	Usher 1	Usher 2	Acolyte
May 5	Ken Waibel	Sari Nguyen	Don Easton	Bill Oldhouser	Danny McKay
May 12	Michelle Johnson	Karyn Borth	Greg McDonald	Jeffrey Hemmeter	Ella Nelson
May 19	JB Jaeger	Betsy Mitchell	Bruce Staudinger	Paul Lubell	Gretchen Nelson
May 26	Suzanne Giguere	Pat Wesselman	Jim Kyne	David Nguyen	Rachel Johnson

WORSHIPPING TOGETHER IN MAY

Easter 6 Num 3:1–16, 39–48, Luke 14:25—15:10
 Monday Num 8:5–26, Luke 15:11–32
 Tuesday Num 9:1–23, Luke 16:1–18
 Wednesday Num 10:11–36, Luke 16:19–31
 Ascension Day Num 11:1–23, 31–35, Luke 17:1–19
 Friday Num 11:24–29; 12:1–16, Luke 17:20–37
 Saturday Num 13:1–3, 17–33, Luke 18:1–17
Easter 7 Num 14:1–25, Luke 18:18–34
 Monday Num 14:26–45, Luke 18:35—19:10
 Tuesday Num 16:1–22, Luke 19:11–28
 Wednesday Num 16:23–40, Luke 19:29–48
 Thursday Num 16:41—17:13, Luke 20:1–18
 Friday Num 20:1–21, Luke 20:19–44

Saturday Num 20:22—21:9, Luke 20:45—21:19

Pentecost Sun. Num 21:10—35, Luke 21:20—38
Pentecost Mon. Num 22:1—20, Luke 22:1—23
Pentecost Tues. Num 22:21—23:3, Luke 22:24—46
Pentecost Wed. Num 23:4—28, Luke 22:47—71
Pentecost Thurs. Num 24:1—25, Luke 23:1—25
Pentecost Fri. Num 27:12—23, Luke 23:26—56
Pentecost Sat. Num 32:1—6, 16—27, Luke 24:1—27
Holy Trinity Sun. Num 35:9—30, Luke 24:28—53

THE TIME OF THE CHURCH

May 18 Song 1:1—2:7, John 5:1—18
May 19 Song 2:8—3:11, John 5:19—29
May 20 Song 4:1—5:1, John 5:30—47
May 21 Song 5:2—6:3, John 6:1—21
May 22 Song 6:4—7:5, John 6:22—40
May 23 Song 7:6—8:14, John 6:41—59
May 24 Eccl 1:1—18, John 6:60—71
May 25 Eccl 2:1—26, John 7:1—13
May 26 Eccl 3:1—22, John 7:14—31
May 27 Eccl 4:1—16, John 7:32—53
May 28 Eccl 5:1—20, John 8:1—20
May 29 Eccl 6:1—7:10, John 8:21—38
May 30 Eccl 7:11—29, John 8:39—59
May 31 Eccl 8:1—17, John 9:1—23



BIBLE STUDY



CONCORDIA
UNIVERSITY
IRVINE

CONCORDIA HANDBELLS *in Concert*

East Coast Tour, May 7 - 12, 2024
North Carolina, Virginia,
Washington DC, Maryland

Join us for an exciting concert of virtuosic handbell music! Led by award-winning composer Alex Guebert, Concordia University Irvine's handbell ensembles will perform a variety of music – sacred, classical, modern, and popular – using over 127 handbells and handchimes, as well as other instruments.

The Concert Handbells and Spirit Bells are the touring ensembles of Concordia, representing a program that has become highly respected internationally for its performances and preparation of handbell musicians and directors.

*All performances are free, non-ticketed,
and open to the public*



Scan to learn more
[CULEDU/GOMUSIC](https://culedu.com/music)

TUESDAY, MAY 7 | 7:00PM

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church
in Raleigh NC
Hosted by the Raleigh Ringers

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8 | 7:15PM

King of Glory Lutheran Church,
Williamsburg VA

THURSDAY, MAY 9 | 7:00PM

Trinity Lutheran Church,
Richmond VA

FRIDAY, MAY 10 | 7:00PM

The Potomac School, McClean VA
*Invitational concert with Virginia Bronze and
the advanced handbell ensembles of the
Potomac School and Landon school*

SATURDAY, MAY 11 | 7:00PM

Calvary Lutheran, Baltimore MD

SUNDAY, MAY 12 | 7:00 PM

St. Mark's Episcopal,
Capitol Hill, Washington DC

