



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

11795 Rte. 216
Fulton, MD 20759
301-725-0241

News & Notes

Volume 13 Issue 05

Worship Schedule

Sunday 8:30 am and 11:00 am

Adult Sunday School with Pastor Dave Shank 9:30am (A time of check-in and prayer)

Children's Sunday School: Meeting Mondays on Zoom at 11 am for checking in, story time and song until further notice.

Wednesday Bible Study Group: While our building is still closed, Wednesday Bible Study will continue. (when we are able to gather in person again, we will move back to Thursday night). We are studying the lament Psalms. These Psalms give us words to cry out in the midst of struggle and sorrow, and they also affirm our trust in God! All are welcome to join us on Zoom!

Youth Schedule: Middle School and High School classes are meeting at the regular 9:45am on Sunday time via Discord.

May 10th & 24th Youth Group 6:30pm via Discord. (Please let the congregation know of any ways that the congregation could support our youth during this time of uncertainty.)

Important Reminders:

11795 Rte. 216
Fulton, MD 20759
Social Links: Stpaulslutheran.info, Instagram: [stpaulsfulton](https://www.instagram.com/stpaulsfulton) Twitter: [@stpaulsfulton](https://twitter.com/stpaulsfulton)

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

While our building remains closed at this time due to the COVID-19 corona virus, our congregation continues to be active thanks to technology! Please check our website and social media accounts for updates about online worship opportunities.

Sunday: 8:30 am & 11 am Worship (9:30 am Adult Sunday School)
Monday: 11 am Sunday School (Pre-K to Grade 5)
Wednesday: 6:30 am Morning Prayer
6:00 pm Bible Study (Psalms)
Thursday: 7:00 pm Worship

The Community Garden is now open and accepting applications for 2020. To receive the applications, details and rules of use please email the church.

We are also praying for our community and world in the midst of this!

Please email the church to receive the Zoom invite

150
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Celebrating 150 Years of Ministry
1870 - 2020

301-725-0241 St.paulsfulton@gmail.com

Sesquicentennial Celebration Continues



Bret Hassel gave a temple talk April 26th page 16. There are plans in the works for another clergy visit in May. Even though we can't use our building and must worship together on-line doesn't mean we can't share memories with one another. You are invited to share "What St. Paul's Means to me" or another memory. Please submit them via e-mail to the church office st.paulsfulton@gmail.com. See some examples pages 8,9 & 10

May 2020



Upcoming Events:

- MAY 2 WOMEN'S GROUP 9 AM
- MAY 4 EVANGELISM 7PM
- MAY 5 COUNCIL 7 PM
- MAY 6, 13, 20, & 27 6:30 AM PRAYER WITH PASTOR DAVE
- MAY 9 BROTHERHOOD 9 AM
- MAY 10 YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASS 6:30PM (DISCORD)
- MAY 16 SOCIAL OUTREACH GRASSROOTS (DECISION PENDING)
- MAY 19 SR. FELLOWSHIP PARISH HALL 11:30 AM (CANCELLED)
- MAY 24 CONFIRMATION CLASS WITH PARENTS 6:30PM VIA DISCORD

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News & Notes

Pastor's Corner



May 2020

How are you doing in the midst of this very confusing time?
Are you finding it difficult to determine what day it is? What month it is?
Are you adjusting to working from home? Or are you an essential employee who is still going out to work?
Are you starting to feel the struggle of not knowing how much longer this will go on?
Are you finding yourself strengthened in your faith? Are you praying more than you were?
Or are you struggling with your faith? Maybe wondering where God is in all of this?
Are you having a hard time finding the words to pray?

“Rejoice always,
pray continually,
give thanks in all
circumstances;
for this is God’s
will for you in
Christ Jesus “

1 Thessalonians
5:16-18 (NIV)

There are so many things that run through our heads these days. For some, this experience has been a welcome time to get some projects done around the house. Some are able to pick up a hobby they were wanting to do. Some are reading more. Some are finding ways to reach out to friends and neighbors, and maybe doing that reaching out in ways that are making you feel connected.

On the other hand, for some, this has been a real time of struggle. That struggle can come mentally, emotionally, physically, financially or spiritually. Depending on what our family situation is, if there are little ones around to entertain, and try to give a sense of “normal,” that can be draining. For those with school age children there has been the learning curve of figuring out how to navigate distance learning and explaining why this is all going on. For college students home from school there may be a heightened sense of isolation as you are used to being on your own a little more and are now living back at home. If you don’t have children at home, you may be spending time worrying about the ones who aren’t living with you. If you are a grandparent, you may be struggling with the distance from your grandkids and wondering when you will be able to wrap your arms around them again. If you are single and live alone, that can also bring with it a heightened sense of isolation.

No matter where you are in the midst of this, please know, that it’s okay. If you are struggling, that is natural, normal and to be expected. If you are content, that’s also natural, normal and to be expected. The way we experience this is influenced by our personalities and by our individual situations.

Please know, even though we are not able to be together in person, I am here for you via phone, text, email or we can set up an individual Zoom call. Please reach out if you would like to talk! I am holding our entire congregation in prayer during this time!

Peace,

Pastor Carelyn



God’s work,
our hands.

Associate Pastor

May 2020

At the beginning of 2020 I decided that each month I would write to you based on one of the areas in which I serve here at St. Paul's. I stated that I would write on ***Evangelism, Stewardship, or Christian Education.***

Since that time, the world has changed. Our world has changed. I am writing to you right now for the first time that I have not seen our flock, our community, our church for in person worship for 6 weeks and we are now moving into the 7th. I am reminded during this time that we may all have the best intentions when we are making "*our plans*" but then life has a way of changing and/or altering those plans. Life sometimes deals the unexpected, and we realize how much we cannot control, even though we sometimes do our best to guide and drive the course our lives will take.

This time of uncertainty has caused me to appreciate the Easter texts in a new way this year. From the story of "*the empty tomb*," to the story of "*doubting Thomas*," to the story of "*the road to Emmaus*." Each of these stories have reminded me that even when life gets challenging and deals the unexpected, **Christ is there. Christ shows up. Christ shows up in the same unexpected ways.**

It may not always be easy to see Christ in our midst. However, Christ is there. We have that assurance that in this life, even though sometimes it is hard to see, **Christ...is...there.** Especially at this time I want to remind our church that we have a God that understands. A God that understands our fears, our uncertainty, our impatience. Why? Because we have a God that loved us so much, God decided to walk amongst us and to experience our humanity. Through the gift of Christ, **God understands.** In this, let us **take comfort.**

I pray for each of you daily my friends, and I look forward to our "joyful home-coming" whenever we are able to worship together once more. Until then, please stay safe, and I pray that you stay well. Take care of those who you love and share the love and grace of Jesus Christ with others. Be the presence of Christ in this world beloved ones of St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

In this spirit, I leave you with a word on encouragement from 2 Timothy 4:7:

*"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, **I have kept the faith.**"*

Keep the faith!

Stay Well, Stay Safe,

Pastor Dave +



"I pray for the day that we are all united again my sisters and brothers in Christ. "

Pastor Dave



He (Jesus) said to them "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and most important command. The second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself."

Matthew
22:37-39

Council President

May 2020 Newsletter

April 20, 2020

Hooray to St. Paul's excellent staff who continue to keep us going during this epic COVID-19 pandemic! We continue to get weekly updates from Maya; Tom delights us with his piano playing during our online worship services, and Pastor Carolyn and Pastor Dave continue to inspire us through their sermons and bible studies. Another shout out to our Sunday School chair Elizabeth Ohl and our many dedicated Sunday School Teachers who continue to teach the word of God to us during this time that we are apart. Praise God for all of the people at St. Paul's for their service and love of this place! Today I am thankful for Kerry Griffin. The dedication he puts in to get the newsletter out in a timely fashion is stupendous. He shares his passion with all of us by posting things on social media, our website, advertisements in local newsletters, and encourages us to get our articles in each month (which is no easy task, let me tell you).

I can't stop there, Donna Frederick, Financial Secretary, continues to make deposits and give updates/reports to council on our finances. Mark Slater, the Treasurer, continues to pay bills and keeps the staff paid and the lights on. John Murphy continues to keep our property maintenance in check, as well as taking care of our new Community Garden. Thanks to Dave Reithmiller, who has stepped up to make sure that our online services continue to be available to us each week. That only mentions a few.

Thank you, Danke, Merci, Gracias to all of the generous donations that have come in during these trying times. I am humbled and thankful to God and all of you for your continuous support!

I hope you are safe and stay healthy during this time. Know that we are here for you if you need anything.

I find comfort in Phillippians 4:6-7 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your mind in Christ Jesus."

Peace be with you, my friends,

Peace,

Julie Smith

Volume 13, Issue 04

Stewardship

ELCA

With tax season upon us if you need your statement please email frederickdonna@verizon.net. Your statement can be sent via email.

If anyone would like an envelope or pledge card please contact Bob Peters bob.peters31@gmail.com or email Donna Frederick



"Verily I say unto you, in as much as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me."

MATTHEW 22:37b-39

Amazon Smile-

Thanks to all those who donated to St. Paul's using Amazon Smile. You can continue to do so all year long by going to the church website at this link <https://stpaulslutheran.info/donate#amazon> There, click on the Amazon Smile image. Then you will be taken to the Amazon website. A pop-up will ask if you want to make St. Paul's your Amazon Smile charity. Click "Yes," then shop as normal.

Giving—

Even though our doors are closed our expenses continue. You are encouraged to continue to mail in your offering to church or to give via Pay pal button on our website. <https://stpaulslutheran.info/donate>

From the Evangelism Committee:

We usually meet the 1st Monday of the month at 7pm in the Chapel.

For April, Evangelism hosted a virtual movie night with a Zoom meeting afterward to discuss and a Zoom social hours.

Sight and Sound's Jesus was available on TBN for free over Easter weekend and the DVD is available from Amazon May 15th. Broadway's Joseph is available on demand on Xfinity as is Tom Hank's A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood, if you are looking for additional virtual opportunities.

Get
INVOLVED



Activities that are in the works: We are working with the L.E.A.D. team in finding ways to connect with the community. St. Paul's is helping Grassroots to prepare and serve a meal on a bi-monthly basis. These are taking place on third Saturday of the odd number months at 8 am. Next Event May 16th if conditions allow it. June 6th an outing to see the Bible Museum in D.C. near K Street. Also an outing to see Esther at Sight & Sound has been moved to the fall.



Sunday School meeting on-line via Zoom, Mondays at 11 am.

St. Paul's Senior Fellowship

Our next Senior Fellowship luncheon will be September 15, 2020 if conditions allow. Please plan to join us beginning at 11:30am for food and fellowship. If you plan to attend, **please RSVP** by calling or emailing Joe and Cathy Dymek at

(410-531-1057 or jcdymek@verizon.net).

We hope to see you in the fall and please bring a friend!



Note:

1) We follow Howard County School's inclement weather policy. If the schools are closed that day we will not have the meeting. However if, they are delayed, our meeting **will go on as planned.**

2) In December, the members of Senior Fellowship created "**God's Grace Bags**" that contained items that could be given to someone that is homeless or in need. The congregation has embraced this ministry and to date 75 bags have been created. At this time, in order to continue, we are asking the congregation for cash donations to purchase the necessary items to fill more bags. The items purchased will continue to be non-perishable so that you can keep a bag in your car. The bags will be updated with contents appropriate for the weather. If you would like to donate funds, please designate them for Senior Fellowship.



Women's Group

The Women of St. Paul's will meet May 2nd 9am to 11 am. Contact Julie Smith or Sandy August for more information. **All women are welcome to join the 1st Saturday of the month 9 am to 11 am.**

We met on-line via Zoom in May. We will let you know about June.

Music– Notable Events



Youth Choir- Tues-
days from 7 to 7:45pm.

Bell Choir- Meets
in the Bells Room, Tuesdays at 7pm

Chancel Choir- meets Thurs-
days from 7 to 8:30pm

All practices suspended until further notice.

Audio Recordings

Check out the website for recordings of St. Paul's services. All services from the last 2 months can be found under Gallery/Audio. Just click <http://stpaulslutheran.info/messages/sermon-audio>

Hearing assistance is available. Please ask an usher.



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st.paulfulton@gmail.com

We're on the Web!
www.stpaulslutheran.info

“Like” us on Facebook!

For a while now we have had a St. Paul's Facebook group, we also have a public page! Find us and click “like” and **share** and watch us for announcements! Tell your friends too!

www.facebook.com/StPaulsFulton

(St. Paul's Social Media)

“Follow” us on Twitter! <https://twitter.com/stpaulsfulton>

“Tag” us on Instagram! <https://www.instagram.com/stpaulsfulton/>

Women's Daily Grace— Go Deep In Your Heart!



4/17/2020

A wise woman once told me, “When you're seeking after God, go deep in your own heart and you will find God has been seeking after you.”

Wisdom that guides me regularly comes from women of many generations, including elders in the church. I know that these encounters reveal the voice and presence of God in our midst. Wisdom is a gift from

God that also springs up from within us. Wisdom is sometimes knowing something from deep within your soul.

Sometimes it can be conventional wisdom that on the surface seems mundane, but is profound. I remember a time when I was overwhelmed with work and wanted to give up. “Easter comes more than once a year,” my friend told me. That brief sentence reminded me that even during the most difficult of times, God still provides a way. *This message is adapted from “Faith reflections: Wisdom of women” written by Linda Norman that first appeared in the May 2010 issue of Café magazine.*

Lectionary Readings for the Month

May 3rd—4th Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 23 (1); 1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10

May 10th—5th Sunday of Easter

Acts 7:55-60; Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 (5); 1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14

May 17th—6th Sunday of Easter

Acts 17:22-31; Psalm 66:8-20 (8); 1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21

May 24th—7 Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:6-14; Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35 (4); 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11; John 17:1-11

May 31st—Pentecost Sunday

Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30; Psalm 104:24-34 (30); 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21; John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39





By: Kerry Griffin

St. Paul's Archivist

April 19, 2020

Tales from the Archives is a presentation from the Archives at St. Paul's.

Contributions of items of significance to the Church History or contributions of stories are welcome and encouraged. Please submit by the 20th of the month.

It is the goal of the Archive to preserve the Church History and make selected portions of it known to the congregation from time to time.

I can be contacted at:

301.518.8460 cell

kerrygriffin@verizon.net

What's happening in the Archive?

- ◆ 150th Anniversary March/ April What St. Paul's means to me.



Archive May 2020

As I write the next installment of "Tales from the Archive" We are now in the season of Easter. COVID-19 is still hampering our Sesquicentennial celebration. I wanted to thank all who have gotten in the spirit to share their memories of St. Paul's. Since I am not sure everyone got to see Betty's article as it came out right before we stopped worshiping in person and there were requests to see it in its entirety, I am reprinting it here for everyone to enjoy. I also wanted to share Carole Manages' and my reflections as well.

I want to encourage everyone who is so moved to contact the church office st.paulfulon@gmail.com and send in their thoughts in whatever form, best suits you.

These stories will help pass our time of isolation with fond and special memories.

My Memories of Saint Paul's

(Re-print from March 15th in its entirety by request)

When I was a little girl, going to kindergarten was optional. So, I didn't go. I think it's because mom prayed so long to have a little girl she wanted me with her as long she could before I had to go off to school.

Anyway, Mom (Lillian Kerwin) would go up to church on Friday mornings to practice the organ for Sunday's services. And she had to take me with her.

I would bring a coloring book and some toys but soon got tired of them. Sliding on the floor under the pews in the church was much more fun. Mom would yell from the organ "Where are you?" and I would pop up between the pews and say "Here I am."

Mom loved the pipe organ and especially playing the hymns. She started playing in church when she was 18 years old and continued for over 50 years. Only stopping for a few years to have 3 children.

It wasn't just the music of the hymns, but also the words that meant so much to her. She didn't just play the notes on the page but the meaning of those words. She played with feeling. And this has been such a big part of my life growing up. Listening to her play.

Many years later handbells entered in my church life.

One day (circa 1985) I was asked by the chairman of the worship and music committee if I wanted to be handbell director.

Elizabeth Iager was donating a set of handbells in memory of her husband, Ellsworth Iager and they were looking for someone to start and direct a handbell choir. "You sing in the choir. You know music. Would you like to?" "Ahhhh... okay, I guess?" I think I replied.

I had never seen, heard, held or rang a handbell. When they arrived Vicar Jeff Bishoff showed me how to hold one and ring it. I was hooked. I went to festivals & workshops and stayed just one step ahead of the bell choir. I dare say the love of hymns that my mom had is probably why today most of the music the Lutheran Bells play is related to hymns.

By

Betty Kerwin

(Continued page 9)

My Memories of Saint Paul's

St Paul's Lutheran Church has been a part of my life as long as I can remember. My Mom would take us to attend Sunday school, rain or shine and we would walk if not able to use the family car. My sister Joan and I were baptized and confirmed in St Paul's. I remember sitting in the pews with my Mom and sister and trying my best to not wiggle too much. As I grew up, I sang in the choir.

Before I was born, my Dad would go early to St Paul's, before the congregation arrived and start to heat up the church for service, either coal stove or wood.

I used to love helping to serve meals at St Paul's.

Pastor Burns married David and I in 1965. David and I attended bible study classes in our early years of marriage. We had two children, Heather and Ross and both were baptized, confirmed, attended Sunday School and grew up singing in the choir and playing bells.

St Paul's Cemetery holds many of our relatives and family. Today, I am honored to be part of Altar Guild at St Paul's. Being part of St Paul's Lutheran church has been a blessing and gift in my life. It has been a lifeline for me to stay connected spiritually as well as physically and emotionally. Sharing prayer with people to provide support through highs and lows helps to maintain balance in my life.

What does St Paul's mean to me? Home!

By

Carole J. Marges

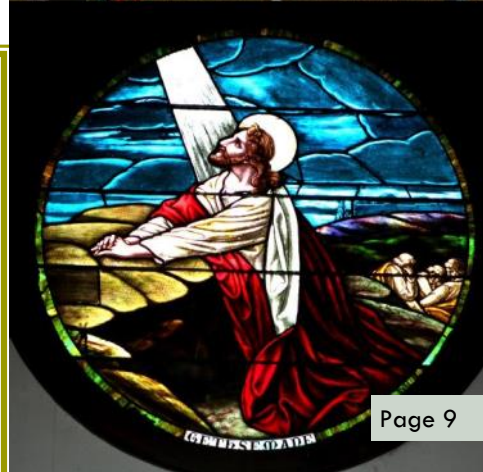
Volunteers Needed

I will be attempting to update the history of "St. Paul's Volume 3" from 1995 to the present day.

I need to hear from all those with a memory of an event they would like to share or an important happening that should be recorded and/or photos.

I will be putting this together to come out this year. Hopefully in time for the celebration.

Please help me tell our story! (Continued on page 10)





My Memories of St. Paul's

St. Paul's has always been the hub of family life for my family and the community. My earliest memories of attending St. Paul's were as a child. It was a special treat to spend the night with Grand Pap, Grandma Miles and Aunt B. (Ed & Ethel and Bertha Bassler). We would have "hot cakes", and King thick maple syrup made by Pap-Pap. Then we would go to St. Paul's for Sunday School. I remember those Bible Comics which are fun to read.

Then it would be time to attend service in the same pew we still set today. I remember being in awe of the Gethsemane window. (A gift to St. Paul's by the Sunday School around a \$100 of noisy offerings. No gift is every too small to make a difference.) Not to mention the peal of the bell calling all to worship.

Later, I would learn that the present stone building was not the first on the grounds. My grand father Miles' grandfather Martin Iager was one of the builders of St. Paul's. He used a draw knife to shape the cedar shingles for the roof. (This building would become a Real Estate building in Savage, MD which I believe still stands today.)

St. Paul's is such a central part of family life, so much so, that My Grandmother (a life-long member) missed no more than two Sunday's for 36 years and taught Sunday school. You may have noticed the pin that I wear on my lapel. My Aunt Bertha attended for Sunday School for 40 years. Not to mention, the honor of attending the Father and Son Banquet with my father and grandfather.

I am also privileged to have the lapel pin that was Grand Pap Miles wore for many years to St. Paul's. He was originally Methodist and went to "Frog Pond Church". (Liberty Grove United Methodist in Burtonsville) before he became Lutheran upon marrying my Grandmother Miles.

While not a founding family, so many of the extended family went to St. Paul's and are buried in the cemetery. Such as, George and Katherine Dieker who immigrated from Germany and were among those first worshipers at St. Paul's. Not to mention the many on the Bassler side of the extended family, Such as Christian Bassler. Who I am fortunate to have a copy of his Last Will and Testament. (He received a \$100 and horse from his father.)

A very rich a full legacy of special memories and time-honored traditions of which St. Paul's has been a part of our family. A circle of events which flow from month to month as the calendar rolls by season upon season.

What does St. Paul's mean to me, "extended family and home".

Kerry Griffin

Respectfully Submitted,

Kerry Griffin

Archivist



Property Committee Notes for May Newsletter (as of April 2020)

1. The Community Garden is open, following the government guidelines for social distancing, etc. Four plots are already gone and there have been other inquiries, so get yours soon. Contact st.paulfulton@gmail.com for an application and guidelines.
2. We are still waiting on Johnson Controls to update the fire alarm in preparation for Verizon discontinuing the use of our copper phone lines.
3. Since the church is officially locked down, we have put the trash dumpster pick up on will call rather than having scheduled pick up in order to save on the cost of trash removal. The cleaning company was also notified that the church was locked down.
4. I would like to re-enforce the importance of the church email, sent out on April 22nd. We sanitized and shut down the church for the protection of both our parishioners and the community. I check on the church twice a week, wearing both mask and gloves, while sanitizing everything that I have direct contact with. We want to keep the church safe so we can open as soon as possible. Just one person entering the church, who gets sick or has contact with someone who gets sick would derail this.

Thanks, to all those persons who have helped out in the past and also to those who have volunteered to help going forward.

John Murphy

Property Committee Chairman



Men's Brotherhood

The Men of St. Paul's gather on the 2nd Saturday of each month for breakfast, a brief business meeting and devotions. All males in the congregation are welcome and invited to attend!

Officers: Ken Keefer, President; Mike Heyser, Vice President; Randy Baldini Treasurer; Randy Arndt, Secretary

Men's Brotherhood Notes from April 2020 Meeting:

1. We discussed the actions that the Church Council had decided regarding COVID-19.
2. We decided to have a Brotherhood Sunday as part of the 150th Anniversary.
3. We discussed that Spaghetti Dinner results.
4. We decided that the Yard Sale will be postponed due to COVID-19.
5. We discussed current Property Committee projects which are on Hold for the time being
6. We discussed that since we are not aware of any member Graduating Seniors this year the Scholarship will not be awarded this year.

We had a brief devotional on Hope lead by Pr. Dave.

The Men's Brotherhood is open to all men in the congregation of any age. We will meet on the 2nd Saturday of each month virtually at 9:00 until the Covid-19 threat is over. We will also have member check in meetings on the 4th Saturday of the Month also at 9:00. Anyone with questions on the Brotherhood can contact any of the Officers.

Ken Keefer

Brotherhood President.

Upcoming Events

- **Grand opening of the Community Garden. (Open and following Governor Hogan's order.)**
- **St. Paul Picture Day (Canceled by LifeTouch, to be re-scheduled after August)**

Application for Community Garden Plot 2020

Primary Applicant for Plot holder's name _____

Secondary Applicant for Plot holder's name _____

If plot will be shared, list name(s) of shareholders _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ E-mail address*: _____

*All communications will be made via email, this must be an email address for which you will actually receive and read the notices.

I, Applicant signature _____ Date: _____

I, Co-Applicant signature _____ Date: _____

I have received a copy of the 2020 Vegetable Garden's Guidelines. I have read and understand the Guidelines and agree to abide by them. In addition to keeping my garden plot in order, I also agree to volunteer at least 1 hour a month, April through October, for a total of 7 hours

(Service hours opt out – one can avoid the service hour commitment by paying a \$30 fee in addition to the plot deposit).

Please use st.paulfulton@gmail.com for any correspondence. Put garden in the subject line.

I understand that the Saint Paul's Community Garden and Saint Paul's Lutheran Church are not responsible for my actions. I, therefore, agree to defend, hold harmless, and indemnify the Saint Paul's Community Garden and Saint Paul's Lutheran Church from any liability, damage, loss, or claim that occurs in connection with the use of the garden by me or any of my guests.

I enclose the required fee of \$50.00/ for one garden plot. Each plot is 8ft x 28 ft. Plots 1 and 11 are 4'-6' x 28' their cost is \$25.00. There is a \$10.00 discount for members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Please make checks payable to: **Saint Paul's Lutheran Church, put Garden in the memo line**

Please mail or drop off this application and the fee to:

Saint Paul's Lutheran Church

11795 Scaggsville Road (Rt.216)

Fulton, MD. 20759

Attn: Vegetable Gardens

Received by _____ Date: _____

Amt received: _____

April Council

Welcome to Council's Corner:

During these unprecedented times for our church, the St. Paul's council has been meeting weekly throughout the month of March and through Easter. Our regularly scheduled meeting for April was on the 14th. The meeting was brought to order by Julie, at 7:05 p.m. This month's opening prayer/devotion was provided by Kerry Griffin from Jesus Our Perfect Hope by Charles F. Stanley. It was a perfect devotion for our current times about controlling peace.

Worthy of note on old business is that John Murphy checks the property at least twice a week (thank you, John). Recycling issue has been resolved and picking up regularly again so everyone can continue to bring recyclables to the church. The Community Garden status is that 5 plots have been purchased of the 20 overall number of plots (18 full size and 2 half size).



As we all continue to shelter in place, amid continued health concerns over the corona virus, we continue to be blessed and thrive as a church community. We thank Pastor Carolyn and Pastor Dave for leading us through the Easter season where we had very good numbers for participants in Zoom for online worship (counting of participants is done to the best of our ability using the participant counts provided on each Zoom event and by looking at screen shots to identify households with multiple people).

- ☐ Week 1 – March 26 & 29 - Thursday and Sunday – 99 people
- ☐ Week 2 – April 2 & 5 – 116 people
- ☐ Week 3 – Holy Week –
- ☐ Maundy Thursday – 52 people
- ☐ Good Friday – noon – 24/7:00 – 62 for total of 86
- ☐ Easter Sunday – all three services combined – 200 people.

April Bible Study starts with 6:00 p.m. sessions and Financial Peace education at 7:30 on Wednesdays. The council is in the midst of deciding whether to postpone the May congregational meeting until the end of May. There are four council positions that need to be filled and Russ is currently working on finding people to fill the positions soon to be vacant. Bob Peters, Susan Meoni, Elizabeth Ohl, and Lisa Slater are all moving off council. Several have agreed to stay on until this current pandemic is under control and we get back to our regular business. The council is grateful for their continued service. We were hoping to combine the congregational meeting with the Columbia Jazz band concert on the same day, however, the Jazz Band is not playing right now and will cancel their event.

Donna Frederick provided an update on congregational giving through these times and she was happy to report the tremendous generosity from the church family. We have had a great response to date for April. A celebration letter about giving will be going out to the congregation. Thank you and tune in next month for another offering of Council's corner!

Respectfully,

Deb Cowell

How to Zoom

From Zoom Support: video on how to Zoom <https://youtu.be/hIkCmbvAHQQ>

Overview

In this article, we will discuss how to join an instant meeting through an email invite, an instant messaging invite, from the browser, from the Zoom desktop and mobile application, from a landline or mobile phone, and with a H.323 or SIP device.

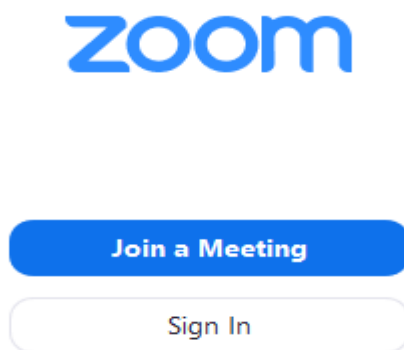
Before joining a Zoom meeting on a computer or mobile device, you can download the Zoom app from [our Download Center](#). Otherwise, you will be prompted to download and install Zoom when you click a join link.

You can also [join a test meeting](#) to familiarize yourself with Zoom.

Prerequisites

Each meeting has a unique 9, 10, or 11-digit number called a [meeting ID](#) that will be required to join a Zoom meeting. If you are joining via telephone, you will need the [teleconferencing number](#) provided in the invite.

- For Windows or Mac Open the Zoom desktop client.
- Join a meeting using one of these methods:
- Click **Join a Meeting** if you want to join without signing in.
- **Note: The meeting ID and Password are required. (You will find them in the invite.)**



Or Sign in to Zoom then click **Join**

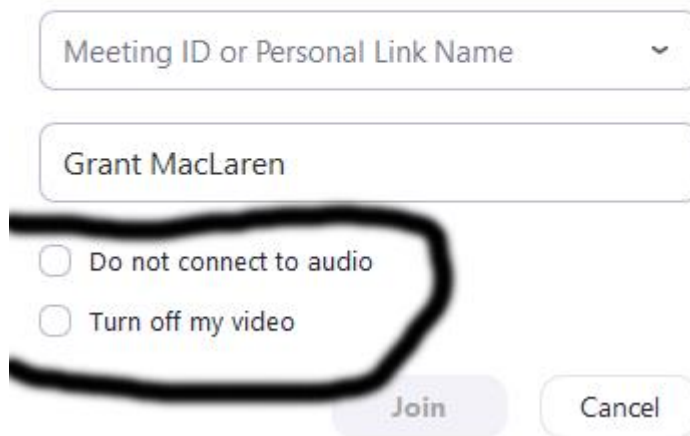


Follow the steps on the next page

How to Zoom (continued)

Select (check the checkbox) if you would like to connect audio and/or video and click **Join**

Join a Meeting



Meeting ID or Personal Link Name

Grant MacLaren

☐ Do not connect to audio

☐ Turn off my video

Join Cancel

Please enter your name so we know who has joined the meeting.

Your meeting will start. Be sure you have the right id for the meeting. They are unique.

Note: Only one person can speak at a time. Please keep your microphone muted unless speaking so we can have the best Audio.

To control video and microphone:

Hover over the meeting window to show the controls for video (you can turn it off and on) and the controls for the microphone (click to turn it off and only turn it on, only if speaking.)

Join by Phone

You can also join by phone with one of the provided local numbers in the e-mail blast and use the meeting ID and Password.

Meetings are now a recurring events so you can re-use meeting ids and password.

Bret Hassel 4/26/20 The Role of St. Paul's in my spiritual journey

First some background: my early childhood exposure to church was in a Presbyterian congregation. My attendance declined sharply in my early teens when my father's belief that 'God is perfectly fine with us spending our Sundays on a tennis court' took hold. Thus, actual commandments, such as 'honor thy father', became mixed with secular adaptations such as 'thou shalt not commit a double fault'. While I was never able to find that particular commandment in any version of the bible to date, I have found that the integration of spiritual and secular aspects of one's life is a healthy approach to strengthen the whole. St. Paul's has facilitated this interface through important milestones in my faith journey and I will describe a few of those now.

Fast forward to graduate school where I met my wife Judy, a lifelong Lutheran, and our plans for marriage. Since John McEnroe was not known to perform nuptials, we began searching for a Lutheran church home for our wedding. In an impactful twist of fate, our first visit to St. Paul's in July of 1989 was also Pastor Rod's first Sunday as the new pastor. Judy and I were immediately taken with St. Paul's church and with Rod's engaging demeanor. We began the membership process and Rod performed our wedding ceremony later that year. A second event that occurred on our first visit to St. Paul's was meeting Frank Bentz Jr., whose family had a long history at St. Paul's and who would ultimately have a major influence on my life - more on this later.

Fast forward again: after our careers took us to Ohio for four years, we returned to St. Paul's in 1995. With one-year-old Neal to show for our time in the Buckeye state, our first visit back to St. Paul's revealed a newly renovated parish hall and AC! We were particularly excited to learn that families from our new members' class had been 'productive' in our absence and had children that were Neal's age. Keen to share experiences and learn from other first-time parents, we started the Active Christian Parenting study group that was fondly known as the 'Back Pew Club'. This name referred to our preferred seating location that allowed us to quickly exit when the little ones were acting up and discretely return when they had regained composure. Ever wonder why those back pew seat cushions are covered in vinyl instead of fabric? I will leave the rest to your imagination. This group of young families sponsored many St. Paul's activities including Easter-egg hunts and softball teams; indeed, the parents, and many of the children, have remained close friends over the years.

Now I will return to the topic of Frank Bentz. Frank was among the first St. Paul's parishioners to introduce himself on our first day at the church, he and his wife Elaine invited us to dinner and served as our new member sponsors but most importantly, Frank was a fly fisherman. Frank's father was one of four founders of an internation-

ally renowned fly fishing organization known as the Brotherhood of the Jungle Cock. The Jungle Cock refers to the Asian pheasant and its feathers are prized for fly tying (as opposed to other possible interpretations of that name). Based in Thurmont MD, each spring the BOJC teaches over 200 boys about conservation, fly fishing and respect for our environment in a program that spans six years. With Franks support, the BOJC has been an important part of my life for the past 25 years. Graduates of the program, including our son Neal, are eligible for scholarships and return to camp as instructors to live out the BOJC creed and pass on the inherently Christian values of the program to the next generations of anglers.

The last example of an intersection between my spiritual and secular lives came in the context of my work. At a particularly critical juncture in my days as an early stage faculty, I first prayed and then bargained for a work-related outcome, promising that I would make a significant service commitment to St. Paul's if said outcome materialized. As always, God came through so I kept my end of the bargain by serving multiple terms as Social Outreach Ministry leader on church council. But apparently God had more in mind than service on council as the end of my time on council coincided exactly with a series of opportunities at work that would transform my professional responsibilities from pure research to education, training and community outreach. Since that time, I have had the privilege of helping to develop a STEM education pipeline that begins with middle school students from disadvantaged West Baltimore neighborhoods and continues through undergraduate studies and professional school. This program, known as UMB CURE, is now a model for other programs around the country.

In closing, I want to remind you of the first 150th anniversary temple talk by John Murphy in which he eloquently described his youth at St. Paul's in a time when the church was a central component of the community and a unifying element in the lives of its parishioners. While we no longer live just a short walk from church and our lives have grown increasingly complex since that time, I believe that the church can still play an integral role in our lives today. I hope that the examples from my life have provided evidence of the good that can come from listening to God and working towards this balance. I am grateful for the role St. Paul's has played in my faith journey.

Bret Hassel

Worship and Music Thank you

I would like to thank Dave Riethmiller for doing an awesome job in the technology realm with producing music videos for a couple of Sunday church services in April. (And continues to do so)
It started as an experiment with the St. Paul's Brass+ ensemble. Each recording their own part. The Instrumentalists were:

Kurt Knoernschild, Alto Sax
Brian Knoernschild, Trumpet
Russ Werner, Trumpet
Barb Ball, French Horn
Dave Riethmiller, Euphonium

On Easter Sunday, April 12 . They played "Jesus Christ Has Risen Today." together on the music video. This experiment was a big success!

Since then Dave has invited the choirs to record their part individually for another song...and on April 26 all the choral parts and piano accompaniment came together through technology. Beautifully singing "Day of Arising" Thank you to the virtual choir members and their talents!

Soprano: Brittany Kovach, Rachel Ball, Hannah Ball
Alto: Sandy August, Liz Morris, Jonathan MacKrell, Emily Ohl
Bass: Russ Werner, Bill McWithey, Ken Keefer
Tenor: Mark Slater, Dave Riethmiller
Piano: Tom Leeseberg-Lange

New skills were learned for this process by the singers. I heard that it was not very easy singing harmony alone. Kudos to you all! Fantastic!

ALSO...Thank you to Tom Leeseberg-Lange for the prelude on April 26 from his Reed Organ (pump organ). In keeping with the 150th anniversary.

And thanks to everyone who is worshiping this new way. Zoom... Away we go!

Betty Kerwin,

Worship & Music Chairman



Tom's Reed Organ used in his prelude in keeping with the 150th.

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Special Notes: Have an item to share for the newsletter? Please submit items of interest by the 20th of the month for publication the first Sunday of the following month.

Please let the church know of any Affirmations or people we should remember and other prayer requests.

Last But Not Least

Photo releases: As we continue to update our website we need your help! We have people who take photos at events and we would like to highlight these events through the website! But, we also respect your need for privacy. We will not post photos that show the faces of anyone under 18. We also will not post your photo without your permission. We ask that you contact the church office via email or snail mail or put a note in the "communications box" in the office and let us know if you DO NOT want your image used on the site.

Social Media - Kim Moseman

Are you on Instagram or Twitter? If so, watch for information about St. Paul's on both!

Instagram: **stpaulsfulton** and Twitter: **@stpaulsfulton**