



Proclamation

April 2015

Volume 2, Issue 12

Denying the Resurrection

By Tim McNutt, Pastor

“He is risen! He is risen, indeed!” shouts the church on Easter morning and all throughout the Easter season until Pentecost Sunday.

Good words, but do you mean them?

I would wager that these words are spoken more than they are lived.

In other words, does the resurrection of Jesus make any real difference in your life? *Or does your life and the way you live deny the reality of the resurrection?* This is an important thought. If we say we believe in the resurrection does it change anything about us?

The resurrection of Jesus is the most pivotal point in all of history. The resurrection demonstrated that God is in full charge and command of His world and rescued us from the domain of darkness. As baptized believers, we are called to live in new resurrection life.

So does your life exhibit a resurrection change in thought, word and deed or are you still living as the universe is all about you? Has the resurrection changed the way you love, accept, and forgive others?

Everyone around you today needs hope. Living the resurrection is the source of hope.

Take a moment and reflect on these words from Karl Rahner, a German theologian:

“The number one cause of atheism is Christians. Those who proclaim Him with their mouths and deny Him with their actions is what an unbelieving world finds unbelievable.”

Think about those words in the light of the resurrection and whether you live it or deny it.

But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain. (1 Corinthians 15:57-58, ESV)

“He is risen! He is risen, indeed!”



From the desk of the Congregational President

Happy Easter Brothers and Sisters,

It is hard to believe that Easter is already here on the first Sunday in April. We have a number of worship services during Holy Week. Come and worship with us on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and of course Resurrection Sunday. Don't forget to bring your cameras for the Easter Egg Hunt.

Thank you to all those that contributed, donated, and helped with the Sunday School indoor yard sale. It was amazing to see everyone working together in fellowship to support of a common cause. We are only $\frac{1}{4}$ of the way through the year. I am excited to see what we can do in our next outreach event.

Our loan application has been submitted to Thrivent to refinance the land mortgage. When accepted, this will reduce our monthly loan payment by almost half.

We look to you for prayers and support to overcome a major hurdle in our building program. St. Paul's is on New Market Turner Rd, also RT 6, which is a state highway. The response from state highway administration is that we would need engineered drawings of a single new driveway with acceleration and de-acceleration lanes. At the time of writing of this for the April newsletter, Delegate Matt Morgan's office had been contacted and they are looking into our case. Keep watch for updates on the bulletin board on the right side as you come in, on our website, and announcements after worship service.

*Dear Lord Heavenly God, we thank You for sending Your only Son
who died on the cross and was raised on the third day.*

*With You, only then can we have hope. Thank You for the salvation that
You paid for all of us. Continue to remind us and strengthen our faith
in You each and every day. We await the second coming of our Lord. Amen.*

Paul Mehrkam

Sunday School News



The Little Children and Jesus – Matthew 19:13-15

The little children were brought to Jesus for Him to place His hands on them and pray for them. But the disciples rebuked those who brought them.

Jesus said, “Let the little children come to Me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”

First I just want to say a HUGE THANK YOU to all of our Sunday school teachers and everyone else who helped out with the Yard Sale. I feel like the success of the Yard Sale proves that we are truly walking down a path that God has set out for us. It was really wonderful to see so many members of the church pitch in to donate items for the sale, price and/or organize items on the sale, man tables during the sale, check customers out and set up and clean up. It is amazing how successful we as a church can be when we all work together. The total amount that came in the door was close to \$2800, which includes the \$500 that we received from Thrivent!!! That money will go a long way to making a nicer, cleaner, larger and healthier space for our Sunday school and other mission outreach programs in the future. Again, thank you to the congregation for all of your support!



We also hope to see all our Sunday school children for our Annual **Easter Egg Hunt**, will be held Easter morning, Sunday April 5th, as a part of our special group Easter Sunday school class and activities. We hope all the students can attend to help us celebrate the most glorious event of the church calendar! All are invited and we are always happy to welcome new faces.



Lastly, don't forget clear your calendar for this year's Vacation Bible School trek to EVEREST, where we will learn to "Conquer Challenges with God's Mighty Power." This year VBS will be a little early, June 29th – July 3rd so that we can have plenty of time for the summer construction of our new Education and Mission Outreach Building. VBS is always a wonderful time but takes a lot of hard work from as many volunteers as we can get. Please make sure to sign your kids up for the fun and maybe yourself as well. See the sign up poster in the church hallway.

In His Service, Melissa Chew



A Conversation with the Head Elder

Gary A. Wollin

Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

At a recent voters meeting, the members of Saint Paul's overwhelmingly approved the building of an educational facility to replace the old chapel with two modular units which will be located where the old chapel exists today.

At the March Church Council meeting, we discussed the status of the building plan and also, the council chairman, Paul Mehrkam, included in the agenda a discussion on planning the future use of the new facility once it is completed. I had suggested the topic to Paul because as an Elder, I believe we need to be proactively planning for the future of the church, and how it can best serve the members of the congregation as well as the community at large. Obviously, the first priority is to be able to provide the necessary room to conduct Sunday School for the children and Vacation Bible School in the summer for our congregation children as well as children out of the community.

Beyond these immediate needs what else can we do with the blessing our Lord is handing to us in the form of the new facility? Based upon the discussions at the Council meeting, it was determined that it will be beneficial to begin a dialogue on this topic. To that end, the council has chartered an informal committee to research, discuss and explore ideas for the future use of the facility. I have been assigned to chair this committee and Gene Bostwick has agreed to co-chair.

It is our belief that the best ideas will come from you, the members of Saint Paul's. We have not established any deadlines for this project. If anyone has an idea about how we can go forward with utilizing our new facility please pass them on to Gene or myself. We look forward to your thoughts. We will take any ideas submitted and investigate those that the council considers viable.

With Gods guidance, we will make the best use of the facility we are about to receive.

Chairman: Board of Elders

Gary A. Wollin

To the Steward's of St. Paul's

Not to be Served But to Serve

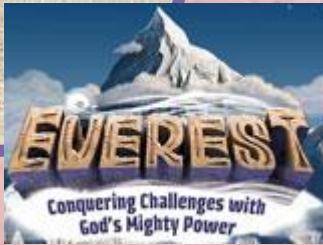
The words of ***Matthew 20:28*** – ***“Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many”*** – reminds us that the life of Jesus was one of total sacrifice. It is clear that Jesus wanted to develop a servant spirit in His disciples and in us. ***Matthew 20:26*** – ***“whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant.”*** He lived for His heavenly Father and for others. In the same way Jesus served His Father, we exist to serve Him. Being conformed into the image of God we will take on the role of servants.

The concept of serving rather than being served is not a natural one. We have an inborn desire to want to be served ourselves and to have our own needs met rather than to see to others. We by nature prefer to be “number one”. In addition, our apathy contributes to our lack of interest in sharing. God loves changing our mindset from wanting attention for ourselves to serving others. Seeing others as our brothers and sisters in Christ helps us follow God's command to love our neighbor as ourselves.

Your sister in Christ,

Lois Beverage

***Tithing is not a gimmick to solve the economic problems of churches;
it is a significant act of remembering who we are.***



2015 Vacation Bible School

Save the Dates!

June 29th thru July 3, 2015

9AM to 11:45 AM

The dates are set and plans are moving forward for another exciting week of Vacation Bible school this summer for all children ages 3 thru 5th grade. This year's program, "Everest: Conquering Challenges with God's Almighty Power" will take us on an amazing mountaintop adventure where we will explore God's incredible power and love for all of us and learn to see evidence of God all around us in everyday life. It will be a week of team building Glacier games, surprising Bible adventures, cool Bible songs, tasty treats, sciency-fun gizmos and saying hello to old friends and also making new friends.

Registration forms are included with this newsletter and are also available along with a volunteer sign up sheet at the display on the bulletin board in the hallway. Kids in 6th grade thru adult are welcome to sign up to help out as crew leaders!!!

Spaces are filled on a first come basis so please send in your registration forms as soon as possible to assure your child doesn't miss out on the "Coolest Week of the Summer!"

This mission outreach of our church is free to all who attend and is possible only because of the many volunteers who are willing to dedicate their time to share their faith for one week during the summer. If you cannot physically be at the church during the week but would like to help in some way, "needed items" post-its will again be posted on the bulletin board after Easter, so keep checking out the bulletin board for more information in the coming weeks. We also ask that you keep our program and staff in your prayers!

Your Everest VBS Directors,
Melissa Chew and Brenda Bowling



St. Paul's Lutheran Church
37707 New Market Turner Road
Mechanicsville, MD 20659
Church # 884-5184/Fax# 301-884-2063

REGISTRATION FORM (One per child)

If you would like your child to attend our "**Everest: Conquering Challenges with God's Almighty Power**" Vacation Bible School program this summer (June 29th thru July 3th, 2015 - 9AM to 11:45 AM), please fill in a registration form and return it to the church office. Completed forms can also be placed in either Melissa Chew's or Brenda Bowling's mail box in the hallway across from the kitchen. Looking forward to another exciting summer at St. Paul's! Classes are available for kids ages 3 through 5th Grade.

Child's Name: _____ Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____

School Grade Going Into This Fall: _____

Name of Parent (s): _____ Home Telephone#: _____

Parent/Caregiver's Cell Phone #: _____

Street Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Home E-mail Address: _____

Other Siblings Attending VBS this Week: _____

Home Church: _____ I will be picked up each day by: _____

Allergies or Other Medical Conditions:

In Case of Emergency, Contact: _____ Relationship to Child: _____

Crew Name/Leaders: _____

_____ (for church use only)

Please call Brenda Bowling (301-373-8256) or

Melissa Chew (301-481-2427) if you have any questions.



St. Paul's Youth Group

Youth Group Meeting

March 29 in kitchen

Easter Sunday:

Hide Easter Eggs for Sunday School

**No Youth Group on
Easter Sunday.**

Next Meeting - April 19

Getting ready for Relay for Life
(Summer)

CHILI COOK-OFF

AND RETREAT

**Are postponed for
scheduling reasons.**

SUNDAY SCHOOL YARD SALE

The youth group had a great time selling
concessions and we raised approx. \$50



He says, "Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth."

Psalm 46:10

Remember in your Prayers



SHUT-INS: *Pat Gardiner*

MEMBERS:

Health Concerns: *Chicchina Bailey, Elin Cramer, John Fuchs, Melva Fuchs, Sally Gheen, Carletta Cyrus Parmes, Kathy Lewis, Lucy Price and Kathe Vachalek, Barbara Gheen*

Serious Health Concerns: *Dale Bittner*

SPECIAL REQUESTS

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CONGREGATION

Anita Allard, Kelly Gray's mother, who suffered a mild stroke in Florida over the weekend.

Family and Friends of Debbie Schoenbauer, Alan & Marianne Hunters neighbor, who passed away on Saturday, March 21.

Donovan Gheen, Fred and Sally's young grandson with cancer.

Harry Maxey, Bob Maxey's father, living with Parkinson's

Helena Stover, Paul Mehrkam's mother, for the loss of her husband

Tammy Nichols, Dianne Nichols daughter-in-law, recovery

Aunt Edna, Dianne Nichols, serious health concerns

Austin Knarr, Gene Bostwick's nephew, health concerns/chron's disease

Madeline, Health concerns

Rebecca Athenason, Dianne Nichols daughter, serious illness

Alan Burch, friend of Karin Beall & former pre-school parent, cancer

Wee Davis, friend of Alan Hunter, brain cancer

Alma Stowers, Stephen Stowers Great Grandma, Breast Cancer

Johanna Fortney, daughter of Elin Cramer, cancer

Joe Fuchs, son of John Fuchs, bone cancer

Edward DeMarr, nephew of Lucy Price, brain tumor

For safety of all our military personnel & for their families.

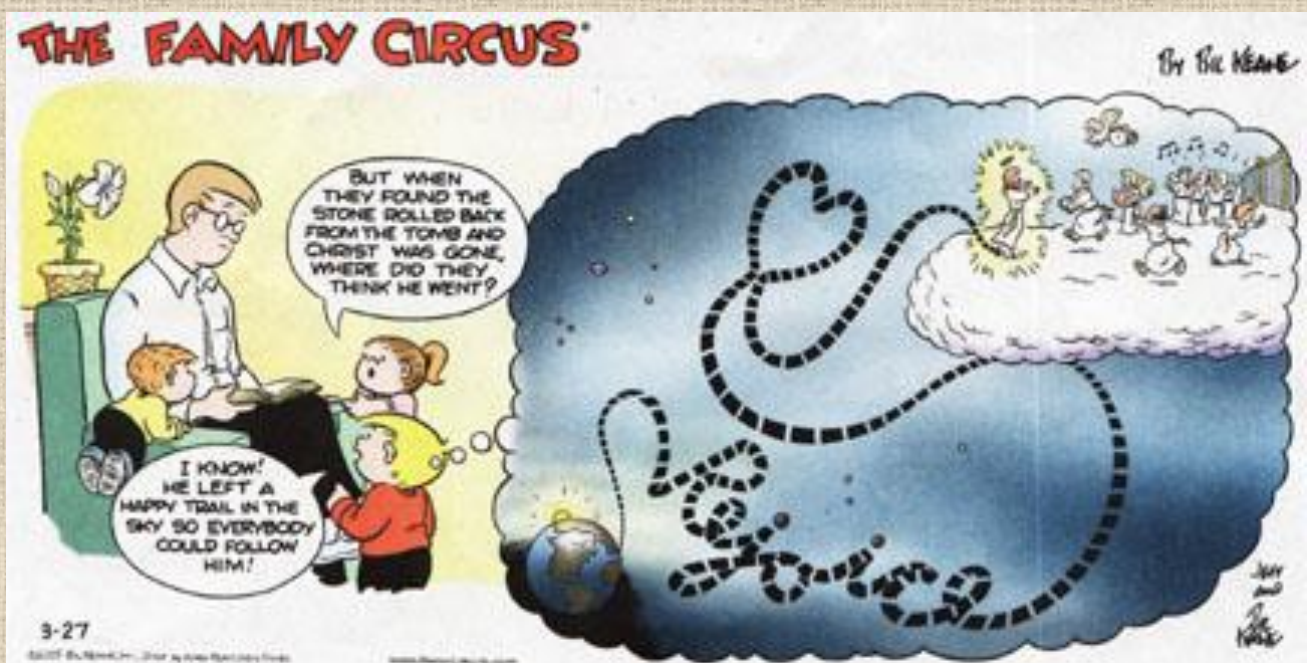
God listens when we pray

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus". [Philippians 4:6-7](#)



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Birthday's: 1 – Nick Drury 1 – Stephen Stowers III 1 – Lindsey Trowbridge 9 – Jessalyn Mehrkam 10 – Kathe Vachalek 15 – Sally Gheen 21 – Melissa Chew 27 – Matthew Mehrkam 29 – Gayle Gepert			1	2	3	4
				Maundy Thursday Svc. @ 7:00 pm	Good Friday Prayers 12:00 pm to 3:30 pm Evening Svc 7:00 pm	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
RESURRECTION SUNDAY / EASTER Service Times: 8:00am 10:30am Sunday School – 9:10am Acolyte 10:30 Svc Garrett Wiggen			Wednesday Night Service 6:30pm Bible Study and Confirmation 7pm	Council Meeting @ 6:30 pm GS - Daisy Troop Mtg 6:30 Chapel		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Service Times: 8:00am 10:30am Sunday School – 9:10am Acolyte 10:30 Svc Nicole Williams NA meeting in Chapel 4pm			Wednesday Night Service 6:30pm Bible Study and Confirmation 7pm	GS - Daisy Troop Mtg 6:30 Chapel		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
S Service Times: 8:00am 10:30am Sunday School – 9:10am Acolyte 10:30 Svc Dylan Vogt		Pastors Circuit Meeting	Wednesday Night Service 6:30pm Bible Study and Confirmation 7pm	GS - Daisy Troop Mtg 6:30 Chapel		Christmas in April – Bob Beveage in Abel, MD
26	27	28	29	30		
Service Times: 8:00am 10:30am Sunday School – 9:10am Acolyte 10:30 Svc Lisa Curtis NA meeting in Chapel 4pm			Wednesday Night Service 6:30pm Bible Study and Confirmation 7pm	GS - Daisy Troop Mtg 6:30 Chapel		

Funnies and Coffee with Jesus



<p>COFFEE WITH JESUS</p> 	 <p>When our boys lose their soccer games, we always tell them "it's not whether you win or lose, it's how you play the game."</p>	 <p>Kids love to win, but yeah, giving it your best effort is huge with me. I love a player with a good attitude who goes all out.</p>	 <p>I just wish our team could win more often. The poor little guys get so down after a loss. Can you, <i>maybe</i>, you know...help out?</p>	 <p>Raising Lazarus would be easy by comparison, Lisa. They're just no good. But great job on the attitude development.</p>
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Facebook.com/RadioFreeBabylon



Proclamation

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

37707 New Market Turner Road

Mechanicsville, MD 20659-3075

Sunday Services 8:00 and 10:30 am

Sunday School and Adult Classes 9:10 am

Wednesday Connections Service 6:30 pm

Office Hours Mon.-Fri. 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Phone: 301.884.5184

Website: www.stpaulssomd.org

Email: stpaulslcmsmd@netzero.net

Behold, now is the favorable time;
Behold, now is the day of salvation.
2 Corinthians 6:2

Reminders:

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

@ St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Maundy Thursday – April 2nd @ 7:00 pm

Good Friday Prayers – April 3rd @ 12:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Good Friday Service – April 3rd @ 7:00 pm

Easter Morning Services – April 5th @ 8:00 am & 10:30 am