



roclamation

SEPTEMBER 2015

Volume 2, Issue 17

Missions Matters

By Tim McNutt, *Pastor*

One thing that hit home to me while I was in Africa was the ever present work of missions. While there, our time was *high intensity go-go-go* sharing the Good News through various outreach projects.

Have you ever thought about the word missionary? Probably not, but the word basically comes from the idea of 'being sent.' (Think about a dismissal as being sent away from an event.)

Typically, we think of missionaries as those sent to another nation or people group to share the Good News about Jesus coming into this world. However, in reality, any time we leave the safety of the church building, we are all being sent back into the world. In this way, we are all missionaries and missions always matters.

All of this lines up with John 20:21 in the words of Jesus Himself - ***“Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.”***

Everyone one of us has a calling in life to be a family member or certain type of employee or a retiree or whatever position we hold in life. Jesus has also called each of specifically into Southern Maryland to live as salt and as light to all those around us.

Over the next few months, we want to raise the intensity of our missionary work in Southern MD. We'll be part of the St. Mary's County Fair and that's just the beginning. The point is we are asking you to also think of your life as sent for Jesus, just at the Father sent Him. Think about the reputation that follows you – are your good works bringing honor to God? Do people recognize the goodness and kindness and love of God in you?

We are all sent, so live your life in the power of the Holy Spirit to share the Good News of Jesus!





From the desk of the Congregational President

Paul Mehrkam

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The one thing that we are learning with our building program is that good things come from patience. We now have a building permit to proceed with construction of the new building. At this point we are in the process of scheduling the activities that we be required. Expect to see an announcement with the date and time for the demolition of the 100 year chapel.

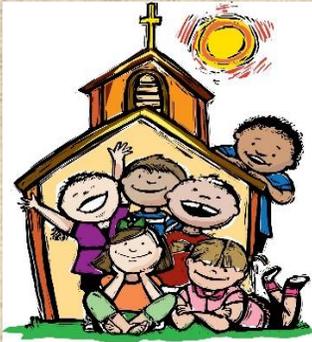
Since we can no longer use the chapel for Sunday School, our Sunday School staff have developed a plan to use the main church building facilities in conjunction with the Praise Service. Keep watch for more details and bring those kids in to Sunday School.

It is hard to believe that 2016 is just around the corner. For the November's Voter's meeting, the council will be preparing a 2016 budget. We are looking for congregational members to join the nomination committee which will present a slate of officers. We do have a couple of vacancies on the council. Contact me or Pastor if you are interested in serving on the nominating committee or church council.

Dear Lord Heavenly God, thank You for the opportunities that You have provided for St. Paul's to continue proclaiming Your Word in southern Maryland. We look to You for wisdom in overcoming all obstacles that we encounter. Amen.

Sunday School

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.”

Dear Sunday school families,

First, I would like to express my appreciation for Mike Beall who has been tediously dealing with obtaining the permits for the new buildings. This process continues to need our prayers and support. Thank you so much Mike, I know it has been a frustrating process.

Second, rest assured that we will still be starting Sunday school this fall even though we will be holding classes in a different place than we expected. No worries because we know that God wants us to share His word – I don't necessarily think He is concerned as to where. We will be resuming Sunday school classes on Sunday, September 20, 2015 for all children 3 – 17 years old. Sunday school will begin at 9:10 AM in the main sanctuary and will conclude at 10:10 AM. We will temporarily be combining all our classes from kindergarten to high school into one class which will meet in the main sanctuary until the new building is complete. Our youngest Sunday school children, our 3-4 year olds will begin their class in the church nursery room after openings. We will be holding off on our Rally Day celebration to truly celebrate the accomplishment of moving into our new building and will keep everyone posted on the date of that celebration. We are excited to use a new curriculum that is geared towards teaching a multiage level “one room” Sunday school class and I think the students will really enjoy it.

Lastly, we are recruiting for new teachers and helpers in the Sunday school. With the new building, and hopefully more space, we can use more help as well. Some of our past teachers are moving on to other callings within the church and some are unavailable to continue teaching. We can use anyone and everyone that is interested in working with our Sunday school children. We need teachers and would love to welcome anyone that might also want to help with openings. If you hear the calling of God to use you to help spread His word to His youngest and most impressionable lambs, you can call me or send me a text at 301-481-2427. You can also call and leave a message in the church office.

Thank you all so much and I look forward to seeing all the children on the September 20th at 9:10 AM. Continue to keep our work in your prayers and thank you for all your continual support.

Melissa Chew, Sunday school directress



“The Heart of Worship”

By: Jack McNutt

Our 9:15 Praise and Worship Service has done well. I'm so excited to see how it has turned out. The attendance, excitement, and motivation has grown. There is much anticipation behind the idea of continuing this service into the fall. There is a lot of interest in the service continuing in the fall. I am all for that idea.

Over the last five years I have had the pleasure of worshipping with over 50,000 people (yes, 50,000) and to be led in worship by David Crowder, Chris Tomlin, Charlie Hall, Matt Redman, Christy Nockles, Rend Collective, Hillsong United, Jeremy Camp, MercyMe, Misty Edwards, Kutless, and the amazing Amy Grant. Each of them did just as well as the next. They knew the needs of the hearts of those in attendance and by passing the beings of our hearts to God, they led us to healing and comfort.

I want us to follow their example; to meet the needs of hearts. I would like to see the hearts of Southern Maryland come to God for their own healing and comfort. And even better, I want us of St. Paul's to be that vessel. We need to keep this passion burning.

Spiritual leaders in Southern Maryland will say that the people in our area have heavy laden hearts and weak spiritual lives because the local churches are “not doing their job.” I don't know about you, but I don't want St. Paul's to gain that reputation. Let's move forward and be the center of healing and spiritual renewal in Southern Maryland. Let's continue to praise and worship together to further bring the Kingdom of God to Southern Maryland so that we may truly know the healing, grace, and comfort of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

“Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress. He sent forth his word and healed them; he rescued them from the grave. Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for men.”

Psalm 107:19-21

Jack McNutt, Youth Director

Hello all! I am sad to say that the Youth Group was not as active as I had hoped to be over the summer. Unfortunately, my job did not allow for me to have as much free time as I wanted. That being said, I would like to introduce the new movement of the Youth Group. The new direction we are headed in is a new name, a logo, a theme verse, and a direction into community involvement.

Members of the church, I would like to introduce our new youth group:



We are now to be referred to as “Rooted.” Rather than saying, “the youth group will be meeting...” we will now be saying things like “Rooted partnered with Lifestyles and helped pack lunches for the homeless.” We had T-Shirts made a few months back that reflect our new image and direction. To help finance this rebranding of St. Paul’s Youth Ministry, we will be hosting a couple fundraiser events this fall and winter to help raise money for new promotional material for when we are doing outside events like Relay for Life. Speaking of Relay for Life, September is the first month we are allowed to start fundraising. That being said, from now through next April, we will be raising and collecting money for Relay for Life. The more money we raise, the better the space at the event. We hope to develop an outstanding market plan for next year’s Relay for Life. We were unable to sell pizza this year, but next year we hope to have an amazing booth that will draw a lot of attention and raise even more money for an amazing cause.

I’m so excited to see what direction this is going in and to see the students in Rooted continue to grow in Christ. We will be launching again this fall.

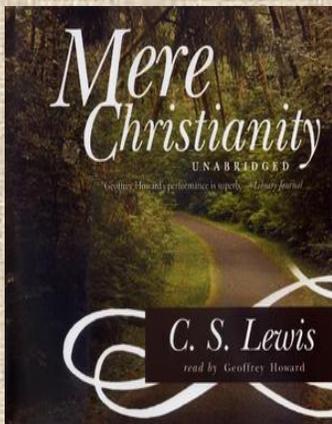
“So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.” Colossians 2:6-7.

Mission and Ministry

It is evident that St. Paul's mission and ministry is exciting right now with Pastor's visit to Ghana, Africa. If you missed his amazing slide show, please check out his article about his trip!

New Bible Studies!

Please come and join us in strengthening our relationship with the Lord!

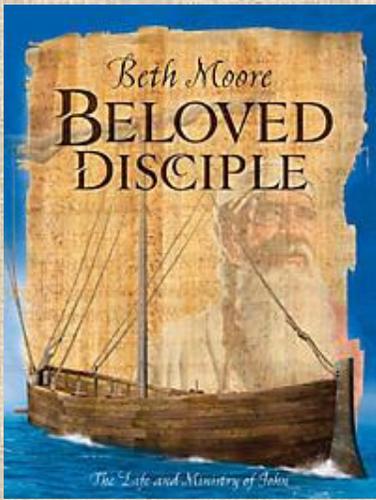


Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis

Imagine the moral fabric of society slowly being destroyed by a world at war. Imagine loved ones departing....now, what if a simple English professor named Clive came along and shed new light, wisdom, and unflinching hard truths about Christianity over a glowing radio. Just as our society continues to deteriorate, these truths are just as important today as they were in 1943 when C.S. Lewis gave his radio lectures, which have been compiled in a book called Mere Christianity. Pastor Tim will be hosting an 8 part video book study in his home **starting Sunday, September 13th at 6:00 pm.**

Study guides and books will be provided. Please see or email Gene Bostwick for more information at gnwizard@comcast.net

"True humility is not thinking less of yourself; it is thinking of yourself less." -C.S. Lewis



“Beloved Disciple – The Life and Ministry of John” by Beth Moore.

Explore with Beth, the life of the apostle John who must have thought that he had seen everything. Having been with Jesus all the years of His ministry, John witnessed more miracles than he could count, saw more displays of power than he could comprehend, and experienced more love than he could fathom. As the other disciples were martyred one by one, John remained to write his sublime Gospel proclaiming Jesus’ identity as the eternal Word of God. In his three letters John left a legacy of divine love to ignite the passion of future believers. And while exiled on Patmos, John recorded His risen Lord’s glorious revelation of victory and hope. “Quoted from Lifeway.com”

Books for the study cost \$15.99 on Lifeway.com. We will be watching a video each week from Beth and the Bible Study will start on Sunday, September 20th at 9:10 am. Taught by Kelly Gray.



Looking for help!

St. Paul’s will be hosting an Outreach booth at the St. Mary’s County Fair, Thursday Sept. 24 – Sunday the 27.

Volunteer 2 hours of your time to help support our booth and in the process build our Church! Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.



"Then Sings My Soul"

When we sing a song to the Lord we praise God. These songs unite the Lord's earthbound church in heavenly harmony. Sometimes we are too weary or worried for words, but when we sing a song to the Lord, we are enabled to pray. We are able to talk to ourselves, encourage ourselves in the Lord and exhort others to come to Christ just as they are. When we sing those songs to the Lord, they are chock full of theology and permeate our souls with the timeless words of the Scripture.

The members of St. Paul's choir not only trust in those thoughts, but they also believe that their music is a ministry. If you would like to sing and make melody in your hearts to the Lord, please plan to join the St. Paul's choir. ***Our choir practices are every other Wednesday night from approximately 7:00-8:00 pm starting on September 2nd.*** ***We would love to have you join us!***

Gayle Gepert



A view from the pew - Some thoughts on sharing the Good News

by Jim Shewbridge

Empty what is full, Fill what---

On February 1, 1966, U.S. Navy Lt. Dieter Dengler flying an A1H Skyraider launched from the USS RANGER Aircraft Carrier as part of a four-aircraft interdiction mission into Vietnam near the Laos border. Lt. Dieter was flying the fourth aircraft and proceeded to roll onto the target just as the other aircraft had executed. Due in part to limited visibility; he was not seen again by his flight group. Lt. Dengler's plane succumbed to enemy fire and crashed into the jungle. He escaped serious injury and began to make his way back toward the coast. His efforts were short lived as he was captured and spent the next five months in primitive prison camps. Upon escaping and returning to his carrier, his shipmates asked him to share any words that sustained him during his ordeal. He replied,



“Empty what is Full- Fill what is Empty and if it Itches, Scratch It!”

Empty what is Full- Fill what is Empty--- interesting statement that can mean many things. Pondering Lt. Dengler's words, it came to me that as followers of Christ we should be Full of the Holy Spirit, Full of scriptural knowledge, Full of words of salvation and Full of power to speak and proclaim eternal hope in Christ's name. As Christians we are empowered by the Holy Spirit to be witnesses to the unsaved. Paul charges us in second Timothy 4:2 *“Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage--with great patience and careful instruction”*.

Are you ready to fulfill Paul's charge? Perhaps you feel inadequate as what to say, but never forget that the Holy Spirit who dwells in you will lead you as you witness. We have a new opportunity to share the good news this year at the St. Mary's County Fair. Please consider spending some time in our booth so we can: **Empty what is Full in your life to those who don't know of Christ and Fill what is Empty in their lives by proclaiming the Good News.**

A side note: I learned that Lt. Dengler had dual citizenship with the United States and Germany and after a moment, realized as Christians WE have dual citizenship both here on earth and more importantly in Heaven with thanksgiving to Christ. Amen.



The Stewards of St. Paul's



Labor Day

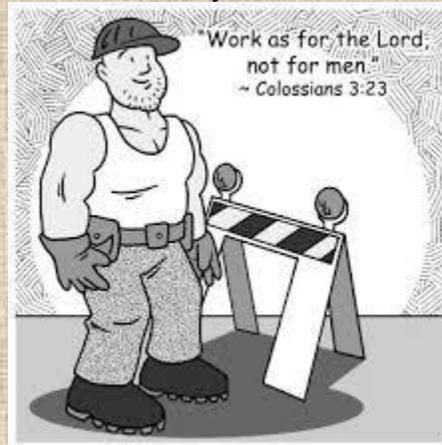
The Labor Day holiday is a day that is set aside to recognize and give thanks for the blessings that work gives people. We receive a day of rest from our labors. Most of this newsletter will focus on the gifts and abilities that God gives us for work as well as the desire and ability that God gives us to work.

God Blesses Us with Talents and Abilities

God has created us in His image (Genesis 1:26). He has given us tremendous talents. We are given intelligence, organization skills, creativity, decision-making powers, problem-solving capabilities, leadership abilities, and mechanical abilities, etc. God has given us labor so that we can use our God-given talents and provide for our needs. *"The Lord God took [Adam] and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it"* (Genesis 2:15). Work is part of God's master plan for all people. Through our work, we not only take care of our needs, we receive fulfillment and growth as well as the joy of accomplishment.

Have you ever stopped to consider the differences in people? There are thousands of occupations in today's world, each requiring special talents. There are needs for carpenters, cooks, mechanics, tailors, pastors, teachers, farmers, servers, students, police officers, etc. the important thing to note here, however, is that, for every need, God has given to someone the ability to fulfill that need. Some people are able

to take apart engines of cars, while others hardly know where to add the oil. Some can build houses, while others can barely nail boards together. Some women sew fashionable clothes for their family and buy their bread at the store, while others cook and bake beyond compare but don't even own a sewing machine. God has made us all unique. Along with all of our talents and abilities, God adds to them our desire and ability to work.



As Christians, we need to remember that our talents and abilities have come from God. *"You may say to yourself, 'My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.' But remember the Lord your God, for it is He Who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms His covenant, which He swore to your forefathers, as it is today"* (Deuteronomy 8:17-18).

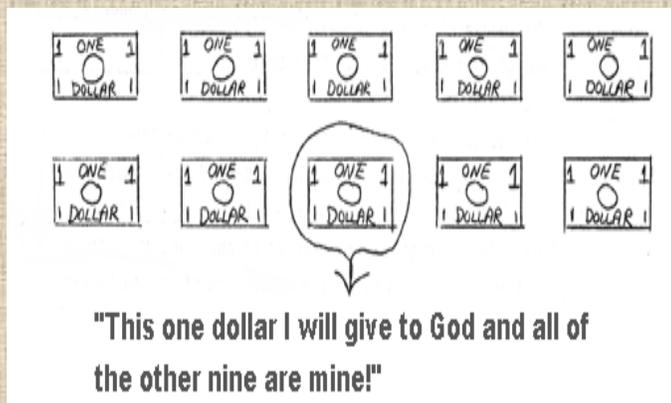
Give thanks to God for your work. Work to the best of your ability. Share with others the rewards of your work.



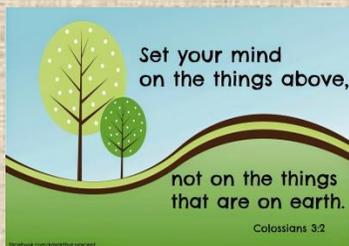
Blessings on Your Stewardship Journey!

Giving Proportionately

A woman tried to teach her son the meaning of proportionate giving. She took ten pennies from her son's bank and laid them in a row. The mother said, "These are your ten pennies." She then put one penny aside and said, "This is for Jesus." The boy looked at the nine pennies, then at the one. He looked up at his mother, and glancing at the one lonely penny, said, "Poor Jesus." From the wisdom of this boy, we can begin to realize how little God asks of us as we consider all the gifts He showers on us every day.



Prayer: *Dear Lord, I come to You as a humble and grateful steward who seeks to honor You through my giving. Help me to hold onto my earthly possessions loosely. Grant me a generous heart so I willingly and cheerfully give freely to You. In Your precious name, I pray. Amen.*

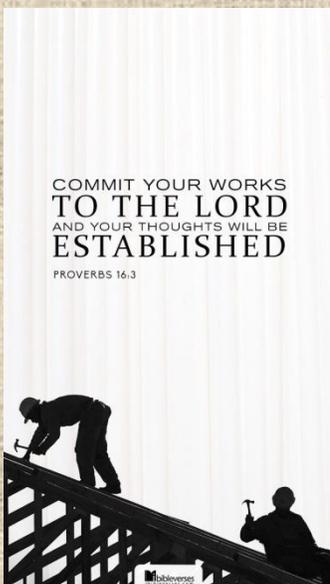


GOD IS THE SOURCE AND THE OWNER OF ALL THINGS. WE LEAVE THIS EARTH WITH EMPTY HANDS.

"For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it" (1 Timothy 6:7).

**ANSWER THIS QUESTION:
IS MY PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS TAKING
A BACK SEAT TO MY WORLDLY PURSUITS?**

"But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15)



THE BEST PREPARATION FOR TOMORROW IS TO WORK SMART AND HARD TODAY.

"Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed" (Proverbs 16:3)

Remember in your Prayers

SHUT-INS: *Pat Gardiner*

Serious Health Concerns: *Dale Bittner and John Fuchs*

MEMBERS: Health Concerns: *Chicchina Bailey, Stephanie Boyer, BettyDowns, Melva Fuchs, Sally Gheen, Kathy Lewis, Lucy Price, Jean Sedlock, Kathe Vachalek*

Jack Gumtow, diagnosed with lung and lymph node cancer, seeing specialist in Virginia

Elvis Wathen, health concerns

2nd Lt. Jackie Mozingo, Air Force, Kim Mozingo's daughter, who is deployed in the Middle East

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CONGREGATION

Louise Shafer, friend of Dianne Nichols, cardiac procedure on 9/1/15.

Leonard Kleveta, Cathy Bostwick's father, continued health concerns.

Suzanne Dean, Patty Gumtow's daughter, having a hysterectomy.

Cathee Smith, former member of St. Paul's, breast cancer.

John Bishoff, friend of Lucy Price, health concerns.

Darlene DeMarr, friend of Lucy Price, undergoing chemo treatments.

Sandra Peterson, Tony Gray's mother, starting chemotherapy.

Joey Holman, family of Jim & Diana Hiller, prayers for healing,

Alex Ching, Tony Ching's brother, receiving chemotherapy for breast cancer.

Missy Hile, friend of Kelly Gray, she has finished chemo and is doing okay.

Sonny Oden, Ray & Nettie Trimbath's friend, stage 4 Cancer.

Suzanne Phillips, friend of Stephanie Boyer, extended illness from surgery complication.

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

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

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

Rebecca Athenason, Dianne Nichols daughter, recovery.

Aunt Edna, Dianne Nichols, serious health concerns.

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

Madeline, Health concerns.

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.

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

September 2015 @ St. Paul's

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Anniversaries		1	2	3	4	5
10 – Brian & Kathe Vachalek 17 – Tony & Lorrie Ching 21 – Andrew & Sherri Maack 29 – Brent & Meredith Johnson			Choir Practice 7-8 pm			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Service Times: 8:00, 9:15, and 10:30 am Acolytes 8:00 Dylan Otte 10:30 Melissa Werth	 LABOR DAY		<u>6:30pm</u> Bible Study & Communion <u>7pm</u> Confirmation Class	<u>6:30 pm</u> Council Meeting		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Service Times: 8:00, 9:15, and 10:30 am Acolytes 8:00 Danielle Hoffman 10:30 Mary McNutt Grandparents Day!			<u>6:30pm</u> Bible Study & Communion <u>7pm</u> Confirmation Class Choir Practice 7-8 pm	Citizenship Day		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Service Times: 8:00, 9:15, and 10:30 am Acolytes 8:00 Emily Maack 10:30 Garrett Wiggen Circuit 8 Forum Mtg @ St. Paul's 3 pm			Fall Begins <u>6:30pm</u> Bible Study & Communion <u>7pm</u> Confirmation Class	St. Mary's County Fair – Sept. 24 -27 Hours: Th 3pm-10pm, Fri & Sat 9:00 am-10pm, Sun 9:00 am-7pm St. Paul's Outreach booth Set up Wed. 23 rd – Thur. 24 4pm-9pm, Fri. 25 & Sat. 26 9am-9pm, Sun. 27 9am-6pm		
27	28	29	30	Birthdays		
Service Times: 8:00, 9:15, and 10:30 am Acolytes 8:00 Dylan Otte 10:30 Jacob Gray			<u>6:30pm</u> Bible Study & Communion <u>7pm</u> Confirmation Class Choir Practice 7-8 pm	2 – Lisa Curtis 6 – Dale Bittner 9 – Mary McNutt 10 – Gene Bostwick 10 – Janice Otte 12 – Lois Beverage	15 – Jessica Lacey 18 – John Bowling Jr. 19 – Kathy Lewis 24 – Alan Hunter 24 – Emily Maack	

Funnies and Coffee with Jesus



<p>RFB</p> <p><i>The Original</i> COFFEE WITH JESUS</p> <p>When I sin, Jesus, does it make you mad?</p>	<p>If that were the case, Ann, I'd be one angry dude pretty much all the time.</p>	<p>I don't <i>want</i> to sin, but it just happens, ya know?</p>	<p>I absolutely <i>do know</i>, Ann.</p>	<p>And the fact that you don't want to is why I can't get mad at you.</p>
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CoffeeWithJesus.com



Proclamation

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

37707 New Market Turner Road
Mechanicsville, MD 20659-3075
Sunday Services 8:00 and 10:30 am
Adult Classes 9:10 am
Wednesday Bible Study & Communion 6:30 pm
Wednesday Confirmation Class 7:00 pm
Office Hours Mon.-Fri. 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Phone: 301.884.5184

Fax: 301-884-2063

Website: www.stpaulssomd.org

Email: stpaulslcmsmd@netzero.net

Facebook: [St. Paul's Lutheran](#)

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

**St. Mary's County Fair –
Sept. 24 -27 Hours: Th 3pm-
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Sun 9:00 am-7pm
St. Paul's Outreach booth
Set up Wed. 23rd – Thur. 24 4pm-
9pm, Fri. 25 & Sat. 26 9am-9pm,
Sun. 27 9am-6pm**