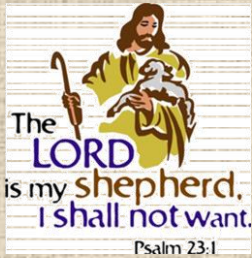




roclamation

August 2014

Volume 1, Issue 6



Looking for a
FRESH START
to renew your
faith in Jesus?

Join us **August 3rd**
at one of our
Sunday services:
8:00 or 10:30 am

We want to
welcome you
home to Jesus!

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

37707 New Market Turner Rd
Mechanicsville, MD 20659
301.884.5184

**8 & 10:30 am Worship with
Preaching and Communion**

www.stpaulssomd.org
stpaulscumsm@netzero.net

GIVING – a matter of your heart

Every day our email, Facebooks and mailboxes are loaded with requests for giving. There are requests to save the ducks, the kids, the cities, the planet. All good stuff. Most of them get deleted or tossed in the trash because we just don't care. If an appeal does grab our attention, it probably works through our brains first as we weigh the pros and cons of the appeal and the balance in our bank accounts.

What about at church? Obviously St. Paul's has a weekly budget and your participation is always appreciated.

Except as your Pastor, as your Spiritual *Shepherd*, I want to ask that you reflect on your giving to St. Paul's with your heart and not just the accounting part of your brain.

Do you realize God doesn't want your money? He wants your heart. And if your heart is truly with God then you're always reflecting, praying and wondering, how can I do more?

Just like other organizations, we want to keep the lights on and my kids like it if I'm paid.

But we're not other organizations – St. Paul's is part of the Body of Christ and our purpose is to disciple current believers and multiply new believers. As the Pastor, I need to ask you, is that where your heart is? Are you giving sacrificially for the work of the Gospel? For the prisoners to be set free as they grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus?

My prayer is that your giving is heart-motivated. St. Paul's doesn't need budget-oriented giving (AS IMPORTANT AS THAT IS, just ask the council and my wife!) St. Paul's needs Gospel-oriented heart-giving to do the good works of Jesus and see the Kingdom built in Southern Maryland.

Since you are affiliated with St Paul's in some fashion, I hope you would agree with the statement the Lord has been good to you. You have seen your life blessed through the ministries of St. Paul's. It is those ministries that we want to see continue and expand.

Over the last year, our giving has been improving, yet we need it to expand. We need to teach Sunday School, teach confirmation students, continue developing our youth group, expand our worship services, disciple our adults, reach the lost and minister to the cold, hungry and sick.

Please join with me in our improved giving as we trust God to continue to revitalize St. Paul's for the work of the Gospel to Southern MD. Make it a matter of your heart.

Tim McNamara



Status of New Building

By Paul Mehrkam

The mission plan for building is to understand how much money we will need. Having a cost estimate will allow the congregation to seriously consider our church budget and offerings to ensure that we can initially fund construction and sustain the new building. Keep in mind that funds are also needed to renovate the existing church.

Such estimates include the following:

- excavation
- poured concrete basement
- framing
- roofing
- siding
- plumbing
- electrical
- ... and the list goes on.



At some point, the building committee will tour the facilities of different churches. Much can be learned from their trials and after thoughts. This would help immensely with our future decisions in design, function, and the type of materials used. For example: lighting, plumbing fixtures, tile for restrooms. These things can vary in price but they can make or break the overall appearance which is important. Please let the building committee know if you are interested in participating on these tours.

Another effort is underway to help us visualize our new building. Some of you may have seen the 3D rendering of the church exterior on the bulletin board in the narthex. From the left, you can see the main entrance, the windows in a cross shape, and two emergency exits for the fellowship hall.

A new page for the mission building has been added to the St. Paul's Lutheran Church website; www.stpaulssomd.org. Please check it out. This is where we will post updates, conceptual drawings, images, and virtual walk through of the mission building and renovated church.

Dear Lord please guide us with Your wisdom. The same wisdom that You gave to King Solomon in construction of Your Temple in Jerusalem. With this new building, may we bring Your Word and Salvation to others. We pray in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.

Thoughts on...Stewardship

By Dianne Nichols

What's the SCARIEST WORD in the English language?

COMMITMENT

Why do you say that, Dianne???

Because so many of us RUN from it. We: are OVER committed, REFUSE to commit, have commitment PHOBIA, CAN'T Commit, or NEGLECT the commitments we have made.

BOTTOM LINE: We DON'T commit because we let the "What if's " of life over shadow us... What if it doesn't work out? What if I lose my job? What if it's a scam? What if I'm too hungry, thirsty, tired, depressed that day?

The Psalmist says, "COMMIT your way to the LORD: TRUST in Him...and He will do this..." (Psalm 37.5) and in Proverbs 16:3, "COMMIT to the LORD whatever you do, and your plans will succeed."

Hmm, so COMMITMENT is really about TRUST. Do we TRUST God enough to do what He says He will do?

Here at St. Paul's, we say we are trusting God to help us develop a building plan so that we can serve Him better by serving our surrounding community. But do we TRUST Him enough to COMMIT to this project through the SACRIFICIAL GIVING that it will take to get this building done?

The apostle Paul understood how hard it was for congregations to do this....and he had a plan: "On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up....so that when I come... (we can) send them with your gift to Jerusalem." I Corinthians 16: 1-3.

It doesn't matter if your financial COMMITMENT is large or small, the important thing is that you TRUST God enough to MAKE the COMMITMENT - and then let HIM do the work. Paul continues his message to the Corinthians by saying.

"This service you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people, but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the Gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else." II Corinthians 9:12-13

COMMIT your way to the LORD; TRUST in Him and He WILL do this.



From the TOOL SHED

Welcome to the first "From the Tool Shed" report. Quite a lot has happened in the last few months. Lawn maintenance is well under way. Thank you everyone who signed up to cut the grass it has been a big help. So far no one has had to cut twice. The Main Church Building is getting all dressed up with a fresh coat of paint around the Windows and Door ways thanks to Alan Hunter. A large crew assembled in June to weed the playground and add a much needed blanket of mulch thanks to the coordination of John Bowling. In June our Air Conditioner in the Sanctuary decided to retire. I was able to work with Donnie's Heating and Air Conditioning, who replaced our Boiler, to replace the aged equipment with an updated high efficiency Air Conditioning unit with a Heat Pump. The added Heat Pump will help lower our heat costs on those chilly days. During the colder days and during the winter the Boiler will still provide us that much needed warmth we all love.

I am working with Donnie to obtain an estimate to add permanent Air and Heat to Pastor's office and Lorrie's office. I am hoping to have a Building day in late September to address some maintenance that is needed on the Education Building. A big Thank-You to everyone who has been assisting with the maintenance and upkeep of the Building and Grounds.

Your Building and Grounds Chair,
Jason Reithmeyer



Where Did Our Trust Go?

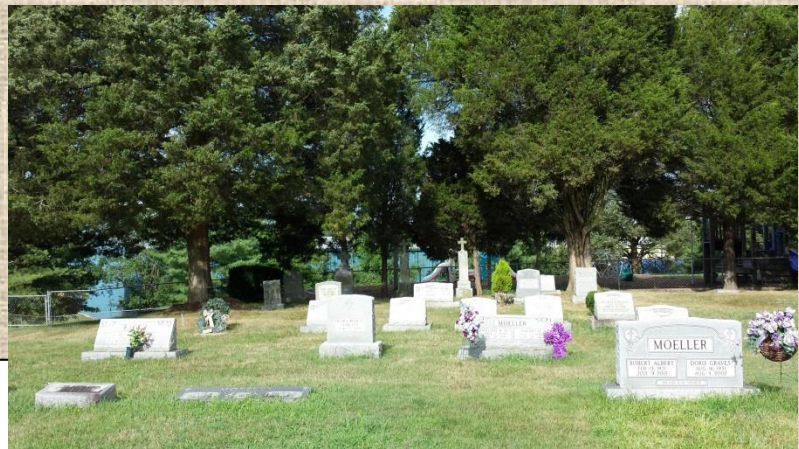
How often do you come home and right away the phone rings. It is like someone knew when you were getting home. You rush quickly to answer the phone. Low and behold, some tele-marketer is trying take a survey, or they tell you that your credit interest rate is too high, or that you are a winner of a contest that you never entered. Even our email boxes are full of these notorious schemes. What ends up happening is that we become distrustful of others. **Afraid to open ourselves up**. With all of this paranoia, what can we do?

Trust in our Lord Jesus Christ. For He is our salvation.

Dear Lord Heavenly God, strengthen our faith in You, protect us from evil. Although we lost our trust in the things of this world, never let our trust in You ever falter. Amen.

From Head Elder, Paul Mehrkam

**TRUST
IN THE
LORD
WITH ALL
YOUR** ❤️
PROVERBS 3:5-7



Cemetery Plots

So far we have only had 4 requests for two of the cemetery plots that will be coming available soon at St. Paul's.

We are trying to get a number of those who would like to purchase one so we can decide how we should distribute them. If there are more requests then plots we will probably do a lottery type drawing. If you are interested in a plot (looks like there will be 10 additional spaces) please contact the church office and let the secretary know. A price has not been determined yet. Thanks! **John Bowling**

Vacation Bible School



Just want to thank everyone who helped with our Vacation Bible School program in July. As always the support from the congregation was amazing! Iggy donation forms disappeared as fast as I could put them up, people volunteered with the set up and take down and we had 10 teen and pre-teen volunteers to be crew leaders and 16 volunteer teachers and helpers.

Nearly 40 kids came through our doors each day to experience God's love in many multi-sensory ways. All those great songs are still running through my head where ever I go. Hope they are for all those who attended as well, because knowing God is with us and loves us no matter if we feel left out or different, afraid, do wrong, or just don't understand the complexities of life around us will keep us smiling every day! Pictures of our week together will be on the bulletin board for everyone to enjoy!

As part of our week together we collected donations to help provide clean water for children in India. We are a country of many blessings and it is hard for our children to even comprehend what many people in other parts of the world live like or that the water they drank and washed with was often dirty. Throughout the week as we learned about several children in India and how they had to walk many miles alone to get water for their families our kids became very concerned and wanted to learn more and to know how they could help. As a result we collected over \$97 dollars to support this "Operation Kid to Kid" mission program. We will continue to collect donations from the congregation as well for the next 2 weeks. Check out the display in the hallway and please add your change to the bucket in the display. \$2.50 will provide clean water for 1 child for a year!

Thanks again for your prayers and support! Rally Day will be September 7, 2014!
Melissa Chew and Brenda Bowling



LWML

Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Saturday, September 6th - 6:30 pm at St. Paul's



is the 1st meeting of the

HIS of St. Paul's - **H**earts **I**n **S**ervice - LWML



Did you know that every woman who is a member of St. Paul's is already a member of this wonderful mission? Well you are and so am I! At our first meeting to we will have a light dinner and spend some time getting to know each other, before the meeting.

Have you heard of MITE banks? You and your children can pick them up in a few weeks, to start saving this summer for our Missionaries in the LCMS.





Children's Message Sunday mornings

Do you have great ideas that pop into your head when we present the Children's Message on Sunday morning? You know what that means? You are being called to help! Please call the church office and volunteer to give a short 3-5 minute message to our precious little ones a few Sunday's a month!


Please email the office if you want to help pray for others in our community or to send out a prayer request . God listens to us 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](#)



August 2014 St. Paul's Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 Proclamation					1 	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Friendship Sunday – Psalm 123 The Good Shepherd Worship Services 8:00 and 10:30 am Coffee Hour 11:30 am Acolyte: Nicole Williams			Sunday School Teacher's Meeting at 6:30 pm			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Worship Services 8:00 and 10:30 am Acolyte: Dylan Vogt		Council Mtg 7 pm			Annunciation of the Virgin Mary	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Worship Services 8:00 and 10:30 am Acolyte: Lisa Curtis		Calvert County Public Schools 1 st day of class	St. Mary's County Public Schools 1 st day of class			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Worship Services 8:00 and 10:30 am Acolyte: Russell Watson	SOMD Christian Academy & Charles County Public Schools 1 st day of class				Martyrdom of John the Baptist	
31						
Worship Services 8:00 and 10:30 am Acolyte: Emily Maack			Stay Cool!			

August Birthdays

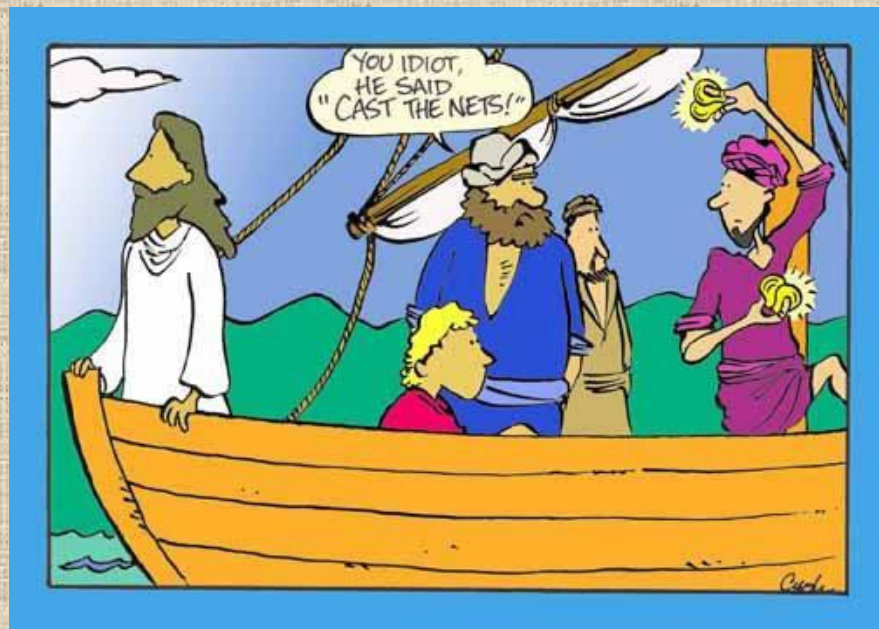
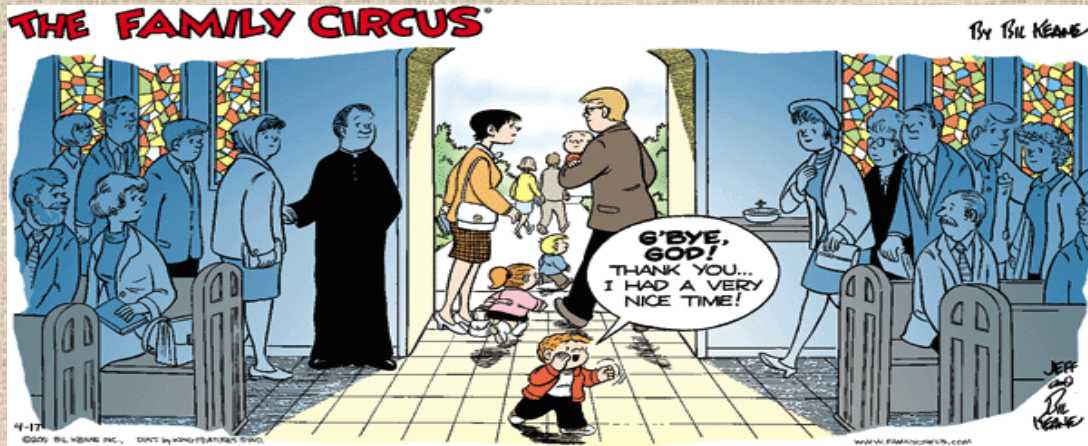
- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Tony Ching | 9 Jordyn Beall |
| 1 Owen Myers | 12 Tony Gray |
| 2 Jason Reithmeyer | 16 John Bowling |
| 3 Renee Maxey | 16 Kelly Gray |
| 5 Sean McNutt | 19 Brenda Bowling |
| 5 Paul Pipho | 22 Stephen Maack |
| 7 Mike Beall | 28 Andrew Maack |
| 7 Bobby Stasch | |

August Facts

- 8/1/1779 Francis Scott Key was born
- 8/2/1776 The Declaration of Independence was signed.
- 8/3 is Friendship Sunday – Psalm 123 – The Good Shepherd
- 8/13 is International Left-Hander's Day
- 8/15 the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary
- 8/28/1963 Martin Luther King delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech
- 8/29 the Martyrdom of John the Baptist



Funnies and Coffee with Jesus



<p>COFFEE WITH JESUS</p>	<p>We're going to Pennsylvania this month to see the Amish people. They're so cute! And the way they live is so admirable!</p>	<p>You'd last about six hours in their world, Lisa. No day spa. No afternoon margarita. And why must you treat them like a tourist attraction?</p>	<p>I always thought of Dutch Country as a sort of Colonial Williamsburg. Except the people aren't paid to dress up.</p>	<p>Yeah ... no. Tell you what, Lisa: I'll give you a family pass to <i>Holy Land Experience</i> in Orlando if you promise to leave the Amish alone.</p>
---------------------------------	--	--	---	---



roclamation

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

37707 New Market Turner Road

Mechanicsville, MD 20659-3075

Sunday Services 8:00 and 10:30 am

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

Recycling Program for Building Fund

Aluminum Cans – Save your aluminum cans during the warm summer months. Please bring only cans; no foil or pie pans.

Empties4Cash – Save your used Inkjet printer or toner cartridges. Bring them with you to church on Sunday and place in the box in the Narthex. Only originals that are undamaged and have print heads are applicable. No re-manufactured inkjets or toner cartridges. **Old Cell Phones also!**