



Proclamation

September 2014

Volume 1, Issue 7

SPECIAL VOTER'S MEETING –

Sunday, September
14th

A special voter's meeting has been called to vote on a change to St. Paul's constitution to allow women to hold the office of Congregational President. This meeting will be held immediately after the 10:30 AM worship service on September 14th. Please plan to attend to express your opinion and have the opportunity to vote on this issue.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

37707 New Market Turner Rd
Mechanicsville, MD 20659
301.884.5184

Sunday's 8 & 10:30 am
Worship with Preaching and
Communion
Sunday School & Adult
Classes 9:10 am
Wed.'s 6:30 pm MidWeek
Worship and Communion

www.stpaulssomd.org
stpaulscumsmid@netzero.net
St. Paul's of SOMD

RADICAL IDEA – B Y O B

By Tim McNutt, Pastor

Here's a radical idea for St. Paul's every Sunday morning: **BYOB**. (No, not **that** BYOB.) I'm talking the other **B Y O B** – as in, **Bring Your Own Bible**. (And no, I didn't invent this little phrase, it's been around quite a while.)

It's kind of ironic that the Protestant Reformation is based on God's Word, but Lutherans aren't particularly known for being a people of the Book. (We leave that to the Baptists.)

That needs to change.

Strong, healthy, growing Christians know how and why God sent His Son Jesus into this world and who they are in Jesus. In order for that to happen, we need to be people of the Book.

If you want more of God in your life and for Him to set a fire down in your soul – you need to spend time with Him and hear Him speak. You need to open the Book!

Understand – like physical health, spiritual health requires discipline and endurance. Even in Christian spirituality: no pain, no gain.

The good news is that Jesus is always present to energize you in your exploration of the Book. He's always ready to help you know Him better. It's not a 'work', it's the empowerment of Jesus to take up and read and get Him deeper in your soul and heart.

What if you brought your own Bible to our Sunday worship? Radical!

- ❖ What if you followed along with the Sunday readings in your favorite translation?
- ❖ What if you read the sermon passages in your own Bible and understood them better?
- ❖ What if you circled important words? Underlined words? Jotted notes in the margins?
- ❖ What if you highlighted key phrases? Or double-checked passages for yourself?
As in Acts 17:10-12, ***The brothers immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea, and when they arrived they went into the Jewish synagogue. Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the Word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so. Many of them therefore believed.***

The Lord has promised us that His Word will always accomplish its purpose. Vitamins do the same thing. However, just looking at the vitamins on the shelf won't do anything for us. You need to open the bottle and start taking them on a regular basis. It's the same with God's Word. You need to crack it open in order to receive who God is really calling you to be in Him.



I Want to Believe

From Head Elder, **Paul Mehrkam**

Part of my nightly routine is to make dinner and sit down to watch X-Files on Netflix. One of the common themes is posted in the office of FBI Agent Fox Moulder. He has a poster with a picture of an UFO and the title "I Want to Believe." The character is portrayed to be dedicated to a life and career of searching for proof that there are alien life forms among us. As a result, he is constantly discredited and persecuted by his peers for his belief.

If only everyone have the same level of belief that Jesus is our Savior.

Around the world in developing countries, Christians are being persecuted to the point of death. Every now and then we hear about someone's life being threatened just for worshipping Christ. I suspect there are more that we don't hear about.

What does Jesus have to say about this persecution? "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you" (Matthew 5:10-12).

If you want to continue believing and strengthening your faith, read the Bible and pray regularly.

Dear Lord, heavenly God, for we are surrounded by those who ridicule

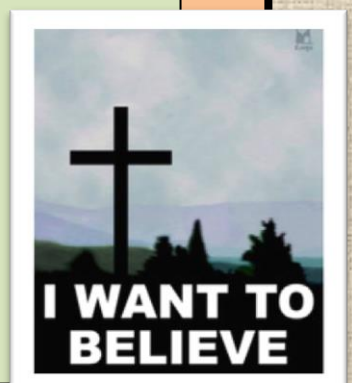
You and persecute us. With your will, keep our faith in

You steadfast and never wavering. For You have suffered on

behalf of our sins. Help to open the harden hearts of those

that disbelieve so they may know of Your salvation.

In the name of Lord Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.



Thoughts on...Stewardship

By Dianne Nichols

These words were written in the mid-1800's:

"We give Thee but thine own—what e'er the gift may be.
All that we have is Thine alone: A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

May we Thy bounties thus as stewards true receive And
gladly, as Thou blessest us to Thee our first fruits give.

To comfort and to bless -
To find a balm for woe-
To tend the lone and fatherless-
Is angels' work below.

The captive to relieve-
To God the lost to bring-
To teach the way of life and peace—
It is a Christ-like thing.

And we believe Thy word though dim our faith may be.
What e'er for Thine we do, O Lord—We do it unto Thee."

Stewardship — it's how we show our love for and
appreciation to God our Father and Redeemer.

Sunday School

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 7th**

A new Sunday school year will soon be starting at St. Paul's on September 7th. Many opportunities will be offered this year to help all of us study God's Word so we can grow closer to Him and feel strengthened by His love and promises as we go through each day.

Classes for children ages 3 through high school as well as two adult bible studies will be available this year. With the exception of our new High School class, all Sunday school classes will begin at 9:10AM this year and end at 10:20 AM on Sept. 7th. Our high school class will not start until mid-September when Jack McNutt comes home from his tour with Captive Free. More information will be forthcoming about this exciting new addition to our Sunday school at a later date.

Two adult bible classes will also be offered during the Sunday school hour this year. Pastor Tim will be continuing to teach his class on Lutheranism 101 in the kitchen. In addition, Diane Nichols will be leading a bible study called "From Test to Testimony" in the nursery.

Our Rally Day celebration will include a special worship service at 10:30 AM with our Sunday school children leading the congregation in singing a couple of their favorite VBS songs. A children's message and installation of our teaching staff will also be included. Following the service, all are invited to stay for a wonderful fellowship picnic with lots and lots of tasty food, a moon bounce, games, and a chance for all of us to come together as a church family!

Thanks to a fantastic group of teachers who will be sharing their love and faith this year with your children: Mrs. Meredith Johnson (3 & 4 year olds), Mrs. Felicia Drury (K, 1st and 2nd), Mrs. Kelly Gray (3rd and 4th Grades), Mr. John Bowling (5th and 6th Grades), Mrs. Cindy Werth (7th and 8th Grades) and Jack McNutt (High School).

Circle the date.... Sunday, September 7th!! Hope to see everyone there! Please bring a side dish and or a dessert to share at the picnic! Please also bring non-perishable foods for the Lifestyles pantry.



Food Pantry
Donations Needed



From the TOOL SHED

Welcome to the latest edition of From the Tool Shed!

It is time for another Clean-Up Day – Saturday, September 27th. We will convene at 8:00 am. We need to clean out the gutters, pressure wash the gutters and siding, weed the front flower garden and spread mulch on it. We also need to fix the door and replace the wood behind the gutter on the Education building.



Please bring your pressure washer, hammer, tape measure and ladder to give us a hand to clean the Church and dress up the Education Building. All help will be greatly needed and appreciated.



Thank you,

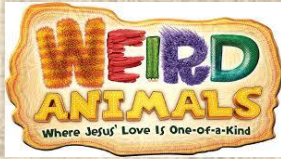
Jason Reithmeyer, your Building and Grounds Chair



Cemetery Plots

This will be last month that you can request one of the cemetery plots that will be coming available soon at St. Paul's. Once we get a final count of those interested in purchasing one, we will determine how they will be distributed. Please contact the church office and let the secretary know if you are interested, 301.884.5184.

A price has not been determined.



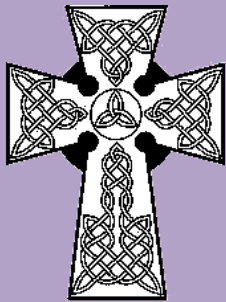
VBS and Operation Kid-to-Kid

Thank you to everyone who donated to the international mission project that provides clean water to hundreds of thousands of kids and adults in India.

St. Paul's along with our 2014 Weird Animals VBS raised \$245.00.



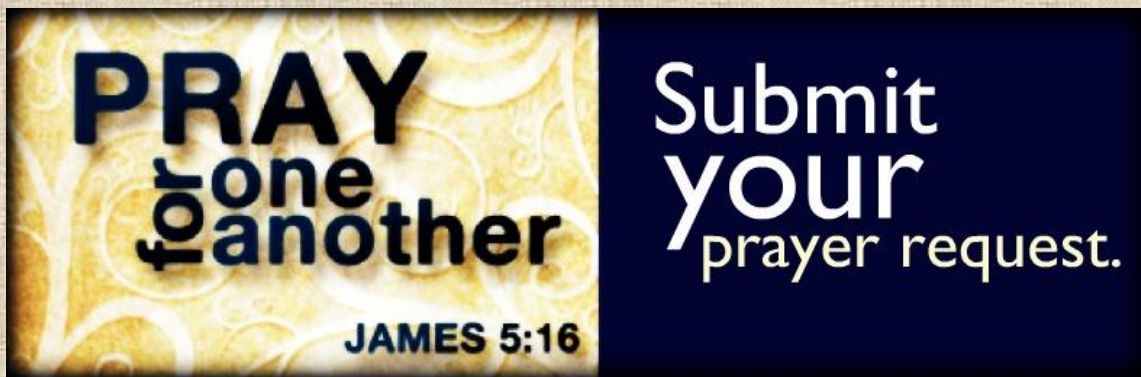
Did you know that for just \$2.50, a child in India can have clean water for a year at school!



Hearts In Service H I S of St. Paul's

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

At our first meeting we will have lasagna, salad and bread sticks for dinner and spend some time getting to know each other, before the Devotion and meeting.



Did you know?.....

St. Paul's has a Prayer team dedicated to praying for all prayer requests that we get! You can join, it's easy just let the church office know that you want to be added to those praying and give us your email. It's that easy.

Did you know?.....

You can submit a prayer request via emailing the church office! Send your request to: stpaulslcmsmd@netzero.net

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

Serious Health Concerns: *Jim Barry and Dale Bittner*

Special Requests:

Rev. Paul Lierseman, recovery from a stroke

Barbara Gheen, recovery from accident and surgery

Ruth Schnepf, Rev. Kenneth Schnepf's wife, recovery from brain surgery

New LCMS Church Plant in Brandywine/Upper Waldorf region

Family & Friends Of Congregation

Wee Davis, Tammy Guy Nichols, Mary Ann Schmitt, Richard Schmitt,

Marilyn Butterfield, Alma Stowers, Carol Dakai, Fred & Helen Stover, Rebecc

Athenason, Larry Taborek, Johanna Fortney, Joe Fuchs, Edward DeMarr

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](#)



Charles County
Sept. 11-14

St. Mary's County
Sept. 18-21

Calvert County
Sept. 24-28



HOLIDAY BAZAAR November 15, 2014

Plans are underway for the Holiday Bazaar! Volunteers are needed for the following:

- Publicity
- Set Up/Clean Up
- Bake Table
- Silent Auction
- Vendors
- Crafts
- Children's Craft Room



Mark and Kathy Lewis have agreed to re-open the "Ox and Nag Cafe" —which was so successful last year!

Please contact Dianne Nichols at dlnpac@yahoo.com if you are willing to donate your time and talent to this "All Church Endeavor."

September 2014 St. Paul's Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 	2	3	4 Building Committee Mtg 6:30 pm	5	6 Hearts In Service LWML Mtg 6:30 pm at St. Paul's!
7 Sunday School Rally Day Worship Service 8:00 and 10:30 am Classes 9:10 – 10:20 am Fellowship Picnic Acolyte: Garrett Wiggen GRANDPARENTS DAY	8	9 Council Mtg. 7:00 pm 	10 Mid-Week Worship Svc. 6:30 pm Confirmation Class 7 pm Brian & Kathe Vachalek's Wedding Anniversary	11 	12	13 Men's Breakfast at Peace Lutheran Church in Waldorf 8:00 am
14 Worship Service 8:00 and 10:30 am Sunday School Classes 9:10 – 10:20 am Congregation Mtg Acolyte: Nicole Williams	15	16	17 Mid-Week Worship Svc. 6:30 pm Confirmation Class 7 pm Tony and Lorrie Ching's Wedding Anniversary	18	19 Talk Like a Pirate Day!!	20
21 Worship Service 8:00 and 10:30 am Sunday School Classes 9:10 – 10:20 am Acolyte: Dylan Vogt Andrew & Sherri Maack's Wedding Anniversary	22 Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist (transferred)	23 Autumn Begins Kenneth & Angela Sprouse Jr.'s Wedding Anniversary	24 Mid-Week Worship Svc. 6:30 pm Confirmation Class 7 pm	25	26	27
28 Worship Service 8:00 and 10:30 am Sunday School Classes 9:10 – 10:20 am Acolyte: Lisa Curtis	29 Brent & Meredith Johnson's Wedding Anniversary	30	 roclamation			

September Birthdays

2 Lisa Curtis	12 Lois Beverage
6 Dale Bittner	15 Jessica Lacey
8 Cheryl Mudd Roberts	18 John Bowling Jr
9 Mary McNutt	19 Kathy Lewis
10 Gene Bostwick	24 Victoria Drury
10 Janice Otte	24 Emily Maack

September Silly Facts

September is National Chicken Month!

9/5 is National Cheese Pizza Day

9/9 is National Teddy Bear Day

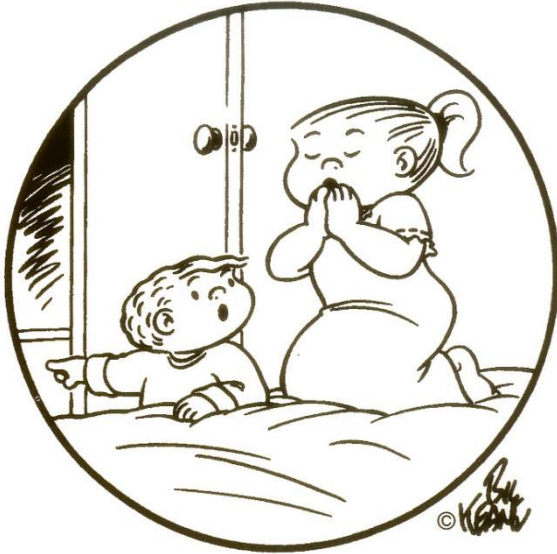
9/19 is INTERNATIONAL TALK LIKE A PIRATE DAY!!!

My favorite!



Funnies and Coffee with Jesus

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"No, Dolly, our father art downstairs watching TV."



COFFEE WITH JESUS



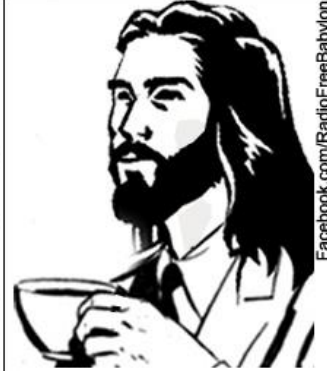
My faith wavers, Jesus. Sometimes I just don't know if you're real. Maybe this is all a fantasy and after death there's just darkness, nothing.



Think back to when your faith was strong, to the things that made you believe in the first place.



I was young, naïve and easily swayed. I likely just manufactured those thoughts and feelings. The imaginings of a silly girl.



I remember that silly girl, Ann. She's been buried under years of hurt, disappointment and bitterness. Grab a shovel and let's unearth the poor thing.



roclamation

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 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

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!