



# Proclamation

August- 2017

Volume 4, Issue 37

## The Definition of Good-bye

*By Pastor Tim*

First, let me thank everyone for the amazing farewell luncheon this past Sunday July 30th! Of course it was more than the food or the cake and all of the preparations. It was great being with everyone and laughing and reminiscing and being good naturedly roasted. The best part of the luncheon however was **ALL OF YOU.**

Thank you very much for your presence and blessings on a return to seminary for further New Testament studies. I love having my “ministry feet” in both worlds of the church and academia. I love preaching the Word and serving the Lord’s Supper from His Holy Altar Table. But the doors are definitely opening for the full time transition to the seminary world in preparation of teaching Biblical studies.

Thank you as well for all of the ways you have opened your hearts and homes to my family and myself while here as your pastor these years. The Lord has accomplished many good things in our midst during this time. The St. Paul’s family has grown in many ways in Holy Spirit maturity and number ways. We also have the great educational buildings to use for the furtherance of the Kingdom as well. God has been good in so many ways.

And so this is my final newsletter article and I must say “good-bye”. According to the *Urban Dictionary*, good-bye is the second worst word because it means leaving someone and sometimes never seeing them again. This too is why we have Irish exits and leave without saying good-bye and not saying anything at all. It’s a self-awareness of life moves on and we’ll be okay.

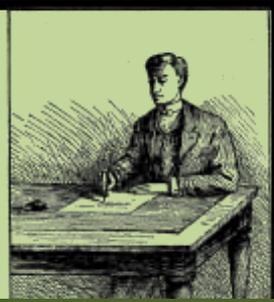
Yet the phrase good-bye comes down to use from much earlier English (1500’s?) and the phrase *goodbwy* which really means “God be with ye”. So it turns out it has a positive Christian meaning after all. With that in mind therefore I say to you, God be with you!

*May the road rise to meet you,  
may the wind be ever at your back.  
May the sun shine warm upon your face,  
and the rains fall soft upon your fields.  
And until we meet again,  
may God hold you in the palm of His hand.*



From the desk of the Congregational President

Paul Mehrkam



If you have experienced moving away whether it was yourself or someone important to you, you might remember feelings of sadness, loss, uncertainty, confusion, and fear. We will never understand what God has planned for St. Paul's, but we have been blessed for Pastor McNutt and his family to be an integral part of our family. With the help of God, we will continue to grow our faith and follow His lead.

You might ask what's going to happen and who is going to lead us in worship? Many of our services will be lead by our Deacon in Training and Elders. We have guest pastors for communion services, baptisms, weddings, etc.

I have requested as to when we can begin a call process which may not be for some time. Until then, you may want to pray and consider serving on the call committee. One of the benefits in forming the call package is that we evaluate our mission, vision, and goals. Having an agreed upon mission and goals helps us to create events, programs, and initiatives that best support in connecting with Jesus, connecting with each other, and connecting with Southern Maryland.

*Dear Heavenly God, Thank you for the blessed opportunity to have Pastor McNutt at St. Paul's whom You have called to teach others in baptizing nations, such as those in Africa. We ask to You watch over and keep safe Pastor's family in their move to St. Louis. We also ask that you continue to bless St. Paul's ministry in Southern Maryland. Amen.*

**Rev. Dr. Denninger, Southeastern District LCMS President, is coming to St. Paul's to talk to members interested in participating in the call process for a Pastor on Wednesday, August 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. It is the only time he has available to come to St. Paul's for the next month or so.**

## Nature Abhors a Vacuum

*This idiom is used to express the idea that empty or unfilled spaces are unnatural as they go against the laws of **nature** and physics. -Aristotle*

I am not one to beat around the bush my friends. Pastor McNutt's absence will be felt. He knows more about theology and correct biblical teaching than anyone I have ever met. Bar None. It is funny as I type this I can hear my fellow elder and good brother Jim saying "So what do we do man?" And I'm thinking the same thing! To which I have a partial answer which will follow shortly. But first I want to show how this scientific/philosophical saying works biblically. Nature abhors a vacuum and we are all part of nature.

Let's look at Isaiah 45:18-19 which reads "For thus says the LORD, who created the heavens (He is God!), who formed the earth and made it (He established it; **He did not create it empty, He formed it to be inhabited!**): "I am the LORD, and there is no other. I have not spoken in secret, from somewhere in a land of darkness; I have not said to Jacob's descendants, 'Seek Me in vain.' I, the LORD, speak the truth; I declare what is right."

So saying nature abhors a vacuum or as the bible says "empty space" is biblical. God did not create the earth to be empty He formed it to be inhabited by all kinds of stuff, animals, plants, air, fire, and water and we were to be its caretakers.

Now let's jump back to our current situation right here at St. Paul's. How can we begin to fill in this vacuum; and since vacuum is predominantly a "cleaning" word now, let's use the idea of a deep hole in the earth.

I want you to visualize with me a real giant hole in the ground, it's DEEP. Right beside this giant hole however is an enormous pile of dirt as there often is. I want you to look closer at the dirt and rocks and roots and see a bunch of shiny silver shovels of all shapes and sizes. They are all just sitting in the dirt waiting for someone to pick one up.

Outside of the sanctuary we have a giving tree posted on the bulletin board, waiting for you to take a leaf, grab one of those metaphorical shovels and start shoveling! We have, or soon will have, openings in our council in Missions and Ministry, Stewardship, and Buildings and Grounds. Each one of those positions, as written in our church constitution, should have a committee that the council member reports to and from on all things related to the council and the church. **YOU CAN CHOOSE THE SIZE OF YOUR SHOVEL!** If you don't want a council position shovel, you can pick a different shovel as a committee member. I know this congregation has an enormous wealth of abilities, dedication for God, and time for Jesus, however we need to pick up those shiny shovels and get to work.

If anyone has an interest in helping out in any way, shape or form, that is the Spirit telling you to grab a shovel. Please respond to that call, and contact any one of the elders or council members. And thank you for shoveling with me.

May the love of Christ Jesus consume you. Gene Bostwick

## A View from the Pew

*Some thoughts on sharing the Good News---*

*“Lions, Tigers & Bears Oh My- Lions, Tigers and Bears Oh My”*



*Lions, Tigers & Bears Oh My- Lions, Tigers & Bears Oh My.*

*What are we to do Uncle Jim- Pastor Tim has left us Oh My.*

Have faith children for we are not alone. Jesus sent a Helper to guide and comfort us through the times before us. And don't you remember Jesus said:

**“Lo I am with you always until the end of the age.”**

*But what are we to do now? I'm still afraid, who will preach to us, who will give us communion? Why are we here abandoned?*

Have faith, do not worry we are not abandoned.

St. Paul's Elders and Church Leaders will continue conducting worship services during this interim. On occasion, we will have Ministers visit us to preach and conduct communion services. Above all understand that during this time our concern should not be about **US**, but for those who have been placed in our daily path and the need for each of us to always proclaim the Good News of Christ's Salvation.

## STUDY

Dwell onto God's Word every day and pray without ceasing for enlightenment.

## SHARE

Cleansed in Christ's Blood, daily by words and deeds tell Jesus 'story of salvation to all.

## PRAY

Pray for people that they may receive the gift of living water to purify their lives.

## LOVE

**“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.”** ESV John 13:34

Amen & Amen



## 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."*

Greetings from the Sunday school.

I hope that everyone is having a great summer. Whether you are off exploring on a vacation or relaxing with some down time at home, there are so many of God's wonderful blessings that we have to be thankful for. I am very thankful for another successful Vacation Bible School organized by Meredith Johnson (Nice job Meredith!) and for a growing Sunday school! With that in mind, it is time to start thinking and planning for the upcoming Sunday school year.

So with VBS behind us, and us anticipating another wonderful Sunday school year, I want to make sure that everyone gets Rally Day marked on their calendars for this fall. Our upcoming **Rally Day celebration will be on September 10, 2017.** Sunday school classes will begin that Sunday at **9 AM in the education building.** We will start with an all class opening and then students will break into their individual classes until 10:15. We will have classes for all children ages 3 to high school age. We ask that each Sunday school student fill out a yearly registration form so that we can have updated contact and grade level information. Extra forms are available in this newsletter and on the bulletin board in the church hallway. Please place completed forms in my mail box across from the kitchen. All are welcome!

We will also be having a **Sunday school teachers' meeting on Monday, August 14, 2017 at 6:30 PM.** All current teachers and anyone else who is interested in helping out with openings or teaching should plan to attend. We will discuss curriculum, teaching assignments and other preparations for the new term. We will meet in the new building. This is a great opportunity for anyone interested in helping to support the children of our congregation and there are many ways to serve. If you have any questions before the meeting, please feel free to reach out by phone or text at 301-481-2427 or by email at [melissachew21@yahoo.com](mailto:melissachew21@yahoo.com).

Enjoy the rest of the summer and don't forget to mark this year's Rally Day, Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> on your calendar.

In His Service,  
Melissa Chew



# St. Paul's Lutheran Church



## 2017-18 Sunday School

## Registration Form

Enrollment is for children 3 years old on or before September 1, 2014 thru high school age.

Name of Child: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade as of Sept. 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent or Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Siblings also enrolled in Sunday School: \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies or Other Medical Problems: \_\_\_\_\_

Has your child been baptized? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

If Yes, Where and When: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check here to give permission for your child to be photographed and videotaped during church activities. Your child's image may appear in print or online promoting the church's activities. By checking here, you understand that your child's name will not be used to identify your child. This permission form will be kept on file in the church office. If you would like to withdraw your permission, you may do so at any time.

Please check here if you do not give permission for your child to be photographed or videotaped during church activities. By checking here your child's image will not appear in print or online to promote the church's activities.

I would like more information on:

\_\_\_\_ Adult Sunday School classes or weekday adult classes

\_\_\_\_ Confirmation class for youth 7<sup>th</sup> grade or older

\_\_\_\_ Youth group activities

\_\_\_\_ New member classes

\_\_\_\_ Choir

\_\_\_\_ Teaching or Substituting Sunday School

\_\_\_\_ Getting involved in other ways with the Sunday School

Please return forms or direction questions to Melissa Chew (301-481-2427). Her box is located across from the kitchen.

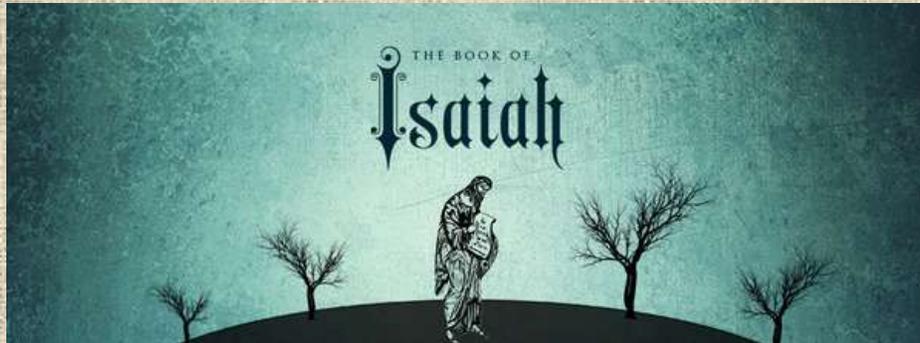
## St. Paul's Adult Bible Class

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St. Paul's Adult Bible Class will start on

Sunday, September 10 @ 9:10 am

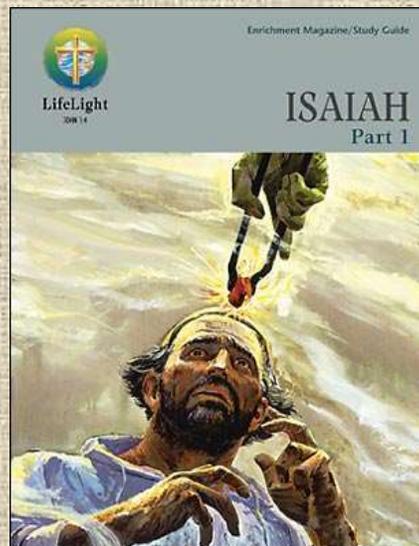
and we will be studying the book of Isaiah and  
we would like everyone to join us!



Isaiah's prophecy has been called "The Fifth Gospel". For churches that use Sunday lectionary readings, Isaiah dominates the seasons of Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany. Nearly one-third of Old Testament readings come from Isaiah! Many of his passages sound familiar to us, but do we understand them in their context or the prophet who recorded them?

We will be using Lifelight: Isaiah Part 1 – Study Guide,  
which can be purchased online at: <https://www.cph.org>

Thank you, Karen Wiggen  
[oldcars@md.metrocast.net](mailto:oldcars@md.metrocast.net)



Sunday, September 10

**Attention!**



One service only @ 10:30 am

Church Fellowship Picnic following for Rally Day!



Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.



I regret that Rooted Youth Group has been quiet for the summer months, but due to the Mission and Ministry Bingo / Ice Cream Social in July, my plans had to be put till later and altered. I hope to have a Back to School party in September.

I have hopes for the Youth Group but I need youth participation. If there is an activity or event you want to see us or do, please feel free to discuss it with me.

I want success and growth for our church and its youth, but it is dependent on our doing the things you want and participation.

God be with you and as always stay Rooted in Christ.

Cindy Werth

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		01	02	03	04	05
<b>August - 2017</b>						
06	07	08	09	10	11	12
Service Times: 8:00 & 10:30 am Praise Service: 9:15 am Adult Bible Class: 9:10 am  Acolytes: 8:00 10:30	 Venturing 7 pm CEB Main room	Council Meeting 6:30 pm CEB				
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Service Times: 8:00 & 10:30 am  Acolytes: 8:00 10:30	Sunday School Meeting 6:30 pm Church kitchen  Venturing 7 pm CEB Main room	Kim Mozingo Workshop 6-9pm CEB Main Rm	<b>7:00 pm meeting regarding call process with Dr. Rev. Denninger SED-LCMS - Church</b>  Kim Mozingo Workshop 6-9pm CEB Main Rm	Kim Mozingo Workshop 6-9pm CEB Main Rm		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Service Times: 8:00 & 10:30 am Coffee Hour 9 – 10 am  Acolytes: 8:00 10:30	 Venturing 7 pm CEB Main room					
27	28	29	30	31		
Service Times: 8:00 & 10:30 am Praise Service: 9:15 am  Acolytes: 8:00 10:30	 Venturing 7 pm CEB Main room					
<b>Anniversaries</b>		Definition for rooms	<b>Birthdays</b>			
14 – Bobby & Lois Beverage  15 – Charles & Andrea Morris  17 – Pastor Tim & Amy McNutt		CEB-Christian Education Building	1 – Tony Ching 2 – Jason Reithmeyer 3 – Renee’ Maxey 5 – Greg Butterfield 5 – Sean McNutt 5 – Paul Piphon 7 – Bobby Stasch 8 – Christian Wollin  12 – Tony Gray 16 – John Bowling 16 – Kelly Gray 19 – Brenda Bowling 28 – Andrew Maack			



Proclamation

## St. Paul's Lutheran Church

37707 New Market Turner Road

Mechanicsville, MD 20659-3075

Sunday Services:

Traditional - 8:00 and 10:30 am

Sunday School: 9:00 am – Starting 9/10/17

Adult Bible Study: 9:10 am – Starting 9/10/17

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

Phone: 301.884.5184 Fax: 301-884-2063

Website: [www.stpaulssomd.org](http://www.stpaulssomd.org)

Email: [stpaulslcmsmd@netzero.net](mailto:stpaulslcmsmd@netzero.net)

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

**Connecting with Jesus, each other, & Southern Maryland**

**Monday, August 14 – 6:30 pm Sunday School Meeting**

**Wednesday, August 16 – 7:00 pm call process meeting with  
President of the SED-LCMS**

**Sunday, August 20 – 9am-10am COFFEE HOUR**

**Sunday, September 10 – Sunday School RALLY DAY & Adult  
Bible Class & CHURCH PICNIC**

**Only One service Sunday, Sept. 10- 10:30 am**