



roclamation

October 2014

Volume 1, Issue 8

THINGS THAT COME IN THREES (part 1 of 3)

By *Pastor Tim*

It seems that within Christianity we recognize the number “3” as a pretty dang special number. We have the Trinity – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Jesus was resurrected three days later. Jonah was in the belly of the great fish for three days. Both the Apostles’ Creed and the Nicene Creed are divided into three articles summarizing the Christian faith.

At St. Paul’s I’ve been building our ministry around three themes. We want to help you connect with God, one another, and Southern Maryland.

Connecting with God is what we do through God’s Word and His gifts of Baptism and Communion.

Connecting with God means growing in a personal relationship with God the Father through His Son Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit.

As a pastor, I readily identify with the call of Peter to the followers of Jesus about being connected to Jesus - ***Grow in grace and understanding of our Master and Savior, Jesus Christ. Glory to the Master, now and forever! Yes!*** (2 Peter 3:18, the Message translation)

Are you connecting with God? Are you growing in the grace and understanding of Jesus? (Remember, where Jesus is, there’s God!)

Don’t bypass the Word in your life. God has spoken and God continues to speak to all of us through the Scriptures. If you invest a portion of your time in entertainment and news, remember to also invest in God’s Word on a regular basis. Your Christian identity is who you really are – not who advertisers say they want you to be.

Baptism begins the process of connecting with God. Some of your first thoughts every day ought to be around the fact that Jesus baptized you and has eternally connected with you. The very fact you now belong to Jesus sets all your daily boundaries ahead of time. No more questions or decisions – “Can I? Should I?” You belong to Jesus!

Holy Communion strengthens your connection with God as well. In Communion, we don’t simply *remember* what Jesus has done for us in the past. In Communion, Jesus *keeps coming to us* and keeps on connecting Himself with us. He awakens our sleepy faith. He forgives our sins. He strengthens our faith in Him. If you want to connect in a more personal, deeper way with Jesus never bypass the work of Jesus in Communion.

St. Paul’s – here to help you connect with God!



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

I want to start off by saying thank you to Jason Reithmeyer for spear heading a great workday in September. We had a great turnout and a lot of work was accomplished. Working together like this is very uplifting spiritually and reaffirms God's promise that when we serve God together, we can do things we never thought possible.

We are beginning a very busy time of the year for St. Paul's. This Sunday, the 5th, we will be having a brief congregational meeting after the church service to vote to change our constitution to allow women to hold the office of church president. Please attend this important meeting so we can be sure that we have your input on this important matter.

A nomination committee has also been created to obtain a slate of officers to present for our elections coming up at our Voter's meeting on November 9th. Offices that will be open this year for elections are Council President, Secretary, Stewardship Chairperson, Board of Youth Ministry and Elders. Please consider taking one of these positions if asked. Each of these positions are very important to the health of our congregation if we want to grow and remain spiritually strong. Also on the agenda for our upcoming Voter's meeting in November will be our annual budget. We have had several very big expenses during the past year and a half which have taken a toll on our congregation's finances. A new air conditioning unit, a new furnace, a new lawn mower are just a few of the large unexpected expenditures that we have had to face. Please consider increasing your tithes to the church or a onetime offering to help keep our church financially strong as well and keep an eye on the Sunday bulletin to see how our giving compares to our budget needs. Other items on the Voter's meeting agenda will be a report concerning the construction of our new Education Building, the possibility of obtaining some modulares for our growing Sunday School and a final report on the cemetery plots available at the church. Please plan to attend this meeting. The future of any church depends on God working through His people. God needs each of us to become involved and to trust Him to lead us to do His will.

Also coming up on November 15 is our Annual bazaar under the leadership of Diane Nichols. Last year's bazaar was very successful and a great day of fun and fellowship by all those who volunteered their time or came out that day to support it. Circle this date and give Diane a call to offer to help if you can. Hope to see all of you there for breakfast and/or lunch!

John Bowling Sr.

Vice President of St. Paul's



Beep Beep....

From Head Elder, **Paul Mehrkam**

Do you constantly find yourself stuck in traffic for what seems like an eternity? Sometimes people are impatient and outright mad with all kinds of shouting, hand gestures, crazy driving and aggressive maneuvers. With all of the commotion going on, how does one keep God in their lives at that moment?

The best advice is not to engage in return like that with other drivers. This is where the Biblical commandment for love thy neighbor applies. You can pray to help give yourself patience, thank God for your safety, and pray for others.

You may want to tune out the crazy world around you. If you have a passenger, they can read a favorite verse, Psalm, or Proverb. Listen to a Christian radio station. Sitting in traffic is also a good time to listen to the Bible on CD. Remember, no texting or emailing.

Dear Lord thank You for the precious life that You have given me through Your sacrifice on the cross and resurrection over death. Please continue to hold my focus on You during times of hardship. Amen.



From **Melissa Chew & Brenda Bowling**

It has been a great beginning to a new Sunday school year! We've welcomed several new students as well as several new teachers. We all look forward to having fun together as we listen to God's Word together and grow closer stronger in our faith.

We are excited to have Jack McNutt back from his tour with Captive Free and on board as a new teacher for our Senior High class which began to meet on September 28th in the church office. All teens in grades 9 through 12 and older are welcome to join the class.

Also coming up is a visit by the East Coast Captive Free team on October 12th. They will be joining us for an extended Sunday School opening with some music and puppets. Following their visit we will be combining all our classes in the Education Building for a craft and some fall snacks.



Thoughts on...Stewardship

By Dianne Nichols

It's time to REWIND...

Remember "The Offeratory" that was featured in last month's newsletter?

"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."

When I was a little girl, growing up in a Congregational Church, we sang this song every Sunday after the offering was gathered and presented at the Altar. It wasn't long before I had it memorized - and even though I didn't fully understand the meaning -It became embedded in my heart and soul. As I grew older, giving part of my allowance as an offering on Sundays became as natural as breathing.

Later, in the Lutheran church, I remember that as a confirmand, I was handed a gift from the Ladies Guild and a box of offering envelopes as I walked to the back of the church that day. Giving back to the Lord was just considered "part and parcel" of being a Christian.

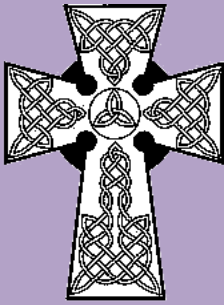
It was much later, though, that I discovered the blessings of tithing....What is tithing? Tithing is giving a predetermined percentage of your income back to the Lord. Why tithe? I began tithing because I was So Thankful to even HAVE an income at that period in my life. I realized that without the blessings of my Father in Heaven, holding me up and sustaining me, that I would have been a single mother of three - and destitute. God ALWAYS provided...

Through trial and error, I discovered that when I became fearful of not having enough money to get by - and held back from the Lord - well, yes, my needs were met, but my heart was not filled with peace. I had to learn to trust God no matter what my check -book looked like. And I had to realize that God wasn't holding out on me —I was holding out on Him.

It took years, but I am finally at the point in my relationship with God, that no matter how "slim the pickings" are in my bank account, the tithe always gets set aside for the Lord. He has been - and always will be- faithful to me in countless and sometimes unbelievable ways throughout my life.

Tithing? It has become as natural as breathing.

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



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

Wednesday, October 15th – 7:00 pm at St. Paul's after the 6:30 pm Connections Svc. Let's enjoy devotion and communion before our meeting together. We will discuss the Holiday Bazaar progress and Mite box collections.

SAVE THE DATE

November 15, 2014

HOLIDAY BAZAAR

The Holiday Bazaar is coming up in just 2 months! We need your help to make it successful. If you have ideas, time, donations, and a willing heart - contact Dianne Nichols or one of the following Team Leaders:

Arts & Crafts - Lucy Price/Pat Guntow

Vendors - Kelly Gray

Silent Auction - Bob Maxey

Children's Crafts - Melissa Chew/Brenda Bowling

Publicity - Lorrie Ching

Bake Sale - Amy McNutt/Jack McNutt

Cafe - Kathy Lewis/Mark Lewis

Set up/tear down - Dianne Nichols



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."



Remember in your Prayers

SHUT-INS: *Pat Gardiner*

MEMBERS 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 on 8/21/14-daily physical therapy-unable to drive
Barbara Gheen, recovery from accident

Ruth Schnepf, Rev. Kenneth Schnepf's wife, chemo treatments

New LCMS Church Plant in Brandywine/Upper Waldorf region

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CONGREGATION

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

Terry McClintock, friend of Judy Rogers, serious health concerns

Madeline, Health concerns

Aunt Edna, Dianne Nichols, blood transfusion and more testing

Rebecca Athenason, Dianne Nichols daughter, serious illness

Carol Dakai, Lorrie Ching's Mother, 10 month infection that is untreatable

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

Wee Davis, friend of Alan Hunter, brain cancer

Tammy Guy Nichols, Dianne Nichols daughter-in-law, regrowth of brain tumors

Alma Stowers, Stephen Stowers Great Grandma, Breast Cancer

Fred & Helen Stover, Paul Mehrkam's parents, Fred has 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
			1 Connections Svc. 6:30 pm Confirmation Class 7 pm	2 	3 Lorrie Ching out of Town	4
5 Worship Service 8:00 and 10:30 am Sunday School Classes 9:10 – 10:20 am VOTERS MEETING 12 pm Acolyte: Russell Watson	6 Office closed Lorrie Ching out of Town John & Brenda Bowling Sr. Wedding Anniversary	7	8 Connections Svc. 6:30 pm Confirmation Class 7 pm	9	10 US Naval Academy opened in Annapolis, MD 1845 	11
Oct. 5-10 th Pastor Tim in St. Louis at the LCMS Seminary						
12 Worship Service 8:00 and 10:30 am Sunday School Classes 9:10 – 10:20 am Coffee Hour: 12:00 pm Acolyte: Emily Maack	13 Columbus Day John & Anita Bowling Jr. Wedding Anniversary	14	15 Connections Svc. 6:30 pm Confirmation Class 7 pm	16 National Boss's Day 	17	18 
19 Worship Service 8:00 and 10:30 am Sunday School Classes 9:10 – 10:20 am Acolyte: Garrett Wiggen	20	21	22 Connections Svc. 6:30 pm Confirmation Class 7 pm	23	24	25 
26 REFORMATION SUNDAY Worship Service 8:00 and 10:30 am Sunday School Classes 9:10 – 10:20 am Acolyte: Nicole Williams	27	28 	29 Connections Svc. 6:30 pm Confirmation Class 7 pm	30	31 Reformation Day 	

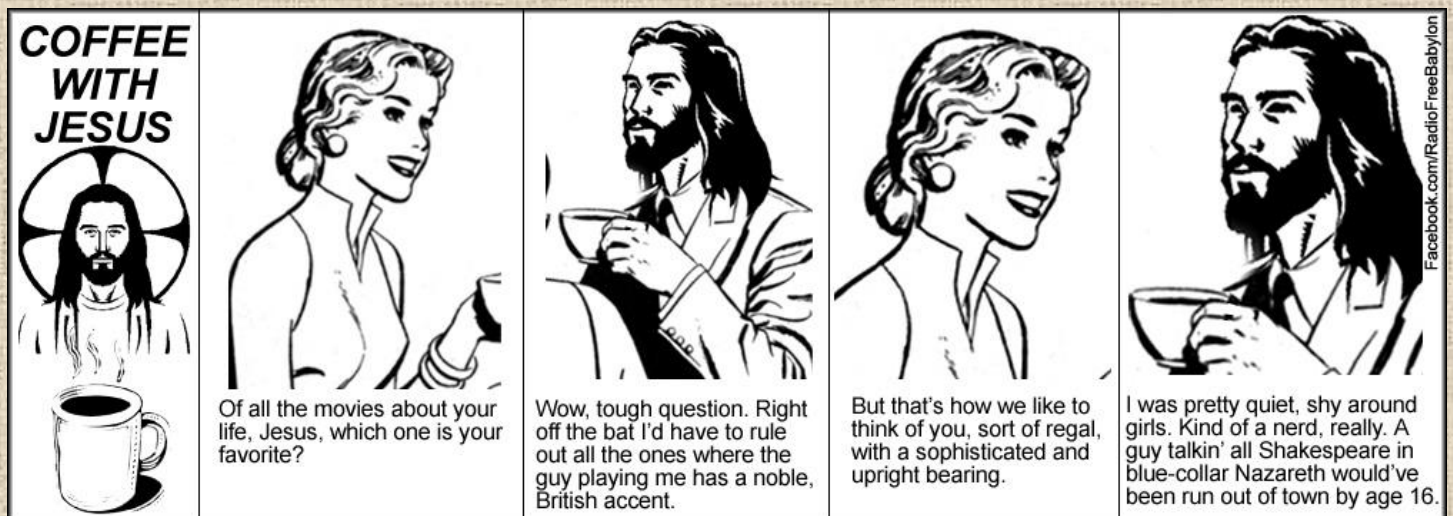
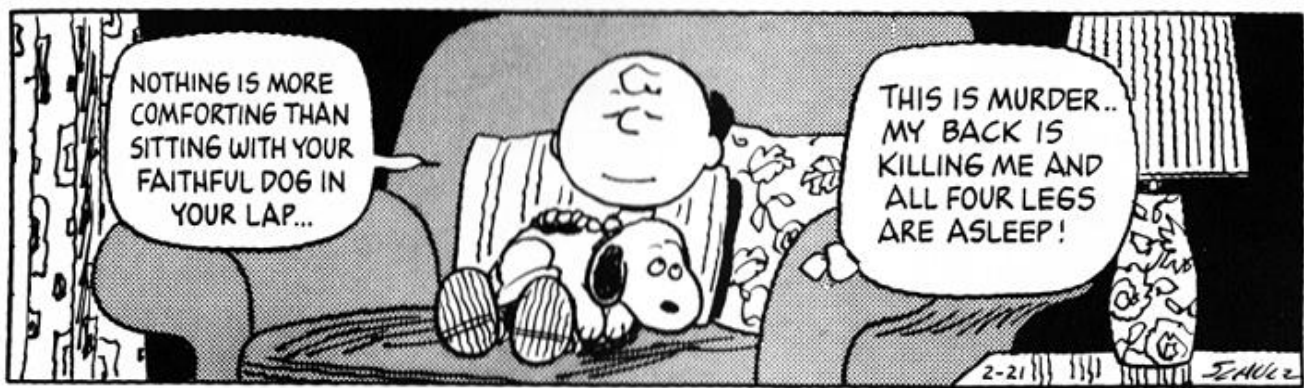
October Birthdays

2 Joe Willet	7 Michael Piph
3 Christie Norton	12 Cathy Bostwick
4 Bobby Beverage	14 Tori Chase
5 Allison Werth	18 Justin Lacey
7 David Otte	21 Melissa Werth

October Facts!

10/2/1950	Peanuts Comic strip debuted
10/3/1990	East & West Berlin United
10/10/1845	US Naval Academy opened in Annapolis, MD
10/18/1867	US purchased Alaska
10/25/1955	Microwave Oven debuted
10/28/1886	Statue of Liberty Dedicated

Funniess and Coffee with Jesus





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

**Don't forget the
Voters Meeting October 5
after the 10:30 am worship svc.**

**To amend the Constitution and By-laws to
allow women to hold offices of President
and Vice President of the Congregation
Council seats.**

Your vote counts.