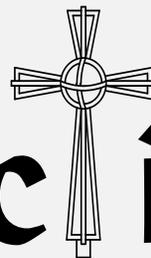


Cross Connections



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

May 2022

Join Us for a Movie Night, May 13!

Pastor Scott and CCG invite you to join us on Friday evening, May 13 at about 8:00 pm to watch a new documentary about Pauli Murray. Weather permitting, we'll screen the movie outdoors in the Creation Garden. (In case of rain, we'll gather in Trinity Hall).

The film, "My Name Is Pauli Murray," tells the life story of this extraordinary Durham citizen: "Pauli Murray lived one of the most remarkable lives of the twentieth century. S/he was the first black person to earn a JSD (Doctor of the Science of Law) degree from Yale Law School, a founder of the National Organization for Women and the first Black woman to be ordained an Episcopal priest.



"Pauli Murray's legal arguments and interpretation of the US Constitution were winning strategies for public school desegregation, women's rights in the workplace, and an extension of rights to LGBTQ+ people based on Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. Pauli Murray crafted a broad vision of justice, equity, and human rights using words as her primary tool. . ."

"Made by the same folks that brought us the film about Ruth Bader Ginsberg, this is a spectacular semi-autobiography of a lawyer-priest-pioneer in racial and gender legal equality. The use of video and audio recordings of The Rev. Pauli Murray's voice help to make the description more real. ... she is probably the most important historical figure that you never heard of in Black Studies and LGBTQ history. Truly ahead of her time."

If you'd like to bring a comfy lawn chair, please do. Popcorn and iced tea will be on the house. We hope you'll be able to join us! – Continuing Conversations Group

See additional article inside: "Roots & Soul: Walking with Pauli Murray, May 14

The Rev. Scott M. Anderson, Pastor

Susan Esposito, Parish Administrator & Editor

Ted Turner, Minister of Music

Mac Mullins, Vicar

Amanda Stoen, Preschool Director

Alan Rigsbee, Bookkeeper

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Facebook: St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, ELCA

From the Pastor...

Christ is Risen. Alleluia!

What a joyous and blessed Easter day we had just a couple of weeks ago. We had over 200 people in worship and over 115 attended the Easter breakfast. The breakfast number was

like previous years but we were still over 150 short of a typical Easter day. But, 200 is the most we have had in worship in almost 2.5 years. It was a blessing.

Special thanks to Susan Esposito and Martha Dahl and all who helped in the kitchen. It felt like pre-pandemic.

Another new joy was the celebration after the Easter Vigil. We had over 35 people attend the Great Vigil of Easter and stay for the reception to follow. We popped the corks on a little wine and enjoyed cheese, crackers and cookies. The service ended about 8:30 and Martha tells me the last people left about 10:30 pm.

So, Holy Week and Easter day were exciting and invigorating.

Even the Easter Egg hunt felt like previous years. We are still missing some of our children and families with young children. So, I want to invite families back. Betty Hinshaw and Carol Ostrowski are offering Sunday School through the month of May in the Library. We want to try and get the kids back in the habit of church.

The Vicar and I were able to take some time away and are getting back in the swing of things. We are looking for a couple more middle schoolers to attend Campfirmation the week of June 19th. If you have a 6-8th grade student, please contact the church office.

I do want to give you a brief update on Wildflower Cottage. Their renovation of Damascus House is almost complete. The last word I got from Krissy is that they should finish by mid to late May and plan to move by the first of June. We pray there are no more delays with equipment and no more break-ins so that they can maintain this schedule.

One other event of note: Growing thru Grief plans to restart in person on June 7th. We look forward to this renewed effort.

Continue to have a blessed Easter.

Pastor Scott



From the Vicar...

This coming Fall, I will have the opportunity to travel with ten other seminarians to attend the World Council of Churches assembly in Karlsruhe, Germany. The theme for the conference will be “Christ’s love will move the world to reconciliation and unity.” Both the date and theme were picked way back in 2019 when, at the time, Europe’s biggest problem was the ever growing migration crises. In 2022, however, the past two years of pandemic have given new meaning for desiring reconciliation and unity.

As I’ve spoken with folks about my trip, I’ve realized that not everyone has heard of the World Council of Churches



**World Council
of Churches**

or knows what they do. The WCC is the world’s largest ecumenical body; ecumenical meaning, from Greek, “the whole inhabited world.” Ecumenism is when Christians of different denominations come together for a common purpose, in unity. The ELCA’s own relationship with the Episcopal, Methodist, Presbyterian, and other denominations is an example of ecumenism. The WCC was founded in 1948 following the Second World War and its members represent every major Christian denomination in the world, except the Roman Catholic Church. The WCC meets once every seven years in assembly to discuss major issues facing the world and how all Christians, regardless of tradition, are called to face those issues and be Christ for the world. Though the WCC has no kind of binding authority, it is a gathering place where Christians can imagine and work towards God’s kingdom of justice and peace without concern for tradition, ethnicity, race, nation, or class. All that matters is our communion together as the Body of Christ.

If you want to learn more about ecumenical work, I encourage you to go to the World Council of Churches website, as well as the ELCA’s, to learn about international and national ecumenical work. At the state level, the NC Synod is a member of the NC Council of Churches. And locally, St. Paul’s is a member of and regular participant with Durham Congregations in Action. All of these organizations are a reminder that the life Jesus calls us to in his baptism is not a life we have to live alone.

Peace,
Vr. Mac

Preschool Pitter Patter

by Amanda Stoen

May is the last month of our school year before we break for summer. We have had a challenging, yet wonderful school year. We continued to use the outside spaces throughout most of our morning for each class. Our teachers navigated challenging



weather, especially the wind. Paper and materials blow everywhere with just a slight breeze! Our preschool teachers remained flexible and lead with grace this year, another pandemic school year. We will also celebrate our Fours Class as we prepare to send these children off to kindergarten, ready to learn more about the world.



Thank you again for the generous donations the St. Paul's community made to the Preschool Un-fundraiser campaign. Together with the preschool families, we raised \$1,920 to support financial scholarships and to purchase additional outdoor equipment. We are making plans to add an outdoor music space for our preschoolers as well as working with the church to create a garden for



many of us to share together.

Included are a few photos from our Threes Class, the Bird Family. They learned about Earth Day and talked about ways we can reduce, reuse and recycle.

They also helped clean up the playground and Luther Woods!

We have a few more spots in our PMO and Fours classes this fall. Registration can be found on our website – <http://stpaulspreschooldurham.weebly.com>. If you are interested or know of anyone who is, please contact me at the church or email: preschool@stpaulsdurham.org for more information.

Calming the Storm

by Nan Treul, Stephen Ministry



No doubt you are well-blessed. You have much to be thankful for. Then why is there so much anxiety? let's face it: there are many challenges in life, and we have little to no control over them. Your health fails, a loved one perishes, a job is at risk, a

cherished relationship ends, you are blessed with another baby while struggling to make ends meet, _____ . I'm sure most of us can fill in that last blank!

You cast about for solutions, bring all your talent and resources to bear, but the anxiety remains. It may even build. How can we calm the storm, keep the anxiety at bay? The message in Philippians 4:4-8 gives us a model for releasing our anxiety.

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry 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. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.”

A peace that surpasses all understanding! Let's claim that promise! Peace, calm – we all need that!

C.A.L.M.

In his book, *Anxious for Nothing*, Max Lucado uses a clever acronym to help us claim the promise in Philippians 4, taking steps to release anxiety. Here's a summary:

C – Celebrate the Lord. Rejoice in all He has given.

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.

A – Ask God for help. Bring your concerns to Him. Be specific! ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

L – Leave the matter to Him. Rest in the knowledge that God is in control. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

M – Meditate on all that is good. Fill your mind with thoughts of the goodness in your life. ⁸Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

Lucado, Max. *Anxious for Nothing: Finding Calm in a Chaotic World*. Zondervan, 2017.

Memorials Received

We have received memorials with the following recognitions. Our sincere thanks.



In memory of Nancy Clendaniel by Cindy Snyder, Durham

The following are in memory of Tony Perrotte to the Memorials Committee by:

- Phil and Sally Hart, Durham
- Cindy Snyder, Durham
- Ted and Diana Dominick, Durham
- David and Janice Hagstrom, Strasburg, VA
- Martha Dahl, Durham
- John and Linda Foreman, Durham
- Steven and Claudia MacKenzie, Barare VT
- Dean and Marcia Redman, Chapel Hill
- Rachel Harter, Chapel Hill
- John Guran, Copley, OH
- Tom and Ruth Ann Meier, Durham
- Wesley and Carol Benefield, Raleigh
- Gus Holshouser, Durham
- Chris and Kim Brown, Linda Larson, Durham
- Katherine Trexler, Durham
- Thomas and Julie Jackman, Cayce, SC

The following are in memory of Tony Perrotte to the Stephen Ministry Fund by:

- Nancy Lee Treul, Chapel Hill
- Tom and Judy Kraska, Chapel Hill
- Ron and Marcie Brown, Durham

Thank You!

by the Nurturing Committee

We send a hearty “thank you” to Ellie DeVries for the wonderful donation of greeting cards to be used for the Be-Frienders! The cards are available in the baskets by the caring tree in the narthex. Feel free to choose a card to send to someone and be a friend!! Brighten someone’s day!!!

Free Little Library

Have you visited the “Free little library” located in the atrium? There are books, magazines and puzzles for your use. Take a book/puzzle or leave a book/puzzle. Enjoy “recycling” in a small way! The bookshelf is near the water fountain in the atrium.



Used, Cancelled Stamps

by Marcia Redman

Another very small recycling task is still available. Please cut the cancelled stamps off your received mail (leaving 1/4 inch around the stamp) and put the stamps in the container on top of the credenza in the atrium. The are sent to Postal History Foundation, a philatelic museum in Tuscon, AZ. The museum has departments in Youth Education, Preservation, and reference, and they sell surplus stamps to raise operating funds. The organization accepts postage stamps, postcards and other philatelic collectibles. This includes any time period, any geographic location.

Well done!

Megan Cunningham

The 48th annual CROP Hunger Walk took place on Sunday, April 10th and the congregation of St. Paul’s Lutheran helped us exceed our goal of \$3,000 by a whole \$200, bringing our grand total of donations to \$3,200. With the congregation’s help we were able to make a large dent in the food deprived community in Durham. I would like to say a BIG THANK YOU to everyone for helping make this year a success after the 2 year pause.



Roots & Soul: Walking with Pauli Murray, Saturday, May 14

To round out our understanding of Pauli Murray, we have the opportunity to take a walking tour in the West End neighborhood of Durham on Saturday, May 14. The tour starts at 10:00 at the Pauli Murray Center, 906 Carroll Street (near Maplewood Cemetery) and lasts for 90 minutes. Organized by Whistle Stop Tours, in alliance with the Hayti Heritage Center, the tour explores Durham history and the lives of the Rev. Dr. Pauli Murray’s ancestors.

“Witness the Fitzgerald Family’s determination for emancipation as remembered through the memories and writing of the Rev. Dr. Pauli Murray.”

There are 11 slots open for this tour, on a “pay what you can” basis. If you would like to take part, send an email message to Bee Ellertson, bellertson@icloud.com by May 6th. We’re advised to wear comfortable shoes, and to bring an umbrella, a water bottle, and curiosity and questions.

– Continuing Conversations Group

Back to Two Services

We are now worshipping on Sunday mornings at 8:30 and 11:00 am in person in the sanctuary. The 8:30 am service is in-person only. The 11:00 am service is in-person, live-streamed and recorded for our Vimeo site. The link to watch it live is: <https://vimeo.com/event/1478223>. The link to watch any services which have been recorded is: <https://vimeo.com/stpaulsdurham> -- then choose the service date or event you wish to watch. Masks are optional on Sundays. When the Preschool and Daycare children are here during the week, we still need the masks in the building.

Altar Flowers

If you would like to make a recognition through a request for Altar Flowers, please stop by the credenza under the TV monitor in the atrium. Sign up for the day(s) you would like to request, pick up an envelope and form in the lower box and turn in your request form(s) which should indicate your announcement for the bulletin, and payment (\$40) at least one week in advance. If you have any questions, speak with a staff person.



Vacation Bible School

With some Covid restrictions relaxing, we are thinking about a Vacation Bible School taking place at St. Paul’s this summer, the last week of July. To get a feel for what we are able to offer, we need **your** input.

We have the materials in hand to do a full week of morning VBS. These same materials could be used in different time configurations (one day, 3 days, etc.) of varying times.

Here are some questions we have for adults.

Who is available at that time to help:

- ▶ Teach?
- ▶ Lead a Bible Story?
- ▶ Shepherd a class? (we need many adults)
- ▶ help with crafts or experiments?
- ▶ lead a discussion based on a short video?
- ▶ help with outdoor recreation?
- ▶ put together snacks?



Also, would you be willing to do it:

- ▶ 1 day?
- ▶ 3 days?
- ▶ 5 days?
- ▶ Weekdays or weekends?

Now, we have questions for parents of children.

Would you enroll your child/ren for a program which is:

- ▶ 1 day?
- ▶ 3 days?
- ▶ 5 days?
- ▶ Weekdays or weekends?

Would you need aftercare if it was only in mornings?

- ▶ yes
- ▶ no

If you could provide answers to these questions it would be very helpful. We welcome all comments.

Please email Susan Esposito at

admin@stpaulsdurham.org with **any** feedback you can provide. We need 25-30 adults to make this happen and of course children between the ages of 4 and grades 5. You may also call Susan at 919-489-3214.

Prayers of Sympathy

Our thoughts and prayers go to the family and friends of Shirley Braisted, mother of Dawn York. Shirley died in Pinehurst, NC on April 16, 2022. She was a member of Our Saviour Lutheran Church in Southern Pines.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, ELCA
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Service Assistants on Sundays

Since we are now at two services, the need for worship assistance is greater. We have modified the Sign-Up Genius links which we use to enable volunteers to fill in where needed, now for both services.

♦ **Devotions** –

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044eabad28a3fd0-daily1> Please send your devotions to Vicar Mac Mullins at vicar@stpaulsdurham.org

♦ **Sunday Morning 8:30 or 11:00 Worship Tasks**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0944a4a72fa5f58-sunday1> Tasks include setting up, lector, worship assistant, sound, altar guild, video, etc.

♦ **Sunday morning Communion Assistants and Lock-Up**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0944a4a72fa5f58-communion>

**St. Paul's Readers
May 19 at 3 pm**

Please join us on Thursday, May 19, at 3 pm in Trinity Hall as Vicar Mac leads our discussion of *Wise Blood* by Flannery



St. Paul's Readers

O'Connor. The plot revolves around a returning World War II veteran who, haunted by a lifelong crisis of faith, resolves to form an anti-religious ministry in an eccentric Southern city. This debut novel published in 1952 received little critical attention when it first appeared but has since come to be appreciated as a classic work, appearing in lists of the top 100 novels. O'Connor described her book as having themes of freedom, free will, life and death, and the inevitability of belief.

St. Paul's Readers meets at 3 pm on the third Thursday of the month in Trinity Hall. Please consider participating. We welcome all readers – men and women! Contact Katherine Trexler (katherine.m.trexler@gmail.com) with any questions. We hope to see you soon!

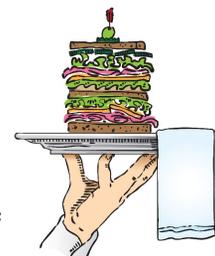
Concert at St. Paul's

The Durham Community Chorale will be holding their spring concert, the first since 2019, at St. Paul's on Sunday, May 22 at 4 pm. The Chorale is a community based group whose members share a love singing, and music selection ranges from show tunes, to pop, to sacred. Tickets are \$15. Please contact Joan Albright for ticket information.



Young In Spirit is BACK!

Young In Spirit is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, May 18! After two years it will be wonderful to get together again! All are welcome to gather for a sub sandwich lunch as we enjoy each other's company. A program will be announced ASAP. If you are someone who is free during the day and want to be a part, come join us – May 18 at 11:30 am in Trinity Hall.



Children's Sunday School

We are excited to announce that Sunday school for children will be meeting in the library between services April 24 through May 29 (9:45-10:45 am). If you are able, we would love to have you join us as we learn about Jesus, together again! -- Betty Hinshaw and Carole Ostrowski



Croasdaile Worship

The Croasdaile worship this month will be Thursday, May 26, the Fourth Thursday of the month, at 2:00 pm.