



June Epistle

Monthly Newsletter of St. Paul's Lutheran Church | June 2024
301-845-4600 | Saintpaulslutheranchurch.org

June Birthdays

June 3rd -Alexis Bush

June 7th -Billie Jo Kahler

June 11th -Annabelle Bush
Dennis Cavell

June 13th -Sophie Myer

June 16th -Charles Covell

June 17th -John Fradiska, Jr.

June 18th -Donna Seaton

June 22nd -Shirley Eyler
Edward Sell II

June 23rd -Susan Hayes
Mary Ann King

What does it mean to be Lutheran in a crucial election year?

As our faith informs our day-to-day lives, Lutherans recognize that "faith is active in love [and] love calls for justice in relationships and structures of society" (ELCA, Social Statement on Church in Society, 1991). We also know the church is called to be a community that prays, deliberates, and acts together when it comes to complex social issues. In this election year, how might our Lutheran faith shape our thinking, acting, and voting on major issues?

Join us to learn and ponder timely social teachings of the ELCA and to learn tips for leading discussions in your own community.

There will be six sessions online via zoom (and recorded for later viewing), beginning June 25th through October 22nd. If any one is interested registering for the online zoom sessions as an individual or in a group setting at St. Paul's, please contact the Church Office. Registration fees will be covered. **The deadline to enroll is June 10, 2024.** Please call or email the Parish office to reserve your spot ASAP.

The Quilt Angel on My Shoulder: Remembering Margaret Powers

By Kate Stottlemeyer



“It has been nearly five years since Margaret entered the Church Triumphant, but her quilting legacy lives on at St. Paul’s and, through it, so does she—as the Quilt Angel on my shoulder. I feel Margaret’s presence when I quilt. She gives me strength, inspiration, patience and optimism.

I imagine talking to her sometimes, asking questions.

Would she approve of local charities? *I believe so.*

Would she like the children’s quilts? *I know she would.*

Margaret loved children, and no child should go to sleep cold. Would she be happy that quilting has continued at St. Paul’s? *Of course.”*

Ask any long-time member of St. Paul’s what name springs to mind when they think of quilting here and they’ll immediately say, “Margaret Powers”. For years, Margaret Powers and a group of ladies known as The Quilt Angels lovingly cut, pieced, knotted and hemmed “covers” (as Margaret called them) for Lutheran World Relief. Annually, the quilts were displayed at a Sunday Service, then taken to New Windsor for distribution anywhere in the world. Margaret spent countless hours quilting for charity. Often, she’d say, “I got up early this morning and sewed a quilt top before breakfast.” Many afternoons found her in the Parish Hall, two tables pushed together, her mouth full of pins, bent over a quilt spread before her. Then The Quilt Angels would get together at Margaret’s house for a morning of knotting. But when Margaret passed away, cheerful and active, at the ripe old age of ninety-seven, quilting at St. Paul’s died with her.

Then, shortly before the Pandemic, Betty Schubert asked if anyone would be interested in making lap quilts for local distribution, no experience necessary. I hadn’t made quilts before, but my grandmother had quilted at her church, so I was familiar with the process. At that time, I’d been praying for something useful and meaningful to do at church, and a Voice kept saying, “Do quilts”. So, Betty taught me how to make lap quilts and I was hooked. By the hand of God and the memory of Margaret, Quilt Ministry took off. We have a handful of volunteers who produce mainly children’s twin size quilts that, after a Blessing, are distributed to about a half-dozen local charities. Last year, we distributed 205 quilts to seven charities including Sleep in Heavenly Peace and Children of Incarcerated Parents.

How can you help with Quilt Ministry?

- 1) Prayers—We can do nothing without God’s help.
- 2) Sew quilt tops—No cutting or designing required. Kit provided. Please furnish thread (any color/colors—it won’t show).
- 3) Knot quilts on Saturdays TBA—It’s easy! If you can tie a knot, you can knot a quilt. (Not good for bad backs!)
- 4) Donate materials—Fabric (scraps okay) in cheerful colors, child-themed prints; thread (any color); low loft batting; gently used sheets in solid colors, child-themed prints (any size, flat or fitted).
- 5) Donate cash—Especially needed to purchase batting. . based on current prices for the most economical materials, quilts average \$13 each to make, with batting (the stuffing) being about one-third of the cost. Please clearly label your donation “Quilt Fund”.

Your generous support is, as always, greatly appreciated, and helps maintain Quilting as a vibrant Ministry at St. Paul’s where **“through Christ, we joyfully feed the body, mind, and spirit of all”**.



The Congregational Life Strawberry Committee wishes to thank everyone for their time, donations and support for our 60+ annual Strawberry Festival, which took place May 18th. A big applause and a hug from Kay to everyone that setup, prepared, donated, grilled, distributes food, cashiered, and sold plants. The sales teams and those that helped behind the scenes were incredible. Even with the weather, , we gave away a large amount of hotdogs, chips and water.

Now we can say we had a very successful event in the rain. Kay and I especially enjoyed being drenched at the yard sale. Plant sales were wonderful. We have a great reputation in the community for our food, plants, the yard sale and our people. Through Christ, we joyfully fed the body, mind and spirit of all. There were visitors from all over Frederick County and some beyond.

If anyone took any photos of the event, please send them to Joann at the office. We are asking everyone if they could, to let us know what they thought went well or what would have made the day better. There will be Strawberry Festival feedback forms in the weekly emails, the bulletins, or on the lector table in church.

Honorable mention to the church secretary, Joann, for advertising and keeping information at the forefront; Marie and Sam for set up, purchasing and clean up; Roxanne and crew for the outdoor plant sales and well as the trillers Bryan and Bill; Welcome table Lauren; quilts by Kate; baked goods with Nancy and Charlotte; Betsy, Candy and crew for shortcake sales, the hotdog and chip crew. The nut crew; the cashiers Sheila, Sam, and Hope; and Kay and crew for the crazy amount of heavy lifting, and great sales. Let me know who I missed, and I will write a second chapter with all you wonderful people.

Although we had to scale back, next year or maybe even later this year, we can get the dunk tank again. Beware Pastor Phil. I hope everyone had a scrumptious time. It was hard work, but we have a few months to recover and dry off.

Thank you everyone,
Marcia Gupta, Congregation Life

Pastor's Peace

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."
Proverbs 3:5-6

What a wonderful day we had on May 18, 2024, with our Annual Strawberry Festival. While we were a bit dampened, especially Marcia, by the weather we were able to pull off a successful day with many community members visiting our church and sharing in fellowship. I understand there were many people who were disappointed the dunk tank did not materialize, yet I offered to dive through some puddles to make people happy. Under Kay Wachter's leadership, the yard sale was extremely successful in raising almost \$1000.00 which will be utilized to fund our meals ministry. When it was mentioned in church the following morning that we had come up a little short of \$1000.00, a member quickly came forward and made up the difference. We were all disappointed when we learned that someone had absconded with our children's bench, one that Jack and Gracie use almost every Sunday. I mentioned this to a friend who then donated her small bench to the church which I will have a small plate engraved to remember her mother.

This event is certainly a way in which we share and live out our Mission Statement of "through Christ, we joyfully feed the body, mind, and spirit of all." Many different hands came together to prepare baked goods, plants of many varieties were donated, and we were able to share in fellowship throughout the day. I believe we had a great day and I certainly enjoyed myself throughout as we improvised, adapted, and overcame. Members came together to get tents, tables, chairs and other logistical items set up, as well as gave of their time to tear things down. Congregational Life is eager to hear your feedback about the event so that we can continue to improve on our day.

Pastor's Peace Continued...

We continue to grow in our learning and many of our ministries are seeking training or seminars we can present to the congregation to gain a better understanding of our role as Lutherans. One seminar in particular is titled "What does it mean to be a Lutheran in a crucial election year?" This seminar is offering a series to assist us in discerning a deeper faith in relationship to the Social Statements observed by the ELCA. This will help us to build on the groundwork we laid during our Gathered at the Table Series. "As our faith informs our day-to-day lives, Lutherans recognize that "faith is active in love [and] love calls for justice in relationships and structures of society" (ELCA, Social Statement on Church in Society, 1991). We also know the church is called to be a community that prays, deliberates, and acts together when it comes to complex social issues. In this election year, how might our Lutheran faith shape our thinking, acting, and voting on major issues? Join us to learn and ponder timely social teachings of the ELCA and to learn tips for leading discussions in your own community." Should we have enough interest in this series, we will be able to offer it either in the church or the Parish Hall via the big screen TVs. The series dates, which commence June 25, 2024, can be found in the Epistle and the Weekly. You can also contact the office for further details.

"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast."
Ephesians 2:8-9

Peace IS with you!

Peace Pastor Phil

Email: pastor@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org Cell phone: 202-497-0584

"A little faith will bring your soul to heaven; great faith will bring heaven to your soul."

Charles Spurgeon



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!
JUNE 7, 2024
IN THE PARISH HALL!**

Join us for a fun Bingo and Pizza night here at St. Paul's! Come at 5:30pm for some Pizza, drinks and fellowship! BINGO will start at 6:30pm.

PLEASE RSVP by using the sign up sheets in church or call the parish office by June 5th! We want to make sure we order enough Pizza!

See Kay Wachter or Marcia Gupta for more details!

Hope to see you there!



The lazy days of Summer come along with the month of June. But.....

for the year round stocking stuffer project, June means 3 in one body wash, along with shampoo and conditioner for infants to 12 year olds.

You always have to the option for a financial donation as well. Please see Kay Wachter for more details!

We need you to make this project a success!



Walkersville Carnival, 2024

Can you Help?

The Walkersville Volunteer Fire Company Carnival will be held this year from Monday, July 1st to Saturday, July 6th. Help is needed in the Food Building and various other places on the grounds. If you can help, just show up any night and help for whatever time fits in your schedule. The hours of the Carnival are roughly from 5:00pm until 10:00pm.

