



Epistle *October*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF SAINT PAULS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH | OCTOBER 2024

301-845-4600 | www.saintpaulslutheranchurch.org | info@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org

Harvest Home Sunday, October 20th

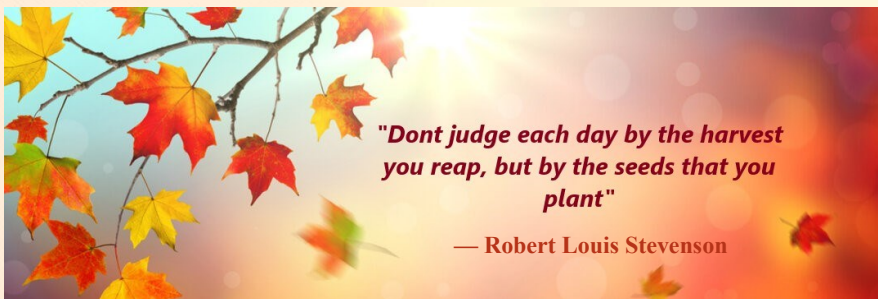
An annual tradition in our congregation is to celebrate the harvest by returning a portion of God's gifts to be distributed to others in need.

On Sunday October 20th, please bring non-perishable food items to the church. We will be collecting those items at the communion rail. After service they will be counted and taken to the Glade Valley Food Bank. Check the Wednesday newsletter and bulletins for current Food Bank needs.

It's also pumpkin Sunday! Please pick up a pumpkin to enjoy at home, on your way out after worship

October Birthdays

- Oct. 2nd - Tyler Barrett
- Oct. 3rd - Stephen King
- Oct. 10th - Paul Kiever
- Oct. 18th - Sloane Donati
- Oct. 20th - Doug Campagnoli
Gary Wachter
- Oct. 23rd - Morgan Howell
- Oct. 25th - Darlene Kiever
- Oct. 26th - Marcia Gupta
- Oct. 27th - Anthony Jack
- Oct. 29th - Ashley Sube
Rebecca Sube
- Oct. 30th - Regina Cavell
Marilyn Gupta



*"Don't judge each day by the harvest
you reap, but by the seeds that you
plant"*

— Robert Louis Stevenson

TRUNK OR TREAT

It's Almost Time!

And that means it's almost time for another fun evening of Trunk-or-Treat!

Saturday, **October 26th** at 3:00pm St. Pauls will be hosting a Trunk-or-Treat night. *We could use some more volunteers to decorate their trunks and hand out candy.*

If you have never done it before, it's easy and fun and we'd love to help you get started!

Please contact Lauren McCloskey through the Parish Office for more information and to reserve a spot. Come help St. Paul's reach out to our neighbors and community with a little fun!

It's Spooky Season!

and that means time for St. Paul's Annual Trunk or Treat. Come Join us!



Blessing of the Pets



BLESSING OF THE PETS

Saint Paul's announces that there will be a blessing of the pets **October 27, 2024**, at 1:00 pm (14 W. Pennsylvania Avenue). Everyone is invited to bring pets (or pictures of pets) for the blessing.

All Saints Sunday resonates with the conviction that in Christ every saint is a sinner and every sinner a saint. Lutherans especially remember on this feast that it is God's grace that makes us saints. We find lasting rest only in the mercy of God.

At St. Paul's we follow a tradition of honoring all the saints who have passed away since last All Saints Day. We will light a candle and ring the bell for each person named.

Please call the Parish Office or email @ Officeadministrator@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org to name the person you would like to remember in this way throughout the month of October. Please give the name, relationship to you and date of death. We will need these names by 10/30/2024.

Please address any questions to the Worship and Arts Committee.
Betsy Galliher

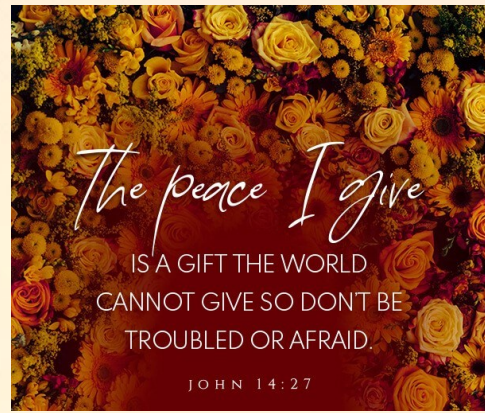
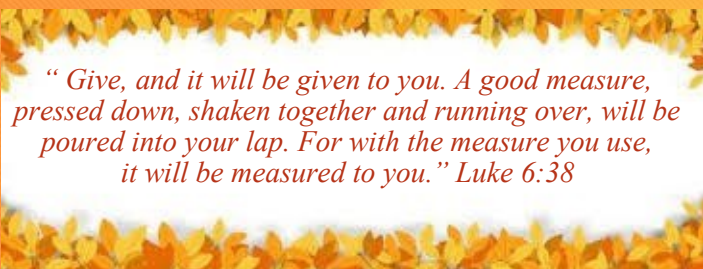


Pastor's Peace

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." John 14:27

In reflecting on the 5 years I have shared with you as a congregation, I was brought back to the day of my ordination and something Pastor Kevin had shared with me during our experience in the ballpark. During communion he told me he had the strongest urge to yell out "Jesus here, get your Jesus here!" I believe it would have been very fitting in the stadium to hear that and I often lament that I did not get any Cracker Jacks to serve for communion. The 5 years we have spent together has been a mix of sorrow and joy in saying goodbye to many long term faces amongst us who have entered the Church Triumphant or have moved on for whatever their reasoning. Yet there has also been significant growth in our membership, our ministries, and the neighbors we are serving. Part of God's work we have accomplished is in the revision of our Mission Statement which St. Paul's continues to live out on a daily basis in the various outreaches we have been accomplishing in our community. Most impressively is the meals ministry we have undertaken with Woodsboro and Bethel Lutheran as we have significantly changed the game to serve those who are on the margins. We are certainly offering our neighbors a variety of ways to "get your Jesus."

Bell Court and Victoria Park have come to know us and our outreach intimately and look forward to when our youth, and especially our elder members show up to serve a meal and share fellowship in the not so traditional way. We continue our virtual ministry to those who cannot join us in person, and though we have our technical difficulties now and again, I believe this ministry is greatly appreciated and one that probably would not have been started without the pandemic. God certainly does work in mysterious ways and allows us



Pastor's Peace cont'd

to share the Good News in the not so conventional way. As Fall is upon us, I am grateful for the leadership of those who have stepped in to fill the needs of our youth faith formation. It has been a joy to share time with them during VBS and Rally Night, even when they challenge me at Bingo. I think one of them enjoyed my cosmetology skills with the Bingo marker.

As I mentioned in last month's Epistle, nothing would make my Grinch heart grow bigger than to see our little ones more active and involved in our worship experience. There are many ways in which our little ones can become more invested in the Church with very little effort other than bringing them through the door. I believe they are a valuable piece of the community we share at St. Paul's and getting them involved at this age might be the thing where they "get their Jesus." Jesus has left the door open for us to join with him in spreading the Good News to all who will hear and I believe our youth enjoy doing it as well. I invite you to share your love of God, as well as the Peace of God with all whom you encounter for as we know with the story of Abraham, you never know who that stranger is among you. Share your peace boldly as a called disciple of Christ and "Get Your Jesus Here and everywhere!"

"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!" Isaiah 6:8

Should you have any questions or concerns, I am glad to speak with you at any time.

Peace Pastor Phil

Email: pastor@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org

Cell phone: 202-497-0584



Celebrating Nancy Cochran & Her Retirement



**Choir director at St Paul's Lutheran Church from
1997 until her retirement August 31, 2024**

28 years ago, Roz Freeman, member of the congregation, and Nancy's daughters were friends and Roz asked Nancy to come and do some special music with the choir.

From then and for so many years now, Nancy has helped bring the message and wisdom of Christ to Saint Paul's. Through thoughtful preparation, she has carried forth the good news of each season through the choir's songs. Her musical direction has lifted and held up the hearts of our congregation, inspired them to walk more closely with the Lord, and elevated our weekly services. We are so grateful for her.

While here she directed the Chancel Choir, the Classical Chorale, and the Women's Chorus and belonged to the Frederick Coral Arts Society. She has also scheduled music for the summer seasons when the choir was not singing.

She also chose and purchased music appropriate for worship services and at various times chose the hymns for the worship services.

Nancy has been very faithful in participating in all the activities of the church during the year. The strawberry festival, Christkindl mart, and the German dinner to name a few.

She is always willing to help with church decorating for different seasons including Easter and Christmas.

Before coming to St Paul's Nancy owned and operated her company called Sign Works. She applied this expertise for us as well by creating banners and signs for our mission statement, the German dinner, strawberry festival among others

Nancy has also been an active member of the Worship and Arts Committee, taking part in our decision to purchase a new electronic organ and jumping in to learn and handle all that needed to be done when we began to live stream worship services during the pandemic. This also entailed making sure we were following legal licensed guidelines for broadcasting music.

During her time here Nancy has worked closely with all the congregation and leadership of St. Paul's. She has worked with nine pastors, plus a number of supply pastors. She has collaborated with four organists, as well as substitutes as needed. She teamed up with five Administrative Assistants, all to help our Music Ministry thrive and to enhance our worship services.

Her gift of music has been such a blessing to all of us. Her contributions of time, charity and service over the years have been motivating, uplifting and inspirational. We congratulate Nancy on her retirement and are so happy she will become a member and remain at St. Paul's to worship with us.

Thank you, Nancy, for all you have contributed to the life of St. Paul's.



SAVE THE DATE
CHRISTKINDLMARKET 2024

Preparations have begun for the 7th annual Christkindlmarket. It will happen on *Saturday, December 7th* from 10am-2pm. Once again, the Walkersville Historical Society will be the event host. St. Paul's will have vendors, food and host the Wreath contest similar to last year. Look for more information on those items as we get closer to the date.

Vendors wanted. The Christkindlmarket committee is taking applications for vendors at this year's festivities. If you are interested go to the committee website for all the information and application process. <https://www.walkersvillechristkindlmarket.com/>



We will be looking for donations of gently used Christmas items for "Mrs. Claus' attic." These are items that are affordable for children or individuals without a lot of funds to buy as gifts or decoration. So keep on the lookout if you hit up the local yard sales. If anyone has a good idea for a craft to do as a small group that we can add to the sale let us know. We will be looking for volunteers to help with the different areas so make sure you mark it on your calendars.

RE•FORMATION
THEN • NOW • ALWAYS

“Reformation Sunday challenges us to do better.

Through re-telling our story and returning to the core of our faith, Reformation Sunday prods us to do better.

We are called to be more loving and grace-filled, because God was gracious and merciful to us. We are called to repent of the times that we have placed barriers that have kept others from hearing the Good News. We are called to remember that all that we are is a gift from God.

In the church in Wittenberg where Martin Luther preached, there is a wonderful painting. In it Luther stands in the pulpit on the right hand side, and the people stand on the left. In between people and the preacher is Christ on the cross. Reformation Sunday is a reminder that this is the bedrock of our faith – the grace and mercy given to us in Jesus Christ. Keeping the most important thing in the center of the picture is the only hope for our faith and for this community that we call “church.”

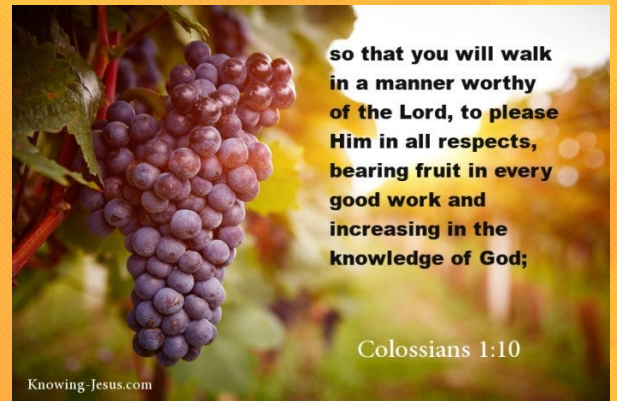
Sunday, October 27, 2024 — **WEAR RED!**

Happy Reformation Sunday!

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Upcoming Events

- Oct. 1st - Community Dinner 5:00pm
- Oct. 6th - Ministry Sunday
Celebration of Nancy Cochran
- Oct. 20th - Harvest Home Sunday
- Oct. 26th - Trunk or Treat 3pm-5pm
- Oct. 27th - Reformation Sunday - WEAR RED!
Blessing of the Pets 1:00pm



**so that you will walk
in a manner worthy
of the Lord, to please
Him in all respects,
bearing fruit in every
good work and
increasing in the
knowledge of God;**

Colossians 1:10

Knowing-Jesus.com