

Epistle



Saint Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Walkersville, MD 301-845-4600
www.saintpaulslutheranchurch.org

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

April 1	Hope Donati
April 4	Jack Isenock
April 6	Dianne Port
April 13	Regina Baker
April 14	Hazel Kopp
April 16	Francis Bruning
April 23	Charlotte Jones
April 24	Jon Brundage
April 26	Bethany McLane Vaughn Zimmerman
April 28	Patty Rimel

"Change can be scary, but you know what's scarier? Allowing fear to stop you from growing, evolving, and progressing."
—Mandy Hale



It's that time of year again, where the days are longer and plants are greener.

This is the time for anticipating the wonderful enjoyment that the St. Paul's annual Strawberry Festival brings to our community. Our historical festival will happen on May 18, 2024, from 9am-1pm. This event is one of the major draws for Walkersville Days and shows that St. Paul's is active in the Lord's work of bringing all people together in celebration.

We are in the process of planning all the details for this event. *We really need your help.* There is something for everyone. No experience necessary. We are continuing the hot dogs and chips, and water will be available. The plant sale booth needs plants and people. We will be collecting garden and vegetable plants. The strawberry shortcake sales area will welcome all volunteers too! There will be a bake goods booth that will be screaming for any and all donations. Quilts will also be for sale. A welcome booth will showcase our church and activities.

It is time to declutter, because our wonderful YARD SALE will be happening from Thursday May 15th thru Saturday. If you donate it, Kay Wachter will sell it. Let us know. We are asking for setup, take down and clean up people. Bring your extended family.

The Strawberry Festival is an outreach event. Let others know that St. Paul's cares and that everyone is welcome to join us in service.

We all are given gifts from our God to share. Come and share. If you have any ideas or questions, please let me know.

Love and God's blessings always.
Marcia Gupta

*"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for,
the conviction of things not seen."
Hebrew 11:1*



You can help make a meaningful difference.

HELP our Geraldine Hills, who manages the Thrift Shop at St. Paul's, rebuild after a devastating house fire. She has LOST EVERYTHING. Geraldine has been a pillar in our community for many years and continues to do so even after the fire. She is still managing the Thrift Shop, handling the clothing donations and helping families who are in need. **Now it's her turn.** Please consider generously donating to her GoFundMe page.

<https://gofund.me/acbd07ce>

Help us decorate for Easter by purchasing an Easter Lily.

They are available for \$13.00 each.

Sign up using the sign up sheet on the side bulletin board or call the Parish Office to purchase with a check or cash.

***Please don't forget to designate Your dedication.**

April 13th is the final date to order!



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Easter Egg HUNT

APRIL
SATURDAY | 19 | 3:00- 5:00 PM
2025

14 W. PENNSYLVANIA AVE.
WALKERSVILLE

GAMES

EASTER EGG

KONA ICE

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SCHEDULE

Lenten Midweek Worship—7PM at St. Paul's (Soup & Sandwich at 6PM)

Holy Week

Wednesday - A blended Choir Service entitled "*Not My Will, But Yours*" at Bethel 7:00PM

Maundy Thursday - 7:00PM at St. Paul's

Good Friday - Noon at Bethel and 7:00PM at St. Paul's

Easter Vigil—Saturday, 7:00pm

Easter Sunday - 9AM Worship at St. Paul's and 11:15AM Worship at Bethel

PASTOR'S PEACE

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!!! He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Understanding the Paschal Season

Any story about God is a story about the cross. This includes the nativity, the epiphany narrative, the wedding at Cana, the miracles, the teachings, as well as the passion. These stories all point us to the crucified and risen Christ. This season of Easter is when we fully immerse ourselves into the Paschal Mystery. The Paschal Candle will remain front and center at the altar throughout Easter (the paschal season) as a reminder to everyone that our Lord is present and that is a special time in the church.

But why doesn't the Paschal Candle remain at the altar after Easter?

Once we move ourselves out of full immersion of the paschal season and into the season of ordinary time, it is at this time that we move the candle to the place where the Paschal Mystery is made most evident, baptism. In baptism, we are linked to our Lord's death and resurrection. As St. Paul reminds us in Romans 6: If we have been united in a death like his, we shall certainly be united in a resurrection like his. Therefore, we place the Paschal Candle near the font as a reminder to everyone of this holy promise given to us in baptism and we light the Paschal Candle to remind us of the Paschal season. The Paschal Candle is also lit at funerals. At a funeral, the candle is placed near the coffin as a reminder to everyone in the congregation of the Paschal Mystery: that because of the deceased's baptism, he or she is linked to our Lord's death and in turn, linked to our Lord's resurrection. We light the Paschal Candle at these moments (and these moments alone) as a reminder of the Paschal Mystery that we are brought into through baptism.

What is the Paschal Mystery?

During the season of Easter, we will come back to the topic of the Paschal Mystery. "The Paschal Mystery is a real event that occurred in our history, but it is unique: all other historical events happen once, and then they pass away, swallowed up in the past. The Paschal Mystery of Christ, by contrast, cannot remain only in the past because by his death, he destroyed death, and all that Christ is - all that he did and suffered for all of humanity - participates in the divine eternity, and so transcends all times while being made present in them all. The event of the Cross and Resurrection abides and draws everything toward life. Christian liturgy not only recalls the events that saved us but actualizes them, makes them present. The Paschal Mystery of Christ is celebrated, not repeated. It is the

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

Joshua 1:9

Pastor's Peace cont'd

celebrations that are repeated, and in each celebration, there is an outpouring of the Holy Spirit that makes the unique mystery present" (Taken from www.vatican.va/archive/ccc_css/archive/catechism/p2s1c1a1.htm#1085). Simply put, what we do here in worship is the Paschal Mystery and the best to begin understanding the Paschal Mystery is to be present in worship. Easter lasts 50 days because one day cannot contain the entire Paschal Mystery.

The Church Year is not a walk-through of Christ's life, but an ordered, open exploration of the effects of Christ's presence.

This is important to remember—that what we do the rest of the year matters. The entire church year points us to the cross of Christ. Even on days such as Reformation Sunday and Christmas morning, the crucified and risen Christ must be proclaimed by the faithful gathered in Holy worship. At the Easter Vigil, we will begin this 50-day journey of rediscovering the Paschal Mystery and its joy. The great fast of Lent is over. Our Lord, who has been crucified, has been raised from the dead. It might sound silly to say week after week, "Alleluia! Christ is Risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia!" but it is because of this truth, death has lost the war, Satan has lost his grip on humanity, and the world will never be the same again. **Alleluia! Christ is Risen!!! He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Borrowed with Permission from Pastor Matt Day, Zion Lutheran Church



Noisy Offering

We are coming upon the time of change...

Noisy change that is!

Start gathering all those coins laying around and bring them to church! From April 27th through May 18th we will be collecting loose coin offerings to take to the Synod Assembly at the end of May. **Bring on the change!**

Please join us as Saint Paul's Lutheran Church and Bethel Lutheran Church present

"Not My Will But Yours"
From composer Lloyd Larson

An Easter Cantata

Featuring the combined choirs of
St. Paul's and Bethel

Wednesday, April 16th
7:00pm

Bethel Lutheran Church
9664 Opossumtown Pike
Frederick, Maryland 21702



Please attend this Celebration of Lay Ministry where Roxanne Smith will be honored for her exceptional dedication and service to the church and community. She truly embodies *"Through Christ, we joyfully feed the body, mind, and spirit of all."* Please see the weekly emails to RSVP or call the Parish Office.

Delaware-Maryland Synod

MAY 4, 2025

Celebration
of
Lay Ministry

Carroll Lutheran Village
Zest Dining Room
3:00-6:00 PM

CHECK OUR WEBSITE!
→ WWW.DEMDSYNOD.ORG
→ CONNECTEDNESS
→ CELEBRATION OF LAY MINISTRY

Save the Date

Upcoming Events

Ministry Sunday, April 6, 2025

Choir Cantata, April 16th

Holy Week, April 13th-19th

Easter April 20th

Celebration of Lay Ministry, May 4th

Strawberry Festival, May 17th