

News and Upcoming Events At St. Paul's

Slightly updated from April 21st....

"First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you..."
(Romans 1:8a)

I am writing to update you on the progress of Schafer Hall, say thank you to those who have given to the project and tell you about another opportunity to give.

The roof has been replaced, and we are receiving bids for the water/mold remediation. What we have found is that the remediation is going to be much costlier than replacing the exterior layers of roofing. Our first bid for the remediation is \$30k and we are waiting for other bids to come in. On top of that work, we still have the cost of remodeling and refurnishing the room.

If you have noticed our thermometer in the Portico, you will see that it is *"getting hot in here."* *Of the \$50k we were hoping to raise, thus far with very generous gifts we have reached \$38k.* I say a BIG THANK YOU to all those who have given online or by check and to all those who returned alms jars on Easter. If you haven't returned your alms jar, please do. We have come a long way yet are still short of the mark.

I was asked after church recently what was our giving goal and how can we get there. I told the member that we were about \$12k short. They then said they would match additional gifts up to \$5,000 to get us to our goal!

So, people of God, members of St. Paul's I am calling on your generosity once again. If you haven't given to the Schafer Hall roof, remediation and remodeling project please consider giving. No gift is too small. Each gift will help us move closer to our goal and make Schafer Hall a place we can enjoy for years to come.

Again, thank you to all those who have given so generously. We are almost there!!!

Blessings,
Pastor Andrea

Undesign the Redline!

April 11 - July 11, 2024 @ Cleveland Park Library

St. Paul's is one of several interfaith houses of worship in Ward 3 sponsoring a new exhibit that explores race-based exclusion in upper northwest DC, historically known as redlining. The exhibit helps us understand why inequities in housing and wealth persist and encourages us to ask how we can “undesign” these wrongs. It is suitable for middle-school aged children and older. Contact undesigndc@gmail.com to learn more about these and other events associated with Undesign the Redline. *Stay tuned for more information about a St. Paul's private group tour soon!*

College Scholarship Applications due by May 10th!

As you know, St. Paul's has a college scholarship fund and we are now accepting applications! So, if you have a daughter or son planning to enter college this fall, and are in need of financial assistance, we would like to hear from them by **May 10th**.

Please have them contact Pastor Walker in writing (by email or letter) stating the following:

1. Tell us about yourself, and what you hope to study in college.
2. What motivates you, and what change would you like to see in the world?

Your family's financial data is not necessary. Priority will be given to students beginning their first year but we may consider those entering other years of their education.

Please contact Pastor Andrea at awalker@stpaulslutherandc.com if you have any questions.

Matching Gift Opportunity Available Now Through APRIL.

The **ELCA National Youth Gathering (NYG)** is this July in New Orleans, Louisiana, and will be attended by nine of our Divine Covenant Youth Group (DCYG) members, and five adult chaperones. Attending the Gathering requires dedication and fundraising from our youth and **now we have an opportunity to match any dollar that we raise for the Gathering up to \$2,000!** If you would like to contribute, please make sure that you mark your donation as “NYG” or “Youth Gathering”.

Funeral Planning Guide available

One of the most difficult experiences that anyone must address during the course of their lifetime is their own death or the death of a loved one. Oftentimes the task is made even more difficult because decisions about the service are left unaddressed, leaving families to plan a funeral or memorial service without knowing just what the decedent would have wanted.

St. Paul's has a new Funeral Planning Guide that starts this important conversation. This guide encourages everyone—even those in the prime of their lives—to think about and record what their wishes for a funeral service would be. Once completed, one copy of the Funeral Planning Guide should stay with the person's important papers, and a second copy should be filed at the church.

If you would like a copy of the Funeral Planning Guide, please contact Joy Belew in the Church office (202-966-5489) or email Pastor Andrea (awalker@stpaulslutherandc.com) or Lisa Wackler (lwackler@stpaulslutherandc.com).

Back by popular demand, it's GAME DAY at St. Paul's!

Join your fellow congregants **after church TODAY** in the lower auditorium for a few hours of board games and card games. Lunch will be provided (good will donations are appreciated.) If you plan on coming, contact Jason Stonerook (stonja01@alumni.luther.edu) so we can get an estimate for how many people will be in attendance.

St. Paul's Vacation Bible School

SCUBA: Diving into Friendship with God

June 24th— June 28th from 9am until 12 noon.

- ◆ **Registration is now open** for children aged three (and potty-trained) through completed 5th Grade.
- ◆ Older kids (completed 6th Grade and up) and adults are welcome to help with the programming! More information on that to come...
- ◆ Cost of the program is \$90 per child (\$170 for two children; \$225 for 3 or more children).
- ◆ Contact the office at 202.966.5489 for link to registration form.

**Bible Study: Every Thursday at noon—Room 207—
All Welcome!!**

St. Paul's Book Club to meet May 19th @ 5 PM

The St. Paul's book club is now reading *We Were the Lucky Ones* by Georgia Hunter. This is a novel inspired by a true story of one Jewish family's experiences during WWII. The members of the family are scattered across Europe and fight to find each other again. Join us at 5:00 downstairs on Sunday May 19th to discuss this book. All are welcome. You may call/text Nancy Shearer (240)447-6807 or Jane Newman (570)550-1486 with any questions.

St. Paul's Food Pantry—Update on Current needs:

- **WE NEED VOLUNTEERS IN MAY!**
- **Food- NEW! Individual snacks (ex: granola bars) and condiments (ex: mustard, ketchup, spices, anything!)**
- **Toiletries- Toothpaste, Shampoo, BAR soap, Deodorant.** (We cannot get these at the Food Bank, so donations are essential.)
- We continue to accept donations for paper bags with handles, and white plastic bags.

Any questions, please contact Kate Belinski (kate.belinski@gmail.com) or Jane Cramer (jlcramer52@gmail.com)

For more information about St. Paul's...

Please visit our website (www.stpaulslutherandc.com), If you are interested in receiving our Wednesday E-Newsletter, please contact the office at 202.966.5489 or email Joy Belew at joyb@stpaulslutherandc.com

