

News and Upcoming Events At St. Paul's

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

From our Pastor: 1st Communion Instruction

June 2nd and June 9th @ 9:30 am. For Ages 5 and up.

Contact Pastor Andrea if interested
(awalker@stpaulslutherandc.com)

Notes from Church Council

The St. Paul's Council met for its monthly meeting on April 15. Highlights of the meeting are summarized below; St. Paul's members can request a copy of the full meeting minutes, if interested.

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Council discussed the status of repairs to Schafer Hall. The roof should be finished soon, and St. Paul's is working on getting bids for the mold remediation work.
- The Council discussed St. Paul's income and expenses. Year-to-date (YTD) offering income is below budget, but expenses are running close to budget. The net operating income would be at a loss for this year, but for a generous memorial fund contribution.
- The Council discussed options for the placement of the choir, moving from the transept to the chancel or to the chancel steps. The Council also discussed the possibility of accessibility improvements to the chancel.

Education Ministry Survey

The Education Ministry is currently reviewing the Sunday morning activities offered at St. Paul's for both children and adults and we are seeking your input. If you are a member of St. Paul's, you are invited to complete this survey—hard copies are available today or you can contact the office for an online version. We hope to use your answers to shape an exciting new slate of programs this fall!

Pentecost and Confirmation Sunday, May 19th!!

Pentecost is always an exciting time at St. Paul's and 2024 will be no exception. **On Sunday, May 19th our Confirmation students will affirm their Baptism during the worship service.** For these young people, the Affirmation of Baptism is their time to be recognized as they take their step into the community of faith and renew their participation in the life of the church.

Our Confirmands have worked diligently over the last two years studying the Bible and the Small Catechism to prepare for this very special day. They have discussed and debated their roles as Christians in the world and considered the meaning of God's grace and their own faith.

We strongly encourage the people of St. Paul's to lift up these young people in their prayers. We want the whole church to recognize and support our Confirmands as they make or complete this journey. ***Please check the Portico for our "Prayer Flames for Pentecost."*** Write a short note to one of our Confirmation students (7th or 8th grade) or the whole Confirmation class, just to remind them that they are in our prayers today and every day! We will post these flames around the Portico by Confirmation Sunday, May 19th.

IN ADDITION:

Wear your red and join us in celebrating our confirmands and Pentecost at a **potluck picnic following the conclusion of Sunday worship on May 19. Please bring a side dish to share.** Burgers, hot dogs, drinks, and cake will be provided.

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.

Metro D.C. Synod Pride Parade and Booth

The Metro D.C. Synod RIC Team is participating in the **D.C. Pride Parade Saturday, June 8th**, and hosting a booth at this year's **D.C. Pride Festival Sunday, June 9th**. We invite people of all ages and intersections of life to be part of the booth to show the diversity of the welcoming presence of ELCA congregations.

Your help is also needed

- Help with decorating the float.
- Attend the booth. All items for the booth will be provided, but we need your welcoming presence to greet people at the booth, spread of message of God's Radical Love for ALL!, give out items, and engage participants in activities.

The RIC Team will be providing **training** for the booth for all ages in advance on how to engage, what language to use, what to wear, etc... on Sunday, **May 19th at 4pm through Zoom**.

To sign-up to help or for more information, visit metrodelca.org/events

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).

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

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.

St. Paul's Food Pantry

Proud partner of the Capital Area Food Bank, offering food to those in need on the 1st & 3rd Saturdays of each month.

Update on Current needs:

Food- Individual snacks (ex: granola bars), hearty soups and regular sized cereal.

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