



## ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

*THE TRUMPET*  
*November, 2017*

Dear Friends in Christ,

I love the story that Corrie ten Boom tells in her book, *The Hiding Place*. It is about an incident that taught her always to be thankful. She and her sister, Betsy, had just been transferred to the worst German prison camp they had seen, Ravensbruck. On entering the barracks, they found them extremely crowded and flea-infested.

That morning their scripture reading from 1 Thessalonians had reminded them to rejoice always, pray constantly, and give thanks in all circumstances. Betsy told Carrie to stop and thank the Lord for every detail of their new living quarters. Corrie at first flatly refused to give thanks for the fleas, but Betsy persisted, and Corrie finally succumbed to her pleadings. During the months spent at that camp, they were surprised to find how openly they could have Bible study and prayer meetings without guard interference. It was not until several months later that they learned the reason the guards would not enter the barracks was because of the fleas!

Give thanks in all circumstances. Really? I don't know about you, but I'm pretty good at giving thanks when circumstances are favorable, when everything in life seems to be going my way, but giving thanks when life gets really tough, when the hurts are immense, well I don't know if I'm capable of giving thanks during those times. No way am I going to thanks for fleas. Yet there is something about this passage from 1 Thessalonians that is so compelling. The letter was written by Paul who certainly had his share of difficult circumstances. Through imprisonments, beatings and shipwrecks, he could still write to his friends at Philippi, "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say rejoice. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God."

So does this mean that we are to thank God for the crazy driver who cuts us off on the Beltway? Should we be thankful to God for being let go from the company after many years of faithful service? Should we be thankful to God for a friend battling cancer? I don't think so. I think it means that we are called to be thankful, especially during tough times, for that chance to learn more about patience, humility, forgiveness, and to experience the love of God, and the love of God's people.

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." – 1 Thessalonians 5:16-17

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Thomas A. Omholt

*Saved by God's grace, and nourished through Word and Sacrament, we, the community of believers at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, are Sent by the Holy Spirit to Share the Good News and Serve our neighbors following the example of Jesus Christ. (St. Paul's Lutheran Church Mission Statement)*

**Welcome to the St. Paul's Trumpet,  
A publication of St. Paul's  
Lutheran Church.**

Additional information is available on the church website at [www.stpaulslutherandc.com](http://www.stpaulslutherandc.com). St. Paul's also publishes a weekly email update – E-news. If you would like to receive the weekly E-news, please contact Joy Belew ([joyb@stpaulslutherandc.com](mailto:joyb@stpaulslutherandc.com))

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**Prayer List**



**Please Keep In Your Prayers . . .**

Lois Leland

Chuck Maata

Bill Jackson

Grace Yin

Barb Pitts

Carol Pihlstrom

Gloria Stuart

Judy Gorman

Jean Fetzer

David Cox

Ralph Benson

Dallas Dean

Richard Mattick

Ellyn Martin

Cheryl Morning and her mother Shirley

Christians and all people of faith who are  
persecuted throughout the World.



Capital Campaign Update



Currently, we have received commitments from 81 people for a total of \$396,916!

**THANK YOU** to those who have committed but *we want to hear from EVERYONE!* *There's still time to support the project, and we'd love to hear from you!*

If you have questions about the project, please contact Mike Charlton, Campaign Chair, at charlton46@aol.com.



**Weekly Quotes From Martin Luther**

*"I cannot choose but adhere to the word of God, which has possession of my conscience; nor can I possibly, nor will I even make any recantation,*

*since it is neither safe nor honest to act contrary to conscience! Here I stand; I cannot do otherwise, so help me God! Amen."*

*"The best way to drive out the devil, if he will not yield to texts of Scripture, is to jeer and flout him, for he cannot bear scorn."*

*"The gospel cannot be truly preached without offense and tumult."*

*"And though this world with devils filled, Should threaten to undo us, we will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to triumph through us."*

**St. Paul's is Celebrating with a High-Five for 175!**



**November 19<sup>th</sup> Stewardship Sunday**

In 2018, St. Paul's will celebrate its 175th anniversary! Our stewardship theme for this special year is **"High - Five for 175!"** **God's Work. Our Hands. Giving in Gratitude.** We are celebrating St. Paul's past and our ministry for the future. Please complete a time and talent form and pledge card. They are located in the narthex and portico and everyone should have received the material in the mail as well. Please remember that your commitment for 2018 is in addition to your generous commitment to the Capital Campaign.



**On October 22nd** during the 11 am service, we welcomed to the Lord's table for the first time: Caroline Conway, Gretchen Cartwright, Ethan

Hershey, Lili Sancho, Leo Sancho, Van Harlee, Jackson Higbee, Grant Higbee, Charlotte Whatley, Ellen Huskey and Sophie Miller.

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**A New Church Directory is Coming!**



**WE NEED YOU**  
to make our new family directory complete

Thank you to everyone who participated by getting their pictures taken for the photo

directory! If you were unable to make one of the sessions here at the church, you can contact Lifetouch directly at 1-866-756-0281, and they can tell you alternate places in our area where you can have a make-up photo taken. Please give them the account number of St. Paul's (257272) when you call.

If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Wackler at [lwackler@stpaulslutherandc.com](mailto:lwackler@stpaulslutherandc.com)

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**New Members**

On Sunday October 15<sup>th</sup>, we welcomed Bailey Pendergast, Laura DeNardis, Deborah Smith, Benjamin Creutzfeldt, and Joseph Jones (not shown) as new members into the life and ministry of St. Paul's.

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**Life Passages**

**Baptism: October 29, 2017**

Vanne Victoria Wittmann was baptized during the 11 am worship service. Vanne was born on August 11, 2017 and is the daughter of Blake & Holly Wittmann.

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**Annual Thanksgiving Eve Service**

**Wednesday, November 22nd at 7 pm**

On Thanksgiving Eve, this Wednesday, November 22nd at 7 pm, members and friends will gather in the chancel of St. Paul's to give thanks to God for all His many blessings. Please join us!

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**Hanging of the Greens**

**Saturday, December 2nd at 10 am**

Please join us in the Sanctuary on Saturday, December 2nd at 10 am for fun, fellowship and refreshments! We will deck St. Paul's in all its Christmas Trimmings, tree and wreaths, garlands and bows, pine cones and holly berries. Light refreshments will be available. All are welcome!

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**St. Paul's Youth Choir**

The youth choir continues to invite young people to come and sing with them on Sundays for a 45 minute rehearsal following the 11:00 am worship service. Singing in this group is a wonderful opportunity to learn basic vocal technique and explore some great music. Come and be a part of discovering a very special way of making a joyful noise!

For information contact: Marcia Perez at 301 580 8021.

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## Advent Begins Sunday, December 3rd!



Christmas will be here soon, so don't forget to take time to enjoy the special season of anticipation that is Advent. Advent is the special time leading up

to Christmas as we ponder what God promised to us: That we would be sent Jesus, to live among us and be our Savior. The **Advent Workshop** is November 19th, during the Sunday School hour. Please join us as we make a kid-friendly Advent craft, make cards for our college students, and have the opportunity to pick up the supplies to make our "Countdown to Christmas Chains." There will also be a chance for families to make an Advent wreath for their home! Our **College Advent Care Packages** are always a big hit with our parishioners who are away at college. Parents of college students should notify the church office of their child's school address if they haven't already done so, because we don't want them to miss out! And if anyone wants to contribute boxes of pre-packaged snacks, candy/gum/mints, powdered drink mixes, or other small seasonal items for the packages, (or if you'd like to contribute money for the purchase of these items), please let Lisa Wackler know at [lwackler@stpaulslutherandc.com](mailto:lwackler@stpaulslutherandc.com). Finally, **Mar-Lu-Ridge Camp and Conference Center** is having an **Advent Family Gathering** on Sunday, December 3rd, 1:00—4:00 p.m. Bring your family and friends and start a new tradition! Enjoy the warmth of Mar-Lu-Ridge's woodstoves and campfires, create some holiday crafts for your home, make a beautiful wreath with greens from the property and enjoy fellowship over a delicious meal at MLR's Agape Hall. (Note: Please bring your own wire and wire wreath frames; all other supplies included in the cost.) The cost is \$7/adult - \$3/youth ages 3-11 - Children under 3 are free. Please RSVP by December 1<sup>st</sup>: [mlr@mar-lu-ridge.org](mailto:mlr@mar-lu-ridge.org) or by phone: (800) 238-9974.



## Sewing Help Needed for the Annual Christmas Pageant

The children's Christmas pageant is only a few weeks away. Our costumes have served us well for many years - and a few years too many in some cases. We have fabric and patterns and are looking for some helping hands to start sewing. Angels, Mary, Joseph, shepherds, townsfolk and wise men all need some uplift. Please let us know questions or if you are interested - you can contact Christi Barnhart ([christilew@hotmail.com](mailto:christilew@hotmail.com)) or Amy Moorhus Baumgardner ([amy.mbaumgardner@yahoo.com](mailto:amy.mbaumgardner@yahoo.com) or on her cell phone - 301.602.4729)

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## Lutherans Love Their Coffee



### *This is Most Certainly Brew!*

Just in time for the Reformation's 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, St. Paul's has received a shipment of coffee mugs commemorating this important event! Your morning cup is going to taste even better in this limited-edition 17-oz. mug, which can be yours for a minimum \$10 donation. They make great Christmas Gifts! Buy one for yourself, buy one for a friend, and toast the 500<sup>th</sup> with a steaming hot cup of joe! For more information, or to purchase a mug, please contact Lisa Wackler at [lwackler@stpaulslutherandc.com](mailto:lwackler@stpaulslutherandc.com).

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### Gifts of Hope

Gifts of Hope is our Synod's alternative gift giving program which enables people to give gifts

that reflect the gift God gave us, God's Son Jesus Christ. Please consider substituting a Gift of Hope for a more traditional gift on your list for friends and family, or supplementing those other gifts with a donation that will lighten the lives of others this Christmas season.

This program gives anyone the opportunity to purchase a practical gift to help our brothers and sisters in the DC area and around the world. Real challenges of homelessness and poverty continue to grow in our community, and there are needs across the globe that call for our attention. With Gifts of Hope, you will have the opportunity to choose from a group of Lutheran social ministry organizations, camps, and our synod's companion synods abroad to directly support their mission and programs. Many children in the Washington area and throughout the world have benefited from Gifts of Hope by receiving books, camp scholarships, free lunches, and educational trips. Social ministry organizations, Lutheran camps, and Lutheran Churches in El Salvador, Namibia and Slovakia have also benefited from Gifts of Hope.

Beginning on Sunday, December 3, you can make a monetary contribution in honor of those on your gift list. Your contribution goes to the beneficiary organization to purchase the gifts you have selected. View all the beneficiary organizations on the back of the catalog or on the web at <http://www.giftsofhopedc.org/beneficiary-organizations/>

Gifts of Hope catalogs will be available in our congregation on November 26. Watch for the display after each service beginning December 3 and ending December 24 in St. Paul's narthex. You can review the gifts, fill out an order form, and purchase your gifts. You will receive a beautiful card and insert to use as the gift. For more information about Gifts of Hope see the web site, <http://www.giftsofhopedc.org> or contact Rebecca Highsmith at 202.309.2812 or [highsmithr@starpower.net](mailto:highsmithr@starpower.net) or Drew Morrison at [drew.e.morrison@gmail.com](mailto:drew.e.morrison@gmail.com).

### Prime Time Center (PTC)



The Prime Time Center gathers every Wednesday between 11:00 am - 2:00 pm for fun and fellowship. The programming begins with an **entertainment, lecture, or information session from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm followed by a delicious lunch from 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm. Immediately after lunch the group participates in an active hour of exercise** that is led by an excellent instructor, Ann, who has become an important part of the PTC community.

### November 22

Dr. Robert Jenner – "The Building of the Erie Canal"



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**St. Paul's Celebrates  
175 Years!**

In 2018, the  
Congregation of St.  
Paul's will be celebrating  
its 175th Birthday!



We are currently looking for people who might be interested in serving on a committee to help plan the celebration. Interested? Please let Lisa Wackler know at lwackler@stpaulslutherandc.com.

And as you come across pictures from your own time at St. Paul's, please share those with us, so we can include them on our website, Facebook page, Twitter feed, and in displays around the church. If your pictures are hard copies, we will scan them and return them to you.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Lisa or Joy in the Church Office.

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**Volunteers Needed to Assist Thrive DC**



Thrive DC is a local organization that works to prevent and end homelessness in Washington, DC by providing vulnerable people with a wide range of services to help stabilize their lives. They are looking ahead to the holidays, and looking for people who might be able to help out during that time.

Specifically, they are looking for people high school age and older who would be willing to come to their location one morning either the time period of 12/26-12/29 or 1/2-1/5 (7:30 am--11:30 am), and greet the clients as they arrive and take their names, help prepare and serve breakfast, coordinate the shower schedule, serve coffee, and hand out toiletries.

If you are interested in signing up or have any questions, please contact Lisa Wackler at lwackler@stpaulslutherandc.com.

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**Church Council**

Council members welcome your phone calls and emails.

**President, Beth Van Hanswyk**  
202-669-1652  
bvanhanswyk@yahoo.com

**Melissa Brown** – 301-312-6059  
mbafrica@aol.com

**Mike Charlton** – 202-415-4347  
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**Jane Cramer** – 301-946-2996  
Jlcramer52@gmail.com

**Bill Heffley** – 301-942-0892  
bheffley@verizon.net

**Sue Hollar** – 202-966-2009  
sueanddave@hollar.us

**Karen Ostergren** – 972-658-2675  
karenostergren@gmail.com

**Vacant**

**Nancy Shearer** – 301-770-3834  
nancykshearer@aol.com

**Mihkel Smit** -309-310-9021  
Smit.mi03@luther.edu

**Richard Wake** – 605-691-2244  
Wakes231@yahoo.com

**Pam Wannan** – 202-454-6700  
Pam@wannan.com

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**Ministry Chairs**

**Education Ministry**

Liz Rihani – 202-667-9110  
lizrihani@gmail.com

**Evangelism Ministry**

VACANT

**Social Ministry**

Emily Foley – 717-756-9896  
emilywfoley@gmail.com

**Stewardship Ministry**

James Carstensen – 202-225-4772  
jamescarstensen@yahoo.com

**Support Ministry/Personnel**

Joan Janshego – 202-966-4721  
joanjanshego@verizon.net

**Support Ministry/Property**

VACANT

**Worship Ministry**

Karen Leigh Campbell – 703-508-2492  
dirhtss@gmail.com

**CHRISTMAS  
POINSETTIAS**



Help beautify St. Paul's  
Chancel and Altar  
this Christmas Season.

*Plants are \$14.50 each.*

To order, please complete the form below and  
return it to Joy Belew in the Church office  
(joyb@stpaulslutherandc.com).

Please order \_\_\_\_\_ poinsettias at \$14.50  
each.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

will pick up after later service.

will leave for shut-ins.

Attached please find the amount of \_\_\_\_\_

Env. # \_\_\_\_\_



St. Paul's Podcasts are available online at  
<https://soundcloud.com/stpaulsdc>

St. Paul's Monthly Newsletter, *The Trumpet*  
Managing Editor, Joy Belew

If you have information you wish to have included  
in an issue, please send your submission to Joy by  
the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month.  
joyb@stpaulslutherandc.com



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