



# St. Paul's Lutheran Church

## The Trumpet

### July 2019

## Stewards of Community Life

*When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars that you have established;  
what are human beings that you are mindful of them,  
mortals that you care for them?*

Psalm 8:3-4

The most recent chapter of St. Paul's transition is marked by the renewal of "the DC parsonage" to prepare a place for a new pastor to live. Latest in a series of decisions about congregational assets, St. Paul's is carefully researching options as it stewards this particular resource for the congregation and especially its next pastor. The congregation's hope and expectation is that this parsonage will help St. Paul's connect and communicate with the neighborhood and DC community in general.

An often overlooked asset is the information we have for members and friends of the congregation, kept in our database. This information is crucial for helping a pastor tend to community life, communicate in a timely way, and more. Much of this information was carefully collected in the pastoral memory of Pastor Tom, but for us newcomers, trying to get to know St. Paul's community, it is an all important tool.

And so this summer season, we will be reaching out to our members asking for you to help us update and correct gaps or errors in the information we have for members. God regards us, is mindful of us, and knows us better than we ourselves. We want to know birth and baptismal dates, as well as other information that helps the pastor and staff know you better.

My goal is to not only know you better myself, but to update this information for the sake of the new pastor. She or he will appreciate you taking the time to improve the quality and quantity of what we know. God cares about these details and so do we!

Yours in Christ,  
John R. Spangler, Interim Pastor

**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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**We pray for those who are sick or  
suffering in any way, especially;**

- Carolyn Denison
- The Rademacher Family
- Donna Hershey
- Susan Russo
- Howard Mattick
- Ellen Cohen
- Lois Leland
- Bill Jackson
- Grace Yin
- Gloria Stuart
- Ralph Benson



**TO OUR**

**NEWEST MEMBERS!!!!**

**On June 16th**, Cynthia Jensen, Jacqueline Lainez Flanagan and Declan Flanagan became members of St. Paul's.

**On June 23<sup>rd</sup>**, we baptized Cassidy Jacklyn Telleen. Cassidy was born on March 24, 2019 and is the daughter of Amber and Paul Telleen. Her sponsors are Katherine and John Stebe.

Please welcome the newest members of St. Paul's!



## Survey Results and Finalization of St. Paul's Ministry Site Profile

*By the Transition Team*

*The Transition Team would like to thank the congregation for all of their help and contributions to create the Ministry Site Profile (MSP) this spring! In addition to the Table Talks and Portico bulletin board information exchange, 118 members took the Holy Cow survey in May, which further revealed the traits and characteristics St. Paul's is looking for in its new leader.*

The Transition Team noted that the survey confirmed many of the insights that the Team had already heard from the congregation. What we heard was consistent across our listening activities. During a debrief of the survey with the survey administrator, the Council, Transition Team, and Call Committee learned that St. Paul's is a *paraclete* congregation. Greek in origin, and derived from the words "para" (beside/alongside) and "kalein" (to call), the word *paraclete* means advocate or helper. Knowing all of the good works that St. Paul's does within its walls and in the community-at-large, the group felt that the term *paraclete* was a fitting description of our congregation.

The survey also revealed that a majority of people are happy with the overall direction the church is going. In particular, people tend to feel that:

- The whole spirit in our congregation makes people want to get as involved as possible.
- In important decisions in our church, adequate opportunity for consideration of different approaches is usually provided.
- Problems between groups in this church are usually resolved through mutual effort.
- Persons who serve as leaders in our church are representative of the membership.
- Our church does a good job helping each member understand that he or she is called to ministry.

In addition, as we look to the future, members prioritized the following four goals for St. Paul's:

- Develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to reach new people and incorporate them into the life of the church.
- Develop the spiritual generosity of the people to financially support the ministry of the church.
- Create more opportunities for people to form meaningful relationships (for example, small groups, nurtured friendships, shared meals, etc).
- Make necessary changes to attract families with children and youth to our church.

And, in comparison to other churches, the following three goals were unusually strong for St. Paul's:

- Create more opportunities for people to form meaningful relationships (for example, small groups, nurtured friendships, shared meals, etc).
- Develop the spiritual generosity of the people to financially support the ministry of the church.
- Adapt the opportunities provided by the church making them more accessible given the pace and schedule of my life. (i.e. online education, early morning classes, lunch discussions)

After reviewing the survey results, the Transition Team took the survey data, Table Talk responses, and comments from the Portico bulletin board exercise to finalize the MSP. The MSP is the document that pastoral candidates will read as they decide whether or not to be open to a call process with St. Paul's. The MSP was approved by the Church Council in June, and will be published on the ELCA website for candidates to review soon. The Call Committee will then take over, and begin to evaluate the candidates that have felt called to respond to the MSP.

Again, the Transition Team would like to thank you for all of your help with the work of creating the MSP. Together we produced great insights on where we want to go as a congregation in the future, and we can't wait to get started with our new leader!

For those who would like to see the full survey results, or a copy of the profile (MSP) we will provide copies upon request. Contact Joy in the church office if you are interested.



## The Spirit's Work Among Us

As of the June 24th meeting of the congregation's council, we have a Call Committee! Named were eight people: **Peter Guerber, Donna Hershey, Sue Hollar (Chair), Jeff Koch, Bruce Morrison, Liz Rihani, Jason Stonerook, and Caitlyn Thistle.** Yet to be determined is that two of the eight will be alternates.

When Bishop-elect Ortiz was with us last Sunday, she reminded the council that names or ordained leaders may be suggested for consideration for the pastoral search. But the first step is always to send that name to the Synod office so that ELCA protocols can be followed. It is proper for there to be consultation with the bishop of the synod where a pastoral leader is currently serving before inquiring about their interest in a change of call. When in doubt, be in touch with Kate Belinski or me on this matter and we can help facilitate the suggestion.

These able representatives will be doing the work on behalf of St. Paul's and will be required to not reveal or talk about any candidates with whom they are in conversation. The process requires a strict confidentiality.

The Council endorsed the ministry site profile for St. Paul's and that has now been sent to the Metro DC ELCA synod for review.

In the meantime, prayers are in order for the Holy Spirit's work among us, and especially among the Call committee and council.

*John R. Spangler, Interim Pastor*



## Report from the Special Congregational Meeting

The congregation met on Sunday, June 16th, and approved the following resolution:

*The Congregation of St. Paul's authorizes the renovation of the DC parsonage to repair deferred maintenance and to make strategic improvements as outlined in Option 1 of the Housing Component Options sheet (printed below), at an expenditure not to exceed \$325,000.*

### From the Housing Component Options handout -

1. Fully Renovate DC Parsonage: Investment in renovation to cover deferred maintenance (\$150,000) and modest update (\$140,000) that would provide more livable quarters for the prospective pastor. If it turns out not to be a fit for the pastor and family, the entire cost of the renovation could be captured in the sale of the parsonage.



### Altar Flowers

#### Donors Needed for Altar Flowers

There are several dates available to donate altar flowers. The cost of the flowers is \$65. Flowers can be donated in memory of a loved one, in honor of someone's special event, or in thanksgiving for something special to you. **Dates available: July 21st and 28th and all Sundays in August and September.** Please contact Joy Belew (joyb@stpaulslutherandc.com) to reserve a date. Thank you.



## Prime Time Center @ St. Paul's Prime Time Center

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 seated exercise. All are welcome to come and enjoy the fellowship!  
Contact: Deaconess Cassie Brown. (cbrown@stpaulslutherandc.com)

### Upcoming Schedule:

#### July 17, 2019

Activities-to-Go  
"Salute to America" **AND** 1:00pm – 2:00pm – Jerry Roman  
"The Piano Man" (in place of exercise)

#### July 24, 2019

Dr. Robert Jenner - "Mrs. Trollop's Visit to America"

#### July 31, 2019

Peter Burroughs - Vocalist – Opera Performance

### **FREE Air Conditioners - First come, first served**

Two window A/C units available for free!

- Kenmore - 5,200 BTU
- Electrolux - 6,000 BTU

Contact Joy Belew at joyb@stpaulslutherandc.com if interested!





# Social Ministry

**Six Sundays of Summer Service Continues**  
The Social Ministry Committee is busy sharing some summer sunshine with those in need!

- **June 30:** Arranged flower bouquets for senior citizens
- **July 7:** Filled welcome bags to give SPLC visitors

Upcoming Sundays:

- **July 14:** Lunch and Lutheran Immigration Services (LIRS) presentation by Pastor Spangler's daughter, Marta, who works for LIRS.
- **July 21:** Fill backpacks with school supplies for DCPS students
- **July 28:** Decorate reusable shopping bags for food pantry patrons
- **August 5:** TBD!

If you have any questions or would like to make a monetary donation to offset the cost of supplies, please contact Emily Foley at [emilywfoley@gmail.com](mailto:emilywfoley@gmail.com) or Lisa Wackler at [lwackler@stpaulslutherandc.com](mailto:lwackler@stpaulslutherandc.com).

## Family invitation to a Memorial Service for Ed Copeland

There will be a celebration of the life of Edmund Sargent Copeland, a former member of St. Paul's, on July 27th at 10 am in Epiphany Chapel. Ed passed away on May 20th in Charlottesville, Virginia and his son, Jon and daughter, Tina felt it would be fitting to hold his memorial at St. Paul's where he helped shape them during their formative years. **For More information or to RSVP – Call or text Tina Shaw at 612-356-4451**



## School Supply

### Collection!

As part of the Six Sundays of Summer Service, we're collecting school supplies for DCPS students through July 21.

Our goal is to collect 10 backpacks (basic - gender neutral) and fill each with:

- 1 box of crayons
  - 1 box of markers or colored pencils
  - 12 #2 pencils
  - 6 pens (blue or black ink)
  - 2 big glue sticks
  - 1 1.5" 3-Ring Binder
  - 2 packs loose leaf paper
  - 1 pack graph paper
  - 1 pack of dividers (at least 6)
  - four 2-pocket folders
  - 1 pair of scissors
  - 2 large erasers
  - 2 highlighters
  - 1 pack of white 3x5 ruled index cards
  - 2 spiral wire-bound notebooks
  - 2 marble composition notebooks
  - 1 compass
  - 1 ruler (inches and centimeters)
  - 1 graphing calculator (see note)
- (NOTE: Basic graphing calculators are fairly expensive. Please consider donating a gently-used, fully operational calculator if you do not wish to purchase.)

Please place donations in the baskets in the Narthex and Portico. If you have any questions or would like to make a monetary donation that we can use to buy supplies, please contact Emily Foley ([emilywfoley@gmail.com](mailto:emilywfoley@gmail.com)) or Lisa Wackler ([lwackler@stpaulslutherandc.com](mailto:lwackler@stpaulslutherandc.com)).

## Update On St. Paul's Shelter

St. Paul's Lutheran Church continues its commitment to ministry for and with persons experiencing homelessness and remains actively supportive of the long-term mission to address the need for short term, transitional housing in DC. You may recall that last fall, we announced the shelter would be closing temporarily and would likely reopen in the future using a new model based on peer support. That decision was put on hold when it became clear that the current residents would not be able to find suitable long-term housing before the cold winter.

Since that time, the church staff has been working diligently with the current residents to be more closely connected to Friendship Place services staff, encouraged and supported in working toward finding appropriate housing. The St. Paul's shelter was never intended to be long-term housing, and there is much evidence that long-term stays in shelters can have significant negative impacts on the residents and may even impede their ability to find suitable housing.

In order move forward with the plan to reassess its structure for short term shelter for homeless persons, **the congregation's Council decided to close the current shelter on July 31, 2019.** This date provides time for current residents to plan for more permanent housing or alternative short-term shelter with the help of Friendship Place.

We will continue to support and assist the residents during this transition, and we ask the congregation to keep the men in your prayers.

If you are interested in participating in the reassessment of our ministry with homeless persons, please give your name to Joy Belew in the church office @ [office@stpaulslutherandc.com](mailto:office@stpaulslutherandc.com) or by phone.

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## ROARING FUN at VBS 2019











### Pastor Spangler's Upcoming Schedule

Pastor Spangler will be on vacation from July 15<sup>th</sup> until July 27<sup>th</sup>. During his absence, please contact Deaconess Cassie Brown with any pastoral concerns. She can be reached through the church office (202-966-5489), by email (cbrown@stpaulslutherandc.com) or after hours on her cell phone (703-798-7499).



### Family Campfire Night

Saturday, July 20th 6:30 - 8:30 pm

*The story isn't over...*



Hungry for more stories of God's love for you and your kids? Mark your calendar to join us for food, friends, bible stories, a campfire and even s'mores!

RSVP to Lisa Wackler  
[lwackler@stpaulslutherandc.com](mailto:lwackler@stpaulslutherandc.com)



**Save the Date!!!**  
**September 27th**  
**St. Paul's Going to Nats' Park!**



**More details coming soon!**



## CHURCH COUNCIL

Council members welcome your phone calls and emails.

**President, Kate Belinski** – 202-285-5599  
Kate.belinski@gmail.com

**James Carstensen** – 202-802-0479  
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lizrihani@gmail.com

### Evangelism Ministry

VACANT

### Social Ministry

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### Stewardship Ministry

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charlton46@aol.com

### Support Ministry/Personnel

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

### Support Ministry/Property

Vacant

### Worship Ministry

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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  
at [joyb@stpaulslutherandc.com](mailto:joyb@stpaulslutherandc.com)



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