



The St. Paul's Beacon

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
16457 Old Frederick Road,
Mt. Airy, MD. 21771 (410-489-4411)

April 2016

Rector's Reflection

Happy and Blessed Easter!

How wonderful it is to say Happy Easter! For thousands of years Christians have celebrated Christ's Resurrection. Our faith is not locked in the 1st century, nor the 15th or even the 21st century. Even a 100 years from now the Good News will be the same – Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

Ours is a living faith! It is not a tradition locked in a tomb. The Good News is always wonderful, surprising and a welcome word. An Easter sermon I heard long ago was entitled "He's Back". The essence of the message was that God is always surprising us! The day of resurrection was a great surprise as those first disciples learned that nothing, not even death, could hold back the Good News in Christ. Our message will always reach those in need to know God's power, mercy and love.

I have been privileged this year to see how our message continues to reach new people and change lives. These have been people who are seeking. They want to know more, they want to know the message of love of God for all in Christ Jesus. Their lives have been transformed because nothing is greater than God's love, not death, despair, anger, cynicism or fear.

A very meaningful Easter story is of the disciples on the road to Emmaus. (Luke Chapter 24: 13-35). They were transformed as their eyes were opened in the breaking of bread with Christ. We also bring the presence of Christ to others, and help to bring God's love.

This year, as we celebrate, let us remember all those who have found hope, love and joy in the Easter message. This year let us rejoice in the redeeming work of our Savior.

~ Alleluia Christ is Risen!

Your Sister in Christ,
The Rev. Susan S. Keller+

Mark Your Calendars

Sundays 9:30 a.m. Spiritual Formation "A Journey with Luke"

Wednesday, April 13,
10:00 a.m. Pastoral Care Meeting

Thursday, ~ April 7, & 21,
5:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Meeting

Thursday, ~ April 21,
6:30 p.m. Vestry Meeting

Fridays 7:00-7:45 p.m.
Prayers in Evening.

All Welcome!

Episcopal Bishops Issue A Word to the Church

March 16, 2016

The House of Bishops of The Episcopal Church, meeting in retreat, unanimously approved the following Word To The Church.

A Word To The Church ~ Holy Week 2016

“We reject the idolatrous notion that we can ensure the safety of some by sacrificing the hopes of others.”

On Good Friday the ruling political forces of the day tortured and executed an innocent man. They sacrificed the weak and the blameless to protect their own status and power. On the third day Jesus was raised from the dead, revealing not only their injustice but also unmasking the lie that might makes right.

In a country still living under the shadow of the lynching tree, we are troubled by the violent forces being released by this season’s political rhetoric. Americans are turning against their neighbors, particularly those on the margins of society. They seek to secure their own safety and security at the expense of others. There is legitimate reason to fear where this rhetoric and the actions arising from it might take us.

In this moment, we resemble God’s children wandering in the wilderness. We, like they, are struggling to find our way. They turned from following God and worshiped a golden calf constructed from their own wealth. The current rhetoric is leading us to construct a modern false idol out of power and privilege. We reject the idolatrous notion that we can ensure the safety of some by sacrificing the hopes of others. No matter where we fall on the political spectrum, we must respect the dignity of every human being and we must seek the common good above all else.

We call for prayer for our country that a spirit of reconciliation will prevail and we will not betray our true selves.

The Episcopal Church House of Bishops met in retreat March 11 – 15 at Camp Allen Conference Center in Navasota, TX.

The Armor of Light: *The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore, let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.* Romans 13:12

On behalf of the diocesan, **Reclaiming the Gospel of Peace** committee, thank you St. Paul’s for hosting the documentary, The Armor of Light. We greatly appreciate Rev. Susan’s immediate “yes” (not all asked, said yes) her leadership and her courage. Servant leadership is not easy, especially when there are no easy answers to the complex challenges depicted in the film. Likewise, I am grateful for Bill Toole’s enthusiastic willingness to facilitate a discussion of the difficult issues raised in “Armor.” One of Bill’s colleagues describes him as always being on the money. It was evident he had done his homework and was well prepared to lead and to teach. Of course, Linda Barnes never disappoints and her hospitality kept all happy and well fed. I was amazed and very surprised to learn that Nancy McIntosh - with a little help from Pete - had made black-out curtains for the occasion (and future use). There are just not any adequate words for Nancy and Pete who are always on top of any situation or problem. Without fan-fare, Stephen Jones set up the video equipment and made sure it was working. Focused and effective are two words that come to mind when I picture Stephen. Last, but not least, my heartfelt thanks to all who attended. With our busy lives, it is not easy to give up a Saturday to engage in a difficult and hard conversation. Not a pleasant task. However your courage and sensitivity enabled honest, respectful dialogue. Thank you all. Thank you very much.



Stephen Ministry Update

St. Paul's has four trained Stephen Ministers who meet twice a month to review and continue their ongoing education.



If you, or someone you know, could benefit from talking through a difficult situation, we are here to listen. We can meet with you at your home or a neutral area over a cup of coffee/tea. (This would be totally confidential. Your identity and conversations would never be disclosed). The Stephen Ministers are available to all parishioners, their families and friends.

We are just a phone call away. Please call Rev. Susan at 301-785-1687. She will then assign a minister who best aligns with the needs of the care receiver. Male to male and female to female assignments will be arranged.

“We are each of us angels with only one wing, and we can fly only when embracing one another.” Luciano de Crescenzo

Welcome to Spring!! Or at least close to it. Please remember the **Helping Hands outreach** team is ready to help you. Please let one of the team members know where you can use some help or call Dick Wilcher at his home at 301-829-3908 and we will schedule a time to help you.

Attention: Please let the church office know of anyone graduating from high school, college, tech school, military, etc. We would like their information, so it can be published in the newsletter.

Thank You, Thank You to all who helped with the following:

- Rev. Susan for leading **Lent Madness**. We learned about saints from ancient times to modern day.
- Suzanne Bourg for coordinating the Lenten dinners and for all the cooks who

made the soup, bread and desserts. The food was delicious.

- The Altar Guild for preparing the palm for Palm Sunday, all the preparation for Holy Week and for the beautification of St. Paul's for Easter.
- Our organist, Anthony Edwards, and choir for the lovely music on Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter.
- All who donated monies for the palms and Easter flowers.
- All lectors, ushers, chalicists, acolytes and congregants for their participation for the Holy Week services.
- And all who bring food on Easter for our fellowship and refreshment.

All you did is greatly appreciated!

Please continue to save the following:

* Beverage can pull tabs. These tabs are given to the Baltimore Shriners and they receive .50 a pound, which equals 1,450 tabs. All money is given to Shriners' Hospitals where children – regardless of race, color or creed are treated free of charge for severe burns, orthopedic problems and spinal cord injuries.

*Campbell's product labels and Box Tops for Education. The Box Tops for Education are found on General Mills and other products. Please be sure the coupon shows an expiration date. When labels and coupons are turned in, the school receives books, supplies and equipment. Barbara Champion saves these items for her school and I save them for my great niece and nephew's schools.

On the table in the parish hall, there is a plastic container where you can leave everything. Any questions see or call Linda Barnes at 443-604-3402. Many thanks for your help. It is greatly appreciated!
Linda Barnes

Happy Birthday To:

Christina Keller April 03
Kathleen Alexander April 07
Phyllis Heffner April 12



Happy Anniversary To:

Kathy & Bill Audia April 11
Greg & Celeste Humphreys April 20
Jeff & Holly Spaulding April 22
Al & Pat Marquis April 28

Prayer List

Paul Bourg
Trudi Lawson
Dave Lawson
Dallas Reeve
Michael Toole
Keith Prentice
Phyllis Heffner
Doris Sharp
Bill Winebrunner
Joannie Lee
Kurt VonHurst
Allene VonHurst
Al Parker
Craig Johnson
Joanne Johnson
Jeffrey Johnson
Lora Hollands
Pam Sherfey
Debbie Gardner
Ann Boyles
Sandra & Stanley Napier
Irene Hordubay
Cheryl Kibler
Beth Husted
Lynn Carr
Allison Poleger
Sam Lucas



John Lucas
Mary Wales-North
The Horrigan Family
Teresa
Carey, Kathleen McIntosh
Patsy Mavity
Donna Shurney
Kaye Rineer
Belinda Blizzard
Janice Esler
Matt Willingham
Susie Gibson
Mildred Stinebaugh
Eric McIntosh
Andrew Oberle
Joey
Herb & Mary Jo Grabau
John Tuel
Delphine Koval
John Belous
Bill Aaron
Albert Hutchison
Richard Heffner
Katherine Gilbeertz
Ryan Merton
Betty Fritzges
Le Anne Stallings
Kathleen Rumble
Nancy McIntosh
Ginny Triplett
Marie Cagle
Helen Fenton
Jim Harry
Dottie Streaker
Brian Thompson
James Anthony
Thomas Stevens
Joan Selden
Jan Huntley Phelps
Marilyn Embrey
Joe Goins
Ayana Fenton

Please help us keep our
prayer list current.



Upcoming Events

Sundays ~ 9:30 a.m. Spiritual Formation "A Journey With Luke"

Wednesday ~ April 13, 10:00 a.m.
Pastoral Care Meeting

Thursday ~ April 7, & 21, 5:00 p.m.
Stephen Ministry Meetings

Thursday ~ April 21 6:30 p.m.
Vestry Meeting

Every Friday ~ 7:00 p.m.
Prayers in the Evening
All welcome!

Sunday Breakfast

**All you
can eat**



April 10, Lisbon Fire Hall
7:30 a.m. -11:30 a.m.
Adults-\$7.00; Children 6-11
\$4.00; 5 and under free.

April 17, Mt Airy Fire Hall

8:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Adults \$8.00

April 24, St. Michaels Church

8:30 a.m. – Noon Adults \$8.00

Children 5-12 \$4.00.

Under 5 free.

On Mother’s Day, Sunday

May 8th. All women will receive a pack of homemade cookies.

PASTORAL CONCERNS

Pastoral issues and concerns are important to us.

Please contact the Rev. Susan S. Keller, at 301-785-1687 or revssk@yahoo.com.

You may also call the church, 410-489-4411, Monday through Friday, 9:00-12:00.

Parish Email:

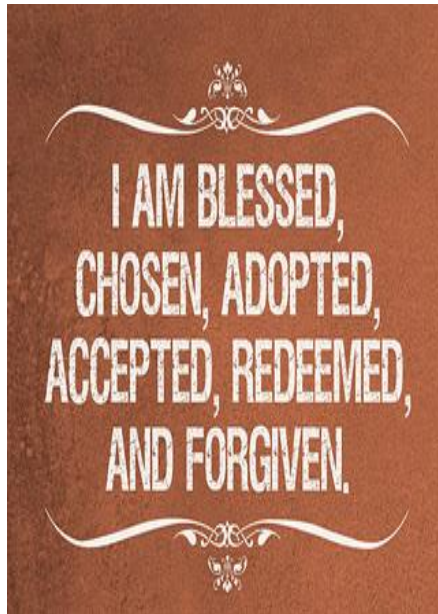
stpaulschurch-mtairy@verizon.net

www.stpaulsmtairy.org



May Newsletter deadline is April 20, 2016.

**St. Paul’s
“A shining
light in the
community.”**



**IT IS IN CHRIST
THAT WE FIND OUT
WHO WE ARE AND
WHAT WE ARE
LIVING FOR.**

EPHESIANS 1:11

Life’s Stuff.

**Learn what
to carry
and
what to let
go of!**

VISION STATEMENT

Our Vision is: A community of faith ministering to those in need of justice, reconciliation, hospitality, sanctuary, and growth in their spiritual journey.

MISSION STATEMENT

Our Mission is: To carry the good news of Jesus Christ into the community by word and deed and to help all people experience God’s presence in their daily lives.

April 2016 ~ Church Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 <u>11:30-3:00</u> Thrift Shop Open	2 <u>11:30-3:00</u> Thrift Shop Open
					<u>7:00 p.m.</u> Evening Prayer	
3 <u>8:00 a.m.</u> Rite I <u>9:30</u> Spiritual Form. <u>10:30 a.m.</u> Rite II	4	5	6	7 <u>11:30-3:00</u> Thrift Shop Open	8 <u>11:30-3:00</u> Thrift Shop Open	9 <u>11:30-3:00</u> Thrift Shop Open
Hospitality Hour following	<i>The Annunciation</i>			<u>5:00 pm</u> Stephen Ministers Meeting	<u>7:00 p.m.</u> Evening Prayer	<i>Dietrich Bonhoeffer</i>
10 <u>8:00 a.m.</u> Rite I <u>9:30</u> Spiritual Form. <u>10:30 a.m.</u> Rite II	11	12	13	14 <u>11:30-3:00</u> Thrift Shop Open	15 <u>11:30-3:00</u> Thrift Shop Open	16 <u>11:30-3:00</u> Thrift Shop Open
Hospitality Hour following	<i>George Augustus Selwyn</i>		<u>10:00am</u> Pastoral Care		<u>7:00 p.m.</u> Evening Prayer	
17 <u>8:00 a.m.</u> Rite I <u>9:30</u> Spiritual Form <u>10:30 a.m.</u> Rite II	18	19	20	21 <u>11:30-3:00</u> Thrift Shop Open	22 <u>11:30-3:00</u> Thrift Shop Open	23 <u>11:30-3:00</u> Thrift Shop Open
Hospitality Hour following		<i>Alphege of Canterbury</i>		<u>5:00 pm</u> Stephen Minister Mt. <u>6:30 p.m.</u> Vestry Mt.		
24 <u>8:00 a.m.</u> Rite I <u>9:30</u> Spiritual Form <u>10:30 a.m.</u> Rite II	25	26	27	28 <u>11:30-3:00</u> Thrift Shop Open	29 <u>11:30-3:00</u> Thrift Shop Open	30 <u>11:30-3:00</u> Thrift Shop Open
Hospitality Hour following	<i>St. Mark</i>				<i>Catherine of Siena</i>	

April 2016 ~ Service Calendar

If you are not able to work, PLEASE find your replacement

	April 3, 2nd Sunday of Easter White		April 10, 3rd Sunday of Easter White		April 17, 4th Sunday of Easter White		April 24, 5th Sunday of Easter White	
	<u>8:00 A.M.</u>	<u>10:30 A.M.</u>	<u>8:00 A.M.</u>	<u>10:30 A.M.</u>	<u>8:00 A.M.</u>	<u>10:30 A.M.</u>	<u>8:00 A.M.</u>	<u>10:30 A.M.</u>
Greeter/ Usher/Oblationer	Greg and Norma Prentice	Dana Fritzges, Linda Sharp	Michelle Samuel, Al Yeater	Linda Sharp,	Pat & Al Marquis	Dana Fritzges, Linda Barnes	Greg & Norma Prentice	Linda Sharp, Carrie Brown
Chalicer	Ron Alexander	Linda Barnes	Leo Campion	Linda Barnes	Jeff Spaulding	Carrie Brown	Leo Campion	Pete McIntosh
Acolyte(s)	Ron Alexander	Linda Barnes	Leo Campion	Linda Barnes	Jeff Spaulding	Carrie Brown	Leo Campion	Pete McIntosh
Lector	Kathleen Alexander	Dorothy Kitt	Charles Samuel	Phyllis Heffner	Kathleen Alexander	Helen Tuel	Irene Hillen	Dorothy Kitt
Psalm	Ron Alexander	Dorothy Kitt	Charles Samuel	Bill Toole	Ron Alexander	John Tuel	Irene Hillen	Nancy McIntosh
Prayers of the People	Carolyn Prentice	Nancy McIntosh	Barb Campion	Bill Toole	Ron Alexander	John Tuel	Irene Hillen	Nancy McIntosh
Altar Guild	Etta Lee Spaulding, Linda Sharp, Pat Marquis		Dana Fritzges, Kathy Audia		Joanne Honsberger, Barb Campion		Suzanne Bourg, Linda Barnes	
Coffee Hour	Dana Fritzges, Irene Hillen		Barb Campion, Doris Wilcher		Dorothy Kitt, Carrie Brown		Phyllis Weston, Lee Hajek	
Counter	Celeste Humphreys, John Tuel		Lynda Sheckels, Etta Lee Spaulding		Irene & Jim Hillen		Lynda Sheckels, Dana Fritzges	