St. Paul United Methodist Church



Newsletter Date October 2024

MESSENGER

"How God Works"

Greetings!

Have you heard of Reformation Day? It is an important day for us Protestants. Protestants are a diverse group of Christians who follow the principles established during the Reformation, with an emphasis on Scripture, faith, and grace.

Reformation Day is a significant day celebrated on October 31st each year. It commemorates the start of the Protestant Reformation in 1517, when Martin Luther, a German monk and theologian, famously nailed his 95 Theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. Luther's theses criticized various practices of the Catholic Church, particularly the sale of indulgences (payments for the reduction of punishment for sins), and called for reforms. His actions sparked a religious movement that eventually led to the division of Western Christianity into Roman Catholicism and the various Protestant denominations. Reformation Day had a significant historical impact. The day is also seen as a reflection on the importance of religious freedom and the right to challenge established religious authorities.

Martin Luther did an excellent and significant job for the Reformation. He was a game-changer. However, even though he had a huge role, it couldn't be done by him alone, other vital elements were involved deeply in making it happen: The discovery of the New World by Columbus, the invention of metal type, and the new cultural movement, the Renaissance.

Columbus discovered the New World in 1492. It was one of the evidence that the Earth was not flat but round, fatally undermining people's belief that the Pope or the Church's teachings were infallible.

Second, the invention of metal types allowed people to get more information faster. When Luther nailed his 95 theses on indulgences to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany, Luther was merely proposing an academic discussion with his students. However, someone quickly printed the thesis and distributed it everywhere. Within a month, the story had reached the major cities of Europe, and regardless of Luther's original intentions, he was on his way to becoming the Reformation's most famous reformer.

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DATES TO REMEMBER:

- October 6th—Community Revival Fair
- October 17th—SPUMC Church Conference
- October 24th—Healing Service
- October 26th—SPUMC Trunk or Treat

ST. PAUL UMC VISION STATEMENT

"St. Paul United Methodist Church is a Christ-Centered family that offers H.O.P.E., by responding to God's love and grace as Christian disciples"





The most important historical context that made the Reformation possible was the new cultural movement we call the Renaissance, which, along with a new understanding of humanity, brought with it a deep interest in classical literature, especially Greek literature. The study of the Greek language led to many people studying the original biblical texts written in Greek. This was in 1516, a year before the Reformation Day. From the reading of the biblical text in Greek, people learned how many mistranslations had been made in the Latin Bible, which people had been using uncritically, and that doctrines like purgatory and indulgences, which the medieval church had emphasized so heavily, were nowhere to be found in the Bible, causing the authority of the pope and the medieval church to rapidly crumble. It was also Luther's study of the Greek Bible, published by Erasmus, that led him to rediscover the Christian Gospel. Therefore, Martin Luther could distinguish the Reformation from the teachings of Rome: Sola Scriptura (Scripture alone), Solus Christus (Christ alone), Sola Fide (faith alone), Sola Gratia (grace alone), and Soli Deo Gloria (glory to God alone).

Now, We live in 2024, and our lives as believers are the fruits of this Spiritual reformation and historic event of 507 years ago. If that didn't happen, our current spiritual life and beliefs would be totally different.

As I mentioned earlier, Martin Luther had an important role in the Reformation, but he couldn't do it alone. Putting all of this together, we can only conclude that church reformation was not a human endeavor. It was God who was the agent of the Reformation, as always. When the church was sick and fallen, God always used God's Word and other elements, such as people, things, and events...even beyond our imagination, to correct its way. It looks like the different sizes of cogwheels are engaging or how different pieces of jigsaw puzzles make a beautiful picture when all of them are connected.

God collects different sizes, shapes, and colors in God's hands and makes a picture such as the Reformation. God brings different people of gifts and talents, willingness, and courage for God's work. God can even use the things in the world that look totally non-faith-related to accomplish God's love and God's Kingdom work. It is because God is almighty and full of love.

Now, let's think about the St. Paul UMC faith community. Each person doesn't look the same and is unique and different. In many places in the world, difference is to be considered wrong, but it's not to God. Maybe we don't make huge changes like the Reformation. However, as we respond to God's call and lay down our lives, surrender ourselves to God, and ask God to use us for God's will, God will take them and make things right at home, work, in our community and beyond.

Beloved St. Paul UMC family and friends, we have Reformation Day in October. Let's remember how our faith legacy started, and let's humbly ask God for guidance as we surrender today and tomorrow. I hope and pray that the St. Paul UMC family and friends can have that kind of faith in common and work together for God's Kingdom.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE BARB MILLER, CHAIR

The Worship Committee last met on Thursday, September 5, 2024.

Sunday Summer Service Attendance:

June 16	9am 44 + 3 online	11am 10 + 3 online
June 23	9am 53 + 3 online	11am ??+ 2 online
June 30	10am Combined 56 +	5 online
July 7	10am Combined 52 +	6 online
July 14	10am Combined 56 +	6 online
July 21	10am Combined 45 +	? online
July 28	10am Combined 59 +	5 online
August 4	10am Combined 48 +	? online
August 11	10am Combined 55 +	5 online
August 18	10am Combined 64 +	4 online
August 25	10am Combined 58 +	8 online
Sept. 1	10am Combined 64 +	7 online
-	(birthday guests in at	tendance)
Sept. 8	10am Combined 66 +	6 online
Sept. 15	10am Combined 63 +	7 online

The first item of business was to discuss the opinions that have been shared about continuing the one service format. It was decided that we would present a proposal to Church Council on September 19th to continue this format.

The next Worship Committee Meeting will be held on Thursday, November 21st at 6:30pm in the Library.

Upcoming Months:

♦ October 6: World Communion Sunday

Please join us as the United Methodist Church celebrates World Communion Sunday with congregations from all over the world. Followers of Jesus Christ will gather in large churches and small, on farms and in cities, in fancy buildings and under tents, to receive the bread and cup of Holy Communion.

♦ October 20: Laity Sunday-Speaker

We are looking to invite a few people to share their testimonies about what they learned and how they changed and have grown through their lay ministry.

October 27: Children's Bible Presentation Sunday

Bibles will be presented to children (ages 4 to 12th grade) who are present during this service. Please **submit any names of those children** by October 12th

• November 3: All Saints Sunday and Communion

Please **submit any names of those who have passed** since last November to be read at this service. Congregants may also place photos along the alter rail in memory of those whose names are to be read.

November 10: Sunday before Veterans Day

Please **submit names of veterans** related to our congregation whom you would like to see recognized. Please include their branch of service. Photos and other artifacts from military service may be placed on the alter rail for the worship service.

November 24: Sunday before Thanksgiving

Please **fill our baskets** on the alter with food donations for SMILE.







SPPRC DONNA HOUSE, CHAIR

The SPPRC met on September 12th and completed the Pastor's Compensation package which is due for Church Conference. They will meet again on October 3rd to compose Pastor Baek's Compensation package for 2025. They also put the finishing touches on our Congregational Profile which is another required BW Conference document. Most of the details about our congregation and church were taken from our "Wind in our Sails" meeting.



As a reminder, SPPRC meetings are closed as established by the <u>Book of Discipline</u>, and all information shared in the committee is confidential. The congregation may share any joys or concerns with the committee. The next SPPRC meeting is September 26th where we will begin the important task of Pastor's yearly evaluation.

TRUSTEES JIM HOUSE, CHAIR

The St. Paul UMC Trustees meet on the first Thursday of each month for their business meeting. Items discussed include church projects, church maintenance and finances. Work sessions are scheduled as needed to maintain the facilities and complete projects.



<u>Completed projects in the months of August and September</u> include:

- 1. Completion of the parsonage inspection with SPPRC member and Pastor Baek.
- 2. "Fall" cleaning and disposal of some outdated items including old tvs, tables and cabinets
- 3. Installed new hot water heater in Sanctuary no hot water had been available in that building for many years
- 4. Scrubbed Activity Center floor
- 5. Resolved on-going issues with AC/Heater (mini-splits) in SPUMPS classrooms and office
- 6. Resolved blocked drainage line in SPUMPS bathroom
- 7. Defrosted and cleaned freezer in the kitchen

Upcoming projects include:

- 1. SPUMC Home Mission Project The Trustees have decided to make the Saturdays in November our mission project to rehab the current Fellowship Hall adjacent to the sanctuary. James Ritter is spearheading the project. Please mark your calendars to lend a hand with cleaning out the closets, drywall, insulation, flooring, ceiling tiles, etc.... This is a facelift that is LONG overdue!
- 2. Complete action items from 2024 parsonage inspection
- 3. Continue floor stripping, scrubbing and waxing of main hallway and classrooms in CLC.
- 4. Rekey locks for doors into the CLC
- 5. Schedule and inspect the fire suppressant system in kitchen asap
- 6. Complete action items from 2024 BW Conference Accessibility report

The trustees maintain a detailed list of projects across our campus and are working to complete them. Please inform a trustee if you see any area that needs repair and/or if you have an idea for improvement. We want St. Paul UMC to be an inviting, safe space for all to worship and fellowship.



LAY LEADER DONNA HOUSE

God is good, all the time. All the time, God is good.

On August 17, 2024, we held our 2nd "Wind in our Sails" meeting with 22 in attendance, 2 on zoom and remarks from 2 members who couldn't attend. We gathered at 9:00 am and began with fellowship and refreshments, followed by opening from Pastor Baek. We reviewed the 3 outcomes from last year's meeting – trial combined service, fellowship time each Sunday and monthly churchwide activities. Committee leads shared a brief summary of their ministry

Then folks shared their JOYS of St. Paul and there were MANY! We are so blessed to have such a close church family that deeply cares about each other. We have beautiful music each week, wonderful staff members, many outreach ministries, a new prayer committee and card ministry and SO much more. We then shared our HOPES for St. Paul - where did we see we needed to go next. Lots of wonderful ideas were suggested to further our ministry in this little church on the corner. After that, each participant was given 3 dots to mark their top three HOPES for this year and to identify where the "Wind" is taking us.

In order, they are:

- 1) Continue with ONE service. It is such a joy having all of us together each Sunday. We will keep the current worship time of 10:00 am until the Worship Committee met to propose any time change. We need to consider the time for Sunday School and fellowship time and decide the best flow.
- 2) We want our church to GROW so our second priority will be publicity through Facebook, flyers, community outreach and more. Maybe a fill a pew Sunday or other Sundays where we focus on inviting others. A perfect opportunity was the Backpack Blessing and "Grand" Sunday on September 8th. It was wonderful to see new faces, young and old, in our pews.
- 3) The 3rd focus area is financial stability. We have made positive changes in budget and for that we are grateful but our income thus far this year is still \$30,000 below the expenses. We will continue to tighten our budget strings and look for cost-saving measures. We ask that you prayerfully consider your giving now and in the future to the general budget.

The charts are on display in the office and were printed in the September newsletter. I thank all who attended and those that provided input.

The Wind of God is Blowing at St. Paul. We've checked the sails and have set the sails for the next year. God is good, all the time. All the time, God is good.



EVANGELISM MISSY LAUBER, CHAIR

Trunk or Treat will be held on Saturday, October 26 from 1-3pm. There is a plan for a costume contest and games.

Please sign up to host a trunk so that we can make this a wonderful community event!

Please consider joining the Evangelism team! Members are needed to help with this committee.



2024 BUDGET = \$348,825

As a non-profit, the budget assumes unrestricted income and expenses are equal for a net income of \$0.

Expenses continue to be higher than income each month.

Financial summary for July is not yet available.

FINANCE KAREN HILL, CHAIR

Goal: Monitor financial status of St Paul United Methodist Church to support the continue upkeep of the facilities and support for the Mission and Evangelical activities of the church.

Stewardship: In October, we will begin the annual stewardship campaign. Yellow pledge cards will be available in both the Church Office and Sanctuary vestibule. Financial commitment enables the church to plan for normal operating expenses and planned events for the upcoming calendar year.

2025 budget preparation: Committee funding requests will be provided in November and final budget approval by the Church Council will occur at the December meeting.

A new church reporting system was put in place by June 1 to support statistical reporting, communication to members, membership



St. Paul UMC Finances as of 31 August 2024

	Actual (YTD)		Budget (YTD)	Annual Budget	Annual %
Contributions	\$	202,159.44	\$230,816.00	\$348,825.00	58.0%
Expenses	\$	232,251.66	\$227,363.64	\$348,825.00	66.6%

The St. Paul UMC congregations has graciously made an additional \$8,099 in benevolent (restricted giving) to benefit the ministries, missions and those in need in 2024.

Current Month (August)	Actual		Budget		Variance (better / (worse)	Annual %
Contributions	\$	18,750.90	\$	26,902.00	(\$8,151.10)	-30.3%
Expenses	\$	31,872.18	\$	27,553.58	(\$4,318.60)	-15.7%

PRAYER COMMITTEE BARB MACK, CHAIR

The Meditation Benches will be on display for everyone to view. Should you feel moved to contribute to the cost please use your envelope marking "Benches". For your convenience, the church's website will enable you to contribute.



www.stpaulumc-lusby.org/give (Other, "Prayer Benches")

If you wish to contribute to memory or in honor of someone please clearly indicate. We look forward to being able to place and dedicate the benches for everyone to enjoy.

Sometimes we are uncertain when we want to share with God our thoughts. We have placed building blocks with prayer starters, which we will be adding to over the weeks, on the prayer table, under the prayer bulletin board. Feel free to share a prayer on the board. The most important part of our prayers is that we call on God to share time with us. He wants to hear from us. He wants to be a true part of our lives. Since the Father sees all and knows all there really is not anything we cannot take to him that He does not already know. As His precious child He calls us to take everything to Him in prayer. Share your heart with your prayers, songs of praise, poetry as found in the Bible. The more you share time with the Great I AM you will find even in challenging times you will be celebrating your life with greater joy.

Melvin and Elaine have been preparing for a Healing Service on Thursday, October 24, 2024 at 6:30 pm with the assistance of Pastor Baek. All are welcome and encouraged to share in this service. Should you have any questions, please feel free to speak with Melvin, Elaine, or Pastor.

The prayer committee welcomes you to join us on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

The Prayer Committee will meet again on Wednesday, October 16th at noon in the Fellowship Hall.

Open our Doors Thursday

The Prayer Committee is excited to announce project Open our Doors Thursday. This project will have our sanctuary open on the first and third Thursdays of every month from 5:00 pm to 11:00 pm. and on the second and fourth Thursdays from 6:00 am to 12:00 noon.

This is an opportunity for members of the congregation, friends of the church, other congregations and those that follow our Facebook page or Website to come in relax in a quiet sanctuary to visit with their Father.

We are asking for members that are able to share all or part of these hours to sign up on the sign-up sheet in the vestibule or at fellowship hour in the CLC. It is our goal to be welcoming with at least two people at each time frame. The sanctuary will not open if we do not have two people present for safety reasons.

Should you have any questions or concerns please contact me at **443-684-4568** or **jack.greene62@gmail.com** Thank you in advance for your kind attention to this matter.

In Christ,

Jack Greene



SUNDAY SCHOOL SUSAN BAKER

Adults: Currently we are in need of a facilitator. Please let me know if you are interested in attending or facilitating.

Middle School: Sherri is teaching this class. We are meeting Safe Sanctuary by leaving the door open with class across the hall. We have 1-2 participants.

Elementary: We are fully staffed with 2 teachers. We have the potential for 5 students combining elem 2 the preschool 3.

Preschool: **We would like 2 teachers.** We have the potential for 3 students. We have a short table and chairs. There are prior used materials to start. Please talk with me. Everyone says they want kids in the church.

Praise God for the work He is doing. Thank you to Pastor Beak for working out the tables.

We will have Bible hand out Sunday October 27 for students who can be present to receive it in church. We need to know if you have a family member 4 years - 12th grade by the October 12. Please contact the church office or myself. Thank you.



MISSIONS COLLEEN LANE, CHAIR

Operation Christmas child is coming along nicely.

November 3, 2024 — Packing Party in the Activity Center (CLC) after fellowship immediately following the service.



If you would like to purchase some items for the boxes here is a list:

Clothing (sizes 2T to 16)

Card Games

(Old Maid, matching games, etc.)

Soccer Balls and Pumps

Pencil Sharpeners

Hats

Whistles

Flashlights

Yo-Yo

Scissors

We are also accepting monetary donations for shipping.

Thank you to everyone for your continued support.



We will now be having a Monthly Birthday Celebration on the 3rd Sunday of each month

on the 3rd Sunday of each month during our regular Fellowship Time in the Activity Center.

We began with our September birthday celebration on Sunday, September 15th.

Come join us for our October Birthday Celebration on October 20th!



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



10/02 Quinn Carver

10/04 Patrick Dunn

10/05 Stephanie Bean

10/05 Jackson Broadus

10/05 Erica Ward

10/09 Karen McCarthy

10/14 Gene Benton

10/14 Ruth Humphreys

10/14 Elizabeth Taylor

10/15 Everett Baker

10/16 Cindy Adams

10/19 Joe Mulvey

10/19 Stephen Smith

10/19 Bill Soffos

10/21 Karen Hill

10/23 Natalya Bobkoskie

10/25 Anna Bobkoskie

10/27 Gary Lewis

10/28 Donna Sams

10/30 Jim Adams



ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 11000 H G TRUEMAN RD LUSBY, MD 20657 OCTOBER 26TH 1-3PM

COSTUME CONTEST AND GAMES!
FOR MORE INFORMATION: 410-326-4775
OR HTTPS://STPAULUMC-LUSBY.ORG/



Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church 9463 HG Tureman Rd, Lusby

Games
Bounce House
Food

FREE FUN FOR ALL AGES

Prizes Cake Walk Raffle

YOUTH MENTORING PROGRAM

UNLOCKING POTENTIAL THROUGH INSPIRATION AND GUIDANCE

Calvert County Parks & Recreation is offering a mentoring program that will enrich the lives of the youth in the community. This program is guided by the needs of the participants and will offer fellowship, education and activities that include life skills, good citizenship, health and wellness and more in a fun and interactive program.

WE ARE CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR:

- MENTORS YOUTH MENTEES (AGES 10 TO 13)
 DONORS PARTNERS SPONSORS •
- **CHOOSE YOUR ADVENTURE WITH YOUTH MENTORING!**





For more information or to register, contact Brenda DiCarlo, program coordinator at

Brenda.DiCarlo@CalvertCountyMd.gov (443) 624-4411

St. Paul invites you all to connect with us on social media!

Please take a moment to visit our
Facebook page and give us a
thumbs-up, share your thoughts
in the comments, and spread the
words by sharing our posts.
Your support helps us reach more
people with our message of faith,
love and unity
within our community.

Let's stay connected and continue to grow together as a church family online!



St Paul United Methodist Church



Attend or Participate

in an incredible community event

SOMD Reviving the Community Fair

Resource Fair, Music Festival, with Amazing Speakers on Mental Health and Family Life, all FREE to our community and FREE to participate!

Looking to Attend? We invite you to spend the day with us at this Festival Style **FAIR** packed with Resources, Music, Speakers, Food, and best of all, fun-loving animals

If you want to be Resource Attendee, Guest Speaker or even a performing Artist, we invite you to join us by stepping out of buildings and share your resource or talents with your community.

Please register your Resource Table or by calling Linda Stock directly



10.6.2024

11-5pm

KINGS LANDING PARK

3255 KINGS LANDING RD HUNTINGTOWN, MD 20639

RSVP 410-610-9454
SOMDCOMMUNITYREVIVAL.COM
SOMDCOMMUNITYREVIVAL@GMAIL.COM

St Paul UMC - Activities

Oct 2024 (Eastern Time - New York)

9:15am - Worship (Service) 10:30am - Fellowship 10:45am - SS classes	Newsletter Article Due 9:15am - Worship (Service) 10:30am - Fellowship 10:45am - SS classes	9:15am - Worship (Service) 10:30am - Fellowship 10:45am - SS classes 11:45am - RM Mtg/AC @	9:15am - Worship (Service) 10:30am - Fellowship 10:45am - SS classes	29
6:45pm - Women's Bible	4:30pm - OLSS 6:45pm - Women's Bible	SPUMPS Closed - Indigenous 6:45pm - Women's Bible	6:45pm - Women's Bible	Mon 30
4:30pm - OLSS 6:30pm - Bible Study/Library 7pm - BS Troop/FH @	4:30pm - OLSS 6:30pm - Bible Study/Library 7pm - BS Troop/FH @	6:30pm - Bible Study/Library 7pm - BS Troop/FH @	10:30am - Faith Circle 6:30pm - Bible Study/Library 7pm - BS Troop/FH @	1 6:30pm - Bible Study/Library 7pm - BS Troop/FH @
9am - HeartFelt/FH @ 6:15pm - Praise Band/Music 7pm - Choir 7:30pm - AA/FH @	9am - HeartFelt/FH @ 6:15pm - Praise Band/Music 7pm - Choir 7:30pm - AA/FH @	9am - HeartFelt/FH @ 12pm - Prayer Committee 6:15pm - Praise Band/Music 7pm - Choir 7:30pm - AA/FH @	9 9am - HeartFelt/FH @ 6:15pm - Praise Band/Music 7pm - Choir 7:30pm - AA/FH @	9am - HeartFelt/FH @ 6:15pm - Praise Band/Music 7pm - Choir 7:30pm - AA/FH @ 7:30pm - Scout Leaders
<u> </u>	6:30pm - Healing 7pm - Cub Scouts/Rms	4:30pm - OLSS 7pm - Church	5:30pm - Finance Mtg/Library 6:30pm - Council Mtg/Library 7pm - Cub Scouts/Rms	6pm - SPRC Meeting/Library 7pm - Cub Scouts/Rms
	8pm - AA/FH @ Fellowship	4:30pm - OLSS 8pm - AA/FH @ Fellowship	8pm - AA/FH @ Fellowship	4pm - Bowen-Pickett 8pm - AA/FH @ Fellowship
2	1pm - Trunk or Treat/Parking	19	12	Sat 5

GIFT CARDS

Every Sunday, food cards for Giant and Weis are available to purchase in the CLC.

This assists in our operating budget.





LOST and FOUND

SPUMC has a "Lost and Found" basket stationed in the lobby of the Christian Life Center.

Contact the church office if you have any questions.

Food Drop Lusby is the 3rd Friday of every month at Middleham Parking lot by SMILE, starting at 9 AM. The Maryland Food Bank provides fresh food for packing and distribution. If you can grocery shop you can enjoy a morning making a difference.

Distribution Drivers are also needed.

Non-perishable grocery items are collected each month from our Christian Life Center (CLC).

Please place your donations in the box labeled for SMILE.

Project Echo and CareNet also have donation boxes to support the needs of those they serve.

More information is available in the Christian Life Center Thank you for supporting our community missions.

St. Paul United Methodist Church

11000 H G Trueman Rd, Lusby, MD 20657

Phone: 410-326-4475

E-mail: stpaulumcinfo@gmail.com

Web: stpaulumc-lusby.org



Submissions for the November Messenger are due October 20th.

Thank you.

Office Contacts & Information:

Senior Pastor	Myungha Baek PastorBaek@stpaulumc-lusby.org
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Office Manager	Nerissa Curtin ncurtin@stpaulumc-lusby.org
Finance Managerfina	Cindy Shippert ncemanager@stpaulumc-lusby.org
Church Custodian	Missy Garber missy.garber73@gmail.com

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Friday 9:30 am to 3:00 pm