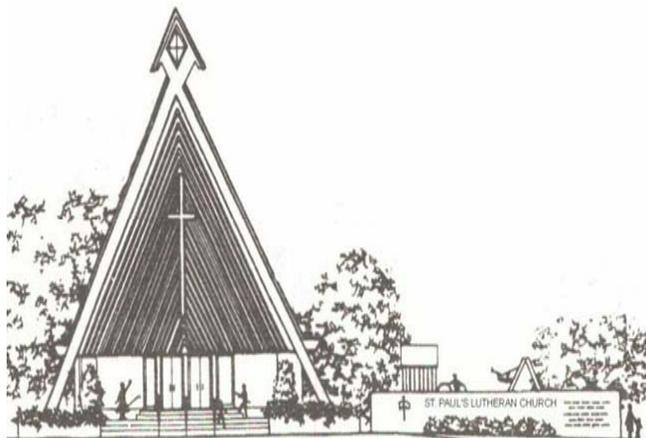


ST. PAUL'S EPISTLE

AUGUST~SEPTEMBER 2012



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Office Phone: 703/573-0295 Pastor's Direct Line: 703/573-6008

Sunday services are held at 8:00 and 11:00 a.m.

Worship in Mandarin is held at 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School and adult classes are held at 9:30 a.m.

Pastor — The Rev. Mark Shaltanis

Assistant/Chinese Pastor — The Rev. Xinhong (Chris) Yang

Pastoral Assistant — The Rev. Wayne Lehrer

Director of Music — Laurel Benson Brown

Preschool Director — LuAnn Carrig

Director of Youth — Stacy Blake

Director of Education and Family Life — Melissa Hecht

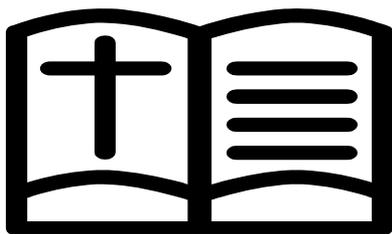
Secretary — Susan Irwin

Business Manager — Bill Gratz

Newsletter Editors — Marcia Baumgartner,

Linda Orvedahl, Kim Williams

Church is located at the intersection of
Route 7 (Leesburg Pike) and Idylwood Road.



Pastor's Corner

Dear St. Paul's Friends:

It's the Monday after Vacation Bible School week, and my body is starting to recover. My brain shouldn't be far behind! Seriously, VBS takes a lot out of me – although, if I think about it, a big part of my fatigue is probably also the accumulation of all that went on during the last school year. In many ways, summer only begins once VBS is over.

Summer is a good time to look back and reflect. Doing so makes us realize that there's much to give thanks for. It also helps us as we look ahead. Soon we'll be making plans for next year. Should we keep the same schedules and activities? Should we keep doing things the same way? Are we effective? Are we carrying out our mission well?

Lutherans joke about how much we resist change: "How many Lutherans does it take to change a light bulb?" There are a few punch lines I've heard to that question, and all are comments on our resistance. I believe that it's true – we're less likely to change than others. Our last Synodical President used to say, "This is not your grandfather's Synod," and then he got defeated in the next election.

Life brings so many changes that it's comforting when our church doesn't. And that's a decent reason for

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keeping many things the same. But it's not a game plan for growth. Certainly there will need to be some changes here and there. As individuals, we get bored doing the same thing all the time. And as an institution, we need new challenges, methods, and activities also.

The Word of God does not change, so I'm not talking here about changing our doctrinal stances. We are not to accommodate God's Word to the changing whims of our society. But people's needs change, as do people's expectations, schedules, ways of expressing themselves, and so on.

I'm going to be doing some thinking in the weeks ahead about change. I invite you to join me. We already have some changes on the horizon – our building project will soon commence, and we'll soon be announcing a change to the way in which we do caring ministry at St. Paul's. But perhaps there are other things to change as well. Please pray about this question and then share your ideas.

One of the theme verses for our VBS was "Those who trust in the Lord will have their strength renewed; they will soar with wings like eagles" (Isaiah 40:31). I pray that this remaining month of summer will be renewing for us all and that the changes we make together will allow us to soar high as a congregation.

– Pastor Mark Shaltanis



*Ian Martin Lynch
Grant Philip Yashar*

Jeanne Piceno

Carol Juenger

Harvey Mackey

Joe Mills

Pat Newberry

Dee Sitnik

Trudy Booth

Carolyn Cowherd

Maureen Forcier

Ed & Gladys Hane

Peter Frenze

Hal Skean

Jack Hartman

Rose Ciprich

Millie Sullivan

*Family and friends of Paul Noring
Family and friends of Dave Sullivan*

The Falls Church Community Pantry Needs Your Support.

A large number of people lost all their perishable food in the recent storms. The food pantry has been inundated with requests for food – perishable and non-perishable. The food pantry is running out of some basic commodities. It particularly needs peanut butter, jelly, cereal, and canned fruit. Items may be left in the marked, plastic container in the narthex.



Do People Know Your Cell Number?

The recent storm and subsequent power outages made many of us realize that we don't know if people have cell phones or what their cell phone number is. Even if you seldom turn your phone on, it might be good for your cell number to be published in the next directory. That will help people get in touch with you in case of an emergency. Contact the church office at 703/573-0295 or stpaulsoff@aol.com to provide us with your number. It will not be published unless you give us permission.





Thoughts about School

When schools flourish, all flourishes.

– Martin Luther

Tell me and I'll forget; show me and I may
remember; teach me and I'll understand.

– Chinese Proverb

Teaching is of more importance than urging.

– Martin Luther

As long as there are tests, there will be prayer
in school.

– Author Unknown

The important thing is never to stop
questioning.

– Albert Einstein

He who opens a school door, closes a prison.

– Victor Hugo

Home computers are being called upon to
perform many new functions, including the
consumption of homework formerly eaten by
the dog.

– Doug Larson



Dinner-for-8 Potluck

Join us for the next round of dinner groups. It is a great way to meet other St. Paul's couples and singles, and it is an easy way to entertain!

Throughout the course of a year, members of each group host once. The host prepares the main dish, and other group members volunteer to bring the appetizer, side dish, or dessert. Please join us for the "kick-off" potluck dinner on Saturday, August 18, at 6:30 p.m. in the undercroft. Come for the 5:00 p.m. service and stay for dinner!

Curious about Dinner-for-8?

Have you ever thought about joining the Dinner-for-8 Group but just weren't sure what it was all about? Join us for the potluck on Saturday, August 18, at 6:30 p.m., in the Church undercroft. You'll meet current participants and learn more about how easy and fun it is to entertain a small group. If you would prefer to participate occasionally, we'd love to have you sign up for our "Guest List," which the groups will use to complete their "8."

Chili Cook Off

Rally Day will be here before you know it (September 9). St. Paul's Youth will be hosting its Third Annual Chili Cook Off! If you are on a church board and would like to participate, please make sure you speak to your council chairperson soon! This is a fun and yummy event, so get those recipes and crockpots ready.

If you have questions, please contact Youth Director Stacy Blake at Lutheranchick@aol.com.



Happy Birthday!



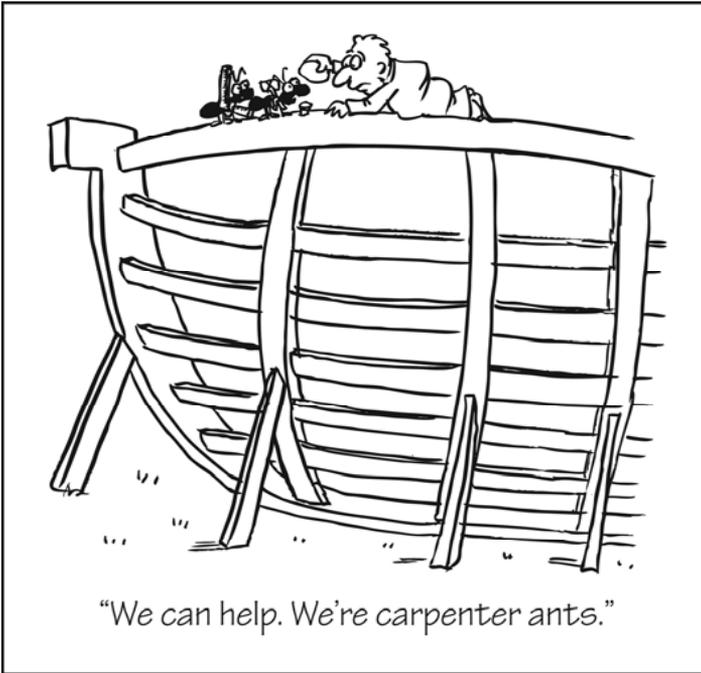
August

- 1 Olivia Franke
- 2 Denise Taranov
- 5 Al Attermeyer
Stephen Yuan
- 6 Heather Bailey
Natalie Hartman
- 8 Tricia Janssen
- 10 Mary Johnshoy
- 12 Ellen Heup
Emma Rollins
- 14 Carol Huling
Lois Lehrer
- 15 Alison Harkins
- 16 April Rollins
- 17 Josslyn Godbee
- 19 Nikki Gage
Veronica Muller
Chris Yang
- 21 Theresa Shaltanis
- 23 Chang Yan Hu
Jonathan Miller
Marina Peterson
- 24 Bonnie Burton
Lynn Jacquez
- 26 Caroline Hecht
- 27 Matthew Wang
Shawanna Yashar

- 29 Daxin Wu
- 30 Evan Jacquez
- 31 Brandon Amdahl

September

- 3 Judy Koucky
Rachel Raindon
- 5 Daniel Aspinwall
Marcia Baumgartner
- 6 Kathryn Janssen
- 7 Adrian Armstrong
- 8 Holly Freedlander
- 13 Bill Hecht
- 15 Dolly Coker
Marge Glass
Paul Provance
- 16 Mary Ann Wollerton
- 18 Danny Hecht
MacMillin Slobodien
- 19 Pat Frank
- 20 Kristina Bennett
David Orvedahl
- 23 William Aspinwall
- 25 Christopher Damato
- 26 Jessica Tang
- 27 Natalia Ainsfield
Reahgann Harrell
Mary McCants
- 28 David Shrewsbury



Sharing the Joy of VBS 2012!

This year's VBS, **Sky: Everything Is Possible with God**, was a wonderful success! Over 60 helpers hosted 118 students from ages 3 through 6th grade. While a number of the campers were from our congregation and preschool, there were several who were new to our community, and about one-third who have no church home.

Based on the passage from Mark 10:27, *everything is possible with God*, the theme of trusting God was presented each day through exciting messages and multi-sensory activities. There was never a dull moment as kids rotated from station to station where they learned about trusting God, no matter who you are, how you feel, what people do, what happens, or where you are! Every activity has purpose and meaning. Even the snacks (which are quite thrilling) are based on the theme of the day.

The special Operation Kid-to-Kid mission project included teaching the children about the disease of malaria and how it affects children in other parts of the world. In particular, this year's Operation Kid-to-Kid program is targeting the country of Mali with the goal to provide mosquito nets for each child in the country. The donations received from our St. Paul's campers will go a long way in providing dozens and dozens of mosquito nets for the children in Mali.

St. Paul's has a very favorable reputation in the community for a first-class VBS program. We have had a

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St. Paul's Epistle

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wait list for campers for the past several years. We can feel good as a congregation for the way that we show care and love to our VBS students and families with the dedication taken to nurture and teach these precious children.

Thanks to all in the congregation who helped in any way, and may we all join together to pray for the seeds sown during VBS to grow much fruit!

--Theresa Shaltanis



Photos from Vacation Bible School



Setting up



Water games



Trust me



Soar high



No matter who you are...

No matter how you feel...

**No matter what people
do...**

No matter what happens...

No matter where you are...

**Everything is possible with
God!**

BIBLE

Treasure Hunt

Let the search — and the fun — begin!
Try one or both of the variations below,
adjusting for age-appropriateness as
needed.

What you need:

- Bibles
- Self-stick notes or pieces of paper
- Pencil
- Treats
- Boxes (treasure chests)



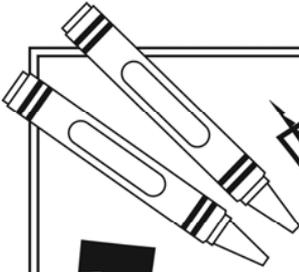
What you do:

Locations Treasure Hunt

1. Find Bible verses that mention a place inside or outside your house. The location for Matthew 7:8, for example, is a door.
2. Write each verse on a self-stick note and hide all but the first clue. Give the first clue to the player(s).
3. Leave the treats at the final clue destination.

Object Treasure Hunt

1. Find Bible verses that mention objects that can be found nearby. The object for Matthew 16:19, for example, is a key.
2. Give each player an empty box, a Bible and a list of verses as clues.
3. Have players return their collected items for a final prize.



PUZZLE

TRUE TREASURE

The Bible speaks often of "treasure" – where we can find it, who gives it and who can have it.

Directions: Match the puzzle pieces to the correct shape. Then write the letters to learn what Matthew 6:21 (NIV) says about treasure. (Younger children can cut out the shapes and glue them onto the correct spaces.)



Matthew 6:21, NIV

Answer: "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Matthew 6:21, NIV)