

# The Messenger

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

12095 Blades Road, P.O. Box 368, Cordova, MD 21625



Email: [info@stpaulscordova.org](mailto:info@stpaulscordova.org) Website: [www.stpaulscordova.org](http://www.stpaulscordova.org) Phone: 410-364-5147

On Sunday, December 17, our Sunday School students presented "Twas the Night Before Christmas."



After the performance, students, their families and friends enjoyed a meal and were visited by a special guest, Santa!



Continued on page 6

# JANUARY



1/4 Barry Reusing

1/7 Betty Jean Mumford

1/9 Crue Cannon

1/12 Peggy Boyce

1/13 Sofie James

1/14 Colleen Davis

1/15 Ava Behrens

1/15 Delaney Bissett

1/16 Will Behrens Jr

1/19 Henry Fuchs

1/19 Hank Spies III

1/19 Austin Spies

1/21 Amanda Ward

1/22 Olivia Brown

1/24 Ryan Saathoff

1/29 Lauren Stevens

We will be having our fish fry in 2024,

save the date,

March 9, 2024!



We are collecting new and gently used coats, gloves, hats, and scarves. The box is located in the fellowship hall. Some coats have already been distributed to families in our community.

<sup>16</sup>Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. -Hebrews 13:16

In liturgical churches, more than half of the church-year calendar is labeled as Ordinary Time. Although that merely means the weeks are designated by ordinal numbers (*First Sunday after the Epiphany*, etc.), people may assume that “ordinary” means not special, or not a church holiday.

Ordinary gets a bad rap, but it represents the bulk of daily life. Not all days contain mountaintop experiences that warrant Facebook posts. Yet “simple, consistent, sometimes boring faithfulness” can lead to out-of-the-ordinary results, according to blogger Karl Vaters. “When you’re following God’s will for your life and you string a bunch of ordinary but necessary actions together, extraordinary things can happen,” he writes at ChristianityToday.com.

Likewise, although Christians may strive to be radical, out-of-the-ordinary followers of Jesus, everyday discipleship leaves a powerful legacy. In *The Ordinary Christian Life*, pastor Michael Horton extols the value of “the regular preaching of Christ from all of the Scriptures, baptism, the Supper, the prayers of confession and praise, and all of the other aspects of ordinary Christian fellowship.” He says the result of participating in “the ordinary life of the covenant community” is quite extraordinary: “steady maturation in Christ.”

God has been generous to us in many ways. We believe that sharing these gifts in His name is a tangible way of expressing one's faith. As active Christians, we are called to give generously to assist our neighbors through our time, talents and treasures. If you are not able to attend services in-person, but still want to send offerings to the church; this can be done by mailing offerings to the church or by using Tithe.ly.

The direct link to our Tithe.ly account is <https://tithe.ly/give?c=1747825>

If you are having trouble with setting up your account, please contact Donna Stevens.

If you have any questions about Tithe.ly, please contact Donna Stevens, Financial

Secretary 410-820-7243 or [dstevens62@icloud.com](mailto:dstevens62@icloud.com)



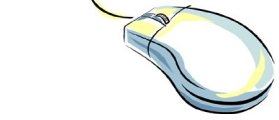


The 2024 Flower Chart is up!

If you wish to honor someone, remember someone, or just make someone smile with flowers, the sign up sheet is on the bulletin board by the office!



E-mail Prayer Chain



Soup and Sandwich Supper

A colorful illustration of a bowl of soup with a spoon, next to several sandwiches on a plate.

February 24, 2024

**St. Paul's Email Prayer Ministry** . . . If you would like to add a name to the email prayer list or receive prayers from our prayer ministry group, please email Betty Jean Mumford at

**bettyjmumford@hotmail.com**

Please make sure you have the permission of the person you are adding.



### Homeless Outreach

We need volunteers for the Talbot Interfaith Shelter on Thursday, February 1. We have 8 am to 11am, 11 am to 2 pm, and 2 pm to 5 pm shifts available for 2 volunteers. In addition, we also need dinner supplied.

?? ? Bible Quiz ? ?

In the book of Judges, the warrior Barak would go to battle only if a certain female leader went with him. Who was she?

- A. Rebekah
- B. Jael
- C. Michal
- D. Deborah

An illustration of a woman wearing a blue headscarf and a yellow garment, looking to the side. In the background, there are palm trees and a man in a blue robe holding a shield.

Answer: D (See Judges 4:1-10.)



In *Unclean: Meditations on Purity, Hospitality and Mortality*, Richard Beck writes powerfully about Jesus healing a leper in Matthew 8:1-3. "What is intriguing about this story is the sequence. Jesus touches the leper first. Then the command 'Be clean!' is offered. That is, Jesus' first move is into ritual defilement. By first touching the leper, Jesus ... [is] standing in solidarity with the unclean." Beck finds this "striking" because typically we expect purification before contact. But Jesus' actions reverse the pattern: "Contact occurs first."

How fortunate for us, too, that God didn't wait to reach out to us until he had cleansed us of sin. God didn't save us from afar and only *then* come to live among us. Rather, "God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8, ESV). And continuously, Jesus loves us, comes to us and touches our hearts, even when we are at our worst — straying from God, trapped in sin, unworthy, unclean, unrighteous. For it's not *our* righteousness or purity that heals and saves us, but Christ's.



# THIS MONTH USHERS

## Tellers

<b>Ushers</b>			
January 7	Alfred and Stevi Saathoff	January 7	Debbie Dudrow and Donna Stevens
January 14	Lee Heinsohn and Lee Moore	January 14	Lee Heinsohn and Lee Moore
January 21	Henry and Lyn Hollingsworth	January 21	Henry and Lyn Hollingsworth
January 28	Kathy Barletta and Susan Behrens	January 28	Kathy Barletta and Susan Behrens

## Lectors

January 7	Stevi Saathoff
January 14	Bobbie Leaverton
January 21	Robert Saathoff
January 28	Betty Jean Mumford



January 7	Couper Barletta
January 14	Declan Corley
January 21	Joshua Lewis
January 28	Corey Fisher

## Altar Flowers

January 7	Meredith Lewis
January 14	R. and B. Saathoff
January 21	
January 28	



January 7	Morgan Sauca
January 14	
January 21	Preston Rickwood
January 28	

## Communion Assistants

January 7	Bobbie Leaverton
January 14	Henry Hollingworth
January 21	Fred Meers
January 28	Robert Saathoff



January	
	Marian Davis
	Betty Jean Mumford



## Congregational Meeting



St. Paul's Annual Congregation Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 28, 2024 immediately following the morning worship service. There will be no Sunday School so that teachers may attend the meeting.

Council members please have your year end reports in to the office by Thursday, January 11, so they can be distributed to the congregation before the annual meeting.



Pastor	Jonathon Moyers	304 400-5379	revjmoyers@gmail.com
Deacon	Mike Hiner	443 496-1383	mhiner24@gmail.com
President	Tom Roesel	703 795-8922	thomas.roesel@gmail.com
Vice President/Property	Darian Sump	410 924-7876	dsump@sumpassociates.com
Treasurer	Debbie Dudrow	410 924-8368	rdudrow@verizon.net
Secretary	Lyn Hollingsworth	410 714-3876	laph@goeaston.net
Financial Secretary	Donna Stevens	410 310-2107	dstevens62@icloud.com
Worship, Music, Education	Wendy Sauca	410 829-0411	swmmsauca@yahoo.com
Evangelism, Outreach	Donna Saathoff	410 310-1331	donnasaathoff529@gmail.com



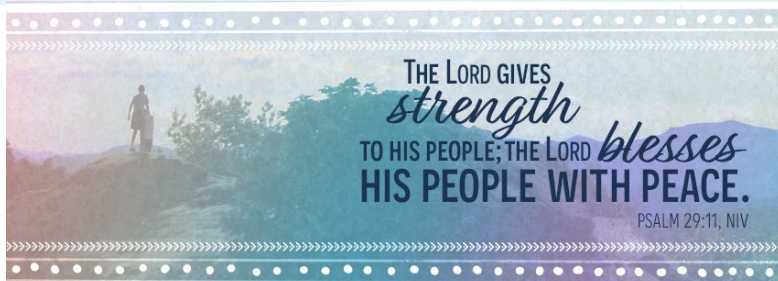
All mid-week liturgies are taking a winter break through January. Pastor will be out of the office Tuesday, January 2 through Thursday, January 4; the week of January 15; and Monday, January 22 through Wednesday, January 24. During Pastor Moyers' absence, Deacon Hiner will be first call for pastoral care.

**Most New Year's resolutions are so major they seem made to be broken. Maybe that's why "micro-resolution" is the latest January buzzword. Setting smaller goals is more realistic and helps ensure follow-through, according to experts. People who try setting micro-resolutions say that approach is more positive and leads to longer-lasting change. For example, instead of attempting to lose 30 pounds this year, make a micro-resolution to walk 10 minutes twice per day and to snack on fresh fruit at least once a day.**

**Micro-resolutions can also be helpful in matters of faith. If aiming to read the entire Bible in one year feels overwhelming, take five minutes each morning and evening to read a brief devotional or pray. If joining your church's missions committee isn't possible, try to talk to one new person each week about your faith or church. May God bless you as you take small steps that add up to big impact this year!**



Toys for Tots served 1,312 children, each child received about 7 toys for a total of over 9,000 toys given. St. Paul's and Grace Lutheran have received Certificates of Appreciation for their support this year. Thank you for blessings the lives of children in our community!



**Special thank you to all of our Sunday School students, families, Holly Sump, and Julie Hawley for your hard work and dedication in making our Sunday School program such a wonderful time!**







St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
12095 Blades Road,  
P.O. Box 368  
Cordova MD 21625  
Return Service Requested



Worship Service Begins at 8:45 am  
Please inform the church office of any  
changes in your personal information:  
Address, phone number, marriage or  
divorce, or new births so that we  
can keep our records up-to-date.

Secretary: Meredith Lewis—

Cell: 443-496-0903

Office: 410-364-5147

Office Hours: Tue. Wed. & Thurs. 9:00-3:00

**Reverend Jonathon Moyers**

Phone: 304-400-5379

Email: [revjmoyers@gmail.com](mailto:revjmoyers@gmail.com)

**Deacon Michael Hiner**

Phone: 443-496-1383

Email: [mhiner24@gmail.com](mailto:mhiner24@gmail.com)

Choir Director and Organist: Julie Hawley

Phone: 412-600-6326

Email: [julie.hawley1487@gmail.com](mailto:julie.hawley1487@gmail.com)

