



THE LAMPLIGHTER

A Newsletter For The Members of

St. Paul's United Methodist Church and Gaither United Methodist Church

www.StPaulsSykesville.org

December 2015

HOPE

Hoping for that special gift, dropping hints for weeks to those who love us enough to give us this long-awaited gift. Then, we spy a gala-colored box under the star-topped tree with our very own name inscribed on the card. Waiting, we must wait until the moment when no one else is around, to touch the package with trembling hands, to hold it, to hope through our wildest imaginings that this might be that special gift. Yes, it does seem to be the right size of package, the right shape and weight. Could it be? It is too much to hope that this just might be what we have long dreamed of? But until that proper moment arrives when we are free to see what the bows and paper reveal, we can only continue to hope.

Who has not experienced hopeful expectation in the presence of the unrevealed? Certainly, this is the type of hope that is conveyed in the prophetic writings for the promised Messiah and in the New Testament exhortations for the return of Jesus Christ. Can this same spirit of hope enter our lives today as it did many years ago? We each hold the answer to the question within our heart.

As this Christmas approaches, may we, as Christians, await in hopeful expectation the special gift of our Savior's birth. He comes in the gala-wrapping of eternal love and self-sacrifice, hearing each of our names on his heart. As a child anxiously awaits the moment when Christmas gifts may be opened, so does Christ wait and hope for the moment he may reveal and renew himself to us. Therefore, in this joyous season, can we dare but hope?

Doug Tran
Kin Reed
Colleen Goodman
Lyn Rae Chatter

St. Paul's Birthdays

- 12/1 Keith Evans
- 12/11 Norma Brown
- 12/11 Kate VanFossen
- 12/16 Debbie Mathews
- 12/16 Bill Gawel
- 12/18 Karen Brown
- 12/18 Bob Corbin
- 12/19 Steve Toth
- 12/20 Matthew Williams
- 12/30 Judy Creutzer



St. Paul's Anniversaries

- 12/2 Chris & Jen Guyer
- 12/3 Richard & Kate VanFossen
- 12/30 Brian & Callie Elwood

Gaither's Birthdays

- 12/7 Brad Basford
- 12/7 Joan Conaway
- 12/9 Wendy Garver
- 12/12 Michael Pickett II
- 12/12 Pat Newcomer
- 12/20 Gary Simmons, Jr.
- 12/24 Gertrude Harden
- 12/24 Carol Hullett
- 12/26 Mama June Sefoyianes
- 12/27 William Donnelly
- 12/29 Don Newcomer

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

During the winter months, remember you can keep current on cancellations/ postponements of church events by visiting the church website at (stpaulssykesville.org) or by calling the church office (410-795-0714, extension 2).



Church Announcements

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Please note that all announcements for the Gaither and St. Paul's bulletins must be received by the church office **no later than 12noon on Tuesday of that week** in order to be placed in the bulletin on Sunday. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

CHURCH LIBRARY

All books, CD's, etc. donated to the church library must be approved by Debbie Scheller (scheller5@verizon.net) prior to being displayed. Any donations left in the church foyer or bench outside the church office will be discarded. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.



Church Office:		http://www.stpaulssykesville.org
Monday thru Friday: 9:00 AM – Noon		Fax: (410) 795-0744
Church Office: (410) 795-0714		V/TTY: Maryland Relay
St. Paul's Staff:		
Terri Rae Chattin, Senior Pastor	(410) 322-6304 (Home) *	srpastor@stpaulssykesville.org
Doug Tzan, Associate Pastor	(410) 795-0940 (Home) *	asstpastor@stpaulssykesville.org
Colleen Goodman, Admin. Assistant	(410) 795-0714 (Church Office) *	admin@stpaulssykesville.org
Kim Reed, Youth Coordinator	(410) 552-5888 (Home)	youth@stpaulssykesville.org
Betty May, Music/Choir Director	David Eide-Altman, Organist	
The Communications Staff:		
Todd Johnson, Lamplighter Editor	(410) 461-9073 (Home) *	lamplighter@stpaulssykesville.org
Temple Riehl, Webmaster	(410) 635-6522 (Home)	templeriehl@gmail.com
* Answering machine at each		
MAILING LIST: If you have an address change or correction, would like to be added to either our electronic or paper distribution list or would like your birthday and anniversary published in <i>The Lamplighter</i> , please contact the church office at 410-795-0714 with the updated information and dates.		
Please specify if it is for St. Paul's or Gaither.		



YOUTH GROUP

Hey Youth and Merry Christmas!

Christ is born! Hallelujah!! What a wonderful gift....THE best gift of all!! Let's be sure we give back. That's the absolute best gift we can give and the best feeling in the world to be kind and give to others! Give to those who give to you, give to those who are your friends and family, give to those who try your patience, and yes, even give to those who you really may dislike. You may just see a Christmas miracle and experience a positive change in them.....and most especially, in YOU!!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Dec. 2 - Advent Study 6:00PM-7:30PM

Dec. 5 - Santa Comes to Sykesville (The UMW needs help w/clean up!!)

Dec. 6 - Cake Bake Sale @ Noon @ St. Paul's and Regular Evening Meetings

Dec. 9 - Advent Study 6:00PM-7:30PM

Dec. 13 - Regular Meetings

Dec. 15 - Pack ESCAPE Lunches 5:30PM-6:00PM in St. Paul's Kitchen

Dec. 16 - Advent Study 6:00PM-7:30PM

Dec. 20 - Practice for Christmas Eve Service 5:00PM-6:00PM, UMYF Christmas Party 6:00PM-8:00PM

Dec. 24 - UMYF Christmas Eve Service @ 5:00PM

Dec. 25 - MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!!

Dec. 27 - CHRISTMAS DAY!!!!

MARCH 11-13, 2016 - Retreat to Manidokan

JUNE 26-JULY 2 - Mission Trip to Virginia Beach, Virginia

God bless you guys, now and always!

Miss Kim

301-233-3203



**SUNDAY
SCHOOL**

St. Paul's December Sunday School News

The children and youth of St. Paul's are eagerly preparing to celebrate the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ! During the month of December, children/youth will continue to study the events that led up to the arrival of Baby Jesus.

Mission

For the next three months, we will continue collecting money for Heifer International, a charity organization working hard to end hunger and poverty around the world by providing livestock and training to struggling communities. This month we are featuring their water projects, and will offer opportunities for your children to learn about the project, the people involved, and participate. Look for the "Water Jug" located in the Sunday School hallway, to donate to this special charity.

Winter Curriculum

Check out our Winter Curriculum by visiting DeepBlueKids.com or by downloading the Deep Blue Adventure App....available for free from your app store!

No Sunday School on December 27th

There will be no Sunday School on December 27th. Please enjoy this special time with your family!

The Sunday School Staff would like to wish everyone a Joyous Christmas filled with much Hope, Love and Peace!

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!



**UNITED
METHODIST
WOMEN**

Christmas Bazaar Donation Drive

We are in need of new or gently used items for resale. No clothing or shoes please. If you are able to donate bazaar items, please bring them to St. Paul's Social Hall on **Friday, December 4th between 9:00AM and 6:00PM.** This event is only possible because of the generous donations we get.

Christmas Bazaar/Bake Sale

The UMW Christmas Bazaar/Bake Sale & Silent Auction will be held on **Saturday, December 5th.** We are also adding a Kid's Craft component **from 2:00PM to 5:00PM.** Stop by with the kids and make a cool craft, and then browse our Christmas Bazaar for a great bargain and get some delicious baked items from our Bake Sale. **From 4:30PM to 8:00PM,** we will also be offering vegetable soup and pulled pork in St. Paul's Social Hall. Thank you for your support!

UMW Christmas Dinner

The UMW Christmas Dinner will be held on Sunday, December 6th. There will be a \$5.00 gift exchange. All women of St Paul's and Gaither are welcome. More details to come later.

St. PAUL'S MISSION UPDATE

November 29th is our 1st Sunday of Advent which will begin our "Four Sundays of Giving." Looking ahead, the "Four Sundays of Giving" will be as follows:

November 29th: Carroll County Food Sunday (memo'd CCFS)

December 6th: Domestic Violence Safe House (memo'd DVSH)

December 13th: E.S.C.A.P.E. Ministries (memo'd EM)

December 20th: Springfield Hospital Patients (memo'd SHP).

Each "Sunday of Giving" will be supported with our monetary gifts. Checks may be written to St. Paul's U.M. Church and memo'd as indicated. Thank you for considering supporting these worthwhile ministries during the Christmas season.

A New Mission: As Easy As A-B-C. It's Back-to-School for St. Paul's in mid-January. A new hands-on mission will bring us to the hill to the Historic Sykesville Colored Schoolhouse, where we will initiate an after-school tutoring program with St. Luke's UMC. The Homework Club will meet on Mondays and Wednesdays from 4:00PM – 5:30PM. Elementary and Middle School children are invited to come for a snack and help with their homework assignments. You are invited to put in some meaningful hours of real service as you sit alongside the children, encouraging them to become what God created them to become. The South Carroll Rotary Club has already donated dictionaries; a stack of wide-ruled paper has been gifted the program; a monetary donation has come in. What we need now is donations of healthy snacks (Yes, homemade cookies are healthy!) and, most of all, the adult and teen tutors who will be the heart of the program. We will meet in early January for a brief orientation. If you are interested, please contact Pat Greenwald at 410-489-6540 or at patgreenwald@comcast.net or just tell her in church one Sunday!

Thanks for all of your continued support of the mission work of St. Paul's!

Ridia Dearie, Missions Chairwoman rande65@jhu.edu



3rd ANNUAL WOMEN'S RETREAT

Save the dates of January 15th-17th as the women of the Sykesville Parish will gather again at the West River Retreat Center for a weekend of worship, study, prayer, fellowship, and fun. The theme this year is "Peace: A Gift of God" led by Pastor Terri Rae. We will explore peace in our personal lives, peace as an experience of grace, and peace in our personal relationships. The



cost will be \$110 for the weekend—two overnights and five meals. Email Pastor Terri Rae if you can attend. Checks can be made out to St. Paul's UMC and earmarked "Women's Retreat." Registration is now open.

Gaither's December Missions

Adopt-A- Family: We will continue to collect gift cards from Wal-Mart and grocery stores in the Eldersburg area. Gifts will be delivered to the families the Sunday prior to Christmas. If you would be interested in helping with the deliveries please call Carmella Evans at 443-277-8607 for more details.

Board of Child Care: We will have a special collection for the Board of Child Care in December. Please look for the donation envelopes included in the bulletin.



		GREETERS	LITURGIST	ACOLYTE	NURSERY
St. Paul's	12/6	Ken & Jackie Talley	Amy Johnson	Sarah Creutzer	Carol Bleam
	12/13	Greg & Cathy Fuchs	Thiha Htwar	Maya Tzan	Maddie Marks
	12/20	Ray & Pat Greenwald	Lois Roberts	Emma Mathews	Donna Norman
	12/24	5:00PM - Frank, Beth, Jill, & Lindsay Robert 9:00PM - Jonathan, Joy, John, & Thomas Brooks	Frank Robert		Closed--families may use as needed.
	12/27	Bill & Sandy Gawel	Mark Whittemore	Ryan Stauffer	Megan Vogel
Gaither	12/6	Tom & Joyce Arnold	Bettye Stirn	Kesi Mertz	
	12/13	Jean Hershberger	Janet Boyd	Chad Doxzen	
	12/20	Ed & Carol Hullett	Children's Christmas Program		
	12/24	Wayne & Susan Arrington	TBD	TBD	
	12/27	Jeff & Valli Adams	Bettye Stirn	Kesi Mertz	

December Worship at the Sykesville Parish

Sunday Worship Schedule:

St. Paul's Contemporary "SonLight" Service 9:15AM

Gaither Traditional Service 9:30AM

St. Paul's Traditional Service 11:00AM

Special Worship Opportunities:

Sunday, December 6th: "Called to Be a Hinge" (Luke 3:1-6)

Communion

Sunday, December 13th: "After the Fire and Brimstone" (Luke 3:7-18)

Bell Choir at both services at St. Paul's

Sunday, December 20th:

9:30AM - Gaither Children's Christmas Program

11:00AM - St. Paul's Christmas Choir program

Thursday, December 24th: Christmas Eve

3:00PM—Children's Service at St. Paul's

5:00PM—Youth Service at St. Paul's

7:00PM—Candlelight Service at Gaither

9:00PM—Candlelight Service at St. Paul's

The Reason for the Season



Sunday, December 27th:

Services Featuring Our Young Adults

Upcoming Meetings & Events

- Tuesday, 1 December – **St. Paul’s Administrative Council Meeting** – 7:00PM in St. Paul’s Education Building Rooms 202 & 204
- Wednesday, 2 December – **“Sent: Delivering the Gift of Hope at Christmas” Advent Study** – Begins at 6:00PM with a potluck dinner and concludes by 7:30PM in St. Paul’s Social Hall
- Thursday, 3 December – **Noon Bible Study: 2nd Corinthians** – 12Noon to 1:00PM in St. Paul’s Education Building Rooms 202 & 204
- Friday, 4 December – **Sykesville Parish United Methodist Women’s Christmas Bazaar Set-up** – 9:00AM to 6:00PM in St. Paul’s Social Hall
- Saturday, 5 December – **St. Paul’s Christmas Open House**
United Methodist Women’s Christmas Bazaar, Silent Auction and Bake Sale:
2:00PM – 8:00PM
Children’s Crafts: 2:00PM – 5:00PM
Dinner & Music
- Sunday, 6 December – **St. Paul’s Deadline to Order Christmas Poinsettias**
– **UMYF Cake Bake Sale**
- Wednesday, 9 December – **January Newsletter Deadline**
– **“Sent: Delivering the Gift of Hope at Christmas” Advent Study** – Begins at 6:00PM with a potluck dinner and concludes by 7:30PM in St. Paul’s Social Hall
- Thursday, 10 December – **Noon Bible Study: 2nd Corinthians** – 12Noon to 1:00PM in St. Paul’s Education Building Rooms 202 & 204
- Monday, 14 December – **Prayer Shawl Ministry** – 2:00PM in St. Paul’s Education Building Rooms 202 & 204
- Wednesday, 16 December – **Last “Sent: Delivering the Gift of Hope at Christmas” Advent Study** – Begins at 6:00PM with a potluck dinner and concludes by 7:30PM in St. Paul’s Social Hall
- Thursday, 17 December – **Noon Bible Study: 2nd Corinthians** – 12Noon to 1:00PM in St. Paul’s Education Building Rooms 202 & 204
- Sunday, 20 December – **Gaither’s Children’s Christmas Program** – 9:30AM
– **St. Paul’s Choral Christmas Program** – 11:00AM
– **UMYF Christmas Party** – 6:00PM to 8:00PM
- Thursday, 24 December – **Christmas Eve** – The church office will be closed
– **Christmas Eve Services**
3:00PM – Children’s Service at St. Paul’s
5:00PM – Youth Service at St. Paul’s
7:00PM – Gaither’s Candlelight Service
9:00PM – St. Paul’s Candlelight Service
- Friday, 25 December – **Christmas Day** – The church office will be closed
- Sunday, 27 December – **No Sunday School**
– **Young Adult Service** – 9:30AM & 11:00AM Services
– **Installation of 2016 Leadership** – 9:30AM & 11:00AM Services
– **No Coffee Hour**
- Thursday, 31 December – **New Year’s Eve** – The church office will be closed
- Friday, 1 January – **Happy New Year** – The church office will be closed.

A.A. Meets Every Monday and Friday at 8:00PM in St. Paul’s Social Hall.

INCOME & EXPENSE REPORT

January 1, 2015 – Dec 31, 2015

2015 Budget Amount - \$463,745.50

<u>Income:</u>	Annual Budget	Actual 1/1 – 10/31	<u>Other Income:</u>	
Envelopes & Loose Plate	\$ 424,235	\$ 326,800	Capital Fund	\$ 27,358
Sunday School Offerings	\$ 2,000	\$ 657	Memorials	\$ 75
Gaither UMC	\$ 36,811	\$ 30,676	United Methodist Men	\$
AA Social Hall	\$ 700	\$ 450	UMYF – Fundraisers/deposits	\$ 12,385
			Pastor's Discretion	\$
Total Income	\$ 463,746	\$ 358,583	Lent	\$ 2,105
			Scholarship Fund	\$ 1,024
			Missions	\$ 27,766
			Sunday School – Missions	\$ 1,360
			Roof	\$ 2,100
Expenses:				
Salaries & Conference Obligations	\$ 296,126	\$ 254,079		
Apportionments	\$ 45,870	\$ 38,225		
Program Expenses	\$ 50,450	\$ 33,638		
Church Maintenance and Utilities	\$ 55,000	\$ 45,814		
Parsonage Maintenance and Utilities	\$ 8,800	\$ 6,478		
Insurance	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,011		
Total Expenses	\$ 463,746	\$ 385,245		
Expenses over Income		(\$ 26,662)		
			Balances:	
			Carroll Community – Checking	\$ 32,170
			Carroll Community- Savings	\$ 16,119
			UM Foundation	\$ 79,502
Items paid from Savings				
Capital expenditures		\$ 18,056		

Checking balance includes items still to be paid – i.e. payroll liabilities, mission balances and other temporarily restricted funds. We appreciate the continued support to meet our financial needs. **Our deficit has grown** over the summer months **so we ask that you prayerfully consider increasing your tithes and offerings.**

On-line giving is now available for checking accounts – Sign up at:

<http://www.myowngiving.com/Default.aspx?cid=1581>.

If interested please email Donna Larkin at stpaulssykesville@gmail.com. Giving Envelopes will be distributed in December. They will be in the Social Hall with the Christmas Cards.

Confirmation classes will begin on Sunday, January 24th after St. Paul's 11:00AM worship service and end at 1:30PM. An adult or guardian must be present with the confirmand for this opening session on January 24th. This is an **EVERY SUNDAY COMMITMENT**. No absences are allowed except, of course, for illness, and a parental contact is required to excuse for illness. Please contact the church office to register your child. An informational packet will be forwarded to you. Confirmation Sunday is scheduled for Sunday, April 10th.



St Paul's United Methodist Church

7538 Main St.

Sykesville, MD 21784

**Non-Profit
Organization**

**U.S. Postage
Paid
Permit No. 2**

**Sykesville,
MD 21784**

St. Paul's United Methodist Church

Contemporary Worship Service 9:15 a.m.
Sunday School 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon
Worship Service 11:00 a.m.

Staff:

Pastor Terri Rae Chattin
Associate Pastor Douglas D. Tzan
Administrative Assistant: Colleen Goodman
Church Organist: David Eide-Altman
Youth Coordinator: Kim Reed

Special Ministries at St. Paul's

Administrative Board Chairperson:
Pat Greenwald
Vice Chairperson: Temple Riehl
Church Treasurer: Bill Gawel
Financial Secretary: Donna Larkin
Sunday School Directors:
Charlotte Riesett/Callie Elwood
United Methodist Women President: Dawn Wittfelt
Vice President: Genie Corbin
United Methodist Men President: Gil Creutzer
Music/Choir Director: Betty May
Lay Leader: Kim Pyles

Gaither United Methodist Church

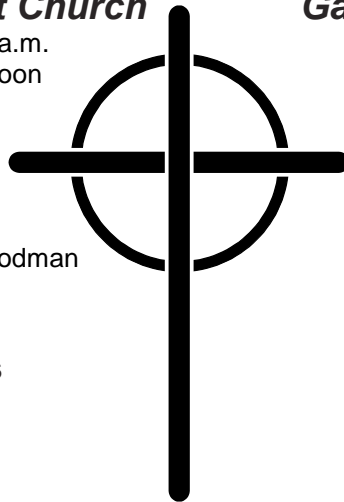
Worship Service 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:15 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Staff:

Pastor Terri Rae Chattin
Associate Pastor Douglas D. Tzan
Administrative Assistant:
Colleen Goodman
Church Organist: Janet Boyd
Youth Coordinator: Kim Reed

Special Ministries at Gaither

Administrative Board Chairperson:
Janet Boyd
Church Treasurer: Denton Boyd
Financial Secretary: Amy Hoffman
Lay Leader: Carmella Evans



**Church Office Hours:
Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon
Church - (410) 795-0714
(Church Office Located at St. Paul's)**