



## *Praise & Patter – January 2022*

### **St. Paul's Lutheran Church**

24 E. Baltimore St. ▪ PO Box 148 ▪ Funkstown, MD 21734 ▪ 301-791-1738  
office@stpaulsfunkstown.org      www.stpaulsfunkstownmd.org

“The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined.” *Isaiah 9:2*

The primary message of Advent is that the light of Christ is breaking into our darkness by his birth and will burn bright on Christmas with forgiveness and salvation, hope and joy, peace and love. The word “Advent” literally means “a coming or arrival.” During the season of Advent, we focus upon two comings: (1) Jesus’ first coming as a baby in Bethlehem over two thousand years ago and (2) the second coming, which we still await, when Christ will come in glory and judgment.

Our family recently visited the light display at Byron Memorial Park and toured the “Festival of Trees” at the Springfield Barn in Williamsport, MD. The lights in the park are beautiful and depict a wide range of characters – from Christ’s nativity to SpongeBob. The trees in the barn are decorated by local businesses, organizations, and churches – each with its own flavor and creative touch.

Touring the Springfield Barn reminded me of a couple in my home congregation who placed Christmas trees in every room of their home. Each room had a particular theme: one room had red lights with Santa and reindeer decorations; one room had white lights and angel decorations; one room had blue lights with blue balls and snowflakes, etc. It always amazed me to see their creativity and to experience the joy and beauty of those lights – shining a message of hope in the cold, dark days of December.

Strings of white or multicolored lights can change an ordinary room into a spectacular showplace. They can turn a barren pine or cedar tree into a twinkling and sparkling wonder.

When you see the lights on your home or those in the neighborhood this year, I encourage you to remember that Jesus is the “Light of the World,” who has the power to transform plain old you and me into shimmering displays of his glory and grace. Each day, Jesus longs to use us to shine a light of hope and grace into the world, and into those we meet along life journey. He even said to his disciples (and to us): “You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.” *Matthew 5:14-16*

Merry Christmas to you and your family. Let your light shine for all to see.

*Pastor Lee*

## JOIN US FOR WORSHIP at 9:00 am EACH SUNDAY!

**In-Person** – Masks are not required in our building. For those who wish to wear a mask, please do so. We want everyone to feel as comfortable and safe as possible. We understand that the comfort levels of each family may be different. Please keep this in mind as you enter the building and respect the decisions of others regarding masks and social distancing.

**Live Stream** – [www.stpaulsfunkstownmd.org](http://www.stpaulsfunkstownmd.org)

**Facebook Live** – [www.facebook.com/stpaulsfunkstown](http://www.facebook.com/stpaulsfunkstown)

### Tithes and Offerings

Everlasting Father, thank you that you are the light of the world, guiding our steps on your path. Your word says that the earth is yours, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to you. We recognize everything we have belongs to you. We acknowledge that our very lives belong to you. We now offer back to you a portion of what you have given us. May God the Father prepare our journey, Jesus the Son guide our footsteps and the Holy Spirit watch over us, on every path that we follow. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

THANK YOU for your faithful & generous giving, which helps us to share the good news of Jesus. Please visit our website [www.stpaulsfunkstownmd.org](http://www.stpaulsfunkstownmd.org) and click GIVE to learn about electronic giving options. You can also mail your offerings to the church or drop them off during office hours, which are 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.

November Receipts	\$18,264.44
November Expenses	\$22,572.80
Principal paid on debt	\$ 2,134.95

**Bible Study** is held on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 am. Everyone is invited! Please come as you are able (weekly attendance is wonderful but not required).

### Prayer Ministry

Remember these brothers and sisters in Christ in your daily prayers:



#### Our prayers are with:

#### The family of **Andy Lighter**

January 2	Catherine Fox, Lennie Frey, Stephanie Frey, Spencer Frey, Shirley Gardner, Hilary, Paige and Peyton Gesell, Guy and Janice Greene, Brenda, Sierra and Brianna Oberholzer
January 9	Brenda Hamilton, Tracey Hammersla, Jackie Harbaugh, Cindy Harbaugh, Cynthia Harbaugh
January 16	Catherine Harris, Willian Hatton and Jeanne Doney, Amy, Benjamin and Zoe Haught, Delores Hawbaker, Jim and Connie Hebb, Peggy Hebb, Scott Hebb, Brian Hebb
January 23	Amanda, Kiersten, Kaitlyn and Kameron Hollinger, Dean and Patsy Hoover, Lauren, Collin, Aidan and Michael Horan, Teresa Hutchens, Adam Hutchens
January 30	Vivian Hyde, Larry Iseminger, Eric, Teresa, Cameron, Chase and Lucas Jacobs, Harold James

### Newsletter News

The deadline to receive information for the February newsletter is NOON on January 18, so we can publish it by the end of January.

**Noisy Offering will be on January 9.** We will provide containers in the Narthex to receive your offering.

**Night Out** will be held on Tuesday **JANUARY 18**, at House of Kobe, at 6:00 pm. Come and have a relaxing, casual dinner and fellowship with your fellow disciples. Remember, all men and women of the congregation (and your friends) are invited to participate.

**The Property Committee** thanks everyone who helped decorate our church for Christmas. Many hands make light work. Thank you to each and every one.

**Micah's Backpack** will have a meeting on Sunday, January 2 after worship. Contact Jeanne Doney for more information.

**Soup & Sandwich Sale** will be held on Saturday, January 15, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

### January Birthdays

1	Jeremy Barron	7	Inge Dudda* Gracie Leonard	20	Suzanne Watson
2	Jane Potts*	16	Gerry Volz	22	Samuel Sarvey
3	Brenda Hamilton Judy Bowers	17	Erica Unger	25	Jacqueline Grove
5	Stacy Purnell	18	Larry Nally		
6	Lynn Spalding Jean Clopper	19	Curt Dudda*		

\*=80 years and over

### January Anniversaries

1	Wilber & Barbara King	27	Jerry & Doris Richardson	20	Jeff & Sharon Poffenberger
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### Winter Cancellations

In the event that it is necessary to cancel a Sunday worship service or any other church activity due to inclement weather, we will announce the cancellation on radio stations, WARK, WHAG, WJEJ, on television station WHAG, on our website and on the answering machine at the church office. While every effort will be made to provide as much advance notice as possible, decisions sometimes cannot be made until the last minute. During the week, if Washington County Schools dismiss early or are closed due to inclement weather, St. Paul's will also cancel activities on those days. Please always use your best judgment when determining if it is safe for you to travel to attend a scheduled event.

**2022 Offering Envelopes** are available in the Fellowship Hall. These envelopes can be used **beginning in 2022**. Please note that your offering envelope number may have changed since 2021.

### 2021 Contributions

All contributions to St. Paul's for 2021 must be received by December 26, 2021. Any offering received after that date (regardless of the particular year's offering envelope or the date on the check) will be credited towards 2022 offerings.

We are accepting special offerings for **Disaster Relief** until January 10, 2022 to help those affected by the tornado in Arkansas, Missouri, Tennessee and Kentucky. Also, our Christmas offering will be designated for disaster relief. Please mark your check or envelope so that we can distinguish it from offerings to the general fund.

**Thank you** outgoing Council members for your faithful service and leadership!  
Travis Fouche, Peggy Hebb, Donna Schmidt, and Becky Wolford.

Newly elected Council members are Lennie Frey, Teresa Hutchens, and Debbie Reichard (2 year terms); Gerald Clark, William Hatton, Jim Hebb, and Dave Wolford (3 year terms)

**Officers for 2022**

President – Connor Shank  
Vice President – Teresa Hutchens  
Secretary – Lennie Frey  
Treasurer – David Wolford  
Assistant Treasurer – Peggy Hebb

**Upcoming Events**

January 4, 11, 18, 25 – Crossways Bible Study at 10:00 am  
January 9 – Noisy Offering  
January 11 – Council Meeting 7:00 pm  
January 15 – Soup & Sandwich Sale 10:00 am to 1:00 pm  
January 18 – Newsletter Deadline  
January 18 – Night Out 6:00 pm at House of Kobe

<b>Church Office Hours</b>	Monday through Friday, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
<b>Church Secretary</b>	Carol Ann Rossman
<b>Pastor</b>	Lee Brumback
<b>Director of Music</b>	Cara Price
<b>Council President</b>	Travis Fouche