



**You'll Never Walk Alone**

Sitting in my home office and looking out of the window, I see a beautiful blue sky, a bright sunny day with the tree branches blowing in the wind and the clouds just billowing on high. The majesty of God's creation is awe inspiring and leaves me with the feeling that all is right with the world until I realize that we are under "Stay at Home" orders because of a Pandemic. Looks can be very deceiving.

As a baby boomer, I did not know the hardships that World War II placed on my parents and grandparents. In fact as a boomer, I have had a much easier path in life than the previous generations of my family. Sure we have had major problems in the world during my lifetime but they never were here in my own country until the 9/11/2001 attack. But even that did not cause long term issues within our society.

Along comes a virus in 2020 that has the world in turmoil, governments scrambling, medical personnel exhausted treating the sheer numbers of those infected, hospitals filled to capacity, medical supplies running low and thousands dying in many countries including the United States. All of this from a novel virus that we were not prepared for in any way.

Being a person of faith, I have always believed that my Faith brings Hope and my Hope brings Joy. So without Faith there is neither Hope nor Joy. I have been praying that all of us will stay healthy and safe during these tumultuous times. Also, I believe when we are past the Pandemic that our Faith will be strengthened.

A Rogers and Hammerstein song has been running through my head for a few days now and I think it is appropriate to share the lyrics with you.

**When you walk through a storm  
Hold your head up high  
And don't be afraid of the dark**

**At the end of the storm  
There's a golden sky  
And the sweet silver song of a lark**

**Walk on through the wind  
Walk on through the rain  
Though your dreams be tossed and blown**

**Walk on, walk on  
With Hope in heart  
And you'll never walk alone**

**You'll never walk alone.**

**Mark Your Calendars**

**Sundays**, in May, 9:00 a.m. Service ~ Zoomed from Fr. Bill's home.

## **WE ARE NOT IN THE SAME BOAT**

I heard that we are in the same boat. But it's not like that. We are in the same storm, but not in the same boat. Your ship can be shipwrecked and mine might not be. Or vice versa.

For some, quarantine is optimal: moment of reflection, of re-connection. Easy, in flip flops, with a whiskey or tea. For others, this is a desperate crisis. For others it is facing loneliness. For some, a peace, rest time, vacation. Yet for others, Torture: How am I going to pay my bills? Some were concerned about a brand of chocolate for Easter (this year there were no rich chocolates). Others were concerned about the bread for the weekend, or if the noodles would last for a few more days. Some were in their "home office". Others are looking through trash to survive. Some want to go back to work because they are running out of money. Others want to kill those who break the quarantine. Some need to break the quarantine to stand in line at the banks. Others to escape. Others criticize the government for the lines. Some have experienced the near death of the virus, some have already lost someone from it, some are not sure their loved ones are going to make it, and some don't even believe this is a big deal. Some of us who are well now may end up experiencing it, and some believe they are infallible and will be blown away if or when this hits someone they know. Some have faith in God and expect miracles during this 2020. Others say the worse is yet to come.

So, friends, we are not in the same boat. We are going through a time when our perceptions and needs are completely different. And each one will emerge, in his own way, from that storm. Some with a tan from their pool. Others with scars on the soul (for invisible reasons). It is very important to see beyond what is seen at first glance. Not just looking, more than looking, seeing. See beyond the political party, beyond religion, beyond the nose on your face.

Do not underestimate the pain of others if you do not feel it. Do not judge the good life of the other, do not condemn the bad life of the other. Don't be a judge. Let us not judge the one who lacks, as well as the one who exceeds him.

We are on different ships looking to survive. Let everyone navigate their route with respect, empathy and responsibility. --Author unknown

**WHEN YOU'RE  
TEMPTED TO LOSE  
PATIENCE WITH SOMEONE,  
THINK HOW PATIENT GOD  
HAS BEEN WITH  
YOU ALL THE TIME.**

**NOAH DIDN'T SWIM  
IN THE FLOOD TO PROVE  
HIS FAITH; HE AND HIS  
FAMILY STAYED IN THE  
ARK UNTIL IT WAS SAFE.**

## Prayer for a Pandemic

May we who are merely inconvenienced  
remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors  
remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home  
remember those who must choose between preserving  
their health or making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close  
remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips  
remember those that have no safe place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market  
remember those who have no margin at all.

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home  
remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country,  
let us choose love.

During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other,  
let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors.

Amen.

By: Cameron Bellm



## **Stewardship**

Thank you for your continuing financial support during this period of uncertainty due to COVID-19. The Sunday service (via Zoom) and church work and bills are still on their usual schedule. It is very important for all of us to keep our pledges up to date. Even though we are not physically meeting, other donations you may wish to make, in thanksgiving, memory, or other designations will be listed in the appropriate bulletin. We know that it is the occasion, not the flowers, you want to acknowledge. We appreciate those of you who have been giving faithfully.

## **Pledge Payment Options**

- 1 Mail checks to St. Paul's. Please remember to including any special offerings building fund, and flower/altar/other donations, in addition to your pledge or regular contribution.
- 2 Payments can be made through the Diocese.

**Directions:** go to [www.episcopalmaryland.org](http://www.episcopalmaryland.org)

On home page - click on "Give to My Congregation"

Scroll down to St. Paul's, Mt. Airy. Put in pledge/donation amount

Fill in bottom of the form. Click on submit payment.

Your name/pledge/donation will be sent to St. Paul's. As usual, St. Paul's will properly record your financial gift.

Linda S. Sharp

**Stewardship and Scrip:** "For a time such as this," when we all have to buy groceries, get gas, go to the pharmacy etc., wearing our face mask, for your convenience **Scrip is available.** This is an important way to help St. Paul's financially. Contact Pete McIntosh by phone, 410-984-3363 or email, [pjmacin@aol.com](mailto:pjmacin@aol.com), to place an order. The challenge to buy at least \$100 worth of gift cards each month is still on. So during this troublesome time perhaps you can double this amount. Thanking you in advance for your support.

Peter McIntosh, Chair.



**We are All Called to: Stay calm. Stay connected. Stay Church.** Great Hews! **St. Paul's is livestreaming** its Sunday morning service, Rite 2, at 9:00 am. What a blessing this is for all of us. Stephen Jones, Jeff Spaulding and Fr. William (Bill) Thompson-Uberuaga have made it possible for us to continue our worship as a community through Zoom. You can join via computer or phone (See pages 7 & 8).

In addition, here are a few worship opportunities to help us stay calm (prayerful, mindful, and present); to stay connected (socially and spiritually gathered) and stay/be Church (liturgy, music, prayers, Word, sending-out). Sunday Eucharist; Morning Prayer; Noonday Prayer; Weekday Bible Study; Evening Prayer; Compline, can be found [www.episcopalmaryland.org](http://www.episcopalmaryland.org); [www.edow.org](http://www.edow.org); [www.episcopalchurch.org](http://www.episcopalchurch.org) and at **several local churches websites**, such as St. Andrews, Glenwood; St. James, Mt. Airy; All Saints, Frederick; St. John's, Ellicott City; Christ Church, Columbia. All of these parishes and many more are livestreaming their services. You can find them by googling their name or searching their Facebook page. Bishop Curry invites all to join him each Monday morning, through May, at ten o'clock, for "Habits of Grace." This video can be found on the National Church website.

## **YOU ARE THE VITALITY OF ST. PAUL'S:**

**NOW**, more than before, we ask you **to review and meditate on the vitality of our parish**. The members of your Long-Term Planning Committee for St. Paul's have come to understand that God is resurrecting the church community into new life. We see this as part of the life-cycle of this living organization. The committee members have discovered this through prayer, reflection, personal stories and discussion. On December 8<sup>th</sup>, during coffee hour, Fr. Bill facilitated the discussion as to where St. Paul's is, right now, on the Life Cycle Chart. At the Annual Meeting a written report of this committee was presented. Please re-read it. Then, with fresh eyes, answer the following questions again.

Where/how are you finding joy at St. Paul's? Where/how are you finding purpose here?  
Where/how are you finding your connection to God at St. Paul's? Are your answers the same as they were before when you were asked these questions; or are they different? **Perhaps, now, having more time at home, you can jot down your answers and revisit them with new lenses as we move through unsettle and yet hopeful times.**

### **Upcoming Events**

#### **Sundays in May:**

Church Service, 9:00am, via Zoom  
See page 7 & 8 for detailed Zoom instructions.

### **St. Paul's Nearly New Thrift Shop:**

**Thrift Shop closed till further notice due to COVID-19**

**Please hold on to your donations till we are back in business. Thank you.**

### **Happy Birthday to:**

Nancy McIntosh	May 12
Helen Tuel	May 16
Gerlinde Pflaumer-Yeater	May 17
Jilian Cassera	May 30



### **Happy Anniversary to:**

Ron & Kathleen Alexander	May 19
Dave & Trudi Lawson	May 27

### **Lord, Hear Our Prayers.**

Especially now, we need to pray for All. Please call or send a note to those who are shut-in. For May we are focusing on Trudi Lawson. Trudi's address is: Angel's Touch, 12799 Buttercup Ct., West Friendship 21794. If you have additions/deletions to the prayer list please call or email the Parish Office.

### **Prayer List**

Nancy McIntosh; Sandra & Stanley Napier; Gerlinde Pflaumer-Yeater; Natalie Gahm; Trudi & Dave Lawson; Pat Marquis; Landon Reeve; Bryan Landry; Terri Coates; Susan; Pam; Trish; Ruth; Joe; Sandra; Bill; Phyllis Heffner, Susan Kelley, Jaxon & Nathan Buckley, the Fentons; Erin, Shawn, Peyton, Maddy, Doris Sharp; Jean, Ellen, Vinson



### **Prayer for Healing**

This is another day, O Lord. I know not what it will bring forth, but make me ready, Lord, for whatever shall be. If I am to stand up, help me to stand bravely. If I am to sit still, help me to sit quietly. If I am to lie low, help me to do it gallantly. If I am to do nothing, let me do it gallantly. Make these words more than words and give me the spirit of Jesus. Amen. BCP

**Pastoral Concerns**

Pastoral issues and concerns are important to us. Please contact the church office, (410) 489-4411, email: [stpaulschurch-mtairy@verizon.net](mailto:stpaulschurch-mtairy@verizon.net)

**Vestry Officers & Members**

Jeff Spaulding: Senior Warden  
Pete McIntosh: Junior Warden  
Treasurer: Linda Sharp  
Registrar: Nancy McIntosh  
Wendy Gahm                      William Toole  
Kathleen Alexander        Stephen Jones  
Suzanne Bourg                Phyllis Weston



Blessing to all mothers and to those that have been mothers to us in some way.

**St. Paul's "A Shining Light in the Community"**



**MISSION STATEMENT**

**Our Mission is:** To carry the good news of Jesus Christ into the community by word and deed and to help all people experience God's presence in their daily lives.

**Prayer List Request Form**

Please help us to refresh our prayer list! Take a minute to list those people that you want included on the list and mail to the parish office.

For 3 months \_\_\_\_\_ Prayers requested for: \_\_\_\_\_  
Long-term \_\_\_\_\_ Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Submitted \_\_\_\_\_

## Instructions for viewing St. Paul's service through Zoom.

- Stephen Jones will serve as our facilitator throughout the service. He suggests that you sign onto the Zoom meeting at about 8:45 a.m. to ensure that you are in the meeting and ready to go at 9:00.
- Fr. Bill will conduct the service from his home with the capable assistance of his lovely wife Pat (thanks to both of you for leading this effort!).
- After the service is completed there will be an opportunity for community sharing using the app. I look forward to seeing or hearing from many of you on Sunday!
- You can participate on your telephone (you won't be able to view the video image, but you will hear everything), your smart phone, your tablet or your computer (instructions to follow).

This will be the first of what we hope will be weekly services until such time it is safe to gather once again as a community in Christ. While it is likely that some will experience some technical "glitches" along the way, I would ask each of you to "keep the faith" as we work through the issues and fine-tune the process. I am hopeful that this will be a new and exciting way to gather and worship communally until such time as we can once again gather in worship at St. Paul's.

### ***Here is some guidance from Stephen to help you access the service:***

1. On a **regular phone** (you won't get any video, just the audio)

If you're connecting to listen to the audio on a phone, call **(301-715-8592)**, and when asked for a meeting number, **key in 96472984781 then press the pound key (#), and when asked for your attendee number, just hit the pound key (#) again.**

2. **Computer/smartphone/tablet** (both video and audio will be available)

To Install the Zoom software:

Download and install the application.

The below links will help you go directly to the various places

Windows & Mac (home computers): <http://zoom.us/download> (download the Zoom Client for Meetings) <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/id546505307>

Android: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=us.zoom.videomeetings>

Once you have downloaded, you can install the application (automatically done if you are on a phone or a tablet) In the case of a computer, just click on the file downloaded and choose all the default questions to get started and a new Zoom icon will be right there.

**OK – now that Zoom is on your device...**

### **Instructions for Computer Users:**

Make sure your computer's video camera is working and microphone is turned on and muted.

Anywhere from 15 to 5 minutes before a zoom meeting or worship is scheduled to start, **click on the meeting URL – <https://zoom.us/j/96472984781>.**

Zoom will then automatically load itself, give you the opportunity to test your video camera and mike, then place you in a waiting room until just before the video gathering begins.

**Instructions for Smartphone/Tablet Users:**

Make sure you downloaded and installed the Zoom app (available from the Apple App Store or GooglePlay).

About 5 minutes before the service is scheduled, open the Zoom app and **enter the meeting number**

The Zoom app will then place you in a waiting room until just before the video gathering begins.

**And Here's How to Actually Join**

There are many easy ways to join.

If you're on a computer/tablet/phone, just double click the following web address: <https://zoom.us/j/96472984781>. Once you join a meeting, the application will ask two questions:

Do you want to use the device's audio (internet) or call into the meeting. If you have good internet, use this option, otherwise if you call in the sound may be more clear.

Do you want to use video? By default, it wants you to use the camera, and we welcome it! We find it to be more community-building to see and hear all of you!

As I said, this may seem daunting at first but after a couple services you will be an "old pro". Thankfully, the program is very intuitive and will walk you through the process. Stay well, take care of yourselves and I look forward to seeing (or hearing from) all of you on Sunday morning as we move into this new form of worship! Jeff Spaulding



**Prayer**

**Happy Mother's Day**

Lord Jehovah,  
on this Mother's Day,  
we humbly approach Your  
throne of grace asking that  
today You touch the hearts of  
the mothers of the world

Grant them  
**PEACE,**  
**STRENGTH,**  
**WISDOM & FAITH.**



Read full prayer at: [christianatt.com](http://christianatt.com)



**Loving God,**  
we thank you for the love  
of the mothers you have  
given us, whose love is so  
precious that it can never  
be measured, whose patience  
seems to have no end.

We pray for those mothers  
who fear they will run out  
of love or time, or patience.  
We ask you to bless them  
with your own special love.

**Amen.**

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