

SOUTH MOUNTAIN SHARED MINISTRY NEWSLETTER

Bethany Lutheran and St. Paul's Lutheran



Charlie's Corner: Prayer and Vacations

One of my favorite parts of summer is traveling. Sometimes it is to the beach where I can just sit and listen the waves for hours. Sometimes it is to a park in a new town where you just watch the birds and animals run around. Sometimes it is to an amusement park or convention. Maybe its to watch a baseball game in a different stadium. Summer is a time where we find ourselves going, even if it is just for a day or so.

The beauty of those moments, of traveling or going somewhere out of the normal routine, is the opportunity to see God's creation in a new light, to see how the Holy Spirit is working in that place at that time.

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Upcoming Events

**Wednesday Night Dinners at
Bethany: Every
Second and Fourth
Wednesdays at 5:30 pm**

**Kokopeli Winds Concert at St.
Paul's in Burkittsville on June
8th at 4pm**

**South Mountain Shared Ministry
Summer calendar is listed on
page 3 and they include a trivia
night, a game night, and pub
theology!**

**Pentacost: June 8th
Holy Trinity Sunday: June 15th**

Prayer and Vacation (Cont'd)

In those moments we have an opportunity to give thanks and pray for that space, for that moment to shared by others. It can be a short prayer. More often than not, I find myself uttering something as short as, "God, this is awesome. Thank you! Let this view never grow old!"

As I was in Cape Town for a family wedding, I kept saying that over and over again. The beauty of creation was astounding and I wanted

that beauty to be there for everyone! The sunsets were stunning. The mountain that surrounded us left me speechless. All I could think was how lucky we are to be part of this creation.

For this summer, I hope you all have the chance to take a moment and be in wonder looking out into creation. Whether it be on a long vacation, or a afternoon. A prayer of thanksgiving, a prayer asking that all continue to admire creation's beauty, helps us remember the blessings that come from our gracious creator.



SUMMER BOOK STUDY AND LABYRINTH

As many schedules change week to week with vacations and other summer plans, we will have a book study on June 28th at 10:00am at Mar-Lu-Ridge. We will meet at the Potomac Lodge (building across from the caboose).

We will be discussing "Into the Mess and Other Jesus Stories: Reflections on the Life of Christ" by Debie Thomas. Each chapter is a reflection on a piece of scripture. Pastor Charlie had read many of her reflections as she wrote for "Journey with Jesus," a weekly webzine on the readings for the coming week from the lectionary.

If assistance is needed to get the book, please contact Pastor Charlie

Following the book study, Pastor Charlie will be leading a labyrinth activity at Mar-Lu-Ridge at 11:30am. The labyrinth is not on flat ground and may be difficult for some, but Pastor Charlie will have an option for those who can not walk the labyrinth.

FIFTH SUNDAY WORSHIP

Joining together for worship as South Mountain Shared Ministry on the Fifth Sundays has become a tradition as a shared ministry . We worshipped at Mar-Lu-Ridge on March 30th as a shared ministry and will worship at Mar-Lu-Ridge on June 29th and August 31st. Both services will be in the chapel at Mar-Lu-Ridge. The services will begin at 10:30am.

The Final fifth Sunday for this year, Nov 30, will not be a joint service as it is the first Sunday of Advent. But will have a shared service on December 28th at St. Paul's for a Christmas Lessons and Carols.

South Mountain Shared Ministry Summer Plans

Summer 2025

Trivia at Smoketown Brewing.

June 5th at 6pm

Join our team as we get together for Trivia at Smoketown Brewing Station! The game starts at 6pm but you want to get there early to make sure there is space! Let Pastor Charlie know if you are interested!

Pub Theology at Tapia's on Main

June 26th and July 24th at 7pm

Pub Theology is a time to gather and have discussion about life, faith, and what may be happening in the world. We will have few questions to help start the conversation but will see where it goes knowing that we all have different views and experiences! Let Pastor Charlie know if interested so he can give Tapia's an estimate for numbers!

Pizza and Game Night at Bethany.

July 18th at 6pm

Join us for pizza and games for all ages! We will be getting pizza from King's and have board games for casual fans and for those who may like a little more strategy. This will be a relaxed night of food, fellowship, and fun!



Kokopeli Winds Concert on June 8th

Saint Paul's will host a concert of classical and spring-themed music on Sunday, June 8, 2025 at 4:00 pm. The concert will feature the Kokopeli Winds quartet with organ selections performed by Jody Brumage. Join us as we welcome the return of Kokopeli Winds to Burkittsville!



WORSHIP TIMES

Bethany Lutheran

9:45 am on Sunday Mornings

St. Paul's Lutheran

11:15 am on Sunday Mornings



South Mountain Shared Ministry Spaghetti Fundraiser for Mar-Lu-Ridge on August 9th

South Mountain Shared Ministry will be holding a free-will offering Spaghetti dinner with the donations going towards Mar-Lu-Ridge and their continued ministry! There will be spaghetti, meatballs, salad, garlic bread and a bake table!

The meal will be from 5-7pm at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Burkittsville. Come out and enjoy dinner and support our local outdoor ministry site!

Other August Events:

Faith Night at Frederick Keys: We are looking into getting a group together for Frederick Key's Faith Night on August 16th. Be on the look out for more information to come! Please email if you are interested!

Bethany's Ice Cream Social: Come by Bethany Lutheran in the evening on August 20th for some homemade ice cream and other treats!



Contact Information for Pastor Charlie:

Email: charlie.frekot21@gmail.com

Office Hours*:

Monday: 10 am-1 pm
at St. Paul's

Thursday: 9 am-12 pm
at Bethany

*Subject to change because of presence needed at synod meetings or events and potential pastoral care needs within congregations



SOUTH MOUNTAIN CONTACT INFO:

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