

ST. PAUL'S WEEKLY EPISTLE

IMPORTANT NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 17, 2026

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR A)

Holy Father, protect them in your name...so that they may be one" (John 17:11). With these words, Jesus prays for the unity of his disciples in every age, for their life and for their mission in the world. Throughout these last days of Easter leading to Pentecost, we could readily pray these words: Holy Father, protects us in your name so that we may be one. In the midst of much economic, ethnic, and cultural diversity, there is ample room for letting what is distinctive about us become divisive. Yet, as Christians, our deepest identity is discovered in baptism, proclaimed in the word, and nourished in the holy supper: we are one people who struggle for the unity that God intends for the entire human family.

TONGUES FOR PENTECOST

Next **Sunday, May 24**, we will celebrate the Day of Pentecost. Once again, we are asking those who speak a native tongue or foreign language to join in the proclamation of the "Joel" portion of our First Reading: Acts 2:17-21. Use your own Bibles or let us know if you need a scripted text and the language you will be speaking—from your place in the pews (don't even need to come forward). Contact Mike Bareham, Director of Music and Worship after service this morning or email him: music@stpaulsnewarkde.org.

COME, WITNESS TO THE RESURRECTION!

St. Paul's ministry of music and friends from the community will present a festival Easter concert this **Sunday, May 17, at 4PM**. Come enjoy our Sanctuary Choir, Handbell Ensemble, and chamber orchestra as they offer anthems for the Easter season between "comments from the great cloud of witnesses." There will be opportunities for audience participation and voluntaries performed by guest organist, Paul Fleckenstein, as well. A freewill offering benefitting the Friends of Music fund will be received and a reception will follow.

NEW MEMBER OPPORTUNITY

If you are considering becoming a member here at St Paul's, you are invited to learn more at two upcoming information classes. The two classes will be held right after worship on Sunday, May 31, and Sunday, June 7. New member reception will be held on June 14. Please RSVP your intention to join us no later than **Sunday, May 17**, (to Linda Grund at lgrund923@gmail.com). Any questions, please contact Pastor Cris at pastor@stpaulsnewarkde.org.

BREWING THEOLOGY

For everyone twenty-one and older, please join us on **Wednesday, May 20, at 7:00 PM** at the Delaware Saengerbund for a tasty beverage, some snacks, and some hearty conversation. Our topic for this week will be "When do you feel closest to God?"

SUMMER CHOIR

As of this week, there will be no Thursday night rehearsals until the Fall. If you would like to sing on Sunday morning in worship, come to the choir loft at 9:30 AM to learn the anthem to be sung later in the service. All are welcome to add their voice to our sung prayer.

BOOKS AND BANTER

The correct date for the May meeting is **Wednesday, May 27, at 1PM**. The book for this month is "The Bird Hotel" by Joyce Maynard.

FLOWER DEDICATIONS

Altar flowers are an important part of our worship experience. If you'd like to place flowers on a specific date in honor or in memory of someone, please use the QR Code on the back of the bulletin to sign up. A donation of \$40 is requested. If you are unable to use the QR code or Sign-Up Genius, please contact the church office for assistance.

WELCOMING WAYS

Remember that visitors could be genuinely nervous on their first visit and can remain so for several visits; therefore, you must be gently welcoming, not overwhelming in your enthusiasm.



Together in Jesus Christ we are freed by grace to live faithfully, witness boldly, and serve joyfully.



The Reverend Cris Frigm

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Church Council

Susie Olson (*President*), Anne Sullivan (*Vice President*), Phillip Gerecke (*Secretary*), Mary Collins (*Treasurer*), Laura Blenderman, Heidi Burch, Kristine Cassar, Mark Deschere, Ian Kenyon.

Weekly Epistle/E-mail Blast - articles are due by Wednesday morning at 10 AM to office@stpaulsnewarkde.org. Late submissions will be shared the following week.



Worship Attendance



Prayer Requests



Electronic Giving



Worship Assistants & Flower Dedications

