

Our Church

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

25 West Springettsbury Ave., York, PA 17403

717/843-8155 – st.paulsyork@comcast.net

www.stpaulsyork.org

May 2017

Sunday Holy Eucharist 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School 9:15 a.m.



Building in Faith for Future Generations

Where are we now?

We have celebrated with joy the festival of our Lord's resurrection. In the midst of Lent and Holy Week it was difficult to focus on the renewal of our physical plant. But many meetings were held and progress was made.

The Focus Team/Renewal Renovations Team met with the architects and the builders. The scope of the project was evaluated. With the majority of the project being the mechanicals (electrical wiring, heating and cooling) we are still waiting to see how to proceed, or to put it another way, to determine on which part of the building we will begin. There have been many questions regarding start date and how the project will be phased. At this point in time we are all waiting.

The Finance Team met with financial institutions regarding funding for such a large scale project. As you are aware the Federal Reserve has raised interest rates. Because of the delay in receiving congregation Capital Campaign pledges we are looking at a greater cost especially during the construction phase. Two firms seem to grasp what we are trying to accomplish and soon we anticipate a recommendation from the Finance Committee to the Congregation Council for action to secure the financing.

The contract for the new organ console has been approved and in late spring or early summer our 80 year old organ console will be removed so that a new one can be made. This is a highly customized project designed for the pipe work that is contained behind the fabric screens in the front of the church nave. (Victor Fields has included an extensive article about this process.)

We are planning for an event which will showcase the work proposed for The St. Paul's Preschool. Alumni and their families will be invited to return to St. Paul's for an overview and perhaps a tour to help communicate the improvements for the educational arm of this project. We will be asking our alumni and their families to make a contribution to help with the costs associated with the renovations.

In the meantime pledges continue to come forth, financial contributions are being made, bulletin boards display both images of our proposed spaces and up-dates to the financial information. We continue to keep the project and all of our congregational leaders in our prayers as we work for the renewal of our building and our congregation so that we can *"tell to the coming generations the glorious deeds of the Lord and the wonders that God has done."*

Annual Church Picnic

The annual church picnic is slated for Sunday June 18 at Kain Park, Perch Pavilion. The Fellowship Committee has been working on the plans so that the day is a glorious success. The Christian Ed Committee asks you to bring the kids at 9 a.m. to enjoy fun games and activities before the Worship Service and Picnic. There will also be a Family Scavenger Hunt for your family to participate in. And the Worship and Arts Committee is planning for a beautiful outdoor liturgy to begin at 10:30 a.m. The meal will be a covered dish and instead of assigning a type of dish, everyone can bring their favorite covered dish item to share. Also, Fellowship will furnish BBQ pork sandwiches and water and iced tea and lemonade. If you would like a different beverage, you may bring it. Paper and plastic will be provided but you may "save the environment" by bringing your own place settings. Watch the Sunday Bulletin and future issues of the *Our Church* for additional information. The meal will be served immediately following the service.



KNOEBELS Saturday, July 29

Meet at St. Paul's by 8:45 AM, Bailey's Charter Bus will transport everyone to Knoebels, arriving approximately 11 AM. Enjoy a fun filled day with, swimming, rides, amusement games and shows with your family and St. Paul's friends at the park. For your convenience, a Pavilion has been reserved and can be used all day. A picnic style Dinner will be provided at 5 PM. The bus will load at 6:45 and depart no later than 7 PM, arriving home by 9 PM.

Lunch will be on your own, you can pack a picnic lunch or purchase food at the park.

Please let me know as soon as possible if you are interested in attending this event! The bus and pavilion are reserved. Let's fill the bus!!!



MINI GOLF AND ICE CREAM

5745 Lincoln Highway, York, PA 17406

Sunday, August 27

1:00 PM

Meet at Jim Mack's Ice Cream in Hellam
Enjoy playing 24-hole Miniature Golf



2017 Flower Chart

The 2017 flower chart is posted on the Springettsbury hallway bulletin board. The cost of the flowers is \$30 per vase. You are welcome to sign up to provide one or both vases. After you have signed up, simply make a check payable to St. Paul's Lutheran Church and mark it altar flowers. This is a great way to honor someone, celebrate a milestone in life, or remember a loved one. The flowers may be taken home with you at the conclusion of the 10:30 a.m. liturgy or you may have them given to someone who is sick, at home, or hospitalized. If you wish, you can contact the office to reserve a date, and provide us with all of the correct information for inclusion in the Sunday bulletin. In advance, we thank you for your kind generosity and for making the chancel ever more attractive with fresh flowers each Sunday.



Council Highlights

The Congregation Council gathered for their regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the church library. The meeting began with prayer offered by Matt Yinger. Devotions were from the book "Thank God it's Friday" by William Willamon.

Treasurer Culp led us through the financial information. At this point in the year the Sunday offerings remain on track with 2017 yearly projections. Committees were reminded to review their line items each month making sure that expenses are posted on the correct lines in the budget.



The Capital Campaign up-date (as of 4-18-17) yields 115 pledges totaling \$825,681. We have narrowed the financing options to two financial institutions, Members First and York Traditions. These will be reviewed by the Finance Committee and will be forwarded to Council for their approval. The most striking difference between the two offers is with the bridge loan interest only during the construction period or during the capital campaign period.

Our voting members to the Synod Assembly are: Andrew Doughty, Eric Haupt, Denise Rider and Tina Llorente as alternate.

The annual insurance review led to one minor change in the policy. All of our deductibles will be \$1,000.

The contract for the organ work was approved, less the Trompette en chamade (festival trumpet) and the digital voices (see article on pipe organ 101).

An informational meeting for the congregation will be held following the 10:30 a.m. liturgy on Sunday April 23.

The meeting concluded with prayer offered by Tristan Ericson at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pastor Reep

Thrivent Choice Dollars – If you are a Thrivent member (years ago known as The Lutheran Brotherhood) through your participation in their insurance and/or annuity offerings you earn "Choice Dollars" which you can direct to thousands of organizations such as congregations, schools, seminaries, camps, etc. Through this charitable outreach program the members get to choose who will receive the approximate fifty million dollars generated each year for approved causes/ organizations. Yes, the number is correct - **\$50,000,000.00**. And yes, St. Paul's Lutheran Church can be a recipient if you so designate or any other approved organization in the Thrivent network. The important thing is that you take the time to send "Your Choice Dollars" to a worthy cause. This can be accomplished by doing it on-line at www.Thrivent.com. If you don't have a user I.D. and password you will be asked to create one. If you are registered simply click on the tab "Choice Dollars" and pick the cause of your choice and send the dollars to it. You can also accomplish the same effort by telephone 1-800-847-4836. Should you have any questions about Thrivent, our local representative is John Spadafora, 717-764-0877.

Thrivent Choice



Kids Connection

Where Kids Plug In To Faith, Friends, and Fun!

Kid's Connection is back! Children are invited to gather in the chapel at the start of the sermon and return to their families during the hymn of the day, immediately following the sermon. We will exit together through the door beside the lectern (left side). Participating in Kid's Connection is optional as some children prefer to stay with their family.

Kid's Connection will further enrich the worship experience for children ages 3 through grade 6 by providing a time that children will hear God's Word presented in a hands-on, child friendly format. This may include drama, art, music and movement. Kid's Connection will help them see how Sunday morning worship and the stories from the Bible connect with their daily lives.



The Rite of Confirmation Sunday May 21, 10:30 a.m.

We rejoice that Andrew Moore-Spencer, Connor Livingston, Katherine Hutton, Julia Graham, Robbie Jones and Tyler Jones will confirm their faith in Christ Jesus on Sunday May 21, the Sixth Sunday of Easter. We are blessed to have them take a more active part in our life together at St. Paul's. Please be present in worship to show your support and to welcome them into the fullness of our community of faith. A reception will be held in their honor following the 10:30 a.m. liturgy.

Thanks from the Christian Education Committee to the volunteers who stuffed plastic eggs for our egg hunt. Also, thanks to our members who assisted with the egg hunt on a beautiful sunny day and to those who contributed candy and eggs. The children heard the Easter Story told by Pastor Reep and then enjoyed finding candy filled eggs.



Are any members graduating from High School or College? Send me your photo, graduating school and degree, and future plans for the next issue!



PUT YOUR NON-PERISHABLE DONATION IN A BAG BY YOUR MAILBOX.
WE'LL DELIVER IT TO A LOCAL FOOD BANK.

Please donate to the Letter Carrier's Food Drive, Saturday, May 13, 2017. The food drive helps supplement the food pantries in York County. Place items in a bag at your mailbox on the morning of May 13th. The letter carriers will pick up the items and distribute to participating food banks.

*Volunteers are needed on that Saturday at 4:00 p.m. to pick up the boxes of food for our Food Pantry. Please call Teresa Rohrbaugh at 717-817-2372 if you are available to help.



Easter Egg Hunt



Palm Sunday

Easter Sunday



St. Paul's Long-Term Christian Relationship with the Mpuguso Lutheran Church in Tanzania and Present Day Companionship Activities

In 1983, seven individuals in Tukuyu Tanzania began Christian worship informally at their respective homes. The number of participants gradually increased each year.

Then in 1992, the Bishop of the Lower Susquehanna Synod and the Bishop of the Konde Diocese in Tanzania met at an international conference of the Lutheran Church which was held in Brazil. Both Bishops agreed to work cooperatively with one another in an effort to form companionship relationships between individual congregations within their respective synods. That process was initiated between individual congregations over the course of the next several years.

By 1994, the group of seven worshippers who had begun reading from the Bible, praying together, and worshipping in their respective homes in Tukuyu Tanzania back in 1983 had grown substantially. The multiple families in Tukuyu who had teamed up to worship together were able to build a church so that more organized worship could be undertaken.

At or about that same time, the Bishops of the LSS and the Konde Diocese designated the newly formed Mpuguso Lutheran in Tukuyu and St. Paul's as companionship congregations. From 1994 forward, St. Paul's and Mpuguso have worked together closely with one another in spreading the Word of the Lord on both the east coast of Africa as well as in the heartland of central Pennsylvania.

Recent Joint Activities Between the Mpuguso Lutheran Church and St. Paul's

During the time-frame between 1994 and 2017, there have been a multiplicity of projects and initiatives which Mpuguso and St. Paul's have undertaken on a cooperative basis. During the intervening time-frame, thirteen members of St. Paul's have visited our Christian brothers and sisters in Tukuyu Tanzania. Additionally, Pastor Meshack Njinga traveled from Tanzania to the United States in August 2004 and became a member of St. Paul's while he studied business and finance at York College before returning to Tanzania in December 2005 to assume responsibilities as Treasurer of the Konde Diocese.

In 2013, Elisha Mwamwaja, an elder and one of the original founders of the Mpuguso Lutheran Church also traveled to the United States and spent a month visiting and worshipping with us and with other Lutheran congregations in south-central PA. Lifetime friendships have been formed between members of St. Paul's with Pastor Njinga and with Elisha Mwamwaja.

Additionally, a very dynamic scholarship program between our respective congregations was developed in 2005 and continues today. That program has provided secondary-school funding for the children of pastors, evangelists, and church workers throughout the Konde Diocese.

During 2017, St. Paul's is collaborating with the Mpuguso Lutheran Church on three (3) specific mission activities:

1. Development of a knitting & embroidery business on the part of the Mpuguso Women's Group which will result in the sewing and sale of school uniforms at affordable prices to impoverished families within the Tukuyu community. This project will provide employment to women within the Mpuguso congregation while at the same time providing Tukuyu families with the opportunity to purchase school uniforms on their limited budgets.
2. Funding of the 2017 salary of the Mpuguso evangelist during the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation. The Mpuguso evangelist conducts services each Sunday at a preaching point more than 25 miles from Tukuyu (the distance between York and Lancaster). He travels over the difficult terrain by utilizing a motor-bike which St. Paul's purchased for the Mpuguso Lutheran Church 6 years ago.
3. The Christians villagers who participate in the outdoor services in this remote area of the Tukuyu region has now grown to more than 50 worshippers each Sunday. The extension of monetary assistance to assist the funding of the current expansion of the Mpuguso Lutheran Church which is literally "bursting at its seams" with more than 300 worshippers each Sunday.

St. Paul's Mpuguso Committee is thrilled by the growth of our church and the Mpuguso Lutheran Church. There has been a tremendous influx of many young families at St. Paul's over the course of the past 5 to 6 years. We are hopeful that some younger members of the congregation will opt to become involved with our committee as we forge new bonds and develop new opportunities in working cooperatively with our Christian brothers and sisters in Tukuyu Tanzania.



PIPE ORGAN 101



St. Paul's Church pipe organ was built in 1941 when the current church building was constructed. The pipe organ was built by Casavant Frères (Brothers) located in Saint-Hyacinthe, Quebec, Canada. Interestingly, during World War II, the Casavant Company moved their operations to a factory in Detroit and continued to build pipe organs along with parts and supplies for the war effort. Our organ therefore is a unique hybrid of Canadian and American workmanship.

Along about 1995, the organ began to show serious signs of deterioration. Leather which is heavily used in organ building needed to be replaced. The organ console was also showing signs of severe wear and tear. Over the course of the past 25 years, several local organ technicians have made numerous repairs, replacements and upgrades. These include releathering the entire organ and installing a computer operating system which controls the organ console and the operation of the parts inside the organ chambers.

As an organist, I play the printed musical notation with my hands and feet on the organ keyboards and pedals. My playing is determined by how well the organ console and its computer hardware functions and controls the organ mechanisms. In turn, what you hear musically speaking is the direct results of those functions. Before electricity, organs were hand pumped and mechanically controlled by tracker rods controlled by the organists' touch.

When I arrived 4 years ago, I found the organ console in fairly poor playing condition and the overall sound of the organ to be less than desirable. It was determined that damage was made to many pipes and to the console. Damage in the form of poor quality workmanship.

I began to remedy the situation by determining what was needed. The 2003 organ console operating system had never been updated. How many of you still use a 14 year old computer? Installing the computer system resulted in damages to the organ pedals, keys and to the pipes. Several repairs that were paid for were actually never completed. A minimal amount of expense to the organ console was made knowing that it would eventually need to be replaced. Over the past 2 years, pretty much every pipe (all 3879 pipes ranging in length from 16 feet to 4 inches) has been carefully adjusted, voiced and corrected of any previous damage.

As the focus team began working several years ago toward the Capital Campaign, I was asked to investigate a new console and any improvements to be made for the organ.

After months of research, discussions and meetings with organ builders, we are embarking on the next chapter of St. Paul's beloved pipe organ.

The next chapter of our Casavant organ will include the following.

A brand new handmade movable organ console fitted with a new computer operating system. The new console will have a total of 100 stop knobs. The operating system includes a record and playback system on the console and a remote iPod.

Additions of both new and re-voiced pipes. The organ will have 63 ranks and a total of 4,050 pipes.

10 new attractive grill cloth screens covering the organ chambers to allow both visual beauty and sound to flow evenly and freely.

Future plans include: a Trompette en chamade stop which will be installed on the rear balcony wall directly above the window and a digital sound system installed to include 6 digital voices, four 32' organ stops, a harp and celesta. The 32' voices will give the organ added dimension and breathe.

Ironically, we return once again to Saint-Hyacinthe, Quebec, Canada for St. Paul's organ project.

Casavant Frères is now the largest organ building company in the world. While they continue to build fine instruments, another pipe organ company in the same town was chosen.

Orgues Letourneau has been an international leader in pipe organ design, construction, restoration and tonal finishing for over 35 years. They were selected for our project.

Having inspected and played several Letourneau organs in Hershey and Penn State University, I am convinced St. Paul's will have a truly stellar pipe organ when the project is completed. It is the largest pipe organ in York and will become one of the most versatile instruments in our region.

I expect that the current organ console will be removed from the Sanctuary sometime this summer prior to the renovation project.

We will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord and the wonders that God has done.

**Praise him with the strings and pipe,
Let everything that has breath, praise the LORD.**

Victor Fields
Organist & Choir Director

Educational Opportunities for Youth and Adults at Gettysburg Seminary

Is this the year you make the big leap of faith? Will you consider going to seminary for a course in personal enrichment or leadership training?

For youth in 10th, 11th or 12th grade there is a "Summer Theological Academy" offered July 22 – 29. Registration deadline in July 1. And for youth in 9th or 10th grade on the same dates (with the same deadline) a course entitled "Summer Leadership Academy" is available.

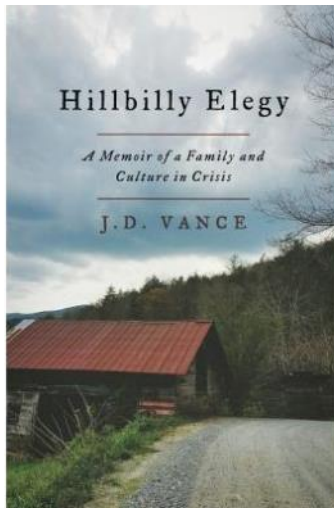
Young adults and adults may be interested in the "Lay School of Theology" during July 23-29 with a registration deadline of July 10.

Finally, the "Youth Ministry Certification School" is conducted on week ends, beginning September 14-16. The sessions take place on each month through April and they enable adults to work with children, youth and families in the congregation.

Pamphlets are available in the Springettsbury Hallway, and the Scholarship Committee is eager to speak with you regarding financial aid and other concerns. Kindly contact Jim Mummert for additional information.

Reformation 500 Events

- June 25 Guest Presenter TBA
Presentation of the Augsburg Confession, 1530
Philipp Melanchthon, renewer of the Church, 1560
- July 28 Bach Cantata commemorating:
Johann Sebastian Bach, Musician, 1750
Heinrich Schuetz, Musician, 1672
George Frederick Handel, Musician, 1759
The congregations of Luther Memorial, St. Peter,
Union & St. Paul's
- October 29 Reformation Sunday Mass, 10:30 a.m.
Setting by Richard Farlee for choir, handbells and
organ
- November 10 Luther's Birthday Banquet



St. Paul's book club will next meet Wednesday, May 17, at noon in the church library. The book we will be discussing is *Hillbilly Elegy*, by J. D. Vance. It is a nonfiction account of a youth who emerged from very humble circumstances to great heights. All are welcome to join us. Bring a sandwich.



*Wear Red for
Pentecost*



*May 14
for June newsletter*

**Pentecost is
June 4th**



**Food Pantry
Donations Needed**

Food Pantry May 2017

Items needed: Soup, jelly, tuna, boxed potato and rice side dishes. Plastic Bags are still needed. Money donations are always gratefully accepted. Please place cash or check in a pew envelope marked "Pantry".

Looking forward towards summer, we need some volunteers to sub in for vacations. Anyone who can volunteer a day or more, please contact Teresa Rohrbaugh.

GARDEN OF MEMORY – Cremation is an ever increasing choice for those who plan their “end of life” decisions. Our St. Paul’s “Garden of Memory” remains an affordable and dignified alternative for former and current members, as well as faithful friends. The prices remain the same as eight years ago, ranging from \$250.00 to \$1500.00, based on the available choices. To address spiritual concerns regarding cremation, Pastor Reep will meet with you to address your questions/ concerns. Simply call the office to make that appointment – 843-8155 and/or request the information packet that details the procedure to apply for a ground plot or a wall niche. You can also contact a committee member for information - Pastor Reep, Tom Ruth, Bob Little, Ron Sturges, Larry Gross. On Sunday, April 30, 2017 during the Sunday school hour, (9:00 to 10:00) one or more of the committee members will be available in the library to discuss questions you have regarding the Garden of Memory.

Whether it is cremation or the traditional burial, having these important decisions made in advance is one of the best gifts you can give to your loved ones during a very stressful time.



St. Paul’s Now Registered in Amazon “Smile” Program

St. Paul’s is now registered as a recipient of funds from the Amazon Smile Program. This program allows you to designate ½ of one percent of a purchase you make on Amazon to go to St. Paul’s.

Amazon requires that orders be placed on

the Smile program page of their website. The link to that page is on St. Paul’s website. Once you are registered at the smile program, it would be helpful to make that page one of your favorites to be certain you order from the correct location.

Since many people shop on Amazon, this could be a fairly significant amount of funds coming to St.

Paul’s over a year. If most or all of that money were directed to the fund raising campaign, it might be equivalent to an additional contributor or two.



Annual Membership Drive Underway for the Auxiliary to SpiriTrust Lutheran

This May our congregation participates in the annual drive to raise funds for the Auxiliary to SpiriTrust Lutheran.

All proceeds from the drive are used to provide services to residents of The Village at Sprenkle Drive and The Village at Kelly Drive in York, plus provide support to other life-enhancing ministries of SpiriTrust Lutheran such as Deaf Connections, Domestic Abuse Solutions, Senior Companion and Touch-a-Life programs.

Contributions may be made in cash or by check. Checks should be made payable to “Auxiliary to SpiriTrust Lutheran” and placed in the mailbox of Jim Mummert in the Church Office.



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Church Office: 25 W. Springettsbury Ave., York, PA 17403
Email: st.paulsyork@comcast.net **Web Page:** <http://www.stpaulsyork.org>

Stanley Reep	Pastor	Ext. 101
Kelly Moore-Spencer	Youth Director	Ext. 102
Victor Fields	Organist, Choir Director	Ext. 107
Emily Reep	Director of Children, Youth & Handbell Choirs	Ext. 107
Dale Zeiger	Bookkeeper	Ext. 105
Patee Pizzirusso	Secretary	0 or 100
Ted Weikert	Sexton	
Deborah Becker	Director of Pre-School	854-1996



Spring Worship Schedule

Sunday Holy Eucharist 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.