

# Our Church

## St. Paul's Lutheran Church

25 West Springettsbury Ave., York, PA 17403

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

www.stpaulsyork.org

September 2017

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

Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

## Renovation Phasing Fall 2017

### Extra, Extra, Read all about it!

As we were informed on Sunday August 20<sup>th</sup> during the renovation update, “be ready for change” this is most certainly true! On Monday August 21<sup>st</sup> we met with the entire team; architect, builder, project manager, heating, cooling, plumbing, and electrical. With all of the expertise in the room and with everyone offering up what would make the project both logical and cost effective, a new phasing plan was put forth and accepted. As of this writing everyone will have to be flexible, patient, understanding, cooperative, and most importantly demonstrate Christian charity as we work with one another. There are no winners or losers, only children of God working to bring about better spaces in which to offer our prayer, praise and thanksgiving, and from which to minister to the community.



Worship – We will hold worship in our existing chapel! Yes this is a change from what was announced on Sunday August 20<sup>th</sup> and was discussed at the council meeting. In order to install the heating and cooling and electrical systems for the nave, the gym will also be out of commission as the work will be completed in a “stacked” arrangement. So to facilitate all of our worshipers during the nave construction period we will hold 3 Sunday liturgies; 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 a.m. **This Worship Schedule will begin on Sunday, September 10.** Our hope is that worshipers who do not regularly attend Sunday School classes might switch to the 9:15 a.m. liturgy. The last thing we want to have happen is to have any one think that they will do St. Paul's and the Pastor a favor by not coming and thus making room for others. **We need everyone to come every week.** We need to welcome guests and share with them St. Paul's story of mission and outreach. We need to be nourished and sustained though God's Word and the Blessed Sacrament as we *build in faith for future generations.*

The first phase will include the church nave, chancel, narthex, vestry and sacristy all on the main level. On the lower level it will include the gym, kitchen, Scout room, boiler room, storage room, archives, pantry, waiting area, locker room and pantry storage area. On the upper level it will include rooms #21, 22 and 23 along with the music room, and the men's and women's robing rooms. Additionally during the first phase of construction the main level office areas will sometimes be occupied and sometimes they will be under construction.

This leaves us with the entire north wing, elevator and chapel space to carry out our ministry. On the lower level the 2 year old preschool room will remain for the fall term. The food pantry will temporarily move into the adjacent space currently utilized for preschool storage and office. The main level will house a 3 year old preschool room and temporary office, a 4 year old preschool room, and the chapel. The upper level will house a 4 year old preschool room, the upper

*Continued on next page*

elementary Sunday school class, and an adult class room. All of these spaces will get double duty as they will be used for preschool during the week and Christian education on Sunday and Wednesday.

Education (Sunday school) Faith Formation – We will hold Sunday school at the normal 9:15 a.m. time frame. The good news is that the infant, toddlers, preschool, and elementary children will all hold class in the spaces that were utilized last year. Gathering and music with Mrs. Reep for infants through early elementary will be held in room #17. Breakfast snack and sharing will start the class sessions for children who are in upper elementary grades. They will meet in room #25 (upper level). Jr. and Sr. High youth will gather with Miss Kelly for a weekly discussion of teenage topics around the work table in Pastor's office, room #10. The Adult class will be held in room #26 (upper level). Wednesday Bible Study will be held in the upper level adult class room #26.

Choirs – During the renovation the choirs will be meeting for regular rehearsals. We will not have the choirs vest during this renovation time because all of the choir vestments will soon be cleaned and packed away for safe keeping. With so many liturgies the Worship and Arts Committee has not had time to fully process which liturgies will be spoken, which choirs will sing or ring when, or how the children's music ministry will be included during worship. It is our hope that through this process we will be able to experience some new things based on the small intimate space and the flexibility of all of our musicians. All Choirs will rehearse in the Chapel. Please enter through the Springettsbury Ave. entrance. The choir schedule is as follows:

\*The Cantabile Choir on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 -7:15 p.m.

\*The Adult Handbell Choir on Thursday evenings from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

\*The Chancel Choir on Thursday evenings from 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Sunday and Wednesday AA Fellowship – Our Fellowship Groups will gather for their meetings at 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday and 7:30 p.m. on Sunday. The groups will meet in the chapel.

Fellowship Events – We have scheduled many events for the fall of the year. We will need to re-think and plan parish activities differently without a Fellowship Hall and the chapel serving as gathering space. It is clear that these are areas of need and that they are areas that are utilized by the congregation and the neighborhood and community regularly. Fortunately when the renovations are complete we will have marvelously improved spaces in which to hold terrific fellowship events.

Be vigilant in your reading of the Sunday bulletin and the newsletter. Watch the website for updates and potential changes to the weekly calendar and to the location of meetings. We have purposely not granted space for non-parish activities. We are sorry for any inconvenience this causes but we are honestly strapped and limited for space during this renovation. And do keep the entire team; architect, builder, project manager, heating, cooling, plumbing, and electrical professionals and their crews in your prayers. Prayer has been said to move mountains. For St. Paul's we pray for safety for all who work on the project, all who utilize the building during construction, all who give sacrificially and generously as together we ***Build in Faith for Future Generations.***

In Christ,

The Executive Committee

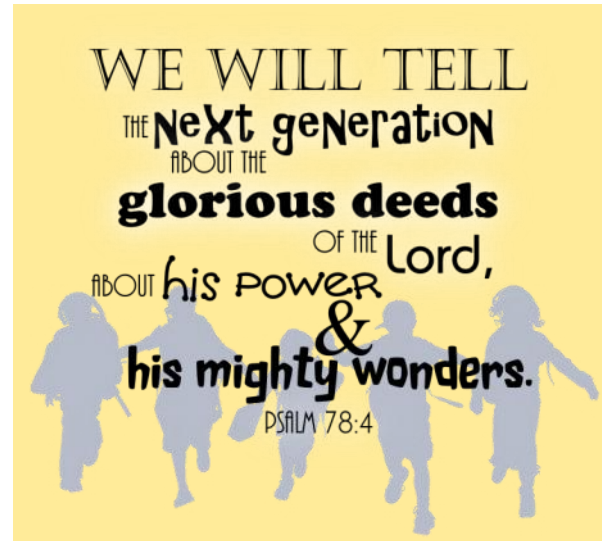
Harold Sargeant, Tim Yakim, Tristan Ericson, Tony Culp, and Pastor Reep.

## Building in Faith for Future Generations

It is becoming increasingly clear that future generations will need what many of us take for granted, faith. Not just any faith, but the kind of faith made known to us through Christ Jesus. With the escalation of hate crimes in our nation it is clear that the building blocks of Christian faith are being jettisoned for something other. Racism and all of the ugly groups that align themselves with it find no traction in the Christian gospel. Jesus was not about putting people down but lifting them up. He welcomed outsiders and foreigners and proclaimed the blessedness of peacemaking. As we are now embarking on the physical renovation to St. Paul's church building, it is time for us to embark on a spiritual renovation made known to us through Christ. The desire of the congregation throughout nearly two centuries has been to tell the message of God's loving purpose for humanity. Through the work of our preschool, Sunday school, youth ministry, and preaching, we have lifted up the message of hope and salvation and love, not for some, but for all. Christ died once on the hard wood of the cross so that all people would be made new through the forgiveness of sins. The *Building in Faith for Future Generations* campaign is less about bricks and mortar and more about the gospel message that needs to be heard and lived and celebrated. Through the renewal of our building we are strategically keeping the message of hope and salvation alive while raising up witnesses to the gospel message. We are not shrinking from the American landscape. We are not a congregation that is contemplating closure or boarding up our windows or selling off our real estate. No, we are preparing and equipping the next generation of Christian men and women to speak boldly of God's love for all through Christ Jesus. This is why the presentation and use of Bibles is important for our children and youth. This is why scripture study and adult forums for learning and discussion are important. This is why the food pantry ministry for those who need basic food is important. Christ has called us through the Word and Water of Holy Baptism to proclaim his message of love for all. During this time of renovation, may we be renewed and equipped for service as we proclaim his love that has lifted us, his peace that flows through us, and his joy that fills us. Let us *tell to the coming generations the glorious deeds of the Lord and the wonders that God has done.* – Psalm 78:4

In love and service to our Lord,

Pastor Reep



## Backpack Thank You

Thanks to the congregation for financial support for the Backpack Program. Through your generosity we were able to provide 125 students, who are children of the food pantry clients, with backpacks filled with school supplies.

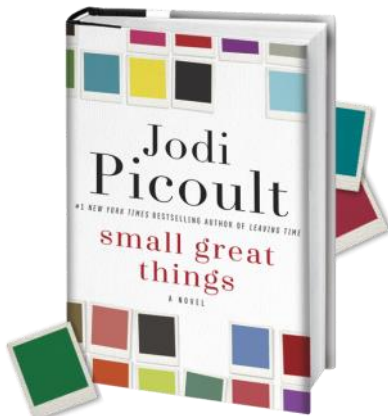
## Presentation of Bibles      Sunday September 24

The Christian Education Committee will present students with Bibles on Sunday September 24 during the Sunday Liturgy. Students entering First grade will be presented the *Paraclete Bible for Kids*. Students entering Fourth grade will be presented the *Adventure Bible*. Students entering Seventh grade will be presented the *NRSV Student Bible*. Our hope as a faith community is that by placing in the hands of our children versions of the Bible that are age appropriate, we may get our young people more engaged in reading and discussing Bible stories. In conjunction with the Youth Ministry of the congregation Miss Kelly will be working to develop a Young Readers group and an Adventure group. Students entering into Confirmation Ministry will be using their study Bibles throughout their three year Catechetics Program. It is important for us to honestly use our Bibles. They should show signs of wear and use. The Reformation of the 16<sup>th</sup> century encouraged Christian people to read and study the Bible. Please be present in worship on Sunday September 24 to show your support and to give your encouragement to the youth as they learn and grow in God's grace. (If your child is entering grade 1,4 or 7 please notify the church office so we can have your child's Bible ready on September 24. Thank you.)



*September 15  
for October newsletter*

**Fall Luncheon.** Witness Committee will be hosting their annual Fall Luncheon for those born in 1957 or before. The date of the luncheon is Thursday, October 19, 2017. A worship service will be held at 11:30 a.m. followed by lunch at 12:00 noon. This luncheon is a great opportunity for you to join in worship, share a meal, fellowship and laughter! Information about signing up will be posted closer to the luncheon!



St. Paul's book club will next meet Wednesday, September 20th, at noon. The book we will be discussing is *Great Small Things* by Jodi Picoult. The book deals with a controversial topic. The discussion will be interesting. All are welcome to bring a sandwich and join the discussion.

## 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.



## Handbell and Cantabile Choir News

Don't forget that our first rehearsals will be starting shortly. If you haven't received it already, you should be getting a good old-fashioned letter in the mail with our performance schedule. See you soon!

We are always looking for new members in each group. Please see the details below if you or your child might be interested in joining one of these choirs.

Adult Bell Choir – Who: Students in grade 7 to any age?

Some experience reading music is helpful but not necessary.

Rehearses: Thursday evenings 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Plays: Approximately once per month and most major feast days of the church year.

First Rehearsal: Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup>

Cantabile Choir – Who: Students in grades 2-6 (and mature 1<sup>st</sup> graders)

Rehearses: Tuesday evenings 6:30-7:15 p.m.

Plays: Approximately once per month at the 10:30 a.m. service

First Rehearsal: Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup>

If you have any further questions, please contact Emily Reep at [sea2reep@comcast.net](mailto:sea2reep@comcast.net). Or 717-654-2950 (cell)



## Chancel Choir News

Chancel Choir --Who: Students in grade 7 to any age.

Music reading is helpful.

Rehearsals: Thursday evenings 7:30—8:30 p.m.

First Rehearsal: Thursday, September 7<sup>th</sup>

If you have any further questions, please contact Victor Fields at [vfields.stpaulsyork@comcast.net](mailto:vfields.stpaulsyork@comcast.net)





# Adult Sunday Sessions 2017

*Faith Formation for Adults at St. Paul's Church*

## God's Work Our Hands - September 10

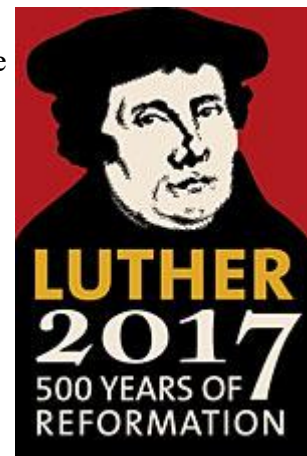
**God's work.  
Our hands.**

On this day we join hands with Lutherans across the nation as we reach out to help others. This year we will be preparing and packing 2,000 Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief. Beth McKinley from LWR will be with us to share an overview of the work and witness Lutheran World Relief and to express sincere appreciation to St. Paul's for taking on such a huge project. We will need lots of helpers. This is an inner-generational project. Feel free to invite friends to join you.

## Luther Walk - September 17

As part of the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation we are holding an inner-generational dramatic event. As you meander around the designated walk way you will follow the time line of Martin Luther's life. You will begin with his family and birth and the move along the walk:

- See where Martin Luther was born
- Meet some of the significant characters and friends he met along the way.
- Buy an indulgence
- Check out some of his important writings
- Take home a book to learn more



## Prayers of the Reformers September 24 – December 17

Study the prayers written by the Reformers and discover many things about their lives, struggles, hopes, dreams, and theology. It has been said that "if you know their prayer you know their life." Join us for this series as we encounter a reformer and his prayers each week.

- September 24 John Wycliffe 1320-1384, English theologian and pastor, *Bible* sole criterion of doctrine
- October 1 John Huss 1369-1415, Czech priest, burned at the stake
- October 8 Ulrich Zwingli 1484-1531, Swiss priest, political and religious reform
- October 15 William Tyndale 1494-1536, *Bible* translator, burned at the stake
- October 22 Martin Luther 1483-1546, Augustinian priest, Founder of German Reformation
- October 29 Martin Bucer 1491-1551, Dominican friar, preacher of Lutheran Doctrine
- November 5 Thomas Cranmer 1489-1556, *Book of Common Prayer*, Archbishop of Canterbury
- November 12 Philip Melancthon 1497-1560, Professor of Greek, Wittenberg
- November 19 John Calvin 1509-1564, French Theologian, reformation in Geneva
- November 26 John Knox 1513-1572, Scottish Reformer, chaplain to Edward VI

## Advent Wreaths for the family - December 3

Create a wreath to aid in family devotion for the Advent Season. Bring 4 Christmas coffee mugs, everything else will be provided. Devotional booklets for the season were created by our members. Be sure to pick one up in the narthex or during the class.

## Rick Steves' European Christmas - December 10

As part of the *Luther and the Reformation* video, Rick has produced an elegant video of the customs and celebrations across Europe. Please join us promptly begins at 9:15 a.m.

## Christmas letters - December 17

Participants will write and old fashioned pen on paper letter to those who can't come to worship

## December 24

No classes on this Feast Day

Do note the adjusted worship schedule for the Festival of Christmas

## Rounding out the year - December 31

# A Simple Way to Pray

by Martin Luther

This is an excerpt from a letter that Martin Luther wrote to his barber,

Master Peter Beskendorf, Spring 1535

*I will tell you as best I can what I do personally when I pray. May our dear Lord grant to you and to everybody to do it better than I! Amen.*

*First, when I feel that I have become cool and joyless in prayer because of other tasks or thoughts (for the flesh and the devil always impede and obstruct prayer), I take my little psalter, hurry to my room, or, if it be the day and hour for it, to the church where a congregation is assembled and, as time permits, I say quietly to myself and word-for-word the Ten Commandments, the Creed, and, if I have time, some words of Christ or of Paul, or some psalms, just as a child might do.*

*It is a good thing to let prayer be the first business of the morning and the last at night. Guard yourself carefully against those false, deluding ideas which tell you, "Wait a little while. I will pray in an hour; first I must attend to this or that." Such thoughts get you away from prayer into other affairs which so hold your attention and involve you that nothing comes of prayer for that day.*

**During this year of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, Make Time To PRAY!** Luther has some honest, real life thoughts and ideas for us to ponder. How will you add or grow your prayer life? How will you help your family and children?

**ALSO...Join the discussions on Sunday Mornings this fall from 9:15-10:15 as we look at prayers of many reformers including John Calvin, Philip Melancthon, John Knox, Ulrich Zwingli and others.**

**Children's Classes begin September 24 9:15-10:15 AM.**

We will have classes for the following age groups.

Nursery (age 0-3)

Preschool -(ages 3-Pre-K)

Kindergarten- Grade 2

Grade 3-6

Grades 7-12

**Nursery through grade 2** will begin together each week with Godly Play (music and movement) led by Emily Reep. This was a big success last year as parents and children joined in on the fun. Groups will then split for their lesson.

**Grades 3-6** will begin with light breakfast as they catch up on each other's week, followed by a lesson.

Children will begin the year with stories from the Old Testament. They will meet many characters including Joseph, Moses and King David.

**Youth Grades 7-12** Mornings with Miss Kelly.

**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. **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.**

## Council Highlights

August 14, 2017

Tristan Ericson offered the opening prayer. Pastor Reep read from Romans 10. He talked about us all having "beautiful feet" that carry the message of God.

Marlene Matson was welcomed as a new council member to fill a vacant council term.

Tony Culp delivered the Treasurers report. Overall expenses are in line with budget. The major expenses relate to the renewal project. Committee spending is in line with the budget. The audit was completed by RKL and everything went well. Electronic giving is running smoothly. Anyone interested in using this option will soon be able to access the link through the church website.

See the separate article regarding the Building and Renewal Project.

The preschool will begin the school year in their current classrooms. They will need to move during the Christmas holiday.

Pastor Reep reported some exciting worship plans for our time in the gym this fall while the nave is being renovated.

Kem Vaught reported from the property committee. The steeple is in the process of painting, and preparations for renovations continue. The outside of the building has been painted and security issues have been completed.

Patty Snyder noted that Christian Education Committee is looking for new ways to help families with their faith formation. Regular, age appropriate mailings will go to families filled with many resources to use in their homes.

Tim Yakim closed with prayer.

Submitted by Patty Snyder



## Special Session Set for Cookie Walk Planning

The Mpuguso Committee is inviting all members of the congregation to participate in the planning of the December 2 Annual Christmas Cookie Walk. You are welcome to come to the church, in the Library, on Wednesday, September 27 at 6:00 P.M. to help us get started on this project that has been a congregational favorite ! If you are interested, but can not attend, please notify Jim Mummert.



## Food Pantry September 2017

**Items needed:** Soup, jelly, boxed potatoes and rice products.

Plastic Bags are still needed. Money donations are always gratefully accepted. Please place cash or check in a pew envelope marked "Pantry".

If any teenagers need service hours over age 13 this is a great place to earn them.



Food Pantry  
Donations Needed



Check out these future events! Contact a leader and let him or her know that you would like to help plan and/or execute one or more of the following events. Every event has many different components to it so there is a need for many different skills and gifts to be put to God's good use.



# MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**Sunday September 10—God's Work Our Hands** – Social Ministry Committee is sponsoring this event. The rigorous plans call for assembling 2,000 personal care kits for Lutheran World Relief. To help with this ministry event contact Kelly Moor-Spencer or Janet Moore.

**Sunday September 17—Luther Walk** – Christian Education Committee is sponsoring this event. The plans call for people willing to role play a character from the life and times of Martin Luther. Participants will walk along a pathway leading from the birth of Martin Luther to his death, and will discover key dates and events along the way. To help with this education event contact Patty Snyder or Kelly Moore-Spencer.

**Sunday October 22—Consecration Sunday** – Stewardship Committee is sponsoring the annual event. The plans call for a breakfast and lunch and of course a beautifully planned liturgy designed to support the theme *Building in Faith for Future Generations*. To help with this stewardship event contact Larry Gross or Ron Sturges.

**Friday night, November 10—Luther's Birthday Banquet**—We will gather for a joyful celebration on Luther's Birthday. The Dockenspielers will provide music from 5:30—6:30 p.m. Banquet from 6:30-7:30 p.m. with special Birthday cake. And Rev. Dave Bowman (former vicar at St. Paul's) will present sites and commentary from his summer trip to Germany 7:30-8:30 p.m.

**Saturday December 2—Cookie Walk** - Mpguso Committee is sponsoring the annual event. The plans call for cookie bakers, phone callers, set up, sales, greeters, and clean up all so that we can raise money to provide a doctor, medical care, for our sisters and brothers in Tanzania. To help with this mission event contact Martina Uffelman or Kathryn Wicker

**Sunday December 3—Advent Wreaths** – Worship and Arts along with the Christian Education Committee is sponsoring this intergenerational event. The plans call for the gathering and preparing materials needed for the day so that the advent wreath making is a joyful family time. To help with this family friendly event contact Kristine Gross or Kelly Moore-Spencer.

**Wednesday, December 6—St. Nicholas Family Dinner** (Yes Santa Claus is Coming to St. Paul's!) Worship and Arts along with the Christian Education and Fellowship Committees are planning a huge family friendly dinner with St. Nicholas, Family Photos, and of course chocolate coins for all participants! This event is scheduled for St. Nicholas Day, Wednesday, December 6. To help with this event contact Pastor Reep.



**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
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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



## Worship Schedule

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