

# Our Church

## **St. Paul's Lutheran Church**

25 West Springettsbury Ave., York, PA 17403  
717/843-8155 – st.paulsyork@comcast.net  
www.stpaulsyork.org

**June 2018**

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

## **Vacation Bible School**

### **Lake Side Stories with Jesus:**

### **Family Excursion**

**June 11-14**



We are gearing up for summertime Family fun at VBS. Vacation Bible School will be held off site at Kain Park under the Bass Pavilion. Because of the extended school year in many of our school districts VBS will be held in the evenings. Family supper will start each evening at 5:30 p.m. The Bible story and activity will begin at 6:00 p.m. And the evening will conclude with Lake Side vespers at 7:00 p.m. By planning VBS in three distinct components families and church members can take part in as much of the evening as they desire. Some may choose only to come for the vesper liturgy. Others might participate in supper and Bible story but need to get home to get children ready for bed. Others can come for the whole thing and even stay till the park closes at sundown if they like. The important thing is that we want everyone in the congregation to participate as we take an excursion through the scriptures learning about Jesus' ministry around Lake Galilee. We are planning classes for: Toddlers, Preschool, Kindergarten & 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>, Jr.- Sr. High, and Adult. The dinner menu is as follows: Monday – Hamburgers, Tuesday – Chicken, Wednesday – Hot Dogs, Thursday – Everyone brings a covered dish to share. Also supplied will be paper products and drinks. Mark your calendar now and block of these four evenings for us to be together as we grow in God's grace and love.

## **Moving Forward with Two Service Times**

**Starting June 10th 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.**

We will continue to commune with hosts and the option of intinction or common chalice until the construction concludes.

We are in need of individuals willing to serve as Assisting ministers, Deacons, and Communion Assistants. Please prayerfully consider these positions as well as other areas of service when you complete your Time and Ability forms.



## **Consecration Sunday—Stewardship of Creation**

**June 3, 9:15 a.m. (Last combined service during construction)**

**Bishop Robert Driesen, Preaching**

The Stewardship of Creation is the theme and emphasis for the 2018 campaign. Our guest preacher for the day is The Rev. Robert Driesen, retired Bishop of the Upper Susquehanna Synod. Bishop Driesen has retired to York and is enjoying his time closer to family. We will join together for lunch following the combined liturgy on Sunday June 3rd. in our newly refurbished Social Hall.



## President's Report

On behalf of the Congregation Council, I want to thank everyone who submitted feedback to our survey about service times and the needs of our parish. The response rate was great! Many comments were positive, thoughtful, and attentive to the needs of our faith community. In terms of service time preferences, there was not a strong majority who prefer one or two services. In fact, the data was split nearly 50/50 on the matter. Those preferring one service noted the strong sense of unity and energy that we have carried over the past few months. Those recommending two services appreciated service time options and noted parking limitations.

Without a majority consensus, the Council reviewed other sources of data to help make the best decision for the future of St. Paul's. First, our weekly attendance has averaged around 170 worshipers over the past two months. With 225 seats on the floor of the nave, we are at 75% capacity. Best practices suggest expanding services when attendance reaches these levels. Next, we have historical data that shows poor attendance/offerings through single-service summer months. Finally, we see significant growth potential at St. Paul's. While many Lutheran Churches are struggling, we have been blessed with many new members! Weakening mainline Protestant church attendance was a topic of conversation at our January retreat, and we must be wise in mitigating these effects on our congregation. With these and other considerations in mind, the Council confidently decided to move to two services, beginning June 10<sup>th</sup>.

This isn't a decision to "go back" to two services, but one that "looks forward" to new opportunities. Much has changed since we began *Building in Faith for Future Generations*, and we must be creative in developing new opportunities for growth. If you have appreciated the sense of unity and energy around St. Paul's during this season of one worship service, as I have, please join with us in carrying that forward through the summer and new seasons beyond. I think that the time between services will become increasingly important to sustaining our strong sense of community, and I hope to see you *all* then on June 10<sup>th</sup>!

Peace,  
Tristan Ericson, Council President

The Benevolence Committee would like to thank all who have submitted applications to be considered. Please keep in mind that the Committee will accept submissions at any time by completing the coral-colored applications located at the exits of the church and online at <https://stpaulsyork.org/>. Please consider those projects, organizations, or persons in need of our support.

## SUMMER CAMP 2018

Camp Kirchenwald and Camp Nawakwa

### ***THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING***

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God."

The Lutheran Camps offer – Christian Community, Worship, Daily Prayer, Making New Friends, Seeing Old Friends, Fun Activities, Adventure and Acts of Service.

The Lutheran Camping Corporation carries out its mission as a gracious expression of God's. The heart of that mission is to: The Church, in a place and time apart... Where God's presence is experienced, Faith is renewed, Christ's love is felt, and the Church is strengthened for the service and proclamation of the Gospel! Our goal is for each child to experience the love of Christ through!

We are encouraging all of our children and youth to attend a week of church camp. Remember, camper-ships are available for our members! Please see Kelly Moore-Spencer for a camp brochure and more information.



The Lutheran Camping Corporation  
of Central Pennsylvania

June 2018

## Moving Forward with Two Sunday Services

Beginning June 10<sup>th</sup>

In order to meet the needs of our growing congregation there will be two options for Sunday worship at St. Paul's and many opportunities for fellowship. The information garnered from the worship survey was extremely helpful in bringing clarity and focus to our mission and

ministry. Our limited amount of convenient parking was identified. The joy of meeting people and getting better acquainted through fellowship opportunities was also identified. While it has been an absolute joy to have the church nave filled every Sunday it is important for guests and visitors to know that there is room for them at St. Paul's. These three things were also communicated by Pastor Richard Jorgenson, ELCA Director for Evangelical Mission, and Assistant to the Lower Susquehanna Synod Bishop when he met with me in April.

The question has been raised if the two services will be identical. The answer to the questions is an easy one, no. The services have always been different. The early liturgy at 8:00 a.m. will be structured much like the summer liturgies held last summer. It is designed to play to the strengths of the worshipping community at that morning hour. At 8:00 a.m. we will sing the Hymn of the Day. There will be a children's sermon. The service will continue to be a traditional liturgy of Word and Sacrament. We will continue to commune with hosts and the option of intinction or common chalice. We plan to return to using common loaf of bread when the construction is complete and the Altar Guild has access to a fully functioning sacristy. We will need a complete ensemble of lay assistants, ushers, and greeters.

The 10:30 a.m. liturgy will remain very similar to what we have been experiencing at 9:15 a.m. As we approach the long green season, Sundays after Pentecost, the liturgy will be a bit simpler than it has been during the joyful season of Easter. A children's sermon will be included. The entrance rite and Eucharistic Prayer will be shorter. Communion will be distributed in the same fashion as at 8:00 a.m. and we will utilize a few more hymns. We will need a complete ensemble of lay assistants, ushers, and greeters for this liturgy too!

The hope is that volunteers will sign up to sponsor fellowship time which will follow the 8:00 a.m. service and precede the one at 10:30 a.m. Worshipers will be encouraged to linger after the early liturgy and those attending the later liturgy are encouraged to arrive early to share in conversation and fellowship. A new space in which to gather on the Springettsbury side of the building should be ready for use by early summer. The sofas and chairs that used to grace the south end of the chapel will find a new home in the newly created gathering space. They will once again provide comfortable seating. This should create an environment for fellowship that was identified through the worship surveys. A sign-up sheet will be circulated on Sunday mornings prior to worship if you are so moved to contribute to this aspect of ministry.

Please make every effort to attend one of the two service offerings each Sunday. And please do sit toward the front of the nave as attendance will seem a bit sparse after having a combined service for these first five months of 2018. As we move into this renewed schedule may you meet new people, make new friends, and grow more deeply in God's love and generous forgiveness.

In love and service to our Lord,

Pastor Reep



## Faith Formation

### FALL PLANNING...

The Christian Education Committee is already beginning to make plans for the faith formation classes that will be offered starting in the fall of 2018. Do you have a topic you would like to discuss? Is there something you would like to learn about? Are you looking for a way to grow and strengthen your Christian Faith? Have you ever considered participating in a learning event at church? Would you like to teach or assist teaching a class for children? Sign up to be a helper in the Sunday evening catechetics classes for a great review of the catechism! Place your ideas in the offering plate, leave a message with the office or contact one of the Christian Education Committee members: Patty Snyder, Jamie Palmer, June Heistand, Kelly Moore Spencer and Pastor Reep.



Jesus was in a small group.



life change happens in small groups

### SMALL GROUPS FOR STUDY, DISCUSSIONS, SUPPORT, FELLOWSHIP AND FUN

Following a trip to see a Christian speaker in Lancaster, a group of St. Paul's members met to share their thoughts about the evening and what it could mean as we live into our new spaces with the renewal of our building. The group concurred that they love the closeness the congregation has shared during this construction time. A need was noted for more opportunities to gather for discussions

of faith, for sharing about life and for fellowship and fun.

Join us on Sunday, June 3, 6:30 PM at the home of Tim and Melissa Yakim to share your ideas about groups that may interest you. Not able to make it? No problem, share your ideas with one of the people who will be there... Denise Rider, Kathleen Lemke, Harold and Donita Sargeant, Joel Reiter, Kelly Moore-Spencer, Tim and Melissa Yakim, Patty Snyder, and Tristan and Jessica Ericson.



### Renovation Up-date

- Work is being done on the North side of the building.
- Preparations are underway for the new elevator.
- The walls are being placed for the music room and nursery.
- On the upper level two preschool rooms and a preschool office/workroom are taking shape.
- Please enter for worship at the George St. and Springettsbury Ave. entrances.
- Help is needed to hang wooden window blinds in completed preschool rooms and offices.



## TEACHING THE FAITH TO CHILDREN

At a child's baptism, the parents make promises to "faithfully bring their child to the services of God's house, and teach them the Lord's Prayer and the Creed, and the Ten Commandments. To place in their hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for their instruction in the Christian faith so they may lead godly lives until the day of Jesus Christ. " (taken from the order for baptism in the Lutheran Book of Worship)



These are big promises and sometimes hard to keep. The most important thing parents can do to keep this promise is to regularly bring their child to worship where they can hear the stories from the Bible and be fed with the body and blood of Christ through the Holy Eucharist. But what else can we do?

Pray together before meals.

During the summer months, when schedules slow down and warm weather is calling us out to explore the world, take time to thank God as a family for all that He has given us. Take creation walks and collect things that God has made. Take pictures and create a slide show of things you are thankful for.

Before and after sports games, talk about how your behavior and attitude can reflect how Jesus is part of your life.

Use the stories and activities in your **Quarterly Spark Family Magazine** that comes to your child at home. This magazine is purchased by the Christian Education Committee and provided to you to aid in your reading, teaching and exploring God's Holy Word as a family. We are beginning the third year of providing this magazine for families. If you are not receiving this in your home, please call Patee at the church office so that your name is added to the list.

Participate in our Summer Bible School adventures and other summer youth events for children and families.

### 2018 Flower Chart *Reserve you date now!*

The 2018 flower chart is posted on a clipboard located on the trolley at the George St. entrance. 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 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.



### Food Pantry June 2018

**Items needed:** Juice, soup, tuna, peanut butter and jelly, rice

We need volunteers to sub on Tuesdays mornings. Please contact Teresa Rohrbaugh if you are able to help in this way. Plastic Bags are always needed. Money donations are gratefully accepted. Please place cash or check in a "special" envelope marked "Pantry".



Food Pantry  
Donations Needed



**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
25 W. SPRINGETTSBURY AVE.  
YORK, PA 17403  
(717) 843-8155 (717) 843-0261 (Fax)

**Email:** [st.paulsyork@comcast.net](mailto:st.paulsyork@comcast.net)  
**Web Page:** <http://www.stpaulsyork.org>

*Return Service Requested*

**Non-Profit Organization**  
York, PA  
**U.S. Postage Paid**  
Permit No. 158



**Church Office:** 25 W. Springettsbury Ave., York, PA 17403  
**Email:** [st.paulsyork@comcast.net](mailto: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



## Worship Schedule

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