

Our Church

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
25 West Springettsbury Ave., York, PA 17403
717/843-8155 – st.paulsyork@comcast.net
www.stpaulsyork.org

December 2019
Sunday Holy Eucharist 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Holy Days as announced
Education 9:15 a.m.

Holiday Worship Schedule at St. Paul's



Please note the adjusted schedule for the entire Christmas season
The Holy Eucharist is celebrated at each liturgy.

The Ringing in of Christmas

December 22, The Fourth Sunday of Advent
The combined Handbell & Children's choirs ring in the season
10:30 AM

Christmas Eve Candle Light

December 24, The Nativity of Our Lord
The liturgies are identical featuring the Handbell and Chancel Choirs
7:00 & 9:00 PM

Christmas Day

December 25, The Nativity of Our Lord
Traditional Lutheran Chorales
10:30 AM

Readings, Carols & Holy Communion

December 29, The First Sunday of Christmas
Chancel Choir, Harp & Organ
A Christmas Luncheon follows the liturgy in Christ Hall
10:30 AM

The Star, Magi, and the Christ Child

January 5, The Epiphany of Our Lord
An Epiphany Breakfast will be held at 9:15 AM in Christ Hall
8:00 & 10:30 AM



The Ringing in of Christmas **Combined 10:30 AM Liturgy, Sunday December 22**

Bells have been rung throughout the centuries to mark both solemn and joyful occasions. At the conclusion of the liturgy on Sunday December 22 the members of the Handbell and Cantabile Choirs will join forces to ring in the joyful season of Christmas at St. Paul's. The bell peal will begin with the tolling of the largest handbell. As it tolls other bells, tone chimes and suspended chimes will add to a rich cacophony of sound. Then after the peal has had time to joyfully announce the end of Advent and the beginning of the Christmas season the organ will be added as it introduces *Joy to the World!* We will add our voices joyfully singing together with our thoughts focused on the birth of our Savior. Be sure to come adding your voice to the joy of the season.



The Nativity of Our Lord **Christmas Eve 7:00 and 9:00 PM**



The Traditional Christmas Eve Candle Light service will be held at 7:00 and 9:00 PM on Tuesday December 24. With the overwhelming attendance at the 7:00 PM liturgy in 2018 the Worship and Arts Committee has planned for two nearly identical services. The exception is that the children's choirs will sing only at 7:00 PM. The Festival Liturgy of Holy Communion with sermon will feature the Handbell and Chancel Choirs. The church will be beautifully decorated and we will enjoy the sound of our beautiful pipe organ leading us in our prayer, praise and thanksgiving to God for the great gift of his Son, Christ Jesus. This liturgy has become one of the favorite services of the entire year. Do come, invite friends and family members, and rejoice as we celebrate the birth of our Savior.

Christmas Day **10:30 AM**

Our Christmas Day liturgy, 10:30 a.m. December 25th will provide yet another opportunity for us to celebrate the joyous Nativity of Our Lord. This celebration of the Holy Eucharist will reveal in the beauty of morning light, the new day that is ours in Christ. On this Holy Day we will remember the greatest gift given, God's Son, Christ Jesus. And we will rejoice in the life, health and salvation given to us through him. This liturgy is becoming more popular among our church family. It helps in a very concrete way to keep Christ Jesus our Lord at the center of this Holy Day. As the familiar carol states so clearly *Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful.... Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*



Readings with Carols & Communion **Sunday December 29, 10:30 AM** **Christmas Covered Dish Luncheon to Follow**

On the First Sunday of Christmas we gather for a combined service featuring readings with carols and Holy Communion. One of the highlights for the morning will be the addition of guest harpist, Ruth Hunter, to provide preservice music, accompany select hymns and the Chancel Choir anthem. There will be readings from sacred scripture as well as poetry and prose. The carols will bear witness to this holy season. The readings will help give shape to the Christmas story recounting how long ago God promised to send a Savior. We will reflect on how the Father's love, coming to us as the child of Bethlehem, gives shape and purpose to daily life. Following the service we will gather in Christ Hall for a Christmas covered dish luncheon. Please bring one of your favorite holiday covered dish specialties to share. You may drop off your covered dish in the Main Level Kitchen prior to the 10:30 AM combined service. Join us for this holiday service and fellowship event. It is a great opportunity to invite a guest to join you at St. Paul's.

Christmas Decorating
Saturday December 21, 9:00 AM

The Worship and Arts Committee invites anyone able and willing to help with the church decorating this year on Saturday December 21st at 9:00 AM. We will work with fresh evergreens and fruit so that our decorations are at their peak for our Christmas services the following week. If you are able to help decorate please notify the church office. Thank you.



YORK COLLEGE CHOIRS
PRESENT
HOLIDAY GOLD

The York College Chorale, Chamber Singers and Voca Bella will present a seasonal program in the inspiring setting of St. Paul's sanctuary. Selections by contemporary composers and classical masters will be featured. The choirs will be conducted by Grace Muzzo and Christine Kates, and the singers will be accompanied by brass instrumentalists from the college with Victor Fields and Christine Kates playing organ and piano.

Please invite your family and friends to this concert which promises to be a beautiful array of holiday music. Post-concert receptions will take place in the Gathering Space.

WINTER YOUTH RETREAT
REGISTRATION FORM
JANUARY 3-5, 2020 AT KIRCHENWALD

Camper Name: _____

Address: _____

Parent or guardian: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

☐ *Send my confirmation materials by email*

Birthdate: _____ Current Grade: _____

Cabinmate (optional): _____

Special Needs: _____

Your Church: _____

Church City: _____

Office Use Only

Rec'd _____ Ck# _____ Amt _____

REGISTER NOW FOR
THE WINTER
YOUTH RETREAT

Scheduled for January 3-5, this event is a great way to renew summer camp friendships and see what Kirchenwald offers in the winter. The retreat, for grades 3-9, features summer camp favorites like Capture the Flag, hiking to Buzzard's rocks, Bible study, worship, and games. We hope for cold, snowy weather for winter activities like sledding, snow soccer, snow fort building, and games like broom hockey or slippery tag on the frozen lake. Accommodations are in the main camp cabins and Myers Retreat Center.

To register, complete the included form or visit LutheranCamping.org. Return it with payment to: Lutheran Camping Corporation; P.O. Box 459, Arendtsville, PA 17303. Cost is only \$145. Registration deadline is December 20, 2019. Additional information at (717) 677-8211 or (717) 964-3121.

Faith Formation Opportunities

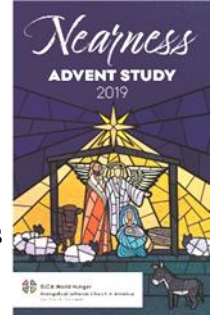
Online Devotions Group

Patty Snyder, Kathleen Lemke and Kathryn Wicker have been doing an online devotion together since Lent and we would love to have you join us. Currently we are using the Christ in our Home booklet that we get at church, but at the start of Advent we are going to read and use as our devotional: Blue Christmas: Devotions of Light in a Season of Darkness by Todd Outcalt. I bought my copy on Amazon Smiles (with my purchase supporting the church) or you can talk to Patty Snyder about where to get it locally. If you want to join us just email kathrynwicker@gmail.com and I'll add you to our google document! It is that easy! And if you miss a day we are good with that because we are all busy!

Advent/Christmas Book Corner

Stop by the Good Shepherd Room before or after church to look over books and devotional materials available for purchase. Place your orders any time starting November 17 and continuing for five weeks until December 15th. Your order will be ready for you to pick up the following Sunday.

On another table in the Good Shepherd Room there are free gently used Advent Devotionals and calendars. Help yourself.



Create Music and Art at St. Paul's

Tuesday Evening Program

The Tuesday Evening program for our children continues on Tuesdays at 6:00 PM. The arts component of the program is led by Kelly Moore-Spencer and the music component is led by Emily Reep.

The sessions break out as follows:

PreK – Grade 1

6:00 – 6:30 PM Music Room, Main Level

6:30 -7:00 PM Art/Youth Room, Upper Level

Grades 2 – 6

6:00 – 6:30 PM Art/Youth Room, Upper Level

6:30 -7:15 PM (Handbells, drums, & songs) Music Room, Main Level

This year the Creative Art part for both groups will be designed around STORYTELLING:

Gingerbread Nativity Tuesday, December 10

During CREATE the children and their parents will be creating their own Gingerbread Nativity. Along with their parents help, each child will be making their own Nativity to take home and enjoy during Advent. Everyone is invited even if your child is not part of the choirs.

Grade 2 through grade 6 – 5:45 till 6:30

Ages 2 through grade 1 – 6:30 till 7:15

Please let Miss Kelly know if your child plans on attending so she can plan accordingly.



Faith Formation Opportunities Sunday Mornings from 9:15-10:15

Children (infants through grade 4) will use nativity figures to tell and retell the parts of the Christmas story during December. While lighting an advent wreath each week, they will talk about waiting. Waiting for Jesus birthday, waiting for Jesus to come to us in the Eucharist each week and waiting for Jesus to come again.

Youth in grades 5-7 and up have enjoyed discussing matters of faith with Miss Kelly.

December 1, 9:15-10:15AM

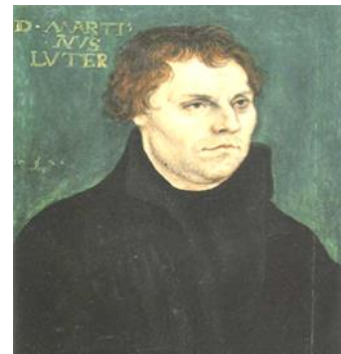
Advent Breakfast and Learning for all ages

Join us for a morning of fellowship, food and fun. Following breakfast, the children will share their Jesse Tree ornaments that they have made on Tuesday nights. We will also learn about opportunities to GIVE during this Advent Season.

What is a Jesse Tree? Who was Jesse? Jesse was King David's father. In the Old Testament, in the book of Isaiah, we read "*A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.*" Jesus is descended from King David and from Jesse. The tradition of using a Jesse Tree during Advent helps us to remember how many of the stories from the Bible are related and how they relate to Jesus. Each ornament represents a different Bible story and can be used as part of daily devotions for individuals or families.

**Mark your calendars for another breakfast and learning time on
January 5th, 9:15-10:15 AM**

as we celebrate Epiphany, the coming of the wisemen and the end of the Christmas Season.
Details coming soon.



Advent with: Peter, Paul and Luther

Week One – December 4, 2019

St. Peter's Lutheran Church, North George Street, York

Week Two – December 11, 2019

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 25 W. Springettsbury Ave. York

Week Three – December 18, 2019

Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, Hollywood Drive, York

During the season of Advent we will be combining for mid-week worship with two of our neighboring congregations. St. Peter's Lutheran Church, North George Street will host the Wednesday Service week one, December 4. We at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 25 W. Springettsbury Avenue will host week two, December 11. And Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, Hollywood Drive, will host week three, December 18. The three pastors have a history of collaboration and this is a new venture envisioned to create deeper relationships between three York congregations. The mid-week evenings will begin with a simple supper at 6:00 PM followed by the Service at 7:00 PM. Each week the service will have a distinctive character based on the host congregation, preacher and musical leadership. Make this part of your Advent devotion and plan to attend the three times of fellowship and worship. Spend some time in Advent with Peter, Paul, and Luther!

2020 Calendar Sale

Italian Holiday Makes a great Christmas Gift

2020 Calendars are available for donation. The monetary donation goes to help offset the construction costs of \$750,000 associated with the Food Pantry and Preschool. With the benefit of grants and fund raising efforts we have reduced that amount by \$55,000! These newly renovated spaces make the hunger ministry better meet the needs of clients through accessibility, and improved refrigeration for fresh produce, and the learning ministry safer, friendlier, and more convenient for students and their families.

The calendars feature paintings by Pastor Reep. The original art work was all done on location in Italy. The calendars are available on Sundays in the Good Shepherd Room and during the week in the Church office. The calendars are \$20 each. For those who like to give gifts, one of St. Paul's calendars can be given or sent through the mail. If you cannot make it to the church to purchase your copy, simply printout the order form from the church website or call the church office and calendars can be mailed to you. An auction is planned for October 17, 2020 at which time Italian Holiday watercolor paintings will be sold and the total proceeds donated to the Capital Campaign *Building in Faith for Future Generations*.



Food Pantry—December

Items needed: Soup, jelly, rice, canned vegetables (carrots, beets, Lima beans), canned meats, mashed potatoes mix and stuffing mix.

We need volunteers to sub on Tuesdays mornings to cover for those on vacations. 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".

2020 Flower Chart

The 2020 flower chart is posted on the Springettsbury vestibule 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 AM liturgy or you may have them given to someone who is sick, shut it, or hospitalized. If you wish, you can contact the office to reserve a date, and to provide us with all of the correct information for inclusion in the Sunday bulletin. In advance, thank you.



The preschool has been enjoying preparing for fall and the upcoming holidays. The students are talking and learning about foods we enjoy this time of year, including turkey and pumpkin pie! The students are also learning about being thankful and giving back to the community too. One way they are learning this is by having students help collect food for the church food pantry. Other fun activities include that the 4 year olds went to Johns's Pizza and had fun making their own pizzas!"

Council Highlights

The Congregation Council gathered for their regular meeting on Monday November 11 at 7:00 PM in Christ Hall. Opening prayer moved quickly into a time of devotion highlighting the Biblical story from Numbers of Balaam, the donkey, and the angel.

The Agenda for the Annual Meeting was approved.

Thank you cards were prepared for those who helped with the Harvest Wine Dinner.

A building use policy was presented and adopted.

The Nominations Committee reported: **Congregation Council** – Ellen Doughty, Tristan Ericson, Dan Garber, Nancy Bennett, Kathleen Lemke, & Kathryn Wicker **Benevolence Committee** – Melissa Yakim **Synod Voting Member** – Andrew Doughty **Mutual Ministry Committee** –

An evacuation plan was presented by the Property Committee. It reflects the building as it is currently configured. Tim Yakim will order new frames for the site maps and the property committee will arrange for their installation throughout the building.

The Property Committee met with Sage, the company originally presenting bid for a new public address system in the church nave, narthex, gathering space and nursery. The cost remains at nearly \$30,000. A less expensive model was explored. The committee however unanimously agreed that the original plan is still the best option and does not think we should compromise on the quality of sound when purchasing a new public address system. We will continue to seek out designated gifts for this project.

The Finance Committee reported their findings on a possible mortgage for the congregation and how to arrive at the desired mortgage amount through Capital Campaign gifts and utilization of a portion of the Investment Portfolio.

The Council approved the Worship and Arts Committee recommendation that one Sunday liturgy be held at 9:15 AM during the summer months of June, July and August 2020.

The Council approved the Troup #19 Eagle Scout projects: Fire/Flower Pit & Hygiene Kits. The Property Committee and Social Ministry Committee reviewed each project.

The Council approved the Social Ministry Committee's request for the Advent mid-week offering to be added to the Sunday school children's offerings for the ELCA God's Global Barnyard. The campaign concludes on January 26, 2020.

The meeting concluded with prayer by Tony Culp. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pastor Reep



**Deadline for the
January newsletter is
December 11th
EARLY DEADLINE!**

Social Ministry Seeking Gently Used Coats

Jackson Elementary School needs coats for the students. This time of year, as the weather begins to change, students often do not have coats. Gently worn clean coats can be donated (students ages are from Kindergarten through Eighth Grade) and placed in the specially marked box. Thank you, Patsy Griffin, for the Committee



Christmas Cookie Walk

Sunday, December 8, 9 – 10:15 AM for church family
11:30 AM – 2:30 PM for the York Community



Once again, we are preparing for our annual Cookie Walk on December 8th. Please understand that without the generous contributions from congregants like you, the Mpuguso Ministry would not be able to provide much needed scholarships for medical students in Tanzania. Because of your kindness, our previous recipient, Omega, is actively caring for and treating patients. According to Bishop Mwaikali, Omega's contributions are quite significant, and the Konde Diocese is grateful for his service at their Ilete Hospital. We ask you to join us again in this mission work. The proceeds from this year's Cookie Walk will support Ansajiye Njinga as she completes her Associate's Degree. She will then join Omega and the Ilete medical staff in their efforts to provide medical care for those in need. Please join us in our mission of training doctors who ultimately save lives. If you are willing to bake cookies, the drop off day is Saturday, December 7th between 9:00-3:00. We kindly welcome your donations. The Cookie Walk will take place on Sunday, December 8th. The Cookie Walk will open for members between services from 9:00-10:15 and will open for members and the general public from 11:30-2:30. For a donation of \$15 you can fill a container with classic or specialty cookies of your liking. If you do not wish to participate in the Cookie Walk, you may still help support our mission with a direct donation. Thank you in advance for your support of the Mpuguso Ministry and the medical education of Ansajiye!

Spiritual Care Volunteers Needed—Deacon Ellen Doughty is the full-time staff Chaplain for UPMC Memorial in York, PA. She is always in the process of recruiting, training and scheduling spiritual care volunteers to assist with visits and cover on call times at UPMC Memorial. The Chaplain's Office provides 24/7 emergency on call which is done from home. Visits are done in house and all Spiritual Care Volunteers are trained. You do not have to have a degree in ministry to do visits or to be on call, just the willingness and desire to walk alongside someone in their time of illness or distress. There are many free training opportunities for Spiritual Care Volunteers.

Applications can be done via paper or online at <https://www.pinnaclehealth.org/giving-back/volunteer/spiritual-care-volunteer-application/>. The online application does not have the reference forms attached so they will need to be printed or they will be sent via email once the application is received. The forms are included in the application above.

If you or someone you know are interested in becoming a Spiritual Care Volunteer and would like to speak with Deacon Ellen about this, you may call her at 717-815-2386 M-F during the day. You may also send her an email at doughtyed@upmc.edu. Thank you!

St. Paul's Dinner Group

A time of good food, fellowship, and some fun over a casual meal. Groups of around six people (couples or singles) gather at the home of the designated host once during the months between March and May. Hosts can also invite other members or guests to come and join. You don't have to host, just sign up, and bring a dish to share. Those who volunteer to host will call the guests to schedule a day and time that works for all. The hosts provide the main dish and guests provide the rest (appetizers, salad, and dessert). We are going into our 13th year with St. Paul's Dinner Group. Come and join us as we get better acquainted during these casual and enjoyable evenings. A sign-up sheet is posted on the Springettsbury bulletin board.

Volunteers needed for Kindergarten Lunch at Jackson Elementary

Jackson Elementary is looking for volunteers who could give a half hour of their time to help during Kindergarten lunch from 11:50 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. to assist students through the food line, help students open milk, condiment packs, etc., monitor traffic in/out of bathroom, and engage with students in conversation. If anyone is interested in helping, please contact Patsy Griffin. All volunteers will need to have clearances.



2020 Church Offering Envelopes

Church offering envelopes are prepared and are available in the Good Shepherd Room. Please make sure that you pick your envelopes up before the New Year so that you are ready when 2020 begins. If you can't get to the church and would like them to be delivered or mailed to you, simply notify the church office. This is also a great time to consider having your offering sent directly to the church through the many services provided by local banks. Many will permit you to have a check automatically sent from your account weekly or monthly to the church.



Take Charge of Your Health Care Planning

There are many things in life that are out of our hands. However, you can and should have a say about your health care wishes. This is especially important when you become critically ill and lose the ability to speak for yourself. One way to direct your health care is to put it in writing. This can be done using a document called an Advance Directive. Specifically, Five Wishes

Is a very useful form, on file here at the church, that lets you say exactly what you want. Once completed you give copies to the person you designate to make decisions on your behalf, your health care providers, and hospitals you use. Just want some information about Advance Directives? There is a "Fast Facts" form explaining the components. Want something that can help you get the word out about your documented wishes to family and friends? The "Listen to Me" form will do that. If you have questions about Advance Directives, please see Rhada Hartmann.

Garden of Memory- On November 1, 2009 we celebrated the completion of the columbarium on the corner of our property at S. George Street and Springettsbury Avenue, making an improvement to both the neighborhood and our beautiful grounds. Responsible stewardship of the creation God gave us grows, making cremation a popular choice for the "end of life" decisions. It is not or ever will be our intent to make a profit from this service. The intent is to offer an affordable and dignified alternative to current members, former members, and faithful friends. As the pricing was in 2009, it remains the same today, ranging from \$250 to \$1500. If you have spiritual concerns regarding cremation Pastor Reep (717-843-8155) will personally meet with you to answer your questions. Should you want to pursue the details of this service, we have a packet of information that will be provided to you by calling the church office to pick up or have it sent (717-843-8155). The current membership of the Columbarium committee is Tom Ruth, Pastor Reep, Bob Little, Ron Sturges and Larry Gross, all of whom will be glad to answer your questions and/or help you with the documentation should your choice be cremation and internment in our Garden of Memory.

Minimum Required Distribution

As we near the end of the year, individuals who are over 70 1/2 with IRAa need to review their current status regarding meeting their Minimum Required Distribution to insure compliance with tax law. If you have not met the MRD yet, you may be able to save some income tax payment by making a Qualified Charitable Contribution from their IRA. If the Distribution is made payable to a charity, e.g. St Paul's Lutheran Church, the amount counts toward your MRD and will reduce the taxable amount of the MRD. Your financial representative can assist in the process. This is just another way to be a good steward with what has been entrusted to you. Thank you.

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

Return Service Requested

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

Email: st.paulsyork@comcast.net
Web Page: <http://www.stpaulsyork.org>



STAFF

Pastor

Youth Director

Organist, Choir Director

Children, Youth, Hand-
bell Choirs Director

Bookkeeper

Secretary

Sexton

Preschool Director

717-843-8155

Reverend Stanley Reep

Kelly Moore-Spencer

Victor Fields

Emily Reep

Dale Zeiger

Patee Pizzirusso

Ted Weikert

Deb Becker

Web Page: www.stpaulsyork.org

prreep.stpaulsyork@comcast.net

kmoorespencer.stpaulsyork@comcast.net

vfields.stpaulsyork@comcast.net

sea2reep@comcast.net

dzeiger.stpaulsyork@comcast.net

st.paulsyork@comcast.net

st.paulsyork@comcast.net

director@stpaulspreschoolyork.com



Worship Schedule

Sunday Holy Eucharist

8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Education 9:15 a.m.