Our Church

St. Paul's Lutheran Church 25 West Springettsbury Ave., York, PA 17403 717/843-8155 – st.paulsyork@comcast.net www.stpaulsyork.org April 2020 Sunday Holy Eucharist 8:00 & 10:30 a.m. Holy Days as announced Education 9:15 a.m.

Worship During These Trying Times

Palm Sunday Road Rally Procession 9:15 AM Sunday April 5, 2020

Knowing that we will not be able to hold any services at the church, an alternative activity is planned and is sanctioned by the leadership making it an approved religious institution activity. The Palm Sunday Road Rally Procession will provide a way to take us from Triumphal entry through the Burial of Jesus. We will recount the passion narrative through familiar sights in and around our city and country side. At each site a few verses of scripture from the gospel of Matthew will guide our journey and direct our conversations. The road rally begins at 9:15 AM and starts at church. You may wish to pack snacks and drinks for the journey. Please note: This Road Rally could easily become a virtual road rally by looking at the websites of the seven corresponding geographic locations. The Road Rally service is printed on the next 2 pages.

Deacon Ellen Doughty and Pastor Stan Reep will bless participants in their vehicles at two stations. Simply pull up to the curbside. One station is at the ramp by the Springettsbury Entrance and the other station is at the Pantry ramp on Cleveland Alley. The Road Rally map will be available the day of the event or in advance from the church website. A palm branch will be placed under the windshield wiper blade on the passenger side of the vehicle. As the branch of palm is placed everyone shouts "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest! (You may wish to practice this a few times so that you are ready when it is your turn to receive a palm branch.) The palm branch may be taken from the windshield and placed inside. Use each site along the way to talk together about the aspects of these events in the life of Jesus and for our life together. You will want to use your mapping device. For native Yorkers you should be able to locate all of the sites. Prayers to begin and end the journey will be provided on the Road Rally map. We pray that this Palm Sunday Road Rally will help you enter the importance of this Holy Week in our lives as Christian people.

Services and activities remain suspended

With President Trump extending the time for social distancing until the end of April, the Executive Committee understands the need for us to be vigilant. We are aware of the difficulty that this places on you, our congregation, our community, state and nation. Continue to be diligent in your daily prayer and Bible reading. There are many online sources. For those of us who have worship books in our possession there are daily scripture readings provided as well as many prayers for daily use. Please continue to send your weekly offerings electronically or through the mail. Your faithfulness in giving is preventing us from becoming delinquent in paying our obligations. Thank you for your generosity. Please do follow along with worship provided through the church Facebook page and continue to check out the website for up to date postings. We will communicate the date and time when service and activities resume at St. Paul's. Health and peace to you and your household.

Palm Sunday Road Rally Procession A sanctioned service for St. Paul's Lutheran Church, York PA 17403 9:15 AM Sunday April 5, 2020

The Palm Sunday Road Rally Procession will take us from Triumphal entry through the Burial of Jesus. We will recount the passion narrative through familiar sights in and around our city and country side. The road rally begins at 9:15 AM and starts at church. The Pastor and Deacon will bless participants in their vehicles at two stations. One station is at the ramp by the Springettsbury Entrance and the other station is at the Pantry ramp on Cleveland Alley. A palm branch will be placed under the windshield wiper blade on the passenger side of the vehicle. As the branch of palm is placed everyone shouts "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest! (You may wish to practice this a few times so that you are ready when it is your turn to receive a palm branch.) The palm branch may be taken from the windshield and placed inside. Use each site along the way to talk together about the aspects of these events in the life of Jesus and for our life together. Please note: This Road Rally could easily become a virtual road rally by looking at the websites of the seven corresponding geographic locations.

The road rally begins. This is not a race. Use your mapping device to lead you on your way. A passenger in the vehicle prays:

Mercifully assist us, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts whereby you have given us life everlasting; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

- Mount Rose Cemetery Hill. Please approach from Grandview Ave. as the road quickly becomes one way. Slow down or stop briefly to take in the vista. Matthew 23: 37 Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!
- Susquehanna Memorial Gardens. As you enter the cemetery look for the concrete statue of the Last Supper. (You may wish to park and have a picture made of your family at the last supper if it seems safe to do so.) Matthew 26:26 While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing is he broke it, gave it to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins."
- Kain Park. As you enter the park look for a place alone where you can park and pray together for your family and for St. Paul's church. Matthew 26:36 *Then Jesus went with them to a place called Geth-semane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray."* It was after this that Judas arrived with a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Judas gave Jesus a kiss. This was the sign given to the mob so that they knew who to arrest. Matthew 26:49 *At once Judas came up to Jesus and said "Greetings Rabbi!" and kissed him.*
- The York County Judicial Center. It was a legal court where Jesus was condemned to death. This is our county court house where our judicial system is at work daily. Matthew 27:1-2 When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus in order to bring about his death. They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate the governor.
- Advent Lutheran Church, East Market Street. They have a large wooden lawn cross in front of their church. You may have a cross in your home, or even wear one around your neck. Matthew 27:32-37 As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews."

The Clock Museum, Columbia PA. The death of Jesus is recorded as taking place at three o'clock. Matthew 27:45 From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

Sam Lewis State Park, rock formations. Park your car and walk around or drive through the park slowly looking a place that looks like a tomb (Please remember that State Park Restrooms are closed). Matthew 27:57-61 When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

A person in the vehicle prays the concluding prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank you for giving your Son to die on the cross that we might be forgiven. Help us to understand the extent of our sin and the greatness of his love, so that we may trust him as our Savior and serve him as our Lord. Amen.

Then all pray together the Lord's Prayer. *Our Father*...

This concludes the Palm Sunday Road Rally. Thank you for your participation. Please remember to make an offering in order to sustain our life and mission together at St. Paul's Church.

Church Nursery—for when Services are resumed.

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to staff the nursery. It is not too late if you haven't signed up. If you would like to volunteer, please contact me at (610) 223-2304 or obie1986@hotmail.com. The nursery is for infants to pre-k aged children during the 10:30am service. The nursery will open 10 minutes prior to service and parents may opt to bring their child to the nursery before the service or after the children's sermon.



Children must be picked up by their adult guardian prior to communion or immediately after the service. All sippy cups or bottles should be labeled with the child's name. A snack will be available unless nursery volunteers are told otherwise by the parent. For the protection of your child and other children, parents are requested not to bring a sick child to the nursery.

Sincerely, Carrie Oberholtzer



Easter Flowers—For those who placed Easter Flower orders we are planning to have flowers in the church for Pentecost, May 31st. By making this adjustment we will honor your intention, fill the church with beautiful flowers on the Feast of Pentecost, and support our local florist and greenhouse.



Since our service schedule is uncertain, we are requesting those who have signed up for Altar Flowers whose date has been canceled to have their dedication moved to another date. We are planning to utilize the next available Sunday to honor requests. Thank you.







Our Food Pantry continues to serve with prepackaged bags of food. The bags are handed out outside the building. Thank you to all our volunteers!

The Way of the Cross

During Holy Week it is customarily a time to reflect on the last steps of Jesus from his trial to his burial in the tomb. The children on Tuesday evenings created artwork to be used for each station. Each cross was made with pieces of paper upcycled from the 2019 calendars. The children created unique pieces of art as they learned about the last steps in the life Jesus. Pastor Reep designed a simple service The Way of the Cross for children and their families. Originally it was to be held on Tuesday of Holy Week. The songs are all familiar; the images are coloring book pages, and the prayers focus on God's love for us in Christ Jesus. Please look for this an email identified as *The Way of the Cross for Children*.















Planting lariope at the new Food Pantry entrance ramp. Thanks to Kem, Tom and Pastor Stan for helping make the church grounds more attractive!



Deadline for the May newsletter is April 15th



ELCA Presiding Bishop Addresses Concerns About COVID-19

In 1527 the plague returned to Wittenberg, Germany. Two hundred years earlier the plague had swept across Europe killing up to 40% of the population. Understandably, people were anxious and wondered what a safe and faithful response might be. In answer to this, Martin Luther wrote "Whether One May Flee From a Deadly Plague." In it, he emphasized the duty to care for the neighbor, the responsibility of government to protect and provide services to its citizens, a caution about recklessness, and the importance of science, medicine and common sense.

To provide care for the neighbor, Luther recommended that pastors, those in public office, doctors and public servants should remain in the city. Luther himself remained in Wittenberg to care for his people. He recommended that public hospitals be built to accommodate those with the plague. He condemned those who took unnecessary risks that put themselves and others in danger of contagion. Luther also encouraged the use of reason and medicine, writing, "God has created medicines and has provided us with intelligence to guard and take care of the body. ... Use medicine; take potions which can help you; fumigate house, yard, and street; shun persons and places wherever your neighbor does not need your presence" ("Whether One May Flee From a Deadly Plague," 1527).

We are living in the time of the coronavirus. We are also living in the time of social media and constant, relentless news coverage. Many of our people have the same concerns as those in Luther's day. Many of our people are anxious. Luther's counsel, based on Scripture, is still sound. Respect the disease. Do not take unnecessary risks. Provide for the spiritual and physical needs of the neighbor. Make use of medical aid. Care for one another, especially the most vulnerable.

The churchwide organization recommends the following for churchwide staff: Wash your hands, stay home when you are sick, wear a mask if you have symptoms, consult your medical provider. Bishops and pastors will provide guidelines for worship and church gatherings.

Luther also reminded his people and us that we should trust God's faithfulness and promises, particularly the promise eternal life. Paul writes: "If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's" (Romans 14:8).

In peace, The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton Presiding Bishop



We express our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Charles Boll, especially Lois and to Helen McWilliams, especially Navin. Please send cards and remember the family in your prayers.

Sacristan Needed Supporting the Liturgy

We have been blessed with faithful volunteers who work silently behind the scenes. Week after week a team of individuals arrive early, prepare the altar, make ready the bread and wine, and when needed prepare for the sacrament of Holy Baptism. Following the liturgy they clean up, wash, polish, and put all of the vessels away. Another group of individuals collect the soiled linens and take them home to wash and press and then return them to the sacristy. The work of the Altar Guild is critically important work as we believe all that we do and all that we are as God's people flows from the sacramental life of our community of faith. We are currently in need of a Sacristan. This is an individual who provides oversight to the altar guild and makes certain that the sacramental vessels, linens, paraments, and banners are well cared for and that all of the necessary supplies are on hand. Needless to say the individual needs to work closely with the Pastor and the many volunteers who provide for our sacramental life together. This is an important ministry. Most of the work can be done at the Sacristan's convenience. Please prayerfully consider if this ministry is for you. For additional information simply contact Pastor Reep.

Altar Linen Care

For many worshipers little thought is given to what needs to be completed in order for an entire Sunday service to take place. The very public components of Assisting Ministers, Lectors, Cantors, Acolytes, Ushers and Greeters are evident. Important but less visible are the altar linens. Linens are needed for each liturgy. Currently there are 5 used at each liturgy so on most Sundays there are 10 purificators (the linens used with the chalices) along with a few other pieces utilized on the credence tables and on the altar. This ministry is carried out by a group of dedicated volunteers. Currently we need to augment our team with some additional helpers. Historically people wash and press the linens for a month at a time. We need help for the following months: January, May, July, August, September, and October. If you are willing to wash and press the linens but aren't sure what is involved or how to actually take care of them we have some seasoned volunteers who will gladly provide instruction. Simply notify the church office and indicate the month you are willing to serve as well as if you should like to have some instruction. We will respond with any additional information. We extend our sincere thanks to those who serve in this way; Dottie Moore, Melissa Yakim, Joanne Hoffacker, and Pat Rudicille for their faithful service to God and this community of faith.

Summer Sunday Fellowship

During the months of June, July and August we will be having one combined liturgy at 9:15 AM. This summer worship schedule provides us with some unique opportunities to strengthen our relationships at St. Paul's. Worshiping together allows for planning a more robust summer worship experience. Victor Fields is planning a summer choir where participants would rehearse one week and sing the next! Serving schedules will be easier to manage needing only to provide worship servers, ushers and greeters to cover one service. But imagine how serves who traditionally serving at one worship time can now be mixed and matched. People can work together in new ways while doing familiar jobs. Following each liturgy will be a time of fellowship. We hope to have name tags available to help us learn names! And what better way to get to know a brother or sister in Christ than to sign up to sponsor a fellowship time. The Fellowship Committee is asking that on each Sunday, three households sign up to provide, set up, and serve the refreshments. The Congregation Council members have each taken one Sunday leaving two openings each week. This is a great way to get involved in the life of the congregation and to get better acquainted through providing for the Sunday fellowship time. A sign-up sheet will be circulated through the congregation and them be posted in the Springettsbury vestibule bulletin board.

Summer Camp 2020

Camp Kirchenwald and Camp Nawakwa From Generation to Generation

For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations. Psalm 100:5

The Lutheran Camps offer a wide variety of things to strengthen faith and enrich our Christian Community; Worship, Daily Prayer, Making New Friends, Seeing Old Friends, Fun Activities, Adventure and Acts of Service. There are many different camps offered throughout the summer. From Grade K through Grade 11. You can choose your favorite camp week from Ultimate Sports, Jr. Classic, Kayak, Back Country Outpost, Arts and Crafts, Water Adventure, Trails and Treats and many, many more fun weeks.

Talk to Miss Kelly if you are interested in Camp Nawakwa or Camp Kirchenwald. Camp brochures will be available for you to look at.

Cottage Meetings Slated for summer 2020

The cottage meeting format, meeting in member's homes, has worked well for us in the past. Our first gatherings helped Pastor Reep, who was at the time new to York and to St. Paul's, get a handle on the congregation and what to prioritize in ministry. The second set of meetings followed the 175th Anniversary and identified a commonly shared path forward for the congregation. Those gatherings cemented the path leading to the renovation of facilities. The third set of gatherings was held in conjunction with the Capital Campaign process garnering financial support and showcasing the architectural vision and plans for St. Paul's. To that end we are planning gatherings in member's homes during the months of July and August. These meetings will focus on the many ideas posted on the glass wall as part of the 2019 Stewardship emphasis. The post it notes were the vehicle to help clarify vision for St. Paul's as we transition from the years of construction to years of living into the modernized facilities. Host families are being identified as we recognize the neighborhoods comprising current membership. If you are asked to host please give prayerful consideration to the request before offering a response. At this time we are planning for meetings to be held on Sunday afternoon, 3:00 PM and evening 7:00 PM on July 12, 19 & 26, August 2 & 9. Historically meetings have had about a dozen participants per gathering. If we see that we are in need of additional hosts we will adjust the planning. The summer months provide a more relaxed time of year, the option to gather out of doors, and the extended daylight hours for those who prefer not to drive after dark. The agenda for the gatherings currently rests with the Congregation Council. The idea is to create conversations that will bear fruit for our shared ministry at St. Paul's leading us forward in mission and ministry.

Preschool Registration for the 2020-21 school year is now open to the public. If you have further questions you can contact Deb Becker. The main phone number for the preschool is (717) 854-1996. You can also register online http://www.stpaulspreschoolyork.com.

Please note that the preschool will be closed for the next few weeks in compliance with the COVID-19 recommendations. We look forward to seeing our children when health concerns are no longer an issue..





Geranium Sale—**The** Annual SpiriTrust Lutheran Auxiliary Geranium Sale is currently taking orders for red or salmon colored plants. The is \$3.50 per plant. Plants may be ordered by calling Jim Mummert at 717-309-4101. He will prove with additional information; to whom to make the check, where it is to be mailed and the date of delivery. Thank you for supporting the Auxiliary in this way.

The Pastoral Sabbatical

Pastors serve a variety of roles in their privileged position at the center of congregational life: preacher, teacher, spiritual guide, pastoral visitor, friend, and confidante. Pastoral responsibilities are 24 hours-a-day, seven days-a-week. The pace and demands of parish life are relentless, often leaving even the most dedicated pastors recognizing the need to replenish their own spiritual reservoirs; to regain energy and strength for their ministry. Sabbaticals are typically those periods of time in which a pastor further develops his ability to serve his church. Pastors typically gain new perspectives, deepen their own insight, and positively affect their preaching and service. Pastors become renewed spiritually through rest and education; and, typically come away from sabbaticals with renewed passion and vision.



We are in the early phase of planning for this time of intentional exploration and reflection for Pastor Reep. The planning for and execution of the sabbatical requires all of our prayers. We are grateful for the opportunity for him to step away briefly from the persistent obligations of daily parish life and engage in a period of renewal and reflection. We pray that the time provided will give him renewed enthusiasm and creativity for ministry at St. Paul's. We pray that the congregation will look upon this time as one of opportunity for us all as we move from our renovation project into realizing the ministries made possible by that renovation. If you have any questions, concerns or comments about the Sabbatical planning process, please see Harold Sargeant, Rhada Hartmann, or Joe Kinkella.

How can a Sabbatical be of benefit to and enrich the life of the congregation?

One of our purposes for the sabbatical is renewal, which provides our Pastor time away from the intense demands of daily ministry. Sabbaticals are typically periods of "rest with a purpose". Sabbaticals "strengthen and further develop a pastor's ability to further serve the church". Pastors typically "gain new perspectives, deepening their own insight and positively affecting their preaching and service". Pastors become "renewed spiritually through rest and education and typically come away from sabbaticals with renewed passion and vision".

A second purpose of the sabbatical is to prepare for the future of St. Paul's Church. The sabbatical will provide the time and energy for Pastor Reep and the congregation to find new and dynamic ways to achieve our mission: "To show the world that God is love." Our intent is to arrange a time of retreat, reflection and revitalization for the work that lies ahead of us and a time of reconnection with those things that make us who we are. By providing a time of renewal for our Pastor, our church will benefit in several ways. Of course, spiritual, emotional, and physical rejuvenation will lead to increased energy and enthusiasm for his pastoral work. Intensive theological and spiritual education will nurture creativity, novel approaches to present and future needs, and inspiration to provide ongoing education and pastoral care for our church family. Pastor Reep's sabbatical will support us in our shared work of planning for our next quarter century of ministry. His renewal will energize us to live out our mission "To show the world that God is love." Hopefully Pastor Reep will also experience a practical appreciation for the seemingly thankless hours spent on our behalf, and have time to dream and envision new approaches for mission and ministry in the 21st Century.

If you have any questions, concerns or comments about the Sabbatical planning process, please see Harold Sargeant, Rhada Hartmann, or Joe Kinkella.



Long-time members Lois Boll will celebrate their 100 year birthdays this year. Lois will turn 100 on April 30 and we would like to send her birthday wishes with an abundance of cards! Her address is:

Lois Boll 403 Allegheny Drive York, PA 17402

Take a moment to jot a quick note of congratulations and send off a card!

Italian Wine Dinner Updates

As many of you know, last year's Harvest Wine Dinner was a resounding success that raised more than \$25,800 to support the preschool and food pantry ministries. The committee is working to plan this year's dinner with an Italian theme to match the Italian paintings on this year's calendar. This year's dinner will take place on Saturday, October 17 and will feature a live auction of Pastor Reep's Italian paintings. Last year's live auction raised \$11,500.

In addition to the live auction, the event features a silent auction. Last year's auction raised \$9,000. Congregants and members of the St. Paul's community



had a chance to bid on auction items even if they did not attend the dinner, so this provided a nice way for all of the congregation to be involved in this fun event.

Update: The planning for the October dinner continues to unfold. Chef Brandon Hoffnegle has willing agreed to prepare the meal again this year. He presented ideas for the menu identifying the culinary regional specialties progressing from southern to northern Italy. Additionally for those interested in attending that prefer a gluten free, vegan, or vegetarian option, they can all be arranged by simply sharing the desired menu when purchasing a ticket. Nicki Herdson delivered a Temple Talk on the need for silent auction items and asked people to contact her with ideas and items. Please reach out to her if you have something to donate. Pastor Reep, in addition to donating the calendar paintings for the live auction, has agreed to offer painting lessons as one of the silent auction items. Larry Gross has signed on as auctioneer for the event. Ticket sales will be arranged through Ann Anstadt. Tickets are still slated to go on Sale on May 1. Please mark your calendar as ticket sales will most likely be brisk. Thanks to the entire team who are working to make this fall event another memorable evening.

From Nikki Herdson: I am reaching out to the congregation in hopes that you can help with securing items for this year's auction. Consider if you have items or services you may be willing to donate. Are there businesses or restaurants you frequent who may be willing to donate something for your auction? Items like this will help to support the preschool and food pantry ministries for years to come. Popular items from last year's auction include a Ray Lewis signed football, a memory quilt, painting of a room in a house, a spa basket, gift certificates to the Glen Rock Mill Inn, and a week's vacation in Chincoteague. If you have an item you would be willing to solicit or donate, please get in touch with Nicki Herdson at nherdson@ycp.edu or call/text at 717-428-9452.

Thank you for your help in making the silent auction and the Italian dinner a success.

In our prayers we remember...

Gayle Guyton, Rodney Miller, Amanda, Sylvia Little, Jim Young, Penny Bailey, Eddie Turner, Sr., Jessica Ericson, Kristine Gross, Porter Stacey, the families and loved ones of Charlie Boll, and Helen McWilliams and please keep all medical personnel and those in the military and in mission work in your daily prayers. 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





Thank you to all who helped to get this newsletter out this month!

STAFF 717-843-8155
Pastor Reverend Stanley Reep
Youth Director Kelly Moore-Spencer
Organist, Choir Director Victor Fields

Children, Youth, Hand- Emily Reep bell Choirs Director

BookkeeperDale ZeigerSecretaryPatee PizzirussoSextonTed WeikertPreschool DirectorDeb 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.