

Our Church

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

January 2022
8 AM & 10:30 AM Sunday Holy Eucharist
10:30 AM—Live Streamed YouTube
Holy Days as announced

Thursday January 6 – The Epiphany of Our Lord

7:00 PM, Vespers
Piano, Flute, Handbells

Sunday January 9 – The Baptism of Our Lord

8:00 AM, The Holy Eucharist (spoken liturgy)
With Thanksgiving for Holy Baptism
10:30 AM, The Holy Eucharist (sung liturgy)
With Sacrament of Holy Baptism and Reception of Members

The Season of Epiphany Sunday Worship

Our worship during the season of Epiphany will be shaped by the liturgical musical setting and hymns. We will be relying on *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* setting 6 with its distinctive jazz motifs and hymns drawing from the imagery of the assigned biblical texts. One new song that will be given prominence each week is *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines*, text and music by Paul M. Vasile. Paul is a church musician, consultant, composer, and teacher. He finds that his greatest joy comes in collaborative and community-centered ministry. As we utilize his setting of the Gloria patria let us discover great joy in our community-centered ministry at St. Paul's Church. And please do join in singing the spirited melodic line.



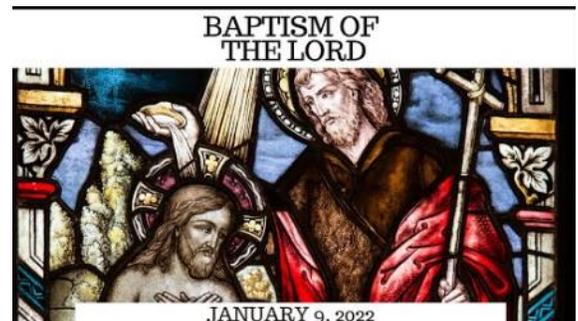
The Baptism of Our Lord Sunday January 9

Reading from the Biblical narrative, Jesus comes to the Jordan River to be baptized by John. In Advent we heard about John, his preaching, his baptizing, and his call for repentance. He also announced that one mightier than he was coming. On the festival of the Baptism of Our Lord we celebrate the Mighty One, Jesus, who comes and is baptized marking the official beginning of his public ministry.

We are blessed this year with people coming to St. Paul's uniting with our community of faith. Some will receive the sacrament of Holy Baptism while others will affirm their faith and baptism and will begin to share in the public ministry that has been entrusted to us. At the 8:00 AM liturgy we will all share in a Thanksgiving for Baptism. At the 10:30 AM liturgy we will celebrate the sacrament of Holy Baptism for some and receive others into St. Paul's Lutheran Church membership.

This feast day brings a close to the season of Christmas and moves us into a season of making Christ known. We make Christ known by what we say and do; by the way we live our lives, by the choices and decisions that we make daily. During this bright season of Epiphany let the light of Christ shine through you brightening the way for others.

If you or someone you know would like to receive the sacrament of Holy Baptism please contact the church office or Pastor Reep as soon as possible. The adult education lesson for January 9 will be led by Pastor Reep using the Small Catechism section on Holy Baptism. The class will be held in Christ Hall starting at 9:15 AM. This is an opportunity to learn and grow in faith and life. Be sure to come.



Sunday Morning Classes 9:15-10:15 AM.

Sunday School for Children

Classes begin again on Sunday, January 9. All children will gather in the nave at 9:15 am for a large group opening including songs and introduction to the story. Children will then be dismissed to their classrooms.

Infant-preschool- room #213 Kindergarten-grade 3 – room #214
Grades 4-6 – room #204

Children will be using lectionary-based curriculum which means they will be studying one of the lessons that are read in church each week. Families can take the opportunity to revisit the stories later in the day, looking at the learner leaflet, discussing what they remember and what they will take with them throughout the coming week.



Covid Mitigation for Children's Sunday School—Recognizing that children 5 and under are not eligible to receive the Covid-19 vaccine, the Christian Education Committee, with input from the Covid Task Force, is planning the following procedures: All classrooms will be cleaned before and after our use on Sunday mornings. Students will have their own pencil boxes with supplies. We will not be serving snacks. Children two and older and adults are asked to wear masks. If someone in your household is ill or exposed to a suspected case of Covid, please stay home and enjoy the online resources. We will be monitoring and updating procedures regularly.

Spark family magazine provides ways for you to talk about God and Jesus with your children. St. Paul's subscribes to this magazine for our families with young children sending it directly to your home. . Take time to read the stories with your children and try out some of the activities. Enjoy growing in faith together. (If you are not receiving this magazine, simply call the church office and asked to be added to the subscription list.)

At Home Epiphany Celebrations: January 6th is the day we call Epiphany, the coming of the wisemen to see the baby Jesus. It is the 12th and final day of Christmas and for some it is the day of exchanging gifts in remembrance of the wisemen bringing gifts to Jesus. Take time to read the story from the Gospel of Matthew 2:1-12. Another tradition is the eating of the Kings Cake, believed to originated in France around the 12th century. Bake any cake or coffee cake recipe. Hide a dried bean or coin in the cake. Some use a small plastic baby Jesus. The person who gets the piece with the hidden surprise becomes the king for the day. Use the following table prayer at dinner. And plan to join us for Vespers at Church at 7:00 PM.



Epiphany Table Prayer: O God, by the leading of a star you made yourself known to the peoples of the earth. Lead us to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face. Bless this food to our bodies that it may nourish and sustain us. Amen.

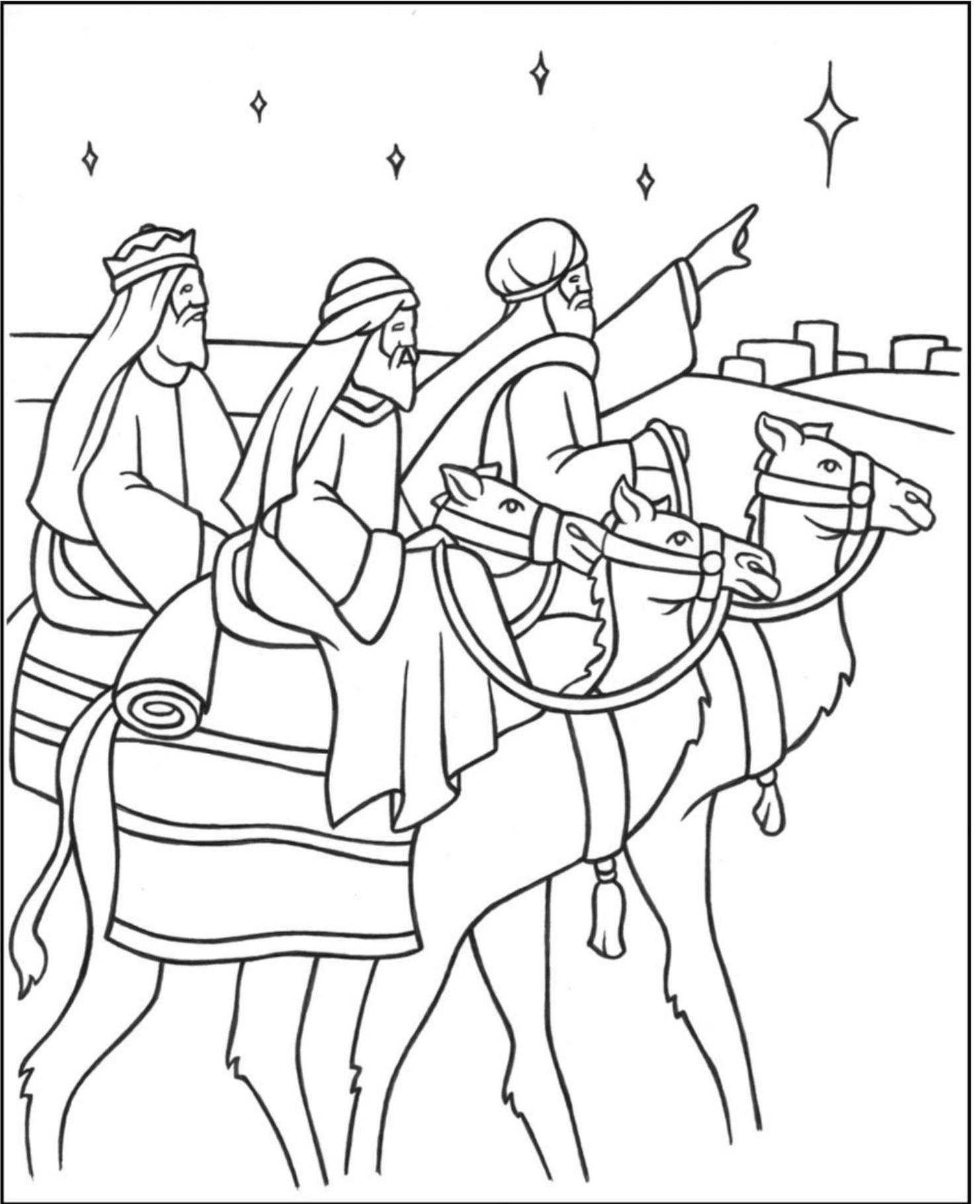
Adult Gathering in Christ Hall 9:15 AM

The Small Catechism—Led by Pastor Reep

The Small Catechism of Martin Luther provides the basis for our Lutheran Confirmation Instruction. Beginning on January 9 Pastor Reep will be presenting and leading discussions centered on the parts of the catechism. For many of us it has been a long time since we were in High School. And for others of us we weren't raised in a Lutheran tradition. The hope is that this basic review will help us to engage more with one another and with our children and families by providing a common vocabulary. January 9 – Holy Baptism

January 16- Holy Communion
January 23 – The Office of the Keys
January 30 – The Ten Commandments
February 6 – The Lord's Prayer
February 13 – The Apostles' Creed; God the Father
February 20 – The Apostles' Creed; God the Son
February 27 – The Apostles' Creed; God the Holy Spirit





CREATE

Tuesday evenings January 18 through March 22

The Winter Create program will be focused on the Fruits of the Spirit. Each week children pre-school through kindergarten will hear stories and do a craft that include one of the Fruits of the Spirit. Grade 1 through 6 will learn about one of the Fruits of the Spirit and compare it to one of the 10 Commandments that they know from the Fall session of CREATE. They will also be writing their own prayer and adding it to a weekly prayer ring that they can take home each week.



Preschool through Kindergarten will meet with Mr. Cody for music 6:00 till 6:30 and with Miss Kelly for Story and Create 6:30 till 7:00.

Grade 1 through Grade 6 will meet with Miss Kelly for Create 6:00 till 6:30 and with Mr. Cody 6:30 till 7:00.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone in person and we will continue to follow St. Paul's Covid Committee guidelines and are asking everyone to wear a mask. - Ms. Kelly

Youth Music Program

Tuesday evenings January 18 through March 22

The Youth Music Program will resume for our Winter/Spring session. Each week children pre-school through kindergarten will learn songs about friendship, compassion, and the word of the Lord. Grade 1 through 6 will learn songs and occasionally have instrumental music opportunities to be used in worship. The hope is to have several performances during Sunday services for each age group throughout the Winter/Spring Session of Youth Music.



Preschool through Kindergarten will meet with Mr. Cody for music 6:00 till 6:30 and with Miss Kelly for Story and Create 6:30 till 7:00.

Grade 1 through Grade 6 will meet with Miss Kelly for Create 6:00 till 6:30 and with Mr. Cody 6:30 till 7:00.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone in person and we will continue to follow St. Paul's Covid Committee guidelines and are asking everyone to wear a mask. - Mr. Cody

Congregation Council Installation Sunday January 2

Our Congregation Council Members will be officially installed on Sunday January 2 at the 10:30 AM liturgy (there is only one service on that day). In the rite of installation we are reminded of the important work that is carried out on our behalf by these men and women. This year we welcome into positions of leadership some for whom this is their first experience serving on council. And we have others who we welcome back, folks who are well seasoned in roles of leadership. We also are reminded of the important work that is carried out by the congregation. We commit ourselves to prayer on their behalf. We commit to work encouraging them and supporting them in the tasks and situations that are yet to be revealed. The Rite of Installation underscores the ministry that is shared, collaborative and rooted in Christ Jesus. Please be present showing your solidarity in life and mission.



Food Pantry—January

Items needed: Stuffing mix, boxed potatoes, canned potatoes, pancake mix, 4 pks of toilet paper, jelly, boxed rice. We also need paper grocery bags with handles.

Anyone able to help can contact Teresa Rohrbaugh, Patty Snyder, or Janet and Larry Moore. Plastic Bags are always needed. Money donations are gratefully accepted. Please place cash or check in a “special” envelope marked “Pantry”.

Food Pantry volunteers needed. We need shelf stockers every other Sunday from 9-10:15 AM. . Contact Patty Snyder or the church office for details. We also need volunteers on Tuesdays for distribution of food to the community from 9:00-11:30 AM. Many people volunteer once a month. Contact Teresa Rohrbaugh or the church office.



Volunteers are needed for all positions during our Sunday services, especially for the early service Please contact the office if you are able to serve.

2022 Flower Chart

The 2022 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.

2022 American Heritage Calendars

Please take calendars with you to use as an evangelism tool to assist you in talking about the Lord, Christ Jesus, and the ministry that is carried out in his name through our congregation. As Lutherans it seems that we have trouble when it comes to talking about faith and life. The good news is that you don't have to use religious sounding language. You simply need to use everyday words and tell the story. The story we are telling is about feeding the hungry. We do it week in and week out. We took on debt to do it. We are, as Jesus was and is, committed to feeding the hungry. Would you like to be part of that?

A donation, some of your money, some of your time, has been given over to and for the work of ministry when you or someone you are talking with receives a calendar and makes a donation. Honestly, it doesn't really matter the dollar amount. The calendar provides a person with a concrete tangible item that will remind them implicitly every day for a year about the importance of feeding the hungry. The story can be lengthened by telling about the art work, about the harvest dinner and auction, about the generosity of people giving. And then you can bring it to a close reminding yourself or another of the generosity of God's love of you and for you. Please take calendars and tell the story of the food pantry and of God's love.





The Holiday spirit was in full swing at the Preschool. In November, the children and their families were very generous and brought in food donations for the pantry. We thank those who helped to provide a meal for those in need.

Then there was the Advent season and then things were beginning to look a lot like Christmas! The Preschool helped the community in December and spread Christmas cheer by collecting items such as, mittens, leggings and scarves for the children at Jackson Elementary school. Throughout the month, the teachers and children prepared for the birth of Baby Jesus and the arrival of Santa Clause. Our hallways and classrooms were filled with Christmas decorations and the excitement of small children.

As we look towards the New Year, we will be opening registration for the 2022-2023 school year for our current preschool families. If you know any families who are interested in a Preschool experience, please have them contact us at 717-854-1996.

Happy New Year!
St. Paul's Lutheran Preschool



Please remember to notify Pastor Reep of any life events, illnesses, joys or concerns. Call the office 717-843-8155 or email st.paulsyork@comcast.net



January 15

Congregation Council Highlights

The Council met for their regular meeting on December 13 in the Good Shepherd Room at 7:00 PM. The meeting was called to order. Dan Garber opened the meeting with prayer.

The minutes from the November meeting were approved.

The agenda was adopted.

Newly elected council members were welcomed to the meeting. They are Alexis Heistand, Chris Lipp, Steve Schedin and Carol Woodbury.

President Tristan Ericson commented on the faithfulness of the congregation and the strength of financial giving throughout the year.

Treasurer Peter O’Conor presented the financial report. He too commented on the strength of envelope giving and our ability to meet all financial obligations.

A request from the preschool to hold a spring sandwich sale was approved.

Council approved staff Christmas bonuses. The dollar amounts were increased to reflect cost of living increases.

A request from the Mpuguso Committee to wire transfer funds collect by St. Paul’s for their new church building was approved. The dollar amount will be exactly what has been received to date.

A recommendation from the Mutual Ministry and Preschool Committee to add Laura Tate to the preschool substitute teacher list was approved.

Reflections on the November Annual Meeting were positive in nature and reflected what the council had hoped to accomplish.

A revised Health and Safety plan for the preschool was approved. Up-dates were made in conjunction with the Covid Task Force and preschool staff members.

The council revisited the practice of wearing masks during public worship. The council supports continuing the current practice but will revisit it again in the New Year. The Covid Task Force will be consulted and the Worship and Arts Committee will explore some additional avenues.

Council election of officers yielded: Tristan Ericson, President; Nancy Bennett, Vice-president; Kathleen Lemke, Secretary; Peter O’Conor, Treasurer. They were thanked for their willingness to serve. The council members and officers will be installed at the 10:30 AM liturgy on January 2, 2022.

Council members completing their term of service were thanked. They are Mike Hanson, Patty Snyder and Kem Vaught.

The meeting concluded at 8:50 PM. Tristan offered a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Pastor Reep



2022 Church Offering Envelopes

Church offering envelopes for the 2022 calendar year are prepared and are available in the Good Shepherd Room. Please make every effort to collect your packet. The envelopes are in a tablet form so that each week’s envelope can simply be torn out and brought with you to worship or simply add a stamp and mail to the office if you aren’t able to attend. This will save using an envelope and addressing an envelope. Also remember that you may contribute to the ministry of the congregation through electronic giving. See the church website stpaulsnyork.org and click on the “Donate” button. Thanks for taking responsibility and securing your envelope packet for the 2022 and for your faithful support of St. Paul’s mission and ministry.



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

STAFF		
Pastor	Rev. Stanley Reep	prreep.stpaulsyork@comcast.net
Youth Director	Kelly Moore-Spencer	kmoorespencer.stpaulsyork@comcast.net
Organist, Choir Director	Victor Fields	vfields.stpaulsyork@comcast.net
Children Choirs Director	Cody Messersmith	cmessersmith.stpaulsyork@gmail.com
Bell Choirs Director	Leah McComas	lmccomas.stpaulsyork@gmail.com
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Sexton	Ted Weikert	st.paulsyork@comcast.net
Preschool Director	Deb Becker	director@stpaulspreschoolyork.com



Worship Schedule

January 2022

Sunday Holy Eucharist
 8 AM & 10:30 AM
 10:30 AM Live streamed
 Holy Days as announced