

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/July 2022
9:15 AM Sunday Holy Eucharist
9:15 AM—Live Streamed YouTube
Holy Days as announced

Summer Worship June, July and August Combined Service time at 9:15 AM with Fellowship to Follow

We will gather on Sunday mornings at 9:15 AM for the Holy Communion liturgy. The schedule of servers for each Sunday is comprised from those who historically serve at either the early or late service. By mixing together those who normally serve at 8:00 or 10:30 AM this will provide another opportunity for us to put names and faces together as we identify those assuming leadership roles in the liturgy. Following each service there will be a time for fellowship held in the Good Shepherd Room. A member of the Fellowship Committee is scheduled to provide oversight with the set-up, serving and clean up each week. Please do volunteer to provide fruit or veggies or a baked good for one of these fellowship times. A sign-up sheet is located on the server in the Good Shepherd Room if you are able and willing to provide an item or two. Thank you to the Fellowship Committee for taking the lead on making these important times possible. And thank you in advance for providing the food for these summer Sunday gatherings.



The Feast of Pentecost Sunday June 5, Combined Summer liturgy @ 9:15 AM

The summer season begins with the celebration of the Feast of Pentecost. We will gather for the liturgy on the south lawn. Please bring a lawn chair with you. If you do not have a chair to bring or if you forget we have folding chairs that can be utilized. The Fellowship Committee will provide a continental breakfast beginning at 8:45 AM under the shade tree by the Springettsbury Ave. Entrance. For families with young children breakfast items geared for them will be provided in the playground on the north side of the church building. Miss Kelly will be organizing this component of the morning. At 9:15 AM a brass group, under the direction of Victor Fields, will play gathering music. This will signal that it is time for us to move lawn chairs into place and prepare for the liturgy. The service parts will be spoken. Communion will be in one kind (bread only). The readings proclaim God sending the Holy and life giving Spirit. There will be a sermon, opportunity to confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed, and prayers offered for the community, nation and world. Following the liturgy the Fellowship Committee will provide lunch. This will not be a brown bag lunch as had previously been announced, but rather a buffet where a variety of items will be available. What will remain the same is the opportunity for fellowship with one another. We have missed so many such opportunities over the past two years. Please introduce yourself to folks that you may not know. And do linger and share in conversation, laughter, and the joy of being together as a community of faith.



**Sunday Evening June 26, July 24 & August 28
Covered Dish Supper @ 6:00 PM Christ Hall
Vespers @ 7:00 PM Outside south lawn**

Building on the Congregation Council's retreat for additional times for fellowship and worship the Worship and Arts Committee has planned three opportunities for us to gather for fellowship and prayer. Please plan to attend at least one of these Summer Sunday Evening Services. The kitchen and Christ Hall will provide a cool and bug free place to gather for a covered

dish meal before heading out to the south lawn for evening prayer, vespers. This informal setting should make it easy for us to get acquainted and to share in faith and life as we eat together and pray together. This is also a great time to invite a neighbor, coworker or friend to come with you to St. Paul's.



Children's Sermons Return in July

Pastor Reep will resume having Children's Sermons during the Sunday liturgy. They will be placed in the liturgy following the Prayer of the Day and before the First Reading. It has been a very long time since we have been able to recognize the younger members of our faith community and to provide a time that is designed with them in mind. On July 3rd we will "Rejoice" with Isaiah, "Make Big Letters: with Paul and "Create Pairs" as Jesus sends us out in service! Please do plan to bring your children to worship this summer and have them take part in the Children's Sermons. The chancel is very large, so parents may want to accompany their child(ren) the first few weeks.



Our 2022 Confirmands!

Left to right: Emma Castro, Tanner Culp, Pastor Reep, Riley Jones, D.J.Zart, Allen Reep



Summer Fun Enjoying God's Creation: "Make time to smell the roses", or so the saying goes! During these months of slower pace living and longer days, be sure to engage in time outdoors celebrating God's Creation. Here are just a few ideas... Happy Summer!

Plant a garden. Flowers or vegetables, digging in the dirt and caring for plants can be a family affair. Of course, enjoying the bounty of a vegetable garden is also fun in late summer. Extra produce that you can't consume can be dropped off Tuesday mornings to share with our pantry clients! Thank God for the beauty of all things that grow.

Go for a walk. York County is full of parks and trails. Take pictures along the way and keep a journal of your favorite trails as well as the trees and animals that you spot. (Don't forget the bug spray!) Thank God for woodlands, fields, lakes and rivers.

Enjoy a picnic. Whether in your back yard, or at one of the many parks in the county, pack a yummy meal and enjoy. Invite friends to join you. Thank God for food and friends.

Read Psalm 104. It's a long one! It's a celebration of God's creation. Read and discuss parts of it each week at the dinner table. Which is your favorite part?

Be fed at God's Table each Sunday! While we take a break from school and Sunday School, we still need to be fed. Attend worship to be fed by God's Word and Holy Communion. Stick around following worship to enjoy fellowship and food each week. The playground is always open for fellowship as well. Traveling? Don't forget to log in to worship LIVE or view together as a family later in the week.

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.)

Holy Communion Instruction

Five families participated in the Holy Communion instruction provided in May. The children and their families took part in reading scripture, drawing pictures of Jesus and his disciples around the table in the upper room, looking at communion vessels in the sacristy and identifying how each one is used in conjunction with the sacrament. They learned from the Small Catechism Martin Luther stressing the importance of a believing heart in preparation for reception of Holy Communion. The children drew pictures of hearts, sang *Jesus Loves Me*, and identified family and friends for who Jesus died, and for whom he gives life, salvation and love. Thank you to Miss Kelly for helping with the organization and to all the families for their active engagement with their children.



Holy Communion Class



COVID-19 and Our Congregation

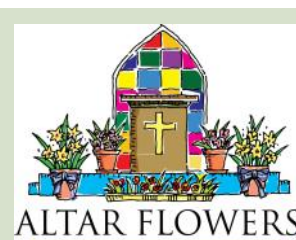
The COVID Task Force, comprised of members of our congregation, has been providing insights and caring for us throughout the pandemic. Most recently when the local county rate of infections became greater than 5% we moved from “Masks optional” to “Masks recommended.” This move was mirrored with the change in signage on the entrances to the church, the weekly email communication, and within the Sunday Service Folder. At the Congregation Council Meeting additional clarification was given in the event the local rate of infection moves above 10% that we would return to “Masks required.” By utilizing these three categories we hope that all worshipers will continue to participate and that all of us will remain safe from the spread of virus. If this summer follows the trends of the past two years then we foresee a local rate moving below 5%. Similarly toward the end of the year, late autumn, we may see an increase in the local rate of infection moving above 10%. Please do watch for emails, signage on the church doors, and announcements in the Sunday Service Folder.

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



Auxiliary to SpiriTrust Lutheran—The Auxiliary is conducting its Annual Drive for financial support for the primary work of providing support for the residents of the retirement villages of SpiriTrust Lutheran in York. The current budget of the Auxiliary includes \$5000 for the benevolence fund of residents who are unable to pay in full and \$8000 for resident activities at the home. Thanks to all who already provided donations during the Geranium Sale.

Checks are payable to "Auxiliary to SpiriTrust Lutheran" and should be sent to Jim Mummert, 770 Plymouth Rd. Your donation will be acknowledged by a phone call and our pastor will receive a note showing the names of all who contributed. Kindly call Jim at 717-309-4101 with questions.



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 last liturgy or you may have them given to someone who is sick, shut in, 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.



Sunday Coffee Hour Donations Requested. If you would be willing to help by contributing baked goods, fruits or veggies for Fellowship following any of our Summer 9:15

AM services simply notify the church office or sign up in the Good Shepherd room and we can add you to the schedule. The desire is to have fellowship opportunities following worship each Sunday throughout the summer. A member of the Fellowship Committee will provide oversight for each gathering.

A Month of Reformation Stewardship Planning is Underway

We have not been able to hold a stewardship campaign for the past two years. This year we are planning to focus on stewardship during the month of October. October is the month in which we observe Reformation and remember our history as Christians in a Lutheran tradition. It should provide ample time for us to focus on stewardship, our identity as children of God, and the need for us to give in response to God's steadfast love made known to us through Christ Jesus. During the summer we will be assembling a leadership team for this month long emphasis. If you would like to serve in this way please notify Pastor Reep. And in the meantime, please pray that God will provide the leadership needed and a congregation with receptive and generous hearts.

Harvest Dinner October 8, 5:30 – 9:30 PM

September marks the 40th anniversary of St. Paul's Food Pantry. For forty years we have been assisting families dealing with the plight of food insufficiency. The need has not dissipated. Recognizing the important work of feeding the hungry those who work the Food Pantry are truly a blessing in the community. The Harvest Dinner event brings together congregation members their families and friends and members of the greater community who all share the concern that no one should go hungry in York. The 2022 Calendar "American Heritage" serves as a show flyer for the 12 original paintings that will be auctioned the night of the event. And it was the catalyst for creating the menu for the evening's meal being prepared by Chef Mummert. Tickets are available for purchase through the church office. The cost per ticket is \$100. This provides you with an entire evening of entertainment and delicious food. This year we will feature three wines or three micro brews which will be paired with appetizers, salad, soup and entrée. If you would like to donate an item for the silent auction, help with the set-up, serving, or clean up please contact Ann Anstadt. Tickets are limited so please purchase early to insure you have a place at the table! The proceeds from the event support the Food Pantry at St. Paul's.



The York College Chamber Singers, Directed by Dr. Grace Muzzo, provided music during our May 8th service.

St. Paul's Making a Way Reflections on a Scholarship Competition

Andrew Root's book *The Pastor in a Secular Age* made me aware of a theme, "how God is at work making a way forward for people." Professor Root traces this work of God making a way forward through the Old and New Testaments. I have commented on this theme during weekly scripture study and have referenced it in preaching. It was however on Sunday afternoon, May 15 that I recognized such a connection with the congregation and its outreach into the community through the use of our building. We have hosted groups on many occasions. This was one under the leadership of the Matinee Musical Club of York. They were meeting for their annual scholarship competition.

I positioned myself in a back pew. The vantage point permitted a view of the narthex doors as well as the recitalists in the chancel. The first high school senior performed works of Beethoven and Ravel followed by another who performed works of Haydn and Mendelssohn. While both young men were playing, clarity came over me about the beauty of the space in which they performed, the magnificence of the architecture, acoustic, quality of light, and the superb instrument upon which they played. I thought about Dorothy Stauffer who bequeathed the congregation the financial resources to purchase the Steinway and Sons concert grand piano. The controversy over spending the designated gift on a piano when at the time the roof and steeple needed repair. I thought about the Facilities Committee members who made certain that the acoustical integrity of the church nave was not just maintained through the most recent renovation process, but enhanced through hardwood flooring, barrier free chancel, glass narthex wall, and a ceiling free from hanging fixtures. I thought about the controversy that LED lighting spawned but in the moment realized that the room's lighting was not shadowy but bright and crisp, easy on the performer and upon those who eagerly eyed the musicians showcasing their talent and skill. The piano which was positioned in the center of the chancel with the lid propped open filled the room with crashing chords and cascading arpeggios. At times the tones were whisper quiet and at other times the crescendos echoed throughout the room. At the end of each selection, spontaneous applause erupted leaving the performers wrapped in praise and appreciation.

I share this reflection because it is an outreach that is different from many of the community ministries of which we take part. On that particular Sunday I was truly delighted to be part of the St. Paul's congregation. We provided a fitting space in which to hold a competition. Here participants could perform in a first rate hall on an instrument of the highest caliber. Here we shared the beautiful room in which we offer our prayer, praise and thanksgiving to God with two budding young musicians, their families, friends and Matinee Musical Club members. The club awarded significant scholarship money. It will certainly assist the recipients with the cost of advanced musical education. Through the congregation's outreach into the community we were making a way forward for two insanely talented young men. As Professor Root pointed out in his book, *The Pastor in a Secular Age*, God is at work making a way forward. Often we don't see it. But some days that work is recognizable. That Sunday afternoon in May was one such time.

Peace and joy,
Pastor Reep



Once again, we are able to open our doors to groups for concerts and events. Our newly renovated building serves as a venue to reach out to the neighborhood and strengthen our commitment to serve our community. We need volunteers to staff a Hospitality Team for these events. As a member of the Hospitality Team you would greet and welcome our guests and offer assistance to help them while they are in the building. You would not be required to attend every event. A St. Paul's staff member would be in charge of the team for each event.

This is a great way to introduce our church to the community and also attend some wonderful events. Please let the office know if you would be interested in serving on the Hospitality Team.

Family Ministry - Picnics in the Park
God's Beautiful Creation 5:30pm – 7:00pm

Join your friends from St. Paul's for an evening picnic and bible activities at one of York Counties local parks. Each family is asked to bring their own picnic dinner to enjoy as we gather. The evening will include an interactive bible story along with a family activity and craft. All pavilions are located close to the park playground so your children can enjoy time playing with their friends. Restrooms and parking are located within walking distance.

5:30 – Picnic, 6:00 – 7:00 – Bible Story, Camp Songs, Activity and Craft



June 21st

Rocky Ridge Park
Grey Squirrel Pavilion
God Creates the Land and Plants

July 19th

John Rudy Park
Blue Spruce Pavilion
God Creates the Animals

August 16th

Kain Park
Perch Pavilion
God Creates the Creatures in the Sea





Bear Creek Pines (June) was painted while attending a week long painting seminar at an ELCA church camp in Northeastern Pennsylvania summer 2021. The leader and facilitator, a licensed Art Therapist and lifelong Lutheran, began each day centering us in prayer. She led us to obscure areas of the camp to paint each day. On this particular day, she led us deep into a pine forest. The dense canopy of branches blocked the brilliance of the sunlight. The challenge was to paint a landscape without identifying a horizon or sky line. We were to keep our vision focused outward and close at hand, not upward to sky and distant treetops. The pine needles underfoot were soft as we walked. They provided a natural mute to our footsteps as we hiked

along. The smell of the pine lingered in the humid air. When we reached our destination we stopped and set up painting camp. Each of us in turn lamented the challenge before us. At first everything looked alike all pine green and brown tree trunks. The little clearing even looked like God had worked on a monochrome landscape for amusement. Then after everyone settled in, there were about a dozen painters, we were surrounded by the music of nature, birds chirping, bees buzzing, water moving through the creek bed. And the group painted capturing something of the beauty of God's remarkable creation. The sunlight slipping through the sieve of pine branches brought delight. That night after evening devotions we shared in conversation about the day that God had given us. *"And there was evening and there was morning,"* a new day.



Tasseled Corn (July) was painted in southern York County west of the old trail and just north of Shrewsbury. The fields were ripe with corn. The farm in the valley below looked applied to the patchwork of green fields surrounding it. Clouds left shadowy darkness deepening a landscape of greens. Those tending fields may not always share the perspective *"and it was good."* The summer morning with tasseled corn underscores God's abundance.

The original watercolors were painted by Pastor Reep. Either one of these paintings can be yours. They will be auctioned in October to assist with St. Paul's Food Pantry.



May was a busy but fun month for the Preschool. The preschool staff and children would like to express their thanks and appreciation to the parents and members of the congregation who participated in the sandwich fundraiser. The fundraiser was a huge success and the preschool raised over \$650 for the children.

Another highlight during the month was our combined Preschool program. The parents and families filled the church and the children enjoyed singing their classroom songs. A special "Thank You" to Pastor Reep who led the students in their Chapel songs and prayers.



**Preschool Registration
NOW OPEN**



Registration for the 2022-2023 school year is now open!
You may visit the church website to register or contact the preschool via email at director@stpaulspreschoolyork.com or call 717-854-1996.

Welcome to our New Members!
New members: Jacob, Christine, Keith, and Julianna Kates



Baptism
Mike, Harry, Carrie and newly Baptized Jane Elizabeth Berkey



Congregation Council Highlights



Church Council met on May 9th. President Tristan Ericson stated that amount of participation is notable and another sign of the life in the church, reflecting on the amount of participation in various services through Holy Week, and observing live stream Monday and Thursday support was prayerfully done, especially Thursday evening. Stewardship Drive will continue to focus on garnering more involvement.

Treasure's Report: Peter O'Connor stated the preschool income is significantly ahead. It was anticipated that there would be a current deficit of \$80,000 but preschool has a deficit of only \$14,000.

Finance Committee: The finance committee endorsed the recommendation to enter a semi-annual HVAC service contract with Spangler & Boyer Mechanical, INC., in the amount of \$3,425.00. The Finance Committee approved the Wenger Corporation's quote of \$13,164.45 to purchase a Music Library System.

Eisenhart Historical Carvings: Current President of the Historical Society, Rebecca Countess, feels that the surviving carvings belong with St Paul's Lutheran Church, and recommends they be returned pending expectations delineated by the Historical Society. The Historical Society meets June 7, 2022 and this item will be on their agenda.

Covid Task Force Recommendations: The Task Force has determined that masks are optional with $\leq 5\%$ positivity, masks are recommended between 5% and 10% positivity, and masks are required with $>10\%$ positivity.

Sunday attendance: There is a consistent stability and trend with the early service.

Preschool: Created a new website that is user-friendly and visually appealing, and will have online payment for the Fall of 2022. Preschool should follow the same guidelines as determined by the Covid Task Force.

Social Ministry: *Bridge of Hope:* mother and child have moved into an apartment in Red Lion. The committee is providing meals once a week for the next several weeks.

Property Committee: A drainage issue still being investigated (restrooms on George St side); anticipated plumbing expense to resolve issue.

Pastor's Report: St. Paul's is excited to welcome new families into the congregation and excited for activities following the liturgy providing for continued fellowship; October 2022 will focus on stewardship; and Pastor Reep will attend a Zoom Conference on May 24th focusing on generosity.



Food Pantry—Summer

Items needed: Rice (1 or 2 lb bags), dehydrated potatoes, powdered milk, tomato sauce and soup. 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 Update

We are working hard to help our visitors feel welcomed and to keep the shelves stocked. Volunteers are always needed. Some people volunteer once a month, others more frequently. We will need extra helpers during the summer when regular volunteers are away of vacation. We need helpers on Tuesdays for distribution day, every other Thursday for food delivery day, once a month on Monday evening to pick up Panera Bread, and every other Sunday for stocking shelves. We are also looking for someone who is interested in learning about the ordering and inventory of food. Contact Janet Moore, Teresa Rohrbaugh, Patty Snyder or the church office to volunteer. Please consider helping with this important ministry to our neighbors of York.

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

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Worship Schedule
June/July 2022
 9:15 AM Sunday
 Holy Eucharist
 9:15 AM—Live Streamed
 YouTube