

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 2023
8:00 & 10:30 AM Sunday Holy Eucharist
10:30 AM—Live Streamed YouTube
Holy Days as announced

The Holy Name of Jesus
Sunday January 1
Combined Liturgy 10:30 AM



The Baptism of Our Lord
Sunday January 8
8:00 & 10:30 AM

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.

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. Matthew the gospel writer emphasizes hearing and seeing, so by what is said and by what is done. You may wish to think about it as the way we live our lives, by the choices and decisions that we make daily, but chiefly by what we say about Christ, the church community, and the good news of the gospel message. During this bright season of Epiphany let the light of Christ shine through you brightening the way for others.



Congregation Council Installation
Sunday January 8

Our Congregation Council Members will be officially installed on Sunday January 8 at the 10:30 AM liturgy. 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.



Monthly Emphasis for a New Year

2023 provides opportunity for our faith community to focus attention toward sharing resources and gifts internally and externally. Not all of the details are finalized but the wheels are turning and individuals and committees are fully engaged in a new year of Christian life.

In January we celebrate the Baptism of our Lord. We are drawn out into the wilderness and to the River Jordan. The Christian Education Committee is drawing our attention out into the wilderness and the joy of church camp experiences. Two St. Paul's campers, Katherine Hutton and Allen Reep, will share their reflections of camp and hiking and wilderness provided through Camp Nawakwa and Camp Kirkenwald. To gather us in the camping experience the Fellowship Committee is preparing breakfast on Sunday January 8 at 9:15 AM in Christ Hall. It will be preceded with a traditional camp meal time prayer.

February hosts many special dates. This year the Witness Committee is preparing an evening for our young families in recognition of Valentine's Day. Friday, February 10 a special dinner for parents will be served in Fellowship Hall, while a menu geared for young children will be served in Christ Hall. Parents enjoy dinner and conversation while activities for the children will commence in other areas of the building. We will need adult helpers to interact with the children so that the parents can enjoy time and share in conversation.

The month of March embraces the five Wednesdays of the Lenten season. Wednesday evening fellowship meals will once again precede mid-week worship. The Fellowship Committee is preparing for the evening meals and sign-up sheets for those wishing to contribute the necessary food items will be posted on the Springettsbury lobby bulletin board. Times for fellowship strengthen us for lives of service and often provide the source for new mission endeavors.

April fool's day falls on Saturday this year. The Christian Education Committee and Youth Ministry are teaming up to provide an event for children, Fool's for Christ (1 Corinthians 4:10) to prepare them for the events we observe and celebrate during Holy Week. The idea is that by providing opportunities for the children before we enter in to the solemnity of Holy Week the children will have a better idea about why we do what we do as Christian people during this important week in our lives of faith. More details will be forth coming, no fooling!

May is notoriously a busy time with spring sports in full swing, proms, graduations, and Mother's Day. The Mpuguso Committee is planning a Mother's Day Premium Dessert Sale to garner resources to sponsor a medical student scholarship. Such scholarships in the past have provided the local community in Tukuyu and within the Konde Diocese with much needed medical professionals. This is a new idea that was planned for May of 2020 but for obvious reasons did not come to fruition. Bakers beware that you will be asked to contribute a premium baked good for this benefit sale.

That takes us to June, July, and August and the Joy of summer. We will return to a combined summer liturgy at 9:15 AM followed by refreshments. While the Fellowship Committee will provide oversight to the gatherings we will need everyone to take part contributing refreshments. A complete summer



schedule and a sign-up sheet for the summer will soon be posted on the Springettsbury lobby bulletin board. Check your vacation schedule now and then mark down when you can provide refreshments and or help out so as to strength fellowship and welcome visitors and guests.

On September 10th we will share in a God's Work our Hands project. In October an event to benefit the Food Pantry will be held. November focuses on thankfulness; for the saints who have gone before us, for our faith community during the annual meeting, for a national day of thanksgiving and for entering into a new liturgical year focusing on the gospel of Mark. December brings good things and a joyous celebration of our Lord's birth. The memory of which is most likely still fresh in our minds from 2022 as we read this issue of *Our Church*.

A year goes by quickly. Calendars fill up quickly. Prayerfully consider committing yourself to actively participate and support one of these monthly events and contact the office for more information.



You may get information regarding closures at our website www.stpaulsyork.org or on our Facebook page St. Paul's Lutheran Church York PA on Springettsbury & George.

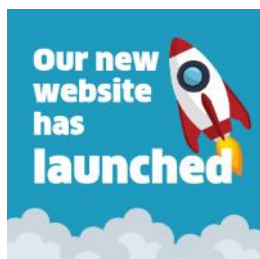
2023 Calendars

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. This is a fabulous tool to assist you with talking about faith and life with neighbors and friends. With the calendar in hand you can easily talk about the desire to provide a canopy to provide protection from sun, rain and snow! Our neighbors, who come to St. Paul's shopping for food without money (just like the prophet proclaims), will benefit greatly from a monetary donation. It doesn't really matter the dollar amount. What is important is for us to tell the story of how we are doing what Jesus commands, feeding the hungry. The calendar recipient will enjoy 12 months of original art work.



Nursery Volunteers Needed

We are looking for volunteers for the 10:30am service on Sundays. It is our hope to open the nursery this fall. If you are interested in volunteering or finding out more information, please contact Carrie Oberholtzer at 610-223-2304 or obie1986@hotmail.com.



Web Page Update

We are happy to report that St. Paul's new and improved webpage is mobile and up and running. Please sign on to www.stpaulsyork.org and check it out. There is so much information and great pictures in the Gallery and on the slideshow. You will find the monthly newsletter in color, weekly bulletins, monthly calendar and a link to Facebook and the Sunday service on YouTube. Hopefully, you will find the new webpage helpful and refer to it often.



Sunday Morning Education Hour 9:15-10:15 AM.

Come join in the fun and learning.

Our children infant through grade 6 will spend this winter and spring learning many of teachings of Jesus. Relationship building is also emphasized as they play and work together. Each class has a team of 3 or 4 adults who share the responsibility of leading these early learners. The classes all meet on the second floor. Infant-Preschool; Kindergarten-Grade 2; Grades 3-6.

Confirmation Instruction Resumes with Winter Term Sunday January 15 The Bible

Confirmation students will resume their time of study on January 15 at 9:15 AM in the Youth Room. The next unit is on navigating the Bible. The students will cover the material in 6 weeks, concluding the unit on February 19. The Spring Unit, The Ten Commandments, will begin on February 26 and will conclude on March 26. Students will need to bring their own copy of the study Bible with them each week as we learn to navigate the pages of sacred scripture.

January 8, 9:15-10:15 Breakfast and Camping Event

Are you dreaming about long summer days, swimming in the pool, hikes in the woods? Don't miss this special event on January 8 during the Sunday School Hour to learn about Lutheran Camps in our area. We will hear from our own members about their experiences at Nawakwa and Kirchenwald. We will experience some of the daily activities at camp. We will enjoy a yummy breakfast being prepared by the Fellowship Committee. Come share your stories and learn about a great summer experience for your kids or the whole family.

We will also be holding a fundraiser for the Backpacking Camp through our camping corporation. We would like to help supply them with new packs for overnight campers to carry their gear. Details to follow.



The Lutheran Camping Corporation
of Central Pennsylvania
Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, & The Wittel Farm

Mark your calendars for Saturday morning April 1

for a new event for children ages 2-grade 3. Through a variety of active learning experiences, the children will learn about the events of from Palm Sunday through Easter in preparation for this most Holy Week. This event will take the place of the Easter Egg Hunt. Children from the parish and the preschool will be invited.

MUSIC & CREATE

Music and Create will resume on Tuesday, January 17th and go until Tuesday, May 9th. There will be no session on Tuesday, April 4th. Children age 3 through grade 1 will have Cherub Choir with Mrs. Jones from 6pm till 6:30pm and Create with Miss Kelly 6:30pm till 7:00pm. Children in grades 3 through grade 6 will have Create with Miss Kelly 6pm through 6:30pm and Cantabile Choir and Bells with Mrs. Jones from 6:30pm through 7:15pm.



During Create the children will be hearing stories and doing art projects about being God's Good Stewards Together. In music the children will continue to explore different musical parts of the worship service by playing different musical instruments and singing a variety of songs.

We look forward to seeing all the children in January.

January 6 is Epiphany the day that we remember the coming of the Wisemen to Bethlehem to see the infant King. In some traditions, this is the day of gift exchange instead of December 25.

Another tradition is the King Cake which is believed to have originated in France around the 12th century. These early Europeans celebrated the coming of the three wise men bearing gifts twelve days after Christmas calling it the Feast of the Epiphany, Twelfth Night, or King's Day.



Part of the celebration was the baking of a King's Cake to honor the three Kings. The cakes were made circular to portray the circular route used by the kings to get to the Christ Child, which was taken to confuse King Herod who was trying to follow the wise men so he could kill the Christ Child. In these early King Cakes a bean, pea, or coin was hidden inside the cake. The person who got the hidden piece was declared King for the day or was said to have good luck in the coming year.

In Louisiana, Twelfth Night also signifies the beginning of the carnival season which ends with Mardi Gras Day, which is the day before Ash Wednesday. The bean, pea and the coin have been replaced by a small plastic baby to symbolize the

Christ Child. The person who gets the baby is expected to carry on the carnival festivities by hosting the next King Cake party.

You can use any coffee cake recipe and hide a bean in it before or after baking. Make a crown for the king to wear! Use this prayer at your dinner table.

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.

Easy King Cake

Easy King Cake is a semi-homemade version of the traditional Mardi Gras dessert, made with canned cinnamon rolls and colored sugar.

Ingredients

- 2 cans store-bought cinnamon rolls I used Pillsbury Flaky Cinnamon Rolls with Butter Cream Icing
- Yellow green and purple sugar

Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 375°F.
2. Place cinnamon rolls sideways on a large cookie sheet that has been greased or lined with a silicone mat. Arrange cinnamon rolls in a circular pattern. It should look like a flower when you're done. Press down on cinnamon rolls with your hand to flatten them slightly.
3. Bake according to package instructions. Let cool.
4. Frost with the buttercream that comes with the cinnamon rolls. Add yellow, green and purple sugar. Serve immediately or store covered for up to 24 hours at room temperature. It is best when eaten the first day.

Notes

If you can't find the Pillsbury Flaky Cinnamon Rolls, you can use the original cinnamon rolls or any generic brand (as long as you have 16 refrigerated cinnamon rolls to work with to create your ring).



Bridge of Hope -

This team continues to provide ongoing support to its family. Particularly special were the efforts made to make Christmas both merry and meaningful. Patty Snyder is the contact if you'd like to learn more.

Card Ministry Opportunity –

After serving faithfully on the card ministry team, Audrey Houck has chosen to step down. We're grateful for Audrey's dedicated ministry. If you would like to be a part of this important and meaningful team, please contact Nancy Bennett. This is a ministry done from home and all necessary supplies are provided.

Disaster Response -

The Long-term Recovery Committee of the York County VOAD is seeking volunteers to make calls at a phone-a-thon on Saturday, January 7th and Sunday, January 8th at the York County Office of Emergency Management. A script will be provided as you reach out for one or two hours to our neighbors who may still be in need following Hurricane Ida. You may recall our Lenten offerings were dedicated to this important work. If interested, please contact Pastor Glenn Beard, Lower Susquehanna Synod LDR Network Coordinator, at (717) 471-1067 or gbeard@luthercare.org. You may call Pastor Snyder (717)880-0350 if you have questions.

God's Global Barnyard -

The 3rd - 6th grades Sunday school class will be winding up their mission project on January 8th. In the meantime, bring in your quarters for the Quarter Tube along with your midweek Advent offerings dedicated to this worthy ministry. Gifts of animals help sustain farmers and their families worldwide. We can look forward to learning of the animal selections our kids make this year.

Jackson Elementary School -

We continue to help our neighborhood school with supplies for the students. In November and December socks, gloves, and sweatshirts were delivered. We work closely with the school's social worker who is always grateful for St. Paul's generosity.

Pantry -

For this printing, the November statistics for *five* Tuesdays are as follows: 80 clients per week average, with 396 families representing 1,673 individuals in the community. Donated scarves, hats, and socks have been given along with Thanksgiving related foods donated by the preschool and other area churches. Thanks to the volunteers serving on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays. There is a continuing need for plastic and paper bags.

Serrv International -

In support of fair trade, global artisans and farmers, our Serrv sale was met with enthusiasm. The items offered in November were almost completely sold out. We look forward to the spring when we will provide another opportunity to purchase high quality and beautiful items just in time for Mother's Day.

2023 Church Offering Envelopes

Church offering envelopes for the 2023 calendar year are prepared and are ready for pick up 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 mailed to the office if you aren't able to attend. This will save using an envelope and addressing an envelope. All you need do is add postage and mail! Also remember that you may contribute to the ministry of the congregation through electronic giving. For additional information on this simply notify the Treasurer, Peter O'Connor, for instructions. Thanks in advance for taking responsibility and securing your envelope packet for 2023 and for your faithful support of St. Paul's mission and ministry.





The church's new choral music filing system has now been fully assembled and stocked. Many thanks go especially to Larry Becker (construction) and Cheryl Reifsteck (librarian) for their many hours of volunteer work and help. We were able to keep and reuse 4 file cabinets and 1 large bookcase full of additional choral and instrumental music. Any additional music can now be stored in the former choral closet. Jim Flinchbaugh will continue to catalog new acquisitions to the library.

A Partnership Between Local Churches & LifePath Thrift Stores

Corners of Your Field is a partnership opportunity between local churches and Lifepath Christian Ministries. Corners of Your Field encourages attendees of our partner churches to be intentional about selecting their gently used household items as a donation to LifePath Thrift Stores. The stores then return a portion of the value of these items in the form of gift cards to your church to help those directly in your care.



How Does the Partnership Work?

Individuals or families donate their gently used items to LifePath Thrift Stores (formerly York Rescue Mission). Three locations: 2414 Eastern Boulevard, 283 West Market Street, and 241 Pauline Drive.

The LifePath Thrift Stores employee serving them will ask the name of their church. (St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 25 W Springettsbury Ave, York). We need to be specific as there are multiple St. Paul's Lutheran Churches.

Quarterly, the church will receive gift cards to LifePath Thrift Stores that can be given to anyone who comes to the church in need.

Donors are still able to take advantage of the tax-deduction with every gift to LifePath Thrift Stores.

St. Paul's is signed up to partner with LifePath. Please keep LifePath in mind when you are cleaning out/ decluttering. Visit LifePathYork.org for additional information.

Wednesday Scripture Study——Christ Hall, 10:30 AM

We begin with readings for the Baptism of Our Lord from the Gospel of Matthew. The Old Testament readings are from the prophets Isaiah and Micah. And we hear from St. Paul's writings to the Church in Corinth.

Please join us for this time of study and discussion.





Sabbatical Planning: Re-Creation for Pastor and Congregation

A sabbatical is a period of rest with a purpose. Rooted in the Old Testament is a command for rest in a pattern of sevens: work six days, rest on the seventh; work the land six years, allow it to rest in the seventh, etc. During the Middle Ages, schools of higher education began to grant their instructors leave of absence every seven years to help them renew their passion for their subject. The pattern of work-rest is as important now as it was then and it is within this context that the pastor sabbatical was created. A sabbatical strengthens and further develops a pastor's ability

to 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.

At the Annual Meeting in November, the Congregation approved a proposal from the Congregation Council and a newly-formed sabbatical steering committee to offer Pr. Reep a sabbatical this summer, 2023, between Memorial Day and Labor Day. This plan will utilize resources within our own parish to nourish our congregation through sacrament and word during the sabbatical period. What an exciting opportunity! While Pr. Reep pursues rest and renewal, we have the chance to hear the word of God from other voices in our faith community.

Some of you may not remember Pastor Reep's first Sabbatical 9 years ago, granted well past the first seven years of his ministry with us! He enjoyed time painting in Italy, visiting family across the U.S., learning at Chautauqua Institute in N.Y., and relaxing with friends at the lake. He returned with a passion and vision for St. Paul's that brought our building into the 21st century, opening up ministry potential for us to live into our mission, "To teach the world that God is love".

The sabbatical planning committee will update the congregation throughout the spring, so look for the special "Sabbatical Box" in upcoming newsletters. The subcommittee members are: Tristan Ericson, Janet Fitch, Steve Schedin, Amy Lipp, and Joe Kinkella. Please pray for the subcommittee as it works towards a plan for a much needed and deserved Sabbath rest for Pastor Reep and the church.

St. Paul's Dinner Group is Coming Back!

St. Paul's Dinner Group -

A time of good food, fellowship, and fun over a casual meal. Groups of about 6 adults – couples and singles – gather at the home of the designated host once during the months of April 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 host will call the guests to schedule a day and time that works for all. The hosts provide the main dish and the guests provide the appetizer, salad, or dessert.

Come and join us as we get better acquainted during these casual and enjoyable evenings.

Look for the poster in the Springettsbury hallway and sign up today!



Getting To Know Leah McComas

If you hear the beautiful music of handbells being rung during weekly worship services, most likely you will see Leah leading and directing bell players of all ages. Leah is in her second year as St. Paul's very capable handbell director.

Leah was born in the Allentown area but her family moved to Ephrata when she was about two years old and she lived there until she graduated from high school. Her mother has had a very strong influence on Leah's musical development as she is an organist and choir director and has been very active in many musical activities. Leah said her mother included her, beginning about the age of 8, in church handbell groups. Leah would play only one bell and her mother would point to her when it was time to ring! She also took flute lessons beginning about the same age and it is her favorite instrument today.

Following graduation from high school Leah became a student at Susquehanna University in Selinsgrove, PA. She graduated in 2010 and applied for "a bunch of jobs" and was hired by Dallastown School District. This is her 13th of teaching at Dallastown. She has taught general music, choral music and the job she is doing now – instrumental music. She loves instrumental music and working with the marching band led her to meet Sean who was also working with the marching band at that time. Sean is a social studies teacher at Kennerdale in southern York County. After getting to know one another, Sean and Leah were married in 2015. They are the proud parents of two daughters, Caroline who will be five in January and Molly who is not quite a year old.

When asked what she likes to do in her spare time, she laughingly replied: "what spare time?" After some thought, she said she enjoys watching PBS Masterpiece mysteries on TV. She also enjoys soccer and has watched as much of the World Cup games as she can. Summer is a time of relaxation and Leah and Caroline like to go to the library and check out some books! Leah especially likes reading British mysteries.

St. Paul's is blessed by her boundless energy and talent. We are so glad she has chosen to share them with us!





Asante sana, St. Paul's. Mungu awabariki. (Thank you, St. Paul's. May God bless you.)

The Mpuguso Committee would like to thank all the members of St. Paul's who attended the fund-raising luncheon for our companion congregation on All Saints' Sunday and donated money to help our sisters and brothers fund the roof over their new church building. Those who attended the luncheon enjoyed a delicious African meal prepared by Kass and his helpers, heard beautiful music presented by Kenyan and Tanzanian Christians now living in the Manheim area, and experienced some Tanzanian art and tradition. Through your generosity, St. Paul's congregation was able to send a wire transfer for \$6,500 to our companion congregation, more than matching their fund-raising efforts for the roof. Almost immediately after receiving our funds, our friends began working on the roof. They hope to celebrate Christmas in their new church building.

We received the following email from our friend, Elisha Mwamwaja.

Date: November 21, 2022

Dear Friends in Christ,

I was so happy to read Pastor Tom McKee's email yesterday morning, that \$6,500 from St. Paul's had already been deposited in our bank account! Congregants at church were full of joy to hear the news because they were now assured of covering the roof of their new church. And that, God willing, they will celebrate this Christmas in their new church. Matters of window shutters, doors, plaster, floor tiles, electrification and paying the contractor, are issues that will be dealt with slowly while we continue praying in the new facility. Even our present church was only half finished when we started worshipping in it.

We are exceedingly thankful to St. Paul's and to the Almighty God that Mpuguso will, at last, worship in a much larger church. Attached is a photo showing the stage we are in at the moment, namely placing rafters?

May the Lord abundantly bless you and the entire congregation of St. Paul's.

Elisha.

Congregation Council Highlights

It's been my pleasure to serve on St. Paul's Congregation Council for the past six years. Along with Kathryn Wicker and Dan Garber, I finished my term on Council at the end of 2022 and rotate off Council. Please join me in thanking Kathryn and Dan for their service, as these two faithful members have provided steadfast guidance through tough decisions.



Although three of us leave Council in 2023, we welcome five new members! Join me in thanking Kirsten Barnes, Nicki Herdson, Dan Mays, Sheridan Palmer, and Darren Smith for their service following election to Council at our November Annual Meeting. What an exciting group of new people!

Council held its final meeting of 2022 on December 12th and elected new officers for 2023. These are: Ann Anstadt, President; Nancy Bennett, Vice-President; and Kathleen Lemke, Secretary. Peter O'Connor remains as Interim Treasurer as we continue to search for and plan his replacement. I hope you will join me in support of our 2023 officers.

At our recent Council meeting we also discussed continuing plans for Pr. Reep's sabbatical, which the congregation approved at our Annual Meeting. Please look for further information in the newsletter as we prepare for this time of re-creation for our pastor and parish. Council also discussed ideas and suggestions from a recent usher meeting and began to set a task force to look further into questions of security and logistics. We discussed plans for our next Council Advance to hold detailed and thoughtful dialog about the ministry needs of our parish moving into the future. These conversations will help define future roles and responsibilities among our lay leaders, parish minister, and the rest of our staff. This will be an ongoing conversation without a set timeline intended to thoughtfully plan for the future. It remains an exciting time at St. Paul's!

God's Peace,

Tristan Ericson

Past Council President

Interested in traveling to Mpuguso?

Would you be interested in traveling to see our companion congregation, Mpuguso Lutheran Church, near Tukuyu, Tanzania? Would you be interested in learning more about the daily lives of our brothers and sisters, meeting them personally and talking with them, breaking bread with them, sharing in worship? Would you be interested in going to an African game park and seeing the big five? Pastor Reep and several others in the congregation have been talking about the possibility of taking such a trip in the summer of 2024. Those who have been blessed through past visits promise that it will be an unforgettable experience that will change your lives.

Pastor Reep and the members of the Mpuguso Committee would like to invite you to an informal evening to learn more about this trip and what you may experience on this trip. It will be held on Wednesday, January 18 at 6:00 p.m. in Christ Hall, beginning with a light supper. After supper, we will hear the experiences of some who have traveled to our companion diocese, the Konde Diocese, what they experienced, and what the trip meant for them. There will be time to ask questions and opportunity to get in on the ground floor of shaping this trip. In attending this event, you are not making a commitment to go on the trip. In fact, everyone is invited; it is a great opportunity to learn more about our sisters and brothers without traveling beyond Christ Hall.



Happy New Year! Last month the Preschool staff and students celebrated the arrival of Santa and more importantly, the birth of Baby Jesus. Our parents also generously donated pajamas for children at Access York. We celebrated with a special pajama day, cookies and hot chocolate. We were happy to be able to make someone's holiday a little warmer and brighter. The Parent Group also hosted Zumba with Santa. The children decorated cookies and made cards for shut-ins. A special thank you to the parents and staff who helped make this a success and fun event!

As January gets into full swing, the children will be talking about cold weather and snow. They will also learn about various community helpers and the importance of their jobs. We will honor Martin Luther King and his dreams.

During the month of January, registration for the 2023-2024 school year will begin for our current Preschool families and will be opened to the community in February. If anyone knows of families who need or want a preschool, please have them contact us at 717-854-1996.

During February, we will also begin talking about Ground Hog's Day, Valentine's Day and President's Day. The Parent Group hopes to have a fun activity and fundraiser for the Preschool Children during the month. Stay tuned for more information.

Warm wishes for a safe, healthy and happy New Year!





Food Pantry—Winter

Items needed: CANNED FRUIT, Rice, beans, Tomato sauce, pasta, mashed potato mix, gravy and stuffing mix for the holidays.

We also need paper grocery bags with handles and plastic bags.

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

2023 Flower Chart

The 2023 flower chart is posted on the Springettsbury vestibule bulletin board. The cost of the flowers is **\$35 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 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.

Please note the new price of \$35. per vase.

**DEADLINE FOR
NEWSLETTER ARTICLES
January 15**



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



Ukraine Offering

Offerings to give aid to Ukrainian refugees, orphans, widows and humanitarian help can be given through St. Paul's website www.stpaulsyork.org by selecting the designated button or through our pew envelopes marking them “Ukraine”.



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.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
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January



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

STAFF		
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