Our Church

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

February 2023

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

Neighbors Helping Neighbors Pantry Food Box Project

Giving alms has been a Lenten discipline for centuries. This year one form of alms giving at St. Paul's is through the Neighbors helping Neighbors Pantry Food Box Project. During the 5 weeks of lent we are asking you to add some items each week to your grocery list. The cost of the items works out to about \$10 per week or \$1.30 per day (and significantly less for the thrifty shopper). Collection boxes designated for this purpose will be available for pick up in the Good Shepherd Room. Simply take a box and add the items to it each week. During Holy Week bring your filled box back to the church and place it in the designated location. Please do provide all of the items listed weekly on the grocery list so that every neighbor receiving a box receives the same items. Thank you for your participation and generosity. The items needed are:

Grocery List Week 1

2 cans fruit

2 cans peas

1 salty snack

Grocery List Week 2

1 can chopped tomatoes

1 jar spaghetti sauce

1 box pasta

Grocery List Week 3

1 bottle cooking oil

1 bag egg noodles

2 cans tuna or chicken

2 cans cream soup

Grocery List Week 4

1 box instant oatmeal packages

1 box pancake mix

1 bottle syrup

1 bottle juice

Grocery List Week 5

1 two pound bag rice

1 bag instant mashed potatoes

1 cake mix

1 package cookies (Easter is coming)



The Church and Worship in February

February celebrates several important days on the Church Calendar; The Presentation of Our Lord, Transfiguration, Ash Wednesday and the First Sunday in Lent. The worship committee has planned liturgies for all but the first one noted.

The month opens early on with the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, also known as Candlemas, and locally revered as Groundhog Day, February 2nd. In 1969 the name was changed from the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the Roman Catholic Church to The Presentation of Our Lord noting Joseph and Mary bringing the infant Jesus to the temple. The date of February 2nd recognizes that 40 days have passed since the celebration of the birth of our Savior. According to the law, Mary, after child birth, would have stayed out of the public eye for a 40 day period. On this Feast day a procession with lighted candles preceded the celebration often with a blessing of candles. In my early days of Lutheranism the congregation I attended kept all of the Christmas decorations and the crèche visible until February 2nd. As the greens began to droop and worshipers became tired of the extended season the pastor reminded them of Mary's wait to return to "normal" when she could once again return to the fullness of the community and begin a new season of life. Locally in the secular community we look toward Punxsutawney Phil to see how much longer we must wait until spring or if winter will hang on for six more weeks. Most of us are eager to move ahead. February 2nd recognizes the law, the honor due Mary, and the joy that God has become flesh in Jesus.

The Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord is celebrated on Sunday February 19. On this day we remember how Jesus invited Peter, James and John to go up the mountain with him and while they are there Jesus is transfigured before them and Moses and Elijah appear with him. This year the occasion of this mountain top theophany inspired us for a Sunday of music making by our combined choirs. The 10:30 AM liturgy will call upon the talents of our church members and friends as together they proclaim the praise of God's beloved Son. The offertory will feature Chancel, Handbell, and Children's Choirs supported by a brass ensemble and organ. This feast day brings to a close the season of Epiphany.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. Lent is a 40 day period. On February 22 we will provide two opportunities to; make confession, receive ashes, hear God's Word and receive Holy Communion. Both liturgies will be held in the church nave, one at 11:00 AM and one at 7:00 PM. Following the 11:00 AM Ash Wednesday Service the Witness Committee is providing a luncheon in Christ Hall for the senior members of the faith community. The hope is that those who are not able to attend worship in person may be able to come to the midday service and luncheon. The desire is to have the entire faith community begin the Lenten journey together. The fellowship time will provide opportunity to renew and make new friendships. We are currently identifying persons who may need transportation to and from the church. If you would like to attend but need transportation please notify the church office as soon as possible.

The First Sunday in Lent, February 26, leads us out into the wilderness with Jesus. While Jesus is tempted, or tested, by the devil, Jesus remains obedient to God the Father. We are made aware of the journey before us and of the need for our Lord to accompany us along the way. Observing the season of lent means that there is discipline needed on our part, discipline in; prayer, devotion, worship, offerings, study. In liturgy we will sing a different song. The Kyrie will be rendered by various ensembles, the *Our Father* will be sung, and our Alleluia's will be silenced until Easter.

These are four important holy days during this second month of 2023. The focus shifts from the joy of a new child, baby Jesus, being presented in the Temple to the temptation of Jesus by the devil in the wilderness. I pray that you will be strengthened in your Christian faith as you engage through prayer, praise and thanksgiving with your sisters and brothers at St. Paul's.

In love and service to our Lord,

Pastor Reep

Wednesday Mid-Week Lent Beginning March 1

Soup & Bread Supper, Christ Hall 6:00 PM Lenten Choir, Music Room 6:30 PM Vespers with Preaching, Church Nave 7:00 PM

The Wednesdays of Lent offer opportunities to strengthen Christian fellowship. A simple supper of soup and bread will be held in Christ Hall at 6:00 PM. Volunteers are needed to sign up to



bring soup and bread for each of the five Wednesdays. We will need at least three crock pots of soup for each week. Following the supper persons willing to form a small choir will prepare and sing a setting of the appointed Psalm at the 7:00 PM liturgy. That group will rehearse in the Music Room at 6:30 PM. Others may wish to remain around the dinner table and share in conversation. Evening Prayer, Vespers, will be held in the church nave at 7:00 PM. We have invited the congregations of Grace, St. Peter's and Christ Manchester to join us for all or part of the evening. Nancy Bennett, Tristan Ericson, and Christopher Waddail will join Pastor Schlegel and Pastor Reep in presenting homilies during the Lenten season. For those who cannot join in person please do join us through the live stream at 7:00 PM. If you would like to provide soup for one on the Wednesdays in Lent please contact the church office. Thank you in advance for joining in the meal preparations, the Psalm singing, and offering your prayer and thanksgiving to God.

New Members Class Beginning February 26

During the season of Lent Pastor Reep will lead a class for those seeking to unite with St. Paul's as well as those seeking additional information on the ministry carried out in Christian love. The classes will be held in the Community Room on the Lower Level at 9:15 AM. Those wishing to Unite with St. Paul's Lutheran Church will do so at the combined 9:15 AM liturgy on Palm Sunday, April 2. If you are interested in becoming a member of St. Paul's Church please notify the church office or speak with Pastor Reep.



The schedule of discussion topics follows:

February 26 The Church & the Lutheran Reformation

March 5 The Sacraments: Holy Baptism & Holy Communion

March 12 Introductions to committee chairs and a tour of the building

March 19 St. Paul's Beginnings and our mission approaching 200 years

March 26 Renewal & Renovation, Current and Future Ministry Plans

Sabbatical Planning Update

The Sabbatical Planning Committee continues to make progress on preparing for Pastor Reep's sabbatical this summer. Committee members include: Pastor Reep, Amy Lipp, Janet Fitch, Tristan Ericson, Joe Kinkella, and Steve Schedin. The kick-off event is scheduled for May 28th, Memorial Day, Pastor's last day. This would enable the congregation to meet with Pastor Reep and the supporting ministers working with us through the summer between services. Food will be provided. A return event is being planned for September 10th, between services, to welcome Pastor Reep back, thank our supporting ministers,



and launch into the fall ministry schedule. We will continue to update the congregation on developing plans to continue ministry through Pr. Reep's sabbatical here in the newsletter!

2023 Church Offering Envelopes

Church offering envelopes for the 2023 calendar year are prepared and are ready for pick up in the Springettsbury hallway. 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'Conor, 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.



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 10:30 AM service on Sundays.. If you are interested in volunteering or finding out more information, please contact Carrie Oberholtzer at 610-223-2304 or obje1986@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 the teachings of Jesus. Relationship building is also emphasized as the children 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 Upper Level. Infant-Preschool;

Kindergarten-Grade 2; Grades 3-6.

"Three Wise Kids "delivered candy canes to our food pantry for our neighbors to enjoy when they came to shop in December. They heard the story of the wisemen bringing gifts to baby Jesus that same day. Faith into action!

Weekday Bible Study:

Come join this group any Wednesday as we read the Bible lessons for Sunday and talk about their meaning in our lives.







St. Paul's Lutheran Church Holy Week Adventures

Children age 2 through Grade 6 and their parents.

Saturday April 1, 2023 9:00-11:30 AM Enter through the Springettsbury Ave. doors

R.S.V.P. to the church office by March 15 St.paulsyork@comcast.net or 717-843-8155

Children will engage with the Bible stories that shape Holy Week: Triumphal Entry, Foot Washing, Passover, and Easter

Young Adult Valentine Dinner

For singles and couples

Friday, February 10, 5:30-7:30 PM

Activities and Care for Children Provided

We are blessed with many young people and families actively participating in our congregation. The Witness Committee in conjunction with Youth Ministry is providing a night out for this age group at St. Paul's.

The evening has two tracks; one for the young adults held in the Fellowship Hall and one for any children they may have age 12 and under in Christ Hall.

The evening for the adults will begin at 5:30 PM with appetizers. Dinner will follow at 6:00 PM. The Witness Committee's hope is to provide an evening for the young adults to enjoy each other's company, get better acquainted and have a night out where childcare is provided if needed.

The evening for any children that may be attending begins with dinner served in Christ Hall followed by games, crafts and other youth activities under the direction of Miss Kelly. The children will be cared for by adult volunteers on the Upper Level.

Please RSVP by February 5th. And then mark your calendar for Friday, February 10th, the weekend before Valentines Day and plan on a lovely, slightly early celebration of Valentine's Day at St. Paul's!

Travel to Tanzania in 2024 Visit Our Sister Congregation

The first information meeting was held last month over a simple supper in Christ Hall. There was positive interest expressed by those in attendance. At that time it was communicated that there is opportunity for others to join in the discussion as well as to participate on the trip. Things to begin for those interested in travel;

Keep the month of June 2024 free of commitments until the itinerary is confirmed. Secure a US Passport.

The Visa process to travel to Tanzania will be completed in early 2024.

Inoculations needed to travel to Tanzania will be scheduled closer to the time of departure.

Start saving now for the trip. The cost is not yet established but travel will be about \$4000

Pray for those planning to travel and for the Mpuguso congregation that the trip will create new vision and opportunity for ministry and mission.

St. Paul's Dinner Group is Coming Back!

St. Paul's Dinner Group -

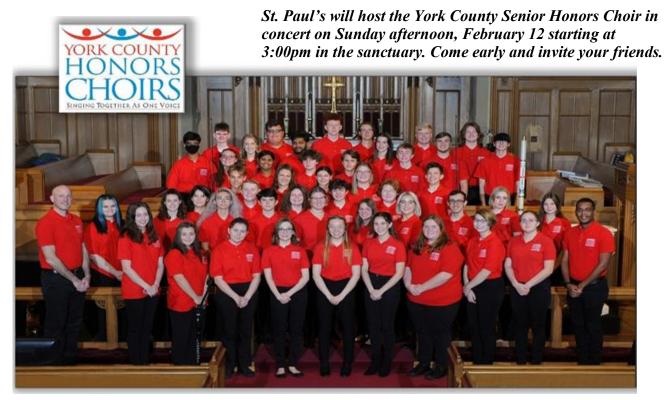
A time of good food, fellowship, and fun over a casual meal. Groups of about 6 adults – couples and singles – gather at the home of the designated host once during the months of April and May. Hosts can also invite other members or guests to come and join. You don't have to host, just sign up, and bring 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!







York County Senior Honors Choir, now in its 25th year, is an advanced, auditioned community youth choir, comprised of singers in grades 10-12, selected from 20 public and private school districts, homeschools, churches, or voice studios of York County, PA. The choir has received accolades for its fine performances to audiences in a variety of venues each year, including the United Nations, Cathedral of St. John the Divine, St. Patrick's Cathedral, St. Paul's Chapel, and Carnegie Hall in New York, Canterbury Cathedral and the York Minster in England, Washington National Cathedral, and at Oriole Park at Camden Yards in Baltimore. Since their first concert in 1999 for the 250th Anniversary Celebration of the founding of York County, the choir has celebrated the county's rich diversity through the voices of its youth.

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.

Congregation Council Highlights

Council met on Monday, January 9th.

President's Report: Ann Anstadt is planning for a Council and Chairperson retreat on April 22nd. One item to consider is St. Paul's future direction as we move toward our 200th Anniversary and Pastor Reep's future retirement.



Awning Update: A meeting is being scheduled with the architect as council moves forward with the awning for the food pantry; \$25,000 is currently in the budget for that project.

Harvest Dinner: Tentatively Tristan & Jessica Ericson will facilitate the Harvest Dinner and are in discussions with the Country Club of York as a possible host.

Treasurer's Report: Peter O'Conor noted that payroll increases went into effect on January 1st.

Ushers: Kathleen Lemke and Alexis Heistand will arrange a meeting with ushers to develop an usher policy.

Attendance: Tristan Ericson will continue to track worship attendance and provide reports for Council

Council's next meeting is scheduled for February 13th.

MUSIC & CREATE

It has been so nice seeing everyone back at Music and Create on Tuesday evenings. During the month of February, the children preschool through grade 6 will meet on February 7, 14, 21 and 28. On Transfiguration Sunday, February, 19th all the children will be singing at the 10:30am Liturgy. 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.

Upcoming Dates

Tuesday, March 7th normal Music and Create session

Tuesday, March 14th normal Music and Create session

Sunday, March 19th All the children will be singing during the 10:30am Liturgy Tuesday, March 21st normal Music and Create session

Tuesday, March 28th both groups will be together to sing and do a special Easter treat Tuesday, April 4th NO MUSIC AND CREATE Tuesday, April 11th normal Music and Create session

Tuesday, April 18 both groups will be together to sing and do an Earth Day project

Tuesday, April 25th normal Music and Create session

Sunday, April 30th Preschool Sunday, All the children will be singing during the 10:30am Liturgy

Tuesday, May 2nd normal Music and Create session

Tuesday, May 9th both groups will be together to sing and do a special Spring project

Sunday, May 14th Mother's Day - All the children will be singing during the 10:30am Liturgy

It is always a joy singing and creating with your children. Mrs. Jones and Miss Kelly

We extend our deepest sympathy to the families of

Elise Nicolaysen Harris Orven Cook William Banta Eddie Turner

October 30, 2022 November 22, 2022 December 15, 2022 January 4, 2023



GETTING TO KNOW MISS KELLY MOORE-SPENCER

A life-long member of St. Paul's and an employee since 2001, Miss Kelly is a familiar face to members and a welcome to visitors. Most of our young members have experienced the smiles and warm personality of Miss Kelly in Sunday School or in Youth activities. She actually began working here in 1995 as an aide to Mrs. Becker in the preschool. About the same time she volunteered to assist with the Youth Ministry and began a career of retreats and Youth activities. Her current employment is as Youth Director, working with Pastor Reep and the Christian Education Committee. She stated that she tries to involve the whole family in events whenever possible. Miss Kelly also facilitates the live-streaming during the weekly worship services. Again, she has trained and involved young members of the congregation with this responsibility. Remembering her early years, Kelly said she loved Sunday School and is so thankful that her mom brought her and her brother to church every week. She talked about her relationships with previous pastors and the powerful influence they had on her life and growth in the church. She recalled many wonderful weeks spent at Camp Mount Luther near Mifflinburg, PA.

Kelly grew up in the Leader Heights area of York and graduated from Dallastown High School. Following high school she attended Central Penn Business School, York College and Wooster School for the Arts in Massachusetts. Her interests and talents involve fiber arts and, specifically, weaving. In the late 80's and early 90's Kelly traveled around the country to various art shows displaying and selling her weaving. She also enjoys painting on fabric. Her dream at one time was to work at Sturbridge Village in Massachusetts as a weaver. Kelly is currently creating small weavings on looms she built herself with a hope of perhaps attending art shows in the future. Her studio was built by her dad with a wood shop on the lower level and her weaving studio upstairs. Many creative and enjoyable hours are spent here!

A favorite place to visit is Ocean City, Maryland. Her grandparents built a small house there n 1960. She describes the peace and enjoyment of sitting on the porch and enjoying the sights and sounds. Another much-loved vacation destination is Williamsburg, VA. Kelly described Williamsburg as a place that gives her the "warm fuzzies!" A traditional time for her visits has been right after Thanksgiving when decorations for the holidays are appearing.

Kelly has heard from parents occasionally through the years that, after confirmation, their teenager has resisted church, Sunday School, or Youth Activity attendance. Kelly replies that she prays a seed has been planted and it will be nurtured and grown by the Holy Spirit. St. Paul's has been blessed by her ministry!

Witness Committee to Host Senior Luncheon

Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, is quickly approaching and the Witness Committee invites our seniors (65 and over) to lunch after the Ash Wednesday service, February 22, 2023. The service will begin at 11:00 a.m. and be followed by lunch. The menu will be: Chicken Divan (chicken and broccoli), Salad, Rolls, Dessert and Beverages. If you don't drive and would like to come, we



will arrange for you transportation. Come and socialize with friends. Please contact Patee at st.paulsyork@comcast.net or (717) 843-8155, let her know if you are coming, if you have any dietary restrictions and if you will need a ride to and from church. The deadline to respond is February 17.



February

Brrrr!!!! Winter is in full swing throughout the preschool classrooms and hallways. During January, the children talked about winter things such as, snowflakes, snowmen, mittens and gloves. They even had the opportunity to drink and make mugs of hot chocolate. The children also focused on community helpers such as doctors, nurses, postal workers and garbage collectors. Along with these things, the students learned about Martin Luther King as we observed the holiday on Monday, January 16.



In January, we also opened registration for the 2023-2024 school year for our current preschool families. If you know any families who are interested in our Preschool, please have them contact us at 717-854-1996.



As we begin February, the children will learn about Groundhog Day and will be learning about God's Love for us and one another as we celebrate Valentine's Day. They will make hearts and share Valentine cards. The Parent Group will also be holding a Krispy Kreme Doughnut Fundraiser to benefit the preschool. We will end February celebrating and observing President's Day.

Food Pantry—Winter



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

Pantry 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.



Thank you to the St. Paul's Youth Group for the beautiful Christmas card and the members who sent get-well wishes after my surgery. Also thanks to Pastor Reep for his visits while I was in the hospital.—

Sincerely, June Heistand





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 25 W. SPRINGETTSBURY AVE. YORK, PA 17403 (717) 843-8155 (717) 843-0261 (Fax)

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



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

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In This Issue:

And more...

Neighbors Helping Neighbors
Lenten Services
New Members Class
Young Adult Valentine's
Dinner
Holy Week Adventures
Christian Education
Sabbatical Planning
St. Paul's Dinner Group
Getting to Know—
Kelly Moore-Spencer
Mpuguso
Preschool