

Our Church

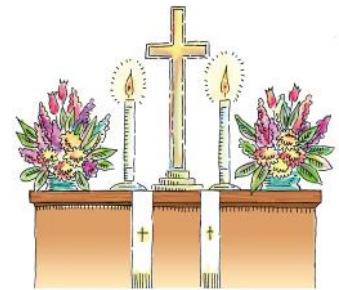
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
25 West Springettsbury Ave., York, PA 17403
717/843-8155 – st.paulsyork@comcast.net
www.stpaulsyork.org

8:00 & 10:30 AM Sunday Holy Eucharist
9:15 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM—Live Streamed YouTube
Holy Days as announced

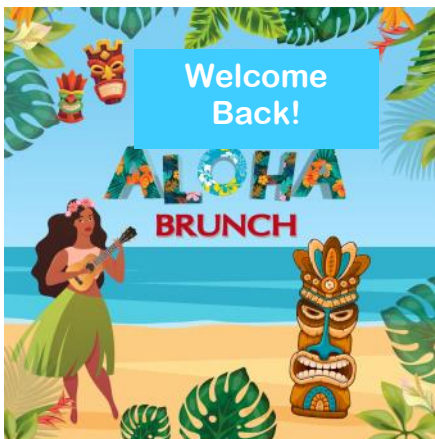
The Sunday Worship Schedule Returns to 8:00 & 10:30AM Liturgies

Sunday September 10

Following the Labor Day holiday we resume a two liturgy worship schedule. After enjoying combined services for the months of June, July and August, we return to the two service schedule on the second Sunday in September. The liturgy will take on a decidedly different tone and flow from what was experienced over the summer months. Pastor Reep will return from sabbatical and will resume his duties preaching and presiding. The choir will again take its place in the chancel and provide musical leadership at the 10:30 AM service. With the return to the two services Sunday schedule, we also resume 9:15 AM education/faith formation. On Sunday September 10 the 9:15 AM time Pastor Reep will share with us about his time of sabbatical and we will share some things with him too! Plan now to attend both a Sunday liturgy and the 9:15AM time of learning.



Worship Schedule



The Sabbatical Committee invites everyone to an

Aloha Return for Pastor Stan

Sunday Sept 10, 9:15-10:15am

Fellowship Hall

Welcome back Pastor during a breakfast buffet and Thank the pastors and members that helped during the sabbatical!

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you for the outpouring of congratulations on the occasion of my 35th Anniversary of Ordination. Your cards, notes, and letters expressing your support, encouragement and appreciation were a highlight of the month of July. I was blessed to be able to worship at Palm Lutheran Church, Palmyra, this summer on Sunday morning July 9th, the date that I was ordained in their church nave in 1988. It was a delight to be greeted by members of the congregation who remembered the day, the excitement, and the joy of the celebration. It hardly seems possible that I have been in ministry for 35 years. Some days I don't even feel 35 years old! Thank you for the privilege of serving you and the St. Paul's Congregation. And thank you for all of the joyful greetings.

thank
you!

In Christ,

Pastor Reep



Events with a Purpose:

Harvest Dinner and Auction – September 30

Consecration Sunday – October 22

Annual Meeting – November 19

St. Nicholas Holiday Dinner and Entertainment – December 6

There is a significant event being held at St. Paul's in each of the remaining months of this calendar year. In the months of September, October, November and December we focus on four important aspects of our congregational life: feeding the hungry, generous giving, strengthening the congregation, and building relationships.

On September 30th it is the Harvest Dinner and Auction to benefit the ongoing work and needs of the Food Pantry. Tickets are available now through the Church Office. The ticket price remains \$100, the same as it was back in 2019! For families within the congregation there is a parallel track available that evening providing care, dinner (a kid friendly menu) and activities for your child or children age 3 and up. Their part of the evening will be held on the upper level in the Youth Room. Advise the church office if you desire this for your child when you purchase your tickets. There is no charge for your child. The hope is that more of our St. Paul's families with younger children will be able to participate in the event and support the work of the Food Pantry. In addition to the original artwork featured in the 2023 calendar being live auctioned the night of the event, there are significant items and services being donated through the silent auction. Remember that all proceeds benefit the pantry. This year we are using proceeds for the sidewalk covering so that those accessing the pantry will have some protection from the elements. Please do support the Harvest Dinner and Auction through your active participation.



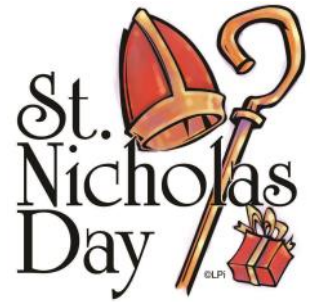
On October 22 it is Consecration Sunday where we commit a portion of our income as well as our time and ability for the continuing work of God in this place and around the world. On the Sundays proceeding October 22 there will be opportunity for you to hear from God's Word about generosity, giving, and the work of renewal. Throughout the month materials to assist you in your plan for giving will be provided. Our guest preacher for Consecration Sunday is The Reverend Beth Martini. Pastor Beth is no stranger to York or to the needs associated with ministry in this place. Her home congregation was Christ Lutheran Church! She now serves on the Synod Staff and relates to the Konde Committee and to the Konde Diocese. She is aware of our deep relationship with our sister congregation, Mpuguso Lutheran Church, Tanzania. We are delighted to welcome her to St. Paul's and anticipate a day filled with deep devotion, commitment, generosity and hope.



On November 19 it is the Annual Meeting where we rejoice at those good things which we have been able to accomplish and where we address new challenges stretching us as God's people into the future. The Annual Meeting is a time for the congregation to reflect on work that has been done, discuss the work that is currently shaping our Christian witness, and to plan ways to address future needs, extend mission, and broaden our witness. The Fellowship Committee plans and provides for a delicious meal as part of the meeting. It is fitting for us to gather at table and share in conversation about what God has done, is doing and promises yet to do. The Congregation Council sets the agenda for the day tailoring the flow so that much can be accomplished in a limited period of time. This day in particular provides us with the opportunity to thank the council members for their extraordinary leadership, to support the work of the church staff, and recognize particular areas of ministry that contribute to the St. Paul's witness.



On December 6 it is the celebration of St. Nicholas Day. This is a completely new event in the life of our congregation. Certainly we have celebrated St. Nicholas Day in past years, but this year we are attempting to make it a time of holiday fun. It is the first Wednesday in December. What's being planned is a holiday meal, entertainment from within the faith community, a visit from and photo opportunity with St. Nick, and an evening creating memories for children and adults of Christian fellowship. The goal of the planning team is to fill the Fellowship Hall with St. Paul's families, members and friends. The final details of this event are still in progress so if you would like to lend a hand please contact the Church office and you will be invited to the next planning session. As you might expect, there are plenty of tasks to be completed in order to make this event wholly memorable. Or in keeping with the theme of a saint's day, holy memorable!



The last third of 2023 is before us. We are blessed with an active faith community. These four events help to give shape to our mission, *"To teach the world that God is love."* The mission gets lived out through these events by providing for needs of those who hunger, generous giving in response to God's generous love, intentional planning for the future of the congregation, and in strengthening our relationships with one another. Please do mark your calendar and make these events a priority in your life of faith.

Presentation of Bibles

Sunday September 17

During the rite of Holy Baptism we promise that as the children grow we will place in their hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for their instruction in the Christian faith. This year we will be presenting Bibles to children age kindergarten and grade 1, grade 4, and grade 7.

The Kindergarten and First grade students will receive a newly published story Bible designed for their age featuring beautiful illustrations with an expanded content. Those entering grade 4 will receive the Adventure Bible designed for young readers providing helps, illustrations and interesting facts. Students in grade 7 are beginning their catechetical program and receive a high quality study Bible. This edition has become popular among the participants of the Wednesday morning Bible study. It is an edition that will aid our young people in their study during the next two years of confirmation class as well as an ongoing resource for their adult participation in Christian life and living. On this day we will also have the official opening of the Sunday school year and the recognition of our dedicated teachers.



Presentation of Bibles



Please extend birthday wishes to our September "Vintage" Birthdays:

Janice Cromer



From Bread and Wine to Bountiful Giving

The congregation's stewardship emphasis is featured during the month of October. The readings assigned for the Sundays in the late Pentecost Season lend themselves nicely to the theme. First we are instructed by our Lord to "Go work in the vineyard" then we hear him tell of a land owner who planted a vineyard and of a wedding banquet to which invitations were sent. We will be asked, in keeping with Martin Luther's reading of scripture, to put ourselves into the story. Make it personal. The

Lord is asking _____ (your name here) to go work, to build, to attend! All of a sudden the biblical text comes alive. You are in the story of God's preparing a way. We easily forget that according to the biblical witness we have something to do with how things are and how things will be. It is never too soon to begin praying for God's loving purpose for you and for our congregation to become clearer. Each of us is confronted daily with many little decisions. These are all opportunities to respond from a position of Christian stewardship. The annual emphasis keeps ever before us the importance of stewardship for daily life and living. Bountiful giving changes lives. The first life changed is of course your own. We are sent out each seek from the table of the Lord having been fed with heavenly food and drink, bread and wine, to serve the Lord. In October you will be given the opportunity to develop and or strengthen your stewardship practice. God calls us into service, invites us to the banquet, feeds us with his own body and blood, and by so doing provides stewards (people like you and me) to bear witness and care for his kingdom.



Garden Roses in Red Swirl Vase

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! And invite people to attend the Harvest Dinner and auction, September 30, 2023, where, if they like, they can bid on the original artwork! Our neighbors, who come to St. Paul's shopping for food without money (just like the prophet proclaims) are appreciative of all that we do as we provide for them during their time of need. What is important is for us to tell the story of how we are doing what Jesus commands, feeding the hungry.

Rejoice! The Preschool will be welcoming the sounds of children's laughter and teacher's voices into the hallways and classrooms for the 2023 - 2024 school year.



Orientation will be held for the preschool families on Thursday, September

7. The teachers will discuss procedures and policies for the upcoming school year. It will be great to see classrooms full of parents! The preschool would also like to extend a warm welcome to Mrs. Danielle Wolpert, a new Aide in the 4 year old classroom and Mrs. Julianna Jones, a new Aide in the 2 year old classroom. Mrs. Mayra Smoker is currently on a mission trip to Ecuador to help children in the jungle.

Mrs. Passariello, Mrs. Stambaugh and Mrs. Wolpert are ready to blast off into space with their 4-year-old astronauts. They will be exploring the wonders of God's beautiful galaxy.

Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Rost, Mrs. Lehr and Mrs. Jones will also embrace their two and three-year-old lambs who followed them to school one day. They will begin the year by going up the hill and jumping over candlesticks while learning about nursery rhymes and God's wonderful love.

We are also excited to have our Parent Group activities begin! The committee will kick off the year with a Weep and Rejoice Party for the parents on the first day of school. A special thank you to those who are helping to organize this event. The next parent event will be Table or Treat for Halloween. Keep an eye out for other fun activities that we have planned for October. Fire Prevention week will be the first week of October. The Preschool is looking forward to seeing our local firemen with their firetrucks at school so that the children can learn all about fire safety

Everyone hopes to have a happy, safe and healthy school year. We ask for your prayers for the staff as they continue to reach the hearts of children and for the children who learn about God's purpose and love.



Weep & Rejoice

Immediately following 1st day of preschool drop off on Mon Sept 11 or Tues Sept 12, all parents and caregivers of students are invited to stop by for hot coffee and a small treat in the Good Shepherd Room.

Pantry News

We continue to see a great need for food in the York Community. Every Tuesday we serve an average of 90 families. Thank you for your donations of food, money, paper/plastic bags, and your time.



Food Pantry—Fall

Items needed: Canned fruit, canned chicken, canned tuna & Peanut Butter. We also need paper grocery bags with handles and plastic bags. Money donations are gratefully accepted. Please place cash or check in a "special" envelope marked "Pantry". **Volunteers are needed Tuesday mornings to help our neighbors shop. Call Teresa Rohrbaugh or the church office (717-843-8155) to volunteer.**

Children and Youth Upcoming Dates

Children and Youth

Music and Create

Age 3 through grade 6

Tuesday evenings beginning September 19th

6pm through 7:15pm



Mrs. Jones and Miss Kelly have been planning special activities for the fall. During Music and Create the children will participate in singing, playing instruments, bible lessons, interactive storytelling and prayer. From 6:00 till 6:30 age 3 through grade 1 will be in the Music room with Mrs. Jones for music time, while grade 2 through grade 6 will be in the Youth room for active bible lessons with Miss Kelly. At 6:30 age 3 through grade 1 will be with Miss Kelly for interactive storytelling in the Youth Room, grade 2 through grade 6 will be in the Music room with Mrs. Jones. The first two Tuesday evenings September, 19th and 26th both groups will be held together for songs and get to know each other activities. We are looking forward to seeing everyone for the new session of Music and Create.

Youth Fellowship grades 7 through 12

11:45am following the 10:30am Liturgy

Sunday, October 8

Youth Room

Following the Liturgy the Youth will fill their lunch plates during 2nd Sunday Sandwiches and come to the Youth Room for a time of fellowship, prayer, and fun group icebreakers.



Sr High Youth Fellowship grades 9 through 12

Faith and Conversation around the table

Sunday, October 1st

Issacs Restaurant, South York Plaza

5:00pm



On Sunday, October 1st Sr High Youth Grades 9 through 12 are invited to share conversation and dinner around the table. They will connect with each other while discussing a topic that they helped to choose ahead of time. Meals will be shared, stories will be told, together they will experience God's nearness, God's kindness and God's Love. While sharing stories they will experience God's Grace. At the Table we Talk - At the Table we Listen.

Upcoming Events

Youth Fellowship grades 7 through 12

11:45am Youth Room

Sunday, October 22 – Stewardship Sunday,
Celebration Brunch-Youth will serve the Brunch
following the 8am Liturgy

Sunday, November 12

Sunday, December 10

Sr High Youth, Grades 9 through 12

Faith and Conversation around the table

Sunday, November 5

Sunday, December 3

Fall Sunday Morning Classes

Begin September 17, 9:15-10:15 AM between worship services.

Classes for children include are held upstairs. Noah, Abraham, Moses, David, and Jonah are just a few of God's people that our children will meet in their studies

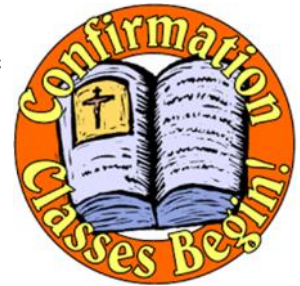
Infants through Preschool	- Room 213
Kindergarten through grade 2	- Room 214
Grades 3-6	- Room 202
Confirmation class grades 7-9	- Youth Room.



An adult class will meet in Christ Hall. Watch your email for details.

Confirmation Program designed for Grades 7 & 8

The Confirmation Program at St. Paul's is designed to cover the basic portions of Luther's Small Catechism, church history and navigating the Bible. These basic tools assist our young people as they grow in grace, faith and love. Young People in grades 7 & 8 should plan to attend all of the Sunday morning class sessions as well as a few special service projects throughout the year. The current program completed in two years covers the same amount of material that we used to cover in a three year program where we held a fall and spring session on Sunday evenings. It is imperative that participants maintain high levels of engagement as we move through the material at an accelerated pace.



The program begins on September 17, 9:15Am in the Youth Room on the Upper Level with participants and their parents attending the first session. This time together will help bring clarity to the program and set expectations for the group. Questions regarding the program or enrolling your child should be address to Miss Kelly or Pastor Reep. Thank you for fulfilling your Baptism promises by bringing your child to catechetics and enrolling them in the Confirmation program at St. Paul's. The schedule is included for your planning purposes.

Sept. 17	Program Overview (Parents and youth)
Sept. 24 - Oct. 15	Session I, Navigating the Bible
Oct. 22	Service Project (help serving Stewardship Brunch in Christ Hall)
Oct. 29 – Nov. 19	Session II, Holy Baptism
Nov. 26 – Dec. 31	Advent/Christmas Break (no class sessions)
Jan. 7 – Feb. 11	Session III, Holy Communion
Feb.18 – March 17	Session IV, Church History

Wednesday Bible Study 10:30AM

We resume our time of study on Wednesday, September 6 at 10:30AM in Christ Hall. Please note that it is the first Wednesday of the month and Springettsbury Avenue is marked for street cleaning, so do park in the lot or on George Street. For those who have never participated in such a study please consider; placing it on your calendar, participating in the conversation and putting aside any fears which may have precluded you from participating in the past. The format is simple. We study the up-coming Sunday readings. This helps you prepare for worship and helps Pastor Reep prepare the sermon. During the month of September we will begin with words from the prophets Ezekiel and Jonah. We will look at the concluding portion of St. Paul's Letter to the Romans and then begin with the letter to the Philippians. The Gospel readings are all from Matthew. What to do if someone sins against you? How often should we forgive? How generous is God? Pastor Reep leads the study. He often provides an overview of the Biblical text placing it in time and space. Then he will provide some insights gleaned from Biblical commentaries and scholars. Then he invites those present to share their thoughts and insights regarding the text. Often there is lively conversation! Often there is deep emotion. Most of the time we come away with a clearer understanding of how God is at work shaping our lives. Please do come. Bring a Bible if you have an edition that you particularly like or one in which you like to make notes. Otherwise there are plenty of copies in Christ Hall. The group is extremely friendly and welcoming. Do come.





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

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 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.

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

Check out our Website
(click here)

Web Page

Please sign on to www.stpaulsyork.org and check out our webpage. There are 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, the Sunday service on YouTube and opportunities to give electronically. Hopefully, you will find the new



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".

**DEADLINE FOR
NEWSLETTER ARTICLES
September 15**

New Entrance Sign on Springettsbury Avenue

A new sign demarking 25 W. Springettsbury Ave. Entrance has been placed in the lintel of the porch facing Springettsbury Ave. The entrance, that since the renovation permits everyone to enter freely without obstacle of stairs or awkward railings bumping your elbows, will give clear direction to guests and visitors that this is often the preferred entrance for community events, concerts, and worship. We extend our thanks to Dave Kopp, the Property Committee, and to the many folks who provided the helpful suggestion.



MUSIC, MUSIC EVERYWHERE...

My least favorite part of the job of being a choir director is the music filing! I still have music from Easter yet to be refilled. Our new choral music library storage system is completely over-stuffed with **too** many boxes of music as you can see. My summertime library project has consisted of removing over 300 boxes of music to allow more space and to better locate and alphabetize the boxes of music. Prior to removing 2 library carts full of boxes, I had to examine and review over 900 individual choral music titles to determine if they were applicable and suitable for 21st century liturgical worship practices. Additional criteria required that the music had been sung in the past 20 years and that the text was theologically reflective using current vernacular and using good musical compositional techniques. Just like clothing goes out of style and no longer fits over the years, the same applies to tastes in music.



These multiple piles of music represent single copies of choral music which is being saved. Their home will be in 3-ring binder notebooks for perusal. As good stewardship, the boxes that were removed have been placed in storage in the upstairs overflow music closet should someone someday wish to sing them!



Many, many, thanks for all your concerns and prayers during my cancer treatments. The treatments were a success!

A special thank you to the prayer shawl committee for the beautiful shawl I received.—
Pat Scarborough

Thank you so much for the many prayers sent my way this past year after my cancer diagnosis. I am doing well and super grateful for the amazing church family we have here at St. Paul's! With love, Erin Bastian

Congregation Council Highlights

Council Highlights



St. Paul's Church Council met on Monday, August 14th at 7 PM.

Financial Report: Sheridan Palmer reported that giving is down and a deeper look at the numbers might reveal answers to this pattern. Expenses are generally well under control. A grant was received to help pay for the work done on the Diakon building. The church's investment portfolio is healthy. The final budget will be sent to Council in October with a recommendation to present it to the Congregation for approval at the November Congregation Meeting.

Pre-School Committee: The pre-school teachers completed early intervention training. Danielle Wolpert was hired as a pre-school teacher for 4-year olds. The pre-school committee expressed several concerns about the use of the Springettsbury entrance for students. Other concerns involve: staggering arrival times for students, parking, dismissal procedures, and greeters at the entrance. The committee recommended using the 2-year-old student entrance adjacent the rear parking lot and suggested alternatives for possible Food Pantry conflict on Tuesdays. Pre-school starts on Monday, September 11th. Council members will meet with the pre-school committee and awaits direction from Pastor Reep.

Fellowship Committee: Pastor Reep's return from Sabbatical is September 10th. The plans are to have a luau-themed pancake breakfast in Fellowship Hall between services.

AED Training: Chris Lipp will provide AED training for parishioners on September 24th between services.

Benevolence: The Benevolence Committee is proposing \$32,800 to be presented to council for approval. The funds will pay \$1,000 to members traveling to Mpuguso in Tanzania, and to pay for Pastor Reep's travel expenses.

Church council's next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 11th at 7 PM.



Chancel Choir rehearsals resume on Thursday, September 7th at 7:30 p.m. New members are always welcome! If you are interested in singing, please contact me at vfields.stpaulsyork@comcast.net or through the church office 717-843-8155.

Chancel Choir is comprised of members of the congregation who desire to lift their voices in song during worship. Chancel Choir rehearsals are Thursday evenings from 7:30-8:30pm. Most singers read music and enjoy singing choral music spanning from the Renaissance to the 21st century. The Choir also helps with chanting and singing Psalms as well as providing leadership for singing the liturgical music settings sung throughout the service. Members of the choir also sing solos and duets, etc. in worship and offer their talents by playing instruments during worship.

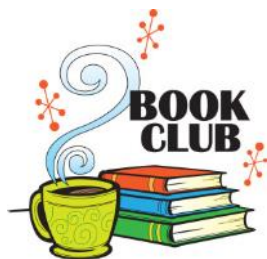
Ring out the News!

Handbell choir will resume rehearsing on Thursday, September 7! Students in 7th grade through adults are welcome to join the handbell choir. Previous music experience is beneficial, but not necessary for success. We typically play for services once a month and on major feast days. We also add handbells to psalms, hymns, and other parts of the liturgy. Please consider ringing with us this fall. Our first rehearsal is on Thursday, September 7 from 6:30pm to 7:30pm in the music room. Please contact Leah McComas (Lmccomas.stpaulsyork@gmail.com) or call the church office by August 28 if you are interested in participating.

St. Paul's Recycler's – Recycling Opportunities

Please be sure to look on the Springettsbury Bulletin Board for flyers and information sheets.

If you have any questions about any of these organizations and what they collect, please don't hesitate to contact me at 717-880-5208 or eljones2@comcast.net. - Earline Jones



St. Paul's Book Club will meet on September 6th at 4pm at Panera on S. Queen St. We will discuss *On Fire* by John O'Leary. All are welcome!



Thank you to the Garden Club for providing us with the lovely hanging baskets that graced our gardens this summer.



St Paul's is collecting clothing for Union Lutheran Church's Clothing Ministry and your help is requested. Union collects 'gently used' clothing (and shoes) for its clothing closet and offers it **free of charge** to needy families in the York City community. A bin has been placed in the gathering space of Christ Hall to collect any clothing our members would like to donate. These donations will surely be a blessing to our neighbors. Union's volunteers are very appreciative of our cooperation and our help.



Volunteer Opportunity

Counters Wanted: Be part of one of the teams of four that count Sunday offering on Tuesday Mornings at 8:30 am. Training will be provided.

St. Paul's needs additional counters for count teams. Ideally counters serve one Tuesday per month. Counting normally takes one to one and a half hours. Two members of the team then take the money to the bank for deposit. There is a clear procedure followed with everything being double counted with results compared to prevent errors.

If you would prefer to make a lesser commitment, you can volunteer to be part of the substitute list. For additional information call Dottie Moore 717-741-1321 or Bob Reed 717-654-3421.

Please prayerfully consider helping out in this important ministry. God's work. Our hands.

A Partnership Between Local Churches & LifePath Thrift Stores

Please remember to donate your no longer needed items 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.

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.



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

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

STAFF		
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