

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
8:00 & 10:30 AM—Live Streamed YouTube
Holy Days as announced
January 2024



St. Peter's Lutheran Church & St. Paul's Lutheran Church Team Up for Epiphany Season

Teams bring out the competitive nature of just about everyone. But for us, during the season of Epiphany, we are all players on the same team. The 8:00 AM liturgy will welcome into the chancel and nave Pastor Schlegel and the congregation of St. Peter's. The team is comprised of Lutheran people who are early risers! Pastors Schlegel and Reep have teamed up over the years for many things; CROP Walk, Conference Catechetics Program, Mid-week Lenten services, The Great Vigil of Easter, and providing pastoral coverage when one or the other is away from the area. This is another way for us to team up, considering possibilities for both congrega-

tions to experience a season of the church year united in prayer, praise and thanksgiving. Both pastors will be present. One will be the presider at Holy Communion and one the preacher. We will be using musical setting 1 from *The Lutheran Book of Worship* as this setting is familiar to both congregations. Worship assistants will be comprised of members from both congregations. A member of St. Peter's will provide oversight of St. Paul's live stream making the 8:00 AM liturgy available for any other early riser! During the season of Easter we will gather to talk about the Epiphany Season and how it may have enlivened faith, strengthen witness, and made for a very bright time together in fellowship. Please do extend greeting, introduce yourself and share any information that will make our teammates feel at home.

The Baptism of Our Lord Sunday January 7, 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. During the season of Epiphany you may wish to think more explicitly about the way you live life; the choices and decisions made on a daily basis, but chiefly by what is said 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 7, 10:30 AM

Our Congregation Council Members will be officially installed on Sunday January 7 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. 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, its collaborative nature and its deep roots in Christ Jesus. Please be present showing your solidarity in life and mission.

On the first day of Christmas my true love gave to me...

Note Cards for the Food Pantry!

St. Paul's is offering packages of twelve beautiful note cards depicting paintings by Pastor Reep. They are available now in the Good Shepherd Room. Many of the images were painted during his sabbatical. Six images are landscapes and six images are still life. The twelve images are on display in the Good Shepherd Room. They are printed on high quality card stock and come with envelopes. To purchase packages simply complete a "Special Offering" envelope and mark it "Note Cards" and place it in the offering or give it to the church secretary. The requested donation is \$20 per pack. All proceeds benefit the St. Paul's Lutheran Food Pantry. By so doing you are bearing witness to the ministry carried out in the name of Christ Jesus our Lord.



Food Pantry—January

Items needed: Canned fruit. This has been difficult for the pantry to get. Please put your donations in the shopping cart in the Good Shepherd Room. 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, some Sundays to stock shelves and some Thursday mornings to receive deliveries. Contact Patty Snyder, Ken Hinkle, Teresa Rohrbaugh or the church office (717-843-8155) to volunteer.



Change in Food Pantry Distribution Schedule - Beginning January 2024 the Food Pantry will serve shoppers twice per month. This change has to do with the growing numbers of people coming to the pantry, the amount of room in the pantry, our volunteer staff, and our limited amount of space for parking. When there are 5 Tuesdays in a month we will be closed the 5th Tuesday.



From Bread and Wine to Bountiful Giving

The Stewardship team reminds us that it is time to honor our commitments for 2024. For those who completed a commitment card, thank you. For those who did not complete a card but do plan on supporting the congregation through financial gifts be it weekly offerings or minimum required distributions, or through a gift of stock, we thank you for your faithful stewardship. Together we keep the congregation's ministry and mission

Communion Bread Bakers

Bread baking Demonstration

Sunday January 14, 9:15 AM

From the Time and Ability forms a number of individuals identified that they would be willing to bake bread for the celebration of Holy Communion. We discontinued using common loaf at the time of renovation when we no longer had access to the work sacristy. Then we encountered a pandemic. Now we would like to resume using common loaf during the season of Lent. Emily Reep will lead the Bread Baking Demonstration on Sunday January 14 in the kitchen on the main level. Please do notify the office if you plan to attend. A schedule identifying bread bakers for the Lenten Season will be completed during the demonstration.



St. Paul's Lutheran Preschool



Happy New Year! Last month the Preschool staff and students celebrated the arrival of Santa and more importantly, the birth of Baby Jesus. The children and their families enjoyed a Christmas Program and sing-a-long to celebrate the joy of the Holiday Season.

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.

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.

Starting in January, we will begin celebrating the Preschool's 60th birthday!! Look for information on exciting updates and activities. Also, during the month of January, registration for the 2024-2025 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. Warm wishes for a safe, healthy and happy New Year!



Sunday Morning Classes 9:15-10:15 AM

A new year of Sunday Morning Classes begins on Sunday, January 7th from 9:15-10:15.

Preschool through Grade 6 children will meet upstairs in their age grouped classrooms where they will be learning about Jesus' early life including the coming of the Wisemen, Jesus' baptism, the calling of the disciples, and some of Jesus' miracles. Often children get to act out the stories, wonder about the characters and how they might have felt, and discuss ways that they can grow their own walk as Christians. This is a great time to start your child in a class. Some of the best stories are explored during this winter and spring season. Come!

Adult Sunday Morning Classes: Christmas is for Martyrs January 7 – February 11

Few people associate Christmas with going to prison for their beliefs, but the Bible does...and so do many, many Christians around the world today. Join the Adult Class to discover where and how the Church suffers in witness to Jesus Christ today. We will be helped by "The Voices of the Martyrs" a ministry begun by a Lutheran pastor after he was released from a communist prison. All are invited, and we will gather in Christ Hall during the Sunday school hour at 9:15 AM. The sessions will be led by Jonathan Jenkins.



Confirmation Program Resumes in January-Youth Room

Jan. 7 – Feb. 11
Feb. 18 – March 17

Session III, Holy Communion
Session IV, Church History

Children and Youth Upcoming Dates

Music and Create

Age 3 through Grade 6

Tuesday evenings, 6pm to 7:15pm



January Music and Create, the children and youth will participate in singing, playing instruments and learning about the Wisemen through stories and crafts.

We look forward to seeing everyone in January.

Mrs. Jones and Miss Kelly

Sr High Youth Fellowship grades 9 through 12

Sunday, January 7

5:30 pm

On Sunday, January 7th Sr High Youth Grades 9 through 12 will be having dinner and conversation at Primanti Brothers on S. Queen Street. See Miss Kelly for details.



Wednesday Bible Study 10:30AM

We meet on Wednesdays, 10:30 AM in Christ Hall. The format is simple. We study the up-coming Sunday readings. This helps you prepare for worship and helps Pastor Reep prepare the sermon. 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.





Children from Sunday school made 120 Christmas cards to be handed out to our food pantry shoppers. Glory to God in the Highest!

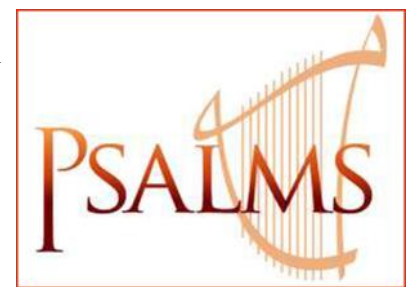
Witness Committee strengthening bonds

The work of the Witness Committee focuses on bringing new people into the community of faith, and strengthening the bonds of those already active. They are planning for a Valentine's dinner for the younger members of the congregation to be held the weekend prior to Valentine's Day. Last year the participation was great! The children enjoyed activities in the Youth Room while their parents enjoyed dinner in Fellowship Hall. On Ash Wednesday at noon, following Ash Wednesday liturgy in the church nave, a senior's luncheon will be held in Christ Hall. If you would like to join the committee or simply help out with an aspect of either of these events please contact Earline Jones or the church office.

Upcoming Lenten Studies

The Psalms and our Christian Life

Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote a little book on the Psalms entitled *The Prayerbook of the Bible*. He was absolutely convinced that his common set of prayers and songs, shared by Jews and Christians was central to our faith. In lent we will explore the psalms through the lens of an article written by a seminary colleague and dear friend, Dr. Amy Schiffrin, "The Voice of the Church: The Psalms in the Eucharistic Liturgy." We will consider how the psalms function throughout the liturgy, as a reflection on the first lesson, how we give voice to faith through the psalter, and how the psalms teach us. We will also consider our own devotional use of the psalter. Please join Pastor Snyder for a Lenten journey that will both learning and devotional.



Membership Classes During the season of Lent

Beginning on February 18 Pastor Reep will be leading sessions to assist anyone interested in becoming a member of St. Paul's congregation. The topics vary each week but will cover; The Lutheran Reformation, Sacraments, History of St. Paul's, Current Vision for mission, and a tour of the building highlighting the many aspects of ministry carried out by the congregation. If you would like to attend simply call the church office or speak with Pastor Reep.

**Welcome to our newly Baptized
and new members!**



Kylo Stephens-Blanding & Jalaysea Ste-



Andrew, John, Lewis, and Danielle Herrold



Logan, Jess, Rob, & Quinton Hoffman

**St. Nicholas Event
Santa's here for all ages!**





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

Information regarding hospital/rehab/nursing home visits by Pastor Reep

Please be aware that due to HIPPA rules even though the hospital and medical institutions ask you what church you belong to when you are admitted they are unable to call Pastor Reep to notify him that you have been admitted! Please call or have a family call to give this information to the office or to Pastor. Thank you.



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.



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 webpage helpful and refer to it often.



ALTAR FLOWERS

2024 Flower Chart

The 2024 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 10:30 AM 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 all of the correct information for inclusion in the Sunday bulletin.

2024 Church Offering Envelopes

Church offering envelopes are prepared and are available in the Good Shepherd Room. Please make sure that you pick your envelopes up before the New Year so that you are ready at the beginning of 2024. If you can't get to the church and would like them to be delivered or mailed to you, simply notify the church office. This is also a great time to consider having your offering sent directly to the church through the many services provided by local banks or through enrolling for online giving. If you need additional information contact a member of the Finance Committee.



The Bridge of Hope Neighboring group at St. Paul's is coming to the end of their two-year commitment. The mother that they have been walking with is in stable housing, going to school to become a medical assistant, and working at York Hospital. Her daughter will be starting Kindergarten next fall.

We will have our final gathering on Sunday, January 28, 4:30-6:30 PM. If you would be willing to help with the dinner and the celebration that evening, along with learning more about our experience as neighboring volunteers, please contact Patty Snyder or call the church office. 717-843-8155.

Music concerts and programs 2023-2024

St. Paul's is pleased to host the following music events. Please show your support with your attendance. All events are FREE and open to the public. More concerts and events will be added at a later date.

Sunday, April 28

3:00pm

The Arsenal Duo (organ and piano) concert

Pittsburgh musicians Nathan Carterette (piano) and Edward Alan Moore (organ) have joined forces as The Arsenal Duo, presenting concerts that unite their respective instruments in a unique and spectacular fashion. They draw from a diverse repertoire, including works originally for piano and orchestra; works original to piano and organ; their own transcriptions; and solo offerings. Sponsored by York Chapter AGO



Chancel Choir rehearsals are on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. New members are always welcome! If you are interested in singing, please contact Victor Fields 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 may also sing solos and duets from time to time in worship and offer their talents by playing instruments during worship.



York Conference of Lutherans

Working Together to Support the Mission of Christ's Church

NEEDED: TUTORS FOR CHILDREN IN GRADES 1-6

The York Conference of Lutherans Tutoring Program is seeking volunteer tutors to work one-on-one with students on Monday or Tuesday evenings during the upcoming school year! Tutors need not be teachers, or even have a degree. We need people who are willing to assist elementary grade students with homework, read with them, help them learn spelling, math facts, etc. We welcome tutors of ages 15 and up! If you like young people and want to make a difference in the life of a young person, then this is for you!!! Tutors over 18 must apply for clearances, but there is no charge to you as a volunteer. Can't commit every week? We always need substitutes!

Note: One of our primary goals is to maintain the health and safety of our tutors and students. We will be following the guidance of the PA Dept. of Education and the PA Health Dept. regarding safety protocols.

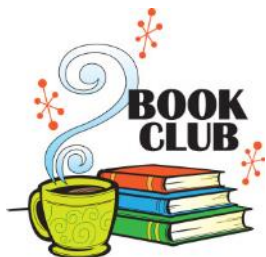
Contact Shari Young at ycltutoring@gmail.com or 717-586-9310 for more information.

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: Join us at Panera Bread on South Queen Street 4:00-5:00 PM as we discuss....

January 25 Zookeeper's Wife by Diane Ackerman.



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 Good Shepherd room to collect any clothing you 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. . 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.



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
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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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