

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
10:30 AM Live Streamed YouTube
Holy Days as announced
May 2025

Special Meeting of the Congregation

Sunday May 4, 2025, at 10:10 AM

Springettsbury Ave. Entrance Doors/windows

The Congregation Council is calling a special meeting of the congregation on Sunday May 4, 2025, at 10:10 AM to act on a proposal recommended by the Property Committee. The meeting will be held in Christ Hall. The proposal is to replace the Springettsbury entry doors and glass surround with new six-foot-wide doors with insulated glass which would maintain the existing aesthetics of the building. The replacement doors would permit improved egress for those with walkers, wheelchairs, deliveries, and for caskets at funerals. The new entry would also be equipped with a security feature to aid with safety protocol associated with weekday operations especially as it relates to our preschool.

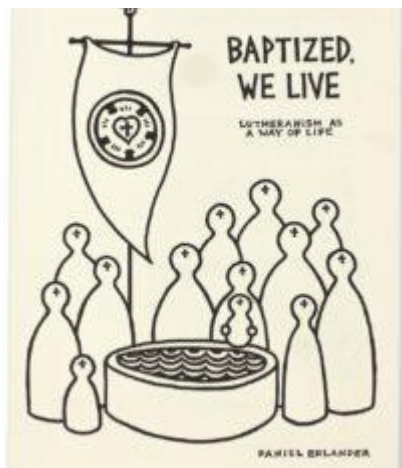


You may be asking why new entrance doors, wasn't that done during the renovation five years ago? That is a very good question. During the renovation we did not make any changes to the exterior physical structure of the building. The permitting process with the City of York was a rather long and expensive process. Not wanting to delay the project further having to receive approval from HARB, we pulled all exterior modifications from the plans. This saved both time and money seven years ago. The doors at the Springettsbury entrance are the original doors with a five-foot opening and single pane glass. Updating them will improve accessibility and will help with energy efficiency.

You may also ask about security. Didn't we install a keypad to operate the interior doors from the vestibule into the Good Shepherd Room? Yes, we did, and that keypad is working as we had planned. What has changed are the increased acts of violence in the community. In our renovation planning we advocated for the exterior doors to remain unlocked during office hours. The thinking now is to have exterior door locks that can be operated from the office. This way only individuals with a church or preschool business to conduct will be granted access to the vestibule. The lock system adds another layer of security.

An additional reason for replacing the doors is that the crash bar mechanism (now about 85 years old) is failing. We retrofitted the crash bar system on the north narthex entrance (playground facing side) several years ago at a cost exceeding \$4,000. The crash bar on the exterior entrance at the elevator is also in need of repair or replacement. That estimate is just under \$11,000. The Property Committee is planning to utilize the crash bar system from the Springettsbury exterior entrance to repair the entrance door at the elevator as a cost saving strategy. The Property Committee is currently gathering information and accessing all the exterior doors and their mechanisms. They will report their findings to the Congregation Council later.

On Sunday, May 4, at 10:10 AM in Christ Hall we will gather for a special meeting regarding the Property Committee proposal. The Finance Committee recommends funding the \$36,800 expense through designated gifts donated in honor or in memory for a two-month period. Any remaining balance would come from the Investment Account at Fulton Bank. The Congregation Council is in favor of the proposal. Questions in advance of the meeting should be directed to Council President, Keith Kates or Property Chairperson, Kem Vaught.



Baptized We Live Lutheranism as a Way of Life Continuing in May , 9:15 AM

During the season of Easter Pastor Reep will lead a class entitled “Lutheranism as a Way of Life”. The class serves as a refresher for Lutheran Christians. The classes will be held in Christ Hall at 9:15 AM. In addition, those wishing to unite with St. Paul’s Lutheran Church or adults desiring to be Baptized will do so at the combined 9:15 AM liturgy on Pentecost, June 8. If you are interested in becoming a member of St. Paul’s Church or desire to be Baptized please notify the church office or speak with Pastor Reep.

The schedule of discussion topics follows:

May 4	A Way of Hearing
May 11	A Way of Teaching
May 18	A Way of Following

Summer Worship Schedule to Begin May 25, 2025 (Memorial Day Weekend) Combined Liturgy 9:15 AM

The summer worship schedule begins on Memorial Day Weekend, Sunday May 27, with one liturgy at 9:15 AM. Combined Summer Worship has proven to improve our relationships within the congregation and help us welcome new persons who visit and those seeking information about uniting with St. Paul’s faith community. The Fellowship Committee is planning for a time of fellowship following each liturgy. They are soliciting help to provide baked goods, fruit and other items needed for refreshments.

A sign-up sheet is available in the Good Shepherd Room. Consider now what week works better for your summer plans and commit to help. Another benefit with one combined liturgy is the ease of scheduling servers, altar guild, bread bakers, ushers, and lectors. The Worship Committee has planned liturgies appropriate for the season. This summer there are two Feast Days: Pentecost (June 8) and The Holy Trinity (June 15) and there are two Saint’s Days: Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles (June 29) and St. Bartholomew Apostle (August 24). On those days the liturgy will be a bit fuller reflecting the significance of the day and how it impacts our Christian faith and witness. Please mark your calendar and adjust your Sunday household schedule so that you remain active in our community of faith.



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. If you have large donations you may take them directly to Union Lutheran Church. Simply call them to arrange a time.

Mother's Day Bake Sale
Sunday May 11
Proceeds Benefit our sister congregation,
Mpuguso Lutheran Church, Tanzania

St. Paul's own Mpuguso Committee is sponsoring a Mother's Day Bake Sale, May 11, to help the Mpuguso Lutheran Congregation complete the lower level of their church building. This part of their building project is not the cool neat stuff of chancels and nave, windows and doors, appointments and instruments. This part includes the practical things like restrooms and office for pastor and secretary and meeting room for small groups. If you would like to help with the bake sale; bake, set up, oversee the sale, clean up, or donate financially please contact any member of the team; Emily Reep, Tina Llorente, Jaclyn Kinkella, Maggie Dickerson or Martina Uffelman. Baked goods should be dropped off at the church on Saturday morning May 10 from 9:00 AM to Noon. In advance, thank you for supporting this important work.



Bible Study, Wednesdays 10:30AM, Christ Hall.

Please gather with others as we look ahead at the Bible readings for Sunday Morning. 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. 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.

Reminder: Street sweeping on the first Wednesday of the month!

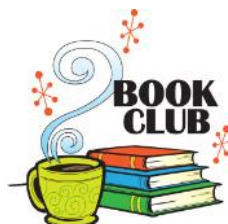


"Vintage" Members (80 and over) with birthdays in May: Norma Spencer, Larry Gross, and Ron Sturges.

Sending Happy Birthday wishes and hoping you have a happy and healthy year ahead from your family at St. Paul's.



St. Paul's Book Club meets at St. Paul's at 3:00 PM on:
May 22: The Alice Network: Kate Quinn



2025 Flower Chart

The 2025 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 it, 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.



STANDING UP FOR THOSE IN NEED.

Many of us enjoyed the Sunday School presentation by Tracey DePasquale, director of LAMPa, Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania, last month. We were inspired to continue our feeding ministry and to find other ways to advocate for the neighbors that we serve.



LAMPa's mission statement states *"In response to God's love in Jesus Christ, we advocate for wise and just public policies in Pennsylvania that promote the common good."* [Mission & Ministry - LAMPa](#) LAMPa is part of the ELCA, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, of which St. Paul's belongs. The ELCA also has an advocacy office in Washington, DC [Advocacy](#), where advocates are leading church members across the nation to advocate on the federal level.

Please consider checking out these two websites to see how you can help through advocacy for state and federal food funding for our pantry shoppers as well as other issues that you are led to support. When you do so, share personal information about St. Paul's ministry and your involvement.

Fellowship Committee Needs Your Help

We are looking for help from the congregation on Sundays, beginning May 25 through August 31. During this time, there will be only one service at 9:15 a.m. and like last year there will be Fellowship with food every Sunday after the service. We are looking for members who are willing to make a breakfast/brunch baked item or bring fruit. You might have a special family recipe you would like to share with the congregation. There will be two members each Sunday from the Fellowship Committee to help with set-up and clean-up and we have no problem if those bringing the food would like to help with set-up or clean-up. Many hands make light work! The food should be there between 8:45 and 9:00 a.m. There will be a clipboard on the table in the Good Shepherd Room to sign up. Thanks to all for helping with the food for Summer Fellowship!



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.



Vacation Bible School

Baskets of Grace **Vacation Bible School** **July 20-24**

The Christian Education Committee is planning for VBS! It is time to register children for Bible school week at St. Paul's. *Baskets of Grace* weaves together 5 Bible stories involving baskets and how they were used to make a way forward to save and rescue God's people. One of the crafts during the week will involve weaving your own basket. For those who desire it, a simple supper will be ready for hungry participants at 5:30 PM. We simply ask that you check the days you would like to have a meal. The story, activity and craft portion is held from 6:00 – 7:30 PM. VBS is designed for children age 3 through grade 6. Registration closes in May. If you are so inclined to help with this year's program please contact the church office. Thank you for your support, prayers and encouragement as preparations are made for *Baskets of Grace*.



Baskets of Grace VBS 2025

Sunday, July 20 – Thursday, July 24
for children 3 years old through grade 6.



Supper 5:30 PM Story, Activity & Crafts 6-7:30PM

Please return form by May 20.

MENU

Please provide meals for my child/children for the days checked.

- ☐ Sunday Hot dog
- ☐ Monday Walking Tacos
- ☐ Tuesday Mac & Cheese
- ☐ Wednesday Chicken Nuggets
- ☐ Thursday Pizza

Child's Name	Age

☐ I can help with _____

***Parent or designated guardian must accompany children for check-in
and sign-out at the conclusion of the evening at 7:30 PM***

Parent's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Thank you!

St. Paul's Dips Ice Cream for Jackson Elementary School

Once again, members of our Social Ministries team had the privilege of honoring Jackson Elementary School's Students of the Month by providing an ice cream social on March 7th. Ice cream along with toppings including choices of sauces, sprinkles, and whipped cream were served. Our "dippers," Sandy Dickensheets, Pam Gale, Jennifer Ports, Ken Hinkle, Jim Bennett, and Nancy Bennett enjoyed being a part of the preschool through 8th grade celebration.



SpiriTrust Lutheran' Auxiliary will again provide Mother's Day Geraniums at the low price of \$5.00 per plant. Delivery is set for Saturday, May 24, two weeks later than normal!

GERANIUMS



Home delivery is offered, and there is the option to secure the flowers at church. Colors offered are red, salmon and white.

Kindly contact Jim Mummert with your orders. Checks should be made payable to Auxiliary to SpiriTrust Lutheran. Jim Mummert 309-4101 or elainenjim@comcast.net



We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to everyone that helped to make our mothers' celebration of life so memorable. We would especially like to acknowledge Pastor Reep, Victor Fields, and the Fellowship Committee which provided a wonderful luncheon. Your prayers, messages, and words of kindness during our time of need will always be treasured by our family. May God bless you abundantly.
The Riese's

Up-Coming Liturgies and Events at St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Special Meeting of the Congregation, May 4
Mother's Day Bake Sale, May 11, Benefit Mpuguso Lutheran Church
Bridge of Hope, May 18
Book Club, May 22
New Summer Service Schedule Begins, May 25
VBS July 20-24



St. Paul's Women's Group

The women of St. Paul's have been meeting on a monthly basis for a time of devotion and planning upcoming events. Since October, the Women's group has met a number of different times for planning and various activities.

Mark your calendars for a flower picking event at Terra Farms on Saturday, September 13! If you would like to carpool, a group will be meeting at St. Paul's at 9:00 AM to travel to the farm together. If you prefer to drive on your own, we will arrive at Terra Farms at 9:30. This event is anticipated to last about 3 hours. The rain date for this event will be Saturday, September 20.

If you love theater, mark your calendars for the weekend of October 17 to attend *The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe* at TAFE! As the fall nears, we will be selecting a show date and time.

Additionally, the Women's Group is calling all knitters, crocheters, and anyone who would like to learn these skills! We will be working together to help make some scarves for the food pantry. If you have an interest in this, please contact Patty Snyder or Alexis Heistand. We will be arranging a time to meet and discuss this project.

The Women's Group is also excited to begin the process of brainstorming and planning a retreat for 2026. If you have interest in working on planning this event, please contact Patty Snyder or Alexis Heistand.



The Men of St. Paul's Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief

During 2025, Lutheran World Relief celebrates "*80 years of loving our neighbors.*" Currently with the many national and international disasters and the continuing national aggressions wreaking havoc on civilian populations, the need for Personal Care kits is urgent. To that end the men of St. Paul's are advocating during months of June, July and August that we purchase items needed to assemble a Personal Care kit. They have not yet set their goal. A list of items needed will follow in the next issue of *Our Church*.

The men are also working to raise money to help provide a latrine. Providing basic sanitation is critical work. Not fancy or pretty. It is work that is life giving for displaced people. The men started to collect money for this project with the Italian Dinner held in March. They are now planning their next event for early in the month of June. By supporting the men of the congregation, you are advancing the work of LWR and participating in "*80 years of loving our neighbors.*"



You Could be a Bridge of Hope Neighbor

Come to learn more on May 18, at 11:45 a.m. in Christ Hall, following the 10:30 liturgy. We are in the process of getting ready to support a new homeless family on a journey of hope. Come learn about how you might be part of a neighboring community here at St. Paul's Church. Even if you are not sure we welcome you to come, learn, and prayerfully consider if God is calling you to be a neighbor to someone new. Call Pastor Snyder (717-880-0350) with any questions.



Benevolence Committee Call for Applications

We are past the April 30 deadline for Benevolence Committee applications and we need you! The Committee does not meet until the end of May, and we would love an application from you. We need you to think about worthy ministry projects and submit an application. These may be local, regional, national, or international projects. Perhaps you are involved and want to help extend the mission. Or maybe you have a project you want to develop. Creativity invited!



Recent applications include, Pappas House funding, partnership with the York Literacy Institute, T-shirts for the synod's 5 K at Kirchenwald to support the hospital in Mbeya, Tanzania, and back to school backpacks for children of Pantry families.

For 2025, \$8,700.00 is currently approved by the committee. We are calling for applications for 2026, and we do still have funding available for 2025. You can request the online application from Patee in the office or use the green application form available in the Springettsbury Entrance. The application has a place for the year the funding is requested. Each applicant should have a connection to the project or ministry.

Join the exciting ministry of showing the world that God is love. Pick up an application today. Feel free to call Pastor Snyder with any questions, 717-880-0350.

Where Help is Needed

There are times when people ask how they can help, or what they can do. There are many tasks that are associated with public worship. Those are the most familiar areas of Christian service for the upbuilding of the congregation. However, there are many others.

We need to train Eucharist Ministers. These are persons who take the consecrated bread and wine from the Sunday Eucharist to members who physically can no longer get to St. Paul's on Sunday morning. We have had many members take an active part in this ministry prior to the pandemic. That is when this ministry came to a sudden stop.

We need a person to chair the Social Ministry Committee. This role entails forming a group of compassionate outward looking individuals to provide oversight and create pathways in areas of service towards our neighbors, those next doors, down the street or around the world. The Food Pantry falls under Social Ministry. So do things like Jackson Elementary School, LWR, The World Hunger Appeal, LAMPA, Bridge of Hope. The chairperson does not do all the work simply helps to keep us all connected and helps to facilitate any new ways that we, as Christian people, might wish to serve our neighbors.

We need people willing to serve on the Stewardship Committee. The Committee has strong support with two members of Congregation Council and the Pastor serving. The committee is responsible for an annual appeal. This is more than raising financial resources. This helps us as Christian people to examine how we utilize the gift of time, talent and money. All three are important for the up building of the congregation and for extending the gracious reign of God.



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 webpage helpful and refer to it often.

Pantry News: We began participating in a program called Healthy Pantry Initiative provided by Central Penn Food Bank and funding by Feeding America. Through this program we are receiving training on how to help our shoppers make healthy food choices at our pantry and in their lives. We are providing recipes, educational handouts and other reminders. We received grant money to purchase two large white boards where we will post much of the healthy eating ideas.

Food Pantry Needs: SPAGHETTI. The variety of food we get from our main sources, York County Food Bank and Central Penn Food Bank is reduced due to federal cuts. Spaghetti is asked for by 80% of our shoppers. We serve an average of 75 families each Tuesday. It would be great if we could have enough spaghetti for all 75 families. Or even 150 families over two weeks! Put your donations in the shopping cart in the Good Shepherd Room.

The pantry continues to need:

- Plastic and paper grocery bags
- Peanut butter
- Monetary donations can be placed in a “special” envelope marked “Pantry”.



Volunteers on: Tuesday (distribution day), Thursdays (food delivery days) and some Sundays (pantry stocking days). Contact Teresa Rohrbaugh or Patty Snyder or the church office (717-843-8155) with questions.

The **“Pantry Grocery Cart”** in the Good Shepherd Room is for bags and food donations only.

Watch the Rev's, Help the Pantry!

The York Revolution season has begun! Last year a group of volunteers working the Rev's games raised over \$2200 for our food pantry. This year we're looking for about 12 volunteers who are willing to work one or two 4 hour shifts a month. The work is easy - checking tickets, applying wristbands and monitoring gates in the catered areas. For every shift completed, each volunteer receives 4 free vouchers for future games and the pantry receives money from the Rev's. Volunteers must be at least 16 years of age.



If you would like to volunteer or have any questions, please contact at Jennifer Ports at 443-310-0897 or jleigh36@gmail.com



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 member call to give this information to the office or to Pastor. Thank you.

ST. PAUL'S OF YORK PRESCHOOL

Summer Playdate

STORY TIME, PLAYGROUND FUN, AND A CRAFT
FOR CURRENT AND PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

- ✓ Make new friends
- ✓ Learn about St. Paul's Preschool Program for 2 to 4 year olds
- ✓ Meet the teachers and explore the classrooms



Please RSVP here to help us plan!

717-843-8155

25 W. Springettsbury Ave, York, PA 17403

June 11th, July 9th, August 6th

9:30am - 11:00am



The Preschool staff will host a Spring Preschool Playdate on Wednesday, May 28 from 9:30am-11:00am. There will be play-time, a themed story, songs and a simple craft for the preschool children and perspective students. Interested parents can email the preschool at presch.stpaulsyork@comast.net or call 717-854-1996 to register for the event.



Sunshine and spring abounds at the preschool. April was a fast and busy month for the staff and children. At the beginning of April, the congregation welcomed our Preschool families to worship at church together. The children performed the songs they learned from Pastor Reep during Chapel Time. We would like to thank Pastor and the entire congregation for supporting the preschool children and staff during the service.

A special thank you to everyone who participated in our preschool sub and sandwich fundraiser. It was a huge success!

May will be another fun month filled with more signs of spring and summer. Some of the classes will be talking about flowers and butterflies while others will be talking about rainbows and the beach. At the end of May, the preschool children will perform in an end of the year program for their families. The children will showcase the songs that they have learned this year in their classrooms and at Chapel time.

As the school year comes to an end, the Preschool Staff would like to thank all of the staff and volunteers who have supported the Preschool ministry. We wish you a happy, safe and healthy summer.



**Preschool Registration For 2025/26 Year!
NOW OPEN**



We are still accepting registrations and the staff is eagerly preparing for the 2025-2026 school year. If you know anyone interested in our Pre-school, please have them contact us at 717-854-1996.

- Large, bright, modern classrooms
- Weekly Chapel Time
- Outdoor Playground and capacious indoor space for large motor skill development
- Enrichment programs
- Over 60 years of service to the community

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
25 W. SPRINGETTSBURY AVE.
YORK, PA 17403
(717) 843-8155 (717) 843-0261 (Fax)

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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Bell Choirs Director	Leah McComas	lmccomas.stpaulsyork@gmail.com
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