Our Church

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

9:30 AM Sunday Holy Eucharist
9:30 AM Live Streamed YouTube
Holy Days as announced
November 2026

All Saints Sunday
November 1



Remembering is one of the important things that Gods' people do. It is a part of the fabric of our life in Christ Jesus. In the Old Testament we hear repeatedly the messengers of God calling on people to remember what God has done for them. In the New Testament we listen to not only what God has done, but what God is doing and promises yet to do. All Saint's Sunday serves as a day to remember those who have died in the faith from our congregation as well as to recall the extraordinary promises made to all the Baptized. We will remember by name those who died during the past year, since last All Saints Sunday, they are; Becky Davids, Irmgard Nicolaysen, Rita Schaffler, Christine Gross, Suzanne Moyer, Robert Little, Deloris Jean Sergent, Anna Mae Cook, Candace Hutton. This is an important day in our pilgrimage together at St. Paul's. Gather with us on November 1st and remember with joy and gladness the faithful who have gone before us in faith as we offer our prayer, praise and thanksgiving to God.

Christ the King
Sunday, November 22



The Church Year ends with the celebration of Christ the King on Sunday 22 November. On this day we proclaim the Lordship of Christ in our lives and the all-embracing authority of Christ which shall lead humankind to seek the 'peace of Christ' in the Kingdom of Christ. This day was placed on the Church calendar in 1925 following the horrific pain and devastation of World War I. It was placed as a lens through which Christian people could make decisions about their lives and the importance of striving for justice and peace and modeling such life, not on the political powers dominating the earth, but on the Prince of Peace, Christ himself.
We acknowledge that we are God's people, the sheep of his pasture. We rejoice that Christ is King of the Universe and that he uses his power and authority to rule in equity and peace. Equity and peace are what we anticipate in the quickly approaching season of Advent. Christ our King leads us along right paths as we live in his kingdom and under his reign. Equity and peace are lived out in our relationships with one another and as we reach out in ministry "*To teach the world that God is love.*

The Season of Advent Begins Sunday, November 29
Season of Hope and Expectation



Sunday 29 November ushers in a new liturgical year with the First Sunday of Advent. With the new liturgical year comes a lectionary grounded in the Gospel of Mark. Mark keeps the drama moving along quickly as things often happen or occur immediately! Mark will help you hear the words of John the Baptist and have a foreigner be the one to recognize that Jesus is truly God's Son. This is a season which brings hope, not only for people of faith, but as the angles proclaim; "News of great joy for all people!" Our Advent worship will be shaped by the joy which comes to us and is given to us by God's only Son, Christ Jesus. Come hear the story, let it give shape to your life, and let this season be filled with the good things of God.

Advent Wednesdays
Preparing to Receive Christ
Dinner and Vespers

On the three Wednesdays in Advent, we will have a simple fellowship meal at 6:00 PM in Christ Hall followed by Vespers in the Church Nave at 7:00 PM. The theme for preaching is *Preparing to Receive Christ; confession, proclamation, sacraments.* We will be host for this Advent season as we welcome the members from Christ York, Christ Manchester, St. Peter's York and Luther Memorial. The pastors of the congregations will take turns preaching and leading worship. Our time together will help us as we prepare to welcome and receive Christ Jesus. The vesper liturgy adds a particular calm to what can be a hectic season. Join us for fellowship and prayer. If you would like to contribute to the items needed for the meal, please add your name to the sign-up sheet located in the Good Shepherd Room.

Annual Meeting & Brunch
Sunday November 15



The Annual Meeting and brunch will be held on Sunday November 15th following the 9:30 AM liturgy. The meal and meeting will be held in Fellowship Hall. The Congregation Council is preparing an agenda highlighting the many remarkable things that God is doing through the ministry of St. Paul's congregation. At the meeting the Nominating Committee will present their slate of people willing to serve on; Congregation Council, Benevolence Committee, and Mutual Ministry Committee. These are important roles as they give shape and direction to our shared mission. They will also share preliminary information regarding the selection of a Call Committee. That group will take the lead in securing St. Paul's next Senior Pastor. The Finance Committee will present the proposed 2027 budget. Additionally, we will receive reports from key areas of ministry. For the Fellowship Committee to prepare the food for the meal a sign-up sheet will be circulated through the congregation in early November. You may also call the church office to add your name to the list. In advance, thank you for your participation in our faith community.

Artwork by Congregants
to Benefit Food Pantry Silent Auction

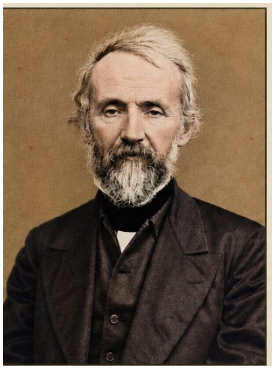


During the season of Lent about a dozen people gathered for a watercolor class. That experience was the catalyst for the Bastians hosting summer art sessions in their home. Now participants are donating their artwork for a silent auction to raise money to purchase food for the St. Paul's Food Pantry and to raise awareness of food insecurity in our neighborhood. The artwork will be on display in the church narthex through 15 November, the day of the Annual Meeting. Artist information and bid sheets will be provided at that time. This is a good way to secure a holiday gift for a family member, friend or coworker, while supporting the ministry of the congregation.

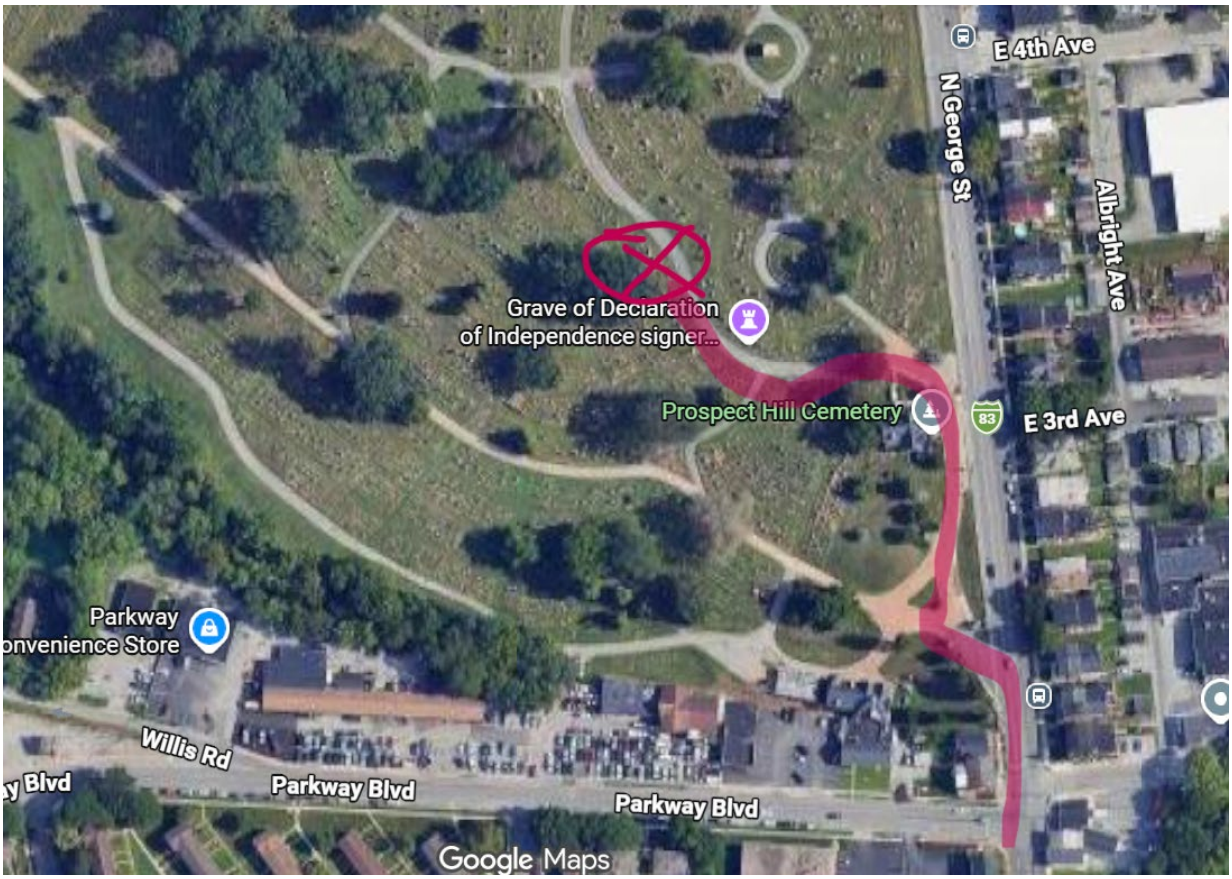


"Vintage" Members (80 and over) with birthdays in October are: Fred Rosenmiller, Frank Tyminski, Nancy Bennett, Dick Keeports, John Flinchbaugh, Norma Shue, Geoffrey Simon, and Janet Fitch. Sending Happy Birthday wishes and hoping you have a happy and healthy year ahead from your family at St. Paul's.

Service of Blessing and Rededication, Cemetery Plot, Prospect Hill
The Reverend Jonathan Oswald,
Founding Pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Rescheduled November 8, 1:00 PM



200 years ago, the first Lutheran Theological Seminary in America was established in Gettysburg Pennsylvania. It Was established by Samuel Simon Schmucker. There were eight students. In 1829, three years after the seminary opened, Jonathan Oswald graduated from that institution and was ordained. Ten years after the seminary opened its doors for the education of Lutheran pastors in America, Pastor Oswald opened the doors of St. Paul's Lutheran Church. He served the young, English-speaking congregation faithfully. It was the first English language Lutheran congregation west of the Susquehanna. At that time most Lutheran congregations were conducting services in German. The need for an English language congregation was realized when St. Paul's was chartered in February 1836. Pastor Oswald's work and life and ministry are carried forward by the faithful congregants and pastors of St. Paul's Church. Now in our 190th year, we take time to show respect, provide care, and give appropriate honor to our founding pastor. A team of St. Paul's members have worked throughout this calendar year in preparation of the Service of Blessing and Rededication of the cemetery plot at Prospect Hill Cemetery. You are invited to attend the service at Prospect Hill Cemetery on Sunday, November 8, 1:00 PM The service will be held rain or shine so please plan accordingly. You may wish to locate the cemetery plot on the map provided, or speak with Aaron Jacobs, chairperson of the rededication committee for directions. We extend our thanks and appreciation to Aaron and his committee for their vision, planning and work to bring us to this important day in the life of our faith community.



Education for Children, 10:45 AM, Sundays Spark Activate Faith



We hope you will join us as we learn and grow in our Christian Faith. The students get to enjoy a snack, play games, read stories and work on crafts to remember the Bible stories. They are also working on memorizing Bible verses. We look forward to the weeks ahead and hope you can be with us. The classes for children and youth are held on the lower level.

The following lessons will be presented in November:

November 1	Solomon Builds the Temple	1 Kings 6
November 8	Naaman is Healed	1 Kings 5:1-19
November 15	No Sunday School	Annual Meeting
November 22	Daniel and the Lions	Daniel 6:1-28
November 29	Advent Activity	

Hopefully these Bible stories will both encourage and inspire you to bring children for Faith Formation at 10:45 AM Sunday morning so that they can benefit from this time of learning.

Unpacking the Sunday Lectionary Readings
Two opportunities Tuesday 6:00 PM & Wednesday 10:30 AM

Do you ever wonder why certain readings are read on Sunday morning and how, if at all, they relate to one another? And do you consider how they relate to you and your life as a child of God? Questions such as these are at the heart of the scripture study opportunities offered at St. Paul's. For decades Pastor Reep has led just such a study on Wednesday mornings. Wednesday mornings work for one portion of the congregation but certainly not for everyone. Last year he experimented by offering a study on Tuesday evenings which coincided with the Children's ministry activities of music, craft and Bible story. This year the Tuesday evening study will be held beginning on 1 September from 6:00 – 7:00 PM. Mark your calendar or simply look at the one provided with this newsletter and plan to join with other members of our faith community by unpacking the readings assigned for the upcoming Sunday morning. Those who participate can't believe the impact it has when they come to worship.

Veteran's Day
November 11th Thank you for your service



CLIFF BECK, JR.	US AIR FORCE	BYRON LECATES	US ARMY
JAMES BENNETT	US ARMY JAG	JOE MOYER	US ARMY
GERALD BRIGGS, JR.	US AIR FORCE	EDWARD LECATES	US ARMY JAG
BLAKE COURTNEY	US AIR FORCE	RON RIESE	US ARMY & NATIONAL GUARD
SCOTT DONALDSON	CMA	FRED ROSENMILLER	US NAVY
THOMAS GIBSON	US NAVY	HAROLD SARGEANT	US RESERVES
LARRY GROSS	US ARMY	DARREN SMITH	US ARMY
MIKE HANSON	US ARMY	GREG SMITH	US ARMY
ANDREW HERROLD	US ARMY JAG	BEN STALLMAN, III	US NAVY
DICK KEEPORTS	US ARMY	GARY VAN NATTEN	US ARMY
DAVE KOPP	US AIR FORCE	JORDAN YAKIM-COURTNEY	US AIR FORCE *currently serving*
GEOFFREY SIMON	US AIR FORCE		

Up-Coming Events at St. Paul's

All Saints Day	Sunday I November 9:30 AM
Annual Meeting & Brunch	Sunday 15 November 11:45 AM
Christ the King	Sunday 22 November 9:30 AM
Intergenerational Advent Event	Sunday 29 November
Children's Chancel Drama	Sunday 6 December 9:30 AM
York College Christmas Concert	Sunday 6 December 3:00 PM
Christmas Decorating	Tuesday 15 December 6:00 PM
Christmas Eve	Thursday 24 December 4:00 & 7:00 PM
Christmas Day	Friday 25 December 10:30 AM
Lessons & Carols	Sunday 27 December 9:30 AM



Winter 2026 Music concerts and programs

St. Paul's Church is pleased to host the following musical event.

Sunday, December 6 **York College Christmas Concert** **3:00 PM** Come hear the York College Music Department choirs and instrumentalists perform a concert of holiday music and more.

2027 Flower Chart



The 2027 flower chart is posted on the Springettsbury vestibule bulletin board. The cost of the flowers has increased slightly and is currently $40 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 9:30 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.

God calls us to serve others.

In Micah 6:8 we read that "*The Lord requires of us to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God*." Martin Luther in his explanations of the Fifth Commandment "You shall not kill" wrote… "We are to fear and love God so that we do not hurt our neighbor in any way but help him in all his physical needs."

One of the most powerful things we can do to help our neighbors, especially those who struggle, is to prayerfully **VOTE** in local, state and national elections and to encourage others to do so as well. Do you know someone who might have trouble getting to the polls? Offer them a ride. Do you need a ride yourself? Call a friend, call the church office, or call Patty Snyder. Your vote matters! Go in peace. Serve the Lord.



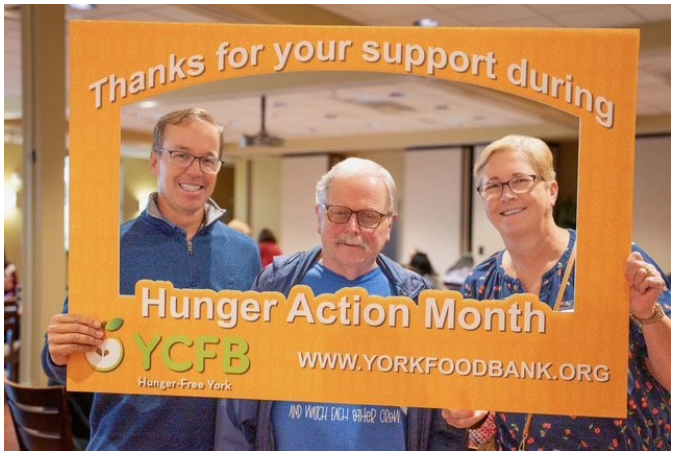
Blessing of the scarves for Food Pantry Shoppers
November 8

Members and friends have been knitting and crocheting up a storm in anticipation of the winter scarf give away. Last year over 200 were made and were given to pantry shoppers in mid-November. This year we will acknowledge the work and gift of our energetic crocheters and knitters and offer a blessing so that those who receive these beautiful creations will be both warm and fed during this winter season. St. Paul's is doing what it can to help alleviate hunger in our corner of the world one Tuesday at a time. Thank you to all our pantry volunteers and to our talented crocheters and knitters.

St. Paul's Food Pantry

Leaders in our pantry attend yearly workshops and conventions in York and Harrisburg. During these events they learn about new initiatives and best practices as well as building relationships with other feeding ministries. Thank you to these folks and the many (over 50) volunteers who help to serve our neighbors.





St. Paul's Food Pantry Needs: White Rice, Cereal, plastic and paper shopping bags. Monetary donations can be placed in a special envelope marked "Pantry". Contact Teresa Rohrbaugh to volunteer for Tuesday distribution days. Contact Patty Snyder to volunteer for Thursday delivery days or Sunday stocking days or contact the church office. Thank you to all who help!

Donations: You may a donate via our website at www.stpaulsyork.org or use the QR Code provided to give to the following:

Lutheran Church in York, PA - St. Paul's Lutheran...
stpaulsyork.org

Weekly Offering
Advent/Lenten Offering
World Hunger
Mpuguso/Konde Tanzania Congregation
Food Pantry
Theological Education
Memorial Donation

Music & Create Tuesdays 6:00 PM
Age 3 through grade 6



Music and Create is an opportunity for our families with young children to engage in music and art while also having the opportunity to connect with other families. The program is designed for children ages 3 through grade 6. We split the children into two age groups, age 3 through grade 1 and grade 2 through grade 6.
During Create time the children and youth will continue building the town of Bethlehem. They have been having fun decorating boxes and creating the nativity, which will be displayed during Advent.
During Music time the children will sing and play instruments as we build musical skills and create music together. Music and Create activities will help children and youth build relationships with one another.
The children and youth will sing during the worship service on
Sunday, November 8th
Sunday, December 6th – Christmas program
December 24th – Christmas Eve at 4pm
Miss Kelly and Mrs. Jones



Children and Youth Grades 3 through 8
November 8 – 12 Noon till 2:00

The children and youth will all enjoy a lunch of pizza and snacks together.
Following lunch grades 3 and 4 will work together playing Hungry, Hungry Hippos, Balloon toss, and Pool Noodle Partners as they grow together in faith.
Youth grades 5 through 8 will play dodge ball and other active games that they choose. To end the afternoon all grades will come together to do a joint activity.
Please let Miss Kelly know by November 1st if your children and youth can attend. - *Miss Kelly*

Clothing Collection



St Paul's collects 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.

Survey regarding the 9:30 AM service. Please complete the online survey at https://form.jotform.com/262735591748066 The Council members would like to hear from you as they discern the future direction for our gathering for worship. Kindly direct your insights to any council member: They are eager to learn about how the trial schedule affects your participation in; worship, education, choir, parking, serving, fellowship and in our outreach to the community. Thank you for your time, thoughtfulness, and consideration as we work together for the building up of the body of Christ.



Please remember to notify the church of any life events, illnesses, joys or concerns. Call the office 717-843-8155 or email st.paulsyork@comcast.net. 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 and Pastor Yeiser to notify them that you have been admitted! Please call or have a family member call to give this information to the office so that Pastor Reep and Pastor Yeiser can provide care.

DATE	TIME	Assisting Minister	Crucifer	Comm. Asst	Lector	Greeters	Ushers - *Names in Italic are needed elsewhere in service-Volunteer needed to*	Altar Guild	Bread Bakers
11/1 All Saints	9:30 AM	Lois Ann Schroeder	Allison Lehr	Kathy Monk	Carolyn Kapoun	Dick & Bonnie Keeports	Team 1L: Dave Kopp, Scott Donaldson, Darren Smith, Kass Keleta	Kathy Monk, Lois Ann Schroeder	Nancy Bennett
11/8	9:30 AM	Harold Sargeant	Tom Gibson	Sandy Dickensheets	Chris Waddail	Gail Kerchner, Sharon Diaczun	Team 2E: Ron Riese, Kathy Monk, Ken Hinkle, Alex Bastian	Kathy Monk, Lois Ann Schroeder	Norma Shue
11/15	9:30 AM	Geoffrey Simon	Larry Moore	Aaron Jacobs	John Monk	Keith & Christine Kates	Team 2L: Kem Vaught, Gail Kerchner, Sandy Dickensheets	Ann Anstadt, Jill Striebig	Jessica Ericson
11/22 Christ the King	9:30 AM	Tob Gibson	Denise Rider	Emily Reep	Laura Livingston	Carl & Laura Livingston	Team 3E: Norma Shue, Cliff Beck, Sheridan Palmer	Ann Anstadt, Jill Striebig	Pat Rudacille
11/29 Advent 1	9:30 AM	Patty Snyder	Harrison Palmer	James Palmer	Janet Fitch	Tina Llorente, Bob & Judy Hoover	Team 3L: Dan Garber, Joe Guarriello, Larry Becker	Kathleen Lemke, Pat Scarborough	Janet Fitch
12/6 Advent 2	9:30 AM	Tristan Ericson	Tim Yakim	Deb Becker	George Fitch	Mike & Linda Hanson	Team 1E:Jeff Riese, John Monk, Alex Bastian, Claudia Deitrich	Kathleen Lemke, Pat Scarborough	Joanna Patterson
12/13 Advent 3	9:30 AM	Harold Sargeant	Larry Moore	Sandy Dickensheets	Deb Becker	Scott & Nicki Herdson	Team 1L: Dave Kopp, Scott Donaldson, Darren Smith, Kass Keleta	Larry & Janet Moore	Joe Guariello
12/20 Advent 4	9:30 AM	Aaron Jacobs	Allison Lehr	Patty Snyder	Tristan Ericson	Gail Kerchner, Sharon Diaczun	Team 2E: Ron Riese, Kathy Monk, Ken Hinkle, Alex Bastian	Larry & Janet Moore	Kat Lemke
12/24 Christmas Eve	4:00 PM	Jennifer Ports	Ken Hinkle	Allison Lehr	Jessica Ericson	Bob & Connie Reed	Team 2L: Kem Vaught, Gail Kerchner, Sandy Dickensheets	Deb Becker & Isabella Lehr	Abby Jacobs
12/24 Christmas Eve	7:00 PM	Kathy Monk	James Palmer	John Monk	Dan Garber	Jeff & Rose Riese	Team 3E: Norma Shue, Cliff Beck, Sheridan Palmer	Kathy Monk, Lois Ann Schroeder	Norma Shue
12/25 Christmas Day	10:30 AM	George Fitch	Larry Moore	Emily Reep	Ed LeCates	Tristan & Jessica Ericson	Team 3L: Dan Garber, Joe Guarriello, Larry Becker	Larry & Janet Moore	Janet Moore
12/27 Lessons & Carols	9:30 AM	William Snyder	Harrison Palmer	James Palmer	Earline Jones	Teresa Rohrbaugh, Pat Scarborough	Team 1E:Jeff Riese, John Monk, Alex Bastian, Claudia Deitrich	Pat Rudacille & Jerry Briggs	Pat Rudacille
1/3	9:30 AM	Lois Ann Schroeder	Denise Rider	Deb Becker	Scott Herdson	Ron & Norma Riese	Team 1L: Dave Kopp, Scott Donaldson, Darren Smith, Kass Keleta	Pat Rudacille & Jerry Briggs	Nancy Bennett

PLEASE REVIEW THIS SCHEDULE AND NOTE THE HOLIDAY TIMES. PLEASE FIND A REPLACEMENT IF YOU CANNOT SERVE ON YOUR ASSIGNED DATE.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

November 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1  9:00am Coffee, Tea, Juice - Good Shepherd Rm 9:00am Chancel Choir Rehearsal - Music Rm 9:30am Holy Eucharist - Nave and Live Stream - Bell Choir 10:45am Faith Formation (Sunday School), Adults: Christ Hall, Children & Confirmands: Lower Level 6:30pm AA Meeting - Community Rm.	2	3 8:30am Staff Meeting 9:15am Pantry Volunteers 9:30am Food Pantry 6:00pm Bible Study - Christ Hall 6:00pm CREATE- Preschool - Gr 6	4 10:00am Preschool & Pastor - Nave 10:30am Bible Study - Christ Hall	5 Annual Committee Reports are due to secretary! 10:00am Preschool & Pastor - Nave 6:30pm Handbell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir	6	7
8 9:00am Coffee, Tea, Juice - Good Shepherd Rm 9:00am Chancel Choir Rehearsal - Music Rm 9:30am Blessing of Scarves for Pantry 9:30am Holy Eucharist - Nave and Live Stream - Children's Choir 10:45am Faith Formation (Sunday School), Adults: Christ Hall, Children & Confirmands: Lower Level 11:45am Second Sunday Sandwiches 1:00pm Rededication Rev. Jonathon Oswald plot - Prospect Hill Cemetery 6:30pm AA Meeting - Community Rm.	9 6:00pm Finance Committee Mtg	10 Council Reports due to Church Secretary 9:00am Pastor's Synod Conference meeting 9:15am Pantry Volunteers 9:30am Food Pantry 6:00pm Bible Study - Christ Hall 6:00pm CREATE- Preschool - Gr 6	11  10:00am Preschool & Pastor - Nave 10:30am Bible Study - Christ Hall	12 10:00am Preschool & Pastor - Nave 6:30pm Handbell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir	13	14
15  Art Auction Ends 9:00am Coffee, Tea, Juice - Good Shepherd Rm 9:00am Chancel Choir Rehearsal - Music Rm 9:30am Holy Eucharist - Nave and Live Stream - Bell Choir Newsletter Deadline 10:45am Annual Meeting and Brunch 6:30pm AA Meeting - Community Rm.	16 6:30pm Council Meeting - Christ Hall	17 8:30am Staff Meeting 9:15am Pantry Volunteers 9:30am Food Pantry 6:00pm Bible Study - Christ Hall 6:00pm CREATE- Preschool - Gr 6	18 10:00am Preschool & Pastor - Nave 10:30am Bible Study - Christ Hall	19 10:00am Preschool & Pastor - Nave 6:30pm Handbell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir	20	21
22 Christ the King  9:00am Coffee, Tea, Juice - Good Shepherd Rm 9:00am Chancel Choir Rehearsal - Music Rm 9:30am Holy Eucharist - Nave and Live Stream 10:45am Faith Formation (Sunday School), Adults: Christ Hall, Children & Confirmands: Lower Level 6:30pm AA Meeting - Community Rm.	23 Preschool Vision Screening 6:00pm Christian Ed Meeting - Youth Room 7:00pm Mutual Ministry	24 Preschool Vision Screening 9:15am Pantry Volunteers 9:30am Food Pantry 6:00pm Bible Study - Christ Hall 6:00pm CREATE- Preschool - Gr 6 6:00pm Property Committee - Christ Hall	25 NO Bible Study Preschool Thanksgiving Break	26  Preschool Thanksgiving Break	27 OFFICE CLOSED Preschool Thanksgiving Break	28 Preschool Thanksgiving Break
29  9:00am Coffee, Tea, Juice - Good Shepherd Rm 9:00am Chancel Choir Rehearsal - Music Rm 9:30am Holy Eucharist - Nave and Live Stream 10:45am Faith Formation (Sunday School), Adults: Christ Hall, Children & Confirmands: Lower Level Advent Event - Intergenerational Preschool Thanksgiving Break 6:30pm AA Meeting - Community Rm.	30 Preschool Thanksgiving Break	1 8:30am Staff Meeting 9:15am Pantry Volunteers 9:30am Food Pantry 6:00pm Bible Study - Christ Hall 6:00pm CREATE- Preschool - Gr 6	2 10:00am Preschool & Pastor - Nave 10:30am Bible Study - Christ Hall 6:00pm Advent dinner 7:00pm Advent Vespers	3 10:00am Preschool & Pastor - Nave 6:30pm Handbell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir	4	5

Preschool News



Thank you Fall fun and excitement has been in the air at preschool. In October, the children learned about Fire Prevention and practiced a fire drill. They also enjoyed their Halloween parties and all things spooky during the week of Halloween. We would like to thank the families who helped provide special drinks, snacks, napkins and favors for our classroom parties. In addition, the Preschool Parent Group hosted a Fall Festival for the preschool children and families. There was pumpkin decorating, face painting, table or treat, fun games and delicious food. We are having an R&K Sub and Sandwich fundraiser. The money raised will go towards purchasing new toys for the children. If you place an order to support the preschool, please plan to pick up your sandwiches at the church on Tuesday, November 10th from 11:30am – 12 noon OR 6:00 – 6:30pm.

During the month of November, the staff and children will be talking about their blessings as Thanksgiving quickly approaches. As we talk about Pilgrims and Native Americans, the children will learn dances and together as a preschool, we will enjoy a Thanksgiving Feast. We will also be focusing on sharing, caring and helping others in need. The preschool families and staff will be collecting and donating non-perishable items for the church pantry.

As the holiday excitement continues to build and we look forward to December, the children will be anticipating, the birth of Baby Jesus. They will also experience the gift of giving as they collect and gift pajamas and lovies for children in need. We will end the month by having a Christmas Program Sing-A-Long complete with a visit from Santa.

Blessings,
The Preschool Staff

SOCIAL MINISTRIES & JACKSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

As we at St. Paul's continue our partnership with Jackson, we are in the midst of a new or gently used winter coat drive. Needed sizes range from preschool through 8th grade which include some adult sizes. The collection boxes marked "Coats, Coats, Coats" are located in Christ Hall. Please consider sharing some warmth with the kiddos at our neighborhood school by November 8th.

The "Students of the Month" were celebrated October 9th with an ice cream social. Sandy Dickensheets, Jennifer Ports, Ken Hinkle, Nancy and Jim Bennett served 35 students with ice cream sundaes and lots of toppings. We are grateful to be a part of this special recognition and look forward to the next one in May.

On December 4th the "Students of the Month" will be served a pancake breakfast. We need 6 volunteers to help flip and serve pancakes at Jackson from 8:45 a.m. to about 9:20 a.m. If you'd like to participate, please contact Nancy Bennett or the church office.

Jackson staff members at our Sept. 25th meeting suggested that some of their "ambassadors," outstanding middle school students who assist at the school, may be interested in volunteering with activities/events at our church. The staff believes it would be a way of giving back. Social Ministries would be happy to hear your ideas.

Council Highlights



The Congregation Council gathered for their regular meeting on Monday October 19 at 6:30 PM in Christ Hall. Keith Kates provided devotions and opening prayer.

Correspondence and announcements yielded two important matters pertaining to staffing at St. Paul's. First, Kelly Moore-Spencer, Youth Director, announced her retirement date, May 16, 2027. The Council received the news with regret and extended wishes for a healthy retirement. Second, Ted Weikert, Church Sexton, will be on a month's extended medical leave beginning November 10, 2026. The Property Committee is aware of this matter and is seeking help to provide coverage for the sexton duties. Outside agencies have been contacted to assist during this time.

The Treasurer presented the monthly report for September and highlighted several items of interest; general income was down for the month of September $6,289 while general income year to date is up $18,533. The Finance Committee will continue to monitor the trends in envelope giving. The second portion of the Treasurer's report focused on the Proposed Budget for 2027. After questions and discussion regarding staff compensation and benefits, property projects, and Christian Education the proposed budged was approved for presentation at the Annual Meeting Sunday November 15. (A copy of the proposed budget is included with this mailing.)

Preparations for the Annual Meeting to be held on Sunday November 15 following the 9:30 AM liturgy in Fellowship Hall were discussed. The Executive Committee will complete the agenda for the meeting. The Fellowship Committee is preparing brunch to be served following the liturgy and prior to the meeting.

The Property Committee has committed to working on a long-range maintenance program in 2027. This should help the congregation in decision making and budgeting for the decade ahead.

A survey was emailed to the congregation regarding worship time and how it affects personal and corporate life together at St. Paul's. Hard copies were provided to worshipers and will be collated upon their return. Council will review the data prior to the Annual Meeting.

There was no update on safety procedures from the Preschool Committee. Christ Lipp will continue as a resource to assist with this project.

Committee Reports were shared by Council Liaisons.

Pastor Reep excused himself from the remainder of the meeting where the work of succession planning continued. The Congregation Council appointed the Call Committee, the group responsible to secure the next Senior Pastor of St. Paul's Church. The committee is comprised of six members and one alternate. Those appointed to serve are Nancy Bennett, Tristan Ericson, Christine Kates, John Monk, Kem Vaught and Tim Yakim. An alternate is yet to be arranged.

The meeting concluded with prayer offered by Sharon Diaczun.

Respectfully submitted,
Pastor Reep

DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

November 15th

The next issue will be a double issue for December 2026 and January 2027.

Proposed Budget for 2027

	2027	Jan-Sep 26 Oct-Dec 25	Budget 2026
INCOME			
General	$ 512,000	$ 496,600	$ 450,000
Trust	$ 253,600	$ 238,600	$ 200,000
Grant	$ -	$ -	$ 10,000
Investment	$ 145,000	$ 93,435	$ 107,154
Pantry	$ 15,000	$ 17,400	$ 16,000
Fundraising	$ -	$ 200	$ 25,000
Preschool	$ 106,100	$ 95,800	$ 95,150
Konde Projects	$ 6,200	$ 5,900	$ 5,000
Synod Regular Mission Support	$ 5,000	$ 5,300	$ 1,000
TOTAL iNCOME	**$ 1,042,900**	**$ 953,235**	**$ 909,304**
EXPENSE			
Payroll Church	$ 438,200	$ 383,000	$ 376,500
Witness	$ 4,000	$ 2,600	$ 4,000
Office	$ 53,200	$ 44,800	$ 50,000
Property	$ 241,400	$ 191,100	$ 162,000
Benevolence	$ 15,000	$ 13,300	$ 28,000
Christian Education	$ 15,400	$ 7,100	$ 17,500
Fellowship	$ 9,000	$ 5,200	$ 11,170
Pantry	$ 23,000	$ 18,400	$ 16,000
Social Ministry Outreach	$ 1,200	$ 600	$ 3,000
Srewardship	$ 1,000	$ 700	$ 3,500
Worship and Arts	$ 13,000	$ 9,600	$ 20,500
Synod Regular Mission Support	$ 46,200	$ 68,700	$ 40,000
Konde Projects-Education	$ 12,000	$ 4,000	$ 12,000
Mortgage Interest	$ 60,100	$ 65,300	$ 66,000
Preschool	$ 108,300	$ 102,000	$ 99,134
Women Group	$ 1,900	$ 650	$ -
TOTAL EXPENSES	**$ 1,042,900**	**$ 917,050**	**$ 909,304**
NET INCOME (LOSS)	**$ -**	**$ 36,185**	**$ -**

* General Income-Unrestricted offerings reflects a 5.6% increase to $461,000.
* Payroll Church Expense reflects a 3 month overlap in Pastors salaries ($30,000), increase in health & benefits ($10,121) and a 3.5% increase in salaries.
* Property expense includes $70,000 of capital improvements (2 door & window replacements and security cameras on building perimeter).



Christmas Worship Schedule

Please note the alternate service times throughout the Christmas Season

Sunday December 20, Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:30 AM

The Holy Eucharist

The Ringing In of Christmas

Thursday, December 24, Christmas Eve - The Nativity of Our Lord

4:00 PM

The Holy Eucharist

Lighting of Hand Candles

Children's choir

7:00 PM

The Holy Eucharist

Lighting of Hand Candles

Handbells, Organ, Chancel Choir,

Friday, December 25, Christmas Day

10:30 AM

The Holy Eucharist

Sunday December 27, St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

9:30 AM

Lessons and Carols with Holy Communion

Sunday January 3, Second Sunday after Christmas

9:30 AM

The Holy Eucharist

Pastoral Call Process

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 25 W. Springettsbury Ave York, PA 17403 Aug 25, 2026

INTRODUCTION

In consultation with Pr. Reep, the Congregation Council of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, York understands that a change in pastorship is on the not-too-distant horizon. Through prayer and earnest conversation, the leadership believes that a quick transition will serve the parish most fruitfully in this moment of our history. The parish is healthy and prefers a succession plan characterized by "passing the baton" without stalled momentum. Specifically, the Congregation Council wishes to go about calling the next pastor while Rev. Reep is still serving and there is either a short overlap in the service of the two pastors or the briefest possible gap in senior pastoral leadership without an interim.

PROCESS

The Congregations Council's intent is for Rev. Reep to remain as pastor of the congregation throughout this process or until he determines that it is time to retire, whichever comes first.

1. St. Paul's Congregation Council obtained approval of this process (a) by formal vote of the Council and (b) with agreement from the LSS Bishop's office.
2. The Congregation Council will select a Call Committee according to its Constitution, which requires six voting members.
    a. Council will solicit nominees from the congregational membership and ask that each nominee submits a common-form bio explaining his/her interest in serving in this capacity.
    b. Council will establish six voting members and one non-voting alternate for the committee.
    c. We hope to present the Call Committee to the congregation by the Annual Meeting on November 15, 2026. But if not, we will continue the process as stated.
3. The Call Committee will be responsible for generating the Ministry Site Profile (MSP) according to the ELCA's standard form with an account through the ELCA.
    a. The Congregation Council and congregation may provide suggestions for the MSP, as it has already been engaged in thoughts and discussions about the transfer of leadership, and desired skills.
    b. The Call Committee, Congregation Council, and Bishop's office will meet and agree on the final draft of the MSP. This meeting will follow guidance in the Call Manual.
    c. The MSP will include the specifics of this Pastoral Call Process document.
    d. The hope of the Congregation Council in drafting this process is to establish a MSP by early 2027.
4. The Bishop's office, the Call Committee, and the Congregation Council will follow a normal process in proposing and interviewing candidates according to the Call Manual. The Call Manual does not reflect this exact process but the portions which can be followed, will be.
5. If a candidate is identified and recommended to the congregation before Pastor Reep is retired, the two pastors, in consultation with the Congregation Council and before the call vote, will explore the possibility of the overlap and define expectations and timeline (Rev. Reep and the called candidate serving coincidently).
    a. At the beginning of this process, the Congregation Council is interested in a brief overlap, but this is negotiable. Our intent is that an overlap period would not exceed 2 months.
    b. Parish leadership believes that resources in our membership could bridge the gap between pastors if Rev. Reep retires before the next called pastor begins service for at least three months (as it did while Pr. Reep was on sabbatical in summer 2023).
6. Pastor Reep will not participate in the call process. He will not select the Call Committee nor will he be privy to their work. If Pastor Reep is not retired and the candidate is being recommended to the congregation, then pursuant to above 5, Pastor Reep becomes involved in conversations regarding timeline.

Bridge of Hope Family Needs

The Bridge of Hope Neighboring Volunteer group at St. Paul's is excited to share that our BOH family has found housing and moved last weekend. We now have the opportunity to help our BOH family with their recent move.

The Bridge of Hope staff have paired us with a family and our mother meets with the Bridge of Hope staff regularly as she sets goals for herself and her family. We provide a "neighborhood of friends" to offer support. We have met with our family over the past several months. Our mother has voiced her appreciation for the connections that are developing.

In partnership with our mother, we have created a list of items that will be needed for their new home. Please contact Kathryn Garber at (508)873-8173 or garberka13@yahoo.com.

Do not bring items to church at this time. Instead please send pictures of the items to Kathryn Garber to help us with inventory. We can arrange pick up.

Thank you for your support for this lovely family. Please check your basements and attics this week!

Bedrooms	**Living Room**	**Kitchen**
Queen bed	Couch	Cups/glasses
Queen mattress	Loveseat or chairs	Microwave
Queen bedding	TV stand	Toaster
Twin bed	Lamp – floor, table or both	Dining table
Twin mattress	Side table	Chairs
Twin sheets	Coffee table	Mixing bowls
Third bed – could be twin, full or queen with mattress and bedding	Book case	Cookie sheet Baking pans Trash can
Lamps x 3		
Dressers x 3		



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

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