

# SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH PARISH MESSENGER

**December 2019**

In the name of Jesus Christ,  
Saint Paul Lutheran Church  
is committed to praising,  
praying, and proclaiming the Word of God.

*He will be great and  
will be called the  
Son of the Most High.*

Luke 1:32



250 Trinity Road  
Phone: 717-792-1650  
York, PA 17408  
[www.saintpaul-trinity.org](http://www.saintpaul-trinity.org)

The Parish Messenger is dedicated  
In memory of Elwood Bahn, Sr. and in honor of our  
children and grandchildren by Geraldine Bahn  
In honor of Todd & Lorie Krebs' wedding anniversary  
by the Krebs family

**Rev. Sara Gausmann** e-mail: [Pastor.sally@comcast.net](mailto:Pastor.sally@comcast.net)

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Website: [www.saintpaul-trinity.org](http://www.saintpaul-trinity.org) **Office is open 8 am – 2 pm.**

Parish Secretary: Kate Frye e-mail: [stpauladmin@comcast.net](mailto:stpauladmin@comcast.net)

Financial Secretary

Carol Frey

Music Director

Carol Moscony

Mini-Sexton

Jack Hall

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## **Pastors' Message for the December Newsletter**

“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” Isaiah 9:6

One of my favorite seasons in the Church Year is Advent, a reflective time to prepare ourselves for the coming King, remembering how Jesus has entered our humanity, sustains us now in our Christian pilgrimage, and will deliver us unto the Father at the end of life. Advent is a rich devotional time for us also, and I urge you to have Advent devotions in the home as we countdown towards the celebration of the Savior's birth. Attend our Advent services at the church starting December 1st, including the Sunday school special program that is part of our 10:55 AM service on 4<sup>th</sup> Advent, December 22<sup>nd</sup>. Look for our devotional booklets, and other enriching resources at the back of Fellowship Hall.

How amazing to think that over 700 years before the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem, that Isaiah would issue a clear prophesy of his birth. Brothers and sisters in Christ we have an amazing, awesome God whose faithfulness and love endure and abound forever, who acted decisively on our behalf by bringing His only begotten Son into the world to free us from our sins and give us new life in Him. To celebrate this most wonderful of births this year we as a church will be holding three Christmas Eve Services, at 3PM, 7PM, and 9PM. All three services will be a true celebration of His birth with carols (beloved Christmas hymns) the Word, and prayer. The first service will also have a lively puppet show and a brief homily for the message, the 7 PM service will have much special music, a homily and candlelight, the 9PM service a homily, Holy Communion and Candlelight. We will still be in Fellowship Hall for these services.

Finally, I know that this can be a difficult time of year for many as memories of the past and of loved ones now absent occupy a prominent place in our minds. May you know that the story of Jesus' birth still radiates His love and light anew, it is for all time: past, present, and future. Please also know that we, your pastors, pray for you and would be honored to talk over any of your difficulties with you, and that your church family can offer you warm fellowship. If you know of anyone for whom this is a rather blue time of the year, bring them with you to church and gently show them how they can always Rejoice in the Lord.

Pastor Paul

**SPECIAL APPEAL FOR December:  
Emergency Outreach Fund**

The Emergency Outreach Fund is designed to help members and friends of Saint Paul who are having a temporary set-back financially due to unemployment or illness. These funds are managed by the pastors as needs are made known to them. The gifts we are able to share are small monetarily, but they bring a ray of hope in distressing times. Thank you for sharing generously during the month of December.

**CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP**



**3:00pm Miracle of Christmas Service**

**7:00pm Festival of Christmas in Word  
and Song with Candlelight**

**9:00pm Traditional Candlelight Service  
with Holy Communion**

**Prelude shortly before each service**



**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:** Articles for the January newsletter need to be in the church office by **December 9th.**



## OUR DAILY BREAD

Our dessert for December is **ice cream dixies**. If you would like to contribute toward their cost, please use an envelope and mark it "Dec. Our Daily Bread." Thank you!

## Book Club



Please join us on December 18th at Noon, we will be discussing Scrooge and the Question of God's Existence by Steve Luhring, a copy is available at the church. Bring a lunch and join our conversation.



**Please call the church office** if you or a loved one are in the hospital, we do not usually get informed of your stay by any of the hospitals even if you are registered under our congregation's name, and we want to make sure you get pastoral care. Thank you!

## Bible Study

Join us for a great introduction to one of the most profound but yet hard to wrap our heads fully around book of the Bible, the Psalms. Commonly called the Prayer Book of the Bible, in this study you will see how we can categorize the Psalms and be enriched by their meaning. We will also see how we can come to use them in our prayer life, see them as a window to the soul of the believer, and also how our Lord used the psalms in his ministry. Dates for the study will be Thursdays at either 9 AM or 6 PM. December 12 and 19.

**Men of Faith** will be meeting on Wednesday December 11 at 7 AM at Mary Jane's Restaurant or you can come to our Saturday December 14 meeting at 8 AM at the church. At either one we will informally be discussing chapter Six of Man UPI, no prep beforehand necessary, our general discussions are rewarding.

**We are having Third Thursday Huddle**

**January 16 and February 20**

**Pizza and Fellowship 5:30 pm**

**6:00 pm -7:00 pm**

**Adult Bible Study**

**Club 56** (Fun activities for grades 5 and 6)

**No Limits** (Youth grades 7 and up)

**and Praise Kids in Motion** (dance and fun for grades 4 and under)



*Sounds  
of the  
Season*

**THE SUNDAY SCHOOL  
CHRISTMAS PROGRAM WILL  
BE HELD ON DEC. 22nd** at the  
late (10:55) worship service.  
Mark your calendars now and  
plan to attend the performance!



We pray you have a joyous, Blessed Christmas  
and a happy, holy New Year!

Pastor Paul  
Kate Frye  
Carol Moscony  
Carol Frey

Pastor Sally  
Jack Hall  
Roxanne Donnan  
Amy Austin

**We welcome through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism**

Stella Rose Metzger. We pray for the outpouring of the  
Holy Spirit upon her!



## THANK YOU

A very grateful thank you to Pastor Paul & Pastor Sally, and all my friends at Saint Paul for the cards, phone calls and concerns for the passing of my special niece Sue Anderson. Pastor Paul and Pastor Sally are the greatest, they do so much, and they are greatly appreciated very much and a big thank you to the girls in the kitchen, they prepared a wonderful luncheon, it was greatly appreciated. God Bless. Love, Grace Leppo

Our Saint Paul Family, we were deeply touched by all the cards, prayers, and support we received in the recent passing of my mother, Anna Miller. Our Saint Paul family is so loving and thoughtful. We also wish to say a very special thank you to Pastor Sally and Pastor Paul for the hospital visits and for conducting the funeral service. Your Spiritual guidance throughout this difficult time was comforting, encouraging and deeply appreciated. God Bless You All! Marty & Sandy Albright and Family

The Gideons International would like to thank, the congregation of Saint Paul for their contribution this year of \$1,786.00; enabling the Gideons to place 1488 copies of God's Word into the hands of people around the world. This past October the Gideon's held a "Scripture Blitz" in Harrisburg, York, and Lancaster; placing 29, 625 scriptures in hotels, nursing homes, doctors and dentist offices, schools and college campuses. Thanks to Saint Paul members it has been possible to share the Good News of Jesus with our community. Thank you again and God Bless you for partnering with our organization to "Go and Tell". York South Camp – Gideons International

Dear Pastor Sally, Pastor Paul and Our Church Family, Hope does spring eternal. As testimony, we have Tom back once more. We thank God for that hope and for blessing Tom and me over and over with your prayers and wonderful support. This third time in three years we are once again writing to express our gratitude to Pastors Paul and Sally and everyone for helping us through with visits, calls, and in so many other ways another difficult time as doctors struggled to find and fix the problem that alarmed his LVAD into a life or death crisis for Tom. We are experiencing miracles at work at St. Paul Church! Thank God He is with us. Thank you Pastor Paul, Pastor Sally, and everyone, that you were with Tom and me through our ordeal. With His Love, Marge Davidson

## WORSHIP IN DECEMBER

- Dec. 1**      **First Sunday of Advent**  
First Lesson: Isaiah 2:1-5  
Second Lesson: Romans 13: (8-10) 11-14  
Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44
- Dec. 8**      **Second Sunday of Advent**  
First Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-10  
Second Lesson: Romans 15:4-13  
Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12
- Dec. 15**     **Third Sunday of Advent**  
First Lesson: Isaiah 35:1-10  
Second Lesson: James 5:7-11  
Gospel: Matthew 11:2-15
- Dec. 22**     **Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
First Lesson: Isaiah 7:10-17  
Second Lesson: Romans 1:1-7  
Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25
- Dec. 24**     **Nativity of Our Lord/ Christmas Eve**  
First Lesson: Isaiah 7:10-14  
Second Lesson: 1 John 4:7-16  
Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25
- Dec. 29**     **First Sunday after Christmas**  
First Lesson: Isaiah 63:7-14  
Second Lesson: Galatians 4:4-7  
Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23



**BLANKET WORKSHOP:** Join us for tying knots in our quilts on Tuesday, Dec. 10 at 9:00 am. Thank you for all the wonderful quilt material donations this year. New friends are always welcome!

We have many lovely **Prayer Shawls** available in room 5, the green door. Please feel free to take one and share our prayers through this ministry for anyone who is ill, hospitalized, or needs a special Prayer Shawl hug.



PLEASE!!  
NOTE

In order to receive credit for your contributions they must be received **no later** than **December 29<sup>th</sup>**. Thank you!

**Women of the Word** will be meeting on Wednesday, December 18 at 1:00 pm. We will continue our new Bible study, *Living in Jesus*. This month we will study “*Walk in Him*” which will be led by Heather Heal. We invite all ladies to join us for a time of study and fellowship.



**Friends in Christ is a group for widows, widowers and anyone who wants to join us for a time of fellowship.**

December 12 - Bird N Hand Christmas Show “A Christmas to Remember” – reservations were due in October. We will meet at 9:30 and carpool to the theatre, we will eat lunch following the show and be home and by 3:30.

## **SPONSORSHIPS**

### **ALTAR FLOWERS (\$40/wk)**

<b>Dec. 1</b>	Denny & Deb Shue / Hax Family
<b>Dec. 8</b>	Cindy Renehan / Open
<b>Dec. 15</b>	The Chuck Smyser Family
<b>Dec. 22</b>	Open
<b>Dec. 24</b>	Pastors / Open
<b>Dec. 29</b>	Sue Kinney

### **BULLETIN (\$20/wk.)**

<b>Dec. 1</b>	Bernice Bahn and family
<b>Dec. 8</b>	Ira & Gloria Keech and family / Open
<b>Dec. 15</b>	John Rebert
<b>Dec. 22</b>	Open
<b>Dec. 24</b>	Ken Worley
<b>Dec. 29</b>	Donald & Dolores Hoover & family

### **BREAD & WINE (\$10/wk.)**

<b>Dec. 1</b>	Richard & Mary Keller
<b>Dec. 8</b>	Brad & Barb Little
<b>Dec. 15</b>	Frank & Dirinda Minnich
<b>Dec. 22</b>	Open
<b>Dec. 24</b>	Gordon & Donna Huckenberry
<b>Dec. 29</b>	Gordon & Donna Huckenberry

### **DVD MINISTRY (\$10/wk.)**

<b>Dec. 1</b>	The Fake Family
<b>Dec. 8</b>	Treva Albright
<b>Dec. 15</b>	Donald & Dolores Hoover
<b>Dec. 22</b>	Open
<b>Dec. 24</b>	Charlotte Hoffman & family
<b>Dec. 29</b>	Open

### **PARISH MESSENGER**

Geraldine Bahn / Ted & Norma Krebs

### **SANCTUARY LAMP**

Bill & Nancy Zerby

### **OPEN 2019 SPONSORSHIPS**

- **Please note that if you are sponsoring the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday, it may not be available next year.** If you wish to sponsor an opening, please call the church office (792-1650 between 8 am and 2 pm)

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

*“If any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God, who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and it will be given to you.”*



*James 1:5*

**Sunday School for all ages!  
(Faith Learning 9:45am on Sunday  
Morning)**

Our theme verse for this year is: “They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away.”

### **For Adults:**

**Parents of Faith** – prayer and Bible study of relevant topics for parents as they raise their children in the faith – this class will be meeting in Fellowship Hall.

**Lutheran Theology** –the LT class is studying some of the fascinating results achieved in the biblical creation sciences over the past half-century. Scientific theories derived from scriptural data and developed by standard mathematical methods, seem to explain many data of nature better than secular theories. We will review creation astronomy, flood geology, and creation biology. We are meeting in Room 10.

**Concordia Bible Study** - is studying the Book of Romans and is meeting in the CYC room

### **For Youth:**

**Nursery – Age 3 will be in the two nursery rooms at the end of the hall**

**Pre-K – K – will be in room 5** – we are using a new Bible Curriculum called Enduring Faith. The children will study Ten Commandments, Joshua, Gideon, Samuel, and David.

**Grades 1-2 will be in room 3**

**Grades 3-6 will be on the stage**

**Confirmation (7-8) will be in the pastor’s office**

**Senior High Youth & Young Adult (9-12) in the youth**

## HARVEST OF HOPE NEEDS

Canned pasta, Beef stew, Pork and beans, Canned soups, Spaghetti sauce, Canned fruit, Vegetarian beans, Canned vegetables, canned chicken, tuna or salmon, boxed mac & cheese, pasta sauce, egg noodles, elbow macaroni, dry spaghetti, boxed rice, hamburger helper, chicken helper, boxed cereal, kidney beans, gluten free products, lower sugar products for diabetics, peanut butter, canned diced tomatoes



**Holiday Season Needs:** 12-16lb turkeys, turkey breasts 3-6lb, hams up to 6 lbs, boxed mashed potatoes, canned sweet potatoes, boxed stuffing, canned turkey gravy, canned cranberry sauce, boxed cake mix, frosting, boxed fruit gelatin, canned corn, canned green beans

*Monetary donations are always gratefully appreciated*

**Daily Texts for 2020 will be ordered soon!** If you would like a copy (they make great Christmas gifts!) please sign the order form in Fellowship Hall by December 1st. The books are \$7 per book and a sample copy from 2019 is on the table for you to look over. It is a good way to read and reflect on scripture as part of your daily devotions.

**In Advent**, there is a small Christmas tree put up near the sign-up table. We are asking if anyone would like to make a monetary donation to the **Margaret Moul Home** by placing your money or check (made out to Saint Paul Lutheran Church with a note 'Margaret Moul Home' in the memo line) in the Christmas stocking & hang the stocking on the tree. Thank you for your support of this worthwhile cause.



## Upcoming activities for EVERYONE!

Mark your calendars for these upcoming events:



**Our annual Christmas Caroling will be Sunday, December 15th** after second service. Join the fun - it takes so little effort and makes a deep impact on the people we sing to. We will be eating

pizza in the Sunday School Wing of the building at 12:30pm and then heading over to Sprenkle Drive Lutheran Home Nursing Center by 1:30pm, if you would like to meet us there. We would like to go to some of our shut-ins who live in their own homes as well. We can break into groups and the more carolers we have the more shut-ins we get to visit. Sign up in Fellowship Hall so we know how much pizza to order.

**Upcoming Events:** Mystery Dinner January 26  
Super Bowl of Caring February 2  
College Care Packing February 9

### LCMC News

Mark your calendars for the coming Three Days of Prayer Jan 7-9, 2020 as we join with other members of LCMC to pray for forgiveness, the needs of others and vision for the future for our congregation and the Association. This is a big year of transition both for Saint Paul as we move back into our sanctuary and renewed office wing and as our Association seeks a replacement for Mark VanderTuig. Prayer resources will be available right after Christmas. It is always a good time to pray but these days expand our fellowship as we join others around the country and the world under the themes of repentance, intercession and vision.

## ADDITIONAL SINGERS NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS EVE!



The Adult Choir will be singing at the 7:00p.m. service on Christmas Eve, and we welcome additional singers to join with us on that occasion. Rehearsals will be held at 7:15pm on Thursday evenings in December. We could particularly use more men, but all voice parts are welcome. If you like to sing, please consider joining us for this festive occasion! For more information, contact Carol Moscony.

**The children are asked to bring to the 3:00 pm or 7:00 pm Christmas Eve service a wrapped gift for the Baby Jesus.** We are

requesting items to complete the Baby Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief. Here are the items we are requesting: PLEASE DO NOT SUBSTITUTE ANY OTHER ITEM THAN WHAT IS LISTED BECAUSE WE CANNOT USE IT. Cloth diapers, gowns or sleepers without feet (shirt & pant sets can be used),

dark-colored hand towels, t-shirts or undershirts, diaper pins. Clothing should be sizes between 6 months and 24 months. Please do not donate any items decorated with any religious symbols, messages, U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage. Any questions please see Barb Sloat. Thank you!



**PRAYER LUNCH:** Join in prayer concerns at the Prayer Lunch, at noon on **Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>**. Please bring your lunch and help pray. This is a great way to bring in the new year as we pray for the church, our pastors, and the congregation.



Due to the renovations and limited space in Fellowship Hall we will not be offering poinsettias this year. Instead of purchasing poinsettias Worship & Music Committee is asking for donations to Harvest of Hope Food Pantry. You can make a donation of \$10 or more. Thank you for your understanding.

**[ ] Harvest of Hope Food Pantry Donation**

Memory/honor of (circle one)

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By

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Name

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Total Paid \_\_\_\_\_ Check No. \_\_\_\_\_

**Deadline is December 15, 2019.**

## **Phase II Sharing the light of Christ update.**

Every day we can see more and more progress for our building improvements. As we get closer to the date when we can move back into the sanctuary, we will be announcing opportunities to help with shifting things back to the remodeled wing.

We are now at the stage where we will need to start borrowing as we await the rest of the gifts in the coming years, please consider a special year end gift to the fund. Thanks be to God that we have received a great loan offer which will save us a lot of interest money. God is so good to us!

It seems that we are all getting anxious to know when we will be back in the nave. Although we can't make any promises it does look hopeful that we will be able to worship back in our sanctuary by the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in January. Most of the work should be done by the end of December but there will be some cleaning up to do before we can move back over there.

Some people have wondered about possible updates to the worship area and whether or not those improvements can be made before we move back over. The things that are being considered are: pew recovering and reconfiguration, new flooring and painting. The pew covers have been on hold for about 25 years, the flooring and painting are simply due for refreshing because of stains and tears. If we did those three items, the total would be somewhere around \$100,000. There are two main questions regarding these improvements –

1. When should it be done?
2. Will there be enough contributions to our capital appeal to cover these additional items?

While there has been some interest in doing this now rather than later since we are out of the worship area anyway there is also the thought that since it wasn't a part of the original proposal then we should wait until we feel totally confident of the funding.

Please pray about this opportunity, speak to a member of Worship and Music Committee and help us to see where God is leading us as we continue to work together moving Forward in Faith: Sharing the Light of Christ!

## New Sign and Logo

What a great gift it is that someone has donated to our congregation a new electronic digital church sign. For years now many of our members have taken the time and care to change our old sign, often braving the elements at a very wind-swept place, carefully putting the letters in place, changing it once or even four times a month. A huge thank you for all these good efforts, it was not an easy job! Now with the new sign, that sometimes freezing effort will be alleviated, and we will be able to change the sign electronically via a secure internet connection. Part of our goal is to not have a flashing sign but to leave the messages up long enough for people to read them while not being distracted in their driving. The Outreach Committee has overall oversight of the messages we will put up, seeing it as largely an invitational tool to attract people to the ministry we all share in.

Meanwhile we are also coming up with a logo for the church, a visual symbol that expresses the sense of who we are as the people of God. Will Gausmann, a graphic designer by trade is helping us with this effort.

**LOOK  
WHAT'S  
NEW!**

**YEAR END REPORTS from each committee chair and staff member** must be in the Church Office by **December**

**31** in order to have them prepared for the annual meeting on January 19, 2020.

Please e-mail these reports to [StPaulAdmin@comcast.net](mailto:StPaulAdmin@comcast.net). Thank you!



**THE PARISH MESSENGER**  
**SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN CURCH**

250 Trinity Road  
York, PA 17408

[www.saintpaul-trinity.org](http://www.saintpaul-trinity.org)

Worship Services: 8:15 am & 10:55 am

Education Hour: 9:45am

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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**December 2019**



**Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ Was Born**