

# SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH PARISH MESSENGER

**December 2020**

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  
York, PA 17408  
Phone: 717-792-1650  
[www.saintpaultrinity.org](http://www.saintpaultrinity.org)

The Parish Messenger is  
dedicated to the Glory of God and 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

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**Office is open 8 am – 2 pm M-F** Parish Administrator:

Kate Frye e-mail: [parishadmin@saintpaultrinity.org](mailto:parishadmin@saintpaultrinity.org)

Financial Secretary -Carol Frey –

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Mini-Sexton -Jack Hall – [minisexton@saintpaultrinity.org](mailto:minisexton@saintpaultrinity.org)

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## **Pastor's Letter for the December 2020 Newsletter**

<sup>7</sup> And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. Luke 2:7

What an inconvenient year this has been, how many disruptions we have faced to our regular routine, how complicated it can be to achieve the simplest of tasks, how much we have had to learn to adjust our schedules and work habits due to this seemingly endless pandemic. As your pastors we have faced many frustrations at having to cancel live services, reschedule meetings, quickly learn technologies for streaming broadcasts and having Zoom meetings. It has been hard for us to not be able to do many in person visits, to adjust our shepherding roles in ways which often seem incomplete. In the face of all this we have hustled more than we would have expected, creating daily prayers to be sent out to the congregation, using last minute e-mails to try and reach large numbers of members.

Yet through all this we can confidently say that there will be a Christmas season just as there is now an Advent season, that the celebration of the birth of our Savior will occur, that just as trying circumstances for the birth of the Savior were faced by Mary and Joseph so will the clear and wondrous message that the Savior of the world has been born and nothing shall ever be the same again, will be celebrated and God's peace and reconciliation will be rejoiced over.

We thank you our brothers and sisters in Christ for your support and encouragement through this difficult year, we thank you for supporting the worship and finances of the Church, for your mutual prayers for one another. We will move forward together into 2021 hopeful that we will see less disruption ahead and that we will emerge stronger than ever. Have a Blessed Christmas and New Year!

## **SPECIAL APPEAL FOR December Human Life Services of York**

At Human Life Services, every life matters, because we love our Creator and He loves life! They are committed to helping women and men in crisis, often alone and frightened, discover the wonder and awesome privilege of carrying life. Thank you for sharing generously during the month of December.



### **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!

**The children are asked to bring to the 3:00pm or 6:00pm 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, (sock are not needed at this time). 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!





**We are not having our regular Sunday School classes at this time.** We will hopefully start back up in January. We will be monitoring the Covid situation and will respond as advised.

**We will be having a Facebook live Advent Devotional time each Wednesday at 9:00 am.** If you can't join at 9:00 it is available later through Facebook and our Website.

**Many other Advent resources** are available at church including Advent bags for children. Stop by or let us know if you would like us to drop something off on your porch.

**Daily Texts** for 2021 are also at the church. We purchased some extras so if you didn't order one please check with Kate. There are some available at \$8 or as gifts.

## **Worship in December**

**Dec. 6**

### **Second Sunday in Advent**

First Lesson: Isaiah 40:1-11

Second Lesson: 2 Peter 3:8-14

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

**Dec. 13**

### **Third Sunday in Advent**

First Lesson: Isaiah 61:1-4,8-11

Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Gospel: John 1:6-8,19-28

**Dec. 20**

### **Fourth Sunday in Advent**

First Lesson: 2 Samuel 7:1-11,16

Second Lesson: Romans 16:25-27

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

**Dec. 24**

### **Nativity of Our Lord / Christmas Eve**

First Lesson: Isaiah 7:10-14

Second Lesson: 1 John 4:7-16

Gospel: Matthew 1:1-14(15-18)

**Dec. 27**

### **First Sunday of Christmas**

First Lesson: Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Second Lesson: Galatians 4:4-7

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40



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

**Dec. 6** Denny & Deb Shue / Hax Family  
**Dec. 13** Cindy Renehan / Kathy Yeater and Family  
**Dec. 20** Chuck & Janie Smyser  
**Dec. 24** the Pastors / Frye Family  
**Dec. 27** Sue Kinney

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

**Dec. 6** Bernice Bahn & Family  
**Dec. 13** Ira & Gloria Keech & Family / Carl Smyser  
**Dec. 20** John Rebert  
**Dec. 24** Ken Worley  
**Dec. 27** Donald & Dolores Hoover

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

**Dec. 6** Richard & Mary Keller  
**Dec. 13** Brad Little  
**Dec. 20** Frank & Dirinda Minnich  
**Dec. 24** Gordon & Donna Huckenberry  
**Dec. 27** Gordon & Donna Huckenberry

**MAILING MINISTRY (\$10/wk.)**

**Dec. 6** The Fake, Strausbaugh, & Grube Families  
**Dec. 13** Treva Albright  
**Dec. 20** Donald & Dolores Hoover  
**Dec. 24** Charlotte Hoffman & Family  
**Dec. 27** Carl Smyser

**PARISH MESSENGER**

Geraldine Bahn / Krebs Family

**SANCTUARY LAMP**

Mr. & Mrs. Bill Zerby

**OPEN 2020 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)



## HARVEST OF HOPE NEEDS

The food pantry is unable to accept any food donations at this time until further notice. Monetary donations may be made to the church and marked "pantry"



## Women of the Word

Women of the Word will not be meeting in December and January due to the rise in Covid 19. We invite all ladies to join us in our time of study and fellowship once we start meeting again.

**The Men's group is not meeting in December.** We will resume meetings when the community spread of COVID 19 starts to decline.



## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

Articles for the January newsletter need to be in the church office by **December 14<sup>th</sup>**.

## Sunday School Christmas Program will take on a new format this year!



*Sounds  
of the  
Season*

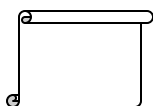
We invite all families with children to contact the church office to get a line for the reading of the Christmas story on Zoom. When you contact us then you will be added to the Zoom invitation and receive your line. We'll all get on the Zoom (at home or at church) on December 20 at 9:45 a.m. and share the lesson together. Your family can even include a prop or costume to add to the fun!



### **Third Thursday – down to two B’s – Bible Study and Bingo!**

**Friends in Christ (our group for widows, widowers and friends)** is trying something new. On December 17. we will meet at 11:15 (right after Bible study, see below). We will be meeting in Fellowship Hall and have plenty of room for social distancing. We will use paper bingo papers and stamps. Small prizes will be given out. We are eliminating the eating together because of the increase of COVID.

Hopefully, Covid will end soon and we can go back to some of our fun outings, but in the meantime, we can have fun together in our nice big building! Pass the word around.



### **Bible Study for December (two opportunities)**

One of the enriching features of church life is our common desire to delve further into the Holy Scriptures. This fall we all can engage in a study entitled *Words that Matter*, a look at the deeper meaning behind several words found in the Scripture. Rather than just a study of one book, this allows us to trace the rich meaning of the word from one book to another and, in the course of doing so, come to a more profound understanding of what God conveys to us through His Word. So join us in person or by Zoom on Thursdays, the morning session is held here at the church in the Parlor at 10AM (Zoom is also available), the evening Zoom session is held at 7PM, the invitation to which will be included in the Wednesday and Thursday daily devotion e-mail for that week. The December Bible Sessions will be held on **December 10 and 17.**



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

Pastor Paul  
Kate Frye  
Carol Moscony

Pastor Sally  
Jack Hall  
Carol Frey

*PLEASE!!  
NOTE*

In order to receive credit for your contributions  
they must be received **no later** than  
**December 27<sup>th</sup>**. Thank you!

**In Advent** there is a small Christmas tree in the narthex  
for monetary donations to the **Margaret Moul  
Home**. We are asking anyone who would  
like to make a donation to place your money  
or check (payable to Saint Paul Lutheran  
Church with a note "Margaret Moul Home"  
in the memo line) in a Christmas stocking and  
hang the stocking on the tree. Thank you for  
your support of this worthwhile cause.



## THANK YOU

Dear Friends, thank you for your recent gift The Voice of the Martyrs in support of our persecuted Christian brothers and sisters. Your generous support enables VOM to serve courageous believers in restricted areas around the world. Thank you for standing with them and with VOM as we serve alongside them. For the Kingdom, Todd Nettleton, [persecution.com](http://persecution.com)

Dear Saint Paul Lutheran Church, Thank you for your donation of \$1500.00 from your annual Benevolent Fund. Thank you also for being a part of our mission, which allows us to make a difference in the lives of the 330 or more people we serve each day. We are able to provide a full meal and a warm place for as little as \$1.90. We greatly appreciate your generosity, as together we continue to help those in need in York County. Sincerely, James Koch, Our Daily Bread

Blessings to you all from North Dakota. We wanted to say thank you for all your prayers and gifts we received as we have transitioned to ministry life out here and especially for the cards and congratulations on my ordination at the beginning of October. It has been a great time and we are starting to settle in. Grace and peace be with you all as we start the new church year and enter into 2021! ~ The Mann family

I want to thank Pastor Sally and Pastor Paul for their phone calls while I was in the hospital and after I came home. Also thank you for the phone calls and cards from members of our church family. Denny Mummert

Dear Pastors Paul & Sara, My sincere thanks to both of you for the special memorial service and internment for my sister Lorma Bubb. I send deep appreciation for the many visits and care given to her during her stay at Spiritrust. I know she was very pleased to be a member of Saint Paul Lutheran Church. I was very pleased with the masks and 6ft distance. All worked well. Thank you, Nelda Shue



**Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Carolyn & Eugene Naylor.** We are praying for the comfort of the Holy Spirit and give thanks for the hope of the resurrection through Christ our Lord



**YEAR END REPORTS from each committee chair and staff member** must be in the Church Office by **December 28th** in order to have them prepared for the annual meeting on

January 17, 2020. Please e-mail these to [parishadmin@saintpaultrinity.org](mailto:parishadmin@saintpaultrinity.org) Thank you!

### **Thank you to Chris Beck**

Over the years it has been our pleasure to work with Chris Beck the owner of the Beck Funeral Home & Cremation Service in Spring Grove as we coordinated funeral arrangements and services for many people. Chris has always been professional, courteous and cooperative as we have helped families through the difficult task of holding a funeral for a loved one. Recently Chris was kind enough to purchase for the church an expensive cleaning fogger machine with solution as we take extra steps to ensure the safety of our congregation during this Covid time. We really appreciated this generous gift, he did it quite spontaneously and with no fanfare, just an act of Christian kindness which we are very thankful for.

# CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

## *Candlelight Service*



**3:00pm Miracle of Christmas Service  
(sanctuary pew #2)**

**6:00pm Festival of Christmas in Word  
and Song with Candlelight  
(sanctuary pew #1)**

**9:00pm Traditional Candlelight Service  
with Holy Communion  
(sanctuary pew #2)**

**Prelude shortly before each service  
Fogging will take place in between the  
services.**



## **Revised Protocol for Building usage during Pandemic Case Surge November 23, 2020**

In thanksgiving to God for the opportunity to gather together and in response to the high number of Covid 19 hospitalizations in our community we propose the following new procedures for all activities at Saint Paul:

1. No singing during worship
2. Temporarily suspending Holy Communion.
3. Mask wearing throughout the service and during meetings. (previously masks were recommended but not required when people settled into their seat.)
4. Strict use of the pew designations (only use of pew one at first service and pew two at second – sit near a saint)
5. Fogging after heavy building usage
6. Social distancing of 6 feet throughout the building.

Other protocol:

All meetings and activities that take place should either be by zoom or with strict social distancing and mask wearing.

\*Subject to change, you will be notified by email and on the website.

**THE PARISH MESSENGER**  
SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN CURCH  
250 Trinity Road  
York, PA 17408  
[www.saintpaultrinity.org](http://www.saintpaultrinity.org)  
Worship Services: 8:15 am & 10:30 am  
Sunday School 9:30am  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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**December 2020**

