

Contents:

- Worship Opportunities
 - Congregation News
 - Special Designated Giving
 - Gathering News
 - Lower Susquehanna Synod Info and Opportunities
 - This Week's Calendar
 - Upcoming Events
 - Sponsorships
 - Information
 - In Case You Missed It
-

Worship Opportunities

Please share with friends and family - all are welcome!

Links can also be found on our website here: <https://stpaulsyorkst.org/>.

Saturday 5:00 pm in the Lounge **NO Saturday service this week.**

Sunday 9:30 am in the Sanctuary and live on Facebook

Bulletins: <https://stpaulsyorkst.org/sunday-bulletin>

Pastor Katrina may be reached at 301-401-3667 and PastorKatrinaHolland@gmail.com.

While Pastor Katrina is on vacation, **CALL Pastor Paul Haack** if you:

- Desire a pastoral visit
 - Have a medical concern, procedure or hospitalization and desire a visit or to be added to the prayer list
 - Have spiritual questions you wish to discuss
 - Wish to schedule a celebration such as baptism or wedding
 - Have suffered a loss in the family and desire funeral planning and grief care
-

Congregation News

Coffee Hour

Will be held in the lounge this Sunday. Join us for a time of fellowship.

Advent/Christmas Services

Saturday Evening Advent Worship - 5:00 pm Saturday, December 21

Sunday Services

Fourth Sunday in Advent – December 22 – 9:30 am **Children's Christmas Program**

The children are ready! Come and see as they lead a portion of the service in a musical Christmas story.



Christmas Eve Service - December 24 7:30 pm (Pre-service music begins at 7:05 pm)

Season of Christmas Sunday, December 29, 2024 and January 5, 2025 9:30 am – Service of Lessons and Carols

Calling ...Everyone!

Please join us **Sunday, December 29th**, in the Fellowship Hall following worship for a fellowship time for all ages of our community! Our Christian Ed committee has planned a time of small group fellowship, puppet show and song. The celebration should conclude by 11:30.

SPYKids And Families

are invited to our Family Lock-In this coming Friday. We'll meet in the Gathering Room at 5:00pm (or whenever you can make it) for a time of service and fellowship. We'll put together Baby Care kits for LWR and participate in "Watch Night". Youth and at least one accompanying adult are invited to sleep at the church and then all will help with Grocery Ministry in the morning. We'll end our time together with lunch on Saturday. Contact Deb Sowers for more details!

Grocery Ministry Update

THANK YOU to all who donated to and helped distribute our Christmas meals with our Grocery Ministry team! We gave out to more than 80 families—Wow! Special thanks to those who helped on Thursday and especially to our Boy and Cub scout troops. We couldn't have done it without YOU!

Coffee Hour Volunteers Needed!

We know that fellowship is an important part of our faith community; that's why we hold Coffee Hour after church each Sunday. We are looking for volunteers to help keep our Coffee Hour going! There is a sign-up sheet in the lounge for folks to volunteer as coffee makers or to bring snacks. Coffee makers would start the coffee urn around 9 a.m. (coffee training available on request!) Both volunteers would help with set up and clean up. If you have questions, see Russ Kaltreider. Thank you for your help!

2025 Offering Envelopes

Will be available to pick up in the hallway across from the Church Lounge. Please do not use any of the new offering envelopes from your box before January 1, 2025 to ensure that you are properly credited for your offerings.

Cards to Homebound

The Faith In Action Committee would like to continue the Cards for the Homebound program. A **sign-up sheet** can be found on the bulletin board by Pastor's Office. There you will see a list of those of our members that are homebound with their birthdates and addresses. Please pick at least one member and make a commitment to seeing that the person gets a birthday card and a card for major holidays in 2025. This is an easy way for us to share Christ's love and concern for those of our

members that are no longer able to attend church. We would like to have everyone covered by January 1, 2025. Thanks for helping with this project.

December Office Hours

The church office will be **closed** on the following days in December: **24, 25, 26, 27, 30, 31 and January 1** We thank you in advance for your understanding.

75th Wedding Anniversary

Congratulations to **Clete and Doris Smeak** on their 75th Wedding Anniversary on January 1st. Please consider sending an anniversary card to 1700 Utz Terrace, Apt. 313, Hanover, PA 17331

85th Birthday

Help Russell Kaltreider celebrate his 85th birthday on January 5, 2025 with a card shower! His address 178 Pumping Station Rd, Hanover 17331

Something's Brewing Bible Study

All are welcome to join us **Monday evenings at 7 pm** in the church lounge. We will be using "Honoring Our Neighbors Faith, A Lutheran Perspective on Faith Traditions in America" by Robert Buckley Farlee. Hundreds of Christian denominations and dozens of non-Christian traditions have followers in the United States. How do we view this wide variety of beliefs and practices? How does the Lutheran tradition compare with others? Please note: **will** begin again on **Monday, January 6th**. Can't commit to every Monday? No problem! Please join us as your schedule allows!

Daily Discipleship Bible Class

This class will be held following the Worship Service. Grab some coffee and snacks in the lounge and join us **in the nursery, across from the lounge**, to dive a little deeper into the day's Bible readings. We should finish up by 11:30 am.

December Special Designated Giving - Lutheran Disaster Response – Hurricanes Helene and Milton.

Lutheran Disaster Response and the North Carolina Synod are actively supporting congregations across the state that have been impacted by severe flooding. They are partnering to coordinate

volunteer efforts, assemble clean-up kits, and provide assistance to those who have lost homes and livelihoods, including the distribution of essential supplies and setting up emergency shelters.

Let us pray,

Gracious and merciful God, we lift up to you all those who are suffering from the devastation of Hurricane Helene. Surround them with your comforting presence and provide for their immediate needs. Strengthen the hands of all who serve and those who give, so that together we may embody your love and grace. Grant us hearts of compassion and lead us to respond generously and faithfully. In the name of Jesus Christ, our source of hope, we pray. Amen.

Lower Susquehanna Synod and ELCA

A 2-minute story of Christmas from Luke

[Rick Steves](#), who worships at Trinity Lutheran Church in the Seattle area, has given this video clip, illustrated with great European art, to the ELCA for use any way that may be helpful for pastors and music directors in creating a mood or setting the scene as we celebrate this season. It is excerpted from Rick's one-hour European Christmas special that airs each Christmas nationally on public television. It's his gift to all of us and he stresses you are welcome to use it in any way you like with no need to credit him. He loves the thought that this may be helpful to you this year or into the future during worship and wishes all a Christmas filled with love and joy.

Download this video for use in your congregation and join us in thanking Rick for sharing this Christmas resource! 🎄

To download, visit the ELCA's YouTube channel and find a link in the description:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OJr8phKYWqk>

Lower Susquehanna Synod Year of Prayer resources can be found on facebook, as well as at bit.ly/lssyearofprayer. You can find weekly prayer petitions, hymn selections, and other resources that have been created for your use in your local setting. You can find this coming Sunday's prayer petition in this post!

Prayer Petition for Sunday, December 22, 2024 (Fourth Sunday in Advent):

God our Creator, you have made the heavens and the earth, and you have made us your own people. Your compassion and your mercy endure forever. With the coming of our Lord Jesus, establish justice and righteousness. Let your love pour out anew, as you make us anew to be your people. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

This Week's Calendar

Thursday, December 19th

6:00 pm Bell Choir rehearsal
6:30 pm Cub & Boy Scouts
7:00 pm Adult Choir rehearsal

Saturday, December 21st

9:00 am Grocery Ministry (Book Club)
5:00 pm Worship Service
6:15 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Sunday, December 22nd

8:30 am Radio Broadcast - 95.3 FM & 1280 AM
9:30 am Worship Service
10:30 am Children's Choir rehearsal
10:30 am Daily Discipleship Class
10:30 am Youth Choir rehearsal
Coffee Hour in the lounge following worship

Tuesday, December 23rd

7:30 pm Christmas Eve Service

Upcoming Events

December 27 Family Lock In

December 29 Intergenerational Event following worship

Sponsorships Available

Please contact Maureen Kaltreider in the church office or at finance@stpaulsyorkst.org

Radio—Jan. 5, 12, 19 & 26 (\$60 per date or any portion you desire per date)

Altar Flowers—Jan. 5, 12, 19 & 26 (2 vases at \$20 each)

Communion Bread and Wine—Jan. 5, 12, 19 & 26 (\$12 each date)

Worship Bulletins—Jan. 5, 12, 19 & 26 (\$20 each date)

Eternal flame— Jan. 5, 12, 19 & 26 (\$10 each date)

Standing Orders for Sponsorships

We want to update our sponsorship calendars which include standing orders from years ago. A standing order is an order that was placed and asked to have it repeat yearly. Since we don't have contact information for everyone who has had a standing order in the past and wanting to have good

records, the most prudent solution seems to be that we start fresh. If you have a standing order, or would like to have a standing order, for Radio, Altar Flowers, Communion Bread and Wine, Worship Bulletins or Eternal Flame we are asking you to call or email us to let us know. If you're not sure if you have any standing orders, just contact us and we can check and let you know. (717-637-5941 or finance@stpaulsyorkst.org) If we don't hear from you, we will assume that you no longer wish to have that standing order, and it will be deleted.

In Case You Missed It

Sunday Worship Link: <https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsyorkst/videos>

Last Week's Happenings and Reminders: <https://stpaulsyorkst.org/happenings-and-reminders>

Evangel: <https://stpaulsyorkst.org/evangel-newsletter-1>

Reaching Out - To Whom Do We Go?

CALL the church office at 717.637.5941 for things like:

- Scheduling room or building use
 - If you've had a change in name, address, phone number or email
 - To be added to the church email and communications lists to receive weekly, monthly and special notice communications
 - For guidance in contacting ministry team leaders or teams for questions or matters specific to that team
 - If there's a building issue and you don't know who to call
-