

## **St. Paul's Lutheran Church Orwigsburg, PA Photo Policy**

Established by Social Media Committee: 1/16/2020

Approved by Council: 1/21/2020

At St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Orwigsburg, PA, we believe that photos & videos of congregation members & visitors bring our website & Social Media platforms (Facebook, Instagram, YouTube) to life, providing a window into the vitality and friendliness of the community that gathers on Sunday morning, throughout the week and at our special community events & concerts. We respect the privacy rights and concerns of members and strive to protect the safety of children pictured and videotaped.

Upon entering the church, church grounds and special offsite St. Paul's sponsored events you may be photographed, or videotaped. That photo and/or video may be used on our Social Media platforms and/or website.

- We try not to post anything that would be embarrassing, objectionable or hurtful to anyone in the photo/video. If we know someone is shy about such things, we ask them before posting the photo/video.
- We don't put names as captions with photos/videos, except for pastors, special guest musicians and other staff or lay leaders.
- We will gladly provide credit for a photo if desired by the photographer, and we will honor any copyright wishes or restrictions.
- We will remove any photo immediately upon request.
- We will not intrude into anyone's solitude, seclusion or private property without permission.
- We will seek written permission to photograph & videotape children under the age of 18.
  - We will seek permission to post the name of any minor that is baptized at our church.
- We will not publish (whether by photos or stories) private information without permission.
- We will not print any photo or story that presents the subject in a false light.
- We will not use any photo of any person for any commercial use (such as advertisements or even for illustrations months after the news event) without permission.
- In addition, unlike the public media, congregational papers generally follow the rule of not publishing photos, videos or stories that present people in a negative light, even if the facts warrant such coverage.