

St. Paul's News

January 2023

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 156, 215 North Warren Street
Orwigsburg, PA 17961
Office: 570-366-2316
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www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org



“SECOND SUNDAY” SUNDAY SCHOOL

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Thanks to everyone who helped make our first ever Holly Jolly Christmas Party a success! To those members of our church who donated their time and/or items to the party: we couldn't have done it without you! The kids had a great time--each child was able to make a tree ornament and a tree sand-art project. We had holiday themed games as well as hot chocolate and cookies. We can't wait to celebrate again next year.

Sunday School meets every second Sunday (unless noted otherwise) during the 10:30 AM service for children ages 1-10. Below are the remaining dates for Sunday School this year:

January 8
February 12 *
March 12
April 2 (1st Sunday due to Easter)
May 14

**Volunteers are needed
for every Sunday listed above!!!**

(Volunteers are NOT required to teach a lesson. Books to read, songs to sing, and toys to play with are all available in the preschool area. Please call/text/email me via the information below to sign up.)

[* February 12 is our Annual Congregational Meeting. I plan to keep the students in the Sunday School room during the meeting for any parents who wish to attend.]

Parents, please make sure I have your cell phone number. If we cancel church on a Second Sunday, I will text you to let you know.

Thank you for your continued support of the Sunday School program. See you January 8!

Sarah Eger
570-394-3522 (cell)
swoodring86@hotmail.com

WELCA

St. Paul's women had more success with the Seamen's International gift project than we did with the planned Christmas luncheon which was cancelled due to inclement weather. A thank you card was received from the Seamen acknowledging receipt of the 87 hats/scarves on November 30.

We appreciate all the work of St. Paul's knitters/crocheters who supplied us with these hats along with the knitters of the Orwigsburg Library who donated 17 sets of dark-colored hats/scarves along with 17 light-colored scarves. We added some store-bought hats and delivered them to Hope Center, Victims of Domestic Abuse (formerly Women In Crisis) of Pottsville.

Currently, there are no scheduled meetings. We will try to arrange one in January or February so details can be worked on for the hosting of the Spring Cluster of Women of ELCA Schuylkill on Saturday, April 29, 2023.

Please continue to save for the December In-Gathering Offering which was designated for Lutheran Disaster Relief---Florida Hurricane 2022. This will be accepted at the next meeting.

Best wishes for a healthy, happy New Year!

THANK YOU FOR HELPING!

Through contributions given by St. Paul's Lutheran Church, St. John's United Church of Christ, and Salem United Methodist Church, more than \$1,000 in grocery gift cards and nearly 70 pounds of snacks and fruit drinks were donated to the Blue Mountain East Elementary School to help hungry children and their families.

Thank you for your kindness and generosity. Our local churches will continue to explore opportunities to help needy children and their families throughout this new year!

STiC

This month, the STiC table in the Gathering Room will offer "TIPS from your TOES:" a display of information about the benefits of walking...health AND happiness! The Bible is full of stories centered around times when disciples were walking and talking and benefitting from knowing and hearing Jesus. The physical, mental, and spiritual went hand in hand. None of us walk that much anymore -- we could all use more. There will be notes in a basket that we encourage you to reach in and take along, much like a fortune cookie. It might be your ticket to a fresh start this New Year!

ALSO, many people have asked if we are organizing donations for the Red Creek Wildlife Center following their devastating fire. The answer is YES, but not immediately. Actual money is pouring in to them now, and they are off to a fair start in the beginning stages of re-establishing their services. However, in the LONG RUN, they will need continuing support, so we are proposing an idea which we had last year whose time had simply not come, but now it is critical, and the time has certainly arrived.

With the help of several people, we can sponsor a benefit concert in August featuring local musicians who have excelled. (There are many amazing artists here!) We would ask them to donate their time and talent in their favorite genre. Each person on our team would have just one, but essential function: examples being organizing a host table with refreshments, a possible basket raffle, media advertising, ticket sales, etc. Please think about all the good Red Creek does for the injured wild animals of God's creation and be ready to say "YES!" when we ask for a little bit of your skill. STiC will meet Wednesday, January 4 at 9 AM. Trail walks continue and will be scheduled according to the weather; the location will be available by texting Sue at: (570) 617-3741 on Thursday each week.

en Cristo, Sue Reier

THANKS TO ALL!

Wow. To the choir, bell choir, instrumentalists: I don't have enough words to express my gratitude. It was such a fun night of celebration after three years. Thank you to all who helped in any way! And thank you to all who came out to support us! I guess I should finally start my Christmas shopping now. Justin

[Note: This message was shared via Facebook following our Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 18, 2022.]

CAROL SING AT SETON MANOR

Due to inclement weather on Thursday, December 15, 2022, the "Carol Sing" at Seton Manor hosted by our congregation and the five other Lutheran congregations which make up the Southeastern Schuylkill County Cooperative (SSCC) was cancelled. Thanks to everyone who organized this event and/or hoped to take part in it. We look forward to caroling at Seton Manor in 2023!

ADULT FORUM

... will resume January 8, 2023, at 9:15 AM in the church parlor. We will be using *Daring Faith* by Rick Warren as our resource for discussion.

CHILI & SOUP-ER BOWL SALE

As an "appetizer" to Super Bowl Sunday on February 12, 2023, The Men of St. Paul's will host a Soup-er Bowl Chili & Soup Sale on Saturday, February 11 beginning at 8:30 a.m. "on the Square." Our soup will be \$7/quart or 3 quarts for \$20 and chili will be \$8/quart or 2 quarts for \$15. Come for great chili, tasty homemade soups, and delicious baked goods.

LET'S BE CAREFUL!

People who are not vaccinated are encouraged to wear a mask in church and avoid close contact with others while they are in here.

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

> In early December, the Property Committee oversaw the installation of new exterior lighting on the church, including the ramp access area.

> Council is seeking candidates to fill out its 12-member slate for the coming year. If interested, please contact any Council member, including President Doug Travor, to learn more. Thank you for your earnest consideration given the role's importance to the ongoing life of the church.

> The Property Committee is investigating a **much-needed** new sound system for the sanctuary. The entire project is expected to cost upwards of \$6,000 given the many components (2 lapel microphones, 2 wireless microphones, speakers, amplifier, etc.) involved. It's viewed as a project suitable for several members to underwrite the cost of select components, e.g., fund the cost of an individual microphone or a speaker.

PASTOR ON VACATION

Pastor Mike will be on vacation from Monday, December 26, 2022, through Sunday, January 1, 2023 (New Year's Day).

While no worship is scheduled for Saturday, December 31, we are again pleased to welcome Pastor Rob Reier, who will lead a single worship service with Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, January 1, 2023.

If emergency pastoral care is needed while Pastor Mike is on vacation, please call 717-649-3532, as soon as possible!

ANGEL TREE

A huge **THANK YOU** to all the generous souls who bought gifts and filled stockings for 13 kids in the Orwigsburg area! I enjoyed looking at the beautifully wrapped presents as I sorted and packed them for the food pantry delivery. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Deb Bolinsky

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Our annual congregational meeting will be on Sunday February 12, 2023, immediately after the 10:30 a.m. worship service. In case of inclement weather (or other emergency), our meeting will be held on the following Sunday at the same time.

Please mark your new 2023 calendar for this important meeting!

WILL WORSHIP BE CANCELED?

If you're not sure if we will have worship, please call the church office at (570) 366-2316 and listen to the outgoing message on the answering machine. You can also check our Facebook page for a possible cancellation of worship. Be safe, not stuck--check before you leave home!

EVANGELISM

The Evangelism committee would like to continue sending cards, signed by our church family, to members who cannot worship with us in person, military personnel, and college students away from home. Cards are located on the small table with the prayer list. Please remember to sign our card(s) upon entering or before leaving our church.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Jason Kaunas, Darlene Henry
- 2 Jessica Witman
- 3 Sue Schenck
- 4 Charlene Rarick Knauss
- 5 Robert Ruff
- 6 Shannon (Frampton) Fanelli, Mike Bright
- 7 Debra Kokitus
- 8 Jack Miller, Karly Hine, Tammy Mosher
- 9 Madyson Riegel, Kathleen Wimbrow
- 10 Bill Folk, Jr., David Witman, Scott Butler
- 11 Joe Marcusky, Donovan Spatz
- 12 Noel Brensinger, Cameron Keener, Jodi Spotts
- 13 Darcy Medica
- 14 Chris Long
- 17 Leslie Dahl, Jason Trubilla, Elizabeth Williams, Jerry Goessel
- 19 Janice Grove, Gerald Hinnershitz
- 20 Ethan Spatz
- 23 Amy Dewald
- 25 Mark Wilson, Joyce O'Rourke
- 27 Christa Sterner, Cynthia Kennett
- 28 Paulette Sassaman
- 30 Madison Travor, Ann Spitler

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 22 Jim and Sandy Spotts

CALLING ALL CRAFTERS AND ARTISANS

St. Paul's is establishing a crafting guild that makes items to sell at local community fairs and events as a new outreach program and an opportunity for fellowship. All proceeds from the sale of craft items will go to support St. Paul's ministries.

We are looking for current crafters or anyone interested in learning a new craft. If you would like more information, please sign the interest sheet in the gathering room, or contact Kristin Durkee (804-380-9066) or Amy Dewald (570-449-4816)

JANUARY FLOWER SPONSORS

JANUARY 1

Altar: In memory of Guy and Frances Lengel by James Lengel and the Lengel Family.

Chancel: OPEN

JANUARY 8

Altar: In loving memory of brother and "Uncle Buck" Ron Reibie by Sue, Kurt, and Julianne Schenck.

Chancel: OPEN

JANUARY 15

Altar: In loving memory of mother and grandmother, Muriel S. Reibie, by Sue, Kurt, and Julianne Schenck.

Chancel: OPEN

JANUARY 22

Altar: OPEN

Chancel: OPEN

JANUARY 29

Altar: In memory of Guy R. and Frances Lengel, G. Roger, and Jack Lengel, by James Lengel and the Lengel family

Chancel: OPEN

JANUARY BULLETIN SPONSORS

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL DATES IN
JANUARY ARE OPEN.

ATTENTION: COMMITTEE LEADERS

Your year-end reports for 2022 will be needed by Tuesday, January 3, 2023. Please have them completed, proofread, and ready for print by the deadline date. Email your file(s) to:

office@stpauls-orwigsburg.org

JANUARY 2023 ~ SERVICE SCHEDULE

JANUARY 1 ~ 9:30 AM

GREETER: Doug Travor, **USHER:** Sue Reier

LECTOR: Cindy Ritschel

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Tina Butler

ALTAR GUILD: Tina Butler and Chris Long

COUNTERS: Gwen Wehr, Tom Wehr, and Glenda Bright

	<u>JANUARY 8</u>	<u>JANUARY 15</u>	<u>JANUARY 22</u>	<u>JANUARY 29</u>
<u>8AM</u>				
GREETER/USHER	Pastor Mike	Pastor Mike	Pastor Mike	Pastor Mike
LECTOR/				
COMMUNION ASSISTANT:	Ruth Ann Withers	Kay Weidensaul	Amy Dewald	Ruth Ann Withers
<u>10:30AM</u>				
GREETER:	Doug Travor	Doug Travor	Doug Travor	Doug Travor
USHER:	Glenda Bright	Jessica Swick	Connie Teter	Gwen Wehr
LECTOR:	Kristin Durkee	Doug Travor	Bill Smoot	Becky Smoot
COMMUNION ASSISTANT:	Evan Davis	Sue Reier	Jeff Ritschel	Bill Smoot
ALTAR GUILD:	Joyce O'Rourke Jean Premich	Joyce O'Rourke Jean Premich	Kathy Miller Connie Teter	Kathy Miller Connie Teter
COUNTERS:	Rosalie Wingle Diane Brobst Marlene Eidam	Joyce O'Rourke Gloria Dierwechter Pat Davis	Connie Teter Joanne Emerich Barb Sterner	Connie Teter Barb Sterner Glenda Bright

MEMORIAL GIFT

A gift has been given to our general fund in memory of D. Mark & Gertrude Herb, Ray C. & Helen N. Diefenderfer, Lauren Herb Dow, and Ralph J. Herb, by Mark & Becky Herb.

THANK YOU!

Thank you for all your thoughtful Christmas cards and generous gifts. Your kindness and prayers have truly been a blessing to me and my family. God bless you all!

Pastor Mike, Sue, and Mikey

GIVING STATEMENTS

Members who use their envelopes to contribute to the ministry of this congregation can pick up their 2022 Giving Statements when they come to worship on Saturday, January 7 or Sunday, January 8, 2023.

Statements which are not picked up by Sunday, January 22, 2023, will be sent to members via U.S. Mail.



JANUARY 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD 9:30 a.m. Worship	2	3 DEADLINE for Annual Reports	4 7 p.m. Chancel Choir 9 a.m. STiC	5	6	7 5:30 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion
8 BAPTISM OF OUR LORD 8 a.m. Worship 9:15 a.m. Adult Forum 10:30 a.m. Worship & Sunday School 3 p.m. Troop #31129	9 6:30 p.m. Finance	10	11 7 p.m. Chancel Choir	12 6:30 p.m. Men of St. Paul's	13	14 5:30 p.m. Worship.
15 8 a.m. Worship 9:15 a.m. Adult Forum 10:30 a.m. Worship	16 DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY 7 p.m. Council	17	18 7 p.m. Chancel Choir	19 6:30 p.m. Constitution	20	21 5:30 p.m. Worship.
22 8 a.m. Worship 9:15 a.m. Adult Forum 10:30 a.m. Worship 3 p.m. Troop #31129	23 Property 6:30 p.m.	24 6:30 p.m. SSCC at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Summer Hill	25 6 p.m. Bell Choir. 7 p.m. Chancel Choir	26	27	28 5:30 p.m. Worship
29 8 a.m. Worship 9:15 a.m. Adult Forum 10:30 a.m. Worship	30	31				

Reverend Michael T. Petresky 570-366-2316 - Ext 11 pastormike@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Justin McClure, Organist/Choir Director 570-573-4076 justin@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Juli Schenck, Office Support Staff 570-366-2316 office@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Carl Heintzeman, Sexton 484-408-5152
Karen Travor, Treasurer 570-366-8757 karen@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Wayne Lutsey, Financial Secretary 570-617-9617 cwlutsey@gmail.com
Jessica Swick, Social Media Manager 936-648-6809 jessica@stpauls-orwigsburg.org



JANUARY 2023

**ST PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
P.O. BOX 156
ORWIGSBURG, PA 17961**

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Pottsville, PA
17901

PERMIT NO. 52

DATES TO REMEMBER

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1 – THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD - WORSHIP AT 9:30 AM.

Visit our website: www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org. Watch us on YouTube.

Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/StPaulsOrwigsburg.

Call our church office at [570-366-2316](tel:570-366-2316).