

St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Smithfield  
139 Craig's Meadow Rd.  
East Stroudsburg, Pa. 18301  
Phone: 570-223-9422

E-mail: [stpaulscraigsmeadow@verizon.net](mailto:stpaulscraigsmeadow@verizon.net)  
Web Site: [stpaulscommunitychurch.com](http://stpaulscommunitychurch.com)  
Facebook: St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Smithfield

# ST. PAUL'S CALL

## MARCH 2024

**Pastor Deb Staniszewski**



**SUNDAY SERVICES 8:30am and 10:00am**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 – 9:45am**

### HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

**Palm Sunday March 24<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am and 10am**

**Maundy Thursday – March 28<sup>th</sup> at 7pm**

**Good Friday – March 29<sup>th</sup> at 12pm and 7pm**

**Easter – March 31<sup>st</sup> at 8:30am and 10am**

**LIVE STREAMING AVAILABLE ON FACEBOOK FOR THE  
10:00AM SUNDAY SERVICE.**

**You can connect to Facebook direct or by going to our web site.**

### St. Paul's Mission Statement

**We are a community of faith called to share the good news of Jesus as our model of life.**

**We seek spiritual maturity through worship, learning and serving.**

**We invite and welcome all who desire to share this journey of faith active in love.**



Please check your e-mails or call the church office for a voice mail message. Up-dates will be made early if it is decided that the church will be cancelled or we will only have one service due to weather.





Lent and Easter Greetings Friends!

This month, we head into Jerusalem with Jesus, to the cross, into his death, and finally, on the last day of March into His resurrection and the Easter Promise! This promise of new life, salvation, and wholeness through God in Christ is for all! Hallelujah!

I offer this reading from Isaiah which resonates in my heart. I invite you to reflect on it, that you may find hope, comfort, and joy in it as well!

The prophet Isaiah said, in Chapter 42:5-9 (The Message)

5-9 God's Message, the God who created the cosmos, stretched out the skies,

laid out the earth and all that grows from it,

Who breathes life into earth's people, makes them alive with his own life:

"I am God. I have called you to live right and well.

I have taken responsibility for you, kept you safe.

I have set you among my people to bind them to me,

and provided you as a lighthouse to the nations,

To make a start at bringing people into the open, into light:

opening blind eyes, releasing prisoners from dungeons, emptying the dark prisons.

I am God. That's my name.

I don't franchise my glory, don't endorse the no-god idols.

Take note: The earlier predictions of judgment have been fulfilled.

I'm announcing the new salvation work.

Before it bursts on the scene, I'm telling you all about it." (Isaiah 42:5-9, MSG)

Blessings for a peaceful Lent and a joyful Easter!

Your Sibling in Christ,

Pastor Deb



## Greetings from Worship & Music



**Lenten Soup Supper Series** – Lenten soup suppers are on Wednesday evenings at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall followed by a spiritual Lenten series. We have a few openings if you can prepare soup or a dessert. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. Bring a friend along to share in the fellowship.

### Lent and Holy Week Services

- Lenten Soup Suppers – Weds evenings 6-7:15pm. March 6, 13 & 20
- Palm Sunday – Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am and 10am
- Maundy Thursday – March 28<sup>th</sup> at 7pm
- Good Friday – March 29<sup>th</sup> at 12pm and 7pm
- Easter – March 31<sup>st</sup> at 8:30am and 10am



**Easter Flowers** – Orders are due March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Choose from Daffodils, Lillies, Tulips and Hyacinth for \$13.00 each. Checks may be made payable to St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Smithfield and given to Dana Strohl or Lynne Williams. Order forms are on the bulletin board.



### A Palm Sunday Sacred Concert

Presented by Pocono Mountain Community Chorus  
A Musical Journey from Palm Sunday through Easter  
Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> 7pm  
St. John's Lutheran Church  
9 N. 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Stroudsburg, PA 18360  
Free will offering

**All New – Be A Worship Sponsor!** – For \$22.00, or split with another, you can sponsor a worship service. The money goes towards expenses for web sites used in bulletin preparation, copyright for songs and supplies like paper and toner. Checks can be given to Dana Strohl or Secretary Lynne Williams.

**Volunteers-** Sign-up sheets for service assistants are on the bulletin board. Please sign up, if you are available. Your help as an acolyte, greeter, lay reader and communion assistant is so important and most appreciated. If you have interest in leading a service on one of Pastor's Sundays when she is away, please contact Pastor or a Worship & Music member.

**Next Meeting** – Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. If you have any thoughts or ideas about the service or would like to join the Altar Guild or be part of the Worship & Music committee please let Kathy Ertle or the office know.

## January Baptism at St. Paul's



## February Souper Ball Sunday 90+ cans collected for the Pantry!



## FEBRUARY INSTALLATION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS



Tom McGhee (Pres.)

[drtmcghee@gmail.com](mailto:drtmcghee@gmail.com)

Laura Pride (VP)

[papride94@gmail.com](mailto:papride94@gmail.com)

Ted Strohl (Co -VP)

[destrohl@ptd.net](mailto:destrohl@ptd.net)

Tracey Lasslett (Sec.)

[tdimperio@lccc.edu](mailto:tdimperio@lccc.edu)

Joy Donnelly

[donnell4@ptd.net](mailto:donnell4@ptd.net)

Faye Jones

[mrspools@ptd.net](mailto:mrspools@ptd.net)

Sonji Patrick

[sonjipatrick9903@gmail.com](mailto:sonjipatrick9903@gmail.com)

Wanda Richardson

[Jacqueline.richardson50@gmail.com](mailto:Jacqueline.richardson50@gmail.com)

**IF NEEDED:**

**PHONE NUMBERS ARE LISTED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE NARTHEX OR CALL THE OFFICE.**



# MARCH FOOD PANTRY

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>**

**9:30am – 12:00noon**

**Contact Wanda Richardson with any questions.**

**The food pantry needs: EASTER HAMS. Boxed macaroni & cheese, cereal & Jelly.**

**Anything else you would like to donate is appreciated** - It must be non-perishable in can, box or bag. Please check the "best by" and expiration dates, we cannot accept anything past the best by or expiration date.

**"It's that time again to donate to our St. Paul's Easter Pantry (FREE Shopping)** Household items, spring and summer clothes (no winter please) any gender. Shoes, slippers, sneakers, tote bags, pocketbooks, Linens, Children games, toys books etc.

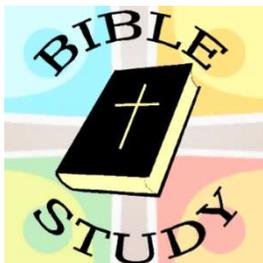
Please feel free to contact Noreen with any questions (570)242-2927 or [nlaffertymanda@gmail.com](mailto:nlaffertymanda@gmail.com)

THANK YOU"



**The Altar Guild is looking for a few new volunteers.**

Please see Nancy Fritz or leave you name in the office.  
No experience necessary you will be instructed and helped as much as you need.



Every Tuesday from  
11:30am to 12:30pm.



Hello Church Youth Families,

Sunday School is held on Sunday mornings from 9-9:45 am. All children from preschool and up are welcome! We meet in the room to the left of the sanctuary.

Confirmation Class for this month (3-5pm):

March 10th at St. John's

Family Movie Night!

Family Movie Night date to be determined.

All are welcome! Come and join us for pizza, salad and snacks!

Touch of Home

Sunday School and Confirmation Class will be packing Touch of Home packages on March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Please submit or update addresses of college students, military personnel or young adults to receive packages.

Mission Trip

Our Confirmation Class will be going on a Mission Trip in July to Altoona, PA. They will spend a week working on projects to repair and renovate homes for families in need and other service projects to help local residents. We are very excited about this!

Blessings always,

Christian Education Team

Alisa Nixon (908) 279-5242

Pastor Deb (570) 350-5115

## FRIDAY LADIES

Friday's 9:00 – 12:00 noon



Donations always welcome of clean cotton fabric printed or solid. Large pieces of fabric for backing, quilting thread or just ask the ladies if you have something they might use.

**The ladies make lovely lap robes that they share with hospitals, nursing & retirement homes plus our newly baptized babies go home with one. They are always appreciated and if you know of someone that might need one please let Edie know.**

---

## COFFEE HOUR

Looking for people to host

(helpers available)

**SIGN UP SHEET ON BULLETIN BOARD**

Contact Madeline or Faye with any questions



**CELEBRATION HALL RENTALS** Please share with friends.  
For information contact **SONJI PATRICK** (CALL OFFICE FOR PHONE #.)



Celebrate Your Event



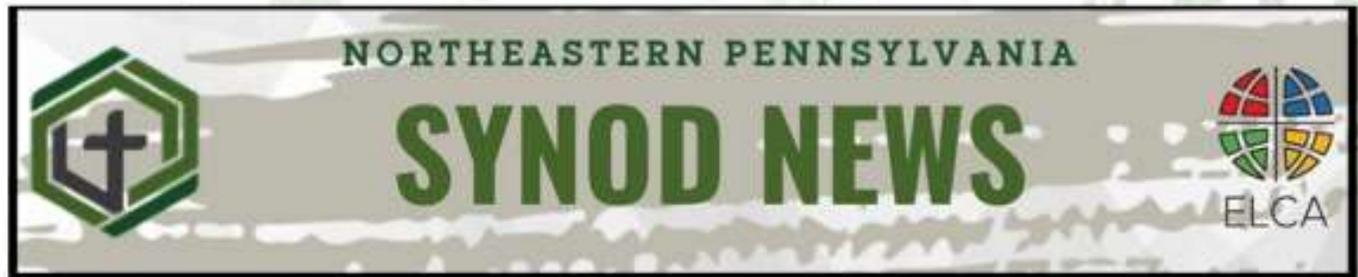
- Full Commercial Kitchen
- Seating: 160 Banquet Style  
180 Assembly
- Parking: Up to 75 Vehicles
- Handicap Accessible
- Wi-Fi Ready

- Weddings
- Birthday Parties
- Anniversary Parties
- Banquets
- Meetings
- Workshops



**Sweet 16 Party**





## *Cultivating Generosity*

Throughout the fall our congregations are often focused on stewardship and gratitude for the generosity of members. Folks provide stewardship talks, members complete commitment cards, and sermons are proclaimed to encourage generosity of time, talent and finances. But did you know that our ELCA Congregation and Synod Support Team offers training and recommendations on cultivating generosity?

This past fall, in partnership with the Lake Institute on Faith and Giving, stewardship leaders from eight congregations, representing four ELCA synods, came together for a training series called "Cultivating Generous Congregations" (CGC). Over seven weeks leaders from these eight congregations gathered online as a cohort with the Lake Institute's trained faculty and each other. Cultivating Generous Congregations maps the new landscape of religious giving and provides congregational teams with tools to build a culture of generosity unique to each congregation's needs, challenges, and opportunities. CGC explores theology, the role of adaptive leadership, fiscal transparency, and the importance of giver care, with action steps to impact the exploration of generosity and energize congregational generosity to take the significant and necessary steps to creating lasting cultural change.

Following the final session, the eight congregations received a year of access to the Lake Institute's numerous stewardship resources, as well as optional coaching to assist in the implementation of these practices. Mission Support funds the opportunity for congregations and leaders to learn from stewardship experts and one another and to grow together so that their local mission, and how God is growing generosity, can be told in more effective ways in today's culture.



**STORIES  
OF FAITH**  
IN ACTION





**Atonement Lutheran Church**  
5 Wyomissing Blvd.,  
Wyomissing, PA 19610



Northeastern Pennsylvania SYNOD ASSEMBLY 2024

# **“HUNGRY FOR LIFE TOGETHER IN CHRIST”**

**Saturday, June 8, 8:30am-4:30pm**

**TWO ATTENDANCE OPTIONS FOR VOTING MEMBERS:**

In-person and online (Zoom)

**Registration: \$130 (same for both attendance options)**

REGISTRATION OPENS FEBRUARY 16

Watch for email that day, with detailed info and registration link

Info also posted that day on our synod website: [www.godslove.org](http://www.godslove.org)

**Questions? Contact: Laurie Christman [laurie@nepsynod.org](mailto:laurie@nepsynod.org)**

| Sunday   | Monday                                     | Tuesday   | Wednesday   | Thursday  | Friday  | Saturday  |
|--|--|---|---|---|---|-----------|
| <b>March<br/>2023</b>  |  |   |   |   | <b>1</b><br>Friday Ladies<br>9:00am –<br>12:00noon  | <b>2</b>  |
| <b>3</b><br><b>3<sup>rd</sup> Lent</b><br>8:30 & 10:00am<br>Sunday School<br>9:00-9:45am   | <b>4</b><br>Music and<br>Worship<br>6:30pm | <b>5</b><br>Bible<br>Study<br>11:30am –<br>12:30pm                                      | <b>6</b><br>Lent Soup<br>Supper &<br>Study<br>6:00pm –<br>7:15 in<br>Social Hall  | <b>7</b><br>Choir<br>Rehearsal<br>6:30pm  | <b>8</b><br>Friday Ladies<br>9:00am -<br>12:00noon  | <b>9</b>  |
| <b>10</b><br><b>4<sup>th</sup> Lent</b><br>8:30 & 10:00am<br><br>Sunday School<br>9:00-9:45am<br>Confirmation<br>St. John's<br>3-5:00am              | <b>11</b>                                  | <b>12</b><br>Bible<br>Study<br>11:30am –<br>12:30pm<br><br>Council<br>Meeting<br>7:00pm | <b>13</b><br>Lent Soup<br>Supper &<br>Study<br>6:00pm –<br>7:15 in<br>Social Hall | <b>14</b><br>Food Pantry<br>9:30-Noon<br><br>Choir<br>Rehearsal<br>6:30pm<br><br>Finance<br>Meeting<br>6:00pm | <b>15</b><br>Friday Ladies<br>9:00am -<br>12:00noon   | <b>16</b> |
| <b>17</b><br><b>5<sup>th</sup> Lent</b><br>8:30 & 10:00am<br><br>Sunday School<br>9:00-9:45am  | <b>18</b>                                  | <b>19</b><br>Bible<br>Study<br>11:30am –<br>12:30pm<br><br>Praise<br>Team<br>6:30pm     | <b>20</b><br>Lent Soup<br>Supper &<br>Study<br>6:00pm –<br>7:15 in<br>Social Hall | <b>21</b><br>Choir<br>Rehearsal<br>6:30pm   | <b>22</b><br>Friday Ladies<br>9:00am -<br>12:00noon   | <b>23</b> |
| <b>24</b><br><b>PALM SUNDAY</b><br>8:30-10:00am<br><br>Sunday School<br>9:00-9:45am<br><br><b>A Palm Sunday<br/>Sacred Concert<br/>AT St. John's</b> | <b>25</b>                                  | <b>26</b><br>Bible<br>Study<br>11:30am-<br>12:30pm                                      | <b>27</b>   | <b>28</b><br>Food Pantry<br>9:30-Noon<br><br><b>MAUNDY<br/>THURSDAY</b><br>7:00pm                             | <b>29</b><br>Friday Ladies<br>9:00am -<br>12:00noon<br><br><b>GOOD<br/>FRIDAY</b><br><b>12noon &amp;<br/>7:00pm</b> | <b>30</b> |
| <b>31</b><br><b>EASTER<br/>SUNDAY</b><br><b>8:30 &amp;<br/>10:00am</b>   |  |   |   |   |   |           |