

St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Smithfield

139 Craig's Meadow Road
East Stroudsburg PA 18301
570-223-9422

E-mail: stpaulscraigsmeadow@verizon.net

Web Site: stpaulscommunitychurch.com

Facebook: St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Smithfield



Pastor Deb Staniszewski



Sunday Service 8:30am and 10:00am

Our 10:00 service is live streamed, view by going to our
facebook page: St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Smithfield

or

our web-site and use our facebook tab.
stpaulscommunitychurch.com

Join us Wednesday Evening in March in Celebration Hall

Soup Supper 6:00pm - 6:30pm

Lenton Service 6:30pm - 7:15pm

March 15 - Taize (Contemplative Service)

March 22 - Lectio Divina (Listening to Scripture with our hearts)

March 29 - Holden Evening Prayer (Service of Song)



Greetings Friends!

Thanks to everyone for the wonderful welcome! What a blessing for us to be on the disciple's journey together. Our Mission Statement states,

“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.”

I am energized and looking forward to being with all of you on this journey of “faith active in love” as we seek and do God’s will together as a faith community. In his letter to the Galatians 5:6, Paul notes that with Christ at our center, our work together in unity and love is fundamental, he writes, “....the only thing that counts is faith working through love.”(Galatians 5:6, NRSVUE) Bless us Lord as we continue your work here, together in love.

Your Sibling in Christ,

Pastor Deb

Greetings from Worship and Music!

Welcome Pastor Deb - Please give Pastor Deb Staniszewski a warm welcome as she joins our church family and leads us in worship. We encourage you to reach out to your friends and neighbors and invite them to one of the many special programs or Sunday services.

We are looking forward to a bright future! If you need pastoral care, please call Pastor direct at 570-350-5115 or the office at 570-223-9422. Below is a list of programs in Lent and services and activities during Holy Week.

Spiritual Formation Programs for Lent

Wednesday Evenings 6pm Soup 6:45pm Program

March 8 - Meta (Loving Kindness Meditation)

March 15 - Taize (Contemplative Service)

March 22 - Lectio Divina (Listening to scripture with our hearts)

March 29 - Holden Evening Prayer (Service of Song)

Holy Week

April 1 - Palms and Easter Candy to Go! For the kids! 9-11am

April 2 - Palm Sunday - 8:30 & 10AM

April 6 - Maundy Thursday - 7pm Agape Feast with Light Mediterranean Fare

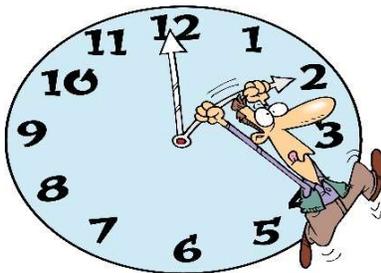
April 7 - Good Friday - 7pm

April 9 - Easter - 8:30 & 10AM

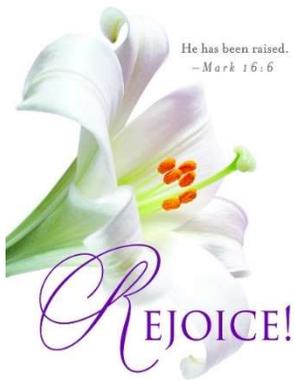


**Lenten
Soup Suppers**

Lenten Soup Suppers - Sign-up sheets for Lenten Soup suppers are on the board. If you are able to provide soup, bread & butter or a dessert, please sign up. Services will be on Wednesday evenings in March at 6pm in Celebration Hall. Show us your soup skills!



Spring Ahead! - Daylight Savings Time officially begins on Sunday, March 12th at 2:00am. Be sure to turn your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed on Saturday!



Easter Flowers – You can buy yourself flowers! Place your order for Easter flowers by March 20th. Prices are \$12 for your choice of Lilies, Tulips, Daffodils and Hyacinths. Order forms can be found on the bulletin board.

Altar Flowers and Bulletins – Altar flowers will be back in time for Palm Sunday. Commemorate a special date or celebrate a special person with flower arrangements for the altar. Bulletin sponsorships are also available. Check out the bulletin board to sign-up. Checks may be given to the Church Secretary.

Service Assistants – Thank you to all those who signed up for the month. Sign-up sheets for February and March are on the bulletin board. Your help as an acolyte, greeter, lay reader or communion assistant is most appreciated.

Celebration Hall Building Fund – As of 2/20/23 the balance is \$150,223.66. Please think about making a donation to reduce the mortgage on this wonderful building that serves as a gathering place for the local community. Checks may be made payable to St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Smithfield with the words Mortgage Reduction in the note section. Thank you!

Share Your Ideas – We welcome your ideas for worship, music and activities that Worship and Music could introduce to St. Paul's and the community and make your church life more meaningful.

Yours in Christ,
Worship & Music

The Pocono Center of the Arts
proudly presents
Ken Jennings
in his critically acclaimed presentation of
The Gospel of
John

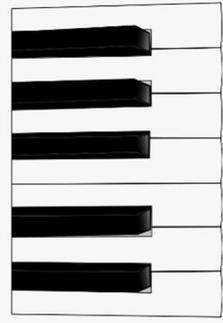


Sunday March 26th, 2023 • 2pm and 5pm
Stroudsburg United Methodist Church
547 Main St. Stroudsburg, PA
FREE ADMISSION
(goodwill donations appreciated)
Walk-ins welcome, but email below to guarantee seats.



To reserve a seat, email your name, showtime and number of seats to
tickets@PoconoCenterForTheArts.org





Music at Mid-day

Thursdays during Lent

March 2-March 30

12:10pm

First Presbyterian Church of Stroudsburg

575 Main St, Stroudsburg

March 9 - Vale Rideout, tenor

March 16 - Andrea Wittchen, harp

March 23 - Susan Frickert, organ

March 30 - Stroudsburg High School Chorale



Beacon Hill Concert

Artem Belogurov, Piano Recital and Lecture-Demonstration performed on a replica of one of the earliest pianos in history (1700)

Saturday, April 1, 2023 4pm

Beacon Hill Music Hall 119 Barn Rd, East Stroudsburg

For reservations email Dan Crawford at dandcrawford@gmail.com



Pocono Mountain Community Chorus

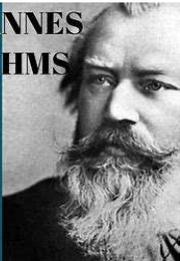
2023 Holy Week Concert

Palm Sunday, April 2nd

St. John's Lutheran Church

9 North 9th Street, Stroudsburg

**JOHANNES
BRAHMS**



Pocono Concert Chorale

Johannes Brahms - *Requiem*

With Christopher Johnson, organist & Daniel Hoy, baritone

Sunday, April 23rd 2:30pm

First Presbyterian Church of Stroudsburg

575 Main St, Stroudsburg

FOOD PANTRY FEBRUARY

THURSDAYS March 9th

Easter Food Pantry March 30th
(with Clothing and misc. give away)
9:30am – 12:00 noon

Contact Wanda with any questions.



COFFEE HOUR

Looking for people to host (helpers available)
Sundays after the 11:00am Service



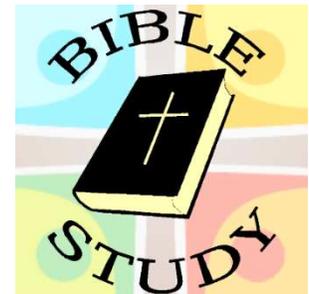
CELEBRATION HALL RENTALS

Please call the office for phone number
or see Sonji Patrick for information.



FRIDAY LADIES

Every Friday 9:00am – 12:00 noon

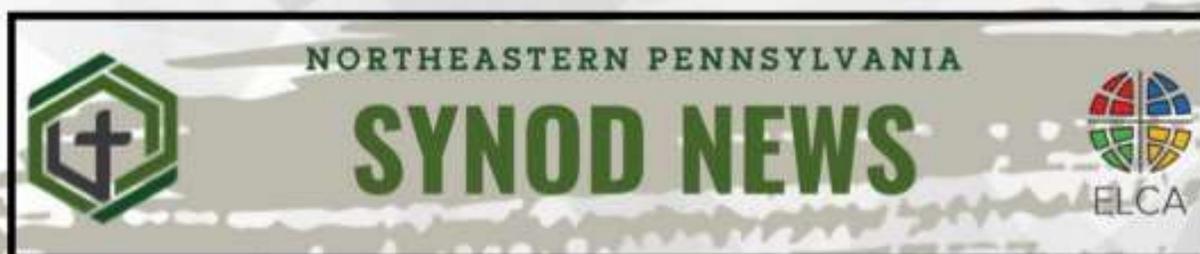


Every Tuesday from 11:30am –
12:30 pm.

Homemade Honey

You can purchase from
Laura or Alan
During Sunday coffee hour.





Love for the Least

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The Global Missions Team at the Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, Emmaus, PA, led an advent appeal this past holiday season to support the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) at Arusha Lutheran Medical Center in Tanzania, which was established by ELCA medical missionary Dr. Mark Jacobson, and also had the opportunity to lead the church's worship services on their annual Global Missions Sunday, held this year on January 22, 2023, to share about this ministry with those in attendance.

When a baby is born prematurely in Tanzania, it is considered as good as dead. Premature babies there are often referred to as 'stillbirths.' This was not acceptable to the staff of Arusha Lutheran Medical Center. Fifteen years ago they began to offer neonatal intensive care, and pediatrician Dr. Steve Swanson joined the program in 2011. Initially they were only able to save 4% of the babies. Today they serve almost 400 babies annually, and the survival rate in 2022 was 92%.

The care at the Arusha Lutheran Medical Center NICU is the best in Tanzania, and in most of East Africa. No baby is turned away because of inability to pay or insurance status. The five doctors and 26 nurses who staff the NICU do not just care for the tiny infants, but for the parents as well. A hospital bed and meals are provided to every mother with a baby in the NICU and both parents are encouraged and coached on how to interact with their babies.

Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit raised \$3,785 from their Love for the Least appeal to be directed to the Arusha Lutheran Medical Center NICU in Tanzania, and 175 premie knit or crochet hats were lovingly crafted for the NICU infants, which they hope to send to Tanzania. These hats can save lives by helping to keep the babies warm.

Charlotte Gross, Co-Coordinator



JUNE 1-3 2023 AT
KALAHARI RESORT

ATTENTION ALL CONGREGATIONAL LEADERS

Now is the time to figure out who will be your voting members at the synod assembly! Don't worry, it will be well worth their time and yours! Let's have a record turnout, as we gather together (in person) as a synod for the first time since the Great Disruption of 2020. If you have any questions contact the synod office, and together we'll figure it out together!

BEING PUBLICLY INCLUSIVE OF ALL SEXUAL ORIENTATIONS IS AN IMPORTANT STEP YOUR CONGREGATION CAN TAKE TO BE THE COMMUNITY CHRIST CALLS YOU TO BE!



Become a Reconciling in Christ congregation! Reach out to Stacey Burke in the synod office (stacey@nepsynod.org) for more information.

HONORARIUM UPDATE

How much should we pay a supply minister?
That question is frequently asked by congregations in transition or when the regular minister is away.

Discussion by the Committee of Deans produced the following:

That beginning 03/01/2023, minimum honorarium amounts for supply ministers be set as follows:

One worship service	no less than \$175
Two worship services	no less than \$225
Three worship services	no less than \$250

an additional \$50 for multiple point charges

an additional \$50 for leading an adult forum or Sunday School class

an additional \$75 if one of the services is on a day other than Sunday; (Saturday evenings, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, etc.)

Starting
March

**FOR THE MOST UP-TO-
DATE NEWS AND STORIES
FOLLOW US ON ALL
SOCIAL MEDIA
PLATFORMS OR VISIT US
AT GODSLOVE.ORG**

MARCH 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Evening Lent Soup 6-6:30 Program 6:30-7:15 7:15 6:00 – 7:15	2 Choir 6:30pm	3 Friday Ladies 9:00am – 12:00noon	4
5 8:30 & 10:00am 2nd Sunday of Lent	6 Music and Worship 6:30pm Office Closed	7 Bible Study 11:30 – 12:30pm	8 Evening Lent Soup 6-6:30 Program 6:30-7:15	9 Food Pantry 9:30am – 12:00noon Choir 6:30pm	10 Friday Ladies 9:00am – 12:00noon	11
12 8:30 & 10:00am 3rd Sunday of Lent Spring Ahead ! Daylight Savings time 2:00am	13 Office Closed	14 Council Meeting Bible Study 11:30 – 12:30pm	15 Evening Lent Soup 6-6:30 Program 6:30-7:15	16 Choir 6:30pm Finance Meeting 6:00pm	17 Friday Ladies 9:00 – 12:00noon	18
19 8:30 & 10:00am 4th Sunday of Lent	20 Office Closed	21 Bible Study 11:30 – 12:30pm	22 Evening Lent Soup 6-6:30 Program 6:30-7:15	23 Choir 6:30pm	24 Friday Ladies 9:00 – 12:00noon	25
26 8:30 & 10:00am 5th Sunday of Lent 10:00 am Contemporary Service with the Praise Team	27 Office Closed	28 Bible Study 11:30am – 12:30pm	29 Evening Lent Soup 6-6:30 Program 6:30-7:15	30 Easter Pantry And Cloths and Misc Give away 9:30am – 12:00 noon Choir 6:30pm		