



ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
ROOTED AND GROWING

Announcements

Sunday, November 23, 2025

November's Faith Step Stone: 2nd graders receiving Holy Communion for the first time today! We'll have treats in their honor after worship. Join us in celebrating!

Endowment Grant Applications: Applications for the 2026 year distribution are now available. All applications **must be submitted online** and can be found on the website "online office." Anyone needing assistance with completing their request can call the church office. Once submitted, you will receive a receipt of submission. **Applications are due by December 1, 2025.**

Thank you to all those who have submitted their pledge cards for 2026. If you would still like to do so, you can drop one off your card at the office, put one in the offering plate or email finance@stpaulstitz.net your pledge info.

Advent

Devotionals: Advent begins Nov. 30th. Devotionals are available in the narthex starting today.

Advent Wreath Making Join us on **Sunday November 30th, at 4:00PM** in the Social Hall for a warm and meaningful Advent tradition! Families and individuals of all ages are invited to come together to create one wreath per household as we prepare our hearts for the Advent season. Please bring a wreath frame if you have one, along with any greens from your yard and a plate of cookies to share. We'll also enjoy hot chocolate and devotion as we begin this special season of hope and anticipation together. Sign up online @: <https://ttsu.me/adventwreaths> or on paper in the Narthex under **Connect & Serve**. If you have any questions please email Suzanne Black: sblack@stpaulstitz.net

Advent Outreach Project - Gift Card Collection and Book Donations for all ages!

This year St. Paul is teaming with the Warwick Community Hub to provide gift cards and book donations to families in need within the Warwick School District. Gift cards are provided to families in need of grocery and gas assistance by the Warwick Community Hub. Please provide gift cards in the amount of \$25 or \$50 increments to the following retail stores: Weis Markets, Giant, or Sheetz. St. Paul is also collecting book donations that will be distributed at the Hub's annual Christmas program to local families. The books must be in new condition and unwrapped. Picture books, early reader, teen, young adult, and adult books are requested! (Something extra: Make a fun card of encouragement and Christmas blessing to put in the book you donate.) Bring your donations to St. Paul no later than Sunday, December 7. Thank you for blessing a neighbor within the Warwick School District!

Senior Dinner: Saturday, December 6, Noon: Celebrate the Christmas season with other senior members of the congregation in the social hall for an afternoon of socializing, dinner, and fun! All congregation members over 65 are invited! Sign up in the narthex. For more information, contact Kathy Ross: 717-468-7582.

Gingerbread Nativities: December 14 at 4:00 PM. Gather your loved ones for this cherished tradition. Create a nativity scene using gingerbread and candies! We supply all the materials, but you must sign up. One nativity per family. Sign up online (<https://ttsu.me/ysmnj4>) or in the narthex.

Poinsettia Order Forms: We are taking orders for Christmas poinsettia plants. Cost is \$7.50 per plant, checks payable to St. Paul Lutheran Church. (Order forms can be found on the last page and in the Narthex) Orders due Dec. 10th.

ADULT MINISTRY

Dementia Support Group Persons who provide care and love to a family member or friend who is going through brain changes called dementia are invited to the monthly support group. During the hour fifteen spent together, we share stories and explore effective ways for showing compassionate and loving care, even when the person expresses outrage. The next session is Monday evening, November 24 at 7:00 pm in the Media Room.

St. Paul Companions: Companions is a ministry that helps persons who no longer can attend Sunday worship and church events to stay connected with the congregation through monthly visits. Presently, there is a need for more companions. If you want to learn more about this ministry please contact Pastor Robert. The next companion meeting is Monday evening, **December 15 at 7:00 pm** in the Media Room.

Men's Bible Study: The next men's Bible study will take place at Brickerville United Lutheran on **Saturday December 13 starting at 9AM.** All men are invited to attend. If there are any questions please contact Jim Millhouse, e44a@ptd.net.

Sacred Grounds Book Club: Our next gathering will be on **Monday, December 1 at 7:00pm.** The book we will be discussing is the novel *Jayber Crow* by Wendell Berry. This is a moving story that is comprised of all the stuff of life with a compelling focus on what truly matters. We will discuss community, place, grief, joy, change, faith, and stewardship of the land, as we navigate Berry's compelling writing. Contact Scott Frase at sfrase@stpaulsititz.net or (717) 925-0366 if you would like to join us or purchase the book. All are welcome!

College Students: You are invited to the Lower Susquehanna Synod's Winterfest retreat in Lancaster on January, 2-4, 2026. This will be a great weekend of cultivating faith and community

with peers and high school students. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Scott Frase at sfrase@stpaulsititz.net to register. **Registration deadline is Friday, November 28.**

Pod & Pub: Thursdays at 7PM, Bullshead Public House: Join us on Thursday evenings at the Bullshead Pub for engaging discussion and fellowship. Tune into the latest episode of Pastor Rob's podcast, *Ponder Anew*, and be part of the discussion. You can find the podcast on our website, stpaulsititz.net/podcasts as well as on Apple Podcasts and Spotify.

Weekly Bible Study: Weekly Bible study with Pastor Rob takes place every Thursday at 9:30am and 10:30 AM in the Media Room. Zoom is also available.

GIVING

Leftover Halloween Candy: Do you have extra candy tempting you at home? Donate it to church! We can use all sorts of candy for our annual Gingerbread Nativity Event on December 14. Please label it for this purpose and put it in the office or Deacon Emily's office. Thank you!

The Lititz Warwick Community Chest is requesting the following: canned yams, boxed mashed potatoes, scalloped potatoes, stuffing, turkey gravy, cranberry sauce, bread mixes (such as pumpkin, gingerbread, cranberry), and hot chocolate packs. Please, NO EXPIRED items. Donations may be placed in the wooden collection box in the narthex at any time.

The Mission and Outreach Committee thanks the congregation for their generous support of the food ministry.

Wishing everyone a holiday filled with God's love.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Men's Ensemble- Join Today! Adult and youth male singers are invited to participate in the Advent Men's Ensemble. **Rehearsals** are after the 10:45 service for 20 minutes in the Choir Room today, and on December 7 & 14 in the Sanctuary. The ensemble will sing at the beginning of BOTH worship services on December 21st. If you have questions please contact Becky Rairigh, Music Ministry Director, beckyr@stpaulsititz.net or 717-824-5913.

Christmas Eve Choir: St. Paul Choir would like to invite those who would like to sing for the 9 pm Christmas Eve Worship. The choir will be preparing music for the prelude that will begin at 8:40 pm. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings at **7:30 pm**. The dates are **Wednesday, December 3 in the CHOIR ROOM. Wednesday, December 10 AND 17 and Monday, December 22 in the SANCTUARY.** Please try to make as many rehearsals as possible. Please email or text Becky if you are interested.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Communion Classes: for children in 2nd grade will be offered today during Sunday School. We will taste, watch, read, talk and even play games to prepare for this Sacrament. Baptism is a step to be taken before communion; please see a pastoral staff member if you're not yet baptised. If you are older than 2nd grade, baptised, and have not yet received communion instruction, contact Deacon Emily.

Advent Devotionals: the 2025 family devotional will be ready for you at church today and on Nov. 30. This year's theme is LOVE. Your interactive devotion has a daily way to connect you and your children with the source of Love: Jesus Christ, our savior!

Program Practice: Mark your calendars to come to Sunday School especially in December to practice your Sunday School class's part of the Christmas Story to be shared on December 21.

The Christmas Program: Sunday December 21 at 10am in the Social Hall. Sunday School kids should arrive at their classrooms at 9:30am. All are welcome to witness their storytelling through narration, costume and song.

4 pm Christmas Eve Family Service Student Musicians: Students in Grades 4 - 6 who play an instrument are invited to play for Christmas Eve at 4 pm. Rehearsals will be Thursdays on December 4, 11 and 18 at 6:30 pm in the sanctuary. Please make at least 2 rehearsals. Parents, please text or email Becky your student's name and instrument for music. If your student plays the piano, please text or email the song they would like to offer. beckyr@stpaulinitz.net or 717-824-5913.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Winterfest High School Retreat: Grades 9-12 are invited to join us on January 2-4, 2026 at the Wyndham Resort in Lancaster for the Lower Susquehanna Synod's Winterfest retreat. This will be an exciting weekend to connect with youth from other churches, and participate in the various sessions offered to further cultivate faith and community. To register, please contact Scott Frase at sfrase@stpaulinitz.net. **Registration deadline is Friday, November, 28.**

4 pm Christmas Eve Family Service Youth Choir and Youth Bells: Grades 7-12 youth who love to sing and play bells are invited to learn music for the 4 pm Christmas Eve Family Service. Rehearsals will be Mondays after school from 3:30 - 4:15 on December 8, 15 and 22.

4 pm Christmas Eve Family Service Student Musicians: Students in Grades 7 - 12 who play an instrument are invited to play for Christmas Eve at 4 pm. Rehearsals will be Thursdays on December 4, 11 and 18 at 6:30 pm in the sanctuary. Please make at least 2 rehearsals. Parents, please text or email Becky your student's name and instrument for music. If your student plays

the piano, please text or email the song they would like to offer. beckyr@stpaulstitz.net or 717-824-5913.

CAMP

Advent Day Apart: December 6 from 9a-2p at the Wittle Farm in E-town. Lunch included. Enjoy a day with reflection, silence and stillness. Indoor and outdoor. Cost is \$15; St. Paul will subsidize your registration.

Poinsettia Order Form

Please complete this form and return with your payment. You may place it in the offering plate, mail to the church or drop it off in the church office.

Checks payable to St. Paul Lutheran Church.

Orders due by: December 10, 2025



Cost: \$7.50 each

Given by:

Phone:

In Memory or Honor of:

Number ordered: _____

Total Paid for Poinsettias: _____