
ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

During the Week:

Tuesdays through Fridays, the Church Office will follow the Frederick County Schools for delays and closings in case of inclement weather. If the county schools close for the day, the Church Office will be closed and all afternoon/evening activities will be cancelled. Evening committee meetings will be at the discretion of the chairperson. The Church Office will also follow enacted State Emergencies, which require vehicles to remain off major roads. In these State Emergencies, the Church Office will close for the day and all afternoon/evening activities will be cancelled. Evening committee meetings will be at the discretion of the chairperson.

In a situation where the county schools remain open for all or part of the day in inclement weather, but a staff member has difficulty to travel safely to the church, it will be the responsibility of the staff member to confer with the Pastor.

In the event of a power outage, electricity and/or heat during cold winter months or severe weather events, the Church Office will be closed and church staff will notify event coordinators of the closure.

Saturdays:

Coordinators of events are responsible to notify their participants of any cancellation or change to their event. If the church parking lot is not plowed, the event is cancelled. Coordinators are encouraged to follow the Frederick County local news and radio for updates and road closures to assist their decision in cancelling an event. Coordinators of St. Paul events are responsible in notifying Pastor of cancellations or changes.

Sundays:

In rare cases where inclement weather may cancel church worship services, the pastor and council president will confer together to determine if worship can be held. The current weather, the condition of the roads, and mandatory state emergencies will be taken in consideration. The Pastor will make the final decision regarding worship cancellation (this includes supply pastors).

In the event that worship services continue, Sunday Church Staff persons will not be penalized if they are unable to travel safely to the church building.

The following steps will be taken to inform the congregation of a cancellation:

1. An e-mail will be sent to those subscribed on the church's "weekly announcement" list.
2. An automated phone message will be sent out to those who have consented their phone number(s) to be called by the automated phone message system.
3. If possible, the church will also post the announcement on the online medias:
 - a. www.stpauljeff.org
 - b. www.facebook.com/stpaullutheranjeff
 - c. www.twitter.com/stpauljefferson

In general, we consider the safety of our congregational members and staff of the utmost importance. In all cases, please use your discretion to decide if it is safe for you to leave your home and travel to church.