St. Paul's & Friends
Travel to

NEW YORK CITY



March 29-April 3, 2027

Dear Travelers,

If you traveled with us to Washington, D.C., you know what this is all about. If you are new to this information, let me fill you in! As 8th grade teacher and now principal at St. Paul's, I have been leading 8th grade Washington, D.C. Trips for over 20 years. For a number of years now members of the St. Paul's Congregation had asked me to lead a group of adults from St. Paul's. This year, being our nation's 250th birthday, was a great year to do that. We had a great trip with members of St Paul's, Ascension, Holy Cross, Emmaus, Mt. Calvary and a few other friends and family members.

Due to requests from many of the travelers, it is time to start planning another trip, and I'd like you to be a part of it! Based on feedback, the next trip I am offering is a New York City Trip which will take place from Monday, March 29 through Saturday, April 3, 2027. This is the Monday immediately after Easter.

Wait - before you say "New York City isn't for me," let me tell you why it is! If you enjoyed Washington, D.C., you will enjoy this as well. New York is the location of so much American History and culture. I have explored a number of times, and would like to share it with you as well. It's one of my (and my family's) favorite places. It was built by hardworking Americans and through American ingenuity. The architecture and engineering are really something to see. You will love exploring it and getting a taste of it - especially with us as your guides taking you to many of the key sites. There really is a lot there for everyone, and I know you will enjoy it. Let me tell you a little more about our trip:

This trip will be:

- A trip filled with history and culture and will show you the highlights of New York.
- We will stay at Hilton Garden Inn just across the Hudson River from New York City in Secaucus, New Jersey This will be a great launching point for our daily excursions. Feel free to check it out online.
- There will be some walking - but I foresee it as less than Washington (as the bus can actually get closer to each destination in New York.)
- The trip will be 6 days and 5 nights, Monday to Saturday, March 29-April 3.
- Our first day - Monday, March 29 - will be a travel day. You will meet us at St. Paul's at 8 a.m. to ride the motorcoach OR you can use the day to travel from your chosen airport with a goal of landing in Newark. You can make your way to our hotel at your leisure (where your room will be included), or can stay in a hotel at Newark Airport (at your own cost) and we can pick you up Tuesday morning to begin our trip.
- On our trip home, we will leave Friday evening and drive only 3 hours into Pennsylvania. We will then complete the remaining 7-8 hours home on Saturday. Again, we can drop off any who choose to fly at Newark International Airport Friday evening, if you choose to do that over ride back on the motorcoach. (Note, you would need an 8 p.m. or later flight on Friday - or stay in an airport hotel and fly out Saturday morning.)

- The weather will be cooler than summer weather - which has the big positive of being more comfortable for walking and site seeing. (But bring jackets and umbrellas just in case!)
- You will receive a personalized-for-our-trip NYC Tour Book filled with information tailored exactly to our trip, with a detailed itinerary and information about each site we will see.
- My wife Kristen and the Whirrett children are going to help host this trip and are excited to be a part of leading you!
- Travel Guard will offer you trip insurance (cost based on year of birth), if you need to cancel for any reason. You can go to Travelguard.com or call them at 855-579-0265. (The trip will be non-refundable once I start locking in bookings for you… but Travelguard will refund you the full cost should you need to cancel for any reason.)

Tentative Itinerary: (Subject to change as bookings are made):

Monday, March 29: Travel Day, Leaving St. Paul's at 8 a.m. by bus, or you can opt to make your way to New York City by air (recommended you fly to Newark.)

Tuesday, March 30:

8:00 a.m. Depart hotel to pick up any air travelers from Newark
9:00 a.m. Ferry to Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island
12:30 p.m. Depart Ellis Island for New York City by Ferry
1:00 p.m. Lunch at Fraunce's Tavern (look up this amazing George Washington site!)
Lunch included
Fraunces Tavern Museum after
3:00 p.m. Wall Street - see the Bull, Stock Exchange Building, Federal Hall
(Where George Washington was sworn in)
5:00 p.m. Empire State Building and see Macy's (Miracle on 34th Street)
6:30 p.m. Dinner - TBD - Possibly NY Style Pizza - John's of Bleeker Street
7:30 p.m. Return to hotel

Wednesday, March 31:

9 a.m. Depart Hotel
10 a.m. Circle Line Boat Tour (2.5 hours)
Possible Box Lunch Included
1 p.m. Broadway! (Free afternoon and evening around Time's Square) You may choose and purchase your choice of musical and your choice of seats from Broadwaydirect.com (check it out!). You may choose a 2 p.m. show or a 7 p.m. show. We will arrange for a bus pick up and return to the hotel at 8 p.m. for those who would like an earlier night, and then an 11 p.m. pick up for those who choose a nighttime show. I can help/guide you on Musical options, or you can go with the Whirrett family to see Aladdin (We've already seen Wicked and Lion King, but those are favorites as well. There are many options - and it isn't hard!

During this time you can explore the lights, sounds, and foods of Times Square. We will give you guidance and recommendations - or you can stick with us!

Thursday, April 1:

8 a.m. Depart hotel
8:30 a.m. 9/11 Memorial at the World Trade Center

9:30 a.m. 9/11 Museum
12:00 p.m. Lunch at Famous Katz Deli (included)
1:30 p.m. Brooklyn Bridge Visit (possible tour)
4:30 p.m. Little Italy for shopping and dinner on your own
7:30 p.m. Meet for bus departure to hotel

Friday, April 2:

8:30 a.m. Depart Hotel
9:00 a.m. The Met (Metropolitan Museum of Art… and really history!)
and/or Central Park visit
12:00 p.m. Freetime/Shopping/Lunch - Short Driving Tour of 5th/6th Avenue Area: Pass the Plaza Hotel, Trump Tower, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Rockefeller Center and NBC Studios (Christmas Tree and Skating Rink), Radio City Music Hall, Fox News, FAO Schwartz, Saks 5th Avenue, Lego Store NYC
5:30 p.m. Depart New York City
8:30 p.m. Arrive Hershey, Pennsylvania

Saturday, April 3:

9:00 a.m. Visit Hershey Chocolate World (A ride showing how Hershey's Chocolate is made; then gift shop shopping)
11:00 a.m. Lunch at Hershey
12:00 p.m. Depart for Fort Wayne
5:00 p.m. Dinner en route
8:00 p.m. Arrive Back in Fort Wayne

Trip Cost: Based on at least 30 travelers

- Book with $200 deposit: $1995 per person ($3990 per couple), $2350 single occupancy.



Included:

- Five hotel nights
- All breakfasts
- Tickets to sites (excluding the optional Broadway Musical)
- Four meal in addition to breakfast (a combination of lunches or dinners, tbd)
- Deluxe motorcoach transportation from Fort Wayne and throughout the trip
- New York City Tour booklet
- Daily snacks & waters on bus
- Guide (me!) and guidance throughout the trip, as well as some site guides

Not Included:

- Remaining meals
- Broadway Musical Tickets of your choice (optional)*
- Travel insurance (optional)
- Airline tickets (if you chose to fly - no need if you want to ride the motor coach with us).

  *I can guide you on Musical Choices and answer questions you may have. Check out Broadwaydirect.com to start looking. The Whirrett family will likely attend Aladdin (as we've already seen Wicked and Lion King on Broadway - both highly recommended.)

Please e-mail me at amwhirrett@gmail.com if you are interested or if you have any questions. I would love to answer any first questions for you.



I hope you choose to join us!

In Christ,

Andy Whirrett, Principal - St. Paul's