

FREE!

YOU'RE INVITED!



Foster Care Open House & Panel

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Lorain County Community College Lorain Learning Center
210 West Erie Ave, Lorain, OH 44052

Real Families. Real Stories. Real Impact.

TAKE THE FIRST STEP TOWARD MAKING A LASTING DIFFERENCE

If you have ever considered becoming a foster parent, **this is for you!**

Join us for a FREE Foster Parent Panel and hear first-hand from foster families about the joys, challenges, and realities of fostering.

Ask questions, gain insight, and discover how you can make a difference in the life of a child.

Light refreshments will be served.

Participation is free, but RSVP is required.

SCAN TO RSVP!



Questions?

Contact Judith Padua, Foster Care Recruitment Coordinator
JudithPadua@childrenservices.org
440-329-5608



LORAIN COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES • WWW.CHILDRENSERVICES.ORG • 226 MIDDLE AVE, ROOM 300, ELYRIA, OH 44035

SO WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?



ISLAM • BUDDHISM • JUDAISM • HINDUISM
CATHOLICISM • NON-DENOMINATIONAL

Exploring other Faiths to discover what makes Biblical Lutheran Christianity
Unique, Precious, and *Needed* in this community.

ST. PAUL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH & PRESCHOOL
SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 2026



Welcome to St. Paul!

We're glad you're here! Whether this is your first visit or you're a St. Paul veteran, we hope you sense our "welcome mat" is out and you'll consider joining us again soon any Sunday at 9:30AM right here. Please fill out a white "Communication Card" found in front of you in the pew rack, and place it in the offering plate later. And about the offering ... don't feel obligated to participate in giving because we – and God – are really glad you are here as our guest!

Ushers are standing by to assist you in locating a seat, directing you to restrooms, coat racks, and to our nursery.

Nursery is available for children ages 3 and under. An usher will be happy to direct you to our Nursery where parents may care for infants, and rambunctious toddlers will find a place to be ... themselves.

Worshippers who wish to receive Holy Communion are encouraged to thoroughly read the announcement in this bulletin explaining what Communion reception is all about.

IN TODAY'S WORSHIP Who says which religion is right? How do you know? Do all religions lead to the same place but have different paths to God? This summer we are taking on some of the most difficult questions we face in today's world of diverse peoples and beliefs. Today we discover "What's the Difference" between Christianity and Judaism. While a "Jew" can describe a person's ethnic identity, today we discover what our neighbors who practice the Jewish faith believe.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP Faithful God, I give thanks for Your abundant blessings. I my worship today give me sincerity to admit my sin to You, and give me Your grace, as You never give up on me, but call me Your child once again. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Differences between Judaism and Christianity - a short document to read more about Judaism is available for free on the table at the entrance to the worship sanctuary.

THANK YOU to everyone who served at yesterday's "Wonderfully Made" Summer JAM. Serving God gives you a front-row seat to see the awesome things God does through outreach events like these. Thanks to everyone who donated prizes, water, and food; everyone who set up; everyone who prayed for the event; and everyone who invited kids and neighbors!

CONNECT WITH GOD EVERYDAY! Hope-Full Living daily devotion guides offer a fresh perspective from a senior Lutheran in each daily reading. **July - September issues** are **free** and available today on the Information Counter in the Narthex.

SO WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

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This summer at St. Paul we're exploring other Faiths, and discovering what makes Lutheran Christianity Unique, Precious, and *Needed* in this community.

Join us for each sermon at St. Paul, Sundays @ 9:30 AM.

Sun. Aug. 2: Judaism. Sun. Aug. 16 Jehovah's Witnesses. Sun. Aug. 23 Catholicism

Sun. Aug. 30: Reformed Christian (Including Mega-Church) Sun. Sept. 6: Mormonism

This Week For The Lord	Looking Ahead One Week
8/2 Food Collection Holy Communion 9:30 AM G.I.F.T. Bible Study 10:45 AM 8/4 Seasoned Saints Bible Study 10 AM	8/9 Worship 9:30 AM 8/13 Prayer Group 1 PM Men's BBB 6:30 PM @ Ghost Tree Brewing

Serving in God's House:

Pastor	Paul Werner
Elder	Chuck Draga
Reader	Don Hammond
Greeters	Jeff & Sandy Binggeli
Altar Guild	Donna Kemmerle
Sound	Mike Warnock
Head Usher	Ron Fisher
Ushers	John Kirschner, John Cartmell, Danny Kemery

St. Paul Lutheran Church & Preschool

115 Central Drive, Amherst, Ohio 44001

Church/Office: 440-988-4157 Fax: 440-988-5436

Sunday Worship Services: 9:30 AM

In-Person or Live Stream @ www.stpaulamherst.com

E-Mail: churchoffice@stpaulamherst.com Church Website: stpaulamherst.com

Rev. Paul G. Werner, Pastor - Office: (440)988-4157 Cell: (586)201-3302

Judy Bloom – Church Office Administrator

Don Hammond – Director of Communications

Tracie Heuring –Director of Preschool

Owen Reyda – Director of Music Ministries

Mike Warnock – Director of Worship Technology

Happy Times is a simple, easy-to-use resource to help families with preschool school-aged children share faith in Christ at home. **Happy Times** is full of age-appropriate stories, games, puzzles, and activities. Booklets are free, and the August-September edition is available today for free on the resource wall in the lower narthex/lobby.



PLUG IN TO A BIBLE STUDY GROUP

GROW IN FAITH TOGETHER – Join us today in the **UPPER LEVEL**, 10:45 AM to 11:45AM • Bible Study • Discussion • Fellowship

Tuesday Morning Bible Study will NOT meet Tuesday Aug 4 Join us as we pick up in the exciting book of Joshua on Tuesday August 11 10AM. You will gain faith and courage for living as we see people long ago trust God for the impossible and discover God always works to rescue His people. You'll meet some friends, find encouragement, and grow in faith. We meet in the upper level. You don't have to be a Bible scholar. Everyone is welcome!

Women's Bible Study Group – resumes mid-August @ 6:30 PM in St. Paul's parsonage, next door. You'll make wonderful friends, grow in faith, and engage in caring lively discussion about living everyday as a Christian and woman.

ARK Encounter & Creation Museum trip - Yes, the trip is still "ON." You can still join the group and come along with St. Paul to see the life-size replica of Noah's Ark and the Creation Museum. The trip is **October 20 -22, 2026**. The trip includes top-quality motorcoach transportation, 2 night's lodging at Hampton Inn, breakfasts & dinners, tickets to the Ark Encounter and Creation Museum, luggage handling, meal gratuities and taxes, and a Riverboat cruise with dinner and entertainment. Cost is \$629 per person (based on double occupancy hotel room; single occupancy +\$170.). Deposit of \$25. is due asap, payable by check to "St. Paul Lutheran Church" and memo: ARK. Detailed information is available, so please **pick up a flier on this trip today on the Information Counter in the narthex. Balance due on September 1, 2026** For information and reservations contact Wanda Aschenbach (440/935-3863).

BROTHERHOOD, BIBLE & BREW: The next BBB meeting will be on August 13th, 2026, at 6:30 PM at The Ghost Tree Brewing Co. located at 300 Church St. in Amherst. Please note this is a different location than last month. All men interested in a lively Christian conversation is welcome. Bring a friend.

PRAYER GROUP: The Pray Group meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 1:00 PM. All who are interested in praying are welcome to join us. The next prayer session will be on August 13th at 1:00 PM. We will meet in the conference room on the 2nd floor. If you have any questions, please contact Stephen Warnock at 216-233-7572, or at warnock5353@ gmail.com or in person. Please come join us.



"The Lord is Near to all who Call on HIM." Psalm 148:18

Prayer Requests this Week

Pray for **the Gramer family** as they grieve the loss of Marylou whose funeral will be at St. Paul Monday Aug. 10 @ 11am.

Pray for **Sharon Hambly** who is back in the hospital and very weak; **Sheryl Gregg** as she goes through radiation and chemotherapy for her cancer; **Emma Jenkins** who is in rehab recovering from a fall; **John Schick** who is recovering at home from a bad fall; **Barb Deja** who is being treated for cancer; **Donna Napolitano**, sister of Diane Lamoreaux who is recovering from heart surgery; **Jerry Camera**, a relative of Sally Krause, with bladder cancer; **Jeanne Camera**, a niece of Sally Krause, who has cancer; **Nancy Dau**, in treatment for cancer; **Zack**, a friend of Cyndi Kemery, who has cancer; **Tracy**, who has cancer and is receiving radiation; **Jim Williams** who has cancer; **Lorie**, Cyndi Kemery's cousin, who has non-Hodgkins Lymphoma; **Paxton Roby** with cancer.

Pray for those who have on-going chronic illnesses or are home-bound: **Janice Ingersol, Edna Klenz, Don Lamoreaux, Ruth Murdy, Jack & Marilyn Green, Phyllis Darakis, John Harden, Joanie Fahrney, Ron Klein, John Schick, Marlou Gramer, Emma Jenkins.**

Pray for those celebrating birthdays: **Diane Gramer, Lily Draga**

New Church Ministry Podcast — Volunteers Needed

St. Paul is launching an exciting new ministry: a church podcast designed to share faith stories, ministry updates, interviews, teaching moments, and conversations that help us grow together as a community. We are inviting anyone interested to take part in this new effort. **We're looking for volunteers to help with planning, organizing, recording, interviewing, hosting, and behind-the-scenes support.** No experience is required — just a willingness to learn and be part of something new. Our goal is to release the first episode in early fall of 2026, and we would love to have you involved from the beginning. If you're curious, creative, or simply want to help, please let us know by signing up on the volunteer list in the Narthex. Your voice and your gifts can make this ministry come alive.

Make an impact with Thrivent Choice®

Thrivent Choice® can make a meaningful difference for organizations like ours. If you're a Thrivent client with membership, don't forget to direct 2026 Choice Dollars® by Dec. 31, 2026. We'd be honored if you chose to support our church and or preschool. Your support helps strengthen our mission and the work we do every day. Learn more or direct Choice Dollars at thrivent.com/thriventchoice or call 800-847-4836 and say “Thrivent Choice.”

Meals on Wheels Delivery Drivers - The Amherst Office on Aging needs drivers to deliver meals to local residents. Drivers are needed for Wednesdays, and substitutes, and only one day a week from 10:30-12. You will get as much out of it as the recipients do! Contact Carrie or Kathy at Nordson Depot for more information! 440-988-2817

Stay Connected With St. Paul — Simple Ways to Access What You Need

We know technology can feel overwhelming, but connecting with St. Paul has never been easier. The QR codes below are simply **shortcuts** — when you point your phone’s camera at a code, it takes you directly to what you need without typing or searching.

You can use these codes to:

- Visit our **new church website**
- Download the **St. Paul app**
- Access **online giving**
- Leave a **Google review** to help others find us

If you’ve never used a QR code before, don’t worry. Just open your phone’s camera, hold it over the code, and tap the link that appears. It’s that simple — and we’re happy to help if you’d like someone to walk you through it.

Staying connected should be easy, and we’re here to make sure it is.



Web Site



APP



Google Review



On Line Giving



DivorceCare is a safe place where caring people come alongside you as you find healing from one of life’s most difficult experiences — the pain of separation or divorce. At this 13-week program, you’ll find helpful counsel to manage the emotional turmoil and practical tools for decision-making.

Who: People experiencing divorce or separation
When: Sundays, August 16 — November 8. 2:00pm – 4:00pm
Where: St. Paul Lutheran Church
Cost: \$20 Includes workbook. (scholarships are available)

Topics We Cover in DivorceCare

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|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Week 1 – Deep Hurt | Week 8 – Financial and Legal Issues |
| Week 2 – Road to Recovery | Week 9 – Conflict |
| Week 3 – Anger | Week 10 – Forgiveness |
| Week 4 – Grief and Depression | Week 11 – Your Former Spouse |
| Week 5 – Loneliness | Week 12 – Single Living |
| Week 6 – Fears and Anxiety | Week 13 – Brighter Days |
| Week 7 – Family and Friends | |

REGISTER: www.DivorceCare.org/groups/256717
Questions: (Email) DivorceCare@stpaulamherst.com