

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2026

3:00 PM - 5:30 PM

Family Fall Festival



Everyone is Invited!

GAMES •
CRAFTS

PETTING ZOO

PRIZES •
FUN & FOOD

FREE PONY RIDES

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

115 Central Dr, Amherst, OH 44001

SO WHAT'S — THE — DIFFERENCE?



**ISLAM • JUDAISM • HINDUISM • JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES
CATHOLICISM • NON-DENOMINATIONAL • MORMONISM**

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

ST. PAUL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH & PRESCHOOL
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 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 Do all religions lead to the same place but have different paths to God? Today we conclude our summer series in which we have discussed some of the most difficult questions we face in today's world of diverse people and beliefs. As God's Word, the Bible, reminds us that it is very important that you know what you believe, are committed to faith in your heart, and live a life that demonstrates your faith. Today as we consider the beliefs of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints – the Mormons – we remember, ***“Always be prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect” 1 Peter 3:15***

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP O Lord, my Creator, Redeemer, and Comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of Jesus' name. Amen.

Lutheran? Reformed? There is an article available today for free on the table at the entrance to the worship sanctuary.

Altar Flowers given to the glory of God by: Diane Lamoreaux in memory of her husband Don on their 56th wedding anniversary.

Kids Busy Bags Looking for a volunteer to once a month clean out and restock the kids busy bags in that are located in the back of the church.

Altar Flowers - Due to the rising cost of flowers and supplies, the contribution for altar flowers will be increasing to **\$35**, effective September 1, 2026. We appreciate your understanding and continued support. Altar flowers help beautify our worship space and may be offered in memory or honor of loved ones. Thank you for your generosity and participation. If you would like to reserve a date, please sign up using the Altar Flower schedule on the bulletin board in the narthex.

This Week For The Lord	Looking Ahead One Week
9/6 Food Collection Holy Communion 9:30 AM No Divorce Care 9/7 Labor Day - Church Office Closed 9/8 Seasoned Saints 10 AM Women's Bible Study 6:30 PM 9/10 Men's BBB 6:30 PM	9/13 Worship / Kids Church 9:30 AM 9/15 Seasoned Saints 10 AM Women's Bible Study 6:30 PM

Serving in God's House:

Pastor	Rev. Paul Werner
Organist	Owen Reyda
Reader	Sandy Long
Greeters	Eric & Sandy Long
Altar Guild	Karla Staylon & Sue Werner
Sound	Mike Warnock
Head Usher	Ron Fisher
Ushers	Dan Streza, Chuck Draga, Bob Kemmerle

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

Kids’ Church will resume Sunday, September 13th, during the worship service. Children ages 4 thru 5th grade are welcome to leave during the sermon in the main worship service. They will see a video-based Bible lesson, sing songs, maybe do a craft, and return to mom or dad, grandma or grandpa in the worship service.

My Devotions for Families with Children is a very practical, easy-to-use resources to help share faith in Christ at home. My Devotions is designed for families with elementary school aged children. Families simply include these resources in their daily routine, like during breakfast before school, during supper time together when distractions are turned off for a few minutes, or at bedtime. My Devotions are free. **September - November editions** are available free on the resource wall in the lower narthex/lobby.

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. Here you’ll find helpful counsel to manage the emotional turmoil and practical tools for decision-making. You may join the group today, here at St. Paul, 2pm – 4pm, upstairs.

LIFE OF OUR SAVIOR IN STAINED GLASS – The first window is in! It pictures Christ’s birth in Bethlehem’s manger. The artist is currently working on windows capturing Jesus’ Baptism, His ministry, and His crucifixion. Memorial gifts are still welcome towards the creation of the windows picturing Jesus’ Easter resurrection, and His Ascension to heaven. You are invited to give a lasting gift to God, beautify our worship sanctuary, and memorialize a loved one who has gone ahead to heaven. An information brochure is at the Information Counter detailing this project to replace the worn-out side windows in the sanctuary with beautiful stained glass that tells the story of our salvation. Please pick up a brochure if you haven’t seen one.

PLUG IN TO A BIBLE STUDY GROUP



GROW IN FAITH TOGETHER – Join this Sunday, September 6th, as we see God’s grace and power growing His young Church in the Bible Book of Acts. **UPPER LEVEL**, 10:45 AM to 11:45AM • Bible Study • Discussion • Fellowship

Tuesday Morning Bible Study - Join us as we see how God led Joshua in the exciting Bible book of Joshua, and learn how God leads us today. 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 meets on Tuesday evenings @ 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.

BROTHERHOOD, BIBLE & BREW The next BBB meeting will be on September 10, 2026, at 6:30 PM at The Ghost Tree Brewing Co. located at 300 Church St. in Amherst. All men interested in a lively Christian conversation is welcome. Bring a friend.

PRAYER GROUP The Prayer Group normally meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 1:00 PM. This month only will be the 4th Thursday. All who are interested in praying are welcome to join us. The next prayer session will be on September 24th 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.

A FOUR WEEK TEACHING SERIES BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 20 AT ST. PAUL



Join us Sundays @ 9:30AM, starting September 20th as we explore the multifaceted nature of prayer. Move beyond a one-size-fits-all approach to prayer and discover the full toolkit God has given us to communicate with Him. This series will stretch and strengthen your prayer life, not out of obligation, but out of the growing conviction that talking to God is the most powerful thing any of us can do.

Confirmation Ministry Program - St. Paul’s Confirmation program is for students in their 7th, 8th or 9th grade years. Confirmation is a time of growing in faith and learning about what we believe in order to get ready for Communion. Parents or Grandparents who have a young person in the family or a neighbor friend, reach out to Pastor Paul and he can share how the program works, give you materials, and get you growing! Talk to him today, or by email: pastor@stpaulamherst.com

Take your Next Step!



Investigate a life of faith in Jesus.

NEW LIFE WITH GOD is a seminar which offers adults a great foundation for faith and living. This is for adults who want to find out more about our beliefs before committing to getting involved in St. Paul. This is a great seminar for couples who have different Church backgrounds to find out the differences between Lutherans and other church groups. *New Life With God* is also a great seminar for anyone to gain a renewed Faith foundation if you haven't investigated our beliefs since being a young man or woman getting confirmed. There's no obligation to St. Paul by participating in *New Life With God*, however, the door to

church membership is open to anyone who completes this seminar. There is no memorization, no cost – just come, ask questions, and let's discuss faith and life. There are eight sessions. Pastor Paul is leading the discussions. Join Us!

Wednesday evenings

7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Starts September 23, 2026

Looking for some ideas and help for creating a Noah's Ark look alike for the September outreach event. Contact Sue Werner if you can help at 517-304-4611.

We are looking for donations of about 80 empty, clear, rinsed out, non-rippled drink bottles to be used for a craft for the September 26th event. We do need the lids. If you have any questions contact Sue Werner 517-304-4611.

Amherst Historical Society Events Looking for volunteers to man a tent and pass out information about the church and preschool.

- Fall Fest on September 26th 11am – 3pm at the Amherst Historical Society
- Cemetery Walk on October 17th & 18th 3pm – 6pm tent will be set up here at St. Paul. We will also need cookie & donuts donations. Sign-up sheet will be posted as we get closer to the event.
- German Christmas on December 5th 4pm – 8pm at the Amherst Historical Society

If you are able to help at any of these events please reach out to Eric or Sandy Long.

Help Others Find Us: The Power of Your Google Review

We want to share an important opportunity to help our church grow and welcome new faces, especially younger people looking for a place to belong. Good reviews on Google make it easier for those searching for a church to learn about us and feel confident in visiting. Your positive feedback can be a guiding light for someone beginning their faith journey.

We invite you to leave a review for our church—it's quick and easy! Just scan the QR code and share your thoughts. If you need any assistance, Don Hammond is happy to help you through the process. Thank you for supporting our church and helping others find their way!



Why a Podcast Matters: Reaching Out and Inviting In

Did you know that a church podcast is one of the best ways to reach people beyond our current membership? Podcasts allow us to share our church's message with those who may not be able to attend in person, and they're especially appealing to younger generations who often discover and connect with churches online. By offering audio and video content, we can welcome new faces and keep our community vibrant and growing.

We're looking for additional volunteers to help bring our podcast to life! Whether you're interested in planning and organizing, working behind the scenes, or assisting with the audio and video aspects, your help will make a difference. If you're willing to join the team, please sign up using the form in the narthex. Thank you for helping us share our story and invite others into our church family!

St. Paul Preschool Amazon Wishlist We are so grateful for all the ways all of you have helped make our classroom a success! We feel so blessed to have been given items from our wish list last year and it helped us so much! If you would like to help our classroom this year, here is the link to our Amazon Wishlist. Thank you so very much!



Preschool Calendar Fundraiser

The preschool will be putting together a calendar for a fundraiser for the month of October. Each day they will be giving away a gift to the winner of the day worth \$25 - \$50. How we can help? Donate gift cards or cash. If you own a business and can donate a gift card or merch. Any questions contact the preschool director Tracie Heuring at 440-988-5427. Gifts can be given directly to the Tracie or to Judy Bloom in the church office.



“The Lord is Near to all who Call on HIM.” *Psalm 148:18*

Prayer Requests this Week

Please pray for **Bob Morris** who has cancer and health issues; pray for **Sheryl Gregg** as she goes through radiation and chemotherapy for her cancer; **Emma Jenkins** that the treatment for her liver cancer is effective; **Edna Klenz** as she has stomach cancer; **Barb Deja** who is being treated for cancer; **Kyle** who is depressed, lonely, and suffering from bi-polar, that God’s love lifts him up; **Billy**, brother of Melissa Warnock who has an infection in his foot causing lots of pain and that the doctors can come up with a cure, **Sandra Yepko**; **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; **Cindy Saegert** who has 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 **Wendy** who has severe health problems.

Please pray for **the people in Nepal had a catastrophic mud slide**, that the many missing people be found, that those injured are healed, that those grieving have comfort through hope in Jesus Christ, that those searching for both the living and the dead are safe and aided.

Pray for those who have on-going chronic illnesses or are home-bound: **Janice Ingersol**, **Ruth Murdy**, **Jack & Marilyn Green**, **Phyllis Darakis**, **John Harden**, **Joanie Fahrney**, **Ron Klein**, and **John Schick**.

Pray for those celebrating birthdays: **Ron Muska**, **Cyndi Kemery**, **Paul Werner**, **Diane Spencer**, **Mason Mlinarik**, **Joyce Trottier**.