

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

YOU INTENDED TO HARM ME,
*but God intended
it for good,*

**TO ACCOMPLISH WHAT IS NOW BEING
DONE, THE SAVING OF MANY LIVES.**

Genesis 50:20

ST. PAUL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH & PRESCHOOL
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 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 In settling His accounts with us, our Lord does not act with anger, but with compassion. Therefore, our Lord instructs each of us to have "mercy on your fellow servant" and "forgive your brother from your heart" Matthew 18:33, 35. Since we all will "stand before the judgment seat of God," we are not to despise our brother Romans 14:10, but gladly forgive him.

WE WELCOME TO ST. PAUL Pastor Bill Mugnolo who is our guest leading us in worship today. Pastor Mugnolo is enjoying his retirement half-time, and continues to serve as pastor of Zion Lutheran Church in Lorain half-time. Thank you for leading us in worship and sharing God's Word with us today, Pastor Mugnolo.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP Heavenly Father, send Your Holy Spirit on us through the Means of Grace, so that confessing our sins, we rely not on ourselves but on Jesus Christ alone, as we grow up in all things into maturity in faith and witness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Kids' Church is Back! 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. Follow the adult leader when its announced in the worship service.

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. This is an important ministry, and one you can do at your own schedule. It's a "behind the scenes" kind of ministry. Contact the church office for more info, or to say, "I'd like to try it."

Pastor Werner is away, and he returns to the church office on Tuesday this week,

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
9/13 Worship / Kids Church 9:30 AM Divorce Care 2 PM	9/20 Holy Communion / Kids Church 9:30 AM Divorce Care 2 PM
9/14 Worker Care & Compensation Comm. 5:15 PM	9/22 Seasoned Saints 10 AM
9/15 Seasoned Saints 10 AM	Preschool Board 4 PM
Women's Bible Study 6:30 PM	Women's Bible Study 6:30 PM
9/17 Men's Coffee @ Commando Coffee 9 AM	Community Care Non-Profit Team 6:30 PM
	9/23 New Life With God 7 PM
	9/24 Prayer Group 1 PM
	9/26 Family Fall Fest 3 PM

Serving in God's House:

Pastor	Rev. William Mugnolo
Organist	Naomi Berstein
Reader	Jan Beko-Nathan
Greeters	Danny & Cyndi Kemery
Altar Guild	Karie Coffman
Sound	Mike Warnock, Virginia Warnock
Head Usher	Ron Fisher
Ushers	Jeff Krupp, Steve Warnock, Don Wilms

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

Naomi Bernstein – Director of Music Ministries

Mike Warnock – Director of Worship Technology

Welcome Naomi Bernstein!

St. Paul's New Organist & Director of Music Ministry

We are pleased to welcome Naomi to St. Paul. Naomi is from Seattle, Washington, where she played organ professionally for two Roman Catholic Parishes. Naomi has transferred to the Music Conservatory at Oberlin College from Indiana University in Bloomington, IN. She is working towards her bachelor's degree in organ performance. She will begin playing for worship at St. Paul today, Sunday, September 13th. Please welcome Naomi Bernstein warmly to St. Paul!

PLUG IN TO A BIBLE STUDY GROUP

GROW IN FAITH TOGETHER – JOIN US to discover God's grace and power growing His young Church in the Bible Book of Acts. You'll discover how God's Holy Spirit fills you with the joy of Jesus, and through you God grows His Church as people are brought to faith through hearing the Great News of Jesus. Grab a cup of coffee and join us upstairs Sundays at 10:45 AM. All welcome! • Bible Study • Discussion • Fellowship

Tuesday Morning Bible Study – You are invited to Tuesday morning Bible study as we start the book of Judges. This is a powerful book filled with examples of God's deliverance through faithful followers, and the consequences of doing what is right in our own eyes. 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! Join us Tuesdays at 10:00AM.

Women's Bible Study Group @ 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. We are starting a new discussion series in September which is **a great time for ladies to jump in!** Our new series is "Don't Give the Enemy a Seat at Your Table."

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.

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

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. **Please place them in barrel at Info. Counter in Narthex.** If you have any questions contact Sue Werner 517-304-4611.

Drink Bottles Needed



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.

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.

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

Praise God that **Emma Jenkins** has healed after a fall and is now back in her new home in Kingston West.

Pray for people who are ill: **Lucy McHugh** who fell breaking her upper arm and is in several weeks of rehab following surgery; **Carl Camera**, nephew of Sally Krause, who has cancer; **Victor Simith**, friend of Sandy Long, who had open heart surgery and is in an induced coma; **Jim Studd**, brother of Judy Starbuck, who has a stroke and is hospitalized; he has **Bob Morris** who has cancer and health issues; pray for **Sheryl Gregg** as she goes through radiation and chemotherapy for her cancer; **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; **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: **Billy Swanzer, Gabe Kirschner, Donna Kemmerle,**

Calling all of “Geri’s Friends.” As you all know undoubtedly know, sadly Geri Geidrick passed away a few months ago. While Geri is dearly missed by all who knew her, we do not want her ministries to also die. Geri was always thinking of ways to get more people involved in the church and one of those was to engage the ladies in the congregation in social activities she herself planned.

Recently some of those ladies (along with Pastor Paul) discussed a different version of what Geri had begun. In her name, we are interested in starting a group that will combine socialization with an outreach component. We decided to make tie blankets and/or prayer shawls for shut-ins. Material and yarn will be provided. If you are interested in knitting or

crocheting the prayer shawls, please bring your own needles or hooks. NO SKILL IS NECESSARY if you are making the tie blankets.

We intend to meet quarterly, with our First meeting being Tuesday, October 6th, From 11:30am-2pm in the upper level education hall. If interested in joining us, please sign up in the narthex on the information counter so we will know how many to expect. Please bring your own sack lunch and will eat as we work. Should you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact Sandy Binggeli (440-759-2784).

Whether you have or haven't participated before in these social activities, ALL are invited as Geri considered everyone in the congregation to be her friend.



WHAT’S THE SPECIAL VOTERS’ MEETING ABOUT?

Engage FiveTwo in 2yr. Strategic Planning

WHY?

- ❖ **Reach more people with the Gospel**
- ❖ **Create clarity and unity**
- ❖ **Equip members for their everyday lives**
- ❖ **Prepare St. Paul for future generations**

COME, • HEAR THE VISION. • BE PART OF THE CONVERSATION.
• HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF OUR CHURCH.

Every one of us wants to see our church continue making an impact, not just for today, but for our kids, grandkids, neighbors, and the next generations in our Amherst community.

Over the last several months, our leadership has been praying, thinking, and discussing how we can help all of us move forward together with clarity, unity, and purpose. How can we as a church family better live out the mission God has given us and reach the people around us with the Gospel?

That's why we're inviting you to an important special voters' meeting on Sunday, October 4th, at 10:45AM. At this meeting we will be discussing a potential partnership with FiveTwo, a non-profit ministry that helps churches clarify who God is calling them to be for the sake of the future, resulting in a healthy, thriving churches reaching their community with the Gospel.

The conversation is about the future we believe God is inviting us to shape together. We hope you will come, ask questions, and join us for this important conversation.



A New Ministry of Care *for*
1,300 Kids
at Powers Elementary School
in Amherst

Providing Needed Clothing,
Hygiene, and Snacks

YOU can help. The immediate need is for small, sealed packages of **Goldfish** crackers, **Granola bars**, **Cookies** (chocolate chip, shortbread), **Raisins** boxes, **Fruit Snacks**, **Cracker & Cheese**.

Place snack donations in the barrel at the Information Counter in St. Paul's narthex.

Grandparents Day 2026

Sunday, September 13

**THERE ARE FREE RESOURCES IN THE
NARTHEX TODAY FOR YOUR IMPORTANT
MINISTRY AS GRANDPARENT.
STOP AT THE TABLE AND CHECK IT OUT.**