



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 following 2 pages describe in more detail the FiveTwo 2-year Strategic Planning Process.**

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.



ST. PAUL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH & PRESCHOOL
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 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 God doesn't want you to be discouraged or afraid because the enemy, Satan, constantly seeks to destroy you who trust in Jesus, the Savior. Rather than dismay, rejoice because God has defeated sin, death, and the devil, and gives you a life-line to him 24/7/52 through prayer.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP Heavenly Father, in today's worship let me hear Your Word and take it to heart, that I may trust You in every trial and need, turning to you in prayer as You have invited me. Amen.

Altar flowers given to the glory of God by Roger & Wanda Aschenbach in thanksgiving for God's many blessings.



Our greatest help is the Lord God Himself, who eagerly invites us to pray to Him. Today, sealed bags containing several prayer cards are in the narthex / lobby for you. Pick up a bag, take it home, and pray for each person whose name you receive daily throughout the coming month of October.

Food Collection Next Sunday, October 4th -- Your gifts of non-perishable food go to Second Harvest and to families in Lorain County.

If you would like to send a sympathy card to Claudia, Pastor Adamson's wife, her current address is Claudia Acosta, c/o Country Village, 135 B, 721 W. Mulberry St., Angleton, TX 77515.

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."

This Week For The Lord	Looking Ahead One Week
9/27 Worship / Kids Church 9:30 AM G.I.F.T. Bible Study 10:45 AM Divorce Care 2 PM 9/29 Seasoned Saints 10 AM Preschool Chapel 11:40 AM Board of Directors 2 PM Women's Bible Study 6:30 PM 9/30 Preschool Chapel 11:40 AM New Life With God 7 PM	10/4 Food Collection Holy Communion 9:30 AM Special Voters Meeting 10:45 AM Divorce Care 2 PM 10/6 Seasoned Saints 10 AM Women's Bible Study 6:30 PM 10/7 New Life With God 7 PM 10/8 Prayer Group 1 PM Men's BBB @ Ghost Tree in Amherst

Serving in God's House:

Pastor	Rev. Paul Werner
Organist	Naomi Berstein
Reader	Christine Krupp
Greeters	Judy Starbuck, Diane Spencer
Altar Guild	Lynn Jiovanazzo, Judy Starbuck
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

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

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 October - November 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 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 dive into 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. Our new series is “Don’t Give the Enemy a Seat at Your Table.”

PRAYER GROUP The Prayer 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 October 8th 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.

BROTHERHOOD, BIBLE & BREW: The next BBB meeting will be on October 8, 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.

PRESCHOOL CALENDAR FUNDRAISER will be available in the narthex on the information counter. \$10 per calendar gives you a chance to win 31 times in October. One winner per day. Cash or checks made payable to **St. Paul Lutheran Preschool**.

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.

Key Holders to St. Paul’s Building – If you have a key to the church building, please check all doors to be sure they are locked before leaving. If another person or group is remaining after you leave, please check with them about who will lock the doors. Thank you.

Amherst Historical Society Event Looking for volunteers to man a tent and pass out information about the church and preschool at the German Christmas on December 5th 4pm – 8pm at the Amherst Historical Society. If you are able to help 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!



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

Prayer Requests this Week

Pray for **Janice Ingersol** who is now in hospice care and growing weak; and for **Floyd Lodge**, step-father of Kirsten Hill, who is no longer eating or drinking.

Praise to God for Don’ Hammond being **1 year cancer free!**

Pray for people who are ill: **Barb Spieker** who recently found out she has breast cancer, and she is awaiting a surgery in early October; **Lucy McHugh** who is recovering from a broken arm; **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; ho has o 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.

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

Pray for those celebrating birthdays: **Wanda Aschenbach, Alison Pacheco, Jack Trottier**

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 you 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 you 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.



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.

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