ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL
115 Central Drive, Amherst, Ohio 44001
(440) 988-4157 www.stpaulamherst.com

# Graceful Living

Monthly Newsletter of St. Paul Lutheran Church and Preschool
**February 2026**

Sermon messages NOW in 9:30am Sunday worship, about

**God's Grace in a Grudge-holding World.**

**Christian forgiveness is not mustered up through personal piety or strength; instead, it is simply a reality of the new identity we receive in Christ.**

## FROM THE PASTOR

**The people of our world take notice when Christians forgive their enemies, because it seems impossible.**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Charlie Kirk's widow, Erika, publicly forgave her husband's murderer just 11 days after his assassination. *"On the cross, our Savior said: 'Forgive them, for they know not what they do.' That young man: I forgive him,"* she said.

(continued on page 2)

**Sunday Morning Worship Service**
**9:30 AM**

**Holy Communion**
**1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays of Month**

**Kids' Church in Worship Services Sept-May**

**Worship Livestream: YouTube channel "St Paul Amherst Ohio"**

**Food Offering for Second Harvest**
**1st Sunday of every month**

**Church Office**
**Mon – Thurs**
**9:00 AM - 2:00 PM**
**(440) 988-4157**

**Preschool**
**Mon. - Fri.**
**9:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

**Preschool Phone**
**(440) 988-5427**

**“From the Pastor” continued from page 1.**

Over the past several years, there have been other similar public proclamations of forgiveness from Christians, for example, the church members of Mother Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston to the shooter who killed nine of their members. The world takes notice when Christians forgive because such forgiveness seems impossible. The words of forgiveness uttered by Christians should make us stop and ask, “How, and why, is this possible?”

One former Muslim woman wrote about Erika Kirk online: *“I cannot imagine myself standing on a stage, sending love to those who cheered your husband’s murder, or inviting others to spread God’s love in response because, as [Erika] said, “we do not respond to hate with hate”…Again, I am ignorant when it comes to Christianity, but if this is what it truly embodies, then I am envious of those who get to experience that feeling.”*

So, what is forgiveness, and why is it so central to Christian faith and living?

**All forgiveness belongs to God.** God’s forgiveness is the removal of sin and also the release of sinners from the penalties of sin (guilt, death, hell). When God forgives, He not only forgets our sins, but He removes them from the us sinners altogether (Psalm 103:12). Because God is holy and righteous only He can forgive sin (Mark 2:7, Luke 5:21). And He does just that because forgiveness is a part of who He is. We might expect God to give out forgiveness sparingly. Yet, He gives it freely (and some might even say, recklessly) in Christ.

Jesus took our place. He became a real human man. He lived *for* us, and died in our place to pay for our sins. The Bible says, ***“For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”*** 2 Corinthians 5:2 This means forgiveness is not just something Christians do, it is a part of who we are in Christ.

**Only the forgiven can forgive.** Many people have praised Erika Kirk for her strength in publicly forgiving. And while her courage is remarkable, it’s not human strength that produces forgiveness. Only those who know their own sin and their desperate need for a Savior can forgive others, including their enemies. Scripture makes this link again and again: ***“Forgive one another, as God in Christ forgave you”*** (Eph. 4:32). Forgiveness flows from God to us, and only then through us. When Jesus talks about forgiveness, He never says forgive based on how sorry the person who has wronged you behaves or seems. Instead, He says forgive because you are forgiven. Through faith in Jesus, we are released from our own trespasses and so we have no need to hold on to the sins of others, either. Forgiven people forgive.

If you are struggling to forgive, pray that you might forgive quickly. Hold to the truth that you have been forgiven just as much as the one who needs your forgiveness. Trust that even when forgiveness seems impossible, you are already forgiven in Christ. Forgiveness is always worth your time, and bitterness will always be a thief of your time.

Your identity in Christ which has been given to you freely by Jesus’ grace in your baptism, is more foundational and eternal than any evil done to you. As amazing as it may seem when Christians forgive their enemies, we forgive because God’s grace has changed our hearts and so now, that’s just who we are!

See you on Sunday, *Pastor Paul*

**Sundays 9:30 AM**
Holy Communion on 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays

**Kids' Church** @ 9:30 AM

**Worship Livestream:**
YouTube channel "St Paul Amherst Ohio"

**WORSHIP WITH US @ ST. PAUL'S ON-LINE --** St. Paul's 9:30 AM worship services are live-streamed on Sunday mornings. Go to the church website (www.stpaulamherst.com) and click on the Live-Stream banner on the home page. Recordings of the worship services remain on-line after the livestream for viewing anytime.

## OTHER WORSHIP OPTIONS AT HOME

Worship Anew

This weekly broadcast over regular TV is from our own denomination, the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. You'll find it now on YouTube, so you can watch and worship anytime. Just search YouTube for "Worship Anew."

TIME OF GRACE
IT ALL STARTS NOW

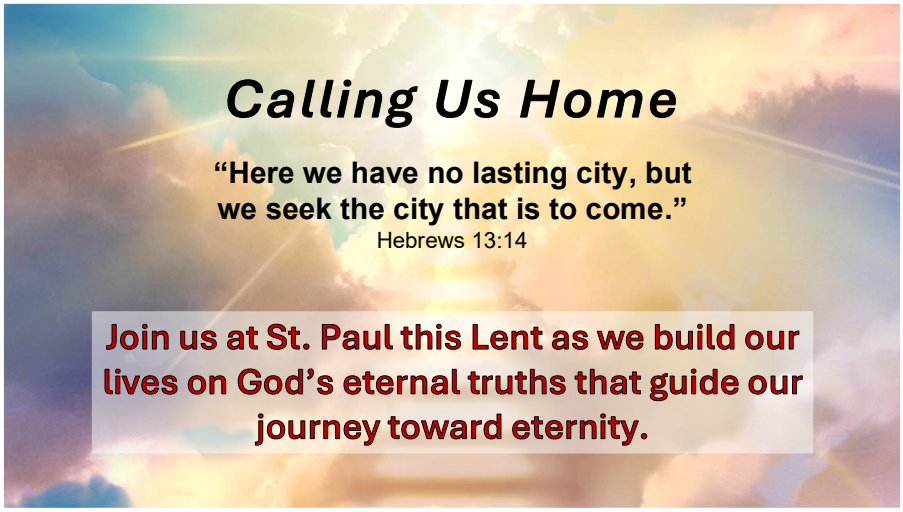
**Time of Grace now on TBN Inspire!**
Saturdays at 2:30 p.m. ET and Sundays at 9:30 a.m. ET. You can also find the program at timeofgrace.org, on demand on the Time of Grace TV program playlist on YouTube, or on the TBN+ app.

God's Grace in our Grudge-Holding World

***"Unravelling the Forgiveness CONFUSION"***
Sunday, January 11 @ 9:30 AM
***"Why It's so GOOD to Forgive"***
Sunday, January 25 @ 9:30 AM
***"How to Have THAT Conversation"***
Sunday, February 1 @ 9:30 AM
***"The HARDEST Person to Forgive"***
Sunday, February 8 @ 9:30 AM

Replays of messages are available on YouTube at our channel, "St Paul Amherst Ohio."

# Lent




The theme for our Lent worship services this year is *"Calling Us Home."* In both Sunday morning worship and Wednesday midweek services we will delve into the Bible book of 1 Peter and learn truths that are both challenging and comforting for this journey we are on, the journey to our true home in heaven.

**Join us!**

**ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026**

**WORSHIP SERVICE @ 7:00 PM**

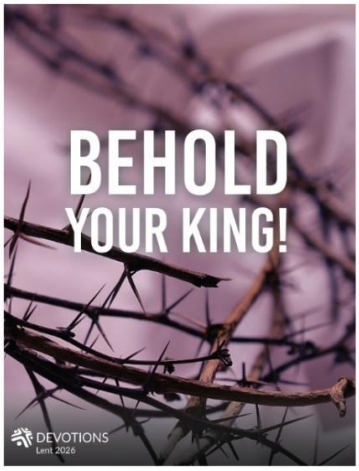
Ash Wednesday service includes receiving ashes and Holy Communion.

## Wednesday Evening Lent Services at St. Paul

**Ash Wednesday, February 18th @ 7 PM**
**Wednesday February 25st @ 7 PM**
**Wednesday March 4th @ 7 PM**
**Wednesday March 11th @ 7 PM**
**Wednesday March 18th @ 7 PM**
**Wednesday March 25th @ 7 PM**

**Each Wednesday night in Lent join us for supper before the worship service from 5:45 - 6:45 pm. Suppers are simple and easy and for a free-will offering. All are welcome.**

# Lenten Devotions - Behold Your King!




In love, God sent His Son to redeem the world. In hatred, He was rejected. In *Behold Your King!*, we see the Savior stripped of His dignity, led away, and crucified on our behalf. No one could imagine this Man, this condemned and forsaken Man, was God in the flesh sent to liberate us from our sin by His death and resurrection.

That the Son of God joined us in our humanity show clearly God's overwhelming love and concern for the world. And not only this, Jesus endured scorn and mockery from people He created. And yet, as King, as Lord of all, He did the unthinkable: He laid down His life for the sins of the world.

**Pick up your *Behold Your King!* devotion booklet for Lent in the narthex (lobby) at St. Paul beginning Sunday, February 8th. They are free. You can have these devotions emailed to you every day if you wish. Emailed devotions are convenient, and you can click to have them played to you each day as you get ready for your day, or drive to work or school. Sign up at [www.lhm.org/devotions](www.lhm.org/devotions)**

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*Come grow with us!*

## Women's Bible Study Group - Tuesday Nights @ 7 PM

Women are always invited to the women's group that meets in the church parsonage every Tuesday night. You'll make wonderful friends, grow in faith, and engage in caring lively discussion about living everyday as a Christian and woman.

## Tuesday Morning Bible Study @ 10 AM

You'll meet some friends, find encouragement, enjoy home-baked cookies, and grow in faith. We're following the story of the people of Israel after leaving slavery in Egypt on their way to the Promised Land. We wonder whether they will keep God central in their lives as they go through the wilderness. That's the same thing we all wonder about our lives today. We meet in the upper level. You don't have to be a Bible scholar. Everyone is welcome!

**Brotherhood, Bibles, & Brew** Hey guys, the next BBB meeting will be on Thursday, February 12, 2026, at 6:30 PM at the Paper Moon Vineyard and Winery located at 2008 State Rd. Vermilion. All men interested in a lively Christian conversation is welcome. Bring a friend.

St. Paul's 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 February 12th 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 and join us

## NEW LIFE WITH GOD – YOU CAN STILL PLUG IN!

This 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. Pastor Paul is leading the discussions. Join Us!

**Tuesday evenings**
**7:00 PM to 8:30 PM**

### What Is a Living Christian Faith?
### Is being a Christian MORE than attending a Church Service?

Being a Christian shows in your Commitments and Action. These are the "fruits" or results in the life of a person who fully follows Jesus Christ. It takes discipline, prayer, and love for Christ to constantly through life keep growing in these habits.

**7 Doors of Spiritual Growth**

***In response to God's grace to me in Jesus Christ, I commit to on-going growth in all the disciplines of the Christian faith, which include:***

- **Witness** to Christ in all I say and do,
- **Worship** Christ with my life daily and with my fellow Christians weekly,
- **Connect** with others in my congregation as well as in a small group,
- **Pray** regularly for others, especially the lost, as well as for myself,
- **Study** the Bible on my own as well as with my fellow Christians,
- **Serve** God and others inside as well as outside the church, and
- **Give** a percentage of my financial resources to extend the cause of Christ, making a tenth (tithe) as my minimum goal.

## CHRISTIAN CARE

**Sick Child Needs Our Help** - Milo is the 4-year-old son of Matt Hambleton (Lowe's store manager) and on January 4, 2026, he was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia. The next year of Milo's life will entail long hospital stays, intensive chemotherapy and a marrow transplant. Mom has quit her job, and Matt is taking a long absence from work so they can be with their child during this difficult time. We of St. Paul Lutheran Church can assist them by taken on the following ministry: 1) Spread the news of this dreadful event to everyone you know, 2) Ask everyone to pray for the family during this spiritually and physically difficult time, and 3) Go to https://GoFundMe.com Search for Milo Hamilton and make a donation to help cover the medical and living expenses for the family as their income will be significantly reduced over the next year.

## *Greeting Card Making!*

Tap into your artistic skills you didn't know you had in you. Learn to stamp, cut, and paste to make beautiful greeting cards **on Saturday, February 28th @ 1pm at St. Paul.** We always make some for the shut-ins of the congregation. Please join us. We have a lot of fun! No experience necessary. Just a heart for serving.

Over the past several years the people of St. Paul Lutheran Church have given above and beyond their normal gifts towards a special Christmas Offering to celebrate Jesus' birth and gift of love to all of us. St. Paul's 2025 Christmas Offering is dedicated to (1) Love INC of Lorain County, (2) Missionary Anika Slayton in Leipzig, Germany, and (3) Disaster Relief through the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod Disaster Response. The total amount received in this thank-offering is $5,695., which will be split equally for our three causes.

**NON-PERISHABLE FOOD GATHERING – Sundays February 1st and March 1st.** Second Harvest Food Bank helps families all over metro-Cleveland get the nutritious food they need. You can bring non-perishable groceries the 1ST Sunday of the month. Place them in the receptacle just inside the main church doors.

## Welcome your new neighbor

Check out the beautiful gift basket that you can give to *your* new neighbor in your neighborhood! New neighbors are thrilled to receive these gifts. All you need to do is write down the address on an entry form in the narthex.

# St. Paul's Easter Party & Egg Hunt!

**Saturday, March 28, 2026 10:00 AM – 12:00 NOON**

## Will *YOU* Help Our Easter Party be Eggcellent?

A lot of hands will help make this year's Easter Party run smoothly and easily. We will be inviting kids and families from our local community, and all the fun shares the *REAL* reason for joy – Jesus! **Won't you help?** We will need candy donations and eggs filled. We will need prizes for the special eggs and prizes for the guessing jar. You can Sign-Up starting in March.

## Friday, March 13th 5:30 – 8pm

**We're inviting All our Congregation – young & old - to come and have a fun night with the kids and families. Parents can drop the kids off or stay and have family fun together.**

**@ St. Paul Lutheran Church**

# St. Paul MomCo

**(Mothers' Community)**

**Starts Thursday, February 12 @ 7PM**

MomCo is short for "Moms Community." St. Paul's MomCo is a place for mothers to find support, answers, friends, and a time to stop the craziness that motherhood can bring to celebrate the woman inside who wears the title, "Mom."

You are invited to the next meet-up on Thursday, February 12th, 7 PM – 8:30 PM. MomCo has groups meeting around the world, and we're happy to form a group at St. Paul.

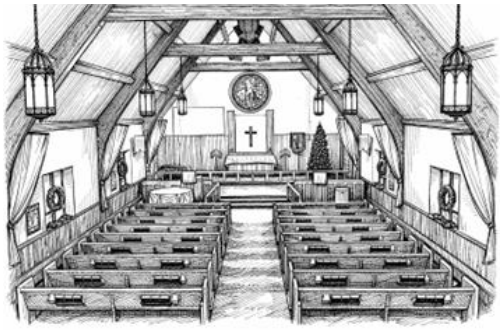
**Check it out & Register:**

**www.stpaulamherst.com/momco**

## Voters' Assembly

**Sunday, February 15, 2026, 10:45 AM**

St. Paul's annual Voters' Assembly Meeting will be Sunday, February 15th at 10:45 AM. The meeting will feature reports on God's blessings in the past year 2025, updates on all ministries, finances, buildings and grounds, audit reports, election of some officers, and policy changes. Please participate in the "family business" of your church family.



## St. Paul Lutheran Church Buildings and Facility Committee: Vision, Mission, and 2026 Initiatives

The Buildings and Facility Committee of St. Paul Lutheran Church has been diligently at work, charting a path to ensure our church facilities remain welcoming, functional, and inspiring for all who enter our doors. In our recent meetings, committee members have thoughtfully established a vision, core values, a clear mission statement, and well-defined objectives to guide our work throughout 2026 and beyond.

Guided by faith and a commitment to our church community, the committee's vision is to create and maintain spaces that support spiritual growth, foster fellowship, and promote accessibility for all. Our

core values focus on stewardship, inclusivity, safety, sustainability, and adaptability. We believe that our church building is not just a structure, but a living space that reflects the love, hospitality, and values of St. Paul Lutheran Church.

Scripture reminds us, "Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain" (Psalm 127:1, ESV). This verse encourages us to place God at the center of all our plans and efforts, knowing that our work finds meaning and purpose through faith. Similarly, Paul writes, "You also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit" (Ephesians 2:22, ESV), calling us to see our church as both a physical and spiritual home, where God's presence dwells amidst His people.

Our mission is to ensure that every aspect of St. Paul Lutheran Church's facilities—inside and out—meets the spiritual, practical, and social needs of our diverse congregation, and serves the needs of the Gen Z (Young adults). We are committed to creating spaces that honor our traditions, embrace the present, and prepare us for the future.

To fulfill our mission, the committee has set forth several objectives for 2026:

- Enhance the interior spaces to support worship, education, and fellowship.
- Improve and beautify the church's exterior, ensuring it is inviting and well-maintained.
- Engage and support Gen Z and younger adults, making our church a place where everyone feels at home and empowered to participate.
- Promote accessibility for people of all ages and abilities.
- Foster environmental responsibility in all facility decisions and projects.

To make meaningful progress toward these objectives, the Buildings and Facility Committee has established three focused sub-committees:

1. Interior Sub-Committee: This group is dedicated to examining and improving the church's interior spaces—including the sanctuary, classrooms, kitchen, Fellowship Hall, and more. Their goal is to create comfortable, functional, and aesthetically pleasing environments for worship, learning, and gathering.
2. Exterior Sub-Committee: Charged with enhancing the church's curb appeal, safety, and usability, this team will address landscaping, parking, signage, lighting, and outdoor gathering spaces to ensure our facility is welcoming from the very first step onto church grounds.
3. Gen Z (Younger Adults) Sub-Committee: Recognizing the unique needs and perspectives of younger adults and emerging leaders, this sub-committee will focus on how the church facility can better serve and engage Gen Z members—through technology, flexible gathering spaces, and programming that resonates with their interests and values.

Our committee recognizes that the best ideas and solutions often come from the collective wisdom of our church family. We wholeheartedly encourage input from all members—regardless of age or involvement. In addition to welcoming feedback, each of the three sub-committees will be actively pursuing comments and suggestions from congregation members to help guide the course and priorities of the Buildings and Facility Committee. Your thoughts, suggestions, and concerns are invaluable as we strive to make St. Paul Lutheran Church a place that truly feels like home for everyone. Whether you have ideas for a specific area, see a need that should be addressed, or simply want to volunteer your time, please reach out to any committee member. The following are the members of the committee: Don Hammond, Steve Warnock, Eric Long, Virgina Warnock, Mike Warnock, John Barbander, Fred Oberdick, Ron Fisher, Cathi Aufdenkampe, Kirsten Hill, Karen Seagert, Diane Spencer, Ken Wulfhoop.

Together, guided by faith and scripture, we can ensure our church building and grounds reflect our spiritual values and commitment to one another—today and for generations to come.

## Our Savior's Life in Stained Glass

**A Series of Six Stained Glass Windows**

**Complimenting the "Christ Praying in Gethsemane" window Above the Altar,**

**Funded by Grateful Donors In Memory of Loved Ones Upon St. Paul's 150th Anniversary**

**Providing needed Energy-Efficient windows.**

# The artist has started creating the Birth of Christ window!

Since announcing the program in September 2025, funds for the first window have been secured, the contract signed with the art studio, Azure Stained Glass, and the Birth of Christ window is in production. Members of St. Paul have enthusiastically embraced this program and have been donating generously for the stained glass windows. Funds have been received for almost 3 more windows! That's 4 out of the set of 6 windows!

It will take some time for the art studio to produce each unique window. Still, we are eager to see the first done, installed, and dedicated to God's glory.

You have the opportunity to participate in beautifying St. Paul's worship sanctuary. Memorials given in memory of a loved one are welcome, in any amount. Donations may be given by individuals, or groups, for example, "from the Johnson family." Donors may remember their loved one with an inscription of a loved-one's name on our wall plaque entitled, "Life of our Savior Stained Glass Windows have been Given in Memory of …."

Your gifts may be given to "St. Paul Lutheran Church" and please add the note "for stained glass windows project." We will then contact you to discuss if your gift is in memory of a loved one and whom you would like memorialized. You may give via check, or through the church web site you may give by credit card or EFT.

The windows will enhance worship and serve the congregation for generations to come.

SERVING THE LORD IN
GERMANY
NEWS FROM ANIKA SLAYTON
January 2026

# Rest in a Restless World

The verse above the entrance to Lukas Kirche reads, "Come to me, all you who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28)

I arrived in Leipzig, Germany on January 6th to start my missionary work. Almost immediately, I began learning more about the difficult lives of the refugees and immigrants who have moved to Leipzig from Persian countries. In every conversation I have been part of with refugees at Die Brücke and St. Lukaskirche, the current conflict in Iran has always become the central topic of discussion.

All the Iranians who are members of St. Lukaskirche or regulars at Die Brücke have family or friends currently living in Iran, daily experiencing the persecution of a violent and godless regime. In Leipzig, there have been days when people who would normally be at Die Brücke have not come in for their regular visits because grief for their loved ones in Iran is too debhilitating. Recently, good days are easily determined by whether they have been able to communicate with anyone in Iran at all, due the strict control over internet use currently in place in Iran.

In the face of such sorrow, feeling powerless to help from a distance, what are these Christian brothers and sisters of ours doing to combat the looming despair, and how are we helping them?

The picture above displays what the eyes of attendees of St. Lukaskirche are drawn to when they first approach the church's entrance. In German, it reads, "Come to me, all you who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest." This well-known verse from Matthew 11:28 was spoken by Jesus. It is a call to constantly return to Him with our burdens.

I give thanks to God for all of you, especially for your love, prayers, support and encouragement as I serve here in Germany! +

*"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!"*
*–St. Paul's letter to the Philippians 4:4*

*Love in Christ,*
*Anika*

# Finding Grace in the Midst of Trials

by Don Hammond

It's remarkable how life's greatest lessons often come wrapped in the most unexpected packages. For me, that package arrived as the sharp pain of a severely broken ankle—a moment that turned my world upside down and set me on a journey I never anticipated. Lying there on the ground, unable to move and gripped by pain and fear, I found myself completely vulnerable. Yet, at that very moment, God's love was already in motion.

The accident happened so quickly. One moment, I was going about my day, and the next, I was on the ground, unable to move my foot. Miraculously, although my neighbors and I were strangers to each other at the time, they saw me from their house and immediately came outside to help. Their quick response was a true blessing; they offered reassurance, practical help, and took me to the ER at the hospital, ensuring I received urgent care. The diagnosis was clear and daunting: a severe ankle break that would require surgery and months of healing. Now, as I remain in the hospital re-hab facility, recovering from both the injury and the operation, I am touched every day by the messages of support I receive. From my Church family and neighbors continue to send me texts full of encouragement and reassurance, letting me know they are praying for me and eagerly waiting for my return home.

Though I am still confined to a hospital bed, God's provision is apparent all around me. The very neighbors who rushed to my side remain present through their words and prayers. Their heartfelt messages remind me that even when I am physically separated from my community, I am not alone. They bring me peace in the quiet moments and help me feel God's presence, even within the sterile walls of my re-hab room.

Through these neighbors, I am experiencing the warmth and compassion of Christ in tangible ways. Their willingness to provide comfort and prayer, whether in person or through a simple text, weaves a thread of hope through my recovery. God brings the right people into our lives at just the right time, transforming neighbors into friends, and friends into family.

One of my greatest concerns is how I will care for my beloved dog while I am still in the hospital and throughout my recovery. Anyone who knows me understands that my dog is more than a pet; she is a loyal friend and a source of unconditional love. In the midst of my struggle, another Christian acquaintance has stepped forward. Not only has she offered to watch my dog, but she has also volunteered to help with her training during my recovery.

What a relief it is to know that my furry companion is in good hands! This new connection has grown into a true friendship, built on shared faith and a mutual love for animals. I am deeply grateful for her generosity and the way God works through relationships to meet our needs—sometimes even before we know what to ask for.

Perhaps the greatest blessing of all has been the outpouring of support from my St. Paul's family. Even while I am still in the hospital, friends from church continue to check in, offer prayers, and make plans to help once I return home. Their willingness to serve—whether by bringing meals, helping with chores, or simply offering a listening ear—reminds me of the depth of love that flows through our church community.

Each visit, call, and prayer is a reminder of the strength of Christian fellowship. The love and service I have received are living examples of Christ's commandment to "love one another as I have loved you." I am humbled by the generosity and selflessness of those around me, and I am reminded that the church is not just a building—it is a family, a body united in faith and care.

While I would never have chosen this path, I see now that God is using my broken ankle to teach me about reliance, vulnerability, and the beauty of Christian community. In my pain, I find comfort; in my weakness, I find strength; in my need, I receive overflowing generosity.

I am deeply thankful for the neighbors who became friends, the new acquaintances who stepped forward, and the steadfast love of my St. Paul's family. Through all the challenges, I am reminded that God's grace is sufficient, and His people are His hands and feet in the world.

As I continue to heal, I carry with me a renewed sense of gratitude and a deeper appreciation for the ways God works through community. My prayer is that, whatever trials we may face, we remain open to the blessings hidden within them—and that we, too, become the answer to someone else's prayer.

## FORGETTABLE FACT

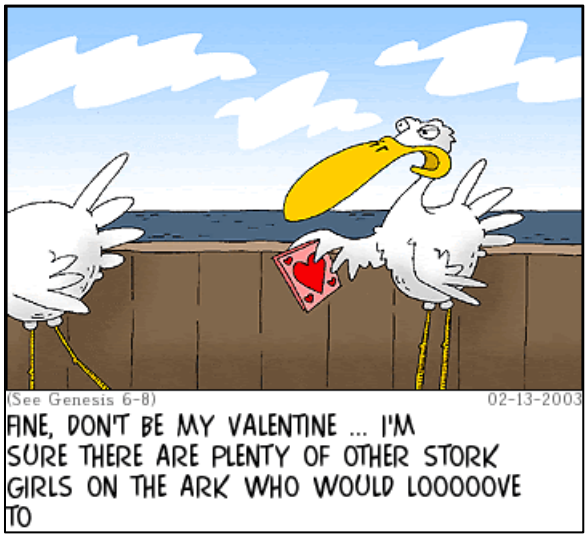
Adults have 206 bones, but babies are born with about 300.

## POTENT QUOTES

"Great is God our Lord, great is His power and there is no end to His wisdom. Praise Him you heavens, glorify Him, sun and moon and you planets. For out of Him and through Him, and in Him are all things."

~ Johannes Kepler, astronomer, mathematician -- Famous for his three laws of planetary motion, which describe planets orbiting the Sun in ellipses, not perfect circles, and established the foundation for modern astronomy by proving the universe follows fixed, mathematical laws.

## PARTING SHOT




ST. PAUL LUTHERAN
CHURCH & PRESCHOOL
**115 Central Drive, Amherst, Ohio 44001**
**Sunday Worship Services: 9:30 AM**
**In-Person or Live Stream @ www.stpaulamherst.com**
**Church/Office: 440-988-4157 Fax: 440-988-5436**
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

## St. Paul Calendar February 2026

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **1 Food Collection**<br>9:30 Holy Communion<br>Kids Church<br>10:45 G.I.F.T. Bible Study<br>2 Divorce Care | **2** | **3**<br>10 Seasoned Saints Bible Study<br>6 Altar Guild<br>6:30 Women's Bible Study<br>7 New Life With God | **4**<br>5 Piano Recital Rehearsal | **5** | **6**<br>6 Piano Recital | **7** |
| **8**<br>9:30 Worship<br>Kids Church<br>10:45 G.I.F.T. Bible Study<br>2 Divorce Care | **9** | **10**<br>10 Seasoned Saints Bible Study<br>6:30 Women's Bible Study<br>7 New Life With God | **11** | **12**<br>1 Guest Hospitality Team<br>1 Prayer Group<br>6:30 Men's BBB @ Paper Moon Vermilion<br>7 MomCo | **13** | **14** |
| **15**<br>9:30 Holy Communion<br>Kids Church<br>10:45 Voters' Assembly Meeting<br>2 Divorce Care | **16**<br>9 Circuit Pastors' Conference<br>1 Ladies' Tea | **17**<br>10 Seasoned Saints Bible Study<br>4 Preschool Board<br>6:30 Women's Bible Study<br>7 New Life With God | **18**<br>ASH WEDNESDAY<br>5:45 Fellowship Supper<br>7 Ash Wednesday Worship Service | **19** | **20** | **21** |
| **22**<br>9:30 Worship<br>Kids Church<br>10:45 G.I.F.T. Bible Study<br>2 Divorce Care | **23** | **24**<br>10 Seasoned Saints Bible Study<br>2 Board of Directors<br>6:30 Women's Bible Study<br>7 New Life With God | **25**<br>11:45 Preschool Chapel<br>5:45 Fellowship Supper<br>7 Lent Worship | **26**<br>9 Men's Coffee @ Commando Coffee, Amherst<br>11:45 Preschool Chapel | **27** | **28**<br>1 Card Making Group |

## SERVANTS DURING THE WORSHIP OF GOD'S FAMILY FOR FEBRUARY 2026

| Service | Elders | Readers | Greeters | Altar Guild | Ushers | Sound |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2/1 9:30 AM | Chuck Draga | Christine Krupp | Mike & Debbie Smith | Fran Draga<br>Debbie Smith | Dan Streza<br>Bob Kemmerle | Mike Warnock |
| 2/8 9:30 AM | | Jan Beko-Nathan | Judy Starbuck<br>Diane Lamoreaux | Lynn Jiovanazzo<br>Judy Starbuck | Jeff Krupp<br>Steve Warnock<br>Don Wilms | Mike Warnock |
| 2/15 9:30 AM | Chuck Draga | Bryan Draga | Karen Vilagi<br>Judy Bloom | Wanda Aschenbach<br>Maryellen Bennett | Bryan Draga<br>Clyde Strader | Mike Warnock |
| **2/18 7:00 PM** | Ron Fisher | Sue Werner | Clyde Strader | Wanda Aschenbach<br>Maryellen Bennett | John Cartmell<br>Danny Kemery | Mike Warnock |
| 2/22 9:30 AM | | Sandy Long | Jeff & Sandy Binggeli | Karla Staylon<br>Sue Werner | Dan Streza<br>Chuck Draga<br>Bob Kemmerle | Mike Warnock |
| **2/25 7:00 PM** | | Don Hammond | John & Brenda Cartmell | Karla Staylon<br>Sue Werner | Jeff Krupp<br>Steve Warnock<br>Don Wilms | Mike Warnock |