

RIGHT NOW THESE TEAMS ARE OPEN FOR YOU TO PLUG IN!

- **Family Focus Team** ~ You will host family-life education events like seminars to build up great marriages and to teach parenting skills. You will also host relationship-building events for families.
- **Child Care Team** ~ You will investigate adding before and after school care to our current Preschool ministry, so that we share Jesus with families who work and need child care.

If you would like to participate in any team Just contact Dave Bender
(dave.bender@oberlin.edu 440/315-9603), Edna Klenz (ednaeklenz@gmail.com);
or Pastor Paul (wernerpaul@sbcglobal.net 440-988-4157).



Donations Accepted Through Sunday 2/11

JAMuary

St Paul's Community Care Team is asking for your support of our first outreach for 2023.

Donations of NEW or like-NEW jammies (Pajamas) size infant to Adult M will be collected for The Blessing House. Bins are available in the Narthex.

Blessing House is a children's crisis care center, caring for children birth through 12, whose parents or caregivers are facing a crisis or emergency.

St. Paul Lutheran Church & Preschool

Sunday Worship Services: 8:30AM & 10AM

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

Beth Naro, Preschool Director - Preschool Phone: (440)988-5427

Oziah Wales, Organist

YOU ARE THE
Salt
OF THE EARTH



YOU ARE THE
Light
OF THE WORLD



St. Paul

Lutheran Church & Preschool

115 Central Drive, Amherst, Ohio 44001

www.stpaulamherst.com (440) 988-4157

Sunday, February 5, 2023

WELCOME! We're glad you're here!

Whether this is your first time at St. Paul, or you're a "regular," we hope you see that our welcome mat is out for you. If you're a guest with us for the first time, we hope you'll find today's experience helpful to you, and you are invited back any Sunday at 8:30 AM or 11:00 AM.

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.

Kids' Activity Bags are filled with crayons and coloring booklets, and other quiet things to keep kids' attention. They are in the back of the worship center, or see an usher for these.

Worshippers who wish to receive Holy Communion are encouraged to thoroughly read the announcement on the following page regarding Communion reception.

IN TODAY'S WORSHIP As if the lights are being raised ever-so-gradually in a dark room, the Gospel readings for each Sunday in this church season of Epiphany shed a little more light on Jesus and on us. Today, Jesus tells us that we are the "salt of the earth" and the "light of the world." Salt seasons and preserves. As followers of Jesus we are called to season the world with the message of Jesus' truth and grace, and to preserve the ways of God in an often hostile world. Light shines! The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: Heavenly Father, as I come to worship this day, forgive my sin of slowness to love others as myself, and my fear of sharing Your love. As I confess my sin in worship and receive Your absolution, renew me with stronger love for You and for the people around me. Since Your love, Lord Jesus, was not just in words, but in actions as You went to the cross for me, so may my love for others be shown in actions of love. Amen.

Please fill out a Communication Card in the pew, and pass it towards the center aisle anytime in the first half of the worship service. You may also use the yellow card in your pew to write down prayer requests for needs or praises. Ushers will gather them during the hymn prior to the sermon. This means you will no longer need to stop on the way into worship to complete one. Offerings will continue to be collected at the doors.

Ushers are standing by to assist you in locating a seat, directing you to restrooms, coat racks, and any other help you might need.

Altar flowers given to the glory of God by Bob & Donna Kemmerle in thanksgiving of God's many blessings.

Food Collection Next Sunday, February 5th. Your gifts of non-perishable food go to Second Harvest and to families in Lorain County.

Happy Times is a very practical, 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 February thru March editions are available on the resource wall in the lower narthex/lobby.

"The Chosen" Join Ron & Tina Muska to watch "The Chosen" TV Series on *Thursday Evenings at 7 PM* in the Youth Room. This series is excellent and shows the life of Jesus through the eyes of the people that walked on earth with him –the disciples, Mary his mother, the Pharisees, the children, those he healed. What would that look like? Now you can experience it! All welcome! Come and binge Jesus!

God's mission and ministry through this congregation is completely dependent upon your generous giving. We believe that God asks us to give to Him lovingly, generously, joyfully, and in thanks for His grace. We invite our guests to not feel obligated to participate in today's offering.

This Week For The Lord	Looking Ahead One Week
2/5 Food Collection Holy Communion 8:30 AM Worship / Kids Church 10 AM 2/6 Community Care Team Meeting 6 PM 2/7 Seasoned Saints 10 AM Altar Guild Meeting 6 PM Women's Ministry 7 PM 2/9 The Chosen 7 PM	2/12 One Service – Holy Communion 9 AM Voter's Assembly Meeting 10:15 AM 2/14 Seasoned Saints 10 AM Women's Ministry 7 PM 2/16 The Chosen 7 PM

Serving in God's House:

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| Pastor | Rev. Paul Werner |
| Organist | Oziah Wales |
| Elders | Dave Bender (E) Ron Fisher, John Schick (L) |
| Kids Church | Sheryl Gregg |
| Readers | Jan Beko-Nathan (E) Bob Steindl (L) |
| Altar Guild | Karie Coffman |
| Head Usher | Ron Fisher |
| Ushers | John Kirschner, John Cartmell (E) |



ONE Joint Worship Service

Sunday, February 12, 2023

9:00 AM

Let's worship together as God's Family of St. Paul!

Voters' Assembly

Sunday, February 12, 2022, 10:15 AM

St. Paul's annual Voters' Assembly Meeting will be following a joint worship service on Sunday, February 12th. The ONE worship service this day begins at 9:00 AM.

The meeting will feature reports on God's blessings in the past year 2022, and updates on all ministries, finances, buildings and grounds, and St. Paul's Ministry Plan for growth.



BIBLE STUDY IN JANUARY CHRISTIANS IN A WOKE WORLD

A Call to Courage, Confession and Love On Tuesday mornings @ 10 AM We examine the religious beliefs behind "woke" ideology. This week, January 17th, we will explore "Social Justice." YOU are welcome to join in, and you will find it time well spent! You'll develop friendships, along with grow stronger in your faith.

WOULD YOU SERVE IN WORSHIP lighting the candles? Women and Men are welcome to light and extinguish the candles. We simply don't have enough youth to be acolytes. If you are willing to serve in this way, write it on your Communication Card along with which worship service time you prefer. Thank you.

2023 Offering Envelopes are here! They were delayed, but finally arrived. Check member mailboxes in the narthex (lobby) at St. Paul for yours. Contact the church office (440/988-4157) if you'd like to start receiving a set.

We Have a WINNER! A New Neighbor who moved into Diane Gramer's neighborhood has won a beautiful gift basket with Christ-themed decorations, snack foods, community information, and an invitation to make St. Paul their new "church home." All Diane did was fill out the form by the gift basket and stuff it in the box in the narthex. Diane gets to meet a new neighbor without having to bake a pie. YOU can do the same thing! Check out the new gift basket for March in the narthex and sign up!

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

- Please pray for Shirley Brumfield who is back in the hospital, having difficulty breathing. Pray that the doctors can find a cure to help her.
- Pray for Steven, Geri Deidrick's son, whose cancer has returned after 4 years in remission.
- Pray for Wyatt who was born premature, is still in the hospital, and is recovering from a surgery.
- Pray for Heather, a young mother of 3, who is in hospice care.
- Please pray for Patti Long (cousin of Carole Naro) who is in hospice care.
- Praise God that Ron Klein is now home from the hospital.
- Pray for Kathy Lasko (Andy Lasko's Mother) who fell backwards, injured her back, and is in rehab now.
- Pray for God to give a Grandson victory in his battle with a drug problem.
- Pray for Laura Stanley, Ron Muska's sister, who was just diagnosed with lung cancer; Pray for Norm Buckingham (friend of Deby & Andy Lasko) who was diagnosed with stage 4 brain cancer; Nelson Paquette (cousin of Laurie Beran) who was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer; Sarah Perkins who has lung cancer; Brian Holmes who is in a trial treatment for his leukemia – pray that it works and he goes into remission, and pray that he can go back to work; Summer (Katie Steindl's godmother) in her long battle with cancer; Sherry (Kevin Starbuck's mother-in-law); Chris (sister-in-law of Virginia Warnock); Pat Kidder; Pam Hundal that she is well enough to lead the trip to Israel soon.
- Pray for those who have on-going chronic illnesses or shut-in: Danny Koch, Charles Waryu, Don Lamoreaux and Don Gramer, Ruth Murdy, Wade Hubbard, Jack & Marilyn Green, Dorothy Barckert, Phyllis Darakis, Will & Lydia Rice, John Harden, Andy Lasko.
- Pray for those celebrating birthdays last week and week: 2/2 Jan Ingersoll, Stephen Warnock, 2/3 John Eibon, 2/4 Michelle Card, Andrew Draga, 2/5 Macy Burns, Ruth Murdy, Jennifer Strader, 2/8 Alex Bender, Phyllis Nabakowski, 2/9 Janine Trottier, 2/10 Scott Thompson, 2/11 Nicole Zadzilka



FEBRUARY 22, 2023

WORSHIP SERVICE @ 7:00 PM

Ash Wednesday service includes receiving ashes and Holy Communion.

Wednesday Evening Lent Services at St. Paul



On Wednesday nights in the season of Lent, starting on Ash Wednesday, February 22nd, we will open our lives up for some intense examination ... and for lots of healing with God's forgiveness and power to change. **Join us for "Seven Deadly Sins"!** **Invite a Friend!**

Wednesday Evening Lent Services

Ash Wednesday, February 22nd @ 7 PM

Wednesday March 1st @ 7 PM

Wednesday March 8th @ 7 PM

Wednesday March 15th @ 7 PM

Wednesday March 22nd @ 7 PM

Wednesday March 29th @ 7 PM



Each Wednesday night Lent service begins at 7pm, and a supper for everyone is served from 5:45 - 6:45 pm. Suppers are simple and easy and for a free-will offering. Join us each Wednesday evening in Lent for good food, great friendship, and moving worship experiences!



Lenten Daily Devotions

Pick up your *Man of Sorrows, People of Joy* devotion booklet for Lent in the narthex (lobby) at St. Paul. They are free. You can have these devotions emailed to you every day if you wish. Sign up at www.lhm.org/devotions