

LENT

A time to remember God



ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2024

WORSHIP SERVICE @ 7:00 PM

Ash Wednesday service includes receiving ashes and Holy Communion.

Wednesday Evening Lent Services at St. Paul

Ash Wednesday, February 14th @ 7 PM

Wednesday February 21st @ 7 PM

Wednesday February 28th @ 7 PM

Wednesday March 6th @ 7 PM

Wednesday March 13th @ 7 PM

Wednesday March 20th @ 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.

St. Paul Lutheran Church & Preschool

115 Central Drive, Amherst, Ohio 44001

www.stpaulamherst.com (440) 988-4157

Sunday Worship Services: 8:30AM & 10AM

In-Person or Live Stream @ www.stpaulamherst.com

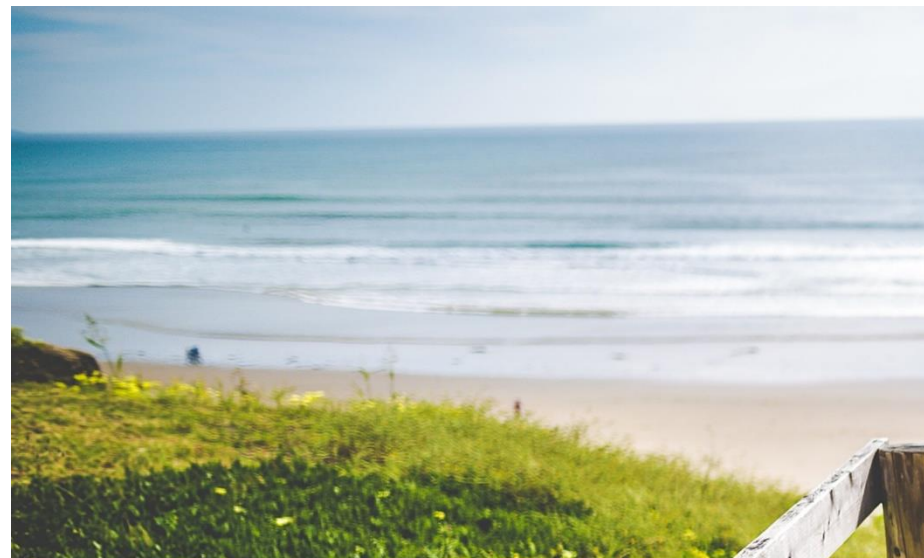
Church/Office: 440-988-4157 Fax: 440-988-5436

E-Mail: churchoffice@stpaulamherst.com Church Website: stpaulamherst.com

Rev. Paul G. Werner, Pastor - Office: (440)988-4157 Cell: (586)201-3302

Mike Warnock - Director of Worship Technology

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



1 CORINTHIANS 2:4 KJV

And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:

ST. PAUL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH & PRESCHOOL
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2024

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 8:30 AM and 10:00 AM, 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 encourage to thoroughly read the announcement in this bulletin explaining what Communion reception is all about.

IN OUR WORSHIP TODAY "Killing It!" is a phrase that means having career success, immense popularity, good looks, and influence in society. Paul describes some of the ways in which he seeks to influence the people who hear his message. He comes simply with the proclamation of the crucified Jesus, a proclamation empowered by the Holy Spirit – who works in people's hearts no matter how inarticulate and weak and fearful Paul himself may be. This powerful message of Jesus crucified has been the overwhelming influence in his life and can be the same in the lives of those who hear him.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: Come, holy Light, guide divine, now cause the Word of life to shine. Teach us to know our God aright and call Him Father with delight. From ev'ry error keep us free; let none but Christ our master be that we in living faith abide, in Him, our Lord, with all our might confide. Amen. (Martin Luther, LSB 497)

JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY The book of Genesis is the foundational book for understanding all of the Bible, and even why the world is at it is. This week we examine what God teaches us about the creation of marriage. Join us this Tuesday @ 10am for growth, friendship, understanding, and yummy cookies. All are invited!

We Have a WINNER! A New Neighbor who moved into Cindy Klein'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 you have to do to win the basket for your new neighbor is fill out the form by the gift basket and stuff it in the box in the narthex. You will get to meet a new neighbor without having to bake a pie.

Voters' Assembly

Sunday, February 11, 2024, 9:30 AM

St. Paul's annual Voters' Assembly Meeting will be Sunday, February 11th at 9:30 AM. The meeting will feature reports on God's blessings in the past year 2023, 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.



An INVITATION from St. Paul's new Director of Music Ministries!

"Greetings to the People of St. Paul. My name is Owen Reyda, a student at Oberlin Conservatory studying organ, and I am happy that I will be the new Music Director starting in February. I would like to reincorporate a church choir to sing at the traditional 8:30 am service, and a hand bell choir to play at various services throughout the year.



Responsibilities of participating in one or both choirs would likely include a weekly rehearsal in the evening, and a brief vocal warm up before the worship service for the church choir. Don't worry - it will not be a stressful commitment, just an opportunity to make music and have some fun. All are welcome to join these choirs, including youth, and if you are interested, please do not hesitate to speak with me in person, reach me through cell phone (716-224-2681), or email (oreyda@oberlin.edu). No audition is required.

This Week For The Lord	Looking Ahead One Week
2/4 Holy Communion 8:30 AM Worship / Kids Church 10 AM 2/6 Seasoned Saints 10 AM Altar Guild 6 PM Board Directors 6:30 PM Women's Ministry 7 PM 2/8 Handbells 6 PM Choir 6:45 PM Brothers, Bibles, & Brew 7 PM	2/11 Worship 8:30 AM Holy Communion / Kids Church 10 AM 2/13 Seasoned Saints 10 AM Women's Ministry 7 PM 2/14 Lenten Supper 5:45 PM Ash Wednesday 7 PM

Serving in God's House:

- Pastor** Rev. Paul Werner
- Organist** James Feddeck
- Pianist** Owen Reyda
- Elders** Chuck Draga (E) Bob Steindl (L)
- Readers** Christine Krupp (E) Sue Werner (L)
- Greeters** Harold & Debbie Gibson (E) Sheryl Gregg, Phyllis Nabakowski (L)
- Altar Guild** Karie Coffman
- Head Usher** Ron Fisher
- Ushers** Harold Gibson, Jeffrey Krupp, Steve Warnock (E) Brad Draga (L)

Community Care Team Update!!

For February & March, we would like to focus on another community group that helps families. Good Knights is a non-profit, 501(c) (3) organization dedicated to providing complete beds to children in need in Lorain County Ohio. The work this group is doing in Lorain/Amherst area and throughout Lorain County is amazing! Our committee is asking the congregation for two things:

- 1 For volunteers who would like to help build & possibly deliver beds. Bed build dates are the second Tuesday (Feb 13th & March 12th) of the month at 6pm. Sign-up online or on Facebook for bed builds. If you would like to volunteer to build or want more information visit Good Knights website <https://goodknightsoflc.org/>
- 2 Donations of NEW pillows, twin bedding, or twin-size sheets items can be dropped off in the Narthex.

Men's "Brotherhood, Bibles, & Brew" Hey guys, join us on the second Thursday night of a month at 7:00 PM at ESP Brewing Company, 8055 Leavitt Rd., Amherst. We'll see you THIS Thursday February 8th.

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

- Please pray for Ed Deidrick who remains in the hospital, out of ICU, and improving. Pray that he gains strength. And pray for Gerri as she deals with the stress of her husband's hospitalization and her own chemo therapy treatments.
- Pray for Larry Cassidy, Sandy Long's brother-in-law, who is now out of the hospital and in rehab in Florida.
- Continue to pray for Coralie Swanzer who broke several ribs in a fall, as she continues to recuperate.
- Pray for Tim Ross, Sheryl Gregg's brother in hospice care.
- Pray for Billy Swanzer's mother, Lynn, who will have heart surgery soon.
- Please pray for healing in Edna Klensz's lungs.
- Pray for Elija to receive a kidney for transplant.
- Please pray for Gerri Deidrick who is in the middle of chemotherapy to follow-up on a surgery which removed colon cancer; Lori Gingrich, sister of Lynn Jiovanazzo and Terri Gerber, as she goes through chemotherapy; Brian Harcula as he has cancer; Paxton Roby with cancer; Pat who has a brain tumor; Heather, a young mother of 3, who has cancer; Sherry (Kevin Starbuck's mother-in-law); Chris (sister-in-law of Virginia Warnock); and pray for Pat Kidder.

- Pray for Sandy Long's great niece, Emmah, who is having surgery on her leg and she's in a lot of pain.
- Pray for those who have on-going chronic illnesses or shut-in: Charles Waryu, Don Lamoreaux and Don Gramer, Ruth Murdy, Jack & Marilyn Green, Dorothy Barckert, Dale Mack, Phyllis Darakis, Will & Lydia Rice, John Harden, Andy Lasko.
- Pray for those celebrating birthdays this week: Michelle Card, Andrew Draga, Ruth Murdy, Phyllis Nabakowski, Janine Trottier.

Protecting St. Paul ~ Christian churches, schools, and organizations in the U.S. have suffered from those who have filed lawsuits against them claiming discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity. At St. Paul we must continue to hold to God's teachings in the Bible on these matters, even though our beliefs may be objectionable to some people, unpopular, and for public institutions our beliefs may be illegal. Our parent church body, the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, has partnered with the Alliance Defending Freedom to advise congregations like St. Paul on S.O.G.I. (Sexual Orientation / Gender Identity) policies. Our congregation's Board of Directors has spent several months studying these issues and they have come up with a very practical approach. The first recommendation of St. Paul's Board of Directors is that we adopt a very clear statement explaining the Bible's teachings on marriage and family. This statement is to be included into St. Paul's Employee Handbook. The second step St. Paul's Board of Directors has taken is to revise the church's application for people and community organizations to use church facilities. These two documents are available today for you to examine prior to the February 11th Voters' Assembly meeting, where your Board of Directors is asking the Voters' Assembly to approve and adopt them. Copies are in the narthex (lobby) on the table at the entrance to the worship sanctuary.

This Lent at St. Paul

FORGIVING CHALLENGE



A Forgiven Person is a Forgiving Person

Forgiving Challenge takes you on a life-changing journey to experience the fullness of God's grace so that you can share it with others. The forgiveness that Jesus has already won for you assures you of eternal life with Him. It also offers you the opportunity to live with purpose today. So come. Be forgiven. Be free. And watch how God works through you to change the world.

SIN Experiencing Freedom starts by acknowledging we have all missed the mark.

CONFESION God invites us to bring our sin to Him and experience Freedom.

ABSOLUTION Every sin of every person has been paid in full by the blood of Jesus Christ!

RESTORATION Jesus' forgiveness restores our identity and we live with purpose.

SANCTIFICATION We walk in complete freedom bringing His kingdom to this earth now.

YOUR WORKBOOK for daily reading and every day challenges are available to pick up today. Your workbook is waiting in the narthex (lobby). The workbook is the practical application for your 40 days of Lent.

Sunday Sermons in Lent and Wednesday Eve Lenten Services

will help you grow in the five Phases of Freedom (**S.C.A.R.S.**)

Join us for each worship experience.

Be Forgiven. Be free. Live with Grace. Experience fulfillment.