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|  | **The Season of ADVENT begins**  **Sunday, December 1st**  ***“His Gospel is Peace”*** is our theme for each Sunday in December as we prepare our hearts to celebrate Jesus’ birth. All December we will grow in the ***peace*** Christ brings to our lives. How we need peace!  **Devotional Booklets**  Free devotions for you to read and discuss at home are available in the Narthex beginning today. Use them every day from the first Sunday of Advent, December 1st, until Christmas Day, December 25th. |



**NEXT Saturday,**

**November 30**

**9:30 AM**

**St. Paul Lutheran Church & Preschool**

**115 Central Drive, Amherst, Ohio 44001**

**Sunday Worship Services: 8:30AM & 10AM**

**In-Person or Live Stream** @ [www.stpaulamherst.com](http://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**

**Morgan Muresan – Preschool Director**

**Mike Warnock – Director of Worship Technology**

**Owen Reyda – Director of Music Ministries**

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Sunday, November 24, 2024

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| ***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.  **Worshipers 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:**  On this last Sunday of the Church year, we focus on the last day on earth, when Christ Jesus, THE KING overall, will return in power and glory to judge all people of all time. For people who trust in Jesus as their forgiver, they do not fear death or the Last Day. Instead, we look forward to heaven. The future God has prepared for you is your hope that keeps you going through difficult times in your life.

**Prayer Before Worship** Heavenly Father, as I worship this day, direct my thoughts to the future You have prepared for me. Strengthen my Hope in Your coming again soon, Jesus, and the gift of heaven You have prepared for me. May I leave here to live as a heaven bound person. In Jesus’ Name I pray. Amen

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 December.

**Food Collection Next Sunday, December 1st.** Your gifts of non-perishable food go to Second Harvest and to families in Lorain County.

Got Bubble Wrap? We are looking for donations of large bubble, bubble wrap for a kids New Years Eve Event here at St. Paul. Place bubble wrap in the narthex.

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| **This Week For The Lord** | **Looking Ahead One Week** |
| **11/24** Worship 8:30 AM  Holy Communion / Kids Church 10 AM  **11/25** Preschool Board Meeting 4 PM  **11/26**  **No Seasoned Saints**  Women’s Ministry 7 PM  **11/28-29 Church Office Closed**  **11/30** Decorate the church 9:30 AM | **12/1 Food Collection**  Holy Communion 8:30 AM  Worship / Kids Church 10 AM  **12/3** Seasoned Saints 10 AM  Women’s Ministry 7 PM  **12/5** Handbells 6 PM |

**Altar flowers given to the glory of God by:** John Schick in memory of loved ones.

**The Hospitality Committee** is teaming up with Amherst Schools and Second Harvest to add some holiday cheer to needy families. We are adding to their food box a “cookie making bag”. It will include a bag of cookie mix, cookie cutters, frosting, sprinkles a homemade card from St. Paul. Some members have already graciously applied for Thrivent Cards. If you would like to donate to this project the committee needs donations of money and sprinkles. If you would like to donate towards this project, put your donation in an envelope and mark if “cookie bag” place it in the offering plate. Any questions contact Karen Vilagi at 440-667-6903.

**The Tuesday Evening Ladies Bible Study Group** is looking for college student addresses. We would like to send a little gift to the college students for Christmas. If you are a parent or grandparent with someone in college, please send their college address to Judy Bloom at [churchoffice@stpaulamherst.com](mailto:churchoffice@stpaulamherst.com)

**2025 Church Schedules** It’s that time of the year where we need to begin prepping for next year’s services. If anyone is interested in signing up to be a reader, usher, acolyte, greeter or help with running the slides during worship services please contact the church office at 440-988-4157.

**2025 Flower Chart** is now posted in the narthex on the bulletin board. Please note the price increase to $30.00 per arrangement. If you have any questions, please call the church office at 440-988-4157.

**Serving in God’s House:**

**Pastor** Rev. Paul Werner

**Organist** Owen Reyda

**Elders** Jeff Krupp (E) John Brabander (L)

**Acolyte** Steve Warnock (E)

**Readers** Jan Beko-Nathan (E) Bryan Draga (L)

**Greeters** Eric & Sandy Long (E) Karen Anderson (L)

**Altar Guild** Lynn Jiovanazzo, Judy Starbuck

**Sound** Mike Warnock, David Staylon (E) Judy Bloom (L)

**Head Usher** Ron Fisher

**Ushers**  Dan Streza, Chuck Draga, Danny Kemery, Bob Kemmerle (E)

Bryan Draga, Brad Draga

**Kids Noon Year’s Eve Party** Tuesday, December 31st 10:30 am -1pm for kids 3-10. Please see the sign-up sheet in the narthex for more information. We also need volunteers for various stations. Volunteers may also sign up in the narthex.

**Tuesday Morning Bible Study will NOT MEET this week, November 26th.**  Join us when we resume on Tuesday, December 3rd @ 10AM. Everyone is welcome!

**Women’s Bible Study Group - Tuesday Nights @ 7 PM**

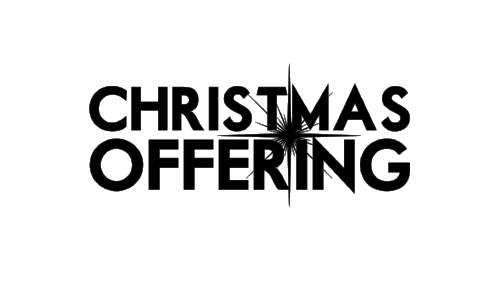
Women are always invited to the women’s group that meets in the church parsonage every Tuesday night. You’ll make wonderful friends, grow in faith, and engage in caring lively discussion about living everyday as a Christian and woman. We are just beginning a new discussion, “Meant for Good.”

**Harvest Gift Basket ~**November’s Thanksgiving themed gift basket for a new neighbor was won by Anita Labella. She will have a wonderful time getting to meet someone new and bless that home with a beautiful gift. You can do the same! Just fill out a form by the gift basket in the lobby, put it in the box, and you could be blessing your new neighbor next month. It’s a great way to meet a new neighbor and invite them to church.

Info from last Sunday’s Voters’ Meetingis available on the information counter in the narthex (lobby).

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

* Praise God as Shirely Brumfield’s great-grandson, Gabriel, took a sudden turn for the better! He lives, and pray that he may be transferred to Nationwide Children’s Hospital that has a special unit for his unique illness.
* Pray for Tim Ross, Sheryl Gregg’s brother in hospice care.
* Pray for Terri Gerber who is home from the hospital recovering from heart surgery.
* Pray for Brad Draga who is having severe back issues.
* Pray for Tom who has kidney stones and his wife, Ruth, who had a stroke.
* Pray for Judy Starbuck’s close friend, Barb, who is hospitalized for a blood clot.
* Pray for Edna Klenz who is home healing a fracture in her neck.
* Pray for Javier who has stage 4 kidney failure, that he can be cured and live.
* Pray for Don Lamoreaux at home recovering.
* Pray for Don Hammond, as he recovers from a procedure last week.
* Pray for Morgan, as she recovers from a surgery last week.
* Pray for Deb and Andy Lasko’s friend, Rob, who is fighting for his life after a serious emergency surgery.
* Pray for John Schick to continue his recovery at home.
* Pray for Ron Klein’s to regain his strength.
* Pray for Ron and Tina Muska to get over COVID, and that Ron’s surgery can be rescheduled to relieve his back pain and allow him to live an active, pain-free life.
* Pray for Larry Cassidy, brother-in-law of Sandy Long, so that he restores his strength.
* Pray for Nancy Dau, as her cancer has returned for the 3rd time and she is starting treatment.
* Continued prayers for Aubrey, 12 yrs. old who has been going through treatment for cancer in her eye.
* Pray for Devin Jarvis, a young wife and mother who has a type of cancer that has been very hard to treat.
* Pray for Linda Little who has cancer.
* Pray for Beth, friend of Judy Bloom, breast cancer diagnosis with upcoming surgery.
* Pray for Keri who has pancreatic cancer and is experiencing complications from chemotherapy.
* Pray for Floyd who has cancer in his back and started chemotherapy.
* Pray for Brian Harcula as he has cancer.
* Pray for Lorie, Cyndi Kemery’s cousin, who has non-Hodgkins Lymphoma.
* Pray for Paxton Roby with cancer.
* Pray for Chris (sister-in-law of Virginia Warnock).
* Pray for Randy who has bladder and prostate cancer and is starting chemotherapy.
* Pray for those who have on-going chronic illnesses or shut-in: Charles Waryu, Don Lamoreaux, Don Gramer, Ruth Murdy, Jack & Marilyn Green, Dorothy Barckert, Dale Mack, Phyllis Darakis, John Harden, Andy Lasko, Betty Heck, Joanie Fahrney, Ron Klein.
* Pray for those celebrating birthdays this week:  Christa Josupeit, Mike McHugh, Pat Echko, Ben Kirschner, Russ Green, Priscilla Harden, Barb Gula, Katie Steindl.
* Pray for peace in the Middle East and in Ukraine. Pray that tensions lessen. And pray for the safety of children caught in war zones.



Every Christmas at St. Paul we give a special gift to God from our hearts filled with gratitude because He Gave the First and Best Christmas Gift … ***His SON***, Jesus Christ, our Savior! Our Christmas Offering is a Special gift, above and beyond our normal week-to-week offerings.

This year our Christmas Offering is dedicated to BIG project in preparation to celebrate St. Paul’s 150th Anniversary throughout 2025. Your gifts will restore St. Paul’s pews to their former beauty and upholster the seats and backs for a new level of comfort. This is a BIG project because our goal is much larger than past Christmas Offerings. Please remember your church’s Christmas Offering in your charitable year-end giving. The Christmas Offering is limited to the month of December. Special 2024 Christmas Offering envelopes are available on the Information Counter in the narthex.

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| **St. Paul Preschool** | **Children's Christmas Pageant | Presbyterian Church of the Cross** | **Wednesday evening, December 11th**  **@ 6:00 pm** |

**One Advent Midweek Worship Service**

This December we have ONE Wednesday evening Advent service to help you prepare your heart for Jesus’ birth. After the service we will have light refreshments in the narthex.

**Wednesday Evening, December 18th @ 7 PM**

**Christmas Services**

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Services**

***Tuesday December 24th @ 4PM & 7PM***

**There will be NO worship services Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25, 2024.**

**There will be NO New Year’s Day service on Wednesday, January 1, 2025.**