



DivorceCare is a safe place where caring people come alongside you as you find healing from one of life's most difficult experiences — the pain of separation or divorce. At this 13-week program, you'll find helpful counsel to manage the emotional turmoil and practical tools for decision-making.

Who: People experiencing divorce or separation

When: Sundays, January 19—April 13 3:00pm – 5:00pm

Where: St. Paul Lutheran Church (parsonage), 133 Central Dr., Amherst

Cost: \$20 Includes workbook. (scholarships are available)

Topics We Cover in DivorceCare

Week 1 - *Deep Hurt*

Week 2 - *Road to Recovery*

Week 3 - *Anger*

Week 4 - *Grief and Depression*

Week 5 - *Loneliness*

Week 6 - *Fears and Anxiety*

Week 7 - *Family and Friends*

Week 8 - *Financial and Legal Issues*

Week 9 - *Conflict*

Week 10 - *Forgiveness*

Week 11 - *Your Former Spouse*

Week 12 - *Single Living*

Week 13 - *Brighter Days*

REGISTER: www.DivorceCare.org/groups/256717

Questions: (Email) DivorceCare@stpaulamherst.com

Take your Next Step!

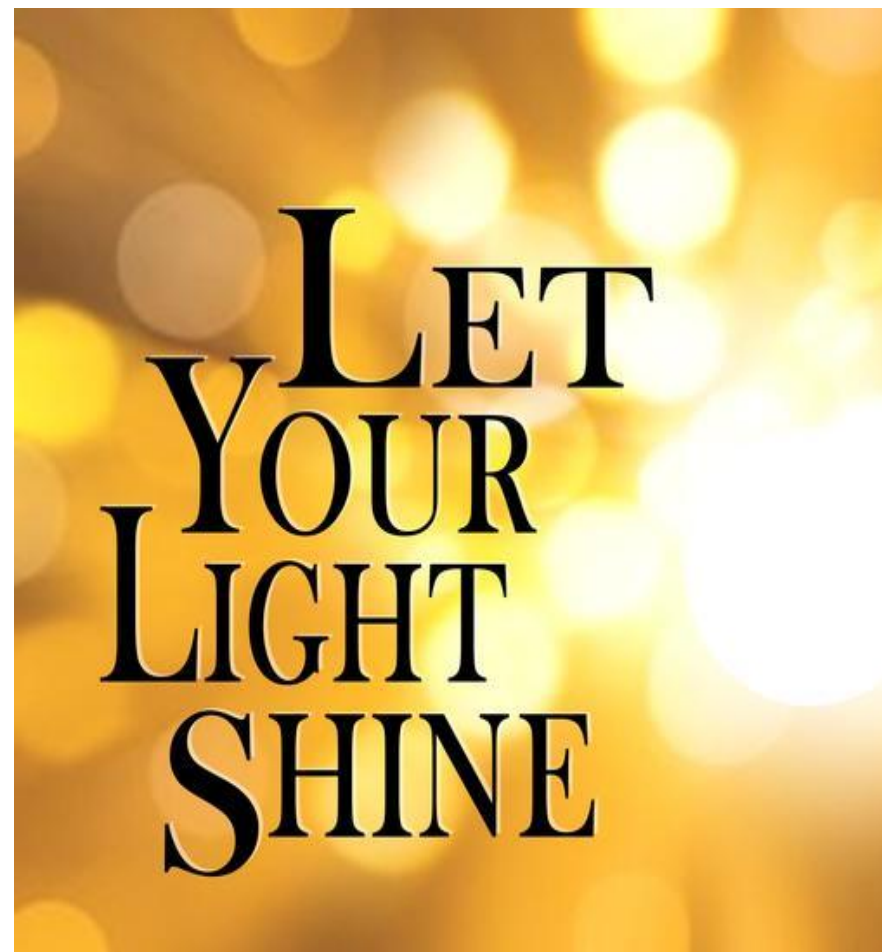


**newlife
with God**

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 mornings 9:30 AM to 11 AM, beginning Wednesday, January 29, 2025**



ST. PAUL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH & PRESCHOOL
SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2025

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 encouraged to thoroughly read the announcement in this bulletin explaining what Communion reception is all about.

In Today's Worship This week Monday, January 6th is the observance of the Epiphany, which remembers the visit of the Wise Men to the Christ Child. The word, "Epiphany" means light shining forth. The light of Christ shone on these non-Jewish, Gentile, Wise Men. Like the Wise Men, we have been led by the light of God's love in Christ Jesus to faith in Him. Now, the light of Christ shines forth to the world through us. "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden...let your light shine..." Matthew 5:14-16

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP Eternal God, You sent the Prophet calling, "*Arise, shine for your light has come!*" We see that light in Jesus, God-with-Us. As I come to worship fill me with the light in Christ, and so through me may You illumine the world. So, I come today bringing the joys and hardships of life, and I celebrate that Christ's light is already with me and within me. Amen.

Beginning Today! Sunday worship services are 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM



GROW IN FAITH TOGETHER

Sunday Mornings 9:45 AM to 10:45 AM

• Bible Study • Discussion • Fellowship

Begins today, Upper Level.

We will take on "hot topics" and build your faith. Today we will discuss the topics and studies YOU would like to cover.

Altar Flowers Given to the glory of God by Bob & Donna Kemmerle for a Joyous 2025.

2025 Wall Calendars are available for free on the information counter in the narthex.

2025 Offering Envelopes are in members' mailboxes in the narthex. Please pick up your box and take it home to give your thank offerings regularly to Jesus. You may also go to St. Paul's web site (www.stpaulamherst.com) and set up automatic electronic payments as a way to give to God regularly.

Take a LOOK at the Hat & Gloves Tree in the narthex. Thanks to all for the new hats, scarves, & mittens. Items will be donated to "Warm Hands, Warm Hearts."

This Week For The Lord	Looking Ahead One Week
1/5 Food Collection Holy Communion 8:30 AM Bible Study 9:45 AM Worship / Kids Church 11 AM 1/7 Seasoned Saints 10 AM Women's Bible Study 7 PM	1/12 Worship 8:30 AM Bible Study 9:45 AM Holy Communion / Kids Church 11 AM 1/14 Seasoned Saints 10 AM Women's Bible Study 7 PM

Serving in God's House:

Pastor	Rev. Paul Werner
Elders	Chuck Draga (E) Bob Steindl (L)
Readers	Christine Krupp (E) Sue Werner (L)
Greeters	Cindy Klein (E) Karen Anderson (L)
Altar Guild	Donna Kemmerle
Sound	Mike Warnock, David Staylon (E) Tina Muska (L)
Head Usher	Ron Fisher
Ushers	Dan Streza, Bob Kemmerle (E) Chuck Strader (L)

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

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

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

- Pray for Ruth Williams who has COVID and is in hospice care in Kingston.
- Pray for Lydia Rice’s 25 yr. old grandson, Justin Sanchez. He is in the hospital in Seattle, WA with a probable A.V.M. (arterial venous malformation) in the blood vessels in his brain. It is serious. Pray for his healing and also that he releases anxiety by trusting in Jesus.
- Pray for Karen Vilagi as she recovers from surgery on her arm.
- Pray for Joan Ackerman who is in the hospital recovering from a fall and fractured hip.
- Pray for Myah Mullin’s Grandma, Peggy, and Grandpa, Earl. She has RSV, and he is in Cleveland Clinic with liver disease.
- Praise God that surgery reattached John Hamilton’s retina in his eye, and pray for his delicate healing.
- Pray for baby Gabriel, that he may grow stronger and start treatment at Nationwide Children’s Hospital where there is a special unit for his unique illness.
- Pray for Tim Ross, Sheryl Gregg’s brother in hospice care.
- 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 Laurie, a friend of Sandy Long, who fell breaking a hip, elbow, and has a concussion.
- Pray for Judy Starbuck’s close friend, Barb, who is hospitalized for a blood clot.
- Pray for the continued healing of those recovering at home: Terri Gerber, Don Lamoreaux, John Schick, Ron Klein, Larry Cassidy.
- Pray for Nancy Dau, as her cancer has returned for the 3rd time and she is starting treatment.
- Pray for Carolyn who has cancer.
- Pray for Devin Jarvis, a young wife and mother who has a type of cancer that has been very hard to treat.
- Pray for Beth, friend of Judy Bloom, breast cancer diagnosis with upcoming surgery on 1/8.
- 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: Ruth Williams, 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: Jeffrey Trottier, Jessie Beran, Brandon Grusell, Juliet Liszeski, Dave Timbs, Dorothy Barckert, Olivia Hargreaves
- Praise God for a wonderful first Noon Year’s Eve party for kids last Tuesday.

PLEASE FILL-OUT A COMMUNICATION CARD which is found in the pew rack. So that we can send you an invitation to St. Paul’s 150th Anniversary, we ask EVERY HOUSEHOLD to fill out a SEPARATE card, leaving your correct address in the notes section. Use one card per household. Please place your Communication Card in the offering plate as it is passed in today’s worship service.

GROW IN YOUR FAITH EVERYDAY! *Portals of Prayer* daily devotion booklets are free and easy to use. January - March editions are in the Narthex (lobby). Take one for yourself, and one to pass along!

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Get Refreshed mid-week with Tuesday Morning Bible Study - You are invited this week Tuesday @ 10AM. You’ll meet some friends, find encouragement, enjoy home-baked cookies, and grow in faith. Try it out this Tuesday. We meet in the upper level. You don’t have to be a Bible scholar. Everyone is welcome!

Women’s Bible Study Group - Tuesday Nights @ 7 PM Resumes Tuesday January 7th. 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.”

MEN start your New Year with a cup of coffee, pastry and great conversations about what new year resolutions you have already given up on. Remember to bring a relative, friend, neighbor, work colleague or anyone else who might enjoy the camaraderie as it is open to all. Any questions, please contact Stephen Warnock at 216-233-7572.



Winter/Christmas Gift Basket ~ December’s themed gift basket for a new neighbor is in the lobby. Just fill out a form by the gift basket, put it in the box, and you could be blessing your new neighbor this month. It’s a great way to meet a new neighbor and invite them to church.

Christmas Tree for Preschool The preschool is looking for donations! If you are interested, please take an ornament with an item the preschool wants on their Christmas List! Please keep the ornament as a thank you from us!

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, altar guild member 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.



Free Seminar to Learn How to Design Your Estate to Make a Lasting Impact

Do You Want to leave a blessing for your children, grand-children, and great-grandchildren? Do you want them to have a Church where they can grow in Jesus’ love and truth?

As part of St. Paul’s 150th Anniversary, we have a wonderful seminar for you to discover ways to plan your estate.

Join us on Saturday, March 1, 2025, from 10AM – 12NOON. Dianna Raasch, of the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) of St. Louis, MO will be with us to lead a panel discussion. You will hear from Rachel E. Lyons, Attorney Trust & Estate Law, Cleveland, OH, and Sean Caywood, Christian Financial Planner, Grafton, OH. You can ask your questions to our team of experts. Nothing will be sold. Watch for registration information so we can plan space here in St. Paul’s facilities.

Pre-School Open House – Soon it will be time to reserve space for your child, or grand child in St. Paul’s Preschool for the 2025-2026 school year. Our Preschool will hold an Open House on Saturday, January 25, from 10AM to 12 NOON for families to drop in, tour the Preschool, ask questions, and get information for registration for next school year.

St. Paul’s 150th Anniversary kicks off on Sunday, February 9th. The Ohio District President of our denomination, the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, Rev. Dr. Kevin Wilson will be with us as guest preacher.

