

St. Paul Epistle

The Monthly Newsletter of St. Paul Lutheran Church

August 2026

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St. Paul Early Childhood Ministry

Jen Probst, Director
Anne Wiltsey, Kindergarten Teacher
Michelle Schultz and Brooke Hughes,
Preschool Teachers
Gayla Alesandro, Andrea Cotton, Tara
Draeger, Sarah Lewis, Lisa Seckman, Laurie
Schultz, Claudia Sims, Amy Yeley
Teacher Assistants

Sunday Schedule

8 AM Divine Service
9 AM Radio Worship Service/91.1 FM
9:10 AM Fellowship
9:30 AM Sunday School
10:45 AM Divine Service
English and Spanish
12:15 PM Spanish Sunday School
7 PM Lutheran Hour/91.1 FM

Prayer Chain

Bonnie England
Phone: 812-447-7895

Dear Church Family,

Our church is overflowing with joy this week as children and youth are learning about Jesus Christ, our solid rock at Vacation Bible School. Gospel seeds are being sown so that these children and their families can be firmly founded on Christ.

This past school year we focused on the theme *Built on the Rock*. Even as we examined the many Scriptures that teach this true, we witnessed our Christian Education Center literally be firmly founded on the solid rock as concrete pylons were poured and the foundation laid.

Our theme for this coming year in both our church and early childhood ministry is **God Is Our Designer and Builder**. Again this year, our Christian Education Center serves as an object lesson for our theme: as the Christian Education Center is constructed we are reminded that our entire Christian life is one of being built up in Christ. Our theme this year extols two important truths: **God is our Designer** and **God is our Builder**.

God is our Designer: Long before any sitework began on the building site, our Building Committee, and before that the Planning Committee, was meeting with our architect Kevin Stuckwisch to design the Christian Education Center. The same is true for you—your life, your salvation are no accident. We read in Ephesians 1:4: *[God] chose us in [Christ] before the foundation of the world*. Think about that! Before God created anything, He knew you. He loved you. He chose you. *God designed you from eternity!* Then as the Master Maker, He formed you and knitted you together in your mother's womb (Psalm 119:13). In the waters of Baptism, He claimed you as His own, making your body His temple. God has designed you for a life of faith in Him and love for others, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which He already personally designed for you that you would walk in them (Ephesians 2:10).

God is our Builder: We are designed from eternity, and now God is building us up in the faith He has given us. Having firmly founded us on Christ the solid rock, God is engaged in a lifelong building project in your life. Many Scriptures speak to this truth: *Therefore, as you received Christ as Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving* (Colossians 2:6-7). *Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In Him, you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.* God is building you up in the faith He has given you. The way God builds you up for a life of faith in Him and love for others is through His Word as Paul says: *I commend you to God and the Word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.* (Acts 20:32).

God has designed you from eternity, from before the foundation of the world. God is building you up through His Word so that your faith and life reflect His design for you. Knowing that God builds you up through His Word, consider how you can make a greater commitment to being in the Word as we begin the new school year. Consider attending Sunday morning Bible study or one of our Wednesday Bible studies. This fall we will be rolling out several small group Bible studies giving you more opportunities to be in the Word. If devotions are not part of your daily routine, make the commitment to being built up in the Word every day. If you need ideas or resources for individual or family devotions, please speak to DCE Probst or one of us pastors.

Not only have you been designed from eternity, but God has also designed you for eternity, for the eternal city, whose designer and builder is God (Hebrews 11:10). God builds you up through His Word, strengthening and keeping you in the faith unto life everlasting.

On **Rally Day, August 9th**, we will focus on the theme *God Is Our Designer and Builder* as we commit ourselves individually and as a congregation to being built up by His Word. Please see the Christian Education and News and Notes sections of this newsletter for all the Rally Day activities. May God richly bless you as you rejoice in Him, your designer and builder, and are built up in the faith by His Word!

In Christ's Love to Extend Christ's Love,

Pastor Bauman





Musical Notes

Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of His grace!

LSB 528, *Oh, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*, is from the pen of Charles Wesley (1707-88), and is set to a tune by Carl Gläser (1784-1829). Charles and his brother, John, were Anglican priests that are remembered as the founders of the Methodist Church. Gläser was a German composer who studied at the St. Thomas school in Leipzig. This hymn is a wonderful combination of text and tune that both thanks and praises God for all the gifts He has given us- especially the gift of salvation through Jesus' death and resurrection! The imagery of each of us being able to sing with a thousand tongues is a foretaste of singing with all the saints in heaven!

August is upon us and summer will soon turn into fall- where did the summer of 2026 go? However, this is also the wonderful time of year when our choirs resume rehearsing for the new season! The Sr. Handbell choir will rehearse on Wednesday evenings from 6:00-7:00 pm, beginning on August 12. This group of dedicated ringers rehearse and play a wide variety of bell music during the prelude, offertory, and to enhance congregational singing. We currently have a full bell choir but please let me know if you have an interest in ringing, as we are always looking for substitute ringers. The Sr. Choir rehearses on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:15 pm, beginning on August 12. Please come sing with us! We sing a wide variety of music that supports the Word of God through the church's song and always welcome new singers! Small Group Handbells will meet on Monday, August 17, at 10:00 am. This group rings during worship several times during the year and enjoys learning about the wonderful world of handbells! We are looking for additional ringers to join in the fun, so please consider ringing with us.

In addition to the Jr. Choir, there are several other opportunities for our children and youth to participate in the church's song. Jr. Handchimes will begin rehearsals on Sunday, August 16, at 12:45 pm. This group is open to children in 2nd grade and higher and teaches the basics of ringing and reading music. Jr. Handbells builds on what is learned in handchimes and is open to young ringers at the approval of the director. Please contact me if your child is interested in ringing in the Jr. Handbell choir. We will also offer Choristers if there is enough interest- please contact me directly if your child is interested. Thank you!

In Christ's love,

Dan



Sr. Handbells will resume rehearsing on Wednesday, August 12, from 6:00-7:00 pm.

Sr. Choir will resume rehearsing on Wednesday, August 12, from 7:00-8:15 pm.

Jr. Choir will begin rehearsing on Sunday, August 9, during the Sunday School hour.

Jr. Handchimes will begin rehearsing on Sunday, August 16, from 12:45-1:15 pm.

Jr. Handbells will begin rehearsing on Sunday, August 16, from 1:15-1:45 pm.

Small Group Handbells will resume rehearsing on Monday, August 17, at 10:00 am.

If you are interested in more information or have questions, please contact me at, (mobile) 812-927-9319, or email

kantor@StPaulColumbus.org

Thank you!



GOD IS

THE DESIGNER

HEBREWS 11:10

ST. PAUL EARLY CHILDHOOD MINISTRY

Early Childhood Ministry

Reaching out with Christ's love to serve and grow through early childhood education

Divine Design

Merriam-Webster defines "design" as the ability, "to create, fashion, execute, or construct according to plan". Every year, the staff at St. Paul Lutheran Church and ECM strategically design the educational and faith development programs that are offered. Before the school year begins, they are constructing lesson plans and activities. They are creating and fashioning classrooms and gathering spaces. Every detail is formulated to

execute according to the plan when God's children gather for physical and spiritual formation.

The most exciting part of this process is that God is the Master Designer. He has equipped His servants with resources, skills, and understanding to implement His plans. Throughout the process, God oversees and guides each aspect to align with His will. The final results will exhibit God's omniscience, omnipotence, generosity, and love.

~Blessings,

Jen Probst, ECM Director

BACK TO SCHOOL!	<u>August</u> 2 – Staff Installation & Dedication at 10:45 AM service – Parent Meeting at 6:30 PM 3 – First day of Kindergarten, chapel begins at 8:20 AM 4 – Beginning of year staff meeting 16 – "Pre" school event at 3:00 PM 17 – First day of 4-year-old Doves class, chapel begins at 8:20 AM 18 – First day of 3-year-old Lambs class, chapel begins at 8:20 AM 19 – First day of afternoon STREAM class
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Please Welcome...

	Hi everyone! My name is Brooke Hughes, and I'm so excited to introduce myself as the new preschool teacher here at St. Paul Lutheran. It is truly a blessing to join this church family and to have the opportunity to work with your wonderful children. I come with 30 years of teaching experience in the public school system, and I'm grateful to now bring that experience into a faith-based setting. I'm looking forward to creating a warm, safe, and loving classroom where our preschoolers can learn, grow, and have fun each day while being surrounded by God's love. Thank you for welcoming me. I can't wait to get to know each of you and your families!
	My name is Tara Draeger, and I am originally from Ireland. I moved to Indiana ten years ago. I am married and have two sons, ages nine and eight. I have a passion for working with children, especially in the early ages of development. It brings me great joy to watch children learn and experience new concepts and ideas. I believe that the Word of our Lord is integral in everyday teaching in our classrooms. It is a blessing for me to join St. Paul's school and ministry. I will be serving as one of the Kindergarten aides and Extended Care Teachers.
	Hi! My name is Lisa Seckman, and I'm excited to join the kindergarten team as a teaching assistant this year. I look forward to getting to know the students and families and helping make this a fun and successful school year. My husband and I have been attending St. Paul Lutheran Church for three years. We have three children, seven grandchildren, and a Yorkie named Oliver. In my free time, I enjoy spending time with family, camping, and reading.



Christian Education

Rally Day

Please join us on Sunday, August 9th, as we commemorate another year in the study of God's Word. During the Bible study hour (9:30-10:30 AM), we will all gather in the Fellowship Room. We will gift Sunday School students with faith development tools through the Faith Milestones program. We will celebrate both teachers and learners as we dig into our Christian education lessons.

Daily August Bible Readings					
1	Isaiah 64-66	11	Jeremiah 14-17	21	Jeremiah 41-45
2	2 Kings 20-21	12	Jeremiah 18-22	22	Jeremiah 46-48
3	2 Chronicles 32-33	13	Jeremiah 23-25	23	Jeremiah 49-50
4	Nahum 1-3	14	Jeremiah 26-29	24	Jeremiah 51-52
5	2 Kgs 22-23, 2 Chr 34-35	15	Jeremiah 30-31	25	Lamentations 1:1-3:36
6	Zephaniah 1-3	16	Jeremiah 32-34	26	Lamentations 3:37-5:22
7	Jeremiah 1-3	17	Jeremiah 35-37	27	Ezekiel 1-4
8	Jeremiah 4-6	18	Jer 38-40, Psalms 74, 79	28	Ezekiel 5-8
9	Jeremiah 7-9	19	2 Kgs 24-25, 2 Chr 36	29	Ezekiel 9-12
10	Jeremiah 10-13	20	Habakkuk 1-3	30	Ezekiel 13-15
				31	Ezekiel 16-17

Sunday School

Aug	<u>First Steps of Faith</u> <i>Infant to 2-year-olds</i>	<u>Elementary</u> <i>Preschool to 4th Grade</i>	<u>5th and 6th Grade</u>
2	Creation- days 1-3	Case of the Dried Palms	Case of the Dried Palms
9	Creation- animals	Adam and Eve	Creation
16	Creation- people	The Fall and the Promise	Adam and Eve – Fall and Promise
23	Creation- the fall	Moses Birth	Cain and Abel
30	Noah	God Calls Moses	The Flood

Aug	<u>Confirmation Instruction</u> <i>7th and 8th Grade</i>	<u>Senior High</u> <i>9th to 12th Grade</i>
2	Misconceptions about the World	Misconceptions about the World
9	What is the Bible	
16	Intro to 10 Commandments/ 1 st Commandment	
23	1 st Commandment continued	
30	2 nd Commandment	

Adult Bible Study:

Fellowship Room with Pastor Bauman

Midweek Adult Bible Studies:

<u>1st Monday</u>		<u>Wednesdays</u>	
10:00 AM	Moms in the Word	9:00 AM	Romans
		7:00 PM	Isaiah

Youth Ministry

Seven Practices of Healthy Youth Ministry: Warmth, Challenge, and Grace

Congregations play a special role in fostering a child's spiritual development. A person does not need to be a parent or have children age-eligible for youth activities to provide the support youth need to grow stronger in their Christian identity. Just like it takes a village to raise a child, it takes a congregation to nurture faith formation. Congregations help the next generation when they embody warmth, challenge, and grace.

At the heart of human imperatives, people of all ages need love, belonging, purpose, and forgiveness. God provides these gifts to His people at church. In turn, God's people point others in need to the One who gives us and enables us to share God's grace.

Congregations contribute to the healthy growth of children by modeling honesty and transparency. This can be seen when people of all ages are invited to ask questions, express doubt, face challenges, learn from failure, and experience joy because God's Word will be spoken in love. Congregations need to be willing to have the tough spiritual conversations and show our youth how to turn to God, our source of truth and healing.

God's people encourage and support the faith development of youth when they include them as a part of the congregation. Youth need to have developmentally appropriate spaces to grow and Biblical resources to learn. The young and young at heart all need to be connected to Jesus, their Savior, and build relationships with one another.

Gifts of Time and Talent:

August Acolytes	
8:00 AM	10:45 AM
Trey Price	Leo Patterson
Henry Seifer	Clark Neawedde
Otto Seifer	Ellis Sperry
Daryn Vogel	Kaylin Umphress
Jace Vogel	Faith Wofford

Connecting to Others:

Family Event	<u>Holiday World</u>
	Come out and join us for a St. Paul family event at Holiday World (amusement and water park) on Monday, July 27th. The cost for group pricing at Holiday World is \$36.49 (per person). Children 3 and under are free. DCE Probst will meet participants at the group ticket counter (452 E. Christmas Blvd, Santa Claus, IN) beginning at 9 AM (Central time) to distribute tickets. Gates open at 9:30 AM and the Park opens at 10 AM. Ticket payments should be given to her before the day of the event. Drink stations and sunscreen are provided at the park. Food and other purchases can only be accessed through electronic transactions. The park will close at 8 PM. The deadline to sign up for the event is July 19th.

KfC <i>Kids for Christ youth group for preschool to 5th Grade</i>	<u>Sunday, August 9th</u> 1:30 PM Please join us for a special benefit luncheon at noon to help a family in need. A devotion and fun Rally Day activities to follow.
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C4Life

Christ for Life youth group for 6th to 8th Grade

SPY

St. Paul Youth group for High School students

Friday, August 7th 6:00-8:30 PM

Youth are invited, along with their families, to join in a night of game playing. Participants are invited to join a Euchre tournament, play board games, or enjoy another activity. Please bring a snack to share. A free-will offering is available to support a ministry.

Sunday, August 9th 3:00-5:30 PM

Come join us as we celebrate the summer and a new school year by having water fun at Lutheran Lake. Lisa Price and her family are hosting this event. Please bring swim gear and sunscreen. A light dinner will be grilled up by Eric and Linda Scheidt.

Friday & Saturday, August 14-15th

Confirmation Retreat for 7th & 8th Graders

This is a mandatory event for all Confirmands. We will learn about God's Word, make new friends, and participate in fun activities at Camp Lakeview. Please contact the Pastors or DCE Probst if you are unable to attend.

Sunday, August 9th 1:00 to 1:30 PM

Every year, 8th Grade Confirmands and High School youth are invited to participate in special youth trips that often take place out of state. This year, we are excited to take youth to the ***March for Life and Higher Things***. Come and join DCE Probst as she shares the details about these events.

Please see DCE Jen Probst for additional details or registration information.

~Friends are always welcome. Parents are invited to help out.~



St. Paul Lutheran Church
& Early Childhood Ministry

News and Notes

Extending Christ's Love Update

Building Committee Update: The steel is up. The concrete has been poured on the second floor and is about to be poured on the first floor, and the framing will begin soon. It is exciting to watch our Christian Education Center begin to take shape. We continue to be on schedule to have this final phase of our Thirty-Year Master Plan dedicated and ready to go by the beginning of the 2027-2028 school year!

Finance Committee Update: The Finance Committee appreciates your ongoing financial support for Extending Christ's Love. We are grateful to all who supported our Rummage Sales in any way—donating items and working before or during the sales. The Indiana District LWML awarded us a \$12,000 mission grant for furnishings in our early childhood ministry, an acknowledgement that our ECM is truly an outreach that is reaching many children and their families with the saving Gospel. We were blessed to find 200 gently used blue chairs that match our existing blue chairs, saving us more than \$28,000.



We are thankful that you continue to fulfill your pledge for Extending Christ's Love. There are other ways for you to support this endeavor:

- Increasing your pledge, extending your pledge, or fulfilling our pledge early: Because of your generosity, we have not had to begin financing this project. The more donations to Extending Christ's Love that we receive now *extends* the time until we need to begin borrowing from Lutheran Church Extension Fund. This means that any contributions that you give now by increasing your pledge, extending your pledge if you made a one-time or two year pledge, or fulfilling your pledge early will go directly to the project and decrease our interest payments.
- Catalog of Needed Items: The Catalog of Needed Items gives you the opportunity to support Extending Christ's Love above your pledge. Items can be reserved in honor of or in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving for a special event. You can find the Catalog online (stpaulcolumbus.org) or print copies are in the gathering space. If you have any questions about the Catalog or need assistance reserving items, please contact Phil Burbrink or Rachel Fohne. When the church was constructed, we received over \$310,000 in designated gifts through the Catalog of Needed Items. Our goal is to exceed this amount with our Christian Education Center. Please check out the Catalog on the website or the binders in the gathering space to support Extending Christ's Love in a unique way.

Thanks for your generous support of Extending Christ's Love. Please continue to pray for this endeavor and for those who will be blessed through the ministry that will occur in the Christian Education Center.

VBS Closing Program and Lunch

We have been blessed with a joy-filled Vacation Bible School week with many children and dedicated youth and adult volunteers. Join us as we celebrate VBS week and greet and welcome the many families attending VBS at the closing program on **Friday, July 17th** at 11 AM. A hotdog lunch will follow the closing program.

Rummage Sale

Our second rummage sale is **Friday, July 17th** from 9 AM-3 PM and **Saturday, July 18th** from 8 AM-3 PM with a focus on children's toys, furniture, and clothes.

Sign-up to Serve: Volunteers are needed to set up for the sale Thursday, July 16th from 12:30-2 PM and to serve at the sale on Friday and Saturday.

Food Fundraiser on Saturday: Our Latino outreach will be serving homemade dishes and breakfast foods **Saturday, July 18th** beginning at 8 AM for a freewill donation. All proceeds will benefit Extending Christ's Love.

St Paul Family Day at Holiday World

Come out and join us at Holiday World (amusement and water park) on **Monday, July 27th**. The cost for group pricing is \$36.49 per person. Children 3 and under are free. DCE Probst will meet

participants at the group ticket counter (452 E. Christmas Blvd, Santa Claus, IN) by 9 AM (Central time) to distribute tickets. Ticket payments should be given to her before the 27th. Drink stations and sunscreen are provided at the park. Food and other purchases can only be accessed through electronic transactions. The park closes at 8 PM. The deadline for signing up for the event is **Sunday, July 19th**. Please contact DCE Probst for more information.

ECM Parent Meeting

The parent meeting for our Early Childhood Ministry families is **Sunday, August 2nd** at 6:30 PM in the church. Childcare is available upon request by contacting Director Jen Probst at director@stpaulcolumbus.org.

Orphan Grain Train Workday

St. Paul serves the OGT by sorting donated items for distribution the first Tuesday of each month. If you are interested in volunteering, come and join us on **Tuesday, August 4th** from 9 AM-noon. If you cannot attend, the need for volunteers is ongoing so volunteer anytime during their regular hours Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 10 AM-3 PM.

Donations can be dropped off at any time at the trailer located on the east side of the warehouse.

Opening Chapels for ECM

You are welcome to join our early childhood ministry students and their families for their opening chapels on the first day of school. Chapel services begin at 8:20 AM:

Kindergarten on **Monday, August 3rd**

Doves on **Monday, August 17th**

Lambs on **Tuesday, August 18th**

Wednesday Bible Studies

You are invited to join us for Wednesday morning and evening Bible studies. Both classes will resume their studies on **Wednesday, August 5th**. The morning class meets at 9 AM and will be studying Romans. The evening class meets at 6 PM and will be studying Isaiah.

Euchre and Game Night

The next LWML game night is **Friday, August 7th** beginning at 6 PM. This is open to congregation members and friends of all ages, and it is not limited to just the game of euchre. Other card games and board games are available, and there is never a shortage of good food and fun fellowship.

Rally Day is August 9th

Join us as we celebrate Christian Education and kickoff the new Sunday School year, with the theme *God Is Our Designer and Builder*.

9:30 AM Opening Devotion and Faith Milestone Presentations

Noon-2:00 PM KfC Youth Group Meets—Lunch and activities

1 PM Y4Life Conference in Washington DC and Higher Things Informational Meeting for youth and their parents in grades 8-12.

1:30 PM Youth Choirs Parent Meeting in the music room

3-5 PM SPY and C4Life Swimming Party and Supper at Lutheran Lake (13000 West Cedar Tree Drive, Lot 89, Seymour).

Carpooling from church is available by contacting DCE Probst, leaving at 2:30 PM and returning at 5:30 PM.

Rallying For Jax

We continue to pray for Jax Branaman, his parents Rusty and Holly and their family, as Jax is receiving aggressive treatment for cancer. To assist the family with medical expenses and transportation to and from Riley Children's Hospital for treatments, we will sponsor a fundraising meal on Rally Day, **Sunday August 9th** serving from noon-2 PM. The menu includes pulled pork, macaroni and cheese, baked beans, coleslaw, applesauce, chips, desserts, and drinks. A freewill offering will be received. If you would like to donate food, please signup in the gathering space.

Make a Joyful Noise to the Lord

Our adult and youth choirs will resume rehearsals in August. We invite all to join us. For more information, contact Kantor Mau.

Sr. Handbells rehearse on Wednesdays at 6 PM beginning August 12th.

Sr. Choir rehearses Wednesdays at 7 PM beginning August 12th.

Small Group Handbells rehearse Mondays at 10 AM beginning August 17th.

Jr. Choir and Children's Choir rehearse during the Sunday School hour.

Choristers rehearse Sundays at 12:15 PM beginning on Sunday, August 16th.

Jr. Handchimes rehearse Sundays at 12:45 PM beginning on Sunday, August 16th.

Jr. Handbells rehearse Sundays at 1:15 PM beginning on Sunday, August 16th.

Homeschool Religion Class

During the school year, we offer a Homeschool Religion Class for members and non-members on Mondays at 10 AM beginning **Monday, August 17th**. If you want more information about this class, please speak to Pastor Bauman.

Early Childhood Ministry Registration

A few openings remain in the Lambs (3-year-olds) and kindergarten classes for the 2026-2027 school year. The Doves (4-year-olds) class is full, and a waitlist has begun. Please help us promote our Christ-centered, fully accredited early learning center! Information can be found on the church website, the flyers in the gathering space or by contacting Director Jen Probst.

August Mission of the Month

The Mission of the Month is Hospice whose goal is to surround patients and families with respectful and compassionate care at the end of life. Our support enables Hospice to continue this life-affirming work.

Christmas in July Sale

Lisele Bockes is hosting an ongoing Christmas in July sale at her house (3445 30th Street, Columbus). Stop by anytime and shop. All proceeds benefit Extending Christ's Love.

Official Acts

Emily Pevlor was baptized and confirmed on May 24th.

Alaina Jo Wessel, daughter of Konnor Wessel and Addison Cawhorn, was baptized into Christ on June 12th.

Jonah Brewer was confirmed on May 24th.

Bob Runge entered into glory on June 19th and was given Christian burial on June 22nd.

Ruth Barnes entered into glory on June 20th and was given Christian burial on June 27th.

Dan Wilson entered into glory on June 29th and was given Christian burial on July 3rd. The funeral service is Saturday, July 25th at 11 AM with visitation from 10-11 AM.

Dr. Tom Reinsel transferred his membership to Ascension Lutheran, St. Louis, Missouri.

St. Paul Lutheran SGO

As of June 1st, we have begun our new SGO fundraising campaign for the 2027-2028 school year! SGO donations made between June 1, 2026, and May 31, 2027, will support our 2027-2028 school year. A donation to our St. Paul Lutheran SGO directly benefits our Early Childhood Ministry by helping us fund our mission and ministry! Donors receive a 50% state income tax **CREDIT!** You can donate stocks, bonds, mutual funds, grain, and livestock to the SGO and receive a 50% tax credit! Please consult your tax advisor for specific tax advice. You can visit www.lutheransgo.org for more information or speak with Rachel Fohne!

2026-2027 St. Paul SGO Fundraising Goal: \$110,000

January-June Financial Update

We are thankful for your generous financial support for the mission and ministry that the Lord has entrusted to us. Unfortunately, offerings have decreased during the summer resulting in a deficit. Also, August is our second largest expense month as tuition scholarships are given to area schools for the fall semester. Please continue to support the work our Lord has given us to do so that we can keep on reaching out with Christ's love to serve and grow.

Offerings Needed:	\$460,746
Offerings Received:	<u>\$439,990</u>
Difference:	(\$20,756)
Total Income:	\$536,700
Total Expenses:	<u>\$547,832</u>
Difference:	(\$11,132)

Extending Christ's Love Pledges

Now that the steel has gone up on the Christian Education Center, it is an excellent time to revisit your Extending Christ's Love pledge! The fulfillment of member pledges is an essential part of our Extending Christ's Love financial plan. If you have forgotten details

about your pledge, need an update on how much you have donated, or need to adjust your pledge, please reach out to Rachel Fohne. If you know what you have pledged but have been unable to fulfill your pledge, please also reach out with this update to Rachel Fohne. These details help us with our financial planning. Thank you for your continued generosity and support!

Multiple Ways to Give

There are multiple ways to give to St. Paul such as cash and check. You can always donate online through the website or use the QR code. You can make a one-time donation or schedule weekly or monthly donations that you can adjust or cancel at any time. Please also consider donating appreciated securities such as stocks, bonds, and mutual funds as these donations could offer tax advantages to the donor.



Farmers who donate a commodity such as grain could also receive valuable tax benefits. Please consult a professional tax advisor for any tax advice. If you have a question about donating to St. Paul, please reach out to Rachel Fohne at 812-343-3786 or rachel.fohne@stpaulcolumbus.org.

Latino Outreach Report



In the week leading up to VBS we hosted a bilingual VBS at the Woodlawn mobile-home park on Highway 31 for the second year in a row. On top of plenty of fun, we studied themes from Galatians, taking our cue from the Scripture readings of our daily Spanish devotions. Who was Paul? Who were the Galatians? What does it mean to be saved by grace?

On Sunday, July 12th, we joined our Latino brothers and sisters from Cornerstone Warren (formerly Trinity Indianapolis), the other congregation Pastor Fickenscher serves at, for a day at Brown County State Park. We gathered for the divine service, Bible study, a cookout lunch, and outdoor fun. If you weren't able to join us this year, plan to do so next year!

Please consider supporting some of our Latino families by supplementing their income with odd jobs and specialty tasks. We've got members that would be eager to help with handyman jobs, cleaning, indoor and outdoor work, men's haircuts, and custom piñatas for any occasion. You can contact Pastor Fickenscher for more details.



LWML News

Thank you to everyone who joined us for Family Game Night and Euchre on May 8th. Congrats to Stan Meyer for winning the euchre tourney on May 8th and to Otto Siefer and Jane Meyer for winning the non-euchre game prizes. We collected \$135 for the Feed My Lambs outreach. Remember, euchre isn't the only game available on game nights, so mark your calendars for the next game night on **Friday, August 7th at 6 PM**

The LWML is hosting the Harvest Mission Project in the upcoming months. Bring your surplus produce, plants, and flowers to the Harvest Mission Table in the gathering space. The congregation can take from this table for a donation to St. Paul's Food Bank. We are looking for a team of ladies to help monitor the table after second service so nothing sits out to waste during the week! Please contact Nora Cleary at 812-343-9142 for more information or to help.

St. Paul's ongoing Feed My Lambs project is expanding! We currently provide a meal and a gift to the parents of a new baby, but we have recently been made aware of a need to minister to families who have had a miscarriage or lost a baby. So, our ministry will now include making a meal and blanket for these families. If anyone would like to be added to the call list for making a meal on short notice (maybe within a couple of days,) or if you would like to knit or crochet a small white blanket, please contact Kris Taylor at 812-350-0946. Also, if you would like to donate a Thrivent card for food, blanket-making supplies, and items for gift bags, we would appreciate it. Thank you!

St. Paul LWML is hosting the Columbus Zone Fall Gathering on **Saturday, September 26th**, in the fellowship room. Our guest speaker will be Becky Thibodau from Cornerstone Warren Lutheran Church in Indy. She will speak about the LAMP Ministry, which has been nurturing faith in Native American communities in remote areas of northern Canada since 1970. More details on the theme and other information will be coming soon.



LWML INDIANA DISTRICT CONVENTION
OFFERINGS 2026:
#1 Mitas - \$12962.00
#2 Lutheran Child/Family Services - \$1666.00
#3 South Sudan Seminary - \$2778.00
#4 Katie Retreat Scholarship - \$1640.00

Serving at St. Paul

Service	Usher Team	Elders	Greeters
8 AM	Team D	Adam Hall & Carl Shaffer	
10:45 AM	Team F	Wiley Umphress & Steve Voelz	

Day	Acolyte	Flowers	Radio	Fellowship Hour	Lunch
2	8 AM Trey Price	Bob and Joanne Kirby	Chad and Debbie Sims	Potter Family	No Lunch
	10:45 AM Leo Patterson				
9	8 AM Henry Siefer	Jim and Pam Roth	Judy Sullivan	Board of Ed	Rallying for Jax
	10:45 AM Clark Neawedde				
16	8 AM Otto Seifer	Caleb Barringer		Potter and Schroer Families	Jackie Arnholt
	10:45 AM Ellis Sperry				
23	8 AM Daryn Vogel	April Hoeltke	Eric and Linda Scheidt	Burbrink Family	Jacob and Toni Howarth
	10:45 AM Kaylin Umphress				
30	8 AM Jace Vogel	Paul and Lisa Wendel		Warren and Molly Scheidt	Wofford Family
	10:45 AM Faith Wofford				



Preschool

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN
EARLY CHILDHOOD MINISTRY

LAMBS CLASS (3-year-old)

- Meets Tuesdays and Thursdays
- 8:15 am – 11:15 am
- Must be potty trained
- Ratio: 2 Teacher/16 Students
- Monthly Tuition: \$150

DOVES CLASS (4-year-old)

- Meets Mondays/Wednesdays/Fridays
- 8:15 am – 11:15 am
- Must be potty trained
- Ratio: 2 Teacher/18 Students
- Monthly Tuition: \$190

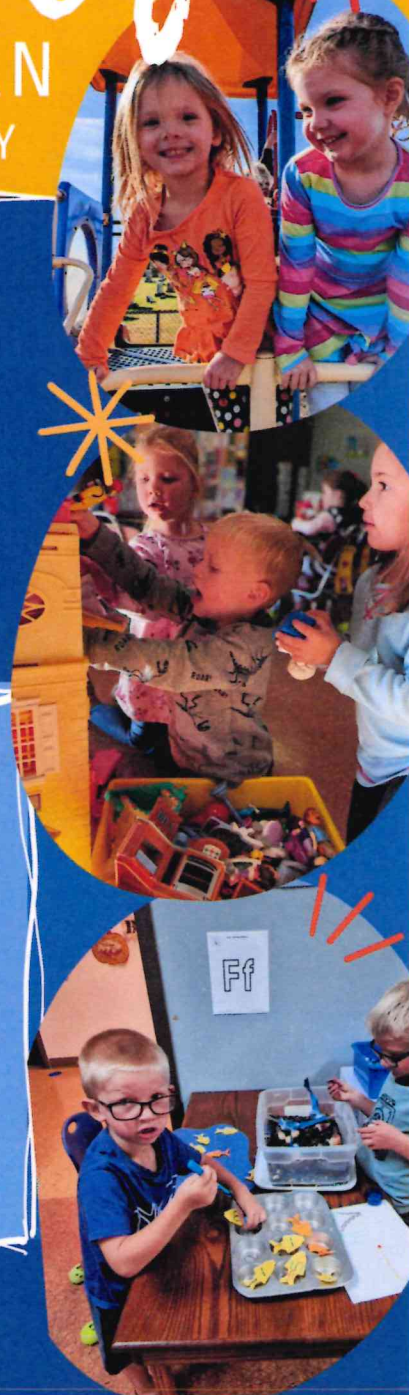
- Follows Indiana Academic Standards
- Before/After school care
- STEM Enrichment Opportunity
- Daily Jesus Time
- Weekly Music classes
- Minds in Motion

(812) 376-6504

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Kindergarten

St. Paul Early Childhood ministry

- Comprehensive half-day
- Monday-Friday 8:15am-12:15pm
- Complimentary flexible pickup until 2:30pm
- Option to stay 2:30- 4:30pm for an additional \$10
- Optional STREAM class included in tuition -Wednesdays until 3:10pm

NO COST TUITION for all
our kindergarten students

- Maximum 17 students to 2 teachers
- Follows Indiana Academic Standards
- Fully Accredited Program
- STREAM Enrichment Opportunity
- Daily Jesus Time
- Weekly Music classes
- New education center building in progress





St. Paul Lutheran Church & Early Childhood Ministry

August 2026

Our Sunday Schedule
 8 AM Divine Service
 9:00 AM Radio Service
 9:10 AM Fellowship
 9:30 AM Sunday School

10:45 AM Livine Service English & Spanish
 Noon Lunch (no lunch 8/2)
 12:15 PM Confirmation (no class 8/2 & 8/9)
 12:15 PM Spanish Bible Study
 12:15 PM Choristers (no practice 8/2 & 8/9)

12:45 PM Jr. Handbells (no practice 8/2 & 8/9)
 1:15 PM Jr. Handbells (no practice 8/2 & 8/9)
 7 PM Lutheran Hour

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 Mite Box Sunday 10:45 AM ECM Staff Dedication 6:30 PM ECM Parent Meeting	3 First Day of Kindergarten 8:20 AM Chapel	4 9 AM- Noon OGI Workday	5 12:30 PM Staff Meeting	6	7 6 PM Game and Eucharist Night	8 Pastor Fickenschner on Vacation through August 10th
9 Rally Day 9:30 AM Faith Milestones Presentation Noon Rallying for Jax Meal Noon-2 PM KFC 1 PM Youth Meeting (grades 8-12) 1:30 PM Children's Choir Parent Meeting 3 PM SPV and C4Life Lake Party	10 September Newsletter Deadline	11 5:30-10 PM Church Reserved	12	13	14	15
16 3 PM "Pre" School Event	17 First Day for Doves 8:20 AM Chapel 10 AM Homeschool Religion Class 10 AM Small Group Handbells	18 First Day for Lambs 8:20 AM Chapel	19 First Day of STREAM Pastor Fickenschner on Vacation through August 22nd	20	Confirmation Retreat at Lakeview Villages	
23	24 10 AM Homeschool Religion Class 10 AM Small Group Handbells	25	26	27 1:30 PM Hickory Creek Visit	28	29
30	31 10 AM Homeschool Religion Class 10 AM Small Group Handbells					