

St. Paul Epistle

The Monthly Newsletter of St. Paul Lutheran Church

March 2026

6045 East State Street
Columbus, Indiana 47201

Phone: 812-376-6504

www.stpaulcolumbus.org

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St. Paul Early Childhood Ministry

Jen Probst, Director

Anne Wiltsey, Kindergarten Teacher

Michelle Schultz, Alyssa Schultz, and

Glory Wofford, Preschool Teachers

Gayla Alesandro, Sarah Lewis, Laurie Schultz,

Claudia Sims, Caroline Wilcox, 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

Grace Upon Grace

And from Christ's fullness, we have all received, grace upon grace.

John 1:16

Grace. What is grace? What does grace do? We talk a lot about grace because the Scriptures talk a lot about grace. We talk a lot about grace because the Bible repeatedly describes the one true God as gracious and merciful. So, exactly what do the Scriptures teach us about grace?

➤ **Jesus Christ is the source of grace.** From the fullness of Christ, we have received grace.

God's grace is clearly revealed in the sacrificial love of Jesus, who became flesh and made His dwelling among us, took on all our sin, and gave His life and shed His blood on the cross to atone and to save.

➤ **Grace is always a free gift.** Grace comes with no strings attached—no *ifs*, *ands*, or *buts*.

Grace is God's unconditional love and favor toward us through Christ, and God's grace is for all, even those we might consider unworthy of grace.

➤ **God's grace is abundant.** Grace upon grace. Grace and even more grace to us sinners

who don't deserve any of God's favor. Through Christ, we receive the gifts of grace in abundance: pardon, purity, righteousness, eternal life, joy, hope, wisdom, the power for service, and countless more gifts!

➤ **God's grace is continuous.** We rightly call God's Word and the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper the *means of grace*, the means by which God personally delivers His grace and gifts of grace to us. As we avail ourselves to these means of grace, we continue to receive the gifts of grace that we need for our earthly pilgrimage.

➤ **God's grace is powerful and transformative.** The Holy Spirit works through the means of grace to empower us to live and grow in grace as God's baptized children: to live holy lives of good works, faithful confession of the truth and witnessing to others, and strength and endurance while bearing our crosses.

For all our Lenten services through Easter, both Sundays and midweek, we will be focusing on God's abundant, continuous, powerful, and transformative grace freely given to us in Christ. At every service we will examine how God's grace was powerfully given to people in the Scriptures, making applications to God's grace in our lives. I pray that you will attend all these services as we deepen our understanding and appreciation of God's amazing and abundant grace!

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

Pastor Bauman

Grace Upon Grace—Lenten Sermon Series

Unless noted, Sunday services are at 8 and 10:45 AM; Midweek Services are at 6:45 PM

Supper is served on Wednesdays from 5:30-6:15 PM

Ash Wednesday Communion Service is preceded with Imposition of Ashes from 6:30-6:45 PM

The remaining Wednesday services are preceded with a Hymn Sing from 6:30-6:45 PM

Ash Wednesday, February 18th: Grace Upon Grace to David

Sunday, February 22nd: Grace Upon Grace to Adam and Eve

Wednesday, February 25th: Grace Upon Grace to Noah

Sunday, March 1st: Grace Upon Grace to Nicodemus

Wednesday, March 4th: Grace Upon Grace to Abraham

Sunday, March 8th: Grace Upon Grace to the Woman at the Well

Wednesday, March 11th: Grace Upon Grace to Jonah and the Ninevites

Sunday, March 15th: Grace Upon Grace to the Man Born Blind

Wednesday, March 18th: Grace Upon Grace to Naaman

Sunday, March 22nd: Grace Upon Grace to Mary and Martha

Wednesday, March 25th: Grace Upon Grace to Naomi and Ruth

Palm Sunday, March 29th: Grace Upon Grace to the Centurion

Maundy Thursday, April 1st: Grace Upon Grace to Peter

Good Friday, April 2nd at 10 AM: Grace Upon Grace to the Thief on the Cross

Good Friday, April 2nd at 6:45 PM: Grace Upon Grace to Mary

Easter Sunday, April 4th at 7, 9, and 10:45 AM: Grace Upon Grace to Paul

GRACE
upon grace



Musical Notes

*"Yes, Father, yes, most willingly
I'll bear what You command Me.
My will conforms to Your decree,
I'll do what You have asked Me."*

The words of Christ as paraphrased by Pastor Paul Gerhardt (1607-76) are found in the third stanza of LSB 438, A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth. The road to the cross is approaching the bitter end—Jesus not only knows but willingly accepts the pain, suffering, and death that awaits. His death is our redemption from sin and death, for through Christ's death we have forgiveness of sins and life eternal in heaven.

*O wondrous Love, what have You done!
The Father offers up His Son,
Desiring our salvation.
O Love, how strong You are to save!*

We cannot comprehend a love that is as strong as God's love for sinners. We sin in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and left undone, knowingly, willingly, and repeatedly—and yet we are forgiven through Christ's death on the cross. Jesus died that we might live eternally, that through His resurrection we too might live again as His redeemed people.

***You lay the One into the grave
Who built the earth's foundation.***

Please take a moment and read the final two lines of the third stanza of this hymn several times. Let the imagery of Pastor Gerhardt's words really sink in and cause us to pause and reflect on the Creator of all being crucified for us. Christ died for us, Christ died because of our sins, and we rejoice that we are forgiven by God's grace! Let us extend Christ's love as we travel through Lent and await the joy of His resurrection at Easter!

In Christ's love,

Dan



Sr. Handbells rehearsals are on Wednesdays from 5:30-6:15 pm

Sr. Choir rehearses on Wednesdays immediately following the 6:45 pm mid-week Lenten service.

Jr. Choir rehearses on Sunday mornings from 9:30-9:50 am.

Choristers rehearse on Sundays from 12:30-12:45 pm.

Jr. Handchimes rehearse on Sundays from 12:45-1:15 pm.

Jr. Handbells rehearse on Sundays from 1:15-1:45 pm.

Small Group Handbells rehearse on Mondays from 10:00-11:00 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!



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

Lessons in Learning

The ability to read and write is a skill that must be intentionally and strategically taught. Amazingly enough, this process begins with listening. The best way to lay the groundwork for reading readiness is by reading to children at least 30 minutes a day. As children listen to stories being read, they are able to process the way words sound and expand their vocabulary. Depending on the book, stories teach valuable lessons.

One of the most renowned authors in early literacy happens to be Dr. Suess. Believed to have been born into a Lutheran family, schools across the nation celebrate this one-of-a-kind storyteller during the first week of March, which commemorates his birthday. Dr. Seuss' stories build reading readiness with his use of rhyming, nonsense words, and life lessons.

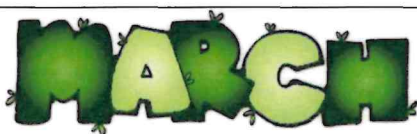
Children need to know how to break apart the different sounds in words and also to put the sounds together to make up words. Rhyming helps children to discover audible patterns in word sounds. By changing beginning sounds and keeping the end sounds, children can learn to construct word families and start to isolate individual sounds in words.

Similar to rhyming, nonsense words help to frame words that are similar and discover how applying different letter sounds can change words and meanings. Nonsense words help children to identify how words are used in language. They help with identifying real and pretend words by listening to the context and application. Their silliness encourages verbal play with letter sounds and how those sounds come together to make words.

I have always appreciated the opportunities some stories provide to teach a moral lesson. Dr. Suess has a number of stories that invite the reader (or listener) to think beyond the story and challenge them to make the world a better place. The right book can teach young children life skills and social imperatives.

The Bible also promotes early literacy skills, and it generates faith development. Through the words of the Bible, we learn about families of faith and our Heavenly Father. The pages of the Bible are filled with words of truth which teach us context and application. The Bible also tells us of God's perfect Son, Jesus, who saved us from our sins and helps us every day. Happy reading!

~Blessings, Jen Probst, ECM Director



- 3** – Church and School Staff Meeting
- 11** - ECM Board at 6:00 PM
- 13** – Grandparents' Day
- 16 to 20** – Spring Break
- 25** – Kindergarten Parent Teacher Conferences
- 25** - Bookmobile



ECM Registration

It is not too late to be a part of our school family for the 2026-2027 school year! Please go to <https://www.stpaulcolumbus.org/ecmregistration> to begin the process. If you would like a tour of the school or find out more about our early childhood ministry, please call 812-376-6504 or email (director@stpaulcolumbus.org).



Christian Education

Board of Education Meeting: Wednesday, February 25 at 5:30 PM

Daily March Bible Readings					
1	Numbers 14-15, Psalm 90	11	Deuteronomy 1-2	21	Deuteronomy 30-31
2	Numbers 16-17	12	Deuteronomy 3-4	22	Deuteronomy 32-34, Psalm 91
3	Numbers 18-20	13	Deuteronomy 5-7	23	Joshua 1-4
4	Numbers 21-22	14	Deuteronomy 8-10	24	Joshua 5-8
5	Numbers 23-25	15	Deuteronomy 11-13	25	Joshua 9-11
6	Numbers 26-27	16	Deuteronomy 14-16	26	Joshua 12-15
7	Numbers 28-30	17	Deuteronomy 17-20	27	Joshua 16-18
8	Numbers 31-32	18	Deuteronomy 21-23	28	Joshua 19-21
9	Numbers 33-34	19	Deuteronomy 24-27	29	Joshua 22-24
10	Numbers 35-36	20	Deuteronomy 28-29	30	Judges 1-2
				31	Judges 3-5

Sunday School Lessons

- Please note that music class for Early and Upper Elementary will be held in the Sanctuary.

Mar	<u>First Steps of Faith</u> <i>Infant to 2-year-olds</i>	<u>Early Elementary</u> <i>Preschool to 4th Grade</i>	<u>Upper Elementary</u> <i>5th & 6th Grade</i>	<u>Confirmation</u> <i>7th & 8th Grade</i>
1	Holy Week	Rejected at Nazareth	Resurrection of Christ	Communion Liturgy
8	Holy Week	Fishers of Men	Jesus Appears to Many	Sacrament of the Altar 1 st and 2 nd
15	Holy Week	The Upper Room	The Ascension	Lord's Supper in Sanctuary
22	Holy Week	Jesus Crucifixion	Pentecost	Sacrament of the Altar 3 rd and 4 th
29	Holy Week	Burial & Resurrection	The Crippled Beggar	Final Review Day

Senior High (9th to 12th Grade): The Chronology of Holy Week

Sunday Adult Bible Study – Nicene Creed - Fellowship Room (Pastor Bauman)

– Developing the Leader Within You – Music Room (Zach Matthews)

Wednesday Adult Bible Studies

9:00 AM – Romans

6:00 PM – Isaiah – Not meeting during Lent

Moms in the Word - March 2 at 10:00 AM

Youth Ministry

Board of Youth Meeting: Sunday, March 8th at 12:30 PM

Gifts of Time and Talent:

Acolytes			Music	
8:00 AM	10:45 AM		8:00 AM	10:45 AM
Faith Fohne	Ellis Sperry	1	Sr. Handbells	
Wednesday at 6:45 PM – Faith Wofford		4		
Danial Helt	Kevin Chun Escalante	8	Sr. Choir	
Wednesday at 6:45 PM – Naomi Lewis		11		
Kylie Price	Alex Essex	15	Small Group Handbells	
Wednesday at 6:45 PM – Emma Gibson		18		
Henry Seifer	Lane Gilmore	22	Sr. Handbells	
Wednesday at 6:45 PM – Daryn Vogel		25		
Jace Vogel	Caroline Glick	29	Jr. Choir, Choristers, Jr. Handchimes and Jr. Handbells	

Connecting to Others:

KfC <i>Kids for Christ youth group for preschool to 5th Grade</i>	<p>Sunday, March 29 beginning at Noon</p> <p>Palm Sunday is the start of Holy Week. Children are invited to join the Board of Education as they pass out palm leaves before the 8:00 AM and 10:45 AM worship services. Youth are encouraged to wave them in the air as they walk around the church before our worship begins.</p> <p>Families are then invited to go to the Fellowship Room after the 10:45 AM worship service for devotions and an Easter Egg Hunt. Come with a basket to collect all the eggs.</p>
	<p>C4Life <i>Christ for Life youth group for 6th to 8th Grade</i></p> <p><u>Wednesday March 4 – Lenten Meal</u> Join us for a service project to the church by hosting this Lenten meal. Youth are needed to flip pancakes and cook sausage for this delicious breakfast for supper. Please arrive by 4:30 PM.</p> <p><u>Sunday, March 29 – Hide Easter Eggs</u> Youth who attend the 8:00 AM service are invited to join us for the hiding of Easter Eggs during the 10:45 AM worship service. All the eggs need to be distributed so that children can enjoy the Easter Egg hunt after the 10:45 AM service is done.</p>
	<p>SPY <i>St. Paul Youth group for High School students</i></p> <p>Same Youth Activities listed under C4Life</p> <p><u>Sunday, March 22 – Stuff Easter Eggs & Activity</u> 6th Grade and High School Youth are invited to join us to stuff candy in Easter Eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt. After we are done with this service project and instruction is done, Confirmation students will join us as we head out for an afternoon of fun and fellowship. Specific details about the afternoon activity will be provided in emails and bulletin announcements.</p> <p>Looking Ahead: <u>Friday, April 3 – Good Friday Family Worship</u> Together as Family Activity Assistance Afternoon Youth Activity <u>Sunday, April 5 – Easter Worship & Breakfast</u></p>

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

Lenten Services and Special Events

Grace Upon Grace is the theme for all our services from Ash Wednesday through Easter Sunday. Please read Pastor Bauman's article in this newsletter for more information regarding this series where we will learn and rejoice together in God's amazing and abundant grace freely given through Christ Jesus. All these services and special events are opportunities to invite others to God's house. *Please consider who you can invite to join you!*

Ash Wednesday is February 18th: Supper is served from 5:30-6:15 PM; Imposition of Ashes is offered from 6:30-6:45 PM; Communion Service begins at 6:45 PM.

Wednesdays in Lent—February 25th, March 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th: Supper is served from 5:30-6:15 PM; Hymn Sing from 6:30-6:45 PM; Lenten Service begins at 6:45 PM.

Lenten Suppers are served before each of the Wednesday Lenten services. A freewill offering will be received.

February 18th: Sloppy Joes, hotdogs, baked beans, macaroni and cheese, chips, applesauce and desserts served by Tri-W

February 25th: Chicken, cheesy potato casserole, green beans, salad, and desserts served by Elders and Spouses

March 4th: Pancakes, sausage, and fruit served by Youth Families

March 11th: Pulled pork, sides, and desserts served by the Bower, Forbes, and Walton Families

March 18th: Soups, chicken salad sandwiches, veggies, and desserts served by the Board of Evangelism and Spouses

March 25th: Taco Bar and desserts served by the LWML

Thanks to all who are providing these meals!

Palm Sunday Procession of Palms Children are invited to process with palms at either service on **Palm Sunday, March 29th**. Children should arrive in the gathering space ten minutes before the service.

Easter Egg Hunt is on **Palm Sunday, March 29th** following the 10:45 AM service (approximately noon). All children fifth grade and younger are invited to attend. This is our March KfC event. No lunch will be served. **Candy donations:** We are receiving individually wrapped candy donations now through **Sunday, March 22nd**. Please place your donations in the gathering space.

Maundy Thursday is April 2nd: 6:45 PM Communion Service concluding with the Stripping of the Altar.

Good Friday is April 3rd: 10 AM Morning Service (Early Childhood Ministry and Sunday School children preschool-second grade sing); 10:45 AM Together as Family Activities reinforcing the theme of the day; 6:45 PM Service of Darkness with Holy Communion.

Easter Sunday is April 5th: 7, 9, and 10:45 AM Festival Communion Services; 7:30-9:45 AM Easter Breakfast served by Youth Families; **Alleluia Banner Procession** Children are invited to process with Alleluia Banners at all three Easter services. Children should arrive in the gathering space ten minutes before the service. **Easter Breakfast Food Donations:** The sign-up sheet for donations for the Easter Breakfast is posted in the gathering space. Please support our youth ministry by donating a breakfast casserole or other food items for the breakfast.

GRACE
upon grace

Extending Christ's Love Update

We are overwhelmed and humbled by your generous support of Extending Christ's Love. As we wait for temperatures to warm so that construction can begin in earnest, your gifts now result in less debt in the future! We are grateful to all who are fulfilling their pledges, and also those who have increased their pledges or accelerated fulfilling their pledges.

2026 Rummage Sale(s): We had an overwhelming response to our Rummage Sale last June raising more than \$6,500. Unfortunately, this summer we will not be able to host a Rummage Sale like last year's. This is because the Sunday School area in the existing church will be reconfigured into the office area during the summer, limiting where we could store donations for the sale. So, we are pivoting this summer hoping that church members will organize their own Rummage Sales to benefit Extending Christ's Love. These Rummage Sales can be hosted at your house or at the Chapel:

Hosting a Rummage Sale at your house: Please share the day(s) and times of your Rummage Sale so that we can promote it in church bulletins and newsletters.

Hosting a Rummage Sale at the Chapel: Please call the church office to reserve the Chapel for your Rummage Sale. When reserving, include both the day(s) of the sale and the days leading up to the sale for setting up. Tables will be provided in the Chapel for displaying items as well as signage that can be placed in front of the chapel during the sale. Please consider joining with other church and/or early childhood ministry families and hosting a sale together.

For questions or more information, please contact Phil Burbrink at 812-344-9946 or Rachel Fohne at 812-343-3786.

Playground Project: Our \$120,000 goal is in reach! As of February 10th, we need **\$3,626** to reach our goal. Remember all gifts to the playground project are matched dollar-for-dollar.



News and Notes

Valentine's Day Childcare

The St. Paul youth are hosting a babysitting fundraiser on Valentines Day, **Saturday, February 14th** from 5-9 PM at church. Taking part in this wonderful fundraiser not only benefits our youth but also gives you a chance to enjoy a carefree night out. You can go on a date night, enjoy a movie, or just rest at home; and we'll take care of the kids at the church with fun games and activities planned for them. Freewill donation.



Reserve your spot today and enjoy a night out with your loved one!

Please register your child(ren) by **Wednesday, February 11th** through the following link <https://forms.gle/GeaKs2XVc1RvMQdL8>, the QR code, or by texting or calling Jen Probst at 765-491-7818.

Alleluia Banner Procession

At both services on **Transfiguration Sunday, February 15th**, children are invited to process the Alleluia Banners. Following the service, the Alleluia Banners will be "buried" for the Lenten season as we do not say or sing "Alleluia" during this penitential season. On Easter Sunday, the Alleluia Banner box will be opened, and the children will process with them to celebrate our Lord's resurrection!

Parenting Workshop

The vocation of a parent is a special blessing and a great responsibility. Each age and stage in a child's development benefits from resources and collective support. Please join DCE Jen Probst for our first annual Enrichment Workshop. This year's workshop will address how parents of infants through teens can balance over protection in the real world and under protection in the virtual world.

Who: Everyone is welcome to attend.

Where: St. Paul Lutheran Fellowship Room

When: **Saturday, February 21st** from 4-6 PM

Cost: Free

Childcare Registration: <https://forms.gle/2zdzk9DNfUWuaZyW6>

If you would like additional information, please email director@stpaulcolumbus.org or speak to Jen Probst.



Moms in the Word

All mothers and their children are invited to attend our monthly Moms in the Word gathering on **Monday, March 2nd** at 10 AM in the fellowship room. Join us for a devotion and fellowship!

Orphan Grain Train News

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, March 3rd** 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.

Communion Wafer Making

We are blessed here at St. Paul that our Communion wafers are homemade by a group of dedicated volunteers. Our next Communion Wafer Making Day is **Wednesday, March 4th** beginning at 10:45 AM in the church kitchen. Come, serve, and enjoy Christian fellowship!

Spring Forward

Before going to bed on **Saturday, March 7th**, set your clock ahead one hour as Daylight Saving Time begins.

March Church Office Hours

On **Friday, March 13th**, the church office will be closed as church and school staff will be assisting with Grandparents Day at the church.

During the week of Spring Break, Mackenzie will be in the office on the morning of **Tuesday, March 17th**. Please submit all bulletin announcements for Sunday, March 22nd by 8 AM Tuesday morning.

If you need pastoral care during Spring Break, please contact a pastor directly.

Easter Egg Candy Donations

St. Paul has a tradition of hosting an Easter Egg Hunt for families on Palm Sunday. Junior and Senior High students fill the eggs and the little ones collect them. Please consider making a candy donation for this fun event. Candy should be individually wrapped and able to fit inside of a plastic Easter egg. The donation box will be available in the Gathering Space until **Sunday, March 22nd**. Please direct any questions to DCE Jen Probst.

Military Care Packages

The LWML has started a Military Care Package project with the goal of mailing gift cards (stateside) and care packages (overseas) in February. You can help in one of two ways. First, please send Sariina Kalli the names and complete addresses of any military personnel you know who are serving overseas or stateside. Then, bring in any of the following wish list items: Travel size grooming products like bar soap, liquid hand soap, body wash, shampoo, deodorant, chapstick, baby wipes, hand sanitizer, and shave cream. Single serving snacks like granola bars, cookies, chips, crackers (w cheese or peanut butter), beef jerky, and gum. Please reach out to Sariina Kalli at 218-451-1026 with questions.

Just Friends Donations

Just Friends adult day services is seeking items for their annual donation drive. Your generosity helps provide a welcoming day center where people can connect, engage, and be truly valued. The most needed items are paper towels, napkins, peanut butter & jelly, and Folgers coffee. A longer list of items is on the poster of the donation box which will be located in the gathering space until **Sunday, March 29th**.

Early Childhood Ministry Registration

Registration for the 2026-2027 school year for our early childhood ministry is now open! *Please help us promote our Christ-centered, fully accredited school!* All registration is online so encourage families to visit the church website (stpaulcolumbus.org) to learn more and to register. Families are also invited to tour our school. Financial aid is available to all families so that no student is turned away. Please contact Director Jen Probst (812-376-6504; director@stpaulcolumbus.org) to schedule a tour or for more information.

Thrivent Choice Dollars and Action Teams

Thrivent members—Please maximize your membership privileges by owning a Thrivent policy in the following ways:

Thrivent Choice Dollars: Most Thrivent members are given Choice Dollars to designate to their church or some other nonprofit organization. Choice Dollars expire on March 31, 2026. If you are a Thrivent member, please do one of the following:

Online: Go to thrivent.com and designate your Choice Dollars to St. Paul Lutheran Church, Columbus, Indiana.

Phone: Call 1-800-847-4836 during regular business hours. When prompted by the automated service, say "Thrivent Choice". Provide your phone number and date of birth to verify your account. You will then be connected to a customer service representative who will assist you in directing your Choice Dollars to our congregation.

Action Team Grants: Every Thrivent policy holder is eligible to apply for and receive two \$250 Action Team Grants every year. These grants provide the seed money for educational, service, and fundraising events. For ideas for Thrivent Action Team Grants and/or for assistance in completing the application, please contact Rachel Fohne or Pastor Bauman.

Sunday Lunches

We offer lunches for those participating in afternoon events. The sign-up sheet for January-May is posted in the gathering space.

February 15th: Chicken Sandwiches

February 22nd: Corn Dogs and Tater Tots—KfC Day

March 1st: Taco Bar

March 8th: Sloppy Joes

March 15th: No Lunch Served—Spring Break

March 22nd: Latino Families Hosting

March 29th: Spaghetti and Meatballs

Mission of the Month

Our March Mission of the Month is Clarity. Clarity serves mothers and their children both before birth and after birth with free ultrasounds, and other resources and supplies. Clarity serves students in both public and parochial schools providing evidence and encouragement for students to make godly and healthy choices when it comes to sexual activity.

We are blessed to partner with Clarity with the Memorial to the Unborn that is located between the church and education building, offering a place to grieve for those who have experienced a stillbirth or miscarriage and for those who are experiencing grief and regret over a past abortion.

Tea Social Returns in 2027

There will be no Tea Social this year. We are planning to continue the Tea Social every other year. Next year's Tea Social will be held later in April, a bit warmer weather and have a Spring theme with activities incorporated, especially for the children. Look for more information in early 2027!

Kroger Community Awards Program

Our church has been approved to participate in the Kroger Community Awards Program as a registered non-profit! Through this program, Kroger donates a percentage of shoppers' spending to approved organizations in the community. In order for our church to receive a portion of these donations, shoppers must complete the following steps:

Visit <http://www.kroger.com>. Once logged into your Kroger account, you can search for St. Paul Lutheran Church either by name or KW412 and then click Enroll. New Kroger rewards users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address, and a rewards card. Please reach out to Rachel Fohne at financialsecretary@stpaulcolumbus.org or 812-343-3786 with specific questions.

St. Paul Lutheran SGO

Donate to our Lutheran Scholarship Granting Organization at St. Paul!

A donation to our St. Paul SGO directly benefits our Early Childhood Ministry by helping us fund our mission and ministry! Why donate to our Lutheran SGO?? Donors receive a 50% state income tax credit! Please consult your tax advisor for specific tax advice. Please contact Rachel Fohne for more information at financialsecretary@stpaulcolumbus.org or 812-343-3786. You can also visit www.lutheransgo.org for more information!

2025-2026 St. Paul SGO Fundraising Goal: \$135,000

Amount Raised as of January 31, 2026: \$ 92,653

More Ways to Give

Did you know??? You can donate appreciated securities directly to St. Paul to fulfill your General Fund or Extending Christ's Love pledges. Donating appreciated securities such as stocks, bonds, and mutual funds may offer a tax advantage to the donor. Generally, the tax-deductible value of a gift of securities is the current market value as of the date of the gift. Appreciation (capital gains) of this donated security is generally not taxable to the donor. As always, please consult with your tax advisor for your specific situation. If you would like to donate a gift of appreciated securities or simply want to get your questions answered, please reach out to Financial Secretary Rachel Fohne at financialsecretary@stpaulcolumbus.org or 812-343-3786.

Official Acts

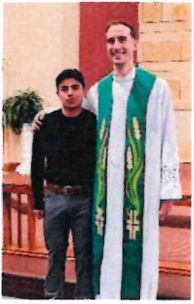
Judy Cline was received by transfer on January 28th.

Ángel Aguilar López was received by confirmation on February 1st.

Evelyn Strietelmeier-Pence was received by transfer on February 8th.

Jim Probst entered into eternal glory on January 18th and was given Christian burial on January 27th.

Latino Outreach Report



We welcomed Ángel Aguilar López as a member of our congregation through confirmation on February 1st. Praise the Lord! Ángel is a senior at Seymour High School and hopes to serve in the US Marines.

Hopefully we will be able to host a bilingual, spring-break, family outing on Wednesday, March 18th, to Brown County State Park. The event would begin with Matins at church at 10:15 AM before heading to the park, and it would conclude at church with the Lenten Supper and midweek service. Along with romping through the park, the plan is for time to be spent studying the major events of Holy Week. Whether or not we're able to host the event depends on some parents' work schedules. Young and old alike, if you're interested and able to play it by ear until we know for sure whether the event is on, please let Pastor Fickenscher know. We'd love to have you join us! The expectation is that children will be accompanied by their parents.

LWML News

We started a **Military Care Package** project with the goal of mailing gift cards (stateside) and care packages (overseas) in February. You can help us by giving us the names and complete addresses of any military personnel you know who are serving overseas or stateside. You can also help by bringing in any of the items listed on the bulletin board in the gathering space (A green tote is there.). Please contact Sariina Kalli at 218-451-1026 with questions.



We had a record number of attendees at the Feb. 6 game night and euchre tourney - 47 people! It was the first time we had as many people playing other games as were playing euchre, and we couldn't be more excited to see the event grow! Congratulations to Harold Loyd for taking the Euchre trophy, and thanks to everyone for donating \$270 in support of the Military Care Packages. The next **Family Game Night and Euchre Tourney** is Friday, May 8th, at 6 PM.

The LWML is hosting the **Lenten Meal** on Wednesday, March 25th. A sign-up sheet for the necessary food, desserts, and drinks for our Taco/Nacho Bar is up on the bulletin board. We also need volunteers to set up, serve, and clean up that evening. Please contact Elaine Wilson for more information at 317-771-2121, or to help.



We are also hosting a **Silent Basket Auction** in conjunction with our Lenten meal and in support of Extending Christ's Love. Unlike last year, we are asking for donations of themed baskets or totes only for this auction. For example, you could donate a basket of children's books, a "Pamper Me" basket, a garden tote, etc. We are looking for baskets, *not individual items*. Please contact Sariina Kalli for more info or to donate a basket.

On Tuesday, March 17th, the LWML will host **Birthday Bingo at the Lutheran Community Home** in Seymour. We are asked to provide bingo prizes, two dozen cupcakes, and three angel food cakes for the event. A few of us are planning to carpool from the church to lunch at a Seymour restaurant before bingo at 2 PM. Anyone is welcome to attend. Please reach out to Wendy Wiederhoeft at 812-371-4271 to donate baked goods or rideshare. Bingo prizes can be dropped off in the bin in the coat room at any time.

You are invited to the **Columbus Zone Spring Gathering** on Saturday, April 11th at St. John's Lutheran Church, White Creek. Registration and breakfast will begin at 9 AM, with a program to follow and a luncheon to close the gathering. Watch for details in the coming months.

There are just four months until the **Indiana District Convention** June 26-28, 2026, at the Vanderburgh 4H Center in Evansville, IN. The theme is "Be Still and Know" based on Psalm 46:10. Check out the LWML bulletin board for more convention facts, or read the *Good News* at <https://lwmlindiana.org/> for more information.



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

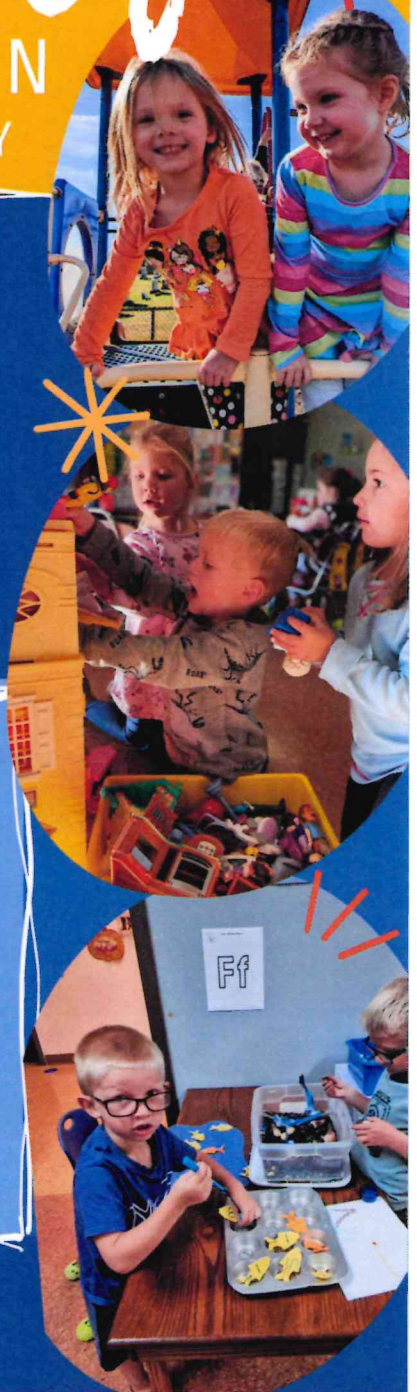
- Follows Indiana Academic Standards
- Before/After school care
- STEM Enrichment Opportunity
- Daily Jesus Time
- Weekly Music classes
- Minds in Motion

(812) 376-6504

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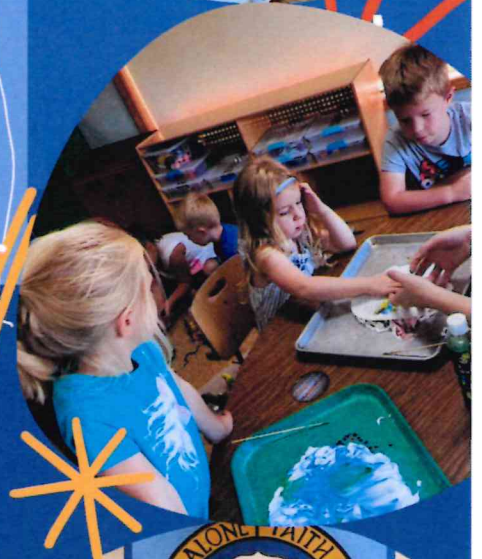
Kindergarten

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



Serving at St. Paul

Service	Usher Team	Elders	Greeters
8 AM	Team B	Jim Brock and Brian Arnholt	
10:45 AM	Team E	Eric Scheidt and Jeff Schroer	

Day	Acolyte	Flowers	Radio	Fellowship Hour	Lunch/Supper
1	8 AM Faith Fohne		Dan and Taffy Schroer	Bruce and Natalie Pollert	Price Family
	10:45 AM Ellis Sperry				
4 Lent 6:45 PM	Faith Wofford	-----	-----	-----	Youth
8	8 AM Danial Helt			Helt Family	Laws Family
	10:45 AM Kevin Chun Escalante				
11 Lent 6:45 PM	Naomi Lewis	-----	-----	-----	Bower, Forbes, and Walton Families
15	8 AM Kylie Price			Marybeth Glick	No Lunch
	10:45 AM Alex Essex				
18 Lent 6:45 PM	Emma Gibson	-----	-----	-----	Evangelism Board
22	8 AM Henry Seifer		Paul and Lisa Wendel		Latino Families
	10:45 AM Lane Gilmore				
25 Lent 6:45 PM	Daryn Vogel	-----	-----	-----	LWML
29 Palm Sunday	8 AM Jace Vogel			Molly and Warren Scheidt	Patterson Family
	10:45 AM Caroline Glick				



St. Paul Lutheran Church & Early Childhood Ministry

March 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 Divine Service English & Spanish
Noon Lunch (no lunch 3/15)
12:15 PM Confirmation (no class 3/15)
12:15 PM Spanish Bible Study
12:15 PM Choristers (no practice 3/15,3/29)

12:45 PM Jr. Handchimes (no practice 3/15, 3/29)
1:15 PM Jr. Handbells (no practice 3/15,3/29)
7 PM Lutheran Hour

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Mite Box Sunday Sr. Handbells	2 10 AM Homeschool Religion Class 10 AM Moms in the Word 10 AM Small Group Handbells	3 9 AM-Noon OGT Workday 12:15 PM Staff Meeting	4 10:45 AM Communion Wafer Making See Schedule Below	5 6 PM Tri-W Meeting	6	7 Set clocks forward one hour before bed.
8 Sr. Choir	9 March Newsletter Deadline 9:30 AM Homeschool Religion Class 10 AM Small Group Handbells	10 5:30-10:30 PM Church Reserved	11 6 PM ECM Board Meeting See Schedule Below	12 Church Reserved	13 Grandparents Day Chapel 8:20 AM All Classes Meet No Extended Care	14
15 Small Group Handbells Noon Confirmation Make-up/Work Ahead Session	16 10 AM Small Group Handbells 5:30 PM Girl Scouts	17 LWML Hosts Bingo at Lutheran Community Home	18 See Schedule Below	19	20	21
Spring Break — March 16th-20th — No School						
22 Sr. Handbells Noon SPY and C4Life Fill Easter Eggs 1:15 PM SPY and C4Life Fellowship Event	23 9:30 AM Homeschool Religion Class 10 AM Small Group Handbells 6 PM Finance Committee 7 PM Council Meeting	24	25 See Schedule Below	26 1:30 PM Hickory Creek Visit	27	28
29 Palm Sunday Children Process with Palms Both Services Jr. Choir, Choristers, Jr. Handchimes and Jr. Handbells Noon Easter Egg Hunt	30 9:30 AM Homeschool Religion Class 10 AM Small Group Handbells	31	Kindergarten Parent-Teacher Conferences		Radio Service and Lutheran Hour can be found on 91.1 FM Columbus/Madison, 89.1 FM Greensburg, 88.1 FM Versailles/Osgood, and 94.5 FM Salem	