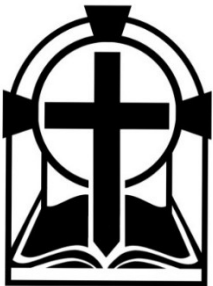


Even as  
**He chose us**  
in **Him** before  
the foundation of the world  
**to be holy**  
and without blemish  
before Him in love.

Ephesians 1:4

In Love  
*Extending Christ's Love* Sermon Series  
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost  
July 14, 2024



St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Lutheran Church- Missouri Synod  
Columbus, Indiana

## Welcome to St. Paul!

We are glad that you have come to God's house to be fed and strengthened by His holy Word. The order of service for today is printed on the **insert** in this bulletin. Guests, we extend a special welcome to you this morning. We are privileged to have you as our guest today and encourage you to worship with us again soon.

**The Family Quiet Room and Restroom** are located outside the doors of the sanctuary and to the left. In the Family Quiet Room, you can hear and see the service. **Assisted hearing devices** are available for the service. Please contact an usher.

Do you need prayer support? Please call Bonnie England at 812-392-2732 to activate our **Prayer Chain**. Your fellow church members will pray for you.

**Our Communion Practice:** We invite and encourage those who have been instructed, confirmed, and confess the faith of this congregation and other congregations of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to receive the Sacrament. Communicants at this altar acknowledge their sins, believe that the body and blood of Christ are truly present in the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, and desire the Spirit's help to turn from their sins.

Those who are not communing are invited to come forward and receive a blessing by placing their arms across their chest.

If you have questions regarding our Communion teaching and practice, please speak to a pastor.

**Communion Preparation:** To prepare for the Lord's Supper, you may wish to pray the prayer on the inside cover of the hymnal or review the Christian Questions and Answers on pages 329-330.

### Today's Christian Education Opportunities

Little Ones (infants-three years old) in the nursery for a Bible lesson and activity.

Children's class (fifth grade and younger) meets in the third-fourth grade Sunday School room

SPY and C4Life Youth meet for a study led by Deaconess Fickenscher

Today's adult study is led by Pastor Fickenscher on the Theology and History of the Service of Matins

### Serving Today

Organist: Kantor Dan Mau

Acolytes: 8 AM Service Daryn Vogel

10:45 AM Service Lane Gilmore

## Church Calendar

Today	<i>Extending Christ's Love Sermon Series begins</i> Harvest Mission Sunday <b>8:00 AM Divine Service</b> 9:10 AM Fellowship 9:15 AM Prayer Vigil Training 9:30 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM Radio Service WYGS 91.1 FM <b>10:45 AM Divine Service—English and Spanish</b> Noon Board of Education Meeting 12:15 PM Spanish Bible Study 7:00 PM Lutheran Hour WYGS 91.1 FM
Wednesday	9:00 AM Bible Study <b>10:15 AM Matins Service</b>
Next Sunday	<i>Extending Christ's Love Bible study begins</i> <b>8:00 AM Divine Service</b> 9:10 AM Fellowship 9:15 AM Student-Parent Confirmation Mtg 9:30 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM Radio Service WYGS 91.1 FM <b>10:45 AM Divine Service—English and Spanish</b> 12:15 PM Spanish Bible Study 7:00 PM Lutheran Hour WYGS 91.1 FM

**BAPTIZED INTO CHRIST...** We rejoice as Carter Dale Micah Shaffer, son of Dillon and Hannah, is baptized at the 10:45 AM service today. Sponsors are Mason and Camila Shaffer. May God bless and keep Carter in the faith all his days.

**THE FLOWERS IN CHURCH...** God has richly blessed Dillon and Hannah Shaffer with their first child, Carter Dale Micah. We are thankful that today, Carter became a child of God through Holy Baptism. The flowers are provided by both grandparents Carl and Mary Shaffer and John and Elizabeth Kestler.

**TODAY'S RADIO MINISTRY...** is sponsored by Colin and Linda Scheidt as Linda J. Scheidt remembers her mother, Lillie Mae (Arnholt) Christopher.

### **ON THE TABLE IN THE GATHERING SPACE...**

+ August Newsletter

+ July-September Portals of Prayer

+ Lutheran Women's Quarterly

# Eighth Sunday after Pentecost—10:45 AM Service

## Prelude

*Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart—J. Krebs*

## Welcome and Announcements

*Please sign the Record of Fellowship*

## Ring of the Bell

## Baptism Hymn

605

## Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Carter Dale Micah Shaffer

page 268

## Entrance Hymn

*please remain standing* 819

## Salutation and Collect for the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray. O Lord, You granted Your prophets strength to resist the temptations of the devil and courage to proclaim repentance. Give us pure hearts and minds to follow Your Son faithfully even into suffering and death; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*please be seated*

## Old Testament Reading

Amos 7:7-15

This is what [the Lord God] showed me: behold, the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in His hand. And the Lord said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the Lord said, "Behold, I am setting a plumb line in the midst of My people Israel; I will never again pass by them; the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste, and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword."

Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent to Jeroboam king of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the midst of the house of Israel. The land is not able to bear all his words. For thus Amos has said, "'Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel must go into exile away from his land.'"

And Amaziah said to Amos, "O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, and eat bread there, and prophesy there, but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom." Then Amos answered and said to Amaziah, "I was no prophet, nor a prophet's son, but I was a herdsman and a dresser of sycamore figs. But the LORD took me from following the flock, and the LORD said to me, 'Go, prophesy to My people Israel.'"

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle Reading

Ephesians 1:3-14

[Paul writes:] Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him. In love He predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of His will, to the praise of His glorious grace, with which He has blessed us in the Beloved. In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace, which He lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight making known to us the mystery of His will, according to His purpose, which He set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in Him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of His glory.

In Him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in Him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of His glory.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**G** Thanks be to God.

## Verse of the Day

*please stand and speak together*

**G** Alleluia. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places. Alleluia.

## Gospel Reading

Mark 6:14-29

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the sixth chapter.

**G** Glory to You, O Lord.

King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' name had become known. Some said, "John the Baptist has been raised from the dead. That is why these miraculous powers are at work in Him." But others said, "He is Elijah." And others said, "He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised." For it was Herod who had sent and seized John and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because he had married her. For John had been saying to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." And Herodias had a grudge against him and wanted to put him to death. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he kept him safe. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed, and yet he heard him gladly.

But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his nobles and military commanders and the leading men of Galilee. For when Herodias's daughter came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests. And the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it to you." And he vowed to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, up to half of my kingdom." And she went out and said to her mother, "For what should I ask?" And she said, "The head of John the Baptist." And she came in immediately with haste to the king and asked, saying, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." And the king was exceedingly sorry, but because of his oaths and his guests he did not want to break his word to her. And immediately the king sent an executioner with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison and brought his head on a platter and gave it to the girl, and the girl gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard of it, they came and took his body and laid it in a tomb.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**G** Praise to You, O Christ.

*please be seated*

## Little Sermon

## Hymn of the Day

746

## Sermon

*In Love*

Ephesians 1:3-14

## Offering

706

## Prayer of the Church

*please stand*

## Service of the Sacrament

pages 194-198

## Distribution

529, 708 stanzas 1-2, 713, 580

*Visitors: Please read our Communion statement on the inside front cover of the bulletin.*

## Closing Liturgy

*please stand* pages 199-202

## Closing Hymn

708 stanza 3

## Postlude

*Praeambulum in C—H. Scheidemann*

# In Love

## Ephesians 1:3-14

Paul's epistle to the Ephesians begins by extolling the love of God \_\_\_\_\_ for you in Christ.

In love, God...

...has blessed you with every s\_\_\_\_\_ b\_\_\_\_\_

...c\_\_\_\_\_ you.

...made you h\_\_\_\_\_ and b\_\_\_\_\_, by clothing you with Christ's righteousness.

...r\_\_\_\_\_ you, bought you back and set you free from your slavery to sin, death, and the devil.

...f\_\_\_\_\_ you.

...lavishes the riches of His g\_\_\_\_\_ upon you.

...has a\_\_\_\_\_ you, and thus the eternal inheritance is yours.

...has delivered His gifts to you through the w\_\_\_\_\_ of truth, the G\_\_\_\_\_ of your salvation.

...has brought you to f\_\_\_\_\_ so that you believe in Jesus.

...has sealed you with the H\_\_\_\_\_ S\_\_\_\_\_.

Our response to God's love...

...p\_\_\_\_\_ and thanks: "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ..."

...e\_\_\_\_\_ God's love to others.

**Next Sunday's Readings** Jeremiah 23:1-6, Ephesians 2:11-22, Mark 6:30-44

*Next Sunday we continue our sermon series on Ephesians with the theme:*

**One Body in Love**

**LIVING THE SERMON...** Before we extend Christ's love to others, we must first receive the love of God in Christ, for we love because He first loved us. We receive the love of God through the Gospel Word as the Spirit works through the Word to empower us to extend Christ's love to others. Make it a priority to receive the love of God and His gifts of love through weekly worship and daily devotions. Then consider how you can extend Christ's love to others.

**PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH...** Give thanks to God for His love for you in Christ Jesus. Pray for the Holy Spirit to empower you to generously extend Christ's love in both word and deed.

**MEMORY VERSE FOR THE WEEK...** *In [Christ], you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.* Ephesians 2:22

# Extending Christ's Love

## A Joy-Filled Week

Our church was filled with a flurry of activity this week as we served over 150 children and their families through our Vacation Bible School. Thanks to the many volunteers, youth and adult, that make VBS a success. Pray for the children and families we served that they may be brought closer to the Savior and His eternal love.

VBS week highlights our need for more space for our Christian education ministries. When the church was dedicated in 2009, VBS attendance was around 80 children. We were able to utilize our current Sunday School classrooms to serve the children. With our growing VBS, each age group averages more than 30 students per age group. None of our Sunday School classrooms are large enough to accommodate this many children.

So, we have creatively responded to the need. Snacks for VBS are served under the front canopy as there is no longer space to have both snacks and crafts in the fellowship room.

We must utilize the Conference Room for the Bible Challenge Rotation which is a tight fit. Imagine 40 children and leaders sitting on the floor. When it's raining, the gathering space must be utilized for recreation time, which is not nearly large enough for this many children to be moving and playing.

Now imagine a facility where there are two large common areas so that both crafts and snacks can each have their own space. Imagine the Great Hall (almost three times the size of the current fellowship room) where there would be ample space not only for snacks but also for indoor recreation. Imagine classrooms nearly three times the size of the conference room for VBS rotations.

Your generous support of Extending Christ's Love will enable this vision to become a reality! Together, we will meet the current and future needs for Vacation Bible School, Christian education, early childhood ministry, youth ministry, and Latino outreach.

Please continue to pray for our Extending Christ's Love campaign. Please also pray for God's wisdom and guidance as you consider your support for Extending Christ's Love.

## Mark your calendars for these important dates!

### Today, July 14<sup>th</sup>—Extending Christ's Love Sermon Series Begins

Paul's letter to the Ephesians is all about the love of God. Beginning today and continuing through September 1<sup>st</sup>, we will focus on this powerful Epistle, rejoicing in Christ's love for us and through the Word being empowered to extend Christ's love in our daily callings.

### Today, July 14<sup>th</sup>—Prayer Vigil Host Training

Those who will be serving as hosts for the Prayer Vigil will have a brief training session at 9:15 AM in the Conference Room. If you cannot attend, please contact Pastor Bauman.

### Next Sunday, July 21<sup>st</sup>—Extending Christ's Love Bible Study Begins

Please plan to attend this Bible study as we explore what the Bible teaches about receiving Christ's love and then responding to His love by extending His love to others.

### Saturday, August 3—Prayer Vigil

Please set aside thirty minutes on this Saturday morning or evening to come and pray for our congregation and submitted prayer requests. Prayer times are 8 AM, 8:30 AM, 9 AM, and 9:30 AM, and 5 PM, 5:30 PM, 6 PM, and 6:30 PM.



## **Saturday, August 17—Commitment Service of Thanksgiving and Celebratory Meal**

At 5 PM, we will gather for a thirty-minute service of praise and thanksgiving where the pledges that have been offered will be dedicated to the Lord. Following the service, we will enjoy a meal together. The menu is a variety of Italian casseroles, garlic bread, green salad and toppings, applesauce, cottage cheese, desserts, and drinks. At the conclusion of the meal, the total amount pledged to that point will be announced.

**RSVP for the meal:** Please sign-up for the meal by Sunday, August 11<sup>th</sup> in the gathering space or on the church website: [stpaulcolumbus.org](http://stpaulcolumbus.org).

## **Sunday, August 18—Celebration Sunday**

Our Extending Christ's Love celebration continues at our Sunday services on August 18<sup>th</sup> and with an extended fellowship hour.

## **Opportunities to Serve**

**Food Donations for Celebration Weekend:** Volunteers are needed to prepare Italian casseroles and desserts for the congregational meal on Saturday, August 17<sup>th</sup> and quick breads are needed for the fellowship hour on August 18<sup>th</sup>. Sign-up to serve in the gathering space.

## **Testimonials**

During the coming weeks, our brothers and sisters in Christ will be sharing their reasons for supporting Extending Christ's Love. Today's testimonial is from Bruce Pollert:

*Even though I come from Immanuel Lutheran in Seymour, my grandparents and beyond, as well as my mother were members here at St Paul - so I have great memories as a child of being here and enjoying Pastor Stache shepherding his flock so many years ago!*

*After Natalie and I were married, we looked at several of the Lutheran churches around Columbus, trying to decide where we fit best. With Immanuel being so large, I did not know if I could get used to, what was then, a much smaller congregation. I was so glad we joined here. St Paul has always been such a warm and inviting congregation, and I could not get over the difference in congregations back then!*

*Since joining and being a member here for almost 50 years, I have been blessed to be president of the congregation, involved with the building committee, selection of our pipe organ, directing the children's choir and obviously always interested in the design of how things look and are planned here at church.*

*With our two sons being raised here and now as we have six grandchildren, Natalie and I met Jen Probst at St James in Lafayette, Indiana, where our oldest son, York, and his family reside. Their oldest was fortunate enough to have Jen during his early childhood education, and we witnessed then her talent and treasure of "teaching the little children to come to Him." Once we heard the Probst family was moving to the Columbus area, we were overjoyed, to say the least.*

*Seeing the growth in our congregation, especially young families, it warms both our hearts to know that we are in such good hands with the leaders of this congregation. For all these reasons, we could not only support our early childhood education expansion, but could ask how could you not?*

*Please join us in making a generous pledge to have this happen for our congregation, but especially for our future members!*

## **An ambitious goal...but a goal that can be reached!**

\$9 million is an ambitious goal. There's no doubt about it. But the question is **"Can we reach this goal?"**

If the only source of funding for this project was pledges, the answer would be no. But thankfully, there are many sources of funding in addition to pledges. This includes grants, endowment income, gifts and pledges from current and past early childhood ministry families, and gifts from former members and other friends of our congregation. As with the construction of the church, we will finance a portion of the project through a loan. Currently, these sources of funding over and above our pledges total just over \$4 million. In addition, our Grants Committee continues to research and apply for grants. The current \$4 million projection is a conservative estimate. For example, the current estimate for gifts and pledges from former members and early childhood ministry families is

\$160,000. For the Friends of Clifty Church campaign, this amount was just over \$130,000. The Friends of Clifty appeal was to former members and not early childhood ministry families. By the time the project budget is finalized in September, this line item and others may be significantly higher than what we have currently estimated.

But can we reach \$4-\$5 million in pledges? Yes, we can, if history repeats itself! In 2006, the average weekly pledge for Growing with Christ's Love, the campaign to build the church was \$44/week for the length of the campaign. For Extending Christ's Love, we have already received \$1,407,265 in lead gifts and early pledges. If the remaining pledges average \$44/week over the 277 weeks of the campaign (\$12,188 pledge), estimating 200 additional pledges, this would result in total pledges of \$3,844,865.

If our average pledge is \$50/week (\$13,850 pledge), total pledges would be \$4,177,265. If the average pledge is \$60/week (\$16,620 pledge), total pledges would be \$4,731,265.

Will everyone be able to pledge \$44 or \$50 or \$60 per week? No. Some will pledge less while others will be able to pledge more. In addition, these calculations are estimating 225 member pledges for Extending Christ's Love. We have over 350 giving units so there is a strong possibility we could exceed 225 pledges.

Is \$9 million an ambitious goal? Yes! Can we reach this goal? Yes! By God's grace as His Spirit empowers us to give sacrificially and generously as we are able to extend Christ's love!

### **Prayerfully Consider**

Extending Christ's Love is an ambitious project as we seek to meet the current and future needs of our congregation. As we prepare to offer our pledges in August, prayerfully consider how you can support this endeavor. The pledging period is 5 years and 4 months/277 weeks. A weekly gift for 277 weeks (September 2024-December 2029) can become a significant pledge to help us reach our \$9 million goal.

**Questions?** Please contact Extending Christ's Love Co-chairs: Colin and Linda Scheidt or Dalton and Libby Workman.

## Rally Day is August 4<sup>th</sup>

Join us as we celebrate Christian Education and kickoff the new Sunday School year, gathering around the theme *Extending Christ's Love*.

The day includes many events and activities as we prepare to Extend Christ's Love through the Christian Education Center.

Please plan to spend a joy-filled day of worship, learning, fellowship, and fun with your church family!

8 AM Rally Day Service with installation of early childhood ministry staff

9:15 AM Fellowship

9:30 AM Rally Day Opening in the fellowship room. Faith Milestones Presentation. Extending Christ's Love devotion and activity, followed by Sunday School classes for children, youth, and adults

10:45 AM Rally Day Service

Noon Young and old are invited to enjoy a hotdog lunch; Please RSVP to Rachel Fohne at [rnolting@alumni.iu.edu](mailto:rnolting@alumni.iu.edu) or 812-343-3786 by Wednesday, July 31<sup>st</sup> if you plan to attend

12:30-1:15 PM All youth groups meet for games and activities

12:30 PM Meeting in the sanctuary for parents of all children and youth as we discuss long-range planning for youth ministry

1:15 PM The Kona Ice Truck will be onsite for tasty treats

Approximately 1:30 PM National Youth Gathering Information Meeting for all incoming 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders and their parents in the music room





**IN OUR PRAYERS... Sick and Recovering:** Becky Nordman, Vern Sullivan, Nancy Dyer, Bob Runge, Kay Newton, Kathy Hoover, Jill Scheidt, Karen Hendershot, Debbie Schroer, Jill Hoeltke, Gloria Schultz, Pam Jenkins, Annie Walton (Holly Wischmeier's co-worker's daughter), Dale Nowak (Sally Haak's brother-in-law), Beth Schultz (Gloria Schultz's daughter-in-law), Rena Dillman (Kris' Taylor's friend), Jill Many (Cindy Hendershot's daughter), Dylan Eaken (South Decatur student), Marcell Williams (Bridges' friend's mother), William Leitshuh (Cleary's friend), Julie Phillips (Bonnie Nolting's sister), Connie Ball (Jan Voelz's friend), Lisa Benes (Kruger's friend), Kyle Huckaby (Koester's friend), Erica Gretzinger (Jennifer Dougherty's cousin), Naomi Gillespie (Haak's great-niece), Rick Sapper (Cleary's brother-in-law), Julia Carmichael (Kathy Harner and Nancy Lipka's cousin), Lauren Brewer (Kathy Harner and Nancy Lipka's niece), Lucy Boyd (Hinds' neighbor); **Active Military:** Garrett McGaha, Noah Hoeltke and Michael Mullins (friend of the Sperry's)

**HARVEST MISSION...** is **today** and every **second and fourth Sunday** of the month through October. This mission allows you to extend Christ's Love in two ways: to share extra produce from your garden with your church family and to share in the bounty of others, and to make a donation for these items if you are so inclined. Donations collected will go to St. Paul's Food Pantry to help pay for milk, eggs, meats, etc. If you have any questions, or would like to help with this mission, please contact Nora Cleary at 812-343-9142.

**CLARITY VOLUNTEER TRAINING...** is **this Wednesday, July 17<sup>th</sup>** from 9 AM-4:30 PM at Columbus First Assembly, 2100 10<sup>th</sup> Street. Sign up at [claritycares.org/volunteer-training](http://claritycares.org/volunteer-training). Lunch is provided.

**CONFIRMAND STUDENT AND PARENT MEETING...** is **next Sunday, July 21<sup>st</sup>** at 9:15 AM in the sanctuary. All incoming seventh and eighth graders and their parents should plan to attend. If you cannot attend, please speak to Pastor Bauman.

**YOUTH SERVANT EVENT...** Please pray for our youth and adult leaders as they embark to St. Louis next week for a servant event with Christian Friends of New Americans. They will be leading a Vacation Bible School and preparing lunch for the children at VBS.

Christian Friends of New Americans is our July Mission of the Month. Our mission support will supply the

resources and the food for our youth-led VBS week. Pastor Fickenscher will be leading the servant event. If you need pastoral care from July 22-25, please contact Pastor Patterson or Pastor Bauman.

**MOMS IN THE WORD POOL PARTY...** Join us for a pool party on **Monday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10 AM** at the Wint family's house (5230 W 800 N, Scipio, IN). Bring the kiddos and join us for a fun morning of swimming! Children of all ages are welcome! Feel free to pack a sack lunch and join us for a picnic lunch after swimming.

**WOMENS BIBLE STUDY...** Join the women of St. Paul for an honest look at Sunday School stories in the Bible on **Thursday, July 25<sup>th</sup>** at 6 PM. The class meets in the Conference Room.

#### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS...**

- + Saturday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>: Prayer Vigil
- + Sunday, August 4<sup>th</sup>: Rally Day
- + Friday-Saturday, August 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>: Confirmation Retreat
- + Saturday, August 17<sup>th</sup>: 5 PM Commitment Celebration Service and Meal
- + Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup>: Celebration Sunday
- + Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup>: Concordia Counseling Grand Opening Service and Meal at Redeemer, Seymour

**NEW FINANCIAL SECRETARY...** Rachel Fohne has agreed to serve as our financial secretary. We are thankful for her willingness to serve even as are grateful for Melissa Pevlor's service in these past years.

**ECM STAFFING NEEDS...** Our early childhood ministry is growing! For the 2024-2025 school year, we are seeking extended care helpers, substitute teachers, and substitute teacher assistants. For more information or to apply, please contact Director Jen Probst.

**ECM OPENINGS...** For the 2024-2025 school year, only four openings remain in the Little Lambs (three-year-old) class, and four openings remain in the kindergarten class. The Doves class (four-year-old) is full and a waiting list has been started. For more information or to register: visit [stpaulcolumbus.org/ecmregistration](http://stpaulcolumbus.org/ecmregistration).

**OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE...** We are thankful that Jill Scheidt has returned home for continued rehabilitation. A meal train site has been created to provide meals for Randy and Jill twice a week. If you are interested in serving in this way, please visit

mealtrain.com/trains/7z9wk1 to sign-up for a day to provide a meal.

Jill and Randy are thankful for your ongoing prayers, cards, and words of encouragement.

**CHURCH HVAC UNITS TO BE REPLACED...** All six church HVAC rooftop units were damaged by hail. An insurance claim was filed, and we received \$43,141 for repairing the units. At a special Council meeting, the Council approved a motion to apply these insurance funds to the replacement of all six units. Total replacement cost is \$134,295 so the general fund expense after insurance is \$91,154. Since the units are more than 15 years old, Council members concluded the best stewardship of our resources was applying the insurance funds to replace rather than repair the units. As a church family, we will need to be generous in our regular offerings to overcome this unexpected, unbudgeted expense. If you have any questions, please contact a trustee: Dan Schroer, Steve Potter, or Corbin Oliver.

### **THANKS, THANKS, AND MORE THANKS!!!**

- + Thanks to all who served at the Taco Barn or enjoyed a walking taco or take home taco kit. Total proceeds benefiting our youth ministry are \$9,933!
- + Thanks to the MANY adult and youth volunteers who served at VBS this past week. Over 150 children learned to Shelter in their Savior Jesus!
- + Thanks to all who supported the Clarity Baby Bottle campaign. More than \$800 was contributed by our church family which is in addition to our \$1,000 June Mission of the Month contribution.
- + Thanks to all who supported the Step Up 4 Life Campaign. This Walk for Life raised more than \$100,000 for Lutherans for Life.
- + Thanks to all who contributed toward Faith Milestones. We have exceeded our \$2,800 goal.

### **The Response of God's People**

#### **Last Sunday, July 7<sup>th</sup>**

Divine Service Attendance: **295**; Communion: **235**  
Offering: **\$12,695.25**      Needed Weekly: \$15,397  
Extending Christ's Love: \$1,500  
Additional Gifts: \$2,800 Faith Milestones; \$100 HVAC Replacement

## **St. Paul Lutheran Church and Early Childhood Ministry**

6045 East State Street, Columbus, Indiana 47201

812-376-6504; [www.stpaulcolumbus.org](http://www.stpaulcolumbus.org)

Pastor Doug Bauman; [pastorbauman@stpaulcolumbus.org](mailto:pastorbauman@stpaulcolumbus.org); 812-350-4115

Pastor Jeff Patterson; [pastorpatterson@stpaulcolumbus.org](mailto:pastorpatterson@stpaulcolumbus.org); 812-569-2471

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*Reaching out with Christ's Love to Serve and Grow*

Connected to Christ ✠ Connected to One Another ✠ Connecting Others to Christ