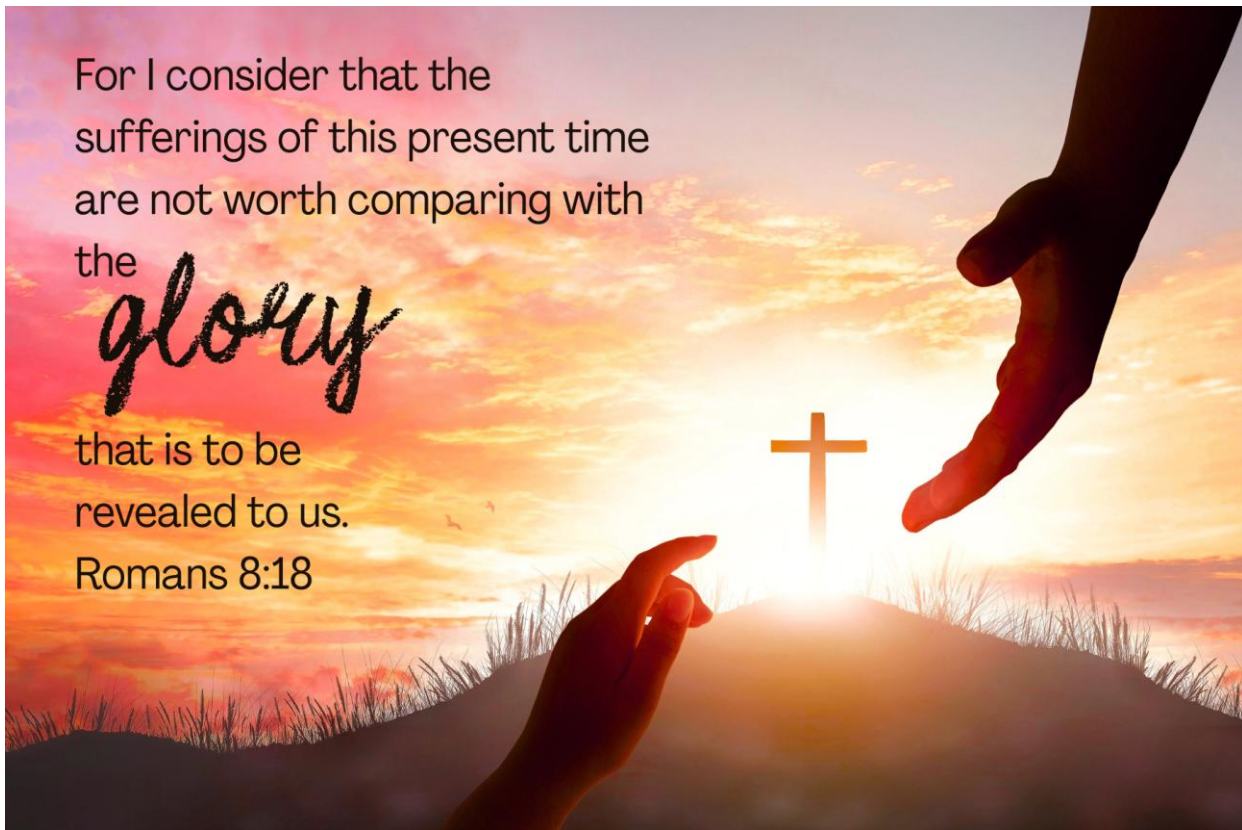


For I consider that the
sufferings of this present time
are not worth comparing with
the

glory

that is to be
revealed to us.

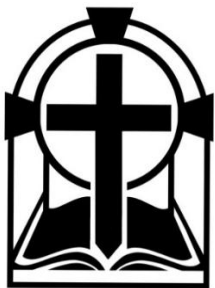
Romans 8:18



Through Groaning to Glory

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 19, 2026



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 **812-447-7895** 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

First Steps of Faith (Infants and Toddlers with a parent) meets in the conference room

KfC Sunday School for ages three-fifth grade meets in the third-fourth grade classroom

SPY and C4Life Youth (grades 6-12) meet in the youth room

Musical Heritage of the Lutheran Church led by Kantor Dan Mau meets in the fellowship room

Serving Today

Organist: Kantor Dan Mau

Acolytes: 8 AM Service Naomi Lewis

10:45 AM Service Theodore Laws

Church Calendar

Rachel Fohne on vacation through July 24th

Pastor Bauman at Synodical Convention through July 23rd

Kantor Mau on vacation tomorrow-August 1st

Pastor Patterson on vacation July 22nd-29th

Today

8:00 AM Divine Service

9:10 AM Fellowship

9:30 AM Sunday School

9:30 AM Radio Service WYGS 91.1 FM

10:45 AM Divine Service—English and Spanish

12:15 PM Spanish Bible Study

1:30-6 PM Church Reserved

7:00 PM Lutheran Hour WYGS 91.1 FM

Saturday

10-11 AM Dan Wilson Visitation

11:00 AM Dan Wilson Funeral Service

Next Sunday

8:00 AM Divine Service

9:10 AM Fellowship

9:30 AM Sunday School

9:30 AM Radio Service WYGS 91.1 FM

10:45 AM Divine Service—English and Spanish

12:15 PM Spanish Bible Study

4:00 PM Travis Hartman Ordination and

Installation at Faith, Madison

7:00 PM Lutheran Hour WYGS 91.1 FM

TODAY'S RADIO MINISTRY AND FLOWERS IN CHURCH... are in honor of Henry and Lois Wischmeier's 60th wedding anniversary on July 10th and for God's blessings on them through the years from their children and grandchildren.

IN THE GATHERING SPACE...

+ August Newsletter

+ New edition of *Lutheran Women's Quarterly*

HARVEST MISSION... All are welcome to bring surplus produce, plants, and flowers to the Harvest Mission table in the gathering space. Anyone can take from this table for a donation to St. Paul's food bank. Please contact Nora Cleary at 812-343-9142 for more information or to help.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE...

+ Fellowship Hour Hosts for **next Sunday, July 26th**.

+ Sunday School Teachers and Teacher Assistants for the 2026-2027 school year. Please speak to DCE Probst if interested.

+ Sunday lunches for the fall semester.

COUNCIL MEETING CANCELED... Since there is no New Business, the Church Council will not meet tomorrow night.

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude

Herzlich lieb hab ich dich, o Herr (Hymn 708)—J.L. Krebs

Welcome and Announcements

Please complete the Record of Fellowship

Ringing of the Bell

Opening Hymn

733

Confession of Sins

please stand pages 184-185

Introit

Psalms 103:15-19

P Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer; listen to my plea for grace. Teach me Your way, O LORD, that I may walk in Your truth; unite my heart to fear Your name. I give thanks to You, O Lord my God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify Your name forever. For great is Your steadfast love toward me; You have delivered my soul from the depths of the grave. O God, insolent men have risen up against me; a band of ruthless men seek my life, and they do not set You before them. But You, O LORD, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

G *(all sing—page 186)* **Glory be to the Father...**

Kyrie and Gloria in Excelsis

pages 186-189

Salutation and Collect for the Day

P The Lord be with you.

G *(sung)* **And with thy spirit.**

P Let us pray. O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You in perfect joy hereafter; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G *(sung)* **Amen.**

please be seated

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 44:6-8

Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel and His Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: "I am the first and I am the last; besides Me there is no god. Who is like Me? Let him proclaim it. Let him declare and set it before Me, since I appointed an ancient people. Let them declare what is to come, and what will happen. Fear not, nor be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? And you are My witnesses! Is there a God besides Me? There is no Rock; I know not any."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Reading

Romans 8:18-27

[Paul writes:] For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And He who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

Triple Alleluia		<i>please stand</i> page 190
☞ (all sing) Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.		
Gospel Reading		Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
📖 The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the thirteenth chapter.		
☞ (sung) Glory be to Thee, O Lord.		
[Jesus] put another parable before them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?' He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' So the servants said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he said, 'No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, "Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'"" Then He left the crowds and went into the house. And His disciples came to Him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, and the good seed is the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear."		
📖 This is the Gospel of the Lord.		
☞ (sung) Praise be to Thee, O Christ.		
Apostles Creed		page 192
Little Sermon		
Hymn of the Day		700
Sermon	<i>Through Groaning to Glory</i>	Romans 8:18-27
Offering		773
Prayer of the Church		<i>please stand</i>
Service of the Sacrament		pages 194-198
Distribution		585, 819, 809, 663, 666
<i>Visitors: Please read the Communion Statement on the inside front cover of the bulletin.</i>		
Closing Liturgy		<i>please stand</i> pages 199-202
Closing Hymn		923
Postlude	<i>All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name</i> (Hymn 549)—H. Hopson	
<i>Pastor Fickenscher is leading the Divine Service at Faith Madison this morning.</i>		
<i>Pastor Bauman is at the LCMS Synodical Convention in Phoenix through Thursday.</i>		

Thanks to all who served at Vacation Bible School and the Rummage Sale this week!

Through Groaning to Glory

Romans 8:18-27

Some-times our own s_____ and s_____ cause us to groan and lose sight of God's promises and what he has accomplished for us through Christ.

All creation (including us) groans under the curse of s_____, but we have h_____.

+ Romans 5:2: "we rejoice in hope of the glory of God."

+ Romans 8:18: "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us."

Out of l_____ for us, the Holy Spirit groans too and p_____ for us!

Jesus also groaned for us, winning our salvation and guaranteeing an e_____ to all groaning for those who believe.

Therefore, we build our lives on the solid r_____ of Jesus and the promises of His Word.

Next Sunday's Readings Deuteronomy 7:6-9; Romans 8:28-39; Matthew 13:44-52

LIVING THE SERMON... Christ is our solid rock for this life and our hope for the life of the world to come! When you find yourself groaning because of life in this fallen world, pray these words: "On Christ the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand." (Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 575).

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH... Psalm 55:22 (NIV) says, "Cast your cares on the Lord and He will sustain you; He will never let the righteous fall." Lord, enliven our hope with the promises in Your holy Word and with the certainty of eternal life through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen!

MEMORY VERSE FOR THE WEEK... *[Jesus said:] The kingdom of God is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.*

Extending Christ's Love

Gospel seeds are being sown!!! Thanks be to God for all the ways Gospel seeds are being sown! We are thankful for all who participated in our Neighborhood Information Distribution inviting those in the area around our church to worship, Vacation Bible School, and our early childhood ministry. Last Sunday, we had a great turnout for our Latino Outreach worship and fellowship at Brown County State Park, and we were blessed to serve more than 150 children at Vacation Bible School! By your continued support for Extending Christ's Love, you are helping create the space for mission and ministry so that the seeds of the Gospel can continue to be sown through early childhood ministry, Latino outreach, Christian education, and youth ministry.



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.

Thanks for your generous support of Extending Christ's Love. Thanks to all who donated items for the Rummage Sale and who served before and during the sale. 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.

Youth Events

St Paul Family Day at Holiday World—Monday, July 27th

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 **TODAY, July 19th**. Please contact DCE Probst for more information.

KFC (Kids for Christ—fifth graders and younger)

Sunday, August 9th Rally Day Noon-2 PM

Please join us for the benefit luncheon for the Branaman family followed by devotions and fun Rally Day activities. Due to the benefit luncheon, KFC will meet until 2 PM.



SPY (high schoolers) and C4Life (sixth-eighth grade)

Friday, August 7th Family Game Night 6-8:30 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 9 Rallying for Jax and Informational Meeting for 8-12th Graders and their families

Support fellow SPY Youth Jax Branaman by attending, serving, and/or bringing food to the benefit meal. At 1 PM, there will be an Informational Meeting for all youth interested in attending Y4Life in Washington, DC in January (grades 9-12) and Higher Things in July 2027 (grades 8-12).

Sunday, August 9th Swimming, Food, Fun, and Fellowship at Lutheran Lake 3-5 PM

Come join us as we celebrate Rally Day by having water fun at Lutheran Lake. The Price family are hosting this event at 13000 West Cedar Tree Drive, Lot 89, Seymour, Indiana 47274. Please bring swim gear and sunscreen. A light dinner will be grilled up by Eric and Linda Scheidt. Carpooling is available leaving from church at 2:30 PM and returning at 5:30 PM. Please contact DCE Probst if you would like to carpool.

Stewarding HIS Gifts

Supporting the Lord's Work

There are multiple ways to give to St. Paul. You can always donate online through the website or use the QR code on the back page of this bulletin. **You can make a one-time donation or schedule weekly or monthly donations that you can adjust or cancel at any time.** Scheduling online donations can help donors stay up to date on general fund and ECL pledges. If you have a question about donating to St. Paul or any of the information below, please reach out to Rachel Fohne at 812-343-3786 or rachel.fohne@stpaulcolumbus.org.

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. These details help us with our financial planning. Thank you for your continued generosity and support!

Multiple Ways to Give with Potential Tax Advantages

Did you know there are strategic, tax advantaged ways to give to St. Paul? 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.

Some employers even offer employee stock purchase plans. If you are enrolled in such a plan, you have the option to donate these appreciated securities directly to St. Paul. Reach out to your employer to see what options are available to you. Also, farmers who donate commodities such as grain directly to the church might be able to receive valuable tax benefits. As always, please consult with your tax advisor about your specific situation.

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

Exciting SGO News! At St. Paul we had the largest year-to-year percentage increase in SGO donations when compared to ALL the schools that are part of the Lutheran SGO in Indiana! Thank you to all our generous SGO donors! We look forward to your continued partnership and support!

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

Amount Raised as of June 30, 2026 \$100

IN OUR PRAYERS... Our **Synodical Convention** for God's blessing on those elected to serve and the decisions that are made; **Congregations with Pastoral Vacancies** Trinity Dillsboro who extended a call to Pastor Kyle Richardson; Pastor-elect Travis Hartman who will be ordained and installed next Sunday at Faith Madison; **Birthday:** Jim Cleary's 80th birthday; **Sick and Recovering:** Arayah Lutz, Marie Tellman, Art Ramsey, Dee Schurman, Jax Branaman, Jennifer Jeffares, Phyllis Fox, Renee Strietelmeier, Doug Brown, Riley Walton, Jill Scheidt, Nancy Meyer (Megan Mathews' mother), Jim Zeleniuk (Doug and Rhodie Brown's friend), Grayson Harker (Irene Shireman's friend), Liz Hettig (Evelyn Pence and Don Strietelmeier's niece), Jan Forbes (Greg Forbes' mother), Skye Spears (Sharon Templeton's granddaughter), Anthony Jaynes (Toni Howarth's father), Gloria Olness and Evelyn Sapper (Nora Cleary's sisters), Katy Garza (Clearys' niece), Lynn Ramberg, Ty Ramberg, Deb Larsen, and Ozzy Hentges (Kallis' friends), Connie Ball, Linda Hall (Gayla Alessandro's friend), Ed Vogel (Eddie Vogel's father); **Grieving:** Family of Curt Carothers; **Active Military:** Garrett McGaha, Bryce Cleary (Judy Sullivan's friend), Shane McGowen (Sally Haak's nephew), Peyton Mullins (Sperrys' friend), Ty Chamberlain (Taffy Schroer's relative), Devin Klein (Adam and Kristy Hall's nephew), Garrett Grider and Terry Redelman (Kallis' friends)

SYNODICAL CONVENTION THIS WEEK... Every three years our Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod gathers in

convention. Delegates elect officers and board members of the synod as well as the Board of Regents for all our synod's universities and seminaries. Over 100 resolutions will be considered for adoption. Every circuit is represented by a pastor and lay delegate. Pastor Aaron West from Holy Trinity Greensburg is our pastoral delegate and Jim Brock from our congregation is our lay delegate. Pastor Bauman is an advisory delegate and serving on the Seminary and Pastoral Formation Floor Committee. Pray for our synod, the convention, all those elected to serve, and the resolutions that are adopted that God would be glorified and His kingdom extended.

DAN WILSON FUNERAL... Our church family extends our Christian sympathy to Elaine Wilson and family as Dan entered eternal life on June 29th. The funeral service is **this Saturday, July 25th** at 11 AM with visitation from 10-11 AM. A bereavement meal will follow the service.

ORDINATION INVITATION... Your brothers and sisters in Christ at Faith Madison invite you to the ordination and installation service of Pastor-elect Travis Hartman **next Sunday, July 26th** at 4 PM. A celebratory meal will follow the service.

ST PAUL OGT WORKDAY... is **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.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY AND MATINS... are on summer recess through July, resuming on **Wednesday, August 5th**. The morning class meets at 9 AM and is studying Romans. Matins begins at 10:15 AM. The evening class begins at 6 PM and is studying Isaiah. All are welcome to join us for Bible study and worship!

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 PM KfC Youth Group—Lunch and activities

1 PM Y4Life Conference in Washington DC and Higher Things Informational Meeting

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

3-5 PM SPY and C4Life Pool Party at Lutheran Lake

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 sign up in the gathering space.

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.

ECM 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. Information can be found on the church website, the flyers in the gathering space or by contacting Director Jen Probst.

The Response of God's People

Sunday, July 12th Offering

General Fund: \$12,460.20

Needed Weekly: \$17,721

Extending Christ's Love: \$3,245.05

including \$100 John Robert Runge

Memorials

Youth Funds: \$51 Walking Taco Donations

Food Pantry: \$7 Harvest Mission



St. Paul Lutheran Church and Early Childhood Ministry

6045 East State Street, Columbus, Indiana 47201

812-376-6504; www.stpaulcolumbus.org

Pastor Doug Bauman; pastorbauman@stpaulcolumbus.org; 812-350-4115

Pastor Jeff Patterson; pastorpatterson@stpaulcolumbus.org; 812-569-2471

Pastor Daniel Fickenscher; pastorfickenscher@stpaulcolumbus.org; 260-710-6750

Kantor Daniel Mau; kantor@stpaulcolumbus.org; 812-927-9319

DCE Jen Probst; director@stpaulcolumbus.org; 765-491-7818

Administrative Specialist Mackenzie Wint; mackenzie.wint@stpaulcolumbus.org; 812-528-1176

Finance Specialist Rachel Fohne; rachel.fohne@stpaulcolumbus.org; 812-343-3786

Latino Outreach Coordinator Renee Strietelmeier; riskplants@yahoo.com; 812-343-6466

Social Media Coordinator Andrea Cotton; socialmedia@stpaulcolumbus.org; 812-344-4580

ECM Teachers: Anne Wiltsey (kindergarten); Michelle Schultz and Brooke Hughes (preschool)

ECM Assistants: Gayla Alesandro, Andrea Cotton, Tara Draeger, Sarah Lewis,

Lisa Seckman, Laurie Schultz, Claudia Sims, Amy Yeley

Reaching out with Christ's Love to Serve and Grow