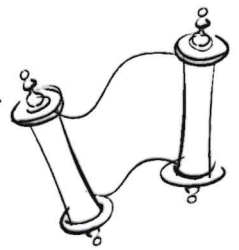


St. Paul Epistle

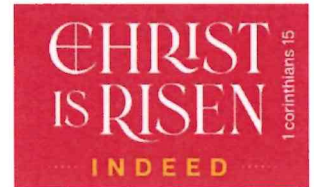


The Monthly Newsletter of St. Paul Lutheran Church

June and July 2026

Christ Is Risen Indeed!

Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! For centuries, this has been the Easter greeting of God's people. This responsory unites two Easter Sunday confessions. **Christ is risen** is the angel's message delivered to the women at the tomb. Unfortunately, the disciples doubted and disbelieved the report of the women. On Easter evening, Jesus reveals Himself to the Emmaus disciples when they invite this "stranger" into their home. When their eyes are opened, they immediately make the seven mile walk back from Emmaus to Jerusalem and declare to the disciples: **Christ is risen indeed!**



Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! The resurrection of Jesus is the reason and the power for who we are and everything we do. As Paul declares, "If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins" (1 Corinthians 15:17).

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! Since Christ is risen, we gather together on the Lord's Day, the Day of Resurrection around our risen Lord's teaching and His feast of victory. Easter is the most important day in history, and so we gather to celebrate Easter not just once a year but once a week. We gather not only to remember and celebrate our Lord's resurrection but to receive His Easter gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation. As we gather on the Lord's Day, our risen Savior is present to strengthen and comfort us by His life-giving Word.

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! Since Christ is risen, we gather in the presence of the risen Christ to receive His gifts, and we are empowered to proclaim the message of Christ crucified and risen for the world's life and salvation. During this Easter season, our first readings are from Acts where the early Christians are bold in their confession and witness of Christ's resurrection, eager to share the good news. On Ascension Sunday (May 17th), our risen Lord declares that we are to be His witnesses to the ends of the earth. On Pentecost (May 24th), we hear how the Spirit brought 3,000 people from many nations to faith in Christ. These new believers, baptized and filled with the Holy Spirit, return to their homelands, share the Gospel message, and establish churches. Our Gospel reading for Trinity Sunday (May 31st) is the Great Commission where Christ sends His Church forth to make disciples by baptizing and by teaching. The Gospel message of Christ crucified and risen is a message to be proclaimed to a world that needs Jesus and His salvation. These coming months give us many opportunities to invite and to share this message through our Neighborhood Information Distribution and Vacation Bible School. Those we invite to our English and Spanish services and those families we encourage to send their children to our early childhood ministry give us countless opportunities to share the message of the cross and empty tomb and to sow the seeds of the Gospel. Please consider those you know you need to hear the Gospel message and those who need an invitation to come to God's house.

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! This is the theme for the convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod that meets in Phoenix July 18-23. Although the Scriptures do not mandate that congregations join together with other congregations, our synodical fellowship allows us to accomplish more working together to further the proclamation of the risen Christ. Together as a synod, we operate seminaries and universities for the training of church workers. We support many missionaries nationally and internationally. Locally, our walking together as a synod includes support of Trinity Lutheran High School, Lakeview Ministries, Concordia Counseling, and Orphan Grain Train. Additionally, we are able to help and support our brothers and sisters in Christ in other congregations, including the pastoral care we are providing to Faith Lutheran in Madison during their time of transition between pastors.

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! Easter changes everything. Because Christ is risen, we gather together to receive the gifts of the risen Christ on the Day of Resurrection. Because Christ is risen, we invite and we witness so that others may receive our Lord's salvation. Because Christ is risen, we walk and work together as a synod to proclaim Christ and to give His Gospel gifts locally, nationally, and internationally.

I pray for God's blessings upon you as you live in this Easter joy and life. I pray that the Holy Spirit will empower you to be an Easter witness that you would keep on believing and boldly confess **Christ is risen indeed!**

Pastor Bauman

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St. Paul Early Childhood Ministry

Jen Probst, Director
Anne Wiltsey, Kindergarten Teacher
Michelle Schultz, Preschool Teacher
Gayla Alesandro, Sarah Lewis, Laurie Schultz,
Claudia Sims, Amy Yeley
Teacher Assistants

Sunday Schedule

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

Prayer Chain

Bonnie England
Phone: 812-447-7895



Musical Notes

O Holy Spirit, enter in,
And in our hearts Your work begin,
Your dwelling place now make us.
Sun of the soul, O Light divine,
Around and in us brightly shine,
To joy and gladness wake us
That we may be
Truly living,
To You giving
Prayer unceasing
And in love be still increasing.

The opening stanza of LSB 913, O Holy Spirit, Enter In, is a prayer request for God, the Holy Spirit, to dwell not only near us, but also in our hearts and through our thoughts, words, and actions.

This text was written by Michael Schirmer (1606-73), who was born and educated in Leipzig but spent most of his adult life working in Berlin at the Greyfriars Gymnasium (a preparatory high school). He served as the equivalent of assistant principal/administrator during his time there, being denied promotion at least three times. His personal life was marked by much sadness, as his wife and children preceded him in death, he was frequently ill, and due to the effects of the Thirty Years' War (1618-1648). Although he wrote a considerable amount of poetry and hymns, this is the only text from his pen still in use.

The tune was composed by Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608), who also composed the original text found in LSB 395, O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright. He also composed both the text and tune for LSB 516, Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying. Both of these hymns remain in common use and are considered to be part of the core hymnody of the Lutheran Church. Nicolai was a Lutheran pastor and poet, serving the final years of his earthly ministry at St. Katherine's Church in Hamburg, where he died in 1608 at the age of 52.

An interesting feature of Nicolai's hymn tune used in LSB 913 is that the combination of long and short phrases creates the visual of a chalice, as noted in the stanza printed above. As hymn books originally only contained texts, the visual was readily apparent to all!

Please take the time to read and meditate on the last two stanzas of this hymn during the summer months. God's blessings to all as we 'Extend Christ's Love' through the summer months and beyond!



All music groups and choirs are on summer break. Thank you for singing and ringing during this past season! Please enjoy some much-deserved time off during the summer and I am looking forward to seeing everyone when choir rehearsals resume in August.

In Christ's love,

Dan

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

Summer Learning

The warm days and open schedules of summer vacation are an active part of a student's dreams. The longing for the freedoms of summer creep into the mindset of many before the school year has even concluded. While the formal learning of school may take a break, the learning that takes place over the summer does not stop.

On the last day of school, doors open for students to learn in an outdoor classroom. Child development is enriched when youth go outside to actively explore God's creation. Outdoor education gives children permission to run, jump, and scream. Mastering large motor movement outside has huge dividends on a child's ability to self-regulate movement for learning in the classroom.

May your summer include adventures that are read in books. May your child's homework include summersaults and bike riding. May the pause in classroom instruction be filled with lifelong learning that comes from the Master Teacher and Creator of the Universe, God Almighty.

~Blessings,
Jen Probst, ECM Director

ECM Board Meeting – Wednesday, July 29th at 5:30 PM



ECM Registration

It is not too late to be a part of our school family for the 2026-2027 school year! We are still enrolling 3-year-old Lamb, 4-year-old Dove, and Kindergarten students. 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).



- Home visits will take place before school begins

August

- 2 – Staff Installation & Dedication
 - Parent Meeting at 6:30 PM
- 3 – First day of Kindergarten
- 4 – Beginning of year staff meeting

Requested Items

Life in preschool can get pretty messy. There are times when our students are in need of an additional change of clothes. Our ECM is looking for unisex shorts and pants our students can use, should the need arise. We are looking for sizes: 3T, 4T, 5T, and 6T. Donations can be given to Jen Probst or in the donation box located in the coat closet in the Gathering Space.



Christian Education

Daily June Bible Readings

1	Psalm 119:89-176	11	1 Kings 5-6, 2 Chronicle 2-3	21	1 Kings 10-11, 2 Chronicles 9
2	Song of Solomon 1-8	12	1 Kings 7, 2 Chronicles 4	22	Proverbs 30-31
3	Proverbs 1-3	13	1 Kings 8, 2 Chronicles 5	23	1 Kings 12-14
4	Proverbs 4-6	14	2 Chronicles 6-7, Psalm 136	24	2 Chronicles 10-12
5	Proverbs 7-9	15	Psalms 134, 146-150	25	1 Kings 15:1-24, 2 Chr 13-16
6	Proverbs 10-12	16	1 Kings 9, 2 Chronicles 8	26	1 Kings 15:25-16:34, 2 Chr 17
7	Proverbs 13-15	17	Proverbs 25-26	27	1 Kings 17-19
8	Proverbs 16-18	18	Proverbs 27-29	28	1 Kings 20-21
9	Proverbs 19-21	19	Ecclesiastes 1-6	29	1 Kings 22, 2 Chronicles 18
10	Proverbs 22-24	20	Ecclesiastes 7-12	30	2 Chronicles 19-23

Daily July Bible Readings

1	Obadiah 1, Psalms 82-83	11	Amos 1-5	21	Hosea 8-14
2	2 Kings 1-4	12	Amos 6-9	22	Isaiah 28-30
3	2 Kings 5-8	13	2 Chronicles 27, Isaiah 9-12	23	Isaiah 31-34
4	2 Kings 9-11	14	Micah 1-7	24	Isaiah 35-36
5	2 Kings 12-13, 2 Chron 24	15	2 Chronicle 28, 2 King 16-17	25	Isaiah 37-39, Psalm 76
6	2 Kings 14, 2 Chronicle 25	16	Isaiah 13-17	26	Isaiah 40-43
7	Jonah 1-4	17	Isaiah 18-22	27	Isaiah 44-48
8	2 Kings 15, 2 Chronicle 26	18	Isaiah 23-27	28	2 Kg 18:9-19:37; Ps 46, 80, 135
9	Isaiah 1-4	19	2 Kg 18:1-8, 2 Chr 29-31, Ps 48	29	Isaiah 49-53
10	Isaiah 5-8	20	Hosea 1-7	30	Isaiah 54-58
				31	Isaiah 59-63

Summer Sunday School

June	First Steps of Faith <i>Infant to 2-year-olds</i>	Elementary <i>Preschool to 5th Grade</i> <i>Location: 3rd & 4th Grade Room</i>	Jr/Sr High <i>6th Grade to 12th Grade</i> <i>Location: Sr High Youth Room</i>
7	Armor of God	The Case of the Scarlet Cord	Misconceptions about God
14	Armor of God	The Case of the Little Coat	Misconceptions about Salvation
21	Armor of God	The Case of the Burning Coal	Misconceptions about Sacraments
28	Armor of God	The Case of the Missing Scroll	Misconceptions about the Bible
July			
5	Fruit of the Spirit	The Case of the Old Bed	Misconceptions about Beliefs
12	Fruit of the Spirit	VBS Skit Practice	
19	Fruit of the Spirit	The Case of the Oil & Bandages	Misconceptions about the Church
26	Fruit of the Spirit	The Case of the Worn Broom	Misconceptions about Worship & Prayer

Sunday Adult Bible Study - Fellowship Room

June 7	Kantor Mau	July 5	Reverend Erkkinen
June 14	Vicar Nathaniel Bauman	July 12	Kantor Mau
June 21	Kantor Mau	July 19	Kantor Mau
June 28	Kantor Mau	July 26	Pastor Bauman

Wednesday Adult Bible Studies (June 3- July 8): 9:00 AM - Romans

What are Small Groups?

The study of God's Word provides unending spiritual gifts for God's people. When Bible study is done together in community, the participants are blessed with unique insight from the Holy Spirit and valuable perspectives from others. Children of God grow in profound ways every time they commit to the study of Scripture. Small groups provide another opportunity for people to learn Biblical truths beyond our Sunday and Wednesday Bible Study offerings.

Small groups offer a variety of benefits. They are by definition small. This allows for participants to become better acquainted with members of the group and forge nurturing relationships. Small groups can consist of individuals who share the same stage in life, like empty nesters. Small groups can also gather based off of interests or subject of study, like parenting or life issues. The length of time spent on the study is also controlled by the group. Small groups determine times and frequency of when they meet. For example, they could meet for breakfast at a local restaurant once a week or once a month in someone's home.

Small groups are a great way to connect with members of St. Paul and get to know new friends who are invited to attend. If you are interested in finding out more, The Board of Education is looking for individuals who would be interested in hosting a small group. Small groups are great ways for people to strengthen their relationship with Christ through Bible study and build relationships with others in a smaller setting. Small group leaders will be supported with topical resources, church staff guidance, and much more. Please contact Crista Burbrink, Chad Fohne, Sarah Lewis, or Jen Probst for more information.

Vacation Bible School

Please join us for Vacation Bible School (VBS), where we will build our foundation on the Rock of Jesus Christ. It will be held from July 13 to July 17, from 9:00 to 11:30 AM. We are looking for individuals to help support youth during this fun week. A sign-up sheet is available in the Gathering Space or on our website for:

Group Guides

These volunteers help children get to the various station activities during VBS. Group guides have the opportunity to get to know our students. Help support the learning that happens with the other station leaders. These servants help to keep our children safe and engaged in activities.

Game Leaders

Games are great ways to move and learn how to work together as a team. We need leaders who will help guide children through fun, large motor activities.

Snack Helpers

These helpers are needed to organize and distribute snacks. These volunteers also help to ensure that any children with dietary needs have the resources they need.

Registration Helpers

These helpers assist with checking students in, registering new participants, and directing youth to the Fellowship Room. They will come in before VBS gets started to set out registration tables and then conclude their service shortly after VBS gets started at 9:00 AM. We are also looking for VBS Opening resource donations. Items include LARGE cardboard boxes, wooden pallets, cloth (white, stone colored, or clay brown) to make the temple/tabernacle, and long cardboard tubes. If you have any questions, please reach out to Jen at director@stpaulcolumbus.org for more information.

Youth Ministry

Practices of Healthy Youth Ministry


LCMS Youth Ministry has spent significant time in the past 5 to 10 years listening, reading data, conducting research and digging into Scripture to find out what is key for healthy congregational youth ministry. In a new book available through CPH, the Youth Ministry Department highlights 7 practices that every person in the church can do to support, direct, and inspire young people. We will focus on each practice in the newsletters ahead. The 7 practices include:

1. Warmth, Challenge, and Grace
2. Supportive Adults
3. Engaged Parents
4. Opportunities to Serve and Lead
5. Deeply Understand their Baptismal Faith
6. Develop a Resilient Identity in Christ
7. Live Out Their Unique Vocation

Gifts of Time and Talent:

June Acolytes			July Acolytes		
	8:00 AM	10:45 AM		8:00 AM	10:45 AM
7	Sarah Arnholt	Emma Gibson	5	Faith Fohne	Henry Glick
14	Addy Arnholt	Lane Gilmore	12	Andrew Johnson	Corbin Howarth
21	Julia Burbrink	Caroline Glick	19	Naomi Lewis	Silas Lewis
28	Kinze Fischer	Zaylie Gonsior	26	Theodore Laws	Arayah Lutz

Connecting to Others:

 <p><i>Kids for Christ youth group for preschool to 5th Grade</i></p>	<p>Sunday, July 12th 9:30 to 10:30 AM: Practice for the VBS skits.</p>
	<p>Monday through Friday, July 13 to 17th, from 9:00 to 11:30 AM Vacation Bible School (VBS) Register at https://www.stpaulcolumbus.org/vbs2025</p>
<p>C4Life <i>Christ for Life youth group for 6th to 8th Grade</i></p>	<p>SPY <i>St. Paul Youth group for High School students</i></p>
<p><u>June 19-27</u> <u>July 13-17</u> <u>Friday, July 17</u> <u>Monday, July 27</u></p>	<p>Bartholomew County Fair – Taco Barn Vacation Bible School help: 9:00-11:30 AM Vacation Bible School lunch, clean up, and youth activity. Begins at Noon. St. Paul Day at Holiday World & Splashin' Safari Sign up in the Gathering Space to access group ticket rates. Amusement Park open: 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM (Central time) Water Park open: 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM (Central time) Food and transportation on own. Please contact DCE Probst for assistance.</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

News and Notes

Extending Christ's Love Update

Steel Delivery: In just a few weeks, the Christian Education Center will begin to take shape. The steel is scheduled to be delivered the week of **May 25th**. Then the superstructure will be erected. The steel will be set on the west side of the church parking lot so that a crane can lift the steel to put it in place. Thus, there will be a few weeks when the west drive (the driveway down the hill) will be closed and all vehicles will need to enter the church parking lot from the east drive on State Street. When this occurs, we will communicate this by email and post on the church Facebook page.

Catalog of Needed Items: The Catalog of Needed Items is now available online (stpaulcolumbus.org), and print copies are in the gathering space. Items available include furnishings for the chapel (including refurbishing the stained-glass windows), Great Hall furnishings, furnishings for Sunday School rooms and early childhood ministry classrooms, furnishings for church office staff in the existing church, and many other items. The Catalog of Needed Items gives members, ECM families, and friends of our congregation the opportunity to support Extending

Christ's Love above their pledge. Items can be reserved in honor of or in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving for a special event. This information will be included in the Dedication Bulletin of the Christian Education Center in 2027. If you have any questions about the Catalog or need assistance in reserving items in the Catalog, please contact Phil Burbrink or Rachel Fohne.

Rummage Sales: We will host two Rummage Sales this summer in the chapel. The first will be **Friday-Saturday, June 12-13**. On Friday, the sale will be from 3-7 PM and on Saturday from 8 AM-3 PM. For this sale, we are seeking donations for *furniture, household items, and adult clothes*. To drop off items for the June Rummage Sale the back door and overhead door of the chapel will be unlocked every Sunday from 8 AM-1 PM and Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 8 AM-noon, or by appointment by contacting Phil Burbrink or Rachel Fohne. Volunteers will be needed to set up for the sale on Thursday, June 11th from 10 AM-noon and to work the sale on June 12th and 13th.

The second Rummage Sale is **Friday-Saturday, July 17-18** and will focus on *children's clothes, toys, and furniture*. This sale will be held in conjunction with Vacation Bible School. The sale on Friday will be from 9 AM-3 PM and on Saturday from 8 AM-3 PM. Set up is Thursday, July 16th from 12:30-2 PM.

Volunteers Needed: If you can assist with setting up for either sale or serving during the sale, please sign up on the sheets posted in the gathering space.

In addition, you are encouraged to host a Rummage Sale at your house with proceeds benefiting Extending Christ's Love. For more information, please contact Phil Burbrink at 812-344-9946 or Rachel Fohne at 812-343-3786.



Clarity Baby Bottle Campaign

Clarity Baby Bottle Campaign began on Mother's Day and continues through Father's Day. Please take a bottle, fill it up with coins and/or bills and return it to the church on or before June 21st. Thanks for your support of this important outreach!

Ascension Service of Song

Sunday, May 17th is Ascension Sunday, and we will be celebrating our Lord's Ascension with a special Service of Song led by our Sr. Choir and Sr. Handbells. Please plan to attend and invite others as we raise our voices in worship and praise to our ascended and reigning Lord and Savior!

Recognition Sunday is May 17th

Sunday, May 17th will be a Sunday filled with recognition and rejoicing. Please plan to attend worship and Sunday School:

Recognition of Graduates: At both services, we will recognize and pray for our high school and college graduates.

Recognition of New Members: At the beginning of Sunday School, we will recognize those who have joined our congregation in the past six months. Please plan to attend and welcome our newest members!

Recognition of Sunday School Teachers: We are blessed with dedicated Sunday School teachers and staff. As we end the school year, we will recognize and thank these faithful servants at the beginning of the Sunday School hour.

Trinity Lutheran High School Presentation

On **Sunday, May 17th**, during the Sunday School hour, Principal Clayton Darlage of Trinity Lutheran High School will give an update on the school and share information about the *Way. Truth. Life.* capital campaign.

Kindergarten Closing Chapel and Celebration

You are invited to attend the kindergarten closing chapel and celebration on **Tuesday, May 19th** beginning at 6:30 PM.

Summer Church Office Hours

Summer church office hours begin the week of May 17th. Mackenzie Wint will be in the office only on Tuesday mornings, and the church office will be closed on Fridays. If you need pastoral care, you may either call the church office or contact a pastor directly.

The church office will also be closed on **Monday, May 25th** in observance of Memorial Day.

Summer Sunday School

Summer Sunday School meets from **May 24th-August 2nd**. The following classes will be offered:

First Steps of Faith (infants and toddlers with a parent) will meet in the conference room.

Children's Class (preschool-fifth grade) will meet in the third-fourth grade Sunday School room.

Youth Class (sixth-twelfth grade) will meet in the youth room.

Adults: Kantor Mau will be leading the adult class most Sundays during the summer focusing on church music and hymnody. On two Sundays, there will be special presentations during the Sunday School hour. On **June 14th**, Vicar Nathaniel Bauman will be preaching and discussing his vicarage experience. On Sunday, **July 5th**, Pastor Eric Erkinen who served as a military chaplain for many years will share his experiences as part of our celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the United States and our Recognition of Veterans Sunday.

Acolyte Training

Training for new acolytes is **Sunday, May 31st** after each service (9:15 AM and noon). Acolytes will receive training as well as the acolyte schedule. If you cannot attend on May 31st, please contact DCE Probst to schedule a time for training.

Orphan Grain Train Workdays

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 **Tuesdays, June 2nd and July 7th** 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.

Summer Midweek Bible Study

Wednesdays, June 3rd-July 8th, you are invited to a Bible study studying the Scripture readings for the coming Sunday. The study meets from 9-10 AM, followed by Matins at 10:15 AM. The morning study of Romans and evening study of Isaiah will resume on Wednesday, August 5th.

Help Us Get the Word Out!

Our Neighborhood Information Distribution to invite those in the area to our church and Vacation Bible School is **Sunday, June 7th-Sunday, July 12th**. Door hangers will be available, as well as the different neighborhoods you can choose to distribute the materials. Those that are distributing will simply hang a flyer on each door in their chosen neighborhood. Please complete your area any time before Sunday, July 13th. Please stop by the table and sign up for a

neighborhood so that we can keep on extending Christ's love to serve and grow!

VBS Craft Session

The Crafts Team would like to thank all who donated shoe boxes and toilet/paper towel rolls for Solomon's Temple crafts. We have received sufficient supply to enable all the children to have a creative building craft! Many thanks.

A VBS Crafts Volunteer Workshop is scheduled for Wednesday, **June 10th** from 1-3 PM in the fellowship room. This workshop will help to understand the VBS crafts and what they entail. We thank all craft's volunteers for serving the children, and having some fun along the way. The VBS Crafts Team

Walking Taco Barn Sign-up

We need many volunteers to serve at our Walking Taco Barn at the Bartholomew County Fair **Friday, June 19th -Saturday, June 27th**. The sign-up sheet is posted in the gathering space. Please sign up your family or serve with some friends for a shift, or more than one shift, at this year's fair!

250th Anniversary of the USA and Recognition of Veterans Special Service

On **Sunday, July 5th**, we will celebrate the semi quincentennial of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence and recognize current and past members who have served in the armed forces with a special service.

Pastor Eric Erkinen will be preaching and presenting during Sunday School. Pastor Erkinen served as an army chaplain for many years and also as Assistant Director of the LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces. His service as a chaplain included deployments to Iraq, Bosnia, Afghanistan, and also at the Pentagon following the 9/11 attack.

VBS Registration and Craft Donations

Mark your calendars! Vacation Bible School is **Monday-Friday, July 13th-17th** from 9-11:30 AM with the theme *Built on the Rock*. Child and volunteer registration is now open! Use this QR code to sign up children ages three-sixth grade. You can also visit the church website (stpaulcolumbus.org) and click on the VBS 2026 tab.



To volunteer, please visit the VBS 2026 tab on the church website or sign-up in the gathering space.

Shoebboxes and empty toilet paper rolls are needed for VBS crafts. Donations can be placed in the box in the gathering space. If you are interested in helping with crafts, please contact Vicki Howarth, 812-343-6967 via text or call; or email at dvhowarth@comcast.net.

St Paul Family Day at Holiday World

Enjoy a day of fun and fellowship with your church family at Holiday World and Splashin' Safari on **Monday, July 27th**. Sign up in the gathering space so that group discount tickets can be obtained. Amusement park hours are 10 AM-8 PM (Central time) and the water park is open from 11 AM-6 PM (Central time). Families provide their own food and transportation. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact DCE Probst.

Early Childhood Ministry Registration

Registration is open for the 2026-2027 school year for our early childhood ministry! *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.

June and July Missions of the Month

Our June Mission of the Month is Orphan Grain Train. OGT provides for human care needs locally, nationally, and globally. We are blessed that the Indiana Warehouse is located in Jonesville. All who serve are volunteers so that our donations can be used to serve those in need. You can also donate your time by volunteering at OGT or by donating your gently used clothing or furniture.

Our July Mission of the Month is White Creek Lutheran School Foundation. The WCLS Foundation exists to provide scholarships to those attending the school who have financial need.

Thanks for your faithful stewardship that allows us to support Orphan Grain Train and the White Creek Lutheran School Foundation and all our Missions of the Month!

August Events—Mark Your Calendars!

Sunday, August 9th: Rally Day—all youth groups meet

Friday-Saturday, August 14th-15th: Confirmation Retreat—
Lakeview Villages

Latino Outreach Report

¡Please join us for some bilingual fun in July! Leading up to VBS at church we will host a mini bilingual VBS at the Woodlawn mobile-home park on highway 31 the mornings of Thursday-Saturday, July 9th-11th. Then on Sunday, July 12th, we will have a bilingual retreat at Brown County State Park with the brothers and sisters from La Trinidad Indianapolis. Worship, primarily in Spanish, will be in the Strahl Lake shelter at 11 AM (so you can still attend the 8 AM service in English at church) followed by a cookout. Bring your swimsuit! Please be in touch with Pastor Fickenscher for details on both of these events.

Wish List

Every November, we publish a Wish List of Items needed for mission and ministry. There is only one item remaining on the 2026 Wish List: \$1,750 for **Faith Milestones Resources**. On Rally Day, we present a book or resource to all Sunday School students who are moving up a grade level. Any gift up to \$1,750 will provide these needed resources for our children, confirmands, and youth.

An additional item to the Wish List is the **Reconfiguration of the Choir Area** in the sanctuary. The reconfiguration will allow all our musicians (choirs and handbells) to be close to the organ and piano. This reconfiguration will help our choirs see Kantor Mau when he directs our vocal choirs and handbells from the organ. Donations of any amount up to \$18,000 are appreciated for this project. If you would like to see the plans for the reconfigured area, please see the handouts on the table in the gathering space or speak to Kantor Mau.

Official Acts

Julian Cruz Ortega, son of Humberto Ortega and Wendy Schermerhorn, was baptized into Christ on April 26th.

Charlie Rose Rachford, daughter of Grant and Clarissa Rachford, was baptized into Christ on May 10th.

Adelyn Arnholt, Julia Burbrink, Zaylie Gonsior, Danial Helt, William Laws, and Kylie Price were confirmed on April 26th.

Chad and Jayne Dornquast were received by transfer on April 19th.

Jerry and Brooke Hughes were received by transfer on April 19th.

Brian and Linda Jo Hauersperger with children Haley and Luke transferred their membership to St. Peter's, Columbus.

Thorn and Tara Murphy with children Chase and Carson have been removed from membership by their request.

St. Paul Lutheran SGO

Give Now to St. Paul Lutheran SGO to Provide Scholarships for this Coming School Year!

Thanks to the generosity of many church members and friends of our congregation and early childhood ministry, **\$102,153** has been contributed to our St. Paul SGO for the 2026-2027 school year. These funds will provide scholarships for families with financial need and also support our school's mission and ministry.

May 31st is the deadline to provide scholarships for the 2026-2027 school year. SGO donors receive a 50% state income tax CREDIT! You can donate stocks, bonds, and mutual funds to the SGO and receive a 50% tax credit. Please consult your tax advisor for specific tax advice. You can visit lutheransgo.org for more information or to donate online. If you have questions or need assistance making a donation, please contact Rachel Fohne.

Extending Christ's Love Pledges

Do you need a reminder about what you pledged for Extending Christ's Love, or do you need an update on how much you have already donated? Fulfilling your Extending Christ's Love pledge is an essential part of our overall financial plan for the project. Thank you for your continued generosity and support!

Financial Updates!

Beginning in the 2026 tax year, the government reinstated a universal charitable deduction, allowing non-itemizers to deduct cash donations to qualifying charities like St. Paul. Taxpayers can deduct up to \$1,000 for single filers or \$2,000 for married couples filing jointly, offering a tax benefit to the ~90% of households taking the standard deduction. Please consider taking advantage of this deduction by donating to St. Paul! As always please consult your tax advisor about your specific situation.

Online Giving

There are multiple ways to give to St. Paul. You can always donate online through the website or use the QR code. You can make a one-time donation or schedule weekly or monthly donations that you can adjust or cancel at any time. If you have a question about donating to St. Paul or any information below, please reach out to Rachel Fohne at 812-343-3786 or rachel.fohne@stpaulcolumbus.org.



Francis Scheidt Memorial Plaque Dedication Set for May 17th

Francis Edward Scheidt, son of William C. Scheidt and Pearl Armuth Scheidt, was the only St. Paul member that died in World War II. Francis was born on October 19, 1922. He attended St. Peter's Lutheran School. His mother died when he was twelve. Francis then went to live with his maternal grandparents (Armuth), but also spent time with his uncle and aunt, Elmer and Emily Schroer. Francis was a talented landscape artist.

When he was 19, Francis voluntarily signed up for the Navy. He was a fireman in the engine room on the USS Chevalier. While on a mission in the South Pacific, his ship was torpedoed. The USS Chevalier was already badly damaged when a following US ship collided into the rear engine room of the USS Chevalier. Francis Scheidt was reported Missing In Action on October 6, 1943, two weeks before his 21st birthday.

In 1945, St. Peter's Lutheran Church included Francis Scheidt in a Service of Commemoration along with four St. Peter's men that lost their lives in World War II. Although Francis is recognized in the St. Paul Lutheran military service listing, he has had no grave marker nor an engraved brick at Columbus' POW MIA Monument.

To rectify this oversight, a government issued plaque recognizing Francis' service will be mounted on his parents' gravestone in the St. Paul Lutheran Cemetery. On **Sunday, May 17 at 12:30 PM**, St. Paul members and Francis Scheidt's relatives are invited to attend a brief gravesite memorial thanking God for Francis Scheidt and all others who put themselves in harm's way to protect our freedoms. The gravesite memorial will be led by Pastor Bauman. An engraved brick for Francis will be added to the newly redesigned POW MIA Monument once it is built on the courthouse lawn.

A display of memorabilia related to Francis Scheidt will be in the church's gathering space on May 17th.

LWML News

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

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



Registration is open for the **Indiana District Convention** June 26-28, in Evansville. The theme is "Be Still and Know" based on Psalm 46:10. Registration forms are on the LWML bulletin board in the gathering space, and there is a TON of info about the convention, servant events, luncheon and interest session speakers, and more, in the most recent *Good News* at <https://lwmlindiana.org>. Sariina Kalli is on the Mission Servants Committee; Nora Cleary and Katrina Smith are our delegates, and Nora is in the choir; and Lydia Haak will serve as Young Women Representative. There is still time for you to join in the fun!

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

A promotional graphic for VBS 2026 with a blue background. At the top left, it says "FREE FOR CHILDREN 3-12 YEARS OLD" in white and yellow text. In the center, a yellow hard hat sits atop a yellow sign that says "VBS 2026". Below this, the words "BUILT ON THE ROCK" are written in large, bold, orange letters. To the right, it says "REGISTER HERE" in white text with an arrow pointing to a QR code. At the bottom, it says "JULY 13-17 9-11:30AM" in white and yellow text. On the left, a yellow excavator is shown, and on the right, a yellow dump truck is shown. A text box on the left contains the message: "In a world of sinking sand, Christ is our solid Rock! Join us for a week of learning and growing as we are built up and firmly founded on the strong and powerful Word of God." The background features a large, dark grey rock formation.

Remembering Our Shut-Ins

Here is the list of our shut-ins and homebound members, and others who are facing health struggles. Please pray for them often. They also enjoy receiving cards and visits from their church family:

Ruth Barnes Silver Oaks, 2011 Chapa Drive, Columbus, Indiana 47203
Julia Bense Millers Merry Manor, 7440 N 825 E, Hope, Indiana 47246
Marilyn Brown 7051 South 250 East, Columbus, Indiana 47201
Bonnie Darlage 3725 Ironwood Drive, Columbus, Indiana 47203
Nancy Dyer 3951 Melbourne Drive, Columbus, Indiana 47203
Mary Ann Exner 9695 East Randal, Columbus, Indiana 47203
Phyllis Fox 10851 East 750 South, Elizabethtown, Indiana 47232
Amy Hand 2999 9th Street #21, Columbus, Indiana 47201
Dianne Hartke Viverra Senior Living, 1971 State Street #309, Columbus, Indiana 47201
Dorothy Hirschke 2520 Wedgewood Drive, Columbus, Indiana 47203
Pam Jenkins Hickory Creek, 5480 E 25th Street, Columbus, Indiana 47203
Nancy Lipka 444 Manor Drive, Seymour, Indiana 47274
Evelyn Pence 5640 West Goeller Road, Columbus, Indiana 47201
Bob and Marilyn Runge 3915 East 300 South, Columbus, Indiana 47203; Bob is currently at Silver Oaks for rehabilitation.
Jill Scheidt 5501 American Boulevard W, Unit 311, Bloomington, Minnesota 55437
Alex Schuette Madison State Hospital, 711 Green Road, Madison, Indiana 47250
Gloria Schultz Belmont Health and Rehabilitation, 540 Belmont Drive, Columbus, Indiana 47201
Dee Schurman 8255 Hampton Cir E, Indianapolis, Indiana 46256
Lorraine Whitson 7785 N 700 W, Elizabethtown, Indiana 47232
Joan Wilcox 2704 15th Street, Columbus, Indiana 47201
Charlotte Williams 4681 West Ridge Drive, Columbus, Indiana 47203
Gene Wint 111 Church Ave, Seymour, Indiana 47274



*Remember
Our Shut-ins*

In the Lord's Harvest Field

Faith Madison: We rejoice that Seminarian Travis Hartman has been called to serve as Faith's pastor. Pastor-elect Hartman, his wife Monica, and their two young children will be moving to Madison in July. He will be ordained and installed on **Sunday, July 26th**. Details regarding service time will be shared in upcoming bulletins when they are determined. Now through July 26th, our pastors and Pastor Erkkinen will lead Sunday services at 8:30 AM as well as provide pastoral care (hospital and shut-in visitations, etc.). We rejoice with God's people at Faith that He has provided them a faithful shepherd.

Trinity Lutheran High School: We rejoice that Pastor Chad Eckles has accepted the call to serve as Chaplain and Theology Teacher at Trinity Lutheran High School.

Upcoming Retirements: We give thanks for the ministry of Pastor Craig Mulbach of St. John's Sauers who will be retiring on June 7th. We also rejoice in the ministry of Pastor Gene Ott who will be retiring this fall from Bethany in Connersville. Both pastors have served their congregations for more than 20 years.

Pastoral Vacancies: Please pray for all congregations experiencing pastoral vacancies. In addition to St. John's Sauers and Bethany Connersville who will be vacant soon, pray for Trinity Dillsboro as they continue in the call process. Also, the following congregations are seeking associate pastors: Faith Bloomington, Immanuel Seymour, Redeemer Seymour, Zion Seymour, and Prince of Peace Martinsville.

Church Work Vocations: We need more workers in our Lord's harvest field. Please encourage young people (and the not so young) that you feel have the faith and skills to serve in church work vocations to consider serving full-time in the Lord's church. Pray for more servants in the Lord's harvest field as we are commanded to do (Matthew 9:37-38).

Please also pray for St. Paul members who are preparing for church work vocations. Glory Wofford will begin studies this fall at Concordia University Chicago to become a Lutheran school teacher. Providence Wofford will also attend Concordia University Chicago enrolling in the deaconess program. Rachel Fohne continues her studies online through Concordia University Wisconsin to serve as a Director of Parish Ministries in our congregation. Nathaniel Bauman will conclude his vicarage at Trinity in Hoyleton, Illinois, on July 10th. He has one more year of classes at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis before receiving his first call in April 2027.



Serving at St. Paul

Service	Usher Team	Elders	Greeters
June 8 AM	Team C	Adam Hall & Carl Shaffer	
10:45 AM	Team F	Wiley Umphress & Steve Voelz	
July 8 AM	Team B	Jim Brock & Brian Arnholt	
10:45 AM	Team E	Eric Scheidt & Jeff Schroer	

Day	Acolyte	Flowers	Radio	Fellowship Hour
June 7	8 AM Sarah Arnholt		Marybeth Glick	The Woffords
	10:45 AM Emma Gibson			
14	8 AM Addy Arnholt			Mike and Wilma Yeley & Jackie and Brian Arnholt
	10:45 AM Lane Gilmore			
21	8 AM Julia Burbrink		Eric and Linda Scheidt	Jim and Kathy Brock & Katie Arnholt
	10:45 AM Caroline Glick			
28	8 AM Kinze Fischer	Joe and Nikki Otte	Mike and Mary Bridges	Umphress & Voelz
	10:45 AM Zaylie Gonsior			
July 5	8 AM Faith Fohne	Virginia Coffey	Ann Linke	
	10:45 AM Henry Glick			
12	8 AM Andrew Johnson	Strietelmeier	Linda J. Scheidt	Dan and Taffy Schroer & Steve and Cathy Potter
	10:45 AM Corbin Howarth			
19	8 AM Naomi Lewis	Wischmeier	Wischmeier	Wischmeier
	10:45 AM Theodore Laws			
26	8 AM Silas Lewis		Colin Scheidt	
	10:45 AM Arayah Lutz			



**St. Paul Lutheran Church
& Early Childhood Ministry**

June 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
 12:15 PM Spanish Bible Study
 7 PM Lutheran Hour

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Storage Room Reorganization this week	2 9 AM-Noon OGT Workday	3	4 Pastor Fickenschler on Vacation through June 6th	5	6
7 Mite Box Sunday Neighborhood Information Distri- bution Begins 9:15 AM Confirmand Student/ Parent Meeting Noon Youth Board	8	9 DCE Probst on Vacation Through June 16th	10 1-3 PM VBS Craft Session	11 10 AM-Noon Rummage Sale Set-Up	12 3-7 PM Rummage Sale at the Chapel Church Reserved	13 8 AM-3 PM Rum- mage Sale at the Chapel
14 Vicar Nathaniel Bauman Preaching and Leading Adult Class	15	16	17 1-8 PM Church Reserved	18 Church Reserved	19 Bartholomew County Fair and Taco Barn Begin	20
21 Father's Day Clarity Baby Bottle Campaign Ends	22	23	24	25 1:30 PM Hickory Creek Visit	26 Indiana District LWML Convention through Sunday	27 Last Day of Barthol- omew County Fair and Taco Barn
28 Walking Taco Take-Home Kits	29	30	<u>Wednesday Schedule</u> 9 AM Bible Study 10:15 AM Matins	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		



St. Paul Lutheran Church & Early Childhood Ministry

July 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
 (no Spanish service on 7/12)
 12:15 PM Spanish Bible Study
 7 PM Lutheran Hour

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5 250th Anniversary and Recognition of Veterans Service Mite Box Sunday Pastor Erkinen Preaching and Leading Adult Class	6 Staff Vacations/Out of Office Rache Fohne: July 17-24 Kantor Maur: July 20-31 Pastor Fickenscher: July 27-August 1 Pastor Patterson: July 23-29 Pastor Bauman: July 17-23 Synodical Convention; July 27-August 2	7 9 AM-Noon OGT Workday	8 9 AM Bible Study 10:15 AM Matins	9 Church Reserved	10 Church Reserved	11 Church Reserved
12 Neighborhood Information Distribution Ends 9:30 AM KFC VBS Skit 11 AM Spanish Service and Fellowship at Brown Co State Park Noon-3 PM VBS Decorating	13 August Newsletter Deadline	14 Vacation Bible School 9-11:30 AM	15 Church Reserved	16 12:30-2 PM Rummage Sale Set-Up	17 9 AM-3 PM Rummage Sale at the Chapel 11 AM VBS Closing Program; Lunch to follow	18 8 AM-3 PM Rummage Sale at the Chapel
19	20 6 PM Finance Committee 7 PM Council Meeting	21	22	23	24	25
26 Pastor Hartman Ordination/Installation at Faith Madison	27 St. Paul Day at Holiday World	28	29 5:30 PM ECM Board	30 1:30 PM Hickory Creek Visit	31	4 Independence Day