



# St Paul Lutheran

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## VALLEY CITY, OHIO

1377 Lester Road, Valley City, OH 44280  
330-483-3883 [www.spvc.org](http://www.spvc.org)

**FEBRUARY 2025**

## In the Shadow of Your Wings I Will Rejoice

Beloved of the Lord,

Psalms 63:7 “for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I will sing for joy.”

In this new year of God’s grace, we are blessed to gather Lord’s Day after Lord’s Day to receive His means of grace in Word and Sacrament and to pray, praise, and give thanks.

Since mid-December, we have been reviewing and revising our risk management strategies in a Campus Safety Committee. I’m so thankful that the Lord has blessed us with such capable members with such vast experience in safety planning. Their planning is ongoing and will encompass a wide range of risk management across our campus: medical emergencies, fire, weather, electrical, liability, theft, intrusion ... the list goes on and on. This fresh review of campus safety comes in response to our evaluation of situations that occurred in December. As we consider how to respond to any particular event, it is important that we carefully evaluate the event, maintain perspective, and most importantly: remember our relationship with God, our Heavenly Father, and His care for us.

A few points related to these things that remain on the minds of our members:

- **Clarity about what has gone on:** Here is a brief summary of what has prompted our review of our risk management procedures. My hope is that by having the facts of the situations, our discussions and responses can be free from speculation. It’s important to note that in both cases the individuals left the property without incident. No violence occurred. Thanks be to God.
  - An individual entered the building at the end of early service, walked from the rear of the sanctuary to the front and out the door by the pulpit, back through the fellowship hall, returned to their vehicle, and left. Medina County Sheriffs have been able to identify the individual and made contact with him that his actions were not welcome and he should not return.
  - Two individuals attended Christmas Eve morning service; they arrived near the end of the service. With updated protocols already in place, they were observed, welcomed, and contact was made after the service. They asked for assistance and were directed toward agencies that provide assistance and reminded that we do not provide cash assistance.

They tried to engage members to limited success and ultimately left without incident. (If approached at church in a way that makes you uncomfortable, please direct them to an elder, pastor, or safety team member and engage them no further. Like a broken record, repeat to them that you'd like to introduce them to someone who can help them more.)

- **Acknowledgement of the impact:** Our long-standing (and well-founded) perception of safety here at church has been affected. Any deviation from the typical tranquility of being able to set worldly cares aside for worship is understandably concerning. Previous personal experience can also heighten individual concerns about safety. Some of you have been touched by a tragedy of violence or accident. These are always heartbreaking reminders that we live in a world broken by sin and also that we are mortal and vulnerable. I'm so sorry that you have experienced things that leave you feeling vulnerable or unsafe or untrusting of those who are called to protect you. My prayer for you is that the Lord will continue to watch over you and strengthen your faith so that you can live knowing that Christ has already overcome the world and all its dangers.
- **Responding as the people of God:** It's important to remember who we are as a congregation as we respond to things that happen on our campus and in our lives. We are the baptized children of God and we are a praying community. I hope that you will remember these poor souls in your prayers, that whatever circumstances have led them to act as they have, the Lord would relieve them. We can feel sorry for them that they would choose to act as they do and create anxiety and fear when in fact, they could have acted in friendship and found us ready to be equally welcoming and helpful. Jesus calls us to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us. We pray that they would repent, know the true peace of Christ, and the Lord would help them in their needs.
- **Adapting and updating procedures:** The Campus Safety Committee is looking at immediate, short-term updates and also more long-term strategies to enable us to be prepared, observant, and responsive to safety needs. As we've already communicated to the congregation, we are now operating with the entrance doors to the church locked and staffed with Safety Team members and elders who will greet newcomers and respond to any needs. There have also been additional cameras installed to further enhance their ability to observe the campus easily from one place. The team is also looking at: communication, training, personnel, and facility changes based on best-practices recommended by church security consultants and our insurance company. Many of these will be implemented without being obvious changes. Some may be tried on a trial basis to evaluate how they impact the general climate of the congregation. As the team considers these many options, please continue to pray for their wisdom and give thanks to God that He has provided wise voices and His promise to care for His people.

Ultimately, faith conquers fear. Safety is certainly everyone's concern. We act in safe ways, we surround ourselves with safe people, we work to keep our children, family, homes, work places, churches, and communities safe from danger. This is part of our calling as we love our neighbors. We confess in the Small Catechism, in the explanation of the 5<sup>th</sup> Commandment, that "we should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and support him in every physical need."

Even as we strive for safety, we acknowledge that we will also encounter danger. Going out or staying in, we accept a certain amount of risk in every part of our life. We act prudently to minimize it as best we can, but there will always still be some danger in our lives. We can never create for

ourselves perfect safety. Only our Heavenly Father will perfectly, in accordance with His will, “defend me against all danger, and guard and protect me from all evil” (Small Catechism, 1<sup>st</sup> Article). Your Heavenly Father loves you and commands His angels concerning you, to guard and keep you. Throughout Scripture, we have many accounts of God preserving His people from calamity. He has done so in your life also, even more so that we could ever know.

As we consider safety procedures here at church and as you make yourself safe and secure in your own life, do so with a ready confidence that your Heavenly Father watches over you and not even a sparrow falls to the ground without His watchful eye. You can’t control every aspect of danger in your life. Place your trust fully in God. In that confidence act as wisely as you reasonably can, and rest securely in God’s care knowing that even if something does befall us, we are the Lord’s and He hasn’t forgotten us.

Do not let fear of danger or your own lack of control over safety paralyze you, rob you of your identity as a child of God, or prevent you from coming to church. As Lutherans, we love to sing “A Mighty Fortress is Our God” which includes the line, “And take they our life; Goods, fame, child, or wife; Though these all be gone; Our victory has been won. The Kingdom ours remaineth.” We have eternal life! We live each day without fear.

As we consider risk management here at St. Paul we want to be sure:

- St. Paul is a safe and welcoming place to worship. Your safety matters.
- We will be wise and prepare for what may happen, and we will fully trust in the Lord’s care for each and every one of us.
- We will not allow fear to rob us of our calling to gather together and also to be welcoming to new guests among us and helpful to those in need.

We gather to worship and receive God’s gifts while under His watchful eye. In Psalm 63, David is on the run from Saul. His life is in danger and his enemies are closing in on him. Yet, in this psalm, he remembers all the ways God has been faithful to him and rejoices that God takes care of him ... even while his life is in danger. v. 7 “for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I will sing for joy.”

Under the shadow of God’s wings, we will rejoice, pray, praise and give thanks for all God’s goodness.

Psalm 63 (ESV)

**63** A PSALM OF DAVID, WHEN HE WAS IN THE WILDERNESS OF JUDAH.

- <sup>1</sup> O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you;  
my soul thirsts for you;  
my flesh faints for you,  
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
- <sup>2</sup> So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,  
beholding your power and glory.
- <sup>3</sup> Because your steadfast love is better than life,  
my lips will praise you.
- <sup>4</sup> So I will bless you as long as I live;  
in your name I will lift up my hands.
- <sup>5</sup> My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food,  
and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips,

- <sup>6</sup> when I remember you upon my bed,  
and meditate on you in the watches of the night;
- <sup>7</sup> **for you have been my help,**  
**and in the shadow of your wings I will sing for joy.**
- <sup>8</sup> My soul clings to you;  
your right hand upholds me.
- <sup>9</sup> But those who seek to destroy my life  
shall go down into the depths of the earth;
- <sup>10</sup> they shall be given over to the power of the sword;  
they shall be a portion for jackals.
- <sup>11</sup> But the king shall rejoice in God;  
all who swear by him shall exult,  
for the mouths of liars will be stopped.

In Christ,

Pastor Zielinski

## *From the Vicar's Desk*

This year I had the privilege of delivering the sermon for the Second Sunday of Epiphany on which we commemorated the Baptism of our Lord. It occurred to me while I was preparing for the sermon, that this would be a wonderful opportunity to share with members of St. Paul the reason why the Missouri-Synod continues to insist on having an educated ministerium which can read the Biblical languages. Also, because we are soon to be blessed by a number of baptisms, it would be a great opportunity to explore the topic.

Baptism has long been a source of discussion in the Church, and it's misunderstanding has even led to division with the Church. Today, Christians are divided along two lines regarding baptism; those who view baptism as a sacrament, and those who view baptism as an ordinance. Having come from a denomination which viewed baptism as an ordinance, I can speak to the misunderstanding a bit more easily than someone who has never understood it in that manner.

Those who practice baptism as an "ordinance" will often speak of baptism as an "outward expression of an inward conversion" and consider baptism to be an act of obedience, which is symbolic in nature only, merely representing death to sin and resurrection to new life in Christ. Often there is usually associated with the practice some "age of accountability" at which time the hearer of the Gospel is able to fully comprehend what Christ has done for them, and they are able to "make a decision to follow Christ" and "become a Christian." This is why infants and young children are not usually baptized in those denominations. Unfortunately, this is an incorrect understanding of the nature of baptism.

This year's lectionary readings are drawn primarily from the Gospel of St. Luke. During the Season of Advent, we read accounts of Jesus, both in his mother's womb and as a newborn child laying in a manger. In both those passages, Luke uses the Greek term *βρέφη* (pronounced brephe, which means infants) to describe Jesus. Luke uses this term six times throughout his Gospel and the Book of Acts. (It occurs only two other times in the New Testament) Each time the word is used the term refers explicitly to a baby but can apply to either a developing unborn child in a mother's womb or one recently born. But what is the theological significance of Luke's use of the word "infants" in these passages and how does it relate to baptism?

Let's look a little more closely at these occurrences in Luke's Gospel. In Chapter 1, during the encounter with the pregnant Elizabeth and the pregnant Mary, we read of the *βρέφος* (babies; John & Jesus) who both leapt in their mothers' bellies. In Chapter 2, Luke describes the infant Jesus as a *βρέφος* (baby) wrapped in swaddling clothes, laying in a manger. In Chapter 18, we read about a crowd of people bringing *βρέφη* (infants and young children) to Jesus so that He could touch them and pray for them. Jesus then rebukes the disciples for keeping them away, notably stating ***"Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it."***

Theologically the usage of this language is important to Christians for at least two reasons. First, with reference to the Sacrament of Baptism, it defeats claims of the Anabaptists and others who might suggest there is an "age of accountability" or a "decision" that must be made prior to receiving Baptism. It also instructs us as followers, not to withhold or hinder children from coming into the presence of the Lord. Secondly, Luke's usage of the term *βρέφη* identifies even the unborn who are still in the womb, to be a valid life. Thus, something like abortion would be considered murder and a transgression against the Law. This is confirmed in Old Testament Law as illustrated in Exodus 21:22-25 and further in the *Didache*.

The only proper biblical understanding of baptism is that it is necessary to salvation, and through it we receive the grace of God. Baptism is one of the two Sacraments of the Church because in it all who are baptized into Christ receive the gift of faith and the Holy Spirit, and are received into God's grace. The baptism of children is not in vain, but is necessary and effectual to salvation, just as Scripture describes. It works forgiveness of sins, delivers from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare. The Synod insists on maintaining an educated ministerium so that we can properly read, interpret and instruct God's Word. All this knowledge is revealed to us by Scripture, and a proper reading of it... a reading which includes a proper understanding of the language it was written in. ~Rev. S

## **REGULAR SCHEDULE IN-PERSON WORSHIP**

**Join us Sunday Mornings in September through May:**

Worship 8:00 AM

Coffee Fellowship 9:00 AM

Sunday School 9:15 AM

Bible Study 9:30 AM

Worship 10:30AM

## **PREPARING FOR WORSHIP**

As the time for Worship Service approaches those around you may be preparing for Worship through silent prayer. Please be courteous to them by being mindful of the volume of your conversations. Thank you and may the Lord bless your worship of Him.

## **The Divine Service – A Guide**

Lutheran Witness has a new guide out. Several copies can be reviewed in the Fellowship Hall and it's available to you free for download at:

<https://witness.lcms.org/2024/the-divine-service-a-guide-booklet/>

### **FEBRUARY 2025**

|            | SERVICE                      | February 2<br>SUNDAY      | February 9<br>SUNDAY        | February 16<br>SUNDAY       | February 23<br>SUNDAY        |                              |
|------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
|            |                              | Communion                 | <i>No Communion</i>         | Communion                   | Communion                    |                              |
| ELDER      | 8am                          | Tim Wadle                 | Steve Kato                  | Chris Duran / Tim Wadle     | Chris Duran / Steve Kato     |                              |
|            | 10:30am                      | Sam Jakabcic              | Dave Hesketh                | Sam Jakabcic / Jim Jackson  | Dave Hesketh / Jim Jackson   |                              |
| USHERS     | 8am                          | Mark Gordon               | Mike Scahel                 | Scott Leu                   | Jim Praisler                 |                              |
|            | 10:30am                      | Brian Dearth              | Eric Gottl                  | Jeff Hill                   | Joe Bennett                  |                              |
| GREETERS   | 8am                          | Heinrich & Irmgard Cordes | Dean & Beth Bremke          | Steve & Colleen Kato        | David & Mackenzie Duran      |                              |
|            | 10:30am                      | Rich & Jenny Proeschel    | Steve Kato                  | Rich & Jenny Proeschel      | Joe Bennett                  |                              |
| ELDER INFO | Stephen Kato<br>330-242-7183 | Tim Wadle<br>216-214-7109 | Jim Jackson<br>330-391-6393 | Chris Duran<br>216-577-5164 | Sam Jakabcic<br>216-789-1076 | Dave Hesketh<br>330-410-6150 |

## CHOIR



Choir will be restarting rehearsals on the Tuesday evenings, starting at 5:15pm on February 4th at Audrey Harris's house in Brunswick. We will perform tentatively on Good Friday and Easter.

Contact Sarah Moser at 440-453-0180 if you are interested in singing!

## LCEF

LCEF is the Lutheran Church Extension Fund. They have a new website and logo, but they still exist solely to support the mission of the LCMS by providing financial tools to congregations, schools, recognized service organizations and other ministries of the LCMS. If you are looking to invest your money somewhere, LCEF is something to consider. Find out more at [LCEF.org](https://LCEF.org).



**Why Invest with  
LCEF?**



## **CHILD OF GOD**



The Child of God program is starting this February for our new students and mentors! The Mentors for this year are:

Brian and Cheryl Dearth mentoring Chase Erhman  
Jim and Susan Little mentoring Elijah Inman  
Pam McGuire mentoring Jack Gordon

The first meeting for mentors, students and their families is Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup> 5:30 – 6:30 pm at the church for fellowship, pizza, and games.

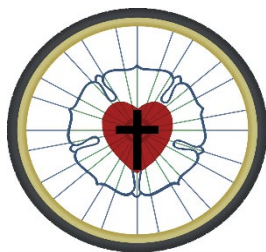
Thank you to the mentors who have volunteered and to the students and families involved in this program! Many blessings await!

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL & VBS**



The Sunday School children are learning about the different words and deeds of Jesus in the 4 gospels for the next 14 weeks. Opening continues to be in the sanctuary starting at 9:15 am. Starting February 2<sup>nd</sup>, offering will be collected from the students during Sunday School opening. On February 9<sup>th</sup> the students will share with you a hymn they are learning for the end of first service and beginning of the second. A Detailed notice will be sent home with the students as we get closer to that event.

Dates for VBS this year have been set! Please mark your calendar for July 7<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> for anyone who would like to volunteer for this fun filled week! Sign-ups will be placed on the visitor center table in April.



## **ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CYCLING FRIENDS**

Enjoying God's gifts of fellowship, fun, and nature while staying active to promote good health are some of the reasons to consider joining our cycling group. We have regular recreational rides on dedicated bike paths. We also did four of the events in the picture. The Tour De Donut is a definite for our schedule and registration is now open. That's a different type event for us and we're considering a few more. We may also have one or two Evangelism tie-ins to the CCA event – more on that later (cycling group please read the Evangelism article below). For more information or to be ready to join in the fun, contact Walter Dill.

### ***What will 2025 bring???***



Saturday, September 13th  
Port Clinton, Ohio



Saturday, August 23rd  
Troy, Ohio



Sunday, September 14th?  
Cleveland, Ohio



powered by rails to trails conservancy  
Saturday, April 26th, USA



Saturday, September 27th  
Fredericksburg, Ohio



Saturday, May 24th?  
New Albany, Ohio



Saturday, June 14th  
London, Ohio



Saturday, July 12th  
Shelby, Ohio



Saturday, July 19th  
Oberlin, Ohio



**CLEVELAND  
CYCLING ACADEMY**

Sunday, May 4th  
Valley City, Ohio

## **Knox Box Program**

The Valley City Fire Department runs a Knox Box Program sponsored by the Lester Township Trustees. This is for elderly residents as well as residents with disabilities. This program is free to anyone willing and needing a Knox box for their home. This will help us in the event of a medical emergency. If someone from the residence calls 911 and is unable to get to the door, this will prevent us from needing to find alternative methods for getting into the house. Call 330-483-3811 for details.

# **LWML**

Newsletter for LWML Lorain-Medina Zone

Two exciting events are scheduled for Spring, 2025 for our Zone.

## **LWML Lorain-Medina Zone REBOOT meeting**

At N. Ridgeville Library, 35700 Bainbridge Rd N. Ridgeville

Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup> 10:00 to Noon

The Reboot will be an invitation to all our zone members to meet and reboot us of our current church and ladies' group's activities and information. Sharing this information will encourage us to pray and support our zone congregations, set our service projects, and plan for our prayer service March 9<sup>th</sup>. Carpooling will be available

Lorain-Medina Prayer Service

***"Blessed Are They"***

Sunday, March 9<sup>th</sup> 2:00pm

St. Paul, Valley City

This service will encourage us in our Christian life and be a reminder of God's blessings upon us. This will prepare us on our Lenten journey and what Christ has done for us by His life, death, and resurrection. Through Him, we are blessed with the assurance of our home in heaven. Please join us for this rewarding prayer service.

An **invitation** from Faith, Avon

***"A Lenten Journey"***

Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup> 11:00am to 1:30pm

Speaker Diana Schnack

Faith Lutheran Avon, Ohio

This will be worship, seminar, and luncheon at Faith, Avon. For more information please see Ethel Schiemann or our LWML bulletin board.

## **HOUSEKEEPING AND RECYCLING**

We are blessed with wonderful facilities and spaces here at St. Paul. Please remember to be good stewards and keep things as neat and tidy - as you found them (or better); turn off the lights before leaving; clean up any mess as well as you can (or find help); and remember to take all your items home with you after church.

Please place any garbage in an appropriate garbage can. If you are responsible to lock up when leaving, pause to check the lights are out and doors are closed inside, set the alarm, and check the exterior door is locked. With everyone's help, we can keep everything clean, secure, and ready for the next service or event. ***Thank you!***

You are encouraged to take your worship bulletins home with you to use the scriptures, hymns and prayers for your own devotions and to be able to refer to the updated schedule and announcements. This includes both regular and large print bulletins. If you would like, you may drop regular and large print bulletins in the blue recycle bin in the Narthex hallway upon exiting the service. While we do recycle the black combs, it is not necessary to disassemble the large print bulletin before taking it home. Old large print bulletins may be returned any time for recycling. The recycle bin is only for bulletin materials – please, no garbage. ***Thank you!***

## **CHURCH ONLINE at SPVC.org**

Online services are available to view LIVE at 8:00 AM on Sundays, or on-demand shortly afterwards. Visit [www.spvc.org](http://www.spvc.org) for the most recent service (when active). There is a viewer for the livestream on the homepage. Bulletins are available via the link. Select the bulletin for the date of service you are watching. Livestreams will typically be at normal service times. Bible Studies are also livestreamed and available on demand.

## **PRAYER CHAIN on FLOCKNOTE**

If you have a Prayer Request, Praise or Update please visit our website, [spvc.org](http://spvc.org). There you can sign up to be part of the Prayer Chain and pray for the concerns fellow members have sent in. You may also submit a prayer request of your own from that page.

To submit a prayer request or update directly from your email, please send your email to: [prayer@spvc.org](mailto:prayer@spvc.org)

You may also contact our Parish Administrator Walter Dill by email using [walter.dill@spvc.org](mailto:walter.dill@spvc.org) or [secretary@spvc.org](mailto:secretary@spvc.org) or you may call the church office at 330-483-3883.

## **HEALTH & SAFETY**

A black First Aid bag is hung in the vestibule containing emergency supplies. Some of the contents include bandages, instant glucose, breathing barriers, and blood pressure equipment.

## **FIRST AID BOXES**

If you are injured at church, you will find Band-Aids, antibiotic ointments, eye wash, and various wound / burn dressings in these boxes.

**Locations:** Upstairs Kitchen & Copy Work Room



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the app.



# LISTEN TO THE SERVICE USING YOUR PHONE OR TABLET

Use your Android™ or Apple® device to listen to the audio

01

Install the  
“Audiofetch” app on  
your device.



02

At church, go to  
your wifi settings  
and connect to  
wifi named  
“Audiofetch”.  
Allow it to find devices



03

Connect your phone  
to your hearing aids  
or listening device.  
Open the app and  
adjust the volume  
to your preference.



See Rev. Streeper for assistance getting connected.  
Having trouble? Having the model number for your hearing aids  
and phone/tablet will help.  
Make sure you know your passwords to install apps.

# **EVANGELISM**

Part of Evangelism is just being active in your community and living a Christian life. Opportunities arise in engagement with others. Being active in Bible Study, Worship, and congregational life here at St. Paul prepare you to be able to speak of your faith to others. Our Evangelism Committee efforts add a direct specific effort to have a face to face interaction with our community outside of the church building.

On our slate with the Evangelism Committee are the three events which we took part in during 2024: the Frog Jump, the Street Fair, and Christmas in the Valley. These events provide the environment where people are already gathering where they feel comfortable. New for 2025, which came up as a conceptual idea last year will be a simple permanent installation across the street in the grassy area next to the auxiliary parking lot. We'll be working on the details to make that operational this Spring.

What is it? You may have noticed that cyclists like to use our area for riding through to some of the less busy streets in the area. There's also a local cycling club that uses the area for training and people from the community walk and jog in the area. Delivery drivers and others sometimes stop to take their lunch or a phone call along the way. This area across the street will be a rest stop and light bike maintenance area with picnic tables. Importantly, it will also have a bulletin board to provide information about our congregation. It will be a passive always available source of information about us in our community that also provides a service to the community that does not yet exist in the area. It will have Worship Service times, information on Trail Life and American Heritage Girls, information on our Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, and ways to get in contact with us. Basically, it will be a permanent version of our mobile evangelism board which we take to events that people can study on their own and something they may visit repeatedly. This project is beginning to come together. A bike rack has been purchased and we thank Kyle Kirchenbauer for the two picnic tables he made as his Eagle Scout project!

To find out more about St. Paul's Journey Rest (the working title for our installation across the street) or how you might get involved with the Frog Jump, Street Fair, and Christmas in the Valley attend our first meeting of 2025 on Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. The cycling group is invited specifically in relation to the new gathering area and how we can tie its opening to Celebrate Trails Day on April 26<sup>th</sup> ahead of the Cleveland Cycling Academy's event which is May 4<sup>th</sup> here in Valley City.

## **Upcoming Valley City Events**

|                 |                                                          |
|-----------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday, March 2 | VCFD Pancake Breakfast - 9:00a.m. – 1:00p.m.             |
| Sunday, March 9 | VCFD Pancake Breakfast - 9:00a.m. – 1:00p.m.             |
| Sunday, May 4   | Cleveland Cycling Academy Gran Fondo and Children's Ride |
| Friday, July 4  | Independence Day                                         |
| Sunday, July 20 | 64 <sup>th</sup> Annual Frog Jump                        |

## **BABY BOTTLE MINISTRY**

The Baby Bottle Ministry helps to support the Oaks Family Care Center in Brunswick, Medina County. Pick up an empty Baby Bottle Bank on your way out of church. Use it to collect spare change. Turn one in to the church office whenever you fill one up.

Would you like a special tour of the Oaks Facilities? Tours for individuals or small groups can be arranged during their normal hours. The Oaks Family Care Center provides supervised visits for families to repair relationships; professional counseling appointments; coaching and classes for parenting and health and wellness; and, material goods of food, diapers, clothes, and formula. More information about the Oaks Family Care Center and empty Baby Bottles are found in the Narthex Hallway. [oaks-family-care.org](http://oaks-family-care.org).

They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor. Isaiah 61:3 (NIV)



## **PULL TAB MINISTRY**

YES! we are collecting tabs all year round. Thanks to you these will benefit families at Ronald McDonald House. You may drop off your tabs in the bin that is located on the shelf next to Pastor's Office. For questions, contact Len Maver at: 440-781-9009

## **USED EYEGLASS MINISTRY**

We have restarted the gently used Eyeglass Ministry. Cassie Bremke will be taking donations of the gently used eyeglasses to the local Lions Club. If you have any donations, please place it on the bookshelf located next to Pastor's Office. Thank you.

## **WIGGLE BAGS**

Please help yourself to these goody bags that hold activities that kids may engage and participate in worship service. Hopefully this will help alleviate stress for parents who are worried about their child making it through the whole service, but more importantly, they help teach kids that "big church" is for them too. Please take a moment to collect all the contents of the Wiggle Bags and return it to the "Used Wiggle Bag" plastic bin after the Worship Service. We are grateful to Sandy Turner and Jean Wadle who are keeping up providing clean Wiggle Bags each week. Your donated supplies may be given directly to Sandy Turner or the church office. Thank you.

## **TRUSTEE WORKBENCH**

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns please contact:  
Adam Criswell at: adamcriswell007@gmail.com

## **VALLEY CITY FOOD PANTRY**

If you or someone you know needs food assistance, please contact LifeSpring Food Pantry at 330.328.3091. The monthly drive through food pantry is the third Saturday of the month from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM at 1638 Lester Road, Valley City, OH. [www.valleycity.org](http://www.valleycity.org)

## **ST. PAUL PARISH ADMINISTRATOR**

Walter Dill  
walter.dill@spvc.org  
330-483-3883

### **OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday:** 9:30am - 1:30pm

**Tuesday:** Off

**Wednesday:** 9:30am - 3:00pm  
(10am-11:30am for Bible Study)

**Thursday:** 9:30am - 1:30pm

**Friday:** Off

## **HOLY ROLLERS**

Recently started up, Holy Rollers is a group that comes together in fellowship playing board games. If this is something that interests you, you can find out more by contacting Jay Moser. Their next gathering is Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, at 4 p.m.

## **FELLOWSHIP HALL USAGE & RENTAL**

To schedule your event please contact Walter Dill, our Parish Administrator at 330.483.3883 or, email at: [walter.dill@spvc.org](mailto:walter.dill@spvc.org)

Once your event is approved, a Fellowship Hall Rental Form will be placed in your church mailbox or emailed to you. Please complete it and return the form along with your fee remittance to the church office. Thank you.

## **HOME VISITS**

Book your visit with Pastor Zielinski, or, visit: [www.spvc.org](http://www.spvc.org) and click "Book with Pastor Zielinski" to see available times, or by contacting the Parish Administrator, Walter Dill at 330-483-3883.

## **COMMUNION OPPORTUNITIES**

**Pastor is providing individual communion opportunities.**

1. Check the posted times for "walk-in" communion below.
2. Scheduling an appointment with Pastor at church or in your home.

**"Walk-In" times at Church:**

- Sundays, 12 – 2:00 PM
- Tuesdays, 5 – 7:00 PM

**Scheduling an appointment for communion  
at church or in your home:**

**To schedule a time other than the walk-in times:**

- Call Pastor 440-458-0189
- Visit [www.spvc.org](http://www.spvc.org) and click "Book with Pastor" to see available times for appointments.

## **TITHES & OFFERINGS**

As our Lord provides for us and we return to Him a portion of His generosity. You have several ways to continue contributing:

1. In-person Worship on Sundays at 8:00 & 10:30 AM
2. Mail your contributions to the church.
3. Talk to your bank about "bill-pay" options. They can likely send a check directly to the church on a scheduled basis.
4. Visit [www.spvc.org](http://www.spvc.org) and click on "Give Online" - you'll be taken to our secure online giving site where you can make a one-time or on-going contribution.

*Each one must give as he has decided in his heart,  
not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.  
2 Corinthians 9:7 (ESV)*

# **ST. PAUL HELPING HANDS**

## **“SMALL TASK MINISTRY”**

### **ARE YOU IN NEED OF A HELPING HAND?**

Use this list to see who is available on the day of the week you need and reach out to them to set things up.

#### **BEREA**

Tammy Rhodes

Cell: 440-476-0684

Email: tarhodes1982@hotmail.com

**Available:** Saturday & Sunday all day,  
Monday through Friday after 6pm

#### **BRUNSWICK**

Dave & Carol Hesketh

Cell: 330-410-6150

**Available:** Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday

Paula Pietch

Cell: 440-897-4847

Email: grasshopper48@gmail.com

**Available:** Tuesday, Friday, Saturday

Tim Wadle

Cell: 216-214-7109

Email: twads47@yahoo.com

**Available:** Any

#### **LAGRANGE**

Branko Djordjevic

Cell: 440-655-3749

**Available:** Any

Charlie Djordjevic

Cell: 440-655-3729

**Available:** Any

#### **LITCHFIELD**

Sandy Turner

Cell: 330-592-9405

Email: slturn71@gmail.com

**Available:** Any

## OUR VERY SPECIAL MEMBERS

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### **HEINDEL, Esther**

13218 Prescott Lane  
Strongsville, OH 44136  
440-477-6769

### **MURAWSKI, Rev. Dennis**

#### **MURAWSKI, Susan**

3137 Stillwater Drive  
Medina, OH 44256  
330-388-1781

### **NASH, Brian**

7273 Elyria Road  
Medina, OH 44256  
330-723-3365

### **PETCHLER, Joyce**

5236 Creekside, Unit E-18  
Brunswick, OH 44212  
216-387-8056

### **SCHULTZ, Bill**

6988 Spieth Road  
Medina, OH 44256  
330-421-2050

### **TIBBITTS, Don**

7160 Abilene Drive  
Payton, CO 80831  
330-225-4767

### **WALTER, Bev**

2756 Station Road  
Medina, OH 44256  
330-723-1020

### **WIESEMANN, Scott**

#### **WIESEMANN, Joann**

575 Simons Drive  
Brunswick, OH 44212  
330-225-7381

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### **HELDMAN, Sandy**

**Brentwood Health Center**  
907 W. Aurora Rd.  
Northfield, OH 44067  
330-468-2273

### **JOHNSON, Charlotte**

#### **Care Core at Willowood**

1186 Hadcock Rd., Rm  
#712-A  
Brunswick, OH 44212  
330-220-3628

### **RAUHAUS, Marilynn**

#### **Plum Creek**

891 Marks Road, Rm #C-2  
Brunswick, OH 44212  
330-416-8441

### **SCHIEMANN, Bob**

#### **Plum Creek**

891 Marks Road, Rm #B-13  
Brunswick, OH 44212

### **SILK, Dorothy**

#### **Kemper House**

10890 Prospect Road,  
Room #226-B  
Strongsville, OH 44149  
440-846-1100

### **STUMPF, Kathe**

#### **Pearl Crossing**

19205 Pearl Road, Rm #212  
Strongsville, OH 44136  
[440-268-9555](tel:440-268-9555)

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### **BURGESS,**

#### **Rev. Jeff & Bailey**

**St. Paul Lutheran Church**  
7701 East M-36  
Whitmore Lake, MI 48189

6905 Cheddar Valley Drive  
Brighton, MI 48116

### **BUVINGHAUSEN,**

#### **Rev. Garrett & Emilia**

#### **Bethany Lutheran Church**

231 E. Hamilton Street  
Wellington, OH 44090

12762 Baird Road  
Oberlin, Oh 44074

### **MONDAY, Rev. Dakota**

#### **St. Paul Lutheran Church**

3253 Niagara Carthage Rd.,  
Whispering Pines, NC,  
28327-7111

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# 2025 ST. PAUL OFFICERS & KEY PEOPLE

Updated 1-2025

**PASTOR**.....Rev. Philip Zielinski  
440.458.0189.....pastor.zielinski@spvc.org

**PASTORAL ASSISTANT**.....Rev. Chris Streeper  
330.441.0502.....chris.streeper@spvc.org

## EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

**President**.....Dean Bremke  
216.316.0810  
deanbremke@gmail.com

**Secretary**.....Art Heyse  
440.816.9944  
artheyse@gmail.com

**Treasurer**.....David Duran  
216.577.5162  
treasurer@spvc.org

**Treasurer Assistant**.....Chuck Toth  
440.227.4239  
charles.toth@spvc.org

**Financial Secretary**.....Sarah Duran  
440.263.4600  
financialsecretary@spvc.org

**PARISH ADMINISTRATOR**.....Walter Dill  
330.483.3883.....walter.dill@spvc.org

## LIVESTREAM MINISTRY

Art Heyse.....440.816.9944  
Judy Scaif.....330.723.7756  
Pastor Zielinski.....440.458.0189

## ALTAR GUILD

Dianne Holland (scheduler).....330.410.8428  
James & Jeanette Rafter.....440.926.1007  
Susan Willkom.....330.723.7137  
Carole Zwingelburg.....330.725.1054

## BOARD OF SUNDAY SCHOOL

**Superintendent**.....Beth Bremke  
**Nursery**.....Pam McGuire  
**Preschool**.....Gail Jackson  
**Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd Grade**.....Len Maver  
**3rd, 4th, 5th, & 6th Grade**.....Beth Bremke  
**7th & 8th Grade**.....Rev. Streeper  
**High School**.....David Spry  
**Adult Study**.....Pastor Zielinski  
**Music**.....Audrey Harris, Sarah Moser

## BOARD OF ELDERS

Steve Kato (Head).....330.242.7183  
Chris Duran.....216.577.5164  
Dave Hesketh.....330.410.6150  
Jim Jackson.....330.391.6393  
Sam Jakabcic.....216.789.1076  
Tim Wadle.....216.214.7109

## LWML

**President**.....Rotating  
**Recording Secretary**.....Diane Johnson  
**Treasurer**.....Len Maver  
**Chaplin**.....Kathy Fargo  
**Corresponding Secretary**.....Margit Gery

## MUSIC MINISTRY

**Choir**.....Audrey Harris & Sarah Moser  
**Handbells: Nicole Spry**.....330.391.1753  
**Organists:**  
Hannah Criswell.....419.388.3135  
Audrey Harris.....815.762.2442  
Marlene Shook.....330.483.4830

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Adam Criswell (Head).....216.399.1390  
Kyle Bremke.....440.309.0227  
Jason Ehrman.....330.421.6759

## CAMPUS SAFETY COMMITTEE

Tom Hadaway.....440.458.0577  
Dean Bremke.....216.316.0810

## BABY BOTTLE MINISTRY (Oaks Family Care Center)

Walter Dill.....330.483.3883

**BAPTISMAL BANNERS** Tammy Rhodes....440.476.0684

**CARD MINISTRY**...Joyce Ellenberger & Carol Hesketh

## CHRISTIAN NURTURE (Sunday School, VBS)

Beth Bremke.....440.669.3180

**CUSTODIAN** Liz (Rob) Zacharias.....330.461.0840

**EVANGELISM** Walter Dill .....330.304.6153

Rev. Streeper.....330.441.0502

**FELLOWSHIP HALL RENTAL** Walter Dill.....330.483.3883

**FUNERAL MEALS** Sandy Turner.....330.592.9405

**PRAYER CHAIN** Flocknote/Emails.....Walter Dill

**TRAIL LIFE USA** Rev. Streeper.....330.441.0502

## SECURITY SYSTEM: (Safe Harbor Security & Fire)

Dean Bremke.....216.316.0810

**SEXTON** Jason Ehrman.....330.421.6759

**WELLNESS BOARD** Beth Bremke.....440.669.3180

**WIGGLE BAGS**.....Sandy Turner & Jean Wadle

## YOUNG FAMILY FELLOWSHIP

Sarah Moser.....440.453.0180

**YOUTH GROUP** Rev. Streeper.....330.441.0502

Assistants: Chris & Sarah Duran.....216.577.5164

***Birthdays***

| Sunday                                                                    | Monday                                            | Tuesday                     | Wednesday                                             | Thursday                                                       | Friday                                     | Saturday                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|                                                                           |                                                   |                             |                                                       |                                                                |                                            | <b>1</b><br>Cameron Eckert |
| <b>2</b>                                                                  | <b>3</b><br>Susan Willkom                         | <b>4</b><br>Janet Kristoff  | <b>5</b>                                              | <b>6</b><br>Hannah Bennett<br>Donald Tibbitts                  | <b>7</b>                                   | <b>8</b><br>Judy Pflaum    |
| <b>9</b><br>Barbara Hadaway<br>Scott Leu<br>Jay Moser<br>Charlie Wohlever | <b>10</b><br>Christopher Miscuda<br>Aden Murawski | <b>11</b><br>Mikaela Weigel | <b>12</b><br>Jean Palmer<br>Judah Streeper            | <b>13</b><br>Anna Blaine                                       | <b>14</b>                                  | <b>15</b>                  |
| <b>16</b><br>Andrew Hibler                                                | <b>17</b>                                         | <b>18</b>                   | <b>19</b><br>Shelly Blaine                            | <b>20</b>                                                      | <b>21</b><br>Robert Murawski               | <b>22</b>                  |
| <b>23</b><br>Paul Schultz                                                 | <b>24</b>                                         | <b>25</b>                   | <b>26</b><br>Mandy Bode<br>Bonnie Keller<br>Judy Renz | <b>27</b><br>Walter Dill<br>Trenna Tighe<br>Carole Zwingelberg | <b>28</b><br>Victoria Becker<br>Tracy Read |                            |

***Baptism Anniversaries***

| Sunday                   | Monday                                   | Tuesday                                | Wednesday                    | Thursday                   | Friday                                                      | Saturday                    |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
|                          |                                          |                                        |                              |                            |                                                             | <b>1</b>                    |
| <b>2</b>                 | <b>3</b>                                 | <b>4</b><br>Jacob Gatt<br>Diane Peters | <b>5</b><br>Jennifer Schnurr | <b>6</b>                   | <b>7</b><br>Richard Gatt                                    | <b>8</b>                    |
| <b>9</b>                 | <b>10</b>                                | <b>11</b><br>Donnie Cox                | <b>12</b><br>Mikaela Weigel  | <b>13</b>                  | <b>14</b><br>Mark Andrukat<br>Thomas Giese<br>Maggie Gordon | <b>15</b><br>Hannah Bennett |
| <b>16</b>                | <b>17</b><br>Carol Hesketh<br>Kari Morar | <b>18</b>                              | <b>19</b>                    | <b>20</b>                  | <b>21</b><br>Kristen Nagy                                   | <b>22</b>                   |
| <b>23</b><br>Bill Siiman | <b>24</b>                                | <b>25</b>                              | <b>26</b>                    | <b>27</b><br>Carl Strekely | <b>28</b><br>Jared Pflaum                                   |                             |

St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church  
**Wedding Anniversaries**

**February 2025**

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday                         | Thursday | Friday | Saturday                                |
|--------|--------|---------|-----------------------------------|----------|--------|-----------------------------------------|
|        |        |         |                                   |          |        | 1                                       |
| 2      | 3      | 4       | 5                                 | 6        | 7      | 8                                       |
| 9      | 10     | 11      | 12<br>Paul and Pam Rasschaert, 48 | 13       | 14     | 15<br>Len Maver and Joseph Maver,<br>51 |
| 16     | 17     | 18      | 19                                | 20       | 21     | 22                                      |
| 23     | 24     | 25      | 26                                | 27       | 28     |                                         |

***If you have updates to any of the information above or in any of these calendars, please send an email to our Parish Administrator, Walter Dill, at [walter.dill@spvc.org](mailto:walter.dill@spvc.org) because our records need updating! Thank you!***

# February 2025

## Events Calendar

Worship and Bible Study are on Livestream and also available on demand on Facebook, YouTube, and SPVC.org.

| Sunday                                                                                                 | Monday                                                                               | Tuesday                                              | Wednesday              | Thursday | Friday                                          | Saturday              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
|                                                                                                        |                                                                                      |                                                      |                        |          |                                                 | 1                     |
| 2<br>8am Worship<br>9:15am Sunday School<br>9:30am Bible Study<br>10:30am Worship<br>12-2pm Communion  | 3<br>6-7:30pm Youth Confirmation<br>6:30-8pm Youth Group                             | 4<br>5-7pm Walk-in Communion                         | 5<br>10am Bible Study  | 6        | 7                                               | 8<br>Holy Rollers 4pm |
| 9<br>8am Worship<br>9:15am Sunday School<br>9:30am Bible Study<br>10:30am Worship<br>12-2pm Communion  | 10<br>6-7:30pm Youth Confirmation<br>6:30-8pm Trail Life and American Heritage Girls | 11<br>5-7pm Walk-in Communion<br>7pm Elders          | 12<br>10am Bible Study | 13       | 14<br>St. Valentine's Day<br>Jesus Loves You ❤️ | 15                    |
| 16<br>8am Worship<br>9:15am Sunday School<br>9:30am Bible Study<br>10:30am Worship<br>12-2pm Communion | 17<br>6-7:30pm Youth Confirmation<br>6:30-8pm Youth Group                            | 18<br>5-7pm Walk-in Communion<br>7pm Executive Board | 19<br>10am Bible Study | 20       | 21                                              | 22                    |
| 23<br>8am Worship<br>9:15am Sunday School<br>9:30am Bible Study<br>10:30am Worship<br>12-2pm Communion | 24<br>6-7:30pm Youth Confirmation<br>6:30-8pm Trail Life and American Heritage Girls | 25<br>5-7pm Walk-in Communion                        | 26                     | 27       | 28                                              |                       |