



St Paul Lutheran

VALLEY CITY, OHIO

1377 Lester Road, Valley City, OH 44280
330-483-3883 www.spvc.org

MARCH 2025

THE HAND OF THE LORD

Whether tightening a bolt, crocheting, or typing on a computer, there is so much that we do with our hands. The Greek physician Galen called them *the instrument of instruments*. Indeed, hands are instruments that can do a great deal of things. Hands can be used to heal or hurt, work or wreck, build or break, seize or surrender, and on and on. Hands are so often central to the ways we interact with the world that they have also become figurative symbols of power, control, craftsmanship, and possession. We daily speak of hands in many phrases, such as “Lend a hand,” “Things are out of hand,” “Working together hand in glove,” and “Close at hand.” Moreover, in our modern era of robotic, machine, and computer processing, adding “hand” as a prefix to many words can often communicate something that is personal and intentional. Labeling something as handpicked, handwritten, or handmade adds a personal touch and significance. Our Creator has bestowed on us these amazing instruments.

It is no surprise that mentions of hands appear all over the Bible as God’s Word speaks to us in ways that we can understand. All things are the work of the hand of the Lord (Psalm 102:25). The Lord’s hand is referred to over two hundred times in the Old Testament. The Lord’s hand is active in creation, power, control over happenings of the world, judgment, and salvation. The hand of the Lord was upon Ezekiel when He gave him a vision (Ezekiel 3:22), and the hand of the Lord was against the Philistines in the days of Samuel (1 Samuel 7:13). The hand of the Lord is both Law and Gospel.

Perhaps surprisingly, specific references to the “hand of the Lord” are not all that frequent in the New Testament. However, it is precisely in the New Testament where the hand of the Lord takes on literal meaning. The One through whom all things were created took on real, literal hands in His incarnation (John 1:1–14). We have several examples throughout Scripture that speak of the way that Christ used His hands alongside His life-giving words to bring forgiveness, life, and salvation. The work of Christ’s hands helps us to see the merciful and personal way that He has condescended to us. He has given us something to grasp, even as He holds us. Jesus used His hands to save drowning Peter, to feed the multitudes, to touch those who were unclean, to stop a funeral procession in its tracks, to lift up Jairus’s daughter, and to bless the children. The hand of the Lord has come to us in Jesus.

On the other hand, the literal and figurative actions of mere human hands in the Bible are often the means of our own sin. After all, our own Lord was “delivered into the hands of men” (Luke 9:44). However, on a greater level, we know that it was the hand of the Lord at work all along, most especially in His crucifixion. Christ laid down His life of His own authority as He allowed Himself to be delivered into the hands of sinful men (John 10:18). His hands were pierced for the sins of the world. His hands rested on Holy Saturday. Yet, on the third day, He rose again. He now holds us in His hands, and no one can snatch us from His hand (John 10:28). Our Lord has hands, real hands. Jesus has accomplished all that we need. Amazingly, He takes our manipulative, distorted, self-serving hands and restores them into useful hands for His purposes, both to literally use them in service and to make our whole lives into His instruments of witness, service, and praise.

This Lent, dedicate time on your Wednesdays to gather with your brothers and sisters in Christ in a time of special devotion as we prepare to celebrate Easter with glad hearts. Sign up to bring an item for one of the evening fellowship meals. Pick up a copy of the daily devotions that will follow the series. Rejoice that the hand of God is upon us to bless and to heal.

In Christ,

Pastor Zielinski

Considerations of IVF (In Vitro Fertilization)

Beloved of the Lord,

Recently, President Trump has made pledges to make IVF free or affordable for those who wish to make use of this process to have children. However, this process is fraught with dangers to women and results in the deaths of many many children, all in the name of trying to achieve parenthood.

First and foremost, I want to make clear that the circumstances of a child's conception have no impact on the love we have for them or how precious they are in the sight of the Lord. We receive all children into loving arms to care for them and to bring them up in the knowledge of salvation through Jesus Christ. Neither do we condemn those who have previously undergone IVF. Our hope is that by better understanding the process, and God's gift of children, we can live in accordance with God's will.

Children are indeed a blessing from the Lord and it is the Lord who chooses when to bestow those blessings. God created humanity as man and woman and has given the gift of marriage for companionship, the mutual enjoyment of husband and wife, and for the procreation of children according to God's will.

We all know couples who long to have children but for some reason are unable to conceive. We hold these couples up in prayer and lovingly support them. If God withholds this gift from anyone, they should not murmur against God or become jealous when others do receive children. God will bestow His gifts as He knows best. These times of longing become times to live by faith, patiently await God's time, persevere in prayer, and consider opportunities to nurture others whom they can care for.

Those who long for children should not try to force God's hand. Children are a blessing, but we must consider whether methods we have to achieve a blessing are indeed God-pleasing. God promised Abraham and Sarah a child, but in their impatience they took matters into their own hands and got a child through a concubine instead of waiting for God's plan.

The Process of IVF

IVF begins by collecting a large number of a woman's eggs. This is achieved through "super-ovulation" initiated through hormone injections. These injections and the ovulation of many eggs carries a number of risks.

These eggs are fused with sperm and conception occurs in laboratory conditions. As we confess that life begins at conception, these new lives, even at their first and tiniest stages of life, are precious and should be protected. Instead, those that are not developing at a certain rate are discarded (killed).

Then, from those that are chosen to develop, some are frozen for future use and some are implanted into a woman after she has undergone additional hormone treatments. A single round of IVF implantation can involve one or several babies. Some babies will not implant and die, or several may implant in the woman's uterus and continue their development as the mother is now carrying two, three, or more children. When only one or two children are desired, they undergo a "selective reduction" which will result in the death of the undesired developing children.

If the implantation is not successful, another round of implantation can be done from the reserved and frozen embryos. Or, if they are satisfied with the result of the process, the remaining embryos remain frozen with an uncertain future.

At each stage of this process, the goal of a birth is prioritized over the wellbeing of the children created during the process. 93-97% of the babies created in the IVF process will die. This is a tragedy.

Our Pro-Life View

In light of our God-given calling to care for all humanity, from conception to natural death, the specifics of IVF must give us pause. God is Lord over life and bestows blessings according to His will. It is true that every child who may have been conceived through IVF is indeed precious to Him and all of us and are deeply loved. It is also true that we can object to the use of IVF to achieve parenthood in light of how it disregards the lives of others. We do not condemn those who have undergone IVF rather we minister to them with love and compassion. With equal love and compassion we minister to those who long to be parents but are not yet and may never be. We place our faith and trust in God's will and rejoice His blessings even in the midst of our sorrows.

Please communicate with your elected leaders our consistent pro-life message that public money should not result in the deliberate death of children at any stage life.

In Christ,

Pastor Zielinski

From the Vicar's desk...

***Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord,
the fruit of the womb, a reward. (Psalm 127:3)***

According to Luther, every Christian is called to particular offices and tasks, through which God Himself works to govern and care for His created order. God teaches through teachers; He protects us through the vocations of police officers, firefighters, soldiers, and government officials; He brings beauty through artists; He proclaims His Word and administers His Sacraments through pastors. This is the doctrine of vocation. The term literally means “calling.”

Luther identified four types of callings that every Christian has: as a member of the Church, as a member of a family, as someone who works, and as a citizen of a community. I have been blessed several times over in my vocation as a father. Not only in my role as father to my own children, but also in my role as a spiritual role model to the many youths in our congregation and a few in the community. Our latest little blessing, however, has given me a chance to reflect on my role as a father, on Vauna's role as a mother, and on our role together as parents and as a part of our Church family.

This past month, on February 5th, Vauna and I were blessed to welcome our sixth child into the world. A few weeks earlier, Joe & Jiebing Bennett welcomed their fourth child. A few weeks later, Alan & Meghan Smith welcomed their second. These were only the first of many births that will bless our congregation this year, as we have many expectant mothers within our midst. As these individual families are expanding, so too does the family of St. Paul continue to grow in Valley City.

Luther said, God could have populated the earth by creating each new person from the dust, as He did Adam, but instead He chose to bring forth new life through the vocation of parents. In the Large Catechism in his discussion of the Fourth Commandment, Luther says, “God has given this walk of life, fatherhood and motherhood, a special position of honor, higher than that of any other walk of life under it.” Luther describes how it is God at work in every vocation, so that every human calling, no matter how humble, is a “mask of” God.” This is abundantly clear in the vocation of parenthood, through which God creates children, working

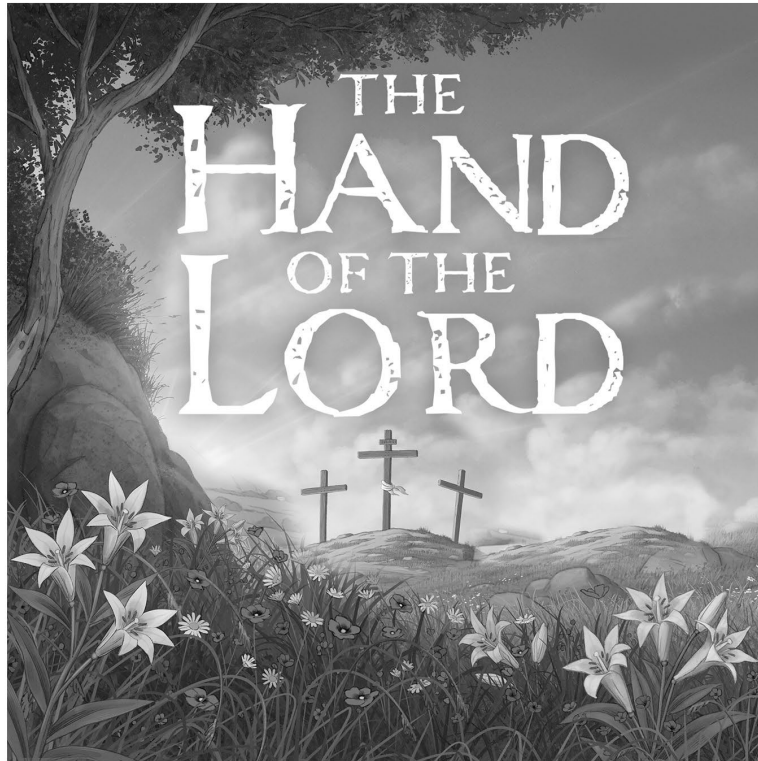
through parents to nurture them, protect them, teach them how to live and bring them to faith.

The vocation of “parent” is a huge privilege and a huge responsibility. We are tasked with raising contributing members of society who will be able to manage life and a family of their own someday. As Christian parents, our Biblical responsibility is to train up our children in the ways of the Lord, discipling them in the faith. It is a daily responsibility, not one that is simply fulfilled by making sure that all the kids made it to the service on Sunday, but a lifelong charge given to us by our Creator. While the parents and sponsors of a baptized child bear the primary responsibility of teaching their child God's Word, they are not alone... the entire congregation makes this pledge when these little children are baptized.

It is a huge undertaking in today's world to raise a child. Not only is it difficult financially, especially for those families who rely on one income, but it is also difficult socially, as the world continues to be swayed by evil and various social agendas. As I reflect on my role as father to my own children, I also reflect on the role you have called me to fill here at St. Paul. You have entrusted me with the special responsibility of guiding the children of St. Paul in their faith... at Sunday School, in the Youth Group, through our scouting organizations, during their confirmation and for some, a close mentor. I continue to be humbled by this.

This year, as each of these young ones are baptized and welcomed into God's family, let us each take a moment to reflect on our vocation as parents and as members of the church, and renew our commitment to be a congregation that takes the responsibility of discipling our kids seriously. Amen. ~Rev Streeper





WORSHIP FOR LENT

Ash Wednesday, March 5

11:30am - Worship (Study @ 10am)

7:00pm - Worship (Supper 6-7pm)

Lord's Supper celebrated at both services

Maundy Thursday

(Divine Service with the Lord's Supper)

April 17, 11:30am & 7:00pm

Good Friday

April 18, 11:30am & 7:00pm

Wednesdays in Lent

11:30am - Worship (Study @ 10am)

7:00pm - Worship (Supper 6-7pm)

Easter Vigil

Saturday, April 19, 7:00pm

EASTER SUNDAY: APRIL 20

8am & 10:30am - Festival Divine Service

9:15am Easter Breakfast & Egg Hunt

www.spvc.org

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/>

MARCH 2025

	SERVICE	March 2 SUNDAY Communion	March 9 SUNDAY Communion	March 16 SUNDAY Communion	March 23 SUNDAY Communion	March 30 Communion
ELDER	8am	Chris Duran	Tim Wadle	Steve Kato	Chris Duran	Tim Wadle
	10:30am	Jim Jackson	Sam Jakabcic	Jim Jackson	Dave Hesketh	Sam Jakabcic
USHERS	8am	Mark Gordon	Mike Scahel	Scott Leu	Steve Kato	Scott Leu
	10:30am	Brian Dearth	Eric Gottl	Jeff Hill	Joe Benet	Brian Dearth
GREETERS	8am	Heinrich & Irmgard Cordes	Dean & Beth Bremke	David & Mackenzie Duran	Steve & Colleen Kato	Heinrich & Irmgard Cordes
	10:30am	Rich & Jenny Proeschel	Steve Kato	Rich & Jenny Proeschel	Tim & Jean Wadle	Joe Benet
ELDER INFO	Stephen Kato 330-242-7183	Tim Wadle 216-214-7109	Jim Jackson 330-391-6393	Chris Duran 216-577-5164	Sam Jakabcic 216-789-1076	Dave Hesketh 330-410-6150

	SERVICE	March 5 WEDNESDAY Communion	March 12 WEDNESDAY	March 19 WEDNESDAY	March 26 WEDNESDAY
ELDER	11:30am	J. Rafter/Tim Wadle	J. Rafter/Tim Wadle	J. Rafter/Tim Wadle	J. Rafter/Tim Wadle
	7:00pm	Jim Jackson/Steve Kato	Chris Duran	Dave Hesketh	Dave Hesketh

MUSIC MINISTRIES



Choir will be performing on Good Friday and Easter! If you are interested in singing with us, contact Sarah Moser. We meet on Tuesday nights at 5:15.

A bell trio will perform on Maundy Thursday. We are forming a larger bell ensemble, with 10-12 people needed, to perform a simple piece on Easter. You just need to know your right hand from your left and how to count to 4! If you are interested in joining, we will meet after late service on March 9th to figure out some rehearsal times, most likely on Sundays after the late service or Wednesday evenings. If you can't make the meeting but still want to play, contact Nicole Spry or Sarah Moser.

LCEF

LCEF's Take Heart Scholarship is now available for High School Seniors who have a Young Investors (Y.I.) StewardAccount.

The Take Heart Scholarship celebrates your next educational chapter by encouraging you to reflect on your faith, share your unique perspective and embrace the journey ahead with confidence. High school seniors who have a Young Investors (Y.I.) StewardAccount with LCEF can apply for a chance to receive financial support for further education, with awards of \$3,000, \$1,000 and \$500. Applications close on **May 1, 2025**, with recipients announced by **May 30, 2025**. This year's essay topic: What does it mean to be created in the image of God? Share your thoughts about how you serve God in accordance with **how** He made you and **where** he has placed you in life (your various vocations of child, student, friend, etc.) To learn more visit <https://lcef.org/scholarship/> or contact Lisa Hall the Ohio District LCEF Vice President at lisa.hall@lcef.org / 216-570-7077.



CHILD OF GOD



The Child of God Program has begun with the following child participants and mentors:

Pam McGuire mentoring JACK GORDON

Jim/Susan Little mentoring ELIJAH INNMAN

Brian/Cheryl Dearth mentoring CHASE ERHMAN

Jim/Gail Jackson mentoring ELLA KLOOS

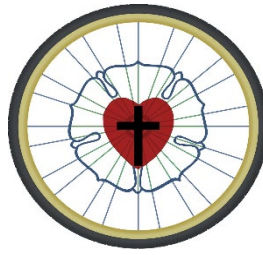
Please keep these children, their mentors, and all children in our Sunday School in your prayers, that they are growing together in faith.

SUNDAY SCHOOL & VBS



The Sunday School children are continuing to learn about the different words and deeds of Jesus in the 4 gospels. The opening continues to be in the sanctuary starting at 9:15 am. Offering is being collected providing an introduction and lesson on giving, gratefulness, and church life. On Palm Sunday, April 13th, the children will be singing for both services. 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 7th – 11th 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 2025 season and registration is now open. That's a different type of event for us. We're considering a few more, see the graphic. We **WILL** have two Evangelism tie-ins to the CCA event! To help make this an annual event, please consider attending the Evangelism Meeting and helping with the project and event. For more information,, 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

HOLY ROLLERS



Recently started up, Holy Rollers is a group that comes together in fellowship playing board games. The next gathering has not yet been scheduled. If this is something that interests you, you can find out more by contacting Jay Moser.

LWML

2025 officers were installed:

Treasurer: Len Maver

Chaplin: Kathy Fargo

Corresponding Secretary: Judy Renz

Recording Secretary: Diane Johnson

The leader rotates each meeting



Twinkle Twinkle Little Star



LWML is sponsoring a congregation and friends baby shower in honor of Lorena Zielinski. The shower will be in the St. Paul Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall, 1377 Lester Road, Valley City, Ohio 44280, Saturday, March 29 at 10:00am. Lorena and baby are registered at Target. Although we love little ones, this is an adult only shower.

RSVP to djj789@aol.com by 3-18-25.

The next general meeting will be Tuesday, April 1 at 10:00 am

Lorain-Medina Prayer Service "*Blessed Are They*"

Sunday, March 9th 2:00pm here at 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*", Speaker Diana Schnack

Saturday, April 5th 11:00am to 1:30pm at 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. We have a machine to remove combs which helps extend their useful life. 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 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. 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

You may also contact our Parish Administrator Walter Dill by email using walter.dill@spvc.org or 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



Scan to
Download
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.

Our February meeting had to be postponed. Our rescheduled meeting is Thursday, March 6th at 6:00pm. On the agenda will be discussing who will be the point people to help coordinate our involvement in each of the events we will again be involved with and an opportunity to express early interest in helping with particular events. You'll also have opportunities to get involved as each event approaches. Walter Dill will be the point person for the new Cleveland Cycling Academy children's event at 2pm on May 4th in Mill Stream Park and the associated build project targeted for April 26th which is the Saturday the week before the CCA event. Volunteers will be needed for both the build date and children's cycling event. CCA has welcomed us as volunteers and looks forward to building our relationship with each other. The build project is the rest area planned for the area next to the auxiliary parking lot described in last month's newsletter. This area in nice weather also will be multi-use and offer us an outdoor meeting alternative or spot to enjoy lunch while assisting with projects at church.

Also new in 2025, will be the Blessing Box. Come to our meeting to hear Rev. Streeper explain what it is and find out if you might enjoy being a coordinator for that effort in the community. This one can be done by a person or small team on their own schedule and without need for interacting directly with the public, possibly a good way to start being in Evangelism.

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 various event times, 2:00 p.m. Children's Ride
Friday, July 4	Independence Day Parade and Fireworks
Sunday, July 20	64 th Annual Frog Jump – events and vendors all day
August	VCFD Street Fair, Movie in the Park
December	Christmas in the Valley

Wearing St. Paul gear at Valley City events is a great way to have visibility in the community! Volunteer to help with our part in one of the events we actively participate in and we'll make sure you get a St. Paul shirt or hat!

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.

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

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

Knox Box Program

The Valley City Fire Department runs a Knox Box Program sponsored by the Lester Township Trustees. This is for residents with disabilities or who are elderly. This program is free to anyone willing and needing a Knox box for their home. This will help VCFD 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 VCFD from needing to find alternative methods for getting into the house. Call 330-483-3811 for details.

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

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 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 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 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

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

HELDMAN, Sandy

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

RAUHAUS, Marilyn**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)

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

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
440.558.9566
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

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

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

LIVESTREAM MINISTRY

Art Heyse.....440.558.9566
Judy Scaife.....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 Roll.....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

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

An Extra Note from the Parish Administrator:

We now have a new main information system for the church which will improve capabilities in multiple areas. We have multiple administrators in the full system and the ability for the Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Elders, President and whomever else we may need to work on the system to be able to access their areas and do it remotely without necessarily having to wait to use the PC in the office or have someone else do it. Some of these things are already in place and there is more to come. This is why in the coming weeks, we will have several requests of you to review your information, the data we use for all of us to stay connected as a congregation. First, to make sure we have the right important data; and second, to have the right data help utilize the new capabilities.

Because the transfer worked and the basic data is functional, we've already started using the new system and some of the new capabilities. In fact, we've been using it for weeks, kicking the tires so to speak. We're eager to use more of the system so first, we're looking at some of the additional basic data above and beyond the necessary data and setups which are already in place and in use. Here's what I mean. When migrating to new systems, certain choices are made on how and where to move old data by the vendor. All the important stuff is looking good so far, but certain yes/no flags or missing or conflicting pieces of data may need to be updated. Plus, the new system functions differently than the old system. For example, our old system may have indeed shown that you had been baptized but because the date of the baptism was unknown and left blank, the new system might be a bit confused by the lack of the baptism date. We suspect any data issues we run into will be of this nature and only require an additional piece of data for us to enter into the system or a way from our vendor to only use personal records which have certain data or settings. Until then, depending on what data we had maybe a former member shows up on the baptism anniversary calendar. Beyond that, we do have the old system to look back on to help figure out what we might be seeing just in case.

Adding to the data we have also helps all our members to serve each other better. That's where the additional data requests will come in – using new and better features to support our life together as a congregation. That's the next phase. This newsletter and other communications rely on updated email addresses and phone numbers. We'll be asking for a household email – or confirmation that you do not have email, the best phone number to contact for your household, and if you opt-in to text messages for a few examples. We'll update you when new capabilities are ready to come online.

In the meantime, updates to your information can always be made by filling that section out on your attendance slip, sending me an email at walter.dill@spvc.org, even calling the church office if that works best for you. The process of implementing the new systems means data will be more centrally located without the need to update each system individually which can result in conflicting information so our data will stay cleaner. An extra bonus is that our systems will also be more efficient and save us money over time. So when the requests come out, please fill them out. Thank you in advance for your assistance!

Please start by checking if your name shows up in the correct places for the following birthday, wedding anniversary, and especially baptism anniversary calendars. The formatting will also need to be reworked a little, please bear with us as we work together through these issues and differences in systems. Pastor Zielinski is an administrator and oversees all our choices, but please send updates to me. I will collect the data updates and coordinate with whomever needs to be involved.

March 2025 Birthdays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Donald Gotsch
2	3 Alan Smith	4 Ann Olee Helen Schoolcraft	5 Lillian Harris Trey Cook	6	7	8 Kara Dearth
9	10 Ava Piroli	11 David Willkom Jim Sherry	12 Mike Wohlever	13 Danielle LaChance Elleana Bremke	14	15 Erich Gottl
16	17 Dianne Schultz	18 Bev Walter Debra Huelsman	19	20 Howard Chavalia James Baker	21 Karen Siiman	22 Corrinne Palmer
23	24	25 Lynn Eckert	26	27 Irene Robinson	28 Jim Jackson	29 Jeanette Pastorius William Franz
30	31					

March 2025 Wedding Anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 Todd and Margit Gery	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

This information is drawn from our new system. Please look it over to wish someone a happy birthday or anniversary, but also to help verify the information. 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 because our records need updating! Thank you!

March 2025 Baptism Anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Kyle Schultz Shelly Blaine Deborah Gotsch
2 Conor Streeper	3	4	5 Dillon Gigliotti	6	7	8 Sandra Andrukat Brent Haury
9 Katie Piroli	10 Jace Yunker	11 Charlie Wohlever Darrin Read	12	13	14	15 Frances Leu Robert Murawski
16 Rachel LaChance Jackson Raycher	17 Paul Schultz Vauna Streeper	18 Bella Read Erich Gottl	19 Chris Streeper	20 Paul Rasschaert	21 Aden Murawski Lauren Raycher	22 Austin Gilles Cherece Rasschaert D.J. Gilles Haleigh Gilles Melissa Hama Morgan Hama Trenna Tighe
23	24 Cassie Bremke Hildy Benns Kyle Keller	25	26	27 Jaclyn Turner	28 Alexandra Provenzano Dennis Murawski Kara Dearth	29 Dale Huelsman
30	31 Denice Horton Gary Horton					

This information is drawn from our new system. Please look it over to verify if your own information is on it or missing. This Baptism Anniversary view may need to be updated by our vendor mainly for our available choices on what data to display – if something is on it, it's not necessarily incorrect. 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 because our records need updating! Thank you!

March 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
2 8am Worship 9:15am Sunday School 9:30am Bible Study 10:30am Worship 11:45 Adult Instruction 1-2pm Communion	3 6-7:30pm Youth Confirmation 6:30-8pm Youth Group	4 5-7pm Walk-in Communion	Ash Wednesday 5 10am Bible Study 11:30am Worship 6:00pm Soup Supper 7:00pm Worship	6 6:00pm Evangelism Meeting	7	8 10:00am – noon CPR AED Training @VCFD
9 8am Worship 9:15am Sunday School 9:30am Bible Study 10:30am Worship 11:45 Adult Instruction 1-2pm Communion	10 6-7:30pm Youth Confirmation 6:30-8pm Youth Group	11 5-7pm Walk-in Communion 7pm Elders	12 10am Bible Study 11:30am Worship 6:00pm Soup Supper 7:00pm Worship	13	14	15
16 8am Worship 9:15am Sunday School 9:30am Bible Study 10:30am Worship 11:45 Adult Instruction 1-2pm Communion	17 6-7:30pm Youth Confirmation 6:30-8pm Trail Life and American Heritage Girls	18 5-7pm Walk-in Communion 7pm Executive Board	19 10am Bible Study 11:30am Worship 6:00pm Soup Supper 7:00pm Worship	20	21	22
23 8am Worship 9:15am Sunday School 9:30am Bible Study 10:30am Worship 11:45 Adult Instruction 1-2pm Communion	24 6-7:30pm Youth Confirmation 6:30-8pm Youth Group	25 5-7pm Walk-in Communion	26 10am Bible Study 11:30am Worship 6:00pm Soup Supper 7:00pm Worship	27	28	29
30 8am Worship 9:15am Sunday School 9:30am Bible Study 10:30am Worship 11:45 Adult Instruction 1-2pm Communion	31 6-7:30pm Youth Confirmation 6:30-8pm Trail Life and American Heritage Girls					