



St. Paul Lutheran

VALLEY CITY, OHIO

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

March 2026

The Easter Vigil

This is a reprint from a 2022 article about the Easter Vigil (updated for dates and times).

Saturday, April 4, 7:00pm

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, [the women]
went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared.
(Luke 24:1, ESV)

We eagerly anticipate the celebration of big events. We like to celebrate them at the earliest possible moment. Christmas Eve, for many, has become the central celebration of Christmas (but, don't forget about worshiping on Christmas Day too!). In the Biblical way of counting days, a day began at sunset the preceding day. So, the Sabbath Saturday began at sundown on Friday. So, the "Eve" of a day can rightly be celebrated.

In the early days of the Christian church, the night before Easter was also observed as a special service, pointing toward Easter, and ushering in our celebration of the resurrection of our Lord. The "Easter Vigil" was held on Saturday night, often toward midnight, so that the culmination of the service would occur in the early hours of Easter Sunday. At some congregations we see remnants of this "early" service in the Sunrise Service. I have fond memories of arriving for a service that would begin super early on Easter Day (followed by breakfast and then additional worship). While there has been a recent resurgence and recovery of the Easter Vigil in the Lutheran Church, perhaps you are also familiar with its observance in the Eastern Orthodox tradition.

This year, we will host an Easter Vigil here at St. Paul on **Saturday, April 4, 7:00pm**. I hope you will attend! The Easter Vigil has ancient roots in the Church and some unique elements centered around God bringing us from death to life through baptism that unites us with Christ in His death and resurrection.

Holy Week is a special and solemn time for Christians. Beginning on Palm Sunday and culminating on Easter morning, it is the week of our Lord's Passion (His suffering and death). We gather for worship on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday to commemorate—even celebrate—the events of these days and how Jesus won our salvation by His death on the cross.

We have been concluding our Good Friday services by holding candles and singing a hymn or two that begin to point us toward the resurrection (Go to Dark Gethsemane, Abide with Me, etc.). These are “vigil candles” meant to be lit and held as we “keep watch” awaiting the hour of our Lord’s resurrection.

The Easter Vigil consists of three parts: The Service of Light; The Baptismal Service; and the Holy Communion Service. Since this is our first time, we will be reserving the Holy Communion Service for Easter Sunday.

The Service of Light:

The Vigil can begin outside (weather permitting). It has three parts:

- A. The blessing of the Paschal Candle as it is lit from a kindled fire, symbolizing a new “pillar of fire” who leads us out of death into the promised land.
- B. The Procession into the sanctuary where the light of the Paschal Candle will be spread to the people of the Church holding candles.
- C. The singing of the Exultet (exultation), the proclamation hymn of praise to the risen Christ.

The Baptismal Service:

- A. Reading the lessons which recount the Old Testament events which foreshadowed the transformation that takes place in Holy Baptism. (Creation, The Flood, The Red Sea, Valley of Dry Bones, Job, Three Men in the Fiery Furnace, etc.)
- B. The administration of Holy Baptism and the Rite of Confirmation.
- C. Remembering and renewing our baptismal vows that the light of Christ which lives in us through Holy Baptism is renewed daily by dying to sin and rising to newness of life.

The Holy Communion:

Though we are reserving this for Easter Sunday this year, it is the climactic celebration of the resurrection of our Lord as our sins are forgiven and our faith nourished.

Conclusion:

The Easter Vigil has its own distinct character and themes. ADD it to your Easter celebration and gather throughout Holy Week and Easter Sunday. All of this is the culmination of Lent and the end of fasting (hence, it is often followed by a great feast, or Easter breakfast!). The “alleluias” will have returned, we will greet one another with the new that “Christ is Risen!” and we will joyfully gather to celebrate the Easter feast throughout the great 50 days of the Easter season.

Early hasten to the tomb
Where they laid His breathless clay;
All is solitude and gloom.
Who has taken Him away?
Christ is ris’n! He meets our eyes.
Savior, teach us so to rise.

Go to Dark Gethsemane, v. 4

WORSHIP FOR LENT

Ash Wednesday, February 18

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 2, 11:30am & 7:00pm

Good Friday

April 3, 11:30am & 7:00pm

Wednesdays in Lent

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

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

Easter Vigil

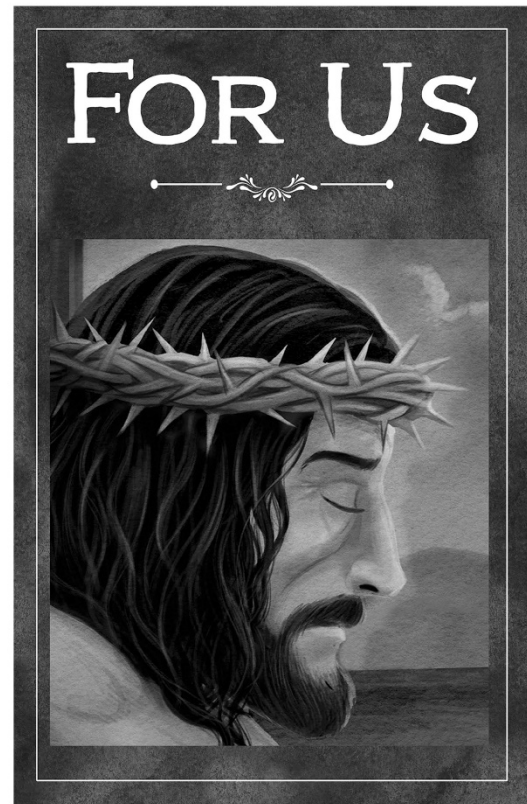
Saturday, April 4, 7:00pm

EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 5

8am & 10:30am - Festival Divine Service

9:15am Easter Breakfast & Egg Hunt

www.spvc.org



From the Vicar's Desk

Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken.
(Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 ESV)

As many of you know, I've spent the past few weeks wrestling with the pending death of my mother, who late last month was diagnosed with Stage IV cancer in her abdomen and rectum. I received word of this terminal diagnosis on Ash Wednesday. I nearly cried each time I placed ashes and said the words, "Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return" because I was contemplating my mother's death, and the difficult nature of it. My parents are not believers. They are not Christians. Over the past decade they have, on more than one occasion, explicitly denied Christ.

My situation is not unique. Many families are divided over their faith. The sad truth about the nature of Christianity is that while the Gospel is available to all, and the Lord desires all to be saved... not all will be. In fact, not even everyone who proclaims "Lord, Lord" will be saved. There are many false teachers and false christianities out in the world, and many are deceived by their messages. This is why we continually pray for the lost; that they may come to a true knowledge of the Gospel and the Saving Grace which is found only in the Crucified and Risen Christ.

This also illustrates the importance of Christian fellowship within the body of believers. Not only is fellowship essential for spiritual growth, mutual encouragement, and emotional support, but it also provides a community for believers to "do life together" and strengthen their faith in Jesus. It helps to combat isolation, offers accountability, helps believers discern truth, and reflect on Christ's love to the world through shared unity.

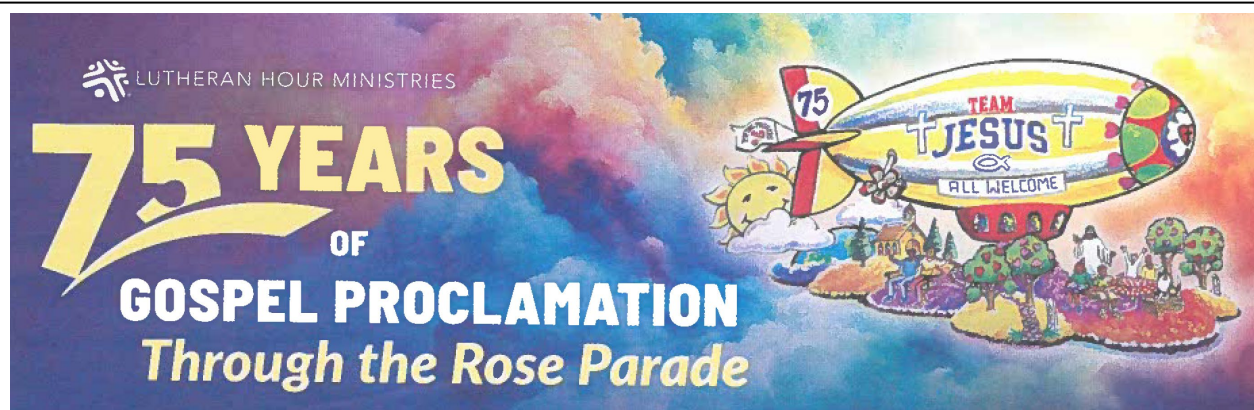
Just as iron sharpens iron, believers help each other grow, learn, and persevere through difficult times. Fellowship provides a safety net, helping believers avoid falling into spiritual apathy or loneliness. It creates a space for Christians to work together in serving God, utilizing their unique gifts for a common purpose, likened to an orchestra... which is especially important in fulfilling the Great Commission. Being in a community of believers helps guard against temptation and false teachings, keeping followers of Christ on the right path.

When Christians love and support one another, it serves as a witness to the world of the reality of Jesus. Ultimately, true Christian fellowship is not just socializing, but a shared partnership in the Gospel, enabling believers to thrive rather than merely survive.

I appreciate so much being a part of the St. Paul family, and I want to thank you all for the outpouring of love and support you have given me over the past few weeks. You are keeping me strong through this trying time, and whether you know it or not... each of you are helping me to become a better pastor through all of the things we do together, including supporting me through this difficult time. I love you all. Thank you so much.

God bless,
Rev. Streeper.

<u>SPVC YOUTH!</u> • SUN, MAR 1st 6:00 pm Youth Service • SUN, MAY 3rd 6:00 pm Youth Service • MON, JUNE 15th Canoeing - Mohican	<u>Trail Life & American Heritage Girls</u> • Troop Meeting, MON, MAR 9th • Coast Guard Tour SAT, MAR 14th • Troop Meeting, MON, MAR 23rd • AHG Badge Workshop SAT, MAR 28th	<u>SPVC Men</u> 1st Quarter Men's Fellowship Night Friday, March 13th 6:00 pm @ SPVC Fellowship Hall Card Games & Potluck
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Did you watch the Tournament of Roses Parade on New Year's Day? Maybe you saw the Lutheran Hours Ministries float. Did you know that the Petal Pushers, volunteers to create and assemble the LHM float have been part of the event for 75 years? You can read all about it in the new issue of The Lutheran Layman, Winter 2026.

You can find copies available to read in the reading areas of our Fellowship Hall. Along with The Lutheran Laymen, you may find other publications of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod like the synod's newspaper, The Reporter, Lutherans Engage, The Lutheran Witness. You may also find recent newsletters from LCMS Recognized Service Organizations and ministries with which we work locally like the Oaks Family Care Center. Copies of the Lutheran Witness are also provided for the congregation and available at the Welcome Center if you would like a copy to take home.



LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES
www.lhm.org

The Lutheran Hour is available today in many other ways beyond traditional radio. From the American Forces Network, Sirius XM satellite radio, **lutheranhour.org**, the Connected by LHM mobile app, Amazon Alexa, Spotify, iHeartRadio, YouTube, dialing in on your phone, and more, listeners can hear the weekly sermons whenever and wherever they are. For more information about Lutheran Hour Ministries and the broadcast guide, visit **lhm.org**.



LUTHERAN CHURCH EXTENSION FUND

FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS. TOGETHER IN FAITH.

Attention LCEF Young Investors Account High School Seniors!

LCEF is excited to share that the Take Heart Scholarship application process is open! If you are a graduating senior with a Young Investor Account, we encourage you to apply.

What Is the Take Heart Scholarship?

The **Take Heart Scholarship** was developed for high school seniors who will soon advance to your next level of higher education. During these times of excitement, anxiousness and uncertainty, “take heart!” As Christians, we cannot anticipate that life will be perfect or familiar, but when we feel that the world has become difficult, take comfort in knowing that our God has overcome it all!

As you begin your new journey, LCEF wants to assist your transition by offering financial support through the Take Heart Scholarship. Three (3) individual awards are available: \$3,000, \$1,000, and \$500. [SEE FLYER](#) Applications close May 1, 2026, and winners will be announced by May 30th. To learn more, [CLICK HERE](#)

Questions? Reach out to Lisa Hall, LCEF Ohio District Vice President at lisa.hall@lcef.org or call 216-570-7077.

Who Is LCEF?

Since 1978, LCEF has partnered with LCMS members and ministries to fund projects that support the work of God’s kingdom. By investing with LCEF, you not only work toward your financial goals but also provide vital resources that empower ministries to thrive.

For more information, visit lcef.org.

REGULAR SCHEDULE IN-PERSON WORSHIP

Join us Sunday Mornings in December & January:

Worship 8:00 AM

Coffee Fellowship 9:00 AM

Sunday School 9:15 AM

Bible Study 9:30 AM

Worship 10:30AM

Wednesday Bible Study 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

*See the next page for the Lent & Holy Week Schedule.



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. To help prepare for worship, prayers are included in every bulletin. Thank you and may the Lord bless your worship.

March 2026

	SERVICE	March 1 SUNDAY	March 8 SUNDAY	March 15 SUNDAY	March 22 SUNDAY	March 29 SUNDAY
ELDER	8am	Communion Chris Duran	Communion Tim Wadle	Communion Steve Kato	Communion Chris Duran	Communion Tim Wadle
	10:30am	Jim Jackson	Jim Jackson	Sam Jakabcic	David Hesketh	Sam Jakabcic
USHERS	8am	Mark Gordon	Scott Leu	Christian Huelsman	Mike Scahel	Mike Scahel
	10:30am	Jeff Hill	Rich Proeschel	Brian Dearth	Eric Gottl	Jesse Kloos
GREETERS	8am	David & Mackenzie Duran	Ray & Karleen Meilander	Heinrich & Irmgard Cordes	Dean & Beth Bremke	Ray & Karleen Meilander
	10:30am	Rich & Jenny Proeschel	Steve Kato	Ethel Schiemann	Tim & Jean Wadle	Rich & Jenny Proeschel
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	Dave Hesketh 330-410-6150

March 2026 Lent Services

	SERVICE	March 4 WEDNESDAY	March 11 WEDNESDAY	March 18 WEDNESDAY	March 25 WEDNESDAY
ELDER	11:30am	Tim Wadle / Jim Rafter	Tim Wadle / Jim Rafter	Tim Wadle / Jim Rafter	Tim Wadle / Jim Rafter
	7:00pm	Sam Jakabcic	Steve Kato	Chris Duran	Jim Jackson



The Drop Box located in the Welcome Center is currently accepting donations for the children's Easter Egg Hunt. Look for your chance to order Easter Flowers to help beautify the sanctuary at that same drop box coming soon.



??????????

Bible

??????????

Trivia

??????????

Night

??????????

As we journey through Lent toward the joy of Easter, it's a wonderful time not only to reflect—but also to learn.

One fun way to deepen our understanding of Christ's passion and resurrection is through Bible trivia! Testing our knowledge helps us see connections in Scripture, remember key events, and grow more confident in telling the story of our salvation.

Whether you know a little or a lot, come ready to learn, laugh, and rejoice in the good news: Christ is crucified and risen for you. Join us and let God's Word dwell among us richly—even in a little friendly competition!

Lenten and Easter Bible Trivia night March 27th at 6:30pm.

CONCORDIA PUBLISHING HOUSE

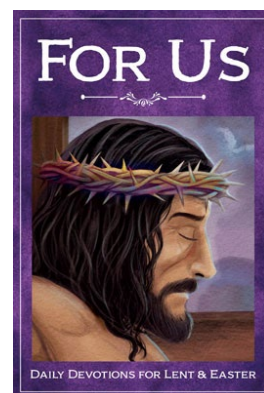
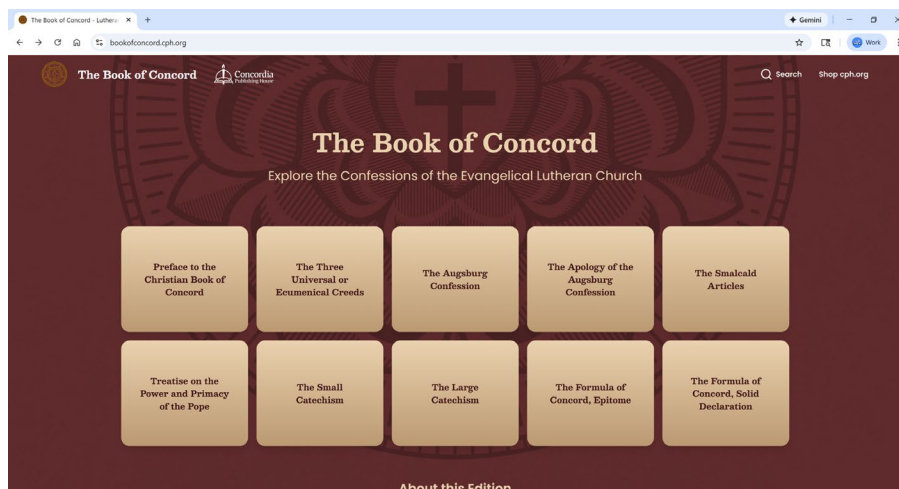
Lutherans confess the crucified and risen Christ, the obedient Son of the Father who gave his life on the cross for the redemption of sinners. Christ whose body and blood brings sinners forgiveness. Christ who will return to judge the living and the dead.

The documents assembled in the Book of Concord are the Confession of Faith of the Evangelical Lutheran Church. At all times trinitarian, biblical, pastoral, and Christ-centered, they bear witness to the truth of God's Word and the salvation of the world.

The publishing arm of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, Concordia Publishing House brings you the Book of Concord online and free for your use at bookofconcord.cph.org.



Online at cph.org



SUNDAY SCHOOL, CHILD OF GOD & VBS

SUNDAY SCHOOL

On Palm Sunday, March 29th, 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.

We will have our annual Easter egg hunt for the children on April 5th, Easter Sunday between services. As we prepare for our annual Children's Easter Egg Hunt, we are excited to create a joyful and meaningful celebration for the Sunday School children in our church. To make it a success, we are asking for monetary donations to help cover the cost of eggs, candy, and prizes. Any amount you feel led to give would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to contribute, please place your donation in the wooden collection box located by the welcome table. Thank you for your continued support and for helping us invest in the joy of our children.

The Sunday School children are continuing to learn about how God's plan of salvation all began, starting with creation, with the last lesson about the reign of King David.

Sunday School 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.

CHILD OF GOD

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

Isaac Moser with mentor Sandy Turner

Nick Franz with mentors Rick and Judy Pflaum

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

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS is fast approaching, June 22 - 26th. The theme this year is Tropical Treak – Jesus Comes to Seek and Save. Please prayerfully consider sharing your talents and time with our children. On April 26th there will be a start up meeting for any one interested in helping with VBS after the second service. Look for the volunteer sign-up form on the greeting table in April.

SPECIAL FOR ST. VALENTINE'S DAY

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Valentine card making organized by Margit Gery. Many cards were made and sent to our special friends, shut in's, and college students. This is a lovely ministry from St. Paul to those we, and God loves.



VBS 2026 - June 22-26





Please Join Us



Saturday, March 14, 2026, 10:00am at St. Paul.

Begin the Lenten service with Prayer encouragement and lifestyle.

We are encouraging all to attend and join the
Lutheran Women in Mission ladies from other churches in our
Lorain-Medina Zone.

Prayers, songs, asking, and rejoicing in our prayer life is
most rewarding!

Save the date and join us, look for more information in our bulletins.



News from the LWML

We are in a new year, and we would like to share some upcoming events:

*The Lorain-Medina LWML Zone will have a Prayer service here at St. Paul on Saturday, March 14th, at 10am. The program, called PRAYER, will have prayers and songs, light refreshments, and then a brief meeting. We welcome all ladies here at St. Paul to come and join us.

*In June, we will have our annual Ice Cream Social on Father's Day, June 21st. Bring your ice cream appetites as we honor all fathers here at St. Paul, and also officially welcome the first day of summer!

* LWML Ohio District convention this year is being held at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Westlake Ohio. The date is June 26-27 2026. Watch for more information to be found in our church newsletters and bulletins.

*October-we will be hosting a salad luncheon that will be open to all ladies in our congregation-to share in fellowship over a meal and learn and hear more about our group.

*We will close our year with an annual Christmas Tea (a date to be determined later).

Each year, our group has done a variety of services-from clothing drives, supporting special projects, cleaning the kitchen, cards for the shut in's at holidays, and Adopt A Family-just to mention a few. Throughout the year we make ourselves available to serve the Lord. We welcome new members, and if not available to make our bi-monthly meetings (first Tuesday of the month at 10am), you are all welcome to help support us in prayers or supporting our projects. Blessing to you all!

VALLEY CITY FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, March 1st and 8th

8:00 am - 1:00 pm



MENU

Plain & Blueberry Pancakes
Sausage Links
Scrambled Eggs
Fruit
Juice, Milk & Coffee

PRICES

Adults: \$15
Seniors/Veterans: \$12
Under 13: \$8
Under 3: FREE
Family Max: \$45

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. We also have a portable heart defibrillator.

First Aid Box Locations: Upstairs Kitchen & Copy Work Room

Defibrillator Location: Copy Work Room.

CEMETERY DECORATIONS

Please remember that no permanent decorations or plantings are permitted and will be removed. If you need a copy of the cemetery regulations, please contact the church office.

CLOSINGS

In the event, the church needs to be closed and services cancelled on a Sunday for a snow storm or some other reason, notices will be sent out on Flocknote. As soon as possible, iAlert will also be notified.

This season, iAlert notifications will be distributed across the following media outlets:

- WKYC-TV 3 and wkyc.com
- WVIZ-TV 25
- WKSU-FM 89.7
- WCPN-FM 104.9
- WCLV-FM 90.3
- WCRF-FM 103.3

Have you checked your mailbox at church? If you get this newsletter electronically, you might be missing other communications in your mailbox. If you found this newsletter in your mailbox and wish to switch to receiving it via email, contact Walter Dill in the church office.

Valley City Events

March 1 & 8	Pancake Breakfast at the Valley City Fire Department
May 25	Memorial Day
July 4	250 th Independence Day Parade – 10am line up, 11am start Evening – food & entertainment, fireworks at dusk
July 19	65 th Annual Frog Jump
August 14-16	91 st Annual Street Fair – Valley City Fire Department Association fundraiser
September 4	Movie in the Park at Mill Stream Park
December 13	Christmas in the Valley

MUSIC MINISTRIES

The Choir and Bell Choir will starting back up for the seasons of Lent and Easter at a time yet to be determined. Please stay tuned to the bulletins and announcements in the coming weeks! If you are interested in joining the Choir or seeking further information, reach out to Sarah Moser or Nicole Spry.



QUILTERS

As you walk into church you will notice a new display hanging on the wall next to the welcome center. The St. Paul Quilters pieced and finished a beautiful “Farmhouse Cross Quilt” in shades of aqua and blue. The quilt is dedicated *in honor of Pastor Murawski*. (If you have not been able to see it, it is also now pictured to the left.)

Quilters will not meet Wednesdays in Lent but at other times convenient to the group. Currently we are working on a Christmas tree in shades of Advent blues and also several donation quilts. There is always an open invitation to join us.



HOLY ROLLERS

Holy Rollers is a group that comes together in fellowship for a potluck meal and to play board games. Gatherings are scheduled once a month at the Mosers’ house on a Saturday. If this is something that interests you, you can find out more by contacting Jay Moser.

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!***

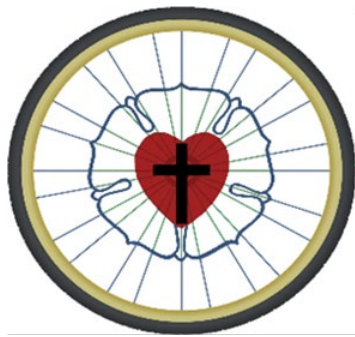
PRAYER CHAIN on FLOCKNOTE

If you have a Prayer Request for a health concern, passing of a loved one, or cause for thanks and praise, please visit our website, spvc.org. You may submit a prayer request there. There you can also sign up to be part of the Prayer Chain and pray for the health concerns of fellow members or their family and friends.

When you are part of the Prayer Chain you will receive emails for each new request and a weekly Prayer Chain recap. Prayer requests will remain on the prayer chain for one month. Prayer updates may be submitted as often as necessary. This is meant to keep our prayer chain active and up to date.

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 by calling the church office at 330-483-3883.

***Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise.
James 5:13 (ESV)***



ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CYCLING FRIENDS

We're more of a fair weather group and as the fair weather is taking a hiatus (from a cycling point of view) so are we. While we have had rides before April in the past, it's rare, but we did have a well attended ride in March 2025. Any ride until April will be a last minute pop-up ride which will be announced in our private Facebook group page.

If you have any interest in virtual off-season rides, contact Walter Dill. We have a Rouvy group and could schedule virtual rides if there is any interest. We also have a Strava group you can check out. Strava lets you upload ride data from your phone or bicycle head unit and track what you have done.

We do plan to return to the Tour De Donut in Troy, Ohio on Saturday, August 22nd! Whenever you are ready to sign up, that will be your cheapest option as the price does go up the closer we get to the event. You are also able to sign up there if you decide at the last minute. We have four members looking to return and several others interested in going their first time. Checkout the Dog Days Wine Tour in Oberlin, too. We plan to participate in that in July.

Before both of those, there are no details yet about the 2026 CCA Tour de Farms Gran Fondo here in Valley City. If that doesn't conflict with church, we'll plan to ride in that as well and help out at the kids' ride at Mill Stream Park. That's the fundraiser for our Cleveland area youth cycling club which you can see training in the area on any given day. Young cyclists from multiple states come here to train and participate with their club and teams.

The Tour De Donut, other rides where we wear our club jerseys, participating in the CCA Gran Fondo, and area rides from Journey Rest give opportunity to talk about our church and congregation in a social setting amongst those with common interests. It combines Evangelism with fellowship, nature, and health & wellness. Even if there isn't always a discussion our jerseys are noticed. The information board at Journey Rest provides additional information whenever anybody stops by for any reason.



Our event to get the season rolling for 2026 will be on Saturday, April 11th. We'll have fellowship, donuts, and discussion about the 2026 season and scheduling. We'll discuss plans including possible once per month community rides from Journey Rest with an invitation to Bike Medina to join in, put up the shade sail if not up already, and scheduling ideas. Of course, if the weather cooperates, we'll also have a ride along a route here in Valley City. More on that in next month's newsletter.

If you like to ride your bike, we look forward to you joining us in 2026!



Cleveland Marathon

Full • Half • 10K • 5K

Joe Bennett of our congregation here at St. Paul and Rev. Buvinghausen of Bethany Lutheran, Wellington invite you to join the group participating in the Cleveland Marathon on the weekend of May 15-17th. They'll be running the 5k, not the marathon, on May 16th at 7:30am in Downtown Cleveland. Joe notes that the minimum pace per mile is 16 minutes. If you can do that and would like to join them, Lutheran Metropolitan Ministries is a charity partner and offers a discount. Registrations help the ministry of LMM, a recognized service organization of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. The following paragraphs are from the LMM website, lutheranmetro.org.

Registration is officially open for [the 2026 Cleveland Marathon](#) and once again, LMM is proud to be an official charity partner! Taking place May 16–17, 2026, this partnership gives runners an incredible opportunity to go the distance while raising funds to support LMM's vital work.

Last year, LMM's own Benjamin Turney, Program Director of Youth Resiliency Services (YRS) completed the full marathon and raised an amazing \$10,000 to support the young people we serve who are experiencing homelessness and housing instability. In 2026, we're excited to see what our dedicated runners and supporters can achieve together!

If you are interested in running to support LMM, please contact Brian Sturgeon at bsturgeon@lutheranmetro.org to receive a 20% discount code for your registration fee.

Whether you're a seasoned marathoner or a first-time participant, taking on the full marathon, half marathon, or the 5K we invite you to join Team LMM for this inspiring event. Let's run, raise, and celebrate together!

Register for the race below:

<https://raceroster.com/events/2026/105382/2026-university-hospitals-cleveland-marathon>

Founded in 1969, the mission of Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry (LMM) is inspired by our Lutheran faith tradition, and our commitment to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly (**Micah 6:8**).

For more information on our group from St. Paul and Bethany, contact Joe Bennett.





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.



Rooted in Care, Growing in Hope

Spring Banquet Fundraiser



Save the date: Saturday, April 25, 2026.

Spring Banquest Fundraiser benefitting Oaks Family Care Center.

Time: 6:00pm

Location: Vell's Event Center
3626 Pearl Road
Medina, Ohio 44256

For mor information, see the Oaks Family Care Center website, oaks-family-care.org.

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.

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 9:00 -11:00 AM. They are located at 1638 Lester Road, Valley City, OH.

ST. PAUL PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Contact Walter Dill at walter.dill@spvc.org or 330-483-3883.
You can also leave a message when you call at other times.

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.

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. If you'd like to add your name to the list, contact the church office.

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: 440-897-5847

Email: grasshopper4867@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

2026 ST. PAUL OFFICERS & KEY PEOPLE

Updated 11-2025

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.....Judy Renz

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.....330.421.6459

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, Gail Jackson

CHRISTIAN NURTURE (Sunday School, VBS)

Beth Bremke.....440.669.3180

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

EVANGELISM

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

OUR VERY SPECIAL MEMBERS

ALBRECHT, Elaine

6410 Myrtle Hill
Valley City, OH 44280
330-461-1967

HEINDEL, Esther

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

**KELLER,
Tim & Bonnie**

3740 Yost Road
Litchfield, OH 44253

**KRISTOFF,
John & Janet**

43500 Peck Wadsworth Rd.
Wellington, OH 44090

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

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

SCHULTZ, Bill

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

STUMPF, Kathe

Pearl Crossing
19205 Pearl Road, Rm #212
Strongsville, OH 44136
440-268-9555

WALTER, Bev

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

WIESEMANN,

Scott & Joann
575 Simons Drive
Brunswick, OH 44212
330-225-7381

**BURGESS,
Rev. Jeff & Bailey**

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

1001 Wright Rd.
Howell, MI 48843

**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

Missionary Update – The Weber Family in Cameroon



Kelsey Weber continues to struggle with health issues, especially with hyperacusis/"loudness recruitment", possible vestibular issues, panic attacks, and PTSD. After exhausting options in Cameroon, the Weber family decided that Kelsey needs to return to the USA for a few weeks (in March/April) to try and take care of these health concerns. Sammy and their four children will remain in Cameroon.

Please pray for Kelsey's healing, for a smooth line-up of appointments with the right specialists during her short amount of time in the U.S, and a vehicle for her to use. Also financial blessings to cover travel and medical costs, as some of the specialists she will be seeing (neuro-brain chiropractic, tmj/orthodontist, etc) are not covered by their insurance.

The Webers would be so very grateful if you would prayerfully consider giving towards these financial needs and helping to make her medical trip possible.

Here is a link to their "Give a Hand" fundraiser page: <https://giveahand.com/fundraiser/weber-medical-aid-1>

Thank you so much! May God richly bless you!



Trail Life is conducting a fundraiser to secure a trailer to transport their gear and support our Troop 1377. Order forms for the items on the next page can be found in the Welcome Center.

If you have any questions, ask Len Maver, Tammy Rhodes, or Rev. Streeper. Thank you for your support!

Fresh Roasted Specialty Coffee

12 oz Bag, 100% Arabica Beans
Whole Bean & Ground

Harmony Decaf \$18

Full City Roast - Medium Dark - Ground

Sunrise Breakfast Blend \$18

City Roast - Medium - Whole Bean & Ground
Balanced and Bright

Bold Reserve \$18

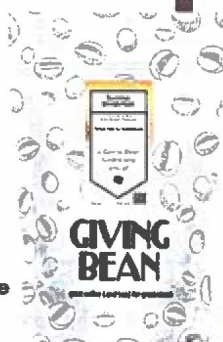
Vienna Roast - Dark - Whole Bean & Ground
Full bodied and Smooth

Flavored* Ground Coffee \$18

Hazelnut Crème, Cinnamon Bun,
French Vanilla, Caramel Crème,
Swiss Chocolate Almond, Pumpkin Spice
City Roast - Medium - Ground
Smooth and Creamy

Organic Heritage Blend \$20

Full City Roast - Medium Dark - Whole Bean & Ground



GIVING-BEAN

great coffee {and tea} for great causes

All Natural Cocoa & Chai 12 oz

Classic Natural Cocoa Mix \$14

Velvety and delicious milk-based mix
Mix with water

Bombay Chai Latte Mix \$14

Creamy and sweet milk-based mix with
black tea, cinnamon, cardamom and clove
Mix with water



Scrumptious Shortbread Cookies

\$6.99 box

• Traditional Shortbread \$12

• Lemon Shortbread \$12

Delicious, wholesome & all natural!



Artisan Loose Tea

3.5-4oz Bag, serves up to 50 cups

Earl Grey* \$16

Black tea blended with oil of Bergamot, a classic

Irish Breakfast \$16

Robust yet smooth and creamy, the perfect
cup to get you going in the morning

Green Tea Mango* \$16

Tropical Mango blended with Sencha Green Tea,
refreshing hot and iced

Paradise Passion* \$16

Blend of green and black tea with papaya, rose hips,
passion fruit, and sunflower



Organic Green Tea Sencha \$16

Chinese style Sencha green tea, sweet and
pleasant flavor



Organic Bengal Black \$16

Crisp, smooth, and slightly fruity, a classic black tea

Berry Basket - Caffeine Free* \$16

Apple, elderberry, currant, rose hips, blackberry

Mountain Gold - Caffeine Free* \$16

Rooibos, orange peel, cinnamon, and clove

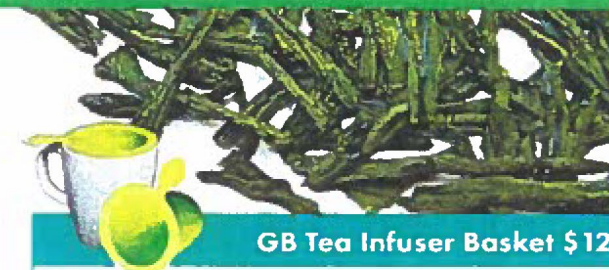


Single Serve (K-Kups) \$18

Compatible with standard k-cup machines

Roaster's Dozen: 13 Ct

- Sunrise Breakfast Blend
- Bold Reserve
- Salted Caramel*
- Variety Pack of Flavors*:
(Hazelnut, French Vanilla, Salted
Caramel & Pumpkin Spice)



GB Tea Infuser Basket \$12

Infusing basket gives loose tea plenty of room to
open up and steep, giving you the most flavorful
cup of fine tea yet! Fits in almost any mug and is
dishwasher safe silicone

* Natural and Artificial Flavors

If you notice an error, please send it to the office in an email to secretary@spvc.org so it may be updated!

March 2026

Birthdays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Addison Barajas, Deborah Gotsch, Donald Gotsch	2	3 Alan Smith	4 Helen Schoolcraft, Ann Olee	5 Lillian Harris, Trey Cook, Kristen Nemes	6 Adeline Burchfield	7 Haleigh Gilles, Aimee Whitmer
8 Kara Dearth, Teri Petzold	9	10 Ava Piroli, Avery Justice	11 David Willkom, Jim Sherry	12 Mike Wohlever	13 Elleana Bremke, Danielle LaChance	14 Audrey Paliokas
15 Erich Gottl	16 Gaige Witt, Jacob Strba	17 Dianne Schultz	18 Alexandria Knopf, Breanna Acker, Debra Huelsman, Bev Walter	19	20 James Baker, Howard Chavalial	21 Karen Siiman
22 Shannon Agurkis, Corrinne Palmer	23	24	25 Allison McCamon	26	27 Irene Robinson	28 Jonathan Knopf, Jim Jackson
29 Jeanette Pastorius	30 Tereasa Rankin	31				

If your Baptism is missing, please send it to the office in an email to secretary@spvc.org so it may be updated!

March 2026

Baptism Anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Shelly Blaine	2 Conor Streeper	3	4	5 Dillon Gigliotti	6 Ella Kloos	7
8 Brent Haury	9 Katie Piroli	10 Jace Yunker	11 Charlie Wohlever, Darrin Read	12	13	14
15 Robert Murawski, Frances Leu	16 Rachel LaChance, Jackson Raycher	17 Paul Schultz, Vauna Streeper	18 Erich Gottl, Bella Read	19 Chris Streeper	20 Paul Rasschaert	21 Aden Murawski, Lauren Raycher
22 Jim Little, Trenna Tighe, Austin Gilles, D.J. Gilles, Haleigh Gilles, Melissa Hama, Morgan Hama, Cherece Rasschaert	23	24 Hildy Benns, Kyle Keller, Cassie Bremke	25	26 Paul Bode	27	28 Hank Kacher, Kara Dearth
29 Dale Huelsman	30 Chloe Smith	31 Jerry Weigel, Curtis Hawke				

If you notice an error, please send it to the office in an email to secretary@spvc.org so it may be updated!

March 2026

Wedding Anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Todd & Margit Gery, 56
15	16	17	18	19	20 Scott & Penny Evans, 44	21
22	23	24 John & Dianne Holland, 64	25	26	27	28
29 Brian & Azania Schnurr, 12	30	31				

March 2026 - Events Calendar

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8am Worship 9:15am Sunday School 9:00am Coffee Fellowship 9:30am Bible Study 10:30am Worship 6pm Youth Group	2 6-8pm Youth Confirmation	3 10am LWML 5-7pm Walk-in Communion 6:30pm Board Meeting Trail Life and American Heritage Girls	4 10am Bible Study 11:30am Worship 6:00pm Soup Supper 7:00pm Worship	5	6	7
8 8am Worship 9:00am Coffee Fellowship 9:15am Sunday School 9:30am Bible Study 10:30am Worship	9 6-8pm Trail Life and American Heritage Girls	10 5-7pm Walk-in Communion 7pm Elders	11 10am Bible Study 11:30am Worship 6:00pm Soup Supper 7:00pm Worship	12	13 6:00pm Men's Fellowship	14 Trail Life & American Heritage Girls Coast Guard Tour
15 8am Worship 9:00am Coffee Fellowship 9:15am Sunday School 9:30am Bible Study 10:30am Worship	16 6-8pm Youth Confirmation	17 5-7pm Walk-in Communion 7pm Executive Board	18 10am Bible Study 11:30am Worship 6:00pm Soup Supper 7:00pm Worship	19	20	21
22 8am Worship 9:00am Coffee Fellowship 9:15am Sunday School 9:30am Bible Study 10:30am Worship	23 6-8pm Trail Life and American Heritage Girls	24 5-7pm Walk-in Communion	25 10am Bible Study 11:30am Worship 6:00pm Soup Supper 7:00pm Worship	26	27 6:30pm Bible Trivia	28 5pm American Heritage Girls Badge Workshop
PALM SUNDAY 29 8am Worship 9:00am Coffee Fellowship 9:15am Sunday School 9:30am Bible Study 10:30am Worship	30 No Youth Confirmation	31 5-7pm Walk-in Communion	April 1 No Bible Study	April 2 11:30am Maundy Thursday Morning Worship 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Evening Worship	April 3 11:30am Good Friday Morning Worship 7:00pm Good Friday Evening Worship	April 4 9:00am Easter Setup 7:00pm Easter Vigil Worship Sunday, April 5 The Resurrection of Our Lord