



## ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

9340 TOWNSHIP ROAD 32

JENERA, OH 45841

DEB NOLL, MINISTER

*We celebrate God's love and forgiveness  
by living the Word and sharing the life,  
death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.*

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### ST. PAUL "MESSENGER"

#### JUNE ~ 2026

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*God desires steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings. (Hosea 6:6)*

Greetings to all of you,

The book of Hosea is one that defines the steadfastness of God's unconditional love for people even when they are not steadfast in their love for Him. In the text above, the Lord is speaking specifically to the tribes of Ephraim and Judah who broke their covenant with the Lord. It is a text that holds truth for us today. Instead of being loyal in their love for God, the people relied on routine sacrifices and burnt offerings to be enough for their salvation. They are not so unlike ourselves when we think attending church on Sunday is enough, or when we unknowingly refuse God's love because we think doing something else is better than building our relationship with God.

God wants to know each of us on a personal and divine level, and God wants all people to love and know Him. Recent Worship texts have defined the way to know God. The way is to know Jesus, who became the ultimate sacrifice dying on the Cross for us. To know Jesus, is to love God and neighbor and to remain steadfast to God's commands.

On Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, at the 11:15 service, Ben Hirt, Daulton Ludwig, and Aubrie Reichley will be making Affirmation of their Baptism. Over the last two years, they have dedicated Sunday evenings being steadfast in obtaining the "knowledge of God." They've learned some things about the books of the Bible and how they reveal God's love, law, and grace. They've learned some things about the Reformation, Martin Luther, and Luther's Small Catechism. They've learned about the good news of Jesus Christ—his unconditional love and sacrifice. There is more for all of us to learn as we walk each day anew. In affirming their baptism, the confirmands assume the role of continuing to remain steadfast in love, in learning, and in holding onto the faith that proclaims, "Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!"

Each confirmand has selected a verse that will become his/her "Confirmation Verse." A verse that they will carry with them as they continue the walk of faith; knowing they do not make the walk alone. Jesus promises, "Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:20b).

As you read the confirmation verse of each youth, hold him/her in prayer of support as he/she walks this new path on their faith journey.

- ✠ *Then Jesus, crying out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last. (Luke 23:4) ~ Ben Hirt*
- ✠ *Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." (John 20:29) ~ Daulton Ludwig*
- ✠ *I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. (Romans 8:18) ~ Aubrie Reichley*

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with our confirmands and with all of you.

In God's Peace, Minister Deb

## 2026 CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

|                                          |              |                                               |              |
|------------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Chairperson:</b> Jan Grieser          | 419-889-3339 | <b>Deacons:</b> Sean Adams                    | 740-490-5308 |
| <b>Vice Chair:</b> Andrew Follas         | 419-889-2915 | Steve Clark                                   | 419-722-6060 |
| <b>Recording Sec:</b> Natalie McClelland | 419-722-4324 | Lee Laird                                     | 419-355-4095 |
| <b>Treasurer:</b> Jane Follas            | 419-722-7458 | Keith Robinson                                | 419-306-8815 |
| <b>Elder:</b> Mary Coldren               | 419-722-5118 |                                               |              |
| <b>Elder:</b> Christine Kemerley         | 419-722-5657 | <b><u>Ex-Officio Representatives —</u></b>    |              |
| <b>Trustees:</b> Deb Clevenger           | 419-306-1150 | <b>Financial Sec:</b> Jake Leu                | 567-208-7739 |
| Bart Welte                               | 419-721-7127 | <b>Minister:</b> Deb Noll                     | 419-560-1988 |
| Dan Settlege                             | 419-303-2513 | <b>Youth Ministry Coordinator:</b> Amy Gibson | 419-348-1653 |
| Joe Creque                               | 419-672-8318 |                                               |              |
| Wayne Young                              | 419-722-1801 | <b>Youth Board Representative:</b>            |              |
| <b>Sr. SS Supt:</b> Sally Valentage      | 419-306-1585 | Amanda Price                                  | 419-957-1988 |

### ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2026 – 7:00PM

*Attendance: Jan Grieser, Dan Settlege, Wayne Young, Andrew Follas, Sean Adams, Sally Valentage, Amy Gibson, Minister Deb Noll, Mary Coldren, Jane Follas, Deb Clevenger and Natalie McClelland.*

#### CALL TO ORDER – Jan Grieser

- The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and Minister Deb provided a word for thought and prayer. All joined together in reciting the church mission statement followed by the Council prayer. In conjunction with 2026 Council goals, members reviewed the fruits of the spirit with emphasis on goodness this month.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written.

#### FINANCIAL REPORT – Jake Leu

##### Account Balances at April, 2026

##### Checking

|                          |                  |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Current                  | 93,298.44        |
| Council Discretionary    | 1,205.64         |
| Improvement              | 50.09            |
| Missions                 | 6,890.78         |
| Special Projects         |                  |
| Shipwreck Festival       | 2,349.45         |
| Music                    | 2,739.48         |
| C. Price Memorial Funds  | 10,713.32        |
| Bell Choir               | 1,674.38         |
| Special Projects - Other | 0.06             |
|                          | <u>17,476.69</u> |

**Total Quickbooks Operating/MMDA** **\$ 118,921.64**

|                                     |                      |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Operating Account                   | 21,054.31            |
| Money Market Demand Accounty (MMDA) | 101,423.00           |
| <b>Total Operating/MMDA - Bank</b>  | <b>\$ 122,477.31</b> |

|                                        |                      |
|----------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Outstanding Deposits at 4/30/26        | -                    |
| Outstanding Checks at 4/30/26          | (3,555.67)           |
| <b>Total Reconciled Operating/MMDA</b> | <b>\$ 118,921.64</b> |

##### Savings

|                  |              |
|------------------|--------------|
| General Memorial | \$ 17,207.08 |
|------------------|--------------|

- Account balances and financial statements were reviewed. Total income from Jan-Apr 2026 was \$84,656.92 vs. a budgeted amount of \$67,781.81. Total expenses for the same period were \$112,259.45 vs. \$91,633.26 budgeted. Interest income from our Money Market account is estimated to be roughly \$224 for April 2026.
- Designated income received in April was \$2,170. The recipient of second quarter 2026 Designated Income will be *Not an Ordinary Place* in Dunkirk.

### **MINISTER'S REPORT HIGHLIGHTS – Deborah Noll**

- Minister Deb noted her candidacy status that was put on hold during Lent will be resumed this month.
- She requested vacation for two weeks beginning Aug. 3 through Aug. 16 (this includes two Sundays).
- For Council's consideration:
  - Is online giving an available option for members? It was noted that Council discussed this some time ago and there was not enough interest.
  - Shall we set a date for the 195<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Shipwreck? Following discussion Shipwreck Sunday will be observed on Sep. 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Upcoming events were then reviewed and can be found in the full report at end of minutes.

### **YOUTH MINISTRY REPORT – Amy Gibson**

#### **Highlights:**

- April
  - No Confirmation March 29 or April 5
  - 10<sup>th</sup> – Ignite Roller-skating 5–7pm (25 in attendance)
  - 12<sup>th</sup> – Confirmation 5–6pm
  - 12<sup>th</sup> – Ignite 6–8pm
  - 19<sup>th</sup> – Confirmation 5–6pm
  - 19<sup>th</sup> – ReFUEL 6–8pm
  - 26<sup>th</sup> – Confirmation 5–6pm

#### **Upcoming:**

- May
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> – Confirmation 5–6pm
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> – Ignite 6–8pm
  - 10<sup>th</sup> – Confirmation
  - 17<sup>th</sup> – Confirmation (Make up Only)
  - 17<sup>th</sup> ReFUEL 6–8pm
- June
  - 7<sup>th</sup> – Confirmation Sunday @ 11:15 service

#### **Ongoing:**

- Planning and Execution of ReFUEL, Ignite, Wednesday Night Live (WNL), Fundraisers, Sunday School, Vacation Bible School Games and Confirmation
- Communication: Newsletter Info, Flyers, Bulletin Board, Emails, Texts, Social Media Updates, Calendar 3–6 months in advance, Website, One on One with Youth (face to face or call/text)
- Attend: Youth Board, Parish Board, Weekly Staff Meetings, Council

#### **Council Requests: N/A**

### **TRUSTEES REPORT – Dan Settlege**

- Joe Creque has spent lots of time drafting a safety awareness plan.
- A company has been contacted to stripe the parking lot.
- A new clock was hung in the fellowship hall.
- A carry cart has been placed in the welcome space.
- The security call list was updated.
- Thanks to all who helped with the sanctuary painting project.
- Minister Deb noted one of the wood beams on the back porch of the parsonage is rotting. Also, the post that holds

the handicapped door sign at the church entrance is rusting at the base.

- The Chair suggested having a substitute or replacement ready for Dick Smith who has tested our water for many years.
- The Safety Awareness Plan was discussed as well as sanctuary exit options for handicapped persons. If there are questions during the congregational meeting, we'll look into options. The Chair distributed a summary communication for the congregational meeting, and Minister Deb made two suggestions to the document.

### **PARISH EDUCATION – Sally Valentage**

- We will have a movie for kids during the congregational meeting on May 17.
- Plans continue for VBS which begins on July 12 and runs through July 16 with *Kingdom Rock* as the theme. We'll need lots of volunteers. Members of Parish Board will decorate a float for the Arlington Festival Parade on July 17 reflecting the VBS theme.
- Parish Board continues to meet with the Outreach Committee in planning the church picnic worship service as well as the children's Christmas program.
- Confirmation is scheduled for June 7.

### **OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

- Hygiene items and cleaning supplies were gathered and delivered to Good Hope's food pantry last month.
- Our spring project is to collect the following items for the pantry in May and June: peanut butter, jam, and canned fruit/veggies/meat/stew. The detailed list of items needed is published in the News of the Flock.
- Mark your calendars now for the annual church picnic on Sunday, July 12 immediately following a single outdoor worship service at 10am. Please bring a side dish to share; meat and ice cream will be provided.

### **WORSHIP COMMITTEE**

- Amy noted the church picnic will be held on the first day of VBS this year.
- Minister Deb noted a card shower for Darwin Wilson's 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ordination on June 18.
- The complete minutes of the May 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of Worship Committee was included in our packets.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- The Audit Committee has completed its review of all church organizations, thanks to Jane Follas.
- Regarding emergency evacuation, Joe Creque has drafted a plan and will communicate this information during the congregational meeting on Sunday, May 17 at 10:15am. Additional education will be held with teachers and deacons. A "Mobility Team" of volunteers will also be identified and trained.
- Discussion was held on when to conduct a fire drill.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- A summary of changes to our constitution was distributed and will be presented at the congregational meeting on Sunday, May 17 at 10:15am. The Chair noted two changes that will be included in the document on Sunday: 6 members on the Call Committee will be changed to 5; and any (one) officer on Youth Board has the right to vote. Voting will be held by ballot, with a two-thirds majority required for passage.
- A suggestion was made that we conduct background checks on all volunteers who work with children.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- A motion was made by Dan Settlage to go into Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Mary Coldren and approved. Later, following discussion, the session ended with another motion and second by Dan and Mary, respectively.
- A motion was then made by Sally Valentage to accept a letter of resignation from Amy Gibson. This motion was seconded by Deb Clevenger and approved. Also approved by general consensus was to offer severance pay to Amy until Sep. 5 and allow her to keep the laptop she's been using. Amy's last working day will be on Confirmation Sunday, June 7, 2026.

### **ADJOURN**

- The meeting adjourned with prayer requests followed by The Lord's Prayer at 8:17pm. The next meeting will be held on June 9, 2026 at 7pm.

**ST. PAUL CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL  
MAY 12, 2026  
SYNOD AUTHORIZED MINISTER'S REPORT**

**Word for Thought**

**Northwestern Ohio Synod Theme: *The Way of Love, 2026***

**Northwestern Ohio Synod Memory verse: 1 John 4:19 – “We love because he first loved us.”**

<sup>28</sup> “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. (Matthew 11:28–29).

In the first half of this church year, we have celebrated the lives of nine members and friends who have joined the church triumphant.

We barely have had time to mourn the life of one loved one when another has died. Along with their families, many of us (especially musicians, AV volunteers, facility coordinator and trustees, church secretary, meal coordinator and workers, and others [myself included]) have carried the extra burden of these losses and have done so with great love. In addition, many in our congregation are coping with other issues adding extra stress to their daily routine. Although we might be hesitant to say so, we – individually and as a congregation – are in need of the rest that God promises.

My devotion this evening is taken from the book of daily devotions, “Jesus Calling ~ Enjoying Peace in His Presence,” written by Sarah Young. It reads:

LEARN TO RELATE to others through My Love rather than yours. Your human love is ever so limited, full of flaws and manipulation. My loving Presence, which always enfolds you, is available to bless others as well as you. Instead of trying harder to help people through your own paltry supplies, become aware of My unlimited supply, which is accessible to you continually. Let My Love envelop your outreach to other people.

Many of My precious children have fallen prey to burnout. A better description of their condition might be “drainout.” Countless interactions with needy people have drained them, without their conscious awareness. You are among these weary ones, who are like wounded soldiers needing R&R. Take time to rest in the Love–Light of My Presence. I will gradually restore to you the energy that you have lost over the years. *Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and you will find rest for your souls.*

In Exodus 33:14, God gives a message to Moses to deliver to the Israelites. He says, “My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.”

**QUESTIONS TO PONDER:**

1. Where have you discovered the Presence of Jesus, and found rest in His Love?
2. How can each of us deliver the message of God's presence and rest to the members of our congregation?

Let us pray: Heavenly Father, thank you for carrying our burdens and making time for each of us to find rest in Your divine Love. Amen.

**Activity Since the April Council Meeting:**

**Worship, Church Functions, Member Contact Outside of Worship**

- Worship Services (x8)
- Graduate Recognition (x2 services; 3 grads present)
- *Our Daily Bread* Community Meal
- In-office, at home, assisted living, rehab, and phone visitations (x4)
- Meeting with Staff (x4)

- “The Jokers” Card Group (x3)
- Choir (x1)
- Sewing Day Meal (x1)
- WELCA (x1)
- Worship Committee (x1)
- Outreach Committee (x1)
- Parish Education Board (x1)
- Funeral Meeting with Family (x2)
- Funeral Visitation (x1)
- Funeral (x2)

### **Related Church Activities**

- Central Conference Ministers Gathering (x1)
- Central Conference Women of the ELCA gathering (x1)
- SAM Cohort Zoom Meeting (x1)
- SAM Supervision Check-in (x4)

### **Community Involvement**

### **Candidacy/Seminary Update**

- Resuming Application Essays and Psychological Evaluation this month

### **Upcoming Events**

- Wednesday, May 13, 2026 – SAM in-person check in @ First English Lutheran, Bluffton
- Thursday, May 14, 2026 – 6:30pm Prayer Service for Unity and Peace (Pavilion)
- Thursday, May 14, 2026 – 7:00pm Parish Education Board
- Sunday, May 17, 2026 – Day of Pentecost (Wear Red to worship)
- Sunday, May 17, 2026 – 2:00pm Lead Worship @ Serenity Spring
- Saturday, May 30, 2026 – Northwestern Ohio Synod Assembly @ St. Mark’s, Bowling Green
- Sunday, May 31, 2026 – The Holy Trinity Sunday / Fifth Sunday Faith Story – Jan Grieser
- Sunday, June 7, 2026 – Confirmation/Affirmation of Baptism (3 youth)
- Sundays in June – New Members Classes during Sunday School Hour
- Wednesday, June 10, 2026 – St. Paul hosts the Retired Pastors luncheon
- Saturday, June 20, 2026 – 1:00–3:00pm SAM Social Gathering @ Chateau Winery, Helena, Ohio
- Sunday, July 12, 2026 – 10:00am Tent Worship, VBS Kickoff and Church Picnic
- Sunday, July 12 – Thursday, July 16, 2026 – Vacation Bible School / Kingdom Rocks
- Sunday, August 30, 2026 – Fifth Sunday Faith Story – Joe Creque

### **Vacation**

Proposed Vacation: Two Weeks beginning Monday, August 3 thru and including Sunday, August 16, 2026.  
Supply Pastor/Minister needed for Sundays August 9 and 16.

### **For Council Consideration**

- Online Giving – is it available? Should it be made available?
- Setting the Date for the 195<sup>th</sup> Celebration of Shipwreck
  - Sunday, September 20 is the closest Sunday to September 17<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully Submitted  
Deb Noll  
Synod Authorized Minister

**ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION**  
**SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2026 – 10:15AM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Agendas and reports were distributed, and the meeting convened at 10:16 am led by Chair Jan Grieser. Minister Deb Noll led the congregation in a Litany of Peace (Prayer of St. Francis) followed by prayer. The Chair noted that one of today's hymns, *Bind Us Together*, was very appropriate for the day.

**APPROVE ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**

Sunday School offering was collected as members reviewed the minutes of the November 2025 Annual Meeting of the congregation. The minutes were approved as written, moved and seconded by Kay Sidle and Laurie Laird, respectively.

**COMMITTEE/ORGANIZATION REPORTS**

The Chair noted that many reports were attached to each agenda for members to review at their convenience. This will allow more time for discussing updates to the church constitution as well as reviewing a safety awareness plan. The Chair provided report highlights as follows:

- Two new ministries have formed at St. Paul: *Men's Faith & Fellowship* as well as *Family, Faith, Fun & Fellowship* for young families.
- St. Paul will be celebrating the 195<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Shipwreck on Sunday, Sep. 20, 2026.
- A huge thank you to all who helped with the sanctuary refresh that looks amazing! All the oil candles have been replaced with battery operated candles.
- Youth ministry activities have been well attended, and Confirmation will be held on June 7, 2026.
- Parish Board will need volunteers to help with VBS; please contact Sally Valentage if you're able to assist. VBS will kick off with the annual church picnic on July 12 and run through July 17.
- The Outreach Committee is currently collecting non-perishable food for Good Hope's food pantry. The detailed list of items needed is published in the News of the Flock.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- Updates to the playground are complete, thanks to all who helped with this project.
- As mentioned above, sanctuary painting was completed with the help of many volunteers.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Updates to our Church Constitution – The Chair noted that much time has been spent reviewing and updating our constitution. She thanked Bob Coldren and Paul Hartman for their assistance with this project. There are parts which are mandated by ELCA churchwide in order to address all situations that may arise in ELCA Lutheran Churches. Although there are parts we might not all agree on, overall, the day-to-day guidelines we follow are written in our bylaws. In 1 Corinthians 12:12 Christ said, "There is one body, but it has many parts. But all its many parts make up one body." It is important to note that these updates will not change how our church worships or operates; the goal was to bring our documents into alignment with how we worship and operate, and make it easier for members to serve. The underlined words in the draft document reflect our changes. The chair then reviewed the changes made throughout the Constitution referencing the report, *Summary of Changes to Church Constitution* (see attachment). A motion to approve the revised constitution was made by Laurie Laird and seconded by Gary Wilson. The motion carried and ballots were then distributed to members. If approved by the congregational vote, the updated constitution will be ratified at the November 2026 Annual Meeting.
- Safety Awareness – Joe Creque provided information on a plan he drafted together with Andrew Follas. Joe provided a summary of the plan, with emphasis on fire and tornado safety (see attachment). He encouraged all members to be aware of maps, fire alarms, extinguishers, and exits throughout the building. A surprise drill will be held in the future to practice emergency evacuation. The meeting point in case of fire is the pavilion for front and east exits, or the northwest corner of the church grounds for others. In case of a tornado, go to interior hallways, the conference room or nursery. Shelter in place until "All Clear" is announced. Andrew

noted if an event is held outside, a crowd manager (spokesperson) should be appointed for up to 250 people, or two crowd managers appointed for 500+ people. It is then the responsibility of the manager to direct people to tornado sheltering locations. If a fire alarm is pulled inside the building, an audible alarm will sound and authorities will be notified. For members needing assistance, there are wheelchairs and a canvas carry cart inside the main entrance. All fire doors should be closed to keep the fire from spreading. Andrew noted the church does not have smoke detectors, it has duct detectors as well as a fire suppression system in the kitchen. There are four fire pulls throughout the building, and a call list has been created.

- New Officers/Committee Chairs – The Chair welcomed the following volunteers:
  - Andrew Follas Vice Chair
  - Christine Kemerley Elder
  - Keith Robinson Second Service Deacon
  - Amanda Leu Youth Board Secretary
  - Charlene Agapiou Youth Board Member at Large
  - Patty Orwick Parish Board Member at Large
- Voting Results – the proposed changes to our constitution were approved by the congregation, with 64 – Yes votes, and 0 – No votes.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT – Jake Leu**

Jake noted that printed reports were attached to each agenda. Overall, our budget is falling in line with what was projected. Account balances are down \$30,000 from Nov–2025, but this is due in part to year–end benevolent payouts, sanctuary painting, and other mission projects. Jake closed his report by thanking the congregation for their generosity.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The Chair thanked the congregation for all the wonderful ways they serve, reflecting the fruits of the spirit that help us live as one in Christ. She also noted the words of James 1:19–20 which instruct us to be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to anger, showing grace to one another. Minister Deb also thanked the Chair, Bob Coldren, and Paul Hartman for their work on the Constitution, as well as Andrew and Joe for creating a safety plan. The meeting adjourned with The Lord’s Prayer at 11am.

Natalie McClelland, Recording Secretary

Attachments

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### **WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR JUNE 2026**

**SENIOR CHOIR DIRECTOR:** Lisa Gossman

**PRAISE TEAM DIRECTOR:** Jan Grieser

**HANDBELL CHOIR DIRECTOR:** Tammy Robinson

**AUDIO VIDEO:** Marty Grieser and Ed von Stein

**ALTAR GUILD:** Uncover – Marjorie Reichley / Cover – Judy Rettig

**LECTOR:** Jane Follas

**WEBSITE COORDINATOR:** Chelsea Boehm

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### **PRAYER CHAIN CONTACTS**

Nadine Boehm — nadineb@thewavz.com or 419–722–6370

Jenny Welte — jwelte92@gmail.com or 419–788–0724

### **HOSPITAL STAYS**

It is important to the church that we support you through illness and hospitalizations. If you are admitted to Blanchard Valley Hospital for an overnight stay we would like to know.

If you are planning an admission to any hospital, please call the church office at 419–326–3535 to let us know the date you are entering and how long you anticipate staying.

At admission to BVH, *planned or unplanned*, you (or your spokesperson) will be asked several questions,



1. Religion: this may be asked at pre-registration or at admission along with your address, phone number, etc. Please give our denomination.
2. If you wish to be on the Hospital Directory and the Religion List. These questions will be asked of you (or your spokesperson) during the “Consent to Treatment” process. Please answer “yes” to both.

In order to protect your privacy the hospital does not routinely call the church to tell us you have been admitted, unless you specifically ask them to call us. We depend on you or your family to let us know if you have been admitted.

If you have been in the hospital for a day or two and have not been visited, please ask your family or nurse to contact the church office.

A new federal law greatly restricts the disclosure of patient information by hospitals. As a result, the pastors and church office may not know that a member of the church has been admitted to the hospital. If you are hospitalized and would like to notify the pastor, it is important that you or a member of your family inform the church office as soon as possible at 419-326-3535 and the secretary will contact the pastor.

**PERSONS ST. PAUL HAS PRAYED FOR DURING THE MONTH OF MAY 2026:** Nadine Boehm; Kayla Brooks; Bob Carder (*friend of Sally Valentage*); Zac Carman; Jessie & Blair Coleman Family (*Jessie is Brittney Robinson’s brother-in-law and best friend of Alex von Stein and Blair is Brittney Robinson’s sister*); Frank Dinovo (*father-in-law of Tammy von Stein*); Natalie Elwood (*friend of Sally Valentage*); Britney Gould (*friend of Emily von Stein*); Norm Hahn; Bexley Hiler (*5<sup>th</sup> grader granddaughter of Kelly Stine’s friend*); Steve McClelland; Jeff Mansell (*Christine Kemerley’s nephew*); JoAnn Musgrave (*friend of Sally Valentage*); family and friends of Randi Oaklief (*friend of Minister Deb and Dick*); Rose Rosegarten (*friend of Marcia Russell*); Reagan Smith (*Aaron & April Smith’s nephew*); Rick Williams (*friend of Sally Valentage*); Louise Wilson; Linda Wolstenholme (*Jill Bower’s cousin*); prayers for our high school graduates ~ Jonathan Coldren, Emily Hirt, Jamie Kemerley, & Joseph Leisure; our college graduates ~ Emily Durliat, Jenna Stoltz, & Karissa Welte; all military personnel including — Ethan Grieser, Griffin Hartman, Lance Leisure, Brycen Lucius, Evan McMonigal, Nate Sheets, Colin Tobin, and Alex von Stein.

**PRAYERS FOR CHURCH LEADERSHIP:** ELCA Presiding Bishop Curry; Northwestern Ohio Synod Bishop Beaudoin; Minister Deb; and all Missions of Ministry.

**PRAYER CHAIN INFORMATION:** If adding a name to the Prayer Chain please be sure you have permission from the immediate family that their name can be included in the Prayer List in the News of the Flock. Thank you.

## Thank You ~ Thank You ~ Thank You ~ ~

**Outreach would like to thank everyone who joined us during the Community Meal held on Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>.** We served 101 church members, either in person or in Take-out-containers. Our committee continues to be amazed how many find this meal to be a blessing. We also found it to be a blessing, three-fold. Not only were we able to serve 101 church members, food left helped serve a funeral dinner and the money collected for Jesse and Blair Coleman totaled over \$1,000. **THANK YOU** to all who helped with the meal, clean – up and all who contributed in the outreach collection. The family is extremely grateful!

**We want to give our thanks** for all the cards, calls, food, visits and other acts of kindness shown to us after the passing of Barb Marshall (Sandi’s mom). A special thank you to Minister Deb for her help and blessings and leading the funeral service. Another very special thank you goes to our church family. Barb commented every time she came home from a service how nice our church family is. She felt part of it. Again, thank you and may God bless each one of you.

Friends in Christ, *Tom and Sandi Marquart*

**Thank you for the muffins you gave us on Mother’s Day.** It was greatly appreciated. Thanks again,  
The Orchard Residents

**Thank you for your incredibly generous gift to our mission.** Your kindness and faithfulness are a true blessing to our community. Please know how appreciative we are for your partnership. Thank you and God bless.

Erin from The City Mission

**2026 SECOND QUARTER DESIGNATED OFFERING is for:** Not an Ordinary Place (NOP), specifically to go to the Multi-Purpose Building Fund. The Mission of NOP is: Not an Ordinary Place will make positive life experiences, right of choice, participate in the greater community, build friendships, and make having fun a reality for Adults with special needs. NOP Values are: Experience, Stability, Respect, Originality, Safety, and Unity. The NOP Multi-Purpose Building (to be built on the lot where the old Dunkirk school was located) will be a safe place for our Adults with special needs to come together as a community, explore, and live their best life with confidence. Plans for a roughly 2000-foot building, of metal construction, and ADA certified are in process. Completely accessible throughout, the facility will offer a large fellowship area; an enclosed and fully accessible swimming pool, women and men’s bathrooms with changing areas; and a kitchen where the Adults will prepare and partake meals. The building will allow for community events, themed parties, holiday dinners and celebrations, with assistance to those in need. Included is a garage for NOP vehicles. The proposed building budget is \$375,000. The Director of Operations for NOP is Beth A. Bell, and the Chief Inspiration Officer is Logan W. Bell. They feel grateful and blessed in advance for St. Paul’s support of this cause. Beth and Logan say, “We love our community!” Donations to benefit Not an Ordinary Place (NOP) can be made through your 2026 Giving Envelope and listed in the box marked Designated.



**Graduates – High School / College / Trade Schools — were recognized on Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>. High School graduates were: Jonathan Coldren, Emily Hirt, Jamie Kemerley, and Joseph Leisure; our college graduates were: Emily Durliat, Jenna Stoltz, & Karissa Welte.**

**NEW MEMBERS’ CLASS:** A class for individuals wishing to hold membership in this faith community known as St. Paul Lutheran will be held on Sundays, June 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup>, during the Sunday School hour (10:15am–11:00am). We will be using the book *Baptized, We Live - Lutheranism as a Way of Life* by Daniel Erlander as our resource. A sign-up sheet is on the information counter in the Welcome Space if you have a desire to be a part of this Lutheran faith development opportunity. I am happy to discuss and answer any questions you may have about the class; my door is always open, Minister Deb.

**The JUNE SEWING DAYS will be Tuesday, June 9<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, June 24<sup>th</sup> from 9:00AM – 2:00PM.** Come all of the time or part of the time. Please bring a dish to share for lunch. There were 11 people at the Sewing Day on Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>. 5 quilts were brought in and 5 quilts were finished for a total of 97 quilts. **[\*\* If you don’t want to cut, knot, or sew but would enjoy joining us for lunch, you are welcome to join us at NOON. If you would like, you could bring a dish to share or just come and enjoy the lunch. \*\*]**

**ReFUEL and Ignite Information for June 2026**

|                               |        |                 |
|-------------------------------|--------|-----------------|
| Sunday, June 7 <sup>th</sup>  | Ignite | 6:00PM – 8:00PM |
| Sunday, June 14 <sup>th</sup> | ReFUEL | 6:00PM – 8:00PM |

**\* \* Men’s Faith and Fellowship will meet on Thursday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM in the Library.**

**\* \* Parish Education Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM.**

**SAFETY AWARENESS NEEDS YOUR HELP.** We are looking for able-bodied people to be part of the Mobility Assistance Team. If you want to help, please contact Joe Creque or Andrew Follas.

**Dear St. Paul ~ This June I am once again lacing up my running shoes and participating in the Eagle Up 24-hour Ultra Marathon in Canal Fulton, OH.** I’m excited to be a part of this because I am raising money for Clothe-A-Child of Ohio. This organization helps to provide underprivileged children with clothing in Hancock County and surrounding counties. The goal is to get as many miles as possible in 24 hours. Last time donors helped me raise over \$1,100 for local families. I’m asking for sponsors to help me reach my fundraising goal. You can help by making a pledge per mile or a simple flat donation. Thank you for all your support and encouragement!

Shawn Hirt



On Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, the Second Sunday after Pentecost, we will welcome three young people, Benjamin Hirt, Daulton Ludwig, and Aubrie Reichley who will become confirmed members of St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church. As they affirm their baptism promise, may they continue to worship and serve the Lord.

**RETIRED CLERGY LUNCHEON:** The Northwestern Ohio Synod will be recognizing retired pastors and rostered leaders with a luncheon here at St. Paul Lutheran Church on Wednesday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, from 11:00AM to 1:00PM. The Synod will be providing the food and WELCA will assist with serving the meal. If you wish to help in the kitchen for set-up and cleaning, please reach out to Mary Coldren. Volunteers should arrive at the church by 10:30AM. Thank you.

**UPDATE ON SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, Maria Stein, OH.** Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church was the third-quarter designated giving recipient in 2025. The donation was given in support of the congregation's rebirth after a fire destroyed their historic church structure. I recently checked on the progress being made since the fire. The theme for the congregation's rebuild is: *Building Our Future Together*. The vision for the rebuild is to: honor the church's history and sacredness; building a space that reflects who they are as a parish family; and to be intentional about the congregation's future. For safety reasons, a complete controlled demolition of the remaining structure was necessary. The stained glass windows, 1,040 of the 1,323 organ pipes, and the main entry doors, frames and stained glass transom windows were removed and are being stored to be used in the rebuild. A building committee is in place, and an architect has been selected. As of February 17, 2026 a total of \$1,170,981 was received for recovery and rebuild, including the \$6,670 gifted by St. Paul Lutheran. The congregation of St. John the Baptist is inspired by *Remembering the Past, Embracing the Future* by God's grace with the Holy Spirit's guidance.

Save the Date



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2026

JULY 12TH-16TH

## SUMMER EVENTS JUN-AUG 2026

JUNE

7<sup>TH</sup> - IGNITE  
14<sup>TH</sup> - REFUEL

JULY

12<sup>TH</sup> - 16<sup>TH</sup> VBS  
12<sup>TH</sup> - VBS AFTER HOURS REFUEL  
15<sup>TH</sup> - VBS AFTER HOURS REFUEL

AUG

2<sup>ND</sup> - IGNITE  
9<sup>TH</sup> - REFUEL  
\*\* CONGREGATIONAL POOL PARTY?

SEPT

BACK TO SCHOOL YOUTH GROUPS AND CONFIRMATION BEGIN AGAIN

# JUNE 2026 BIRTHDAYS AND WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

## June 2026 Birthdays

|                                  |                           |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Monday, June 1 <sup>st</sup>     | Abbie Sheets              |
| Tuesday, June 2 <sup>nd</sup>    | Jill Inbody               |
| Wednesday, June 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | Sandi Marquart            |
| Wednesday, June 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | Shiloh Ruehle             |
| Wednesday, June 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | Caden Russell             |
| Saturday, June 6 <sup>th</sup>   | Rachel Hartman            |
| Monday, June 8 <sup>th</sup>     | Jackie Bayer              |
| Monday, June 8 <sup>th</sup>     | John Carey                |
| Monday, June 8 <sup>th</sup>     | Nicole Galloway           |
| Monday, June 8 <sup>th</sup>     | Joshua Hirt               |
| Monday, June 8 <sup>th</sup>     | Garrett Smith             |
| Wednesday, June 10 <sup>th</sup> | Allison Reule             |
| Thursday, June 11 <sup>th</sup>  | Mary Jane Peyton          |
| Friday, June 12 <sup>th</sup>    | Adam Dodge                |
| Friday, June 12 <sup>th</sup>    | Carol Riegle              |
| Friday, June 12 <sup>th</sup>    | Tom Valentage             |
| Saturday, June 13 <sup>th</sup>  | Kevin Riegle              |
| Saturday, June 13 <sup>th</sup>  | Titus Tobin               |
| Sunday, June 14 <sup>th</sup>    | Wayne Young               |
| Monday, June 15 <sup>th</sup>    | Olivia Homera             |
| Monday, June 15 <sup>th</sup>    | Leighton Price            |
| Tuesday, June 16 <sup>th</sup>   | Shawn Griggs              |
| Tuesday, June 16 <sup>th</sup>   | Amy Keene                 |
| Tuesday, June 16 <sup>th</sup>   | Makinlie Kerner           |
| Tuesday, June 16 <sup>th</sup>   | Amryn Leu                 |
| Tuesday, June 16 <sup>th</sup>   | Jacob Orwick              |
| Wednesday, June 17 <sup>th</sup> | Josephine Courtney-Stoltz |
| Wednesday, June 17 <sup>th</sup> | Craig Durliat             |
| Wednesday, June 17 <sup>th</sup> | Mackenzie Schroeder       |
| Thursday, June 18 <sup>th</sup>  | Paisley Glick             |
| Friday, June 19 <sup>th</sup>    | Tom Boehm                 |
| Saturday, June 20 <sup>th</sup>  | Aubrie Reichley           |
| Sunday, June 21 <sup>st</sup>    | Benson Sheets             |
| Monday, June 22 <sup>nd</sup>    | Stephen Bower             |
| Monday, June 22 <sup>nd</sup>    | Randi Glick               |
| Monday, June 22 <sup>nd</sup>    | Tenley Schroeder          |
| Tuesday, June 23 <sup>rd</sup>   | Mary Boehm                |
| Tuesday, June 23 <sup>rd</sup>   | Audrey Risner             |
| Tuesday, June 23 <sup>rd</sup>   | Olin Saum                 |
| Wednesday, June 24 <sup>th</sup> | Arlene Marquart           |
| Thursday, June 25 <sup>th</sup>  | Mike Hoffman              |
| Thursday, June 25 <sup>th</sup>  | Amanda Price              |
| Friday, June 26 <sup>th</sup>    | Camden Boehm              |
| Friday, June 26 <sup>th</sup>    | Joe Loy                   |
| Friday, June 26 <sup>th</sup>    | Jenna Pepple              |

Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup>  
 Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup>  
 Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup>  
 Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup>  
 Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup>  
 Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup>  
 Tuesday, June 30<sup>th</sup>

Willow Gibson  
 Brodey Kroske  
 Marjorie Reichley  
 Linda Isenbarger  
 Zacary Leisure  
 Kyle McDowell  
 Matthew Hankins



## June 2026 Wedding Anniversaries

|                                  |                                   |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Monday, June 1 <sup>st</sup>     | Dustin and Amanda Price – 13      |
| Tuesday, June 2 <sup>nd</sup>    | Jon and Michelle Tarnay – 8       |
| Wednesday, June 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | Dale and Sara Geissinger – 26     |
| Thursday, June 4 <sup>th</sup>   | Tom and Sally Valentage – 32      |
| Sunday, June 7 <sup>th</sup>     | Keith and Tammy Robinson – 46     |
| Monday, June 8 <sup>th</sup>     | Darwin and Louise Wilson – 68     |
| Wednesday, June 10 <sup>th</sup> | Tom and Cindy Boehm – 37          |
| Monday, June 15 <sup>th</sup>    | Michael and Jennifer Frommer – 30 |
| Tuesday, June 16 <sup>th</sup>   | Andrew and Abbey Fitch – 14       |
| Tuesday, June 16 <sup>th</sup>   | Norm and Kathy Hahn – 17          |
| Wednesday, June 17 <sup>th</sup> | Andrew and Lindsay Follas – 26    |
| Wednesday, June 17 <sup>th</sup> | Paul and Sharon Hartman – 64      |
| Thursday, June 18 <sup>th</sup>  | Raymond and Barbara Bower – 60    |
| Thursday, June 18 <sup>th</sup>  | Marty and Marsha Grieser – 50     |
| Saturday, June 20 <sup>th</sup>  | Ed and Tammy von Stein – 34       |
| Monday, June 22 <sup>nd</sup>    | Scott and Lisa McDowell – 30      |
| Tuesday, June 23 <sup>rd</sup>   | Dan and Jean Ludwig – 25          |
| Tuesday, June 23 <sup>rd</sup>   | Glenn and Rebecca Peyton – 14     |
| Thursday, June 25 <sup>th</sup>  | Troy and Jennifer Oeschler – 10   |
| Tuesday, June 30 <sup>th</sup>   | Joe and Amanda Panfil – 14        |



# ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH ~ JUNE 2026

| SUN                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | MON                                                                         | TUE                                                                            | WED                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | THU                                                                                                                                 | FRI                                                                               | SAT                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1<br>4:00PM – 8:00PM<br>Fellowship Hall<br>reserved for<br>Softball Banquet | 2                                                                              | 3                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 4<br>1:30PM – 4:30PM<br>“The Jokers”                                                                                                | 5                                                                                 | 6<br>Afternoon / Evening<br>Fellowship Hall /<br>Pavilion reserved by<br>Rachel Hartman                                                                                                     |
| 7 <b>SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b><br><b>CONFIRMATION SUNDAY</b><br>9:00AM Traditional Worship /<br>Communion<br>10:15AM Sunday School<br>11:15AM Contemporary Worship /<br>Communion / Confirmation<br>6:00PM – 8:00PM Ignite                            | 8                                                                           | 9<br>9:00AM – 2:00PM<br>Sewing Day<br>7:00PM Congregational<br>Council Meeting | 10<br>9:00AM – 1:00PM<br>NWOS Retirement<br>Event for retired<br>Clergy                                                                                                                                                  | 11<br>1:30PM – 4:30PM<br>“The Jokers”<br>7:00PM Parish Education<br>Board Meeting<br>7:00PM Men’s Faith and<br>Fellowship / Library | 12<br>Evening / Fellowship<br>Hall — Set-up for<br>Bridal Shower                  | 13<br>10:00AM – 5:00PM<br>Fellowship Hall<br>reserved for Cami<br>Settlege’s Bridal<br>Shower<br>5:00PM – 9:00PM<br>Pavilion reserved by<br>Boehm Hog Roast /<br>In memory of Lynn<br>Boehm |
| 14 <b>THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b><br>9:00AM Traditional Worship /<br>Communion<br>10:15AM Sunday School<br>10:15AM New Member Class<br>11:15AM Contemporary Worship /<br>Communion<br>2:00PM Rock N Roll 4-H Meeting<br>6:00PM – 8:00PM ReFUEL           | 15<br>5:30PM Fellowship<br>Hall reserved by<br>April Smith                  | 16<br>7:00PM WELCA<br>Meeting                                                  | 17<br>5:30PM Fellowship<br>Hall reserved by<br>April Smith                                                                                                                                                               | 18<br>1:30PM – 4:30PM<br>“The Jokers”<br>5:00PM Fellowship Hall<br>/ Conference Room<br>reserved by April<br>Smith                  | 19<br>Evening / Fellowship<br>Hall — Set-up for<br>1 <sup>st</sup> Birthday Party | 20<br>NOON – 6:00PM<br>Fellowship Hall<br>reserved by Courtney<br>Stoltz for 1 <sup>st</sup> Birthday<br>Party                                                                              |
| 21 <b>FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b><br><b>FATHER’S DAY</b><br>9:00AM Traditional Worship<br>10:15AM Sunday School<br>10:15AM New Member Class<br>11:15AM Contemporary Worship /<br>Communion<br>2:00PM Minister Deb leading Worship<br>at Serenity Spring | 22                                                                          | 23                                                                             | 24<br>9:00AM – 2:00PM<br>Sewing Day                                                                                                                                                                                      | 25<br>1:30PM – 4:30PM<br>“The Jokers”                                                                                               | 26                                                                                | 27                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 28 <b>FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b><br>9:00AM Traditional Worship<br>10:15AM Sunday School<br>10:15AM New Member Class<br>11:15AM Contemporary Worship /<br>Communion                                                                                      | 29                                                                          | 30                                                                             | <b>ALTAR GUILD:</b> Uncover – Marjorie Reichley / Cover – Judy Rettig<br><b>LECTOR:</b> Jane Follas<br><b>ORGANIST:</b> June 7 <sup>th</sup> , 14 <sup>th</sup> , 21 <sup>st</sup> , and 28 <sup>th</sup> – Lisa Gossman |                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                             |