

## Scripture Readings

Mar 8	Third Sunday in Lent	Ex. 17:1-7	Psalms 95:1-9	Rom. 5:1-8	John 4:5-26 (27-30, 39-42)
Mar 15	Fourth Sunday in Lent	Isaiah 42:14-21	Psalms 142	Eph. 5:8-14	John 9:1-41
Mar 22	Fifth Sunday in Lent	Ezek. 37:1-14	Psalms 130	Rom. 8:1-11	John 11:1-45

### UNIFIED BOARDS

will meet on Sunday, March 8 at 11:30 AM in the Sanctuary and Parish Director's Meeting will follow at 12:30 PM. All board members and officers are encouraged to participate.

The Zone LWML Spring Event will be Sunday, March 8 at 2:00. Bethlehem, Greenleaf will be hosting a Kindness and Comfort Tea Party. Ladies are encouraged to dress in their best tea party attire. In-gathering will be baby and kid-size blankets for Swaddling Clothes and Orphan Grain Train, and cancer care kits (Aquaphor lip repair, Aquaphor ointment, gum, hard candy, stocking hats, mouth rinse for dry mouth and mouth sores, long charge cords for phones, etc.) We also will be collecting items you may have for Orphan Grain Train. Tim and Michelle Voelker have graciously volunteered to deliver these items. Please join us for a fun afternoon!

### This Week's Schedule - February 28 through March 8

<b>Saturday</b>	Worship Service with Holy Communion - 6:30 PM
<b>Sunday</b>	Worship Service with Holy Communion - 9:00 AM Family Education - 10:30 AM SPMiddles - 5:00 PM
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Bulletin Deadline - Noon</b> Lenten Service - 12:05 PM & 7:00 PM Midweek - 5:30 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry - 6:30 PM
<b>Next Saturday</b>	Worship Service with Holy Communion - 6:30 PM
<b>Next Sunday</b>	Worship Service with Holy Communion - 9:00 AM Family Education - 10:30 AM Unified Boards - 11:30 AM Parish Directors - 12:30 PM

# Welcome

to

## St. Paul Lutheran Church

816 9th Street  
Clay Center, KS 67432

E-mail: [spluther@sbcglobal.net](mailto:spluther@sbcglobal.net)  
[www.claycenterlutheran.com](http://www.claycenterlutheran.com)  
Phone: 785-632-5301

REV. PAUL TESSARO,  
SENIOR PASTOR 785-630-0751

REV. MATTHEW VATTHAUER,  
ASSOCIATE PASTOR 817-917-6288

"A Place of Grace, A Source of Hope, A Mission of Mercy!"

For 137 years!!!

OUR MISSION

"Existing in God's love and forgiveness, St. Paul proclaims the Gospel of Christ, helps people grow in faith, and nurtures lives of worship and service."

February 28 & March 1, 2026

### **The Word of the Gospel Opens the Eyes of Faith and Fixes Them on Christ Jesus**

The Lord called Abram (Abraham) to leave his home and go to a land that God would show him. He also promised to make of Abram "a great nation," to bless him and make his name great as a blessing to "all the families of the earth" (Gen. 12:2-3). "Abram went, as the LORD had told him" (Gen. 12:4), and in Canaan "he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD" (Gen. 12:8). He "believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness" (Rom. 4:3). Here the grace of God is manifested, that He "justifies the ungodly" (Rom. 4:5), not by works of the Law, but through faith in His promises. He removes all of our sins and lawless deeds through Jesus Christ, the offspring of Abraham in whom all the Lord's promises are realized. This forgiveness of sins is the Word of the Gospel, the voice of the Holy Spirit, which "gives life to the dead" (Rom. 4:17). It opens the eyes of faith to behold Christ Jesus, the Son of Man lifted up on the cross, "that whoever believes in him may have eternal life" (John 3:14-15).

**RADIO BROADCAST** this week is sponsored - Sharon Carlson -

In Memory of Loved Ones.

The cost to sponsor a broadcast is \$40.00.

A book is in the Narthex to sign-up for dates.

**WELCOME** to our guests and congregation! We are glad you are here! Thank you for joining us for worship and please feel free to join us again!

**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**Hymn #s - 571, 708, 732, 629, 722, 634, 924**  
**SERVING THIS WEEKEND**

**Organist** Sat. Connie Paronto/Sun. Gary Fredrickson  
**Ushers** Mark Pfizenmaier, Walt Lenhart, Kenyon Badsy, Wes Wright  
**Greeters** Gary & Marty Stenzel  
**Live Stream** Jarrett Wachsnicht  
**Acolyte** Charlotte Hevelone, Owen Pfizenmaier  
**Communion Assistant** Shane Kahrs  
**Altar Guild** Pam Sump, Winnie Wells, Rosie Hager, Kathy Burger, Amy Hammel, Cathy Carlson, Melissa Baxter, Cari Pfizenmaier, Judy Riek Stenzel  
**Fellowship Host**

**FAMILY EDUCATION - 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM**

**Preschool - Kindergarten** - meet in Room 11 (West Wing)

**1st Grade - 3rd Grade** - meet in Library Room (West Wing)

**4th Grade - 8th Grade** - meet in Conference Room (West Wing)

**9th Grade - 12th Grade** - meet in High School Room (Basement)

**Adult** - meet in Fellowship Hall (Basement)

Weekly Attendance	Sat	Sun	Total
February 14 & 15	33	84	117
February 18 - Ash Wednesday			103
February 21 & 22	26	127	153
February 25 - Lenten - Midweek 2			89

Family Education Attendance	Total
February 15	24
February 22	34

Our youth group in sponsoring a fundraiser at the Family Life Center located at the Methodist Church Wednesday, March 25th.

LYF Palm Sunday brunch fundraiser: March 29, 2026 join our youth for brunch and fellowship. Free will offering .

**REMINDER**  
 All Thrivent Choice Dollars need to be designated by March 31, 2026 to either St. Paul Preschool or St. Paul Lutheran Church.

**Friendship Circle** will be collecting Mites for Missions on Sunday, March 1

On Monday, March 2nd, @ 7:30pm, Pr. Ian Kinney (of Sabetha) will be giving a presentation on the topic of Fasting and the Memento program at Zion Lutheran Church in Linn.

All men who are 18+ are invited to join us. It's free. No cost

**IN OUR PRAYERS**  
**Congregational Members**

**Remembering our shut-ins:** Bonnie VonLehe-Wakefield Care/Rehab, Larry Rakowsky - Presbyterian Manor; Julie Hillman-Linn Nursing Home; Cedric Pfaff-Well Springs of Westmoreland; Mary Ann Mall-Liberty Place; Pauline Burger-Legend; Larry Ernsting - Topeka VA; Georgie Dierking; Lola Lehman-Leonardville Nursing Home.

**Health concerns:** Dwight Koch, Ron Schmale, Raef Schuette, Larry Ernsting, Nancy Kemp, Stan Ohlde, and Larry Rakowsky.

**Our outreach programs:** Prayer Shawl Ministry, Small Group Ministry, Christian Preschool at St. Paul, Radio Ministry, LWML Friendship Circle, and our Youth groups.

**Larger Community Members**

**Healing:** Mike Rothfuss, Trudy Hedberg, Denise Kidwell, Marcia Woods, Idonna Perkins, Bobbi Holz, Dee Knitter, Jackie Hall, Sarah Tessaro, Ron Baehr, Ryan Withee, Emmitt Budy, Malissa Milum, Rev. David Grouner, Scott Trautwein, Gary Hilton, Donna Watson, Ron McDaniels, Micah Helms, Addie Voelker, Ann Huninghake, Mike Dunn, Sandy Larkey, Irene Bane, John Zeller, Rev. Greg DuBois, Melissa Martin, Benjamin Willroth, Jennifer Zimmerman, Gail Thomas, Lois Nash, Melissa Dunn, Darlene Miller, Darla Wilder, Rachelle Smith, Joe Parrlli, Sheila McGrew, Grant & Grace Goodin, Connie Winter, and Kerri Brown

**Military:** Kyle, Enrique, and Cooper.  
**Sorrow:** Family & friends of Dee Hilton.

2026 Easter Lily Order  
 There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex if you would like to provide a Easter Lily in memory or honor of someone you love or a special occasion. The cost of the plant is \$12.00.

**Mission Efforts beyond St. Paul**

You Matter Tour; Hope House; LeadaChild; For the Sake of the Church; Lutheran Bible Translators; Lutheran Heritage Foundation; KansaSEED Deaf Ministry; Lutheran Hour Ministries; Zion Lutheran Church Outreach, Concordia, KS

**Please remember to inform the church office when the person for whom you requested prayer should be removed from the prayer**

The Otterly Awesome Puppeteers will be presenting again on Sunday, March 1. Every young child present will receive a small animal puppet in memory of Melody Maki Tessaro.

**Building Project Update**  
 The initial Capital Fund Raising Campaign has been a success and \$1 million has been raised to begin construction of our building project. Any future contributions for the building project should continue to be identified as made for the "New Building Fund" and will help reduce the amount needed to be financed to complete the project. Please continue to keep the building project and our congregation in your prayers.

<b>February 2026 Year to Date Actual Income to Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	\$48,445
<b>Expense</b>	\$60,803
<b>Net Profit (Loss)</b>	<b>(\$12,358)</b>