

## Today we Commission Mrs. Morgan Muresan as Preschool Director

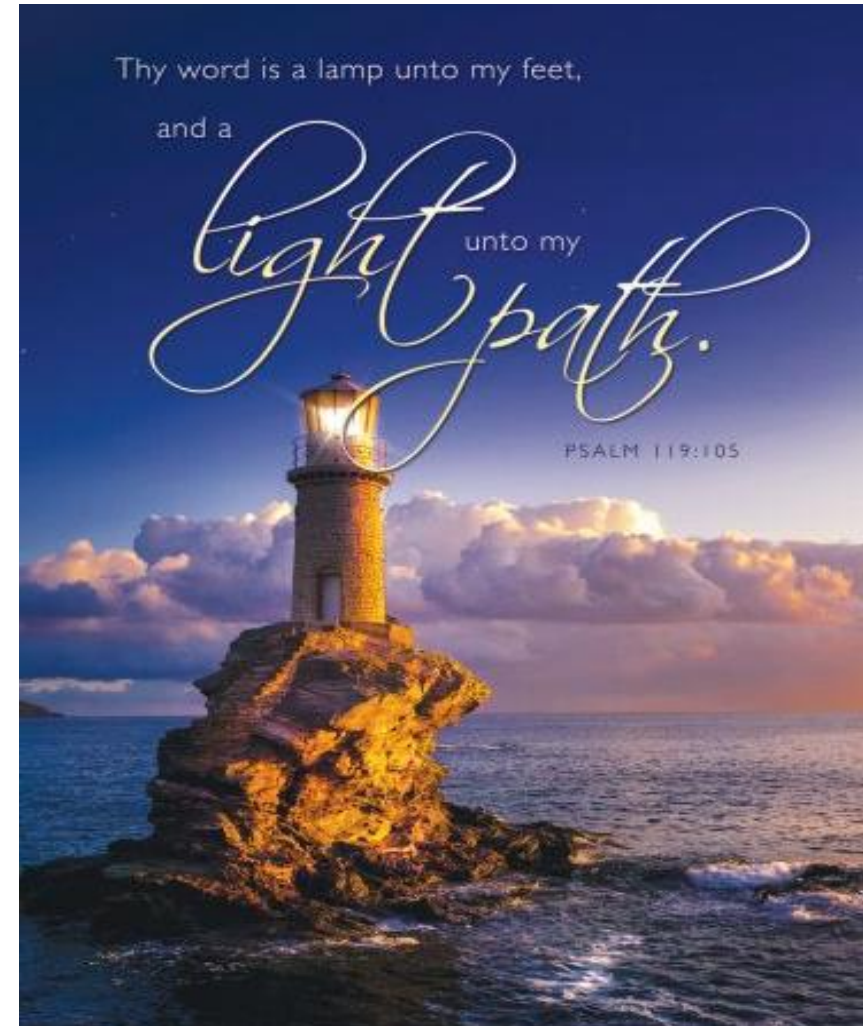
Morgan Muresan comes to St. Paul after teaching Pre-K, kindergarten, and first grade at St. Michael's school in Canton, Ohio. She holds two degrees from Walsh University in Early Childhood Education and Early Intervention Specialist. Recently married, she moved to Amherst a year ago with her husband.

St. Paul has a tradition of providing an excellent Preschool for over 45 years. God has blessed the start of the 2024-25 school year under the leadership of Morgan Muresan, and with our teachers Mrs. Katy Bruewer, Mrs. Tracie Huring, and Mrs. Stacy Sanoba.



### St. Paul Lutheran Church & Preschool

115 Central Drive, Amherst, Ohio 44001  
www.stpaulamherst.com (440) 988-4157  
Sunday Worship Services: 8:30AM & 10AM  
In-Person or Live Stream @ [www.stpaulamherst.com](http://www.stpaulamherst.com)  
Church/Office: 440-988-4157 Fax: 440-988-5436  
E-Mail: [churchoffice@stpaulamherst.com](mailto:churchoffice@stpaulamherst.com) Church Website: [stpaulamherst.com](http://stpaulamherst.com)  
Rev. Paul G. Werner, Pastor - Office: (440)988-4157 Cell: (586)201-3302  
Morgan Muresan - Preschool Director  
Mike Warnock - Director of Worship Technology  
Owen Reyda - Director of Music Ministries



ST. PAUL   
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH & PRESCHOOL  
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

## ***Welcome to St. Paul!***

**We're glad you're here!** Whether this is your first visit or you're a St. Paul veteran, we hope you sense our "welcome mat" is out and you'll consider joining us again soon any Sunday at 8:30 AM and 10:00 AM, right here. Please fill out a white "Communication Card" found in front of you in the pew rack, and place it in the offering plate later. And about the offering ... don't feel obligated to participate in giving because we – and God – are really glad you are here as our guest!

**Ushers are standing by to assist you** in locating a seat, directing you to restrooms, coat racks, and to our nursery.

**Nursery is available for children ages 3 and under.** An usher will be happy to direct you to our Nursery where parents may care for infants, and rambunctious toddlers will find a place to be ... themselves.

**Worshippers who wish to receive Holy Communion** are encouraged to thoroughly read the announcement in this bulletin explaining what Communion reception is all about.

**IN TODAY'S WORSHIP:** For many educated westerners Biblical Christianity is a dangerous idea – challenging some of their deepest beliefs. Today and the next three weeks, we will explore some of the biggest questions that keep many people from considering faith in Christ and see how these potential roadblocks to faith actually become signposts directing us to Jesus; the One who is our modern world's best hope. The question we discuss today is "*HOW CAN YOU TAKE THE BIBLE LITERALLY?*" The Bible is the bestselling book of all time, with more copies in print, in more languages, than any other text. Unfortunately, it is also one of the most widely misunderstood - and misused - books in all of history as well. Down through the ages, its teachings have been appropriated to justify some of the worst abuses and atrocities in human history. And yet, at the same time, it has also inspired some of the greatest works of art and movements of justice in the world. So, how are we to approach it? Is it a manual for living life? An outdated book of ancient wisdom? And why should we continue to grant it a hearing?

**PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP** Heavenly Father, You have committed to us the care and nurture of children and adults. I ask that You give Your wisdom to those who teach, and that those who come to learn may have an earnest desire to discover new truths to serve as the foundation of their lives. Guide them as they work together in this community of faith, that we may all grow in the knowledge of God and the love of Jesus. I pray in the name of Jesus, the greatest teacher of all. Amen.

**Altar Flowers given to the glory of God by** Don & Diane Lamoreaux as they celebrate their 54<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

***My Devotions* for Families with Children** is a very practical, easy-to-use resource to help share faith in Christ at home. *My Devotions* is designed for families with elementary school aged children. Families simply include these resources in their daily routine, like during breakfast before school, during a supper time together when distractions are turned off for a few minutes, or at bedtime. *My Devotions* are free. September thru November editions are available on the resource wall in the lower narthex/lobby.

**Tuesday Morning Bible Study** - Join us Tuesday mornings @ 10AM as we discover God's loving faithfulness in spite of our human mess-ups and flaws. This week we find Joseph's faith growing as he is unjustly thrown into prison for several years, where he discovers God is still with him and blessing him in the lowest time of his life. Just come, and try it! You don't have to be a Bible scholar. Everyone is welcome!

### **Women's Bible Study Group - Tuesday Nights @ 7 PM**

Women are always invited to the women's group that meets in the church parsonage every Tuesday night. You'll make wonderful friends, grow in faith, and engage in caring lively discussion about living everyday as a Christian and woman. We are just beginning a new discussion, "Meant for Good."

**Confirmation Ministry Program** St. Paul's Confirmation program is for students in their 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> grade years. Confirmation is a time of growing in faith and learning about what we believe in order to get ready for Communion. Parents, God has placed on you the sacred responsibility to pass on Faith in Jesus to your children so that they may be saved eternally and spared the heartbreak and futility of living without Christ. Pastor Paul is very willing to set up a schedule of lessons that fit in your busy life. Please contact him ([pastor@stpaulamherst.com](mailto:pastor@stpaulamherst.com)).

**Men's "Brotherhood, Bibles, & Brew"** Hey guys, join us on the second Thursday night of a month at 7:00 PM. We are moving to The Brew Kettle, 300 Church Street in Amherst. We'll talk over a challenge men face while following Christ, while sipping on "Lutheran Pop." We'll see you Thursday, September 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Gift for Your New Neighbor.** A new neighbor is receiving a beautiful gift basket thanks to Gerri Deidrick. You can do the same for your new neighbor. No need to bake a pie, just fill out a form by the gift basket in the lobby, put it in the box, and you could be blessing your new neighbor next month. It's a great way to meet a new neighbor and invite them to church.

# Serving Challenge

In October we are inviting you to go on a 40-day life-changing journey designed to lead to more personal fulfillment than one ever thought possible. We were made to serve. You were made for more than just believing and existing until you die. **Serve like Jesus.**

The opportunity to serve like Jesus will come with a significant cost. It will mean sacrificing, require losing, and be full of challenges. But, despite all the costs, when you serve like Jesus, you will find true fulfillment, joy, happiness, and great reward. **So, will you become a servant of Jesus? Will you follow the Way of Jesus?**

Coming Soon we will be offering you the gift of **a book to read every day** for the 6 weeks of the Serving Challenge. **Sunday worship** will also help you find the fulfillment of **servicing like Jesus!** In place of small groups we will email to all St. Paul people weekly videos and questions to discuss at home.

Prayer Requests this Week:     **“The Lord is Near to all who Call on HIM.”** *Psalm 148:18*

- Pray for St. Paul’s Preschool as the school year has begun. Ask God to bless us with a wonderful year of sharing Jesus’ love.
- Pray for Farrah Thomay, granddaughter of Shirley Brumfield, as she is hospitalized to save the baby she is carrying.
- Pray God’s blessing on Don & Diane Lamoreaux as they celebrate their 54<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.
- Pray for Don Lamoreaux who is in Mercy hospital. Don caught COVID and it has created complications with his Parkinson’s disease. He will be doing rehab in Mercy Hospital several weeks.
- Pray for Cyndi Kemery who is in Mercy hospital after having a mild stroke that has affected her sense of balance.
- Continued prayers for Aubrey, 12 yrs. old. She has cancer in her eye, finished the radiation treatment in Columbus, and is now back home in North Carolina, where chemotherapy continues.
- Pray for John Schick as he recovers from a serious neck injury in a nursing home in Bellevue.
- Pray for Ron Klein’s to regain his strength.
- Pray for Ron who suffers with intense back pain.
- Pray for Tim Ross, Sheryl Gregg’s brother in hospice care.
- Pray for Kevin, nephew of John Brabander, who has cancer.
- Pray for Keri who has pancreatic cancer and is experiencing complications from chemotherapy.

- Pray for Floyd who has cancer in his back and started chemotherapy.
- Pray for Brian Harcula as he has cancer.
- Pray for Noal, a friend of Cyndi Kemery, who has lung cancer.
- Pray for Paxton Roby with cancer.
- Pray for Chris (sister-in-law of Virginia Warnock).
- Pray for Randy who has bladder and prostate cancer and is starting chemotherapy.
- Pray for those who have on-going chronic illnesses or shut-in: Charles Waryu, Don Lamoreaux, Don Gramer, Ruth Murdy, Jack & Marilyn Green, Dorothy Barckert, Dale Mack, Phyllis Darakis, Will & Lydia Rice, John Harden, Andy Lasko, Betty Heck, Joanie Fahrney, Ron Klein.
- Pray for those celebrating birthdays this week: Cyndi Kemery, Pastor Paul, Mason Mlinarik, Joyce Trottier, Billy Swanzer.

This Week For The Lord	Looking Ahead One Week
<b>9/8</b> Worship 8:30 AM Holy Communion / Kids Church 10 AM <b>9/10</b> Seasoned Saints Bible Study 10 AM Women’s Ministry 7 PM <b>9/12</b> Men’s Bibles, Brews, & Brotherhood @ Brew Kettle 7 PM	<b>9/15</b> Holy Communion 8:30 AM Worship / Kids Church 10 AM <b>9/16</b> Circuit Pastors’ Conference @ St. Paul 9 AM-1 PM <b>9/17</b> Seasoned Saints Bible Study 10 AM Elder’s 6:30 PM Women’s Ministry 7 PM

**Serving in God’s House:**

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <b>Pastor</b>      | Rev. Paul Werner  |
| <b>Organist</b>    | Owen Reyda  |
| <b>Elders</b>      | Jeff Krupp (E) John Brabander (L)   |
| <b>Readers</b>     | Jan Beko-Nathan (E) Laurie Beran (L)                                      |
| <b>Greeters</b>    | Mike & Debbie Smith (E) Chuck & Fran Draga                                |
| <b>Altar Guild</b> | Fran Draga, Debbie Smith  |
| <b>Sound</b>       | Mike Warnock, Virginia Warnock (E) Tina Muska (L)                         |
| <b>Head Usher</b>  | Ron Fisher  |
| <b>Ushers</b>      | Harold Gibson, Jeff Krupp, Steve Warnock (E) Laurie Beran, Deby Lasko (L) |