



Welcome Home!

Saint Paul's Lutheran church

August 2026 Newsletter



Ministry Board Meeting

St. Paul's next quarterly Ministry Board Meeting is on Tuesday, August 4 at 6:30 PM in the gym.

All ministry team members, leaders, & council members should plan on attending. This is your opportunity to share & plan with all the other ministries at St. Paul's.



Erie Lutheran Conference (ELC) Beach Worship Service



Bring a lawn chair & join fellow Erie Lutherans on Sunday, August 9 at 10 AM for the annual beach service at the Cookhouse Pavilion in Presque Isle State Park. Join us for worship, fellowship, & food!

Please bring a dish to share that does not require heating or refrigeration. Lamb of God will provide juice boxes. Mount Calvary will provide coffee & table settings. We hope to see you there!

Please note, regularly scheduled 9 AM worship on August 9 at St. Paul's is cancelled.

Erie Gives Day

Erie Gives Day 2026 is on Tuesday, August 11, beginning at midnight, at eriegives.org! This is your chance to help your favorite nonprofits, including St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Every donation of \$25+ will have a portion of that gift matched by the Erie Community Foundation.

You can also phone in your donation at 814-454-0843 from 8 AM-8 PM. If you would prefer to write a check, download the Check Donation Form at eriegives.org.



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

3108 Sterrettania Road

Erie, PA 16506-2658

www.stpaulserie.org

Saturday Worship Service, 5 PM

Sunday Worship Service, 9 AM

All Sunday worship videos are livestreamed at

www.facebook.com/stpaulserie

and available at

www.youtube.com/user/stpaulslutheranerie.

Wednesday Scripture Study, 9 AM



<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84633242142>

Office Hours:

Mon-Thu 9 AM-1 PM

814-833-1761

office@stpaulserie.org



Pastor Erik

Pastor Erik Young

814-833-1761

Pastor@stpaulserie.org

Pastor's Office Hours: Mon-Wed 9 AM-1 PM

National Youth Gathering 2027

I know you all are crazy busy. And I know you don't want to add another thing to your schedule. BUT this is worth adding...

ELCA Youth Gathering is June 28 – July 2

in Minneapolis and is open to all youth beginning 8th through 12th Grade this fall!



Save the date: **Sunday, September 13th at 6pm.** We will be hosting an information meeting that night for our church folks and for other youth groups in the Erie Lutheran Conference who want to go. We will talk about the basic information that you needed to know about the gathering, getting our group ready, things you might need to do, deadlines, fundraising, and a lot of Q&A. One thing that needs to be paid attention to: **I need your registration by All Saints' Sunday (November 1)!** We are registering our church that week in order to get the discounted registration rate and get our first choice of hotel locations. Visit www.elca.org/gathering for more information and ask Pastor Erik lots of questions. And if you look closely, the first picture that appears on the website homepage has us in the background at the 2024 Youth Gathering with our Erie Lutheran Conference group!

-Pastor Erik Young



Community Care Ministries

CROP Hunger Walk

The 51st Erie County CROP Hunger Walk will be held on Sunday, September 27, beginning at Presque Isle Beach 1 parking lot, with registration at 1 PM & the walk starting at 2 PM. There will be face painting, music, personal prayer time, & opportunity to learn more about what is being done to alleviate hunger & poverty.

Please join St. Paul's team for the 5.5 or 1-mile walk. If you would like to be a cheerleader instead, please bring your own lawn chair & help motivate the walkers. Sign up or donate at crophungerwalk.org/splc.



In September, you can sign up or donate at the CROP Walk table in the entryway of St. Paul's. Checks should be payable to St. Paul's Lutheran Church with CROP Walk in the memo line. Questions? Contact Gabe Chiapa at CROPWalk@stpaulserie.org.

Thank you for considering your part in keeping the Erie Walk number one in PA, number five in the nation, & more importantly, in helping to alleviate hunger!

Food Pantry

St. Paul's Lutheran Church's Food Pantry is approaching our second anniversary! Thanks to the congregation for all of your donations and support! We served 60 different families, including 79 adults, 56 children, 22 seniors, & 18 pets.

We are helping our neighbors who own pets thanks to Avery's Pawsitive Change. Avery's is located in Corry, PA & receives donations from the community for pet food & supplies. Our neighbors were very happy to receive pet food, dog beds, toys for cats and dogs, etc. Thanks to Dana Martz for connecting with Avery's.

This month, we are asking for spaghetti sauce, cake mixes, & tissues. We appreciate all of your donations! Thanks for all the reusable

grocery bags we received last month; we have PLENTY!

If anyone would like to volunteer at the Food Pantry, we can use folks who can help us pick up our food from Second Harvest (once a

month) and put it in the pantry. If you have a truck and some muscle, we would love to have you join us! Typically, this takes only an hour of your time. We pick up our food the last Tuesday of the month at 11 AM.

Questions? Contact us at FoodPantry@stpaulserie.org.

Lutheran World Relief (LWR) Personal Care Kits

We are collecting for LWR Personal Care Kits through August. These kits provide dignity & hope by helping people cope with poverty, disaster, & conflict.

Items needed for kits: dark colored lightweight bath-size towel (between 20"x40" & 52"x27"); metal nail clippers; bath-size bars (4-5 oz) in original wrapping; & sturdy combs.

Please leave your gifts in the designated container in the entryway of St. Paul's.

PERSONAL CARE KITS ASSEMBLY

**Sunday,
September 13
10:30 AM
Gym**



Sunday, September 13 is ELCA's God's Work. Our Hands. Day of Service & your helping hands would be greatly appreciated in the gym after worship to pack & box LWR Personal Care Kits.

Patchwork of Love Quilting & Knitting Ministry

Join our Patchwork of Love team of quilters & knitters! We meet on Tuesdays from 9-11 AM in Clare-Wolfe Lounge.



Congregational Care Ministries

Prayers

Please keep our siblings in Christ in your daily prayers: **Vanessa Baran, Mike Boam, Jeanette Carlstrom, Ellen Cooper, Bob Curtis, Barb Davies, Liz & Ted Davis, Dan DeCoursey, Betty Farver, Vicki Fischer, Charlotte Haggerty, Rick Hetrick, Christa & Ron Kaffka, Judy Matthews, Becke Moniot, Terry Moyer, Frank Young, Pam Zech & Gary.** Pray for those who are dealing with cancer, financial hardships, & facing illness or surgery.

We pray for those who are homebound or in nursing homes: **Ann Anderson, Vince Balinski, Debi Firment, Noni Gardner, Dottie Johnson, & Sandy Pamin.** Wrap your hearts around those who are alone, broken-hearted, grieving, or anxious.

We continue to pray for those who are close to us who serve in the military, including their families: **Dylan Green,** as well as friends of St. Paul's— **Samuel Arthur, Luke Goodwin, Brennan Madara, Natalie Ramish-Long, Benjamin Sperring, Brody Swab, Jordan Swab, Christopher Tinsman, Allison Ward, & Zachary Zehner.**

Bless our teachers everywhere & pray for St. Paul's **Child Development Center teachers.**

We keep our college students in prayer as they study and prepare for their future vocations: **Corinne Bechtold, Sam Beilharz, Sophie Beilharz, Andrew Collins, Jacob Gross, Sebastien Jones, Xavier Jones, Drew Kwiatkowski, Ethan Leopold, Connor McLaughlin, Ellie Schau, Hannah Schmidt, & Kaleb Young.**

Anniversaries

Aug 1– Lou & Cheryl Kwiatkowski, Kristen & Kameron Perrin
 Aug 2– John & Maureen Damico
 Aug 6– Erich & Pam Zech
 Aug 7– Jack & Karen Martin
 Aug 18– Jeremy & Laura Ditzler
 Aug 24– Garrett & Peggy Fuhrman
 Aug 26– Nancy & Joe Ulrich
 Aug 27– Karen & Ken Thompson

Birthdays

Aug 1– Pat Kernick
 Aug 2– Charlotte Haggerty
 Aug 3– Cassidy Berger, Frank Young, Jr.
 Aug 5– Kane Garben, Marianne Tonjes
 Aug 6– Katelyn Schmidt
 Aug 8– Patty Kort
 Aug 9– Jane Ford, Kevin McKenna
 Aug 10– Ethan Leopold, Rick Sullivan
 Aug 11– Larry Kessler, Ellery Nornhold
 Aug 13– Betty Farver
 Aug 15– Sam Barber, David Schlabach
 Aug 17– Jacob Bennett, Cecelia Colvin
 Aug 18– Megan Rainbow
 Aug 22– Josh Douglas, Leslie Scheuering
 Aug 23– Celeste Colvin
 Aug 24– Katherine Ambrose
 Aug 27– Chuck Bechtold
 Aug 29– Charlie Berger, Sebastien Jones

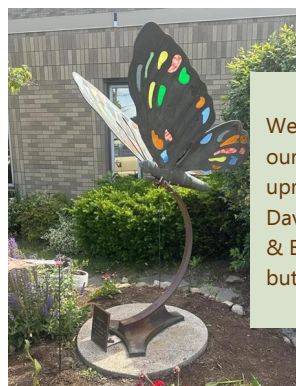
Thank You Notes

*[T]hank you for all you have done for mom's viewing & service. Love you guys-
 Mike, Julie, & Chris Boam*

Dear St. Paul's,

*Thank you so much for your generosity in your mission support to the synod. Your gifts help us to do meaningful ministry within the synod, on a churchwide level, and in partnership with our companion synods.
 Thank you!*

-Bishop Papson



We are happy to report that our butterfly is back upright! Thank you to David Neubert, Tom Kidd, & Elijah Kidd for fixing our butterfly!

Congregational Fellowship

Breakfast Group

Breakfast Group meets on Monday, August 3 at 8:30 AM at Perkins at 4403 Peach St. in Erie. All are welcome & responsible for their own meals.



Well-Watered Disciples Men's Fellowship Group

Well-Watered Disciples meets on Thursday, August 13 at 6 PM at Lucky Louie's at 8238 Perry Hwy in Erie.



Church Council Highlights

From the June 2026 meeting:

- ELC Beach Service is Sunday, August 9 at Cookhouse Pavillion on Presque Isle. There will not be a service on St. Paul's campus that Sunday.
- St. Paul's has received a donation of a John Deere riding lawnmower with baggers and accessories. Council is looking into a secure shed for mower storage.
- Worship Team purchased a new bulb for the projector & is looking to replace the projector with two 100" screens, which is part of our 1-3-5-year plan.
- As part of our 1-3-5-year plan, we are rebuilding the Stewardship Team and focusing on Legacy.

Next meeting: Tuesday, August 18 at 6:15 PM in Clare-Wolfe Lounge.

Attendance & Finances

By The Numbers:	June 2026
Avg. Saturday Attendance	20 in-person
Avg. Sunday Attendance	65 in-person 13 online views
June Income	\$29,814
June Expenses	\$29,091
June Difference	\$723
June Budget Income	\$21,430
June Budget Expenses	\$31,317
June Budget Difference	-\$9,887
Year-to-Date Income	\$184,421
Year-to-Date Expenses	\$183,989
Year-to-Date Difference	\$432
Year-to-Date Budget Income	\$166,228
Year-to-Date Budget Expenses	\$188,921
Year-to-Date Budget Difference	-\$22,693
2026 Total Budget Income	\$358,152
2026 Total Budget Expenses	\$376,316
2026 Total Budget Difference	-\$18,164

Electronic Giving

Have your weekly or monthly contribution debited from your checking or savings account automatically—you'll never have to remember your checkbook again!

Simply scan the QR code. You can also give online at [Give to St. Paul's Lutheran Church \(breezechms.com\)](https://www.breezechms.com).



Early Childhood Education Ministries

Child Development Center

All are invited to join us for our Art Show by our school-aged students on Thursday, August 20 from 3:30-6 PM in St. Paul's gym. Questions? Contact us at CDCDirector@stpaulserie.org or 814-833-1761, ext. 1004.

Preschool

Preschool begins on Monday, September 14. Questions? Contact Melissa Collins at PSDirector@stpaulserie.org or 814-833-1761, ext. 1002.



Faith Formation Ministries

Confirmation Youth Group with Pastor Erik

Join us every Monday in the gym & youth room from 6-7:30 PM for youth group! We gather for fun & games, Bible & faith studies, & solid hang out time.



Congratulations to our very own Willow Kidd, who was elected to our NWPA Synod Council. She is pictured here with NWPA Bishop Papson at Synod Assembly. Thanks for your willingness to serve the greater Church, Willow!



Confirmation Camp 2026 at Camp Lutherlyn. In attendance from St. Paul's: Jude Miglicio, Elijah Kidd, & Willow Kidd.

Rally Day 2026

Save the date for Rally Day, the official kickoff of the Christian education year, on Sunday, September 13. More info to follow!

Erie Lutheran Conference (ELC) Youth Ministry Meeting

Join fellow ELC congregations to plan for the future of confirmation ministry on Wednesday, August 12 at 5:30 PM in St. Paul's YAM (youth & music ministries) room. Current & past confirmation teachers (pastor & lay) and parents are encouraged to attend! We will be discussing what would work well to do together & what could a shared confirmation ministry look like.

2027 ELCA Youth Gathering Info Session

Save the date for Youth Gathering Info Session with Pastor Erik on Sunday, September 13 at 6 PM in the sanctuary of St. Paul's. Interested youth & parents are warmly invited!



Lawn & Garden Care Ministries



Thanks to all who help maintain our campus & keep it looking great! A special shout out to our mowers who are braving the sweltering summer heat to keep the lawn looking nice!!

Date	Mower
Aug 6	Erikson
Aug 13	Lang
Aug 20	Reitz
Aug 27	Barber & Barber

Worship Ministries

Dedication of 10,000th Quilt

On June 6 & 7, we celebrated the dedication of Patchwork of Love Quilting Ministry's 10,000th quilt since they began this ministry in 1991. Many thanks to this talented ecumenical group!



Choir Rehearsals

Join St. Paul's vocal choir for rehearsals every Sunday morning, beginning September 6, at 8:15 AM in the sanctuary. No experience necessary; all are welcome!

Questions? Contact Andrew Rainbow at MusicDirector@stpaulserie.org.

August Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 5:00pm Worship
2 9:00am Worship	3 8:30am Breakfast Group 6:00pm Confirmation Youth Group 6:30pm Property Team	4 9:00am Patchwork of Love Quilting Ministry 6:30pm Ministry Board Meeting	5 9:00am Scripture Study 6:30pm Girl Scout Troop Meeting	6	7 7:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous Marble Group	8 5:00pm Worship
9 10:00am ELC Beach Worship Service	10 5:30pm Security Team Meeting 6:00pm Confirmation Youth Group	11 Erie Gives Day 9:00am Patchwork of Love Quilting Ministry 5:30pm Faith Formation Team Meeting 6:30pm Worship Team Meeting	12 9:00am Scripture Study 10:00am Staff Meeting 5:30pm ELC Youth Ministry Meeting	13 6:00pm Well-Watered Disciples Men's Fellowship Group	14 7:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous Marble Group	15 <i>Newsletter Articles Due</i> 5:00pm Worship
16 9:00am Worship	17	18 9:00am Patchwork of Love Quilting Ministry 6:15pm Church Council Meeting	19 9:00am Scripture Study	20 3:30pm Child Development Center School-Aged Art Show	21 7:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous Marble Group	22 5:00pm Worship
23 9:00am Worship	24 6:00pm Confirmation Youth Group	25 9:00am Patchwork of Love Quilting Ministry 6:00pm ECE Board Meeting	26 9:00am Scripture Study	27 <i>Summer Church Office Hours End</i> 4:00pm Food Pantry Distribution	28 7:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous Marble Group	29 5:00pm Worship
30 9:00am Worship	31 6:00pm Confirmation Youth Group					

August Worship Assistants

Date	Event	Ushers	Assist Minister/ Reader
Aug 2	10 Pentecost	Wright Team	Larry Kessler
Aug 9	11 Pentecost	Zech/Chiapa Team	Joanne Erikson
Aug 16	12 Pentecost	Curtis Team	Karen Marzka/ Bob Curtis
Aug 23	13 Pentecost	Gardner/Marzka Team	Karen McKenna
Aug 30	14 Pentecost	Wright Team	Wayne Gardner