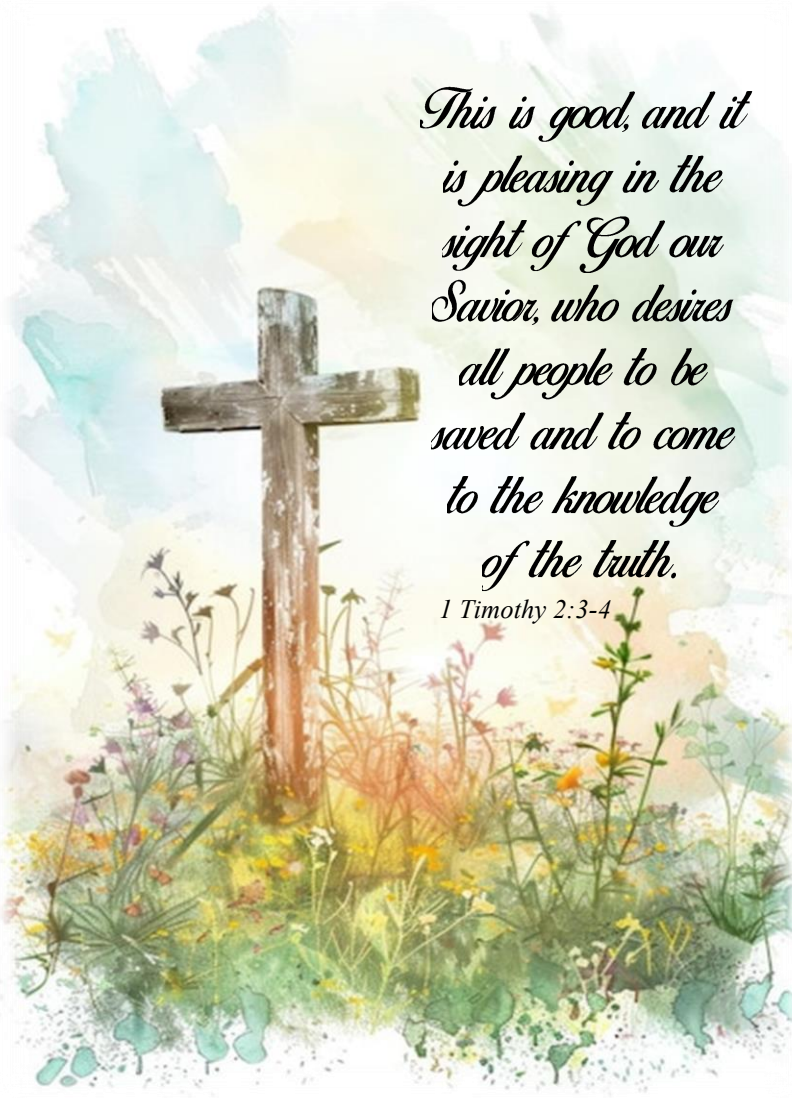


St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church LCMS
605 South Center Street
Bremen, Indiana 46506
574.546.2332
stpaulsbremen.church

The appointed reading comes after Amos receives a vision of a basket of summer fruit (8:1–3). It is a sign of the prosperity that the people have enjoyed, but one which signals its own coming end. To what lengths have God's people gone to attain such bounty? What has been the true cost? How much longer can it last? The voice of the Lord proclaims that the end of such abundance for Israel has come.

The Lord's Supper is a very special privilege God gives to His people.
Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because the Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive this sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder. If you are not partaking of the Lord's Supper but would like to receive a blessing, please come up to the communion rail when sent by an elder, kneel, and cross your arms over your chest. The Pastor will then know that you desire a blessing.

OUR OFFERINGS TO THE LORD FROM HIS BLESSINGS TO US.
Offerings remind us of the blessings God has given us and are an opportunity to thank Him for what He has done in our lives. Please place your offerings in our Offering Box located in the narthex of the church or by using the QR code.

In Matthew 19:14 Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven." Children are a vital part of our church family. They learn and grow in their faith by regularly worshipping with us. We welcome all children to be actively participating in the service but if for any reason you want or need to take your little one out, there is a Nursery available for your use. It is located just outside the sanctuary.

We are stewards of God's word. The passages for today are warnings against serving our selfish desires and endearing ourselves with the world. More and more people are abandoning the truth of God's Word for their own version of God's Word, editing out the parts that are uncomfortable for themselves or that might cause them scorn in the eyes of the world. You who have received the Holy Spirit, must take from this place the Word of Law and Gospel, life and hope. Take it with boldness and joy. Be faithful by His grace to speak of the Holy Trinity who are ever faithful to exhort, forgive, comfort, and feed you until you are brought safely to the heavenly home prepared for you in Jesus Christ. Jesus, the steward of God's Grace who takes our bill which reads "condemned" and stamps "forgiven for the sake of Jesus Christ crucified". That is sign of the cross upon Your forehead and upon Your heart given you at your baptism. ~ *LCMS Pastor Aaron Kangas* ~

Bell Choir "Lead Me Lord"

Opening Hymn 557 "Seek Where You May to Find a Way"
(John 6:68-69; Acts 4:12)

✢ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION ✢

P In the name of the Father and of the ✢ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *(Matthew 28:19b)*

C **Amen.**

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. *(Hebrews 10:22)*

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.** *(Psalm 124:8)*

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.** *(Psalm 32:5)*

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✢ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *(John 20:19-23)*

C **Amen.**

Adult Choir "Christ Is made the Sure Foundation" *LSB 909*

The Congregation will join in on verses 3 & 4

✢ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✢

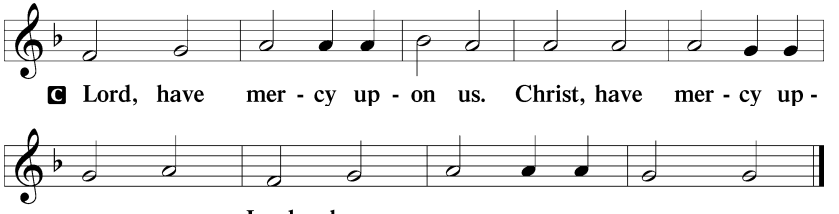
Introit *Psalm 119:137-140, 42; antiphon: v. 144*

P Your testimonies are righteous forever;

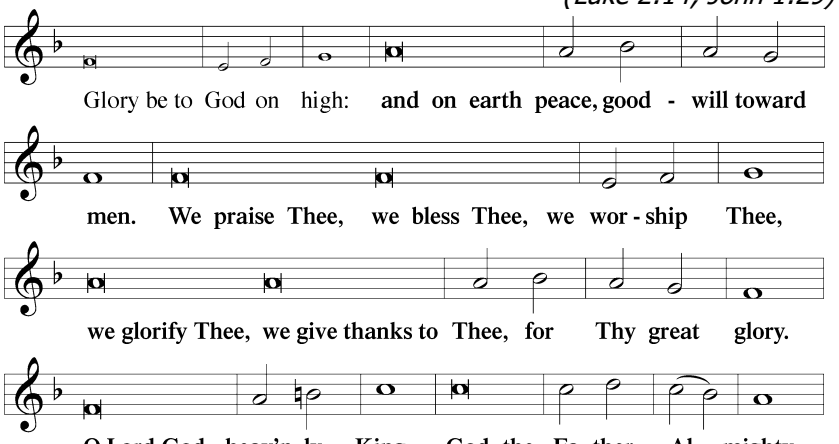
C **give me understanding that I may live.**

P Righteous are You, O LORD,
C and right are Your just decrees.
P You have appointed Your testimonies in righteousness
C and in all faithfulness.
P My zeal consumes me,
C because my foes forget Your words.
P Your promise is well tried,
C and Your servant loves it.
P Your righteousness is righteous forever,
C and your law is true.
All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
P Your testimonies are righteous forever;
C give me understanding that I may live.

Kyrie ~ *Lord, Have Mercy* *(Mark 10:47)* *LSB 186*



Gloria in Excelsis ~ *Glory to God in the Highest* *LSB 187*
(Luke 2:14; John 1:29)





Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you. *(2 Timothy 4:22)*



P Let us pray.
O Lord, keep Your Church in Your perpetual mercy; and because without You we cannot but fall, preserve us from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



The Old Testament Lesson

Amos 8:4–7

4Hear this, you who trample on the needy
and bring the poor of the land to an end,
5saying, "When will the new moon be over,
that we may sell grain?
And the Sabbath,
that we may offer wheat for sale,
that we may make the ephah small and the shekel great
and deal deceitfully with false balances,
6that we may buy the poor for silver
and the needy for a pair of sandals
and sell the chaff of the wheat?"
7The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:
"Surely I will never forget any of their deeds."

P This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Psalm 34:9, 19

P Fear the LORD, you His saints,
C **for those who fear Him lack nothing!**
P Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
C **but the LORD delivers him out of them all.**

The Epistle Lesson

1 Timothy 2:1–15

1First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, 2for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. 3This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, 4who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. 5For there is one God, and there is one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, 6who gave Himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time. 7For this I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

8I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling; 9likewise also that women should

adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire, [10]but with what is proper for women who profess godliness—with good works. [11]Let a woman learn quietly with all submissiveness. [12]I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet. [13]For Adam was formed first, then Eve; [14]and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor. [15]Yet she will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith and love and holiness, with self-control.

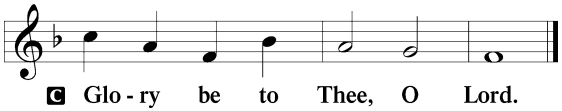
P This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia *LSB 190*



The Holy Gospel Lesson *Luke 16:1–15*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the sixteenth chapter.



[1]Jesus also said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. [2]And he called him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.' [3]And the manager said to himself, 'What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. [4]I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.' [5]So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' [6]He said, 'A hundred measures of oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.' [7]Then he said to another, 'And how much do you owe?' He said, 'A hundred measures of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.' [8]The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. [9]And I tell

you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.

10"One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. 11If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? 12And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? 13No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."

14The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all these things, and they ridiculed Him. 15And He said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ✢ everlasting.

Hymn 730 "What Is the World to Me"
(1 John 2:15-17; Phil. 3:7-9; Ps. 73:25; Rom. 12:2)

Sermon "The Time Is Ripe" *Amos 8:4-7*

1. Our own words, "When will the religious celebration be over that we may get back to business?" may be testimony _____.

2. The desire for personal gain pushes churchly concerns to the side, and in so doing _____ .
3. The end of the time of bounty suddenly proclaims that the time of God's judgment _____.

The Time Is Ripe for the Judgment of God to Show the True Value of All Things.

4. This very judgment of the Lord against exploitation and oppression of the needy and poor also reveals His _____ _____ for them.
5. His word of forgiveness to you will stand forever as one of His _____ .

Hymn 844 "Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace"
(Phil. 1:9; Lev. 19:34; 1 John 4:12)

Prayers

Lord's Prayer *(Matthew 6:9-13)*

C **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

P The Lord be with you.



Benedicamus *Let Us Bless* *(Psalm 103:1)* *LSB 202*

P Bless we the Lord.



Benediction *(Numbers 6:24-26)*

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✢ give you peace.



Closing Hymn 846 "Your Hand, O Lord, in Days of Old"
(Luke 19:10; Matt. 9:35; John 10:10; 1 Peter 2:9)

Acknowledgments
Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book
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Cover Art: www.freepik.com

Worship Anew can be viewed on Sunday mornings at 11:30 am on: the local CW station-channel WCWW-TV 25 out of South Bend, Dish Channel 266 or Direct TV channel 377. For you travelers, you can view anytime at <worshipanew.org>

The Altar flowers are given today by Terry & Janet Miller in celebration for the September birthdays of Benjamin Kemker, and Jared, Jett, Jillian, and Noah Miller and the blessing of baptismal birthdays for Kara and Yvonnie Green and Jared Miller. We praise our Lord for the joy He has given us through His abundant grace.

"Make a change" September

Please join the St. Paul's Lutheran Women in Mission as we collect our change during September. Based on the story of the widow's mites in Mark 12: 42-43, **every coin collected is used to fund Lutheran organizations, in Indiana and around the world.** (75% of the money collected will stay in the Indiana/Kentucky Zone.) **Some examples of recipients include:** Resurrection Academy, South Bend, Concordia Theological Seminary Food Co-op, Fort Wayne, and Worship Anew, Fort Wayne. (A complete list is on the Indiana District LWML website.)

There is a large LWML Mite Box in the Narthex for your coins, as well as individual mite boxes for adults and children to take home and use to collect coins. Thank you for joining us in making a change in September!

Calendar of Events

TODAY .....September 21st, 2025
Sunday School & Bible Classes.....8:30 am
Worship Service.....9:30 am
Bell Choir.....5:00 pm
Adult Choir .....6:00 pm
MON:
TUES:
School Fall Pictures in Bethany Room .....Morning
Pastor @ The Whitlock.....10:30 am
Elders Meeting.....6:30 pm
WED:
Preschool/Day School Chapel.....11:00 am
LifeLight .....6:45-8:15 pm
THURS:
Thursday Morning Ladies Bible Study.....9:30 am
FRI:
SAT:
NEXT SUNDAY..... September 28th, 2025
Sunday School & Bible Classes.....8:30 am
Worship Service with Communion.....9:30 am
Bell Choir.....5:00 pm
Adult Choir .....6:00 pm

The Evangelism committee is collecting food for **Grace Food Pantry**. There are cards in the Narthex with Grace's requested items. Items purchased should be returned to the Narthex table by Sunday, September 28th. All items will be delivered to the food pantry the week of the 28th. (If you have reusable grocery bags that you would like to donate along with grocery items, these are always appreciated by the food pantry.)

Cultivate Food Rescue is hosting a Thrivent Joy of Giving Consultation on Sept. 26th in Granger. A flyer is on the "Check It Out" board next to the school secretary's office. Cultivate Food Rescue works to reduce hunger and food waste in northern Indiana by recovering excess, quality food and redistributing it to school children, food pantries, shelters, and more. Through strategic partnerships, we are a leader in perishable food rescue, procurement, redistribution, and education in order to meet the nutritional needs of communities. See their website for more information about this ministry at https://cultivatefoodrescue.com/about-us/
LWML will be hosting Todd Zeltwanger at our February meeting to share with us the impact of this ministry. Mark your calendars to join us!

Things to Remember in Prayer This Week

Thanksgiving: **That the time is ripe** for the judgment of God to show the true value of all things.

Special Concerns:

That we repent of exploiting the poor for gain, by seeing the value God places upon them, shown in the price He paid to have them as His own.
For Pastor Rafael & Deaconess Jamielynn Flores family and **Pastor Micah Wildauer family** and their work in foreign missions.
That the Lord would bless our offerings that we give today.
For our country and her leaders.
For those who serve in their vocations of soldier, policemen & firemen.
For the Lord's grace, healing, and protection for our Christian brothers and sisters who are displaced, suffering, or being persecuted in America and throughout the world. **We must shine the Gospel light!**

For your spiritual enrichment: new **Portals of Prayer, Hope-Full Living devotionals, and Fall LWML Quarterlies** are in the tract rack.

LWML Sunday is October 5th. This Sunday service will be highlighting LWML's mission to joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others. At 2:00 pm on October 5th there will be a rally at Redeemer, South Bend. Along with fellowship with ladies from the other churches in our zone, there will be a speaker, craft, and a meal. More information will be coming soon. **All ladies of St. Paul's are invited** and I hope you will join us as we encourage one another in Christ.

If you would like to participate in a "Small Group Bible Study," please sign up on the designated sheets located in the church narthex or contact the church office (574-546-2332). Further questions can be directed to Bd. of Christian Ed. members: Wendy Coxey, Barb Middaugh, Jeanette Rettinger. Everyone is welcome! Bring a friend!

Praise to God and thanks to all who donated to the Meals on Wheels door offering on August 31st. We raised $454.00 to help the seniors of our church and community.

YOUTH NEWS

Join us for Youth Night! Students 4th grade - HS are invited to Youth Night on Wednesday nights, in September, from 7:00-8:00 pm at St. Paul's. Activities include devotions, games, and snacks. Please join us and invite your friends too!

Coming up - Campfire, hayride, cookout – 6th grade through HS, **Saturday, September 27th, 5-9 pm** at Spicher's house.

October 12th Youth Service – Youth will be leading the 9:30 am church service and the **school students will be singing!** There will be a spaghetti dinner following the service.

Look for more Youth Group information via our "St. Paul's Youth" GroupMe chat (*If you'd like to be added, let us know) or contact Youth Board Director Scott Hundt with any questions.

SCHOOL CORNER

The students enjoyed a fun overnight (5th-8th grade) and day at Camp Lutherhaven last Monday and Tuesday. Activities included canoeing, archery, hiking, and team building exercises.

Preschool, Kindergarten, and First Grade combined voices to sing and enjoy chapel at the Whitlock on Friday. Thank you for organizing that, Teachers! The residents really enjoyed it.

We will not have bussing tomorrow (Monday, the 22nd), but we DO have school!

Fall pictures are Tuesday, September 23rd.

PTL will be hosting a fundraiser with Bourbon Street Pizza in Bourbon and Nappanee September 30th, all day. See the additional announcement in the bulletin.

PTL will also be hosting a Fall Festival October 5th, 4:00-7:00pm! PTL will provide chili and drinks, and are asking that guests bring a side dish or dessert to share. Also, bring your chairs or blankets. Activities include a fall craft, outdoor activities, and more! All are invited!

We are looking for volunteers to read with students, help with math, etc. If you are interested in volunteering in the school, please see Nathan Miller or one of our teachers. School volunteers must have background check on file or completed.

Please note September's Star Students on the bulletin board! These students, nominated by the staff, have exemplified one or all of the three "Rs"- Respect, Responsibility, and Righteousness. New Star Students will be highlighted each month.

Enrollment is ongoing (especially in Preschool), so if you know someone looking for a new school experience, Beginner Preschool through 8th Grade, encourage them to look into St. Paul's! We offer a Christian alternative to education, not only focusing on core curriculum, but also providing a Biblical, Christ-centered focus. **With our comprehensive scholarship program, a Christian education can cost little or nothing. *Scholarships are even available for Pre-K!* Word of mouth is the best form of advertisement, so please encourage your family/friends to check us out!**

Please see updates to the SGO announcement!

SGO Announcement

Update to the new federal tax credit:

- This is a 100% Federal Tax Credit, up to $1,700 per taxpayer.
- Taxpayers can begin making donations on January 1, 2027.

Taxpayers would receive the Federal Tax Credit when completing taxes in the **spring of 2028 (individuals, not businesses). Further details are available on the bulletin board.**

Other benefits to donors-

- **LSGO is MATCHING donations from new donors up to $1000 per donor ($5000 per school)!**
- **Universal Charitable Deduction has been restored! Taxpayers can receive a $1000 Federal Charitable Donation, even if they can't itemize, beginning January 1, 2026.**
- **Taxpayers still receive a 50% state tax credit!**

We use the SGO both for elementary school scholarships and Pre-K scholarships, and it has been a great benefit to our families. Please continue to give, and receive the tax credit and deduction for your donations! **Now, there is a link to donate to the LSGO on the church's website under the School drop-down menu.**

You can also find several (easy) ways to donate at www.lutheranSGO.org/Donate. Donations can be given through a check, IRA, stocks, Donor Advised Funds, PayPal, credit card, and **NOW electronic giving!** Benefits to you are a 50% state tax credit for your donation and eligibility for a tax deduction, and a 100% federal tax credit for individuals up to $1700 (starting in 2027). These scholarships make a

big difference for our families. Please contact Jennifer Harman, in the school office, if you have questions.

We also continue to take donations to St. Paul's tuition assistance fund. Checks for tuition assistance can be made out to the church.

Servants for Today's Worship September 21st, 2025

Pastor Neil Wonnacott (574-546-2332 or 574-301-9291)
Organist: Anita Eichinger
Ushers: Todd Haug & Bruce Augustine
Acolyte: Kayli & Cory Miller
Elder: Terry Miller
Video Streamer: Bruce Schmidt

Servants for Next Sunday's Worship September 28th, 2025

Pastor Neil Wonnacott (574-546-2332 or 574-301-9291)
Organist: Anita Eichinger
Ushers: Dakota Schmeltz & Eric Tornton/Brantley Thornton
Acolyte: Avery Cannon
Elder: Jon Rettinger
Communion Assistant: Terry Miller
Video Streamer: Paul Wonnacott

St. Paul's PTL in conjunction with

Bourbon Street Pizza in Downtown Bourbon

And ***Bourbon Street Pizza of Nappanee***

at 1411 East Market St. in Nappanee

Will host a fundraiser on

Tuesday, September 30, 2025 - all day.

Present this coupon at the location of your choice and St. Paul's PTL will receive the percentage listed on the coupon for the sales from your patronage that day!

You must present a coupon when you pay your bill for St. Paul's PTL to receive credit!

This coupon may be copied. Give copies to all your friends and relatives and encourage them to support our school, too!!

Questions??? Call the school office at 546-2790

BOURBON ST Pizza

(574) 342-3032 (574) 773-9600
Downtown Bourbon or Nappanee

Bring this Coupon into either pizzeria Sept. 30, 2025, and St. Paul's School will receive a:

20% Donation

BOURBON ST Pizza

(574) 342-3032 (574) 773-9600
Downtown Bourbon or Nappanee

Bring this coupon into either pizzeria Sept. 30, 2025 and St. Paul's School will receive a:

20% Donation