

The Messenger



St. Paul Lutheran Church
100 Luther Blvd
Albion, MI 49224
517-629-8379
www.stpaulalbion.org
e-mail: office@stpaulalbion.org

Church Staff

Paul Koehn, Pastor
pastor@stpaulalbion.org
Emergency/Parsonage: 517-629-5040
Barbara Slaughter, Church Secretary
bslaughter@stpaulalbion.org
Dagmar McKinney, Church Secretary
dmckinney@stpaulalbion.org

Ron Di Salvio, Music Director
Joie Eddy, Kid-to-Kid Shop Coordinator
Barbara Slaughter, Bookkeeper

Church Office Hours

Monday—Thursday, 10:00am-3:00pm
(May be closed for lunch 12:30-1:30pm)
Friday, 10:00am-12:30pm

**When it's too cold to play in the snow outside,
you bring it inside!**



a monthly newsletter



February 2026

Find us on
Facebook @StPaulAlbion



Kid to Kid Shop



Open Saturdays
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
(not on holiday weekends)

Gently used, clean kids clothes sizes 0-16
St. Paul Lutheran Church, 100 Luther Blvd, Albion

We accept donations of good, clean, children's items.
Thursdays 9-11am, & Saturdays 10am-2pm.

Office hours may vary, please call the
office at 517-629-8379 to make sure
we're open before you come in.

Thank you!



**"Jesus said,
'Let the children come to me.'"**
Matthew 19:14

**Little Lambs of Jesus
Preschool & Childcare Center**

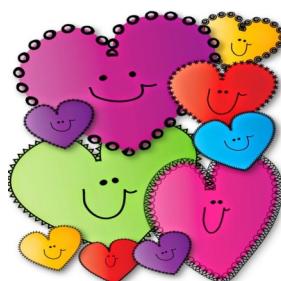
615 S. Dalrymple St.

Albion, MI 49224

517-629-7699

e-mail: littlelambsofjesus@outlook.com

Amber Perry, Director
Jenny Woods, Asst. Director



Triple Trouble!





Anniversaries and Birthdays

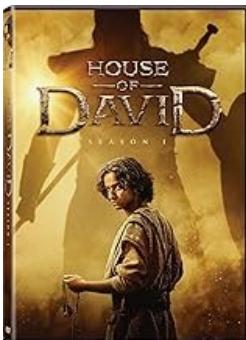
February Birthdays

1	Roger Weston
3	Becky Ericson
5	James Hull
7	Chuck Miller
11	Candie Boehlke-Nash
13	Donna Shelton, Diane Shuster
14	Michelle Slaughter
16	Michele Miller, Wylder Perry
17	Logan Duguid
19	Oromia Milkessa
24	Mercedes Perry
25	Rose Hickey
27	Cheryl Zick



February Anniversaries

14	Mark & Kathleen Oerther
28	Harry & Dawn Martin



Tuesday Bible Study House of David Tuesdays, 9:30 am

Join us as we watch the House of David series in 8 episodes.

House of David tells the story of the ascent of the biblical figure, David, who eventually becomes the most renowned and celebrated king of Israel. The series follows the once-mighty King Saul as he falls victim to his own pride. At the direction of God, the prophet Samuel anoints an unlikely, outcast teenager as the new king. As Saul loses his power over his kingdom, David finds himself on a journey to discover and fulfill his destiny, navigating love, loss, and violence in the court of the very man he's destined to replace. As one leader falls, another must rise.

All are welcome!!



Join us for J.A.M.
at St. Paul Lutheran Church
on Sundays at 10:30 AM
(except on major holidays).
Music, crafts and character lessons included



**VOTERS
MEETING**

Voters' Assembly
Sunday, February 15, 2026
9:10 a.m. (between services)
Snacks provided

Join us for this meeting where we will vote on the 2026 Budget and other important matters.

All confirmed members of St. Paul may attend.
Information packets will be available in the narthex.

February Events

February 1, 8, 15, 22	Bible Study on Psalm 23 J.A.M. (<i>Jesus and Me</i>)
February 1, 8, 22	Pastor's Bible Study
February 3, 10, 17, 24	House of David Study
February 5, 12, 19, 26	Prayer Time
February 7, 14, 21, 28	Kid-to-Kid Shop
February 7	Grief Share-Loss of a Spouse Saturday Life Worship
February 9	Stewardship & Outreach Meeting
February 15	Voters' Assembly Family Fun Time in the gym Sub Orders Due
February 18	Ash Wednesday Worship
February 20	Newsletter Deadline
February 25	Lenten Meal Lenten Worship
February 26, 27	Sub Pick-up

Articles, ads & information for the March issue of *The Messenger* are due at the church office no later than February 20.



Grief & Share

LOSS of a SPOUSE
St. Paul Lutheran Church—Living Room
Saturday, February 7, 2026
9:00-11:30 am

Grieving the death of a spouse,
or do you know someone who is?
Join us for this encouraging seminar.

*Book *Video *Discussion *Craft *Refreshments



ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

With Holy Communion
February 18, 2026
6:30pm in the sanctuary



SATURDAY LIFE Worship
First Saturday of the month
February 7, 5:00 pm

Once a month, on the second Saturday, join us in the Living Room for worship, the Word, and the Sacrament/Holy Communion. This is a kid-friendly 45-50 minute time of faith building.

If you can't/aren't making it to church on Sundays, please consider this invitation to worship with us!



From the Pastor

Dearly Beloved,

This month of Valentine's Day is overshadowed in my mind by the love of freedom and country of the man's whose birthday (Feb. 22) used to be celebrated as a specific holiday – George Washington. Known as the "Father of our country," the general of the Revolutionary War, which led to independence from Great Britain, and the first President of the United States of America, he is often depicted in art, paintings, and sculpture in a posture of prayer. Consider the following:

Then some can remember the addition of the February celebration on the 12th for the birthday of Abraham Lincoln. Our 16th President is most revered as the "Great Emancipator," as through his initiative and a very bloody Civil War, slavery was undone in our nation. The cost of his work for liberation was his life, as he was assassinated on April 15, 1865. [Isn't it interesting that that is "Tax Day" ?! Taxation is a form of slavery, as our Founding Fathers understood it, and so there was no taxation written into our Constitution. It was only later inserted by the 16th Amendment, whereas previously the federal government relied on revenue via tariffs and excise taxes. Lincoln too was a man of prayer.

When, during the Civil War, General Lee of the Confederates led 76,000 troops into Pennsylvania, Lincoln later related to a wounded general at Gettysburg, that he ". . . went into my room . . . got down on my knees before Almighty God and prayed . . . Soon a sweet comfort crept into my soul that God Almighty had taken the whole business into His own hands . . ."

How amazing that on George Washington's birthday . . .

Do we think that God is not interested, involved, and invested in the modern-day situation of our nation and the nations of the world? In this year of the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, we recognize those who have gone before us to bring us freedom at the cost of their own lives – in service and in sacrifice. But we are also entering the season of Lent this month. And so we commemorate with greatest thanksgiving the God and Father of us all who sent His Son, Jesus, the Great Liberator, who served and sacrificed that we might have true FREEDOM – from sin and satan, and ultimately from death with promise of eternal life. The battlefield was the cross. The victory was the empty tomb (we'll celebrate that at the beginning of April!).

"Whom the Son sets free is free indeed!" Jn. 8:36

... let men call on God earnestly . . . | Jonah 3:8



GEORGE WASHINGTON wrote this prayer at the close of the Revolutionary War on June 14, 1783, and sent it to the thirteen governors of the newly freed states in a "Circular Letter Addressed to the Governors of all the States on the Disbanding of the Army":

I now make it my earnest prayer that God would have you, and the State over which you preside, in His holy protection; that He would incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to government, to entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another, for their fellow-citizens of the United States at large, and particularly for brethren who have served in the field; and finally that He would most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility, and pacific temper of mind, which were the characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion, and without an humble imitation of whose example in these things, we can never hope to be a happy nation.

Back to Valentine's Day for my conclusion! It is all about love! Love from God in the Person of His Son, Jesus Christ. Oh, how He loves you and me!

With that, check you love level! For the Lord? Does it show in worship and devotion? How about your love for your country? I doubt any of us treasure the blessing(s) of being in the USA as we ought. Not that this is a perfect nation; far from it. But we can scarcely relate to what it is like in the rest of the world unless you've live there. Are you praying for our nation and its leaders? How about love for others? Are you serving, even willing to be sacrificing, for the (spiritual!) freedom of others?

God, help us to be Your hand and feet, Your mouthpiece, with Your heart for the world in which we live and bring more . . .

Peace and love in Jesus + Pastor Paul Koehn



LENT AT ST. PAUL LUTHERAN!

Starting with "Receiving Grace" on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 18 at 6:30pm with imposition of ashes, worship, and the Lord's Supper in the sanctuary, our seasonal theme will continue with *Lutheran Highlights for Lent*. On the following five Wednesdays there will be a fellowship meal at 5:30pm in Luther Hall and a devotional retreat to the Living Room to focus on the following:

Feb. 25 – "Scripture Alone" Matthew 4:4 and Deuteronomy 8:3
 Mar. 4 – "Grace Alone" Ephesians 2:8 and Titus 3:5-7
 Mar. 11 – "Faith Alone" Ephesians 2:8 and John 1:12-13
 Mar. 18 – "Christ Alone" Acts 4:12 and I Timothy 2:5
 Mar. 25 – "Holy Spirit Alone" I Corinthians 12:3 and Titus 3:5-6

*April 2, Maundy Thursday – "The Eucharist - The Sacrament of the Altar" I Corinthians 11:23-29
 *April 3, Good Friday – "Baptism – Immersed, Sprinkled, Poured" Romans 6:1-5

*In the sanctuary



On February 22, 1861, in a Speech at Independence Hall, Philadelphia, President Lincoln declared:

The Declaration of Independence which gave liberty not alone to the people of this country, but hope to all the world, for all future time. It was that which gave promise that in due time the weights would be lifted from the shoulders of all men, and that all should have an equal chance. This is the sentiment embodied in the Declaration of Independence.....

I would rather be assassinated on this spot than surrender it.





News from the Little Lambs of Jesus Preschool & Childcare Center

Greetings from the Center:

As this is being written, it's -13 outside, snowing and blowing like crazy. Winter. Gotta love it. We closed the Center on January 23 for extreme cold, and knowing we were only going to have 7 kids in attendance center-wide. We have some frozen pipes in the preschool room as of this writing, too. We shall see where that goes. We also have had some furnace issues. And on and on....



On a brighter report, we have some new babies enrolled, and that's always a good thing. We are full in both infant and toddler rooms. Our 3 to 5-year-old rooms are in need of some more staff so we can take more kids. We are looking for staff who can work 3 full days a week OR 5 afternoons (12:30-5:00 pm). Please spread that word around!

Preschool is going well. Polar bears, penguins, and hibernation are what we've been working on. ALSO trying so hard to get our 4-year-olds "kindergarten ready". Many of them are more than ready!

We are having our annual **Sub Sandwich Sale** this month. The cost stayed the same, at \$3.75 each. Please place your orders by February 15th. Pick-up will be on Thursday, February 26, 4-5 pm. (See the ad below.)



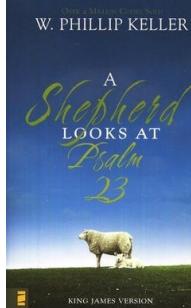
Thanks to all who donated to the **Jackson animal shelter**. We are delivering those items this week.

Looking ahead to some warmer winter weather so the kids can actually go out to play! Aren't we all?

In Christ, Jenny



Little Lambs of Jesus Preschool & Childcare Center
Is looking for staff
3 full days a week OR 5
afternoons (12:30-5:00 pm).
Please call the Center at 517-629-7699, if you're interested.



Bible Study on Psalm 23!

Are you looking to find deeper trust in the Lord? Would you like to learn to praise through the valleys and rest in green pastures? Come dive into Psalm 23 for a 14-week study - All are welcome!

WHAT: We will be using the book "A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23" by Phillip W. Keller as a cornerstone for conversation.

WHERE: The Living Room at St. Paul.

WHEN: Sundays, 9:15-10:15am, January 7th—April 8th.

WHY: Increasing trust, decreasing worry, increasing friendships, decreasing winter blues!

WHO: Any/all who wish to participate are welcome. You do **not** need to commit to all 14 weeks to be involved! Come when you can!

WHO'S LEADING: Hannah Avery. She will be facilitating conversations, asking reflective questions, and guiding you through this study/fellowship experience.

WHAT ELSE: Refreshments will be provided.

Little Lambs of Jesus **SUB SANDWICH SALE** Fundraiser



COST: \$3.75 per sub. Subs are approximately 6" long.

CHOICES: *Club (roast beef, turkey, ham) *Turkey, *Ham, *3 Meat (ham, salami, bologna)

All on **WHITE** bread.

All subs come with American and provolone cheese and are packaged ready to freeze. Condiments not included.

ORDER by February 15, at the back of the church, after Life Worship, or call the Church office.

PICK-UP: Subs will be ready for pick-up at St Paul on Thursday, February 26, at 4-5:00pm, Friday, 9am—12:30pm, or Sunday after services.

Place your order today!



Family Fun Time February 15, 2026 after 10:30am church until 1pm

Join us for our monthly Family Fun Time after church! Lunch is provided with fun in the gym to follow! There are various options to enjoy like: Air Hockey, Basketball, Table games, and More

*We ask that at least 1 adult accompany their kids.
Thank you!*



The 2026 offering envelopes are ready.
Pick yours up at the back of the church.



2025 Financial Statements are available at the back of the church.
Please pick yours up today.



Roving Reporter

Winter has arrived with a FURY! As I am writing this, the wind is howling outside, I am glad to be inside.

The Tuesday morning Bible Study is watching The House of David. Come join us at 9:30 am in the Living Room.

A New Bible Study has started on Sunday mornings, 9:15 am in the Living Room. It's on Psalm 23. All are welcome to join.

There is also a **Bible Study** on Sunday mornings, 9:10 am, in the Conference Room led by Pastor.

New Puzzles are in the library; take one home. They will help make these long winter days go by faster.

Please make sure to pick up your **2026 offering envelopes and 2025 financial statement**; both at the back of the church.

The Free Table—there are a lot of nice items on the table in Luther Hall. Calendars, birthday cards, note pads, and many more, take a look!

Thank you to all those who helped take down the Christmas decorations. It looks so bare now.

Ash Wednesday is February 18. Service will be at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary.

Lenten Services will start on February 25. A meal will be served at 5:30 pm, with service at 6:30 pm, in the Living Room.

Voters' Assembly meeting, Sunday, February 15, in Luther Hall, at 9:10 am. If you're a member of St. Paul, please plan to attend. These meetings are very important. Come hear the latest updates on the calling of an Associate Pastor for St. Paul.

Trustees have installed a new window in the Conference Room. The old one was rotted and needed replacing.

Keep Pastor in your prayers, as well as the Little Lambs of Jesus Center and the staff at both the Center and the church.

Remember the sick and shut-ins with a phone call or card.

Stay Warm!!



Lorraine Florence Posenke March 15, 1927—December 22, 2025

Lorraine (Pischel) Posenke, age 98 of Albion, MI, passed away on December 22, 2025. She was born on March 15, 1927, in Covington, MI to Frank and Mary (Benson) Pischel. Lorraine attended school in Gladstone, MI. She married Wallace Posenke on August 20, 1945. They lived in the Upper Peninsula before moving to Albion in 1953. Lorraine was employed by Corning Glass for 23 years. Lorraine retired in 1975. Lorraine spent the last few years at Marshall Rehabilitation and Nursing.

Lorraine is survived by several special nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Wallace; parents; sisters and brothers-in-law; Alice and Glen Thomas; Marie and Gene Straight; Daniel and Janice Pischel; Vernon and Lila Pischel; Laurence and Helen Posenke; Ormal and Elaine Posenke; Esther and Al Dagenais; Joyce and Robert Nichol; Patsy and Clifford Deneau, and Irene and Louis Brunette.

Memorial service on May 1st at St. Paul Lutheran Church.

See the full obituary on the Luther Hall lobby bulletin board.



BORROW A PUZZLE

The Church Library has a selection of winter puzzles for you to borrow.

Take some home today!



Wilma Geraldina Bahr November 25, 1936—January 10, 2026

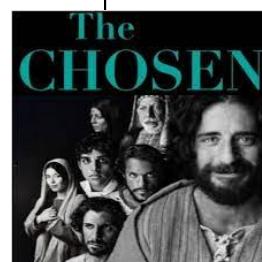
Wilma Geraldina Bahr, of Albion, Michigan, passed away on January 10, 2026, at the age of 89. Wilma was born to Herbert G. and Maria (Mlekus) Bahr.

Wilma is survived by her niece, Sheila (Dean) Dermyer; nephew, Allen Taylor; great-nieces, Sara (René) Rudolf and Jessie Good; great-nephews, Chad Adkins and Cory (Shawna) Bahr; great-great-nieces, Audrina and Jadelyn Bahr, and Scarlett Rudolf; and great-great-nephew, Adrian Rudolf.

Wilma is preceded in death by her parents, Herbert and Maria Bahr; brother, Herbert F. Bahr; sisters, Maria Faulk and Eleanor Taylor; niece, Susan Taylor; and nephews, Lee Taylor and Steven Bahr.

Memorials may be directed to St. Paul Lutheran Church.

See the full obituary on the Luther Hall lobby bulletin board.



The CHOSEN Seasons 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5 DVDs

Are available from our Library.

Anyone may check them out. Please record your name and date on the sign-out sheet and return as soon as you are through so someone else may enjoy them.

Prayer List: Updated January 27, 2026

Homebound

Ginette Burlingame
Alice Bush
Ruth Bussing
Shirley Clauncherty
Katherine Heidenreich
Don Hickey
James Hull
Charles Krenerick
Dolores Manthei
Coral Mason
Carolyn Rimer
Peter Smith
Keith Swathwood



Public Servants

Lindsey Bergeron-Anderla (wife of Michael Anderla)
Eric Clark
Sarah Duff (daughter of Dale & Lori Duff)
Joe Goff (nephew of Heather Shedd)
Rob Lightfoot (grandson of Cliff & Alice Bush)
Miranda Seedorf
Jacob Sommer (grandson of Jean Sommer)
Terrel "Dion" Williams (nephew of Lou & Annette Lerma)
Jeremy Woods



Our heartfelt sympathy to the families of:

Sammy Markovich, friend of St. Paul, who passed away on November 22nd.

Sandra Dorer, sister of Stan Sommer and former member of St. Paul, who passed away on November 22nd.

Matt Spears, friend of St. Paul, who passed away on December 4th.

Paula Miller, who passed away on December 12th.

Lorraine Posenke, who passed away on December 22nd.

Wilma Bahr, who passed away on January 10th.

Andres (Drew) Lerma, brother to Lou (Annette) Lerma who passed away on January 11th.

Matthew Oosting, friend of John & Jan Shedd, who passed away on January 15th.

Mike Shelters, brother of Sue (Scott) Clark and Linda Clark, and a former member of St. Paul, who passed away on January 18th.

Our prayers are with you in your time of sorrow.



The **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**
Is the 20th of each month

Please turn in your items by then so we have plenty of time to get the newsletter ready to print.

Thank you for your consideration!!!

Sick and Injured

Susan Abbee (sister of Steve Abbee)
Pastor Albert Amos
Barbara Benavidez (friend of Bob Porter)
Gail Coonrod
Amy Cords (niece of Phyllis Hoffman & Karen Cords)
Glen Corliss (cousin of Sandi Mauntel)
John Deyoe (cousin of Rose Hickey)
Danny & Lynette Fowler (cousin of Rose Hickey)
Bud Fox
Rev. William Gatz (father of Bill Gatz)
Brian Giffels (cousin of Steve Piske)
Allen Holtz (friend of Rose Hickey)
Jim Hunt
Tae Kim (Korean son of Pastor & LoriRene')
Lois (cousin of Phyllis Hoffman)
Christiana Matthews (sister of Jim Nash)
Dawn Miller (daughter-in-law of Donna Miller)
Maycee Roberts (friend of Jo Hess)
Joel Robinson (friend of Jo Hess)
Russell Spanninga
Ilene Stroebel (aunt of Amy Zerbe)
Phillip Sumption (husband of Joan Sumption)
Kathy Weaver
Betty Weston
Robert Weston (brother of Roger Weston)
Carol Wilson
Trevor Young (friend of Tom Zander)



Paula Jo (Rapp) Miller
December 26, 1957–December 12, 2025

Paula Jo Miller, 67, passed away on Friday, December 12, 2025, at her home on hospice care, surrounded by her family.

Paula was born to David and Donna (Hess) Rapp in Marshall, Michigan. She graduated from Marshall High School. On August 27, 1977, she married Charles Miller at Zion Lutheran Church in Marshall. Paula started working at McDonald's in 1978, at the Albion location, and later worked at numerous Southern Michigan locations, retiring in 2022 from the Tekonsha location after 43 years of service.

Paula is survived by her beloved husband of 48 years, Charles; her daughters, Rebecca (Jason) Fry, Kristen (Andrew) Sommers, and Jennifer (Matthew) Sullivan; numerous other family members, and many friends.

Memorials may be directed to Oaklawn Hospice or St. Paul Lutheran Church.

See the full obituary on the Luther Hall lobby bulletin board.



St. Paul 10:30 am Services are LiveStreamed

Watch our worship services live @ 10:30am on FaceBook, or later at your convenience on any of the sites below.

www.stpaulalbion.org (St. Paul's website—"Sermons")
www.facebook.com/StPaulAlbion
www.YouTube@StPaulAlbionMI

Remember to turn the volume up on your device.

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2026

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e-mail: office@stpaulalbion.org
www.stpaulalbion.org

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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February 2026

Worship Schedule

Sunday Life Worship

8:15 a.m.

Sunday Morning Worship (in person & Facebook Live)

10:30 a.m.

Sunday Bible Study

9:10 a.m.

Saturday Life Worship, February 7th

5:00 p.m.

Ash Wednesday Worship, February 18th

6:30 p.m.

Lenten Worship, February 25

6:30 p.m.

(Holy Communion is offered every Sunday except the 3rd Sunday of the month.)

Mission Statement

*Our Mission is to focus
on the community through Christ.*



HELLO NEIGHBORS!

We would like to share a copy of our monthly newsletter with you. We invite you to join us in any and all events mentioned within.

“Come to me all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”

- Spoken by Jesus, Book of Matthew 11:28

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