

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

12345 MANCHESTER RD. • DES PERES, MO 63131 • 314.822.0447
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Subscribe to our *Weekly Word* e-letter at bit.ly/StP-WeeklyWord

WITNESS

FEBRUARY 8
IN-PERSON WORSHIP TOTAL • 783
5:00pm worship • 110
8:00am worship • 225
9:30am worship • 151
11:00am worship • 232
10:45am Living Stone worship • 65
ONLINE VIEWING
Sanctuary: 256 • Living Stone: 68
Approximately 518 total online viewers

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, FEB. 15
Worship Services

MONDAY, FEB. 16
Morning Men's Bible Study, 6am, Zoom
LWML Quilting Group, 9am, FH
Mission Board Mtg, 6pm, FH
Elders Study, 6:30pm, Conf. Room

TUESDAY, FEB. 17

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 18
ASH WEDNESDAY Worship Service
11am and 6:15pm
Living Way Bible Study, 9am
Choir Rehearsal, 7pm

THURSDAY, FEB. 19
MomCo Meetups, 9am, FH
Card-Making, 6pm, Music Room
Living Way Evening Mtg., 7pm, Conf. Rm.

FRIDAY, FEB. 20
Bulletin Assembly, 9am, LL4

SATURDAY, FEB. 21
Worship Service, 5pm

SUNDAY, FEB. 22
Worship Services

HOW TO SUBMIT NEWS

News Due by 9am Wednesdays
Activity leaders are invited to submit news with our easy submission form. Look for the "Submit News" buttons at the top of our website News page and *Weekly Word*.

SUNDAY CLASSES

BIBLE STUDY HOUR • 9:30AM
GOSPEL OF MATTHEW • MUSIC RM.
Simulcast live on 850AM and KFJO.org

FOUNDATION • FELLOWSHIP HALL
Topical, discussion-based study

SUNDAY SCHOOL • SCHOOL ROOMS
Preschool: Room LL2; K/1st: LL7;
2nd/3rd: 106; 4th/5th: 104;
6th-8th: Art Rm.; 9th-12th: Youth Rm.

LITTLE LAMBS • School Room 103

GIVING

Annual offering budget	\$3,309,800
Budget year-to-date (32 weeks)	2,036,800
Received year-to-date	1,930,069
Difference actual/budget	-106,731
Weekly amount needed	68,986
Received last week	53,697

CONSTRUCTION LOAN BALANCE
Current debt \$4,692,040
Gifts received July 2024 to date \$29,019

MINISTRY EXPANSION CAMPAIGN

Total Commitments: \$14,585,612 • Gifts received to date: \$8,473,858



EMPLOYMENT

Visit our church website for job details: stpaulsdesperes.org/news/employment. Now hiring:
• Early Childhood Center: Subs; Afternoon Shifts • K-8 School: Subs.

MISSIONS

FEBRUARY MISSION OF THE MONTH
Seminary for Foreign Leaders • Our gifts assist with education costs for Concordia Seminary's international students, helping to ensure ongoing global Gospel proclamation. When these students earn their advanced degrees and return to their home countries as professors and church leaders, they have key roles in spreading the Gospel message.

PASTOR NOMINATIONS

St. Paul's Call Committee is seeking nominations from the congregation as we look to call our next senior pastor. Official Missouri District nomination forms are available at the east lobby information counter. We value everyone's input as we seek God's will.

LCMS NEWS

LAST CHANCE - SYNOD NOMINATIONS DUE BY FEB. 18: St. Paul's members may nominate pastors for Synod President, First VP, and Regional VP via paper forms at our information center. The top two nominees for each office will become St. Paul's nominees. Read more in our *Weekly Word* e-letter. (First published 12/11/25.)



THE GOOD NEWS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2026

SUNDAY

LENTEN DEVOTION BOOKLETS
Devotion booklets are available in a basket in our east lobby. Please enjoy a complimentary copy for your Lenten-season reflections as we rejoice in the hope of the cross.

THE WEEK AHEAD: FEB. 16-22

CARD-MAKING NIGHT
Thurs., Feb. 19 • 6-9pm • Music Room
Enjoy an evening of creativity and conversation, crafting three beautiful make-and-take cards. Register at bit.ly/StP-Cardmaking by 5pm on Feb. 16 (so materials can be prepped). \$12/person.

TRIVIA DONATION DROP-OFF
Fri., Feb. 20 • 7:30-8:00am • Details on next page.

WHAT'S NEW?

NEWS JUST ADDED
1) Hanke receives top teacher award
2) Trivia donation drop-off • Feb. 20
3) Schuddes depart for Israel
4) Valparaiso concert • March 8

REMINDERS
• Register for Men's Breakfast by Feb. 18
• Synod nominations due by Feb. 18
(See back page)

LARGE-PRINT
• Find the large-print *Good News* included inside our large-print worship folders (please see an usher)



PASTOR THOMPSON RECEIVES CALLS

Pastor Lawton Thompson has received Divine Calls to Concordia Lutheran Church in Frohna, MO, and Zion Lutheran Church in Hillsboro, MO, in addition to his existing call to St. Paul's Des Peres. He asks for prayers during his time of contemplation and that all three congregations would be granted comfort in this season of waiting and the peace that comes only from Christ. Read Pastor Thompson's letter to the congregation, emailed Feb. 3, at conta.cc/4rvfTie

ASH WEDNESDAY

WED., FEB. 18 • 11AM & 6:15PM • COMMUNION
We warmly welcome you to join us in worship this Lenten season, beginning on Ash Wednesday. This day marks the start of our penitential journey toward the cross of Calvary and the joy of Easter, as we remember our mortality and our need for Christ's forgiveness. The imposition of ashes begins 15 minutes prior to the start of services, and also after services.

MIDWEEK WORSHIP • Each Wednesday in Lent, St. Paul's offers services with Communion at 11am and 6:15pm. "Singing With the Exiles" is the sermon theme for our midweek Lenten worship, drawn from Isaiah 40-55 and focused on some of the best-known, most cherished, and theologically significant texts in Scripture.



JAMBALAYA DINNER • Following Ash Wednesday 6:15pm Service
Kettle-cooked on-site by Chip Newman, a native of New Orleans and jambalaya competitor. Jambalaya is offered to go, in take-out containers, from our Ballas lobby (while supplies last), supporting our youth group mission trip.





LENT

READ MORE ABOUT LENT AND HOLY WEEK WORSHIP, MIDWEEK SERVICES, AND DINE-OUT DAYS ON OUR LENTEN WEBPAGE AT

stpaulsdesperes.org/lent

- Ash Wednesday Feb. 18 at 11am & 6:15pm
- Wednesday Midweek Services 11am & 6:15pm.....Feb. 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25
- Palm Sunday March 29
- Passion Vespers: Music at St. Paul's..... March 31 at 7:30pm
- Maundy Thursday..... April 2
- Good Friday April 3
- Easter Egg Hunt.....Sat., April 4 at 10am
- Easter Sunday April 5

WEDNESDAY LENTEN SERMON THEME

“Singing With the Exiles” is the theme of our Lenten journey each Wednesday. The inspiration for the theme is drawn from Concordia Commentary on Isaiah 40–55 by Dr. R. Reed Lessing, with a special focus on some of the best-known, most cherished, and theologically significant texts in the Bible. These chapters teach an orientation to the Lord, and to the world, that Jesus endorsed, sharpened, and laid as the foundation for the Christian Church.

SUNDAY LENTEN SERMON SERIES: “CROSS WORDS”

Join in discovering the power of the cross in your life! During the Season of Lent, our pastors will be preaching on the assigned epistle reading from Romans. Each week we will focus on a "Cross-Word" from the reading.

- Feb 22: Justified • March 1: Raised • March 8: Peace
- March 15: Adopted • March 22: Released.



FEBRUARY IS PEANUT BUTTER COLLECTION MONTH

Two Weeks Left in Peanut Butter Drive

Why not add an extra jar or two of peanut butter to your grocery cart to share with others in need? Our Social Ministry team will deliver peanut butter to the two community-based food pantries we support and to Concordia Seminary.

Collection tables are located in the church's east and west entrance lobbies, as well as in the school and ECC lobbies.

GROUPS & EVENTS

“DINNER FOR EIGHT” SOCIAL GROUPS

Register by Sun., Feb. 22

A great, easy way to meet other church members or stay connected with longtime church friends. "Dinner for Eight" groups gather monthly, March through October, to enjoy good food and fellowship. Each household takes turns hosting or selecting a restaurant — as fancy or casual as your group prefers. Register online by Feb. 22 at bit.ly/stpdinnerfor8 or through our website's News page. Questions: Contact organizer Carrie Patterson at carriepatt1960@gmail.com or by text message at 314-609-0988.

★NEW: VALPARAISO CONCERT

Sun., March 8 • 7pm

Music at St. Paul's welcomes you to an evening with the Valparaiso University Chorale and Chamber Orchestra, featuring inspirational works by J. S. Bach, Mendelssohn, Diemer, Palestrina, Stopford, and Whitacre. Read more on our website's Music tab.

SAVE THE DATE: GOLF TOURNAMENT

Mon., April 27 • 11am • Forest Park Golf Course

We look forward to seeing you at our annual school golf tournament fundraiser! Watch for more details and the registration form in early March.

Website news page, sign-up links, and news submission form are at stpaulsdesperes.org/news




24TH ANNUAL MEN'S BREAKFAST

SATURDAY, FEB. 28 • 8AM

GREENBRIAR HILLS COUNTRY CLUB REGISTER BY FEB. 18

All men of St. Paul's, along with their neighbors, relatives, friends, and coworkers, are invited to enjoy this morning of fellowship and faith, featuring keynote speaker Rev. John Fale, and a delicious breakfast buffet at our annual men's breakfast event. \$25/person.

Register through our website News page, QR code at right, or at bit.ly/Mens-Brk26

Hurry! Register by Wed., Feb. 18



SERVICE & SUPPORT

★UPDATE: TRIVIA DONATION DROP-OFF

Fri., Feb. 20 • 7:30-8:00am

Next Friday, your amazing trivia committee team will be collecting donations for Trivia Night; bottles of wine, bourbon, gift cards, and ticket vouchers are all welcome. We thank you for your support! For more information or a different drop-off time, contact Laura Siebenman at laura.siebenman@gmail.com.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

★NEW: PASTOR SCHUDDE DEPARTS FOR ISRAEL

Please keep Pastor and Kris Schudde in your prayers. They will be departing for their Israel–Egypt Biblical Tour from Tues., Feb. 17, through Mon., March 2. Their group includes 23 others from across the country, as well as one Lutheran Bible translator from Ethiopia.



SCHOOL NEWS

★NEW: TEACHER RECEIVES TOP AWARD

2026 LEA Distinguished Lutheran Early Childhood Teacher

Melinda (Mindy) Hanke, a kindergarten teacher at St. Paul's Lutheran School, was selected to receive the Lutheran Education Association's 2026 Distinguished Lutheran Early Childhood Teacher Award. We celebrate this honor with her and give thanks for the blessing she is to our school community. See LEA's full letter of commendation linked in the *Weekly Word* e-letter.



SCHOOL ACADEMIC TEAM STATE CHAMPS

Congratulations to our St. Paul's Black academic team, who won the LSAM Scholar Bowl, among 20 teams competing in the state tournament. The team defeated Immanuel Wentzville in a very close semifinal match that came down to the final question, then defeated CCLS by a score of 440 to 330! Well done, Saints! Our Gold team finished in sixth place.

K-8 SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

Community Enrollment Open

Over the course of nearly 18 decades, generations of students have grown in Christian confidence and academic excellence at St. Paul's! To check availability and schedule a tour, contact Joanna Hoeltge at jhoeltge@stpaulsdp.org. Learn more at stplutherschool.org/admissions.

CONSTRUCTION

WEST-SIDE/BALLAS ACCESS CLOSED FOR GRADING

- Pre-paving work and grading have begun in preparation for future parking and new driveways.
- The church's Ballas entrance driveway, west covered drop-off lane, and its six parking spaces will be closed for 4–6 weeks, with completion expected before Easter.
- Please use east-side covered entrance for drop-offs.
- To walk from the school parking lot to church, we recommend using the new east-side sidewalk adjacent to the park.
- St. Paul's website News page always includes detailed parking information, plus aerial parking maps and entrance diagrams.

