

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

12345 Manchester Rd. • Des Peres, MO 63131 • 314.822.0447

www.stpaulsdesperes.org • church@stpaulsdp.org • www.stplutherschool.org • school@stpaulsdp.org

SUBSCRIBE to our Weekly Word e-letter at bit.ly/StP-subscribe

ONLINE WORSHIP • Watch St. Paul's livestreamed services at bit.ly/StPauls-Worship ➔

SERMON PODCASTS on Spotify, Apple, and Stitcher. Search for "From Saint Pauls" (no apostrophe)



CALENDAR

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25
Puppeteers Weekly Practice, 6pm, ECC
Men's Basketball, 7pm, Gym

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26
Men's Bible Study, 6am, Zoom
Quilting: Afternoon Guild, 9am, FH
Trustee Mtg., 3pm, Conf. Room
Bridge, 6:30pm, FH

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28
Living Way Bible Study, 9am
Lenten Service, 11am & 5:30pm
Lenten Dinner, 6:15pm
Choir Rehearsal, 7pm

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29
Living Way Bible Study, 7pm, FH

FRIDAY, MARCH 1
Bulletin Assembly
Wax Museum 3rd Grd., 5:30 & 7pm, Sanct.

SATURDAY, MARCH 2
175th Anniversary Kick-off Weekend
5pm service

SUNDAY, MARCH 3
175th Anniversary Kick-off Weekend
Puppeteers Weekly Practice, 6pm, ECC
Men's Basketball, 7pm, Gym

SUNDAY CLASSES

BIBLE STUDY HOUR 9:30AM
GOSPEL OF JOHN • GYM
Simulcast live on 850AM or KFUO.org

FOUNDATION • FELLOWSHIP HALL
Topical, discussion-based study

SUNDAY SCHOOL • LOWER LEVEL
Age 3-4 yrs.: LL2; Grade K-1st: LL1;
2nd-5th: LL4; 6th-8th: Youth Room

LITTLE LAMBS • ROOM 102 SCHOOL
Infants to 3 years + parent(s)

LCMS NEWS HIGHLIGHTS *Due to space constraints, community news details appear in the Weekly Word e-letter.*

LUTHERAN EARLY RESPONSE TEAM SURVEY • Interested in helping a community recover after a natural disaster and showing the love of Christ by volunteering with a Lutheran Early Response Team (LERT)? Your feedback can help improve its disaster response and training. Please take a brief survey at lcms.org/lert-survey-congregation to share your thoughts.

★ **PIPES FOR PARKINSON'S • ORGAN CONCERT BENEFIT • MARCH 18** • Little Flower Church

WITNESS

FEB. 18 IN-PERSON WORSHIP TOTAL • 723

Living Stone worship • 92

5:00pm worship • 86

8:00am worship • 190

9:30am worship • 173

10:45am worship • 182

Midweek Lenten worship

11:00am & 5:30pm • 371

ONLINE VIEWING

Sanctuary: 188 • Living Stone: 52

Approximately 384 total online viewers

GIVING

Annual offering budget \$3,160,000

Budget year-to-date (34 weeks) 2,066,160

Received year-to-date 2,022,382

Difference actual/budget - 43,778

Weekly amt. needed to meet budget 63,201

Received last week 59,386

LOAN BALANCE

Current debt \$443,067

Gifts received July 2023 to date \$87,199

TELL THE WONDERS HE HAS DONE

MINISTRY EXPANSION CAMPAIGN

Total Commitments \$14,535,612

Gifts received to date \$1,684,967

EMPLOYMENT

Find employment listings and details on St. Paul's website in the News > Employment tab.

NOW HIRING: ECC DIRECTOR
Seeking director for our Early Childhood Center, upon the upcoming retirement of director Bev Gruenwald. Contact Dawn Walker at dwalker@stpaulsdp.org.

NOW HIRING: CHILDCARE STAFF
Our exceptional Parents' Day Out program and Early Childhood Center are growing! Contact PDO director Elizabeth Knehans at eknehans@stpaulsdesperes.org, or ECC director Bev Gruenwald at bgruenwald@stpaulsdesperes.org.

• **PDO LEAD TEACHER, NURSERY CLASS** (6-14 months)
Approx. 20 hours/week • M, T, W, F • 7:45am-1pm • August-May

• **PDO TEACHER'S ASSISTANT, TODDLER CLASS** (14+ months to young 2s)
Approx. 10 hours/week • W & F • 8am-1pm • August-May

• **ECC PREK TEACHER** (candidates with teaching degree)
Full-time, year-round with full benefits • Beginning Aug. 2024

• **ECC TEACHER'S ASSISTANT**
Full-time, year-round with full benefits • Beginning March 2024

MISSION OF THE MONTH • Seminary for Foreign Leaders • *Details in Weekly Word.*

TODAY'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON • In Genesis 24, children read about "A Servant's Mission: Isaac and Rebekah." Abraham cared a lot about who Isaac would marry, and his servant prayed for God's guidance to find Isaac's wife, knowing the importance of this task. Jesus would come from Isaac and Rebekah's family some day.

THE GOOD NEWS

FEB. 25, 2024



HAPPENING THIS WEEK: FEB. 25 - MARCH 3

★ **Little Lambs Location Change • Starting Today**
Parents of children aged infant to two years, join us for Little Lambs – our "first steps" in Sunday School – now meeting in kindergarten classroom #102 (school, lower level). Moms and dads connect with other young families while joining their children in their very first Bible songs, beginner Bible stories, and so much more.

Girl Scout Cookie Booth • Today • 9:00-9:30am • Gym • Details, next page.

★ **Hurry: VBS Priority Registration • Opens Wed., Feb. 28**
We are grateful to offer VBS this summer and look forward to a week of Bible adventures, games, music, snacks, high-fives, and sciency-fun "wows"! Due to construction, and for the safety of our children and volunteers, *capacity will be limited*. Registration for St. Paul's church members opens at 10am Wed., Feb. 28; at that time, all recipients of our Weekly Word e-letter will receive the registration link. Registrations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis until we reach capacity.

- VBS June 10-14 • 9am-noon • Age 4 years to 4th grade (at time of VBS) • \$10/child (\$20/family max) for the week • Volunteers are needed (5th grade+)
- At "Scuba" VBS, children will dive deeper into friendship with God.

175th Anniversary Celebration Kick-Off • March 2 & 3
In March, St. Paul's will kick off a year-long 175th anniversary celebration. Missouri District President Rev. Dr. Hagan will join us and preach at the 10:45am Sanctuary and Living Stone worship services.

★ **Voters' Meeting • Sun., March 3 • Noon • Sanctuary**
Attend the voters' meeting to approve the call committee for a senior pastor. Church Council is reviewing congregational suggestions for the committee, with proposed list available on the church website (*Member Portal > Rosters & Documents*) on Feb. 26. Per our bylaws, the council proposes a call committee, and the voters approve the committee. Please join us and keep this process in your prayers.

Serving Meals at Ronald McDonald House • Sun., March 3 • 4:30pm
When families of seriously ill children stay at the Ronald McDonald House in Des Peres, St. Paul's can show care and compassion by cooking a meal for these guests visiting our community. Sign up to cook with us at bit.ly/3Vi3izH.

DEADLINES THIS WEEK

- **Peanut butter collection** for food pantries concludes Feb. 29.
- **Remove items stored in old school** by Feb. 29. Details, next page.
- **Alumni wall signing** • Last Sunday to sign hallways is March 3.

★ **ANNOUNCEMENTS ADDED THIS WEEK ARE NOTED WITH A STAR**



LEARN ABOUT OUR NEW SMALL GROUP MINISTRY AT OUR MARCH 10 KICKOFF



MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES

Join us for midweek worship each Wednesday in Lent at 11:00am and 5:30pm.

FEB. 28 SERMON THEME • "His Final Steps Led to His Father's House" | Matthew 21

FEB. 28 LENTEN DINNER • 6:15pm • Spaghetti and meatballs, tossed salad, garlic bread, and dessert.



LENT

LENTEN MIDWEEK SERVICES

EACH WEDNESDAY

Feb. 28, March 6, 13, 20
11:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Lenten dinners following 5:30 service

PALM SUNDAY

March 24
Sanctuary • 8:00, 9:30, 10:45 a.m.
Living Stone • 10:45 a.m.

**MUSIC AT ST. PAUL'S
BACH'S ST. JOHN PASSION**
Tuesday, March 26 • 7:00 p.m.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

March 28
11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY

March 29
12:05 p.m. lunch hour service
5:00 and 7:00 p.m.

No Saturday service on March 30

EASTER EGG HUNT

Sat., March 31 • 10:00 a.m.

EASTER SUNDAY

March 31
Sanctuary • 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.
Living Stone • 9:30 a.m.
*No Sunday School, Fellowship
Breakfast, or Bible Classes*

EASTER FLOWERS & FERNS ORDER YOURS BY MARCH 18

Join in making our worship spaces
and church chancel beautiful for
Easter. Congregation members may
purchase lilies (\$12.95), tulips
(\$10.50), and ferns (\$23) that will
decorate St. Paul's for Easter, and
which can be taken home to
enjoy after the final Easter
service. Order forms at
welcome center, or online
at bit.ly/STPEaster2024

GROUPS AND EVENTS

★ Mackenzie Missionary Presentation • March 10 • 9:30am • FH

Join us to hear LCMS missionary and congregation member Erin Mackenzie present on her mission work in the Dominican Republic, and learn first-hand all she does to coordinate short-term mission teams to effectively share the Gospel.

Girl Scout Cookie Booth Feb. 25-Mar. 17 + Online

Calling all Girl Scout cookie lovers! St. Paul's Troop 1867 is selling cookies for \$6 per box. Part of the proceeds benefit our troop directly; we also accept donations. Stop by our Sunday morning cookie booth in the gym Feb. 25 through March 17 (9:00-9:30am), or place an online order at bit.ly/42PNokf or contact Tricia Johnston at pbjohnston09@hotmail.com or 314-780-3383. All orders will be delivered to the church office for pickup; the troop will contact you when cookies are ready.

Annual Golf Tournament • Mon., April 22 • Forest Park

Calling all golfers and St. Paul's friends! Join us for lunch, an afternoon of golf, and an evening of fun and fellowship. Not a golfer? Consider sponsorship and auction donations. All proceeds benefit our school. Information and registration at bit.ly/STPAULSGOLF2024. Volunteers welcome: Contact Principal Dawn Walker with questions at dwalker@g.stpaulsdp.org.

GROWTH GROUPS KICKOFF

SUNDAY, MARCH 10 • 9:30 -10:30AM

School Art Room (main floor school room #206)

Are you looking for a space to discuss the real-life challenges of living in today's hectic world?

Wanting a place to grow in your faith in an informal, friendly setting?

Hoping to grow in your connection with one another in our church and school community?

Join us on March 10 to learn more about a new small-group ministry St. Paul's is launching called Growth Groups. These groups will be designed to help you grow in your connection with one another and with God's Word. We'll address practical, real-world challenges that many face in their day-to-day lives.

Childcare will be provided during the kickoff. Please contact Pastor Wade or Laura Susic if you have questions before the kickoff.

STPAULSDESPERES.ORG/GROWTH-GROUPS



SERVICE & SUPPORT

Blood Drive • Fri., March 8 • 10am-3pm • FH

Help save a life by donating blood at our American Red Cross blood drive. Sixteen appointment slots are available; choose yours at rcblood.org/2Qn3GQE.

Quilting Guild Collecting Cotton Fabric

Do you have leftover fabric in your basement or craft room? The Afternoon Guild quilters can help. We need large or smaller pieces of fabric, including sheets, to make quilts to share with people in need. Drop off to quilting closet door at the west end of Fellowship Hall; please write "quilters" on bag. Questions, call 314-488-1303.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

★\$5K Received from Thrivent • Designate by March 31

In 2023, St. Paul's received \$5,328 in Thrivent Choice Dollars grant funding. Thrivent is proud to help support the important work St. Paul's does and hopes that, together, we can do even more in 2024! Please direct remaining 2023 Choice Dollars by March 31. Access free resources at bit.ly/ThriventChoiceDollars2023

Last Week to Remove Stored Items in Old School

Due to March asbestos abatement, anyone with items stored in the old school building will need to remove them by March 1; unwanted items should be labeled "trash." For items that necessitate storage during construction or prior, please inquire with Steve Brosch (sbrosch@stpaulsdp.org), St. Paul's facilities manager, as soon as possible. After March 1, any remaining items will be considered trash and discarded.

LWML NEWS

★What is LWML? Meet "Lutheran Women in Mission"

Known as "Afternoon Guild" and "The Quilters Group" here at St. Paul's, LWML uses mite collections — the practice of gathering small donations, based on Luke 21:1-4 — to fund roughly \$1.5 million annually in missions, both locally in Missouri and around the world. Join us for meetings on the second Monday of the month.

★LWML Spring Rally • Sat., March 23 • 8:30am

Join the St. Louis West Zone spring rally, hosted at St. Paul's. A light breakfast will be served, and speaker Erin Mackenzie will present on her mission work as volunteer coordinator for Latin America and the Caribbean. We are collecting USA Forever Stamps for missionaries' correspondence and Walmart gift cards to help defray expenses for the Missouri District Pastors' Wives Retreat in April. Register by March 17 online at bit.ly/lwmlrally or by calling the church office.

TRIVIA NIGHT

175TH ANNIVERSARY TRIVIA NIGHT

SAT., MARCH 9 • 7PM (OFF SITE)

Join us for a trivia night as we kick off a year of celebrating St. Paul's 175th anniversary! Gather your friends for a fun evening of trivia and fellowship — not all categories are St. Paul's-specific. Space is limited to 250 people. Enjoy bringing food and drink for your table; alcohol permitted.

- Sign up by March 4 at bit.ly/175AnniversaryTrivia.
- Location: Our Savior, Fenton's gym (1500 San Simeon Way, 63026).
- Doors open at 6:30pm; trivia starts at 7:00pm.
- Tables of eight: \$10/person. Pay online at stpaulsdesperes.org/give or drop a check at church, school, ECC, or PDO.
- Questions, contact Dawn Thorburg at dawnthorburg@gmail.com.

EASTER EGG HUNT

SATURDAY, MARCH 30 10AM • ECC CAMPUS

Make family memories together at our Easter Egg Hunt! All children, from babies to second graders (0-8 years), are invited to this annual favorite, hosted by St. Paul's and our Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) group. Children will enjoy a hunt for filled eggs, and a special Christ-focused puppet show by our own puppeteer troupe. Complimentary, with no advance registration required, and open to the community.

★ ANNOUNCEMENTS ADDED THIS WEEK ARE NOTED WITH A STAR

ST. PAUL'S 175TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR 1849 • 2024