

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-WeeklyWord

WITNESS

MARCH 8 IN-PERSON WORSHIP TOTAL • 992

Wed. Lenten midweek • 239
5:00pm worship • 91
8:00am worship • 203
9:30am worship • 191
11:00am worship • 190
10:45am Living Stone worship • 78

ONLINE VIEWING

Sanctuary: 179 • Living Stone: 46
Approximately 360 total online viewers

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, MARCH 15

Worship Services

MONDAY, MARCH 16

School & PDO Spring Break: no School
Morning Men's Bible Study, 6am, Zoom
LWML Quilting Group, 9am, FH
Mission Board Mtg., 6pm, FH
Comfort Dog Mtg., 6:30pm, Music Room
Elders Study, 6:30pm, Conf. Room

TUESDAY, MARCH 17

Call Committee Mtg., 6:30pm, Conf. Rm.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

Lenten Worship, 11am & 6:15pm
Choir Rehearsal, 7pm

THURSDAY, MARCH 19

FRIDAY, MARCH 20

Bulletin Assembly, 9am, LL4

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

Worship Service, 5pm

SUNDAY, MARCH 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

BOOK OF ACTS • MUSIC ROOM
Simulcast live on 850AM and KFUO.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 (36 weeks)	2,291,400
Received year-to-date	2,100,141
Difference actual/budget	-191,259
Weekly amount needed	75,604
Received last week	30,633

CONSTRUCTION LOAN BALANCE

Current debt	\$6,077,079
Gifts received July 2025 to date	\$32,295

MINISTRY EXPANSION CAMPAIGN

Total Commitments: \$14,585,612 • Gifts received to date: \$8,892,924



EMPLOYMENT

• TECHNICAL ARTS COORDINATOR

As we prepare to move into our new ministry facility, St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School is introducing a part-time Technical Arts Coordinator. This role supports worship, school, and ministry events through audio, video, livestream, and lighting while leading volunteers and enhancing the use of our new ministry space. If you are interested or know of a qualified candidate, please contact Whitney Wade at wwade@stpaulsdp.org.

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

MARCH MISSION OF THE MONTH

Congregation Chai v'Shalom, a Lutheran congregation in Dogtown, led by Rev. Kevin Parviz, reaches out to the Jewish population of St. Louis to help them see Jesus as the Messiah.

LCMS COMMUNITY NEWS

CHURCH WORKER STUDY GRANTS

Applications due April 15 • Learn more in our *Weekly Word* e-letter and at bit.ly/4rCVHv2

★NEW: SUMMER STUDENT INTERN SEEKING SUMMER HOUSING

Details under Community News in our *Weekly Word* e-letter.

QR CODES: QUICK LINKS

GOLF TOURNMT.



2024 Golf Tournament

PICKLEBALL



PICKLEBALL 2026

VBS WAITLIST



St. Paul's VBS

LENTEN WEBPAGE



Lent & Holy Week

THE GOOD NEWS

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2026



TODAY

GIRL SCOUT COOKIE SALES: FINAL DAY!

March 15 • 9-9:30am • Lobby + Online Orders

Calling all Girl Scout cookie lovers! Cookie season is wrapping up, and St. Paul's Troop 1867 has all your favorites for \$6 a box. *Our last day of selling is March 15.* Swing by the Sunday lobby booths or contact troop leader Tricia Johnston (pbjohnston09@hotmail.com, 314-780-3383). Donations are also welcomed. Orders will be delivered to the church office, and the troop will let you know when they're ready for pickup.



WHAT'S NEW?

NEWS JUST ADDED

- 1) "What We Believe" begins March 29
- 2) Foundation pairs with What We Believe
- 3) Passion Vespers • March 31
- 4) Update: Easter Egg Hunt details • April 4
- 5) Pickleball tournament • April 12
- 6) Snack collection for Sem students
- 7) Women's Friendship Breakfast • April 25
- 8) Social Ministry thank you
- 9) ECC teacher call update
- 10) *Community News*: Summer intern seeking housing

REMINDERS

- Join our VBS waitlist
- Girl Scout cookie sales end today

LARGE-PRINT

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

THE WEEK AHEAD: MARCH 16-22

LWML SPRING ZONE RALLY

Sat., March 21 • 8:30-11:45am • Off-site

All Women in Mission are invited to the spring rally tea party hosted at Concordia-Kirkwood. Join women from neighboring congregations for fellowship and inspiration; see the flyer for program details at bit.ly/4ua52fl. To register, call or text Norma Schroll, Concordia Women's Guild Society Chair, at 314-477-6145.

SERVE MEALS AT RONALD McDONALD HOUSE

Sun., March 22 • 4:30-6:30pm

When families of seriously ill children stay at the Ronald McDonald House in Des Peres, St. Paul's can show care and compassion by making a home-cooked meal for these guests visiting our community. Come cook with us in the RMH kitchen, together with our school's LJHA honor society. Sign up at bit.ly/StP-RMH.



★ NEWS JUST ADDED IS NOTED WITH A STAR

SAVE THE DATE

WOMEN'S FRIENDSHIP BREAKFAST

SAT., APRIL 25

8:30am • Greenbriar Hills Country Club





LENT

STPAULSDESPERES.ORG/LENT
See QR code on back page

THIS WEEK IN LENTEN WORSHIP

SUNDAY SERMON SERIES: "CROSS WORDS"

• Sun., March 15 message: "Adopted"

WED. MIDWEEK SERVICES: 11AM & 6:15PM

• Wed., March 18 message: "Get Out!" (Isaiah 48:17-22)

WEDNESDAY DINE-OUT

• Wed., March 18 • No dine-out day due to spring break

HOLY WEEK



Palm Sunday: March 29

8:00, 9:30, 10:45, 11:00am

With children's palm processional



Passion Vespers: Music at St. Paul's

Tuesday, March 31 • 7:30pm



Maundy Thursday: April 2

11:00am & 7:00pm (Stripping of the altar)



Good Friday: April 3

12:05-12:50pm lunch hour, 5:00, 7:00pm (Tenebrae)



Easter Egg Hunt: Saturday, April 4 • 10am



Easter Sunday: April 5

Sanctuary: 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am

Living Stone: 9:30am

★UPDATE: EASTER EGG HUNT

Sat., April 4 • 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, where children will hunt for filled eggs and enjoy a special Easter message. The egg hunt is complimentary with no advance registration required, and is open to the community. Hosted by St. Paul's and our MomCo group.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

July 13-17 • 9am-Noon • Age 3 to 4th grade

This summer, step through the mist into "Rainforest Falls" VBS, overflowing with waterfalls and colorful creatures, as we learn about God's love and promises!

Because St. Paul's VBS is filling fast with nearly 300 already registered, we have switched to a waitlist. We encourage you to add your camper information to our waitlist at stpaulsdesperes.org/VBS, as we anticipate being able to accommodate additional openings. (See QR code on back page.)

Join our waitlist



GOLF TOURNAMENT

Mon., April 27 • 11am • The Courses at Forest Park

Tee up your support for our annual school golf tournament fundraiser! The event includes lunch, a dinner auction, beverage carts, a putting contest, awards, and a raffle.



- Proceeds support technology upgrades for our teachers and classroom furniture; sponsorship opportunities are available.
- Register at bit.ly/StP-golf26. (See QR code on back page, or registration button on our website's News page.)

PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT

★ NEW: Sunday, April 12 • 1-5pm • Free

Join us for a pickleball tournament at PaddleUp Pickleball Club in Chesterfield! Up to 28 two-player teams are invited for an afternoon of fun, fellowship, and friendly competition. The event is open to members of all skill levels, so whether you are experienced or brand new, we encourage you to participate — it's a great opportunity to connect with others while enjoying pickleball! You can sign up with a partner at bit.ly/4rZQJJ7 (see QR code on back page). Spots are limited.



BIBLE STUDY NEWS



★ NEW: "WHAT WE BELIEVE" CLASS

Beginning Sun., March 29 • 9:30am • FH

Delve into what the Bible teaches in our spring "What We Believe" class. All are welcome, whether to refresh your understanding or to learn something new. Meeting for six Sundays, our pastor-led class offers a comfortable setting and comprehensive teaching on foundational tenets of the Lutheran faith, including Christ, Baptism, Communion, the Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer, and more. Participants who are not yet members of St. Paul's are asked to register for the class with Renee in the church office (314-822-0447 or rhemmy@stpaulsdp.org) and will have the option to continue on to membership after completing the class.

★ NEW: FOUNDATION CLASS JOINS FORCES THIS SPRING

Beginning March 29, our weekly Foundation class will meet together with our new "What We Believe" class for six sessions to dive deeper into the core of their faith and knowledge of God's Word — while maintaining the familiar format and fellowship found in Foundation. We invite our regulars to renew their Catechism learning, while meeting new friends and supporting those who are learning about the Lutheran faith.

SERVICE & SUPPORT

★ NEW: SEMINARY TREAT BAG COLLECTION

Collecting Through Sun., April 12

LWML Assembly Day • Mon., April 13 • 1pm • FH

St. Paul's LWML group is collecting snacks (nuts, dried fruit, jerky, cookies, chips, granola bars, snack cakes, candy bars) to assemble 32 treat bags for Concordia Sem. pastoral and deaconess students in anticipation of Call Day, as part of the Mo. District's "Shine" servant event. Drop off snacks — in individual or full-size packaging — through April 12 to the purple LWML box in the east lobby. All are welcome to join us for assembly and note writing on April 13.



CALL COMMITTEE

60 CANDIDATES REVIEWED

The third round of committee work has begun with a new call committee. We must thank the prior call committee for nearly two years of diligent, prayerful consideration of candidates. As is customary, the previous call committee has been honorably released, and a new call committee was approved in a voters' meeting on February 1, 2026.

The new call committee held its first meeting on February 10, with circuit leader Pastor Scott Jonas taking the committee through the call process.

The week of February 16, the committee received 60 names submitted by the Missouri District and St. Paul's congregation, and has begun considering possible candidates from this list.

Find comprehensive information and updates on St. Paul's call process on our website's [Member Portal](#) > [Pastor Call](#) webpage.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

★ NEW: SOCIAL MINISTRY

PEANUT BUTTER THANK YOU

In February, we collected 313 jars of peanut butter and jelly for distribution to the four food pantries we support. Thanks for helping us help others! The three community-based food pantries assist families in the neighborhoods of St. Matthew and Bethlehem (north St. Louis) and St. Trinity (at Koeln and Vermont). Concordia Seminary's food pantry serves seminary students and their families.

★ NEW: ECC TEACHER DECISION

From Katarina Hinck: "After much prayerful consideration, I have come to a conclusion regarding the call I received from Trinity-St. John Lutheran School in Nashville, IL. I have been led by the Holy Spirit to continue serving in my call to St. Paul's and look forward to serving along with you all! Thank you for all the prayers as I considered the calls. Please continue to keep Trinity-St. John in your prayers as they continue to seek the person God sees fit to fill their position."

♪ PASSION VESPERS • HOLY WEEK ♪

American Kantorei • Tues, March 31 • 7:30pm

Please join us in worship as Music at St. Paul's and the American Kantorei present the 1725 version of Johann Sebastian Bach's *St. John Passion*. Bach's monumental setting brings the Passion narrative from John's Gospel into sharp focus as we journey through Holy Week. This version features movements added and altered by Bach himself. Soloists, choir, and instrumentalists will be featured.