

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 15
IN-PERSON WORSHIP TOTAL • 822
 Wed. Lenten midweek • 202
 5:00pm worship • 102
 8:00am worship • 170
 9:30am worship • 126
 11:00am worship • 138
 10:45am Living Stone worship • 84

ONLINE VIEWING
 Sanctuary: 175 • Living Stone: 29
Approximately 326 total online viewers

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, MARCH 22
 Worship Services

MONDAY, MARCH 23
 Morning Men's Bible Study, 6am, Zoom
 LWML Quilting Group, 9am, FH
 Trustee Mtg., 3pm, Conf. Room

TUESDAY, MARCH 24
 Call Committee Mtg., 6:30pm, Conf. Rm.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25
 Living Way Bible Study, 9am
 Lenten Worship, 11am & 6:15pm
 Choir Rehearsal, 7pm

THURSDAY, MARCH 26
 Living Way, 7pm, Conf. Room

FRIDAY, MARCH 27
 Bulletin Assembly, 9am, LL4

SATURDAY, MARCH 28
 Worship Service, 5pm

SUNDAY, MARCH 29
PALM SUNDAY
 Worship Services; children's procession

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 (37 weeks) 2,355,050
 Received year-to-date 2,166,094
 Difference actual/budget -188,956
 Weekly amount needed 76,247
 Received last week 65,953

CONSTRUCTION LOAN BALANCE
 Current debt \$6,077,079
 Gifts received July 2025 to date \$32,912

MINISTRY EXPANSION CAMPAIGN

Total Commitments: \$14,585,612 • Gifts received to date: \$8,937,831



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.

• 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: SEM. LAUDAMUS CONCERT (INCL. ST. PAUL'S FIELD WORKERS)
Thurs., March 26 • 7pm • Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus
 Laudamus, the premier choir of seminarians from Concordia Seminary, will present a concert to conclude their 2026 tour. This choir includes two seminarians who have been serving at St. Paul's: Joshua Horst and Micah Cumming. The theme is "Lamb of God, Who Takes Away the Sin of the World." All are invited.

QR CODES: QUICK LINKS

Call Updates



LETTER CALL PROCESS

Golf Tourmnt.



JOHN GOLF TOURNAMENT

Pickleball



PICKLEBALL 2026

VBS Waitlist



ST. PAUL'S VBS

Lenten Webpage



LENTEN HOLY WEEK



THE GOOD NEWS

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2026

THE WEEK AHEAD: MARCH 23-29

HOLY WEEK BEGINS SUN., MARCH 29

FINAL LENTEN MIDWEEK SERVICE

Wed., March 25: 11am & 6:15pm

- **Wed. Sermon:** "One Little Word Can Fell Him" (Isaiah 49:1-6).
- **Wed. Dine-Out: Panera in Des Peres • 4-8pm** (Online orders can be placed all day). Please mention St. Paul's when placing your order. For online, kiosk, or app orders, use code FUND4U. Hosted by St. Paul's School Choir to benefit their upcoming trip to Milwaukee.

★NEW: LWML QUARTERLY MITE BOX COLLECTION

Sat. & Sun., March 28 & 29

Every coin counts! Help support district and national mission grants through Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML). Bring your mite box, loose change, or cash and place your gifts in the large mite box in the narthex on March 28 & 29. Learn how every mite makes a difference at lwml.org/mission-grants and missouriwlml.org/mission-grants.



★NEW: NO SPY STARTERS IN MARCH

Due to Lent and other conflicting activities, our first- to fourth-grade youth group will not meet in March. We'll see you next month, on April 29!

WHAT'S NEW?

NEWS JUST ADDED

- Pastor Wade retains his call to St. Paul's
- Letter & FAQ: Update on pastoral call process and ministry work
- Palm Sunday children's processional
- Holy Week hospitality
- LWML collection • March 28-29
- Updated: Easter Egg Hunt • April 4
- SPY Starters on hiatus until April 29
- *Community News*: Sem. Laudamus Concert

LARGE-PRINT

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

HOLY WEEK HOSPITALITY

Holy Week and Easter bring many visitors to St. Paul's. Each of us in the congregation is blessed with the opportunity to extend a gracious welcome — offering a "hello," a friendly smile, and the hospitality that makes our church feel like home.

PALM SUNDAY • MARCH 29

SANCTUARY: 8:00, 9:30, 11:00AM • LIVING STONE: 10:45AM

Congregation members are welcomed to take palm branches.

CHILDREN'S PALM PROCESSIONAL: All children of the congregation are invited to join in a processional with palm branches in all Sunday morning services during the opening hymn.

BEFORE THE SERVICE, children and parents will gather in the west lobby for Sanctuary services, or in the back of the Music Room for Living Stone, to collect palm branches and to follow the pastor in procession. Parents are welcome to process with younger children, if preferred.

★ NEWS JUST ADDED IS NOTED WITH A STAR



HOLY WEEK



PALM SUNDAY

March 29

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

With children's palm processional



PASSION VESPERS

Tuesday, March 31 • 7:30pm



MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 2

11:00am

7:00pm with stripping of the altar



GOOD FRIDAY

April 3

12:05-12:50pm lunch hour service

5:00pm*

7:00pm Tenebrae service



EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 4 • 10:00am • ECC



EASTER SUNDAY

April 5

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

Living Stone: 9:30am*

WORSHIP NOTES

Holy Communion at all services except Good Friday

No Saturday service on April 4

No Fellowship Breakfast, Sunday school, or Bible classes are held on Easter

*Livestreamed services

STPAULSDESPERES.ORG/LENT

See QR code on back page

PASSION VESPERS

HOLY WEEK • TUESDAY, MARCH 31 • 7:30PM
AMERICAN KANTOREI

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.

The evening of sacred music is complimentary, with a freewill offering, and is open to the public.



EASTER EGG HUNT

SATURDAY, APRIL 4 • 10AM • ECC CAMPUS

Community Event • 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.

Staggered Hunts • Egg hunt fun for all ages! Hunts are staggered so parents don't miss a moment. Babies and little ones will find eggs across a large grassy lawn. Next, young children will discover eggs throughout our playground that features a teepee, canoe, tunnel, and playhouse! The oldest will have an adventure searching for eggs among our naturalized, tree-lined playground trails.

Parking • Parking is available on the upper and lower Early Childhood Center parking lots, as well as in the adjacent St. Paul's Cemetery (one driveway to the north). We recommend allowing extra time for parking before activities begin.

Hosted by St. Paul's and our MomCo group.



EVENTS

PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT

Sun., 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/4rZQJ7 (See QR code on back page). Spots are limited.



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.)



WOMEN'S FRIENDSHIP BREAKFAST

Sat., April 25 • 8:30am • Greenbriar Hills Country Club
Registration and information coming soon.



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.)



PASTOR CALL NEWS

★ NEW: PASTOR WADE RETAINS HIS CALL TO ST. PAUL'S

Pastor Wade announces that after prayerful consideration, he has been led by God to continue his call ministry at St. Paul's, declining a recent call extended by Trinity Lutheran Church in Keene, New Hampshire. Read Pastor's letter, sent March 15, at conta.cc/4bsoeNh or in our *Weekly Word* e-letter.

★ NEW: UPDATE ON PASTORAL CALL PROCESS AND MINISTRY WORK

St. Paul's congregational president and chairman of the Board of Elders have shared an update on the pastoral call process, our two vacancies, and ministry plans during this period of transition, including FAQs. Read the congregational letter, sent March 18, at conta.cc/40ARkOh (See QR code on back page.)



BIBLE STUDIES

“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 rhemy@stpaulsdp.org) and will have the option to continue on to membership after completing the class.

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.



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.