

# ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

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Subscribe to our *Weekly Word* e-letter at [bit.ly/StP-WeeklyWord](http://bit.ly/StP-WeeklyWord)

## WITNESS

### HOLY WEEK IN-PERSON WORSHIP TOTAL • 2,713

Maundy Thursday • 386  
Good Friday • 738  
Easter 8:00am worship • 512  
Easter 9:30am worship • 502  
Easter 11:00am worship • 453  
Easter Living Stone worship • 122

### ONLINE VIEWING

Sanctuary: 398 • Living Stone: 101  
Approximately 798 total online viewers

## CALENDAR

### SUNDAY, APRIL 12

Worship Services

### MONDAY, APRIL 13

Morning Men's Bible Study, 6am, Zoom  
LWML Quilting Group, 9am, FH  
Small-setting Communion, Noon  
LWML Mtg, 1pm, FH  
Confirmation Class, 5:30pm, Youth Rm.  
Comfort Dog Mtg, 6:30pm, Youth Room  
Elders Mtg, 6:30pm, FH  
MomCo After Dark, 7pm, Music Room  
Church Council, 7:30pm, FH

### TUESDAY, APRIL 14

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

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15

Living Way Bible Study, 9am  
SPY High School Meetups, 5:30 pm, YR  
Choir Rehearsal, 7pm

### THURSDAY, APRIL 16

MomCo Meetup, 9am, FH  
Card Making, 6pm, Music Room  
Living Way Evening, 7pm, Conf. Room

### FRIDAY, APRIL 17

Bulletin Assembly, 9am, LL4

### SATURDAY, APRIL 18

Worship service, 5pm

### SUNDAY, APRIL 19

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 (40 weeks)	2,546,000
Received year-to-date	2,317,441
Difference actual/budget	-228,589
Weekly amount needed	82,699
Received last week	76,004

### CONSTRUCTION LOAN BALANCE

Current debt	\$7,043,402
Gifts received July 2025 to date	\$34,459

## MINISTRY EXPANSION CAMPAIGN

Total Commitments: \$14,585,612 • Gifts received to date: \$9,012,932



## MISSIONS CORNER

*April Mission of the Month:* Pastor Alexey Shepelev, WordRUS

## LCMS COMMUNITY NEWS

### ST. PAUL'S GOLF TOURNAMENT

*Mon., April 27* • Thank you for your support! The tournament is sold out, but sponsorship opportunities are still available; contact Principal Walker.

### CHURCH WORKER STUDY GRANTS

*Applications Due April 15* • The Lutheran Women's Missionary League, Missouri District, offers 2026–2027 grants for students preparing for full-time church work through LCMS universities or seminaries. Grants are based on financial need and commitment to Christian service. Read more at [bit.ly/4rCVHv2](http://bit.ly/4rCVHv2) for application information.

### ★ NEW: MARKWAY STRONG SPORTING CLAYS BENEFIT

*Sat., Aug. 8 • See flyer linked in Weekly Word*

Mark your calendar to join Markway Strong in support of Blood Cancer United, and in memory of congregation member Glenn Markway. Enjoy a sporting clays course at St. Louis Skeet and Trap, BBQ lunch, giveaways, and raffles; more info to follow. Contact Jolene at 314-302-1848. [markwaystrong.com](http://markwaystrong.com).

### ★ UPDATE: UNITY LUTH. SCHOOL FUNDRAISING DINNER

*Thurs., May 7 • 6:30pm • The Regency O'Fallon*

Share in the *Miracle Dinner* for Unity Lutheran School celebrates the Lord's work in the East St. Louis mission field. Students, alums, and friends will share about the school's service to the community. No charge to attend, but reservations are required; RSVP to [aaron-dickerson@att.net](mailto:aaron-dickerson@att.net). For more info, call or text St. Paul's member Glen Wildermuth at 314-603-0312. Venue: The Regency O'Fallon, 400 Regency Park Dr., O'Fallon, IL 62269.

### SEMINARY STUDENT OFF-SITE HOUSING NEEDS: RENTALS

*Aug. 2025–May 2027* • During the upcoming two-year demolition and redevelopment of married student apartments, Concordia Seminary hopes to connect sem families with congregants who may have a home or property available for rental. Those able to help may contact the seminary's administrator of residential services, Mike Broberg, at [brobergm@csl.edu](mailto:brobergm@csl.edu).

# THE GOOD NEWS

## SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2026



## TODAY

### SEMINARY TREAT BAG COLLECTION

*Concludes Today* • Thank you for your partnership with St. Paul's LWML in the collection of snacks for treat bags for Concordia Seminary graduates in anticipation of Call Day this month.

## THE WEEK AHEAD: APRIL 13-19



### SEMINARY TREAT BAG ASSEMBLY

*Mon., April 13 • 1pm • FH*

All are welcome to join the LWML as we assemble treat bags and write notes for graduating seminary students.

### SMALL-SETTING COMMUNION

*Mon., April 13 • Noon* • Special monthly worship service with Communion for members who may prefer to avoid large crowds or who have mobility issues.

### CARD-MAKING NIGHT

*Thurs., April 16 • 6-9pm • Music Room*

Enjoy an evening of creativity and conversation, crafting three simply beautiful cards ready to send to family and friends. All supplies provided in \$12/person materials fee. Register at [bit.ly/StP-Cardmaking](http://bit.ly/StP-Cardmaking) by 5pm on April 13 so materials can be prepped.

## WOMEN'S FRIENDSHIP BREAKFAST



*Saturday, April 25 • 8:30am (Doors open at 8am)*  
**\$25 per person • Register by April 20**  
**Greenbriar Hills Country Club**

Gather with the women of St. Paul's for a morning of friendship, fellowship, music, uplifting messages, and a delicious breakfast buffet. Plan to attend our 26th annual spring gathering with friends, family, colleagues, and neighbors (ages 8 and older).



Our keynote speaker is Rehema Kavugha, St. Paul's member and Director of Synod Relations at the Lutheran Church Extension Fund. Her message, "Let's TALK about it," explores how TALK can help us connect to ourselves, connect to others, and equip us to honor God by serving others. Acclaimed vocalist, Erin Bode, returns as our musical guest.

Register at [bit.ly/StP-WomensBrk](http://bit.ly/StP-WomensBrk) or scan QR code.

★ NEWS JUST ADDED IS NOTED WITH A STAR

## WHAT'S NEW?

### NEWS JUST ADDED

- 2700+ worship during Holy Week
- Comfort dogs support grieving Kentucky community
- Blood drive • May 1
- \$9 million giving milestone reached
- New facilities walkthrough • June 21
- New facilities dedication • Aug. 9
- Update: Principal's school staffing letter
- Community News*: Markway Strong sporting clays benefit • Aug. 8

### REMINDERS

- Register for women's breakfast by April 20
- Church worker study grant applications due April 15 (see back page)

### LARGE-PRINT

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

## HOLY WEEK WELCOMES 2700+



Easter brings one of the church's most joyful celebrations — the resurrection of our Lord. Holy Week also offers a time of homecoming for church members and an outreach to visitors who join us.

We were blessed to welcome 2,713 friends through our Maundy Thursday (386), Good Friday (738), Easter Sanctuary services (1467), and Living Stone service (122). Additional guests enjoyed our St. John Passion service in Holy Week.

Online, approximately 915 joined us for worship, including 16% who were international viewers.



## COMFORT DOG MINISTRY

### ★NEW: TABBY & ZION COMFORT DOGS SUPPORT A HURTING SCHOOL COMMUNITY

On Easter Monday, St. Paul's comfort dog ministry received an emergency request to comfort the students and staff of the Crittenden County School District in Marion, Kentucky, a district of more than 1,300 students. A beloved police officer, who also worked as the district's resource officer, was shot and is currently on life support; sadly, doctors do not expect the officer to survive. The suspect, also known in the community, was also killed.

As soon as the call came, Tabby, Zion, and Noah Comfort Dogs from St. Louis — along with four other comfort dogs from Illinois, Tennessee, and Indiana — quickly mobilized and drove down Monday evening to be in place by 7:00am Tuesday to greet students as they arrived at school. Our team stayed the entire school day to comfort every student and teacher who needed us.

We hugged, listened, and prayed with them as our beautiful comfort dogs did what they are trained to do: offer comfort and provide much-needed love and support to a grieving community.

Please keep the Crittenden community in your prayers.



Tabby (left) and Zion (right)



## NOW HIRING

### SUMMER CAMP COUNSELORS

Now hiring full-time summer camp counselors for our K-7 program! Applicants must be at least 18 years old and have a love for working with children. Education majors are encouraged to apply; join us for a fun and meaningful summer in a faith-filled environment, including exciting field trips! Please inquire with Nikki Wildman at [summer@stpaulsdp.org](mailto:summer@stpaulsdp.org).

### PRESCHOOL MATERNITY SUB

We are seeking a caring and dedicated maternity leave substitute teacher for our Preschool 3 classroom in August and September. This position is a wonderful opportunity to support our early childhood ministry, nurture young learners, and share God's love each day. Please inquire with Jessica Bangert at [jbangert@stpaulsdp.org](mailto:jbangert@stpaulsdp.org).

### 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. Visit our church website for job details: [stpaulsdesperes.org/news/employment](http://stpaulsdesperes.org/news/employment). If you are interested or know of a qualified candidate, please contact Whitney Wade at [wwade@stpaulsdp.org](mailto:wwade@stpaulsdp.org).

### ★NEW: BLOOD DRIVE

**Fri., May 1 • 10am-2pm • West Lobby**

Help save a life by donating blood at our American Red Cross blood drive. Choose your appointment time via the link on our website News page or at [rcblood.org/2Qn3GQE](http://rcblood.org/2Qn3GQE).

## SCHOOL NEWS

### ★APRIL SCHOOL STAFFING UPDATE

We would like to take a moment to share an update on our teacher call process and to thank you for your continued support of our school ministry.



This year, we have been actively seeking several teachers due to a combination of needs, including a new fourth-grade position and the replacement of three teachers who are leaving to focus on growing their families or to support their husbands as they enter vicarage.

As we work through this process, we are reminded that the number of available teachers from our Concordia universities is often limited, and many graduates have multiple opportunities to consider. Even so, we trust that God continues to guide and provide for our school in His perfect timing.

We are grateful to share that Shayla Fackler has accepted the call to serve as our fourth-grade teacher, Jennifer Kaber has accepted the call to serve as a kindergarten teacher, and Ava Booth has been contracted to teach in our middle school next year. At the same time, Ruth Eatherton has accepted a designation to serve at another Lutheran school, and Hannah Brockman has declined a call from St. Paul's. We have voted to designate Noah Clark as a middle school teacher.

Thank you for taking the time to participate in the call process and for your strong, ongoing support of St. Paul's school ministry. Your prayers, encouragement, and involvement are a true blessing as we continue this important work together. Please know that I am always willing to answer any questions you may have about this process!

Dawn Walker, Principal  
[dwalker@stpaulsdp.org](mailto:dwalker@stpaulsdp.org); 314.822.2771

## WALK-THROUGH

### "SEE THE WONDERS" WELCOME WALK-THROUGH Sunday, June 21

This Father's Day, come experience a first-look walk-through of our new ministry spaces, including the gym, Commons gathering space, kitchen, classrooms, and Meisch music suites. Enjoy a self-guided tour with hosted stations and refreshments (date subject to change).

## DEDICATION

### OFFICIAL DEDICATION SUNDAY

Sunday, August 9

Worship services, dedication, ribbon-cutting, special presentations, tours, refreshments, and more.

## \$9 MILLION MILESTONE

**THIS MONTH, ST. PAUL'S CELEBRATES REACHING A \$9 MILLION GIVING MILESTONE IN OUR TELL THE WONDERS HE HAS DONE MINISTRY EXPANSION CAMPAIGN, JUST 28 MONTHS INTO OUR FIVE-YEAR, \$15 MILLION INITIATIVE.**

**WE ARE BLESSED AND GRATEFUL AS WE LOOK FORWARD TO WITNESSING GOD'S WORK THROUGH OUR MINISTRY EXPANSION, THANKS TO OUR CONGREGATION'S GENEROSITY.**



SUMMER '24

AUTUMN

WINTER

SPRING '25

SUMMER

AUTUMN

WINTER

SPRING '26



BUILDING TIMELINE

JUNE COMPLETION

APRIL 2026

