

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

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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

APRIL 12
IN-PERSON WORSHIP TOTAL • 732

- 5:00pm worship • 114
- 8:00am worship • 320
- 9:30am worship • 129
- 11:00am worship • 92
- Living Stone worship • 77

ONLINE VIEWING

Sanctuary: 166 • Living Stone: 45
 Approximately 338 total online viewers

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, APRIL 19

Worship Services

MONDAY, APRIL 20

Morning Men's Bible Study, 6am, Zoom
 LWML Quilting Group, 9am, FH
 LWBS Leaders Mtg., 9am, Conf. Room
 Confirmation Class, 5:30pm, Youth Rm.
 Mission Board Mtg., 6pm, FH
 Elders Study, 6:30pm, Conf. Room

TUESDAY, APRIL 21

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

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22

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

THURSDAY, APRIL 23

Living Way Evening, 7pm, Conf. Room

FRIDAY, APRIL 24

Bulletin Assembly, 9am, LL4

SATURDAY, APRIL 25

Worship Service, 5pm

SUNDAY, APRIL 26

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 (41 weeks)	2,609,650
Received year-to-date	2,368,747
Difference actual/budget	-240,903
Weekly amount needed	85,550
Received last week	51,336

CONSTRUCTION LOAN BALANCE

Current debt	\$7,043,402
Gifts received July 2025 to date	\$35,261

MINISTRY EXPANSION CAMPAIGN

Total Commitments: \$14,585,612 • Gifts received to date: \$9,196,191



MISSIONS CORNER

April Mission of the Month: Missionary Pastor Alexey Shepelev uses a variety of media to reach out with the Gospel to speakers of Russian and other Slavic languages from his base in Crimea. For more information, go online to WordRus.org

LCMS COMMUNITY NEWS

News about LCMS events and activities at area Lutheran churches and schools can be found in the *Community Events* section of our *Thursday Weekly Word* e-letter.

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.

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. 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.



THE GOOD NEWS

SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2026

THE WEEK AHEAD: APRIL 20-26

★ NEW: MEN'S GOLF LEAGUE RETURNS

Wednesdays at 3:30pm • Aberdeen in Eureka

St. Paul's men's golf league has begun its 2026 season. Whether you can make it weekly or just a few times, all are welcome to play with fellow members and friends of St. Paul's; no pre-registration is necessary.



Tee times begin after 3:30pm on every Wednesday, weather permitting, through September, at Aberdeen Golf Course in Eureka. For more information, contact Pastor Wade, Craig Thorburg, or Kyle Unger.

WHAT'S NEW?

NEWS JUST ADDED

1. Call committee update
2. Men's golf league returns
3. Volunteer at VBS
4. Fellowship Group at MoBot • May 6
5. Now hiring: School assistant cook
6. Dutchtown Spring Cleanup • April 25
7. *Update:* Rental properties for seminarians

REMINDERS

- Register for women's breakfast by April 20

LARGE-PRINT

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

Last chance:
 Register by
 Monday

WOMEN'S FRIENDSHIP BREAKFAST

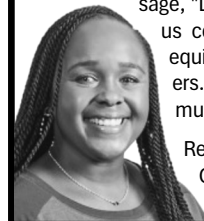
GREENBRIAR HILLS COUNTRY CLUB

SATURDAY, APRIL 25
 8:30am (Doors open at 8am)
 Register by April 20
 \$25 per person

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 or scan QR code at right.



★ NEWS JUST ADDED IS NOTED WITH A STAR



SERVICE & SUPPORT

★ NEW: JOIN THE DUTCHTOWN SPRING CLEANUP EFFORT

Sat., April 25 • 8:30am check-in • 9-11:30am Cleanup

Join Lutheran Development Group for the annual Dutchtown Spring Clean! We will be picking up trash and doing a general clean-up of Marquette Park and adjoining neighborhoods. Help make a positive impact while enjoying snacks, coffee, and water (all provided). Tools will be available, but please bring gloves and wear closed-toe shoes. Park along Gasconade and Compton; meet at the Fieldhouse in Marquette Park.



Signup and details at bit.ly/Dutchtown26.

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's News page or at rcblood.org/2Qn3GQE.



★ UPDATED: SEMINARY SEEKING OFF-SITE RENTAL PROPERTY CONNECTIONS

Aug. 2025-May 2027 • During the upcoming two-year demolition and redevelopment of married student apartments, Concordia Seminary hopes to connect seminary families with available rentals.

Michael Broberg, the seminary's administrator of residential services, shares that, "Our students would be blessed by any members who may have a home, condo, or apartment to rent within a reasonable drive of the seminary and at a rate that fits the modest means of a seminarian."

FAQ: Those with properties to rent are often curious what's typical in a seminarian's budget. Current on-campus married-student housing runs about \$960 per month for a 2-bedroom and \$1060 per month for a 3-bedroom, with average monthly electrical costs around \$120.

Next Steps: Those able to help are invited to contact Michael Broberg at brobergm@csl.edu.



JOIN OUR VBS VOLUNTEER TEAM!

VBS Is July 13-17 • 9am-Noon

The Lord has blessed us with 300+ VBS campers, and we would love your help to share the love of Jesus with them at "Rainforest Falls" VBS! Please prayerfully consider joining our VBS volunteer team. Ways to serve include:

- Class Leaders who take groups of children from station to station (no teaching)
- Preparing and teaching a station (such as Crafts, Bible, Imagination Station)
- Prepping crafts and materials before VBS begins
- ... and most importantly, praying that the Good News of Jesus be shared!



Adults and teens (5th grade+) who volunteer early enjoy first pick of their favorite jobs or days. We're flexible if your plans or available days change.

For further questions or to seek other ways to serve, please contact Aunnee Trampe at atrampe@stpaulsdp.org.

Volunteer at bit.ly/StP-helper, scan QR code, or visit our website's VBS tab.



★ NEW: FELLOWSHIP GROUP AT MO. BOTANICAL

Wed., May 6 • Meet 10:45am at St. Paul's

Join us at the Missouri Botanical Gardens as we take a tram tour and enjoy lunch at the garden cafe; admission is free before noon. Meet at the east parking lot at church at 10:45am. For info, contact Sharon Lutz at 314-713-3087 or Glenda Smith at 314-570-6284.

CALL COMMITTEE NEWS

★ NEW: APRIL UPDATE FROM THE SENIOR PASTOR CALL COMMITTEE

After going through the 60-plus list of candidates, the call committee has chosen eight candidates for Zoom interviews, which began on April 7 and concluded on April 14.

The committee is now in the process of evaluating the candidate interviews and identifying candidates for potential in-person visits to St. Paul's. The hope is to conclude these visits by the end of May.

We continue in prayer that God will lead us to the man who will be our next senior pastor.

- Find all call committee updates, timelines, and related congregational resources on our website's Member Portal menu, under the Pastor Call tab.

SAVE THE DATES

CONFIRMATION EXAMINATION

Thurs., April 30 • 6:30pm • Sanctuary

CONFIRMATION DAY

Sat., May 2 • 10am • Sanctuary

MOTHER'S DAY & GRAD RECOGNITION

Sun., May 10 • High school graduate recognition at 11am, family photo zone, Mother's Day bookmark giveaway.

ASCENSION

Thurs., May 14 • 7pm • Festival worship service with orchestra and choirs, with Strawberry Social following.

VOTERS' MEETING

Sun., May 17 • Noon • General business, budget approval.

"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).

OFFICIAL DEDICATION SUNDAY • AUGUST 9

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



SUMMER '24

AUTUMN

WINTER

SPRING '25

SUMMER

AUTUMN

WINTER

SPRING '26



BUILDING TIMELINE

JUNE COMPLETION



NOW HIRING

★ NEW: SCHOOL ASSISTANT COOK

St. Paul's Lutheran School is seeking a part-time assistant cook to help prepare and serve meals for our students for the 2026-27 school year. We are looking for someone who is joyful, servant-hearted, and loves working with children. Hours are approximately 8am-1:30pm on school days. If you are interested, please provide your resume to Principal Dawn Walker, dwalker@stpaulsdp.org. Thank you for supporting the ministry of St. Paul's!



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.



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.



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. If you are interested or know of a qualified candidate, please contact Whitney Wade at wwade@stpaulsdp.org.

