

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

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Subscribe to our *Weekly Word* e-letter at bit.ly/StP-WeeklyWord

WITNESS

APRIL 24

IN-PERSON WORSHIP TOTAL • 707

5:00pm worship • 99
8:00am worship • 250
9:30am worship • 155
11:00am worship • 136
Living Stone worship • 67

ONLINE VIEWING

Sanctuary: 166 • Living Stone: 53
Approximately 350 total online viewers

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, MAY 3

Worship Services

MONDAY, MAY 4

Morning Men's Bible Study, 6am, Zoom
LWML Quilting Group, 9am, FH
Small-setting Communion, Noon
Elders Mtg., 6:30pm, FH
Church Council, 7:30pm, FH

TUESDAY, MAY 5

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

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6

Senior Fellowship Luncheon, Offsite
SPY High School Meetup, 5:30 pm, YR
Choir Rehearsal, 7pm

THURSDAY, MAY 7

MomCo Meetup, 9am, FH

FRIDAY, MAY 8

Bulletin Assembly, 9am, LL4

SATURDAY, MAY 9

Worship Service, 5pm

SUNDAY, MAY 10

Mother's Day
High School Senior Recognition, 11am
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 (43 weeks)	2,736,950
Received year-to-date	2,471,557
Difference actual/budget	-265,393
Weekly amount needed	93,138
Received last week	32,300

CONSTRUCTION LOAN BALANCE

Current debt	\$7,040,553
Gifts received July 2025 to date	\$36,538

MINISTRY EXPANSION CAMPAIGN

Total Commitments: \$14,585,612 • Gifts received to date: \$9,245,876



MISSIONS CORNER

★ **NEW: MAY MISSION OF THE MONTH: Lutheran Jamaica Mission** LCMS mission has been active in Jamaica for 34 years. Rev. Obot Ite pastors two congregations in the capital Kingston and does outreach and leader development. Learn more at www.lmjamaica.org.

April Mission of the Month Total Alexey Shepelev-Russia \$4,532

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 • Details/flyer in *Weekly Word* e-letter

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.

★NEW: CHORAL EVENING PRAYER FOR EASTER

Sun., May 10 • 3pm • *Concordia Seminary Chapel*

Features Bach Cantata #4; program notes in *Weekly Word*. Livestreamed at csl.edu/live

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 congregants who may have a home, condo, or apartment available for rental. Those able to help may contact the seminary's administrator of residential services, Mike Broberg, at brobergm@csl.edu. Details in our *Weekly Word* e-letter, under *LCMS Community News*.



THE GOOD NEWS

SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2026

TODAY

FOOD DRIVE COLLECTION

Thank you for helping us help others. Your food pantry donations support families with a range of needs, extending care through community outreach. On Sunday, find tables at the church's east and west entrances. Cash and checks will also be accepted on Sunday. (No glass containers or out-of-date items, please.)



★NEW: OPEN SCHOOL PLAYGROUND ON SUNDAYS

8am-Noon • Families, feel free to stay and play on Sunday mornings!

THE WEEK AHEAD: MAY 4-10

SMALL-SETTING COMMUNION

Mon., May 4 • Noon

Did you know we offer a special small-setting Communion service with one of our pastors on the first Monday of each month? It's held in our sanctuary but with a smaller gathering, making it a quieter, easy-to-navigate option for those who prefer to avoid larger crowds or who are managing mobility challenges.

★ 8TH GRADERS INVITED TO HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH NIGHT

Wed., May 6 • 5:30pm • Youth Room • Details on next page.

★UPDATED: FELLOWSHIP GROUP AT MO. BOTANICAL

Wed., May 6 • Meet 11:30am in Mo. Botanical Lobby

Join us at the Missouri Botanical Gardens as we enjoy lunch at the garden cafe; admission is free before noon. For info, or if you wish to carpool or need transportation, contact Sharon Lutz at 314-713-3087 or Glenda Smith at 314-570-6284.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

Thurs., May 7 • Noon • Des Peres Park

Nationwide in cities and townships, the National Day of Prayer — instituted in 1952 — calls Americans to pause in prayer for the nation. The City of Des Peres invites neighbors and citizens to gather at Des Peres Park around the lakeside pavilion.

SUNDAY, MAY 10: MOTHER'S DAY & GRAD RECOGNITION

PHOTO ZONE • "Say cheese!" For many, May 10 is a special day to celebrate those we love — mothers, graduates, friends, and more. All are invited to stop by the decorated backdrop in the Ballas lobby (west) and capture a family photo to remember the day.

MOTHER'S DAY BOOKMARKS • All ladies are encouraged to enjoy a Mother's Day Bible bookmark May 9-10, as well as any congregation member who would like one. You're also welcomed to take a bookmark home to gift to your mom. Find them displayed in the church narthex and music room for Living Stone.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE RECOGNITION • Join us in recognizing our high school grads at the 11am sanctuary worship service on Sunday, May 10. We will have gift bags waiting for graduates in the Ballas lobby. We rejoice with our grads and their families and look forward to celebrating this milestone as a congregation.



Website news page, sign-up links, and news submission form are at stpaulsdesperes.org/news

YOUTH GROUP

★ 8TH GRADERS INVITED TO HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH NIGHT

Wed., May 6 • 5:30-7:30pm • Youth Room

Calling all eighth graders of the congregation! As you finish your middle-school years and move into a new chapter of high-school life — new school experiences, social community, and growing faith — we're excited to welcome you and introduce you to our high school youth group.

Join us for an evening of pizza, ice cream, and kickball at Des Peres Park. We'll meet in the youth room first for food, then head to the park for games and kickball.

Questions about high school youth group? We have answers — contact youth coordinator Becky Blake at bblake@stpaulsdp.org and visit our website's [Family > Youth Ministry](#) tab.



VOTERS' MEETING

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

LINK: YOUNG ADULT GATHERINGS

WHAT IS LINK?

"LINK" is St. Paul's young adult group for ages 21+ that gathers for social meetups, Bible studies, and service projects.

LINK IS BACK!

LINK is "linking" back together to walk through young adulthood with one another!

- **Mon., May 11 at 6:30pm** • Come join us for mini golf at Aloha Mini Golf and Shaved Ice on Big Bend Rd.
- **Sat., May 30 at 8:30am** • We will be gathering for a Table Talk (just an hour of fellowship over coffee) at Higher Groundz Coffee and Tea in Maryland Heights.
- No RSVP is needed, but completing this interest form is appreciated: bit.ly/LINK-May
- Questions? Contact Katarina Hinck at khinck@stpaulsdp.org.




THE FEAST OF THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

THURSDAY, MAY 14 • 7PM DIVINE SERVICE


"Alleluia! Christ has ascended into heaven! And He will come again! Alleluia!"

Join us for the Ascension Day Divine Service as we celebrate Christ's return to the right hand of the throne of God. The Thursday evening festival service with St. Paul's intergenerational choir and orchestra marks the final offering of Music at St. Paul's 2025-2026 season.

We welcome guest preacher Rev. Dr. Heath Trampe, with the sermon theme "Simply Christian."

STRAWBERRY SOCIAL

Following the service, all are invited to our annual Strawberry Social to enjoy fresh strawberries, shortcake, and ice cream. Hosted by our youth group.



SERVICE & SUPPORT

SERVE MEALS AT RONALD McDONALD HOUSE

Wed., May 13 • 4:30-6:30pm



Community care can be as simple as sharing a meal. Come meal-prepare with us in the Ronald McDonald House kitchen and help provide a home-cooked meal for visiting families of seriously ill children staying at the Des Peres RMD House. Sign up at bit.ly/StP-RMH.

GROUPS & ACTIVITIES

★ NEW: LWML MEETING

Mon., May 11 • 12:30pm • FH

Join us with your lunch at 12:30 for a time of fellowship, then an informal meeting at 1:00. We'll toss around ideas for next year and discuss details about the May 30 tag sale.

★ NEW: CARD-MAKING NIGHT

Thurs., May 21 • 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 by 5pm on May 18 so materials can be prepped.

★ NEW: CHRISTIAN READERS GROUP

Tues., May 26 • 7pm • FH

Led by Rev. Dr. Kent Burreson, the group reads across a variety of genres, exploring Christian themes and how literature informs Christian faith and life. May's book is C.S. Lewis' *A Grief Observed*.

MEN'S GOLF LEAGUE

Wednesdays at 3:30pm • Aberdeen in Eureka

Read more in the *Weekly Word* e-letter.

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
- 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. Questions: Contact Annee Trampe at atrampe@stpaulsdp.org.

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



NOW HIRING

Visit our church website for job details: stpaulsdesperes.org/news/employment

K-7 SUMMER CAMP COUNSELORS

Full-time counselors for K-7 program with faith-filled activities and field trips. Must be 18+; education majors are encouraged, but not necessary. Inquire with Nikki Wildman at summer@stpaulsdp.org.

SCHOOL ASSISTANT COOK

Part-time assistant cook preparing and serving school meals, who enjoys working with children. Hours approx. 8am-1:30pm on school days. Inquire with Dawn Walker at dwalker@stpaulsdp.org.

PRESCHOOL MATERNITY SUB

Caring and dedicated ECC maternity-leave substitute for Preschool 3 classroom in Aug.-Sept. nurturing young learners. Inquire with Jessica Bangert at jbangert@stpaulsdp.org.

MINISTRY EXPANSION OPENING

"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 (date subject to change).

OFFICIAL DEDICATION SUNDAY

Sunday, August 9

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

