

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-subscribe](#)

Sunday Classes

Bible Study Hour 9:30am

Gospel of Matthew • Music Room

Simulcast live on 850AM and KFJO.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 Room; 9th-12th: Youth Room

Little Lambs • School Rm. 103

Witness

Aug. 17 In-Person Worship Total • 912

Living Stone worship • 109

5:00pm worship • 124

8:00am worship • 347

9:30am worship • 194

11:00am worship • 138

Online Viewing

Sanctuary: 152 • Living Stone: 44

Approximately 314 total online viewers

Giving

Annual offering budget \$ 3,309,800

Budget year-to-date (7 weeks) 445,550

Received year-to-date 313,573

Difference actual/budget -131,977

Wkly. amt. needed to meet budget 66,583

Received last week 44,400

Loan balance

Current debt \$ 0.00

Gifts received July 2024 to date \$ 7,059

Calendar

Sunday, Aug. 24

Worship Services

Monday, Aug. 25

Men’s Bible Study, 6am, Zoom

LWML Quilting Group, 9am, FH

Monday Night Confirmation, 5:30pm, Youth Room

GriefShare 6pm, LL4

Tuesday, Aug. 26

Call Committee Mtg., 7pm, Conf. Room

Wednesday, Aug. 27

Choir Rehearsal, 7pm

Thursday, Aug. 28

Friday, Aug. 29

Bulletin Assembly, 9am, LL4

Blood Drive, 10am-3pm, West Lobby

Saturday, Aug. 30

Worship Service, 5pm

Sunday, Aug. 31

Worship Services

How to Submit News

News Due by 9am Wednesdays

Activity leaders are invited to submit news with our easy submission form. You’ll receive an immediate email confirmation that your news has been received and when it will run. Streamlining with a form has been especially helpful to our church staff, who manage 300-500 news listings a year. Look for the "Submit News" buttons at the top of our website News page and *Weekly Word*.

Ministry Expansion Campaign

Total Commitments: \$14,585,612 • Gifts received to date: \$6,732,567



Now Hiring

Visit our church website for job details: [stpaulsdesperes.org/news/employment](#)

- Church: Facilities Maintenance Technician
- ECC: Substitute Teacher; Afternoon Shifts
- K-8 School Substitute Teacher

Missions Corner

August Mission of the Month • Erin Mackenzie serves as an LCMS missionary in the Dominican Republic. She is coordinating short-term volunteer teams who serve missions and partner churches in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Community News

NEW: Memorial Benefit Event: “Rise with Chris”

Sept. 21 • 5-8pm • Ryze Adventure Park, Maryland Heights

Come join us for this inaugural event. We look forward to celebrating and remembering Chris Handy — while sharing fun, laughter, and a bit of adventure together. Something for all ages with miniature golf, obstacle course, yard games. This event will benefit and help establish *Celebrate Recovery* ministry at St. Paul’s, a Christ-centered safe haven to find freedom from your hurts, habits, and hang-ups. Learn more and purchase tickets at [www.risewithchris.org](#)





Now Hiring Facilities Maintenance Technician

We’re expanding our facilities team! Qualified candidates will have general maintenance and carpentry experience, including industry-accepted skills such as painting, light carpentry, and light industrial work, with the ability to lift 50 pounds and climb a 16-foot ladder. For inquiries or referrals, contact Steven Brosch, Facilities Manager ([sbrosch@stpaulsdp.org](#), 314-600-4158).



THE GOOD NEWS

Saturday, August 23 and

Sunday, August 24, 2025

This Weekend

Foundation Bible Study Led by Mr. Sterling
Sun., Aug. 24 • 9:30am in FH • Final session.

High School Bible Study
Beginning Sun., Aug. 24 • 9:30-10:30am • Youth Room

Join us each Sunday for a Bible Study just for high school students. Together we will dive in and examine the Bible developing a deeper understanding of its message and meaning.

The Week Ahead: Aug. 25-31


Youth Group Kickoff for 1st-4th Grade
Wed., Aug. 27 • 5:30pm-700pm • School Building

SPY Starters represents kids’ introduction to a youth group experience; parents, make sure your kids are part of the excitement at our first event of the year! SPY Starters, just for 1st-4th graders, is all about faith-building foundations, friendships, fun, music, and games! August’s devo explores Christ as our joy, based on 1 Thess. 5:16; we’ll learn a new song with motions — "Can't Steal My Joy" by Queen & Lake — and enjoy pizza.

- To attend, children must be pre-registered at [bit.ly/4oNvgf](#). Parents, we need your help for a fun and safe event; please sign up to chaperone at [bit.ly/3WV3pCH](#).
- NEW: Our youth ministry web page has been refreshed with 2025-26 updates. Signup link buttons can also always be found there at [stpaulsdesperes.org](#) > Families > Youth Ministry.

Blood Drive
Fri., Aug., 29 • 10am–3pm • Ballas Lobby
Help save a life by donating blood at our American Red Cross blood drive. Choose your appointment time at [rcblood.org/2Qn3GQE](#) or through the link on our website News page.

NEW: May We Send Your College Student Gift Cards & Notes?



Our College Connection team reaches out to encourage our college students in their Christian faith, sends cards and care packages, and prays for students. Parents: We don't want your college student to miss out! Help us keep our mailing lists up-to-date by sharing their information, each and every school year, at [bit.ly/StP-College](#)

Reminders

- Sign up by Aug. 31 for meal packing so St. Paul’s can guarantee its Oct. time slot
- Parents, sign kids up for SPY Starters on Aug. 27
- Ten more Confirmation prayer partners needed

News Just Added

- 7 new listings; 14 repeated listings
- 30% increase in parking spaces
 - Submit student address for College Connection
 - Christian Readers Group • Begins Sept. 9
 - What We Believe class • Begins Sept. 14
 - Living Way • Begins Sept. 10 & 11
 - Small-Setting Communion moves to Sept. 8 due to Labor Day
 - Memorial benefit event in honor of Christ Handy (back page)



Congregational Retreat

NEW: 18th Retreat at Trout Lodge

Friday to Sunday, October 3-5
Register by September 19

Join us for this fun-filled, adventure-packed, faith-inspired weekend of activities, food, fellowship, worship, and celebration as we renew our relationship with God, others, and ourselves.

Our keynote speaker, Pastor Will Hanke, will present an engaging study of “First Things First: How to Fear, Love, and Trust in God in a World of Distraction.” Youth will also enjoy specially-planned activities.

This congregation-wide event is for all ages and stages of life. Find full details on our retreat webpage (tab under News page), and in brochures in the east lobby. • Space in the lodge is limited, so register early to secure your room!



Retreat Info/Registration



New Bible Studies

NEW: Living Way • In-Depth Weekly Bible Study

Begins Sept. 10 at 9am & Sept. 11 at 7pm

Join us next month for Living Way, a weekly Bible study for men and women that allows for in-depth learning integrated in three ways: small group discussion, large-group pastor's lecture, and at-home lesson worksheets.

- **2025-2026: Daniel & 1 Corinthians** • Through Daniel, we'll see a powerful demonstration of God's promise to bless the world through Israel and His promise of a Savior. The God of Daniel, the God of Israel, controls kingdoms and history so that His will may be done in terms of both judgment and eternal redemption. Our God is sovereign over the kingdoms of men.
- **Wednesday mornings:** Men and women meet in separate small groups. Child-care is available.
- **Thursday evenings:** Men and women combine in the same small group, with a closing lecture that is a recording of the pastor's Wednesday morning lecture.
- **Register** at bit.ly/4dcVckh or learn more on our website *Bible Studies* page.



NEW: What We Believe Class

Sun., Sept. 14 - Oct. 26 • 9:30am • School Science Room

Delve into what the Bible teaches in our upcoming *What We Believe* class. All are welcome, whether to refresh your understanding or to learn something new. Meeting for six sessions, our pastor-led class offers a comfortable setting and comprehensive teaching on foundational topics of the faith including Christ, Baptism, Communion, the Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer, and more. (No class Oct. 5.)

- Although there is no obligation to become a member of St. Paul's after completing the class, participants who agree with what is taught and would like to continue on to membership are warmly welcomed.
- Learn more on our website *Bible Studies* page or contact Renee in the church office to register (rhemmy@stpaulsdp.org; 314-822-0447).



Announcements

NEW: 30% Increase in Parking Spaces

We're pleased to announce that 22 new on-campus parking spaces have been added to the northeast corner of our parking lot (school/park end), made available due to a reconfiguration of construction supply needs. This brings total spaces for congregational use to 94 — a 30% increase. When construction is complete in 2026, parking will be fully restored to its previous capacity.



NEW: Labor Day Scheduling

- Small-Setting Communion moves to Mon., Sept. 8 due to Labor Day on Sept. 1.
- Our church office will be closed in observance of Labor Day.

Call Committee August Update

The Call Committee is continuing its work to uncover God's plans for the next senior pastor to serve at St. Paul's. The committee is meeting by video with six semi-finalists during August, and is planning to have several finalists visit St. Paul's in person in September for interviews. We are hopeful to issue a call in the fall. Please keep the process, and all of the candidates in your prayers as we move forward to seek God's will. *More Call committee info can be found on our website Member Portal.*



Service & Support

UPDATE: October Meal-Packing Event + Lunch

Sat., Oct. 18 • 9:30-11:45am • Off-Site

Join others from St. Paul's by participating in the Feed My Starving Children *MobilePack* event hosted by Gateway Christian Church. Sign up by August 31 to guarantee this meal-packing time slot. Lunch to follow the event in Fellowship Hall. For more info, video, and sign-up, visit the SignUpGenius page at bit.ly/47eqHQP

Please sign up
by Aug 31

SPY = Saint Paul's Youth Groups

ALL kids in the congregation are invited!

Kickoff to SPY Starters • Wed., Aug. 27 • Details, front page

SPY Middle School for 5th-6th Grade

Kickoff: Fri., Sept. 5 • 6:30-8pm

All 5th and 6th graders are invited! Grounded and growing: The middle school years are a key time for faith formation and forging friendships, and our SPY Middle School is filled with relatable devos and conversation — and of course, games, fun, and food! We also have a 7th-8th grade SPY Middle School group that meets on different dates than 5th-6th. Watch for signups and info to follow.

SPY High School: Wednesday Night Meetups

Weekly 5:30-7pm • Youth Room • Join us! Wednesday meetups are an opportunity each week for students in grades 9-12 to gather around Bible study, games, snacks, and service. Youth group is a place in the midst of a busy week where students can rest in God's Word and fellowship with one another.



Groups & Events

Fellowship Group Luncheon & Cathedral Tour

Wed., Sept. 3 • 11am • RSVP

Come one, come all! Our church Fellowship Group is an active, involved group who enjoy luncheons, outings, and games, with activities scheduled for the first Wednesday of the month. As we resume for the year, you're invited to our first activity: a group tour of the Cathedral Basilica (\$4 basilica donation required; 4431 Lindell) and lunch at Zia's on the Hill (5256 Wilson). Car pooling from St. Paul's is available. Call Sharon Lutz to RSVP at 314-713-3087.

Moms, Get Connected at MomCo!

Open House • Thurs., Sept. 4 • 9-11am • FH

Join us for meetups on the first and third Thursday of the month; we'll enjoy breakfast, light devotion, and an opportunity to connect with other moms. Show up as you are and join the fun! Read more at bit.ly/StP-MomCo. For more information, join our open house — kids are invited too! — or contact coordinator Heather Stoll (heathermk09@gmail.com; 636-328-1928).

NEW: Christian Readers Group

Begins Tues., Sept. 9 • 7pm • Conf. Room

Read, learn, discuss, repeat: Our monthly Christian readers group launches for the year with nine new books to discover! Led by St. Paul's member Rev. Dr. Kent Burrenson, the group will read across a variety of genres such as classic literature, modern fiction, history, mystery, and more, exploring Christian themes and how literature informs Christian faith and life. Meets second Tuesdays from September to May. September's book is Lloyd Douglas' *The Robe*. Find the year's book schedule on our website's *Ministries* > *Get Connected* page.

Men's Softball Begins in September

Men 18 years and up, join us for a fun hour or two of fellowship playing softball at Kirkwood Park on Thursday nights for six weeks starting in late September. Contact John Hoover (hoov97@hotmail.com; 314-276-3370).

