

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 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 Room; 9th-12th: Youth Room

Little Lambs • School Room 103

Calendar

Sunday, Sept. 7

Worship Services

Monday, Sept. 8

Morning Men’s Bible Study, 6am
LWML Quilting Group, 9am, FH
LWBS Leaders Mtg., 9am, Conf. Room
Small-Setting Communion, Noon
LWML Mtg. 5:30pm, Off-site
Monday Night Confirmation Class, 5:30pm, Youth Room

Comfort Dog Mtg., 6:30pm, Music Room
Social Ministry, 6:30pm, Conf. Room
Elders, 6:30pm, FH
MomCo After Dark Meetup, 7pm, YR
Church Council, 7:30pm, FH

Tuesday, Sept. 9

Call Committee Mtg., 7pm, Off-site
Christian Readers, 7pm, Conf. Room

Wednesday, 10

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

Thursday, Sept. 11

Living Way Evening, 7pm, Conf. Room

Friday, Sept. 12

Bulletin Assembly, 9am, LL4

Saturday, Sept. 13

Worship Service, 5pm

Sunday, Sept. 13

Worship Services
High School Mission Trip Mtg, Noon, FH

Witness: Aug. 31

In-Person Worship Total • 674

Living Stone worship • 88
5:00pm worship • 103
8:00am worship • 175
9:30am worship • 184
11:00am worship • 124

Online Viewing

Sanctuary: 173 • **Living Stone:** 54
Approximately 363 total online viewers

Giving

Annual offering budget	\$3,309,800
Budget year-to-date (9 weeks)	572,850
Received year-to-date	361,964
Difference actual/budget	210,886
Wkly. amt. needed to meet budget	68,554
Received last week	20,154

Loan balance

Current debt	\$ 0.00
Gifts received July 2024 to date	\$ 9,145

Ministry Expansion Campaign

Total Commitments: \$14,585,612 • Gifts received to date: \$6,780,037



Employment

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

- Church: Facilities Maintenance Technician
- Early Childhood Center: Substitute Teacher; Afternoon Shifts
- K-8 School Substitute Teacher

Missions Corner

September Mission of the Month • Bethlehem Lutheran Church

August Mission of the Month • Erin Mackenzie • Total \$5,684

Community News

Memorial Benefit Event: “Rise with Chris”

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

Register for your tickets and t-shirt before Sept. 7. 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 at www.risewithchris.org



UPDATE: Feb. Israel Trip Hosted by Pastor Schudde

The Israel trip with Pastor Schudde and his wife, Kris, is still on for February 17–26, 2025 with a few open spots remaining. The travel situation has greatly improved, with all major airlines resuming flights to Tel Aviv, and no missile launches/attacks since July 1; all biblical sites are accessible for visits. Imagine Tours has 25+ tours scheduled through Dec. 31, and 150+ planned for 2026.



THE GOOD NEWS

Saturday, September 6
and

Sunday, September 7, 2025



Exciting Campus
Improvements Coming!

Beginning Monday, September 8, construction will begin on the east side of our entire campus. During this time the east (park-side) entrance to the church will be closed. While this means we will no longer be able to use the walkway from the park to the church during this time, the improvements will bring many blessings to our campus!

Pinnacle will be creating a new drive along the east side, which includes additional parking spaces, required stormwater drainage, and a new entrance and exit flow onto Manchester Road.

The project is expected to be completed by December 1, 2025 — just in time for us to enjoy expanded parking and improved access for the Christmas season!

The Week Ahead: Sept. 8-14

NEW: Moms, Get Connected at MomCo After Dark

Mon., Sept. 8 • 7-8:30pm • Music Room

Evening Meetups: You are warmly welcomed to our evening motherhood group that includes moms from pregnancy through their children’s early childhood and middle school years. At MomCo After Dark, we experience true community, personal growth, practical help, and spiritual hope to guide us through the various stages of motherhood. Learn more on our website Ministries > MomCo page or from coordinators Andrea Lindquist or Holly Griebenaw.

NEW: Small-Setting Communion

Mon., Sept. 8 • Noon • Special monthly worship service with Communion for members who may prefer to avoid large crowds or who have mobility issues.

LWML Meets for Gumbo Supper & Presentation

Mon., Sept. 8 • 5:30pm • Off-site

Our Lutheran Women’s Missionary League invites you for a gumbo soup supper (5:30), with a devotion and presentation (6:30) led by deaconess fieldworker Cathy Newman, who will discuss *Forged by Fire*, recipient of an LWML mites grant to purchase a laundry trailer. Location: Annex at Lutheran Hour Ministries, 660 Mason Ridge Center Dr.

Christian Readers Group

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

September’s book is Lloyd Douglas’ *The Robe*. Led by Rev. Dr. Kent Bureson, the group reads across a variety of genres, exploring Christian themes and how literature informs Christian faith and life.

Bible Studies Starting Next Week

Living Way: Sept. 10/11 • **What We Believe:** Sept. 14 • Details, next page.

Food Drive for Bethlehem Lutheran

Sat. & Sun., Sept. 13-14 • Read more, next page.

High School Mission Trip Announcement Meeting

Sun., Sept. 14 • Noon-1pm • FH

Big news is coming! High schoolers and parents, don’t miss our info meeting where we’ll reveal the destination of our next summer mission trip. The youth trip, held the last week of July 2026, is meaningful opportunity to serve, grow, and connect.

Reminders

- Community News: Register by Sept. 7 for “Rise with Chris” memorial event
- Bring food drive items next Sunday
- Register for Living Way • Begins next week

News Just Added

7 new listings; 10 repeated listings

- Exciting campus improvements coming!
- Call committee update
- MomCo After Dark • Begins Sept. 8
- Small-Setting Communion • Sept. 8
- Guest speaker Dr. Bolling • Sept. 14
- Altar Guild seeking volunteers
- Update: Israel trip with Pastor Schudde



Congregational Retreat at Trout Lodge

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!*

Register by
Sept. 19

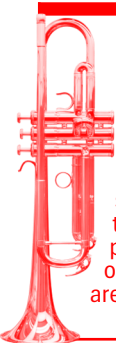


Retreat Info/Registration

Music at St. Paul's Season Debut

Choral Vespers: Feast of St. Michael & All Angels
Sun., Sept. 28 • 4pm

Under the directorship of Kantor Matthew Gerhard and in its 34th season, this annual series of special services and musical events brings to St. Paul's guest ensembles and artists who, through words and music, proclaim the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Find the season schedule on our website *Music* page at stpaulsdesperes.org/music. Musical events are complimentary and open to all; invite your family and friends.



New Bible Studies

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.

Register at
bit.ly/StP-LW

- **2025-2026: Daniel & 1 Corinthians** • Through Daniel, we see God's promise to bless the world through Israel and send a Savior. The God of Israel rules history and kingdoms — our God is sovereign over all.
- **Wednesday mornings:** Men and women meet in separate small groups. Childcare 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 and learn more on our website *Bible Studies* page.

What We Believe Class

Sun., Sept. 14 - Oct. 26 (Except oct. 5) • 9:30am • 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.

- 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).



Call Committee News

NEW: September Update: In-Person Interviews Ahead

The Call committee is working to discover God's plans for our next senior pastor at St. Paul's. The committee has interviewed several finalists and will be inviting a few to visit in person for interviews in the coming weeks. We are hopeful to issue a Call in the fall but remain grounded in the confidence that this is in God's timing. Please keep the process and the candidates in your prayers as we move forward to seek God's will.



Board of Missions

NEW: Guest Speaker Dr. Janine Bolling from Bethlehem

Sun., Sept. 14 • 9:30am • Church LL3

We welcome special guest speaker Dr. Janine Bolling of Bethlehem Lutheran School, our Mission of the Month. Dr. Bolling will discuss ways the school nurtures intergenerational disciples to share Christ's message, and their expanding educational offerings for underserved North City and North County communities. Bethlehem serves K-5th at their MicroSchool and operates three childcare sites for BLC Babies and BLC Early Learners.

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).



Service & Support

Food Drive for Bethlehem Lutheran

Sat. & Sun., Sept. 13-14

St. Paul's Social Ministry team is sponsoring a special food drive benefiting Bethlehem's food pantry in North St. Louis. Since the May 16 tornado, the pantry has experienced a significant increase in demand as residents struggle with the added expenses in the aftermath of the storm.

- We welcome canned goods and shelf-stable packaged foods. Please, no out-of-date items or glass containers. Thanks for helping us help others!
- **Saturday drop-off:** Please place items in the food barrel in the narthex.
- **Sunday drop-off:** Find tables in church lobbies for food donations, cash, or checks.



NEW: Altar Guild Seeking Volunteers

Altar guild members prepare and maintain the sacred vessels, linens, and altar items used in our worship services. On Communion Sundays, guild members help with preparation, setting up, and cleaning up. We invite you to join us to serve in either the Sanctuary or Living Stone. Learn more from Julie Peper (314-630-5526) or Sue Franson (636-861-0794).



College Connection

May We Send Your College Student Gift Cards & Notes?

Our College Connection team reaches out to encourage 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



BUILDING TIMELINE

SUMMER '24

AUTUMN

WINTER

SPRING '25

SUMMER

AUTUMN

WINTER

SPRING

2ND QUARTER '26

SEPT. 2025

