

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

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

WITNESS

SEPT. 6 WORSHIP ATTENDANCE • 713

5:00pm worship • 133
8:00am worship • 168
9:30am • 178
11:00am worship • 119
Living Stone worship • 115

ONLINE VIEWING

Sanctuary: 215 • Living Stone: 120
Approximately 536 total online viewers

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Worship Services
MomCo After Dark Meetups, 6:30pm,
Music Room

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Monday Morning Men's Bible Study, Zoom
LWBS Leaders Mtg., 9am, Conf. Room
LWML Quilting Group, 9am, FH
LWML Meeting/Lunch, Noon, FH
Comfort Dog Mtg., 6:30pm, Saints Hall
Social Ministry, 6:30pm, Conf. Room
Elders Mtg., 6:30pm, FH
Chirstian Readers Group, 7pm, Music Rm
Church Council Mtg., 7:30pm, FH

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Mission Board Mtg., 6pm, FH

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Living Way Bible Study, 9am
Choir Rehearsal, 7pm

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

MomCo Meetups, 9am, FH
Card Making, 6pm, Music Room
Living Way Eve. Bible Study, 7pm, Conf. Rm

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Bulletin Assembly, 9am, LL4

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Worship Service, 5pm

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Worship Services

SUNDAY CLASSES

BIBLE STUDY HOUR • 9:30AM

GOSPEL OF MARK • SAINTS HALL
Simulcast live on 850AM and KFUO.org

FOUNDATION • FELLOWSHIP HALL
Topical, discussion-based study

SUNDAY SCHOOL • SCHOOL ROOMS

• Little Lambs: 205 • Preschool: LL2
• K/1st: LL7 • 2nd/3rd: 106 • 4th/5th: 104
• 6th-8th: 210 • 9th-12th: Youth Room

MINISTRY EXPANSION CAMPAIGN

Total Commitments: \$14,585,612 • Gifts received to date: \$9,916,615



MISSIONS

SEPT. MISSION OF THE MONTH

Bethlehem Lutheran School serves children and families in St. Louis with a safe, loving, Christ-centered learning environment, emphasizing spiritual, academic, and social growth.

NOW HIRING

FACILITIES MAINTENANCE TECH. • K-8 SUBS

For job details, read more in our *Weekly Word* e-letter and visit our church website's employment page: stpaulsdesperes.org/news/employment

SCHOOL AUCTION

SEEKING AUCTION SPONSORS AND DONATIONS


Sat., Feb. 6, 2027 • Westport DoubleTree
Get ready for Beads, Bids & Blessings in February! We're looking for sponsors and donations for our live and silent auctions. Your generosity directly supports St. Paul's Lutheran School and helps us provide an exceptional, Christ-centered education for our K-8 learners. Partner with us and help make a difference! Read more online at bit.ly/STPSAUCTION2027

COMMUNITY NEWS

MEMORIAL BENEFIT EVENT: "RISE WITH CHRIS"

Sun., Oct. 4 • 5-8pm • Topgolf, Chesterfield
Join in an evening of fun golf games, dinner, and fellowship, which supports "Rise with Chris" in memory of congregation member Chris Handy. This event will benefit and help establish a *Celebrate Recovery* ministry at St. Paul's. Visit www.risewithchris.org for tickets, sponsorships, donations, and to learn more about its vision of turning loss into hope through faith, community, and recovery. Flyer at bit.ly/RWC-26


RISE WITH CHRIS



GIVING

Annual offering budget \$3,375,996
Budget year-to-date (10 weeks) 649,230
Received year-to-date 637,526
Difference actual/budget -11,704
Weekly amount needed 65,202
Received last week 67,491

DEBT REDUCTION

Current debt \$9,410,150
Gifts received July 2026 to date \$42,401



THE GOOD NEWS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

TODAY

K-5 SUNDAY SCHOOL OPENING SESSION

Beginning Today • Sunday school for grades K-5 now begins with a 15-minute combined opening session, where children gather in room 211 in the Meisch Music Suite for music and song, and a lesson theme overview. Students then progress to their classrooms with teachers for the remainder of the hour; parents pick up children from classrooms as usual.



GOSPEL OF MARK BIBLE STUDY

Beginning Today • Saints Hall • Read more on next page.

"OUR ROOTS" RESUMES IN FOUNDATION BIBLE CLASS

Through Sun., Sept. 27 • 9:30am • FH • Read more on next page.

NOMINATIONS DUE FOR ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Deadline Today • St. Paul's is forming a new call committee to call an associate pastor and is soliciting names of pastors from the congregation. Read the congregational letter at conta.cc/4q9TWWWh for nomination form links and submission instructions.

THE WEEK AHEAD: SEPT. 14-20

SMALL-SETTING COMMUNION

Mon., Sept. 14 • Noon • Special monthly worship service with Communion for members who may prefer to avoid large crowds or who have mobility issues.

LWML MEETING & GUEST SPEAKER

Mon., Sept. 14 • Noon • FH • Read more on next page.

CHRISTIAN READERS GROUP

Mon., Sept. 14 • 7pm
Join us this month as we read *The Children's Blizzard* by David Laskin. 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.



ROOTED IN CHRIST FOCUS

St. Paul's has launched a church- and school-wide devotional focus, *Rooted in Christ*. As Saint Paul highlights in Colossians 2:6-7, we are called to walk in Him — steadfast in faith, nourished by His Word, and firmly grounded in the grace we have received.

TAKE-HOME MAGNETS

Today each family receives a Rooted in Christ magnet clip stocked with a resource and prayer card, designed to be enjoyed in a visible spot at home. As the seasons progress, we'll continue offering new devotional materials for your clip.

WHAT'S NEW?

NEWS JUST ADDED

1. Voter's meeting • Sept. 20
2. Rooted in Christ focus & home magnets
3. Nametag reminder
4. Updated: Choral Vespers • Sept. 27
5. Caring for the Caregiver event • Oct. 15
6. Updated: Meal packing • Oct. 17
7. GriefShare Surviving the Holidays • Oct. 24

REMINDERS

• Sign up for meal-packing event by Sept. 21

LARGE-PRINT

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

WALKTHROUGH ACCESS

To support Sunday morning flow, the school building and expansion-wing corridor will be open from 7:30am to 12:20pm on Sundays for indoor walk-through access between the north parking lot (enter at school's flagpole entrance) through the southwest courtyard vestibule.



SANCTUARY 10:45AM

Starting September 13, our late service shifts back 15 minutes to its pre-construction start time of 10:45am



BIBLE STUDY NEWS

LIVING WAY BEGINS SEPT. 16 & 17

Join us 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.

- **2026-2027: 2 Corinthians** • The threat of "spiritual terrorism" motivated Paul to write this letter, which offers a marvelous illustration of how Paul used the Gospel to solve Corinth's serious problems. Because of his bond with the congregation, Paul felt a personal responsibility for its spiritual well-being. It is the most personal of Paul's letters, and his experience demonstrates the power and sufficiency of God's awesome grace.
- **Wednesday mornings at 9am:** Men and women meet in separate small groups. Childcare is available.
- **Thursday evenings at 7pm:** 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/StP-LW or through our website's *Bible Studies* page.

GOSPEL OF MARK BIBLE STUDY

Beginning Sun., Sept. 13 • 9:30am • Saints Hall

Rev. Dr. David Smith leads our study of the Gospel of Mark, where we encounter Jesus Christ in His authority, compassion, and saving work. Mark proclaims Christ as the Son of God who came to serve and to give His life as a ransom for many. In this study, we will see how God strengthens His people through His Word and Sacraments and sends us to bear witness to our crucified and risen Lord.

OUR ROOTS™ IN FOUNDATION BIBLE CLASS

Through Sun., Sept. 27 • 9:30am • FH

Led by Dan Sterling, the "Our Roots" series explores the amazing, daring, and dramatic story of the founding of the LCMS in Perry County, MO, circa 1839, following faithful German Lutherans from Saxony and beyond — and even to St. Paul's in Des Peres. *Audio recordings are available on our website's Media > Archives page.*

★ NEW: NAMETAG REMINDER

In order to help Pastor Schlund and our assisting seminarians put a face with a name, please remember to wear your St. Paul's nametag during services. Your help is greatly appreciated!

MUSIC AT ST. PAUL'S SEASON DEBUT

SUNDAY, SEPT. 27 • 4PM • VESPERS FOR ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS

Music at St. Paul's is pleased to present Choral Vespers for the Feast of St. Michael and All Angels as the first event of its 35th season. The service of Vespers (Evening Prayer) will include scripture readings, choral and orchestral music, as well as hymns appropriate for the day. Join us as we give our thanks to God that He sends these messengers to proclaim His Gospel.

The season's 2026-2027 musical offerings are complimentary and open to congregation members, family and friends, and the public. The season schedule can be found at stpaulsdesperes.org/music



GROUPS & MEETINGS

LWML MEETING & GUEST SPEAKER

Mon., Sept. 14 • Noon • Fellowship Hall
Sue Hasselbring of International Student Ministry, Inc. will share about *The Gift of Being With* — "being with" is a blessing we can share with some of the 12,000 international students in St. Louis. Please join us at noon for a salad bar lunch, and bring salad toppings to share. The presentation will start at 12:30pm.

MONTHLY CARD-MAKING NIGHT

Thurs., Sept. 17 • 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 \$15/person materials fee. Register at bit.ly/StP-Cardmaking by 5pm on Sept. 14 so materials can be prepped.

ALTAR GUILD ANNUAL MEETING

Mon., Sept. 21 • 7-9pm • St. Paul's Early Childhood Center
Current Altar Guild members, please plan to attend our annual meeting, where we will vote on new positions, including president, vice president, and secretary/treasurer. Note that we'll meet at the ECC.

SERVICE & SUPPORT

CONFIRMATION PRAYER PARTNERS

Join this special prayer ministry to be matched with a Confirmand and pray for them privately this school year. Prayer partners' identities are revealed on the Profession of Faith night in April. Read more at bit.ly/StP-Conf-pray and register online or with the church office.

Eight more needed

★ UPDATE: MEAL-PACKING EVENT & LUNCH

Sat., Oct. 17 • 9:30-11:45am • Gateway Christian Church
Join others from St. Paul's for the *Feed My Starving Children* MobilePack event, hosted by Gateway Christian Church on Des Peres Road. **Sign up by September 21** to reserve your spot and help pack meals for children in need around the world. A complimentary lunch, provided by the Board of Missions, will follow in Fellowship Hall. For details and sign-up, visit the SignUpGenius page at bit.ly/4wvLLoN.

FLU SHOTS AT CHURCH

Sun., Sept. 27 • 9am-Noon • LL3
Let's make good health convenient! Get your flu shot at church — no appointment needed. Shots will be administered by congregation member and Walgreen's pharmacist Mike Reynolds, and most insurance plans cover the cost.

★ NEW: GRIEF SHARE EVENT: "SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS"

Sat., Oct. 24 • 10am-Noon • FH

Join us for a GriefShare gathering offering Christ-centered comfort and practical guidance for those facing the holidays after loss. We'll discuss how to deal with emotions, what to do about traditions, and finding hope for the future; family and friends are welcome.

Register for the complimentary session at bit.ly/4doDRqw, through our website's *News* page, or RSVP to Kathy Riesmeyer at riesmeyerk@icloud.com or 314-303-2937.



★ NEW: "CARING FOR THE CAREGIVER" EVENT

Thurs., Oct. 15 • 10am-Noon

Hosted by EverTrue (Lutheran Senior Services) and held at St. Paul's, you're invited for an encouraging and informative conversation for caregivers. Whether you're supporting a spouse, parent, or friend, caregivers often find themselves managing appointments, medications, tasks, family dynamics, and unexpected challenges — all while balancing their own responsibilities and well-being.

Register and read more at evertrueliving.org/caring-for-the-caregiver; flyers at our info counter.

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



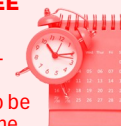
VOTERS' MEETING

★ NEW: VOTERS' MEETING TO APPROVE CALL COMMITTEE

Sun., Sept. 20 • Noon • Sanctuary

We have assembled a new call committee for calling an associate pastor to St. Paul's. Jon Burford graciously agreed to be the chairman of the committee (Jon is the current congregational vice president, but his term expires at the end of December). The agenda includes approval of the July 26 voters' meeting minutes and voting to approve a new call committee:

- **Associate pastor call committee:** Jon Burford (chairman), Ruthie Dicken, Sara Lehmann, Marsha Lewis, Frank Reinsel, Kathy Riesmeyer, Janice Samberg, Nicholas Schubert, Tom Zook, John Krause (congregational president), Tim Unger (chairman of board of elders).
- **Ex-officio (non-voting) members:** Pastor Schlund, Dawn Walker (principal), Matt Gerhardt (kantor).



JUST FOR MOMS

MOMCO MOTHERHOOD MEETUPS

- **Sun., Sept. 13 • MomCo After Dark begins • 6pm**
- **Thurs., Sept. 17 • MomCo begins • 9am**

Motherhood is complicated — mom friends help! MomCo stands for "Mom Community," and we've saved you a seat: Come join us on the first and third Thursday of the month at 9am, where moms enjoy breakfast, speakers, light devotions, mentor moms, crafts, moms' nights out, and more. Show up as you are and join the fun! KidsCo, our morning childcare program, offers caring childcare and activity time while moms gather. Or choose our evening group, MomCo After Dark, which meets on second Sundays at 6pm. Learn more at bit.ly/StP-MomCo

COLLEGE CONNECTION

SHARE ADDRESSES FOR MAILINGS

Did you know that our College Connection team mails cards and gift card surprises directly to our St. Paul's college church members at their campus address? Now that college students are back at school, we don't want yours to miss out! Parents, help us keep our mailing lists up-to-date by sharing student info at bit.ly/StP-College

