

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

OCT. 4 WORSHIP ATTENDANCE • 900

5:00pm worship • 92
8:00am worship • 320
9:30am worship • 136
10:45am worship • 256
Living Stone worship • 96

ONLINE VIEWING

Sanctuary: 179 • Living Stone: 59
Approximately 381 total online viewers

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11

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

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12

Monday Morning Men's Bible Study, Zoom
LWBS Leaders Mtg., 9am, Conf. Room
LWML Quilting Group, 9am, FH
LWML Luncheon Mtg., Noon, FH
Comfort Dog Mtg., 6:30pm, FH
Social Ministry, 6:30pm, Conf. Room

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13

What We Believe, 6:30pm, FH

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14

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

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15

Living Way Bible Study, 7pm, Conf. Rm.
Caring for the Caregiver, 10am, room TBA

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16

Bulletin Assembly, 9am, LL4

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

Worship Service, 5pm
Meal-packing event, 9:30am, off-site

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

Worship Services
Youth mission trip mtg., Noon, FH

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* e-letter.

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: \$10,044,671



MISSIONS

OCT. MISSION OF THE MONTH: Panama Mission work includes church planting and revitalization, pastoral and deaconess formation, and support for congregations such as Redeemer Lutheran Church in Balboa.

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 (school's flagpole entrance) through the southwest courtyard vestibule.

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

JOIN OUR PDO SUBSTITUTE TEAM!

Looking for extra spending money while the kids are at school? St. Paul's Parents' Day Out is seeking friendly, dependable substitutes, as needed, on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, from 8am to 12:45pm. Enjoy a fun morning with our staff and littles learners while supporting this wonderful ministry! Contact director Andrea Bluhm at abluhm@stpaulsdp.org if interested.

COMMUNITY NEWS

MARKWAY STRONG TRIVIA NIGHT

Sat., Nov. 7 • 6pm • Lutheran South • Read more in our *Weekly Word* e-letter.

GIVING

Annual offering budget

\$3,375,996

Budget year-to-date (14 weeks)

908,922

Received year-to-date

820,476

Difference actual/budget

-88,446

Weekly amount needed

67,250

Received last week

43,103

DEBT REDUCTION

Current debt

\$9,410,150

Gifts received July 2026 to date

\$48,042

THE GOOD NEWS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2026



TODAY

QUARTERLY MITE BOX COLLECTION

Today • Fill a Box, Fuel a Mission: Please bring your mite box, loose change, or cash and place your offering in the large mite box in the narthex or The Commons. Your gifts help fund mission grants, supporting a national goal of \$2,622,270 and a Missouri District goal of \$341,200. Thank you for helping share God's love through mission.

THE WEEK AHEAD: OCT. 12-18

★NEW: LWML MEETING & FELLOWSHIP

Mon., Oct. 12 • Noon • FH

Bring your lunch and join Lutheran Women in Mission for fellowship and crafts. Try your hand at tying quilts, make a cross necklace for Forged by Fire, make a simple fall craft, or just come enjoy time together.



“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.

★NEW: OPEN SPOTS FOR MEAL PACKING

Sat., Oct. 17 • 9:30-11:45am • Gateway Christian Church

Last chance: a few spots remain! You can still be part of the St. Paul's team to help fight global hunger at the Feed My Starving Children meal-packing event. Sign up by Mon., Oct. 12 — for the event and the complimentary lunch following — at bit.ly/4wvLLoN or through the link on our website's News page.

★NEW: HIGH SCHOOL MISSION TRIP MEETING

Sun., Oct. 18 • Noon-1pm • FH

Parents and high school youth, please join us for an informational meeting to learn more about next summer's high school mission trip to Puerto Rico (June 20-25, 2027). If you are unable to attend the meeting but interested in receiving the information, please reach out to youth coordinator Becky Blake.

CLOTHING COLLECTION TRUCK FOR CFNA THRIFT SHOP

SUNDAY, OCT. 18 • NOON-4PM

ST. PAUL'S NORTH PARKING LOT

Christian Friends of New Americans is pleased to open a new thrift shop where their immigrant and refugee clients can shop on a budget. This month, St. Paul's is partnering with CFNA to collect gently-worn clothing and shoes in good condition, to help fill their shop. Drop off to the visiting CFNA truck at the north end of our school parking lot; no church building drop-offs, please.

Miss the truck but have clothes to donate? Contact azeigler@cfna-stl.org to arrange a drop-off, by appointment, to CFNA's location on S. Grand Ave. in South City.





REFORMATION FEST

REFORMATION BRAT & PIE FRY
SUN., OCT. 25 • NOON-2PM

It's back, and it's *wunderbar*. Our popular Brat and Pie Fry makes a comeback after a two-year construction hiatus, filling our beautiful new expansion wing and courtyard. Join the festivities at St. Paul's Reformation celebration featuring German specialties and themed activities.

FESTIVE FEATURES

- Homemade pie bar
- German food by Chef Krueger
- Fitz's root beer on tap
- Cider & ginger beer
- Scavenger hunt
- Printing press craft
- Fall-themed inflatable games
- "Indulgence Bar" candy station
- Strolling Luther
- Accordion & fiddle players
- Giveaways
- Menu: Bratwurst, homemade potato salad, hearty applesauce, fresh pretzels, and brat bar with sauerkraut and all the fixings. Hot dogs and chips for kids

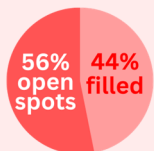
PIES & HELPERS

This festive event runs on volunteer power. Like to bake? Sign up to bring a pie! A variety of fun volunteer positions (either advance prep or short one-hour event shifts) are available; event volunteers receive our popular limited-edition shirt.



Sign up to help at bit.ly/StP-Fest26, via QR code, or through our website's News page.

Free volunteer t-shirts, while supplies last



SCHOOL AUCTION TICKETS ON SALE NOV. 6

SAT., FEB. 6, 2027 • 6PM
DOUBLETREE WESTPORT

Tickets for the St. Paul's Lutheran School auction go on sale in one month, November 6! Form your table of ten for a fun evening of food, fellowship, and fundraising. Table sponsorships and other donation opportunities are available now.

See the auction website for more information at bit.ly/STPSAUCTION2027



★NEW: SCHOOL FUNDRAISER: BLANKET SALES

Order by Fri., Oct. 30 • Blankets arrive end of Nov.

"Wrap Yourself in SAINTS Spirit!" Cooler weather calls for cozy blankets — and ours come with St. Paul's school spirit! Help support school athletics with the purchase of a Saints spirit blanket, in two design choices. Perfect for chilly game nights, relaxing at home, or thoughtful Christmas gifts to your favorite Saints fans! Warm up your winter while cheering on our student-athletes. Order yours at bit.ly/StPblanket

CURRENT COLLECTIONS

Christmas shoeboxes • Narthex drop-off

Clothing for CFNA thrift shop • Truck in school parking lot Oct. 18

Winter clothing for Trinity Soulard • Ballas lobby (west) drop-off

Fabric donations for quilting group • Drop off to quilting closet door at the east end of Fellowship Hall
November: Gabriel's Gift Shop • Mark your calendar for upcoming gift collection

\$10 MILLION GIVING MILESTONE REACHED

St. Paul's celebrates reaching a \$10 million giving milestone in our Tell the Wonders He Has Done ministry expansion campaign, now just under three years into our five-year initiative. October brings significant news as we reach two-thirds of our \$15 million goal, reflecting God's abundant provision and the congregation's joyful generosity in expanding worship, fellowship, music, and ministry spaces.

Since the project's completion and opening in June 2026, these new spaces have already strengthened our community life together and enriched the ministry we share as God's people — continuing the legacy of His faithfulness, since 1849.

SERVICE & SUPPORT

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES

Return by Sun., Nov. 15

Send a Christmas gift of hope around the world! Operation Christmas Child collects and distributes shoeboxes filled with gifts, supplies, and the message of the Gospel in a 12-lesson Bible study to children in need in 150+ countries. Complimentary empty shoeboxes are in the narthex. Three ways to help:

1) Pray for the project's success.

2) Fill a shoebox with gifts, school supplies, or personal care items.

Suggestions: Start with one "wow" item such as a doll, large toy, soccer ball/pump, toy truck, stuffed animal, or musical instrument. Then fill in with items like markers, crayons, a toothbrush, puzzle, jump rope, stickers, yo-yo, Frisbee, binoculars, hat, and more. Check our website's News page for video links and packing suggestions.

3) Contribute to St. Pauls' shoebox ministry for the purchase of additional shoeboxes, supplies, and transportation expenses.



INTEREST GROUPS

CHRISTIAN READERS GROUP

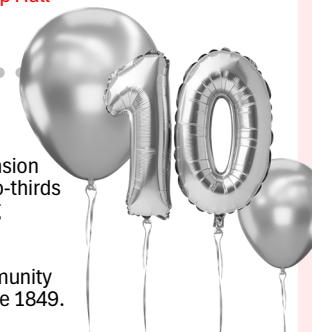
Tues., Oct. 20 • 7pm • Music Room

Join us in October as we read *The Truth Will Set You Free: Samuel L. Hoard*. 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.

★NEW: MONTHLY CARD-MAKING NIGHT

Thurs., Oct. 29 • 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 by 5pm on Oct. 26 so materials can be prepped: bit.ly/StP-Cardmaking



GRIEF SUPPORT

GRIEF SHARE: "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.



BIBLE STUDIES

FOUNDATION SERIES

Sundays • Oct. through Dec. • 9:30am • FH

"What's the BIG Deal? A Study of Luther's Large Catechism" with our pastors and seminary faculty. Read more on our website's Bible Studies tab.

KINDERGARTEN KICKOFF

THURS., NOV. 12 • 5:30 OR 6:15PM
ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Do you have a child who will be eligible for kindergarten next school year? RSVP now for the St. Paul's 2027-2028 Kindergarten Kickoff via QR code or at bit.ly/StP-K27. What to expect:

- Learn all about kindergarten and life at St. Paul's from teachers, principal, pastors, and others.
- Tour the K-8 school building, including the brand new gymnasium, Meisch Music Suite and Saints Hall — with surprises along the way for your rising kindergartner!
- Take advantage of having the first opportunity to enroll in our half- and full-day kindergarten programs.
- Enjoy fellowship and refreshments.



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

