

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

12345 Manchester Rd. • Des Peres, MO 63131 • 314.822.0447

www.stpaulsdesperes.org • church@stpaulsdp.org • www.stplutheranschool.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

Witness: Oct. 5

In-Person Worship Total • 796

Living Stone worship • 68

5:00pm worship • 114

8:00am worship • 204

9:30am worship • 133

11:00am worship • 152

Retreat worship • 108

Online Viewing

Sanctuary: 159 • **Living Stone:** 55

Approximately 342 total online viewers

Giving

Annual offering budget \$3,309,800

Budget year-to-date (14 weeks) 891,100

Received year-to-date 653,794

Difference actual/budget -237,306

Wkly. amt. needed to meet budget 69,895

Received last week 71,273

Construction Loan balance

Current debt \$1,558.513

Gifts received July 2024 to date \$14,303

Calendar

Sunday, Oct. 12

Worship Services

Monday, Oct. 13

Morning Men's Bible Study, 6am

LWML Quilting Group, 9am, FH

LWBS Leaders Mtg., 9am, Conf. Room

LWML Meeting, 1pm, FH

Monday Night Confirmation Class,

5:30pm, Youth Room

Comfort Dog Mtg., 6:30pm, FH

Social Ministry, 6:30pm, Conf. Room

MomCo After Dark, 7pm, Music Room

Tuesday, Oct. 14

Call Committee Mtg., 7pm

Christian Readers Group, 7pm, FH

Wednesday, Oct. 15

Living Way, 9am

SPY High School Meetup, 5:30pm, YR

8th Grade Conf. Family Class, 6pm, FH

Choir Rehearsal, 7pm

Thursday, Oct. 16

MomCo Meetups, 9am, FH

Card-Making, 6pm, Music Room

Living Way Evening, 7pm, Conf. Room

Friday, 17

Bulletin Assembly, 9am, LL4

Saturday, Oct. 18

Worship Service, 5pm

Sunday, Oct. 19

Worship Services

American Kantorei Cantata Vespers, 3pm

Ministry Expansion Campaign

Total Commitments: \$14,585,612 • Gifts received to date: \$7,101,033



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; Homework Club

After-School Homework Club (SPLASH) Staffing

St. Paul's Lutheran After School & Homework club (SPLASH) is growing and is in need of additional staffing. We have two part-time positions available for afternoons; applicants must be at least 18. Contact Jenn Barton at jbarton@stpaulsdp.org.

The ECC is Hiring Teacher Assistants!

St. Paul's Early Childhood Center is seeking caring, dependable teacher assistants to join our team. We currently have openings for the following shifts:

- 8:00–10:00am • 3:00–5:00pm • 3:00–6:00pm

If you or someone you know enjoys working with children and would like to support our teachers in a Christ-centered environment, we'd love to hear from you! For more information or to apply, please contact the ECC director at jbanger@stpaulsdp.org.

Missions Corner

October Mission of the Month • Panama • We are supporting Gospel proclamation and growth of the Lutheran church in Panama through church-renovation projects and support of missionaries and local pastors.

Community News

Markway Strong Trivia Night

Sat., Nov. 8 • 6:30pm; doors open 5:30pm • Luth. South

Please join us in memory of congregation member Glenn Markway for a fun night of trivia and fellowship benefiting Friends of Kids with Cancer. Contact Carol Markway (314-954-3448, cmarkway@swbell.net) to reserve a table or donate cash/gift cards.



THE GOOD NEWS

Saturday, October 11 and

Sunday, October 12, 2025

Sunday

NEW: Pastor Appreciation Sunday Is Oct. 12

"Well done, good and faithful servant" (Matt. 25:21). National Pastor Appreciation Month is observed every October in celebration of our pastors, with October 12 marking Pastor Appreciation Sunday. This month — and every day — may the kind words, prayers, notes, and expressions of gratitude from the congregation uplift and bless our dedicated pastors. *1 Thess. 5:12–13*.

Sun., Oct. 12 • LWML Mite Box Collections

Bring your loose change or cash to the large mite box in the narthex this weekend. Inspired by the widow's mite (Luke 21:1–4), your contributions — big or small — add up to make a significant impact, supporting nearly \$3 million in district and national mission grants through Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML). Together, we can reflect God's love in mite box offerings.

- LWML Sunday is celebrated in churches nationwide today. Lutheran Women in Mission is the official women's auxiliary of the LCMS, joyfully proclaiming Christ, supporting missions, and equipping women to honor God by serving others. Our chapter at St. Paul's, often called the Afternoon Guild, is an active and vital women's ministry that happily welcomes new members.

NEW: Sun., Oct. 12 • High School Mission Trip Deadline

Just a reminder that Sunday is the final day to commit to the HS mission trip to Niagara Falls this summer (July 25 - Aug. 2). Space is limited so be sure to secure your spot by making the first payment of \$400 online or by check to the church office.

The Week Ahead: Oct. 13-19

MomCo Dining Fundraiser at Dewey's Pizza

Tues., Oct. 14 • 4-9pm • Kirkwood

Eat pizza, raise dough! St. Paul's MomCo group is hosting a dining fundraiser at Dewey's in Kirkwood, earning 20% of dine-in/carryout orders; please mention MomCo's "Giveback Night" (and for online orders, enter "GBN" in order notes).

UPDATED DATE: Christian Readers Group

Tues., Oct. 14 • 7pm • FH

Exploring Christian themes and how literature informs Christian faith and life, led by Dr. Kent Burreson. October's book is John Grisham's *The Testament*.

LAST CHANCE: Open Spots for Meal Packing

Sat., Oct. 18 • 9:30-11:45am • Gateway Christian Church

Five spots are open for Gateway's *Feed My Starving Children* meal-packing event. You can still be part of the St. Paul's team to help fight global hunger; sign up by Mon., Oct. 13 at bit.ly/47eqHKP for the event and complimentary lunch following.

Monthly Card-Making Night

Thurs., Oct. 16 • 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 Oct. 13 so materials can be prepped.

NEW: Voters' Meeting Senior Pastor Call

Sun., Nov. 2 • Noon • Sanctuary

Voters' meeting to be held to vote to extend a call for a senior pastor. Watch for agenda and information to follow.

Reminders

- Mite box collection • Oct. 12
- Register for summer youth trip by Oct. 12
- Register for cardmaking by Oct. 13
- Sign up for meal packing by Oct. 13

News Just Added

5 new listings; 16 repeated listings

- Voters' meeting: Pastor Call • Nov. 2
- 7th/8th grade youth event • Nov. 7
- Fall & Winter: Save the Dates
- Open spots for meal packing
- Final call for Israel trip

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*.



Pastor Wade Receives Additional Call to Rocklin, CA

In addition to the call Pastor Wade received on September 14, on September 28 Pastor Wade received an additional call to serve as Lead Pastor-Elect at St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Rocklin, California.

Pastor Wade now has three calls: his current call to St. Paul's, one to St. John's in Napa, and one to St. Matthew in Rocklin.

Please pray for the Wade family as they consider these calls and seek God's wisdom and discernment. We all pray that the Lord's will would be done for the work of His Kingdom.



Read Pastor's Letter

Fall & Winter: Save the Dates

Reformation Sunday Sun., Oct. 26
 All Saints' Day • Festival Worship Sun., Nov. 2
 Christmas Decorating at Church Fri., Nov. 28 • 4:30pm
 Hanging of the Green • Advent Starts Sun., Nov. 30
 Midweek Advent Services Wed., Dec. 3, 10, 17 • 10am & 6:15pm
 Breakfast in Bethlehem & Gabriel's Gift Shop Sat., Dec. 6
 Prepare for Jesus: Women's Advent by Candlelight Sun., Dec. 7 • 6:30pm
 Music at St. Paul's • Service of Lessons & Carols Sat., Dec. 13 & Sun., Dec. 14
 Christmas Caroling to In-Home Members Sat., Dec. 20
 St. Paul's Trivia Night (Church, School, ECC, PDO) at Lodge Sat., Feb. 28, 2026

Groups & Activities

NEW: SPY Middle School 7th/8th Grade Event

Fri., Nov. 7 • 6:30-8:00pm • Youth Room

Join us for an evening of food, fun, and fellowship. In November, we'll assemble blessing bags that will be gifted to our at-home members at our annual December congregational Christmas caroling event (stay tuned for caroling details).

- To attend, youth must be pre-registered. Parents, we need your help for a fun and safe event and a 9:1 youth/adult ratio. Registration and chaperoning at bit.ly/SPY-7-8 or via button on our website's *Families > Youth Ministry* tab.

FINAL CALL: Feb. Israel Trip Hosted by Pastor Schudde

The Israel trip with Pastor Schudde and his wife, Kris, is still on for February 17-26, 2026 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.

Campus Improvements

East-Side Drive & Parking • Construction improvements include a new drive along the east side and additional parking spaces, with expected completion by December 1. Read more about this project on our website's *News* page.

Board & Council Positions

Call for Nominations for Church Council Positions

St. Paul's will have five Church Council officer positions up for election at the Voters' meeting in November: 1) President; 2) Recording Secretary; 3) Chairman, Board of Elders; 4) Chairperson, Board of Stewardship; 5) Chairperson, Board of Trustees. Our officers on Church Council serve two calendar-year terms, with a two-term limit. If you would like to nominate a St. Paul's member to be a candidate to serve in one of these offices, please contact one of the pastors or the chairman of the nominating committee, Jon Burford, at jburf1@charter.net.

School Board Seeking New Member

St. Paul's school board is looking for one new member to serve a two-year term beginning January 2026; the board meets at least 10 times per year. Contact Rick Berndt at boechair@stpaulsdp.org or 314-223-0494.

Service & Support

Christmas Shoebox Collection

Fill and Return by Sun., Nov. 16

Send a Christmas gift of hope around the world! Complimentary empty shoeboxes have arrived and are available in the narthex. Operation Christmas Child collects and distributes shoeboxes filled with gifts, supplies, and the message of the Gospel to children in need in 150+ countries. Our goal this year is to fill 500 shoeboxes! Details, gift suggestions, and links are on our website's *News* page.

Clothing Collection for Homeless Ministry

St. Paul's is an area collection site for Trinity Soulard's homeless outreach; needed items include scarves, hats, blankets, sweatshirts, coats, shoes/boots/socks, jeans, and backpacks (full list at bit.ly/3tH8eoa). Find collection bin in west lobby.

Altar Guild Seeking Volunteers

Serve at church in Communion preparation, setup, and cleanup for the Sanctuary or Living Stone. Contact Sue Franson (636-861-0794) or Julie Peper (314-630-5526).

GriefShare "Surviving the Holidays"

Sat., Nov. 1 • 10am to noon • FH

We welcome you to join us as we look at ways to grieve well through the holidays. "Surviving the Holidays" is a one-time event beginning with light refreshments and then entering into the GriefShare materials and video. Register at www.griefshare.org/events/273728 or call Kathy Riesmeyer (contact below).

GriefShare Series Begins

Begins Mon., Nov., 3 • 6:00-7:15 p.m. • Church LL4

GriefShare provides Christ-centered support as you walk your unique journey of grieving, utilizing a 13-week video series. A workbook is provided, and there is no cost to attend. St. Paul's member Kathy Riesmeyer, a retired behavioral health counselor, facilitates the group. For more information, contact Kathy (314-303-2937, riesmeyer_k@icloud.com) or Sharon Shearman (314-822-0447, sshearman@stpaulsdp.org) or register at www.griefshare.org/groups/257625

Cookie bakers + 28 helpers still needed

Bach Cantata Vespers

American Kantorei • Sun., Oct. 19 • 3pm

Music at St. Paul's cordially invites you to Cantata Vespers with the American Kantorei chorus and orchestra. The service of Evening Prayer will feature music from Cantatas 38 and 86, as well as the Mass in G Minor, BWV 235, by Johann Sebastian Bach.

The Kantorei, under the directorship of Dr. Maurice Boyer, specializes in the performance of J. S. Bach's sacred choral works in the original German and Latin, accompanied by orchestra. The event is complimentary, with a freewill offering, and is open to the public.



Reformation Sunday

Cornerstone Laying & "Worst WurstFest" • Oct. 26

- Cornerstone** • The congregation is invited to join in procession after the late service for the ceremonial laying of the cornerstone, including a time capsule, in our new Saints Hall center.
- Noon: Worst WurstFest** • Much has changed since our first Reformation Sunday festival, the Brat & Pie Fry. With limited gathering space in 2025, is this the *worst* idea? No, construction can't stop community when Christ is our cornerstone and compass. (When our new facilities open in Q2 2026, get ready for the *best* WurstFest!) Join us for meals and mingling in Fellowship Hall and the lobbies, including brats, sauerkraut, pretzels, root beer, dessert, music, and more.

- Volunteer** to help or bake cookies through the link on our website's *News* page or at bit.ly/StP-WW-25



Kindergarten Kickoff

Thursday, Nov. 13 • 5:30 or 6:00pm

Do you have a child who will be eligible for kindergarten next school year? Sign up now for the St. Paul's Kindergarten Kickoff at bit.ly/StP-K26. 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 library, art studio and science/STEM lab — 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.



Kickoff: RSVP Required