

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](http://bit.ly/StP-WeeklyWord)

WITNESS

OCT. 11 WORSHIP ATTENDANCE • 727

5:00pm worship • 62

8:00am worship • 256

9:30am worship • 112

10:45am worship • 153

Living Stone worship • 144

ONLINE VIEWING

Sanctuary: 142 • Living Stone: 70

Approximately 339 total online viewers

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

GIVING

Annual offering budget

\$3,375,996

Budget year-to-date (15 weeks)

973,845

Received year-to-date

854,851

Difference actual/budget

-118,994

Weekly amount needed

68,139

Received last week

34,375

DEBT REDUCTION

Current debt

\$9,410,150

Gifts received July 2026 to date

\$48,439

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

Worship Services

Youth mission trip mtg., Noon, FH

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19

Monday Morning Men's Bible Study, Zoom

LWBS Leaders Mtg., 9am, Conf. Room

LWML Quilting Group, 9am, FH

Mission Board Mtg., 6pm, FH

Elders Study, 6:30pm, Conf. Room

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20

What We Believe, 6:30pm, FH

Christian Readers Group, 7pm, Music Rm.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21

Living Way Bible Study, 9am

Choir Rehearsal, 7pm

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22

Living Way Bible Study, 7pm, Conf. Rm.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

Bulletin Assembly, 9am, LL4

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

Worship Service, 5pm

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

Reformation Sunday: Wear Red!

Worship Services

Brat & Pie Fry Fetival, Noon

MINISTRY EXPANSION CAMPAIGN

Total Commitments: \$14,585,612 • Gifts received to date: \$10,076,741

tell

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wonders

HE HAS DONE

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.

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](http://stpaulsdesperes.org/news/employment).

JOIN OUR PARENTS' DAY OUT SUBSTITUTE TEAM!

Looking for extra spending money while the kids are at school? St. Paul's PDO is seeking friendly, dependable substitutes, as needed, on Mon., Tues, Wed., and Fri. from 8am to 12:45pm. Enjoy a fun morning with our staff and littlest learners while supporting this wonderful ministry! Contact Andrea Bluhm at [abluhm@stpaulsdp.org](mailto:abluhm@stpaulsdp.org) if interested.

AUCTION

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](http://bit.ly/STPSAUCTION2027).

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.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Find all community news and area LCMS event listings in our *Weekly Word* e-letter.

MARKWAY STRONG TRIVIA NIGHT

Sat., Nov. 7 • 6pm • Lutheran South

Read more in the *Weekly Word*.

THE GOOD NEWS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2026

SAINT PAUL'S

TODAY

VOLUNTEER T-SHIRT PICK-UP

Ballas Lobby • Between services & after late service

Free for first 100 registered volunteers, while supplies last.

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.

WHAT'S NEW?

NEWS JUST ADDED

1. Volunteer shirt pick-up • Oct. 18

2. Reformation Day worship • Oct. 25

3. Event parking changes on Oct. 25

4. Blood drive • Nov. 13

5. Veterans Day assembly • Nov. 13

6. SPY youth night • Oct. 28

7. Collecting veteran info for church archives

8. Stairway chair lifts available

THE WEEK AHEAD: OCT. 19-25

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.

GRIEFSHARE: "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](http://bit.ly/4doDRqW), through our website's News page, or RSVP to Kathy Riesmeyer at [riesmeyer-erk@icloud.com](mailto:riesmeyer-erk@icloud.com) or 314-303-2937.

REFORMATION DAY WORSHIP

SUNDAY, OCT. 25

8:00, 9:30, 10:45am • 10:45 Living Stone

Join us for Reformation worship services with festival music at 8:00 and 10:45am in the Sanctuary, featuring brass instrumentalists and our intergenerational choir. In our 10:45am Living Stone service, we will sing Reformation favorites.

You're invited to wear red to church, a long-standing tradition on Reformation Sunday.

Wear red!

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](mailto:azeigler@cfna-stl.org) to arrange a drop-off, by appointment, to CFNA's location on S. Grand Ave. in South City.

Today



## 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

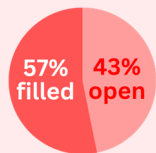
### PIES & HELPERS

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](http://bit.ly/StP-Fest26), via QR code, or through our website's News page.

Free volunteer t-shirts, while supplies last



## VETERANS DAY ASSEMBLY

**FRIDAY, NOV. 13 • 8:30AM**  
**SCHOOL GYM**

Our Veterans Assembly tradition returns to our new facilities after a construction hiatus.

St. Paul's school students and staff look forward to honoring ALL veterans of our congregation and church community ... retired or active duty, and from all service branches and eras! We cordially invite you to be our special guests at our Veterans Day Assembly celebration; you need not be a veteran to attend.

- **Submit photos by Mon., Nov. 2:** If you know a veteran, you're invited to submit their photo for the veterans slideshow featured at the assembly. Instructions at [bit.ly/StP-vet26](http://bit.ly/StP-vet26) or on our website's News page.
- For further information, contact Amy Rudsinski at [arudsinski@stpaulsdp.org](mailto:arudsinski@stpaulsdp.org).

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### ★NEW: COMPILING VETERAN INFO FOR CHURCH ARCHIVES

The church archives committee is continuing to compile a list of members of St. Paul's who have served or are currently serving in the military. Please forward any available information for our church database to [dawnthorburg@gmail.com](mailto:dawnthorburg@gmail.com) and include name, branch of service, service dates, rank, medals/awards received, and burial location (such as St. Paul's Cemetery, Jefferson Barracks, or other national cemetery).

## VOLUNTEER SHIRT PICK-UP

**SUNDAY, OCT. 18**  
**Ballas Lobby • Between services & after late service**

Show your Reformation Fest spirit with a free Brat & Pie Fry tee, while supplies last. The popular t-shirts are available to the first 100 registered event shift volunteers. Register in advance or at the t-shirt table to get yours. A volunteer exclusive! Not for sale.

**"HERE I STAND" ... TO LEND A HAND!**

Website news page, sign-up links, and news submission form are at [stpaulsdesperes.org/news](http://stpaulsdesperes.org/news)



### ★NEW: SUN., OCT. 25 PARKING ADJUSTMENTS REFORMATION WEEKEND

As we look forward to our Oct. 25 Reformation Day festival worship and the return of the Brat and Pie Fry, in order to facilitate setup and safety for volunteers, the east alley and parking lot east of the Sanctuary will be blocked off next Sunday. As a reminder, parking is still available at Edward Jones for Sunday worship and events.



## 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.



### ★NEW: STAIRWAY CHAIR LIFTS AVAILABLE

Two new Acorn brand stairway chair lifts with extremely low use are available; each is approximately 20+ feet long with a right-angle turnout on three of the ends and has battery backup option. Contact Glen Wildermuth at 314-603-0312.

### ★NEW: BLOOD DRIVE

**Fri., Nov. 13 • 10am-2pm • Ballas Lobby**

Help save a life by donating blood at our American Red Cross blood drive. Choose your appointment time at [rcblood.org/2Qn3GQE](http://rcblood.org/2Qn3GQE) or via the link on our website's News page.

### CURRENT COLLECTIONS

- **Christmas shoeboxes** • Narthex drop-off
- **Clothing for CFNA thrift shop** • Truck in school parking lot Oct. 18
- **Winter clothing for Trinity Souldard** • 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

## YOUTH

### ★NEW: SPY 1ST-8TH GRADE YOUTH NIGHT Wed., Oct. 28 • 5:15pm • School Bldg. & Saint's Hall

Parents, we need your help for a fun and safe event for this month's SPY (St. Paul's Youth) 1st-8th grade youth night event this month. To chaperone this month, or the months to come, please sign up via [bit.ly/StPyouth](http://bit.ly/StPyouth) or through our website's Families > Youth Ministry page.

## INTEREST GROUPS

### 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](http://bit.ly/StP-Cardmaking).



## SCHOOL NEWS

### KINDERGARTEN KICKOFF Thurs., Nov. 12 • 5:30 or 6:15pm

Do you have a child who will be eligible for kindergarten next school year? RSVP now for the St. Paul's Lutheran School 2027-28 kindergarten kickoff at [bit.ly/StP-K27](http://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.

### 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! Order yours at [bit.ly/StPblanket](http://bit.ly/StPblanket)