

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. 12

In-Person Worship Total • 667

Living Stone worship • 75
5:00pm worship • No count taken
8:00am worship • 277
9:30am worship • 148
11:00am worship • 167

Online Viewing

Sanctuary: 187 • **Living Stone:** 81
Approximately 429 total online viewers

Giving

Annual offering budget	\$3,309,800
Budget year-to-date (15 weeks)	954,750
Received year-to-date	696,864
Difference actual/budget	-257,886
Wkly. amt. needed to meet budget	70,620
Received last week	43,070

Construction Loan balance

Current debt \$1,558.513
Gifts received July 2024 to date \$15,047

Ministry Expansion Campaign

Total Commitments: \$14,585,612 • Gifts received to date: \$7,152,913



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.

Find an expanded church calendar on our website at www.stpaulsdesperes.org > member portal > calendar

Calendar

Sunday, Oct. 19

Worship Services
American Kantorei Cantata Vespers, 3pm

Monday, Oct. 20

Morning Men's Bible Study, 6am
LWML Quilting Group, 9am, FH
LWBS Leaders Mtg., 9am, Conf. Room
LWML Meeting, 1pm, FH
Confirm. Class, 5:30pm, Youth Room
Mission Board Mtg., 6pm, FH
Elders Study, 6:30pm, Conf. Room

Tuesday, Oct. 21

Wednesday, Oct. 22

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

Thursday, Oct. 23

Living Way Evening, 7pm, Conf. Room

Friday, 24

Bulletin Assembly, 9am, LL4

Saturday, Oct. 25

Worship Service, 5pm

Sunday, Oct. 26

REFORMATION SUNDAY • Wear Red
Worship Services
Worst Wursthfest Festival, Noon

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*.



THE GOOD NEWS

Saturday, October 18 and

Sunday, October 19, 2025

The Week Ahead: Oct. 20-26

Sun. Oct. 26: Reformation Day Worship • Wear Red

Join us for Reformation worship services with festival music and our intergenerational choir. In our Living Stone service, we will sing Reformation favorites. You're invited to wear red to church, a long-standing tradition on Reformation Sunday.

Today

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.



Update:
27 helpers
still needed

Reformation Sunday

Oct. 26 • Cornerstone Laying & "Worst Wursthfest"

- 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 Wursthfest** • 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!
- Join us for meals and mingling in Fellowship Hall and the lobbies, including brats, sauerkraut, pretzels, root beer, dessert, music, and more.
- Seeking volunteers** to help with brats, serving, setup, or cleanup; sign up through the link on our website's News page or at bit.ly/StP-WW-25



Voters' Meeting Senior Pastor Call

Sun., Nov. 2 • Noon • Sanctuary

A voters' meeting will be held to vote to extend a Call for St. Paul's next senior pastor.

- For congregational review, meeting documents, the candidate's biography, and proxy voting link are available on our password-protected member portal at bit.ly/StP-Mtg (or navigate to www.stpaulsdesperes.org > member portal > voters meetings).
- In addition to online proxy designation, paper proxy forms can be found at the east lobby info counter.
- Congregation members may find the member portal password displayed at the top of each week's *Weekly Word* e-letter, or may contact the church receptionist desk for the password at 314-822-0447.

Reminders

- Wear red next Sunday
- Volunteers needed for Wursthfest
- Nominate council/board members

News Just Added

5 new listings; 12 repeated listings

- UPDATE: Nov. 2 voters' meeting materials now online
- Update on Wades' Calls
- Altar Guild linen cleaning volunteers
- Tax dollars support Lutheran Ed.
- LWML mite box collections: thank you



News Added This Week



NEW: Update on Wades' Calls

Pastor Wade announces that after prayerful consideration, he and Whitney feel led by God to continue their Calls in ministry at St. Paul's, declining two recent Calls to Napa, CA, and one Call to Rocklin, CA. They each look forward to continued service among God's people at St. Paul's. Read Pastor's letter, sent Oct. 14, at conta.cc/47luqWl



Read Pastor's Letter

NEW: Altar Guild Seeking Laundry Volunteers

The Altar Guild is seeking a helper who would be willing to wash/clean the Fair Linen altar cloths, which need to be laundered, ironed, and placed on a roller (provided). If someone has a cleaner that they use and would like to recommend, we will certainly call them. Any assistance will be great appreciated. Please call Sue Franson at 314-498-1005. Thank you.

NEW: LWML Mite Box Collections & Thank You

Lutheran Women in Mission thank all who support the LWML mission grants goal. Mite box offerings during LWML Weekend were \$288, bringing St. Paul's 2025 total to \$1052. Drop off mite box offerings anytime using the large mite box at the east lobby information counter if your box fills before our next collection in January 2026.

NEW: Use Your Tax Dollars to Support Lutheran Education

Taxpayers to the state of Missouri — both individuals and businesses — have the unique opportunity to direct up to 50% of their state taxes to Lutheran education. The tax credit program, MOScholars, allows the Missouri District to convert tax dollars into scholarships for qualifying students attending LCMS schools throughout the state, including some at our own St. Paul's Lutheran School! Reserving these tax credits is easy and can be completed online in a matter of minutes; learn more and get started at mo.lcms.org/mo-scholars. Questions? Contact Leah Sieveking at 314-590-6211 or leah.sieveking@mo.lcms.org.



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



Service Opportunities

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.



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).



Grief Support

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, riesmeyerk@icloud.com) or Sharon Shearman (314-822-0447, sshearman@stpaulsdp.org) or register at www.griefshare.org/groups/257625



Groups & Activities

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.



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.



Kickoff: RSVP Required

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.