

**THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S**  
**March 15-21**

**Sunday**

**9:00am**      **Worship Service**  
10:30am      Adult Bible Study  
10:30am      Confirmation Class  
11:45am      Rejoicing Ringers Practice

**Monday**      **Matthew 17 (Daily Bible Reading)**

12:30pm      Prayer Shawl  
6:00pm      Stephen Ministry Training  
7:00pm      Men's Bible Study

**Tuesday**      **Matthew 18 (Daily Bible Reading)**

6:00pm      Grief Share

**Wednesday**      **Matthew 19 (Daily Bible Reading)**

9:30am      Midweek Lent Bible Study  
**11:00am**      **Midweek Lent Service & Lunch**  
11:30-2:30pm      Home School - FH  
7:00pm      Midweek Lent Worship/Bible Study

**Thursday**      **Matthew 20 (Daily Bible Reading)**

8:30am      SSHS-Fellowship Hall & Ed Building  
7:00pm      Men's Fire & Fellowship  
7:00pm      Praise Team Practice

**Friday**      **Matthew 21 (Daily Bible Reading)**

**Saturday**      **Matthew 22 (Daily Bible Reading)**

7:00am      Men's Bible Study



# ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

6201 Vollmer Road  
Matteson, Illinois 60443  
708-720-0880  
[www.stpaulsonline.org](http://www.stpaulsonline.org)

Pastor Larry Ruger (630-742-7824)  
Pastor Matthew Troester (708-772-3685)  
Paul Szymanski – Youth Director

A congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

***“Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it!” Luke 11:28***

## FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2026

### SCRIPTURE READING

Old Testament Reading	Isaiah 42:14–21 p766
Epistle Reading	Ephesians 5:8–14 p1244
Holy Gospel Reading	John 9:1–41 p1139

**A Special Thank You** to our Rejoicing Ringers for playing “Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound” at our worship service this morning.

**Altar Flowers** are given in thanks and praise to God and in Memory of Janice Konecny given by Jen & Ashleigh Konecny.

### SERVING THIS WEEKEND

Elder – Megan Rudzinski  
Acolyte – Sammy Golf  
Ushers – Bill & Dorothy Ryden  
Music – Paul Szymanski & Song Leaders  
Tech Team – Ian Troester, Mitch Troester & Jack Fleming  
Altar Guild – Rose Modesitt & Mary Schmidtke  
Counters – Rosanne Tadsen & Rich Treichel  
Sacred Grounds – Brian Smith & Marilyn Micetich

**Easter Breakfast** – We all enjoy time together to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter morning. As we've learned on Wednesdays in Lent, when everyone pitches in it spreads out the work load and we can enjoy that time, along with welcoming our Guests. The meal will be catered & delivered again this year, but help is needed on the Saturday before to set up tables & decorate, and also on Easter morning to receive the food, help serve, and then clean up once breakfast is over. **There is a sign-up sheet on the info table or contact Kathy Smith for more information (630-408-2471).**

**Lent Midweek Worship** - Services continue **Wednesday, March 18th at 11:00 am (in person & Livestream), and continue up to Holy Week.** A lunch will be provided after the service at Noon. Our theme this year is "Return from Exile". We also have an informal Lenten Worship Service/Bible Study at 7:00 pm each Wednesday night until Holy Week.

**Fellowship and Fire** - St. Paul Men, you are “warmly” invited to come out and join other men **Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.** Bring your favorite lawn chair and your favorite campfire consumables (beverage, snacks, etc.). You will find us behind the St. Paul Education wing – just look for the fire. Bring a friend.

**1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Focus Mission: Our Focus Mission is Lutheran Church Charities**  
The ministries of LCC include Disaster Response, Hearts of Mercy and Compassion, Cares Ministry, and K-9 (Comfort Dog) Ministries. St. Paul's support and partnership help Lutheran Church Charities in answering the call to be a source of strength and comfort. You can learn more about LCC at <http://lutheranchurchcharities.org>.

**Next Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> - Rev. Chris Singer, President and CEO of Lutheran Church Charities (LCC), will be our guest speaker.** Whether it's helping those hit by the recent storms, sending Comfort Dogs in areas where there is crisis, or helping families and individuals who have fallen on hard times, through LCC we all join together to help. Bring your change that day for the Make Noise for Missions to support the work of LCC.

**Alaska Mission Trip** – This may be your year to join us in mission to our Brothers and Sister in Christ at Mt Drum Lutheran Church in Copper Center, Alaska on (July 22-August 2). This year we will not only be doing work projects and Vacation Bible School, but we need people who can help with a Basketball camp to go along with VBS. For more information, talk with Pastor Troester or Scott Schulz at 847-334-3500.

**The Food Pantry** – We are continuing to collect for the families of School District 159 soap, toothpaste, deodorant, and toothbrushes and you can place them in the “Food Pantry” bin in the narthex. We also will be supplying non-perishable food items and gifts cards to 110 families in SD 159 and 162 to help support their families during Spring

Break (April 3-10). If you would like to donate indicate "Food Pantry" on the "other" line on your offering envelope. Thank you for your continued support.

**Generosity** Psalm 142:5 – "I cry to you, O LORD; I say, 'You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living.'" The Lord is our portion, our refuge, our everything. His mercy preserves us through all our days in the land of the living. This confidence frees us from the fear that so often leads to sins of greed and coveting. We have the Lord, we have a Father, He is in control, so we can follow His Word in confidence.

**Men** - What does it mean to "fear" the Lord? Fearing God is different than being afraid of God and it is the key to everything. Join other men Saturday mornings for a 6-week study titled The Awe of God. We will take a fresh look at what it means to work out our salvation with fear and trembling and develop a deeper relationship with the Lord. Contact Scott Schulz for more details.

**Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty (LCRL)** – To help us be informed as Christian citizens in this world who want to shine the Light of Christ in our secular world, Pastor Greg Seltz is in Washington DC to inform us to be God's voice, hands and feet in this world. To check out the latest information and blogs go to <https://www.lcrlfreedom.org/podcast>.

## IN OUR HEARTS & PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Peggy Smutny, Ethel Habel, Barb Stege. Dale Habenicht, Vivian Purnell

**College Students** – Clayton Schmeckpeper & Keagan Schmeckpeper

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St Paul Lutheran Church



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## TOGETHER BEING CHURCH

Weekly	Needs	Receiving
Current	\$8,852	\$8,187.53
Building Fund	\$577	\$645

Discretionary Fund-\$120; St Matthews-\$70; Returning Citizens-\$75; Troops Care Packages-\$55; St Paul Alaska Mission Trip-\$150; Sacred Grounds-\$23; Food Pantry-\$325; College Packages-\$200; Feed My Starving Children-\$80; LCC-\$400; National Youth Gathering-\$25; Lent-\$810; Ash Wednesday-\$100

## MARY'S CORNER

Since I am Irish and St. Patrick's Day is this week, I am sending you a beautiful Irish Blessing. May the Sun shine all day long, everything go right and nothing go wrong. May those you love bring love back to you and may all your wishes you wish come true. God Bless!