

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S
May 17-23

Sunday

9:00am **Worship Service**
10:30am Adult Bible Study
10:30am Confirmation Class

Monday

Galatians 6 (Daily Bible Reading)
12:30pm Prayer Shawl
8:00pm Men's Bible Study

Tuesday

Ephesians 1 (Daily Bible Reading)
6:00pm Grief Share
6:00pm Stephen Ministry Training

Wednesday

Ephesians 2 (Daily Bible Reading)
9:30am Myth or Faith Bible Study
11:30am HomeSchool – Fellowship Hall
7:00pm Myth or Faith Bible Study

Thursday

Ephesians 3 (Daily Bible Reading)
7:00pm Men's Fire, Fellowship & Bourbon Sampling

Friday

Ephesians 4 (Daily Bible Reading)
7:00pm Board Game Night

Saturday

Ephesians 5 (Daily Bible Reading)
7:00am Men's Bible Study
8:00am Praise Team Practice



ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

6201 Vollmer Road
Matteson, Illinois 60443
708-720-0880
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

ASCENSION SUNDAY SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2026

Our 9:00am Service is from LSB, Divine Setting 1, page 151

Baptism Hymn	#593	“See This Wonder in the Making”
Hymn of the Day	#493	“A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing”
Distribution Hymn	#492	“On Christ’s Ascension I Now Build”
	#495	“Look, Ye Saints, the Sight Is Glorious”
Closing Hymn	#525	“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

SCRIPTURE READING

First Reading	Acts 1:1-11 p1156
Epistle Reading	1 Peter 4:12-19, 5:6-11 p1296
Holy Gospel Reading	Luke 24:44-53 p1126

Baptism – Through the water and the Word Vivienne Kathryn Olson is being baptized into God’s family, and we rejoice with her parents, Ryan & Kylie, for the gift of life and new life in Christ. We pray that she will grow in faith in Jesus Christ & live to serve Him. Vivienne’s sponsors are Joshua Finstrom & Kayleigh Osmolski

Altar Flowers are given in thanks and praise to God and in honor of Jenifer Churchill and Alyssa Churchill’s birthday given by their family.

SERVING THIS WEEKEND

Elder – Mike Najewski

Acolyte – Asher Huber

Ushers – Bill & Dorothy Ryden

Organist – Pam Reinke

Tech Team – John Boor, Paul Szymanski & Scott Schulz

Altar Guild – Rose Modesitt & Mary Schmidtke

Counters – Rich Treichel & Rosanne Tadsen

Sacred Grounds – The Piepers

Fellowship, Fire and Bourbon Sampling - St. Paul Men, you are “warmly” invited to come out and join other men **Thursday, May 21st 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.

Board Game Night -Our next game night will be **Friday May 22nd from 7- 9pm**. Snacks will be provided. Bring a friend and your favorite games.

Vacation Bible School – June 15th -19th -- Registration is open – You can register at <https://myvbs.org/vbs-2026-4649>. **If you need assistance in registering, please feel free to contact the office and we can walk you through it.**

VBS Snowflakes – We’re gearing up for an amazing week of VBS, and we’d love your help keeping our kids fueled and happy! So, take a “snowflake” off the info table in the narthex, write your name on the clipboard along with the number of the “snowflake”. Purchase the item that is on the snowflake and have it back to **St. Paul’s by June 7th**. **We are also looking for a helper or two**, either to lead games or a science lesson. All lessons plans and ideas are provided! See Kate Habenicht for more information.

Hello Ladies! The summer ladies Bible Study will begin on Monday, June 1st at 10 am in the narthex. We are going to try meeting in the morning this year rather than in the evening. Our study this year is called, "Divine Directions: How God Guides your Path" by Sharla Fritz. To quote Sharla... "Here is a look at how the Bible informs your life's journey. You will explore eight journeys that show how God guided His people in the past and how He still leads you today." Please let Karen Gustafson know at (312) 502-2490 if you will be coming to this so she can order enough books for everyone.

Food Pantry – Here is a chance to help with supplies for those in need in our neighborhood who have children at School District 162 through August 1st. The supplies needed are: Individual Snacks, Clorox Cleanup Wipes, Baby Wipes, Paper Towels, Facial Tissues, Hand Sanitizer, Hand Soap, Ziploc Bags (Gallon/Quart), Pencils, Black Dry Erase Markers, Loose Leaf Paper, Index Cards, Highlighters, Washable Markers, 24 pack of Crayola Crayons and Elmer Glue Sticks. Please place these items in the Food Pantry bin in the Narthex. Thank you for your continued support.

Sunday School (Fall of 2026) - While this school year is winding down, we are looking ahead to the Fall of 2026. **We need 4 people that would be willing to teach Sunday school on a rotational basis**, as well as provide ideas and insights as to how we can provide solid Lutheran Catechism to our littlest students. Please see or call Pastor Ruger if you feel led to support this critical ministry.

Support Our Troops - Please remember to keep writing our troops letting them know how much you appreciate all they do to protect and Serve our Country. Please place all finished notes and letters in the done basket on the top of the Military table. While you

are shopping it would be greatly appreciated if you would pick up individually wrapped snack items for our troops and put them in the bin under the military table. Thank you!

Generosity – 1 Peter 5:6–7 – “Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.” We have a Father in heaven who really cares for us and loves us. That is the basis of generosity, because such knowledge spells the end of worry, which is the source of all tightfisted greed.

2nd Quarter Focus Mission is the St Paul 2026 Alaska Mission Trip – The 2026 Alaska Mission Trip will be St. Paul’s 12th mission trip to Alaska in July. This year, we will be performing “hammer and nail” projects around Copper Center and, something new, a youth sports camp along with Vacation Bible School. **Contributions** to the Alaska Mission Trip from anyone defray the costs of air transportation, ground transportation, meals, and supplies. Please keep our Alaska Mission Team in your prayers.

My Devotions for Children - Parents & Grandparents, On the Information Table in the Narthex you will find a daily devotional that helps make reading the Bible become a habit in a fun and easy way. Each devotion is accompanied by a daily Scripture passage, journal prompt, and prayer, and each issue also includes a variety of Bible-related games and activities as well as pages for journaling. Perfect for use at home or on the go!

Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty (LCRL) – Religious Liberty, Sanctity of Life, Traditional Marriage, and Educational Freedom form the focus of the work of the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty.

IN OUR HEARTS & PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Peggy Smutny, Barb Stege, Jamie
Tadsen, Laraine Jennings, Sharon Hart,
Rich Klug, Janice Pikalek, Randy
Siekman

TOGETHER BEING CHURCH

Weekly	Needs	Receiving
Current	\$10,652.42	\$32,871.38
Building Fund	\$1,086.54	\$410
Mission	\$1,886.06	\$230

Discretionary Fund-\$2,200; St Matthews-\$1,070; LCC Comfort Dogs-\$180; St Paul Alaska Mission Trip-\$251.74; Sacred Grounds-\$41; Voice of Care-\$50; LCC-\$300; Feed My Starving Children-\$160

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MARY’S CORNER

I read this recently and how true it is: You are someone’s Hero! You probably don’t think of yourself as one; heroes usually don’t. But you are someone’s champion and someone’s cheerleader, someone’s coach and someone’s comfort, someone’s angel and someone’s anchor. That ‘s what heroes do. You make a difference just by being you!