

THIS WEEK @SPLDECATUR

SUNDAY 4/21

- 8:00 AM Traditional Worship (In-Person & Online)
- 9:15 AM Sunday Education Time (Adults, Parents, Kids)
- 10:30 AM Contemporary Worship (In-Person & Online), SPL Littles

TUESDAY 4/23

- 10:00 AM Garden Club Workshop (Dining Room)
- 11:30 AM G.A. Meeting (Room 122)

WEDNESDAY 4/24

- 6:00 PM SPL Youth WEDNESDAY NIGHT! (The Loft)

THURSDAY 4/25

- 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study with Jack Barr (Conference Room)
- 1:00 PM Bible Study - *Believing God* (Room 122)
- 5:30 PM Handbell Ensemble Rehearsal
- 6:00 PM Spring History Study w/Jerry Johnson (Room 122)
- 6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal

SATURDAY 4/27 CONFIRMATION SATURDAY

- 7:00 AM SPL Men Bible Study (Conference Room)
- 9:00 AM Confirmation Rehearsal
- 10:30 AM Confirmation Brunch & Testimony Sharing (Dining Room)
- 6:00 PM Contemporary Worship (Worship Center)

SUNDAY 4/28 CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

- 8:00 AM Traditional Worship (In-Person & Online)
- 9:15 AM Sunday Education Time (Adults, Parents, Kids)
- 10:30 AM Contemporary Worship (In-Person & Online), SPL Littles

Follow SPL Field House at [FACEBOOK/SPLFIELDHOUSE](https://www.facebook.com/SPLFIELDHOUSE)
& check church calendar for latest activity schedule

CONNECTING IN OUR COMMUNITY

- Rolling Back Time Roller Skating 4/21 12PM (Fairview Park)
- D-Town Highland Games 4/27 9:30AM (Decatur Conference Center)
- Theatre 7's *Star on the Door* 4/27-28 times vary (Decatur Civic Center)
- Earth Day Sangamon River Clean Up 4/27 10AM (Rock Springs Conserv. Area)
- Blue Sunday:** Day of Prayer for Abused Children 4/28
- April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month
- Blessing of the Bikes 2024 4/28 11AM (Forsyth Harley-Davidson)
- Images in Motion Film Festival 4/28 6PM (Millikin University Kauper Hall)
- JeepFest 2024 Benefit 4/28 1-5PM (Mt. Zion Convention Center)
- Spring Sing - Millikin Vocal Groups 4/28 4PM (Central Christian Church)

LOVE

For additional details, connect with us at info@spldecatur.org

OUR BELIEF: Receiving the Lord's Supper

The Apostle Paul wrote, "A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup." (1 *Corinthians 11:28*) In order to examine yourself before attending the Lord's Supper, when offered, ask yourself the following questions:

1. Do I believe I am a sinner, and am I sorry for my sins?
2. Do I believe Jesus, by His death, offers me forgiveness for all my sins?
3. Do I believe I receive the body and blood of Jesus in and with the bread and wine? (*They are not merely symbolically present.*)
4. Do I truly desire to turn from my sinful ways?

If you are able to answer "yes" to these questions, we invite you to join us for the Lord's Supper, when offered. Children and adults who cannot answer affirmatively are invited and encouraged to come forward for a blessing but should refrain from receiving the bread and wine.

CONNECT WITH US & SHARE YOUR STORY

Visit our website at [SPLDECATUR.ORG](https://www.SPLDECATUR.ORG)

Find us on Facebook at [FACEBOOK.COM/STPAULSDECATUR](https://www.FACEBOOK.COM/STPAULSDECATUR)

Follow us on Insta/YouTube at [@SPLDECATUR](https://www.instagram.com/SPLDECATUR)

View Live Stream at [SPLDECATUR.ORG/WATCH](https://www.SPLDECATUR.ORG/WATCH)

Learn about our Early Learning Center at [ELCDECATUR.ORG](https://www.ELCDECATUR.ORG)



10:30 AM WORSHIP

APRIL 21, 2024

PASTOR ROB GOODWIN

PASTOR MARK GEARIG

PASTOR BILL GRUENINGER

Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God.

1 PETER 2:16

Call to Worship

Praise You Anywhere

Welcome & Invocation

Opening Praise

*See A Victory
Do It Again*

Prayers of the Church & The Lord's Prayer

Join us as the SPL Family in Prayer by becoming part of our group on Facebook. Go to [facebook.com/groups/SPLPrayer](https://www.facebook.com/groups/SPLPrayer) or submit requests online - Go to [spldecatur.org/prayer](https://www.spldecatur.org/prayer).

Confession & Absolution

Celebrating the Lord's Supper

If you have not communed with us before, please read "Our Belief: Receiving the Lord's Supper" located on the back page. We encourage families to commune together. Ushers will guide you when it is your time to come forward.

Communion

Breathe w/ Here Again

Offering

Our offerings, gifts, and tithes are returned to Jesus in response to His sacrificial love for us. Please place your envelope in the collection basket, click **GIVING** at [SPLDECATUR.ORG](https://www.SPLDECATUR.ORG), or mail your Offering Envelope to SPL. You can also return Connect Cards to the basket at this time.

Announcements

SPL Kids Word



1 BACHRACH CT.
DECATUR, IL 62526
PH: 217-423-6955

[SPLDECATUR.ORG](https://www.SPLDECATUR.ORG)

Message

“LIVE FREE: Daniel 6”

Pastor Mark Gearig

Daniel 6:10-27, 1 Peter 2:13-25, Matthew 5:13-16

Blessing

Closing Song

Gone

NEW HERE? Welcome - we are so glad you are here!

Be sure to complete a First Time Guest Card and bring it to the Welcome Center in the West Fellowship Area for a special gift.

JOIN US FOR CONFIRMATION AT 10:30 AM WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY.

JOIN US IN WORSHIP NEXT WEEKEND
IN-PERSON* AND ONLINE* AS WE CONCLUDE
WHAT IT MEANS TO

LIVE
FREE

SATURDAY 6:00 PM WORSHIP
SUNDAY 8:00 AM* & 10:30 AM*
WEDNESDAY 12:00 PM & 6:30 PM*

*WORSHIP ONLINE AT SPLDECATUR.ONLINE.CHURCH

Communion is offered at all weekend worship services.

LET US KNOW YOU'RE WORSHIPING WITH US!

Complete a **CONNECT CARD** In-Person or Online
Available in the pews or at SPLDECATUR.ORG/FORMS.
Return cards to the Offering baskets at Offering time.

DECATUR OUTREACH - LOVE 217

We are excited to continue our partnership in Decatur Outreach Ministries to bless families and connect them with the good news of the Gospel this summer. Our first 2024 event is a **Pre-Mother's Day Blessing** event on Saturday, May 11th (1541 N. Church St.). Flyer distribution will be the afternoon of May 7th. We are especially focused on moms/single moms and kids for this event, and are seeking additional items to utilize in blessing them. We are collecting new or gently used "church clothes" for kids and moms, to be distributed at the event. We will also welcome items for moms or kids to be used in giveaways at the event (physical items or gift cards). Sign up today to serve, or return donated items to the collection table in the Fellowship Area. Questions? Contact Andrea Gerhard at andrea@spldecatgur.org or 217-423-6955.



FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

Flowers on the Altar are placed to the glory of God by Trevor & Lindsay Dodson in celebration of the baptism anniversary of their children Leio, Willow, & Mila.

Flowers at the Pulpit are placed to the glory of God by Kenny & Vicki Baker in celebration of their 20th wedding anniversary.

JOIN OUR TEAM · Apply by April 30

To continue to complete our team and meet ministry needs, St. Paul's is currently hiring for **Director of Communications**. This is a full-time position with oversight of all ministry communications and leadership of the communications team. Submit cover letter, resume, and references to pastorrob@spldecatgur.org by April 30th. More position details available at spldecatgur.org/joinourteam

INTERESTED IN BAPTISM?

Contact the Church Office to sign up for **Baptism Class** on the first Sunday of the month. The next class will be May 5 at 9:15 AM. Call 217-423-6955 for more information and to register.

SPL FAMILY

EARLY LEARNING CENTER facebook.com/ELCDecatur

Now hiring teachers and Assistant Director. Contact Jamie at 217-424-9183. Apply today! More information available at ELCDecatur.org.

The ELC has openings in our Threes & Fours classrooms, and for summer school-age care. Contact us today!

SPL KIDS facebook.com/groups/SPLKids & [YT@SPLKids](https://facebook.com/YT@SPLKids)

NURSERY available during worship for kids Infant-3yrs.

KIDS EDUCATION TIME Sundays at 9:15 AM (2nd floor).

SAVE THE DATE! June 11-13 for Vacation Bible School in Fairview Park!

SPL YOUTH facebook.com/groups/SPLYouth

SPL YOUTH WEDNESDAY NIGHT! Every Wednesday at 6:00 PM in the Loft. Join us April 24 for Serve Night!

SPL PARENTS facebook.com/groups/SPLParents

Sunday 9:15 AM in Room 122 - All parents and caretakers are welcome!

SPL MEN facebook.com/groups/SPLMen

Thursdays 6:30 AM Bible Study (Conference Room)

Saturdays 7:00 AM Bible Study (Conference Room)

SPL WOMEN facebook.com/groups/SPLWomen

WOMEN'S GET TOGETHER Ladies, mark your calendar - all are invited to come together for food, worship, prayer, teaching, and fellowship on Sunday, May 5 from 12-2PM at SPL. Hope to see you there!

UNITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL facebook.com/UnityDecatur

A Ministry of the Lutheran School Association

UNITY ERA RED & BLACK GALA - MAY 3 GET YOUR TICKETS NOW

- Just \$40 each! Scan the code or visit <https://flow.page/unitydinnerauction> to connect with the ticket link and all other information related to our event - start getting ready for MAY 3rd! All who purchase a ticket by APRIL 30th will be ENTERED TO WIN a "Red Carpet Arrival" - see event for details. Can't attend? Consider donating a ticket for a teacher.



CALL FOR DONATIONS - DUE BY APRIL 24 Support the auction with donations of gift cards from \$5-\$10 amounts up to \$25, \$50 for the May 3rd event. Get them on your own or easily purchase some at our Raise Right/SCRIP table in the Fellowship Area this weekend (which also provides support toward our assessment). Return to Andrea Gerhard in the Church Office by 4/24 (Questions? Call 217-423-6955).

WE WORSHIP BETTER TOGETHER

Last weekend attendance in person:	459
Last weekend attendance online:	128
Average attendance for the last 4 weeks:	719

GIVING 2024

Last Week's Offering:	\$35,598
2024 Budget Goal:	\$2,170,000
YTD Giving:	\$590,229 (27.20% of budget goal)