

SPL NEWS

NOVEMBER 23 & 24, 2024
6:00 PM & 10:30 AM



OUR MISSION

St. Paul's Lutheran is a church where those longing for a **different** life find a **grace-filled** life in Jesus.



Scripture

Deuteronomy 15:10-11
Acts 20:32-35
Luke 6:30-38

Worship Songs

Do What You Want To (Sunday only)
Evidence
Build My Life
Make Room
Glorious Day

UPWARD 2025 BASKETBALL & CHEER



For PreK-8th grade participants. *Upward* runs from 1/4/2025 thru 3/8/2025 on Saturdays.

PARENTS: Early Bird discount registration runs thru **November 30** so use the QR code to the left to register now.

REGISTER

Volunteers are needed to coach and officiate. To volunteer, scan the code to the right.



VOLUNTEER

DONATE A CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA

Help us decorate the sanctuary this Christmas by donating a poinsettia for \$20 per plant. Look for the Poinsettia bulletin board in the Fellowship Area and follow the instructions. You can honor a loved one with your donation and you can take a plant home after worship on Christmas Day. The last day for donations is next Sunday, **December 1**, so visit the bulletin board today.

KICK OFF THE SEASON NEXT SUNDAY

On Sunday, **December 1**, after 10:30 AM Worship come lend a hand as we decorate the church for Christmas! All are invited to help us set the stage at SPL for this blessed time of the year. Later, take another opportunity to bring in the season as we go caroling throughout the community. Meet at the church at 2:00 PM to be sent out into the city, then gather back at 4:30 pm for an evening of food, fellowship, and fun. These are wonderful opportunities for the whole family to make the season joyful and bright!

ADVENT WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

This year our Advent theme is "*Come & See*" and we invite you to come together for lunch & worship at 12:00 PM in the Dining Room, or dinner at 5:30 PM in the Dining Room followed by worship at 6:30 PM in the Worship Center. Worship on Wednesdays will be **December 4th, 11th, and 18th**.

ANGEL TREE

Angels are now available at the Angel Tree in the Fellowship Area. Take an angel off the tree, sign for it, then return your gifts - *with angel attached!* - back to the tree or the Church Office by Wednesday, **December 11**.



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

PASTOR ROB GOODWIN
PASTOR MARK GEARIG
PASTOR BILL GRUENINGER

FORMER AND CURRENT CAT EMPLOYEES CAN HELP UNITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

The Caterpillar Foundation is offering a limited time 2:1 matching program for gifts from employees and retirees from December 2-6. As an educational organization, UNITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL is an eligible recipient for these matching gifts. That means your \$1,000 gift could turn into \$3,000 for Unity. To learn more, including details about the year-round 1:1 matching program, scan the QR code, or reach out to Brian Booth at bbooth@unitydecatour.org.



LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

We are looking for families and individuals who are willing to take a turn lighting the Advent wreath by reading prayers/lighting the candles at Sunday worship services during Advent. Willing to help? Please call the Church Office at (217) 423-6955.

COMING UP AT SPL

NOVEMBER 24 - **YOUTH THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION** 4:00-6:00 PM
NOVEMBER 28 - **THANKSGIVING WORSHIP** 9:00 AM
NOVEMBER 28-29 - SPL & ELC Offices Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
NOVEMBER 30 - **UPWARD** Basketball & Cheer deadline for Early Bird discount registration
DECEMBER 1 - **CHRISTMAS DECORATING** at St. Paul's after 10:30 AM Worship
DECEMBER 1 - **CAROLING IN THE COMMUNITY** meet at SPL at 2:00 PM
DECEMBER 4 - **WEDNESDAY ADVENT WORSHIP** 12:00 PM & 6:30 PM
DECEMBER 8 - **JINGLE JAM** 9:15 AM
DECEMBER 11 - **WEDNESDAY ADVENT WORSHIP** 12:00 PM & 6:30 PM
DECEMBER 11 - **ANGEL TREE GIFTS** due back at St. Paul's.
DECEMBER 18 - **WEDNESDAY ADVENT WORSHIP** 12:00 PM & 6:30 PM
DECEMBER 21 - **CAROL SING** at SPL 6:00 PM
DECEMBER 24 - **CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP** 4:00 PM & 7:00 PM
DECEMBER 25 - **CHRISTMAS WORSHIP** 10:00 AM



FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

Flowers on the Altar are placed to the glory of God by Nicki Peck and Dave Peck in loving memory of their mother, Doris, for her earthly birthday.

WE WORSHIP BETTER TOGETHER

| | |
|------------------------------------------|-----|
| Last weekend attendance in person: | 431 |
| Last weekend attendance online: | 121 |
| Average attendance for the last 4 weeks: | 552 |

GIVING 2024

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|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 2024 Budget Goal: | \$2,170,000 |
| YTD Giving: | \$1,585,304.96 (73.06% of budget goal) |
| Last Week's Offering: | \$23,995.61 |
| Amount needed to meet 2024 budget goal: | \$584,695.04 |
| Amount needed weekly through 12/29: | \$97,449.17 |

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, 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 real presence of Jesus' Body and Blood in, with, and under 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 during worship. Grape juice is located at the center of the tray for those who need it. Children who have not taken Communion Class are invited to come forward and receive a blessing but should refrain from receiving the bread and wine. (Communion class is offered to those in 6th grade or older).

If you have any questions or concerns about Communion, please talk with a Pastor after service.

CONNECT WITH US & SHARE YOUR STORY



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Find us on Facebook at [FACEBOOK.COM/STPAULSDECATUR](https://www.facebook.com/STPAULSDECATUR)
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View Live Stream at SPLDECATUR.ORG/WATCH
Learn about our Early Learning Center at ELCDECATUR.ORG