



SPL NEWS

FEBRUARY 22 & 23, 2025
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.



This Week's Scripture:

Genesis 45:3-15
1 Corinthians 15:21-26;30-42
Luke 6:27-38

This Week's Worship Songs:

Praise The King (Sunday)
Raise A Hallelujah
Build My Life
The Stand
Mighty To Save
Unstoppable God (Sunday)

ENJOY SOME PIZZA FOR A GOOD CAUSE

Set yourself a reminder: pizza from Papa Murphy's this Thursday! Members of SPL Youth are heading to New Orleans this summer for the LCMS National Youth Gathering (NYG). Order pizza from Papa Murphy's Mound Road location on Thursday, **February 27**, from 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM and they will donate 20% of your total towards expenses for the trip. Order online at PapaMurphys.com and enter code: *Support* at checkout, or order by phone (217-875-1700) and be sure to mention the fundraiser to the cashier.

AWAKEN: A JOURNEY TO SHARING JESUS

During this 2-session workshop, you will be equipped to share Jesus with others in a relational way as the Multipli team, one of our partners in ministry, leads you through an overview of *3 Essentials for Sharing Jesus*. We will dive deeper into these key concepts of responsibility, permission, and access, receiving practical tools along the way. You will also be challenged to put them into practice as you journey through the weeks ahead. Join in on **Friday, March 14**, from 5:00 PM-7:00 PM and **Saturday, March 15**, from 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM. Sign up in the Fellowship Area outside the Family Room.

THE HUNT IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

This Easter, SPL invites you to join us in Loving 217 by hosting neighborhood Easter Egg Hunts all throughout Decatur. We will provide the eggs, the support, and know-how; you provide the home and the heart. We will be holding all our hunts on **Saturday, April 12th!** Prayerfully consider hosting a Neighborhood Hunt of your own or in collaboration with friends/other families. Sign up in the Fellowship Area outside the Family Room.

SPL ADULT MISSION TRIP THIS SUMMER

From **May 31st to June 7th**, 2025, St. Paul's will be taking a group of adults to Asheville, North Carolina, on mission to work with local families rebuilding their homes after the devastating hurricanes of the past year. The cost is \$450 per person. If you would like to go but funding is a concern, please talk to Pastor Bill. Scan the code to register or sign up at the table in the Fellowship Area today. Please register by March 15. Questions? Contact Pastor Bill or Gene Mueller.



LEAVE THE DRIVING TO US

St. Paul's is sponsoring two motorcoach trips this year led by Pastor Rob giving you the chance to build relationships with your church family while on the road to interesting places: the *Creation Museum & Ark Encounter* **July 8-11**, and *Branson, Missouri* **September 24-26**, 2025. Look for the flyers around church for pricing details and join other St. Paul's family members on these great trips. Call Timi's Tours at 1-800-682-8214 to make your reservations. Be sure and tell them that you are with St. Paul's!



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

PASTOR ROB GOODWIN
PASTOR MARK GEARIG
PASTOR BILL GRUENINGER

THANK A VOLUNTEER

We set aside this weekend to give thanks for our volunteers. What do St. Paul's volunteers do? They are greeters, choir members, food preparers/servers at F3/Lent/Advent, ushers, lay ministers, SPL Kids leaders, SPL Youth leaders, Upward coaches - and that's just to name a few. They are a blessing and without these servant-hearted people the ministry of St. Paul's would not be possible. When you see a St. Paul's volunteer this weekend, give them a sincere thank you. Let them know they are appreciated!

CALL FOR BOARD OF ELDERS CANDIDATES

The Nominating Committee for the Board of Elders is accepting candidate names for the 2025-2026 Board. Please submit your suggestions for Elder-at-Large and Chair Elect to Committee Chair Ian Rhode ianrhode@yahoo.com by **March 10, 2025**.

MEN OF ST. PAUL'S: The Act Like Men Woodcutters' Retreat is back **February 28-March 1** at Camp CILCA. Hard work, good food, fellowship, and Biblical encouragement to act like men included!

To register, scan the code or visit cilca.org/act-like-men-woodcutters-retreat



FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

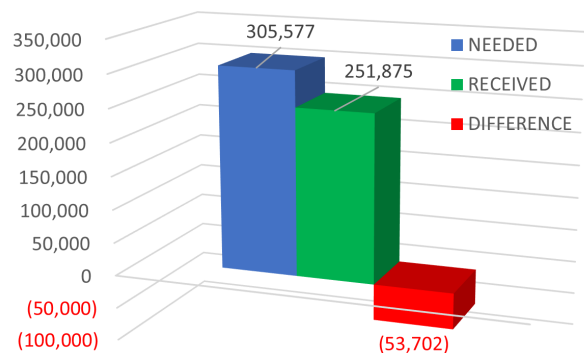
Flowers on the Altar are placed to the glory of God by Barry Bombal & Tuyen Bui.

WE WORSHIP BETTER TOGETHER

Last weekend attendance in person: 424
Last weekend attendance online: 164
Average attendance for the last 4 weeks: 590

GENERAL FUND GIVING SUMMARY FEB. 2025

	2/9 to 2/15	Feb. Total	2025 Calendar YTD
NEEDED	\$43,654	\$87,308	\$305,577
RECEIVED	\$65,308	\$129,514	\$251,875
DIFFERENCE	\$21,654	\$42,206	(\$53,702)



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.

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Learn about our Early Learning Center at ELCDECATUR.ORG