

**THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S**  
**March 1-7**

**Sunday**

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

**Monday**

**Matthew 5 (Daily Bible Reading)**

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

**Tuesday**

**Matthew 6 (Daily Bible Reading)**

6:00pm      Grief Share

**Wednesday**      **Matthew 7 (Daily Bible Reading)**

9:30am      Midweek Lent Bible Study  
11:00am      Midweek Lent Service & Lunch  
7:00pm      Midweek Lent Worship/Bible Study

**Thursday**

**Matthew 8 (Daily Bible Reading)**

8:30am      SSHS-Fellowship Hall & Ed Building  
5:30-7:00pm      RLAC Meeting – Narthex  
7:00pm      Elder's Meeting

**Friday**

**Matthew 9 (Daily Bible Reading)**

**Saturday**

**Matthew 10 (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***

## **SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2026**

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

Old Testament Reading	Genesis 12:1-9 p11
Epistle Reading	Romans 4:1-8, 13-17 p1197
Holy Gospel Reading	John 3:1-17 p1129

**A Special Thank You** to our Rejoicing Ringers for playing “Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus” at our worship service this morning.

**Altar Flowers** are given in thanks and praise to God.

### **SERVING THIS WEEKEND**

Elder – Angie Lyke  
Acolyte – Katie Fleming  
Ushers – Randy & Kathy Dahlman  
Music – Paul Szymanski & Song Leaders  
Tech Team – Mitch Troester, Bill Miller & Jack Fleming  
Altar Guild – Judy Johnson & Angie Lyke  
Counters – Joan Mohler & Dennis Schmeckpeper  
Sacred Grounds – The MacCrackens & Pauline Griffin

**Lent Midweek Worship** - Services continue on **Wednesday, March 4th 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.

**Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup> – 2026 Mission Trip Fundraiser @ Lou Malnati's**

Our first fundraiser is at Lou Malnati's Pizzeria in Tinley Park (lunch and dinner) **and** New Lenox (dinner only). 20% of all orders (dine-in, carryout, online, in the app) will support the 2026 Alaska Mission Trip. Please invite your family, your friends, and your neighbors to join you on Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup> for good food, good fellowship, and a good cause.

**Ladies Aid – Women in Mission** – Ladies, please join us on **Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> at noon** in the narthex. Lunch will be provided.

**Stephen Ministry** - If you or someone you know could use a sister or brother in Christ to walk along with you through your current struggles, for as long as you need, please ask either Pastor about having a Stephen Minister partner with you in your journey.

**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 make a donation indicate "Food Pantry" on the "other" line on your offering envelope. Thank you for your continued support.

**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>.

**Special Guest Rev. Chris Singer, President and CEO of LCC, will be our guest speaker during the worship service on Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>.** We will also Make Noise for Missions on that day to demonstrate St. Paul's support for the work of Lutheran Church Charities.

**Generosity** – John 3:16 – “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” This is perhaps the most well-known and beloved verse in the New Testament, for good reason. This simple Gospel message is the foundation for our whole life, including our new life in Christ. This new life is characterized by thankfulness and devotion to our Father who has provided for us so lavishly in Christ.

**Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty (LCRL)** – We have someone in Washington DC to speak for us regarding the church and government according to God's Word. Today we celebrate National Wedding Planners Day. The Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty advocates for traditional marriage – see [www.LCRLFreedom.org](http://www.LCRLFreedom.org) for more information.

### IN OUR HEARTS & PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Peggy Smutny, Ethel Habel, Barb Stege, Marti Kelly, Hollie Pequettte

**College Students** – Nathaniel Reinke & Jenna Rudzinski

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St Paul Lutheran Church



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### TOGETHER BEING CHURCH

Weekly	Needs	Receiving
Current	\$8,852	\$2,724.77
Building Fund	\$577	\$110
Mission	\$327	\$120

Discretionary Fund-\$45; St. Matthews-\$40; Returning Citizens-\$20; LCC Comfort Dogs-\$105; St Paul Alaska Mission Trip-\$25; Food Pantry-\$540; Feed My Starving Children-\$80; Ash Wednesday-\$729; National Youth Gathering-\$25

### MARY'S CORNER

After just finishing February, I am sure we all are anticipating the coming of spring. I know I should not get ahead of myself because we have had some very bad snow storms in March. I notice the birds are slowly returning in the sky and if you look closely, you can see little crocus sprouts pushing out of the ground. Spring is such a beautiful season and I am sure God is very busy preparing many beautiful surprises for us. Go out and enjoy them.