



2025

ST. PAUL'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

GUIDE BOOK &

directory



8601 HARRISON AVE. • MUNSTER, IN 46321
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St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

8601 Harrison Avenue, Munster, Indiana 46321

219-836-6270 www.stplmunster.com

Dear St. Paul's Family,

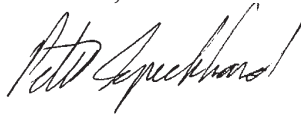
A church directory in the form of a little booklet might not seem like a big deal. Certainly the paper and ink do not amount to much, and it contains information you might never use. These days we mostly have the contact info of the people we interact with already contained in our phones.

The church directory is a blessing and gift only because of what it represents. If your name is included in this booklet, you are a part of a community knit together by the most important thing—Christ. You are part of a family. You have a support network that can put every facet of your life into context.

Sure, you might never use this directory the way people used to use directories. But then again, maybe you will. What matters is that you could. More important than knowing the number is having someone you could call. This book gives you both.

May your life be enriched by participation in this community of believers. May the others in this book benefit from your participation in their lives as well. And may St. Paul's thrive in 2025 as a congregation gathered around the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

In Christ,



Pastor Speckhard



Brief History of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church was started by a small but determined group of German immigrant families. The church was established as a congregation on October 3, 1882, in Hammond, Indiana. In 1896, St. Paul's Lutheran School was dedicated near the site of the church in Hammond. In 1902, the cornerstone for the Clinton Avenue location was laid and the congregation worshiped in this facility for more than 75 years. Changing times sent the relocation of the congregation to the present site of the church and school in Munster, Indiana. God has richly blessed St. Paul's Congregation in its 139 years of service to the Lord.

Worship Schedule

Service times are subject to change.

The 10:15 a.m. service is live streamed, find it on our website.

Sunday..... 8:00 & 10:15 a.m. (Livestream)
Monday..... 6:30 p.m.
Koinonia/Fellowship Sundays between services (recessed for summer)

Radio/TV Ministry

The Lutheran Hour, Sunday 6:00 a.m. on WGN-720AM or Sunday at 10:00 a.m. on WJOB-1230AM.

Lutheran "Worship Anew" on Sunday at 10:30 a.m. on DirectTV, channel 377 (TCT -Tri-State Christian TV), or Sunday at 8:00 a.m. on WPWR (CW50).

Day School Chapel Services

1st-8th grade - Wednesday mornings during school year..... 8:30 a.m.
Preschool-Kindergarten - Wednesday mornings during school year.... 9:00 a.m.

Special Services

Service times are subject to change.

Some special services will be live streamed, find them on our website.

Ash Wednesday Services	3:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.
Mid-Week Lenten Services.....	Wednesdays during Lent
Maundy Thursday Communion Service	6:30 p.m.
Good Friday	12:00 noon-3:00 p.m. Tre Ore; 6:30 p.m. Tenebrae
Easter Vigil.....	8:00 p.m.
Easter Services	7:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Easter Communion Service	11:00 a.m.
Thanksgiving Eve Service.....	(Wed.) 6:30 p.m.
Thanksgiving Day Service	(Thurs.) 10:00 a.m.
Mid-Week Advent Worship	Wednesdays during Advent
Christmas Eve	4:00 & 6:00 p.m. Candlelight Service
Christmas Day.....	10:00 a.m. Holy Communion Service

Youth Confirmation Classes

(6th, 7th & 8th Grade)

Sunday Mornings (September-May) 9:15 a.m.

New Member/Adult Education Classes

Sundays 9:15 a.m.

(Call Church Office, 836-6270, ext. 100 for dates)

Adult Bible Study

Sunday Bible Study..... 9:15 a.m.

Tuesday Ladies Bible Study (2nd & 4th weeks)..... 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday Morning Pastor's Bible Study..... 10:00 a.m.

Thursday Morning Pastor's Bible Study..... 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School

Pre-K through 4th Grade..... 9:15 a.m.



Church Staff

Title	Person	Phone	Email address
.....		219-836-6270..	@stplmunster.com
Church Office.....		ext. 100.....	Church: stpaul
Senior Pastor.....	Peter Speckhard.....	ext. 101 or 836-3717..	pspeckhard
.....		(cell) 219-741-6270	
Associate Pastor	Adrian Krebs.....	ext. 103 or 836-3719	akrebs
.....		(cell) 812-498-2161	
Music Director.....	Karen Foote	ext. 114.....	kfoote
Secretary.....	Krystle Hofstra.....	ext. 100.....	churchoffice
Finance Office.....	Caroline Weller.....	ext. 105.....	cweller
Church/School Website.....			www.stplmunster.com

School Staff

Title	Person	Phone	Email address
.....		219-836-6270...	@stplmunster.com
School Office.....		ext. 200.....	stplscool
Preschool Office.....		ext. 300	
Principal.....	Trisha Engel.....	ext. 201 or 836-3720	tengel
Secretary.....	Pam Tucker	ext. 200.....	ptucker
Admission	Terri Kasper	ext. 202.....	tkasper
Athletic Director.....	Bruce Schooler.....		bschooler
School Website.....			www.stplmunster.com

Building Maintenance

Area	Person	Phone	Email address
.....		219-836-6270..	@stplmunster.com
Maintenance Supervisor			
.....	Henry Foote.....	ext. 108.....	hfoote

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Financial Advisor
8840 Calumet Ave
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Munster, IN 46321
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Mike Hawkins	Ken Hay	Ryan Marks
Sam Martino	David Watkins	

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Karen Hott	Jan Peiguss	Jill Swope

Board of Evangelism

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Karen Millies		

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Mailohoit		

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Statement of Mission, Ministry and Congregational Structure

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Munster, Indiana

Bible References:

Matthew 28:19-20: "...therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the father and of the son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you."

Ephesians 4:11-13: "It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built-up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attending to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ."

2 Corinthians 5:20: "We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God."

Ia. MISSION STATEMENT

"St. Paul's Lutheran Church is a living Christian community responding to God's love and dedicated to the continual growth of the Body of Christ."

Ib. VISION STATEMENT

"Empowered by the Holy Spirit through worship and prayer, the members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church are expanding the Body of Christ by disciplining, equipping and sending ambassadors of all ages to share the Good News of the Gospel."

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II. CONGREGATIONAL MINISTRY

“WE ARE TO BE DISCIPLES AND DISCIPLE MAKERS”

The life of Christian discipleship is encouraged at St. Paul's through an emphasis on Christian Education and by making our Sunday worship experience the high point of our walk with Christ.

We believe that God's Word is a means of Grace, God's way of communicating with His people. Therefore, we emphasize a life of continued growth in faith through regular study of the Bible. We offer a variety of adult Bible study opportunities, in large and small groups. Our Sunday School program encourages Scripture study by all ages. Daily reading of Scripture is encouraged through a variety of devotional helps. We sponsor a Christian Day School with grades K-8. We believe that frequent contact with the Word stimulates growth in faith and prepares us for ministry (John 8:31-32, Colossians 3:16).

Sunday worship is centered around Word and Sacraments as the focal point of our fellowship with God. We use a traditional liturgical form of worship in a variety of formats. Our excellent music ministry and sound Biblical preaching help to inspire God's people for their life of discipleship and the work of the ministry (Acts 2:42).

The work of ministry is to “make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:18-20). We have been commissioned by Jesus to continue His mission here on earth of spreading the kingdom of heaven to all mankind (Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 16:16). It is our goal to share God's grace with “all nations” through our local outreach ministries and through our support of world evangelism through our association with the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

All activities and programs at St. Paul's exist for the purpose of equipping our people to be disciples and to make disciples to the glory of God and the salvation of many.

III. ACCOUNTABILITY

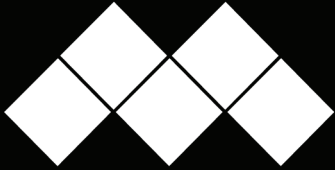
The members of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church are accountable to Christ, the Head of the Body, as His stewards. They also have accountability with the fellow members of the body of Christ as provided in Article 4 of the congregational constitution.



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219-836-2041

Email: manousdds@gmail.com

Fax: 219-836-2410

Website: manousdds.com

Children And New Patients Welcome!

IV. ROLE FUNCTIONS AND RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE BODY

Within the Congregation:

- The pastors are called to tend to the spiritual care and equip the members through worship, sacraments, and counsel.
- Each member is a minister to all fellow members, and a witness of Jesus Christ to the world.
- The Voters' Assembly is the governing body of this congregation.
- The Parish Planning Council advises the Pastor, boards, and makes recommendations on all areas of church ministry to the voters for decision.
- The various boards assist the pastors with the spiritual life of the congregation.

Within the District:

The members and pastors of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church affirm their fellowship with the LC-MS congregations that comprise the Hammond Circuit and the LC-MS congregations that make up the Indiana District of the LC-MS and acknowledge the benefits that these affiliations make possible.

Within the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod:

The members and pastors of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church affirm their fellowship of association with the Lutheran congregations banded together in a common confession of faith and practice.

The members of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church acknowledge both the benefits they receive from this association and the work this association permits them to accomplish in fulfilling their mission as given to them by Christ.

Congregational Structure

Office of the Pastor

The pastors of St. Paul's are called by the congregation to administer the Word of God through sound Biblical preaching and teaching, and to administer the Sacrament of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

The central focus of the office of the public ministry is to deliver God's Means of Grace through Word and Sacrament and for the forgiveness of sins. Through diligent application of God's Word, the aim of the ministry is brought into the lives of our members, to lead a faithful and godly life.

Executive Board

The officers of the congregation consist of a President, Vice President(s) and a Treasurer.

Church Benefactors

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Administrative Boards

Deacons: The Deacons assist the Pastor in ministering to the spiritual needs of our members and encourage regular church attendance and participation in Holy Communion through personal visits and phone calls. The nature of the duties of this Board requires that men noted for their Christian knowledge, zeal, and experience in the spiritual work of the Kingdom of Christ be asked to serve on this board.

Christian Education: This board establishes goals and sets policies for the Day School, and Pre-School. The School is our biggest mission outreach of our church. Our program teaches the gospel of Jesus Christ on a daily basis and provides instruction in the secular subjects for Pre-school through 8th Grade. This board oversees this entire function of the school.

Evangelism: The Board of Evangelism encourages the congregation to bring the gospel to the unchurched in the community and support the outreach agencies of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. The board oversees the mission, welcoming, assimilation, outreach and marketing efforts of our church.

Family Life: This board is involved with coordinating all Family Life activities including but not limited to Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, and the Food Pantry. They also are involved in Marriage and Family enrichment, Nursery functions and parenting activities.

Fellowship: The Fellowship board is involved with strengthening the fellowship of the congregation members spiritually and socially through the coordinating of church social activities. Most activities include food and fun for members of all ages.

Stewardship: As members of St. Paul's, the board encourages our entire congregation to serve the Lord and His church with their time, talents, and treasures. They also work to ensure the financial stability of the congregation and its work through a developed program of dedicated, proportionate, first-fruits giving.

Trustees: The Board of Trustees oversees the building and grounds maintenance of St. Paul's Church and School. They are also scheduled periodically to open and close the building for church services and some related functions.

Youth: The board of youth is involved with coordinating activities for the Jr. and Sr. high youth of the congregation. This involves Bible study and various social activities.

Parish Planning Council

Consists of the Pastors, Executive Board members, and the Directors of the Administrative Boards.

Voter's Assembly

Voting members must be communicant members, age 18 or older and be recognized as a voting member at a Voter's Assembly meeting.

Church Committees, Groups & Activities

Acolytes

Church Office 219-836-6270, ext. 100
6th, 7th & 8th graders have the honor of serving Christ by assisting the Pastor. The acolytes light the altar candles and help with the Lord's Supper. This service is a real privilege for the acolytes.

Altar Flowers

Church Office 219-836-6270, ext. 100
Flowers are provided on the altar each weekend to glorify God. You can dedicate altar flowers to recognize a special event like a birthday, anniversary, baptism, or in memory of someone. To sponsor altar flowers, complete an altar flower form available at the Welcome Center and return it to the Church office or call the Church Office directly. Funding for the altar flowers is based on a free will donation, it costs \$25.00 per flower arrangement and there are 2 arrangements each weekend. Donated flowers may be picked up Monday from the Church Office.

Altar Guild

Diane Targatz, Chairperson 708-895-1960
The Lord's chancel is kept clean and beautiful through the efforts and dedication of our members who serve on a rotating basis. Regular meetings are held three times a year: March, August, and December. We welcome your help and fellowship.

Choirs

CHANCEL CHOIR

Karen Foote 219-836-6270, ext. 114
Senior choir meets on Thursday evenings from 6:30-7:30 p.m. They participate in services about twice a month. All voices in High School and beyond are invited to join and praise the Lord in song.

MASTER'S RINGERS HANDBELL CHOIR

Karen Foote 219-836-6270, ext. 114
Handbells bring another musical dimension to worship at St. Paul's. They practice on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. Participation in services is scheduled about once a month. Some musical background is helpful.

Dartball

Brian Hott.....219-838-5949;
Baseball played with darts. This is a social activity on Tuesday evenings with competition against other Lutheran congregations in the area.

Greeters

Church Office 219-836-6270, ext. 100
Help welcome fellow church worshippers 15 minutes prior to the church service. Greeters are located at the Sanctuary door entrance.

Lutheran Women Missionary League (LWML)

Judy Vajda 708-418-0611
The mission of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League is to assist each woman of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod in affirming her relationship with the Triune God so that she is enabled to use her gifts in ministry to the people of the world. LWML includes every woman who is a member of St. Paul's. We invite you to join us every 3rd Thursday evening of the month for Bible study, and mission and service activities.

Men's Basketball

Angel Cruz.....219-934-0018
Open basketball time for men on Tuesday evenings at 7:30 p.m.

Nursery

A Quiet Room is available at the back of the sanctuary, on the south side. The room has windows and a speaker to still be connected with the service, and has a few items to help with your young children.

Prayer Chain

Church Office 219-836-6270, ext. 100
Do you have an immediate/urgent prayer request? There are many members at St. Paul's who will pray with you. Contact the Church Office to activate the chain.

Vacation Bible School

Diana Krebs 812-521-2064
We welcome all children of members, friends and relatives and the community. Our Vacation Bible School is held one week each summer (usually the third week of June) for children, age 3 through grade 8, from 9:00 a.m.-11:45 a.m.

Video Lending Library

Church Office 219-836-6270
Christian videos along with St. Paul's historical documentaries are available.

Wedding Contact

Church Office 219-836-6270, ext. 100
Contact the church office for initiating wedding activities.

Women's Ministries

Diana Krebs, Chairperson 812-521-2064
The focus of this group is "Women encouraging women to build a life with Christ and one another." They meet monthly for prayer and planning for new opportunities to meet the spiritual needs of women in the congregation and the community. They sponsor the Advent Tea. In addition, they publicize and encourage participation in Christian conferences.

Youth: Jr. & Sr. High

Amy Burian 219-836-1499
Angela Watkins..... 708-937-4198
The Board of Youth, along with adult sponsors, promotes Christian fellowship and growth through social activities, service projects, and worship.

St. Paul's School Organization & Activities

St. Paul's Lutheran Preschool

Trisha Engel, Principal..... 219-836-3720 ext. 201

St. Paul's Preschool program is specifically designed to meet the developmental and spiritual needs of 2, 3 and 4-year-old children. Children need to be of age by August 1, and completely toilet-trained to attend the 3- & 4-year-old classes. The curriculum focuses on social abilities, spiritual growth, and early academic skills. The classes are designed to help prepare children to transition into the next level: TOT program to 3-year preschool, 3-year preschool to 4-year preschool and 4-year preschool to Kindergarten. St. Paul's offers a mix of structure and creative exploration to help each child grow according to his or her needs. Our daily schedule includes: Circle Time/Music and Movement (stories, songs, and large-group lessons). Jesus Time (Bible lessons, stories, and songs).

Small Group Activities (games, crafts, writing, fine motor development, and hands-on learning).

Free Play (children explore play centers, socialize with others, and work one-on-one with the teacher).

Outside Play/Gym Time (focus on large motor development).

The morning preschool schedule (8:15 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.) includes the academics that children need to progress to the next level. The full-day schedule (8:15 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.) builds the part-day preschool curriculum into the day, but any time spent at school before or after that time is less structured and has more free play. We offer Extended Care options before and after school on a first-come, first-served basis at an additional cost. New student applications for the next school year will start being accepted in late January/early February. For more information visit stplmunster.com/preschool or call the Admissions Office at 219-836-6270 ext. 202.

St. Paul's Lutheran School

Trisha Engel, Principal 219-836-3720

The biggest mission outreach of our church is through our Christian Day School. St. Paul's offers a Christ-centered education program that strives to help each child fully develop their God-given talents. Highly trained and dedicated teachers work together with parents to make this goal possible. Our program teaches the Gospel of Jesus Christ daily and provides instruction in the secular subjects for Kindergarten through eighth graders who are members of our church, as well as non-members from our surrounding communities.

The school is fully accredited by our Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, National Lutheran School Association, and the State of Indiana. We offer advanced classes in middle school, a fine arts program and a variety of competitive sports and extra-curricular activities. Our classroom sizes are smaller than most schools and are equipped with the latest technology. St. Paul's graduates have gone on to be successful life-long learners, Christ-centered citizens, and disciples of Christ. Extended care is available before and after regular school hours. New student applications for the next school year will start being accepted in late January/early February. For more information visit stplmunster.com/school or call the Admissions Office at 219-836-6270 ext. 202.

When Should You Call a Pastor?

1. As soon as a member of your family is admitted to the hospital. Include information such as name of hospital, room number, general nature of illness, if this is an emergency and if the person would like to receive Holy Communion.
2. When a new baby is born.
3. As soon as you plan to be married: Set your wedding date with the church first!
4. When death strikes your family. Call at any hour if death is near.
5. Before you talk to a lawyer about a divorce.
6. If a member of your family (including yourself) is having trouble with drugs or alcohol.
7. Whenever you have a special prayer request; such as hospitalization, surgery, wedding, special birthday or special anniversary.

Peter Speckhard, Sr. Pastor
Office: 219-836-3717
Cell: 219-741-6270

Adrian Krebs, Associate Pastor
Office: 219-836-3719
Cell: 812-498-2161