



### Membership Updates:

Baptism:  
**Damien Louis Sajdyk**

### Upcoming Dates:

**Until March 11** Butter Braid Fundraiser  
**March 10** CNO (Noodles & Co)  
**March 14** TLAHG Hike  
**March 17** Book Group  
**March 23-27** Spring Break – No School

### Mission of the Month

**Alaskan Mission for Christ**  
Serving as a mission outreach across Alaska, this work extends the Gospel through seasonal mission teams, youth ministries, and community programs in both road-connected towns and remote villages accessible only by air or ferry. In partnership with local leaders and churches, the ministry meets practical needs while encouraging spiritual growth and sharing a clear witness of Christ's love across one of the nation's most unique mission fields."

### Thoughts on Stewardship:

Exodus 17:3 – "But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?'" Even the Israelites, who saw miracles with their own eyes, fell into unbelief and fear. From this distance we can see how foolish their worry is. How foolish will our worries appear from the distance of eternity? The Lord cared for them, and He will care for us.

### Contact:

Email addresses on website:  
STPLmunster.com  
**(219) 836-6270**  
Peter Speckhard, Sr. Pastor: x101  
(219) 741-6270  
Adrian Krebs, Assoc. Pastor: x103  
(812) 498-2161  
Trisha Engel, Principal: x201  
Karen Foote, Music Director: x114  
Church Office (Krystle): x100  
School Office (Pam): x200

### Lenten Services:

**Midweek Services:** March 11, 18, 25 3:30pm & 6:30pm\*  
**Palm Sunday** March 29 8am & 10:15am\*  
**Maundy Thursday** April 2 6:30pm\*  
**Good Friday** April 3 Tre Ore Service 12-3pm\* & Tenebrae: 6:30pm\*  
**Easter Vigil** April 4 8pm\*  
**Easter Sunday** April 5 8am & 10:15am\*  
\*Livestreamed services

**Call Update-** Last week, the congregation voted to extend calls to three teachers: Mary Bliss, Tiffany Gurgel, and Stephanie Panozzo. We heard from Mary Bliss, and she is declining the call to St. Paul's and planning to remain a teacher at Trinity Lutheran School in Tinley Park, IL. We continue to keep Tiffany and Stephanie in prayer as they deliberate their calls to St. Paul's and Trinity Lutheran.

**Palm Sunday Breakfast** from 8:45 to 10:15 AM! The Deacons invite you to share fellowship with your St. Paul's family. We encourage worshipers who attend 8:00 Service to stop by right after the service. For worshipers who attend the 10:15 Service, we recommend coming earlier for breakfast and fellowship. The breakfast menu is the same as last year and donations of sides and desserts are welcome. Please contact the church office with offers of donations or questions.

**Youth Ministry Book Study:** The Board of Youth invites you to prayerfully consider joining us for a book study and discussion of Seven Practices of Healthy Youth Ministry. As we observe changing dynamics within our youth membership, we recognize a need to reflect on how the Congregation of St. Paul's invests in and supports youth ministry. We welcome anyone with an interest in supporting our youth or a passion for the long-term vitality of our congregation to participate. A strong and sustainable program benefits from the wisdom and perspective of members of all ages and experiences. If you would like to participate, a limited number of books are available in the church office. We suggest a \$10 donation to help offset the cost, or you may purchase a copy online. There will be a luncheon & discussion, April 12, immediately following the 10:15 a.m. service. The Board of Youth will provide the main course and beverages. Please bring a dish to share (last names A-M: Side dish or salad; last names N-Z: Dessert). Thank you for your continued support of our youth ministry. We look forward to gathering together for this important conversation.

**Book Group** will meet on March 17 to discuss The Nightingale by Kristin Hannah. Read the book beforehand and come ready to discuss. Feel free to bring a friend. Contact Heidi Speckhard with any questions (920)883-2314 or [hspeckhard@hotmail.com](mailto:hspeckhard@hotmail.com).

**Cook's Night Off is this week-** get in on the FUNdraising at Noodles & Co, 9140 Calumet Ave., Munster on Tuesday, March 10, from 4-8pm. Order online using coupon code Giving25 or mention St. Paul's when ordering in person and we'll receive 25% back to support our TAP organization. Flyers are available at the Welcome Center, offices, and the website. Save the date for next month's dine out for donations at Five Guys on April 16!

**Summer Fun Registration Now Open** - Enrollment for the Summer Fun Program for children ages 3 – 6, has started for current school families and members of the congregation. It will open to the community on March 16. You can download an application from our website or pick one up from the Welcome Center. Sign up for a week or all summer of themed programs geared toward playing outdoors and practicing social and decision-making skills. For more information, contact Terri at 219-836-6270 ex. 202 or [tkasper@stplmunster.com](mailto:tkasper@stplmunster.com).

Week of March 8, 2026

**TOT Program Spring Session Starts Soon** -St. Paul's TOT Program for 2 & 3-year-olds starts new session and we'd love to have you, and your toddler join us. This weekly one-hour intro to preschool for toddlers and a caregiver is held on Tuesdays at 9am. Children enjoy circle-time activities, explore discovery centers, and interact with other friends while learning about the love of Jesus! Students must be 2 by August 1. For more details, check out [www.stplmunster.com/tot](http://www.stplmunster.com/tot) or pick up an application at the Welcome Center.

**Wondering how to best support the Lutheran SGO?** You could give from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA). In most cases, personal distributions from an IRA are taxable. So, giving directly would eliminate owing taxes on the distributions, while at the same time, provide you with a 50% tax credit! That's a win-win! A person who is 70.5 years old can begin receiving IRA distributions without penalty. Once someone turns 73, that person must begin taking Required Minimum Distribution (RMD.) Giving your RMD directly to the SGO is a great way to truly maximize your SGO giving potential, without paying state taxes! For more information, contact the school office at 219-836-6270 ex. 200 or visit [LutheranSGO.org/Donate](http://LutheranSGO.org/Donate).

**Enrollment underway for 26-27 School Year and we need your help spreading the word!** The State has made the Choice Scholarship universal for all families residing in Indiana making a quality Christian education affordable for everyone! Do you have a friend or neighbor who might be interested? Please share that we are Nationally Accredited and offer a comprehensive curriculum where students also participate in religion, fine arts, foreign language, and competitive sports. We are currently enrolling students in Early Preschool (TOT) - 7<sup>th</sup> grade and we'd love to have more families join our faith-based school community this fall! For details, contact the Admissions office at 219-836-6270 ex. 202.

**Easter Flower** forms are available on the bulletin board if you would like to donate special flowers to decorate the sanctuary for Easter. Please complete a form and return it, along with your donation, to the church office by March 23.

**The Next Chapter is sponsoring a trip to Mackinac Island** with Diamond Tours, Inc. August 24-28, 2026. Flyers with all the details are available at the Welcome Center. A deposit of \$75 per person is due by April 17, and the balance is due June 17. You do not have to be a member of the Next Chapter group to come on the trip, it is open to everyone.



*For the very latest information, please visit the website or call the church or school office (below).  
Requests for additions to announcements can be made through the church office email.*

**The annual Butter Braid sale has begun** and will go through March 11. This year 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders will sell Butter Braids to fund their class trip. Profits from the PS-5<sup>th</sup> grade will fund facilities projects over the summer. Butter Braid Pastry, Joyful Traditions, Croissant Crowns, and Amish Pretzels are the products being offered from LaBraid Funding. Order forms are available at the Welcome Center. You can turn your order into the church office (please make checks payable to St. Paul's Lutheran School). Order pick up April 2, just in time for Easter! Thank you for supporting our students.

**Creative Carpet Pays it Forward** If you are looking to spruce up your home with new flooring this winter, be sure to check out Creative Carpet & Flooring who gives back 3% of your purchase to St. Paul's. There are information flyers at the Welcome Center or contact Terri at [tkasper@stplmunster.com](mailto:tkasper@stplmunster.com) for more details.

**Apples for the Students: Now through 3/31/26** St. Paul's is participating in the annual Apples for the Students program with Strack & Van Til. The Apples for the Students Program enables our school to earn computers and iPads, sporting goods, audio visual equipment, and science supplies, with choices from hundreds of other awards, too! And, they're all free! To earn these FREE awards we simply have to collect as many register receipts as possible from **September 1, 2025, through March 31, 2026**. Ask your friends and relatives to shop at Strack & Van Til Food Market and save every receipt. **Place receipts in the black metal basket at the welcome center as often as possible.** The school will count the value of the register tapes collected and redeem them for great educational awards that benefit your child. Thank you in advance for your participation!



**COOK'S NITE OFF** *take a break*

March 10, 2026  
4-8 pm

**25%**  
of qualifying sales will directly benefit:

**ST. PAUL'S**

**NODDLES FOR GOOD.**  
Make sure your fundraising dollars get to the right place.

**noodles & COMPANY**  
9140 Calumet Ave Ste 101, Munster, IN 46321

**Giving back never tasted so good.**  
Get in on the FUNdraising by ordering online or dining with us on the evening of your group's event.

### Prayer Window:

Kevin Baer, Marge Brauer, Bob Butler, Eric Clark, Jim Drews, Ray Hieber, Ron & Karen Millies, Denny Robbins, Ann Schmidt, Mary Ellen Simons, Diane Targatz, Judy Vajda, Aurora VanderWoude, Judith Walther, Matt Wittkamp, and Marty Zimmer.

*Please contact the church office with updates.*