



ST. PAUL'S

LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL



2021 Guide Book  
& Directory

8601 HARRISON AVE. | MUNSTER, IN 46321 | 219-836-6270

# St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

8601 Harrison Avenue, Munster, Indiana 46321

(219) 836-6270 [www.stplmunster.com](http://www.stplmunster.com)

Dear St. Paul's Family,

2020 taught us all about the perils of isolation. One of the greatest tragedies of the pandemic year beyond the actual disease was how people were cut off from one another. Quarantine, loneliness, isolation—we are not mentally, psychologically, or spiritually designed for that. God designed us to live in community.

The 2021 St. Paul's guidebook should serve as an important reminder of the community into which God has called you. Too often isolation is a self-inflicted wound the catastrophic results of which only become apparent when the isolation gets inflicted from the outside rather than chosen. But here is a list of people with whom you have a spiritual relationship and possibly a social relationship as well.

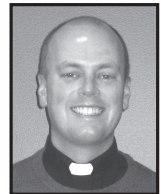
What a blessing! You have contact information of St. Paul's members whom you can call upon as brothers and sisters in Christ. That's an easy gift to take for granted, but please make use of it. Get involved. Remember that you are part of a family here.

May God bless us with good, healthy, human connections in this world via this directory, and may it provide a glimpse of the togetherness the Church and its members enjoy in eternity.

Your Pastor 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 9:30 a.m. service is live streamed, find it on our website

### Mid-August to Memorial Day

Saturday ..... 5:30 p.m.  
Sunday..... 8:00, 9:30, & 11:00 a.m.  
Koinonia/Fellowship ..... 9:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m.

### Memorial Day to Mid-August

Saturday ..... 5:30 p.m.  
Sunday.....8:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m.  
Koinonia..... (Recessed for the summer)

## Radio/TV Ministry

St. Paul's Worship Service, Sunday at 10:30 a.m. on WJOB-1230AM

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

Wednesday mornings during the school year ..... 8:30 a.m. (live streamed)

## 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.....(Wed.)	3:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.
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 .....	6:30 a.m., 8:00 a.m. & 9:30 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 .....	(Wed.) 6:30 p.m.
Christmas Eve .....	3:00, 4:30, 6:00 & 7:30 p.m. Candlelight Service
Christmas Day.....	10:00 a.m. Holy Communion Service

## Youth Confirmation Classes

(6th, 7th & 8th Grade)

4th Mondays (Mid-Aug - May)..... 7:00 p.m.

## New Member/Adult Education Classes

Sundays ..... 9:15 a.m.  
(Call Caroline Weller, 836-6270, ext. 106 for dates)

## Adult Bible Study

*Sunday Evening Adult Bible Class.....	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday Ladies Bible Study (2nd & 4th weeks).....	1:00 p.m.
*Wednesday Morning Men's Bible Study.....	6:45 a.m.
Wednesday Morning Pastor's Bible Study.....	10:00 a.m.
*Wednesday Evening Pastor's Bible Study.....	7:00 p.m.
*Thursday Morning Pastor's Bible Study.....	10:00 a.m.
* Zoom option	

## Sunday School

Cross-Training resources available on our website.



## Church Staff

<b>Title</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Phone</b> <b>836-6270</b>	<b>E-mail address</b> <b>@stplmunster.com</b>
Church Office .....		ext. 100 .....	Church: stpaul
Senior Pastor .....	Peter Speckhard .....	ext. 101 or 836-3717 .....	pspeckhard
		(cell) 219-741-6270	
Associate Pastor .....	Donald Stock .....	ext. 102 or 836-3718 .....	dstock
		(cell) 219-384-3718	
Music Director .....	Karen Foote .....	ext. 114 .....	kfoote
Business Manager .....	Karen Hott .....	ext. 104 or 836-3721 .....	khott
Secretary .....	Lisa Groszek .....	ext. 100 .....	lgroszek
Business Office .....	Paulette Boicken .....	ext. 105 .....	pboicken
Membership .....	Caroline Weller .....	ext. 106 .....	cweller
Church/School Website .....			www.stplmunster.com

## School Staff

<b>Title</b>	<b>Person</b>	<b>Phone</b> <b>836-6270</b>	<b>Email address</b> <b>@stplmunster.com</b>
School Office .....		ext. 200 .....	stplscool
Preschool Office .....		ext. 300	
Principal .....	Barb Mertens .....	ext. 201 or 836-3720 .....	bmertens
Secretary .....	Lana Richardson .....	ext. 200 .....	lrichardson
Admission .....	Debra Minyard .....	ext. 202 .....	dminyard
Athletic Director .....	Casey Eberth .....	ext. 302 .....	ceberth
School Website .....			www.stplmunster.com

## Building Maintenance

<b>Area</b>	<b>Person</b>	<b>Phone</b> <b>836-6270</b>	<b>Email address</b> <b>@stplmunster.com</b>
Maintenance Supervisor	Henry Foote .....	ext. 108 .....	hfoote

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#### **Mike Bergin, Chairperson**

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Shane Conklin	Mike Hawkins	Ken Hay
Steve Roberts	Joe Yothment	

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#### **Sara Augustynowicz, Chairperson**

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Karen Hott	Jan Peiguss	Robb Wilkens

### Board of Christian Evangelism

#### **Bobbi Reyes, Chairperson**

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Brian Hott	Ray Lenz	Cassy Melendez
Mary Meyer	Carl Mueller	

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#### **Zina Bachert, Chairperson**

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Dawn Roberts	Angela Watkins	

### Board of Fellowship

#### **Sam Martino, Co-Chairperson**

#### **Sue Karrson, Co-Chairperson**

Joce Boblink	Kathy Martino	Linda Michalski
Nanette Naranjo		

### Board of Stewardship

#### **John Werner, Chairperson**

Brian Eriks	Jeff Gronwold	Cathy Bergin
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## Board of Trustees

### **Glenn Bachert, Chairperson**

John Banka	Brian Deardorff	Andrew Holubiak
Ryan Hunter	Jim Kasper	Dan Kritsch
Tim Licciardone	Jerry Lippert	Dan Maul
Jim Minyard	Jim Pratt	Josh Zimmer

## Board of Youth

### **Rachel Gena, Co-Chairperson**

### **Debbie Minyard, Co-Chairperson**

Nathan Bruns	Audrey Mulcahy	Angela Watkins
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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."



## 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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#### **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.

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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, Pre-School, and Childcare. 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 primary objective of this board is to bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the un-churched and to enlist all of God's people in the work of spreading the Gospel. The Board is involved in coordinating trips and activities with the Alaskan Mission Committee, Rebuilding the Breach Ministries, and The Munster Christian Outreach Center to the Blind - an outreach center for Lutheran Blind Mission.

**Family Life:** This board is involved with coordinating all Family Life activities including but not limited to Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, and 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.

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### **Parish Planning Council**

Consists of the Pastors, Executive Board members, Business Manager 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**

Many activities are curtailed due to COVID

### **Acolytes**

Church Office ..... 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**

Sue Arteaga ..... 836-1079  
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. Altar flowers are delivered to members in the hospital, shut-ins or to those celebrating a special occasion the following Monday.

### **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**

#### **SENIOR CHOIR**

Karen Foote ..... 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 ..... 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.



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**PRAISE TEAM**

Lisa Smith..... 864-9893  
A variety of instruments and voice parts add more variety to services at St. Paul's about twice a month. Rehearsals are on selected Wednesday evenings.

**Dartball**

John Banka..... 845-7313  
Baseball played with darts. This is a social activity on Tuesday evenings with competition against other Lutheran congregations in the area.

**Greeters**

Caroline Weller..... 836-6270, ext. 106  
Help welcome fellow church worshippers 15 minutes prior to the church service. Greeters are located at the Sanctuary and School Gym door entrances.

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

**Nursery**

Zina Bachert ..... 922-6031  
The Tender Care Nursery is available for children age birth to 3 years old. It is located through the fellowship area and across from the gymnasium. The nursery is staffed during the 9:30 a.m. Bible study hour and 10:45 a.m. Sunday worship services.

**Prayer Chain**

Church Office ..... 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.

**Senior Citizen (55+ Club)**

Linda Kutlik..... 924-4963  
The seniors gather four times a year for food and fellowship. There are no restrictions on age or denomination, and there are no dues. Two times are potlucks (bring homemade or purchased) and entertainment, and then you pay for one dinner out and one catered meal.



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### **Stephen Ministry**

Pastor Don Stock ..... 836-3718 or 836-6270, ext. 102  
Ministers are members of St. Paul's who have been through extensive training and provide confidential, one-to-one, Christian care to people who are experiencing a difficult time. They will listen, care, encourage, pray with and for you, and provide weekly support for you as long as your need persists. If you or someone you know is hurting, find out more about Stephen Ministry by talking with Pastor Stock or Jaymes Hayes. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to bring God's love and care into your life.

### **Ushers**

Rudy Kunde ..... 836-2898  
The ushers meet you at the door with a cheerful "good morning," give you a bulletin and help you find a seat. They ring the bell at the beginning of the service, gather the offering, regulate the lights, and generally see that everything is in order.

### **Vacation Bible School**

Zina Bachert ..... 922-6031  
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 ..... 836-6270  
Christian videos along with St. Paul's historical documentaries are available.

### **Wedding Contact**

Lisa Groszek ..... 836-6270, ext. 100  
Church contact for initiating wedding activities.

### **Women's Ministries**

Zina Bachert, Chairperson ..... 922-6031  
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**

Rachel Gena ..... 219-677-2031  
Debbie Minyard ..... 219-934-0292

The Board of Youth, along with adult sponsors, promotes Christian fellowship and growth through social activities, service projects, and worship.

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# St. Paul's School

## Organization & Activities

### **St. Paul's Preschool**

Barb Mertens, Principal ..... 836-3720

Provides a quality developmental preschool program that consists of structured developmentally appropriate activities, free play time, development of large motor skills and music and art experience. Part-time preschool classes available for 3 year olds, 3-4 year olds and 4-5 year olds. Full Day Preschool is also provided for ages 3 through 5 from 6:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

### **St. Paul's Lutheran School**

Barb Mertens, Principal ..... 836-3720

The biggest mission outreach of our church is through our Christian Day School. Our program teaches the Gospel of Jesus Christ on a daily basis, 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, NLSA, and the State of Indiana. In addition to a complete elementary course of study, extracurricular activities in music and athletics are offered. Extended care is available before and after regular school hours.

### **St. Paul's T.A.P. (Teachers And Parents)**

## 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

Donald E. Stock, Associate Pastor  
Office: 219-836-3718  
Cell: 219-384-3718