

History of St. Paul

In October 2007, St. Paul Lutheran Church celebrates 150 years of ministry! We began as a group of German immigrants who founded the church in 1857 at 555 East Benton St. These founders were committed to following God and benefiting their community.

For over 100 years St. Paul Church and School had a significant impact upon the lives of thousands of people. But by the late 1970's and 1980's the community around the church was changing and the church was declining. With God's leading, St. Paul leaders and members committed themselves to reversing the downward trend. Collectively, our people prayed together for revitalization and revival. And God blessed.

By the late 1980's a new spirit had dawned at St. Paul. Our church formed a bold vision for the future and launched the Orchard campus on the west side of Aurora. This began in October 1989 in rented space at Hall School and moved to Washington Middle School in 1992. A new building was constructed at 85 S. Constitution Drive and the Sanctuary was dedicated in November 1994. In April 2001, the Family Life Center and the Education Wing were completed and dedicated.

In December of 2000 St. Paul established the Hispanic ministry known as Iglesia Luterana San Pablo at its Benton location. In doing this they consolidated and united Anglo and Hispanic ministries with the sole purpose to better serve the evolving Hispanic neighborhood. This new stage has engaged both the Anglos and Hispanics to evangelize about our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

In September of 2005 St. Paul birthed off San Pablo as an independent congregation of the LCMS and the new owners of the Benton and Jackson church location. St. Paul Lutheran's Service of Thanksgiving and Praise on September 18, 2005, transitioned all of St. Paul's worship services to one location at 85 S. Constitution Drive on the west side of Aurora, IL. This one worship service formally retired and passed on the legacy of St. Paul Lutheran Church to Iglesia Evangelica Luterana San Pablo at Benton and Jackson; and rededicated St. Paul to the service of the Lord from our Constitution Drive location, proclaiming our unity in Christ and faithfulness through all generations. God was rightly honored in this incredible time of worship and community together.

We at St. Paul are excited about our future. God has done so much for us in the past, and we are confident in His leading. We are committed to walking by faith and trusting a powerful God, and we believe the best is yet to come.