

Nov. 4, 2009

News media calls to David Hass at (630) 682-7979, ext. 7374.

Free HIV screening Nov. 14 during special event called 'LEAD BY EXAMPLE' at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Wheaton

Health department partners with church to raise awareness of HIV/AIDS

St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Wheaton has worked throughout the year to "LEAD BY EXAMPLE." The purpose of this effort is to increase awareness in the fight against HIV/AIDS and to encourage people to know their HIV status. St. Paul's is sponsoring an HIV screening event along with the DuPage County Health Department and the Mosaic Initiative from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Nov. 14.

The health department is providing HIV test counselors from the HIV/STD Program for this event. There is no cost for the HIV screening. The screening consists of a finger stick or a swab of the gums and inner cheek. The LEAD BY EXAMPLE event is open to the public.

More than 80 people were screened for HIV on June 7 at a LEAD BY EXAMPLE event at St. Paul's. Since then, congregation members have shared why they believe HIV screening is important for their lives and for others, as well as why they are willing to be screened. The Mosaic Initiative states that HIV testing presents an opportunity to become educated, and routine testing helps break down the stigma that surrounds HIV. The health department applauds these efforts and is thrilled to continue their partnership with St. Paul's and the Mosaic Initiative at this event.

St. Paul's is located at 515 S. Wheaton Ave. For information, call (630) 668-5953 or visit www.stpaulwheaton.org.

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