

# CONCORDIA CONNECTION

Stay connected to our church, school, and community.

## Week of December 4, 2022

### ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

401 S. Main Street, Concordia, MO 64020

**Welcome!** We are delighted you are worshiping with us today. *If you are a guest, please introduce yourself to one of the pastors.*

**No Adult Bible Classes Today:** Due to the voters meeting, there will be no adult Bible classes this morning. *Join us next Sunday!*

**High School Sunday School** will meet in the youth room in the church office basement. Mr. Poppe will be leading this class.

**Sunday School:** Gather Sundays from 9:15 – 10:15 am. Sunday School meets in the following grade school classrooms:

- Preschool/PreK/K – Mrs. Hess (Classroom 104)
- Grades 1-2 – Mrs. R. Martens (Classroom 201)
- Grades 3-5 – Mr. Larsen (Classroom 203)
- Grades 6-8 – Mr. Moore (North Classroom 302)

**The Lutheran Hour** can be heard any time on the internet. This week's message by Rev. Dr. Michael Ziegler is "Paradise Restored". Listen on the radio at 8 AM, KCMO (710 AM); 8 AM, KLEX (92.5 FM); 10AM, KMMO (1300 AM); 10 AM, KSIS (1050 AM); or 1:30 PM, KWIX (1230 AM).

**Voters Meeting:** The next regularly scheduled Voters Meeting is TODAY, December 4, at 9:15 am in the gym. The agenda will include the election of congregation leaders for 2023 and an update on ministry activities, including this year's objectives and key results (OKRs).

**Altar Flowers Today** are given in celebration of Clint and Sarah Stuenkel's wedding yesterday (December 3).

**Brady William Shier**, son of Ross and Brooke Shier will be received into our Lord's kingdom through Holy Baptism in the 10:30 am service today. His sponsors are Blair Hunter, Josh Bushman and Shelby Fisher.

**Christmas Church Tour:** We are one of the stops on the Christmas Church Tour on Saturday, December 10, from 1–5 pm. This is a fundraiser for the restoration of the historic Zoar Cemetery in Concordia. Tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased at both the downtown and drive-thru locations of Concordia Bank, State Bank of Missouri, Lafayette Travel and Cruise, or by contacting Judy Elling at (816) 616-4015. *Would you like to serve as a host for a portion of the event? (This involves simply greeting guests as they come to see the sanctuary.) Please contact the church office.*

**New Website:** Have you seen our new website? The new site has a simplified, refreshed layout and is branded with our new logo and color-palette. You can still find us online at [stpaulsconcordia.org](http://stpaulsconcordia.org).

### Advent & Christmas Worship and Events:

For a list of special events and worship opportunities during the Advent season and Christmas holiday, visit [stpaulsconcordia.org/advent-christmas](http://stpaulsconcordia.org/advent-christmas) or scan the QR code with your phone's camera.



**"Bread of Life" Advent Midweek Worship:** Bethlehem is a Hebrew word that means "house of bread." Ruth and Naomi find this to be true as they settle in the town of Bethlehem following the death of their husbands. There Boaz, Ruth's future husband and great-grandfather to King David, sees to it that Ruth and Naomi receive a portion of the grain harvest. In this series of services, we see how the town of Bethlehem ultimately cradles Jesus Christ, the very Bread of Life, sent to nourish God's people for this earthly life and satisfy their needs for all eternity. *Worship Wednesdays, December 7 and 14 at 10 am or 7 pm. A meal is served at 6 pm in the school gym, and evening services include a special children's message and will be preceded by an Advent/Christmas hymn sing. Can't worship with us in person? Join us online at [stpaulsconcordia.org/livestream](http://stpaulsconcordia.org/livestream).*

**'Tis the Season to give a toy!** Join the Evangelism Team in supporting Toys for Tots and their efforts to present holiday toys to local children. We are collecting NEW, UNWRAPPED toys in the narthex until December 14.

**The LGSH Auxiliary** will be hosting a ham dinner at 6 pm, prior to the December 7 evening Advent service. The free-will donations received will be used to complete their current project to update the lobby of the Lutheran Nursing Home.

**Family Life Cookie Walk:** Family Life will once again be hosting the cookie/candy walk in St. Paul's Lutheran School gymnasium for the purpose of generating funds needed for resources that are given to families at our Milestone celebrations. The date set for this event is Saturday morning, December 10. Please come and support this event by purchasing cookies/candy for those holiday gatherings! **Doors open at 9 am.** We will also be needing donations of cookies and candy, so mark this date on your calendar. Please call the church office if you would be willing to bake 2-3 dozen cookies or make candy for this event. Thank you for your support!

**Christmas Meal Bags:** On December 10 we will once again be handing out our Christmas dinners. Approximate cost is \$50.00 per meal for a family. If you would like to contribute to this event, please see Melissa at the church office with your contribution. If you wish to request a meal bag on behalf of someone, please stop by the church office for a request form. It brings us all great joy to help families out at this time of year. The meals will need to be picked up at the Conference Center at 9 am on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December.

**Chief Ushers and Captains** will meet between the services (9:15am) on December 18 in the elementary school cafeteria. If you have any questions, please contact Jeff Schlueter.

**The Singing Saints Concert Choir** and the Saint Paul Orchestra of Saint Paul Lutheran High School in Concordia, MO will be performing their annual Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 11, at 3:00pm at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Concordia. Admission is free but a free-will offering will be taken to support the choir. Come hear many traditional favorites by the Singing Saints including "Angels We Have Heard on High," "The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy," "Lirum Lirum," "En natus est Emanuel," and "Personent Hodie." Several familiar melodies played by the Chamber Orchestra including excerpts from Corelli's "Christmas Concerto" and "I Wonder as I Wander." If you cannot attend, the event will be live-streamed through the church at [stpaulsconcordia.org](http://stpaulsconcordia.org).

**The Winter 2023 LifeLight Bible** study will delve into "Hosea/Joel/Amos," books written by three of the minor prophets. Hosea includes an unusual love story. He preached against idolatry, but he also prophesied the coming of Christ. Joel, a kind and gentle man, pleads and laments with Israel to repent or be punished. They did not listen. He concludes with the promise of vindication and eternal abundance. Amos, a shepherd, was called to deliver a surprising and ominous message to Judah and Israel. He denounces the people of Israel until the last chapter where he prophesies the coming of Christ. All classes will be held in the Parish Office Building with the leaders and times listed below. Study booklets may be purchased in the church office for \$10 each.

Kathy Schnakenberg, Mondays at 9:00 a.m.—Beginning Jan. 16  
Joanne Reinke, Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m.—Beginning Jan. 10  
Sharon Bobzin, Thursdays at 9:00 a.m.—Beginning Jan 12

**Fount of Every Blessing:** Do you know of someone who has their Christmas shopping done already? They are being very intentional about their plans, making sure everything will be in place. We want to be the same way about our estate plans, leaving the best gifts to the family we love and the ministries we care about. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can help with your intentional planning. Contact Terry Gerdts, 314-409-5453 or [Terry.Gerdts@lfn.org](mailto:Terry.Gerdts@lfn.org)

**The 3rd Annual Saint Paul Christkindlesmarkt** is THIS WEEK! Join us on Friday, December 9, from 4-8pm and Saturday, December 10, from 11am-7pm for this festive, family-friendly, outdoor event on the campus of Saint Paul Lutheran High School in Concordia, MO. Enjoy traditional German Christmas Market food and drinks and more! Shop amongst the vendors offering their handmade goods and wares, listen to the entertainment on the main stage, take a carriage ride around campus, plus activities for children including a coloring contest, scavenger hunt, story time with the Christkind, and a visit from St. Nikolaus. Please visit [splhs.org/events](http://splhs.org/events) for more information where you will find a map and schedule of events. Follow our event on Facebook for more pictures and vendor highlights: 3rd Annual saint Paul Christkindlesmarkt - Concordia, MO. Questions? Email [ChristmasMarket@splhs.org](mailto:ChristmasMarket@splhs.org).

**Daily Devotions for Advent:** In *A Son Is Given*, we look at the promise of God to send His Messiah as fulfilled in Jesus. The Heavenly Father made good on His ancient pledge. In Jesus we have the love of God come to earth in the form of a Child, who is for us the Savior of the world. *Pick up a copy for yourself (and one to share) in the narthex, or visit [lhm.org/advent](http://lhm.org/advent) for more ways to receive these daily devotions.*

## LAST WEEK

*Attendance:*

Thanksgiving: 116, 173  
8 & 10:30 am Sunday: 291, 190; Monday: 26

*Tithes and Offerings:*

Home: \$14,107.22; Missions: \$972.59  
Home Improvement: \$10.56; Building: \$35.26  
Lutheran Bible Translators: \$19.62; Youth: \$25  
Grade School: \$319.62; Comfort Dog: \$427.19  
SPLHS: \$280.48.; Lutherans for Life: \$25  
Christmas Meal Bags: \$775; World Relief: \$2,067

## THIS WEEK

### December 4

8 am | Worship with Communion  
9:15 am | Voters Meeting  
9:15 am | Sunday School  
9:30 am | GSCC Worship  
10:30 am | Worship

### December 5

8 am | SPLS Prayer Partners

### December 7

8:30 am | SPLS Chapel  
10 am | Advent Worship  
12 pm | Womens Bible Study  
6 pm | LGSH Auxiliary Advent Meal  
7 pm | Advent Worship  
8 pm | Joyful Sounds Choir

### December 8

6 pm | Handbells

### December 10

9 am | Cookie Walk  
1-5 pm | Christmas Church Tour

### December 11

8 am | Worship  
9:15 am | Sunday School  
9:30 am | GSCC Worship  
10:30 am | Worship with Communion  
3 pm | SPLHS Christmas Concert

### Church Office

M-F: 8 am – Noon; 1 – 5 pm  
(660) 463-2291

### School Office

M-F: 8 am – 3:30 pm  
(660) 463-7654

[stpaulsconcordia.org](http://stpaulsconcordia.org) | [office@stpaulsconcordia.org](mailto:office@stpaulsconcordia.org) | [facebook.com/stpaulsconcordiamo](https://facebook.com/stpaulsconcordiamo)

"Making a Christ-centered difference in our community and world today and for eternity."