

CONCORDIA CONNECTION

Stay connected to our church, school, and community.

Week of January 28, 2024

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.*

Children are welcome. We encourage children of all ages to be active participants in our worship. Children can sing, pray, stand, and sit with other worshipers. *Jesus knows that children tend to wiggle and make noise, so please don't be embarrassed by it, and we will do our best to welcome, smile, encourage, help, and bless you all.* Please know that while you are caring for your children, the rest of us will be rejoicing in Jesus' words, "Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God" (Lk 18:16 ESV). Children's bulletins are available from an usher, and a cry room is located at the back of the sanctuary.

Adult Bible Study: "Ten Questions to Ask Every Time You Read the Bible." Ask ten simple questions to understand and personally connect to the Bible as you read. Whether you're opening the Bible for the first time or you've read it cover to cover, these questions help you discover truths from Scripture. Lean into your natural curiosity by using these ten questions as a tool to search for clarity. Engage with God's Word in a new way as you investigate the meaning, context, and application of the Bible. Through this process you'll build confidence and discover insights about who God is through His Word. This study is based on a book by the same title, published by Concordia Publishing House. Each week we'll focus on a new question. *Gather with Pastor Andrew and Pastor Michael Sundays at 9:15 am in the gym.* **This week: Who are you, Lord?**

High School Bible Study will meet in the Youth Room (in the basement of the Church Office). Melissa Heath will be leading this class. All high school students are welcome to attend.

Sunday School meets in the following grade school classrooms:

- Age 3 – Pre-K | South Classroom 104
- Kindergarten – Grade 1 | South Classroom 205
- Grades 2–3 | South Classroom 201
- Grades 4–5 | South Classroom 203
- Grades 6–8 | North Classroom 302

The Lutheran Hour: This week's message by Rev. Dr. Daniel Paavola is "Forgiveness Is a Gift from Far Away". Listen on the radio at 8 am, KCMO (710 AM); 8 am, KLEX (92.5 FM); 10 am, KMMO (1300 AM); 10 am, KSIS (1050 AM); or 1:30 pm, KWIX (1230 AM). You can also listen anytime online, on your mobile device through the free app (available at lhm.org), or listen with Spotify, iHeart Radio, Alexa, or Google Home.

Upcoming Events:

- **February 11** | Lent Family Sunday School | 9:15 am
- **February 14** | Ash Wednesday Worship | 10 am & 7 pm
- **February 18** | Third Grade Catechism Milestone | 9:15 am
- **February 24** | LERT Basic Chainsaw Training | 9 am
- **March 17** | SPLHS Singing Saints Concert | 7 pm

Skylar LeeAnn Brown, daughter of Spencer and Sydney Brown, will be received into our Lord's kingdom through Holy Baptism in the 10:30 am service today. Her sponsors are Jake Tagtmeyer, Hayley Schroeder and Jourdin Mershon.

TODAY: Missions Unpacked for Kids – Africa. Sunday school on January 28 will focus on God's mission in Africa. Come for videos, crafts, and snacks! Rattle the offering can with your mission coins. Mike and Cindy Rodewald will lead this fun-filled hour. All classes meet in the school gym.

Subscriptions for *The Lutheran Witness* (envelope included in your 2024 packet) are \$21. **Please make checks payable to St. Paul's Lutheran Church**, as the church is billed monthly. Subscriptions must be turned in through the offering plate or to the church office by **January 30**.

Lent Family Sunday School: As we begin the journey into the season of Lent, please plan to attend the Family Sunday School event located in the gym on February 11, during the Sunday School hour (9:15-10:15). Sunday School age children and their parents are invited to attend this event. Families can look forward to participating in activities that will help them to focus on the Lenten season as well as share some family time together in God's Word. Come and see what special things we have planned for you!

Third Grade Milestone: In keeping with our commitment to encourage and equip families to be the primary faith teachers in the home, it is our privilege to invite the 3rd graders and their parents to celebrate a special milestone event in their lives. On February 18, during the Sunday school hour (9:15-10:15), the parents and their children will be invited to attend an equipping event in the church office. Parents and their children will also be asked to come forward during the worship service so that they might be lifted up in prayer. The Catechism is a very useful tool to help Christian parents teach their children how the Bible applies to their lives. "I have no greater joy than to hear my children are walking in the truth" (3 John 4).

Verse of the Month: By reviewing and reciting our Verse of the Month each day, you can easily have each one committed to memory. This year, the verses have been selected in conjunction with our 2023–2024 school year theme, "Connected" (John 15:1–5). *Download the full list at stpaulsconcordia.org/lifelong-learning.*

Will you be a partner in prayer? You are invited to join parents, grandparents, and friends of St. Paul's Lutheran School each Monday when school is in session from 8 – 8:15 am in the school office. Each week, in addition to praying for the general needs of the school, we pray for our students by name—one class each week—as well as any special prayer requests. Pastor Michael and Pastor Andrew lead this weekly time for prayer. A guide is provided. *Come any Monday you are able.*

Help Keep Our Prayer List Up-to-Date: Please contact the church office with any updates and changes to our prayer list. If you need pastoral care, you may contact the office or reach out to our pastors directly.

St. Paul's Lutheran Grade School is looking for a track coach to help with jumping. If you are interested, stop by the school office and fill out a coaching application.

Heit's Point will be hosting a Singles Retreat, Stepping Out of the Boat, March 8-9. *For more information, please contact Heit's Point at 660-668-2363.*

Trinity Alma Men's Club is having their annual Pancake Supper on Sunday, January 28, in the school cafeteria. Serving from 5:00 - 7:00 pm. Free will offering will go to: 1/3-SPLHS Scholarship, 1/3-UCM Campus Ministry, and 1/3-to Share the Harvest for local Food Pantries. Following at 7:00 pm they will be hosting a Pitch Party. All are invited!

LERT Training: The Missouri District will provide Lutheran Early Response Team (LERT) Basic Chainsaw training on Saturday, February 24. The chainsaw training serves to increase our dedicated LERT volunteer's capabilities to help those who haven't the means or skills to perform this dangerous work following a disaster. During the training, you will learn safe operation of a chainsaw, personal protective equipment (PPE), injury prevention, how to buck and limb fallen trees, and how to clear debris in a safe and beneficial manner. The morning session is a classroom lecture; the afternoon is hands on experience. (To be authorized to use a chainsaw on LERT disaster responses as an LCMS LERT Chainsaw Operator, you must attend BOTH.) The training will be held at Saint Paul Lutheran High School in Blitz Hall. Snack and lunch provided. Those ages 14-17 may attend the classroom portion and become a dragger but will not be able to become a puller or chainsaw operator until they have reached the age of 18. Outdoor work clothes and steel toed boots should be worn. Training Costs:

- Morning and Afternoon (LERT qualified Chainsaw Operator): \$50
- Morning Only (Non-Operator): \$15.
- Pay at the time of training with cash or checks payable to "St. Paul's Lutheran Church."

Learn more at lcms.org/disaster; facebook.com/LCMSDisaster-Response; lcms-lert.org.

You must have previously completed the LERT basic training class to participate in this class.

2023 Contribution Statements will be ready soon. Please contact the church office (463-2291) to let us know how you would like to receive your statement. Statements can be emailed, printed and placed in your pigeonhole, or you can stop by the office to pick it up.

2024 Contribution Envelopes are available in the church office.

LAST WEEK

Attendance:

8 & 10:30 am Sunday: 209, 484; GSCC: 38; Monday: 12
Sunday School: 37; High School Bible Study: 5

Tithes and Offerings:

Home: \$22,748.13; Missions: \$1,434.09
Home Improvement: \$290.30; Comfort Dog: \$96.85
Debt Reduction: \$143.89; Building: \$122.82
Lutheran Bible Translators: \$85; SPLHS: \$205
Grade School: \$1276.52; Youth: \$25
Portals of Prayer: \$18; Sunday School: \$3.11
Mission of Christ Network: \$20

THIS WEEK

January 28

8 am | Worship

9:15 am | Sunday School & Adult Bible Study

9:30 am | GSCC Worship

10:30 am | Worship with Communion

January 29

8 am | SPLS Prayer Partners

January 30

10 am | Lifelight Bible Study

1 pm | Orphan Grain Train

January 31

9 am | SPLS Chapel

12 pm | Womens Bible Study

February 1

9 am | Lifelight Bible Study

6 pm | Handbells

7 pm | Joyful Sounds Choir

February 4

8 am | Worship with Communion

9:15 am | Sunday School & Adult Bible Study

9:30 am | GSCC Worship

10:30 am | Worship

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 | office@stpaulsconcordia.org | facebook.com/stpaulsconcordiamo

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