

CONCORDIA CONNECTION

Stay connected to our church, school, and community.

Week of March 17, 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.*

Adult Bible Study: Today we wrap up our study of “Ten Questions to Ask Every Time You Read the Bible” and look together at a few practice Bible passages. *Gather at 9:15 am in the gym.*

High School Bible Study will meet in the Youth Room (in the basement of the Church Office). Rod McCaslin 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. Hector Hoppe is “The Strangest Request”. 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.

LSB 429, “We Sing the Praise of Him Who Died”: This is our focus hymn for the remainder of Lent. The text highlights God’s love for us in sending Jesus to the cross (v. 2) and points to the hope we have in each moment of life, even when things seem gloomy or bitter (v. 3). The author paints a picture of a believer’s coffin decorated in the light of Christ (v. 4). How could we not but praise Him!

Grades 6–8 Singing at Holy Cross Today: May God bless our SPLS students and families in Grades 6–8 as they join the saints at Holy Cross in Emma for worship this morning. “Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise in the assembly of the godly” (Ps 149:1 ESV).

Midweek Lenten Meal: Ladies Aid 1912 is hosting the Lenten Meal this week. They will be serving “potluck” salads, ham sandwiches and homemade desserts. Serving begins at 5:30 pm.

Summer Program enrollment forms are available online and in the school office! *Enroll by May 2.* Visit stpaulsconcordia.org/summerprogram for more information. We are also in need of Thrivent cards to cover expenses for daily snacks and supplies. Questions? Contact Julie Bonar at jebonar@stpaulsconcordia.org.

1st Grade Stewardship Milestone: Our Family Life Ministry Team strives to equip and encourage parents to be the primary faith teachers in the lives of their children; therefore, we are inviting all first graders and their parents to attend a special milestone celebration. This event will take place on Sunday, March 24, during the Sunday school hour (9:15–10:15 am) in the church office. What does it mean to be a good steward? How do we use our time, talents, and treasures to the glory of God? Come get answers to these questions and learn what it means to be a good steward. A gift will be given to help those first graders in their stewardship training.

High School Youth please join us in the elementary school gym from 4–6 pm on Sunday, March 24. Bring a snack and a friend. If you have any questions, please contact Melissa Heath (660-641-0740).

New Members (and Those Interested in Membership): Join us for our “Explore Discipleship” class and learn more about how St. Paul’s strives to live our calling as followers of Jesus at this time and in this place. *This class will meet today from 1:30 – 3:00 pm in the church office.*

Looking to the Future: We have begun praying for and planning a new 5-year ministry plan. *Your input is important.* Join us for one of two Ministry Planning Forums on March 18 or 24 from 6:30 – 8:00 pm in the church office. Resources and updates can be found at stpaulsconcordia.org/future and information will also be made available in the narthex and at congregational meetings.

Spring “Proclaim” Newsletter: The latest edition of our quarterly newsletter is in mailboxes now. Didn’t get your copy? Update your address with the church office and pick up a copy there or in the narthex.

You are invited to SPLHS’s Singing Saints Home Concert TODAY, March 17, at 7 pm here at St. Paul’s. Join us as we listen to the beautiful voices of our high school choir. There is a cookie reception following the concert. The concert is free, but donations are welcome to help with choir expenses.

Additional Ushers Needed: Are you interested in serving our church? The Board of Elders is asking for volunteers to assist with ushering on Sunday mornings. We need volunteers for both the 8 and 10:30 am services. It does not matter your age or sex. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Joel Oetting or Jeff Schlueter or contact the church office. *Thank you! We appreciate your help.*

THANK YOU to all our guests, donors, sponsors, committee members, and volunteers who made the 14th Annual Gifts of Grace Dinner and Auction a spectacular event! We’re over the rainbow with gratitude for everyone who helped make our Wizard of Oz themed dinner and auction a truly magical evening! Thank you for the prayers, support, enthusiasm, and generosity!

In March and April, St. Paul’s Lutheran School welcomes three student teachers from Concordia University Nebraska. If you would like to host a dinner for these student teachers and show them our Concordia hospitality, please reach out to Mr. Poppe at nathanaelpoppe@splsconcordia.org. Thank you!

Concordia Music Conservatory Summer Camps: Enroll today for Choir Camp (June 3–7; Kindergarten – Grade 8) and Orchestra Camp (June 10–14; Grades 4–12). Register by March 31 for an early bird discount. Early enrollment is \$135 per child. Visit cmc-music.org/summer-camps for more information.

SPLS Now Enrolling for 2024–2025! Our Lutheran school partners with families for Preschool through 8th grade to nurture and equip compassionate, wise, Christian leaders for a life of purpose and service to make a positive impact in the world. To schedule a visit, call 660-463-7654, email school@splsconcordia.org, or stop by the school office.

You Can't Go Hungry—Get a good meal at these upcoming community events:

- **Holy Cross, Emma, Tuition Brunch:** March 17 | 10 am – Noon (free will donation to support Lutheran School tuition)
- **SPLHS Sausage Dinner:** March 17 | 11 am – 1 pm (free will donation; dine-in and drive-thru available)
- **Senior Center Cabbage Dinner:** March 19 | 5 – 7 pm (adults: \$14; kids (4–8): \$6; dine-in and drive-thru available)

Mark Your Calendars: The fourth annual SHINE! Servant Event is happening April 12–21, 2024. Pick a project; shine the light of Jesus to our neighbors (Matthew 5:16). *Have an idea for a service project? Contact one of the members of our Evangelism Team (Elisa Oetting, Cindy Rodewald, Lorraine Inman, Connie Martens) or the church office.*

Concordia Zone Board meeting on Thursday March 21, 7 pm at the Conference Center St. Paul, Concordia. Zone officers and LLL Men's Club presidents will receive updated information regarding the MO District and Zone Rally on April 14 at Holy Cross, Emma.

Spring LWML Zone Rally is at Zion Lutheran Church, Blackburn. April 6, registration at 9:30 am, 10 am start. Rev's Terry and Larry Tieman will present on Paul's ministry Journey, from their trip to Greece and Turkey. Everyone is invited, male and female. \$5 registration fee only if staying for lunch.

Thrivent Choice Dollars Expire March 31: Please designate your Thrivent Choice Dollars to the organization of your choosing. Choice Dollars can be designated online at thrivent.com or by calling Thrivent's Customer Interaction Center at 800-847-4836. If you require further assistance, please contact your Thrivent Financial Representative.

Olson Scholarships Available: Grants are available for the 2024–25 school year in the amount of \$1,000 minimum of each grant. Applications are available from Scholarship Committee members, the church office, or the guidance counselors at our two local high schools. *The Committee must receive all applications no later than April 1, 2024.*

LAST WEEK

Attendance:

8 & 10:30 am Sunday: 287, 227; GSCC: 38; Mon: 16
Sunday School: 27; High School SS: 2
Mid-Week Lent: 47, 148

Tithes and Offerings:

Home: \$25,787.68; Missions: \$4,275.55
Home Improvement: \$100.34; Comfort Dog: \$101.85
Debt Reduction: \$43.89; Building: \$27.82
Lutheran Bible Translators: \$140.; SPLHS: \$266.84
Grade School: \$709.17; Youth: \$25; Lutheran Hour: \$200
Mission of Christ Network: \$25; Sunday School: \$2
Portals of Prayer: \$50; GSCC Auxiliary: \$200
Leckband Scholarship: \$5; HSFA: \$50

THIS WEEK

March 17

8 am | Worship with Communion
9:15 am | Sunday School & Adult Bible Study
9:30 am | GSCC Worship
10:30 am | Worship
1:30 pm | Explore Discipleship New Member Class
7 pm | SPLHS Singing Saints Home Concert

March 18

8 am | SPLS Prayer Partners
9 am | Lifelight Bible Study
6:30 pm | Ministry Planning Forum

March 19

10 am | Lifelight Bible Study
7 pm | Mens Club

March 20

8:30 am | SPLS Chapel
10 am | Lent Worship
12 pm | Womens Bible Study
5:30 pm | Ladies Aid 1912 Lent Meal
7 pm | Lent Worship
8 pm | Joyful Sounds Choir
8 pm | Men's Fatherhood Study

March 21

9 am | Lifelight Bible Study
6 pm | Handbells
7 pm | LLL Zone Board Meeting

March 24

8 am | Worship
9:15 am | Sunday School & Adult Bible Study
9:30 am | GSCC Worship
10:30 am | Worship with Communion
4 pm | High School Youth Event
6:30 pm | Ministry Planning Forum

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."