

CONCORDIA CONNECTION

Stay connected to our church, school, and community.

Week of August 31, 2025

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.*

Please register your attendance. Everyone is asked to sign the friendship folder at the center aisle of each row. If you are a guest, please print your address, phone number and/or email so we may better serve you.

Join Us for an In-Depth Study of Luke 15: The parables of the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the prodigal son are some of Jesus' most beloved teachings. Whether you're already familiar with these stories or hearing them for the first time, we invite you to dive deeper with the pastors during the Sunday morning education hour. This study will be guided in part by *The Cross & the Prodigal* by Kenneth E. Bailey. We hope to see you in the gym for this enriching time of reflection and learning!

Special Worship Schedule: Our annual Reunion Service will be next Sunday, September 7. That morning there will be one service in our Main Street sanctuary at 10:30 am (no 8 am service that morning). Our grade school students will be singing a special anthem in worship. Our 9:30 am service at the Good Shepherd Home Chapel will continue as usual that day.

Education Kick-Off: On Sunday, September 7, gather at 9:15 am for a special event to celebrate the start of our full fall Sunday morning education schedule. There will be a devotion, refreshments, and Sunday school students will have a chance to meet their teacher. *All are encouraged to attend. To donate snacks please contact Tina Bredehoeft.*

The Lutheran Hour: This week's message by Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer, "Life Narrows Down". Listen on the radio at 10 am, KMMO (1300 AM) or 10 am, KSIS (1050 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.

YOU can be a Sunday school teacher! Our Sunday School Team is looking for additional teachers for 2025–26. This ministry helps our youngest members and friends learn God's Word and explore what it means to follow Jesus. Our Team seeks to encourage enough people to participate so this privilege in each class can be shared throughout the school year. Don't want to commit to regular teaching? You can be a substitute teacher. *To learn how you can help, contact Cindy Heins, Tina Bredehoeft, or Pastor Michael.*

Lead High School Youth Bible Study: Leaders are needed for our weekly high school Bible study during our Sunday morning education hour from 9:15–10:15 am. Topics and length of study can vary. *If interested, contact Pastor Michael.*

Thankoffering and Open House: In celebration of their 60th wedding anniversary, Gary & Judy Beissenherz have given a thankoffering to the sound system fund. There will be an open house in the church office from 2–4 pm TODAY, August 31, for Gary and Judy.

Upcoming Events

September 7 | Sunday Education Kick Off, 9:15 am
September 7 | Reunion Service, 10:30 am
September 21 | Picnic on the Playground, 5 pm
November 26 | Thanksgiving Eve Service, 7 pm
November 27 | Thanksgiving Day Service, 9:30 am
December 3, 10, 17 | Advent Midweek Services at 10 am, 7 pm

We are celebrating the Worship Milestone for four-year olds on Sunday, September 14! We believe that worship is a very important part of the life of a Christian, and we would like for our youngest people to know that. What does worship look like at home? What does worship look like in church? How can children more fully participate in worship? Four-year olds and their families are invited to join us for this special celebration. We will meet in the church sanctuary at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday, September 14. We have a gift for you to help you in your worship experience at home that you won't want to miss! Come join us!

Family Life Ministry: Find the full list of the 2025–26 Family Life Ministry Milestones and special events at stpaulsconcordia.org/familylife or posted in the narthex.

Spotlighting Stewardship: "Doing *something* is often better than promising *everything*" (Jeff Manion, *Satisfied* [Zondervan, 2013], 128).

St. Paul's Lutheran School is accepting food donations for the lunch program. Donations of meat, fruit and vegetables are greatly appreciated! Contact the school office (660-463-7654) to arrange a drop-off time.

Let's Make a Joyful Noise: Our 2025–2026 school year theme is "Let's Make a Joyful Noise", based on Psalm 98:4. Each month we will share a Bible verse about singing and praise, including verses we sometimes sing together in our liturgy. As we include this verse in our weekly worship, you're encouraged to review and repeat this verse in your personal or family devotions, maybe even committing this verse to memory. *The full list of our 2025–2026 Verses of the Month is available in the narthex or online at stpaulsconcordia.org/lifelonglearning.*

Public School & Homeschool Families: Confirmation instruction is a two-year process typically in the 7th and 8th grades. To register for the 2025–26 school year, please visit the church office by September 1 to complete a registration form and receive class materials. (New and returning students must register each year.) A full schedule will be shared in September. *Questions? Contact Pastor Michael or Pastor Andrew.*

The fall LifeLight Bible study will be *John Part I*, covering the first 11 chapters of John. Get better acquainted with Jesus with the help of His best friend, “the disciple whom Jesus loved.” John experienced both the divine and the human nature of Jesus. In John’s writing, he persistently joins these two natures together. Two weekday classes will again be offered. Their times and leaders are listed below. Both classes will meet in the Church Office meeting room. Study booklets may be purchased in the church office for \$10 each.

Kathy Schnakenberg, Mondays at 9:00 a.m. - Beginning 9/15
Joanne Reinke, Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. - Beginning 9/16

Help at SPLS: Thank you to those who answered the call to help at St. Paul’s Lutheran School this year! We are still needing help from roughly 11 am - 1 pm supervising lunch & recess duty; specific days of the week can be worked around your schedule. If you have a career or hobby you would like to share with our students, let us know. *You can sign up in the church narthex or contact the school office at 660-463-7654 or school@splsconcordia.org.*

August Ministry Partner: St. Paul’s is a member of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) Missouri District. We are connected to nearly 300 congregations across the state and more than 6,000 across the Synod. Three of the District’s four ministry targets—church worker recruitment and retention, discipleship in the home, and Mission Field: Missouri—align with our ministry outcomes. *Stay up-do-date with District news at mo.lcms.org.*

It’s getting close to fair time! Help at the Men’s Club Food Stand: Set up the stand – Tuesday, September 2, at 5 pm
Work in the stand – Wednesday, September 3, 4:30 pm to close
Thursday, September 4, 4:30 pm to close
Take down the stand – Sunday, September 7, at 1:00 pm
If you can work a part or a whole shift it would be greatly appreciated. Please call Ken Nierman (660-221-3136) or Steve Bredehoeft (660-238-3656) with your availability.

Contribute to Missouri District MO Scholars Fund and Support Lutheran Education! A MOScholars tax credit is equal to 100% of an eligible donation, not to exceed 50% of the donor’s state tax liability for the tax year the credit is claimed. MOScholars tax credits may be carried forward for four (4) subsequent tax years. The tax credit is not sellable, transferrable, or refundable. For more information or to reserve your tax credit, visit <https://mo.lcms.org/tax-credit/> or use the QR code.



Fall Enrollment is now open at the Concordia Music Conservatory. We offer a variety of group ensembles and private voice and instrumental lessons. Enrollment is open until September 8. To get more information or to begin enrollment, go to cmc-music.org. We can’t wait to see you this fall!

Lutheran Bible Translators is seeking a full-time Accounting Assistant at our Concordia office to provide accounting and front desk support. This role offers employer-paid health benefits. Check out LBT.org/Careers for more details and to apply. Inquiries can also be sent to HumanResources@lbt.org.

Choir and Handbells: Rehearsals begin Thursday, September 11, with handbells meeting at 6 pm in the sanctuary and Joyful Sounds Choir meeting at 7 pm in the church office building. *All are invited to come make music with us in praise to our resurrected Lord.* If you are unsure about committing to the group, feel free to come and check things out to see if this is a way you can serve Christ joyfully. Prior involvement in a music ensemble is not required. If you would like to use your time and talent to serve God through music but these times don’t work, reach out to Katie Drefs (krdrefs@stpaulsconcordia.org).

LAST WEEK

Attendance:

8 & 10:30 am Sunday: 245, 235; GSCC: 38; Monday: 18

Tithes and Offerings:

Home: \$39,136.01; Missions \$1,192.77
Grade School: \$177.99; LERT: \$5
Comfort Dog: \$142.02; Leckband: \$5
SPLHS: \$185; Building: \$35
Home Improvement: \$152.52; LBT: \$65
Orphan Grain Train: \$50

THIS WEEK

August 31

8 am | Worship
9:15 am | Adult Bible Study
9:30 am | GSCC Worship
10:30 am | Worship

September 1

Church Office Closed

September 3

8:30 am | SPLS Chapel
12 pm | Women’s Bible Study

September 5

10 am | GSCC Bible Study

September 7

9:15 am | Education Kick-Off
9:30 am | GSCC Worship
10:30 am | Worship with Communion

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

PASTOR “ON CALL”

In case of pastoral emergency
(660) 580-5483

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

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