

CONCORDIA CONNECTION

Stay connected to our church, school, and community.

Week of November 16, 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.*

Sunday School: This week, students will study "A Servant Speaks." The Twelve select Stephen as one of the first seven deacons in the Early Church. Synagogue leaders twist Stephen's words, falsely accusing him of blasphemy. Stephen's testimony before the high priest recalls Israel's rejection of God's promise and their rejection of Jesus, the promised Savior. When Stephen says he sees a vision of Jesus standing at the right hand of God, the enraged officials cast Stephen out of the city and stone him. *As a family, consider discussing, "How does the death of Stephen affect the other believers?"* Sunday School meets from 9:15–10:15 am 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

High School Bible Study: Today we will unearth the forgotten holiday between Reformation and Christmas, and its meaning beyond food and football. What does it mean to be a thankful young Christian? *Join us at 9:15 am in the church office basement, led by Russ Kruse.*

Adult Bible Study: God's Service to You! Why do we gather together each and every Sunday morning to participate in something that looks unlike anything else in our daily lives? What is the point? Where does it come from? Why is it so important? What is "worship" all about? Join the pastors during Sunday morning education hour in the school gym as we dive into Christian (Lutheran) worship and why our worship service is the way it is.

The Lutheran Hour: This week's message by Rev. Michael Zeigler, "The Name on the Front". 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.

Men's Club will meet at 7pm on Tuesday, November 18. All are welcome to attend the meeting.

St. Paul's Lutheran School is accepting food donations or gift cards to Bratchers 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.

Welcome, new members! At this weekend's services, we publicly welcome the newest members of our congregation by transfer, adult confirmation, or reaffirmation of faith: Emma Brandt and son Arlo; Delisa Cogburn; Daniel and Julie Dodson and their son Ryan; Misty Harper and her children Adam, Elias, and Rose; Leesha Heins and her son Jace; Wesley Mills; April Monterey and her children Dovelyn and Monty; Matt and Kate Mueller and their children Dorothea, Elowen, Louetta, and Orson; Steve and Justine Nienhiser and their children Joannah, Christopher, and Isaac; Ben and Tiffany Oswald and their children Madelyn, Makenzie, and Melanie; and Janet Rehkop. As fellow members of St. Paul's, we work together by power of the Holy Spirit to make a Christ-centered difference in our community and world today and for eternity. *Welcome, new members!*

Thanksgiving Worship: Gather with your church family to give thanks to God and sing His praise:

Wednesday, November 26, at 7 pm

Thursday, November 27, at 9:30 am

"Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!" (1 Chronicles 16:34 ESV).

No Monday Night Communion: The week of Thanksgiving, there will be no Communion service on Monday, November 24. *Our next Monday Night Communion service will be December 8.*

Advent Family Sunday School: As we look towards the season of Advent, preparing our hearts for the coming of Christ, Family Life would like to invite all families with Sunday school age children to attend an Advent Family Sunday School on November 30 in the school gym. This event will take place during the Sunday school hour from 9:15–10:15. We will have an activity planned for you that you won't want to miss! See you there!

Cookie Walk: Family Life will once again be hosting a 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 13. Please come and support this event by purchasing treats for the holidays! We will also be needing donations of cookies and candy, so please call the church office (660-463-2291) if you are willing to help. Doors open at 9:00 am. Thank you for your support!

Spotlighting Stewardship: "I'm not ashamed to come to God's house and ask God's people for God's money to do God's work in God's way" (attrib. to Rev. Dr. Oswald Hoffmann, Lutheran Hour Speaker 1955–1988).

Christmas Dinners: On December 6 we will once again be handing out our Christmas Dinners. Approximate cost is \$50 per meal for a family. If you would like to contribute to this event or request a meal bag on behalf of someone, please see Melissa at the church office. 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 December 6.

Are you missing dishes? There are quite a few dishes, pans and baskets leftover from recent funeral lunches. Check at the church office to see if any of them belong to you. Anything left after November 17 will be donated to the SPLHS Rummage Sale.

Funeral Fellowship – providing lunch for bereaved St. Paul's families: Thank you to the many volunteers who have helped serve and bring food for funeral lunches. We are up-dating our calendar of volunteers for 2026. If you have been on the list but need to make a change, please contact one of us. We are also in need of additional servers and food providers. If you have not been on the list, please contact us to see where you can serve. The Funeral Fellowship Coordinators: Karen Heins (417-234-2343), Yvonne Mitkos (217-602-7531), Sharon Oetting (660-641-5889), Elva Snider (573-353-6152)

The school office has Christian greeting cards for sale. A box of 12 is \$8, a box of 24 is \$13. Boxes include Christmas, birthday, sympathy, congratulations, thank you, wedding, encouragement, get well, and more.

Don't forget you can purchase gift cards through the school office! We keep gift cards in stock to over 50 different stores, restaurants, gas stations, etc. The school gets a % back for each gift card purchased!

Your Retirement Savings Can Help Fund Ministry: As we approach the end of the year, we want to remind our members aged 70½ and older about the IRA charitable rollover, or Qualified Charitable Distribution. If you are planning to take your Required Minimum Distribution, you can direct your gift to St. Paul's and see your generosity at work in our church and school. Please be aware that IRA gifts must be completed by December 31 to count for this tax year. *For assistance, please talk to our congregation's Gift Planning Counselor Terry Gerds at 314-409-5453 or Terry.Gerds@LFND.org, or contact your financial advisor.*

Third Party Donations: Please note that as of January 1, 2026, the church will no longer be able to accept third party donations on behalf of other organizations such as Saint Paul Lutheran High, Orphan Grain Train, Lutherans for Life, Lutheran Bible Translators, and Mission of Christ Network. Donations to other organizations should be made directly to the organization through their respective online giving options or by mailing a check to the organization's address. This change ensures charitable donations are made in accordance with IRS requirements. The church will still accept donations for church related and dedicated funds such as Altar Guild, Comfort Dog, Fount of Every Blessing Endowment, St. Paul's Lutheran School, St. Paul's Lutheran Youth Group, etc. *This change is for external organizations only.*

If you would like a full list of our general and dedicated accounts, please contact the church office. Please review your online giving as well. *Any questions regarding this change, please contact Julie Bonar at jebonar@stpaulsconcordia.org or 660-463-2291.*

Family Life is in need of felt pieces. The size does not matter. If you have scraps that you would like to donate for our upcoming Advent Family Sunday School project, please drop them off at the church office. Thank you!

LAST WEEK

Attendance:

8 & 10:30 am Sunday: 320, 173; GSCC: 51; Monday: 11
Sunday School: 30

Tithes and Offerings:

Home: \$36,745.82; Missions \$1,566.51
Grade School: \$124; Building: \$35
Comfort Dog: \$57.50; Leckband: \$5
Home Improvement: \$162.52; SPLHS: \$30
LBT: \$40; Sunday School: \$3.50; HSFA: \$50
Youth: \$25; Orphan Grain Train: \$25
School Lunch: \$500; Debt Reduction: \$300

THIS WEEK

November 16

8 am | Worship with Communion
9:15 am | Education Hour
9:30 am | GSCC Worship
10:30 am | Worship

November 17

8:15 am | SPLHS Prayer Partners
7 pm | Altar Guild

November 18

1:30 pm | Staff Meeting
7 pm | Men's Club

November 19

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

November 20

6:30 am | Men's Bible Study at SPLHS
2 pm | GSCC Communion
6 pm | Handbell Choir
7 pm | Joyful Sounds Choir

November 21

10 am | GSCC Bible Study

November 23

8 am | Worship
9:15 am | Education Hour
9:30 am | GSCC Worship
10:30 am | Worship with Communion
1:30 pm | Public School Confirmation Class

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

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