

CONCORDIA CONNECTION

Stay connected to our church, school, and community.

Week of February 1, 2026

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: In today's lesson, "A Laughable Promise," participants study the birth of Isaac. The Lord and two angels appear to Abraham in human form, promising the birth of a son to Abraham and Sarah within the year. Sarah conceives and gives birth to Isaac, as the Lord fulfills His promise of generations to come and the promised future Offspring—the Savior, Jesus. *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

Adult Bible Study: What is God like? Is He completely other, incomprehensible, and beyond us? Or is He personal, understanding, and in the trenches of life with us? Scripture speaks of Him as both, so, what do we do with that? *Join Pastor Andrew in the gym for Sunday Adult Bible Class as we explore this tension and why it is important for our walk with God.*

High School Sunday School: What are the Rules of Engagement (pun intended) in relationships, dating, even marriage? In a world littered with broken relationships and hurt people how can young people find a healthy & fulfilling relationship? God gives us answers and examples which we will be studying for the next 8 weeks. Join us in the Youth Room (church office basement) for study & fellowship this winter, led by Russ Kruse.

The Lutheran Hour: This week's message by Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler is, "Rotten Tomatoes". 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.

The Lutheran Witness subscriptions must be turned in through the offering plate or to the church office by Monday, February 2.

2025 Contribution Statements have been mailed. If you have questions about your statement or would like a copy emailed to you, please contact the church office.

Spotlighting Stewardship: "God created man to be a sharer of good by nature" (Quentin Wesselschmidt in *A Cup of Cold Water: A Look at Biblical Charity* [Concordia Seminary, 1996], 97).

2026 Estimate of Giving: As you prayerfully consider your financial contribution to our congregation this year, please return the Estimate of Giving form. You may place it in the box in the narthex, mail it to the church office, or drop it by the office. Specific pledges are only seen by our Business Manager and Admin. Assistant for your contribution record-keeping. The total number of pledges and total dollars pledged are used by our church leadership to help inform our budget for the next fiscal year. *If you have questions, please contact the church office.*

1912 Ladies Aid Souper Bowl Sale: The 1912 Ladies Aid will be having a soup sale from 9 am – Noon, or while supplies last, on Sunday, February 8. A free-will offering will be collected to help support Mission Projects throughout the year. You can either pick up soup in the gym or drive through the alley behind the elementary school from 5th Street and pick it up at the kitchen door. Your choice of Vegetable Beef or Chicken Tortilla soup will be available in quart size, to go, microwavable containers.

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 15, during the education 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! *For a full schedule of our 2025–26 Family Life Ministry Milestones and special events, visit stpaulsconcordia.org/familylife.*

Tickets go on sale February 2: Save the date for the St. Paul's Lutheran School 2026 Gifts of Grace Benefit Auction on March 14! This year's BIG BAND BASH! theme is inspired by the music, vintage style, and spirited patriotism of the 1940s WWII era. Join us for an evening filled with generosity, fellowship, and support as we "Make a Joyful Noise to the Lord" (Psalm 98:4). Tickets go live on Monday, February 2, and will be available exclusively online. *Visit splsauction.afrogs.org to purchase tickets, view event details, and explore ways to support the auction.*

It's back! Fun, fellowship, and volleyball! Ladies, gather your teams for 5 weeks of league play in March. This year we will divide teams into recreational and competitive levels. It's free! Register at tinyurl.com/2026volleyball. Contact Julie Bonar (jeb-onar@stpaulsconcordia.org) or Sarah Sullivan (ssullivan@splhs.org) if you have any questions.

The 2026 Gifts of Grace Auction is asking for 1940s memorabilia to be put on display at the auction. Example of items:

- Sheet music, musical instruments, record players, etc.;
- WW2 related items—uniforms, satchels, boots, helmets, equipment, flyers, flags, etc.;
- Fashion items—hats, jewelry, shoes; and
- Anything authentic to early/mid 1940s.

All items will be cared for and labeled appropriately so they can be returned to rightful owner. If you would like to include a brief description/history of item that would add a very special element to this year's auction. If you have items available for loan, please call Laura Eckhoff at 816-719-4865.

2026 Funeral Fellowship Lunch monthly calendars are available in your pigeonhole in the Church Narthex.

February Ministry Partner: Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM) equips Gospel proclamation at home and abroad and offers free resources to help you in your daily walk. In addition to The Lutheran Hour® broadcast on the radio, SiriusXM, or online, LHM provides resources to help strengthen your faith today, including daily email devotions; video Bible studies; Project Connect booklets on grief, anxiety, caregiving, and loneliness; and kids' resources. Visit lhm.org/discoverlhm to learn more, to donate, and receive a free gift.

Life Quote: "You may have a messy story. Your family may have a dysfunctional past. Your past (or present) may be filled with greed, sexual immorality, or other idols. But Jesus won't let that stop Him from reaching out to you with the message of His unconditional love. You might be far from good, but you are not too far gone for God." *Pastor Mike Novotny, Time of Grace – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Orphan Grain Train: To support our local Orphan Grain Train center (Missouri West Collection Center), financial donations can be put in Kenneth Nierman's pigeonhole, taken to the church office, or mailed to Kenneth Nierman, 30148 Emma Rd, Concordia, MO 64020. Checks should be made out to Orphan Grain Train. Donations will be sent to the main office in Norfolk, NE and deposited in the Missouri West account. A record of your donation will be given to you at the end of the year if wanted for tax purposes. Anyone interested in helping with this ministry can attend the monthly workday on the last Tuesday of each month at 1 pm.

Trivia Night on Saturday, February 7: Join us for a night of fun, fellowship, and friendly competition at the SPLHS Annex to support the upcoming Scandinavia Trip! Doors open at 6 pm; trivia begins at 6:30 pm. Tables of 8 are \$80. Concessions will be available, but feel free to bring your own snacks and beverages. Costumes are encouraged! Register at forms.gle/j7GeiDpSFZCuG4KN6.

Did you remember your name tag today? I get it ... it's not always easy to remember. We would love to help! Be sure to read your Concordia Connection each week for tips! In the meantime, if you lost yours or never got one, all you need to do is ask! Cindy Rodewald and Elisa Oetting will be in the Narthex after service where you can fill out a card for a name tag, or call the church office and let Melissa know you need one. First time name tags are free. Replacement magnetic name tags will be \$2 or you can get a pin-on tag for free. We are introducing children's stick-on name tags so they can get in on the action too!!! Name tags significantly help connection in churches by fostering a welcoming environment, reducing the fear of forgetting names, and accelerating relationship-building among members and visitors. So let's help foster connection by wearing your name tag!

Compassionate Caregivers Ministry: If anyone is interested in more information about or joining this group, please contact Jim Beerman (660-631-2849; jimb@beermandoesitall.com) or John Beerman (816-838-4261; johnbeerman71@gmail.com).

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."

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Ernestville, is sponsoring a Chili-Soup Dinner on Sunday, February 15, from 11 am – 1 pm in the church basement. The proceeds will be used for the St. Paul's Elementary School Tuition Program.

LAST WEEK

Attendance:
8 & 10:30 am Sunday: 111, 106; GSCC: 41; Monday: 9
Sunday School (PS – Gr. 8): 11; High School: 3

Tithes and Offerings:

Home: \$22,366.33; Missions: \$694.34
Growing by God's Grace: \$25; Youth: \$20
Comfort Dog: \$87.02; Grade School: \$194
Building: \$115; Home Improvement: \$82.52
SPLHS: \$185.74; Sunday School: \$3.56

THIS WEEK

February 1

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

February 2

8:15 am | SPLS Prayer Partners
9 am | LifeLight Bible Study

February 3

10 am | LifeLight Bible Study
1:30 pm | Staff Meeting
7 pm | Ladies Aid #1

February 4

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

February 5

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

February 6

10 am | GSCC Bible Study

February 8

8 am | Worship
9 am | 1912 Ladies Aid Souper Bowl Sale
9:15 am | Education Hour
9:30 am | GSCC Worship
10:30 am | Worship with Communion