

CONCORDIA CONNECTION

Stay connected to our church, school, and community.

Week of February 22, 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: This week's lesson is "A Servant's Mission." Abraham tasks a faithful servant with finding a wife for Isaac from Abraham's homeland. The servant prays for a sign and waits at a well outside the city of Nahor. Rebekah appears, offering to draw water for both man and beast—the sign the servant had asked for. Rebekah invites the servant to come to her family home. Having received gifts from Abraham, Rebekah's family sends her to Isaac with their blessings. *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: The book of Exodus is one of the most important books of the Old Testament, where God called, rescued, and loved his people, Israel. Join the pastors, Sundays at 9:15 am in the school gym, as we learn how this book still applies to us and teaches us about God's great love for us in Christ.

High School Sunday School meets in the lower level of the church office building.

The Lutheran Hour: This week's message by Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler is, "As Through Fire". 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.

Spotlighting Stewardship: We are grateful for our St. Paul's Lutheran School third grade students who help keep the pencils sharp in the friendship folders in each pew.

Marriage Retreat 2026: Save the date for this year's marriage retreat: April 17–19. The Rev. Dr. Justin Hannemann from GracePoint Institute for Relational Health in Omaha, Nebraska, will once again lead this year's retreat. *Additional details will be shared soon.*

Pitch Party: St. Paul's Men's Club will host a zone pitch party TODAY, February 22, in the church office. A light supper will be served at 6:00 pm with cards following at 7:00 pm.

The Compassionate Care Ministry will provide a short presentation on Sunday, March 1 in the gym at the beginning of the education hour giving a short overview of this new ministry. Compassionate Care will provide doughnuts to go with your coffee!

Nominating Committee: There is still time to suggest a name for the 2026 Nominating Committee; *please contact Vice President Joel Oetting by February 22.* Our Nominating Committee will develop a slate of candidates for leadership positions to be elected at our Annual Meeting on May 31. According to our by-laws, "the committee shall contain a majority of non-Church Council members, shall function for one (1) year only, and shall include the Senior Pastor and one elder appointed by the Board of Elders."

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.*

Midweek Lenten Services: Worship Wednesdays in Lent (now through March 25) at 10 am or 7 pm. A meal is served at 5:30 pm in the school gym, and evening services include a special children's message. *Visit stpaulsconcordia.org/lent-easter for our full schedule.*

3rd Grade Catechism 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. TODAY, February 22, during the education 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

SPLS Enrollment: Enrollment at St. Paul's Lutheran Grade School is now open for the 2026–27 school year! If you have a student currently enrolled, you should receive information via email and from your student. If you are interested in enrolling a new student, please contact the school office by phone 660-463-7654 or via email at school@splsconcordia.org. *SPLS nurtures and equips compassionate, wise, Christian leaders for a life of purpose and service to make a positive impact in the world.*

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. *Visit lhm.org/discover-lhm to learn more, to donate, and receive a free gift.*

The Ladies Aid 1912 would like to thank all those who bought soup and supported the Souper Bowl soup sale. Just over \$1000 dollars was raised to help support our Mission projects!

Gifts of Grace Auction: We are excited to share that tickets for the Gifts of Grace Auction are officially sold out! Thank you for the incredible support and we look forward to seeing those of you attending! If you would still like to support the event, you may visit our auction website to make a donation or purchase a sponsorship. You may also stop by the school office to make a donation. We are grateful for your generosity and support of our school! splauction.afrogs.org

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. Registrations must be received by Thursday, February 26.

Olson Scholarship Available: Any active member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Concordia, MO desiring to continue his or her post-secondary education in designated fields (educational or vocational), either as a part-time or full time student, is invited to submit their application to any member of the Olson Scholarship Committee for 2026 grant consideration. The Scholarship Committee would like to inform the congregation that five (5) grants are available for the 2026-2027 school year in the amount of \$1,000.00 minimum for each grant. For a copy of the scholarship guidelines and an application, please contact any committee member—Paulette Oetting 660-641-5679, Dale Dieckhoff 660-641-6981, Bev Frerking 660-624-0149, Michelle Knight 816-726-1432, or John Beerman 816-838-4261, St. Paul's church office or the guidance counselors at the two local high schools. The committee must receive all applications no later than April 1, 2026. Please do not return the completed applications to the church office or to the high school guidance counselors.

Life Quote: "God created us anew in Baptism. We are the work of His hands, and He will not forsake us. Guided by the Spirit through the wisdom of His Word, we learn to walk in His ways, even when we must 'walk in the midst of trouble.'" *Dr. Carol Geisler, Lutheran Hour Ministries – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Join us for our annual Singing Saints Home Concert on Sunday, March 15, 2026, at 7:00pm at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 410 S. Main Street, Concordia, MO 64020.

Saint Paul Lutheran High School Drama Department is producing the play *Mandate for Murder* by Pat Cook with permission from Eldridge Publishing Co. The dates of our performances are March 20th and 21st at 7pm. There is no admission fee, but a free will donation would be appreciated! During intermission we will offer \$0.50 cookies and \$1 water.

LAST WEEK

Attendance:
8 & 10:30 am Sunday: 302, 187; GSCC: 49
Midweek Lent: 41, 267

Tithes and Offerings:

Home: \$38,232.90; Missions: \$1,535.96
Growing by God's Grace: \$75; Youth: \$45
Comfort Dog: \$145; Grade School: \$119.62
Building: \$40; Home Improvement: \$312.97
School Lunch Program: \$20; Debt Reduction: \$350
Portals of Prayer: \$25; Leckband Fund: \$100

THIS WEEK

February 22

8 am | Worship
9:15 am | Education Hour
9:30 am | GSCC Worship
10:30 am | Worship with Communion
6 pm | Men's Club Pitch Party

February 23

8:15 am | SPLS Prayer Partners
9 am | LifeLight Bible Study
7 pm | Worship with Communion

February 24

9 am | Dementia Support Group
10 am | LifeLight Bible Study
1 pm | Orphan Grain Train
1:30 pm | Staff Meeting
7 pm | Elders

February 25

8:30 am | SPLS Chapel
10 am | Mid-week Lent Worship
12 pm | Women's Bible Study
5:30 pm | Comfort Dog Lenten Meal – Potato Bar
7 pm | Mid-week Lent Worship
8 pm | Joyful Sounds Choir

February 26

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

February 27

10 am | GSCC Bible Study

March 1

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

CHURCH OFFICE
M-F: 8 am – Noon; 1 – 5 pm
(660) 463-2291

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

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

SCHOOL OFFICE
M-F: 8 am – 3:30 pm
(660) 463-7654

PASTOR "ON CALL"
In case of pastoral emergency
(660) 580-5483