

CONCORDIA CONNECTION

Stay connected to our church, school, and community.

Week of March 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: As we gather today, we will study “A Family Reunites,” as God helps Joseph forgive. Joseph’s siblings journey to Egypt hoping to find food for their family. Failing to recognize Joseph, the brothers head home with sustenance and supplies. Heeding Joseph’s early warning, the brothers bring Benjamin when returning to Egypt for food. After testing and trying his brothers, Joseph finally reveals himself to his astonished siblings. Joseph relocates all of Jacob’s family to Egypt, promising to care for them. *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 9:15am 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: *Resilient Minds* promotes mental wellness rooted in Christ. Each lesson opens with Scripture and covers topics such as anxiety, emotions, Christian identity, and resiliency. Preparing students to be strong and well-equipped for the future is sought by promoting wellness in all aspects of students’ lives. All high school youth are invited and encouraged to join these meaningful discussions led by Mary Beth Self.

The Lutheran Hour: This week’s message by Rev. Gregory Manning is, “Meeting You Where You Are”. 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: “The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it” (Psalm 24:1 NIV).

Grades 6–8 Singing at Holy Cross Today: May God bless our SPLS students and families 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).*

Charles Russell Lewis Page, son of Aaron and Yu Chu (Jane) Page, will be received into our Lord’s kingdom through Holy Baptism in the 10:30 am service today. Charles’ sponsors are Bryan and Connie Powell.

Ministry Expansion Forums: Our Ministry Expansion Campaign Team is sharing the final information forum about the Phase 1A narthex project TODAY from 12 noon – 1pm. *Please join us to learn more about this project.*

Our 2026 Marriage Retreat will be held April 17–19 at the Courtyard Marriott in Blue Springs. The Rev. Dr. Justin Hanemann from GracePoint Institute for Relational Health in Lincoln, Nebraska, will once again lead this year’s retreat. Two nights are \$300 per couple, plus an \$80 registration fee. **Registration closes March 27.** Space is limited to 15 couples, so call the church office early to reserve your spot!

Holy Week Worship Schedule:

Maundy Thursday, April 2

10 am & 7 pm | with Communion

Good Friday, April 3

10 am & 7 pm | Service of Darkness

Easter Sunday, April 5

6:00 am | Sunrise Service

8:00 & 10:30 am | with Communion

Easter breakfast is served in the gym from 7 – 10:00 am.

Visit stpaulsconcordia.org/lent-easter for our full schedule.

Easter Invitations are available in the narthex or church office. These small business card sized invitations can be given to family, friends, neighbors, or coworkers to invite them to gather with us for our Easter celebration. The cards have the link to our Holy Week and Easter worship schedule and church contact information. These invitations are an easy way to reach out to someone you know!

Love in Action: Drivers Needed! Our Care Team is looking for additional volunteers to support our church family by providing occasional transportation to medical appointments, etc. for those in our congregation who can no longer drive. If you have a desire to serve your neighbors in a practical way, your help would be a blessing. *To join our list of available drivers or to learn more about how this ministry works, please contact John Beerman or Jim Beerman.*

Together we can SHINE! We would love *your* help in planning this year’s SHINE! servant events to be held April 10–19. If you would like to serve on our planning team or have an idea for a project, reach out to Chris Gerdts.

Summer Program help needed. June 1 - July 31, 2026. Caring individuals with good communication skills, love for working with kids and a team mentality are a must. Applicants must be at least 16 years of age. Priority will be given to candidates 18 and older. To apply, please email Julie Bonar at jebonar@stpaulsconcordia.org (in person interview may be required) or apply in person at the Church Office. *Background checks required of workers 18+.*

Easter Decorating: If you wish to donate an ester lily (\$10) or a monetary donation for decorating the church for Easter, please pick up a form in the church narthex or church office. Forms and donations must be received by **Friday, March 27**.

SPLS Enrollment: Enrollment at St. Paul's Lutheran Grade School is open for the 2026–27 school year.

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.

March Ministry Partner: Saint Paul Lutheran High School (SPLHS) is a residential high school committed to “preparing leaders to declare Christ.” A global mission in the heart of Missouri, SPLHS has been dedicated to education in the finest Lutheran tradition since 1883. *Learn more at splhs.org.*

Thrivent Choice Dollars Expire March 31st – Please take time to 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 do not designate your Thrivent Choice Dollars, they will expire at the end of March. If you require further assistance, please contact your Thrivent Financial Representative.

Holy Cross - Emma will host a pitch card party TODAY, March 22 in the school basement. Food at 6 pm; cards at 7 pm.

Mark Your Calendars: Our Lutheran Junior Honor Association (LJHA) at St. Paul's Lutheran Grade School would like to invite everyone to their first **Serving Saints Sunday** on April 19th from 2–5 p.m.! Join us for an afternoon of free car washes, hot dogs, fellowship, and more as we follow Jesus's example of leadership and love. The playground will be available for the kids to play on. Donations collected will be given to St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Don't miss it!

LAST WEEK

Attendance:

8 & 10:30 am Sunday: 309, 198; GSCC: 45
Midweek Lent: 53, 174; Sunday School (PS – Gr. 8): 42

Tithes and Offerings:

Home: \$20,886.69; Missions: \$1,455.88
Comfort Dog: \$117.50; LERT: \$600
Grade School: \$64.62; Building: \$40; Youth: \$45
Home Improvement: \$172.97; Leckband Fund: \$100
Debt Reduction: \$300; Together: Faith+Mission+Life: \$75

THIS WEEK

March 22

8 am | Worship
9:15 am | Education Hour
9:30 am | GSCC Worship
10:30 am | Worship with Communion
12 pm | Ministry Expansion Campaign Forum

March 23

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

March 24

9 am | Dementia Support Group
1:30 pm | Staff Meeting
7 pm | Elders

March 25

8:30 am | SPLS Chapel
10 am | Mid-week Lent Worship
12 pm | Women's Bible Study
5:30 pm | SPLHS International Trip – Swedish Meatballs/Rice
7 pm | Mid-week Lent Worship
8 pm | Joyful Sounds Choir

March 26

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

March 27

10 am | GSCC Bible Study

March 29

8 am | Worship
9:15 am | Education Hour
9:30 am | GSCC Worship
10:30 am | Worship
1:30 pm | Pub/Homeschool 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

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