

CONCORDIA CONNECTION

Stay connected to our church, school, and community.

Week of March 8, 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: Today, we will study Jacob's family in "A Family Grows." Jacob experiences love at first sight when he meets Rachel at the well. Welcomed into his uncle Laban's household, Jacob agrees to work seven years in order to marry Rachel. When the wedding celebration finally arrives, Laban tricks Jacob into marrying Rachel's older sister, Leah. Realizing the deception, Jacob confronts his uncle, who gives him Rachel's hand for another seven years of service. *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. Dr. Daniel Paavola is, "What Was the Price on That?". 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: Have an idea for a ministry or activity? Pass it along to our pastors or Board of Elders. *All ministry is team ministry, and we're glad you're on the team with us!*

Men's Club will meet at 7pm on Tuesday, March 17. All are welcome to attend the meeting.

The Singing Saints Home Concert is on Sunday, March 15, 2026, at 7 pm at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 410 S. Main Street, Concordia, MO 64020.

Q & A - Please submit your written questions regarding the narthex ministry expansion plan to me or email them to StanOetting@gmail.com. I will respond to all questions received. Answers will also be shared at the forums and cottage meetings in March and April. – *Stan Oetting, Campaign Director*

Ministry Expansion Forums: Our Ministry Expansion Campaign Team is planning three identical awareness forums to share information about the Phase 1A narthex project and better answer questions that you and others in the congregation might have. These will be held:

- Sunday, March 15 | 9:15–10:15 am
- Wednesday, March 18 | 8 – 9 pm
- Sunday, March 22 | 12 noon – 1 pm

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 opens March 2 and closes March 27. Space is limited to 15 couples, so call the church office early to reserve your spot!

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.

1st Grade Stewardship: Family life strives to equip and encourage parents to be the primary faith teachers in the lives of their children; therefore, we are inviting all first-graders and their parents to attend a special milestone celebration. This special event will take place TODAY, March 8, during the education hour (9:15-10:15 am) in the back room of the parish office. This milestone will focus on stewardship. We think that first grade is the perfect age to start talking to children about stewardship! What does it mean to be a good steward? How do we use our time, talents, and treasures to the glory of God? Come get answers to these questions and learn what it means to be a good steward. A gift will be given to help those first graders in their stewardship training.

It's time for The Bible Recap-Recap! Attention all who are participating in the read through the Bible program using The Bible Recap—we are joining immediately after early service (8:45 am) TODAY, March 8. We will gather in the coffee room outside the school gym. We will share our "God Shots" and how we are using what we are learning in everyday life. If you are curious about this growing community, you are welcome to join us! Please contact Beth Lange at 248-719-1511 if you have questions.

SPLS Enrollment: Enrollment at St. Paul's Lutheran Grade School is now open for the 2026–27 school year! *SPLS nurtures and equips compassionate, wise, Christian leaders for a life of purpose and service to make a positive impact in the world.*

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

Our Gifts of Grace Dinner & Auction is next weekend, Saturday, March 14! We look forward to a wonderful evening of fellowship and fun in support for our school. Auction items can be previewed on the auction website. If you were unable to secure tickets but would still like to support the event, donations can be made online at splsauktion.afrogs.org. We're also excited to share that Energy on Main will be partnering with us March 13–15 with a special signature drink; a portion of the proceeds will be donated to the auction. Be sure to stop by and support this generous collaboration.

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.*

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.

How are you doing with remembering your name tag? Tips for this week: 1. Leave your name tag in your pigeon hole to grab as you walk into church. 2. Leave in a visible consistent place, like on the fridge, to be reminded to put on Sunday morning. Wearing your name tag says “I want to connect.” As the body of Christ we walk in love because Jesus first loved us and calls us to love one another. Knowing one another's names is the first step to connection. Can't find or don't have a name tag? Fill out a card in the foyer to replace or get one!

SOS Sausage Dinner: On Sunday, March 15, from 11 am to 1 pm, enjoy a delicious meal featuring sausage, sauerkraut, potatoes & gravy, green beans, applesauce, and cheesecake at Saint Paul Lutheran High School. Dine-in (inside Krueger Dining Hall) and drive-thru options will be available.

Saint Paul Lutheran High School Drama Department is producing the play *Mandate for Murder* by Pat Cook with permission from Eldridge Publishing Co. Performances are March 20th and 21st at 7 pm.

LAST WEEK

Attendance:

8 & 10:30 am Sunday: 213, 136; GSCC: 52;
Midweek Lent: 55, 263
Sunday School (PS – Gr. 8): 14

Tithes and Offerings:

Home: \$38,248.51; Missions: \$2,779.76
Growing by God's Grace: \$775; Youth: \$20
Comfort Dog: \$1130.50; Grade School: \$124.62
Building: \$90; Home Improvement: \$20
LERT: \$600; Leckband Scholarship: \$7.50

THIS WEEK

March 8

8 am | Worship
9:15 am | Education Hour
9:30 am | GSCC Worship
10:30 am | Worship with Communion
1:30 pm | Pub/Home School Confirmation

March 9

9 am | LifeLight Bible Study
7 pm | Worship with Communion

March 10

10 am | LifeLight Bible Study
1:30 pm | Staff Meeting
6:30 pm | Compassionate Care Ministry
7 pm | 1912 Ladies Aid

March 11

8:30 am | SPLS Chapel
10 am | Mid-week Lent Worship
12 pm | Women's Bible Study
5:30 pm | Ladies Aid #1 Lenten Meal – Pasta/Breadsticks/Salad
7 pm | Mid-week Lent Worship
8 pm | Joyful Sounds Choir

March 12

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

March 13

10 am | GSCC Bible Study

March 15

8 am | Worship with Communion
9:15 am | Education Hour
9:15 am | Ministry Expansion Campaign Forum
9:30 am | GSCC Worship
10:30 am | Worship
7 pm | SPLHS Home Concert

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.”