

CONCORDIA CONNECTION

Stay connected to our church, school, and community.

Week of April 19, 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.*

Children are welcome. We encourage children of all ages to be active participants in our worship. Children can sing, pray, stand, and sit with other worshipers. *Jesus knows that children tend to wiggle and make noise, so please don't be embarrassed by it, and we will do our best to welcome, smile, encourage, help, and bless you all.* Please know that while you are caring for your children, the rest of us will be rejoicing in Jesus' words, "Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God" (Lk 18:16 ESV). Children's bulletins are available from an usher, and a cry room is located at the back of the sanctuary.

Sunday School: "The Passover Promise" is this week's lesson about God's establishment of the Passover. God, through Moses, threatens one final plague—worse than any previously experienced. Following God's instructions, the Israelites make careful preparations for the Passover, marking their doorposts with the blood of a lamb prepared for the feast. The final plague takes place at midnight as all the firstborn throughout Egypt die. The Egyptians hand over their valuables, hastening the Israelites away. *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 Sunday School: All high school youth are invited and encouraged to join today's discussion of the book *Resilient Minds* led by Mary Beth Self.

Sunday Adult Bible Study: In his classic work, *Life Together*, Dietrich Bonhoeffer shares the inspiring account of a unique fellowship in an underground seminary during the Nazi years in Germany. He gives practical advice on how life together in Christ can be sustained in families and groups, including the role of personal prayer; worship in common, everyday work; and Christian service. *Gather with the pastors at 9:15 am in the gym.*

The Lutheran Hour: This week's message by Rev. Ryan Tinetti is, "Not in Vain". 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.

Guest Preacher: Today we welcome Rev. Eric Kennaugh. He serves as a Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) consultant for Ministry Support. In his 18 years of pastoral ministry, he served three congregations, leading them through capital campaigns for building a sanctuary, renovating facilities, and debt reduction.

Phoebe Elaine Sullivan, daughter of Dakota & Taylor Sullivan, will be received into our Lord's kingdom through Holy Baptism in the 8:00 am service today. Phoebe's sponsors are Makayla Krause, Parker Higgins and Nick & Shannon Virus.

Theodore Daniel Hegeman, son of Joe & Breanna Hegeman, will be received into our Lord's kingdom through Holy Baptism in the 8:00 am service today. Theodore's sponsors are Josh Hegeman and Dakota & Taylor Sullivan.

The Confirmation Milestone for parents and confirmands will be held Sunday, April 26, in the back room of the church office during the education hour (9:15–10:15 am).

Upcoming Events:

May 3 | Confirmation Sunday, 10:30 am

May 9–10 | Min. Expansion Campaign Prayer Vigil

May 11 | Miscarriage Memorial Service, 6 pm

May 17 | Campaign Commitment Event, one service at 9:30 am

May 31 | Annual Meeting, one service at 10:30 am

Ministry Expansion Campaign Cottage Meetings: You are invited to join a small, informal gathering with fellow members of St. Paul's in the home of one of our members. These cottage meetings are an opportunity to enjoy Christian fellowship, discuss our shared ministry, and explore how we can support our ministry expansion. There are multiple dates and times to choose from now through April 28. *Sign up in the narthex, online at bit.ly/4vb42IS or call the church office to RSVP for one of the meetings.* Questions? Contact Campaign Director Stan Oetting.

Nominating Committee: On May 31, we will elect the following leadership roles, with terms beginning July 1, 2026: Vice President, Secretary*, Treasurer, Council member-at-large*, four members of the Board of Elders**, two members of the School Board (*incumbent eligible for reelection; **two Elders eligible for reelection). *To nominate a member for these positions, please contact Vice President Joel Oetting no later than April 26.* Nominations are not accepted on the day of election. Position descriptions and qualifications are available in our Constitution & Bylaws.

"The Basics" Class Continues: Did you miss our first session last Sunday? That's okay. If you're interested in membership at St. Paul's, a member of the community who would like to know about what we believe and teach, or a member would like a review of Lutheran doctrine, gather this afternoon from 1:00 – 2:30 pm in the Conference Center.

Prayer Service for Miscarriage, Stillbirth, and Infant Loss:

Our church will hold an evening memorial service on Monday, May 11 at 6 p.m. The service will include readings, prayers, music, and a time to memorialize babies lost. Consider attending even if you lost a baby years ago. Families are welcome.

Recently transferred from another Lutheran church or interested in joining St. Paul's? Join us for our "Explore Discipleship" class and learn more about how St. Paul's strives to live our calling as followers of Jesus at this time and in this place. This class will meet on Sunday, April 26, from 1:00 – 2:30 pm in the church office. We will cover topics including our congregation's mission and vision, ministry partnerships, our boards and ministry teams, and share a resource for personal discipleship planning. *Please RSVP by contacting the church office at office@stpaulsconcordia.org or (660) 463-2291.*

TODAY: Join the LJHA from 2–5 p.m. for Serving Saints Sunday on the east side of our grade school! Everything is free—from the car washes and blessing bags to the hot dogs and chips. Bring the kids for playground fun and join us for a time of devotion. Donation baskets will be available to support our church. There will also be a bake sale to help support our future LJHA service projects. See you there!

Campaign Materials Available Online: You can download any of our ministry expansion campaign materials at stpaulsconcordia.org/together. There you can also watch our new campaign video.

Spotlighting Stewardship: "Two things are necessary to spread the Kingdom of God: money and a contempt of money" (William Allen, Sixteenth Century English Cardinal).

Praying for Our Members: Each week, our Board of Elders will contact twelve members/households. We will pray for those members in worship the following Sunday. The list of those we are praying for is posted in the narthex and sent via the weekly email. You are encouraged to pray for these brothers and sisters. *We are together in faith, in mission, and in life.*

April's Ministry Partner: Offering a variety of camp experiences and getaways for children, youth, adults, and families. Heit's Point Lutheran Ministries in Lincoln, MO, offers a beautiful setting and meaningful opportunities where one's relationship with Jesus Christ may be built, strengthened, and encouraged. *Learn more at sites.google.com/view/heitspointlutheran.*

Summer Program help needed. June 1 – July 31, 2026. A love for working with kids and a team mentality are a must. Specifically looking to fill shifts from **12–6 pm**. Applicants must be at least 16 years old; priority 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+.*

Assemble Braille Bibles with Us: Will you volunteer with our Lutheran Braille Workers Team one Tuesday a month? Morning or afternoon shifts are available. *Learn more by speaking with Mark Schelp (816-726-1028) or Jennifer Jones (660-238-4486).*

Local Area Events:

April 19 | LLL Zone Rally at Trinity Lutheran in Alma, 5 pm
April 22–25 | SPLHS Spring Rummage Sale (Weis Gym)

LAST WEEK

Attendance:

8 & 10:30 am Sunday: 284, 302; GSCC: 53; Mon: 12
Sunday School (PS – Gr. 8): 35

Tithes and Offerings:

Home: \$45,630.96; Missions: \$1,795.47
Comfort Dog: \$42.50; Grade School: \$504.62
Building: \$40; Home Improvement: \$222.97
Youth: \$20; Sunday School: \$5.60
Together: Faith+Mission+Life: \$45

THIS WEEK

April 19

8 am | Worship with Communion
9:15 am | Education Hour
9:30 am | GSCC Worship
10:30 am | Worship
1 pm | The Basics New Member Class
2 pm | Serving Saints Sunday

April 20

8:15 am | SPLS Prayer Partners

April 21

1:30 pm | Staff Meeting

April 22

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

April 23

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

April 24

10 am | GSCC Bible Study

April 26

8 am | Worship
9:15 am | Education Hour
9:30 am | GSCC Worship
10:30 am | Worship with Communion
1 pm | Explore Discipleship Class
3 pm | Pub/Homeschool Confirmation

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."