

CONCORDIA CONNECTION

Stay connected to our church, school, and community.

Week of April 26, 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 worshippers. *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: In today's lesson, we learn about how God provides "Food from Heaven." The Israelites arrive in the wilderness with no food, grumbling against Moses and Aaron. God keeps His promise to provide for His people as He daily sends manna (bread) and quail (meat) from heaven for them to gather. The Lord teaches His people to trust as they gather only what they need for one day. *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: This morning, Russ Kruse will lead a Bible study on the topic of Christian reconciliation. How do we deal with the inevitable strain and brokenness in relationships as the people of God? *Meet at 9:15 am in the youth room (basement of the church office).*

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. Dr. Michael Zeigler is, "Second Chances and First Impressions". 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 Confirmation Milestone for parents and confirmands will be TODAY, April 26, in the back room of the church office during the education hour (9:15–10:15 am).

Confirmation Questioning: All are invited to listen as our confirmands respond to questions about the Christian faith and read their confirmation essay. This will take place on Wednesday, April 29, at 6 pm in the gym.

Baptized into Christ: Last Wednesday, April 22, we welcomed Olivia Marie, daughter of Lee and Patty Harrington, into God's family through the waters of Holy Baptism during our grade school chapel. Praise God!

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

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.

Prayer Service for Miscarriage, Stillbirth, and Infant Loss:

Our church will hold an evening memorial service on Monday, May 11 at 6 pm. 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 **TODAY**, 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.

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.

Thank You for all the prayers, visits and phone calls at Gilbert's passing. Special thanks to the Singing Saints, those that helped provide food for the meal and those that gave memorials. The Roepe Family

Spotlighting Stewardship: "Giving to the church is part of being a holistic community, not just paying for services" (Doug Pagitt, *Christianity Today*, 2002).

Save the Date to MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE: On May 20th, St. Paul's Lutheran School will host our annual Spring Picnic and Program! Food service starts at 5 pm and the program will begin at 6:30 pm. Bring a lawn chair as bleacher seating is reserved for students. The Friends in Faith PTL are asking for donations of pie. Please use this link to sign up for pie donations or to work a shift at the picnic tinyurl.com/2026SpringPicnic. The PTL will provide a free sandwich and drink ticket to all students and staff. Join us for an evening of fellowship and fun.

Compassionate Care Ministry: One branch of this ministry is the social activities group. We are planning to have different activities such as bingo, card games, dominos, etc., for those couples and individuals (70 yrs & older) who would like to participate. We are offering these activities for a fun time of fellowship with one another. Our thought is to meet in the afternoon once or twice a month, depending on the response. As we begin this ministry, we need to know who is interested in being included. From there, we can set up a date to get this started. Please call one of the following and leave a message: Gary Martens (660-221-8860), Connie Martens (660-221-8861), Larry Grass (816-419-3314), Grace Grass (816-786-5063).

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).*

BBQ in the Park: The Concordia Senior Center is hosting BBQ lunch at Southside Park (13th & Main) from 11am-1pm on Saturday, May 2. The meal includes smoked chicken, baked beans, coleslaw, potato salad and brownies. A free-will donation will be collected.

LAST WEEK

Attendance:

8 & 10:30 am Sunday: 320, 157; GSCC: 49
Marriage Retreat: 24; Sunday School (PS – Gr. 8): 22

Tithes and Offerings:

Home: \$23,047.02; Missions: \$1,417.47
Comfort Dog: \$2.50; Grade School: \$350
Debt Reduction: \$350; Home Improvement: \$315.47
Youth: \$20; Leckband Scholarship: \$100
Together: Faith+Mission+Life: \$65; LERT: \$50
School Lunch Program: \$50

THIS WEEK

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

April 27

8:15 am | SPLS Prayer Partners
7 pm | Worship with Communion

April 28

9 am | Dementia Support Group
1 pm | Orphan Grain Train
1:30 pm | Staff Meeting
4:15 pm | Comfort Dog Ministry
7 pm | Elders

April 29

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

April 30

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

May 1

10 am | GSCC Bible Study

May 3

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

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."