

CONCORDIA CONNECTION

Stay connected to our church, school, and community.

Week of May 3, 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 "Waterworks" lesson, we learn about how God provided water from the rock. Having moved their camp from the wilderness of Sin to Rephidim, the Israelites face a new challenge—no water. Despite His daily food supply, the people doubt God's ability to provide water for them and their livestock. Moses cries out the Lord, who instructs him to strike the rock with his staff. Moses does so and water pours out, providing all that the people need. *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.*

Last Day of Sunday School: We will gather one more time before summer break next week, May 10, with a special Mothers' Day and closing event. *Everyone will meet in the gym at 9:15 am.*

Isabelle Ruth Lange, daughter of Jon & Amy Lange, will be received into our Lord's kingdom through Holy Baptism in the 10:30 am service today. Isabelle's sponsor is Ben Lange.

The Lutheran Hour: This week's message by Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler is, "Planning is Everything". 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.

Upcoming Events:

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

Graduation Milestone: We will be celebrating with the high school graduates of 2026 on Sunday, May 10, in the back room of the church office at 9:15 am. We will have a panel of speakers that will be engaging in a dialogue about college life. The discussion will center around life after high school involving tips on how to stay strong in your faith even after you have left home, time management skills, pitfalls to avoid, activities to be involved in, and finding your place in unfamiliar territory. The graduates will also be receiving a book entitled, "College 101: Campus Life for Christians." Please keep these graduates in your prayers as we pray for their future, praising God for the gifts that He has given to them and asking Him to help them use those talents to glorify Him.

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.

Prayer Vigil: On Saturday, May 9, from 8 am – Noon and Sunday, May 10, from 9:15–10:15 am the sanctuary will be open for individual prayer. Suggested prayers for our ministry expansion campaign and other needs will be provided. Come when you can and stay as long as you like to pray.

Better Late than Never! April 26 was LCMS Director of Parish Music Appreciation Day. No matter the Sunday, we are grateful for the ministry of Katie Drefs, our Dir. of Music Ministry, and for the work she does in our church and school.

May 4–8 is Teacher Appreciation Week: If you see one of our teachers, be sure to say, "Thank you!" for all they do for our students and families. "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it" (Prov 22:6 ESV).

Campaign Commitment Event: On Sunday, May 17, we will all be invited to make a commitment to our ministry expansion campaign—a commitment of prayer, service, and/or a financial pledge. These financial gifts are over and above our usual contributions to the home fund. If you received a commitment card at a cottage meeting, please bring that with you to worship; commitment cards will be given out in the narthex that morning. There will be one service at 9:30 am on May 17. A picnic lunch will be provided after the service where the total dollars pledged will be announced. Feel free to dress more casually that Sunday, if you like. *God has brought us together in faith, in mission, and in life.*

Campaign Materials Available Online: You can download any of our ministry expansion campaign materials at stpaulsconcordia.org/together.

Spotlighting Stewardship: “The measure of a life is not its duration, but its donation” (Peter Marshall [1902–1949], former U.S. Senate Chaplain).

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.*

May’s Ministry Partner: Lutheran Braille Workers (LBW) exists to bring the Word of God to the over 300 million people throughout the world who are Blind or Visually Impaired, completely free of charge, in Braille and Specialized Large Print. In over 80 years of ministry, Lutheran Braille Workers has produced and distributed over 15 million volumes of Christian material, in 40 languages, to people in 164 countries. St. Paul’s has an LBW Ministry Production Center, with groups meeting each Tuesday morning and afternoon. Visit lbwloveworks.org for more information.

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+.*

LERT ALERT: LERT wrapped up work in the Warsaw and Stover areas last weekend. More than 19 volunteers from Missouri and from Illinois served over 249 hours over the last several weeks. Volunteers came from Cole Camp, Concordia, Lee’s Summit, Lincoln, St. Louis, and from O’Fallon and Nashville, IL. Over 47 trees were removed across at least 17 homes. Thank you to all the LERT volunteers for sharing the love and mercy of Jesus through your service!

LAST WEEK

Attendance:

8 & 10:30 am Sunday: 322, 111; GSCC: 54; Monday: 17
Sunday School (PS – Gr. 8): 45

Tithes and Offerings:

Home: \$17,702.90; Missions: \$873.35
Comfort Dog: \$317.02; Grade School: \$194.62
Building: \$40; Home Improvement: \$215.47
Youth: \$20; Together: Faith+Mission+Life: \$25
School Lunch Program: \$15; Sunday School: \$1

THIS WEEK

May 3

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

May 5

1:30 pm | Staff Meeting
7 pm | Ladies Aid #1

May 6

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

May 7

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

May 8

10 am | GSCC Bible Study

May 9

8 am | Prayer Vigil

May 10

8 am | Worship
9:15 am | Education Hour & Prayer Vigil
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.”