

CONCORDIA CONNECTION

Stay connected to our church, school, and community.

Week of August 23, 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.*

Please register your attendance. Everyone is asked to sign the friendship folder at the center aisle of each row. If you are a guest, please print your address, phone number and/or email so we may better serve you.

Sunday School & Youth Bible Study are on summer break. Adult Bible study continues in the gym each Sunday at 9:15–10:15 am.

Summer Bible Study: In his letter to the Christians in Rome, St. Paul clearly explains God's love and grace in Jesus. This summer we will study the New Testament Book of Romans. *Russ Kruse will lead today's session in the gym from 9:15–10:15 am.*

Help Our Kids Grow in the Faith: You can share the love of Jesus with the children of our congregation. Play a role in our Sunday School ministry. You may serve as a teacher, substitute teacher, or member of our planning team. *To learn how you can make an eternal difference for our students, please contact Pastor Michael.*

The Lutheran Hour: This week's message by Rev. Ken Klaus is, "Real Riches". 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:

September 13 | Reunion Service, 10:30 am
September 17 | Handbells & Choir Resume
September 20 | Worship Milestone for 4-Year-Olds
October 18 | Sixth Grade Stewardship Milestone
October 23–24 | Host Regional Comfort Dog Gathering

Public School & Homeschool Families: Confirmation instruction is a two-year process typically in the 7th and 8th grades. To register for the 2026–27 school year, please visit the church office by August 23 to complete a registration form and receive class materials. (New and returning students must register each year.) A full schedule will be shared later. *Questions? Contact Pastor Michael or Pastor Andrew.*

Set Apart to Serve: Is your college student in a professional church work program (pre-seminary, Lutheran teacher, Dir. of Parish Music, Deaconess, etc.)? *Please let the church office know so we can pray for them and encourage them in their studies.*

Narthex Project Update: Over the last couple of months our Campus Team has been working with SFS Architects to move our narthex project forward, and those conversations continue. Watch for more details about a preliminary timeline of activities.

2nd Grade Bible Milestone: In an effort to continue promoting faith in the home, Family Life would like to invite all second graders and their parents to the 2nd Grade Bible Milestone equipping event, Sunday, August 30, during the Sunday school hour from 9:15–10:15 a.m. in the back room of the church office. We look forward to seeing you as you receive your first "big kid" Bible! May we continue to keep growing in God's Word, holding His promises of truth close to our hearts.

Family Life Ministry: Find the full schedule of our 2026–27 Family Life Ministry milestones and special events at stpaulsconcordia.org/familylife.

Support Our Ministry Partner: The UCM Lutheran Student Center humbly asks you to consider sponsoring or serving a meal this year! If you'd like to sponsor a meal for \$60, checks may be made to Lutheran Student Center and mailed to 215 S Holden St, Warrensburg, MO 64093. If you'd like to come serve a meal, please contact Pastor Schweigert at 660-747-7603 to arrange a date. God bless you and please keep us in your prayers!

Tomorrow's Teachers & Preachers: Our LCMS Missouri District is collecting offerings this month to help defray the educational expenses of the next generation of pastors, DCEs, deaconesses, teachers, and more as they complete their studies. *If you would like to make a special gift to this effort, you may send those gifts directly to the LCMS MO District, 660 Mason Ridge Center Drive, Suite 100, St. Louis, MO 63141 and mark your gift "Tomorrow's Teachers & Preachers" or give online at mo.lcms.org.* Funds collected are added to the Missouri District Church Worker Student Aid Endowment. For more than 40 years, this endowment has been a blessing to college and seminary students from our state who are preparing for vocations within the church. To all who support this effort, thank you for your forward-thinking ways and caring for generations to come. It's truly an investment with an eternal impact!

Fall Festival time is getting closer! St. Paul's Men's Club will be having our food stand. You can help by donating a fruit pie or by helping during a shift on one of the following days: **set-up** on Tuesday, September 8, at 5pm; **work** in the stand – Wednesday, September 9, 4:30 pm to close and Thursday, September 10, 4:30–6:30 pm, 6:30 pm to close; or **take down** the stand – Sunday, September 13, at 1:00 pm. If you can work a part or a whole shift it would be greatly appreciated. Please call Steve Bredehoeft (660-238-3656) with your availability. We know the wonderful people in this congregation will step up again and we thank you in advance. —St. Paul's Men's Club

Ready, set, let's go! The annual Concordia Fall Festival 5K/3K returns on September 12. With each step in this race, you empower Lutheran Bible Translators to take major strides in its mission. How? All proceeds go to fuel Bible printing and distribution. 3,241 language communities still have little or no access to the Bible. It's time to change that. Register today for \$30 at <https://lbt.org/5k> or scan the QR code. Sign up before 8-24 to guarantee a t-shirt!



LifeLight Fall 2026 will be 1, 2, and 3 John. Everyone is welcome to join this study of love and the Church as a family. These letters display an overabundance of the word love—one reason why the apostle John has been called the “Apostle of Love.” Two weekday classes will again be offered. Their leaders and times are listed below. Both classes will meet in the Church Office meeting room. Study booklets may be purchased in the church office for \$10 each.

Kathy Schnakenberg, Mondays at 9:00 a.m. beginning Sept. 14
Joanne Reinke, Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. beginning Sept. 15

A DivorceCare support group for people walking through separation or divorce is starting soon. Please join us beginning Monday, September 14 at 6:30 in the Church Office. Members of the community as well as members of St. Paul’s are welcome. At a DivorceCare group, you’ll watch a weekly video with counsel and insights from respected divorce and recovery experts, as well as relatable personal stories—followed by a time of sharing and support. Session topics include anger, loneliness, financial and legal issues, and navigating the relationship with your former spouse. For more information, contact the church office at 660-463-2291 or visit divorcecare.org. Register directly at find.divorcecare.org/groups/302088.

NEW Women’s Bible Study: Join us! Beginning Saturday, September 19, and then on the first and third Saturday mornings of each month at 8:00, for a study of selected Psalms from “20-Minute Bible Studies in Psalms” by Kristin Nave. Our first gathering will be in the Conference Center. Does this sound like a description that fits you? “Between work deadlines, school pickups, laundry piles, and endless responsibilities, many women wonder: Can God really meet me in the little time I have?” This is your invitation to let God multiply your moments, whether few or abundant. Through this study of 40 psalms, you’ll discover that even twenty minutes with God’s Word can renew your heart. The Psalms speak to every season and emotion: joy, grief, hope, weariness, gratitude, and praise, reminding us that God meets us in each one.” Questions? Contact Sarah Heins at 660-864-4314 or Mary Beth Self at 913-963-8204.

August Ministry Partner: St. Paul’s is a member of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) Missouri District. We are connected to nearly 300 congregations across the state and more than 6,000 across the Synod. Three of the District’s four ministry targets—church worker recruitment and retention, discipleship in the home, and Mission Field: Missouri—align with our ministry outcomes. *Stay up-to-date with District news at mo.lcms.org.*

Saint Paul Lutheran High School is having its 40th Annual Auction September 27–October 2. We need donations! If you are interested in donating or would be willing to help collect donated items, contact Sarah Sullivan at ssullivan@splhs.org or call (660) 463-2238 ext. 232. Thank you for your support!

Spotlighting Stewardship: “Examples are few of men ruined by giving” (Christian N. Bovee).

Together: Faith+Mission+Life Expansion Campaign

Commitments: \$2,473,994 | Gifts received to date: \$503,129

Designated Funds: \$1,756,400* | Project Cost: \$5.7 million

**Growing by God’s Grace Endowment Fund as of 6/30/26*

LAST WEEK

Attendance:

8 & 10:30 am Sunday: 313, 238; GSCC: 52

Tithes and Offerings:

Home: \$33,411.59; Missions: \$1,444.77

Comfort Dog: \$67.50; Youth: \$20; Building: \$20

Home Improvement: \$172.97; Leckband Fund: \$100

Grade School: \$1,054.62; LERT: \$10; School Lunch Fund: \$30

THIS WEEK

August 23

8 am | Worship

9:15 am | Adult Bible Study

9:30 am | GSCC Worship

10:30 am | Worship with Communion

August 24

7 pm | Worship with Communion

August 25

9 am | Dementia Support Group

1 pm | Orphan Grain Train

1:30 pm | Staff Meeting

4:15 pm | Comfort Dog Team

7 pm | Elders

August 26

8:30 am | SPLS Chapel

12 pm | Women’s Bible Study

August 27

6:30 am | Men’s Bible Study at SPLHS

August 28

10 am | GSCC Bible Study

August 30

8 am | Worship

9:15 am | Adult Bible Study

9:30 am | GSCC Worship

10:30 am | Worship

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.”