

CONCORDIA CONNECTION

Stay connected to our church, school, and community.

Week of October 4, 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: In today's lesson, "The Fall-Short Report," students will learn how Moses chooses one man from each of the twelve tribes and sends them to spy on the land God has promised. The spies report a land of great plenty but occupied by mighty, fearsome people. Despite Caleb and Joshua's pleas to seize the land promised to them, the people rebel. Moses pleads for mercy, and God promises to care for His people. At the same time, He condemns the Israelites to forty years of wandering in the wilderness. Of all the adults, only Joshua and Caleb will live to enter the Promised Land. *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

Sunday school students should not be dropped off or released to go their classroom until immediately prior to 9:15 am.

High School Sunday School: Beating Peer Pressure. Learn from Daniel and his friends how to stand as a Christian in a secular culture. *Led by Russ Kruse in the Youth Room (lower level of the church office building).*

Adult Bible Study: "Ten Lies Satan Loves to Tell." The Devil's most dangerous weapon isn't brute force—it's deception. This class will expose specific lies Satan uses to erode your trust in God, distort your identity, and drive you toward despair or pride. Each session discusses one lie and the core fear that motivates us to believe it before turning to the comforting truth of Jesus in Scripture. This class is based on the book of the same title by Rev. Andrew R. Jones, available at cph.org. *Our pastors will lead this class Sundays from 9:15–10:15 am in the gym.* Today's lie is "Your Value Is Based on Your Performance."

The Lutheran Hour: This week's message by Rev. Germán Novelli Oliveros is, "Embrace Life". 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.

Bake Sale: Homemade desserts and breads will be for sale for a free-will donation today in the school gym from 8am–12pm. Help fund LWML mission projects and take home a treat!

Altar flowers today are given to the glory of God by the Ladies Aids of St. Paul's in celebration and recognition of LWML Sunday.

LWML Banners: Banners displayed today were constructed for Missouri district LWML conventions of the past. All conventions have an overriding theme and Bible verse. St. Paul's Ladies Aids are part of the Concordia Zone of the Missouri District LWML.

Lutheran Women in Mission: Today we will celebrate the ministry of Lutheran Women in Mission, who joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others. A special offering will be gathered to support LWML mission projects locally and around the world. *Learn more at lwml.org and missourilwml.org.*

Upcoming Events:

October 25 | Sixth Grade Stewardship Milestone
October 25 | Piano Concert, Dr. Jerrode Marsh, 3 pm
November 2 | SPLS Grandparents Day
November 8 | Kindergarten Bible Milestone
November 25/26 | Thanksgiving Eve/Day Worship
November 29 | Family Advent Sunday School

Be a Partner in Prayer: You are invited to join parents, grandparents, and friends of St. Paul's Lutheran School each Monday when school is in session from 8:15–8:30 am in the school library. Each week, in addition to praying for the general needs of the school, we pray for our students by name—one class each week—as well as any special prayer requests. Pastor Michael and Pastor Andrew lead this weekly time for prayer. A guide is provided. Come any Monday you are able. Participants are not required to pray aloud. *Join us Monday mornings.*

St. Paul's is hiring a part-time evening custodian (approx. 10 hours/week) to care for the church office and lower level of the school. If interested, please contact Julie at jebonar@stpaulsconcordia.org.

Comfort Dog Regional Gathering – Volunteers & Donations Needed. On October 23–24, approximately 12 Comfort Dogs and 100 participants from Missouri and Southern Illinois will gather in Concordia for a Regional Gathering hosted by Team Thomas, with most activities taking place at St. Paul's Grade School Gym. Volunteers and donations are needed for food, beverages, setup, serving, and cleanup; items needed include bottled water, soda, coffee, chips, and ice. *To sign up to help or donate, visit signupgenius.com/go/508044CAAAC22A4F85-65927849-comfort or contact the church office at 660-463-2291.*

St. Paul's PTL is selling trash bags again! Find an SPLS student or stop by the school office to place your order. Rolls are \$13 each. Options are 55 gallon blue (16 bags per roll); 39 gallon yellow or pink (25 bags per roll); 15 gallon white (65 bags per roll); and NEW this year 13 gallon white drawstring (45 bags per roll). Cash or check (made payable to Friends in Faith PTL). Orders and payment are due by Friday, October 16. Rolls will be available for pickup on Monday, November 2.

Piano Concert: Dr. Jerrode Marsh will play a piano concert here at St. Paul's Lutheran Church on Sunday, September 25, at 3 pm in the sanctuary. We celebrate God's goodness and our new grand piano. Please join us for a concert featuring classical piano music and some hymn arrangements. Watch for more concerts coming in our Celebration Concert Series.

LWML Fall Rally: The Ladies of Immanuel cordially invite you to join us at the LWML Fall Rally on Saturday, October 10, here at Immanuel, Higginsville. Registration opens at 8:30 am. A light breakfast will be served. There is a \$5 registration fee. Meeting begins at 9:00 am. A general offering and mites will be collected. The speaker will be Dr. Jerrode Marsh, Executive Director, Concordia Music Conservatory. The Ingathering will be a monetary donation to the Concordia Music Conservatory. No need to RSVP.

Join the Singing Saints of Saint Paul Lutheran High School for their annual outdoor Riverside Concert at 4:00 p.m. TODAY, October 4, 2026, at Eagle Bluff Ranch, Waverly, MO. This year's concert features the Kleinkinderchor and CMC Kinderchor from the Concordia Music Conservatory, along with the Singing Saints, under the direction of Dr. Jerrode Marsh. Enjoy beautiful music celebrating water, baptism, rivers, and nature, including *Down in the River to Pray*, *Wade in the Water*, and *I've Got a River of Life*. A special highlight will be the world premiere of a new work created for this event. Enjoy the breathtaking Missouri River views and fall colors, followed by a reception featuring hot drinks, wine, and fall desserts.

Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month: During this month, many families grieve for babies they were never able to know and see grow-up into children and adults. Please pray for our families who are grieving this loss. There are some extra resources sheets that were made available in May with our miscarriage memorial service that are now in the narthex. Please feel free to pass along or keep if they are helpful.

Your gifts make ministry possible. Every dollar St. Paul's receives turns into opportunities for *preaching, teaching, and reaching*.

- Cash or checks payable to "St. Paul's Lutheran Church" can be given in all worship services.
- One-time or recurring gifts may be made online at stpaulsconcordia.org using your credit or debit card or with an ACH transfer from your bank account.
- Donate a raised commodity.
- Mail your gift to St. Paul's at P.O. Box 60, Concordia, MO 64020.
- Make a qualified distribution from your retirement account.
- Leave a legacy of faith with a planned gift to ministry.

Spotlighting Stewardship: People may doubt what you say, but they believe what you do.

Together: Faith+Mission+Life Expansion Campaign
Commitments: \$2,473,994 | Gifts received to date: \$577,494
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: 269, 134; GSCC: 54
Sunday School: 23; High School SS: 3; Adult Bible Study: 52

Tithes and Offerings:

Home: \$15,831.28; Missions: \$1,116.30
Comfort Dog: \$155.44; Youth: \$30; Building: \$20
Home Improvement: \$262.52; Grade School: \$769.62
Sunday School: \$2; Leckband Scholarship: \$720

THIS WEEK

October 4

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

October 5

8:15 am | SPLS Prayer Partners
9 am | LifeLight Bible Study
6:30 pm | DivorceCare

October 6

10 am | LifeLight Bible Study
1:30 am | Staff Meeting
7 pm | Ladies Aid #1

October 7

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

October 8

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

October 9

10 am | GSCC Bible Study

October 11

8 am | Worship
9:15 am | Education Hour
9:30 am | GSCC Worship
10:30 am | Worship with Communion
1:30 pm | Public School 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."