CONCORDIA CONNECTION

Stay connected to our church, school, and community.

Week of November 15, 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: Today's lesson, "The Faith-Full Family," tells of Ruth's loyalty to her widowed mother-in-law, Naomi. Returning to Naomi's ancestral home in Bethlehem, Ruth gleans Boaz's fields to provide food for herself and Naomi. Ruth finds favor with Boaz, who purchases Naomi's land and redeems Ruth from her widowhood. Having married Boaz, Ruth bears a son, Obed, the grandfather of King David. *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: God's World Series is coming, and it's going to be epic! So what is your role in the most serious event in history. Join us in studying your end times in your God's loving and protective embrace. *This class meets at 9:15 am in the youth room (the basement of the church office)*.

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 lead this class Sundays from 9:15–10:15 am in the gym*. Today's lie is "You Can and Must Save Yourself."

Altar Flowers Last Week were given to the glory of God in celebration of the marriage of Caleb and Audrey Rodewald.

Thanksgiving Worship: Gather with your church family to give thanks to God and sing His praise:

Wednesday, November 25, at 7 pm
Thursday, November 26, at 9:30 am

"Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!" (1 Chronicles 16:34 ESV).

A Thankoffering has been given by Norman & Marie Wienberg in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary.

The Lutheran Hour: This week's message by Rev. Dr. Glenn Nielsen is, "Fruitful Trees". 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:
November 25/26 | Thanksgiving Eve/Day Worship
November 29 | Family Advent Sunday School
December 2, 9, 16 | Advent Midweek Worship, 10 am/7pm
December 8 | SPLS Christmas Concert, 6:30 pm
December 12 | Family Life Cookie Walk, 9 am
December 13 | SPLHS Singing Saints Concert, 3 pm

Revising Cost Estimates: Pearce Construction is reviewing revised cost estimates with our Campus Team and SFS Architecture as we move through the design development stage for our Phase 1A narthex project. This will update numbers first shared in September 2025 with new estimates based on current costs and conversations with potential subcontractors. These conversations are ongoing.

Last Week of Community Group! This Wednesday, November 18, is the last of our four-week session. We'll gather for food, fellowship, and a time of study based on *The Questions Christians Hope No One Will Ask*. We meet in the back of the church office. Dinner begins at 5:30 pm, followed by the study at 6:15 pm. Bring the whole family! Food will be provided, and children will be supervised. If you desire deeper community through fellowship and God's Word, we hope you'll join us!

St. Paul's Men's Club will meet on Tuesday, November 17, at 7 pm in the church office. All members are encouraged to attend.

Advent Family Sunday School: As we look towards the season of Advent, preparing our hearts for the coming of Christ, Family Life would like to invite all families with Sunday school age children to attend an Advent Family Sunday School on November 29 in the school gym. This event will take place during the Sunday school hour from 9:15–10:15. We will have an activity planned for you that you won't want to miss! See you there!

Cookie Walk: Family Life will once again be hosting a cookie/candy walk in St. Paul's Lutheran School gymnasium for the purpose of generating funds needed for resources that are given to families at our Milestone celebrations. The date set for this event is Saturday morning, December 12. Please come and support this event by purchasing treats for the holidays! We will also be needing donations of cookies and candy, so please call the church office (660-463-2291) if you are willing to help. Doors open at 9:00 am. Thank you for your support!

St. Paul's is hiring a part-time custodian for the church. Responsibilities include cleaning before/after services (Sundays, midweek, funerals and weddings). Starting wage is $15.00/hr. If interested, please contact Julie Bonar.

Afternoon Performance: The Saint Paul Lutheran High School (SPLHS) Drama Department is performing *Defying Gravity* by Jane Anderson, a play about the event of the Challenger shuttle on January 28, 1986. *Due to the SPLHS state soccer schedule, the final performance will be this afternoon, November 15, at 1 pm*. There is no admission, but a free-will donation is greatly appreciated!

Spotlighting Stewardship: "Once you start tithing, you soon realize you can live off 90 percent" (Doug Pagitt, *Christianity Today*, 2002).

Homemade Soup & Bread: Would you like to purchase homemade soup or bread for the holidays? The Concordia Music Conservatory (CMC) Kinderchor is growing fast and is raising money to purchase new concert attire. Please use the link or scan the QR code to make your order by November 17: forms.gle/pWBHg4X1UFRwDBY9A. Delivery will happen after December 1.

November Ministry Partner: Lutheran Church Charities (LCC) works throughout the United States and internationally in bringing the mercy, compassion, presence, and proclamation of Jesus Christ to those suffering and in need. Thomas Comfort Dog is one of more than 130 LCC K-9 Comfort Dogs serving in more than 27 states. We are also an affiliate of LCC's Hearts of Mercy and Compassion (HMC) ministry. HMC provides a physical and spiritual symbol through the giving of hearts and crosses to families and friends who have suffered a loss or are experiencing the illness of a loved one. *Learn more at lutheranchurchcharities.org*.

The Concordia Senior Center (710 S. Main St.) is hosting a bake sale Saturday, November 21, 9 am – 2 pm or until sell out. Come and grab some home-baked treats. Proceeds help support programs for older adults in our community.

Together: Faith+Mission+Life Expansion Campaign
Commitments: $2,473,994 | Gifts received to date: $637,999
Designated Funds: $1,746,833* | Project Cost: $5.7 million
**Growing by God's Grace Endowment Fund as of 9/30/26*

LAST WEEK

Attendance:
8 & 10:30 am Sunday: 344, 177; GSCC: 62; Monday: 19
Sunday School: 34; Adult Bible Study: 57

Tithes and Offerings:
Home: $31,088.28; Missions: $991.28; Sunday School: $8.25
Comfort Dog: $42.50; Youth: $30; Building: $20; HSFA: $50
Home Improvement: $215.47; Grade School: $154.62
Sound System: $50; Leckband Fund: $7.50; School Lunch: $50

THIS WEEK

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

November 16
8:15 am | SPLS Prayer Partners
9 am | LifeLight Bible Study
6:30 pm | DivorceCare

November 17
10 am | LifeLight Bible Study
1:30 pm | Staff Meeting
7 pm | Men's Club

November 18
8:30 am | SPLS Chapel
12 pm | Women's Bible Study
5:30 pm | Community Group
6:30 pm | Compassionate Care Ministry

November 19
6:30 am | Men's Bible Study at SPLHS
9 am | Women's Bible Study
9 am | Men's Study at 7 Days Diner
2 pm | GSCC Communion
6 pm | Handbells
7 pm | Joyful Sounds Choir

November 20
10 am | GSCC Bible Study

November 21
8 am | Women's Psalms Bible Study

November 22
8 am | Worship
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

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