CONCORDIA CONNECTION

Stay connected to our church, school, and community.

Week of November 8, 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 "God Does Not Love You."

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).

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

Kindergarten Bibles: Family Life would like to invite the Kindergarteners and their parents to a very special milestone celebration TODAY, November 8, in the back room of the church office during the Sunday school hour from 9:15–10:15 am. We are excited to be able to gift our young learners and parents with a bible story book, talk with you about some of the things that you will find inside this bible story book, and then lift you up in prayer during the worship service. Miss Grass and Mrs. Hess have some cool things planned for you. Please plan to join us!

Join Us for Community Group! Do you desire deeper community through fellowship and God's Word? Here's an opportunity to join us! Each Wednesday now through November 18, we'll gather for food, fellowship, and a time of study based on *The Questions Christians Hope No One Will Ask*. We'll 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 on the playground during the study. 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.

St. Paul's Lutheran School is accepting food donations or gift cards to Bratchers for the lunch program. Donations of meat, fruit and vegetables are greatly appreciated! Contact the school office (660-463-7654) to arrange a drop-off time.

Spotlighting Stewardship: We are grateful for the work of our Sunday School teachers who share God's Word with some of our youngest learners.

Happy Thanksgiving! This time of year, our hearts naturally turn to the many blessings that fill our lives. Luther's Small Catechism reminds us of what it means to acknowledge God as the Creator and Provider of all things: God has given us our body and soul, our eyes, ears, and all our members, our reason and all our senses, and still takes care of them. He richly and daily provides us with food, clothing, home, family, and all that we need to support this body and life. All of this, Luther notes, is done only out of "fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me." Because we have received everything freely from God, our response is to "thank and praise, serve and obey Him." *St. Paul's is grateful for your ongoing generosity for our mission and ministry together*. You may make gifts through any of the following:

- 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.

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*.

Please join us at Holy Cross, Emma, for our annual Tuition Brunch TODAY, November 8, to raise funds for tuition expenses. We will be serving brunch from 10 am – noon (or until we run out of food) with free-will donation at the door. Feel free to join us for church at 9 am.

Together: Faith+Mission+Life Expansion Campaign
Commitments: $2,473,994 | Gifts received to date: $622,052
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: 412, 136; GSCC: 52
Sunday School: 38; High School SS: 6; Adult Bible Study: 71

Tithes and Offerings:
Home: $35,812.29; Missions: $2,856.39; Sunday School: $5
Comfort Dog: $87.50; Youth: $20; Building: $20
Home Improvement: $120; Grade School: $34.62
Sound System: $50; Leckband Fund: $10

THIS WEEK

November 8
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

November 9
8:15 | Prayer Partners
9 am | LifeLight Bible Study
6:30 pm | DivorceCare
7pm | Worship with Communion

November 10
10 am | LifeLight Bible Study
1:30 pm | Staff Meeting
7 pm | 1912 Ladies Aid

November 11
8:30 am | SPLS Chapel
12 pm | Women's Bible Study
5:30 pm | Community Group
6 pm | Council Meeting

November 12
6:30 am | Men's Bible Study at SPLHS
9 am | Women's Bible Study
9 am | Men's Study at 7 Days Diner
6 pm | Handbells
7 pm | Joyful Sounds Choir

November 13
10 am | GSCC Bible Study

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