The Christogram is the monthly newsletter of Concordia Lutheran Church, Steamboat Springs, Colorado. Deadline for news items is the Fourth Sunday of each month. We welcome contributions of news items, art work, and other appropriate articles.

Editor: Pastor Certwright and Merlys Certwright

The weekly bulletin is printed on Thursday mornings. News items for the bulletin should be submitted by 9 am on Thursdays.

Sunday Worship: 9:00am and 7:00pm.

Sunday School and Adult Education: 10:30am

Concordia Lutheran Church To P.O. Box 770428; 755 Concordia Lane

Steamboat Springs, CO 80477

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

#### CHRISTOGRAM APRIL 1994

#### **CHRISTOGRAM**



#### "CHRISTOGRAM"

"The angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it." (Matt 28:2)

Greetings in the name of our risen Lord!

In a cemetery at Hanover, Germany, there is a grave on which great slabs of granite and marble were piled, cemented together and fastened with steel clasps. It is the grave of a woman who did not believe that Jesus rose from the dead, nor that she or anyone else would live again after death. In her will she ordered her grave to be made so secure that if there were a resurrection of the dead it could not reach her. On the stone these words were engraved: "This burial-place must never be opened."

A little seed, however, chanced to be covered over by the stones, and, beginning to grow, it tried to find its way to the light. You would not think a little growing plant could wrench those steel clasps from their sockets and burst the cemented stone slabs, but it did. That little seed has become a full-grown tree and the great stones have fallen over to give it room.

Caiaphas and the other enemies of Jesus thought that when the tomb in which his body had been laid was made secure, it could not be opened but the power of God that worked through a little seed in Hanover worked in a more marvelous way to open that tomb near Jerusalem.



#### **CONCORDIA STATISTICS:**

#### MARCH 1994 WORSHIP STATS:

Week a	#1	(M)	182	(E)32	<u>214</u>
Week					
		• -			154
Week					

#### MARCH AVERAGE WEEKLY ATT.

1991	<u>155</u>
	<u>113</u>
	180
	200

During the first quarter of 1994 our congregation here at Concordia had approximately 190 people in worship each Sunday.

We do not measure our congregation's spiritual health by the number of worshippers we have each Sunday. However, we can certainly thank God for the opportunity to serve many new individuals and families in our midst with the Good News of the Gospel.

#### Amazing grace

Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
His grace has brought me safe so far,
His grace will see me home.

#### NURSERY??????

The Lutheran Church near Vail, Co. budgets almost \$100.00 a month for a qualified person to do child-care during the worship services on Sunday. In speaking with the Pastor he said that the arrangement was (and has) worked just fine!

We are trying to implement a similar component of ministry here at Concordia. However, we need to guarantee the support and participation of the parents of pre-school and younger children.



If you have children that are in this age group, would you take advantage of such a service? In order for our nursery idea to take shape, it needs the support of those with children.

We have recently been having a Junior High young person "on-call" for nursery duty during services. The problem is that their services are sometimes not used.

Perhaps we can better advertise this service. Perhaps, we can budget congregational funds for a qualified person to be available on Sunday, whether or not there are any children.

We need parents of young children to speak up and help this effort take shape. Please speak to the Pastor if you are interested!

#### **WOMEN'S GUILD**

Notice the following article on the baby clothes for the Ingathering...Let's fill the bassinette in April and May!

#### 1994 Convention Ingathering!!

The Pregnancy Center in Grand Junction, CO will be the recipient of the bountiful gifts that will be brought to the district convention in June 1994. The center is a volunteer/donor supported organization. The volunteers are trained and are given guidelines to help people needing their services. The Pregnancy Center provides: consultation in choices other than abortion; three day classes on LIFE; free pregnancy tests; basic needs for expectant moms and their babies by loan and gift; support groups; seminars in area schools stressing abstinence and discussing the consequences of non-abstinence.

Because their needs are great, the Mission Service Committee is suggesting the following items:

For baby: layette items; blankets, gowns; diapers; crib sheets; socks; booties; quilts; toys such as teething toys and those with good learning opportunities; car seats; cribs; play pens; strollers.

For mom: maternity clothes as the center operates a maternity clothing exchange.

All items should be new or very near new for mom and baby. The Pregnancy Center will also accept money to be used for the purchase of needed items.

#### ROSUMMAGE SALE!

#### **RUMMAGE SALE**

May 13th and 14th are the dates set for the Women's Guild Annual Spring Rummage Sale. Start gathering all the un-used cloting and miscellaneous items in your home and then bring them to the church the week before the sale. Thanks!



#### **ECC**

Every 4th Sunday of the month we enjoy sharing music, fellowship and the Word with the People at the ECC Come join us April 24 at 12:30Pm. These friends of ourswill make you feel welcome and so appreciated as we share the love, courage, and Peace which Christ so richly shares with all of us. Thank you to the 5th and 6th grade Sunday School kids for painting the Easter Rocks to give to the residents.



#### WOMEN'S GUILD MEETS

We thank Jan Fritz for the wonderful topic on "Dealing with loss in light of Easter", and Pam Patterson for hosting our March meeting.

Our April Meeting will be on Wednesda April 20 at Carol Baldwin's Home. Dianne Weber will have the devotions and Laverne Lausten and Billee Harris will lead our topic "Shedding His light on Christian Joy".



#### 

Concordia Lutheran's 1994 Budget for our shared ministry: \$108,555.00.

Concordia's quarterly needs in dollars for 1994 (Jan.-Mar.): \$27,000.00.

Concordia's actual giving for the first quarter in 1994: \$25,000.00.

Concordia's membership was approximately \$2,000.00 short of making the budget to make the work possible here in our congregation.

The reason we made our expenses for the first quarter was that we had two refunds totaling \$2,000.00 come in during this first quarter.

Our active membership has increased by nearly 30% over the last three years. Our budget has only increased 15% over the same time period. However, we are falling short of our extremely reasonable and frugal budget.

We are not in a crisis here at Concordia. That is true because of the very consistent support of a segment of our membership. People must prioritize and value giving to their congregation. God instructs us in His Word that we support His church. We do so because of the great gift He has first given to us.



Take a look at your support of the congregation that you call <u>YOURS</u>. You must keep in mind that without broad support from the membership of a congregation, a congregation will not remain solvent.



#### AT THE OFFERING

Lord Jesus Christ, obedient to your Father's will, you gave your very life for my redemption. Accept the offerings I give in faith, and use them to share the gospel of your sacrificial love for all. Amen.

#### **BEFORE COMMUNION**

As often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, Lord Jesus Christ, we proclaim your death until you come. For me and all who share this sacred meal, let your death become the source of life. Amen.

# Evangelism: a congregational affair at Minnesota parish

Shepherd of the Pines, Rice, Minn., uses many ways to reach the unchurched and non-Christians. We obtain newcomers names, addresses and phone numbers from our local telephone company. Members phone them, welcome them to the community and invite them to church.

We recently placed our worship services on the local public access cable channel that gives us added visibility.

Last year, we received more than 150 people into membership. Most heard about our church by word of mouth. Our members love what they have: A place to be connected with God. In turn, they want to share that with family, friends, co-workers and neighbors.

Evangelism has a strong emphasis as a congregational affair, not just on the pastor or a particular board or committee. We try to provide a family atmosphere and incorporate people where they can use their God-given gifts and talents to do ministry.

We now have eight small group home Bible studies with 70 to 80 people involved. These groups find great benefits and blessings in sharing, praying and studying together.

During the last 4 1/2 years, we have grown from 0 to 400 baptized souls in this small rural town of 600. We are a bedroom community near St. Cloud, Minn., and we are feeling the city expand our way. Our vision is to have 2,000 members by the year 2000!

—Mark M. Marxhausen, Pastor, Rice, Minn.



**Resurrection of Christ** Jesus Defeated . . . the Enemy. While the Battle of Waterloo was being fought, all England waited breathlessly for news. At last the message came slowly across the channel. "Wellington defeated" had just been spelled out when a sudden blanket of fog obscured the signals. News of the disaster quickly spread, and the deepest gloom settled on the land. Then the message was completed: "Wellington defeated the enemy!" Sorrow was turned into great rejoicing. In the gloom of Good Friday the disciples could only read: "Jesus defeated!" But in the new light of Easter Day the glorious truth broke in on their sorrow: "Jesus defeated the enemy!"

> He giveth us the victory O'er Satan, self, and sin; O hearts, make room for Jesus, Arise and let Him in. This glorious Easter morning Come, greet your risen King And to His praise and honor Triumphant anthems sing.

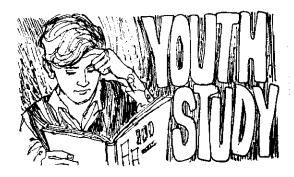
References: Is. 53:4–12; Matt. 28; Mark 16; Luke 24; John 20; 1 Cor. 15:51–58; Heb. 2:14.

#### YOUTH NEWS

Please mark your calendars for a Crazy Dinner to show our Appreciation to our Public School Teachers and our Sunday School and Bible Class Teachers on Sunday April 17th at 5PM. More information to follow.

It's time to sign up for our San Antonio Youth Gathering Trip in early July '95. We need to start planning now, because they want our registrations, \$150 per person by November 1994. This trip is open to all high-schoolers during the 94-95 school year. Please call Joanne Boomgarden or the church office if you are interested.

Don't miss the excellent videos and topics in your Ir. High and High school Bible Classes during April and May. see you there!





#### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

This year at Concordia we will be enjoying the special Music ministry of Steve and Pat Ficke from Concordia Seward. They will be here from July 11-17 to assist us with our Vacation Bible School. The dates are July 11-15, with the closing program on Sunday July 17th. We need volunteers for our staff.





#### SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Our Talented Sunday School kids (pre-school through 6th grade) will praise God with song during the morning Worship on April 24th. Be there!

Thank you to Cindy Svendsen and the Ladies Guild for sending our extra Sunday School materials to the Paper Peace Corps.



## Despite broken lives, people survive

### Not Without Hope

Floods, violent crimes, earthquakes, the death of

a loved one, hurricanes.

Not Without Hope picks up after events fade from the public eye. Tragedies remain . . . the next day . . . and the next. People must pick up their broken lives. It's about hope . . . when it seems there's nothing left to hope for.

These are the stories of people whose hope comes in Jesus Christ.



Time: 4:30AM (set VCR record Station: KCNC channel 4 Denver

NBC station ch. 11 in Steamboat





#### **APRIL 1994**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
MARCH  S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31  MAY  S M T W T F 1 2 3 4 5 1 2 3 4 5 1 8 9 10 11 12 15 16 17 18 19 22 23 24 25 26 22 23 24 25 26 2 29 30 31	6 7 3 14 0 21	Easte	Tide		1 Good Friday Worship 7PM	2
The Resurrection of Our Lord Easter Sunrise Worship 6:30AM Easter Breakfast 7:30 Easter Worship 9AM Easter Eve Worship 7PM	4	5 Bible Study 6:30AM Brownies 3:30PM Choir 6:30 PM Committees 7:30PM	6	Womens Bible Study 10AM Recovery RM 7:15PM	8	Men's Bible Breakfast/ Fellowship 7-9AM
10 2nd Sunday of Easter Worship 9AM Education Hour 10:30 AAL 10AM Bd. of ED. 10AM Eve. Worship 7PM	11	Bible Study 6:30AM Brownies 3:30PM Choir 6:30PM VOTERS 7:30	13	14 Women's Bible Study 10AM Recovery RM 7:15PM	15	16
17 3rd Sunday of Easter National Volunteer Week Worship 9AM Education Hour 10:30 CRAZY DINNER, FOR TEACHER APPRE- CIATION BY YOUTH 5PM Worship 7PM	SPRING PASTORS CONFERENCE GRAND JUNC- TION-thru Wed. eve.	Bible Study 6:30AM Brownies 3:30PM Choir 6:30PM	LWML at Carol Baldwin Home 7:15PM	21 Women's Bible Study 10AM Recovery Room 7:15PM	22	23
24 4th Sunday of Easter Worship 9AM Education Hour 10:30 ECC 12:45PM Eve Worship 7PM	25 St. Mark, Evangelist	26 Bible Study 6:30AM Brownies 3:30PM Choir 6:30PM	. 27	28 Women's Bible Study 10AM Recovery Room 7:15PM	29	30