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

Editor: Pastor Cartwright and Marlys Cartwright.

THE WEEKLY BULLETIN is printed on Thursday mornings. News items for the bulletin should be submitted by 9:00am on Thursdays.

SUNDAY WORSHIP: 9:00am and 7:00pm.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 10:30am

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CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

CHRISTOGRAM

JULY 1994

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Paster Cartry

"CHRISTOGRAM"

Greetings in the name of our risen Lord!

Let me share with you two short stories which came to my attention recently.

Wu Ting Fang (Ambassador from China to United States) said of Christians in America: "I met Christian missionaries in China and became impressed with their religion. When my country sent me as its ambassador to 'Christian' America, I made up my mind to become a Christian and join the first Christian church that asked me. I have been here three years, and no one has asked me."

A cub reporter was assigned to cover a bridge-opening ceremony. He came back empty-handed and explained to his editor that he couldn't get the story because the bridge collapsed. The reporter forgot his real task: reporting the news.

Individuals who have been rescued by the great love of God in Christ Jesus have a story to tell. These individuals come together and form local congregations. These congregations have a marvelous story to tell. The story we tell is not about a bridge being opened, or a bridge collapsing. The news is about Jesus Christ being resurrected from the dead. It is a story of forgiveness of sin and life everlasting. It is a story of new starts and hope for the heart. It is a story of peace with God and peace with one another.

Let us not let three years go by with family, friends, and neighbors without sharing with them this marvelous Good News that is ours. As individuals and as a congregation we are invited to report the GOOD NEWS.

CONCORDIA STATISTICS

How are we doing for the first half of the year as far as Average Sunday worship attendance is concerned?

The time period being considered is from January through June.

1991	<u>133</u>
1992	122
1993	<u>187</u>
1994	194

The first six month of 1994 have seen an average of 194 worshippers per Sunday here at Concordia between our two services. We thank God for the opportunity to reach out with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Remember to be regular in worship during the summer months. While you are away, seek a place of worship on Sunday morning. If you are away on Sunday morning, remember the evening service here at Concordia. It is in place to serve your needs.

God be with you!





PROFILES IN STEWARDSHIP EACH DAY'S DECISIONS

Life presents you with the opportunity to choose: to settle a personal problem, take a new job, join this organization or that, continue your education, marry, have children, care for your family, help a neighbor.

Each day's decisions say something about the kind of person you are or hope to become.

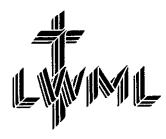
* Leo Manning, a California grocery store owner, gives sandwiches and coffee to 400 unemployed people every week. He decided to get involved the day he saw a customer buy a single cookie, then go outside and divide it among her three children.

* Cindy Jackson, a soup kitchen volunteer, realized many homeless women had no safe place to go during the day. Deciding to bring her actions in line with her values, she left her management career and founded the Atlanta Day Shelter for Women.

* Dave and Grace Sandness of Osseo, Minn., have adopted nine children, most with handicaps. "Everybody has priorities. You can go for the big house and the fancy cars or live simply and do things to help "people" says Grace Sandness.

The next time you face a decision, consider these words of Freya Stark: "There can be no happiness if the things we believe are different from the things we do."■

(Christopher Notes)



Ladies Salad Supper Closes out Successful Year!

Wednesday June 22, twenty-six women joined together to celebrate the Goodness of God's Light! We had a wonderful evening of delicious salad & dessert, fellowship and devotions. Thanks go to Elaine Stroncek, Laverne Lausten, Pam Patterson, Cindy Svendsen & Marlys Cartwright for Organization & Publicity. Thanks also to those who gave Convention reports (Alma, Doris,

Laverne & Bettiann). We also said thank you to last year's officers: Alma Baldwin, Pam Patterson, Elaine Stroncek & Sandi Fornes.

Our next meeting is July 10th after worship, Thanks, Doris.



Debilitating wealth

Acts 16:16-21

The first Christian missionaries to enter Europe landed in Macedonia, northern Greece. In the town of Philippi, they met all kinds of people. Lydia, a wealthy business woman, was there along with a slave girl possessed by an evil spirit, her greedy owners, a middle class prison warden, some anti-Christian town authorities, and Roman soldiers.

Financial wealth can be used in a beautiful way when it assists the cause of reaching people for Christ. Lydia was a model of this approach to the use of wealth. But more often than not, money is a debilitating thing.

A teenage girl was being used as a fortune teller. But the evil spirit within her was aware of the presence of God in these missionaries. For days it harassed them. After being harassed long enough, St. Paul accosted the spirit in this much-abused girl and in the name of Jesus drove it out of her. One would think the people of the town would rejoice. But no, a lucrative venture had just been ruined and perhaps the only one happy about it was the young girl.

Of course, it isn't money that ruins people and their lives. It is loving (or lusting after) money that will destroy the strongest person.

It is said that the way we use our money is the way we live our lives. Spending or giving money to reach the lost for God's kingdom will not ruin us but greatly enhance our lives. Not only do we benefit, but people, in our own community and to the very ends of the earth, begin to hear of the love, the grace, and the forgiveness of God through Jesus Christ our Savior and Redeemer.



Prayer Point

Pray for wise use of our financial resources.

>	Vacation	on Bible School Schedule	Schedule		Triburia
8	9:00-9:30	9:30-10:00	10:00-10:30	10:30-11:00	11:00-11:30
Preschool	Opening	Learner's Book	Recreation	Crafts	Music
K-garten Opening	Opening	Crafts	Recreation	Learners Book	Music
1st & 2nd	Opening	Recestion Learner's Book	Crafts	Recreation Book	Music
3rd & 4th Opening	Opening	Recreation	Learners Book	Music	Crafts
5th & 6th Opening	Opening	Learner's Book	Contraction	Music	Recreation Crafts

Sanctuary Church **Opening:**

Basement

Church Sanctuary

Eaten outdoors immediately before recreation at sanctuary for closing * *Please bring all kids to **Refreshments:** Closing:

Thanks. . €0am

PICK UP YOUR REGISTRATIONS IN THE CHURCH NARTHEX AND LEAVE THE COMPLETED FORMS IN THE SECRETARY'S OFFICE.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Mark your calendars for VBS staff meeting July 5th at 7PM. A BIG THANK YOU to this years staff and helpers: Emily Henderson and Sally Howard teaching Preschool, Krista Madsen teaching Kindergarten, Lori Beverlin teaching 1st & 2nd, Steve & Pat Fick teaching 3rd & 4th, Marlys Cartwright teaching 5th & 6th. Sher Scheiwe will be doing registrations and helping in the kitchen, lerry Thornton will be doing recreation, and Jan Fritz & Pam Patterson will be working with crafts. So far helpers signed up are Katie Cartwright, Terri Denton, Robbie Martens, and Becky Martens.

We are looking for more helpers to sign up in all areas. Thanks.



This year Concordia will be enjoying the special Music Ministry of Steve and Pat Fick from Concordia, Seward. Pastor Cartwright and Pastor Henderson will also be creating great opening sessions Monday through Friday for us to enjoy. SEE YOU THERE!



Many thanks to the Ladies who are providing cookies. We also invite the congregation to set aside Thursday evening July 15th for the program at 7PM, and also invite you for the special worship at 9AM Sunday July 17th.



Church Picnic: July 31st

Don't Miss Concordia's annual Church Picnic Sunday July 31st from 12:00-4:00PM at the Steamboat Springs Community Center.

The church will provide meat (hamburgers and hot dogs) and drinks. People are asked to bring a side dish or dessert.

This is also Friendship Sunday, so please invite your guests. (A big thanks to Don Patterson for making all the arrangements!)







Sunday School Staff to meet July 7

There will be a meeting for all Sunday School staff for the upcoming year on Thursday July 7th at Lori Beverlin's home from 7-8PM. Dessert will be served... See you there! Any questions, call Lori at 879-8373.

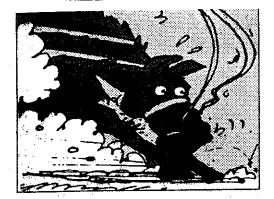


Youth Camping Trip & June Volley ball events a success!!

A big thanks to Danny, Joanne and all who participated to make June a wonderful youth month!

Bazaar Workshops Come One! Come All! Come Often! Bazaar Workshops now appearing weekly at the following locations! FREE ADMISSION!

July 5: Cindy Svendsen July 11: Sher Scheiwe July 21: Elaine Stroncek July 26: Sher Scheiwe



THE LORD OF THE POCKETBOOK

Following many years of faithful service as a dray-horse, the old animal collapsed and died on the street. The drayman, who had depended on this poor old horse to earn a livelihood, was worried, wondering how he could possibly afford another horse. A crowd gathered, telling the drayman how sorry they were. Then a man named John Bright, who had listened to the "sorries", stepped into the midst of the crowd, took off his hat, and put a five pound note in it. He then passed the hat among the sympathizers saying, "I'm sorry five pounds worth; how sorry are you?"

Whether we like it or not, what we give away is one of the measures of our commitment to God. We all know that most congregations contain some folks who live on a comfortable income but give only a dollar or two a week to their church. They are something like the man who achieved fame and fortune through a chain of restaurants he had established. Finally, however, he came near the end of his life. As he lay dying, his relatives gathered around to hear his final words. He said, as he breathed his

last, "Slice the ham thin."

I suspect that often those who receive much, but give only little are not really stingy. They may even be kindhearted people who would not ignore the obvious needs of another. The problem, instead, is a failure to realize that a full commitment to God includes allowing Him to be not only the Light of our lives and the Source of our faith, but also the Lord of our pocketbooks.

How grateful are we? How deep is our commitment? Do we permit our faith to shine into every corner of our lives? Is it unreasonable to expect that every committed Christian should strive to give no less than a healthy percentage of their income to support the church? I think not.

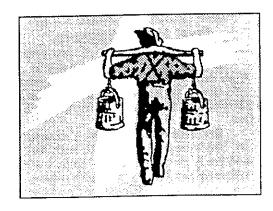
When it comes right down to it, the Sunday morning offering "speaks" pretty loud. It says:

O Lord, no matter what else we say or do here today, this is what we really think of you. Amen.

GOD USES US IN **OUR DAILY WORK**

We talk a lot about "the ministry of the Laity" in church these days, and many books, church programs, and whole ecclesiastical bureaucracies are devoted to developing "lay ministries." Perhaps we have not devoted enough of our attention to the ministries the lay people of the church already have in their day-to-day work. We call our work our "vocation" ... and that word really means "that which we are CALLED to do." Whether we have consciously acknowledged a specific CALL by God to work in a particular occupation, I believe God does expect to use us in our daily work. In fact, He sometimes does use us even though we are unaware of His activity. But the more aware we are of His intention to use us where we are, the better able we will be to fulfill the ministry He has in store for each of

G. Garrett Carpenter



JULY 1994

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3 6th Sunday after Pentecost WORSHIP9:00am 7:00pm	4 Independence Day	5 TUES.STUDY 6:30am	6	7 RECOVERY RM. 7:15pm	1	2
AAL10;15am		VBS MTG.7:00 COMMITTEE 7:30pm			8	9 MEN'S BREAKFAS FELLOWSHIP 7-9am
10 7th Sunday after Pentecost WORSHIP9:00am 7:00pm WEDDING4:00pm	VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 9-11:30am	12 Tue.Stud. 6:30am VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 9-11:30am VOTERS 7:30pm	VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 9-11:30am	14 RECOVERY RM. 7:15pm VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 9-11:30am	15	16 RIGGI'S FARM SALEYOUTH GROUP SERVANT EVENT
17 8th Sunday after Pentecost WORSHIP9:00am 7:00pm	18	19 TUES. Stud. 6:30am	20	21 RECOVERY RM. 7:15pm	22 St. Mary Magdalene	23
9th Sunday after Pentecost WORSHIP9:00am 7:00pm E.C.C12:45pm	25 St. James the Elder, Apostle	26 TUES. STUDY 6:30am	27	28 RECOVERY RM. 7:15pm	29	30
10th Sunday after Pentecost						AUCUST

31 10th Sunday after Pentecost WORSHIP...9:00am 7:00pm FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY CHYRCH PICPIC

JUNE

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12 13 14 15 16 17 18

19 20 21 22 23 24 25

26 27 28 29 30

AUGUST

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14 15 16 17 18 19 20

21 22 23 24 25 26 27

28 29 30 31