

The Christogram is a monthly newsletter of Concordia Lutheran Church, Steamboat Springs, Colorado. Deadline for newsletter items is the third Sunday of each month. We welcome contributions of news items, art work, and other appropriate articles. You can email us your contribution at clc@snowcap.net.

Editors: Pastor Koenig, Jean Smith, and Cindy Svendsen

The Weekly Bulletin is printed on Thursday mornings. News items for the bulletin should be submitted by 9:00 am on Thursdays.

Saturday Worship: 5:30 PM

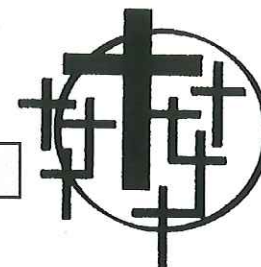
Sunday Worship: 8:00 and 10:30 AM **Education Hour:** 9:15 AM

Concordia Lutheran Church
755 Concordia Lane
PO Box 770428
Steamboat Springs, CO 80477

CHRISTOGRAM

Concordia Lutheran Church

JUNE, 2001



A PERSONAL PASTORAL WORD . . .

I am wondering how you are dealing with this business of calling a Pastor. I wonder how you feel about the second Pastor not accepting your call to be the pastor of Concordia.

My prayer is that you are taking the letter to heart that Bart wrote when he said, "We need to remember that the Holy Spirit is guiding us during this journey, so although we can feel disappointment that Pastor Brunette will not be coming to Concordia, we can be at peace." I thought that was so well said. Bart and the Call Committee are doing such a good and faithful task, and I applaud them

I also applaud all the other people at Concordia who are faithfully serving to keep things moving along in a difficult time in a congregation's life. I am thinking especially of Cindy Svendsen and Jean Smith. Their extra service goes way beyond their "job description." They pitch in and fill in and help out. They are like workers on a dike during a threat of flood from the river.

They keep filling up the sandbags and stacking them up to hold back the waters. I am sure they get weary.

Other people that come to mind who do so much to support and encourage the church are all of our music people! Jan Fritz does such a beautiful job at the organ week after week! And she is never sure if the keys are really going to make music or not when she presses them (she's not even sure where to find the organ). Ann Gilbertson does a marvelous job coaching such sweet music out of the choir. I personally thought the Cantata on May 13th was marvelous!

I have come to know that people who play handbells, like the group led by Rebecca Duryea, do so with a special motivation and dedication. They make such sweet music in such a quiet and unassuming way.

I love the energy and spirit produced by "Journey" with Jody Wojtowicz being the lead toe-tapper. That brand of worship music is so infectious and uplifting. Concordia is blessed

with all of that musical talent from God!

"Vacancies" are difficult times for churches to go through-they just are.

I want to make a personal appeal to all of Concordia's people: Be faithful in your worship, in your involvement, and in your support of your church at this critical time. This is not a time to kind of hang back and let others do things. This is a time for you to do things! First of all, be at church every Sunday you are in town! Do those little things that make church work, like: be a greeter, make coffee, usher, read the Scripture lessons, say hello to somebody you don't know.

Ruth and I pray for you as you seek another faithful pastor, but we especially are concerned with your life NOW! We pray that you will be faithful and involved NOW!

Yours in His service,
Pastor Wayne



JUNE, 2001

Concordia Lutheran Church **CHRISTOGRAM**

inside...

"What Psalm 23 Means"

"Early Registration for Women's Retreat"

"Ministries of Prevention"



2001

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
					1	2 1st Communion-4:30 PM Worship-5:30 PM
3 Worship Educ Hr-9:15 AM	4 Womens AA-7 PM Crafts-7:00 PM	5 Bible Study-6:30 AM	6 Discovery-7:00 PM Stephen Min-8:15 PM	7 Bells-7:00 PM Recovery-7:00 PM AA Org Mtg-7:00 PM (Fellowship Hall)	8 Staff Mtg-noon	9 Mens Breakfast-7 AM Worship-5:30 PM
10 Worship Educ Hr-9:15 AM Elder Mtg-11:30 AM	11 Womens AA-7 PM Crafts-7:00 PM	12 Bible Study-6:30 AM Brd of Educ-6 PM Council-7:00 PM	13 Discovery-7:00 PM To 11:30 AM	14 Choir-6:00 PM Bells-7:00 PM Recovery-7:00 PM Fellowship-7:00 PM	15 Staff Mtg-noon	16 Worship-5:30 PM
	←	VBS 9:00		→	Relay for	Life →
17 Worship Educ Hr-9:15 AM No Sunday School	18 Womens AA-7 PM Crafts-7:00 PM	19 Bible Study-6:30 AM	20 Discovery-7:00 PM (Potluck-6:00 PM) LWML-7:00 PM at Pam Patterson's	21 Bells-7:00 PM Recovery-7:00 PM	22 Staff Mtg-noon	23 Worship-5:30 PM
24 Worship Educ Hr-9:15 AM D.W.C.C.-1:15 PM	25 Womens AA-7 PM Crafts-7:00 PM	26 Bible Study-6:30 AM	27 Discovery-7:00 PM	28 Bells-7:00 PM Recovery-7:00 PM	29 Staff Mtg-noon	30 Worship-5:30 PM

JUST A REMINDER . . .

“Relay for Life” June 15 & 16, 2001

If you can walk, run, crawl, jump, skip, hop, etc., we need you! If you are unable to participate in the relay, feel free to make a tax deductible contribution to one of our team members. You may also help by purchasing luminarias in honor of a friend or family member who has survived the battle, is presently fighting the battle, or has lost the battle to cancer. Please help out in any way you can. We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us. Any questions, please contact Tina Tape, 879-7012.

RULES FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING

(John Wesley, Evangelist/Theologian)

Do all the good you can,

By all the means you can,

In all the ways you can,

At all the times you can,

To all the people you can,

As long as ever . . .

. . . you can!

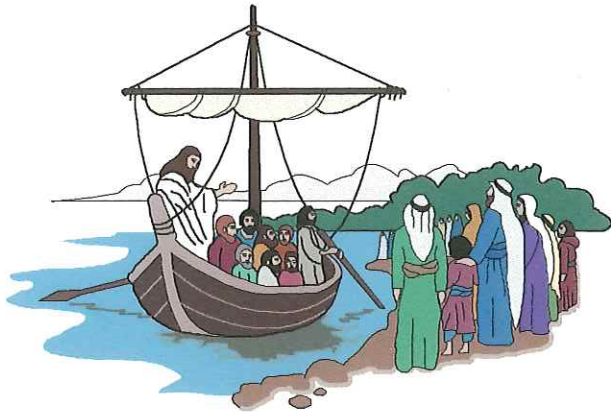
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Concordia Lutheran Church

June 11-14, 2001

9:00 to 11:30 AM

"I'm in the same boat with Jesus!"



Registration forms are available in the narthex or call the office to register, 879-0175

\$5 registration per child

For ages 3 thru 6th grade

**Be a part of the crew as we set sail for
new adventures in the Gospel with
Jesus as our Captain!**

CONGRATULATIONS

To Concordia's Graduating Seniors!



John Aragon
Stewart Beall
Nathan Deepe
Whitney Eggleston
Jessica Fritz
Jade Hanson
Stephanie Kammerer
Christina Monterotti
Gavin Noyer
Taylor Patterson
Kyle Svendsen
Ryan Thompson
Baille Thornton
Ryan Wattles
Danny Weber
Evan Wojtowicz
Suzanne Zimmerer

1st Communion Instruction

Will begin on Saturday, May 5th, from 4:30 to 5:15 PM. (This is a change from initial plans. It has been moved back a week due to Spring Break.) The sessions will be held for 5 successive Saturdays, the last being held on Saturday, June 2nd. At least one parent needs to accompany the youth attending the classes. This program is designed to begin with boys and girls in the 5th grade and above. It's purpose is to enable young believers to share in the rich resource that this Sacrament is for their faith and love. Families may still choose the option of waiting until the instruction is offered as a part of our confirmation program during the 7th and 8th grades. Enrollment forms are available in the office. Please contact Pastor Wayne, if you have any questions.



A WORD FROM THE TRUSTEES . . .

Greeting and Blessings to all! The Trustees met on April 24th in the Church library and following are some of the things we discussed:

- Since we are losing our cleaning person, hiring a new one and keeping in the budget
- Talk about cleaning the carpets
- A tentative guideline for Church property usage was introduced (i.e., weddings youth groups, etc.)
- Our next WORKDAY will be Saturday, June 14th, 8:30 to noon. Please come and help us do some work on the parsonage garage, general cleaning, washing windows, putting up the basketball hoop, cleaning church grounds, and cleaning the other storeroom. If you have something you want to "protect", please contact a trustee.

Please let us know also if you have any other concerns that need addressed, or if you have any comments about this report.

In service of our Lord,
The Trustees

WANTED: NURSERY ATTENDANT

Concordia Lutheran Church is looking for a nursery attendant for Sunday mornings. This person with the aid of a volunteer would be in charge of the care of children in the nursery during our Sunday school and late worship service hours (9 AM-12 Noon). Please call Judy Plumb at 879-8040 if you have any questions. Applications can be obtained in the church office, located at 755 Concordia Way Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM—1:30 PM.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU ARE GIVING TO OUTREACH?

Through our LWML (Women's Guild), Concordia supports a very important local organization called **ADVOCATES AGAINST BATTERING & ABUSE**. This is a mission to those who suffer from domestic violence, and provides a safe haven for them. The Ad-

vocates office offers around the clock response to victims, including crisis counseling and a residential protected shelter. They also provide criminal justice advocacy, civil restraining order assistance, and safety planning. Last, but not least, they offer community education on violence prevention, including high school peer education. Advocates will receive \$200 from Concordia this year.

MINISTRIES OF PREVENTION

Youth and adults alike in this society identify alcohol and drug problems as major issues with which they contend. Research repeatedly shows that belonging to a faith community and attending worship at least once a month deter drug and alcohol use among young people (Benson, 1990). If the simple act of going to church once a month is so effective a deterrent, how much more might be achieved in a congregation that takes an active approach to prevention? A ministry of prevention can support young people in finding direction for their lives, in gaining the strength of identity as well as the information and skills they need to make wise choices. It can involve the entire “village” in raising young people who tackle their problems head on rather than escaping into drugs or alcohol.

Current research also reveals how great a deterrent to alcohol and drug use parents can be. Though they often feel powerless, parents have much more influence than they know. Teenagers who don’t drink or use drugs report that it’s because they don’t want to upset their parents. Unfortunately, many parents miss the chance to prevent or delay their children’s use of substances because they don’t know how.

Wielding their power of deterrence requires that parents communicate their values and expectations to their children consistently over time using age-appropriate messages. This process demands: **first**, that parents know what they want and believe; **second**, that they talk to their children; and **third**, that they possess a basic understanding of substance abuse and young people’s developmental needs. Clarifying their own guidelines for drinking and using drugs, including prescription medications, also helps parents give consistent messages. Ministries of prevention can guide adults through this process of self-searching and education. They can help parents help their children make healthy decisions about alcohol and other drugs.

Faith Partners defines prevention as efforts that:

- Delay the onset of first and experimental use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs;
- Support abstinence as a healthy and positive decision;
- Support moderate, appropriate and legal use of alcohol;
- Support the appropriate and legal use of prescribed and over-the-counter medications; and
- Eliminate the illegal use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.

“Teams that start out on the recovery side, trying to catch people as they fall over the cliff sooner or later start wondering, ‘Can we put up a fence?’”

- Verna, a grandmother and a member of the Faith Partners team ministry at University United Methodist Church in Austin, TX

From *Building a Team Ministry: a congregational approach to Substance Abuse* by Trish Merrill

“I want Jesus to follow me...”

A word from the Parish Administrator

Driving to church early Sunday morning I was warming up my voice for Choir rehearsal. “I want Jesus to follow me,” I sang, and then caught myself abruptly. Well, there’s a mental slip for you, I thought to myself. The words are supposed to be “I want Jesus to *walk with me*,” not *follow me*. It was a subtle reminder of a reality I face—me wanting to be in control, and wanting Jesus as a backup to bail me out—if necessary.



Since I was already in my car it was easy to arrive at another analogy. If you’ve ever had to drive an undependable vehicle (and I guess, who ever knows if their car is going to get them to the next place?) it’s often comforting to have someone follow behind you, *just in case* something goes wrong. If the car ends up stalled along the roadside it is reassuring to know that the person following will be right along to help you out of the mess. However, the following vehicle is only necessary if you do crash and burn. “Please follow me,” I might ask, “so that if I have any trouble you can bail me out.” Sadly enough, I often live in a relationship with God in that way. I want Jesus to follow me.

A slip of the tongue helped me to recognize a lack of vision on my part. I should more consciously affirm that I want to “see” Jesus walking with me. He does walk with us, whether we care to recognize it or not. But do I “walk” acknowledging his close proximity? Or do I, perhaps, prefer to have Him bring up the rear? If Jesus were in the same vehicle with me, when the car stops working, I guess He’s there in the car with me, dealing with the same mess. Who in the heck is going to come along and rescue me? There are these worldly problems I want fixed. Do I want a God who runs the eternal towing service bringing up the rear to “fix” all the calamities that face me—or am I tuned into sensing the presence of God *with me* in all things? I am inclined to want a God who will follow me and fix the immediate situation, rather than have a God who is present with me and walking alongside of me. Why does a ‘fix-it’ God bring a sense of comfort?

The Jews of Jesus’ day struggled with the same kinds of issues. They wanted Jesus to be a messiah who would “fix” the problems and political struggles of their world. They failed to see that Jesus was able to mend so much more than the immediate needs they were caught up in. I am not so different, although I would like to set myself apart from those “short-sighted” Jews. Jesus came to save us (me) for an eternity with Him and to heal the sick (me) and to help the blind see (me). The roadside emergencies are of little consequence in comparison to what Jesus can and has done for us. He can do far more than get us to the next service station, or give us a perfectly running vehicle. Jesus doesn’t always ‘fix’ what burdens us but he will share in the burdens. Jesus brings us wholeness through His unconditional love, abounding grace, continual mercy and *saving us* from our bondage to sin. That is God’s answer to “fixing” our human situation. If I am seeing clearly—God’s way brings true comfort.

What about you? Do you use God as a back-up plan in case of an emergency? Or do you recognize the presence of God walking with you, as a source of strength and encouragement in the midst of worldly calamities? My prayers need to be continually shaped to ask for *my* vision to improve—that I might see with the eyes of faith His continual presence in my life, and that I might daily recognize that Jesus walks *with me*.

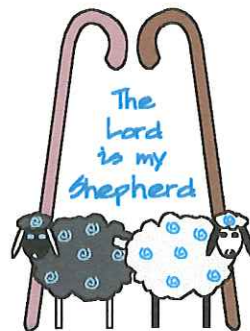
Scoop from the Sup . . .



What Psalm 23 means . . .

(from 2001 Educational Media Foundation)

The Lord is my Shepherd . . . THAT'S RELATIONSHIP!
I shall not want . . . THAT'S SUPPLY!
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures . . . THAT'S REST!
He leadeth me beside still waters . . . THAT'S REFRESHMENT!
He restoreth my soul . . . THAT'S HEALING!
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness . . . THAT'S GUIDANCE!
For His name sake . . . THAT'S PURPOSE!
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death . . . THAT'S CHALLENGE!
I will fear no evil . . . THAT'S ASSURANCE!
For Thou art with me . . . THAT'S FAITHFULNESS!
Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me . . . THAT'S SHELTER!
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies . . . THAT'S HOPE!
Thou anointest my head with oil . . . THAT'S CONSECRATION!
My cup runneth over . . . THAT'S ABUNDANCE!
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life . . . THAT'S BLESSINGS!
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord . . . THAT'S SECURITY!
Forever . . . THAT'S ETERNITY!



LWML News (Women's Guild)

Prepare to be pampered!!! The Women's Guild is planning a fall retreat at Dutch Creek Guest Ranch (Steamboat Lake) on October 5th & 6th. Registration is due by **June 17th**. Cost is \$75 for 2 nights' lodging and 4 meals (scholarships are available). A deposit of \$25 is due upon registration. Not only will we enjoy the solitude of the guest ranch and it's outstanding food, but we will be treated to the wonderful presentations of our guest speaker, Marlys Cartwright! Check-in begins at 3:00 PM on Friday, October 5th and concludes following Sunday morning breakfast, October 7th, served early enough for all to return to Concordia for late service. Plan to enjoy hiking, relaxing, Bible studies, a progressive dinner on Friday night, crafts, reading, games, delicious meals, and fellowship with good friends. Sign-up early, it is a limited registration.



"Thanks" isn't quite enough for all the work poured out by the ladies of Concordia who helped with this past weekend's Spring Rummage & Bake Sale. After a week worth of sorting, pricing, unpacking, wondering(???), the sale netted \$2,000 for LWML to turn around and donate towards missions and the bake sale raised \$230 to be donated towards Concordia's Youth Group and their trip to New Orleans in July. Our hats are off to Joanne Boomgarden and Tammy Ryan who co-chaired this ever-popular and successful event for another year.

The much-anticipated, annual, **Salad Supper** will be held on Wednesday, June 20th at 6:00 PM at the home of Pam Patterson in Deerfoot Estates. Come and enjoy the beautiful Elk River valley and LWML's final gathering for the year (monthly meetings will resume again in September). Scrumptious salads and decadent desserts will be served. Bring a salad to pass and plan to carpool from the Church at 5:45 PM.



Set aside a Monday for Crafts! The craft ladies will be meeting each Monday at 7:00 PM in the Church basement to work on items for November's Christmas Cupboard. Come see what they are making, bring an idea along, and join in on the fun! Questions, call Judy Anderson, 879-8220.

REMINDER:

LWML (Women's Guild) has chosen 2 projects to coordinate for the National LWML In-Gathering in San Jose, CA in July (due the end of June-distributed to the needy in San Jose):

"Security Blankets": (for children of all ages who are seriously ill or who have been traumatized) Please donate, make, or purchase a quilt, comforter, afghan or blanket, of any size or pattern (preferably in child-friendly colors) to the basket in the Narthex. Please include a Christian tract or book for a child.

"Health Kits": Soap, washcloth, disposable razor, deodorant, shampoo, comb, hairspray, toothpaste, toothbrush, and a Christian tract (may be packed in a plastic, zip-lock bag). Place in basket in Narthex.

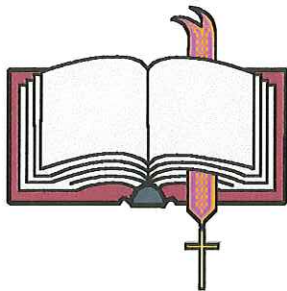
Tenets, Tidbits and Trails . . . the Elder's report

Have you ever been put on the spot as a Christian? An interesting and embarrassing experience happened to me a few weeks ago. I went downstairs to drop my daughter off in Sunday School and a very astute teacher asked me in front of the class, "Hi, Elder Jim, why don't you recite John 3:16 for the class!" My mind went blank. I forced out a mumbled version and only got halfway through before the teacher rescued me. Of course, I know this verse from childhood, but I wasn't ready to share God's Word in a moment's notice. I was completely wrapped up in getting myself to Church on time with the kids—the last thing on my mind was worship or carrying the Christian message. I thanked this teacher later as she began to apologize for putting me on the spot. I learned an important lesson.

Are we ready to carry the message in a moment's notice? Have we missed opportunities in our day-to-day lives to spread the Gospel, listen to someone, or make ourselves more prepared? Are we just too busy to stop and smell the roses? My rose is God's grace, and many times I fail to stop and smell God's grace in my life.

I Peter 1:13 states, "*Therefore, prepare your minds for action...*" This verse refers to physical action. James 2:17 says, "*...faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.*" Although works alone may not save you, faith is made **complete** by what you do. I love the saying, "It is your job to pedal the bike, just let God do the steering." Whenever I try to take over the steering, my actions are self-centered and self-seeking. I am trying to do what God wants to do **for** me. I lose focus on my primary mission, which is to carry the message. How do we respond to the gift of being saved? Privately holding the truth to ourselves, leading by example, or trusting our faith in God to help spread the Word?

I pray that each of us will start our course of action by picking up the Bible and reading it. This basic action can literally change the world. God's grace and peace be with you all.



Jim Sprengle
Elder

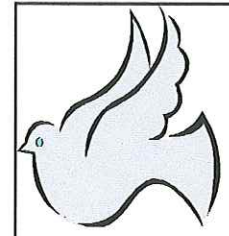


YOUTH GROUP

Watch for an upcoming date & time to go to Elitch's. Also, last-minute plans are being made for the trip to New Orleans in July for the 2001 National Youth Gathering



Men's Breakfast
Saturday
June 9th
7:00 - 8:15AM
in Fellowship Hall
Invite A Friend!



Confirmation

Will resume again in September. Thank you to all who are helping with the acolyte duties this summer



Tuesday Morning Bible Study
in the Church Library,
6:30 - 7:30 AM
Study: Book of **Daniel**
All are welcome!

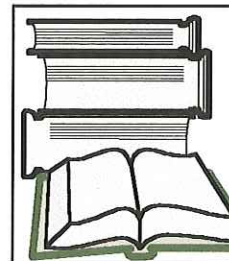


Recovery Room

Thursdays, 7:00 PM in the church library (Christian support open to anyone dealing with an addiction or an addicted person.)

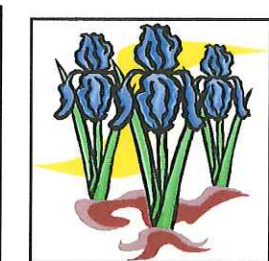


Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study
9-11 AM in the Library
Studying: the exciting and challenging Old Testament book, **I Samuel**.
Please join us!



Discovery Bible Study Wednesdays
7-8 PM in the library

During May we will be finishing up the **book of Luke** (chapters 20-24).



LWML (Women's Guild) will meet on Wednesday, June 20th, 6:00 PM, at Pam Patterson's home, 42225 Deer Rd, to close our year with our annual Salad Supper. (bring a salad to pass)
Everyone invited!