

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

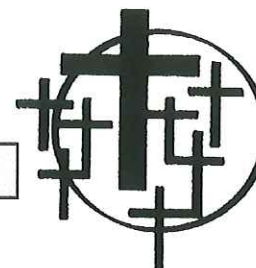
Sunday Worship: 8:00 and 10:30 AM **Education Hour:** 9:15 AM

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

CHRISTOGRAM

Concordia Lutheran Church

AUGUST, 2001



Thank You For Your Surprise Celebration!!!



I had absolutely no inkling that something was cooking on Sunday, July 8th, when the congregation was preparing the surprise celebration for the 40th Anniversary of my Ordination into the Holy Ministry! I had none! Nada, nichts! For the longest time during Luther's chat, I thought, "what is this all about?"

It was my idea, I thought, to invite Frank and Carla Winter up for a weekend in Steamboat! I didn't know you had cooked up a plan to

have him deliver the sermon at the late service!

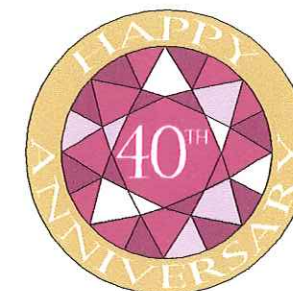
Thank you for a moving occasion in my ministry! I love the Green Stole. I enjoyed the Choir, the Bells, the "B" team Nebraska cheerleaders, the "Cool Pastor" song, the cards, the greetings, the beautiful Steamboat print, the photo album, the beautiful reception and cake and goodies.

I especially thank Luther and Helen Berntson, Cindy, Jean, the Fellowship Committee, the Planning Committee, and the Choir and Bells for their contribution to a very lovely celebration. The whole morning was such a thoughtful and loving thing to do. It also gave Ruth

stimulation for one of her finest literary works! She thanks you also for the gifts of you generous people. You are a gift to us.

Thank you so very much!

Pastor Wayne



AUGUST, 2001

Concordia Lutheran Church **CHRISTOGRAM**

inside...

"Annual Church Picnic"

"Build Up the Body!"

"40th Anniversary Celebration"

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

Peace to all Friends in Jesus Christ:

It's time to take a moment and pray.

Pray about the programs in place at Concordia and how we can help to make sure that they continue to grow.

Pray about the call to Pastor Bjorgaard, hoping that we have made the choice God wanted us to have all along.

Pray about the people needed for Sunday School, because there are so many kids that need to know the love of Jesus Christ.

Pray about the Youth as they begin their journey into adulthood and for them on their journey to New Orleans.

Pray about the money needed in order for the Church to function.

Pray about each other as we face each new day with different challenges in our lives.

Pray about how the Church has touched your life and how you can reach out to tell others about the Good News of Jesus.

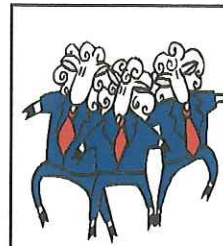
Pray that Justin Unger continues to spread the Word through his inspirational music.

Pray about Keith's and you own Baptism, understanding the gift that it gives you and him.

Take a moment and pray.

In Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior,

Guy Wojtowicz
Elder

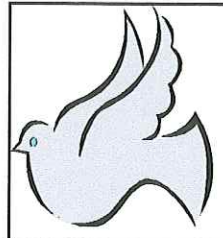


YOUTH GROUP

Concordia's Youth (21 kids) and 4 adult leaders are in New Orleans attending the 2001 National Youth Gathering, July 28th thru August 1st.

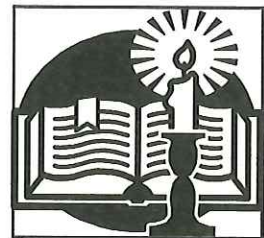


Men's Breakfast
Saturday
August 11th
7:00 - 8:15AM
in Fellowship Hall
Invite A Friend!



Confirmation

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



Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Will resume again in September

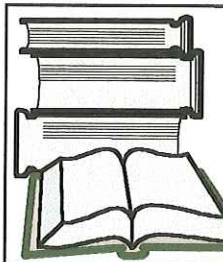


Recovery Room

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

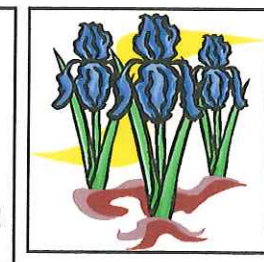


Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study
At 9:00 am in the Library. Please join us! Childcare will be available. We're taking a look at II Samuel.



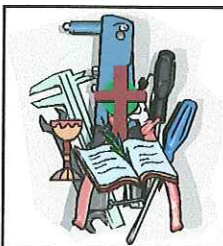
Discovery Bible Study Wednesdays, Aug. 8-29 7-8 PM in the library

Will be talking about our "spiritual gifts." Please come and discover what your spiritual gifts might be!



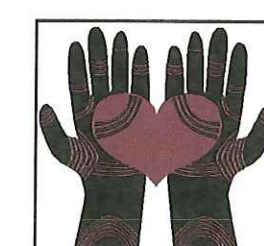
LWML

(Women's Guild)
Does not meet during the summer months. Meetings will resume in September. Watch for details regarding the Fall Retreat, 10/5,6



TOOLS FOR LIVING: (Ministry team for recovery, addiction & prevention)

Wednesday, August 5th at 6:30 PM in the library
Tuesday, August 14th at 6:30 pm in the library.



STEPHEN MINISTERS

"a friend who has developed gifts for bringing Christ's healing to hurting places."
**Wednesday, Aug. 1st
8:15 PM in the library**



2001

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
			1 Discovery-7:00 PM Stephen Min-8:15 PM	2 Bells-7:00 PM Recovery-7 PM	3 Staff Mtg- noon	4 Worship-5:30 PM
5 Worship-10:30 AM No Education Hour "Church Picnic" -1:00 PM at Stage-	6 Womens AA-7 PM Crafts-7:00 PM	7 No Tue AM Study Clark Study-7 PM Outreach Mtg-8 PM	8 Discovery-7:00 PM	9 Choir-6:00 PM Bells-7:00 PM Recovery-7 PM	10 Staff Mtg-noon	11 Mens Breakfast-7 AM Worship-5:30 PM
12 Worship-8/10:30 AM Educ Hr-9:30 AM "Special Bible Study"	13 Bd of Educ-6 PM Womens AA-7 PM Crafts-7:00 PM	14 No Tue AM Study Clark Study-7 PM Church Council-7 PM	15 Discovery-7:00 PM	16 Bells-7:00 PM Recovery-7 PM Fellowship-7 PM	17 Staff Mtg-noon	18 Worship-5:30 PM
19 Worship-8/10:30 AM No Education Hour "Friendship Sunday"	20 Womens AA-7 PM Crafts-7:00 PM	21 No Tue AM Study Clark Study-7 PM	22 Discovery-7:00 PM Lift-Up Dinner (5:30-9:30 PM)	23 Bells-7:00 PM Recovery-7 PM	24 Staff Mtg-noon	25 Worship-5:30 PM
26 Worship-8/10:30 AM Educ Hr-9:30 AM "Ministry Fair" DWCC-1:15 PM	27 Womens AA-7 PM Crafts-7:00 PM	28 No Tue AM Study Clark Study-7 PM	29 Discovery-7:00 PM	30 Bells-7 PM Recovery-7 PM	31 Staff Mtg-noon	

ROCKIES Tickets



AAL (Aid Association for Lutherans) is sponsoring "Lutherans at the Rockies" on Saturday, August 18th. Colorado Rockies vs Florida Marlins. This is a fund-raising event for AAL. Tickets range from \$5-\$16. If you are interested in going, please see Cindy in the office.

YOUTH GROUP

Concordia's Youth Group will be departing on July 28th for New Orleans for the 2001 National Youth Gathering and returning on Wednesday, August 1st. 21 youth and 4 adults will be traveling to the Gathering which is held every 3 years. They have worked very hard to raise over \$26,000 to pay for their own travel, hotel and meals. Please keep them in your prayers as they travel on this journey. Upon their return, they will be leading us in worship on Sunday, August 5th.





Tools for Living*

Addict: A person with a habit so strong that he cannot easily give it up. devotee, fanatic, buff, enthusiast

Addiction: compulsion, dependence, need, obsession, craving, infatuation

Habit: custom, tendency, addiction, routine, practice, tradition, pattern

Recover: to regain something which was lost; to be restored to good health

Recovery: The power to regain something. revival, regain, recuperation, mending, healing, improvement, renewal.

I looked up the meanings of these words to see if there were any definitions that I did not know. The one that really struck me was the word habit. I usually thought of a habit as bad. You hear people say, "I bit my fingernails, it is a bad habit" etc. Then there are custom and tradition—these are holidays and little things that a parent did with you, that you do with your child. It gives you a good feeling.

Then there is the word tendency. I have a tendency to eat when I am upset. When I am angry I walk away. When I want to feel good or take the edge off, I drink or take drugs. Now we are getting into a pattern, a routine of using food, avoidance, and alcohol as a way to hide our feelings and not face them. I am not hurting anyone, so what is the problem? The problem is that you are hurting yourself. Do you think that God likes to see us abusing our bodies that were a gift from Him?

We can try everything in the book to get it together. We can say we are in control and can take care of ourselves. How many times have you tried but it did not work? We need God's help in our healing.

"Many of us are just waking up to the fact that recovery is an essential part for everyone. It is the simple but challenging process of daily seeking God's will for our life instead of demanding to go our own way. Recovery is letting God do for us what we cannot do for ourselves while also taking the steps necessary to draw closer to our Creator and Redeemer. It is allowing God to heal our wounded soul so we can help others in the process of healing. All of us need to take part in this process; it is an inherent part of being human."

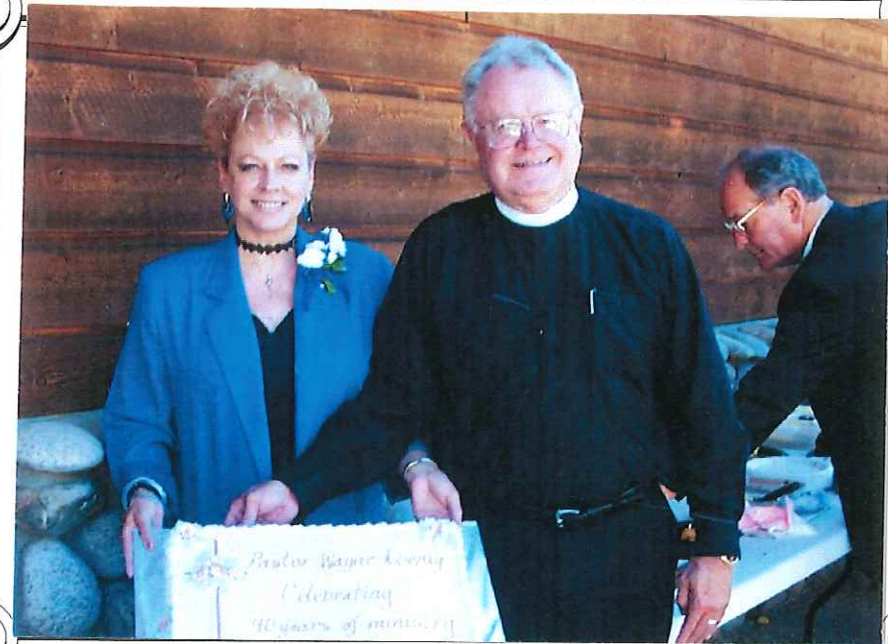
Let us set together on the journey towards healing and newfound strength — not strength found within ourselves, but strength found through trusting God and allowing him to direct our decisions and plans." (NLT)

Karen Burin—Tools For Living* team member

(*Concordia's team ministry for recovery, addiction and prevention issues.)

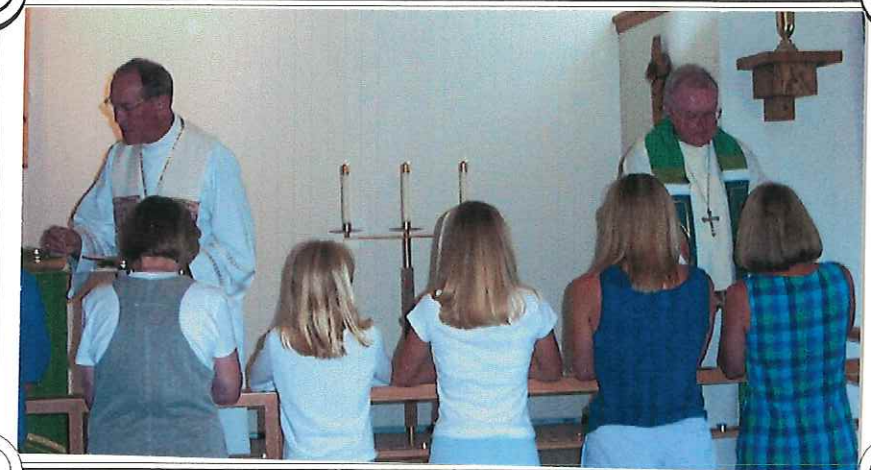


Celebrating 40 years of Ministry



Pastor Wayne and Ruth on Sunday, July 8, 2001, during Pastor's surprise celebration of his 40th Anniversary in Ministry.

Pastor Wayne and Pastor Frank Winter from Red Feather Lake, CO distributing communion at the 10:30 service.



'BUILD UP THE BODY' in August

Lead by the Worship and Music Leaders, the Board of Elders, the Church Council at Concordia and the Church Staff, *"Build Up the Body"* Month is coming your way in August!

Put some energy and time into your Church this month. Some special events are bring planned for each Sunday of the month. (The details are located elsewhere in this newsletter.)

I am convinced the best thing you can do for Concordia is to Be There! Let people see your interest and involvement by putting your body in a pew and by putting your face in someone else's to say,

"good morning."

The Congregation of Concordia will soon be welcoming a new Pastor and family into our fellowship. That congregation should be vitalized and involved-NOT invisible and distant!

We're praying that the August *"Build Up the Body"* effort will do just that—encourage and edify the Church.

Another way that can happen is for people to participate in the Wednesday night programs called "Discovery." Ellyn Myller is leading a study on "spiritual gifts" - a very vital part of our growth in Christ. Talk to her about it.

I hope to see you involved in Worship and in the special events between worship in the fellowship room at Church. Do your part this month to *"Build Up the Body."*

Pastor Wayne



BUILD UP THE BODY

Sunday, August 5th "On Higher Ground"

The Youth will lead us in service today, sharing experiences from New Orleans. Following is the Annual Church Picnic at Stagecoach Reservoir at 1:00 PM (carpool from Church following service.)

Sunday August 12th The Essential Vitamins and Minerals for Bodily Health"

A special Bible Study at 9:30 AM (in between services) for the entire congregation covering Ephesians.

Sunday, August 19th Friendship Sunday

Our focus is on reaching out to others! Invite a friend or family to Church. We will have a social time with refreshments in between services. (No Education Hour)

Sunday, August 26th :The Body Learns, Works and Serves"

A special "ministry fair" between services for all ages! Check out all the areas of service that are represented

'Grace Notes'

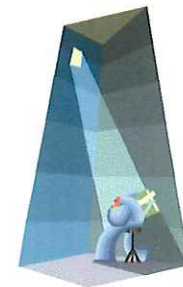


A word from the Parish Administrator

A dear friend recently called me and asked, "Any grace notes there?" It was a good question because it forced me to pause and think of the good things that have happened over the past month at Concordia. I can easily get stuck in the dark places—live in the shadows of complaint and cynicism. It has been a long year without a full-time pastor and, at times, one can tend to hole up in a place of lament.

If my friend had simply asked, "How's it going?" I am certain that my answer would have sent me in another direction entirely. I may have begun with a litany of complaints about the present 'thorns in my side' or worries of the day. Thankfully, my friend was *encouraging* me by asking me a question which focused my thoughts on moments of grace and signs of

God's goodness in my midst. Thinking in that positive vein, there are many! God continues to shine into dark spots and give light.



Over this last month we had the opportunity to celebrate Pastor Wayne and Ruth's 40 years of fruitful ministry. What a wonderful day that was for our congregation to

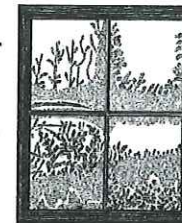
review how God has acted in the lives of Pastor Wayne and Ruth. And now they continue in ministry (even in retirement!) to bless us with their guidance and presence.

We have been blessed with some wonderful music this summer. The choral group *Cantata* provided special music for our worship services and a concert. They sang spirituals that could knock your socks off and peaceful melodies that could help to mend a wounded soul. Several days ago there was a concert given by Justin Unger who shared his considerable musical talents and a wonderful message and witness of Christ's love for us. The list continues to grow with grace notes at Concordia.

We also had the unexpected pleasure of having Thomas Conroy, a teacher at Perry Mansfield for the summer, show up one day and say, "I was out riding and this church seems to be within biking distance so I thought I'd check it out — and, if you need an organist this summer, I'm available." Well, it just so happened that Jan Fritz was going to take a much deserved break during the summer and we were looking for someone to fill in. Rebecca Duryea commented that she used to write

letters to churches to say she was available. I replied, rather cynically, "It's not like people are lining up at the door to play the organ." Well, I was wrong. The very next day, Thomas wandered in. God continues to surprise me in spite of my pessimism.

Quite often, I live in these four walls of shadow which I have erected by focusing on that which is discouraging. Perhaps some personal renovations are in order. God continues to persistently shine



through the cracks in my walls and remind me that there is light — *but*, maybe I need to *intentionally* put in a window or

two. Perhaps I need to consider more often all the *grace notes* in my life. Their abundance is evident if I put in a window and actually look out to see God at work in the world and in my life.

I am thankful that my friend asked me, "Any grace notes there?"

"Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things." (Phil 4:8)

Scoop from the Sup . . .



This is part of the scripture that we looked at in Sunday School when we were talking together as families about what is LOVE.

"I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my father, I have made known to you. You did not choose me, I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit — fruit that will last." John 15:15-16

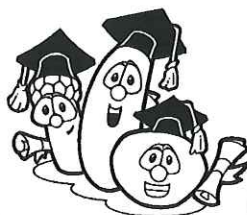
I love this passage in the Bible. I seem to keep bumping into it! Of course it is all within the context of Christ's command for us to love each other and lay our lives down for our friends. What keeps popping out to me is that Christ calls me His friend.

Recently someone told me something important to her and she said, "I am telling you this because you are my friend." How often do you hear those words "YOU ARE MY FRIEND." It fills you with the feeling of privilege and warmth, at least it did for me. Jesus shares so much with us in His written word, because it is important to Him that we know all that His Father wanted us to know...and because we are His friends. He also tells us that he *"appointed us to go and bear fruit — fruit that will last."*

Christ came and did the work that the Father gave him to do. "What's the plan for carrying on His work? Us!! We're the only plan He's got." Sooo, let's get busy and bear some fruit, love one another, BE A FRIEND, tell a friend, tell your children, the important thing that you know, that God loves them and gave us his son to believe in.

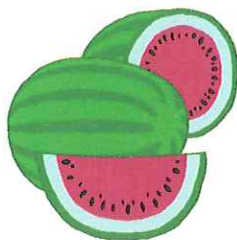
Jesus calls you his friend, do what he commands!!! BE A FRIEND!

Your friend, Ellyn

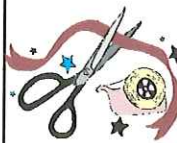


CHURCH PICNIC

Concordia's Annual Church Picnic (sponsored by the Fellowship Committee) will be Sunday, August 5th following one service at 10:30 AM. Come and worship with us and then head South for a day of fun, games, a clown, and great food! Lunch will be served at 1:00 PM at Stagecoach Reservoir. Families A-M, please bring a salad, N-Z please bring a dessert. Hot dogs, hamburgers, drinks and paper products will be provided. Check out the flyer in your mailbox!



LWML News (Women's Guild)



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. Take a peek in "the craft room" (previously the "Bethlehem Bijou") to see what they are making, bring an idea along, and join in on the fun! Questions, call Judy Anderson, 879-8220.

Monthly meetings will resume in September with our annual kick-off meeting. Watch for details in the September newsletter and Sunday bulletins. We are always anxious to get back together after a short hiatus thru the summer months, to begin a new year of projects and just to see one another.

We have 30 ladies signed up to attend the **Fall Women's Retreat at Dutch Creek Ranch** on October 5th and 6th. Some of the events for the weekend include hiking, a progressive dinner on Friday night, a craft hour, games and fellowship, 3 meals served by Dutch Creek, and the highlight of the weekend—our guest speaker, Marlys Cartwright! We all look forward to this much-anticipated getaway. If you have not paid your \$25 deposit, please turn this into Cindy in the office.



Just A Reminder . . .

Halfway through the year to remember your **Secret Sister**. You might remember her simply with a card, a small gift, or a prayer. Identities will be revealed in December. Some suggestions for remembering your Secret Sister: Birthday, Anniversary, Holiday, in your prayers, or during a difficult time. For questions or info, call Elaine at



A very special **Thank You** to the family who anonymously donated ALL the new dishes, silverware and kitchen utensils to Concordia this past month. We now have complete and matching sets to serve over 140 people at one time. Be sure to go downstairs to the kitchen and check them out—they are beautiful!!!

Concordia is looking for a part-time, assistant to the treasurer. If you think you might wish to help out in this area, please contact Nick Schoewe, 870-0788, or let Jean or Cindy know in the office.

