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 concordia@steamboatlutheran.org

Editors: Pastor Scott Herbert and Rebecca Duryea

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 10:45 AM Education Hour: 9:30 AM

Concordia Lutheran Church 755 Concordia Lane Steamboat Springs, CO 80487

Jan 2003

Concordia Lutheran Church CHRISTOGRAM

CHRISTOGRAM

Concordia Lutheran Church

January 2003



They devoted themselves to the apostles, teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous sings were done by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Acts 2:42-47

Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus.

By the time you read this it will be very close to the beginning of a New Year or perhaps even the New Year has begun. In either case, resolutions and promises are a common part of this time. Many of us have resolutely set out to recommit ourselves to things that we see need to get better or simply to make sure that the successes and blessings of the previous year will continue and multiply.

When the Word of God was shared with people in the days of the early church, it so fulfilled their hunger and thirst for God and His Spirit that the new believers resolutely devoted themselves to a continued filling of the teachings of Scripture, prayer and fellowship with other believers. The gospel message of faith in Jesus so inspired them that they wanted to make sure they learned more and grew in the faith so as to be able to share God's Word with others themselves and so be part of the Lord adding to their number daily those who were being saved. Providing adequate times for bible study and the gathering of the believers obviously was an issue the early Church had to deal with. Fast forward to 2003 and we see that even in the advancement of the ages, there are needs the Church continues to fill.

The Christmas message is still fresh in our minds. We can still see the manger scene with the Christ child, the animals, the parents, the Magi, the gifts, the shepherds. We have heard anew the wonderful, lifegiving, hunger and thirst fulfilling, Word of God. We are forgiven, inspired, Spirit-filled, renewed. With that in mind, I would like to simply review for all of us the opportunities God has given us to praise Him, study His Word, and to fellowship with each other as we now journey forward into the Year of our Lord 2003.

Worship opportunities are on Saturdays at 5:30 PM and on Sundays at 8:00 AM and 10:45 AM. The worship committee has attempted to address some of the suggestions from the worship forum over the summer and subsequently has set the first Sunday of every month as a traditional worship format; the second Sunday of every month as Journey Sunday; and the balance of the Sundays in a given month as a blended worship format. The Worship Committee continues in prayer and also continues to meet regularly to review how things are going and address any continued suggestions that are brought to us. Sunday School and Adult Bible Study classes continue to meet at 9:30 AM each Sunday. The Sunday School is blessed with wonderful leaders and teachers and has dynamic, attention-grabbing lessons that are designed to interest the children and help them to grow in their relationship with Jesus. The Adult Bible Class is currently studying the gospel of Mark and will go into Paul's letter to the Romans next. There is a Women's Bible Study

inside...

- Men's Breakfast now meeting twice a month! Page 2 & 6,7
- Faith Brothers & Faith Sisters January 10 & 17

meeting every Thursday at 9:00 AM which is studying the Acts of the Apostles and there is a Men's Bible Study that will meet the second and fourth Saturday of every month and is currently studying dedication and commitment issues. On the second Saturday, we will meet in the church basement and on the fourth Saturday at a restaurant in town. On Saturday, January 25th we will be meeting at Seasons on the Pond on Lincoln in downtown Steamboat Springs. There is also a Discovery Bible Study class on Wednesday evenings and we are more than happy to begin more in-home Bible Studies as the need arises.

As we now move forward into 2003, please prayerfully consider how, when, and where you might commit more time to the Lord, to the study of His Word, to prayer, to fellowship, and to growing in your relationship with Him. For as the Lord Himself says:

"The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. Go! I am sending you..."

Luke 10:2-3a

And He also says:

"And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Matthew 28:20b

God's blessings, strength, and peace be with you all. In Jesus Name. Amen

Words from our President

Where are We Headed as a Congregation & Do We Need a Plan to Get There?

Over the past few months the council has talked about whether the congregation needs to focus and invest in an action based Congregational plan. A smaller group was broken out from the council and investigated numerous options. This smaller group has been in contact with a local consultant and discussed what sort of action plan could be generated for Concordia. This smaller committee then brought this presentation to the council in December. The presentation generated some great discussion. The cost would be approximately \$4,000. The council has discussed questions about timing, needs of the congregation, could we take this process on by ourselves, would this type of exercise be successful for us.

Our new pastor has been here about nine months and has asked what are the Congregations short and long term plans? The council does feel the we need to move forward on some sort of planning, but the question is what type? If you have some comments or thoughts, please let me, or any other member of council know your ideas. The council is going to discuss this again at our January meeting, with the hope of presenting something to the voters at the January voters meeting. Please give us your input.

He is Risen Bart

Recipe for a Happy, Healthy Family By Rev. Roland Friedrichs

- 1 husband
- 1 wife

Children - one Bible for each

1 home

Generous portion of prayer

- 3 cups love, firmly packed
- 1 package playing together
- 1 portion patience
- 1 portion understanding
- 1 portion forgiveness
- 1 cup kisses

Mix thoroughly and sprinkle with awareness. Bake in moderate oven of everyday life, using as fuel all the grudges and unpleasantness. Cool. Turn out onto platter of cheerfulness. Garnish with tears and laughter in large helpings. Serve God and county, church and community.



what the sermon was about, the answer is not 'about three hours."

January Birthdays

Happy Birthday to these January birthday celebrants:

- 2 Carter Kounovsky
- 6 Jordan Gorr
- 7 Angela Palaniuk
- 9 Evan Hornstein
- 10-Ben Siegel
- 13-Tyler Scott
- 14-Karen Burin
- 16-Christian Hogrefe
- 18-Samantha Smalley
- 24-Brad Craig
- 31-John Peterson
- 31-Jennifer Peterson

Baptism Birthdays

- 3 Hope Scott
- 3 Tyler Scott
- 3 Rava Duryea
- 16-Laura Bradfield
- 18-Sam Scully
- 30-Shelly Dunlop

Do you have a birthday in December but you're not on the list? Please call the office and let us know. We'd love to say Happy Birthday to all our members.

Do you have an anniversary in the month of January? We don't have anybody on record vet. Somebody has to have an anniversary in November! How about December? Call the office and let us know.

TRUSTEE COMMITTEE

We are still waiting for donations for the parsonage bathroom project. The projected cost of the remodel is \$5000. We already have 2 vanity cabinets and need to purchase the rest of the cupboards, we have a bathtub, 1 door, and 2 sinks, so we've got the project a little off the ground. We need 2x4's, flooring boards, electrical supplies, plumbing supplies, wall board, joint compound, paint, mirrors, light fixtures, nails, screws, tile, adhesive, grout, baseboard, faucets, shower head and faucet, shower door, a pocket door, carpet to match the other carpet, and other smaller items. We will be tearing the floor out to the joists as we did with the kitchen, walls down to studs, move walls and doorways, and put in new electric wiring and plumbing. We are investing in property we already own and adding to the value of the house, not to mention that it will be a lot better bathroom. All of this will be possible because of the dedication of many willing workers and your generous donations. Please consider as a family or as an individual donating to this project.

In Service of the Lord, Dave Anderson

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

The Fellowship Committee finished up a busy month with Advent soup suppers, the District Pastor's meeting, and we're not finished yet! Please plan to be part of the fun and games as we bring in the New Year. We'll begin the party at 8:00 in the Fellowship Hall and then at II:45 go up to the Sanctuary for hymns and prayer to see the New Year arrive. What a wonderful opportunity to share a special time with our family of Faith at Concordia. See the "ad" in this Christogram for details.

Thanks to all who contributed to the soup suppers for Advent A special thanks to those who served on the committee this year. What a fun group you are!

We do not have a new Fellowship Committee chair for 2003, so if you would be willing to serve, please contact the church office.

Happy Holidays! Judy Anderson

Stewardship News for the New Year . . .

The coming of the NEW YEAR brings new hopes, resolutions, goals and . . . responsibilities in many shapes and sizes. This past September Pastor Herbert dedicated the month to STEWARDSHIP through sermons and Bible studies. The goal was to have pledge cards completed and placed on the altar as a symbol of our commitment to the needs of Concordia for the coming year. The pledges returned were far short of our expectations. Since that time, little has been said about managing our personal gifts of time, talents and treasures that God has granted us to use in the Family of Concordia. We feel the time has come to make another plea to all members to assist Church Council in assessing where we are budget wise for the year ahead. During this month we will be promoting through announcements and mailings the consideration of personal pledges and the SIMPLY GIVING program to help make tithing both regular and easier. "EACH SHOULD GIVE WHAT THEY HAVE DECIDED IN THEIR HEART TO GIVE, NOT RELUCTANTLY OR UNDER COMPLUSION, FOR GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER." 2 Corinthians 9:7. In His Service.

Bill Baldwin and Bob Krohn, Stewardship Co-Chairs.

Flower Chart

The new flower chart for 2003 is up on the moveable bulletin board in the entryway. It's a wonderful way to remember someone's birthday or special occasion. Cost is \$13.50 and you can take them home after the late service. Sign up early for the whole year.

Debbie Freseman

had her bone marrow transplant. She is now fighting to keep her body from rejecting the new cells. Keep them in your prayers. Be sure and visit their

web page where updates are being posted on Debbie's condition. http://geocities.com/dfreseman You can sign their guest book to let them know your thinking about them. Their mailing address for cards etc. is: 139 26th Ave East, Seattle, WA 98112



January/February Prayer Vigil

The January Prayer Vigil is being cancelled due to the elders retreat the first weekend in January. Let's pray for them as they meet to develop plans for our church and their leadership for us in 2003. Join your family of faith in February for our monthly prayer vigil. "A family who prays together

stays together." Watch for more details to follow.

TOOLS FOR LIVING



STEP 3

"Made the decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him."

Step 3 culminates a process begun in Steps 1 and 2. In Step 1, we admitted our lives were out of control and that we were powerless to change things through our own power. In Step 2, we renounced every old god we had been worshiping as powerless to save us and looked to a higher Power to restore us to wholeness. In Step 3, we recognize God as that higher Power and ask Him to assume control over and care of every aspect of our lives.

A common recovery phrase used Twelve Step groups in "Turn it over." For the recovering person, which means turning over to God's care not only the major, conspicuous addictions like alcoholism. It means turning over every aspect of life, even the small frustrations involved in handling children or trying to make a faulty appliance work or dealing with congested freeway traffic. In the face of these irritations, the recovering person will say time and time again, "Turn it over; turn it over; turn it over."

A Step 3 recovery paradox is that codependent or addictive personalities are often quite willful and egocentric, and yet that egocentricity often camouflages a deep sense of insecurity. In A. A. 's oral tradition, an alcoholic or codependent is defined as being "an egomaniac with an inferiority complex." Step 3 invites us to get out of the center of our universe and hand that place back to God. As we move into any addiction or dependency, we tend to become more self-centered, self-absorbed, and self-preoccupied in trying to address the pain driving the addiction. Paradoxically, this self-preoccupation only draws us more deeply into the addiction. We become more self-centered and self-preoccupied as we seek to address the pain, yet self-preoccupation itself creates more pain, loneliness, and isolation. The addiction pulls us more deeply into its pain cycle. In order to surmount the pain cycle, ultimately we must step out of ourselves and look beyond ourselves.

Breaking out of this bondage of self does not mean we ignore or deny our needs. In fact, quite the reverse is true. If we can discover healthy, God-directed ways to meet our emotional and physical needs, then we become less needy, less selfish, less self-preoccupied individuals. This is another recovery paradox. Discovering what our needs are and asking to have those needs met may be on of the most unselfish things we do. All of us have needs, and all of us have choices as to how those needs are to be met. Addictions, compulsions, and co dependencies are counterfeit means of trying to meet our most basic physical, emotional, and spiritual hungers. With God's help we can find genuine ways of satisfying them.

We want to turn ourselves over to God, but how? How do we get out of the driver's seat? The key is willingness. If we crack the door just a little bit, then God will direct us in the process. Revelation 3:20 says: "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me."

A.A. 's Third Step Prayer is an excellent way to formalize our commitment to this new willingness: "God, I offer myself to Thee—to build with me and to do with me as Thou wilt. Relieve me of the bondage of self, that I may better do Thy will. Take away my difficulties, that victory over them may bear witness to those I would help of Thy power, Thy love, and Thy way of life. May I do Thy will always." (Alcoholics Anonymous, pg. 63)

RECOVERY MEDITATIONS

(To help you understand what the Scriptures say about surrendering your will and life to God.)

Matthew 11:28-30

Matthew 16:21-26

Psalm 23

Ephesians 2:8, 9 Psalm 91:1-4

Psalm 3:5, 6 Proverbs 3:5, 6

Proveins 3.5, 6

From "SERENITY – A Companion for Twelve Step Recovery" by Dr. Robert Hemfelt & Dr. Richard Fowler (Visit Concordia's library for more inspirational readings—Tools for Living section.)

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

Where is your gladness?

As we look around the world and possibly even Steamboat Springs, the gladness of the world seems to be in a dismal state. People in Israel are afraid to leave their homes. In India & Pakistan many have fear of nuclear destruction. In Argentina the national currency is collapsing. Japan is hovering in the brink of disaster with pornography and drug abuse. In Russia there are many out of work and running to alcohol. There is much sadness in the world and even here in the U.S. I ask you again, where is your gladness?

Jesus Christ alone is the source of all gladness. To paraphrase Psalm 45:7, it says, "Only those who press in to a closer walk with Jesus obtain the joy of His Spirit." Isaiah 51:12-13 talks about God asking us why we have forgotten about Him. Reminding us of what He has done and that he still is our deliverer, that no one can harm us (spiritually) because He holds us in the palm of His hand.

God has blessed us with both the love and fear of God and His will for us is to obtain His joy and gladness. We are to be a people, despite the things happening around us, to have a song of joy in our hearts. A joy that lasts until the very end. It does not mean our suffering will end but such things will not rob us of our joy and gladness in Christ.

Isaiah 25:1 says that God's guidance is coming to us. Trust in that. No matter what or where, the joy of Christ and His love, His forgiveness, His everlasting life, is in the middle of it. Jesus is a strength to the poor and needy, a refuge from the storm. Jesus is our protector and our defense. No storm can take that away.

As we go to our knees in prayer, we are feasting at His table of gladness and peace. To gain the true joy of gladness in Christ as an individual and as a church it is about going to prayer and waiting on the Lord. He will save us because we are within His walls. Proverbs 10:28 "The Hope of the righteous shall be gladness." Keep His eternal values in view. Look beyond where we are at, to the glories of Heaven.

In His service,

Gene

Scoop from the Sup...



Reflection time....

What kind of year have we had and what do we want to see happen in the upcoming one??

Well, I think that we have had a great year! There have been many changes that have happened in our church. Changes that have challenged us to love deeply and look beyond ourselves. Changes that have given us the opportunity to remember again what it is that we believe as Christians, supremely that Jesus is the Son of God and the Way of salvation.

Changes in our faith family; members have moved on to follow God's call in their life. Some have left because life called them elsewhere, and sadly some have left because their hearts were not ready to bear the direction God is laying out for us to follow here at Concordia.

BUT...we have had new folks come and join the mission and family of Concordia and with all our hearts we praise God!!

God blessed us with a shepherd, Pastor Scott, who faithfully preaches the Word of God and serves us with generosity and kindness.

We are seeing the movement of the Spirit in our Sunday school ministry. Across the generations, more and more are coming to learn and discover the truth in the Word. The children especially are longing to know more. I am grateful for the creative curriculum that we have been using and for the staff who puts time and care into the preparation of the lessons.

So what's next?? Well, we must ask God to show us what it is He wants us to be about. I know that He wants us to continue to see Him daily in our lives and be intentional about reaching those in our community who have not yet heard the name of Jesus. But how will we do that? That is a question that the Council will be asking all of us in the near future. Let's keep in the Word and get on our knees, ask God for direction and listen!

Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you, " declares the Lord.

Let's come together, know God and serve Him. Let's have the kind of year He would desire us to have.

In JOY--

Dates to remember: Jan. 10th Faith Brothers Overnight at church
Jan. 17 Faith Sisters Overnight at church

THANK YOU

Thanks to all who contributed to the "dinner out" gift certificate. It is a pleasure to serve in the children's ministry here at Concordia!! In JOY,

LWML (Women's Guild) NEWS ...

The January LWML Get-together will be on Tues., Jan. 21st at 7:00 pm at Sara Lindsey's home (2745 Waterstone Ln). We will carpool from the church at 6:45 pm.

Mark you calendars for Sat., Feb. 15th. We will be having a one day winter retreat at Lynn Worrell's home in Elk River Valley. We will enjoy snowshoeing, cross country skiing, and playing board games by the fireplace. A special program and reflection will also be given. All ladies are invited to join in on the fun.

DINERS' CLUB NOTICE (Jan-April, 2003)

It's time to organize another quarterly Diners' Club grouping. Anyone interested in joining this Fellowship night, please contact Sue Dreska, either by email (SEDreski@aol.com) or phone (879-4273), ASAP so we can begin right after the holiday season. If you are no longer interested in remaining in Diners' Club, please contact Susan to delete your name from listing. If your group hasn't met during this last session (Sept. - Dec.), please also advise Susan. Bon Appetite!!

Thanks! Susan



"They gave to anyone as he had need." Acts 2:45

Thank you to everyone who made this year's Christmas wishes a big success. Thanks to all for your generosity! You have all touched people this year with the love of Christ.

Thank-You!

IN EVERY CORNER OF OUR CHURCH THERE IS A MINSTRY OPPORTUNITY

THANKS to all who donated their AAL Mouse Prints activity bag. They got a lot of use in their "premier debut" worship service on Christmas Eve. If any of you would like to call for another one after the first of the year, we could use a few more.

A BIG THANKS to the fellowship committee for all the wonderful food they fixed and served to the Pastors who were here for the their circuit meeting on December 3rd. Thank you for all your hospitality.

This was received as an email in December here at church... thought we'd pass it along

Isn't It Strange?

Isn't it strange how a 20 dollar bill seems like such a large amount when you donate it to church, but such a small amount when you go shopping?

Isn't it strange how 2 hours seem so long when you're at church, and how short they seem when you're watching a good movie?

Isn't it strange that you can't find a word to say when you're praying, but you have no trouble thinking what to talk about with a friend?

Isn't it strange how difficult and boring it is to read one chapter of the Bible, but how easy it is to read 100 pages of a popular novel?

Isn't it strange how everyone wants front-row-tickets to concerts or games, but they do whatever is possible to sit at the last row in Church?

Isn't it strange how we need to know about an event for Church 2-3 weeks before the day so we can include it in our agenda, but we can adjust it for other events in the last minute?

Isn't it strange how difficult it is to learn a fact about God to share it with others, but how easy it is to learn, understand, extend and repeat gossip?

Isn't it strange how we believe everything that magazines and newspapers say, but we question the words in the Bible?

Isn't it strange how everyone wants a place in heaven, but they don't want to believe, do, or say anything to get there?

Isn't it strange how we send jokes in e-mails and they are forwarded right away, but when we are going to send messages

about God, we think about it twice before we share it with others?

IT'S STRANGE ISN'T IT?



Confirmation

Meets on Wednesdays from 6:30-8:00 PM Make up class Sundays 4:30-6:00 PM



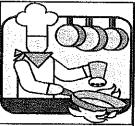
YOUTH GROUP

Meets every Sunday at 9:30 in the Youth Room Late start Breakfast January 8 at 9AM



STEPHEN MINISTERS

"A friend who has developed gifts for bringing Christ's healing to hurting places."



Men's Breakfast

Saturday Jan. 11th 7:00 - 8:30AM in Fellowship Hall Jan. 26th at Seasons at the Pond Invite A Friend!



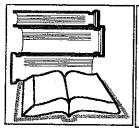
YOUTH CHOIR

Meets on Wednesdays after school from 3:30 to 4:30PM. Come sing with us.



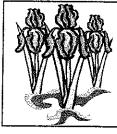
Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study Meets every Thursday

morning 9-10:30 AM Come water your faith seeds. We're studying Acts.



Discovery Bible Study

Meets at 7 PM in the library. We're studying the book of Romans.



LWML

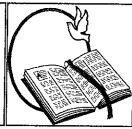
Our monthly meeting is on Tuesday, January 21st at 7 PM at Sara Lindsay's home 2745 Waterstone Lane.



TOOLS FOR LIVING:

Ministry team for recovery, addiction & prevention

Monthly meeting on January 27th 6-7 PM



ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Sunday Mornings 9:30 in the Chapel. We're studying Mark. Come join us.



January 2003



The second second second						- Barrell
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	in in	Sai
			1 NEW YEAR'S DAY HAPPY NEW YEAR 2003	2 Women's Bible Study 9AM	3 NO Prayer Vigil This month	4 Worship 5:30 PM
				Sunday School Teachers meeting 7 PM	ELDERS	RETREAT
5 Worship-8:00 AM Educ Hr-9:30 AM Worship-10:45 AM	6 Women's AA-7 PM	7 Trustees 5:15 PM Al-Ateen 6:00PM Elders 6PM Fellowship 7PM	8 Late Start Breakfast 9AM Youth Choir 3:30 Confirmation 6:30 - 8 PM Discovery 7PM	9 Women's Bible Study 9AM Bells 7PM	10 "Faith Brothers Overnight at church" All Dads/Sons welcome	11 Men's Breakfast 7 AM Journey 10-noon Worship 5:30 PM
12 Worship-8:00 AM Educ Hr- 9:30AM Worship-10:45 AM Confirmation Make-UP 4-5:30 PM EPIPHANY PARTY	13 Women's AA-7 PM 5:30 Seasons at the Pond	14 Al-Ateen 6:00PM Church Council 7PM	15 Youth Choir 3:30 PM Confirmation 6:30 - 8 PM Discovery 7PM	16 Women's Bible Study 9AM Bells 7PM	17 "Faith Sisters Overnight at church" All Moms/ Daughters welcome	18 Worship 5:30 PM
19 Worship-8:00 AM Educ Hr-9:30 AM Worship-10:45 AM Confirmation 4-5:30 PM	20 Women's AA-7 PM	21 Al-Ateen 6:00 PM LWML 7 PM	22 Youth Choir 3:30 PM Confirmation 6:30 - 8 PM Discovery 7PM	23 Women's Bible Study 9AM Bells 7PM	24	25 Men's Breakfast a Seasons at the Pond 7AM Worship 5:30 PM
26 Worship-8:00 AM Educ Hr-9:30 AM Worship-10:45 AM DWCC - 1:00 PM Confirmation 4-5:30 PM	27 Tools for Living 6PM Women's AA-7 PM	28 Al-Ateen 6:00 PM Youth Board 6 PM Board of Education 6PM	29 Youth Choir 3:30 PM Confirmation 6:30 - 8 PM Discovery 7PM	30 Women's Bible Study 9AM Bells 7PM	31	