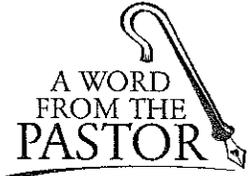


# CHRISTOGRAM

Volume 2 Issue 2

February 2004

## Thoughts from the Pastor



*So the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great terror and with miraculous signs and wonders. He brought us to this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey; and now I bring the first-fruits of the soil that you, O Lord, have given me. Place the basket before the Lord your God and bow down before him.*  
Deuteronomy 26:5-10

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus, God's blessings and peace to you all.

At the end of this month we will begin another 40 day journey. One that we are invited to participate in each and every year; a journey of reflection, repentance, renewal and resurrection, the journey of Lent. It is a journey of intense passion and emotion as we travel together with our Lord right to the triumphant entry into Jerusalem which signifies the beginning of his week of Passion, leading to the cross of Calvary and the empty tomb. It is a journey designed to help us to forgive the errors and celebrate the victories of the past in order that we are empowered to do what Jesus encouraged Peter, James and John to do on the mount of His Transfiguration; to descend and go to work.

Many events have shaped our recent past, some trying, some, triumphing. As we approach the Lenten season for 2004, we are confronted with opportunities and challenges that will shape our immediate future. Crucial to how we face these opportunities and challenges will be how we view our past and our present. When the Israelites were first settling in the Promised Land of Canaan they remembered that it was the Lord God Almighty who had made all that they had possible and they praised and worshiped Him with the first-fruits of the blessings of the land. Let us do the same.

All that we have is nothing more and nothing less than the blessings given to us by the hand of the loving and gracious Creator God of the universe. Let us worship and praise God by also bringing to the altar of the Lord the first-fruits of the labors of our hands. It is as important as ever that the proper stewardship of tithing in time, talents and treasures be offered by God's children. There is so much work to be done in His Kingdom. The Gospel message is needed as much as ever in our community and beyond. Let us bow down before Him in humble adoration and praise.

To assist us in prayerful commitment of time, talent and treasure to God, the sermon series for our midweek services, beginning Ash Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM, is titled: Hands of the Savior. God's living and powerful Word will share with us the innumerable ways in which our Lord has blessed and continues to bless us in every moment of life right through to life eternal. I invite you to bring friends with you as you journey through Lent with your Lord.

Fellow redeemed children of God, through the prophet Malachi, God lays before us the responsibility of filling His storehouse with the tithe so that the work of His Kingdom may not be hindered. He also lays before us His promise to bless our faithfulness beyond our wildest dreams. Therefore, let us faithfully journey together through the season of Lent, the week of our Lord's Passion, and through the rest of our lives here as brothers and sisters in Christ. Let us serve the Lord faithfully with all that He has given us in life. Let us worship and praise the One true Lord and God of all. Amen

In Christ's Service – Pastor Scott

# Words from Ellie

Hello Friends,

February, '04

Well, here it is again—another February, which means another Valentine's Day in the forecast. I gotta tell you—I'm 24 years old and I haven't had a Valentine's Day yet that I didn't hate. Until a year or two ago that is. I used to struggle a lot on this day because I didn't have someone to tell me they love me. And I didn't have someone to call when I got home to say I love you to. And then it hit me. I do. I have Someone who loves me more than I will ever understand. I seem to talk about how we can't comprehend God's love quite often. But what a great topic of discussion. I can't even imagine how much more He loves me, than what I already know. John 15:13 says, "Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends." I finally took a minute to think again about what that really means. The Almighty God, Master of the universe, loves me so much that He gave up His life. It wasn't the nails that held Him on the cross; it was His love for me, and for you. He calls us friends and loves us with perfect love. Perfect love! Can you even fathom what perfect love is like?!



Well, here's how it is: some people have found the person they want to share the rest of their lives with. Some have given their heart to someone and not received the same in return. And still others go through each day trusting in the faithfulness of God, waiting...

Wherever you're at in life, I pray that this month you may be overwhelmed by the love our Savior has for you. I pray that you are consumed by its vastness and in awe of its power. And today, may it reign peace in your heart like you've never known before.



"And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God."

Ephesians 3:17-19

## Tenets, Tidbits, and Trails..... The Elder's report

### “Is Prayer Enough?”

Few Christians would disagree that the most important act we can do on behalf of the church is to pray. But is that enough? Is it sufficient to hold up our fellow Christians before the throne of God in prayer for their needs? Is it enough to pray?

In our church today we sometimes find ourselves guilty of not taking advantage of the many opportunities God has given us in serving the needs of our spiritual family. I do believe that our prayers can be best served when we are willing to be part of the answer.

Scripture presents many examples of God's desire to use man in carrying out His will. God used Moses to deliver the 10 Commandments, Noah to preserve every animal species, Jonah to preach to Nineveh and so on. Of all the accounts Isaiah 6:8 is my favorite. Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying “Whom shall I send and who will go for us?” Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.”

Here am I, sent me. In each of our prayers we should ask “Lord, is there something I need to do in cooperation with you in regard to this request?” When praying for someone not saved, ask “Am I to bring the gospel message to them?” When praying for someone suffering discouragement ask, “Am I to bring encouragement?” When praying for someone who has an immediate need, consider “Has God given me the means to meet that need?”

I believe to be of total use of God we are to include ourselves in each of our prayers, offering to be God's instruments, willing to be used by Him. Let's not take the easy road as we pray for God to do His thing, forgetting the very people we are praying for.

As believers who are part of the body of Christ it is our duty to be His servants and His vessels to one another. Be willing this day, week or month to be used by God.

**Here am I. Send me!**

Your servant in Christ,

Gene

## CONCERT OF



join us when you can. All

are welcome and encouraged to come to together to pray for our church and our community and share any personal prayer requests. Church Council will be here at 5:30 pm.

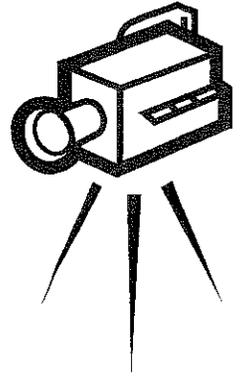
February concert of prayer is on Friday the 6th from 4:30 - 6:00 PM. Come after school with your kids or

### My Dear Family of Faith:

Thank you all for the warm welcome home and the interest in our mission to Uganda. It was an honor and a life changing experience to go to Uganda and serve God there and represent the family of faith here at Concordia. People ask me if I have recovered from my "re-entry" and I have to say that physically, yes. Spiritually, emotionally and mentally, I hope I never do! God took a poor sinner like me and sent me out to do His work and I am still in awe about that. To see how God is working first hand in a poor, destitute country is above what I could have ever comprehended until I saw it with my own eyes. The gifts and the financial support of over 300 kids by people like you, has an amazing impact on that country. We are only

asked to give \$30.00 a month and I never believed how that small of an amount goes in a family of seven to ten people. One of the greatest workings of God's people can be seen in the walls of the Christian Learning Academy that I was blessed to see. What started out as a big dream of one individual, David Mporampora, is now a reality, thanks to the generosity of people like you. Through faith and obedience to God all things are possible. The kids who now have to travel over a mile to school will soon be able to walk right up the road to attend the new academy. Eventually they will even be able to live at the school. Please pray that this awesome work will continue to flourish through God's blessings. I can't thank you enough for the financial support, the prayers, and the encouragement

you provided as I set out to go on this mission. I will be sharing memories with a video presentation during the Sunday school hour on February 8<sup>th</sup>. Please come if you can and take a journey of grace and compassion with me, as I reflect on God's awesome miracles.



Yours In Christ,

Belinda

"...He will never forget your work and the love you have shown Him as you have helped His people and continue to help them." Hebrews 6:10

## Fellowship Committee

Ash Wednesday is February 25. That will be our first Soup Supper of our Lenten season. Give us a call if you would like to bake some dessert or make some soup. Let's join together as the body of Christ for fellowship

and good food. We will have a soup supper each Wednesday in March. We'll be looking for helpers.

Sincerely, Your Fellowship Committee,

Vicki & Paul Draper



# February

Hi Youth!

Another month...another letter. I hope this finds you all doing well and surviving the lull of mid-year. We definitely have plenty of ways to break up the monotony of everyday life. Here's a look at what's coming up:

**Feb 1<sup>st</sup>:** First off today we are making subs at 6:00am! Meet here at church to put together our sandwiches and be ready to have some good fun...way early!

Secondly, we're having a Super bowl party at the Weber's house. The game starts at 4:25 so we'll head over there shortly before that. Meet at church at 4:00pm. We'll have snacks, games, and great company. Oh and don't forget, a good game to watch!



**Feb 15<sup>th</sup>:** We're going bowling again! Since you enjoyed it so immensely last time, and since so many of you came, we thought we'd do it again. Meet at church at 3:00pm and we'll go to Snow bowl. Then we'll come back afterwards for dinner.



**Feb 29<sup>th</sup>:** There is a very important meeting for all those going to the Youth Gathering. It will be right after church at 12:00pm. Please come with your parents so we can get you in on some of the decisions we need to make. And we will fill you in on some of the vital details.



Okay, that's it as far as important dates for the month go. But there are a few other things I should let you know about. So here they are:



\*Two of our youth members have left us. Michael Herbert is now in Amarillo Texas. He will soon be entering the Naval Academy to study engineering and play football. Kevin Dombey just recently flew to Chili where he will be going to school for a semester while enjoying the appropriate weather for Kayaking. We wish them all the best. Don't forget to pray for them.

\*Another thing I want you guys to be aware of is our upcoming Flamingo fundraiser. I'm not sure if any of you were around when we did this before, but I'll be sure to get something in the mail with all the details. It's going to take you guys and your willingness to help to get this fundraiser to work. I'll be in touch.



\*And last but not least, we are still having our Bible study on "Case for Faith" every Wednesday at 7:00pm. Come check it out!

When Valentine's Day rolls around again, take a minute to think about the amazing love God has for you—so much that He gave His live in your place. See you Sunday morning, and Happy Valentines Day!



The following is a letter received in the mail from the Rocky Mountain District on January 16, 2004.

Dear Rev. Scott Herbert and members of Concordia Lutheran Church:

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On behalf of your brothers and sisters in the Rocky Mountain District, I want to thank you for your commitment to our mission work for 2004 in the amount of \$20,000.00. We are grateful for this goal which you have set, which reflects the response of your congregation to the great love of God demonstrated by the cross of Jesus Christ and your desire to see His name proclaimed in our District and throughout the world. We are grateful for the wonderful response of our congregations. Last year, nearly all our congregations responded with a pledge.

The theme for this year's stewardship effort is "For Such a Time as This," drawn from the book of Esther (4:14). While our District has always had great challenges and opportunities for mission, we see God flinging doors open for mission and ministry in special ways.

- We see a constant stream of opportunities for ethnic ministry.
- We see great progress on the development of Lutheran High Schools in our District.
- We see growing confidence in outreach to Mormons and Muslims.
- We see growing excitement for personal evangelism as generated by the recent "Conversations of Grace Evangelism" Conference, & the Youth Gathering this past summer in Salt Lake City.

We also look forward to partnering with the congregations of our District in all areas of ministry, such as education, youth, evangelism, stewardship, older adult and the like. We look forward with great anticipation to 2004 as we walk together to share the love of Christ with the world.

In Service to Christ and His People,

Rev. Mark Larson

For the District Stewardship Committee, Board of Directors and Staff



February is Concordia's month to help out with Lift-Up's food pantry ministry. Please pick up a bag at the back of the church and next time you're at the store pick up some non-perishables to give to Lift-Up. There are items listed on the bag for ideas. This is a wonderful opportunity to give back out of the abundance the Lord has given us.

## Points to Ponder

### A Different Type of Prayer:

Heavenly Father, Help us remember that the jerk who cut us off in traffic last night is a single mother who worked nine hours that day and is rushing home to cook dinner, help with homework, do the laundry and spend a few precious moments with her children.

Help us to remember that the pierced, tattooed, disinterested young man who can't make change correctly is a worried 19-year-old college student, balancing his apprehension over final exams with his fear of not getting his student loans for next semester.

Remind us, Lord, that the scary looking bum, begging for money in the same spot every day (who really ought to get a job!) is a slave to addictions that we can only imagine in our worst nightmares.

Help us to remember that the old couple walking annoyingly slow through the store aisles and blocking our shopping progress are savoring this moment, knowing that, based on the biopsy report she got back last week, this will be the last year that they go shopping together.

Heavenly Father, remind us each day that, of all the gifts you give us, the greatest gift is love. It is not enough to share that love with those we hold dear. Open our hearts not to just those who are close to us, but to all humanity. Let us be slow to judge and quick to forgive, show patience, empathy and love.

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Psalm 118:24

## Sunday School Happenings for Grades K-4

Our theme this year in SS is the Word of God. We had lessons from Old Testament before Christmas and now we will be learning from books in the New Testament. We started out in January by learning about the Beatitudes. We started learning about Jesus' great commandment this week: Love God, love your neighbor as yourself. (Matthew 22:34-40, Luke 10:25-28.) The kids are getting lots of practice looking up bible verses and really enjoy reading for the class when they find a particular passage.

### **Sunday School Calendar for February through Easter:**

Feb. 1: Caleb visits the children and talk about the Great Commandment and prayer.

Feb. 8: Games and learning activities to discover the heart, strength, and soul of The Great Commandment.

Feb. 15: Craft Day: Loving someone for what's inside their heart is what counts. Not their outward appearance. We'll make silly containers with something special inside.

**Fellowship event after 10:45 service. The SS kids will sing during this fellowship brunch. Please plan on attending.**

Feb. 22: Lesson on the season of Lent

Feb. 25: Ash Wednesday

Feb. 29: The Acts of the Apostles: The Apostles, empowered by the Holy Spirit, spread the Gospel message.

March 7: More on the Acts of the Apostles

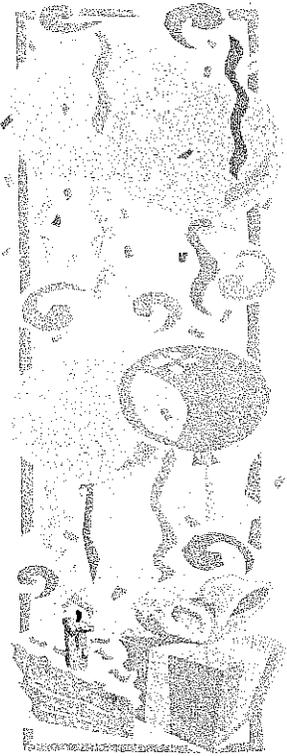
March 14: Craft: Created by the Spirit.

March 21: Holy Week Discussion

March 28: Holy Week

April 4: Palm Sunday & Confirmation Sunday . We'll still have Sunday School

April 11: **EASTER – NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**



## February Birthdays

3-Hannah Wilkie  
 5-Ethan Bussell  
 6-Nina Hanson  
 13-Hope Scott  
 15-Catie Davis  
 15-Heather Carrell  
 16-Priska Sorenson  
 17-Bettiann Carrell  
 21-Ryan Hogrefe  
 26-Adele Dombrowski & Brittany Ryan  
 27-Mariah Starbuck & Mike Davis

## February Baptisms



14—Chloe Banning  
 24—Hannah Wilkie  
 28—Brittany Ryan  
 28—Nocona Falk

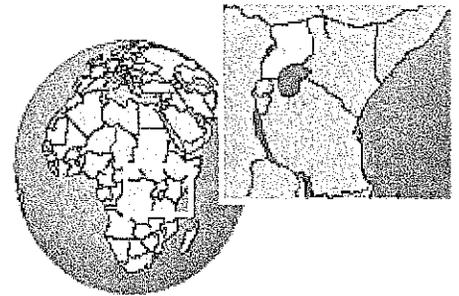
## **LWML (Women's Guild) News...**

In February we will be meeting at Sara Lindsey's home at 2015 Bear Dr. at 7 pm. Meet at the church to carpool at 6:45 pm. We are blessed to have Belinda Hart coming to share with us about her trip to Uganda. We will start promptly at 7. Join us for a wonderful sharing

of how God is great at work furthering His kingdom in South Africa. We would love to have lots of ladies join for this time of fellowship and sharing.

God's blessings to all of you.

Lynn Worrell





## TOOLS FOR LIVING

Be a friend to thyself, and others will be so too.

**Thomas Full**

Thinking positive things about ourselves doesn't come naturally. We think we're too dumb, too clumsy, not handsome or pretty enough. Even before we used, we may have felt that we weren't as good as other people.

In recovery, we are gradually changing this. We have new friends who seem to like us just as we are. They see our good qualities. Other people are also responding differently to us now that we're sober. Teachers' may give us more compliments at school. We may be getting compliments at work.

Now that other people aren't putting us down, let's stop putting ourselves down. Then we allow ourselves to hear, from ourselves and from others, the good things about us.

Today let me respect myself and see my good qualities.

Boy, oh boy! That is a tall order for me! Respect myself; it will always be a life long struggle for me. It is a struggle that I am willing to work on everyday. For if I don't love myself I am dishonoring the God that created me and LOVES ME.

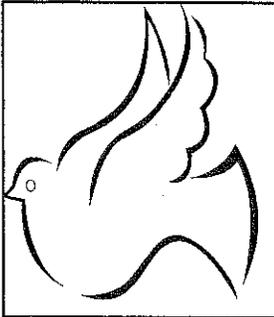
In Christ's Name.

Becca Utu

For support of any kind involving additions please contact any of the following Tools for Living members.

Lori Joens	Karin Burin	Helen Berntson	Pastor Scott	Becca Utu
879-7120	879-7974	870-9675	879-0175	879-1064

For more inspirational meditations see Reflections for the Soul, a collection of Hazelden's best meditations.



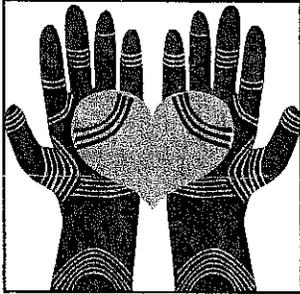
### Confirmation

Is meeting on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am. 5/6  
First year in the Chapel, 7/8  
Second year in the old youth room!



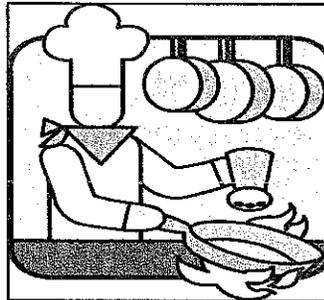
### YOUTH GROUP

Meets every Sunday at 9:30 in the Youth Room.



### STEPHEN MINISTERS

“A friend who has developed gifts for bringing Christ’s healing to hurting places.”



### Men’s Breakfast

Saturday February 14  
7:00 - 8:15AM in Fellowship Hall  
Invite A Friend!



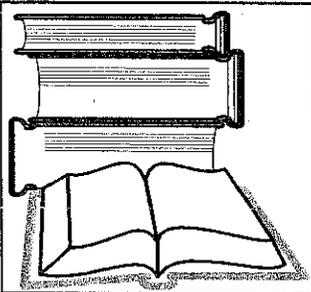
### YOUTH CHOIR

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



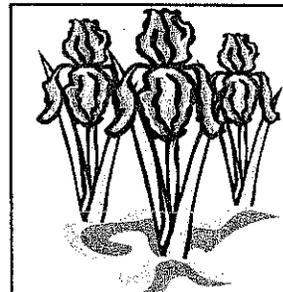
### Wednesday Morning Women’s Bible Study

Meets every Wednesday morning 9-10:30 AM. Come water your faith seeds. We’re studying Hebrews.



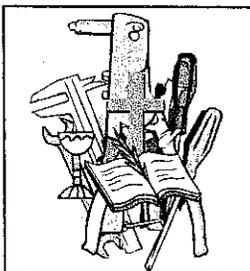
### Small Group Bible Study

Small groups meet at the Scotts & Mac Arthurs on Mondays and at the Thomas’ on Thursday at 7pm.  
Call for more details



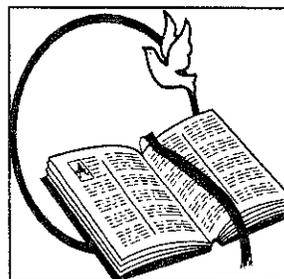
### LWML

Our monthly meeting is Tuesday, February 17th at 7:00 PM. We’ll be at Sara Lindsey’s 2015 Bear Dr.



### TOOLS FOR LIVING:

Ministry team for recovery, addiction & prevention  
No meeting in February



### ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Sunday morning 9:30. We meet in the sanctuary.  
We’re studying Genesis.  
Come join us.

***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](mailto: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**

**Feb 2004**

**Concordia Lutheran Church**

# February 2004

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Worship-8:00AM Educ Hr -9:30AM Worship-10:45AM	2 Prayer Time 7:20-7:40 AM Worship Com.4:30 Women's AA 7PM	3 Trustees 5:15PM Elders 6:00 PM	4 WBS- Women's Bible Study 9 AM	5 Bell Choir 7PM	6 Concert of Prayer 4:30- 6:00 PM	7 Journey prac- tice 10-noon  Worship 5:30 PM
8 Worship-8:00AM Educ Hr -9:30AM Belinda's pres. Worship-10:45AM	9 Prayer Time 7:20-7:40 AM Women's AA 7PM	10 Church Council 7 PM	11 WBS-9 AM	12 Bell Choir 7PM  Christian	13  Ministry	14  Convention Worship 5:30 PM
15 Worship-8:00AM Educ Hr -9:30AM Worship-10:45AM	16 Prayer Time 7:20-7:40 AM Women's AA 7PM	17 Board of Youth 6 PM LWML 7PM Sara Lindsey's home	18 WBS-9 AM	19 Bell Choir 7PM	20	21 Bell Choir Fes- tival in Colo- rado Springs  Worship 5:30 PM
22 Worship-8:00AM Educ Hr -9:30AM Worship-10:45AM DWCC - 1 PM	23 Prayer Time 7:20-7:40 AM Women's AA 7PM	24 Board of Ed. 6 PM	25 WBS-9 AM ASH WEDNESDAY Soup Supper 5:30 PM Service 7 PM	26 Bell Choir 7PM	27	28  Worship 5:30 PM
29 Worship-8:00AM Educ Hr -9:30AM Worship-10:45AM						



Concordia Lutheran Church

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