



# CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

755 Concordia Lane Steamboat Springs, Colorado 80487  
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## "Learning, Living, Sharing the Gospel"

November, 2014

### Hope

*"If in this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied" (1 Cor 15.19).*

What do you hope for? Many of the things we hope for God has graciously given us already. For many years I hoped to be a husband and father. Today, I rejoice with all my being, thanking God our Father for fulfilling my hope and placing me in the family He created. Many of you share that same joy, while a few of you are still waiting.

Other hopes have yet come to pass for each of us. (I'm running out of time to win a 'Tour de France') and sometimes we are tempted to despair they may never be fulfilled at all. What do you hope for today? Are you hoping your unbelieving child, grandchild or spouse will return to church and hear the Gospel? Maybe you hope God will heal your heart disease, blindness or diabetes. Some may still be hoping for that job that will support the family while fulfilling the deep longings of the heart—God's gift of vocation.

November is the month we celebrate "All Saints". Every baptized believer is a saint, but the Holy Scriptures provide us examples of a few extraordinary saints for us to imitate. For all their mis-steps, sins and downright un-belief at times, these saints are singled out because their God given faith raised them to the level of *heroes*: *"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for,"* the Holy Spirit testifies in Hebrews 11, *"[Faith is] the conviction of things not seen. [2] For by it the people of old received their commendation.* The writer of Hebrews goes on to describe the hopes and faith of Abel, Noah, Abraham, Sarah, Moses and other giants in the Kingdom of God.

Then after describing all the great works God enabled them to do, the Holy Spirit concludes: *"These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth . . . . "And all these, though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised"* (Heb 11.1-3, 13, 39).

So what's going on here? Is God playing some kind of mean trick? Is God lying in St. John 16.23 when He promises to give us all things we ask in Jesus' name?

Hebrews 11 explains that God promised His saints of old, something better, something God wanted to share with you and me, *"that apart from us they should not be made perfect"* (v.40).

That *'something better'* is God's own Son, our Savior from death and hell. The *'something better'* God wants to give us is eternal life with Jesus and all the saints in unsurpassable joy and glory that gets better each day for all eternity without end!

St. Paul describes it this way in his letter to the hopeful saints of Corinth: *"For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, whom we proclaimed among you, is not Yes and No, but in him it is always Yes"* (1 Cor 1.19).

The answer to all of Abel's hopes and prayers, the promise made to Abraham, the Promised Land promised to Moses, the Kingdom promised to David and all your hopes too are answered with a resounding 'YES' in Christ Jesus, the Lord of the universe who *loves you*.

Better than winning the Tour de France and even better than the treasure of our spouse and children, is the fulfillment of all good things in Christ Jesus.

Your fulfillment is *now* because Christ lives in you through the faith creating waters of Holy Baptism. Your fulfillment is *yet to come*, on that day God makes all things new, taking away forever your ability and even your desire to sin, God Himself wiping away your every tear and disappointment as your loving Father seats you with the saints at the wedding feast of the Lamb where all hopes are forever, joyously answered 'YES' in Christ Jesus.

--Pastor Harmon



### Happy November Birthdays

11-1 Bob Knapp

11-1 Chris Duryea

11-3 Joanne Boomgarden

11-4 Susan Warner

11-4 Shelly Dunlop

11-5 Janel Kammerer

11-5 Jack Craig

11-6 Sherwood Dunlop

11-6 Ben Lepper

11-14 Cory McConnell

11-15 Jim McCreight

11-18 Cindy Delvalle

11-19 Laura Bradfield

11-21 Suzanne Holm

11-23 Tyler Dalton

11-24 Luther Berntson

11-25 Daniel Atkins

11-28 Sherry Kammerer

11-30 Justin Bauder

11-30 Heather Davis

### Happy November Anniversary

11-11 Bob & Linda Knapp

11-19 Jerry & Becky Schmidt

## Concordia's Website .....



The address is: [www.steamboatlutheran.org](http://www.steamboatlutheran.org)

Missed a Sunday? Do you want to hear the sermon? You can click on the sermon section and choose the audio sermon and listen to it at your computer! Also, find the latest news and events and the calendar which will keep you up-to-date on meetings and happenings!

### Operation Christmas Child



**Only 3 More Weeks to Pack Your Christmas Shoe Boxes!** Start now collecting material for your children's Christmas box. Pick up the informational and instructional brochure at the Operation Christmas Child display in the church lobby and get started on your box (es) now. All boxes must be returned to the church no later than **November 23rd**.

#### CONCORDIA TO SERVE AS ROUTT AND JACKSON COUNTY COLLECTION CENTER FOR OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Concordia will be collecting Operation Christmas Child Christmas shoeboxes from churches and individuals in Routt and Jackson County. We will receive the boxes, pack them in large shipping boxes and deliver them to the regional collection center. A few volunteers might be needed. Call Jerry Thornton 879-4664 if you have a few hours to volunteer.

### S.I.S. (Sisters in Spirit)



**Christmas Bazaar: 11/22 9am-12pm**

**Cookie Baking Days: 11/3, 11/6, 11/10, 11/12, 11/14, 11/7.**

**We need your help for our Christmas Bazaar:**

Please consider donating your homemade breads & bakery items; candies & fudge; fancy snacks; jellies & jams; Dry mixes such as soup, cookies, beverages (include recipe to complete); homemade pet treats.

**Drop items to Concordia no later than Friday, November 21st.**

**Thank You for your help!**

**Advent By Candlelight- Save the date!**  
**12/7/14 6pm-7:30pm**

*All Concordia ladies, teenage young ladies, and your female neighbors and friends are invited to this special evening. The sign up is on the entryway table. Please sign up soon to be sure that you and your guest(s) don't miss out.*

We are in need of 10 Table Hostesses -  
(Hostess information is on the entryway table)

Please sign up and/or contact Clare in the church office 879-0175 if you can be a hostess!



#### Concordia Members' Corner.....

Men's Bible Breakfast is November 8th at 7am at the Egg & I. Join us for fellowship, study and food.

Christmas Bazaar: Saturday, November 22nd Crafters, Cookie Bakers, Specialty Item Makers... we need you!

Mission Trip to Denver to help sorting at the Operation Christmas Child Processing Center will be Saturday, December 6th. Sign up on the entryway board.