

## CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

755 Concordia Lane Steamboat Springs. Colorado 80487 970 879-0175

"Learning, Living, Sharing the Gospel"

August, 2016

### COMING TOGETHER FOR THE FUTURE

We are coming together! Let me explain:

*Grace upon Grace*. As the Apostle John reflected upon the life of Jesus – under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit – he comments: "For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace" (Jn. 1:16 ESV). From the overflowing well-spring of Jesus, we have most certainly all received ... daily ... his good and gracious gifts, especially *grace upon grace*. Thanks be to God!

Throughout the summer, we have been coming together by reading the book *Grace Upon Grace* by John Kleinig. I read a book like this slowly and carefully, reading various sections again to soak in the fullness of the message. More than one of you has said to me: "I had to read this paragraph over and over because I just couldn't move forward until I understood what he was saying." Believe me, I agree.

Soon, we'll be coming together to reflect upon and discuss *Grace Upon Grace*. For now, set aside Sunday, September 18, as the date for that conversation. More details will be coming, but we'll gather together after the late service to share a meal and conversation.

And, we are also coming together around our study of the early chapters of Acts. Question: what kind of community forms through the direct teaching of Jesus and the ever-present ministry of the Holy Spirit? We are discovering just such a community in our study of Acts. And what a community it is! As a congregation, we'll soon be coming together to consider the health and vitality that arises when we focus upon Jesus.

Finally, we can come together around Jesus in a way similar to the early Christian community. We can learn from him along the same lines as the first Followers of the Way. How can we do that? Well, how did they do that? The earliest Christians were able to tell the stories of Jesus. Many of them were eyewitnesses, and they continually repeated these teachings based on the Scriptures and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

We can do as they did, coming together around Jesus through the Scriptures and as the Holy Spirit guides. Curious? I'll share more about how we can come together in this way next time.

I think Sheryl and I have been infected with the "Steamboat Bug"! And I hear we have a Pig Roast soon!

Love ya'!

Pastor Craig



## Happy August Birthdays

8-1 Jan Theadore
8-3 Don Sherrod
8-7 Doug Warner
8-9 David Kelley
8-12 Joni Moss
8-12 Matt Warner
8-12 Marcia Fortkamp
8-14 Clint Hanson
8-17 Graham Hogrefe
8-17 Judi Williams
8-23 Ben Wharton
8-25 Keenan Starbuck
8-26 William McConnell
8-27 Carlyn Staudt
8-28 Nathan Deepe

8-16 Kelley Hanson

### Happy August Anniversary

8-5 Robert & Cindy DelValle 8-8 Andy & Sandra Hogrefe 8-15 Jeff & Baillee Barbour

If we missed your birthday or anniversary we are sorry. Please call the church office and let us know so that we can update our records for the next time! Concordia Members' Corner......

Men's Bible Study Breakfast: Saturday, August 13th 7am at "The Egg & I".

<u>Sun Valley Youth</u>: Will be visiting us the weekend of 8/12.

# Church Directory Update

The Outreach and Assimilation committee will be available to take pictures for the directory after the early and late services in August. If your directory information needs to be updated or you are going to be newly added to the directory, a personal data sheet will be made available in the church lobby for you to complete.

### **Concordia Sunday School**

Thank you to our Sunday School teachers who taught this Summer and during the year— Bonnie Baggenstoss, Jennifer Berdine, Charissa Carrell and Jerry Thornton.

Charissa will be stepping down and we would love to add a few more preschool teachers.

If you would like to be a part of the school year Sunday School Team, please let Clare know.

The general rotation and obligation would be to teach one Sunday a month from September through May. If you can't make the Sunday you are scheduled just switch, let the office know, and we'll be all set.

We believe that it is so important to teach our children about our loving God and that Sunday School and Vacation Bible School are important parts of their faith lessons and journey.

# **Grace Upon Grace Lunch & Discussion**

Save the date! We will have a luncheon on Sunday, September 18th following the late service and discussion on the summer reading "Grace Upon Grace"

Please finish reading before 9/18 and bring your questions and comments.

(A sign-up will be on the entryway table in the next week or two)

#### Concordia's Website .....

The address is: www.steamboatlutheran.org

Missed a Sunday? Find the latest sermons, news and events and the calendar which will keep you up-to-date on meetings and happenings!

