



Concordia Lutheran Church

"Learning, Living, Sharing the Gospel"

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Giving and Receiving! These two significant expressions of love go together like milk and chocolate ... both are good and better when together. Each of these meaningful acts compliment the other: there is no real giving without a receiving and no real receiving without giving. Notice how John links the two:

"Love consists in this: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the sacrifice that would atone for our sins. Beloved, if that's how God loved us, we ought to love one another in the same way. Nobody has ever seen God. If we love one another, God abides in us and his love is completed in us" (1 John 4:10-12).

We have come through a season of "giving and receiving"! The heartbeat of past few weeks has been the "giving love" of the Lord God. The impulse of the past few weeks has been the "receiving love" of God's people. Read through the Christmas Story from the first few chapters of Matthew and Luke, taking note of the "giving" and "receiving."

And the LORD God continues to give! My breakfast this morning was a gift of God through a multitude of others. My thoughts are turning toward Romans as we all prepare to gather for our Sunday Adult Bible study (9:15am). I'm also pondering God's Word-Gift through Genesis as our study picks up again each Thursday. As I write this, the ladies of Community Bible Study continue to arrive. God continues to give!

Just as "God so loved the world that He gave," so we can also say with all humility, "Concordia so loved God that we gave." Look through our Newsletter and rejoice in all the "giving" and "receiving" that flows from God's Love and through our congregation.

Luv' ya!

Pastor Craig

Happy January Birthdays

01-2 Bart Kounovsky	01-16 Todd Elenz
01-2 Carter Kounovsky	01-16 Ron Wentzel
01-3 Lisa Schumacher	01-24 Bradley Craig
01-6 Greg Holm	01-25 Clair Erickson
01-11 Mike Illenberger	01-29 Billee Harris
01-13 Bert Svendsen	

Happy January Anniversary

01-17 Michael & Jennifer Berdine

"Thank you Concordia Lutheran Church for your generous donation so we can keep loving our mamas and babies well! We couldn't do what we do without people stepping outside of themselves and giving sacrificially to see others blessed. This is a true example of how tangible hope is brought to our community! Thank you to all who were a part!" – Selah



Sanctity of Human Life Sunday January 19, 2020



CAYA (Come As You Are) Update

Thank you

for helping lay the foundation for CAYA in 2019! We are so excited to see all God does in your life and in the lives of the CAYA residents this next year. Please be praying with us as we set goals and imagine a bigger vision for 2020!

CAYA Coffee Blend Coming Soon!!!

We had the opportunity to learn how to roast and package coffee at Steamboat Coffee Roasters. Our most important take-away was that dark roast coffee does NOT have the most caffeine. We have our own special CAYA blend, contact us at (970) 819-6198 to place your order!!!

FIRST OF MANY : FAMILIES BEING RESTORED

Chynna's (CAYA's first resident) husband, Dwayne, got baptized on November 17th by Leilani & Chaille. Chynna has been encouraging him to pursue the Lord and he has been impacted by the change he's seen in her! He is now living in a sober living home and serving Jesus! CAYA is all about bringing restoration to the whole family, not just the individuals.

COMBINED SERVICE

Sunday, January 26th @ 10am

There will be a Congregational Meeting and Potluck following the service.
(Please bring whatever you would like with enough to share.)



We hope you have had a wonderful holiday season! At Sk8 Church, our programs are back in full swing and we need your help. Every Monday and Thursday night, students in Middle School through College are coming to Sk8 Church to skate, hang out with friends, eat a warm meal, and receive an encouraging message. You have the opportunity to be a part of seeing lives changed in this community by bringing a meal to feed students during these programs.

We are in need of meals for the winter semester at Sk8 Church. There are still many dates available on our MealTrain. As always, you are able to view available dates and sign up right from your smartphone or computer through the MealTrain.

Please help us make a great start to the new year by bringing a meal to feed youth in this community!



Rocket Packs

Know any kids that would enjoy a waffle, pancake, french toast, omelette or scramble for a cause?

Take them to The Egg during the month of January! Lift-up will receive **10% off** all kid entrees sold for the Rocket Pack Program to provide healthy snacks to children six days a week!



ANGEL TREE UPDATE
WE WERE ABLE TO BLESS 39 KIDS THIS YEAR AT CHRISTMAS!!

mission

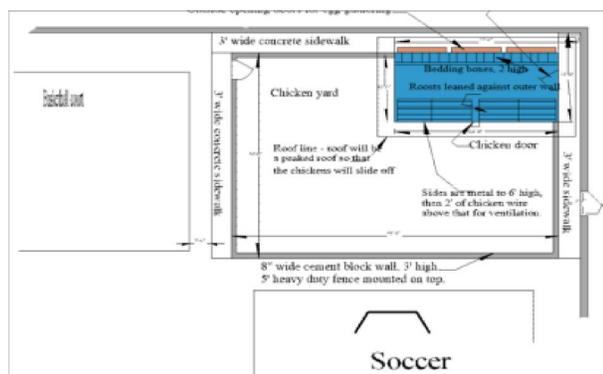


November/December 2019

Merry Christmas from your Haitian family!!

We are excited about all that God is doing at this time of year. We get to focus on the amazing gift of God's love in Jesus Christ to a lost world. The incarnation of Jesus meant, and means, that God has not given up hope on this world. He is not done!! Even though you and I might see the darkness that abounds, God is still moving and advancing His kingdom. The gospel is spreading and transforming lives in abundance in Africa. The spiritual harvest that is occurring there is mind blowing. At the same time, there has been more advancement of the Gospel in Haiti during the last couple of years. Strongholds are being broken and many are coming to faith. I truly believe that the turmoil that has led us into a humanitarian crisis over the last year is profoundly spiritual, as the enemy has attempted to slow the work of the Gospel. However, we have a God who brings hope out of darkness. He brings resurrection when the world sees death. This January many ministries are returning to Haiti, and even though we never left, we are excited about the return of teams planned for 2020! Please plan your trip now. The kids are so excited to see you again and so are all of our neighbors and community.

At our November Board of Directors and staff retreat, we set the vision for this next year. It is to finish the inside of the orphanage property with a special focus on making the orphanage as self-sustaining as possible and finish the second dorm. The goal of becoming self-sustaining does not mean they become financially self-supporting (That is a future goal), but that we create the means on site to take care of all of our needs in the case of another country wide crises. We are going to start off by building a chicken area. This will be for egg-laying hens and for roasters. Doug and Leslie, on their January trip will be focused on this as well as upgrading our gardening area and starting the exterior walls for the second dorm.



Then, the second January trip, we will be finishing up the solar system; to get all of the main buildings supplied with power. There is still room on Stuart's team the end of January if you sign up now! They could use your help (especially if you are an electrician). Take a minute and look at our new upcoming schedule and sign up now. We are especially excited about the medical trip taking place in April, that is so desperately needed by our neighborhoods. We will not allow the enemy to steal the victory! We are going to stand in faith and watch God continue to do amazing things. Thanks for partnering with us!!
Pastor Mike



Pastor Mike and Ellie were able to go and celebrate Christmas with our kids and staff the first part of December.

As you can see from the pictures, the dining area was covered with Christmas lights. The kids each received a stocking with gifts, as did the staff. The nannies cooked a huge meal featuring goat and Haitian lasagna. They also received some goodies on Christmas day.



Calling all who want to participate in a medical mission trip.

The crises in Haiti has created even a greater need for medical care, especially in our area. We are going to run a week-long trip focusing on three days of providing medical care to our community

The dates are April 19-26, Plan now!

We need medical professionals to help assist as leaders,

✈ 2020 TRIP SCHEDULE ✈

TRIP DATES	SIGN-UP BY:
JAN 14-21 - Const/Ministry w/Kids	CLOSED
JAN 22-9 - Const/Ministry w/Kids	ASAPI!
FEB 27-MAR 6 - VBS w/Kids/Light Const	CLOSED
MAR 11-18 - Const/Ministry w/Kids	Jan 22
APR 19-25 - Medical/Ministry w.Kids	Mar 3
MAY TBD	Mar 15
JUN 17-24 - VBS w/Kids/Light Const	Apr 28

Spring break in Haiti - Come help us advance work on the second dorm to help more children. WE are putting the team together right now, so training can start the first part of Feb. Doug Kotwica and Steve Fedewa (Board member) will be leading this trip.



THANK YOU to everyone who helped make our fundraising banquets in Wisconsin and Colorado such a huge success this year!

God has provided in amazing ways for our ministry together to advance.

Plan on helping us expand and grow these events next year? Let Leslie know if you are interested!



Support the Orphanage!

Currently we have to raise \$7,850/month to cover all of our expenses at the orphanage.

Our God given goal is to eventually be able to help up to 64 kids who are in the same life crises that some of our existing kids were in. Any gift will help! Please help us share our story in order to allow God to move in other's hearts to get involved as well - Thank you for your work in the Lord's cause!

[Click to donate NOW!](#)

By clicking the DONATE button below, you have the option to choose EXACTLY what you would like to help us with: General Fund - Orphanage Expenses - Projects Leadership Support — Mission Team/Individual Travel Support