

JANUARY



Concordia Lutheran Church

"Learning, Living, Sharing the Gospel"

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January 2022

This is the time of year for New Year's greetings, wishing people well for 2022. I like the way St. John greeted his friend Gaius in his brief letter: *"To my dear friend Gaius, whom I love in the truth. Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well"* (3 John). What makes this greeting so special for us today?

It is obvious that John desires that all "goes well" with his friend. But even more than his physical health, John desires for Gaius that his *"soul is getting along well."* John wants his friend's *soul to prosper*. Literally, John wishes that his friend's life – physically and spiritually – is *directed along on a good path*. What a profound greeting!

This "being directed" becomes the foundation for all the rest of life. We are all aware that there are times when all does not go well, or that health fails, or that relationships falter, or that struggles of various kinds arise. What sees us through these times is a soul that has prospered, a life that has been prepared for the daily journey, a spirit that follows the direction of the Spirit. Imagine a community of such folks working together!

"Soul" here in the Greek original is *psuchē* meaning "breath." When God created humankind, He breathed into us the breath of life and we became living beings. It is God's "breath of life" that sustains us in all times, not just the good ones.

This "Breath of Life" is what we talked about last Sunday. As we enter 2022, I encouraged the pursuit of your resolutions (though it did not seem too many made them) and promoted the pursuit of our congregation's resolution to "support one another out of respect for Christ." *Hypotasso* was our focus. This is the word Scripture uses to talk about our "voluntary, encouraging, helpful, get-involved, making-life-better-for-others" way of being a Christian community. Again, imagine a community like this!

I have the same desire for each of you – that all would go well with your soul in 2022, but even more that through Word and Sacrament, through prayer, study, and the fellowship of believers that you would grow in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, expressing His Love for us through our love for one another.

Luv ya'!

Pastor Craig

Happy January Birthdays

01-2 Bart Kounovsky 01-13 Bert Svendsen
01-2 Carter Kounovsky 01-15 Becca Utu
01-3 Lisa Schumacher 01-16 Todd Elenz
01-5 Jacob Tjosvold 01-16 Ron Wentzel
01-6 Greg Holm 01-25 Clair Erickson
01-11 Mike Illenberger

Happy January Anniversary

01-01 Gregory & Ann Gilbertson
01-06 Brad & Deb Nelson
01-17 Michael & Jennifer Berdine

VOTER'S MEETING

THIS JANUARY - STAY TUNED FOR DETAILS



Sunday Adult Bible Study
Downstairs at 10:30am
All welcome to join!

JANUARY

GET
TOGETHERS

MEN'S NIGHT OUT
PLACE: TBD
LADIE'S HAPPY HOUR
PLACE: TBD



MONDAY, JANUARY 24TH
5 PM

Sermons on YouTube



[YouTube@SteamboatLutheran](https://www.youtube.com/SteamboatLutheran)

CHURCH ADMIN

We are looking for a new church administrator here at Concordia.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO APPLY

Connect with Ron Wentzel, 970-846-5190, ronwentzel@gmail.com or call Shannon at the office.

970-879-0175

concordia@steamboatlutheran.com

Opportunities to Serve

Snow Removal

Trustees are in need of assistance with snow removal, misc. minor maintenance, etc. If you are able to assist, please call Doug Bradfield at 970-846-3347.

Sunday School

We need one additional teacher to join our team and teach once-a-month. Please connect with Jennifer Berdine if 970-846-8502 if you'd be interested.