



The Concordian

A Newsletter of Concordia Lutheran Church – ELCA
Superior, WI August 2018 Vol 37 No. 8

“Called to Nurture and Live our Faith, Encourage our Service, and Actively Share the Gospel”

From the Pastor:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

In August, I tend to write about vacations, or priming up for the fall resumption of activity. This year, something else sneaked into my consciousness, and I'm inspired to write something different.

It was some time ago that a cousin involved with the military posted a challenge that he'd received trying to increase the awareness of veteran suicides (that is, suicides of people who are veterans of the military). The statistic given was that twenty-two military veterans commit suicide every day. Therefore, the challenge was to do twenty-two push-ups every day for twenty-two days.

I'm not entirely certain how that statistic was determined, and I have read an article that tries to explain it away and assert that the actual statistic is much lower. That article says that the statistic comes from a study that included fewer than half the states in our nation, rather than being a straight report.

However, suicide is a problem growing more prevalent in our country, and not just among those who have served in the military.

Recently I opened a book that begins with a quote that lists its author as unknown. I tried to validate the quote, but could not find it anywhere, so I'll share that quote also with the author unknown:

I have nobody to talk to, to confide in and share my problems with. I have nobody to cheer me up when I'm down, nobody to love or love me back. I have nobody. I am alone.
unknown

While attempting to discern the source of that quote, I came upon a query from a person who wondered if it was normal not to have a friend close enough to trust with the kinds of things you don't want shared beyond the confines of that relationship. The answer I read is that this actually is normal.

TV and novels often give the impression that everyone has that one best friend with whom anything can be shared, and when such a thing is not the case, we might wonder if there is something wrong with us.

When we wonder that, we might feel as if we are more alone than anyone else in the world.

Is this one reason suicides seem to be occurring more often in today's world?

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline
1-800-273-8355

When people die by suicide, some are quick to condemn them as having committed a crime from which they cannot repent. It's not that easy, though. It's not that clear.

Today, we've come to realize that suicide is a result (usually) of depression or other disorders that are not easily treated. Many stressors come together at the wrong time and people are



overwhelmed. They believe they are helping the people around them by removing themselves, when the opposite is true. **The people around them are the ones to suffer the most when suicide occurs.**

When Jesus knew that he was about to be put to death by Temple authorities via the Roman occupation, he prayed for that cup of suffering to be removed, but it was not. He died an excruciating death on a wooden cross. We don't call that suicide, even though with the power of God Jesus could have avoided his death. His resurrection gives hope to all... but many who live with depression are unable to hope.

As we live our lives, I'm hoping that we are able to shine the light of hope in this world in a way that reaches people who suffer from loneliness, fear, or depression. I'm hoping we can reveal God's love in this hurting world with a different kind of push-up, the kind that pushes up those who feel weighed down. Let us love one another. Amen



PARISH NURSING NOTES...

"He said to them, 'Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest awhile.' For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure...." (Mark 6:31)

Jesus knew the importance of rest, relaxation, and renewal. He mentions it many times, reminding his disciples and others to take time out for themselves, and away from the burdens of the work-a-day world. I hope you have been able to spend some time enjoying your family and friends, and all the blessings which come to us in the summer.

Why do we find it so difficult to fit rest and relaxation into our lives? As humans, we seem to define ourselves by **what we do** rather than by **who we are, or whose we are**. For many of us, if we are not working at something (anything!), we seem to feel like we are wasting time. Even our culture seems to over-value productivity and under-value self-care. Americans are typically granted, and use, much less vacation time than Europeans. And when vacation

time **is** taken, it is filled with as much activity as can possibly be crammed into it. God gave us a beautiful world with varying seasons, and our special blessings in each of them. He gave us family and friends as additional blessings to enjoy in this world. He gave us wonderful bodies that are able to do necessary work, but also require rest and relaxation. Most importantly, He gave us His Son, to carry our burdens and give us rest.

We can incorporate rest and relaxation into our lives in other ways on a daily basis. Practice deep-breathing from your abdomen several times a day. Take a minute-vacation by imagining yourself in your favorite place. Make time each day for a walk outside. Play with your children or grandchildren. Watch a sunset (or a sunrise). Read the book you've been wanting to get into. Go to an outdoor concert in the park. Take a picnic lunch to a park, the beach, or your own back yard, and listen to the sounds of water, birds, or children playing. There are many ways to uplift your spirit as well as your body, and most of them are free!

Our minds need first aid for all the planning, activity, facts, and figures that tend to cram into our every waking moment. Social first aid includes sharing time, thoughts, and feelings with our family and friends. Let them know how much they are appreciated. We need to share

our blessings with others—with friends, and those who are not yet friends.

Our spiritual needs require attention in summer also. We may travel far from our own church, but we can always worship in a different church, in a campground, or on a boat. There are many ways to uplift your spirit as well as your body. Take time to *"Be still and know that I am God,"* as Psalm 46:10 instructs.

"My soul finds rest in God alone; my salvation comes from Him." (Psalm 62:1).

Have a safe, happy, restful, summer that you may return refreshed to serve God all your days. Jean



Miles & Sara Ursin

Eric & Lori Sewall

Andrew & Bethany Serre

Michael & Emily Richards

Nicholas & Wanda Pristash

Scott & Kathleen Peterson

Thomas & Nancy O'Neill

Michael & Jane Meehan

John & Janice Letsos

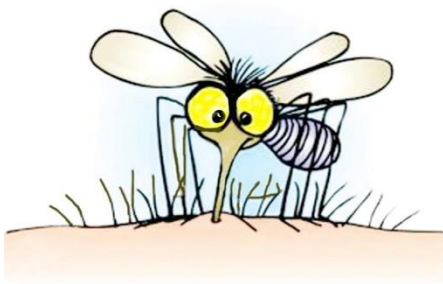
Roger & Suzanne LePage

Kristopher & Amanda Leopold

Steven & Ada Ledin

Steven & Dawn Lambert

Gary & Carol Banker



JOB'S LAMENT ON THE MOSQUITO

How long will you torment me? Shamelessly you attack me. Even when I cry out, "Ouch!" I am not answered; I call aloud, but there is no justice. The mosquitoes break me down on every side, and I am gone, they have uprooted my hope like a tree. They have kindled their wrath against me, and count me as their adversary. Their troops come on together; they have thrown up siegeworks against me, and encamp around my tent.

My relatives and my close friends have failed me; the guests in my house have forgotten me. I call to my servant, but he gives me no answer; I must myself plead with the mosquitoes.

Have pity on me, have pity on me, O you my friends, for the mosquitoes have touched me! Why do they pursue me, never satisfied with my flesh?

As for me, is my complaint addressed to mortals? Why should I not be impatient? Look at me, and be appalled, and lay your hand upon your mouth. When I think of it I am dismayed, shuddering seizes my flesh.

Why do the mosquitoes live on, reach old age, and grow mighty in power? Their children are established in their presence and their offspring before their eyes.

Their houses are safe from fear, and no rod of God is upon them. The male mosquito breeds without fail; the female mosquito lays her eggs and never miscarries. They send out their little ones like a flock, and their children dance around.

How often are they like straw before the wind, and like chaff that the storm carries away? You say, "God stores up their iniquity for their children." Let it be paid back to them, so that they may know it. Let their eyes see their destruction, and let them drink the wrath of the Almighty. But they die in full prosperity, being wholly at ease and secure., their loins full of blood and the marrow of their bones moist.

Oh, I know their thoughts, and their schemes to wrong me. Have they not asked those who travel the roads, and do they not accept their testimony? The mosquitoes are spared in the day of calamity, and are rescued in the day of wrath. Who declares their way to their face, and who repays them for what they have done? The clods (me?) of the valley are sweet to them; everyone will follow after, and those who went before are innumerable.

O that my words were down! O that they were inscribed in a book! O that with an iron pen and with lead they were engraved on a rock forever! For I know that my Redeemer lives, and that at the last he will stand upon the earth; and after my skin has been thus destroyed then in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see on my side, and my eyes shall behold, and not another.



Greetings from the Library Team!

Summer is now upon us, made evident by the "longer days", warmer weather, blooming flowers, outdoor activities and the list goes on. The American author Henry James sums it up quite nicely...." Summer afternoon—summer afternoon; to me those have always been the two most beautiful words in the English language." We hope that you can take some time out to enjoy your "summer afternoon" and give thanks to God for His unconditional love and wondrous gifts!

The Library Team has a few projects they will be working on during the summer, so, please stop by and have a cup of coffee with us. Who knows, you just might find yourself getting involved in this ministry of the Church! Library days are planned for Wednesdays, schedules & weather permitting!

Just A Reminder! The Library has a number of books that have been checked out, but haven't been returned. Please look around your home for any "forgotten" books and please return any you find. If you aren't sure of any books you may have out, stop by the library on Sunday or Wednesday morning to ask or leave a note on the library desk. Thank-you for your cooperation in this matter.



July 22, 2018

Audrey Dontje Lindell
8450 E Camp Amnicon Rd
South Range WI 54874
(218) 343-9389

To: Pr. Michelle Rowell and
members of Church Council
Concordia Lutheran Church
1708 John Ave
Superior WI 54880

Dear Pr. Michelle and members
of Church Council,

I write to inform you of my
decision to resign as Youth and
Family Coordinator at
Concordia Lutheran Church.
Please accept this letter as
notice of my resignation,
effective three weeks from now,
on Aug. 12, 2018.

I am excited to share with you
my plans to begin attending
seminary this fall. While I had
imagined my time at Concordia
to be longer, Luther Seminary
in St. Paul is offering a one-time
scholarship to this year's
incoming students that will
cover my full tuition--an
opportunity I can't afford to
pass up. I understand my
departure puts Concordia in a

hard spot, and the decision to
leave was a difficult one to
make.

I am grateful to the
congregation and to the Youth
and Family Committee
especially for their welcome
and guidance during my time
here, and wish to offer any
support needed to make the
transition after my departure as
smooth as possible.

Sincerely,

Audrey Dontje Lindell
Youth and Family Coordinator
Concordia Lutheran Church



Organ Fund: \$5,044 of \$36,000 raised as of July 23, 2018

Your donations are greatly appreciated!!!

Worship & Music Committee would like to lock in the lower bid for organ repairs.

As soon as we can raise \$12,000, we expect to begin some repairs.

People are encouraged to give as soon as possible
to reach the \$12,000 mini goal (of the \$36,000 total).

Altar Flowers for August

August 5

In Remembrance of 69th Anniversary of Kurt
& Elaine Pietrowski by Jane Pietrowski

August 12

With thanksgiving to Audrey Dontje Lindell,
blessings for her journey!

August 19

In memory of Clifford & Lillian Erickson
by Dick & Joy Moncel

August 26

In memory of Loved Ones
by Bill & Lois O'Neill

Upcoming open date of November 25.

Please contact the office if you would like to
sponsor flowers for November 25.

***The following memorials are
acknowledged by the church office:***

In Memory of:	Given by:
Jane Bentley	Daniel Swenson
Jane Bentley	Rhoda Pearthree
Jane Bentley	Bill & Lois O'Neill
Jane Bentley	Bill & Jan Lippitt
Duane Anderson	Lawrence & Yvonne Quam
Duane Anderson	Bill & Lois O'Neill
Richard Riedasch	Karla Hanson

****If you sent a memorial and were not included
on the list, please contact the church office.

No August Benevolence Committee Meeting

**Next meeting will be
September 9 at 11:00 a.m.**

**The DEADLINE for articles in the next issue
of "The Concordian" is August 23
Announcements are due
by 9:00 am August 27
Concordian Helpers August 28 at 9:00 am.
Thanks for marking this on your calendar!**

Your Church Council members, working together with you in ministry:

President, John Gronski	218.340.1813
Vice President, Gary Banker	715.392.2149
Secretary, Carol Lindegren	218.590.8238
Nancy Burley	218.464.7086
Matthew Eastman	218.409.9174
Jan Lippitt	715.394.9158
Nick Pristash	715.398.0488
Shawn Quist	218.343.6795
Eric Sewall	715.392.1559

Community Benevolence

John Gronski
Gary Banker
Jan Lippitt

Investment Committee

Gary Banker

Finance

Carol Lindegren

Personnel

Shawn Quist
Nancy Burley
John Gronski

Evangelism

Gary Banker

Youth and Family

Nick Pristash
Carol Lindegren

Worship and Music

Nancy Burley
Matthew Eastman
Eric Sewall
Gary Banker

Property Management

Matthew Eastman
Shawn Quist

Stewardship

(inactive, full council)



Youth and friends 6-12th grade are invited to a lock-in Aug. 10-11. Bring a snack to share and come prepared for Bible study, a small service project, and plenty of fun games! Contact Audrey to sign up.



Serving in August

Ushers

August 5	Team I
August 12	Team II
August 19	Team III
August 26	Team 1

Bus Driver

August 5	Ken Harmer
August 12	Pete Quist
August 19	John Gronski
August 26	Kris Hanson

Scripture Readers

August 5	Chayce Strauch
August 12	Diane Kruger
August 19	Richard Wnek
August 26	Doug Score

(Readings may be picked up in the office the prior week. If they are not picked up, we will mail them to the reader.)

Altar Servers

August 5	Lois O'Neill & Nancy O'Neill
August 12	Lois O'Neill & Nancy O'Neill
August 19	Lois O'Neill & Nancy O'Neill
August 26	Lois O'Neill & Nancy O'Neill

Coffee Kiosk Servers

August 5	Nick Pristash
August 12	Shawn Quist
August 19	Matt Eastman
August 26	Jan Lippitt

Financial Assistants

Marie Strom & Jean Stensland

Communion Assistants

August 5	Mike & Joyce Olson
August 12	Dennis & Linda Aho

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Christina Barnaby	Hunter Kerska
Michael Barnaby	Lauren Ketola
Robert Benson	Matthew Ketola
Donavan Bode	Nicole Mattson
Nancy Bode	Alex Meehan
Shirley Brandser	Scott Nelson
Claire Casey	Elin Neugenbauer
Madeline Casey	Michael Olson
Dylan Evavold	Amy Pacholsky
Aimee Gramstrup	Trace Paquette
Addison Griffin	Olivia Pendergast
Adrien Griffin	Wyatt Phillips
Karla Hanson	Wanda Pristash
Ronald Hoff	Traci Roske
Daryl Kadrmas	Joshua Stahl
Presley Kalin	Taylor Setterstrom
Asa King-Macomber	Gabriel Sorenson
Oliver Ledin	Taryn Thompson
Graydon Lexneski	James Trucotte
Violet Johnson	

August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 10:00 Library Workers 11:00 Text Study	2 2:00 Superior Rehab worship	3 (Office closed)	4
5 9:00 Blood Pressure 10:00 Worship w/Communion 3:00 Northshore Philharmonic Orchestra At UWS – Thorpe Langely Auditorium	6 4:30 CLCW Board Meeting	7 9:00 Staff Mtg	8 10:00 Library Workers 11:00 Text Study	9 2:00 Superior Rehab worship	10 (Office closed) Youth Lock In	11 Youth Lock In
12 10:00 Worship w/Communion Presentation by Youth who went to Gathering in Houston Audrey's Last Day	13 6:00 Property Management Committee	14 9:00 Staff Mtg 6:00 Prayer Shawl	15 10:00 Library Workers 11:00 Text Study (Pastor Michelle half vacation day.)	16 (Pastor Michelle vacation day.)	17 (Office closed)	18
19 10:00 Worship	20 6:00 Worship & Music Committee	21 9:00 Staff Mtg 11:30 Ministerium	22 10:00 Library Workers 11:00 Text Study	23 Newsletter Articles Due 2:00 Superior Rehab worship 6:00 Council Mtg	24 (Office closed)	25 2:00 Laurie Skow-Anderson installation as Bishop of Northwestern Synod of Wisconsin at Bethel Lutheran in Hudson, WI 2:45 Mass Choir @ Bethel Hudson, WI
26 10:00Worship	27 Newsletter Announcements Due	28 9:00 Concordian Helpers 9:00 Staff Mtg	29 10:00 Library Workers 11:00 Text Study (Pastor Michelle half vacation day.)	30 (Pastor Michelle vacation day.)	31 (Office closed)	

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1708 John Ave.
Superior, WI 54880

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ELCA website: www.elca.org
Luther Point Bible Camp website: www.lutherpoint.org
Resource Center website: www.synodresourcecenter.org

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Beth Sobczak, Keyboards
Gary Banker, Assistant Keyboards/Choir Director
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The Concordian

August

Vol. 37 No. 8

A newsletter of Concordia Lutheran Church
Superior, Wisconsin
715.394.3762

www.concordiasuperior.org

NOTICE

If you are receiving this newsletter and do not wish to, please contact the church office. If you know someone who should receive it or wishes to be added, please have them contact our office.

Worship Schedule

10:00 am on Sundays

Communion served on the 1st and 2nd Sundays.
Fellowship (coffee & goodies) in the church library
after the worship service (when scheduled).

Mission Statement

As members of the body of Christ at Concordia,
we are called to be God's forgiven, gifted,
diversified and unified people.
By the power of the Holy Spirit,
we **nurture and live our faith** in Jesus Christ,
encourage our service in His church,
and **actively share the Gospel**
in our community and the world.