

The Concordian

A Newsletter of Concordia Lutheran Church – ELCA
Superior, WI April 2019 Vol 38 No. 4

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

From the Pastor:

A colleague asked the other day for letter samples to peruse so that a letter could be created well for that colleague’s particular situation. I’m guessing it would take most of us only one try to guess what the focus of the letter is to be. I wondered whether we could come up with a better kind of letter, and it occurred to me that it would be wonderful if we could encourage people to gather again with us for worship. Would a letter work for that? Will this article assist with that?

Our worship space is huge. At the time of construction, it was created to serve 1200 people at a time. I’m told that the only two times it was filled to capacity were for the wedding of Marjorie Vattendahl and Richard I. Bong and for a funeral... I don’t recall whether the funeral was his or one for a beloved pastor. At this time, I believe our capacity is about 800, if we sit really close together and use all the balconies!

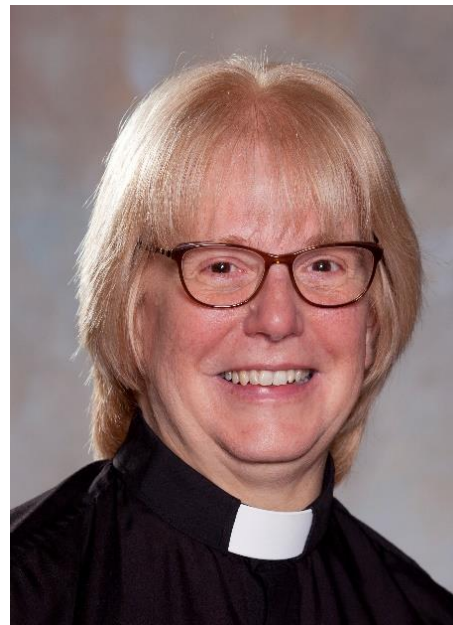
We live in a different world. I’ve been told that this was once the place to be seen, and it is true that at one point that is the reason many people went to church (any church). They felt a need to be seen there, and praised for their faithfulness or goodness. That goes against much of what Jesus advises in Matthew 6, where he warns

against the practice of those who pray long and loud on the streets, or sound a trumpet before giving their offerings.

Of course, not everyone who gathered for worship here at Concordia from time of the early 1930s was here in order to be seen, and maybe that’s more of a rumor than fact, I do not know.

I do know that we always have plenty of room for more people to gather with the rest of us here on Sunday mornings at 10:00. I have promised to add an additional (earlier) service if we gather enough people so that splitting the group won’t feel like Solomon’s suggestion to the women both claiming the same child as their own (If you don’t know that suggestion already, you probably don’t want to!)

What works for encouraging people to gather for worship? Research shows that it’s you. It’s you, talking to one another, and inviting one another to gather. It’s you, greeting the people who’ve maybe rubbed you the wrong way in the past with a nod, if not a smile, with a handshake instead of turning away. It’s you, sitting alongside newcomers, so they don’t feel lost or alone in our vast space! You are the best bet we have for helping people to feel welcome when they come, so that they feel loved enough to return. When groups become



personality cults focused around a pastor or other member we lose our focus on God’s good news in Jesus.

Let us not forget that this gathering is not all about us. We are about the good news of God’s love for the people of this world, and for all of creation. As Easter approaches, as we are reminded of the resurrection of Jesus Christ for the people of the world, let us share that good news in our worship and in our everyday lives, conducting ourselves in ways that are compatible with God’s love, especially for those who rarely experience such love. Let us gather together because God loves all of us, so that we can share that love in whatever ways are most effective for living. In Jesus’ name. Amen



Parish Nursing Notes

One of the National Health Observances for April is “Healthy Sleep.” It’s probably included in April due to the change to Daylight Saving Time, although this year we had it a little earlier. The book of Genesis tells us that on the seventh day, **God rested**. Even God needed rest! When Moses led the people of Israel on their journey through the desert, the Spirit of God that was leading them paused each evening over the place where they were to **rest and sleep**.

As parents, we have likely observed the changes in our children when they don’t get enough sleep. They’re cranky and crabby, either groggy or hyperactive, and not interested in doing whatever you want them to do. They are just not themselves! How do **you** feel and react when you don’t get enough rest? The actual mechanism of how

sleep actually rejuvenates the body and mind is still being studied. But sleep experts and scientists agree that adequate sleep is necessary for healthy functioning. Research shows that all mammals need sleep, and that sleep regulates mood and is related to learning and memory functions as well as physical functions. Getting enough sleep cannot only help you perform on a test, learn a new skill, and stay on task, but it can also be a critical factor in your energy level, maintaining a healthy weight, and preventing diabetes, heart disease, and other medical problems.

Research has shown that there is a direct relationship between obesity and sleep problems. Sleep deprivation can lead to a decreased energy level, making it difficult to exercise. It can also lead to a bigger appetite, and snacking on sodas, candy, and chips in an effort to “up” the energy level. And the resulting obesity can make it more difficult to exercise. It can also lead to compromised respiratory function and nighttime heartburn, which can cause more sleep problems. It’s a vicious cycle!

There are some things you can do to help with the problems. **Stick to a schedule.** Go to bed and wake up at the same time each day, including weekends. **Relax before bedtime.** Take a warm bath, read a book, or meditate and say a prayer. My mother-in-law

had a plaque in her bedroom that said, “*Turn your problems over to God for the night—He’s awake all night anyway.*” **Exercise regularly.** Get at least 30 minutes of exercise daily, but not right before going to bed! **Avoid caffeine, and alcohol, and nicotine**—again, at least within 3-4 hours of bedtime. But don’t go to bed hungry either. Whereas a big meal may keep you awake with heartburn, a glass of milk and small sandwich an hour before bedtime may help you relax and feel sleepy. **Check your medications.** Ask your pharmacist or doctor if any of them may contribute to insomnia, and should be taken at a different time of day. **Don’t try too hard.** If you don’t fall asleep within 20-30 minutes, get out of bed, and do a quiet activity, such as reading, until you feel sleepy.

You know your health is complex—if one part of the body system suffers, you’re likely to see consequences in other areas of your life. God designed us in a magnificent manner! Psalm 139:14 says, “*I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works.*” All we have to do is try to maintain a balance in all areas of our lives. Psalm 127”2b reminds us, “*God gives his beloved ones sleep.*”

Stay healthy, happy, and **well-rested**.....
.....Jean



Library Happenings!

Greetings from the Library Team. As our journey through Lent continues coming to a close with the Crucifixion and Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, may you find a strengthening of your Faith,

of your walk and relationship with our Lord and of the LOVE He has for us. Look up John 3:16-17, that says it all! The library has several Lenten and Easter books on display that may be helpful in your personal journey through this Lenten/Easter season, this time for reflection and celebration! The Library Team will be serving soup and goodies after the noon Lenten service on Wednesday, April 3rd. Pastor Mowchan will be

preaching that day. The message is based on “You Shall Love the Lord your God with All Your Heart”. So, come join us for some “food” for the spirit followed by food for the soul/body!

The Spring meeting of the Lake Superior Church Library Association has been set for Saturday, April 27th, at Grace Lutheran Church in Hermantown, MN. As more information becomes available, we will post it
(continued on next page)

(from previous page)

on the weekly Concordia Connections.

Believe it or not, Spring has arrived! As the daylight increases, the snowbanks start disappearing and there is green grass bravely making an appearance, our thoughts turn towards gardening, yard work, the cabin. All a wonderful way to get outdoors, get some exercise and to enjoy God's beautiful creation! May your Easter be a Blessed and Meaningful One!
Keep On Reading!



2019 Easter Message

May I have your attention please! MAY I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION for an important announcement! MAY I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION FOR AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT, NOW, PLEASE!!!!

What do we have to do to get the world's attention? We've got good news, great news, the best news, but we can't seem to get the attention of those who need to hear it the most.

For a few years in my former parish I sent out postcards and Facebook posts hoping to catch the attention of those who weren't members of my church and invite them to EASTER WORSHIP.

I used cute designs from OUTREACH.COM. My favorite was a photo of a fuzzy blue stuffed toy bunny with the

caption: Is the true meaning of Easter a little fuzzy? On the other side of the card was an invitation to worship at Trinity, the church I served. This year they have a photo of an adorable baby wearing floppy fuzzy bunny ears and the caption reads: Have you heard the real story of Easter? They also have a post card with the photo of a green field filled with colorful Easter eggs ready for the Easter Egg hunt. The caption reads: Hunting for more this EASTER? These clever cutesy cards are designed to get the attention of the world and invite non-members to come to their worship services. It is not a terrible idea to send a postcard in the mail or post on social media inviting people to visit your church, but is it working? Does sending a card capture the world's attention?

What does it take to get the attention of the world? What does it take to get the attention of the family that lives in the yellow house across the street from your church building?

Some seems to be so distracted, busy, engaged in daily living, or just getting by. Others seem anesthetized by mind numbing virtual reality activities on their computer, phone or TV screens. A few find time to worship at the gym, yoga class, running, or biking. Sometimes I just want to yell, HEY! LISTEN UP, I've got good news. But I know they won't be able to hear me over the din of daily life.

So what do we do? We know that guilting, shaming, and judging doesn't work. Should we just...Give up. Shut up. Close up? Nope. I'm too much of an optimist for that. I think there is one thing we as a church can do that might get the world's attention. We can sneak up and love them up.

I don't mean sneak up like stalking, that's illegal. What I mean is act like you love your neighbor in little ways so that eventually without you really knowing it, you DO love your neighbor and you can be in a relationship in such a way that you can invite them to know and love Jesus, the real Jesus, the Jesus of Easter.

Maybe the first step is caring enough about the folks that don't know the story about Jesus life death and resurrection to send them a silly post card. Maybe a baby step is caring enough about the children who won't hear the Easter story in Sunday school and inviting them to come to your church for an Easter egg hunt and before it begins tell them about Jesus in some simple way. Maybe you could care enough to get to know the name of the church neighbor in the yellow house and who knows where it will go from there. Care enough to get to know your neighbor, the Muslim family from Somalia that lives next to the grocery store. Care enough to get to know your immigrant neighbor, the Latino family that lives across the street from the school.

Maybe the only way to get someone's attention is to love them. That's how God got my attention.

God sneaks up on us, loves unconditionally, loves the world so much that he gave his only Son, and on the third day he rose from the dead, so that we might have life. That's the real meaning of Easter. That's the good news the world is dying to hear. They just don't know it yet. Maybe YOU can love someone enough to tell them about it.

It's Easter. Let's go love-in Jesus' name,
Bishop Laurie Skow-Anderson

CONCORDIA'S ORGAN FUNDRAISER



Organ Fund: \$16,078 of \$36,000 raised so far
Your donations are greatly appreciated



Lilies will be purchased by the Altar Guild to decorate the chancel for Easter. If you wish to memorialize or honor a loved one, you may make a donation in any amount to the Altar Guild Easter Lily Fund. A list of those memorialized or honored will be in the Easter bulletin.

Donor: _____

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

(Checks payable to Concordia Altar Guild)

Lily Memorials will be accepted through Palm Sunday.

If you would like, you can mail donations to the church office. Please make sure they are mailed early enough to arrive by

April 14, 2019.

The following donations are acknowledged by the church office:
Concordia Altar Guild
Concordia Lutheran Church Women

Altar Flowers for April

April 7

In Memory of Edward and Dorothy Hoffman Given by the Lippitt Family

April 14

In Memory of Erika Margaret Banker given by Gary & Carol Banker and Craig & Amy Banker

April 21

In Memory of Martha Jean and Bob Hansen given by Nancy Hansen Burley

April 28

In Memory of Esther J. Nelson given by Patsy Luder and Shirley Brandser

CLCW Rummage Sale

May 11, 2018

8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Men's and Ladies' Night Out

April 9, 2019

Ladies 5:00 at a Location yet to be

Determined

Men 5:30 at Hacienda

Remember or Honor a Loved One by sponsoring Sunday Altar Flowers

The following dates are still available: May 19 - June 9 - July 7 - August 18 September 1 - December 29

The cost is \$40.00. Please mail a check to Ann Novack at 602 E 7th Street, Superior.

Thank you

The Concordia Altar Guild

BOE Scholarship Applications Due May 1, 2019
Please have signed proof of 5 hours of community service. Applications are available at the church office & our website at
www.concordiasuperior.org

Happy Anniversary!!!

Todd & Patricia Johnson

Curtis & Lori Kelleher

Paul & Dawn Piggott

Rummage Sale Work Day

April 8 at 9:00 a.m.



Lake Superior Ragtime Society
Sunday, April 7
1:00pm
In The Fellowship Hall

Helen Hankey Concert
April 6, 2019
3:00 p.m.



**The DEADLINE for articles and
 announcements in the next issue of "The
 Concordian" is April 22.**

Thanks for marking this on your calendar!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!!

**Dottie Anderson, Susan Benson, Michael
 Breitzmann, Michael Butera, Matthew Eastman,
 Linda Erickson, Anthony Griffin, Avery Griffin,
 Evelyn Hagfeldt, Blake Hanson, Karin Hanson,
 Rachel Hering, Craig Jacobson, Scott Johnson,
 Carter Lambert, Steven Ledin, Savannah
 Leopold, Edward Lindegren, Beth Lundgren,
 Olivia Lundgren, Lisa Marinac, Susan Martin,
 Gregory Mattson, Ethan Meehan, Kathi Moore,
 Russell Moore, Barb Olson
 Kathy Olson, Tyler Olson, Marie Peterson,
 Rhoda Pearthree, Kathleen Porter, Georgiana
 Peer, Matthew Peer, Savannah Russom, Michael
 Richard, Emery Setterstrom, Lori Sewall, Evan
 Strauch, Nancy Torguson, Miles Ursin, Trent
 VanDamme, Rebecca Wood, Audrey Zimmer**

QUILT RAFFLE for the Organ Repair Fund
April 6, 2019

**We are raffling a quilt (approximately 63" * 63"
 to raise money for needed repairs to our pipe
 organ.**

**Quilt is hand-placed machine-pieced of batik
 fabric and machine quilted with an applique
 center, created and donated by Karla Peterson
 and Holly Peterson, and valued at \$400.**

**Secondary prizes are (4+1!) various company-
 specific \$25 gift cards.**

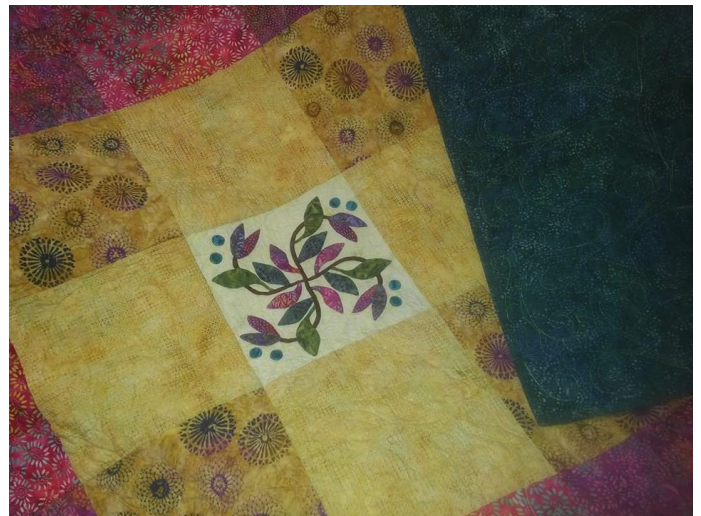
Tickets are \$2.00 each or 3 tickets for \$5.

**Drawing will be at the end of the Helen Hankey
 Series Piano Concert, which begins at 3:00 on
 Saturday, April 6, and features 3 UWS advanced
 piano students.**

Tickets are available now.

**People must either come into the office to buy
 tickets or purchase from a congregational
 participant who is selling them, as federal law
 does not allow any Raffle activity through the US
 Postal Service.**

**A picture of the entire quilt may be seen on our
 congregational Facebook page, or you may
 examine the quilt at the church.**



Serving in April

Ushers

April 7	Team II
April 14 (Palm Sunday)	Team II
April 21 (7:00 a.m. Early Easter Service)	Team II
April 21 (10:00 a.m. Easter Service)	Team I
April 28	Team III

Bus Driver

April 7	Brett Quist
April 14 (Palm Sunday)	Kris Hanson
April 21 (Easter)	Pete Quist
April 28	Ken Harmer

Scripture Readers

April 7	Ken Harmer
April 14 (Palm Sunday)	Theresa Clemmer
April 21 (7:00 a.m. Early Easter Service)	Bear Rowell
April 21 (10:00 a.m. Easter Service)	Anne Gronski
April 28	Mark Thompson

Altar Servers

April 7	Ann Novak & Carol Banker
April 14 (Palm Sunday)	Ann Novak & Carol Banker
April 21 (7:00 a.m. Early Easter Service)	Ann Novak & Carol Banker
April 21 (10:00 a.m. Easter Service)	Ann Novak & Carol Banker
April 28	Ann Novak & Carol Banker

Coffee Kiosk Servers

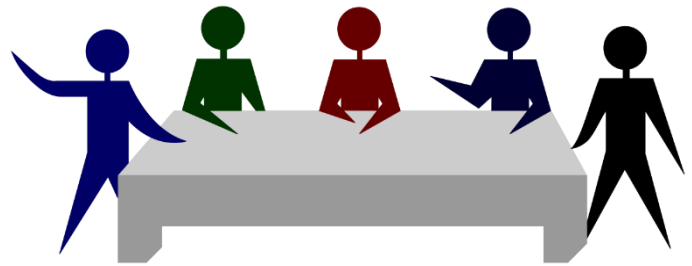
April 7	Jan Lippitt
April 14 (Palm Sunday)	John Gronski
April 21 (7:00 a.m. Early Easter Service)	Lori Sewall
April 21 (10:00 a.m. Easter Service)	Carol Lindegren
April 28	Worship & Music Committee

Financial Assistants

Jennifer Kloss & Eric Sewall

Communion Assistants

April 7	Shawn Quist & Lori Sewall
April 14	Jane Pietrowski & David Sloan



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

President, John Gronski	218.340.1813
Vice President, Shawn Quist	218-940-5896
Secretary, Carol Lindegren	218.590.8238
Kris Hanson	715 977-1260
Matthew Eastman	218.409.9174
Jan Lippitt	715.394.9158
Nancy O'Neill	218 391-6141
Eric Sewall	715.392.1559

Concordia Cares Committee

Jan Lippitt

Investment Committee

Nancy O'Neill

Finance

Carol Lindegren

Personnel

Shawn Quist
John Gronski
Eric Sewall

Evangelism

John Gronski
Kris Hanson

Youth and Family

Carol Lindegren

Worship and Music

Matthew Eastman
Eric Sewall
Lori Sewall


Property Management

Matthew Eastman
Shawn Quist

Stewardship

John Gronski
Kris Hanson

April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 2:00 Violin Teaching Studio 6:00 Boy Scout Committee 7:00 Boy Scout Troop	2 9:00 Staff Mtg 11:00 Text Study 4:00 Just for Kix 6:00 Violin Teaching Studio	3 10:00 Altar Guild 12:00 Worship followed by Lunch 5:00 Conf. Class 5:30 Worship Followed by Supper	4 10:00 Library Workers 2:00 Superior Rehab	5 Office Closed	6 10:00 Confirmation 3:00 Helen Frye Hankey Concert Series 
7 9:00 Blood Pressure Checks 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship w/Communion 11:00 Concordia Cares Committee 1:00 Ragtime Society	8 9:00 Rummage Sale Work Day 2:00 Violin Teaching Studio 6:00 Property Management Committee 7:00 Boy Scout Troop	9 9:00 Staff Mtg 11:00 Text Study 11:30 Ministerium 4:00 Just for Kix 5:00 Ladies' Night Out (Location to be Determined) 5:30 Men's Night Out at Hacienda 6:00 Violin Teaching Studio 6:00 Multi-Council gathering at Pilgrim Lutheran	10 12:00 Worship followed by Lunch 5:00 Conf. Class 5:30 Worship followed by Supper	11 9:30 Pastor's Conference Meeting at Concordia 10:00 Library Workers	12 Office closed	13  FM-18 10:00 Confirmation
14 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship with SS program and Communion 11:15 Council Meeting 	15 Newsletter Articles Due 2:00 Violin Teaching Studio <i>(Worship and Music rescheduled to April 22)</i> 7:00 Boy Scouts 8:00 Senior Boy Scouts	16 9:00 Staff Mtg 6:00 Violin Teaching Studio	17 11:00 Text Study 3:45 Confirmation	18 Maundy Thursday 10:00 Library Workers 12:00 Service includes Lunch 2:00 Superior Rehab 6:00 Worship includes supper	19 Office closed 12:00 Good Friday Worship 6:15 Good Friday Worship at Zion Lutheran	20 (No Confirmation class this week.)
21 7:00 Easter Sunrise w/Communion 8:15 – 9:30 Easter Breakfast 10:00 Easter Worship Service w/Communion 	22 Newsletter Announcements Due 2:00 Violin Teaching Studio 6:00 Worship & Music Committee 7:00 Boy Scouts	23 9:00 Staff Mtg 1:30 Harmony House Communion 4:00 Just for Kix 6:00 Violin Teaching Studio	24 11:00 Text Study 3:45 Confirmation	25 9:00 Concordian Helpers 10:00 Library Workers	26 Office closed	27 10:00 Confirmation
28 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship Service	29 2:00 Violin Teaching Studio 7:00 Boy Scouts	30 9:00 Staff Mtg 4:00 Just for Kix 6:00 Violin Teaching Studio				

Concordia Lutheran Church
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Church website: www.concordiasuperior.org

Synod website: www.nswi.org

ELCA website: www.elca.org

Luther Point Bible Camp website: www.lutherpoint.org

Resource Center website: www.synodresourcecenter.org

Michelle R. Rowell, Pastor
Beth Sobczak & Hector Landa, Keyboards
Theresa Clemmer, Financial Secretary
Jean Riedasch, Parish Nurse
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The Concordian

April

Vol. 38 No. 4

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.

Sunday Worship Schedule

9:00 am Sunday School/10:00 am Worship

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.