



The Concordian

A Newsletter of Concordia Lutheran Church – ELCA
Superior, WI January, 2020 Vol 39 No. 1

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

From the Pastor:

Stop. Take a moment. Breathe.
Do it again.

Immanuel is the word from the Hebrew Scriptures meaning “God is with us.” Emmanuel is that same word transliterated into Greek, still meaning, “God is with us.”

Stop. Take a moment. Breathe.
God is with us.

Let your heart acknowledge this truth:
God is with us.

There is a story of a community of faith needing to choose a new leader. As they considered what to make their highest priority, they seized on the Bible verse that advises to “pray without ceasing.” (1 Thessalonians, 5:17) They decided that their ideal leader would be the one who could best demonstrate the ability to pray without ceasing.

I’m sorry I wasn’t able to find the source, in order to explain the parable more correctly, and to give proper credit to the author. It says something like this:

The challenge was offered to three contestants for the leadership position, and was to last for seven days. One set up space in the chapel, arranged for food to be brought in at regular intervals, and arranged several cushions and kneeling rails to aid with the posture of prayer for the week.

The second created a pavilion of sorts outdoors, in a popular site, praying loudly at times, and more quietly at others, occasionally asking those passing by for needs to be included in the prayers solemnly intoned.

The third did not appear to make any effort at all. There was no space set aside for praying. Meals were as before, sometimes solitary and at home, sometimes in the community and shared with others. Those who believed this one to be the best possible leader for the community anxiously began urging some kind of effort be taken, but the third merely smiled and took up

another task. One task was helping to weed the garden of a lonely neighbor, coupled with quiet conversation.

Another was helping to round up the critters who had somehow escaped from the safety of their yard. When a stranger came to town and tripped on the tree root

that the regulars had learned to avoid, this one assisted with first aid, and transportation to additional medical assistance.

At the end of the week, the first two showed up at the meeting exhausted, both believing they must have won, while the third quietly took a seat in the back. Each gave a report of their week, and the committee withdrew to discuss. The decision was unanimous. The one who had prayed best was the one who recognized the needs of the community, and worked best to fulfill them: the third.

Prayer is not limited to what we say to God, or ask of God. Prayer includes what God says to us, and asks of us. It seems that many people find it too difficult to take the time to listen, to be.

Stop. Take a moment. Breathe.

Much in this world is unfair. Most of us have become reactionary, without taking the time to consider what God may be doing within the chaotic mess of a world filled with people (and others!) who act without prayer, without seeing God’s presence or God’s creation.

Stop. Take a moment. Breathe. Pray.

God is with us, always!

In Jesus’ name.



Pastor Michelle



Parish Nursing Notes.....

Parish Nursing Notes.....

We received a letter from our Family Practice physician lately, as I know several other members of our congregation did. It told us that our doctor had been diagnosed with stage 4 pancreatic cancer, with some metastasis to the liver. Our immediate thought was, "This must be a mistake!"

She's a doctor! How could this sneak up on her like that!"

But the fact is, she's also a person, just like us. And just like us, symptoms sneak up on us. We think they're not really serious, and will pass on. They seem so minor that they can't possibly mean anything we should follow up on. But sometimes we should!

The pancreas lies deep inside the body, and has two main functions: secrete juices that help digest foods, and make hormones that help control blood sugar levels. Early tumors in the pancreas are very difficult to detect. But people are advised to consult their doctor if they have any of the five common symptoms.

There are five early symptoms that should catch our attention—and they may not all appear at the same time. One of those symptoms is jaundice. This is a yellow tint you might notice in the whites of your eyes, your skin, or your urine. This happens when some of the bile ducts get blocked, and the bile (and its' yellow color) follow different paths.

Blocked bile ducts can also lead to light colored and greasy stools. So it's a good idea to look in the toilet before you flush it.

Pain in your belly or your back can also result from blocked ducts. Pain in those areas can result from many other problems as well, so we do not usually think of a cancer as the cause. And we think it is something minor and will go away in a few days.

A decreased appetite and resulting weight loss is another early symptom. This can come on so gradually you may not notice it for quite a while. And for many of us, the weight loss might be something we LIKE seeing, and not even question the reason behind it!

The fifth symptom is nausea and vomiting. Usually if we experience those symptoms we think it is due to something we ate, or possibly a light case of the flu.

If you notice two or more of these symptoms at the same time you should schedule an appointment with your doctor to get them checked out. Or even if it's only ONE of the symptoms, but it lasts for two weeks or longer—get it checked out. It may turn out to be nothing serious, and you'll have to pay for an extra office visit. But that is so much less than NOT getting it checked, and finding out later that you have pancreatic cancer. And then have to pay for all the expenses that will involve. And also have a much shorter life span, as less than 9% of people with pancreatic cancer live five years or longer.

1 Cor. 6:19-20 tells us to honor God with our bodies, and to care for them, and Proverbs tells us that a wise man listens to advice. So DO these things and stay healthy and happy so that you may help others.....Jean



Snow is falling and books are calling ...

Library Happenings!

Well, ready or not, the New Year is upon us!
Happy 2020!

We, on the library team, pray that your Christmas was a joyful & Blessed one. A time to celebrate, with family & friends, the true meaning of Christmas. A time to create new memories and a time to cherish the ones from past Christmas's. Now a New Year has begun, full of fresh hopes and dreams. May you remain centered in Christ and be assured that He is always with you! He is there loving, forgiving, and supporting you at ALL times.

Keep on reading!

See you in the library!



Boe Engebretson Scholarship

Scholarship applications are now available in the church office.

Requirements include:

A brief statement of faith
Be an active member and
Contribute 8 hours of volunteer service to Concordia Lutheran.

Concordia Cares



A faithful group of volunteers shopped on a cold wintry night to bring a little bit of happiness to teens a little less fortunate. A total of 194 gifts were purchased and brought to the firehall to be distributed. Thank you to Ken Harmer for driving the sleigh (bus)



Thank you to the anonymous donor that paid for the Christmas Eve ad in the newspaper!

Organ Update

Please join us on Sunday, February 9 at 3PM for the Organ Fundraiser Concert! This free afternoon concert will feature local, professional musicians. All proceeds from the free-will offering will contribute to the repair and upgrade of our pipe organ. We have just over \$10,000 left to raise before we have reached the amount needed to complete the project! Thank you to all who have contributed thus far. The enclosed postcard is for you to invite somebody you know! Consider writing a personal message to a friend or family member and encouraging them to attend the concert. Hope to see you (and a friend) there!



Please join us on Sunday January 26th for our annual meeting where we will be taking the second vote on the constitution as well as voting on the constitutional variants adopted by Churchwide Assembly last August.

We will also discuss our mission in this world, how we expect to participate in it, and elect new members of the Church Council and other committees with vacancies.

In Memory of Donna Hansen

Bus Fund:

Jim & Kim Brandser
Shirleyann Brandser & family
Patsy Luder
Sandy Novak
Gary & Carol Banker
Nancy Gullo
Rose gross
Dorothy Benson
Randy & Beth Severin
Jean Stensland
Bill & Jan Lippitt
Nancy Burley & family
Ann Marie Novack
Bill & Lois O'Neill
Rhoda Pearthree
Carl & Lois Renoos
John S Brandser
Lori & Tom Ledin

Organ Fund

Carol & Dan Gucinski
Roy & Marie Peterson
Jill, Lyndsay, Craig and Arlene Jacobson



Poinsettia Memorials for Christmas Eve

Donor

Karla, Kris, Marci, Ben Keagan, Conlan
Hanson
Ann Novack & family
Ketola Family
LeRoy & Linda Eliason
Shirley Brandser & family
Martin & Harmer families
Robert Bentley
Rhoda Pearthree
Eric & Lori Sewall

Traci & Rob Strauch

Gary & Carol Banker
Edith Warner
Roy & Marie Peterson

Lloyd Krob
Larry & Yvonne Quam
Lippitt family
Mike & Joyce Olson
Debra Grismrud
Tom & Nancy O'Neill
Bill & Lois O'Neill
Julie Connor & Lori VanDamme
Amy King
Audra LePage (granddaughter)
Dick & Jean Riedasch
Audra LePage & Sophia Hagen
(granddaughters)

Traci & Rob Strauch
Larry & Yvonne Quam

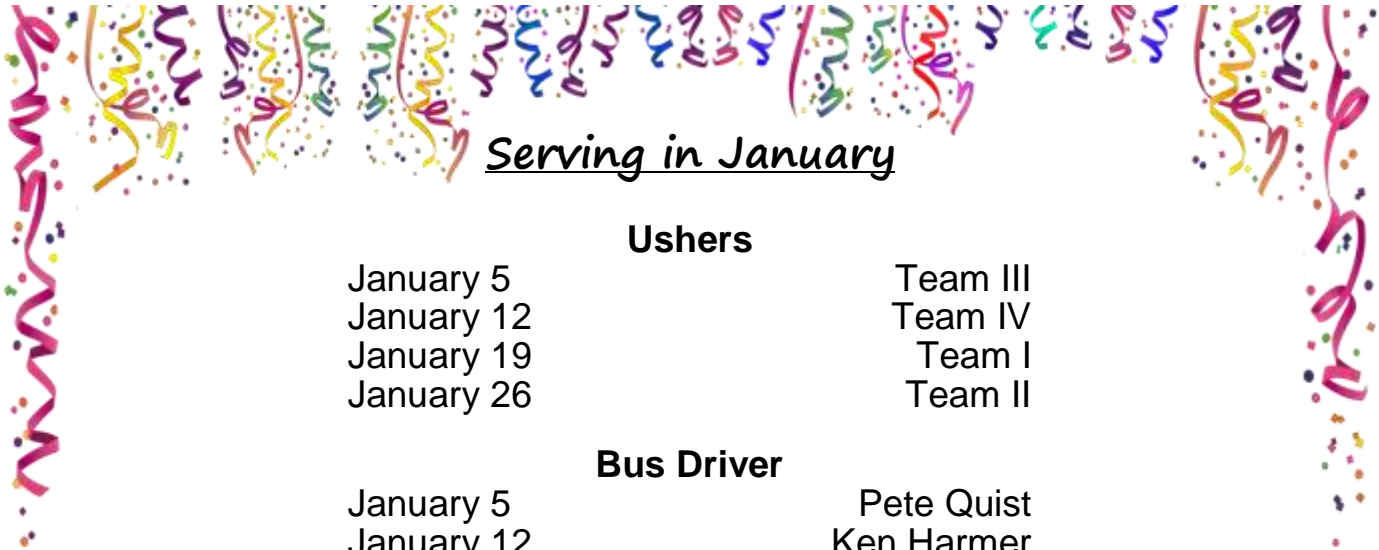
In Memory of:

Jim Hanson & Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Eileen & Ted Ketola, Jean & Robert Allen
Loved Ones
John S Brandser Sr
Laurel & Russell Martin & Jeanne & Roy Grimstad
Jane M Bentley
Cliff Pearthree & loved Ones
Loved Ones
Dorothy & Clayton Wanek, Harvey Wanek,
Dorothy & Dave Oswkey, Mary & Bob Hoegner
Erika Margaret Banker, Roger & Margaret
Erickson, Albert & Margaret Banker
Rober Warner Sr., & Ruth Beckman
Hansina & Dan Peterson, Erling & Olive Peterson
Charles & Tilda Krob (parents) Thomas Krob
(brother)
Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Kenneth & Mildred Olson, Raymond Nurmi
Loved Ones
Duane Anderson, & Lorraine Peterson
Loved Ones
Emma Mattson
Jeffrey Petite
Gerard & Beatrice LePage (grandparents)
Mae & Dick Riedasch, Martha & Joel Dahl

Arnold & Audrey Hagen (grandparents)

In Honor of:

Chayce Strauch
Our 65th Wedding Anniversary



Serving in January

Ushers

January 5	Team III
January 12	Team IV
January 19	Team I
January 26	Team II

Bus Driver

January 5	Pete Quist
January 12	Ken Harmer
January 16	Kris Hanson
January 26	Brett Quist

Scripture Readers

January 5	Mark Thompson
January 12	Nancy O'Neill
January 19	Richard Wnek
January 26	Steve Ledin

Altar Servers

January 5	Carol Lindstrom
January 12	Nancy O'Neill
January 19	Ushers
January 26	Ushers

Coffee Kiosk Servers

January 5	John Gronski
January 12	Carol Lindegren
January 19	Shawn Quist
January 26	Property & Mgmt

Financial Assistants

Deb Harmer & Sue Martin

Communion Assistants

January 5	Richard Wnek & LeRoy Eliason
January 12	Ken & Deb Harmer

Offering Envelopes are renumbered for 2020

With the ease of electronic giving, many are no longer using offering envelopes, so we have reduced the number of boxes we order. This requires a renumbering of the boxes, so if you receive envelopes, your number has likely changed for 2020. **Thank you for supporting the mission of Christ through Concordia Lutheran Church!**

January 2020

			1 Office closed	2 10a Library Workers 2p Superior Rehab Worship	3 Office closed	4 9a Confirmation Class (note time change)
5 9a Sunday School 10a Worship	6	7 9a Staff Mtg 10a Pastors text study	8	9	10 Office closed	11 10a Confirmation Class
12 9a Sunday School 10a Worship	13	14 9a Staff Mtg 10a Pastors text study	15	16 10a Library Workers 2p Superior Rehab Worship	17 Office closed	18 10a Confirmation Class
19 9a Sunday School 10a Worship	20	21 9a Staff Mtg 10a Pastors text study 1:30 Harmony House Worship	22	23 ARTICLES DUE FOR CONCORDIAN	24 Office closed	25 10a Confirmation Class
26 9a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Annual Mtg Winter Theological Event begins	27 Pastor at Winter Theological Event (all day)	28 9a Staff Mtg 10a Pastors text study	29	30 9a Concordian helpers 2p Superior Rehab Worship	31 Office closed	

***BoeDee's music lesson schedule: Mon& Tues: 4-7:30, Wed & Thurs. 3:30-7:00**

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1708 John Ave.
Superior, WI 54880

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The Concordian is published monthly since 1981 by:

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

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Dr. Héctor Landa, Keyboards
Nancy O'Neill, Office Manager
Jean Riedasch, Parish Nurse
David Eastman, Custodian
Matt Eastman, Technologies

Contributors: Many
Assembly/mailling: Our faithful volunteers

The Concordian

December

Vol. 37 No. 12

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 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.