



The Concordian

A Newsletter of Concordia Lutheran Church – ELCA
Superior, WI July 2020 Vol 39 No. 7

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

Beginning to Gather... Safely

Sunday, July 12, we are planning an outdoor worship gathering on the front lawn.

The building will be closed, which means that bathrooms will NOT be available.

The event will be shorter than our traditional worship experience, with no singing and no unison speaking (other than an occasional quiet “amen.”) There will be some piano music.

Masks will be required for everyone in the gathering area. If you cannot or choose not to wear a mask, please remain in your car or participate with the live stream from another place.

Please bring your own chair. If you need a chair to be provided for you, leave a message

with the office earlier in the week.

The bus will not be running, because it is not possible to maintain safe distance for the riders.

We will provide a box for offering with an opening on the top large enough for people to drop in their offerings without touching the box, and small enough that the deposited offerings will not blow away.

Distance of six feet is to be maintained between participants, though family members who live together may sit together. Greetings should be waves of the hands rather than shouts.

There will be no tent, and all who gather are expected to leave directly at the dismissal.

Churches have been rated higher risk than



most other places/activities. We’d like to do our best to do this as safely as possible. If we can do this well, plans are to provide a similar opportunity inside the building in August (at an earlier hour).

In the case of high winds or rain, this will be postponed to July 19.

This will also be live-streamed, so those who wish to join us from home may do so.

If you are at all ill (even a cold), please do not come to this gathering.



Parish Nursing Notes...

Here we are—tired of social distancing and masks, and anxious to resume our previous social life and activities. **BUT.....not quite yet!** We've been lucky here in Superior so far, but it's not over yet. As people start moving around more, and stop wearing masks, and gathering closer together, we become more susceptible. And then, the second wave moves in. And we may not be so lucky at that time!

All the resources I've checked with so far (the CDC, Mayo Clinic, National Parish Nurse Resource Center) recommend continuing the advised precautions. That means we should continue:



1. Wearing masks in public places:

- ⇒ Even those who feel perfectly healthy should wear masks as they may be pre-symptomatic or asymptomatic.
- ⇒ Wear cloth masks—save medical grade masks for health care professionals.
- ⇒ Masks should fit snugly against the side of the face, and cover both the nose and mouth.
- ⇒ Cloth masks **DO** reduce the risk of getting the virus. But not enough studies have been done to determine whether they totally

prevent getting the disease. They **DO** help prevent spreading the virus to others.

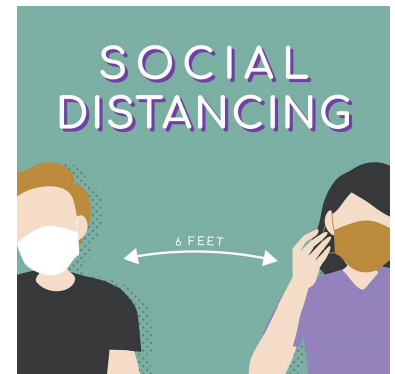
- ⇒ One more layer of protection, a lining of silk, chiffon, or a coffee filter, helps prevent transfer of the virus.
- 2. Maintain frequent hand-washing with soap for at least 20 seconds. If this is not possible, use a hand-sanitizer that is at least 60% alcohol.
- 3. Don't share glasses or dishes without washing in between.
- 4. Maintain 6 foot social distancing from others.
- 5. Isolate yourself at home for at least 2 weeks if you have symptoms, and check with your doctor by phone.
- 6. Wash cotton masks after each use. Regular laundry detergent is fine if used in a washing machine. If washing by hand, use 4 teaspoons of household bleach in one quart of room temperature water. Soak at least 5 minutes, and rinse with cool or room temperature water.
- 7. Help others however you can, without putting them or yourself in danger. Offer to pick up groceries or medications, and stay in touch by telephone or the internet.

It can be depressing at times. But the church services on Facebook can really help. I feel like I'm sitting in my usual place, with Pastor Michelle looking right at me, and talking directly to me.

Remember 2 Timothy 1:7, "For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind."

And a favorite of mine, Philippians 4:6-7, "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

Peace be with you, and stay healthy, happy, and helpful.



Jean

An Update on the Organ

Work on the organ has been progressing well. Thank you to all who have contributed to the Organ Fund thus far. We have two phases of work remaining to fund, and while we have limited options for gathering in person at this time for a fundraising event, we have some exciting new opportunities to continue these fundraising efforts virtually!

Pipes for Sale

One octave (12 pipes) of the Principal rank of the organ - the most prevalent sound you hear during congregational singing - was replaced as part of the necessary repairs and upgrades. The pipes, which are pictured below, range from approximately 5 feet to approximately 9 feet tall and are constructed of #1 Select (by Old School Grading) Pine. We will be selling these pipes to raise money for the remaining repairs.

Wondering what you would do with an organ pipe, besides play it (and yes, they still play!)? Here are some ideas:

- turn it into a floor lamp or hanging light fixture
- mount it on the wall and use as a shelf
- display as artwork



We have a source (who wishes to remain anonymous) who will be able to paint or stencil the pipes with simple artwork, if so desired by the purchaser. You could have the pipes customized with your favorite (short) bible verse, line of a hymn, wedding date or other special date, or anything you can think of (within reason)!

The suggested donation to purchase an organ pipe is \$200-\$300 (add \$50+ for customized artwork).

If you are interested in purchasing an organ pipe(s) or would like more information, please contact Beth Sobczak at (715) 718-1088 or beth.sobczak@gmail.com (email is preferred). Pipes will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis and your donation to the Organ Fund must be received before coordinating any additional artwork and pick-up of the pipe(s).

Matching Donations

A matching donation fundraiser is in the works. We have at least \$500 pledged in matching donations. How does this work? Once we have confirmed our matching donors, we will decide upon a time frame during which any donation given to the Organ Fund will be matched, dollar-for-dollar, by the matching donors. This doubles your contribution! Are you or your business interested in participating in the pledge? If so, please contact Beth Sobczak at (715) 718-1088 or beth.sobczak@gmail.com (email is preferred) for more information.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



Dear partner in ministry,

Weeks may have passed since you last walked in the doors of your congregation and worshiped, face-to-face, with your community of faith. To be sure, being the body of Christ looks and feels differently than it ever has before.

Despite all of this, we are called to be church — together. The ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) looks different now, but it has not stopped. Nor have the needs of our communities and the world. Our church and its leaders continue to minister to its members, to those who are hurting and searching for peace, and to those in need.

The congregations and ministries of this church rely on your weekly offerings and gifts. Without in-person worship services for many weeks or even months, the financial impact could be devastating.

Please continue to give to your congregation and give regularly. Your congregation and its leaders continue to minister to your community of faith. This ministry relies on your weekly offerings. Find out how you can continue your pledge or regular offering through online giving, automatic monthly giving or mail.

I know that, for many of us, this is a time of uncertainty and financial hardship. However, for those of you who are in a position to do more, the needs are great.

In the United States, unemployment has soared. We are already seeing rising demands on our food pantries, homeless shelters and social services. Around the world, millions of people living in poverty are facing this pandemic without reliable access to sanitation and health care.

With congregations and ministries across the country, and a network of companion churches and partners in over 70 countries around the world, we anticipate this crisis will affect us all. Your gifts to the ELCA's [COVID-19 Response Fund](#) will provide funds to the ministries of the ELCA most in need and best positioned to help. This includes our congregations as well as local and churchwide ministries capable of reaching and assisting those in need. **If you are able, please help with a gift today.**

I have been reflecting on the words of Peter: "Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received" (1 Peter 4:10). Now is a time when we need one another. Now is a time to live and act as faithful people of God.

Be of good courage, dear church, and remember that Christ is with us now and always.
In Christ,

Elizabeth A. Eaton

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Flowers

The following dates are **open** flower dates:
August 9, August 16, October 25, November 1

If you would like to donate flowers,
please Contact Carol Banker

The Altar guild appreciates everyone's donations to the flower fund throughout the year whether you contribute to lilies, poinsettias or the weekly Altar flowers in honor or memoriam.

Given by:

In memory of:

July 5

Dottie Anderson Duane "Andy" Anderson

July 12

Lois Renoos Carl, Nancy, Heather and
Kaiden

July 19

Daughters Linda Ness
Nancy Tester and Sue Rink

July 26

Rhoda Pearthree Cliff Pearthree
& Loved Ones



Memoriams

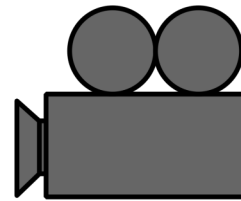
In memory of Larry Quam
Given By Pete & Donna Quist
to the Organ Fund

Given By Rhoda Pearthree to the Bus Fund



Worship continues over
Facebook Live at:

www.facebook.com/ConcordiaSuperior/



Directions to access the Online Service

1. Using your tablet, iPad, phone, computer or any source for the internet you have, open your internet browser and search for www.concordiasuperior.org/home
2. On the home page for Concordia Lutheran Church, scroll down until you see "Access our page using the following link"
 - 2a. You will also see the previous week videos are also posted below. Just click the week you are looking for and it will bring you to the video.
3. Click the link
4. You will be redirected to Facebook where you are now able to find the current and previous services to participate in from the comfort and safety of your home.

ANNOUNCEMENT

To Donate, please use the following:



On our website www.concordiasuperior.org

or

Through the Give+ app

or

Mailed to Concordia Lutheran Church, 1708 John Ave, Superior, WI 54880

Plans are under way to hold our annual spring Rummage Sale. The ladies of the church have already had two workdays to start the “organizing” process for the sale.

Date for the sale is now TBD and will be announced once gathering restrictions allow for it. Please watch for a new date.

What do you have in your basement, garage or spare room that is just taking up space and collecting dust? You are welcome to drop off items for the rummage sale by appointment only, please call the church to schedule a time for drop off at

715-394-3762



~ July 2020 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Office Closed (except by ap- pointment)	2 1p-2p Fellowship by Zoom (afternoon)	3 Office Closed	4 Independence Day
5 10a-11a Worship Online only	6 Office Closed	7 Office Closed (except by ap- pointment) 10:30a-11:30a Pastor's Text Study	8 Office Closed (except by ap- pointment)	9 Office Closed (except by ap- pointment)	10 Office Closed	11
12 10a-10:30a Worship on the Lawn (also online) (Postponed to July 19 in case of poor weather)	13 Office Closed (except by ap- pointment) 6p-7p Property Management Committee by ZOOM?	14 Office Closed (except by ap- pointment) 10:30a-11:30a Pastor's Text Study	15 Office Closed (except by ap- pointment)	16 Office Closed (except by ap- pointment)	17 Office Closed	18
19 10a-11a Worship Online only (On the lawn if postponed from the 12 th because of weather)	20 Office Closed (except by ap- pointment) 6p-7p Worship and Music Com- mittee by ZOOM	21 Office Closed (except by ap- pointment) 10:30a-11:30a Pastor's Text Study	22 Office Closed (except by ap- pointment)	23 Office Closed (except by ap- pointment)	24 Office Closed	25
26 10a-11a Worship Online only	27 Office Closed (except by ap- pointment)	28 World Hepatitis Day Office Closed (except by ap- pointment) 10:30a-11:30a Pastor's Text Study	29 Office Closed (except by ap- pointment)	30 Int'l. Friendship Day Office Closed (except by ap- pointment)	31 Office Closed	Notes:

Worship Aids for the Coming Weeks

Sunday, July 5, 2020

5th Sunday after Pentecost

The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. Jesus associates with those often excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with our own selfish desires and seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather to be refreshed by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Gathered around word and sacrament, even when not in the same space, we find rest for our souls.

Prayer of the Day: You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Readings

Zechariah 9:9-12, The king will come in humility and peace
Psalm 145:8-14, The Lord is gracious and full of compassion. (Ps. 145:8)
Romans 7:15-25a, The struggle within the self
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30, The yoke of discipleship

Sunday, July 12, 2020

6th Sunday after Pentecost

God's word is like the rain that waters the earth and brings forth vegetation. It is also like the sower who scatters seed indiscriminately. Our lives are like seeds sown in the earth. Even from what appears to be little, dormant, or dead, God promises a harvest. Jesus feeds us with the bread of life, that we may bear fruit in the world.

Prayer of the Day: Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Readings

Isaiah 55:10-13, The growth of the word to accomplish God's purpose
Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13, Your paths overflow with plenty. (Ps. 65:11)
Romans 8:1-11, Live according to the Spirit
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23, The parable of the sower and the seed

Readings

1 Kings 3:5-12, Solomon's prayer for wisdom
Psalm 119:129-136, When your word is opened, it gives light and understanding. (Ps. 119:130)
Romans 8:26-39, Nothing can separate us from God's love
Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52, Parables of the reign of heaven

Worship Aids for the Coming Weeks Continued

Sunday, July 19, 2020

7th Sunday after Pentecost

It is an age-old question: why is there evil in the world? In the parable of the wheat and the weeds Jesus suggests that both grow together until the harvest. With Paul, we long for the day that all creation will be set free from bondage and suffering. Having both weeds and wheat within us, we humbly place our hope in the promises of God, and we go forth to bear the fruit of justice and mercy.

Prayer of the Day: Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Readings

Isaiah 44:6-8, There is no other God than the Lord

Psalms 86:11-17, Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth. (Ps. 86:11)

Romans 8:12-25, The revealing of the children of God

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43, The parable of the weeds

Sunday, July 26, 2020

8th Sunday after Pentecost

As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to know more deeply the treasures of faith. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!

Prayer of the Day: Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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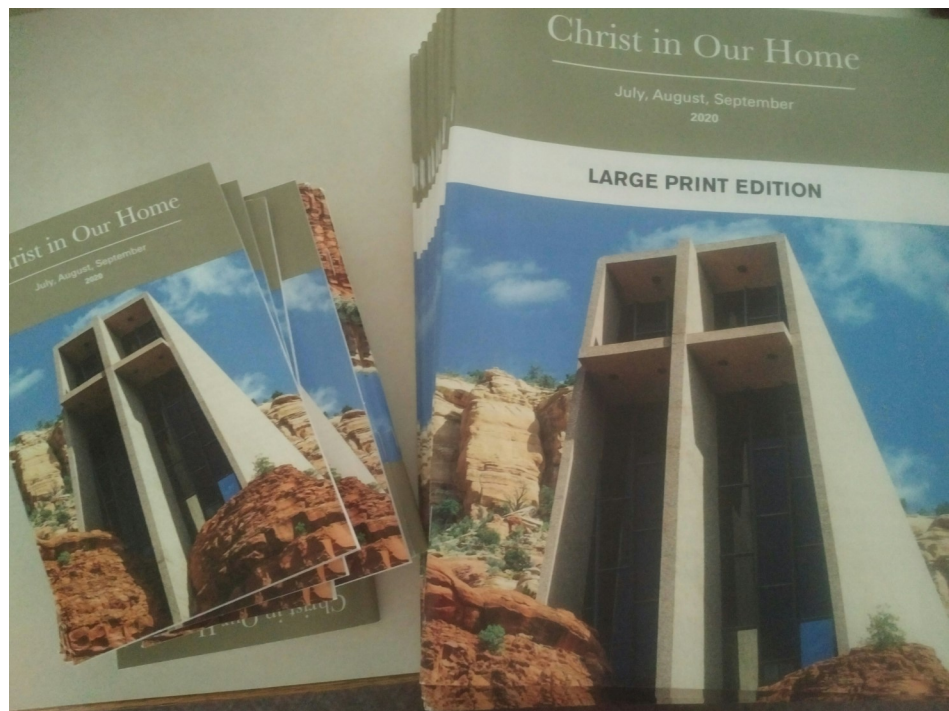
Remember that we have the ability to make a DVD of the church service for you if you do not have Internet access and would like to participate with our worship service (at a later time) at home. Please call the church office if you would like us to send you a DVD.

The July, August, September issue of

Christ in Our Home

has arrived. If you would like one sent to you, please call the church office at 715-394-3762 (leave a message if no one answers), and we will send one out to you (as long as supplies last).

Please specify whether you wish to receive the regular or the large print edition.



In Person (Gathered) Worship

In person worship will be much different than what we've traditionally experienced for the foreseeable future.

Because the latest research indicates that the virus causing the current pandemic is primarily spread by aerosols produced in the airways of an infected person:

- ◇ It is risky to sing together.
- ◇ It is risky to breathe the air released by someone speaking forcefully.
- ◇ It is risky to gather in large groups.
- ◇ It is risky to be unmasked in public areas.

When we gather on July 12 (or the 19th, if the weather is bad on the 12th), we will be requiring masks. (Some will be available onsite if you have forgotten to bring one.) When we begin to gather in the building, we will be requiring masks.

If you are ill, or have **traveled** to a place where the infection is more prevalent within the 14 days prior to the gathering, **please do not come to gather with us during these worship events**. Stay home and join us online, or see your doctor if your illness is causing you difficulties. Thank you.

We realize that some congregations are creating ways to have the sacrament of Holy Communion together, with elements that are prepackaged in some way, but one must remove the mask to eat and drink, and we are not willing to take that risk here at Concordia. We have vulnerabilities in our congregation that are not always visible (and of course the virus itself is invisible to us, and symptoms become visible too late).

In the last two newsletters we've provided a way for those who desire to practice the sacrament to do so at home. If you wish to have that liturgy sent to you again, please let us know.

The Good News is that **our Lord does not abandon us** during times of stress, pandemic, or war. We will continue to offer our online worship experience each week. On the occasion of our outdoor worship, it will be short, and much like any in-person gatherings to come. After that, the online experience will be much more like we've been experiencing at the regular time. (Any in-person gatherings will be at an earlier hour to give us time to ventilate the space so that hymns can be included in the online experience.)

Blessings to you. God is with us, in Jesus. Amen

Concordia Lutheran Church
1708 John Ave.
Superior, WI 54880

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*The Concordian is published monthly since 1981
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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
Dr. Héctor Landa, Keyboards
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Jean Riedasch, Parish Nurse
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Matt Eastman, Technologies

Contributors: Many
Assembly/mailling: Our faithful volunteers

The Concordian

July

Vol. 39 No. 7

A newsletter of Concordia Lutheran Church
Superior, Wisconsin
715.394.3762

www.concordiasuperior.org

Sunday Worship Schedule

10:00 am Worship

(online only July 5, 19, and 26;
on the lawn and online July 12,
weather permitting.)

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**

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.