

## The Concordian

A Newsletter of Concordia Lutheran Church – ELCA Superior, WI October 2020 Vol 39 No. 10

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

## From Pastor Michelle

Decades ago, the church choir in my congregation was preparing an unaccompanied cantata. They would be performing front and center, rather than from the choir space which was behind a decorative enclosure which also contained the organ.

For the final rehearsals, they needed somebody with enough ability to read music to give pitches for the beginnings of each piece. The adults and teens with that ability were in the choir, so that duty fell to me.

I have to admit, it was fun, for a little while, but it became a bit tedious with nothing to do while the songs were being sung, especially after I'd heard them three or four or twenty times! So, now and then, I started playing along with the soprano line. Since the organ sounds more like a voice than the piano, I figured no one would notice, as long as I didn't hit any wrong notes!

After the performance, when everyone was gathered in the fellowship hall for a meal, the choir director said he had heard me "singing" along during rehearsals, but that I was just a bit off key... I didn't dare say that it must have been the organ that was off key, because I wasn't singing...

From that cantata, I remember three specifics not related to my playing the starting pitches. One piece was based on part of the Sermon on the Mount, where Jesus is encouraging his followers not to worry, that they should consider the lilies of the field which neither toil nor spin, yet are robed in garments more beautiful than Solomon... even though their fate is to be thrown into the fire as fuel.

The second was a psalm, "How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings, O Lord of Hosts.' There are so many different arrangements of that psalm, I've never been able to find the one that matches my memory. (Maybe I should ask that church to plow through their music files!)



The third I remember being called, "The Seven-fold Amen." I've found that one in <u>The Other Songbook</u>, where the subtitle matches my memory, "Farewell Anthem with Seven-fold Amen." (#210 "The Lord Bless You and Keep You")

And now we are advised to limit our singing. We're putting great distance between those who show up in the building to allow for soft singing (behind our masks), but we note that it is safer to sing along at home, if you are able to join an online service.

Music will always be a gift God has given, and we will celebrate this gift wisely, listening when that is best, singing loudly when no one else is around, and softly behind our masks when people are visible, but a good distance away. When people are close, we will keep the songs in our hearts, where God can still hear them.

The Lord blessings to you, grace and peace, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Blessings! *Pastor Michelle* 



Parish Nursing Notes.....

I'm sure you were taught by your mother, as I was, to share what you had with others. But there are some things we should NOT share. And flu and cold viruses, as well as Covid-19, are in this group.

We may not have a vaccine for Covid-19 as yet, but we DO have a current flu vaccine that is available to all. And there is a High-Dose vaccine that is recommended for those over 65 years of age (who are most susceptible). Anyone who has chronic conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, arthritis, or food allergies, has an increased likelihood of getting the flu due to a decreased response to infections and should get the vaccine.

The symptoms of flu and Covid-19 are similar (fever, cough, shortness of breath, tiredness, sore throat, stuffy nose, headache, nausea), but appear at different times after exposure. Flu symptoms are likely to appear 2-4 days after exposure, while Covid-19 symptoms are more likely to appear after 2-14 days. Covid-19 is more contagious, spreads rapidly among large groups, and has a higher morbidity. And flu can be treated with anti-viral drugs, while Covid-19 can not—at least at this time.

But both can have a decreased likelihood of

being caught, or transmitted, by following the same preventive techniques. God Himself gave us these directions: "So wash your hands. Make yourselves clean. Get your evil actions out of my sight! Stop doing what is wrong! Learn to do what is right!" (Isaiah 1:16).

Handwashing is very important! Obviously, whenever they appear dirty. But also before eating or handling food, after using the

bathroom or blowing your nose, or handling items used by many people. **Do not** cough or sneeze



into your hands! Always use a tissue or your elbow—and then wash your hands! And do not put your fingers into your eyes, nose, or mouth! Germs live a long time on many items commonly handled by many people—handrails, telephones, computers, water fountains, light switches, and door handles., so wipe them off frequently in your home, and use protection and wash your hands after using them in public places. Do not be offended if people do not want to shake hands. Both viruses can be passed on to another before you even have any symptoms yourself, and up to 7 days after becoming ill.

And if you are ill, **stay home!** Don't share germs with others. Practice social distancing, and avoid any large groups. Wear a mask whenever in the presence of non-family members. Be especially careful around infants, young children, and those over the age of 65 or with chronic health conditions. Stay home, drink plenty of liquids, and get plenty of rest.

Stay healthy and happy, and help others stay healthy and happy too......Jean



The ELCA has come out with A Social Message on Government and Civic Engagement in the United States: Discipleship in a Democracy; a writing project that was requested in the 2019 Churchwide Assembly. The social message can be read here:

Social Message on Government and Civic Engagement in the United States: Discipleship in a Democracy

If you wish to receive a printed copy, please call the church office. We will be happy to print one for you.

#### **Holy Communion**



We will be having communion once we are inside. The elements will be placed on a small table at each distanced seating position (covered until time of use). Those joining online are encouraged to have some kind of bread and either wine, juice, or water if they wish to participate in the sacrament.

#### **Hardcopies of the Sermons Available**

Those who do not have Internet Access may request printed copies of the sermons created by Pastor Michelle each week.

If you wish to receive a printed copy (to be mailed the day the post office opens after the Sunday service), please call the church office. We will maintain a list of the requests and continue to mail copies until requested to discontinue. Please specify regular print (12 pt) or

large print (20 pt).

#### Worship continues over Facebook Live at:

www.facebook.com/ConcordiaSuperior/



#### **Directions to access the Online Service**

- 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. Clink the link
- 4. You will be redirected to Facebook where you will be able to find the current and previous services to watch and enjoy from the comfort of your home.

# It Worked! Let's Do This Once More! Worship on the Lawn Sunday October 4, 2020

We plan to gather in person on the lawn outside the church building for worship on October 4. There will be no tent, but shade is available in certain places.

If you have any symptoms in the following list that are new and not due to a known long-term condition, please do not plan to come. Instead, contact the local Coronavirus Screening and Testing Center at (218) 249-4609.

- Fever, Chills, or Repeated Shaking/Shivering
- Cough
- Sore Throat
- Shortness of Breath, Difficulty Breathing
- Feeling Unusually Weak or Fatigued
- Loss of Taste or Smell
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Runny or congested nose
- Diarrhea

The bus will not run. The building will not be open. Bathrooms will not be available. Holy Communion and hymns will be omitted. The entire event is expected to last from 20-30 minutes.

Masks will be required, and please bring your own chair. If you need us to provide a chair, please call ahead so that we have enough available. The lawn will be marked to assist participants in being well-spaced from one another, and masks will be available for those who arrive without them.

Offering is to be placed in the provided boxes as you arrive or as you leave.

These worship events will also be live-streamed to allow people to participate from other spaces as well.

If the local rise in cases continues to escalate or in the case of inclement weather, this may not happen. If you are wondering, please call the church. We expect to put notice of any cancelation on the answering machine message.

(We may all need jackets... and maybe scarves and mittens!)

## **Concordia Lutheran Council and Committee Relationships**

President	Kris Hanson	Education	Blake Hanson
Vice President	715-977-1260	Evangelism	Matt Ketola
vice President	Shawn Quist 218-343-6795	Canandia Cana	715-363-2567
Secretary	John Gronski	Concordia Cares	Jan Lippitt 218-390-6917
Treasurer	218-340-1813 Doug Score	Worship & Music	Ken Harmer
Audit	218-260-0657 Mark Thompson 715-392-3166	Youth & Family	218-390-8218 Mike Olson
			715-398-0343
	/13-392-3100	Property & Management	Shawn & Mark
		Stewardship	John Gronski

## **Flowers**

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:

Sept.6th, Millie Score & Family Loved Ones

Sept. 13th, Mike & Joyce Olson Kenneth & Mildred Olson

Raymond Nurmi

Sept. 20, Dick & Jean Riedasch Martha & Joel Dahl

Mae & Dick Riedasch

Sept. 27, The Ketola Family Robert & Jean Allen

Ted & Eileen Ketola

William J. Luder

Oct. 4th, Dan & Carol Gucinski

& Family

Robert & Prudy Hanson

Oct. 11th, Patricia, Ada, Les,

& Billy

Oct. 18th, Edith Warner Robert Warner

Oct. 25th, Open

## **Memorials**

In memory of Larry Quam

Organ Fund Given By: Sue Martin

Betty Ursin

Yvonne Quam and her children

**Bus Fund** Given By: Shirleyann Brandser

In memory of Karla Hanson

**Library Fund** Given By: Shirleyann Brandser

**Bus Fund** Given By: Bill & Lois O'Neill

**Betty Ursin** 

In memory of Joanne Johnson

Organ Fund Given By Bill & Lois O'Neill

Rolf & Eunice Grimsrud Andrew & Debra Stensland Kathryn U. Cochrane

## Our Practice for

In-Person Worship
(inside the building, beginning)
Sunday, October 11, 2020

We are offering distanced seating within the worship space for Sunday morning worship for 10 households at the positions of the purple dots indicated on the map.

We will be offering communion, and the elements will be on small tables placed on the pew in front of each space (or nearby on the floor if there is no pew there). The elements will be covered by a small plastic container until the time for Holy Communion. Please indicate if you would like juice instead of wine.

When you call to reserve a space, you may request which space you desire (map is labeled). If that space has not already been reserved by someone else, we will arrange for you to be seated there.

Masks are required, but masks do not guarantee protection from the virus that causes COVID 19.

Children too young to be masked must remain with their household.

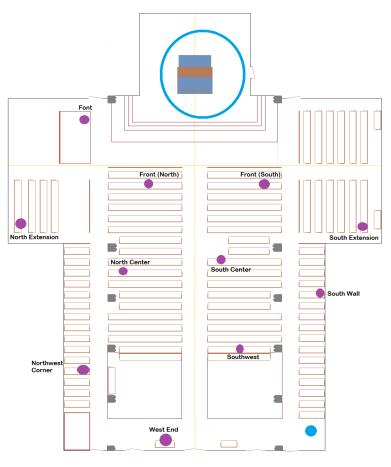
Anyone with a cold or other symptoms of possible infection should not gather in person.

Please join us online instead.

Pertinent symptoms include:

- Cough
- Sore Throat
- Shortness of Breath, Difficulty Breathing
- Feeling Unusually Weak or Fatigued
- Loss of Taste or Smell
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Runny or congested nose
- Diarrhea
- Fever, Chills, or

Repeated Shaking/Shivering



Offering drop boxes will be placed inside the worship space near both entrance/exits, and offerings should be dropped there either on the way in or on the way out.

There will be a short interlude to allow for electronic giving for those worshiping in the building or online. During this time, those present may share the peace with others by waving from their seat positions.

Participants are asked to enter and exit one household at a time and not to cross paths with another household or congregate in doorways.

The bus can accommodate up to 3 riders.

## Marjorie Carlson Obituary

(Marjorie was the wife of Pastor E. Roald Carlson, who served Concordia as his final call before he retired in 1990.)

Marjorie J. Mueller Carlson of St. Paul, MN, age 94, died in Roseville on September 12, 2020. She graduated from Bemidji High School as salutatorian in 1944 and continued her education at Concordia College, Moorhead, (class of 1948) where she once again distinguished herself academically. In 1951, she married E. Roald Carlson, a Lutheran pastor. When their four children were in high school and college, Marjorie continued her professional education, obtaining a Masters of Library Science at the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, N.Y. During the 1970's, Marjorie served as a guidance counselor at the Educational Opportunity Center (EOC), which was run under the auspices of the City University of New York in Bedford-Stuyvesant. She loved her work at the EOC. In 1990, she and her husband retired to the St. Anthony Park neighborhood of St. Paul, where they enjoyed the company of their grandchildren, a very active social life, and summers at their cabin on Lake Kabekona near Laporte, MN.

Marjorie devoted her considerable energy and formidable intelligence to volunteer work throughout the years, leading a Brownie Troop in Brooklyn for almost twenty years; serving on the Boards of the following organizations—the Board of Global Mission and Inter-Church Cooperation of the ALC (predecessor body of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America), Lutheran World Ministry, the Friendship Springs Association (predecessor body of the Kabekona Lake Association), Lutheran Healthcare-Bangladesh, the Hospitality Center for the Chinese at the University of Minnesota, St Paul Campus—and held leadership positions on many of them; participating in the League of Women Voters, as well as numerous other activities.

She is remembered for her capacity to build and maintain overlapping circles of friends over decades and considerable distance; her love of corresponding with her many friends over time; her skills as a hostess; and her liberal politics.

She is survived by her children: Rev. Kristine Carlson (Rev. Dr. Morris Wee), Dr. Paula Carlson (Rev. Dr. Thomas Schattauer), Janet Carlson (John Bailey, CPA), and Carolyn Carlson (Eric Kercheval); grandchildren and their long-time companions or spouses: Kai Carlson-Wee (Catherine Pond), Anders Carlson-Wee (Anessa Ibrahim), Olaf Carlson-Wee, Rev. Peter Carlson Schattauer, and Anna Schattauer Paillé (Rev. Joseph Schattauer Paillé); step-grandchildren Christopher (Kit) Kercheval and Benjamin Kercheval; her four surviving sisters-in-law: Gene Carlson, Nadine Carlson, Laila Rogers, and Katie Carlson; as well as 19 nieces and nephews and a wide circle of friends.

Marjorie was predeceased by her husband of sixty-four years, Rev. E. Roald Carlson; her parents George and Minnie Mueller of Bemidji, MN; her brother John (Jack) Mueller and his wife Emmy Lou; and her half-sister Arlene Hoy (infant) of Brookings, SD.

A zoom funeral service will be held online Sunday, November 1, at 3:00 p.m., from St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, St. Paul, her longtime church home. Details will be forthcoming from the family.

Memorials preferred to St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, St. Paul, MN; Global Missions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Chicago, IL; Concordia College, Moorhead, MN; the League of Women Voters; and the Kabekona Lake Foundation, Laporte, MN.

In closing the family offers the Prayer of the Day for All Saints, the day of her funeral: Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

#### Wisconsin Council of Churches

With eight Wisconsin cities occupying positions on a list of the twenty US cities with the fastest rising numbers of COVID cases as of mid-September, we continue to urge caution in gathering the church in physical locations. At this time, we do not advise gathering indoors. Outdoor events are much safer than indoors. Online options are preferred.

That being said, we continue to be contacted by churches seeking recommendations for safer choices around gathering indoors. As we have our first cooler days and evenings this fall, this becomes a more common question. Please remember there is *no* way to gather in person which *eliminates all risk* of transmitting COVID. There are only safer choices we can make to reduce the risk to ourselves, those around us, and the community at large. Our choices are an expression of care for self and neighbor; they are profoundly faithful decisions.

IF your church is committed to resuming worship indoors, here's a summary of some of the best information we have curated from our conversations with health officials, scientists, and other research. This is not medical advice or a guarantee. Always check with your insurance provider and wider church officials about their recommendations and requirements before provided ing.

- SAFER CHOICES FOR INDOOR WORSHIP and CHURCH ACTIVITY:
- Limit attendance and maintain a list of who is present in case it is needed for contact tracing. An online tool such as signup genius can help with tracking seating availability.
- Commit to physical distancing (6 ft+) and wearing face masks. Keep a low-touch environment. Organized seating and dismissal by ushers can help with distancing.
- Strongly encourage flu shots! Health officials are recommending flu vaccination by October.
- Projecting one's voice as a worship leader (preacher, liturgist, chanting) creates as much aerosol as singing. Maintain *additional* physical distance in the chancel, wear a mask, and avoid sharing microphones. Plexiglass shields are generally unhelpful.
- Abstain from congregational or choral singing. See the resources linked on our website. Some alternatives: recordings, reading hymn lyrics, meditative listening, hand signs, sign language, clapping, rhythm instruments, dancing.
- Maintain your online worship options. If your only online offering is streaming your "live" in-person worship option, pitch your delivery to the online audience more than the audience in the sanctuary.
- Avoid eating together indoors. This is a high-risk activity. Be diligent with physical distancing and hand
  hygiene if proceeding with Eucharist/Holy Communion. Follow the most strict health protocols of your
  ecclesiastical authorities.
- Ventilation:
  - Increase the amount of air that comes from outdoors: open windows if possible, but avoid the use of fans.
  - Prop doors open to reduce touchpoints and increase fresh air.
  - Consider investing in a higher quality filter for your HVAC system. It's a marginally higher expense but will increase protection.
  - Room air filters and other gadgets being marketed for COVID have pros and cons. See the <u>HVAC webinar</u> on our Youtube channel for more detail.
- Cleaning:
  - Be especially diligent about cleaning high-touch surfaces like light switches, doorknobs, faucets.
  - Invest in a good stock of cleaning supplies and paper products.
  - Make sure soap dispensers and hand sanitizer dispensers are always full, garbage cans are regularly emptied.
  - Ideally, leave worship space empty for 2+ days after events to reduce the risk of transmission via aerosols (fine droplets dispersed in air that linger for a long time) or fomites (viral particles that land on surfaces).
- What is your plan for:
  - Committing those in attendance to your re-gathering expectations? Do you have a covenant that people should sign? Who will enforce masking or distancing expectations? What will you do if someone does not follow the expectations?
  - If someone who has attended church is diagnosed COVID+?
  - If there is a COVID outbreak associated with the church?
  - Stepping back from indoor worship is there a number of positive COVID cases in the community or church, or % positive cases, or some other measure that will be your guide to pausing indoor worship for a time?

We urge you to plan ahead: nearly every county in Wisconsin has a high level of COVID activity right now. With exponential spread, community health can change rapidly. Be prepared to modify your plans to keep parishioners, staff, and clergy safe and healthy as the situation evolves.

This document was developed by Wisconsin Council of Churches staff with input from religious leaders, local church pastors, scientists and public health experts. This is not a formal policy statement of the Council. We recommend that you consult your ecclesiastical authorities for final guidance. Released September 21, 2020.

## **ORGAN FUNDRAISER UPDATE!**

**Hallelujah!** The organ fund has recently received contributions in memory of Joanne Johnson, and then a gift from Yvonne Quam and her children in memory of Larry Quam that provided the rest of what we needed for current repairs!

On behalf of the Concordia Lutheran Congregation, the Worship and Music Committee would like to thank each and every one of you for your prayers and contributions for walking with us through this journey. We thank the Townsend Foundation for the grant that was also so helpful for us reaching this goal.

Soon, the scheduled organ repairs will be complete, and when it is again safe for us to gather in large groups, we plan for a celebratory concert that will let us hear more of what the instrument can do!

The fund will remain open, and additional contributions will go toward future organ needs.

Thank you, and thanks be to God for inspiring all of us with music and grace.





Due to the uncertainty surrounding the likely transmission of the virus which causes Covid 19, we will not have our "Trunk-N-Treat" festival in our parking lot this year.

We found a suggestion online, and put it on our Facebook page.

We'd also like to share it here.

(I'm sorry, we can't give credit to the anonymous person who originated the post, and we are editing it somewhat as well.)

In case there's no trick or treating allowed this year, here is what one family did for their child one year when it was raining heavily: They bought favorite treats to put in a trick or treat bag and hid it in the house. They said they *really* hid it. Then they turned off all the lights, turned on some mood music, and provided a flashlight to use to hunt for the treats in the darkened house. They say it took about 30 minutes to find it. Then they had pizza by candlelight and watched a movie. They described it as perfect. They also suggested hiding individual candies around the house, like an Easter egg hunt, but we're leery about some not being found (except maybe by the family pet...)!

## **Worship Aids for the Coming Weeks**

#### Sunday, October 4th, 2020

#### **18th Sunday after Pentecost**

In today's gospel reading, Jesus tells a vineyard parable, which serves as an image of Israel, the prophets' mission, and Christ's death. For Christians, the vineyard also speaks of God's love poured out in the blood of Christ, given to us for the forgiveness of sin. Grafted onto Christ the vine at baptism, we are nourished with wine and bread so that we may share Christ's sufferings and know the power of his resurrection.

**Prayer of the Day:** Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** 

#### Readings

Isaiah 5:1-7, The song of the Vineyard

Psalm 80:7-15, Look down from the heaven, O God; behold and tend this vine.

Philippians 3:4b-14, Nothing surpasses the value of knowing Christ

Matthew 21:33-46, The Parable of the vineyard owner's son

#### Sunday, October 11th, 2020

#### 19h Sunday after Pentecost

In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus' parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.

**Prayer of the Day:** Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** 

#### **Readings**

Isaiah 25:1-9, The feast of victory

Psalm 23, You prepare a table before me, and my cup is running over.

Philippians 4:1-9, Rejoice in the Lord always

Matthew 22:1-14, The parable of the unwelcome guest at the wedding feast

### **Worship Aids for the Coming Weeks Continued**

#### Sunday, October 18th

20th Sunday after Pentecost

In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.

**Prayer of the Day:** Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** 

#### **Readings**

Isaiah 45:1-7, An earthly ruler as the instrument of God's will
Psalm 96:1-9, Ascribe to the Lord honor and power
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10, Thanksgiving for the church at Thessalonica
Matthew 22:15-22, A teaching on giving to the emperor and to God

#### Sunday, October 25th, 2020

**Reformation Sunday** 

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

**Prayer of the Day:** Gracious Father, we pray for your holy catholic church. Fill it with all truth and peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in need, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**.

#### **Readings**

Jeremiah 31:31-34, I will write my law in their hearts, says the Lord Psalm 46, The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. Romans 3:19-28, Justified by God's grace as a gift

John 8:31-36, Jesus says, "Continue in my word and you will know the truth."

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Synod website: www.nwswi.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, Keyboards Dr. Héctor Landa, Keyboards Vanessa Johnson, Office Manager Jean Riedasch, Parish Nurse David Eastman, Custodian Matt Eastman, Technologies Contributors: Many

Assembly/mailing: Our faithful volunteers

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

## The Concordian

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#### **Sunday Worship Schedule** 10:00 am Worship

Online at: facebook.com/ConcordiaSuperior

## **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.