



The Concordian

A Newsletter of Concordia Lutheran Church – ELCA

Superior, WI

January 2022

Vol 43 No. 1

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

From the Pastor:

2022 is beginning, and I know many people who are ready to celebrate! It's not the annual New Year's Eve party that has them in anxious anticipation...it's the hope that things that have gone so wrong for so long will resolve so that we can look toward a future rather than continuing in a present marked by antagonism.

And what is this antagonism? A household in my neighborhood started flying a flag a few months back that many deem as racist. Other neighbors began to counter that display with other kinds of flags. Then someone in the same household displayed a countering banner, and the first (apparently) became offended. The breach seems now to be unmendable.

I'm thinking we need to find a way to communicate again with one another, find ways not only to speak our minds, but to listen as well. And when we listen, there is a possibility that we might begin to see things differently.

At our Annual Meeting this year, we had planned to bring up the opportunity of discussing ways that we might work together with the other ELCA congregations in Superior, as three had been in discussions of a possible consolidation, which

would involve each of them closing to open and form a new congregation gathering the gifts of each into a more sustainable whole. The discussions seemed to be going well, until they weren't... That's just one example of the difficulties in communicating well.

Should we talk politics? Should we bring up personal rights and community responsibilities? Should we ask whether we trust one another to act in good faith, or whether we expect one another to cheat in order to get our own way? Do we see conspiracies in everything that doesn't turn out the way we wanted?

I mentioned in my message on Christmas Eve that over a million people had planned to be traveling this Christmas (the number should have been over 100 million), but that something like a 1000 flights had been cancelled because of infections of those scheduled to work those flights. Another 1000 were cancelled the day of this writing. Things certainly didn't turn out according to plan for tens of thousands of people.

And we fight about it. We blame one another for not doing enough, or for doing the wrong thing (or wrong many things).



We sue people for requiring masks or vaccinations... Why are we fighting?

I was thinking that we should all ask that question, “Why are we fighting?” We should plaster that question everywhere, and see if anyone can come up with an answer that's better than, “Because I care about my own more than I care about you.”

Jesus doesn't tell us to love our neighbors less than we love ourselves, but to love others just as much as we love ourselves. So we suffer inconveniences while trying to protect the person whose immune system is compromised by chemo (just one example).

Why are we fighting? Maybe it's because we don't love one another as much as we are called to do... Pastor Michelle



PARISH NURSING NOTES

The New Year is a good time to take a look at your life, and determine what you need to change or improve. And a look at your health is a good place to start. Focus on your daily habits and really think about all the things you do, or don't do, that can keep you healthy and functioning. Several years ago I wrote about **"The 10 Commandments of Life."** These were written in 1928 by George W. Calver, who was the first appointed doctor for the U.S. Congress at a time when senators and representatives were dying at a rate of 20 a year.

- **Eat Wisely**
- **Drink plentifully (of water)**
- **Eliminate thoroughly**
- **Bathe cleanly**
- **Exercise rationally**
- **Accept inevitables (don't worry)**
- **Play enthusiastically**
- **Relax completely**
- **Sleep sufficiently**
- **Check up occasionally**

And then added a P.S.: **"Give 5% of your time to keeping well, and you won't have to give 100% of your time getting over being sick."**

If you added, "Give thanks to God daily," I think that would be a very detailed way of explaining

1 Corinthians 6:9-20: "Or do you not know you're your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own. For you were bought at a price therefore, **glorify God in your body.**"

Changing old habits or creating new ones is hard, but making healthier choices will improve your life by preventing heart disease, diabetes, and even some cancers. Choosing healthier foods and lowering excess weight will also impact the physical problems you have from the added stress that weight adds to your joints. Change your dietary choices add movement and exercise to your day, and ask God for the strength to follow through on your plan.

Besides improving your physical health, you can improve your mental and spiritual health. What are your interests? What are your God-given gifts? Explore your community organizations and your church opportunities to volunteer and share. Good health is more than eating right and exercising. It is sharing the love of Jesus Christ by sharing your time and talents. Giving of yourself, benefits the recipient as well as you. It improves your mental health by focusing on others rather than yourself, and grows your spiritual life as you demonstrate your faith. It also keeps you from thinking what you want to eat next, and providing some exercise!

While care of our bodies is important and should be done out of thankfulness to God a lean and toned body is never our ultimate goal – but rather to **"glorify God in your body."**

Enjoy living an active, healthy, and thankful life with God's blessing.....Jean

OPEN SUNDAYS FOR ALTAR FLOWERS IN 2022

Here is a list of open Sundays for folks to consider reserving altar flowers in memory of loved ones. The cost of the flowers is \$40 per Sunday. Please call the Church Office to let us know if you want to sign up for any of these dates.

January 2, 9, 30

February 13

March 20

May 8, 22

June 5, 26

July 3, 31

August 14

September 4

October 23, 30

November 13

December 11



New Perspective Senior Living could use any new or used 500 piece puzzles. If you have any you are willing to donate you can drop them off at the Church as we will make sure that they receive them.



PARISH NURSING ANNOUNCEMENT

The first Sunday of the Month the Parish Nursing Staff will be checking blood pressures in the Parish Nurse's Office before morning worship from 9-10:00 a.m.



Moving Forward

At our annual meeting in January, we will open discussion for ideas on moving forward as Lutherans in Superior, and how and whether we might be willing to work with other area congregations.

Worship Aids for the Coming Weeks

Sunday, January 2, 2nd Sunday of Christmas

Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.

Prayer of the Day: O God our redeemer, you created light that we might live, and you illumine our world with your beloved Son. By your Spirit comfort us in all darkness, and turn us toward the light of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Readings

Jeremiah 31:7-14 *Joy at the gathering of God's scattered flock*

Psalms 147:12-20, *Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zions*

Ephesians 1:3-14, *The will of God made known in Christ*

John 1:[1-9] 10-18 *God with us the incarnation of the Word*



Sunday, January 9, Baptism of Our Lord

Today's festival rejoices in God's blessings. We recall and celebrate our adoption as God's children, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the promised company of almighty God when we "pass through the waters . the rivers . fire." On this day the heavens open again for this assembly, and we receive the gift of God's Beloved, Jesus, in bread and wine.

Prayer of the Day: Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Readings

Isaiah 43:1-7, *When you pass through the waters, do not fear, for I am with you*

Psalms 29: *The voice of the Lord is upon the waters*

Acts 8:14-17 *Prayer and laying on of hands for the Holy Spirit*

Luke 3:15-17,21-22 *The baptism of Jesus with the descent of the Holy Spirit*

Sunday, January 16, 2nd Sunday After Epiphany

The Sundays after Epiphany continue to celebrate the revelation of God's glory to us as it was made known to the magi and to those on Jordan's banks at Jesus' baptism—today using wedding imagery. Our God rejoices over God's people as those being married rejoice over one another. By the power of the Spirit there are gifts galore for everyone. In Christ Jesus the best wine is saved for last. Taste and see.

Prayer of the Day . Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. . Amen

Readings

Isaiah 62:1-5, *As bridegroom and bride rejoice, so shall God rejoice over you*

Psalms 36: 5-10 *We feast upon the abundance of your house, O Lord,*

1 Corinthians 12:1–11 *There are a variety of gifts but the same spirit*

John 2:1-11 *The wedding at Cana.*

Sunday, January 23, 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

God's glory is revealed in the reading of scripture. People stand at attention. People weep. People prostrate themselves in prayer. The unity of the church is another reflection of God's glory. Most gloriously, the promises of God are fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ. Gather round. Listen up. Glimpse the glory of God.

Prayer of the Day Blessed Lord God, you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Readings

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 *Ezra reads the law of Moses before the people*

Psalms 19 *The teaching of the Lord revives the soul*

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a, *You are the body of Christ*

Luke 4:14-21 *Jesus reads from the scroll of the prophet Isaiah*

Sunday, January 30, Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

The glory of God is often revealed when and where it is least expected. God uses our lips to declare that glory, inexperienced and hesitant though they may be. God uses our love to demonstrate that glory and so urges us to exercise it. God uses Jesus of Nazareth, water and the word, bread and wine, to reveal God's glory where and when God chooses. Take heed, lest the glory of God slip through our midst unnoticed.

Prayer of the Day Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and love; and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.. Amen

Readings

Jeremiah 14:4-10 *I appoint you a prophet to the nations*

Psalms 71:1-6 *From my mother's womb you have been my strength*

1 Corinthians 13:1-13 *If I speak without love, I am a noisy gong*

Luke 4:21-30, *Jesus says a prophet is not accepted in his hometown*

~ January 2022 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 New Year's Day
2 9a-10a Blood Pressure checks 10a-11a Worship	3 4:15p-6p Piano Lessons	4 9a-9:30a Staff Meeting 11a-12p Pastor's Text Study ((varies)) 3p-7:30p Music Lessons	5 3:30p-7:30p Music Lessons 4p-5:30p Piano Lessons 4:15p-5:15p Confirmation Class	6 2:30p-7p Music Lessons	7	8
9 10a-11a Worship	10 4:15p-6p Piano Lessons 6p-7p Property Management Committee	11 9a-9:30a Staff Meeting 11a-12p Pastor's Text Study ((varies)) 3p-7:30p Music Lessons	12 3:30p-7:30p Music Lessons 4p-5:30p Piano Lessons 4:15p-5:15p Confirmation Class	13 2:30p-7p Music Lessons	14	15
16 10a-11a Worship	17 Martin Luther King 4:15p-6p Piano Lessons 6p-7p Worship and Music Committee	18 9a-9:30a Staff Meeting 11a-12p Pastor's Text Study ((varies)) 3p-7:30p Music Lessons	19 3:30p-7:30p Music Lessons 4p-5:30p Piano Lessons 4:15p-5:15p Confirmation Class	20 9:30a-12:30p Lake Superior Conference Pastors (Saron Lutheran\, Ashland) 2:30p-7p Music Lessons	21	22 2p-12a Boy Scouts Overnight
23 12a-9a Boy Scouts Overnight 10a-11a Worship 11a-1p Concordia Lutheran Church Annual Meeting (https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88098465211?pwd=WU43UHNiY1B1YjZhdXBRcTZG)	24 4:15p-6p Piano Lessons	25 9a-9:30a Staff Meeting 11a-12p Pastor's Text Study ((varies)) 3p-7:30p Music Lessons	26 3:30p-7:30p Music Lessons 4p-5:30p Piano Lessons 4:15p-5:15p Confirmation Class	27 2:30p-7p Music Lessons	28	29
30 10a-11a Worship	31 4:15p-6p Piano Lessons	Notes:				



Altar Flowers for January

January 2
Altar Guild

January 9
Altar Guild

January 16
In memory of Roy Peterson by Marie Peterson

January 23
In memory Ethel Wnek by Richard Wnek and family

January 30
Altar Guild

Serving in December

Ushers

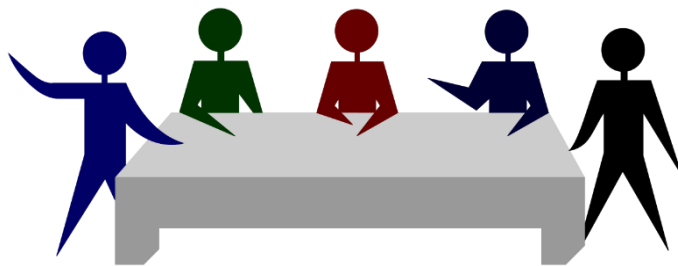
January 2	Team I Ken Harmer
January 9	Team II Eric Sewall
January 16	Team III Joyce Olson
January 23	Team I Ken Harmer
January 30	Team II Eric Sewall

Bus Driver

January 2	Ken Harmer
January 9	Kris Hanson
January 16	Brett Quist
January 23	Pete Quist
January 30	Ken Harmer

Financial Assistants

Debra Harmer & Sue Martin



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

Council met long enough after the Annual meeting to determine current officers, but has not yet determined committee relationships. Kaleb Ullan is the only new member elected, according to an understanding from last year. No other new members were elected for 2021.

President, Kris Hanson	715-977-1260
Vice President, Michael Olson	715-398-0343
Secretary, Ken Harmer	218-390-8218
Treasurer, Doug Score	218-260-0657
Matt Ketola	715-363-2567
Mark Thompson	715-392-3166
Kaleb Ullan	

**We have distanced seating in Church.
Please sit where pew cushions are.**



Concordia Lutheran Church
1708 John Ave.
Superior, WI 54880

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Superior, WI
Permit No. 254

Address Service Requested

Place label here

The Concordian is published monthly since 1981 by:

Concordia Lutheran Church
1708 John Avenue Superior, WI 54880
(715) 394-3762 – Office
(Formerly Concordia Churchman 1961-1981)

e-mail:

Pastor Michelle: rowell.michelle.r@usa.net
Church Office: concordiasuperior@gmail.com

Websites:

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, Keyboards
Dr. Héctor Landa, Keyboards
Carol Lindegren, Office Manager
Jean Riedasch, Parish Nurse
David Eastman, Custodian
Matthew Eastman, Technologies

Contributors: Many
Assembly/mailling: Our faithful volunteers

The Concordian

January

Vol. 43 No. 1

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

10:00 am Worship

Online at: facebook.com/ConcordiaSuperior
Distanced in-person worship now available!

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.