



The Concordian

A Newsletter of Concordia Lutheran Church – ELCA

Superior, WI

April 2022

Vol 43 No. 4

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

From the Pastor:

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ, the one who saves.

“Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to him belong, they are weak but he is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so!” (Anna B. Warner)

This is a beloved song, and very comforting, particularly as we live in a world where it is easy to err, and easy to receive blame from others even in those times when we are not personally at fault. We need this kind of reassurance particularly when we’ve received messages from others that detract from our worth—when we’re sworn at, abused, misused, or even overlooked...

You may also be aware of the version that is adapted for people who are no longer “little,” no longer young. It’s quite fun!

As wonderful as these verses are for reassuring the individual, they do little to remind us that God’s love is broader than the individual. It is not *only* me that God loves, but the person beside me, or across from me—behind me, or in front of me—however we may define or understand those positions.

It is difficult to remember that Jesus loves the person who stole the package from your porch. It is difficult to remember that

Jesus loves those who have committed sins that no one would ever condone.

We will celebrate Easter this month, and this year’s Gospel focus is Luke, whose story tells us that Jesus specifically promised paradise to one of the criminals crucified next to him, a man who could not atone for his crimes, who could not make any kind of restitution to his victims.

As we celebrate Jesus’ resurrection, and the resurrection promised to all who believe that promise, let us also remember that Jesus was not a mere sacrifice, identical to the Passover Lamb of the Jewish Rite. The lambs of Passover were only one year old, and Jesus lived much longer than that (even though Matthew tells us Herod tried to execute him along with all the other young children in Bethlehem as soon as he learned of Jesus’ birth).

What did Jesus accomplish in those years before he was crucified? What did he do before the death and resurrection that together become such a focal point during the Lent/Easter cycle of the church year?

Luke tells us a bit about Jesus’ wisdom and growth through the years leading up to his formal ministry that followed his baptism by John in the Jordan River. All the Gospels tell that



Jesus reached out to those who would follow as disciples. All tell stories of miraculous deeds of feeding, healing, and compassion for those caught in sin and desperation.

Most of all, Jesus emphasizes that we are to love one another, that we are to love our neighbors, that we are to love our enemies. This is not an easy task, and his example of love included not only his living, not only his healing and his miraculous gifts of bread for the hungry and wine for the wedding party, but also his dying an excruciating death.

Jesus loves us by dying, and by living again, so that we have the inspiration to rise up again even in this life after we’ve fallen low, or been thrown down by others. Jesus also loves our neighbors, and we can do the same. Jesus loves you, this I know, for the Bible tells me so.

Pastor Michelle



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 dessert, 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

Worship & Music

Worship & Music Committee had discussions on having more contemporary music in our services. We decided to let members of the congregation pick songs that they would like to hear/sing. There are many styles of music that are Christian based, including country, pop, gospel, blues, to name a few. The songs do not have to be in our hymnals (but we do need access to the music). The factor of copyright infringement may come into play, so some songs we may not be able to use legally. Anyone interested in picking some of your favorite songs, let the Worship & Music Committee members know, or the office, and we will do our best to get them into a service.

CLCW Boe-Engebretson Student Award Application

The Boe-Engebretson Student Award Application for 2022 is available for members who are or will be full time students at a college or technical school. The deadline to submit the application is June 1, 2022. A requirement is to have 3 hours of service done at Concordia Lutheran Church or you may also meet with Pastor Michelle in person or by zoom for an appropriate service option. Please contact the Church Office to get an application.

Lenten Services

Our Lenten Worship Series this year is “**Holy Everything,**” and is provided by the synod staff of the Northwestern Synod of Wisconsin. It is shown on the walls in our worship space each Wednesday (Thursday and Friday in Holy Week) **at noon** (and available from that point on through our Facebook page). There will also be a joint Maundy Thursday Service at Our Saviors Lutheran Church in Billings Park at 6:30 p.m. On Good Friday the Joint Service will be at Pilgrim Lutheran Church at 6:30 p.m.



Easter Sunday we will have an 8:00 a.m. Church Service which masks will be required. A breakfast will be served from 8:45 – 9:45 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. We will also have a 10:00 a.m. Church Service and masks will be optional. We will still have distance seating.

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.



Youth & Family Event

The Youth & Family Committee is planning on showing a movie and having popcorn and pizza on Sunday, May 15, 2022 right after worship service. All are welcome. This movie is appropriate for all ages. We will be showing the movie and eating pizza and popcorn in Fellowship Hall. Because of the License that we have for showing movies we cannot print the title of the movie that we are showing. You can call the Church Office and we can let you know what movie we will be showing. More details to follow.

Worship Aids for the Coming Weeks

Sunday, April 3, 5th Sunday in Lent

Our God makes all things new. In the first reading God promises it. In the gospel Mary anticipates it, anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume in preparation for the day of his burial. In the second reading Paul recalls his transformation from the persecutor Saul into an apostle. In baptism, God's new person (you!) rises daily from the deadly mire of trespasses and sins.

Prayer of the Day: Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Readings

Isaiah 43:16-21 *The Lord gives water in the wilderness to the chosen people*

Psalms 126, *Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy*

Philippians 3:4b-14, *To know Christ and his resurrection, to share in his sufferings*

John 12:1-8 *Mary anoints Jesus for his burial*

Sunday, April 10, Palm Sunday

Today we follow Christ from triumphal entry to the cross, each waypoint of the journey marked by Jesus' compassion for those who would betray, mock, accuse, or do violence to him. Though persecuted and beaten, Jesus the Son of God is not disgraced; instead, he asks forgiveness for those who put him to death. We have walked the Lenten pathway these forty days, each of us invited through baptism to "let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus." We enter this holy week accompanying Jesus to the cross with both grief and thanksgiving in our hearts, trusting in God's redeeming love.

Prayer of the Day: Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Readings

Isaiah 50:4-9a, *The servant of the Lord submits to suffering*

Psalms 31:9-16 *Into your hands, O Lord, I commit my spirit*

Philippians 2:5-11 *Humbled to the point of death on a cross*

Luke 22:14-23:56 *The passion of the Lord*

Sunday, April 17, Resurrection of our Lord: Easter Day

"The last enemy to be destroyed is death," Paul writes. Today Christ is risen, and we gather together with astonishment and joy. Christ is risen, and we have been set free from the bonds of death. Christ is risen, and we are forgiven. Christ is risen, and with the women at the tomb and Peter, we are amazed. Let us rejoice: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Prayer of the Day: O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Readings (for April 17)

Acts 10:34-43, *God raised Jesus on the third day*

Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24: *This is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it*

1 Corinthians 15:19-26 *Christ raised from the dead, the first fruits*

Luke 24:1-12 *The women proclaim the resurrection*

Sunday, April 24, 2nd Sunday of Easter

In spite of all we have heard and all we have seen, it is often hard to believe. Because it is hard to believe, we will invest ourselves in the Easter mystery for fifty days (a week of weeks). Because it is hard to believe, John the evangelist will provide sign after sign celebrating Jesus' victory over death. Because it is hard to believe, the risen Jesus will return to us again and again in the mystery of holy communion, inviting us to touch and taste his presence, and offering us his peace.

Prayer of the Day. O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Readings

Acts 5:27-32 *The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus*

Psalm 118:14-29 *You are my God and I will exalt you*

Revelation 1:4-8, *Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead is coming*

John 20:19-31 *Beholding the wounds of the risen Christ*

The following Memorials have been received in the Church Office



In Memory of Leroy Eliason:

Property & Management: Betty Ursin & Carol Andstrom

In Memory of George Novak:

Riverside Cemetery: Pete & Donna Quist

In Memory of Debra Johnson:

Riverside Cemetery: Pete & Donna Quist

~ April 2022 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 10a-11a Worship	4	5 9a-9:30a Staff Meeting 11a-12p Pastor's Text Study 3p-7:30p Music Lessons	6 10a-11a Altar Guild 12pm Lenten Service 3:30p-7:30p Music Lessons 4:15p-5:15p Confirmation Class 6:30p-7:30p "I Am the Resurrection and the Life" at Our Savior's	7 2:30p-7p Music Lessons	8	9
10 10a-11a Worship 11:00 Council	11 6p-7p Property Management Committee	12 9a-9:30a Staff Meeting 11a-12p Pastor's Text Study 3p-7:30p Music Lessons	13 1:30p-2:30p Harmony House Worship 3:30p-7:30p Music Lessons 4:15p-5:15p Confirmation Class	14 12pm Maundy Thursday Service 2:30p-7p Music Lessons 6:30pm Joint Superior Maundy Worship at Our Savior's	15 Good Friday 12pm Good Friday worship at Concordia 6:30pm Joint Superior Good Friday Worship at Pilgrim Lutheran Church	16
17 Easter 8:00 Worship (Masks required) 8:45-9:45 Breakfast 10:00 Worship (Masks optional)	18 Tax Day (Taxes Due) 6p-7p Worship and Music Committee	19 9a-9:30a Staff Meeting 11a-12p Pastor's Text Study 3p-7:30p Music Lessons	20 3:30p-7:30p Music Lessons 4:15p-5:15p Confirmation Class	21 9:30a-12:30p Lake Superior Conference Pastors (Our Savior's Lutheran\, Iron River) 2:30p-7p Music Lessons	22 Earth Day	23
24 World Immunization Week 10a-11a Worship	25 World Malaria Day	26 9a-9:30a Staff Meeting 11a-12p Pastor's Text Study 3p-7:30p Music Lessons	27 Administrative Professionals 3:30p-7:30p Music Lessons 4:15p-5:15p Confirmation Class	28 2:30p-7p Music Lessons	29 Arbor Day	30



Altar Flowers for April

- April 3
In memory of Edward & Dorothy Hoffman by
The Lippitt Family
- April 10
In memory of Erika Margaret Banker by
Gary & Carol Banker, Craig & Amy Banker
- April 17
In memory of Loved Ones by Robert & Traci
Strauch
- April 24
In Memory of Esther J. Nelson by Shirley
Brandser & Patsy Luder

Serving in April

Ushers

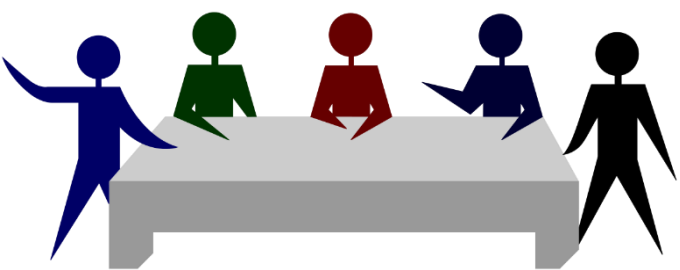
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|----------------|----------------------|
| April 3 | Team II Eric Sewall |
| April 10 | Team I Ken Harmer |
| April 17 8:00 | Team III Joyce Olson |
| April 17 10:00 | Team II Eric Sewall |
| April 24 | Team II Eric Sewall |

Bus Driver

- | | |
|----------|-------------|
| April 3 | Brett Quist |
| April 10 | Kris Hanson |
| April 17 | Pete Quist |
| April 24 | Ken Harmer |

Financial Assistants

Debi 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. No other new members were elected for 2022.

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

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



Concordia Lutheran Church
1708 John Ave.
Superior, WI 54880

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Address Service Requested

Early service on **Easter (8:00)**,
Masks will be **required** at
Concordia.

Later service on **Easter (10:00)**,
Masks will be **optional**, and will
remain optional on following
Sundays unless and until the
council determines otherwise.

Place label here

The Concordian is published monthly since 1981 by:

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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
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Contributors: Many
Assembly/mailling: Our faithful volunteers

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April

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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.