



The Concordian

A Newsletter of Concordia Lutheran Church – ELCA

Superior, WI

August 2022

Vol 43 No. 8

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

From the Pastor:

Greetings in the name of our God, who is revealed to us as Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!

On occasion, I am reminded of something that happened years ago by the silliest of things. A pencil falls on the floor in a certain manner, or a paper clip flies off into who knows where. Sometimes, it's social media that reminds me of something I posted years ago, asking me if I want to share that posting again today... Most of the time I don't. When I do, it's because the particular post is still relevant for some reason or another!

Remembering can be good, and we often view these past images or events with fondness.

As congregations, often we look back to past glories with a kind of nostalgia at the crowds that gathered for worship (especially on Christmas and Easter), the many choirs and service projects, and the general generosity of people and groups. The cry that accompanies these gazings into the past echoes loudly, “Why can't we be now what we were then?”

Some will try to cast blame on whomever is doing some certain thing that's different than what seemed to work in the past. Others will decry the differences in today's world and society.

Then there are those who blame the absent, assuring that if _____ were still here, all would be well. And it doesn't seem to make a difference why that person is absent... it could be that they are deceased, incapacitated, long moved away, or another reason altogether.

We are not who we were nearly 100 years ago, when Pastor Andrew Boe arrived (1924) as one who is remembered in one of our congregational history books as, “the energetic and likeable young Boe.” We are not who we were when the congregation grew to 1900 members just before the Great Depression hit, or when it risked closing in debt. We tend to forget the storms long past, when for a time any purchase over \$5 had to be okayed by the board.

This congregation has had ups and downs of many varieties through the years, but we tend to remember mostly what we wish we still had, rather than that which we are glad has passed!

We are not a congregation of 1900 members, with full choirs and large Sunday School classes, yet we are still God's people, and we still serve as God's people in this community. We are currently asking for donations of children's coats, snowsuits, and



boots, to continue our tradition of contributing to children of the community through Head Start. We are also collecting items for people seeking shelter from abuse through CASDA. We also donate hats, mittens, and books to children. We provide worship opportunities for those who come into this building, and for those who join us online. We provide space for music performance and education, including opera.

The point is that we are not who we were, but we are who we are, and we are always becoming more who we are called to be. God calls us to serve in varied ways, and we do that. We love our neighbors as ourselves, not by forcing them to be clones of ourselves, but by encouraging all to follow God's call to love one another.

In Jesus' name.

Pastor Michelle



PARISH NURSING NOTES

Are you “well-to-do?” Would you like to be “well-to-do?” When my mother used that term it referred to someone’s financial status. But when I attended a wellness workshop at the Synod Assembly in Eau Claire, I developed a new perspective on being “Well-to-do.” Rev. Phil Blom completed the phrase – “Well-to-do God’s work.”

Pastor Michelle isn’t the only one in our congregation “called” to do God’s work. God has lots of work, and we are **all** called to help. Romans 12:6 reminds we all have different gifts, and every time we use them we are doing God’s work. There are many reasons to “live well.”

- To avoid lifestyle-related illnesses.
- to feel better in mind and body
- to role-model healthy behaviors for our children
- to age with strength and dignity
- to help decrease overall health care costs
- to better steward gifts given by God
- to endure hardship with resilience and grace
- to have a healthier relationship with God
- to be a more effective participant in the congregation, community, work place, world.

But I liked the “being well” part of the phrase. It fits in with parish nursing.

Being “well” doesn’t just refer to our physical well-being. It also includes our emotional, social,

intellectual, vocational, and spiritual well-being. If one area is out of balance, the others are affected as well. And working on one area can help restore balance to other areas as well. If you are feeling down because your job was eliminated, it can affect how you feel about yourself, how you interact with others, how you care for your physical health, and your relationship with God. Having a physical illness can similarly affect all other areas. Working on any of these can help restore balance in all of them. The ELCA Board of Pensions has a Wholeness Wheel that demonstrates these relationships. You may have seen it in my office. The outside of the wheel, surrounding all other areas, is our spiritual well-being, and the center is our baptismal creation in Christ.

It strikes me that summer is a good time to evaluate our “wellness.” We have easier access to fresh fruits and vegetables and outdoor activities for the physical part. We also often have reunions and gatherings with families and friends for the emotional and social part. Very often, with vacations from work responsibilities, we have time to travel or read for the intellectual part-or to develop new skills for the vocational part. In this part of the country, we often develop a spirit of thankfulness – for the few days of warmth, sun, and relaxation we have. But very often, we get so distracted with all those things, that we forget the spiritual part and our relationship with God.

So this summer, take stock of your “wellness” status. Decide what areas need more focus, and come back in the fall – ready, and “well-to-do” God’s work.

Rev. Blom’s interpretation of III John, v. 2, is “Be faithful to your well-being, that it may be well with you.” That is my summer prayer for you.....Jean

“Church members are either Pillars or Caterpillars. The Pillars hold up the church, the Caterpillars just crawl in and out.” (from a very old daily calendar)



Memorials

In Memory of Edith Warner.

Ken & Debra Harmer (Bus Fund)

In Memory of Helen Hankey:

Ken & Debra Harmer (Organ Fund)

The Hagen Family (Youth & Family)

Shirley Brandser (Bus Fund)

Bill & Lois O'Neill (Organ & Music)

In Memory of Jean Weber:

Ken & Debra Harmer (Bus Fund)

In Memory of Ruby Lien:

Rhoda Pearthree (Bus Fund)



"God's Work Our Hands" Sunday

This day is a dedicated day of service in our community. On September 11 at 10:00 a.m. we will be having an outdoor Worship Service on the lawn under the tent. A picnic lunch will be provided after the service. After lunch we will be putting together Hygiene kits for CASDA. We will be collecting the following items:

- Bath Towel (for either male or female);
- Wash Cloth,
- Travel box for soap;
- New bars of bath soap;
- Deodorant (for both male and female);
- Nail clippers;
- Toothbrush and tooth paste;
- Brush & comb or Hair Pick.

You can bring any of these items to Church before September 11, 2022. We will have a table in the back of the sanctuary for donations to be dropped off. Monetary donations excepted. On the offering envelope write GWOH.



National Night Out

Is set for Tuesday, August 2, 2022. We will be providing a light meal and hosting lawn games from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Come and enjoy some food and fun. This is a good way to reach out with hospitality and to connect with people in our community.

Do you go to Rummage Sales?

If you do, could you look for children's snowsuits, boots, and jackets. The sizes that we are looking to obtain are: for Coats: 3T/4T, 5T/6T, 7/8. For Boots: sizes 5/6T, 7/8T, 9/10T, 11/12T, 13/1K. If you find them could you buy them, and donate them to Church. Sometimes if you tell the person having the sale that they are going to Head Start children they will donate them to you. The Church has been collecting these clothing items and giving them to Head Start Children for several years now.



Donations of these clothing items can be dropped off at the Church.



Outside Worship Services

On August 14, 2022 the Worship Service will be held in Billings Park **at 9:00** with other area Lutheran Churches in Superior. No congregational offerings will be received that day, but there will be a **free-will offering** for the **Jesse Paul Band** (from Michigan), presenting the worship service for us that day.

Worship Aids for the Coming Weeks

Sunday, August 7, 9th Sunday after Pentecost

Jesus says, “It is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.” It is God’s promise from the beginning—to Abraham, to the early church, and to the “little flock” of which we are a part in today’s assembly. Faith, God’s baptismal gift, trusts the promises of God. Have no fear.

Prayer of the Day: Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Readings

Genesis 15:1-6 *God’s promise of a child for Abram and Sarai*

Psalms 33:12-22 *Let your loving kindness be upon us, as we place our hope in you*

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16, *A model for us: Abraham’s faith in a new home given by God*

Luke 12:32-40 *God will give you the treasure of the kingdom, sell all that you have*

Sunday, August 14, 10th Sunday after Pentecost

The word of God is a refining fire. Jesus is the great divide in human history. He invites our undivided attention and devotion. Today in worship we are surrounded by a great “cloud of witnesses.” In the word and in holy communion we are invited yet again to look to Jesus, “the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.”

Prayer of the Day: O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

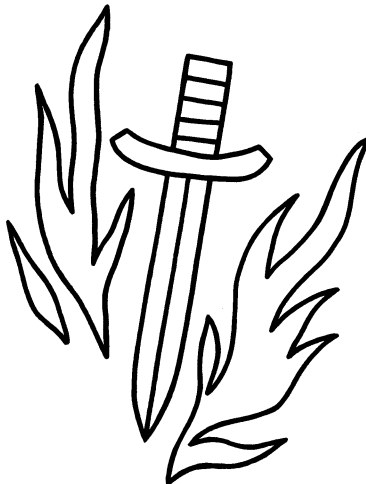
Readings

Jeremiah 23:23-29 *God’s word is like fire, like a hammer that breaks rocks*

Psalms 82 *Arise, O God, and rule the earth*

Hebrews 11:29-12:2 *The faith of the Hebrew people, a great cloud of witnesses*

Luke 12:49-56 *Jesus brings fire on earth and has a baptism with which to be baptized*



Sunday, August 21, 11th Sunday after Pentecost

Remember the Sabbath day. Call the Sabbath a delight. This is the Lord's day, and the Lord will do for us what the Lord does: feed us, forgive us, help and heal us. Rejoice at all the wonderful things God is doing.

Prayer of the Day: O God, mighty and immortal, you know that as fragile creatures surrounded by great dangers, we cannot by ourselves stand upright. Give us strength of mind and body, so that even when we suffer because of human sin, we may rise victorious through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Readings

Isaiah 58:9b-14, *Do not trample the Sabbath, but feed the hungry*

Psalms 103:1-8 *The Lord crowns you with mercy and steadfast love*

Hebrews 12:18-29 *You have come to the city of the living God and to Jesus*

Luke 13:10-17 *Jesus heals a crippled woman on the Sabbath and is condemned*



Sunday, August 28, 12th Sunday after Pentecost

Invited and inviting—that is the nature of the church. By God's grace in holy baptism we have a place at Christ's banquet table. When, by the power of that same Spirit, humility and mutual love continue among us, the church can be more inviting still.

Prayer of the Day. O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Readings



Proverbs 25:6-7 *Do not put yourself forward*

Psalms 112 *The righteous are merciful and full of compassion*

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16, *God is with us, let acts of mutual love continue*

Luke 14:1, 7-14 *An image of God's reign: invite the poor, crippled to your banquet*

~ August 2022 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 9a-9:30a Staff Meeting 11a-12p Pastor's Text Study 5p-7p National Night Out	3	4	5	6
7 10a-11a Worship 11 a Coffee Hour in Library	8 6p-7p Property Management Committee	9 9a-9:30a Staff Meeting 11a-12p Pastor's Text Study	10 12p-1p Parish Nurse Board Mtg 1:30p-2:30p Harmony House Worship	11	12	13
14 9a-10a Worship outside in Billings Park with the Jesse Paul Bluegrass Band	15 6p-7p Worship and Music Committee	16 9a-9:30a Staff Meeting 11a-12p Pastor's Text Study	17	18	19	20
						
21 10a-11a Worship 11:15a-12:15p Church Council Meeting	22	23 9a-9:30a Staff Meeting 11a-12p Pastor's Text Study	24	25	26	27
28 10a-11a Worship	29	30 9a-9:30a Staff Meeting 11a-12p Pastor's Text Study	31	Notes: If you'd like to host coffee hour after worship, please sign up on the sheet in the hallway by the small kitchen. 		

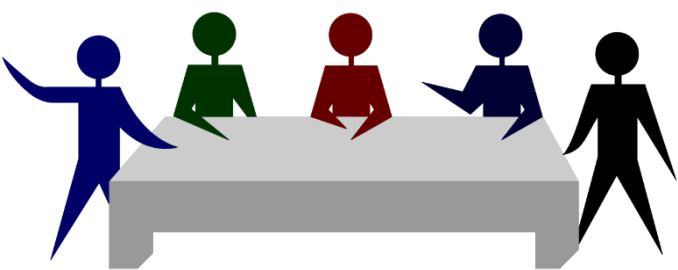


Altar Flowers for August

- August 7
In Memory of Kurt & Elaine Pietrowski's 73rd
Anniversary by Jane Pietrowski
- August 14
Altar Guild
- August 21
In Memory of Loved Ones by Bill & Lois
O'Neill
- August 28
In Memory of Loved Ones by Nancy
Spiering

Serving in August

- Ushers**
 - August 7 Team II Eric Sewall
 - August 14 Team III Joyce Olson
 - August 21 Team I Ken Harmer
 - August 28 Team II Eric Sewall
- Bus Driver**
 - August 7 Brett Quist
 - August 14 Pete Quist
 - August 21 Ken Harmer
 - August 28 Kris Hanson
- Financial Assistants**
Kris Hanson



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.



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Superior, WI 54880

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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
Amy King, Custodian
Matthew Eastman, Technologies

Contributors: Many
Assembly/mailling: Our faithful volunteers

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August

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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](https://www.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.