



# The Concordian

A Newsletter of Concordia Lutheran Church – ELCA

Superior, WI

May 2023

Vol 44 No. 5

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

## *From the Pastor:*

This month brings us Memorial Day, a national holiday on which we honor those who have given their lives for the sake of others, particularly in military service.

In recent years, many of us have expanded our recognitions to include not only those who served in the military, but all who have influenced our lives, particularly in positive ways.

This is good, as we are able to honor the many different ways that people give of themselves, and the different ways we are called to live in community. Jesus said, “Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.”

Jesus’ friends were not limited to the 12 disciples, or the many others who followed him through his ministry days before his crucifixion. Jesus died for all, not just those few, not even just those of the nation of Israel. Jesus also lives for all, for soldiers, for medics, for caregivers, for food providers, for engineers, for entertainers, for legislators and governors, for peace officers and counsellors, for teachers, for coaches, for players and for spectators, for young and old and medium-aged, for the working and the retired, for the poor and the affluent, for the ill and the healthy, for everyone who either fits in one

of those categories or who does not. We honor the gifts of variety in community.

While working on this, I had an unusual experience. The Decorah eagle nest (viewable by a camera) was being hassled by a couple of geese on a nearby branch. The eagle nest has one eaglet, and one parent (the male) was on the nest with it. The two geese were honking and honking, and then one flew at the eagle nest—several times. The adult eagle just screeched at the goose and stayed with the eaglet.

I’m not used to seeing geese in trees... then again, I don’t look for them there! Eventually both left, and the eagle nest was left in peace...for the time being!

Nature sees conflict of many types. Usually it is territorial, and often a matter of survival. Nature is somewhat different than human civilization, however. Anthropologists often mark what they call the beginning of civilization to be evidence of the healing of a broken leg, because that means that someone had to provide for that person while the leg was healing. Caring for another overcame the instinct to be concerned only for oneself.

Just today I received a thank-you from the director of the Head Start program through which our congregation has been giving



books, hats, mittens, and other cold-weather items of need to some of the most vulnerable of our neighbors. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will see a plea for people to be on the Concordia Cares committee, which is involved in the presentation of these items. That committee has become smaller due to a variety of reasons, and we can use additional caring people to be involved with this necessary ministry. This is one way that we lay down our lives for others.

In addition, how you live your life day to day is usually the main part of your ministry, the main part of your participation in civilization—how you lay down your life for others. We hope to need to use violence as little as possible, as we give of ourselves in Jesus’ name.

Blessings! *Pastor Michelle*



### PARISH NURSING NOTES

***“Lord, doesn’t it seem unfair to you that my sister just sits here while I do all the work? Tell her to come help me?”***

Luke 10:40 NLT

While most women would like to sit back and learn new things, almost ALL women are busy multitasking – worrying about the details of a job, and family, and what needs to be done next. Throughout time, women have been taught to be organizers, nurturers, and caretakers for others while neglecting their own needs and desires. Even today, you are expected to be superwoman and excel in the roles of wife, mother, daughter, volunteer, employee, caretaker, protector, and business woman. Unfortunately, while accomplishing all these tasks, women tend to forget the most important task of a healthy life – taking care of their own needs and health.

This year, Women’s Health Week begins on Mother’s Day, May 14, and extends through May 20. You can’t be a success at all the roles you fill unless you take care of yourself first. It’s just like the instructions you are given at the beginning of every airplane flight, “In the event of an emergency, put on your own oxygen first, then assist others.” If you don’t take care of yourself, you can’t take care of anyone else. And THEN what would they do?!

We always hear about the importance of a healthy diet, regular physical exercise, and annual medical check-ups. Those are all very important. They can help prevent health problems in the first

place, and then detect them earlier, while they can be treated more easily and before complications set in. But we also have to care for our mind, spirit, and relationships.

True friendship provides support for the tough times in life when an encourager or sounding board is needed. Friends provide times of laughter, which is better for your health than any pill you could find. Laughter releases endorphins which help lower blood pressure and stress, bolster the immune system, and improve one’s mental outlook. Participating in crafts and hobbies, especially with friends, can also promote relaxation. And recent study results show that crafts can help prevent or slow the development of dementia as well as the brain games do. Right here at church you can participate in quilting. That gets you involved with friends and crafts at the same time, as well as contributing to something that will bring comfort to others. And if quilting is a new skill for you, it stimulates your mind as well.

A healthy spirit is also important to your well-being. And participating in church services and either group or private Bible study does wonders. There’s something about praying with and for others that is comforting, enriching, and spirit-lifting. You can feel the arms of God around you, and know you are never alone. After all, He has promised us, “*I will never leave you or forsake you.*” (Hebrews 13:5), and *Come to me...and I will give you rest.*” (Matthew 11:28).

The health of women is important not just to them individually, but also to their families, friends, churches, and communities. So take care, take care of each other, and stay healthy!.....Jean





## Memorials

In Memory of Eunice Grimsrud:  
*Nancy & Gary Reiten (Altar Guild)*

In Memory of Dick Riedasch:  
*Marie Strom*

In Memory of Betty Ursin:  
*Diane Kruger*

(If you have given a Memorial and don't see your name listed in the Newsletter please let the office know and we will make sure that you get recognized for any Memorials that you have given).

## Gluten Free

Gluten Free Communion Wafers are available for anyone who needs them.



**Bishop Laurie Skow-Anderson** will be with us for worship on **Sunday, May 7**. There will be coffee hour after worship, and then a council meeting (at which the bishop will also be present). As always, congregation members are welcome to attend and observe council meetings.

## Graduates

We will be recognizing graduating seniors (and gifting the following senior with a quilt) on Sunday, May 21, 2023 at the 10:00 a.m. Worship Service: Conlan Hanson.



## CLCW Boe-Engebretson Student Award Application

The Boe-Engebretson Student Award Application for 2023 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, 2023. 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.



## Youth & Family Event

Mark your calendars for Sunday, May 21, 2023 right after the Worship Service. The Youth & Family Committee is planning on showing a movie and having popcorn and pizza. 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.



## Memorial Day Service at Riverside Cemetery



The annual Memorial Day Service will be on Monday, May 29, 2023 at Riverside Cemetery. Pastor Michelle will conduct the service at 11:00 a.m.

It is time to honor our service personnel for their sacrifices. We should also remember our family and friends who have gone before us.

There will be refreshments following the service.

We have niche in the columbarium for cremains and gravesites available for purchase.



### To be on the Concordia Cares Committee

The Concordia Cares Committee is looking for volunteers to be on the Committee. One of the projects that the committee works on is **obtaining and distributing coats, snowsuits and boots** for Family Forum Head Start. Please call the Church Office to let us know if you are interested in being on the committee and if you have any new ideas that the committee can explore.





# Concert With a Purpose

**Hunger is a very real issue in our community.**

The outdoor food shelf at Zion Lutheran Church is constantly being used. So, local musicians of all ages are coming together to play a **Concert with a Purpose**, to stock that shelf!

Zion Lutheran Church 2022 E 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Superior WI  
**Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 7:00 pm**

Admission: Non-perishable food item or free will donation for food shelf supplies

Come and enjoy the music, and join in fellowship after. Homemade desserts/beverages will be provided.

**See you there!**



# Worship Aids for the Coming Weeks

## Sunday, May 7, Fifth Sunday of Easter

As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.

**Prayer of the Day:** Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

### Readings

Acts 7:55-60 *The martyrdom of Stephen*

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 *Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit*

1 Peter 2:2-10 *God's people chosen to proclaim God's mighty acts*

John 14:1-14 *Christ the way, truth and life*

## Sunday, May 14, Sixth Sunday of Easter

Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that in our gathering around the Lord's table the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the world.

**Prayer of the Day:** Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

### Readings

Acts 17:22-31 *Paul's message to the Athenians*

Psalm 66:8-20 *Bless our God, you peoples, let the sound of praise be heard*

1 Peter 3:13-22 *The days of Noah, a sign of baptism*

John 14:15-21 *Christ our advocate*



## Sunday, May 21, Seventh Sunday of Easter

In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.

**Prayer of the Day:** O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

### Readings

Acts 1:6-14 *Jesus' companions at prayer after his departure*

Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35 *Sing to God, who rides upon the clouds*

1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11 *God will sustain and restore those who suffer*

John 17:1-11 *Christ's prayer for his disciples*



## Sunday, May 28, Day of Pentecost

Pentecost derives its name from the Jewish festival celebrating the harvest and the giving of the law on Mount Sinai fifty days after Passover. Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the Holy Spirit as God's presence within and among us. In Acts the Spirit arrives in rushing wind and flame, bringing God's presence to all people. Paul reminds us that though we each have different capacities; we are unified in the Spirit that equips us with these gifts. Jesus breathes the Holy Spirit on his disciples, empowering them to forgive sin. We celebrate that we too are given the breath of the Holy Spirit and sent out to proclaim God's redeeming love to all the world.

**Prayer of the Day.** O God, on this day you open the hearts of your faithful people by sending into us your Holy Spirit. Direct us by the light of that Spirit, that we may have a right judgment in all things and rejoice at all times in your peace, through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

### Readings

Acts 2:1-21 *Filled with the Spirit to tell God's deeds*

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b *Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth*

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 *Varieties of gifts from the same Spirit*

John 20:19-23 *The Spirit poured out*

~ May 2023 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 9a-9:30a Staff Meeting 11a-12p Pastor's Text Study	<b>3</b> 10a-11a Altar Guild	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Cinco De Mayo  7:00 p "Concert with a Purpose" at Zion Lutheran Church, (see page 5)	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 10a-11a Worship 11a-12p Coffee Hour with Bishop Laurie Skow-Anderson 11:30a-12:30p Church Council Meeting	<b>8</b> 6p-7p Property Management Committee	<b>9</b> 9a-9:30a Staff Meeting 11a-12p Pastor's Text Study	<b>10</b> 1:30p-2:30p Harmony House Worship	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> Mother's Day 10a-11a Worship	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 9a-9:30a Staff Meeting 11a-12p Pastor's Text Study	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 9:30a-1p Pastor's Conference Meeting	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Armed Forces Day Loon using Fellowship hall
<b>21</b> 10a-11a Worship 11:15a-1:15p Youth & Family Event 2p-3p Loon stage rehearsal	<b>22</b> 5p-9p Loon using Fellowship Hall in Evening 6p-7p Worship and Music Committee	<b>23</b> 9a-9:30a Staff Meeting 11a-12p Pastor's Text Study 5p-9p Loon using Fellowship Hall in Evening	<b>24</b> 5p-9p Loon using Fellowship Hall in Evening	<b>25</b> 5p-9p Loon using Fellowship Hall in Evening	<b>26</b> 5p-9p Loon using Fellowship Hall in Evening	<b>27</b> 5p-9p Loon using Fellowship Hall
<b>28</b> 10a-11a Worship	<b>29</b> Memorial Day 11a-11:30a Worship (Riverside Cemetery) 5p-9p Loon using Fellowship Hall	<b>30</b> 9a-9:30a Staff Meeting 11a-12p Pastor's Text Study 2p-9p Loon using Fellowship Hall	<b>31</b> 2p-9p Loon using Fellowship Hall	<b>Notes:</b>		





## Altar Flowers for May

- May 7  
Altar Guild
- May 14  
In Memory of Dr. Clarence & Doris Torvick  
given by The Theien Family
- May 21  
In Memory of William Deeds given by  
Virginia Deeds
- May 28  
In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Herman Luedtke,  
John & Francis Anunti given by Virginia  
Deeds & Family

## Serving in May

### **Ushers**

- |        |                      |
|--------|----------------------|
| May 7  | Team II Eric Sewall  |
| May 14 | Team III Joyce Olson |
| May 21 | Team I Ken Harmer    |
| May 28 | Team II Eric Sewall  |

### **Bus Driver**

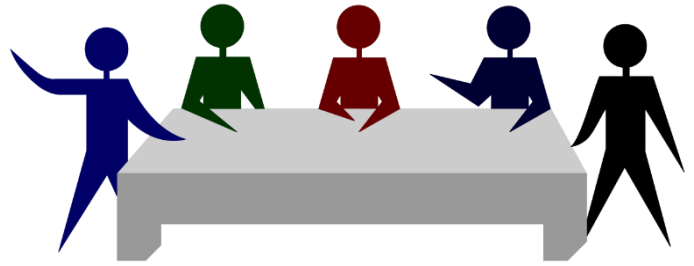
- |        |             |
|--------|-------------|
| May 7  | Brett Quist |
| May 14 | Pete Quist  |
| May 21 | Kris Hanson |
| May 28 | Ken Harmer  |

### **Communion Helper**

- |        |             |
|--------|-------------|
| May 7  | Lori Sewall |
| May 14 | Joyce Olson |
| May 21 | Deb Harmer  |
| May 28 | Shawn Quist |

### **Financial Assistants**

Kris Hanson



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

Council members for 2023.

Mike Olson, President	715-398-0343
Kris Hanson, Vice President	715-977-1260
Ken Harmer, Secretary	218-390-8218
Doug Score, Treasurer	218-260-0657
Mark Thompson	715-392-3166
Rob Strauch	715-718-1226
Eric Sewall	715-392-1559
Tom O'Neill	218-391-6139

Council meets next on May 7.

# *Bus Available*

Please remember that the Church Bus is available for Sunday Services. Please call the office if you want to be added to the list.



Concordia Lutheran Church  
1708 John Ave.  
Superior, WI 54880

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Websites:

Church website: [www.concordiasuperior.org](http://www.concordiasuperior.org)  
Synod website: [www.nswi.org](http://www.nswi.org)  
ELCA website: [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)  
Luther Point Bible Camp website: [www.lutherpoint.org](http://www.lutherpoint.org)  
Resource Center website: [www.synodresourcecenter.org](http://www.synodresourcecenter.org)

Michelle R. Rowell, Pastor  
Beth Sobczak, Keyboards  
Dr. Héctor Landa, Keyboards  
Carol Lindegren, Office Manager  
Jean Riedasch, Parish Nurse  
Kent Peterson, Custodian  
Matthew Eastman, Technologies

Contributors: Many  
Assembly/mailling: Our faithful volunteers

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May

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Superior, Wisconsin  
715.394.3762

[www.concordiasuperior.org](http://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://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.