



# The Concordian

A Newsletter of Concordia Lutheran Church – ELCA  
Superior, WI      June 2023      Vol 44 No. 6

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

## *From the Pastor:*

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> of May, as the deadline for writing this piece for our June newsletter loomed, I received news from the Wisconsin Council of Churches reminding me that May is (was) Mental Health Awareness Month. I had recently been speaking with another pastor, and learned of what seemed to me to be a great number of pastors who were on medical leave for mental health reasons (primarily depression). While I (briefly) debated bringing this up in our June newsletter since the awareness month would then be over, I chose to address the matter now—as illnesses do not appear only during the arbitrary months designated to raise awareness of them.

The article I read was responding particularly to the connection between mental health and gun violence (noting that the strongest connection is that those suffering from mental illness are more likely to be the *victim* of gun violence in suicide than the *perpetrator* of it over others).

Most people with mental illness are very rarely inspired to violence against others, just like those who suffer no diagnosed mental illness. Anger at a reckless driver, or at a seemingly careless parent, or at one who is abusive to others might inspire

violent thoughts in anyone, for example.

There are tidbits of advice in our Biblical texts for those with high anxiety or fear, but outside a community of care, most of them fall short. Being told not to worry or not to fear—even with examples why we need not do so—does not by itself take away either the fear or the anxiety.

Much good results from professional care with counselling (and medication when warranted), but we have learned in the last three years especially that community gathering is vital, life-giving, and necessary.

When the COVID-19 pandemic became a health crisis around the world, and large community gatherings were dangerous, especially for the most vulnerable among us, we were thankfully gifted with technologies that allowed us to gather in ways in which we could see one another, and sometimes interact with one another, without placing one another in danger to the likely transmission of a virus that became deadly to so many. This also spurred us to make our worship more accessible to people who could not gather in the building for other reasons, something that likely should have occurred earlier (as we had the ability)!



The virus is no longer as deadly, and we take this opportunity to invite everyone to make the effort to come together for worship again, to gift us with your presence if you can, in support of the mental health of the entire community. (Even introverts benefit from limited group gathering!) Our bus is available (and it will benefit the bus to be used!).

Jesus calls us to love one another. In what ways do you love the neighbors who gather to worship with this congregation? How are your offerings given to various charitable purposes? When is the last time you considered your presence as a gift to one who suffers from isolation? Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God.  
1 John 4:7a

Blessings! *Pastor Michelle*



### PARISH NURSING NOTES

*“For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.” (Ecclesiastes 3:1).*

And just when you thought the summer season was approaching, and it was warm enough to venture outdoors again, health officials are warning that the number of Americans infected by mosquito, tick, and flea bites has more than tripled in recent years. They also report that a greater percentage of ticks are carrying disease, and that the disease they are carrying is not only Lyme disease, but also babesiosis, anaplasmosis, and the newer Powassan virus. And mosquito bites may cause more than just some irritating itching, but may carry the Zika virus. So if you want to enjoy the summer weather, you have to take some steps to protect yourself from these seasonal creatures, and the diseases they like to share.

The most common tick in our area is the deer tick, or blacklegged tick. Obviously, it has black legs, and a reddish body. And at various stages of its development, it can vary in size from as small as the tip of a sharpened pencil, up to 3/8 of an inch. So they may not be easily seen on your body in the nit stage, but can still carry the diseases. They typically live in the grasses at the side of the road, or in the grass and leaves along paths.

You can start off by trying to protect yourself ahead of time. Repellants containing DEET or picaridin can be sprayed on your skin according to directions, to repel both ticks and mosquitoes. Or

permethrin can be applied to clothing. Wear long sleeves, long pants, and tuck the pants inside your socks to keep any ticks on the outside of your clothing. Walk down the center of paths, and avoid bushy areas and grasslands. When you come inside, check yourself in front of a mirror or have someone else help check you. They typically like spots along the hairline, behind the ears, and the back of the neck. Also the groin, and behind the knees. Showering may wash off ticks that are just riding on you. But if you find one that's embedded in the skin, use pointy tweezers to grasp it as close to the skin as possible. Gently apply firm, steady pressure until you pull it out. If there is a question if it can transmit a disease, you can save it in a small container to be identified later.

Watch for any symptoms for a month or so after the bite. You may not always see the typical bull's eye rash. But be on the watch for other signs, such as neck stiffness, headache, muscle or joint pain or achiness, fever, chills, and swollen lymph nodes. Call your doctor if you experience these, or if you are bitten by multiple ticks in a short time span even without the symptoms.

Minimize exposure in your home and yard by ridding your yard and deck of empty pots, bird baths, or bowls where water may accumulate. Make sure your window screens are intact. It's best to use air-conditioning if you can, as mosquitoes are less active in cooler air. You can also make your yard less hospitable to ticks by using fencing to keep out deer (or other critters) that carry ticks, prune trees and shrubs, and keep the grass cut short. Another way to protect yourself from mosquitos is to set up an electric fan on a table near your seating area. The breeze disperses the human scents, and mosquitoes have a hard time flying in the wind.

And don't forget to get out and enjoy the beautiful world that God created for us to use and enjoy! Have a great summer.....Jean



## Memorials

In Memory of Eunice Grimsrud:  
*Shirley Brandser*  
*Sue Martin*

In Memory of Dick Riedasch:  
*Shirley Brandser*

In Memory of Betty Ursin:  
*Shirley Brandser*

(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.

**I'm so excited.**



## National Night Out

We have something exciting planned for National Night Out which is scheduled for Tuesday, August 1, 2023. Hopefully we can get it scheduled and be able to let you know next month.



## Hat & Mitten Tree

Just a heads up: The Hat and Mitten tree will be going up **earlier again this year** (November 1, 2023). So it is time to get out those knitting needles, crochet hooks or sewing machines. Concordia Cares Committee will be collecting hats and mittens for the hat & mitten tree.

Yarn is available in the Church Office for anyone needing yarn to knit or crochet hats and mittens for the tree. The goal is to donate 100 hats and 100 pairs of mittens to Head Start.



## To be on the Concordia Cares Committee

The Concordia Cares Committee is looking for more volunteers to be on the Committee. This committee receives designated earnings from the Concordia Lutheran Investment Fund and then decides where the money should be given to help those in the community. Last year funds were used for clothing and books for Head Start, Superior Fire Department (Toys for Tots), the food pantry at Faith United Methodist Church and Mentor North. Please let the Church Office know if you are interested in being on this committee and if you have any new ideas that the committee can explore.

# Worship Aids for the Coming Weeks

## Sunday, June 4, First Sunday after Pentecost

Though the word *trinity* is not found in the scriptures, today's second reading includes the apostolic greeting that begins the liturgy: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. In the gospel Jesus sends his disciples forth to baptize in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. More than a doctrine, the Trinity expresses the heart of our faith: we have experienced the God of creation made known in Jesus Christ and with us always through the Holy Spirit. We celebrate the mystery of the Holy Trinity in word and sacrament, as we profess the creed, and as we are sent into the world to bear witness to our faith.

**Prayer of the Day:** Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

### Readings

Genesis 1:1-2:4a *The creation of the heavens and the earth*  
Psalm 8 *How majestic is your name in all the earth!*  
2 Corinthians 13:11-13 *Paul's farewell to the church at Corinth*  
Matthew 28:16-20 *Living in the community of the Trinity*

## Sunday, June 11, Second Sunday after Pentecost

Though Jesus was a devout Jew who practiced his faith, he was criticized for eating with tax collectors and sinners—the religiously nonobservant. Jesus criticizes the self-righteous and reminds us that mercy is to be at the heart of our religious practices. God continues to be made known in those on the margins of society, like Matthew the tax collector and the hemorrhaging woman. As we gather each Lord's day we receive the healing that makes us well and sends us forth to be signs of God's mercy for the world.

**Prayer of the Day:** O God, you are the source of life and the ground of our being. By the power of your Spirit bring healing to this wounded world, and raise us to the new life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

### Readings

Hosea 5:15-6:6 *God desires steadfast love*  
Psalm 50:7-15 *Call upon me in the day of trouble, says your God*  
Romans 4:13-25 *The promise to those who share Abraham's faith*  
Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26 *Christ heals a woman and raises a synagogue leader's daughter*



## Sunday, June 18, Third Sunday after Pentecost

Moses tells the Israelites that they are called to be a priestly kingdom and a holy people. Jesus sends out the disciples as laborers into the harvest. In baptism we too are anointed for ministry, sharing God's compassion with our needy world. From the Lord's table we go forth to proclaim the good news, to heal the sick, and to share our bread with the hungry.

**Prayer of the Day:** God of compassion, you have opened the way for us and brought us to yourself. Pour your love into our hearts, that, overflowing with joy, we may freely share the blessings of your realm and faithfully proclaim the good news of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

### Readings

Exodus 19:2-8a *The covenant with Israel at Sinai*

Psalms 100 *We are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture*

Romans 5:1-8 *While we were sinners, Christ died for us*

Matthew 9:35-10:8 [9-23] *The sending of the Twelve*



## Sunday, June 25, Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

God does not promise that the path of the disciple will be easy. Jeremiah feels the pain of rejection from those who do not want to hear what he has to say. Jesus declares that his words may bring stark division. Even so, we need not be afraid for God accounts for each hair on our heads. Though we may experience rejection, frustration, division, and death, God's grace and love make us a new creation each day. Marked with the cross and filled with holy food, we are sent from worship to witness to Christ in the world.

**Prayer of the Day.** Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

### Readings

Jeremiah 20:7-13 *The prophet must speak despite opposition*

Psalms 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18 *Answer me O Lord, for your love is kind*

Romans 6:1b-11 *Buried and raised with Christ by baptism*

Matthew 10:24-39 *The cost of discipleship*

~ June 2023 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 10a-9p Loon using Fellowship Hall	2 10a-9p Loon using Fellowship Hall	3 10a-5p Loon using Fellowship Hall
4 10a-11a Worship 1p-2p Hector Landa "Piano Studio Recital"	5 5:00 Superior Area Ministry Meeting at Concordia	6 9a-9:30a Staff Meeting 11a-12p Pastor's Text Study	7	8	9	10
11 10a-11a Worship 11a-12p Council Meeting	12 6p-7p Property Management Committee	13 9a-9:30a Staff Meeting 11a-12p Pastor's Text Study	14 Flag Day 1:30p-2:30p Harmony House Worship	15	16	17
18 Father's Day 10a-11a Worship	19 6p-7p Worship and Music Committee	20 9a-9:30a Staff Meeting 11a-12p Pastor's Text Study	21 Summer Solstice	22	23	24
25 10a-11a Worship	26	27 9a-9:30a Staff Meeting 11a-12p Pastor's Text Study	28	29	30	Notes:





## Altar Flowers for June

- June 4  
In Memory of Charles & Anna Torvick given  
by The Theien Family
- June 11  
In Memory of Loved Ones given by Deb  
Grimsrud
- June 18  
In Memory of Victor & Betty Ursin, Elmer,  
Mary, Loa & Lois Nelson given by the Ursin  
Family
- June 25  
Altar Guild

## Serving in June

### **Ushers**

- |         |                      |
|---------|----------------------|
| June 4  | Team III Joyce Olson |
| June 11 | Team I Ken Harmer    |
| June 18 | Team II Eric Sewall  |
| June 25 | Team III Joyce Olson |

### **Bus Driver**

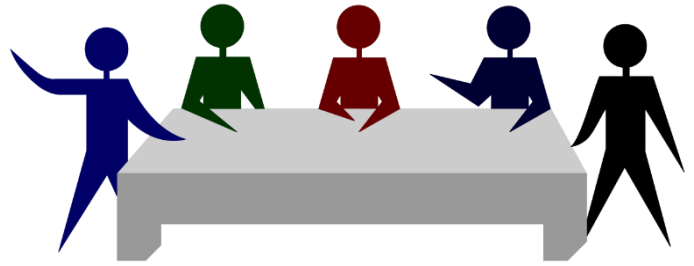
- |         |             |
|---------|-------------|
| June 4  | Pete Quist  |
| June 11 | Ken Harmer  |
| June 18 | Bret Quist  |
| June 25 | Kris Hanson |

### **Communion Helper**

- |         |             |
|---------|-------------|
| June 4  | Mike Olson  |
| June 11 | Ken Harmer  |
| June 18 | Lori Sewall |
| June 25 | Joyce Olson |

### **Financial Assistants**

Brett Quist & Eric Sewall



**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 June 11, 2023.

# *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.

## **Old Concordia Lutheran Church Interior**



Concordia Lutheran Church  
1708 John Ave.  
Superior, WI 54880

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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

# The Concordian

June

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A newsletter of Concordia Lutheran Church  
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.