



The Concordian

A Newsletter of Concordia Lutheran Church – ELCA

Superior, WI

July 2023

Vol 44 No. 7

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

From the Pastor:

Grace to you and peace, as we head into the heat of the summer! Last month, I wrote of mental health, and the benefits that we can receive from one another as we gather together (primarily for us, that would be for worship).

However, worship is not the only opportunity to gather. I was reading an article the other day about the difficulties faced by many people as we age, because most of this nation is so dependent upon driving ourselves to places we need to be. We learned particularly during the last three years how difficult it is to get to medical appointments and the grocery stores and even shopping venues when a car or a driver is not available.

The article I was reading lamented the lack of opportunities for people who had decided to give up driving themselves for various reasons. Sometimes those reasons are related to our own abilities to react quickly to unexpected actions of other drivers (or dogs or deer or pedestrians)! Sometimes they are more of a choice to live more cost-effectively. (The article noted those costs to be between \$6000 and \$15,000 per year!)

An unexpected piece of information was the relationship

between exercise and the ability to operate a motor vehicle. It was stated that the more you exercise, the better your body is able to react when necessary to hazards a driver might encounter.

That surprised me... and I started to wonder... If we really want to keep driving, then apparently we should also walk more...

A few years ago, during the Lenten season, we thought it would be good to offer the opportunity to walk within the worship space as a devotional time coupled with healthy activity. As I remember, other than the office staff, maybe four or five people chose to participate in that walking. Since then, the Mariner Mall has changed its policy on people using its space for walking. Plus, we only really offered our space as a Wednesday pre- or post-worship activity. What would happen if we opened the building for walking (free from weather issues and bugs) on a regular schedule, and followed it with an opportunity to gather with cool water and hot coffee? If this is something that our people would like, we might even be able to use the bus for those who would rather not drive.

It's just an idea, and will not be implemented unless the office (or our council members) hear



that this is something desired by the people, and that someone would take advantage of it!

What do you see as positive ways to move forward as people of God in this community? As each of us grows, are there differing ways that we encounter God? Or have we become stuck in expecting things to be the ways they've always been? Do we expect God to remain within the walls of our buildings, and that we ought to keep the bulk of our lives separate from that?

Everything that we do is part of our life in Christ, both inside and outside the building. How we care for our neighbors and for ourselves is part of our life in Christ, even more so than the amount of time we study the written word of Scripture. Let us always strive to love one another.

Blessings! *Pastor Michelle*



PARISH NURSING NOTES

I found this prayer written by Rev. Deborah Patterson. And that got me thinking about a different kind of plan for maintaining our health and wellness this summer—a first aid kit for our mental, social, and spiritual health and well-being. These are areas that sometimes get neglected in our busy everyday lives.

“Thank you, Lord, for the summer days of a slower pace and new growth into which You call us in the coming weeks. Lead us to the shores of cooling waters on the sweltering days. Help us to find green pastures in which to stroll and relax. Walk with us through the valleys we encounter and stand with us on the mountain peaks.

You call us to ministries of healing and hope, and you call us to rest and renewal. Help us to leave our paperwork behind – for a time—and turn to a book yet unread. Help us to reconnect with families, friends, and neighbors.

Loving God, we may have planted, but You give the growth. You bring the long days of summer sun, the rain, and the fruit in season. Help us to trust You, and to see your purposes for the world. Strengthening God, whose mercies are new each day, You are rest and restoration. You renew our weary spirits, and

give us direction and purpose. Help us to slow down: to see the blossoms on the vine, to listen for the insects flying between the bushes, and to finally taste the sweet berries that You have given to nourish our bodies.

Let us be still, and know that you are God. Bless these summer days and renew our hearts, minds, and spirits, so that we may love You and serve You all our days. Amen”

Our minds need first aid for all the planning, activity, facts, and figures that tend to fill our every waking moment. We need renewal of all the wonder and happiness that filled our summer days as young children. We need to sit back, look around, laugh, and appreciate all that we have been given. Sitting on a deck with a cup of coffee in the morning quiet is wonderful!

Social first aid includes sharing time, thoughts, and feelings with our family and friends. Let them know how much they are appreciated. We need to share our many blessings with others—with friends and those who are not yet friends. Grilling on the deck or in the backyard is more fun when shared with others.

Our spiritual needs require attention in summer also. We may travel far from our own church, but we can always worship in a different church, in a campground, or even on a boat. Take time to “Be still and know that I am God,” as Psalm 46:10 instructs. Take time to appreciate, and give thanks for all that God has given us. And remember that our church still needs our support all summer long!

This summer stay safe, and renew your heart mind, and spirit so that you may return refreshed to serve and love God all your days.....Jean

Memorials

In Memory of Mark Thompson:

Mike & Joyce Olson

Mary & Kenneth Tuckwell

LePage & Jokela families

Jim & Janet Johnson

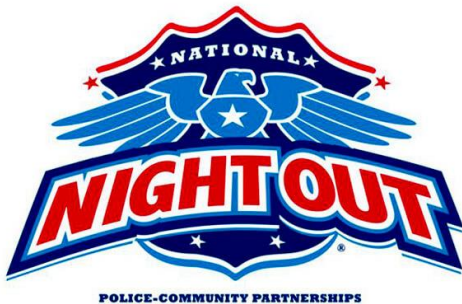
Pete & Donna Quist (Riverside Cemetery)



(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).



A letter will be coming in the mail from the Church Council (it is not a giving statement). It is very important that you read it.



National Night Out

Tuesday, August 1

We'll start at **6:00** with a **picnic** on the lawn. At **7:00**, a **small band** will begin to play some songs from our worship space. Expect to hear familiar pieces from the 60s and 70s. This will be more like an open house than a concert, so feel free to come and go as you please. (Songs may repeat.)

Calling all Concordia Ladies



We will be having a work day on Thursday, August 10 starting at 9 a.m. to inventory the kitchens, CLCW storage areas and hopefully

get some cleaning done, too.

We'll get together to work and to share some fellowship time.

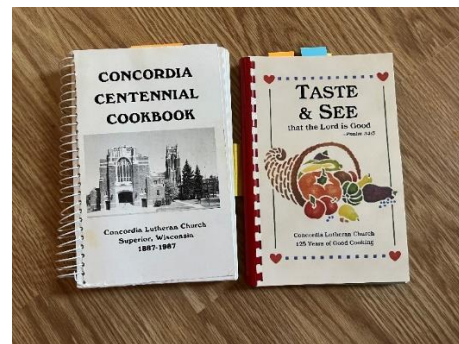
Hope you can make it.



New Ladder



Our new ladder being put to use.



Past Concordia Cook Books

If anyone has any past Concordia Cookbooks that are lying around and you want to get rid of them, the Church would like them. As the cookbooks were printed and sold none were kept at the Church.

Gluten Free, Alcohol Free

Gluten Free Communion Wafers are available for anyone who needs them. Unfermented grape juice is also available.

Worship Aids for the Coming Weeks

Sunday, July 2, Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

The welcome of baptism is for all God's children. This baptismal gift sets us free from the power of sin and death. In today's gospel, Christ promises that the disciple who gives a cup of cold water to the little ones serves Christ himself. From worship we are sent on our baptismal mission: to serve the little ones of this world and to be a sign of God's merciful welcome.

Prayer of the Day: O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Readings

Jeremiah 28:5-9 *The test of a true prophet*

Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18 *Your love, O Lord, forever will I sing!*

Romans 6:12-23 *No longer under law but under grace*

Matthew 10:40-42 *Welcome Christ in those he sends*

Sunday, July 9, Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. Jesus associates with those often excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with our own selfish desires and seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather to be refreshed by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Gathered around word, water, and meal, we find rest for our souls.

Prayer of the Day: You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Readings

Zechariah 9:9-12 *The king will come in humility and peace*

Psalm 145:8-14 *The Lord is gracious and full of compassion*

Romans 7:15-25a *The struggle within the self*

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30 *The yoke of discipleship*

Sunday, July 16, Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

God's word is like the rain that waters the earth and brings forth vegetation. It is also like the sower who scatters seed indiscriminately. Our lives are like seeds sown in the earth. Even from what appears to be little, dormant, or dead, God promises a harvest. At the Lord's table we are fed with the bread of life, that we may bear fruit in the world.

Prayer of the Day: Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Readings (for July 16)

Isaiah 55:10-13 *The growth of the word to accomplish God's purpose*

Psalms 65:[1-8], 9-13 *Your paths overflow with plenty*

Romans 8:1-11 *Live according to the Spirit*

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 *The parable of the sower and the seed*

Sunday, July 23, Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

It is an age-old question: why is there evil in the world? In the parable of the wheat and the weeds Jesus suggests that both grow together until the harvest. With Paul, we long for the day that all creation will be set free from bondage and suffering. Having both weeds and wheat within us, we humbly place our hope in the promises of God, and from the Lord's table we go forth to bear the fruit of justice and mercy.

Prayer of the Day. Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Readings

Isaiah 4:6-8 *There is no other God than the Lord*

Psalms 86:11-17 *Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth*

Romans 8:12-25 *The revealing of the children of God*

Matthew 13:1-12, 23-24 *The parable of the weeds*

Sunday, July 30, Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!

Prayer of the Day. Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Readings


1 Kings 3:5-12 *Solomon's prayer for wisdom*

Psalms 119:129-136 *When your word is opened, it gives light and understanding*

Romans 8:26-39 *Nothing can separate us from God's love*

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 *Parables of the reign of heaven*

~ July 2023 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Canada Day
2 10a-11a Worship	3 9a-9:30a Staff Meeting 11a-12p Pastor's Text Study	4 Independence Day Office is closed.	5 Pastor at Continuing Ed.	6 Pastor at Continuing Ed.	7 Pastor at Continuing Ed.	8 Pastor at Continuing Ed.
9 10a-11a Worship	10 6p-7p Property Management Committee	11 9a-9:30a Staff Meeting 11a-12p Pastor's Text Study	12 1:30p-2:30p Harmony House Worship	13	14	15
16 10a-11a Worship 11:15a-12:15p Council Meeting	17 6p-7p Worship and Music Committee	18 9a-9:30a Staff Meeting 11a-12p Pastor's Text Study	19	20	21	22
23 10a-11a Worship	24	25 9a-9:30a Staff Meeting 11a-12p Pastor's Text Study	26	27	28 World Hepatitis Day	29
30 Int'l. Friendship Day 10a-11a Worship	31	<div>  <div> Notes: National Night out on Tuesday, August 1. Picnics planned at 6:00, Band starts at 7:00. </div> </div>				



Altar Flowers for July

- July 2
Altar Guild
- July 9
In Memory of Carl, Nancy, Heather &
Kaiden given by Lois Renoos
- July 16
In Memory of Linda Ness given by
Daughters Nancy Tester and Sue Rink
- July 23
In Memory of Cliff Pearthree & Loved Ones
given by Rhoda Pearthree
- July 30
Altar Guild

Serving in July

Ushers

- | | |
|---------|----------------------|
| July 2 | Team I Ken Harmer |
| July 9 | Team II Eric Sewall |
| July 16 | Team III Joyce Olson |
| July 23 | Team II Ken Harmer |
| July 30 | Team II Eric Sewall |

Bus Driver

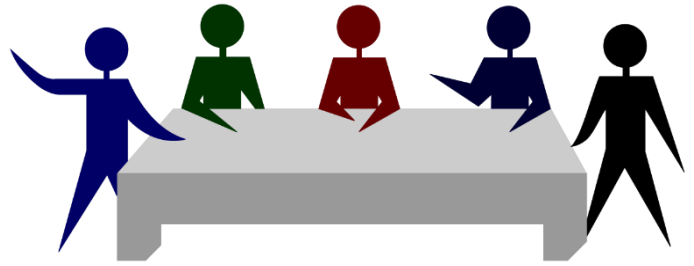
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|---------|-------------|
| July 2 | Ken Harmer |
| July 9 | Pete Quist |
| July 16 | Kris Hanson |
| July 23 | Ken Harmer |
| July 30 | Brett Quist |

Communion Helper

- | | |
|---------|-------------|
| July 2 | Deb Harmer |
| July 9 | Shawn Quist |
| July 16 | Mike Olson |
| July 23 | Ken Harmer |
| July 30 | Lori Sewall |

Financial Assistants

Ken & Deb Harmer



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

Council members for 2023.

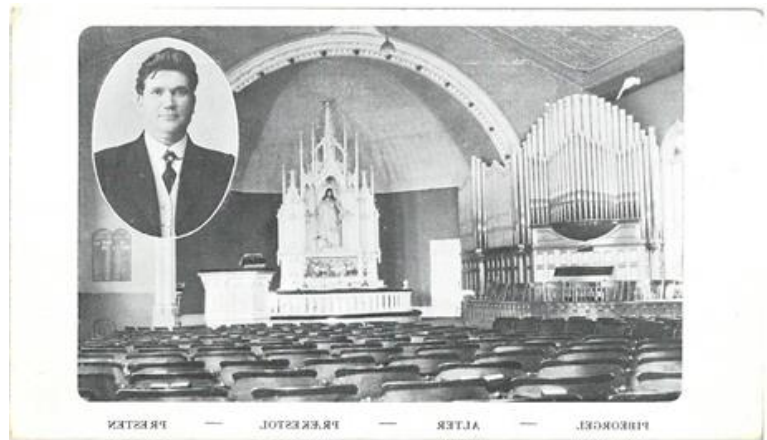
Mike Olson, President	715-398-0343
Kris Hanson, Vice President	715-977-1260
Ken Harmer, Secretary	218-390-8218
Doug Score, Treasurer	218-260-0657
Rob Strauch	715-718-1226
Eric Sewall	715-392-1559
Tom O'Neill	218-391-6139

Council meets next on July 16, 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 Pipe Organ



Concordia Lutheran Church
1708 John Ave.
Superior, WI 54880

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
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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
Kent Peterson, Custodian
Matthew Eastman, Technologies

Contributors: Many
Assembly/mailling: Our faithful volunteers

The Concordian

July

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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

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.