

The Christogram is the monthly newsletter of Concordia Lutheran Church, Steamboat Springs, Colorado. Deadline for news items is the Fourth Sunday of each month. We welcome contributions of news items, art work, and other appropriate articles.

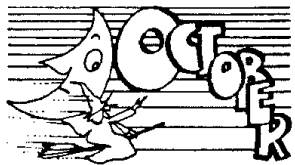
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Printing and distribution: Sherry Kammerer and Jane Hallman

The weekly bulletin is printed on Thursday mornings. News items for the bulletin should be submitted by 9 am on Thursdays.

Sunday Worship is at 9:00 am, Sunday School & Adult Education is at 10:30 am



Concordia Lutheran Church †
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Concordia Lutheran Church

CHRISTOGRAM

October

1992



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Tim Cartwright - Pastor

Church Phone: 879-0175

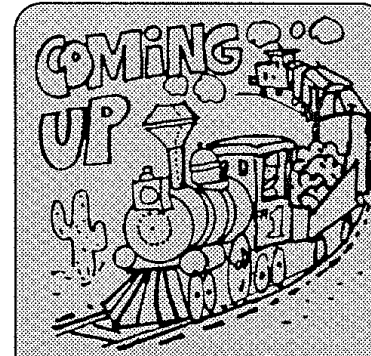
Women's Guild News

A progressive dinner marked the beginning of the '92-93 Guild year, with 30 ladies in attendance. Good fellowship and food were enjoyed as they traveled from salad at Marlys Cartwright's to the main course at Bille Harris' to dessert at Cindy Svendsen's. The Guild's business was concluded there with Alma Baldwin, the new President, presiding. Many thanks to all the hostesses.

Rummage Sale time is here again, so bring your good used clothing, furniture, and miscellaneous items to the church any time. The sale will be held October 9-10 from 9:00 to 6:00 on Friday and 9:00 to noon on Saturday.

A Bake Sale will be held at the same time - Bring baked goods to the church on Thursday if possible, or Friday morning.

The October Guild Meeting will be held at the home of Dianne Weber on Wednesday October 21st at 7:30 pm. Plan to attend.



Strengthen the Bond

A couples evening is being planned for November 1st at 7:00 pm. Dessert and enrichment will be available. Watch for more information.

TO THE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF
CONCORDIA:

Greetings in the name of our Risen Lord!

"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven...a time to search and a time to give up." (Ecclesiastes 3:1 & 6)



Have you ever stirred in the middle of the night? Have you ever broken a good night's sleep for no apparent reason? Have you ever slipped from beneath the nice comfort of a warm set of blankets? Have you ever looked into a dark "mid" night sky and pondered the depths of this universe?

Whenever my night's rest is broken, and I find myself searching the heavens, and my soul, it often is a time when I reflect upon the "bigness" of God and the "small-ness" man. Many activities of modern man seem to center on man himself. Our attention is focused on life and the many challenges which we face. Life itself compels us to tend to family, health, finances, business, school, career, sports, friends, marriage, graduation, vacation, hunting, cars, pets, clothing, food, funerals, weddings, etc. When Jesus completed His ministry He ascended back to His rightful place as a part of the Trinity. He said directly to His disciples (and to us)...."Lo, I will be with you always." At Pentecost the Holy Spirit appeared as a thousand points of light on the heads of people. The part of our Triune God called the Holy Spirit was sent to remind us that God is present in our lives. He is present even in the middle of our darkest nights. "There is a time for everything." Now is the time that God invites us to know that He is with us. Now is the time for you and I to walk in the power of our Baptisms. He shouts, and whispers, to us that He is here. He made himself completely known in Jesus. The next time you wake in the middle of the night, remember, you are not alone. You have a God who has promised to be with you...always.

In Christ,
Pastor Cartwright

Assistant
Financial
Secretary
Needed



The church needs a new Assistant Financial Secretary. The main duty for this office is to count the offerings after Sunday services. It requires about 45 minutes after church on Sundays. The pay is poor but you do get to work with money. If you would be willing to serve in this capacity please see Jake Weber.

Tract Rack

Tracts can be one of the best ways to have a personal witness in our impersonal world. Here are some usage tips to make your witness through tracts more fulfilling.

1. Pray when you distribute tracts.
2. Offer tracts in a friendly spirit.
3. Don't force tracts on people.
4. Give tracts that are appropriate.
5. Talk with the person, if possible.
6. Try new ways to use tracts. Use them in business and personal letters, when paying bills, with greeting cards. Give them to sales clerks or repairmen. Be creative.

The tract rack is located in the entryway on the wall to your left as you enter.

-Elaine Stroncek

Bridge

Anyone interested in playing Bridge on a monthly basis with other members and friends please talk to Jan McKay, Don Patterson, or Laverne Lausten

CONCORDIA YOUTH MINISTRY

"FROM CRADLE TO COLLEGE...FROM FONT TO FUTURE"

(Bring up the child in the nurture and admonition of the Lord!)

1. CRADLE ROLL: This helps to identify newborn and baptized children of the congregation.
 2. PARENTAL SUPPORT FOR THE YOUNG CHILD: Reading Bible Stories to the young child. Home devotion ideas. Support groups for parents. Mothers' day out. Dad's Day.
 3. ANNUAL VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: One week event geared toward children of the community. Also, Junior Hi & Senior Hi events provided.
 4. SUNDAY SCHOOL: Specific programming target toward the Pre-K through sixth grade levels.
 5. JUNIOR HIGH MINISTRY: Sunday Bible Class & Junior Confirmation Instruction.
 6. SENIOR HIGH MINISTRY: Sunday Senior Seminar. Topics and Bible study geared toward Youth needs and issues. Youth group events and monthly activities.
 7. RETREAT MINISTRY: Annual retreats and/or trips for Junior High; Fresh/Soph; Junior/Senior.
 8. CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATION: Senior High Newsletter (monthly). College correspondence by Pastor to college aged individuals.
 9. WORSHIP PARTICIPATION: Children's sermons (bi-monthly). Regular Youth Services; relevant sermons that address youth issues; Regular reception of Lord's Supper.
- NOTE: Parts of this complete picture are presently in place. Part need to be strengthened. Parts need to be developed. Part of a "5 year" plan would be to have this complete picture working smoothly and efficiently.

Editor's Corner

Victimless Crimes

The term "victimless crimes" is used to draw a distinction between crimes, such as murder, theft, and rape where there is an obvious victim and obvious injury to that victim, and crimes like drug use, and prostitution where there is no apparent victim beyond the perpetrator. Adultery, fornication, sodomy and some other sexual acts which used to be criminal, but for all practical purposes are now legal, would also be included by this phrase. In fact, they were decriminalized on the argument that there was no victim. The term is common and has been used by many people both liberal and conservative including myself. There are people on all sides of the political spectrum who argue that many drugs like marijuana, cocaine and others should be legalized as long as the user refrains from driving or engaging in other activities that might endanger others while under the drug's influence. The justification is that there is no victim and therefore in a free society the state should tolerate it.

Although the argument is intriguing, I believe it is unbiblical in its essential premise. The argument is based on an atomistic view of man; a view that sees men (I use the term man generically here) as individuals with no real connection to each other. "If my actions do not directly affect you, they are none of your business." It is an old argument; when God asked Cain where his brother Abel was, Cain responded "Am I my brother's keeper?" Genesis 4:9.

God did not create people as isolated individuals but as a family. We belong first to an immediate family, then an extended family, a nation and finally to the family of man. When one man fell the whole human race fell (Romans 5:12), because ultimately we are all related. In the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37) Jesus teaches that our "neighbor" includes all men including foreigners and the commandment to

love our neighbor as our self therefore commands us to love all men. The philosophy that justifies the term "victimless crime" attacks the basis of charity. If a starving child's poverty is not due to my direct action why should I be responsible for his welfare? We have a common ancestry and we are related and our actions do affect other people!

The drug user supports the illegal drug business; with every joint he smokes he lines the pockets of every gangster involved in the drug trade. If you use illegal drugs you support the spread of drugs and ultimately you participate in every drug related death and every drug related murder. Your actions are not isolated from the rest of humanity. There are victims of drugs, our cemeteries are full of them and not all of them were drug users, many were innocent people caught in the crossfire.

One man's adultery or fornication may not cause the break down of the institution of the family but a nation full thousands of people involved in extramarital affairs, does. Are there any victims? Every divorce brings personal tragedy to the couple and to their children. Young people raised in a single parent home are more likely to be involved in drugs, or be involved in a gang, or commit a violent crime. Again we see that there are victims to our crimes. Sex is the gift of God to married couples, to join a man and a woman together thereby building and strengthening the family. To engage in sex outside of marriage is ultimately to wage war on God's institution of the family. Is it a "victimless crime"? Our nation is full of the victims and they number in the millions!

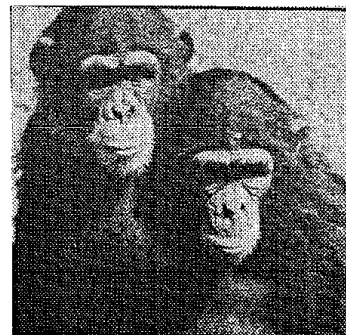
The term "victimless crime" is at first enticing, but it is the hissing of a serpent. The term refers to certain sins, but sins they are and sin is always deadly both to ourselves and to others. Thank God we have a Saviour who has paid the price of our sins and forgives them, but let us be called away from sin, for "How can we who died to sin still live in it?" Romans 6:2.

-Don Patterson

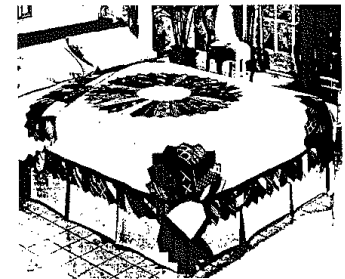
WHY IS EVOLUTION ACCEPTED?

In contrast to the praise that some people are giving the Supreme Court because of its decision outlawing the teaching of creationism in the public schools, I would like to express the utter contempt for this decision that I share with Justice Scalia. What should have been decided in this case is not whether or not the Biblical account of creation is merely a religious belief, but whether or not it is a valid theory for the origin of life as is the theory of evolution by mere chance. The one is a theistic belief, while the other is basically an atheistic belief. Why should our public schools teach only an atheistic theory or origins at the complete exclusion of a theistic one? What is at issue here is simply what constitutes a fair and unbiased teaching of science. Let us look at some scientific facts relative to this matter. All living things contain a very complex chemical compound called DNA, which is responsible for passing inherited

characteristics from one generation to another and for seeing that each species reproduces after its own kind. A single molecule of DNA contains mil-



lions of atoms of carbon, hydrogen and oxygen arranged in a very complicated order. Due to the chemical complexity of living things, it has been calculated that even in the case of a simple colon bacteria, the probability that it could have evolved by mere chance is only one chance in one followed by



Neck Tie Quilt

Quilters in the congregation are still seeking "unloved" men's neck ties for a new project. Please give the ties to Elaine Stroncek, Doris Riewe, or Lebbie Martin. Thanks!

117 zeros. And even that has a probability of happening if only one chance in one followed by 50 zeros is considered impossible-it could never happen. So evolution of even the simplest forms of life is beyond the realm of possibility. But, in spite of all the odds against it, evolution is being accepted with the kind of fervor normally associated with a religious belief and is being taught as if it were an established scientific fact. Where is there any fairness of scientific objectivity in that kind of teaching?

From The Journal-News, Hamilton, OH, June 26, 1987

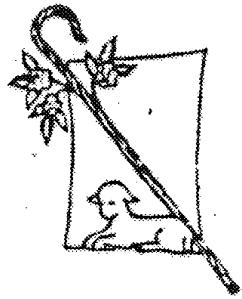
Sheep

Recently, I had my second occasion to work around sheep. The first event involved an individual that got its head stuck between the rungs of a feeder and couldn't figure out how to get back out. We ended up taking a hammer and knocking one of the rungs off of the wood frame, so that all the sheep had to do was back out and be on its way. Instead this creature started charging forward into the structure of

the feeder not only remaining in a self imposed captivity, but potentially inflicting damage to itself as well.

Well, my second opportunity to be around these wayward critters was helping Charlotte Riggi recently in rounding up her first batch of Spring lambs to send to market. After the all the sheep, lambs & adults alike, were herded into a corral, they had to be separated, because only a few were going to be sent away. This is done by encouraging them to walk down a long chute, at the end of which was the gatekeeper, so to speak. His job was to swing the gate open to the right if the sheep were to be allowed to go back to the pasture (and freedom) or to open the gate to the left, whereby the sheep were going to be shipped off to you know where.

It was amazing to me that whatever it was that we wanted the sheep to do, they seemed to do just the opposite. While intending to set one free ... it fought ... virtually ran ... to be with the sheep in front of it, even though that led it through the gate to destruction. We'd muscle the animal around to get it to go through the gate which led to the open pasture, but instead, it would head the wrong way back up the chute, causing a traffic jam for the whole operation and this would have to be unsnarled ... and so it went ... time after time.



This has been my only exposure to sheep, at least the four footed kind. The experience, however, really made me think about how much we behave like these sheep, which is probably why the analogy is made so often in the Bible. "We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all." Isaiah 53:6

For quite a while now, there has been an attempt to solicit members' ideas as to the wants and needs of the congregation which are of a capital nature. There is more than one reason for this; a) from time to time there will be special gifts and memorials, and the donor's may want to give to a specific need b) we want to allow all of the different interests, committees, areas of ministry, etc., of the congregation to have an opportunity for input. In other words, we're all reading off of the same page. c) it provides your officers and voters assemblies guidance in making decisions, and d) it assists in goal setting and long range planning. Some of the capital needs which have been identified so far are itemized below.

They are listed without reference to priority and if an approximate cost is known, it is presented.

1. Finish the basement (men's restroom)
2. Amplifier for the electronic piano in the sanctuary - \$750
3. New garage / storage / living area at the parsonage
4. Better copy machine for the office \$2,000 on up
5. Better printer for the office computer \$500 to \$1,500
6. New computer & software for the office \$1,000 to \$2,500
7. Lapel microphone system for the sanctuary \$450

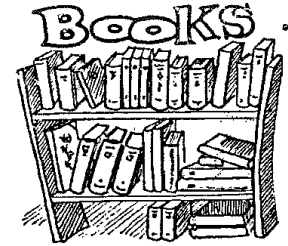
Decisions need to be made to start fulfilling some of these needs. If you have input or something else which should be added to the list, please let me or a trustee know, or perhaps put a note in my box.

In Jesus Name
Greg Fritz

Have You Read a Good Book Lately?

The church library has some great resources - come down for a visit! Now is your chance to let us know what you're looking for. Please take a moment to comment on the following categories, or add any new categories that you think are needed. Drop your response in the box marked "Library Ideas" under the mail boxes.

Thank you,
Sandra Hogrefe



- Contemporary Authors
- Worship
- Church Leadership
- Evangelism
- Christian Education
- Missions
- Bible Reference
- Bible Study
- Theology
- Social Concerns

- Inspiration & Devotion
- Spiritual Growth
- Family Life
- Children & Youth
- Adult Videos
- Children & Youth Videos
- Books on Tape
- Self Help (Christian Perspectives on)
- Other _____

TEACHER TRAINING

Sunday School Teachers Seminar

There will be a seminar for Lutheran Sunday School teachers on November 7th. The seminar will be held in Grand Junction. Teachers and people interested in teaching are invited. Please talk to Lori Beverlin for more information.

October 1992

Concordia Lutheran Church

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY		
4	9:00am COMMUNION 10:30am Adult Class 10:30am SUNDAY SCHOOL Greeters - Schlie Ushers - Women's Guild Confirmation-4:30pm	5	6	6:30am B STUDY 7:30pm Committees Meet ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT PASTORAL CONFERENCE FORT COLLINS, COLORADO Choir: 6:15pm	7	8	9	10	CLEAN: Rostvedt/Hallman/Marsh/ Smith/Durcea Pastor's Family Day
11	9:00am WORSHIP 10:30am Adult Class 10:30am SUNDAY SCHOOL Greeters - Nelson Ushers - Larry & Sally Marshall Confirmation-4:30pm Youth Group 5:30-9:00 Progressive Dinner	12	13	6:30am B STUDY Choir: 6:15pm Marship Com. 7:30pm	14	15	16	17	CLEAN: Worrell/Hogreter/Ryan/ Von Thaden Pastor's Family Day Fall Clean-up Day 9:00am...Meet at the church.
18	9:00am COMMUNION 10:30am Adult Class 10:30am SUNDAY SCHOOL Greeters - Lausten/Cooper Ushers - Larry & Sally Marshall Confirmation-4:30pm	19	20	6:30am B STUDY Choir: 6:15pm CONDORDIA CALLERS: 7:00pm	21	22	23	24	CLEAN: Svendsen/Farnent/Rabbit Pastor's Family Day
25	9:00am WORSHIP 10:30am Adult Class 10:30am SUNDAY SCHOOL, 12:45pm NURSING HOME Greeters - Worrell NEWSLETTER DEADLINE Ushers - Doug Warner & Jake Weber	26	27	6:30am B STUDY Choir: 6:15pm COTTAGE MEETING 7:30pm	28	29	30	31	CLEAN: Thornton/Novot/ Thorlison Pastor's Family Day