

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
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Concordia Lutheran Church

CHRISTOGRAM

January
1993

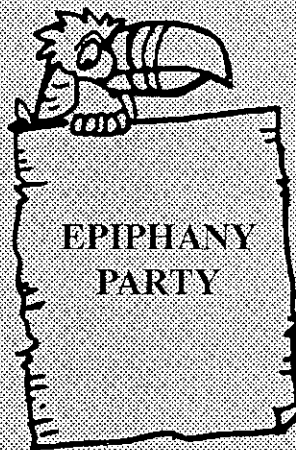


CHRISTOGRAM

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Tim Cartwright - Pastor

Church Phone: 879-0175



A congregational potluck Epiphany party for the adult members of Concordia and their guests is being planned for Friday January 8th at the church beginning at 6:30PM. After a short program entitled "Joy in the New Year", we will have an evening of "Old-fashioned" fun and entertainment with games and prizes. For more information contact Rebecca Duryea or Marlys Cartwright.
Each person is asked to bring a small wrapped gift.



Women's Guild

Twenty two ladies gathered at the home of Sandy Fornes Saturday morning on December 12th. They enjoyed a wonderful Christmas brunch and good fellowship. Secret sisters were revealed and new names were drawn for the coming year.

The "Christmas Cupboard" bazaar was very successful again, bringing in over \$5000 which will be dispersed among various mission projects. Because of the bazaar and rummage sales, they are able to help many people.

The January meeting will be held at the home of Pam Patterson, on January 20th at 7:30 pm. All ladies of the church are invited. Come hear more about faith and self-esteem.

FROM THE PASTOR

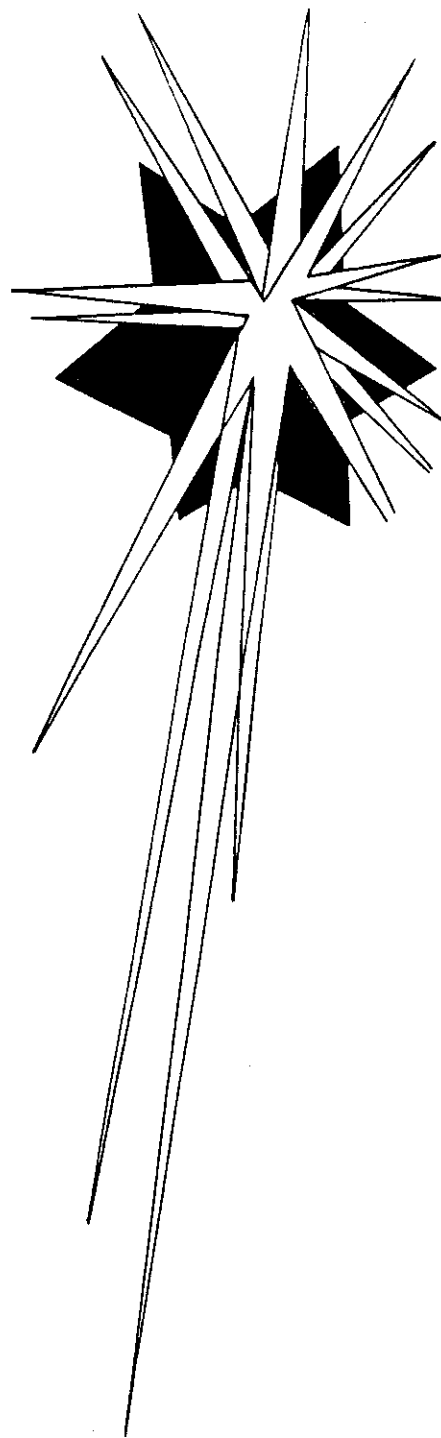
To the Members and Friends of Concordia: Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior! Vaclav Havel writes: "I am not an optimist, because I am not sure that everything ends well. Nor am I a pessimist, because I am not sure that



everything ends badly. I just carry hope in my heart. Hope is a feeling that life and work have meaning. You either have it or you don't, regardless of the state of the world that surrounds you. Life without hope is an empty, boring

and useless life. I cannot imagine that I could strive for something if I did not carry hope in me. I am thankful to God for this gift. It is a gift as life itself." Many times I have returned to this particular quote. I cannot even remember where I found this paragraph. It has been pinned to my bulletin boards. It has found a home in my wallet. It has been stuck in my Bible. It has shown up on my refrigerator and it has been stuck to the dashboard in my cars. It is my personal belief, an extension of the gift of faith, that life does have hope and purpose. True meaning for life is centered in the person and work of Jesus Christ. Christmas is a time of hope. It is the time when Christians receive the gift of hope for the heart. On December 27 our congregation once again had the privilege of leading a worship service at the Extended Care Center. We sang several Christmas hymns with the residents. One of the verses we sang was from the song "Oh, Little Town of Bethlehem." That verse ends with the thought..."The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight." Seeing those folks at the E.C.C. sing from their wheelchairs, through cloudy eyes and failing voices about the hope of the Gospel is a real testimony of the power of the hope which Christians have. May this hope guide you into 1993 and into eternity.

-PASTOR CARTWRIGHT



A FINAL TOGO-AFRICAN DISASTER RELIEF UPDATE

We are quickly approaching the completion of our "MILES FOR MEAL-TOGO PROJECT." Thanks to the congregation for your support and interest in this project. For all you who are interested, I believe my total miles for 1992 will be somewhere near 800 miles. The Sunday School offering total was \$150.00! Great Job. Our special African Dinner generated nearly \$250.00 dollars. It was a fine effort! Several people have pledged to sponsor my miles for the last quarter of 1992. Several have pledged support for the month of December. Thanks for your interest. Numerous people have made special donations directly to the "Togo" fund our congregation has set up. Our final event for this project will be a community cross country ski event that will be held at the Steamboat Touring Center. The folks there at the Touring Center have most graciously contributed free trail passes for January 17th from 2:00pm to 4:00pm. They also

will rent boots, poles and skis for just \$5.00...total. Hopefully, the community will be informed of this "African Disaster Relief" effort and support this project. The goal is to ask for a contribution of \$5.00, \$10.00 or whatever. This donation will be made in place of a registration fee or "T" shirt expense. Bring your family. Bring yourself. Come and enjoy an afternoon of fun, fellowship and Christian giving. Hopefully, A.A.L. and/or Lutheran Brotherhood will be able to match funds on that day.

Please pray for this final event.

Pastor Cartwright

MORE EPIPHANIES

The word "Epiphany" means a manifestation, a showing forth. It comes from another Greek word, "theophany," which literally means a showing forth of God.

In ancient times through the East and Mideast the king would pay a yearly visitation to each town under his rule. The occasion was a time of great rejoicing. At a time in history when there was little to celebrate, the kingly visitation gave cause for much merriment. The king would throw a party. It was a day off for everyone. The festive nature of all was equated to the joy that surely would come if God ever visited His people.

I suppose one of life's greatest tragedies is that we are so caught up in our own little worlds that we miss God's continued epiphanies. Here I speak of myself and not just to the reader. How pathetically easy it is for us all to be overwrought by so many things that we are blinded to see the King as day by day He seeks to reveal Himself to us.

Epiphany reminds Christians that God's power and light have entered human darkness. See the signs. Truly, in Jesus God has come; God is with us. Alleluia!



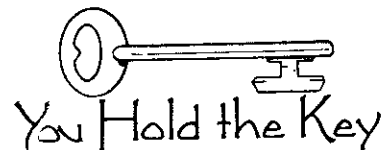
Voter's Meeting

There is a Voter's Meeting scheduled for January 12th at 7:30 pm at the church. Important decisions are made about the direction of our ministry. Please plan on attending; your opinions and ideas are needed.

CONCORDIA REACHES OUT:

"Evangelism!" The word "Evangelism" is a frightening word to many people. That is not a statement of judgement. It is simple fact. We must unplug the fear from this word in order to define it for our congregation here at Concordia. The Call extended to me last year had a primary target of "Evangelism-Outreach." I am excited about the

possibilities that exist here in our community. We need to reach our existing congregation with continued Good News. We need to reach back to the inactive population of our congregation with the Good News. We need to reach out to the unchurched with the Good News in our families and our community. We need to provide the Good News for the visitors who worship with us from far away and distant places. What great opportunities God has given us! Be looking for some special training workshops and Bible classes that will help you learn how to gently share your faith. It has been said that a person can best share their faith when they know their faith. To know one's faith is to take the time to know the "Author and Perfecter" of faith. Our congregation will be providing special "Friendship Sundays" in the coming 1993 year. Every fifth Sunday, which occurs once every three months, we will be making special preparations for "Outreach" Sundays. These special services will be used to encourage and instruct the membership of our congregation to invite family and friends to worship.



Pray for this ministry. On selected Tuesday evenings, our congregation will be starting a "Concordia Callers" program. This will be a time when special calls will be made on visitors to our congregation. Just since my arrival here in Steamboat, well over 30 new individuals and families have made contact with our congregation. We need to respond to their interest with caring follow-up care. We will be starting a "Bread Givers" program. It is a way that we can say thank-you to our Sunday morning guests. A gift of a loaf of bread and some important literature will be given to our guests and visitors that will help them get grounded in God's Word and become familiar with our congregational life.

These are just a few of the ideas that will be implemented in 1993. A "5 YEAR" plan of shaping an "Outreach" oriented congregation will be put into motion in the coming months. We need volunteers to help with the many phases of this plan. You may not be able to knock on doors, but you can certainly bake bread. If requested to serve in this outreach ministry, please prayerfully consider it as an opportunity from God.

Pastor Cartwright
The Evangelism Committee.



STRENGTHEN THE BOND

Mark your calendar for Saturday night Feb. 6th, for Concordia's first annual "Sweetheart Dinner" held at one of Steamboat's restaurants. Once again, this evening will be a chance for fun and fellowship...and an excellent opportunity to celebrate your marriage! Don't miss out, watch your mailbox for upcoming information!



CONCORDIA'S SECOND SERVICE

Our congregation has made a great start with our Sunday Evening Worship Service. It is indeed a great opportunity with marvelous potential. The Sunday Evening service will allow us to take the overcrowding concerns away from Sunday morning. It will allow us to use this facility in a grand way. The chance to reach-out and fill up two services exists here at Concordia. A little different style of worship will be used during the evening service. The service will still be Word and Sacrament centered. However, the service structure will be a little less formal. In order for this service to be successful each member of our congregation must be concerned about its well-being. This does not mean that you must attend this service. It simply means that you must see it as a growth opportunity for our congregation. Invite and inform you family and friends of this service. If you miss the morning service, take advantage of the evening service. If you must work on Sunday morning, then come to worship at the Evening Service. Remember this ministry opportunity in your thoughts and prayers in the coming weeks and months.

-Board of Elders
-Pastor

NEW IDEAS FOR THE FAMILY FOR THE NEW YEAR!

Here are six ideas you can use with your family in the coming year. Take the suggestions and modify them to fit your family's needs. Have fun!

1. **SOMETHING SPECIAL:** Have each member prepare for a family meeting, share time. Each member of the family will think of something special to share with the other members of a the family at a designated "talk time." (e.g., newspaper clipping, a photograph, Bible passage, an object, etc.) This activity will validate your child's feelings regarding something that is personally meaningful to them.

2. **THE FAMILY PHOTO ALBUM:** Choose photographs that share insights into the family, or give insight to the family history.

3. **PARENTS AS CHILDREN:** Children are usually very interested in what their parents were like when they were children. Share parts of your earlier life with your children by recalling early events. (e.g., favorite teacher, first date, best friend, what got you in trouble, what you did for entertainment.)

4. **BIG QUESTIONS:** Family members take turns answering any or all of the following questions: A) What is the nicest thing anyone has done for you? B) Who is the person outside the family you admire most? C) What is the most difficult thing in life for you now? D) What have you done that you're most proud of?

5. **THE FAMILY OLYMPICS:** Friendly competition. Everyone in the family must choose one event that all will compete in. Here are some examples: A) Skipping rope. B) Saying a tongue twister. C) Naming animals that begin with each letter of the alphabet. D) Balancing a stack of pennies. E) Memorizing a series of numbers. F) Playing croquet.

6. **JAR OF FUN:** Place in a jar note cards of fun things for your family to do, and pick a note card from the jar whenever you have time together. You may want to use different colored note cards for outside activities and inside activities, or activities which cost a little money and activities that cost nothing, etc.. Replenish the jar with new activities, so that the jar is always full.

-MARLYS



Thank you

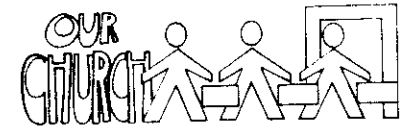
Thank you brothers and sisters in Christ at Concordia. Your generous donation of money, food, clothing and gifts for the Christmas Baskets were certainly welcomed and appreciated. The families who were visited and who received the Christmas Baskets were very grateful. Your giving added joy to many homes for the holidays.

- Alma Baldwin and Bettiann Carrell
Christmas Basket Committee



City Market Certificates

The Youth Group is selling City Market gift certificates every Sunday. This will be an ongoing fund-raiser for the Youth Group who will be travelling to San Antonio in 1995. The certificates are good dollar for dollar, and you can get change from them. You are supporting a worthy cause. If you are interested in pre-ordering, either weekly or monthly, and are willing to pay for them when you receive them, please see Joanne Boomgarden. It is a win - win situation for everyone.



CONCORDIA'S 1993 BUDGET

Our congregation adopted a \$100,000 dollar budget for 1993. It is a challenging budget with great rewards inherent in the figures. In order to meet the fine print of this budget the task will fall equally on all the shoulders of those interested in the support of this congregation. In the final analysis, this ministry is a bargain! The many areas of ministry that are represented in that budget is truly amazing. The budget supports Youth Ministry, facility care, loan payments, Sunday School material, Pastoral service, upkeep of the parsonage, outreach material, Bible Study material, mission giving, etc. The list could go on and on. This budget cares for a ministry that has nearly 300 baptized souls in its care. It also is a budget that serves the spiritual care for an additional 100 people who visit this congregation regularly. This budget is a bargain! Please remember that the care of the congregation (that includes financial care) requires your participation. Without your investment, the many areas of ministry just could not take place. Our 1993 budget is indeed a challenge. Providing for the needs of any home is a challenge. Together, under the guiding care of a gracious God, we will meet this marvelous ministry budget for 1993. As a congregation grows, so too its budget. We are growing!

THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

January 1993

Concordia Lutheran Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 CLEAN: Rimel/Wattles/Mattlage Pastor's Family Day
3 9:00am COMMUNION 10:30am Adult Class 10:30am SUNDAY SCHOOL Greeters - Stroncek Ushers - Dave Beverlin & Clair Erickson Confirmation 4:30-6PM	4	5 6:00am B STUDY	6 Women's B Study 9:30 AM	7	8 6:30pm Epiphany Party	9 CLEAN: Scheiwe/Havener/ Marshall/McConnell Pastor's Family Day
10 9:00am WORSHIP 10:30am Adult Class 10:30am SUNDAY SCHOOL Greeters - Upham Ushers - Dave Beverlin & Clair Erickson Confirmation 4:30-6PM	11	12 6:00am B STUDY 7:30pm VOTERS MEETING	13 Women's B Study 9:30 AM	14	15	16 CLEAN: Taylor/Haines/Twede/ Kelleway-Frazee Pastor's Family Day
17 9:00am COMMUNION 10:30am Adult Class 10:30am SUNDAY SCHOOL 2:00pm "TOGO" Ski Benefit Greeters - Maze Ushers - Luther & Helen Berntson	18	19 6:00am B STUDY	20 7:30pm WOMEN'S GUILD Women's B. Study 9:30 AM	21	22	23 CLEAN: Vigil/Koch/Panepinto/ Mattlage Pastor's Family Day
24 Confirmation 4:30 9:00am WORSHIP 10:30am Adult Class 10:30am SUNDAY SCHOOL 12:45pm NURSING HOME Greeters - Taylor NEWSLETTER DEADLINE Ushers - Luther & Helen Berntson	25	26 6:00am B STUDY	27 Women's B Study 9:30 AM	28	29	30 CLEAN: Weber/Martin/Berntson/ McKay Pastor's Family Day
31 9:00am COMMUNION 10:30am Adult Class 10:30am SUNDAY SCHOOL Greeters - Schlie Ushers - Scott & Jeff Rimel						