

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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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

April

1993



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Tim Cartwright - Pastor

Church Phone: 879-0175

TO THE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS
OF CONCORDIA:

GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF OUR
LORD JESUS CHRIST!

There is an interesting fable told of a rich man who wanted to help a poor man. The rich man hired the poor man to build a house on the hillside and went away on a long journey. The carpenter said to himself, "My boss is away and I can use cheap materials for the parts of the house which will not show. The house will be weak and undesirable but nobody will know except me."

But when the rich man returned he said, "The house is not for me....it's for you."

The carpenter accepted the key with astonishment. Instead of a home with the finest of material his home was second rate and weak.

Easter is.....? What a question! Easter is a new house.

Easter is a new house with all the plumbing in Gold and Silver.

Easter is real and solid! Easter is a secure foundation....not sand!

Easter is a carpenter Jesus, who takes the most precious building material in all history...His Body...and makes a beautiful eternal home for us to live in.

How are we going to respond to the invitation of our Lord to receive His Good Gifts? Personally, do we take time to worship regularly and build a strong home? Do we receive the Lord's Supper regularly and secure a firm foundation? Do we take time to read the scripture privately and be refreshed by the life sustaining Word of God? Do we take time to take advantage of the available bible studies that our congregation supports? All these activities build a strong structure and a secure home.

Easter is a new home! Easter is the marvelous building material of the resurrection! Easter is Jesus, the Carpenter, giving Himself for you and me. Look at the calendar of Worship events and take advantage of the Easter Hope!

Your Servant in Christ,
Pastor Cartwright

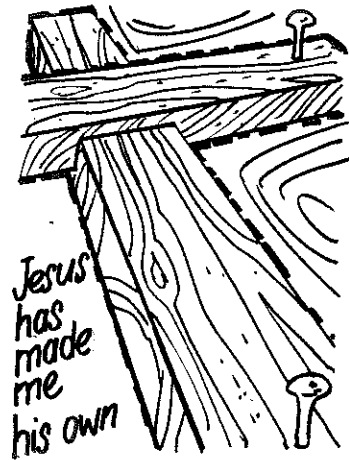
Tim

MISSIONS

The LWML (Concordia's Women Guild) will be including information on one or two of Concordia's Mission Projects in each monthly newsletter. This month we will focus on The Good Shepherd Lutheran Home of the West. Good Shepherd Lutheran Home of the West provides Christ-centered residential training and supervision in Denver and Ft. Collins for over 70 adults who are mentally retarded. Residents occupy group homes, apartments, and one main facility, which is subdivided into 3 living areas. Good Shepherd was organized in Anaheim, California on September 9, 1951. Altogether there are a total of 131 living units in the six regions served by Good Shepherd. Through our rummage sales and Bazaar we are able to give Good Shepherd of the West \$1,700 this year. We pray that you as Concordia's members will participate in our rummage sale again this May in order that we may continue to support this wonderful ministry.

In addition to the cash donation the Good Shepherd Home is also grateful to receive the following items (which you may donate by contacting Doris Riewe): Dish Towels, beach towels, bath towels, hand towels, wash cloths, and tablecloths. Sheets twin fitted bottoms, flat tops. Paper products. Terrycloth shirts/fronts. Toilet articles: toothpaste, toothbrushes soft bristle, shave lotions, roll-on deodorants, suntan screens, fingernail care kits, bar soaps, shampoos, hand lotions. Belts, suspenders, wallets, handbags, coin purses, costume jewelry. Video movies, cassettes, radios and 9v batteries. Puzzles (easy to medium) posters, plaques, photo albums, pencils, crayons, playing cards, writing and drawing paper, crafts and hobbies. Digital watches, instamatic cameras with built in flash, electric razors, hair dryers, simple keyed calculators, kites, baseball gloves, volleyballs, basketballs, bake and frosting mixes, current

adult clothing. Save trim and send Labels (Cambell, Franco- American, Flavrpac and Swanson's canned goods) or Blue Chip, S&H, and Gold Bond trading stamps.



SOME THOUGHTS:

It's all in the way you look at things The difficulties in life can make you bitter or they can make you better....A shoe manufacturer who had decided to open the Congo market in Africa sent 2 salesmen to the undeveloped territory. One salesman wired back: "Prospects are not good. No one wears shoes!" The other salesman reported enthusiastically: "Market potential is terrific. Everyone is barefooted!" What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to the Christ who resides in us.

HE IS RISEN

To the young woman who has never been on a date. To the young woman who watches the "pretty girls" go on dates..."HE IS RISEN!"

To the young men who fail the expectations of a competitive culture on the athletic field...."HE IS RISEN!"

To the people who feel inferior to their school classmates because they can't afford the brand name clothes...."HE IS RISEN!"

To the young women and men who feel the deep loss of a child through miscarriage or abortion..."HE IS RISEN!"

To the young man who contemplates suicide...."HE IS RISEN!"

To the family which has been shattered by the confusion and chaos of divorce...."HE IS RISEN!"

To the person who sits in isolation because of circumstance and situation...."HE IS RISEN!"

To the parent who sits by the child in the ICU....."HE IS RISEN!"

To those who ponder the reality of the grave...."HE IS RISEN!"

To the young person who feels the pain of exclusion....."HE IS RISEN!"

To the wife/husband who watches a spouse of many years grow weak and sick..."HE IS RISEN!"

To the family who has lost their home to fire or flood..."HE IS RISEN!"

To the family whose family member drinks and denies an obvious problem..."HE IS RISEN!"

To parents who watch a child self-destruct..."HE IS RISEN!"

To the battered woman who has taken that all important first step "out" of the home and risked it all..."HE IS RISEN!"

To the person entering the Chemical Dependency Unit..."HE IS RISEN!"

To the person leaving the Chemical Dependency Unit..."HE IS RISEN!"

I don't mean to imply that we should deny our pain and suffering, but rather deal with it on the basis of Christ's death and resurrection for us! We all deal with the symptoms of sin and death each day. That's reality. And it hurts. But we all deal with life each day also. AND THAT'S THE JOY, HOPE AND PROMISE WHICH THE LORD GIVES US! "THANKS BE TO GOD WHO GIVES US THE VICTORY THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST!"

HAPPY
Easter



Hard of Hearing

To appreciate how it is more blessed to give than to receive, it helps to know a little something about the hard of hearing. This is a condition which my dear wife, and for that matter the children too, have been accusing their dad of, of late. Keep in mind that my family is comprised of all women ... even the two dogs, the cat, and although uncertain, we suspect, so too, the canary. So while there may be some measure of the biblical enmity between thee (me) and the woman (them) going on, I admit to hearing much better when wearing my spectacles. This in all probability is because I can see the speakers lips shaping the words. Acknowledging the premise that the 'ole hearing acuity is starting to go, I admit to a further observation, which is, that as a matter of pride, there are only so many times that I'm willing to risk saying "what?" Options are limited ...you do or don't connect, you fake it, drop it, or try again.

One of the pastor's recent sermons spoke about a journey of faith. The challenge was made to leave the safe places where we spend our time and go out into those sometimes unsafe places where God's people need to be. One such place may be the extended care center. It's almost human nature to be afraid of hospitals, which is sort of what the center seems to be. Perhaps its the "... there but for the grace of God go I ..." syndrome that makes us shy away from the "old peoples home." Then again, maybe we feel threatened because we don't know what to say or how to act ... its not safe when we're not in control. I've felt all of these emotions and often still do.

Yet, to share a Sunday devotion with the

residents at the extended care center, the risk is made worthwhile. While we all can't sing like angels or preach like Paul, we can say the Lord's prayer together, sing a hymn, receive the benediction. We can, by our very presence, make a statement that says "you are cared for, you are loved, you are important enough to spend time with."

I was reminded again of this fact during the February visit while speaking with one of the residents I've come to know. Kathryn used to live in Kremmling, play the organ in her church, her kids live out of state, and her health has been noticeably failing.

She said, "I need your prayers."

My bumbling reply, "We all do."

She said, "What?"

A little louder, "We all do."

She said, "What?"

Louder still, "We all do." (What a dumb answer on my part, this wasn't even worth pursuing.)

But just then, her face lit up, she smiled and quietly said, "I love you too!"



I don't know if Kathryn detected the tear welling in my eye, but I saw the one in hers. That wasn't what I said, but that's what she heard, and, as she helped me realize, what was meant.

In Jesus Name, Greg Fritz

P.S. Your stewardship of time, talent, and treasure is important!

FAMILY NEWS

IF I WERE STARTING MY FAMILY AGAIN

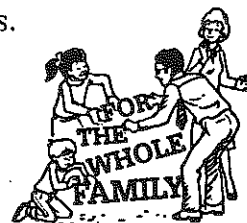
I WOULD LOVE MY WIFE/HUSBAND MORE. In the closeness of family life it is easy to take each other for granted and let a dullness creep in that can dampen even the deepest love. So, I would love the mother/father of my children more and be freer in letting them see that love.

I WOULD DEVELOP FEELINGS OF BELONGING. If children do not feel that they belong in the family, they will soon find their primary group elsewhere. I would use meal times more to share happenings of the day instead of hurrying through them. I'd find more time for games or projects which all could join.

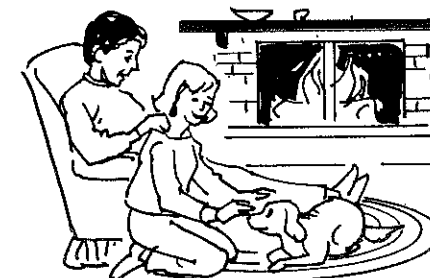
I WOULD LAUGH MORE WITH MY CHILDREN. I see now that I was, many times far too serious. I must always be careful that I do not communicate that being a parent is a constant problem.

I WOULD BE A BETTER LISTENER. I believe that there is a vital link between listening to children's concerns when they are young and the extent to which they will share their concerns with their parents when they are older.

I WOULD DO MORE ENCOURAGING. There is probably nothing that stimulates children to love life and seek accomplishment more than sincere affirmation from their parents.

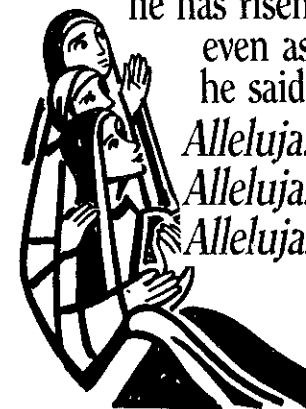


I WOULD TRY TO SHARE GOD MORE INTIMATELY. We are not whole persons when we stress only the physical, social and intellectual aspects of life. We are spiritual beings and if the world is to know Christ and His Love, parents must be the primary conveyors. For my part, I would strive to share my faith with my children, using informal settings and unplanned happenings as occasions to speak of my relationship with God.



Do not be afraid,
for I know that
you seek Jesus,
who was crucified.
He is not here, for
he has risen
even as
he said.

Alleluja.
Alleluja.
Alleluja.





Vital Statistics

CONCORDIA WORSHIP STATISTICS

MARCH 1993

- WEEK # 1 135/51 = 186
WEEK # 2 156/37 = 193
WEEK # 3 97/37 = 134 (SPRING BREAK)
WEEK # 4 161/46 = 207
average week att = 180

MARCH AVE ATTENDANCE

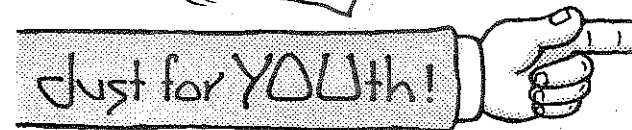
- 1991.....155 (INCLUDES EASTER)
1992.....113
1993.....180 (NO EASTER SERVICE)

FIRST QUARTER (JAN - MARCH)

- 1991.....140
1992.....111
1993.....182

WE HERE AT CONCORDIA HAVE BEEN BLESSED BY AN INCREASED GROWTH IN

THE PARTICIPATION OF OUR SHARED MINISTRY. THIS IS A GIFT FROM GOD. THE INCREASED SUNDAY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE REFLECT UPON OUR MINISTRY IN GENERAL. LET US THANK GOD FOR THIS SPIRITUAL ACTIVITY AND THE MANY VOLUNTEERS THAT MAKE IT POSSIBLE.



ACOLYTE NEWS

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED ACOLYTE THIS PAST QUARTER ESPECIALLY TO THE NEWLY CONFIRMED EIGHTH GRADERS: ERIN SCHEIWE, SARAH KAMMERER, JOSHUA CARRELL AND CORY HYNES. PLEASE CHECK YOUR MAILBOXES AND LOOK ON THE BULLETIN BOARD FOR A NEW LISTING AND SCHEDULE WHICH NOW INCLUDES ONLY THE 6TH AND 7TH GRADERS COVERING APRIL THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1.

YOUTH NEWS

THANK YOU TO THE HIGH SCHOOL AND JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH FOR THE BULLETIN BOARDS IN THE BASEMENT. YOU HELPED FOCUS OUR ATTENTION ON THE LOVE OF JESUS FOR EACH OF US.

ALSO APPRECIATION TO GINO PANEPINTO AND JAN FRITZ ALONG WITH ALL THE YOUTH AND JR. HIGH YOUNG PEOPLE FOR PROVIDING SPECIAL MUSIC ON CONFIRMATION SUNDAY.



YOUTH SEMINARS

THE FOLLOWING TOPICS ARE YOUTH SUNDAY MORNING SEMINARS

- April 18 Death, Dying and the Grieving Process JAN FRITZ
April 25 Stressors, Fears and Hopes BERT SVENDSEN
May 2 Teenagers and Alcohol COLEEN POOLE & MARLYS CARTWRIGHT
MAY 9 Creation and Evolution (FRITZ UPHAM)
May 16 AIDS (Lutheran video, "I FEEL SO ALONE")
May 23 Friendship Sunday (no Sunday School)

A-MAY-zing Grace:

- May 15-16 "FREE IN '93"
WHERE; STEAMBOAT SPRINGS HOLIDAY INN
WHEN: MAY 15-16 12 NOON TO 12 NOON
COST: \$30.00 PER PERSON, INCLUDES 3 MEALS AND ROOM
WHO: NEWLY CONFIRMED 8TH GRADERS THROUGH GRADUATING SENIORS

GOD'S GRACE IS INDEED AMAZING! OUR 24 HOURS TOGETHER WILL GIVE US A CHANCE TO GROW IN HIS GRACE. SKITS, DEVOTIONS, VIDEOS, GROUP DISCUSSIONS, OUTDOOR WORSHIP, MEALS, GAMES ETC. WILL ALL BE A PART OF OUR WEEKEND. REGISTRATION MUST BE MADE BY MAY 1ST.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

WOMEN'S GUILD NEWS

WE ARE NOW TAKING RUMMAGE FOR THE SPRING RUMMAGE SALE TO BE HELD ON MAY 7 AND 8. MARK YOUR CALENDARS.

Our April Meeting will be held on Wednesday April 21 at 7PM in the home of Cindy Svendsen. Caroline Sabin will have our devotions and Marlys Cartwright will present the topic FAITH IN THE HOME. Invite a friend and especially our new members because it promises to be once again an inspiring evening.

THANKS TO ALL THE WOMEN WHO PROVIDE OUR LOVE LOAVES FOR THE VISITORS TO OUR WORSHIP SERVICES. YOUR MINISTRY PROVIDES A WONDERFUL TOUCH OF WARMTH AND WELCOME.

Check your mailboxes soon for details on our May 1st Christian Growth Workshop in Grand Junction Colorado.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

There will be NO Sunday school on April 4th Confirmation Sunday or on April 11th Easter Sunday. However, we would like the kids to meet downstairs after the services for 10 minutes so we can practice the song "EVERY MORNING IS EASTER MORNING".