

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.

Editor: Pastor Cartwright and Marlys Cartwright

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

Sunday Worship: 9:00am and 7:00pm.

Sunday School and Adult Education: 10:30am



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Steamboat Springs, CO 80477

Concordia Lutheran Church

CHRISTOGRAM

NOVEMBER

1993



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Tim Cartwright - Pastor

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GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF OUR RISEN LORD!

What happens when a horse falls out of a horse trailer while traveling down the freeway at 65 mph.? What happens when you find a \$1,700.00 bull with a broken leg while you are moving your herd of cattle from one pasture to another?

"It is the hope of creation that it will be liberated from its bondage to decay and be brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth. The creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed." (Romans 8:19-22)



It is thou who hast made the heavens
and the earth by thy great power.
—Jeremiah 32:17

Sick cattle, broken legs of bulls, horses falling out of trailers, weeds dominating a field that is used to produce food, an infestation of pests that rob a field of a high yield, lightening that destroys homes and forests, tornados that kill, unpredictable frost that devastates a crop, drought that does not know the boundaries of nations, floods that destroy....The list is endless!

Many people claim that "communing" with nature is a marvelous way to worship God. Often (it is said by many) that a fifteen minute pause on the tractor on Sunday morning is an adequate replacement for Sunday worship. "Just pause and look at the grand creation!" Hunters speak of the "hunting-high" as they commune with God and nature as they stalk the animal or bird of their choice.

Granted, creation is awesome in its displays of power, might, beauty and inter-related ecological systems. Look at a high mountain-alpine lake. Look at a sunset as it paints its moving mosaic across the canvas sky. Watch the moon rise over the

Yampa Valley. Watch a doe and fawn grazing in a mountain meadow. Watch a flock of geese making their way south as they anticipate the coming of winter.



We know only a part of God when we simply observe HIS creation. We know His imagination. We know His creative genius. The observation of nature has its brutal and utterly violent side. That side of creation forces honesty.

If you set on a tractor on Sunday without the promise of the Gospel, you encounter a God who seemingly doesn't care about His own creation. It is only a matter of time and honest perception before you see nature as it truly is...a brutal, fickle and unpredictable home.

Paul says in Romans chapter eight that creation is in bondage. Creation is plagued by decay. Creation groans. Creation waits. Mankind's fall into sin in the Garden of Eden, his desire to be equal with God (to be as God) threw creation into a "tailspin." Until the Savior returns, creation will be groaning.

God, nature's creator, revealed himself in Jesus. Jesus was God. He calmed the sea. He stilled the wind. He walked on the water. He, as God, had mastery over His creation.

That same Jesus comes to us in Word and Sacrament. That Jesus died on Calvary. All of creation went dark and groaned at the death of the one who calmed the sea. Jesus died for you, for me, for creation. Jesus rose for you, for me, for creation. *Jesus is Alive!*

As the creation awaits the master to return, let us wait together as we worship together. Worship nature and you practice idolatry. Worship Jesus, nature's author. Come, let us join together on Sunday to hear about the one who calmed the sea, stilled the wind, walked on water and forgave the sins of the world.

Rejoice
in the
LORD
Always!

In His and your service

Tim

Pastor Cartwright

THOUGHTS ON PREVENTION

This war on drugs may be very destructive, in that it reinforces the misconception that alcohol is somehow a softer or less worrisome drug than marijuana, cocaine, crack, heroin, PCP, what have you. All of those other drugs are extraordinarily dangerous and destructive, but they are not the drugs that are killing the greatest numbers of young people or leading them to the greatest numbers of problems. Alcohol is. Yet our whole society is looking the other way. If the kids want to have a Spuds MacKenzie party, they say, "At least they're not on drugs." Well, they are on drugs—the most dangerous drug.

Part of the discomfort adults feel about these discussions is that they have to review their own use of alcohol and their own attitudes about it. They have to look at whether, in fact, they go out on Saturday night, have a few drinks, and then drive home afterwards. And I'm talking not about people with alcoholism but people who don't treat alcohol as a drug in their own lives.

The father who may not be an alcoholic, who always consumes a six-pack of beer while watching the game on television on Sunday afternoon, may be giving a terribly dangerous message to his children. The mother who cannot conceive of entertaining anyone in the home without offering them cocktails beforehand may be planting an idea of necessary association between alcohol and socializing that does not exist in reality but will stay forever in the kid's mind. Adults have to think about how they use alcohol themselves, what their own views about it are, whether they're able to practice what they preach, whether they can give the same message to their kids about alcohol that they would about any other drug: "No, you may not drink. This is against the law, and it's dangerous, and I won't have it." Period.

I get calls all the time from reporters saying, "You can't tell a parent that he has to tell his kids they can't have beer on prom night or after a game or at a party in the basement." Well, we say you can and you should.

George Marcello, Public Information and Publications Officer, National Council on Alcoholism



SUNDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE CLASS:

How often do you need words of encouragement from the Scriptures? How many times do you wish you could put your fingers on a passage of Scripture that could speak to your heart? The following passages were offered by members of our Sunday morning Bible class. I hope that you will find them helpful and insightful.

PSALM 27: "The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life, of whom shall I be afraid?"

EPH.2:4 "But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions...it is by grace you have been saved."

Romans 8: "In all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us....Nothin in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

PSALM 1: "Blessed is the person that meditates on God's Word day and night...That person is like a tree planted by streams of water."

JER.16:19: "O Lord, my strength and my fortress, my refuge in time of distress."

PHIL.4:4: "Rejoice in the Lord always. I say it again rejoice. Let your gentleness be evident to all."

PSALM 51: "Create in me a clean heart and renew a right spirit within me."

PSALM 117: "For great is His love toward us, and His faithfulness endures forever."



CONCORDIA HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE

On the following Sunday afternoons the Concordia High School Youth Group will meet. The time set is 4:00pm to somewhere around 6:30pm.

A meal, an activity, and a special Bible study will be the make-up of the evening. Please set aside these special dates in your schedules.

November 14	April 17
December 19	May 15
January 16	June 19
February 13	July 17
March 20	August 21

In addition to these regularly set times and activities there will be other special Youth events here at Concordia. Some special retreat plans are in the making. Also, some trips to special places need to be discussed and dates set.

Also, special Christian service projects will be put into place. It should be a fun year for all.

Jesus is our friend and gracious Lord. Our Youth ministry here at Concordia is growing and developing. High School young people are special gifts from God to a congregation.



A Men's Saturday Morning Monthly Fellowship will start this September. The purpose of this fellowship opportunity is to strengthen the faith life of our men in Concordia's worshipping family.

Each morning will include a breakfast and fellowship time. Also, special devotions and topic will be present at each event.

This fellowship time will also give us the opportunity to get-to-know some of our new members to our congregation.

Perhaps some selected service projects will develop out of our time together. However, the primary purpose of our time together will be to develop and nurture the spiritual side of ourselves.

One can always invite other men to this fellowship. Keep your calendars clear for the listed dates. Remember this in your prayers.

NOVEMBER 13.....	7:00am-9:00am
DECEMBER 11.....	7:00am-9:00am
JANUARY 8.....	7:00am-9:00am
FEBRUARY 12.....	7:00am-9:00am
MARCH 12.....	7:00am-9:00am
APRIL 9.....	7:00am-9:00am
MAY 14.....	7:00am-9:00am
JUNE 11.....	7:00am-9:00am
JULY 9.....	7:00am-9:00am
AUGUST 13.....	7:00am-9:00am

WEDNESDAY EVENING PRAYER SERVICE

On the first Wednesday evening of each month Concordia will be offering a special prayer and communion service. The time of this service will be 7:15pm to 8:00pm.

The focus of this Word and Sacrament, Christ-centered service will be to enrich our prayer life here at Concordia. This service is an extension of our total ministry here at Concordia.

Corporate prayer, individual concerns, community cares, and world issues will be brought to our Lord in prayer. Communion will conclude each service. Worship services with preaching and Bible classes with instruction are offered at other times of the week. The focus of this service will end with communion during this service.

Come and join with your worshipping family on these evenings. We will pray for our ministry here at Concordia. This reflective service will give us the chance to listen to the gentle voice of our gracious Lord.



"Finally, Igor! A seat more painful than the church pew."

Concordia Lutheran

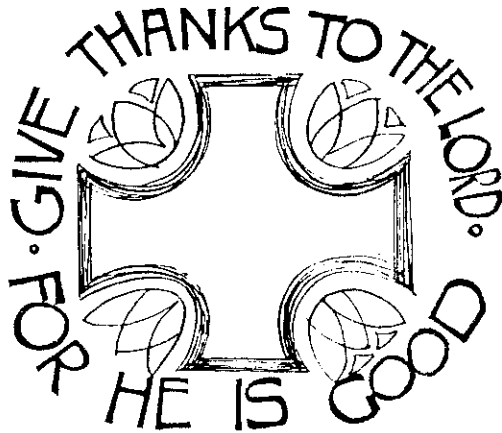
1993-94 JUNIOR CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE:

NOV.7.....	10 COMMANDMENTS
NOV.21.....	APOSTLES' CREED
DEC.1.....	SEXUALITY VIDEO (Wed.)
DEC.5.....	APOSTLES' CREED
DEC.12.....	APOSTLES' CREED
JAN.9.....	PRAYER & PERSONAL DEVO.
JAN.23.....	PRAYER & PERSONAL DEVO.
FEB.6.....	BAPTISM
FEB.20.....	BAPTISM
MARCH 2.....	ADDICTION VIDEO (Wed.)
MARCH 6.....	COMMUNION
MARCH 13....	COMMUNION AND FAMILY MEAL
MARCH 27....	PALM SUNDAY CONFIRMATION
MARCH 31....	MAUNDY-THURS.(1st Communion)

The October meeting of Concordia Women's Guild met at the home of Dianne Weber with 14 in attendance. Marlys Cartwright presented the topic, "Shedding His Light on Making a Difference."

The next meeting will be Wednesday, November 17 at the home of Thelma Haines. Meet at the church by 7:10pm if you would like to share a ride to Thelma's home in Steamboat II.

All women of the church are invited. Pastor Cartwright will have the topic: "Shedding His Light on a New Way of Seeing."



ALTAR GUILD

Members of the Altar Guild are servants of God, servants of God's people and servants of the worship space. They are responsible for setting up communion, caring for the candles and altar linens and everything that relates to the altar area. Two individuals serve for one month each year.

Anyone interested in serving as a member of the altar guild in 1994 should contact Elaine Stroncek at 879-2442.

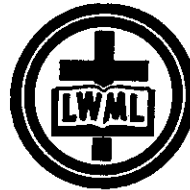
The Mite Box Story

Just Where Do Those Mites Go?

Based on the Biblical story of the widow's mite (Luke 21:1-4), the mite box is intended for regular contributions of "mites"—offerings above and beyond the support you give to your congregation and the synod. Mite box contributions amount to millions of dollars that support district and international mission projects and implement the LWML program.

Mite boxes, available from the district or zone, are distributed to every woman in a society. Members are encouraged to keep mite boxes in a prominent place and contribute to them regularly. Mite box offerings are gathered at meetings, preferably with prayer or a mite box devotion. The society treasurer remits contributions regularly to the district treasurer.

Handbook ILWML, Rev. 1991



When hiking or driving out in the desert or into the mountains of New Mexico, you should let someone know where you are going and when you plan to return. If you should get lost or stranded, so few people in such a large area means no one might come your way for days. But if notified, search parties are organized to look for those who do not return when expected.

This concern for those who get lost in the wilderness areas of New Mexico is mirrored in the Christian congregation. One reason for our being drawn together by God is to reach out for any member who wanders from the faith or even gets lost. Not only the pastor but also all of us as members of our congregation have the responsibility to pray for and encourage our fellow members so they don't turn away from Jesus, the only Savior, by outright evil living or by apathy toward their church.

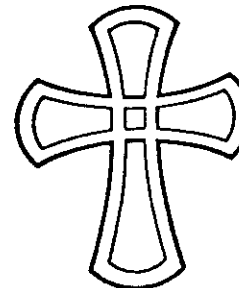
Of course, if you realize that you are slipping away from that faith, if He who gave His life for you doesn't seem too important to you anymore, it is essential that you let someone in the congregation know, so they can help, strengthen, and encourage you.

HONESTY

In his recent book *Integrity*, Ted Engstrom told this story: "For Coach Cleveland Stroud and the Bulldogs of Rockdale County High School [Conyers, Georgia], it was their championship season: 21 wins and 5 losses on the way to the Georgia boys' basketball tournament last March, then a dramatic come-from-behind victory in the state finals.

"But now the new glass trophy case outside the high school gymnasium is bare. Earlier this month the Georgia High School Association deprived Rockdale County of the championship after school officials said that a player who was scholastically ineligible had played 45 seconds in the first of the school's five postseason games.

"We didn't know he was ineligible at the time; we didn't know it until a few weeks ago," Mr. Stroud said. "Some people have said we should have just kept quiet about it, that it was just 45 seconds and the player wasn't an impact player. But you've got to do what's honest and right and what the rules say. I told my team that people forget the scores of basketball games; they don't ever forget what you're made of."



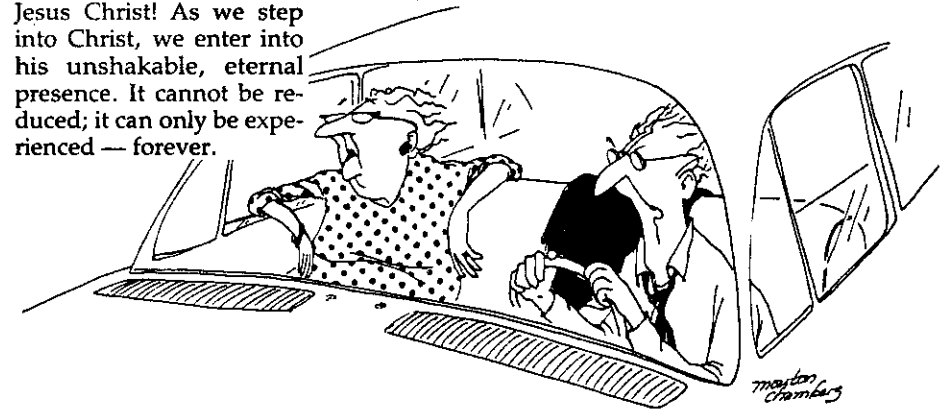
ASSURANCE

In 1958, a U.S. soldier wandered the streets of Berlin to see the sights. Despite the bustling new life in parts of the city, reminders remained of the destruction of World War II.

Walking through a residential area one evening, across the cobblestone street he saw an open space edged with flowers. In the center stood the stone front of what had been a church. The building was no longer there, but the rubble had been cleared away in an attempt to fill the empty space with a little park.

The former church's main door was shaped in a Gothic arch, and over it was carved into the stone in German: HEAVEN AND EARTH WILL PASS AWAY, BUT MY WORDS WILL NOT PASS AWAY. As he stepped through the arch where the doors had once been, of course he wasn't inside anything. What was once a place of worship had been reduced to a patch of stone pavement and open sky.

Not so with the Door — Jesus Christ! As we step into Christ, we enter into his unshakable, eternal presence. It cannot be reduced; it can only be experienced — forever.



"Have you stopped to consider how much more effective my sermon would have been if you hadn't yelled, 'Ha!'?"

CONCORDIA OCTOBER WORSHIP STATS:

Week #1...138 (M) 41 (E)...	179
Week #2...157 (M) 19 (E)...	176
Week #3...139 (M) 30 (E)...	169
Week #4...128 (M) 37 (E)...	165
Week #5...(Not Available at printing of Newsletter)	

AVERAGE WEEKLY OCTOBER ATTENDANCE:

1991.....	117
1992.....	169
1993.....	173

Regular worship is indeed the opportunity that God gives to His people to get to know His great love. It is also a time when God's people can worship the creator of the universe and the redeemer of all mankind.

Let us continue to take advantage of the worship opportunities here at Concordia. It is always good to see each of you in worship.

May God's peace be with you!

NOVEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 Bible Study 6:30am Brownies 3:30pm Choir 6:30pm Committees 7:30pm	3 Sacramental Prayer Service 7:15pm	4 Women's Study 9:30am	5	6
7 Worship 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Confirmation 4:30pm Worship 7:00pm	8	9 Bible Study 6:30am Brownies 3:30pm Choir 6:30pm Voters 7:30pm	10 Addiction Support And Info. 7:00pm	11 Women's Study 9:30am	12	13 Men's Breakfast Fellowship 7-9am
14 Worship 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Youth Group 4:00pm Worship 7:00pm	15	16 Bible Study 6:30 Brownies 3:30pm Choir 6:30pm	17 LWML 7:30pm	18 Women's Study 9:30am Bazaar Set-up 7-9pm	19 Bazaar Set-up 7-9pm	20 Bazaar...9am to 2pm
21 Worship 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Confirmation 4:30pm Worship 7:00pm	22	23 Bible Study 6:30 Brownies 3:30pm Choir 6:30pm	24 Soup Supper 5:30pm Thanksgiving Worship 7:00pm	25 THANKSGIVING DAY	26 Wedding Rehearsal 6:00pm	27 Bartkus/Gallovich Wedding 10:30am
28 Worship 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am E.C.C. 12:45pm Worship 7:00pm	29	30 Bible Study 6:30 Brownies 3:30pm Choir 6:30pm				