

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



CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

CHRISTOGRAM

MARCH 1994

CHRISTOGRAM

"CHRISTOGRAM"

PASTOR: Timothy C. Cartwright (Phone: 879-0175)

GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF OUR RISEN LORD!

If your car starts one out of three times, do you consider it faithful?

If the paper boy skips the Monday and Thursday editions, are they missed?

If you fail to come to work two or three times a month, does your boss call you faithful? If your refrigerator quits for a day now and then, do you excuse it and say, "Oh well, it works most of the time?"

If your water heater greets you with cold water once in a while, do you call it faithful?

If you miss a couple of mortgage payments a year, does the loan company say, "Oh well, 10 out of 12 isn't bad?" If you fail to worship God in church one or two Sundays a month, are you faithful?

God gave us not only the living water—He gives us a *jug* of living water. The Spirit gave us faith—and as a special fruit of the faith He gives faithfulness, a life of faith....

Faithfulness is the jug that allows us to carry our faith with us in all we do. It is a jug that is never emptied, because the more we apply our faith to our daily living, the more powerful and more refreshing our faith becomes. (Eldon Weisheit, "The Fruit of the Spirit Is Faithfulness," *The Lutheran Witness*, April 7, 1974, p. 5)

Concordia Lutheran Church †
P.O. Box 770428; 755 Concordia Lane
Steamboat Springs, CO 80477

A LETTER FOR US

But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us...made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him.

Ephesians 2:4-6



1995 YOUTH GATHERING PLANNING UNDERWAY

July 2-6, 1995
San Antonio, Texas

Already more than 70 persons are involved in putting together the program for the 1995 LCMS Youth Gathering.

The registration cost has been set at \$150.00 by the Board for Youth Services upon the recommendation of the Youth Gathering office. That fee covers all programming costs. It does not include housing, meal or transportation costs.

CONCORDIA STATISTICS:

Ave. Sunday Worship for February:

- Week #1.....(M)146 (E)47...193
- Week #2.....(M)156 (E)29...185
- Ash Wed.....80
- Week #3.....(M)152 (E)47...199
- Week #4.....Not Available

FEBRUARY: (per Sunday)

- 1991.....125
- 1992.....111
- 1993.....186
- 1994.....192

In this last year the Barnetts, the Noyers, the Martens, Jan McKay, the Troungs, Terry Fornes, John Sabin, and several others, have moved from this community. Our congregation has released from membership a number of families who no longer live in this community or desire to worship here at Concordia. Yet, our worship participation is up and strong. We thank God for that reality.

The individuals and families that make up this congregation need to continue to take advantage of regular congregational life. Try and seek out new areas of participation in our congregation. The more active the members are in the life of a congregation (i.e. study, worship, prayer, Lord's Supper, etc) the stronger the congregation.

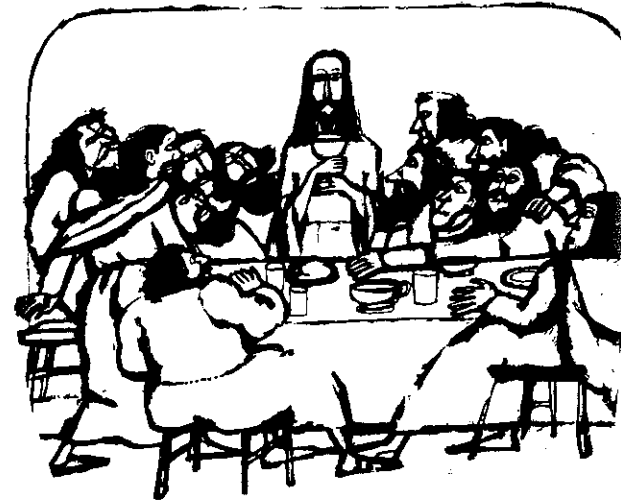
Likens seeks victims of violent crime

Has anyone in your congregation or family been the victim of violent crime?

Rev. James Likens, senior producer with the Board for Communication Services (BCS), is seeking people to interview for a new video, "Christians in a Violent World." If you or someone you know may be willing to be interviewed for the production, contact Likens at the BCS, 1333 S. Kirkwood Road, St. Louis, MO 63122; (314) 965-9917, Ext. 1249.

Mission field — With growing recognition that the United States is today more of a mission field than it is a Christian nation, perhaps this would be a good time to remind congregation members of where they are headed when they leave church property. Webster Gardens Lutheran Church in Webster Groves, Mo., has a sign posted at the point where its driveway meets the public road in front of the church. The sign reads, "You are entering the mission field."

For You and For All



A LETTER FOR US

We proclaim Christ crucified ...the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

1 Corinthians 1:23-25



'Dirty Dancing' — That's what they called it anyway, when the youth at St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Wayne, Mich., took on the task of cleaning the sanctuary, scrubbing bathrooms, shampooing carpets, washing windows and painting. Their reward was a dance, held later in the evening.

MISSIONS 1994

These are the recent missions adopted by Concordia's Womens Guild, which Concordia Lutheran Church will support this year through the Bazaar and Rummage Sales. We welcome additional donations from any member. Thanks.

1. Good Shepherd Lutheran Home of the West. \$1,500
2. Centro Cristiano DeYsleta \$500
3. Heifer Project International \$500
4. Lamp-Lutheran Assoc. of Missionaries and Pilots. \$500
5. Concordia Tract Mission \$250
6. Lutheran Bible Translators \$500
7. LCMS World Mission \$300
 - b. Kunkels, Missionaries \$200
8. American Bible Society \$400
9. Wheatridge \$200
10. Local Emergency Fund \$500
11. Lutheran World Relief \$200
12. St. Pauls Lutheran High School \$200
13. Yampa Valley Pregnancy Center \$300
14. Morning Star Victim Center \$200
15. Navajo Mission \$200
16. Lutheran Youth Encounter \$100
17. Concordia Gospel Outreach \$150
18. Colorado Christian Home \$100
19. Dakota Boys Ranch Foundation \$300
20. Seminary Student \$300
21. Lutherans for Life \$200
22. Equipping Christians for Ministry (Lutheran Foundation to challenge destructive cultural values) \$100
23. The Klingeberg Family (already given) \$1050

NURSERY???????

The Lutheran Church near Vail, Co. budgets almost \$100.00 a month for a qualified person to do child-care during the worship services on Sunday. In speaking with the Pastor he said that the arrangement was (and has) worked just fine!

We are trying to implement a similar component of ministry here at Concordia. However, we need to guarantee the support and participation of the parents of pre-school and younger children.



If you have children that are in this age group, would you take advantage of such a service? In order for our nursery idea to take shape, it needs the support of those with children.

We have recently been having a Junior High young person "on-call" for nursery duty during services. The problem is that their services are sometimes not used.

Perhaps we can better advertise this service. Perhaps, we can budget congregational funds for a qualified person to be available on Sunday, whether or not there are any children.

We need parents of young children to speak up and help this effort take shape. Please speak to the Pastor if you are interested!

Then God spoke all these words: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt. Exodus 20:1-2



Lent

This month begins the solemn season of Lent. It is a time for reflection. In some traditions, it is a time to "give up" something.

"Giving up" something for Lent can be an appropriate way of helping us grow spiritually during our Lenten journey.

As we reflect during Lent, surely we focus again on our sins and our need for forgiveness. But our focus also needs to move beyond Lent, beyond the cross, to the open tomb and resurrection victory.



Roger Krause

We by faith share in that victory over sin, death and hell and rejoice in our forgiveness won by Jesus.

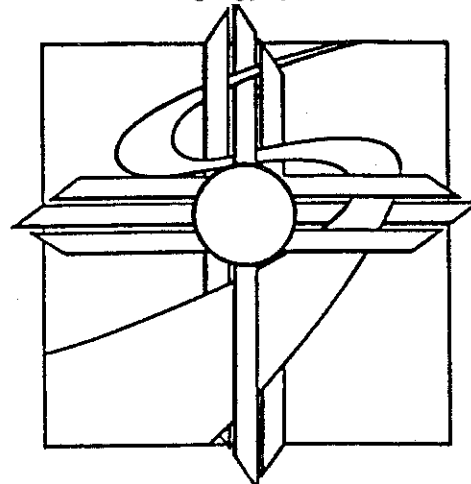
As forgiven people of God, we are to love and forgive one another. This can be most difficult. Yet forgiveness is essential for relationships to grow.

It is an unfortunate reality that there is much conflict in our world and, yes, in the church. How easy it seems for people to say and do things that hurt or offend a sister or brother in Christ. But how hard it is to go to that sister or brother and ask for forgiveness. Human pride gets in the way. Likewise, it is not easy to forgive when hurt. But both are possible in Christ.

As God's forgiven people, there is enabling power and strength both to forgive and to receive forgiveness. What a blessing when sisters and brothers in Christ do that!

If that kind of forgiveness—given and received—was practiced, much of the conflict troubling our church and world would quickly be resolved.

This season powerfully reminds us of the tremendous price our Savior paid to provide free and full forgiveness for all our sins. As forgiven people in Christ may each of us resolve to be a forgiving people.



Concordia's JOY-LUCK Club?

Last year a best selling book entitled the Joy Luck Club told the story of some Chinese American Women and their remarkable relationships. The word "JOY-LUCK" is the Chinese word for HOPE. These women would gather together for a day of friendship and kindness, even when the world was falling down around them. Why? It was to replenish their resources of HOPE. The book and the movie tell of new discoveries, new strength and tremendous love in the midst of crisis.

As I attend women's bible study each Thursday morning, I'm reminded of that JOY/LUCK picture. We gather around His Word convinced that in Christ as Hebrews 6:19 states "We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure."

Looking around the table I see women who know and have known God's Mercy in their lives. We remind each other of God's generous gifts in Word and Sacrament and in the body of Christ. We are not ashamed as we laugh together or cry together because we know our identity as God's beloved children is secure. It's a Gift.

I remember one Thursday morning closing in prayer...recalling the death of a child, remembering a loved in the final stages of cancer, but above all calling on Christ to be present as always...above us underneath us, in us, surrounding us. As I left that morning I knew a little more of the truth that nothing, NOTHING, can separate us from Christ's love...and that's the real basis for a genuine "JOY/LUCK" or "HOPE" CLUB.

Thanks Concordia for providing an opportunity to share a LIVING HOPE on Thursday mornings. (We always welcome newcomers...please join us)



AT THE OFFERING

Lord Jesus Christ, obedient to your Father's will, you gave your very life for my redemption. Accept the offerings I give in faith, and use them to share the gospel of your sacrificial love for all. Amen.

BEFORE COMMUNION

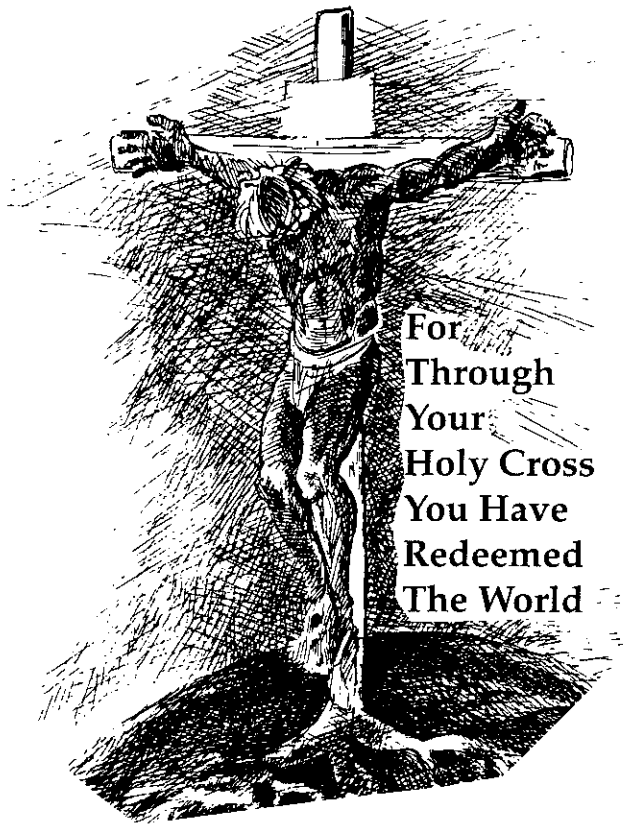
As often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, Lord Jesus Christ, we proclaim your death until you come. For me and all who share this sacred meal, let your death become the source of life. Amen.

AFTER COMMUNION

Savior, I follow on,
Guided by thee,
Seeing not yet the hand
That leadeh me.
Hushed be my heart and still,
Fear I no further ill,
Only to meet thy will
My will shall be. Amen.

BEFORE DEPARTING

Be with me day by day, Lord Jesus Christ. Grant me the grace to deny myself, take up my cross, and follow you. Amen.

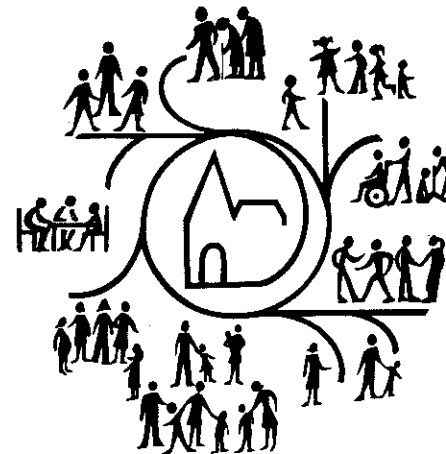


For
Through
Your
Holy Cross
You Have
Redeemed
The World

Follow through — One of the business world's cardinal rules regarding meetings is that the person conducting the meeting needs to develop during the meeting a "game plan" for what will happen once the gathering is over. In short, don't leave a meeting without knowing who is in charge of "the next step" and without that person's agreement that he or she will report on progress by a certain date. Making use of that principle in a congregation's business meetings will help keep projects moving forward. Without it, people have a tendency to say, "Well, we met, but nothing came out of the meeting."

Centrifugal Force in the Congregation

A solid, healthy core is still found at the center of most congregations. Propelled by this core, the fly-wheel of faith spins. From what people have first received, they give: they care for the elderly; they visit the sick; help the handicapped, counsel each other, and strengthen each other's faith.



oo

IN LIGHT OF MICHAEL JACKSON...

The person teenagers most want to meet is Hillary Clinton. Their favorite movie star is Tom Cruise, and they most admire Andrew Shue and Bill Cosby on television. The music stars who rank high are Garth Brooks and Whitney Houston.



A LETTER FOR US

He humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore, God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name. *Philippians 2:8-9*



At his Last Supper, Jesus let his disciples be the first to take part in the deepest mystery of his suffering and death: "...for you and for all." From this day on, the Christian church has "broken bread" together. St. Paul admonished the Corinthians to "eat the bread worthily and to drink the cup of the Lord." As often as you do this, you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes. In the Eucharist, he not only lets us participate in his love of God and of people, but also in his resurrection, and in his future, the kingdom of God, which entered into the world through him.



MARCH 1994

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 6:30AM Bible Study 3:30PM Brownies 6:30PM Choir 7:30PM Committees	2 Lenten Worship 7PM Confirmation 7:45PM Soup Supper 5:30PM Insight 1:30-4:30 PM	3 Women's Bible Study 10AM Recovery Room 7:15PM	4	5
6 3rd Sunday in Lent Worship 9AM Education HOUR 10:30AM AAL 10AM Confirmation 4:30PM WORSHIP 7PM	7	8 6:30AM Bible Study 3:30PM Brownies 6:30PM Choir Pastors Circuit Meeting VOTERS 7:30PM	9	10 Women's Bible Study 10AM Insight 1:30- 4:00PM Recovery Rm. 7:15PM	11	12 Men's Breakfast Fellowship 7-9AM
13 4th Sunday in Lent Worship 9AM Education Hour 10:30 AM Bd. of Ed. 10AM Confirmation 4:30PM Worship 7PM	14	15 6:30AM Bible Study 3:30PM Brownies 6:30PM Choir	16 Insight 1:30- 4:30PM Soup Supper 5:30PM Lenten Worship 7PM	17 St. Patrick's Day Women's Bible Study 10AM LWML Women's Guild 7:15 at Pattersons Recovery Room 7:15PM	18	19
20 5th Sunday in Lent Worship 9AM Education Hour 10:30AM Youth Group 4PM WORSHIP 7PM	21 Wedding 10AM	22 6:30AM Bible Study 6:30PM Choir	23	24 The Annunciation of Our Lord	25	26
Visiting Youth Group from Trinity, Monument CO.						
27 Sunday of the Passion Palm Sunday Worship 9AM CONFIRMATION SUNDAY PALM SUNDAY ECC 12:45PM NO SUNDAY SCHOOL	28	29 6:30AM Bible Study 3:30PM Brownies 7:00PM Choir	30	31 Maundy Thursday Maundy Thursday Worship 7PM Womens Bible Study 10AM		