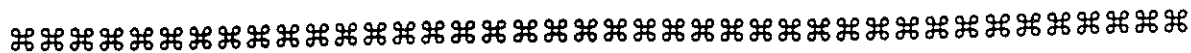


THE CHRISTOGRAM is the monthly newsletter of Concordia Lutheran Church, Steamboat Springs, Colorado. Deadline for newsletter items is the fourth Sunday of each month. We welcome contributions of news items, art work, and other appropriate articles.

Editor: Pastor Cartwright and Marlys Cartwright.

THE WEEKLY BULLETIN is printed on Thursday mornings. News items for the bulletin should be submitted by 9:00am on Thursdays.

SUNDAY WORSHIP: 8:00AM AND 10:30AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:15AM



CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH
P.O. BOX 770428; 755 CONCORDIA LANE
STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, CO. 80477

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

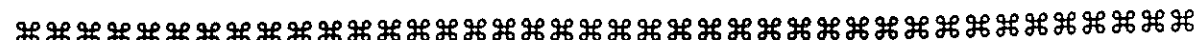
CHRISTOGRAM

JANUARY 1996

CHRISTOGRAM



"CHRISTOGRAM"



To the Members and Friends of Concordia:

Greetings in the name of the Newborn King, Jesus!

Should those people (professional adults) who pelted the referees and players with snowballs in The New York Giants' football stadium loose their season ticket privileges?

On December 20th, youth speaker Bob Lenz from Wisconsin, spoke here in our community. Bob had spoken at the San Antonio Youth Gathering last summer. It was great to have him here in our community. He spoke at the Middle School and High School. He completed the day by leading a youth night here at Concordia for area young people.

Bob's assembly presentation included four basic points:



1. Everybody has a choice.
2. Every choice has a consequence.
3. Don't let fear determine your choices.
4. Learn love when making choices. Ask yourself these questions when making a choice:
 - a. What is best for the other person?
 - b. What is best for you?
 - c. What is best for society?

#4 caught my attention! I believe that everybody can benefit by asking themselves that simple set of three questions. Most people consider self when making decisions. A smaller percentage consider the well-being of others in decision making. Fewer ask the third question regarding society.

As we make decisions in 1996 perhaps we can occasionally ask ourselves that sequence of questions. It would be interesting to see how our choices would be altered by such reflection.

We do have choices! Our choices have repercussions! God has given us His Word to help guide us in our decision making. Perhaps we could choose, resolve, in 1996 to think before we act. I'll give it a try! I promise not to throw snow balls.

Tim

CONCORDIA STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS

DECEMBER AVE. SUNDAY WORSHIP:

1991.....	105
1992.....	156
1993.....	197
1994.....	196
1995.....	220

THANKSGIVING WORSHIP ATTENDANCE:

1991.....	85
1992.....	105
1993.....	102
1994.....	156
1995.....	162

AVE. ADVENT WORSHIP ATTENDANCE:

1991.....	0
1992.....	41
1993.....	98
1994.....	80
1995.....	99

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP TOTALS:

1991.....	278
1992.....	338
1993.....	442
1994.....	582
1995.....	707

CHRISTMAS DAY TOTALS:

1991.....	0
1992.....	0
1993.....	0
1994.....	96
1995.....	89

ANNUAL/YEARLY AVE. SUNDAY WORSHIP:

1991.....	123
1992.....	138
1993.....	184
1994.....	201
1995.....	209



I hope you can see the development of our shared ministry here at Concordia. It is truly a gift of God to be involved with a congregation that has the opportunities that Concordia has!

Regular worship is an important aspect of life itself. Worship gives depth and richness to a person's life. By worshipping we get beyond self and move into the service of God and others.

There is a great deal of responsibility and work associated with a congregation that develops in size and numbers. Change is often a very difficult task. God has called this congregation here in Steamboat Springs to reach out with the Good News of the Gospel. Our efforts here at Concordia result in many people returning to worship, as well as many hearing the Gospel for the first time.

God bless our efforts in 1996!

"Light of the World"

"You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house.

Matthew 5:14-15



FINANCIAL CARE OF CONCORDIA

I do not have the intention of writing an "all is just fine" picture of the financial well-being of our congregation. But I thought you might be interested in the following "general" information.

1. Concordia established a budget of \$125,000.00 dollars for 1995.
2. We generated (through offerings) \$115,000.00 in 1995.
3. We spent \$115,000.00 in 1995.
4. We didn't meet our projected budget, yet we didn't spend our projected budget.
5. In addition to our \$115,000.00 in offering, we raised an additional \$16,000.00 for our new organ in 1995.
6. In addition to our \$115,000.00 in offering, we raised \$10,000.00 dollars in cash for our parsonage remodel.
7. 1995 giving can be looked at in this way:
 - A. \$115,000.00 (offerings)
 - B. \$16,000.00 (organ/non-budget)
 - C. \$10,000.00 (parsonage/non-budget)

Total giving: \$141,000.00

8. Our 1996 budget is \$127,000.00 dollars. As you can see that is far below what our expenditures were for 1995. The budget committee and Voters worked hard at establishing this budget for 1996.

9. We go into 1996 with a clean slate. Our monthly budget/expenses will be the responsibility of our membership to care for.

10. Last year's charitable/benevolent giving: (approximate-general idea)

- A. \$6,000.00 (District & Synod)
- B. \$1,000.00 (Community Care Fund)
- C. \$2,000.00 (Emergency-Crisis-AAL/Lutheran Brotherhood matching funds, etc.)
- D. \$8,000.00 (LWML projects)

As you can see, we do a good job in giving to a host of "needs." This is a healthy spiritual component of any congregation. This type of giving will be maintained and set as a priority as we look to 1996. Our budget reflects this priority.

I would like to encourage each household in our congregation to sit down and make a plan regarding their giving for 1996. Without a "plan" giving becomes fragmented. We set a frugal budget. Our budget is a bargain! We do so much good for so many with our financial care of Concordia. Thanks for your past support. Thanks for your future support.

*Freely
you have
received
freely give*

THANK YOU

To Lori Beverlin, Sunday School Teachers and Students for the Beautiful Christmas program.

EPIPHANY PARTY

The sign up sheet for the Epiphany party is in the Narthex, with an envelope for your checks. Dinner includes choice of top sirloin or blackened chicken. Cost is \$15.00 or \$30 a couple. Make checks payable to Concordia Women's Guild. The Party will take place at 6:30pm Saturday Jan. 6 at the Ore House, Pine Grove. Questions? Call Pam Parker at 736-2230.

CHRISTMAS BASKETS

Thank you for your donations and to the volunteers who gave so graciously of their time.

Your love in sharing made a big difference and a Very Merry Christmas for the needy families Concordia visited with Christmas Baskets. Your thoughtfulness was appreciated. Rebecca Wattles and Alma Baldwin.



JANUARY LWML

**COME WARM YOUR HEART AND SOUL AT OUR NEXT
LWML MEETING!**

WHEN: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1996 AT 7:00 P.M.

WHERE: ELAINE STRONCECK'S 850 ASPEN

**TOPIC: "THINGS HAPPEN WHEN WOMEN CARE FOR
THEMSELVES"**

Wear and Tear

"A Bible that's coming apart is usually owned by somebody who's not." -- Charles Spurgeon

J**A****N****U****A****R****Y****S****M****T****W****T****F****S**

1

2

3

4

5

6

New Year's Day

Bible Study
6:30am
Committees 7pm
Choir 6:15pm

Discovery 7pm

Women's Study
9:30am

Recovery 7pm

Epiphany Party
6:30pm
Ore House
Pine Grove
Epiphany

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

Worship 8/10:30
Sunday School
9:15am
Confirmation
4:30pm
Baptism of Our LordGirl Scouts
3:30pmBible Study
6:30am
Choir-6:15pm
Voters-7:30pm

Discovery-7pm

Women's Study
9:30am

Recovery-7pm

Girl Scouts
6:30pm

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

Worship-8/10:30
Sunday School
9:15am
Youth Group
5:30pm
Second Sunday
after Epiphany

School is Out

Bible Study
6:30am
Choir-6:15pm
Callers-7pmLWML-7pm
Discovery-7pmWomen's Study
9:30am

Recovery-7pm

Men's Breakfast
7-8:30am
Church Basement

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

Worship-8/10:30
Sunday School
9:15am
Confirmation
Third Sunday 9:15am
after EpiphanyGirl Scouts
3:30pmBible Study
6:30am
Choir-6:15pm
Callers-7pm

Discovery-7pm

Women's Study
9:30am

Recovery-7pm

Wedding Rehearsal
6:pm

Scouts 6:30pm

Wedding 4:00pm

28

29

30

31

Worship-8/10:30
Sunday School
9:15am
ECC-12:45pmGirl Scouts
3:30pmBible Study
6:30am
Choir-6:15pm
Callers-7pmDiscovery-7pm
(Worship &
Communion)Fourth Sunday
after Epiphany