

*The Christogram* is a 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 Jean Smith

**The Weekly Bulletin** is printed on Thursday mornings. News items for the bulletin should be submitted by 9:00 am on Thursdays.

**Sunday Worship:** 8:00 and 10:30 am

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

## CONCORDIA LUTHERAN *CHRISTOGRAM* October 1996

To the Members and Friends of Concordia:

Greetings in the name of our Risen Lord!

*"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven...a time to search and a time to give up." (Ecclesiastes 3:1&6)*

Have you ever stirred in the middle of the night? Have you ever broken a good night's sleep for no apparent reason? Have you ever slipped from beneath the nice comfort of a warm set of blankets? Have you ever looked into a dark "mid" night sky and pondered the depths of this universe?

Whenever my night's rest is broken, and I find myself searching the heavens, and my soul, it often is a time when I reflect upon the "bigness" of God and the "small-ness" of man. Many activities of modern man seem to center on man him-self. Our attention is focused on life and the many challenges which we face. Life itself compels us to tend to family, health, finances, business, school, career, sports, friends, marriage, graduation, vacation, hunting, cars, pets, clothing, food, funerals, weddings, etc. When Jesus completed His ministry he ascended back to His rightful place as a part of the Trinity. He said directly to His disciples (and to us)...*"Lo, I will be with you always."* At Pentecost the Holy Spirit appeared as a thousand points of light on the heads of people. The part of our Triune God called the Holy Spirit was sent to remind us that God is present in our lives. He is present even in the middle of our darkest nights. *"There is a time for everything."* Now is the time for you and I to walk in the power of our Baptisms. He shouts, and whispers, to us that He is here. He made himself completely known in Jesus. The next time you wake in the middle of the night, remember, you are not alone. You have a God who has promised to be with you...always.

In Christ,  
Pastor Tim

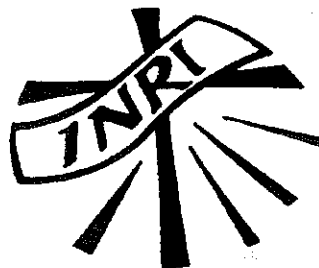
## Concordia Statistics

### September History (worshipping numbers)

1991-123  
1992-163  
1993-183  
1994-228  
1995-211  
1996-220

### September 1996

Wk. 1 - 186	14	200 total
Wk. 2 - 88	135	223 total
Wk. 3 - 105	129	234 total
Wk. 4 - 101	120	221 total
Wk. 5 - (not available)		



## President's Comment

### VOTERS' ASSEMBLY

The third quarter Voters' Assembly will be held on October 13th at 9:15 am between services. This is a very important meeting because the budget for 1997 will be presented along with the election of officers.

The elders will be presenting for approval the list of new members and those who have requested that they be dropped from membership.

Please try to attend because your participation in the operation of the church is important and helps those you elect to carry out your wishes.

See you on October 13!

### Perspective on Christianity

"The best argument for Christianity is Christians; their joy, their certainty, their completeness. But the strongest argument against Christianity is also Christians - when they are somber and joyless, when they are self-righteous and smug in complacent consecration, when they are narrow and repressive, then Christianity dies a thousand deaths." —Sheldon van Auken



## Outreach and Assimilation

It is our desire to help the entire Body at Concordia Lutheran reach out to others with the Good News that God loves them and has provided forgiveness, peace and wholeness through His son, Jesus. Once we have shared this glorious gift with others, we want to help them to become "family" - to feel safe, loved, cared for and free to share their God-given talents.

A Sunday morning Bible class designed by Pastor Cartwright to help us be more comfortable sharing our faith is scheduled for October. This is sure to be helpful for all of us, please make this a priority. The New Members Receptions and Sponsors program scheduled throughout the year are wonderful opportunities for you to meet new people and to share the excitement you have as part of God's family here at Concordia. Why not put your name on the sponsors list today? And it's not too early to be thinking of how you might help to make next year's Outdoor Worship and Picnic the best ever. All these are gracious, wonderful and easy ways to reach out with God's love. Let us know if you would like to be part of this endeavor.

- Yours in Christ, Judy Plumb  
Chairperson

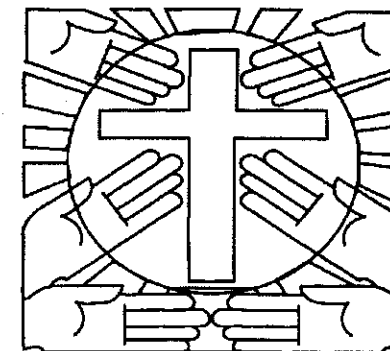
## LWML

Our first meeting of the season was held at Elaine Stroncek's home. The coming year promises to be a busy one with two of our main fundraisers occurring in the next two months:

October 18th-19th - Fall Rummage Sale  
& Bake Sale  
November 23rd - Annual Fall Bazaar  
& Cookie Caper

The LWML generates nearly \$10,000 a year through these events and the dollars are all sent to various mission projects locally and globally. Please consider joining us in these efforts. We could use your time and your talents!

The next meeting will be on October 16th at 7:00 pm. (Location to be announced.) All women of the congregation are invited to join us for fellowship, reflection on God's word, and planning for our missionary efforts.



## STEWARDSHIP

Over the last five years many new members have joined us here at Concordia. Integrating new people into the life and fellowship of our worshipping community involves stewardship efforts of many of us. We have done a good job.

We have done such a good job that a new stewardship problem has been created. We are going to need more facilities and more employed staff time in the near future. Increasing the size of our building and adding staff will obviously increase the size of our budget.

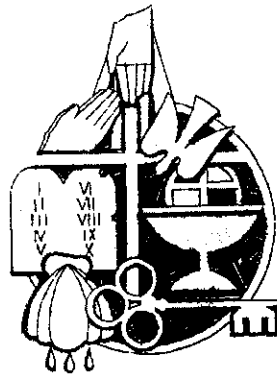
Our current budget is being met very well by the gift of treasure by our growing membership. However, per member gifts of treasure have declined.

The Stewardship Committee will research this area of concern for probable causes. We will be reporting our findings and recommending solutions to you after we have conferred with the Parish Council.

- W.K. Baldwin

### Long Range Concerns

1. Financial Considerations
2. Basement/Fellowship Hall Concerns
3. Office Remodel
4. Parking Lot Issues
5. Outdoor Worship Area
6. Educational Wing



## CONFIRMATION

Remember the following dates for upcoming Confirmation events in October:

- October 6 - 9:15 am Sunday
- October 20 - 4:30-6 pm Sunday
- October 27 - 12:45 pm at ECC

*"One of the highest of human duties is the duty of encouragement. . . It is easy to laugh at men's ideals; it is easy to pour cold water on their enthusiasm; it is easy to discourage others. The world is full of discouragers. We have a Christian duty to encourage one another. Many a time a word of praise or thanks or appreciation or cheer has kept a man on his feet. Blessed is the man who speaks such a word."*

-William Barclay

## The One Minute Bible

Edited by John R. Kohlenberger, this resource is available in your church library and contains the heart of the Bible arranged into 366 one-minute readings. Below is an excerpt.

### Unconditional Love

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written:

*"For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered."*

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

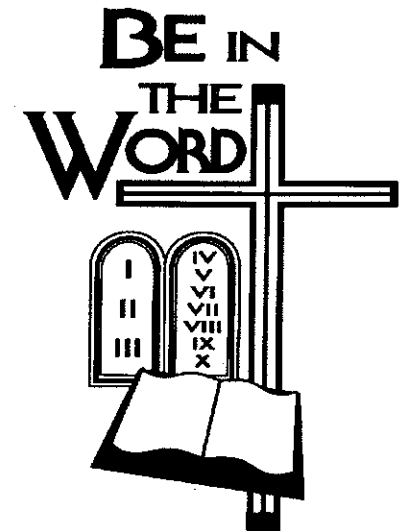
And so we know and rely on the love God has for us.

God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him. In this way, love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment, because in this world we are like him. There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.

We love because he first loved us.

Romans 8:35-39; 1 John 4:16-19

*Related texts:* Deuteronomy 7:7-11; 10:14-15; John 3:16-19; Romans 5:8-11; Ephesians 2:4-10



### 5 Things Adults Can Do to Build Developmental Assets in Children

1. Look at and greet every child or adolescent you see.
2. Have a 5 minute conversation with a child or adolescent about his or her interests.
3. Send a "thinking of you" or birthday card, letter, or e-mail message to a child or adolescent.
4. Invite a young person to do something you enjoy doing together (play a game, go to a park, go to a movie, etc.).
5. Have an open-door policy in your neighborhood so kids feel welcome in your home for refreshments, conversation, or just hanging out.

# Concordia Lutheran Church

October 1996

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
		1 Bible Study 6:30 am Choir 6:15 pm Committees 7 pm	2 Discovery 7 pm	3 Women's Bible Study 10 am Recovery 7 pm	4 Soup & Scripture 12 noon Scouts 6 pm	5 Richmond/ Whitechurch Wedding
6 Worship 8/10:30 am Education Hr. 9:15 am New Members 10:30 Confirmation 9:15 am	7 Women's AA 7 pm Scouts 3:30	8 Bible Study 6:30 am Choir 6:15 pm Church Council 7:30 pm .....	9 Discovery 7 pm  Fall Pastoral .....Conference.....	10 Women's Bible Study 10 am Recovery 7 pm	11 Soup & Scripture 12 noon Scouts 6 pm	12 Men's Breakfast 7 am
13 Worship 8/10:30 am Education Hr. 9:15 am Voters Assembly 12:00 HS Youth Group 5:30 pm	14 Women's AA 7 pm Scouts 3:30 pm	15 Bible Study 6:30 am Choir 6:15 pm Callers 7 pm	16 Discovery 7 pm LWML 7 pm	17 Women's Bible Study 10 am Recovery 7 pm	18 Soup & Scripture 12 noon Scouts 6 pm  Fall Rummage Sale	19   Fall Rummage Sale
20 Worship 8/10:30 am Education Hr. 9:15 am Confirmation 4:30 pm	21 Women's AA 7 pm Scouts 3:30 pm	22 Bible Study 6:30 am Choir 6:15 pm Callers 7 pm	23 Discovery 7 pm	24 Women's Bible Study 10 am Recovery 7 pm	25 Soup & Scripture 12 noon Scouts 6 pm	26
27 Worship 8/10:30 am Education Hr. 9:15 am ECC Worship 12:45 pm Confirmation at ECC 12:45 pm	28 Women's AA 7 pm Scouts 3:30 pm	29 Bible Study 6:30 am Choir 6:15 pm Callers 7 pm	30 Discovery 7 pm	31 Women's Bible Study 10 am Recovery 7 pm		

**Tuesday Bible Study:**  
Meet and study the Word of God prior to work. This study begins at 6:30am and is done promptly at 7:30am. The format is one of discussion and reflection on God's Word. A good cup of coffee or tea is ready for you upon arrival. Give this study a try!

**Wednesday Discovery Bible Study:** This Wednesday evening study opportunity has been put into place for a midweek spot of spiritual refreshment. A person can come once a month, twice a month, or every week. It is a relaxed atmosphere for learning, discussion and fellowship. Please, come and enjoy some great "Discovery!"

**Thursday Recovery:** Concordia Lutheran congregation has made a commitment to open its doors to the special needs surrounding those individuals, couples, and families who are dealing with the reality of addiction and recovery. Each Thursday night at 7:00pm a group of people meet in the basement of the church for devotions and support. This meeting is designed to aid the recovering person in the quest for a stronger spiritual life.

**Thursday Women's Bible Study**  
A special Bible study is in place to assist the women of our congregation in the study of God's Word. Child care is available in the basement of the church at 9:30 where coffee and goodies will be provided. The study will begin (for adults only) at 10 am at Mary Dombey's home ( 775 Amethyst Drive).

**Friday Soup & Scripture**  
Each Friday a light lunch will be provided and then we will take a few minutes to review a section of the great Word of God...a Psalm, a story, a proverb, a parable, etc. We will close with a prayer at 12:50 and you can be back to the office, home, job site, school, etc..by 1:00 pm!

**Sunday Extended Care Center Worship (ECC)**  
On the fourth Sunday of each month our congregation is responsible for the care of the worship service at the ECC. The Pastor leads this service with congregational volunteers. There is a need to visit with the residents at the ECC. It is a great way to learn compassion and service. The residents always appreciate a kind contact from visitors.

## "CONCORDIA'S MINISTRIES"

1. EVERY SUNDAY WORSHIP...REGULAR COMMUNION
2. NINE MONTH SUNDAY SCHOOL & CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
3. SUMMER VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
4. JUNIOR HIGH (7th & 8th) CONFIRMATION MINISTRY
5. ORGANIZED HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY
6. TUESDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE STUDY
7. WEDNESDAY EVENING "DISCOVERY" BIBLE STUDY
8. THURSDAY EVENING "RECOVERY" (ADDICTIONS SUPPORT)
9. THURSDAY MORNING (SEPT-MAY) WOMEN'S STUDY
10. MONTHLY MEN'S SATURDAY BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP
11. FRIDAY NOON "SOUP AND SCRIPTURE LUNCH"
12. TUESDAY EVENING ADULT CHOIR
13. MONTHLY WOMEN'S EVENING GROUP (LWML)
14. BI-ANNUAL RECYCLING/RUMMAGE SALE/BAZAAR
15. EXTENDED CARE CENTER WORSHIP (MONTHLY)
16. SEASONAL SPECIAL SERVICES (CHRISTMAS, EASTER, etc.)
17. RETREAT/TRIP MINISTRY (ALL AGES)
18. FACILITY USE FOR SCOUTS, A.A. AND THE LIKE
19. FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF BROADER CHURCH CONCERNS
20. FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF LOCAL HUMAN NEEDS
21. CHURCH GOVERNANCE AND BOARDS

## FAMILY ISSUES

Below is an excerpt taken from the book, *Quiet Times for Parents*, by H. Norman Wright

*Fathers, do not irritate and provoke your children to anger (do not exasperate them to resentment), but rear them (tenderly) in the training and discipline and the counsel and admonition of the Lord. (Ephesians 6:4, AMP)*

It's all too easy for children to find their identity wrapped up in performance and appearance. Why? Largely because those are the values their parents and teachers reinforce. Children are applauded if they're cute, if they get straight As, if they say funny jokes, or if they hit home runs. Thanks to the adults in their lives, it doesn't take long for children to internalize and begin to live by three unhealthy principles:

1. If I am physically attractive and others admire me, I will be special.
2. If I perform well and accomplish great things, I will be accepted.
3. If I obtain social status and others recognize me, I will be significant.

But what about the child who isn't cute or entertaining? What about the child who never wins a starring role in the school play or strikes out most of the time in baseball? Tragically, children like these are often compared, rejected, or ignored by the adults in their lives - including their own parents! They begin to question their identity

and doubt their worth. The false values our society promotes can even pervade our Christian homes.

What about you? Children may struggle with identity and self-acceptance because their parents struggle with the same issues. Children who grow up with a false basis for identity and acceptance don't automatically grow out of it when they reach adulthood. As adults they continue to base their identity on these three shaky pillars. They also tend to perpetuate them in their children.

If you are going to help your children realize their identity and acceptance in Christ, lead the way by doing so in your own life. You'll find a better life for yourself in doing so!

### Psalm 67

*May God be gracious to us and bless us  
and make his face shine upon us,  
that your ways may be known on earth,  
your salvation among all nations.*

*May the peoples praise you, O God;  
may all the peoples praise you.  
May the nations be glad and sing for joy,*

*for you rule the peoples justly  
and guide the nations of the earth.  
May the peoples praise you, O God;  
may all the peoples praise you.  
Then the land will yield its harvest,  
and God, our God, will bless us.  
God will bless us,  
and all the ends of the earth will fear him.*

## Caring for the Communion Table:

Scripture teaches us that God has placed into the life of His Church the ongoing gift of Holy Communion. This is a "Thanksgiving Meal" which gives to the believing heart the wonderful gift of forgiveness and the assurance of salvation. In, with, and under the bread and wine of the Lord's Table are the very body and blood of Jesus Christ.

Concordia has established the following guidelines to encourage you to come to the Lord's Table.

1. Young people who have been instructed in God's good and guiding Word regarding the truths of the Communion Table are invited to come and receive this real gift of God's grace. Our congregation offers instruction and preparation for the Lord's Table during 7th and 8th grade Confirmation instruction.

2. Some young people have prepared for the Lord's Table at an earlier age due to guidance received in another congregation. Those young people are welcome at the Lord's Table here at Concordia.

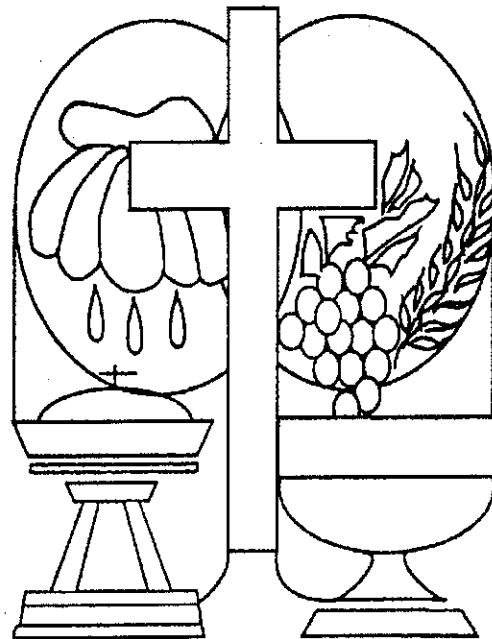
3. Because of the truths present in God's word, Concordia believes that Jesus' body and blood are miraculously present in the bread and wine. Jesus himself said, "This is my body...This is my blood."

4. We are guided by God's Word when it states that a person needs to examine themselves prior to coming to the Lord's Table. This "self examination" should result in one being able to recognize the Biblical

truth of "real presence" (#3 above) as well as the truth that the sinner needs the Savior.

5. When a person comes to the Communion feast, that individual is making a profession of faith. You profess your trust in God's gracious gift of forgiveness. You profess that you hold much in common with those you are communing with.

Please fill out the Communion registration cards on Communion Sundays and give it to an usher as you come to the table. When you come to the Table, come knowing God's grace is for you. If you are yet to be instructed feel free to come and receive a Pastoral blessing.



## Announcements

### LB Scholarships Now Available

For 45 years, Lutheran Brotherhood has been proud to offer scholarships to LB members, as well as to other Lutheran students attending Lutheran colleges and seminaries. For the 1995-96 school year, Lutheran Brotherhood awarded scholarships totaling more than \$3.5 million. Recipient selection for Member Scholarships are based on academic record and demonstrated leadership; applications for the 1997-98 school year must be postmarked by Jan. 15, 1997. Lutheran College Scholarships are based on financial need, academic achievement and religious leadership. Contact the college's financial aid office for details and an application. For more information, contact your Lutheran Brotherhood representative. Scholarship information is available through Lutheran Brotherhood's toll-free Fraternal line (11-800-328-7168).

### Lutheran College Night

Denver

Sunday, October 13

5:00-8:00 PM

Marriott Southeast Hotel  
I-25 and Hampden Avenue

Lutheran College Nights...are times when admissions counselors from many Lutheran colleges come to one place to answer your questions - about jobs, careers, cost, financial aid and your education. It has been coordinated by the Lutheran Educational Conference of North America for more than 25 years.



When you're cutting coupons don't forget that you could help cut the cost of youth events significantly by your support in purchasing Citymarket or Safeway gift certificates between church services every Sunday. We appreciate your support!  
- The Youth Group

### THINK RUMMAGE!

The LWML could use your help. We need people willing to sort rummage the week of October 14-17. The sale is October 18 and 19. Help out in Concordia's noble recycling efforts! We reap the rewards in the money we are able to use for missions in our community and the world.