

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*

January 1977



To the Members and Friends of Concordia;

Greetings in the name of the Newborn King!

As I prepared for the many services in recent weeks, I came across this piece in the "Lutheran" magazine. I used it Christmas Day morning. I thought you would enjoy having it. It was written by Fran Peavey in a book entitled, "By Life's Grace."

"The mind and heart reel upon folding up the newspaper. Just another day of broken hearts and lives around the world. Sitting back in my blue armchair my eyes close. A dream floats across. I hold the smooth round globe in my arms like a baby. My eyes wander over the surface as if I'm entering into it. Lightly my fingers explore the oceans, the beaches, the rivers and climb the mountains. This is my home planet, now held as a lovely child in my arms. The inner eye sees some of the faces, some of the struggles, some of the delight, the dreams of each place on the globe. As my fingertips touch a place on the globe the troubles of each location flash into view. I wish I could give some relief for the wrinkles of pain in each land, each river, each ocean. I hold the globe close to my breast and sob. My fingers curl around thousands of miles, thousands of weapons, thousands of birds and fish, thousands of people longing, as I do for peace. There is no way to invent a way out of the suffering of the present. It simply has to be lived and loved now in the real. My ears strain to listen deeply to the messages....Faithfully I rock the globe patting it softly, snuggling it into my bosom, singing a lullaby my grandmother taught me, "Byo oh bye yoah bye yoh, bye yoh bye yoh bye."

The Savior of the world, born in Bethlehem's manger was heralded by angels who shouted and sang, "Peace on earth, good will to man." The long promised Messiah stepped forth from the grave....He's got the whole world in His hands.

Take that message into the new year. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

In Christ, Pastor Cartwright

Stewardship



What's a Care Group?

The Church Council has asked the Stewardship Committee to move forward with a plan to divide the congregation into thirteen care groups of 18 to 20 people. The initial task assignment to the care groups would be for each group to handle all the duties surrounding the church services for 4 weeks during the year. Each care group would have two organizers to help group members carry out the mission.

"Getting the work done" is not the only reason for forming the care groups. These groups can help new members become acquainted and integrated into the life of the congregation. Hopefully the initial assignment for the groups is only a framework on which additional services and fellowship can grow.

If you have comments or concerns please contact a Stewardship Committee member or put written comments in the congregation's Vice President box.

Concordia Statistics

December History

Average Sunday Morning Attendance

1991-105
1992-156
1993-196
1994-195
1995-194
1996-229

December 1996:

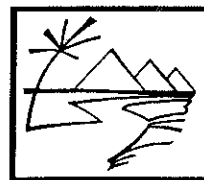
Christmas Eve - 501
Christmas Day - 65
Average Advent - 100

We can truly be thankful as we see our worshipping numbers growing stronger each month and year. This is a gift from God.

Please be mindful that each "number" represents a person, a couple, a family, a kid, a need, a joy, a concern, a life, a hope, a child of God.

We are spread out during our week. We have homes, hobbies, and personal lives. We have smaller "group" events here at the church. Sunday is that "coming together" time. How wonderful it is!

See you Sunday!



FAMILY ISSUES

Subject: Light

IN THE DARK

'Have you ever felt like you were "in the dark"?

The lights finally went back on November 10th, thirty years ago. The night before, nine states in the Northeastern U.S. experienced the greatest power failure in history.

The newspaper read, "Most traffic signals gave out; intersections jammed. Skyscraper elevators halted between floors. As of midnight, untold numbers were still trapped in them. Operating rooms went dark. Airplanes circled darkened landing strips." While most adults were paralyzed, one child would later write, "It was dark! We had popcorn in the fireplace! It was fun!"

Your Creator describes everyone who doesn't walk with him as "being in darkness." You can be in constant illumination from external sources, but if you are not wired to God through His Son, Jesus Christ, you are living in an unending spiritual power failure. The Bible says, "*God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth*" (1 John 1:5, 6). Jesus is the "Ultimate Power Source" that will guarantee that you will never be "in the dark" again!

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.

Rulers of God's Creation

O Lord, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory
above the heavens.
From the lips of children and infants
you have ordained praise
because of your enemies,
to silence the foe and the avenger.
When I consider your heavens,
the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars,
which you have set in place,
what is man that you art mindful of him,
the son of man that you care for him?
You made him a little lower than the
heavenly beings
and crowned him with glory and honor.
You made him ruler over the works of your
hands;
you put everything under his feet
all flocks and herds,
and the beasts of the field,
the birds of the air,
and the fish of the sea,
all that swim the paths of the seas.
O Lord, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the
earth!

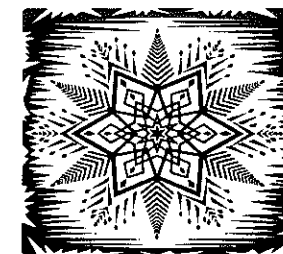
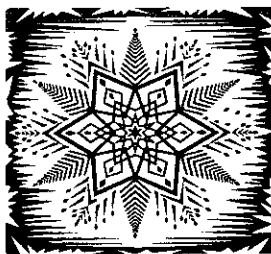
Psalm 8

Related texts: Genesis 1-2; Matthew 21:16;
Hebrews 2:5-9

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.



January

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH 1997

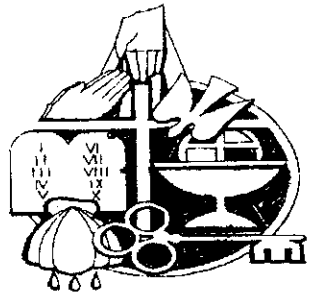
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
			1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	2 Women's Bible Study 10 am Recovery 7 pm	3 Soup & Scripture 12 noon	4 EPIPHANY PARTY 7 pm at the Ore House
5 Worship 8/10:30 am Education Hr. 9:15 am Confirmation 4:30 pm	2 Women's AA 7 pm	7 Bible Study 6:30 am Choir 6:15 pm Church Council 7 pm	8 Discovery 7 pm	9 Women's Bible Study 10 am Recovery 7 pm	10 Soup & Scripture 12 noon	11 Men's Breakfast 7 am
12 Worship 8/10:30 am VOTERS' ASSEMBLY 9am/Ed.Hr. 9:15 am Confirmation 4:30 pm Youth Group 5:30 pm	13 Women's AA 7 pm	14 Bible Study 6:30 am Choir 6:15 pm Callers 7 pm	15 Discovery 7 pm LWML 7 pm	16 Women's Bible Study 10 am Recovery 7 pm	17 Soup & Scripture 12 noon	18
19 Worship 8/10:30 am Education Hr. 9:15 am	20 Women's AA 7 pm	21 Bible Study 6:30 am Choir 6:15 pm Callers 7 pm	22 Discovery 7 pm	23 Women's Bible Study 10 am Recovery 7 pm	24 Soup & Scripture 12 noon	25
26 Worship 8/10:30 am, Education Hr. 9:15 am Confirmation 9:15 am ECC 12:45 pm	27 Women's AA 7 pm	28 Bible Study 6:30 am Choir 6:15 pm Callers 7 pm	29 Discovery 7 pm	30 Women's Bible Study 10 am Recovery 7 pm	31 Soup & Scripture 12 noon	

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. 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.

CONFIRMATION



Remember the following dates for upcoming Confirmation events in

January:

January 5th - 4:30 pm
January 12th - 9:15 am
January 26th - 9:15 am



1996 Christmas Baskets

This past Christmas our church cared for 10 families which represented 31 people (4 seniors, 8 parents and 19 kids).

The following is a breakdown of what our church provided.

MONEY: (approximate)

Donations - \$679.00
Advent Service - \$634.98
Food : -625.97
Gifts: -307.59
YVEA: -175.00
G. Gas: -210.42

GIFTS: (approximately 75)

Electric blanket - \$75
Battery heater - \$45
Skates & lessons - \$100
Art supplies for 8 kids
6 pairs of jeans
6 pairs of boots or shoes

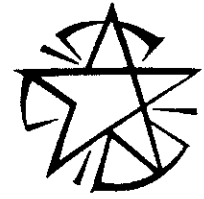
FOOD: (partial list)

100 lbs. of elk burger
6 turkeys
100+ cans of food
60 lbs. of potatoes
30 lbs. of sugar
30 lbs. of flour

Thank you for caring for these families! We especially would like to thank those who helped organize this project: Susan Peterson, Rebecca Wattles, Alma Baldwin and Robbin Schoewe. Also, those who delivered the Christmas baskets were Wade Hendricks, Josh Carrell, Erin Scheiwe, Katie Cartwright, Susan Warner and Nancy Carlson.

Announcements

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

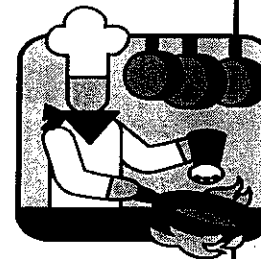


Mark your calendars for the Epiphany Party at the Ore House on January 4th at 7:00 pm! All singles and married couples are invited.

NEW YEAR'S EVE COMMUNION SERVICE

December 31st
7:00 pm

Plan on attending the next Voters' Assembly meeting on January 12th between the early and late services. The meeting will go from 9:00 am to 10:15 am



Men's Breakfast Fellowship
Saturday, January 11th
7 am at the church

Join us! Bring a friend.