

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.

Editors: Pastor Cartwright, Marlys Cartwright and Cindy Svendsen

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

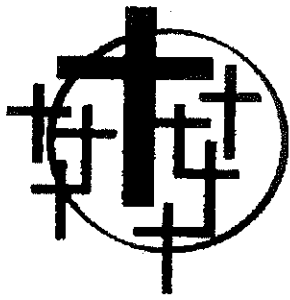
Sunday Worship: 8:00 and 10:30 AM **Education Hour:** 9:15 AM

Concordia Lutheran Church
755 Concordia Lane
PO Box 770428
Steamboat Springs, CO 80477

CHRISTOGRAM

Concordia Lutheran Church

SEPTEMBER, 1999



A Note From the Pastor...

Greetings In The Name Of Our Bridge-Building Lord!

Kastler stock is up 30%! Do you own any? Kastler is a large construction company that builds and repairs bridges and freeways.

In the recent "Leadership" magazine, a journal for professional church leaders, there was an interview of four pastors. Reverend Gary Gulbranson made the following observation in that article: *"A good friend in the trucking business reminds me that you can't drive a twelve-ton truck over a ten-ton bridge. The existing bridge has to be able to handle the load you are delivering."*

As I labor as your Pastor, I am constantly concerned about the "bridges" (people) in our congregation and community. I work hard to be aware of your needs. I want to challenge you! I

want to nurture you. There may be times that you may feel that the load is too heavy. There may also be times when you aren't challenged enough.

"How much can the bridges handle?"

At times, a pastor must confront and speak clearly concerning difficult issues and topics. When those issues and topics are dealt with, I always ask myself, "How much can bridges handle?"

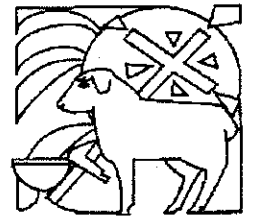
I pray for your growth. I seek to serve you with the alive, active and life-changing Word of God. I do not want to crush you with that Word. I also do not want to crush you with my personality and pastoral intensity. I will never stay away from "tough" issues or concerns. Pray for me as I drive across the bridges.

Ephesians 4:15 comes to mind: "Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the head, that is Christ." I want you to grow. I seek your spiritual development. I want you to know the love of God in Christ. I want the same for myself.

Let us invest and build (perhaps repair) bridges together. Let us speak the truth in love to one another.

A Fellow Bridge Builder,

Pastor Cartwright



SEPTEMBER, 1999

Concordia Lutheran Church **CHRISTOGRAM**

inside...

"Jesus Our Sure Guide"

"An Exciting Year Planned For The Women of Concordia"

"Christians In An Out-Of-Breath World"

CARE TEAM UPDATE . . .

As you know, each month a different team of Concordia members takes on the duties of greeters, ushers and readers for the Sunday services. Thank you all for your participation in this effort!!! New members will be added to those months that have lost team members for one reason or another.

Prior to your appointed month, you will receive a letter that explains the duties of each care team position. You will be invited to attend an informal meeting with other members of your team to sign up for the particular Sundays you can serve.

If you ever have any questions, suggestions, or general feedback on the "care team system", or regarding your particular team, please call me, Sandra Hogrefe, the incoming Care Team Coordinator.

Thank you, Ellyn Myller, for your hard work with setting up this program! God bless your efforts with Sunday School!

Sandra Hogrefe
Care Team Coordinator



FALL RUMMAGE SALE

The annual Fall Rummage Sale is scheduled for October 22nd and 23rd. Clean out your closets, your garage, and plan to donate items in good repair, beginning October 16th. Please **DO NOT** drop off your donations sooner than October 16th. There is no room to store any more bags or boxes of stuff! Please pass on this information to friends or neighbors of yours who you know plan to donate items. Thank you for your cooperation. Save your "good stuff" for this big event!

SEPTEMBER

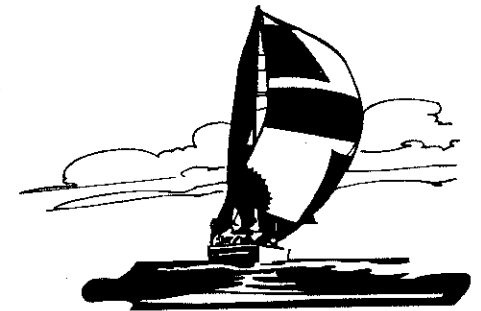
is the last month to take advantage of the 20% donation to our Youth Group if you dine at Dos Amigos! Look for the pink coupons under the mailboxes or in your newsletter.

"Yo Quiero,
Dos Amigos!"



Faith in Christ Makes More Sense of Life. One rainy Sunday afternoon, a father was babysitting his children and had the task of keeping them entertained. He assigned specific tasks to each child. To keep his 10-year-old son busy, he had torn a full-page map of the United States out of a magazine, cut it into small pieces, and told his son to reassemble it as a jigsaw puzzle. To the father's amazement, his son presented him with the completed puzzle in just a few minutes. "How did you do it, son?" he asked. "It was easy," the boy replied. "At first, when I tried to fit together all those little lines and dots and the small print on the map, it looked like an impossible job. Then I saw part of a man's face on the back of one of the pieces. So I turned the pieces over, and when I got the man together, the United States took care of itself."

The jigsaw puzzle of life makes sense and we get it all together when we live our life against the background of Christ. That is, faith in Christ as Redeemer and Lord makes all the pieces fit. *References:* Matt. 7:24; John 8:31-36; 17:3; 1 Cor. 2:2; Phil. 4:13.



Jesus Our Sure Guide. When a mariner has lost his path on the lone and trackless ocean—when his vessel is tossed by the angry winds and waves, no shore appears in sight, and no compass can fix his location—if he can succeed in discovering one particular star, the polestar, he can secure his bearings.

People may be compared to such a storm-beaten mariner. Seated in a frail canoe, they are being irresistibly carried forward on the whirling current of the stream of time; the shore from which they set out in infancy has long faded from sight; no map tells the location of the land to which they are steering on the broad expanse of time. Yet if they can focus the telescope of Christian faith on one bright luminary, the guiding polestar, then no matter how the waves of life's dispensation may rise and the winds rage, they have a definite aim, a safe and solid mooring, and can continue their route with cheerfulness and confidence of heart. That star—the unchangeable One—is Jesus. *References:* Luke 1:78-79; John 14:6; Rom. 5:1-2; Eph. 2:18.

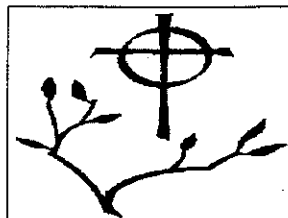
His Call - Our Call

Our pastor has received and is considering a call to fill a pastoral need within another congregation. As we receive that information, a common response may be the question, "What if Pastor Tim accepts the call to serve elsewhere?" As Pastor Tim effectively reminds us for both our personal life of faith and our Concordia family of faith, we can be sure of one thing, that our loving God will continually be present with us throughout this journey.

As a Board of Elders, we have also asked, "How have we been doing at caring for our Pastor?" We have individually and as a group expressed appreciation for his leadership and countless contributions to our shared ministry, but we have also had to offer sincere apologies for inadequate attention to significant details.

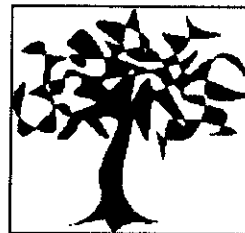
With the addition of another full-time staff person, Jean Smith, as parish administrator/DCE specialist, beginning this month, we have an ideal opportunity to insist that our pastor have one consistent, scheduled day off per week. In addition, one day per week should be allowed for personal Bible study and devotion. We didn't originate this idea, but we're pleased it came our way.

Providing much needed personal and family time and also time to study and meditate on God's Word are significant ways to care for our pastor, whether Pastor Tim continues to shepherd us, or we find ourselves including these guidelines in our call.

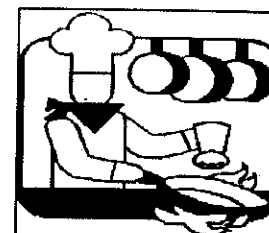


In Christ,

Albert Deepe
Elder



Parent Support Group
September 3, 1999
6-8 PM
Begin with a potluck
Special time for kids
Special topic for parents



Men's Breakfast
Saturday
September 11, 1999
7 - 8:30 AM
Invite A Friend!



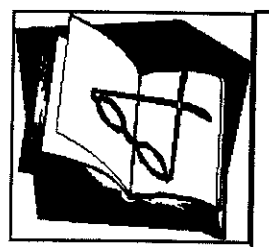
Discovery Bible Study
Wednesdays - 7 PM
at the Church
(Childcare Provided)



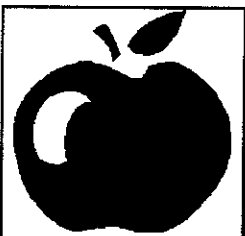
Tuesday Morning
Bible Study
at the Church
6:30 - 7:30 AM
Bring a Friend!



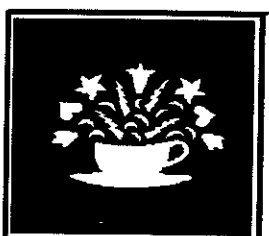
Monday Morning Moms
10 - 12 AM
Meet at the church
(childcare provided)



Thursday Morning
Women's Bible Study
10 AM at the church
library
(Childcare Provided)



Recovery Study
Thursdays 7 PM
at the Church
Invite a Friend!



LWML will host
"Down The Garden Path"
Dinner & Program
September 19th
4:00 to 6:00 pm at church

SUNDAY SCHOOL

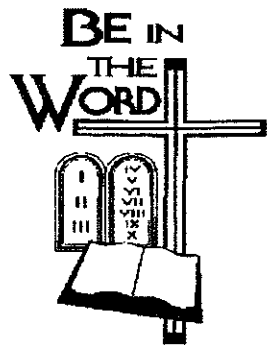
Sunday School resumes on Sunday, September 12th at 9:15 am. We look forward to a wonderful year with all the children! Thanks to Ellyn Myller who has assumed the responsibility of Sunday School Superintendent. There is still a teacher vacancy, so if you are interested, please give Ellyn a call, 871-1860.

YOUTH GROUP CONFIRMATION

Youth Group and Confirmation will also be starting up on September 12th for the new school year. Confirmation will meet at 4:30 pm on Sept. 12th and Youth group will meet at 5:30 pm on the same day.

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!"



September 1999

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
			1 Discovery - 7 pm	2 Womens Study - 10 am Choir - 6 pm Bells - 7:30 pm Recovery - 7 pm	3 Parent-Support - 6 pm	4 Wedding - 3 pm
5 Worship 8/10:30 am Educ Hr - 9: 15 am	6 No Playgroup Womens AA - 7 pm	7 Bible Study - 6:30 am Elders - 7 pm	8 Discovery - 7 pm	9 Womens Study - 10 am Bells - 7 pm Recovery - 7 pm	10 -- Stephen's Ministry - 7 pm - 3 pm --	11 Men's Breakfast - 7 am Journey - 10 am Wedding - 1:30 pm
12 Worship 8/10:30 am Educ Hr - 9:15 am Sunday School Starts Confirmation - 4:30 pm Youth Group - 5:30 pm	13 Playgroup - 10 am Womens AA - 7 pm	14 Bible Study - 6:30 am Church Council-7:30 pm	15 Discovery - 7 pm	16 Womens Study - 10 am Choir - 6 pm Bells - 7:30 pm Recovery - 7 pm	17	18 Wedding - 3 pm
19 Worship 8/10:30 am Educ Hr - 9:15 am Care team - 9:15 am Confirmation - 4:30 pm LWML - 4 to 6 pm Stephen's Min,7-9:30 pm	20 Playgroup - 10 am Womens AA - 7 pm	21 Bible Study - 6:30 pm Staff Meeting - 7 pm	22 Discovery - 7 pm	23 Womens Study - 10 am Bells - 7 pm Recovery - 7 pm	24	25
26 Worship 8/10:30 am Educ Hr - 9:15 am ECC - 12:45 pm 50's Dinner 5:00 pm Stephen's Min,7-9:30 pm	27 Playgroup - 10 am Womens AA - 7 pm	28 Bible Study - 6:30 pm	29 Discovery - 7 pm	30 Womens Study - 10 am Choir - 6 pm Bells - 7:30 pm Recovery - 7 pm		

Friday Parent Support Group (Usually the first Friday of each month from 6-8 PM.) Concordia Lutheran has a support group for Parents with young children 2nd grade to newborn. If you have older siblings they are welcome to come. This will provide a time for parents to make friendships within the church and the studies will help you find strength, direction and hope as you fulfill God's calling in your life as a parent. The evening begins with a simple potluck. After dinner, childcare will be provided and parents can get together for a video and discussion or a Bible study which focuses on parenting issues.

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.

News from the DCE - Marlys Cartwright

"Christians in an Out-of-Breath World"

In the recent issue of Lutheran Education Association, Dick Hardel writes about Christians being out of breath. It's hard to laugh, celebrate, and share the Joy of Christ when one can barely breath.

Somehow our culture has captured many Christians and squeezed the breath out of them. The very breath that the Creator breathed into human beings to give life is being taken out of these gifted people of God. Instead of being transformed by the very Breath of God, the Holy Spirit, (Romans 12:1-2), many Christians have the life-giving breath knocked out of them by fear of failure, unclear boundaries, a thousand distractions, broken relationships, unresolved pain, and unmet expectations.

Jesus said in John 10:10, "I have come that they may have life, life abundantly." Yet squeezed by our own culture, many of us simply spend our lives trying to keep our heads above water.

What do Christians do when they are out of breath? It takes lots of air to shout Alleluia, sing praises to God, tell faith stories and serve the Lord with gladness. It takes a lot of breath to laugh and play with family and friends. Where do you go for healing, breath of life?

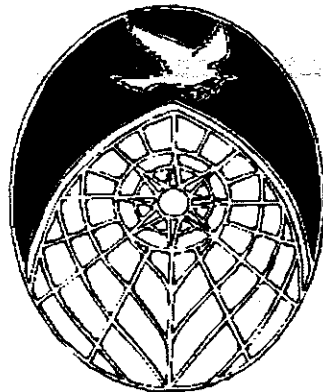
To be full of breath of life, Christians must be active in Spiritual Disciplines. The disciplines are gifts of God which bring peace, joy, strength and celebration to you and your daily service to God.

People who live will in Christ, know that spiritual disciplines such as Sunday worship, Confession and Absolution, the Lord's Supper, Daily Bible reading and prayer, servanthood and acts of kindness, regular faith-life dialog with friends, etc., bring FREEDOM!

If you have experienced that "out-of-breath" place, Come to Concordia this Fall for regeneration. You will find places to restore, renew and be connected to God's life-giving gifts. We are especially glad to have Jean Smith added to our ministry staff and we look forward to a great year together at Concordia!

In His Service,

Marlys



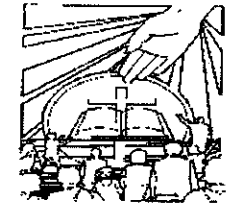
AUGUST STATISTICS

August Average Sunday Attendance

1991.....	107
1992.....	150
1993.....	193
1994.....	208
1995.....	200
1996.....	210
1997.....	202
1998.....	240
1999.....	223

August 1999 Sunday Attendance

Week #1.....	95 (E).....	127 (L).....	222 (T)
Week #2.....	130 (E).....	127 (L).....	257 (T)
Week #3.....	96 (E).....	126 (L).....	222 (T)
Week #4.....	95 (E).....	98 (L).....	193 (T)
Week #5.....	Not available at printing		



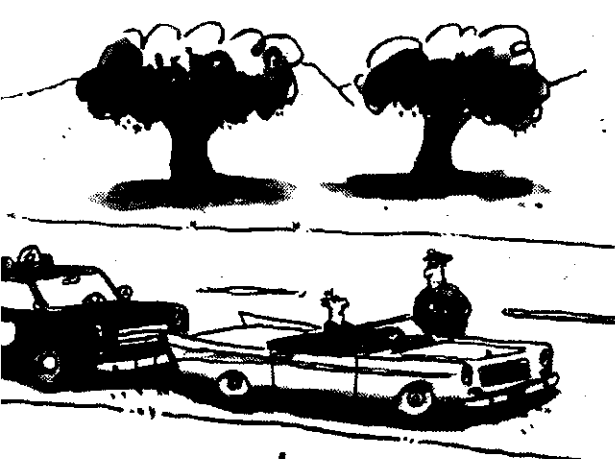
HOW FRIENDLY ARE WE?

A woman in Lincoln, NE looking for a friendly church, devised the following point system:

If someone smiled at her	10
If someone sitting nearby greeted her	10
If someone told her their name	100
If someone asked her to come back	200
If someone introduced her to another person	1000
If someone introduced her to the pastor	2000

As a resort community with many visitors attending our worship services, what rating would she give our church?

reprinted from Redeemer Reporter, Ft Collins, CO



CITY MARKET & SAFEWAY

The Youth Group still has a few City Market and Safeway grocery coupons available for sale. If you are interested, check with the office or see any Youth Group member.

The new "City Market Cares" program has credited Concordia Youth Group with \$311 for our first quarter of sales. Thanks to all who signed up through our Concordia Youth Group. If you haven't signed up yet, you still can at any time. Again, check with the office or any Youth member.

"I was fleeing sin. 1 Timothy 6:11."



Sunday, October 3rd is LWML Sunday. Our Concordia Women's Guild is part of the international society called the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. This is the day set aside to celebrate the great blessing the Lord provides through these groups. There will be informational displays about who we are and what we do. Coffee and goodies will be provided immediately after the early service and before Bible study.

Wednesday, October 13th will be the first regular LWML meeting at Cindy Svendsen's, 671 Amethyst Dr at 7:00 pm. You can park at the church parking lot by the sign and walk up to her house.

Fall Rummage & Bake Sale is October 22nd & 23rd in the Fellowship Hall. Please do not bring items until October 16th. Come and help sort any evening, October 18th thru 21st, from 6:00 to 9:00 pm

Western Zone Rally is Sat., September 11th at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Rifle, CO, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Call Judy Plumb for more information.

Concordia Christmas Cupboard is Sat., November 20th from 9-noon in the Fellowship Hall. All the crafts are "homemade" and are created from February thru November. These along with our famous "Cookie Caper", a wonderful Christian "Book Fair", and new this year the premier issues of "Concordia Cooks!" along with recipe samples will all be available for sale. Don't miss this event!

An Exciting Year Planned for the Women of Concordia!

The Concordia Lutheran Women's Guild has a myriad of exciting things planned for this year. Our theme for the year is taken from a Sandi Patti song called "The Gift Goes On". It's a wonderfully uplifting reminder that we have been given the gift of eternal life so as to give the gift of love. It is our prayer that every event and meeting planned this year will enable you to experience that great gift. If you've never attended a Women's Guild function, we hope you will make an effort to do so. This year we are hosting an opening dinner. Look for an invitation to arrive in your mailbox any day. The dinner is free of charge and you don't have to lift a finger. We have designed the afternoon to be a time of fun and fellowship and to highlight what we do and why. You'll receive a calendar of events for the entire year and we promise you won't be asked to sign-up to serve in any way. We just want to get to know you and we want you to get to know us. Also, a letter will be arriving designed to explain who we are and what we do and why. We hope it will encourage you to come and check us out.



"Down the Garden Path" Dinner & Program will Be Sunday, September 19th, 4:00-6:00 pm, in the Fellowship Hall. Concordia Women's Guild cordially invites all women to a special dinner and program just for you. Imagine, no dinner to cook, no dishes to wash. Just fun, fellowship, music and inspiration as we take the Master's Hand and walk "Down the Garden Path." If you've ever wondered what LWML or the Women's Guild is all about, here's a wonderful way to find out. Join us in the Fellowship Hall, Sunday, September 19th from 4:00 - 6:00 pm. Check your mailboxes, an invitation will be arriving soon. PS - Friends are welcome.



Fall Retreat - Sky Valley Lodge, October 8th & 9th

Here's an opportunity to refresh and refocus before the busy holiday season is upon you. Come away to the lovely setting at Sky Valley Lodge. You can check-in anytime between 2:00 and 5:00 pm and enjoy a stroll or make a special craft item to take home. We'll sit down to a delicious dinner at 6:00 pm. Marlys Cartwright and Ellyn Myller will lead us in a refreshing study of His Word. The next morning, following a continental breakfast, we'll spend more time in His Word, in prayer and fellowship and then carpool to Dumont Lake for lunch and a hike and an inspirational closing. You can plan on returning home around 3:00 pm. Space is limited, so sign up early! The cost is \$45 and you're friends are more than welcome to join us. Look for an invitation and be sure to sign up early. It is first come, first serve. Don't let the cost stop you from coming. Scholarships are available, just call Marlys Cartwright or Judy Plumb.