



November 1999



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Playgroup - 1:00 PM Womens AA - 7 PM Crafts - 7 PM Outreach/Assim-7:30 PM Book Club-7 PM at Sher Scheiwe's	2 Bible Study - 6:30 AM Elders Mtg - 7 PM ELECTIONS- 6 am-8pm	3 Discovery - 7 PM	4 Womens Study - 9 AM Choir - 6 PM Bells - 7 PM Recovery - 7 PM	5 Parent-Support Group 6 to 8 PM 7:00 pm-Stephen's Ministry Retreat—3:00 pm	6 "Lake Wobegon" Potluck-6 to 8 pm
7 Worship 8/10:30 AM Educ Hr - 9:15 AM Confirmation 9:15 AM New Member-9:15 AM	8 Playgroup - 1:00 PM Womens AA - 7 PM Crafts - 7 PM Youth Board - 7 PM	9 Bible Study - 6:30 AM Church Council - 7:30 pm	10 Discovery - 7 PM LWML- 7 PM at Jean Smith's	11 Womens Study - 9 AM Choir - 6 PM Bells - 7 PM Recovery - 7 PM	12	13 Men's Breakfast - 7 AM Journey - 10 AM
14 Worship 8/10:30 AM Educ Hr - 9:15 AM New Member-9:15 AM Confirmation 4:30 PM Youth Group 5:30 PM Parent-of-Teen - 5:30 PM	15 Playgroup - 1:00 PM Womens AA - 7 PM Crafts - 7 PM	16 Bible Study - 6:30 AM	17 Discovery - 7 PM	18 Womens Study - 9 AM Choir - 6 PM Bells - 7 PM Recovery - 7 PM	19	20 "Christmas Cupboard" Bazaar - 9 to noon
21 Worship 8/10:30 AM Educ Hr - 9:15 AM Youth Group Event - 5:00 PM	22 Playgroup - 1:00 PM Womens AA - 7 PM	23 Bible Study - 6:30 AM	24 Thanksgiving Worship - 7:00 PM Soup Supper - 5:30 PM	25 THANKSGIVING DAY Congregational Thanksgiving Meal (possible)	26	27
28 Worship 8/10:30 AM Educ Hr - 9:15 AM ECC - 12:45 PM	29 Playgroup - 1:00 PM Womens AA - 7 PM	30 Bible Study - 6:30 AM				

Tuesday Bible Study: Meet and study the Word of God prior to work. This study begins at 6:30 am and is done promptly at 7:30 am. 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!"

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.



Thoughts from the DCE - Marlys Cartwright

Below is an excerpt from Walt Wangerin's book, *Little Lamb Who Made Thee*. In September, our Special Discovery Potluck & Bible Study covered creation. Wangerin's piece is something to post on your refrigerator to remind you what it means to be God's own creation.

You, child: you are as soft as the blue sky. Touch your cheek. Do you feel the weave of life there? Yes: God wove you more lovely than wool of the clouds, smoother than petals of lily, sweeter than amber honey, brighter than morning, kinder than daylight, as gentle as the eve. Listen to me! You are beautiful. You are beautiful. If you think you're ugly, you've let a fool define you. Don't! Touch your throat. It is a column of wind and words. Stroke your forehead. Thought moves through its caverns. Imagination lives in there. You are the handiwork of the Creator. You are his best art, his poem, his portrait, his image, his face - and his child.

And if the Lord God took thought to create you, why would you let anyone else define you?

God caused the stars to be, and then bent low to make you.

God wrapped himself in space as in an apron, then contemplated the intricacy of your hands;

he trowled the curve of your brow; he fashioned the tug of your mouth and the turn of your tongue; he jeweled your eye; he carved your bones as surely as he did the mountains.

God conceived of time and in that instant considered the purposeful thump of your heart - and the blink of your eyelid.

God made galaxies and metagalaxies, the dusty infinitude of the universe - then filled your mind with dreams as with stars.

You are not an accident. You were planned. You are the cunning intention of almighty God. Well, then, shall you think ill of yourself? NO! You shall think as well of yourself as you do of any marvel of the Deity.

Please, my child, do not allow anyone to steal you from yourself. You are too rare. There is none like you. Whatever thing you admire - a leaf, a little cup, a sunset - you are more beautiful.

Sleep peacefully, you. God loves you. And so do I. And so ought you in the morning light, when the dew is a haze of blue innocence. But sleep now, child, in perfect peace. You are God's child, - and he spreads his wings above you now.

In October, our Special Discovery Potluck/Bible Study covered Galatians. A key verse that would be a good November theme is "The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love." Galatians 5:6

If you have a chance to share Wangerin's piece with a child this month, please do, even as a bedtime story. What a good place to let your faith express itself in love!

Thanks -



THANK YOU

to all the dedicated volunteers in the Youth Group Bake Sale, Calendar Sales and Windshield Washing, which raised \$823 for Concordia Youth Group. Lutheran Brotherhood matched an additional \$450 for a total of \$1,273. For all those who supported the event, Thank you.

Hank & Elaine Stroncek,
Luthern Brotherhood
Communicator

A WORD FROM OUR PARISH ADMINISTRATOR...

by Jean Smith

Sticks and stones can break my bones but words can never hurt me."

How many of us chanted this phrase as we grew up? I learned it from my classmates at a very young age. If someone teased me, or insulted me with their words, this is the phrase I hurled back. In order for it to be true, however, you must 'pretend' that it is true. This phrase is a blatant lie. Words can wound and they can hurt deeply. In order to feel a sense of control over hurtful words one has to develop a pretty tough exterior. That is the only way this phrase can become a defense.

One learns through years of practice and experience to stuff the hurtful words and go on. Pretend they have no power over you, or you give your insulter more power. It is no wonder that we mistrust words. Knowing full well as a child that words 'did hurt' the phrase "words will never hurt me" became a challenge to make it so. Buck it up, suck it in - refuse to feel any pain from them. If we are capable of reaching a point where words have no affect on us we have lost a part of our humanity and hardened our hearts. We give up part of our ability to be healed by words as well.

As Christians we rely on words, the very Word of God to expand and nurture our faith. For it is through the Word that we believe. If we don't give words power, will we also mistrust the very Word of God? In our culture we have become numb to words and to a language full of violence and hate. People bear no visible bruises or scars because of words. People can appear to be fine on the outside but are suffering deeply within because someone 'has had the last word.' Fortunately, I grew up in a faith which gave some balance to hurtful words. At a very young age I also learned the words, "Jesus loves me, this I know. For the Bible tells me so." These are words which allowed me to put the hurtful ones in perspective. Words can hurt - but God's word heals. His words speak of worth, value, and love. Psalm 119:130 says, "The unfolding of your words give light." The words of God do not draw us into despair and darkness - they give light. Jesus, the Word made flesh, is the very light of the world. "Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path." (Psalm 119:105)

I have relished the journey of studying the Word of God with my fellow members of Concordia. Discovery Bible Studies have encouraged me during dark times and have literally given my life light. God has the last word and it is an eternal one which resonates through

time and space: "For God so loved the world, that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." The last word is one of great love. Jesus says, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away." (Matt.24:35)

Let the Word of God, the Bible, heal those words which have hurt you. Read it. Hear it spoken. Study it. Let God's word unfold before you and bring you His light. Join me on the journey at a Bible study. I look forward to healing those invisible broken places with friends of faith through God's eternal words.

THANK YOU...

Thanks to all the Youth and adults that made the "50's Dinner & Dance" such a success. **Thanks** to all who have contributed to Youth ministry by donating Youth room furniture, buying Christian calendars and buying quilt raffle tickets. **Thanks** to the adults who helped with Confirmation bowling - and meals for Youth group.

Servant event for November - Underlined Bibles for the local jail.

Tenets, Tidbits and Trails . . . the Elder's report

When things don't go the way I think they should, or something is bothering me. I turn often to Romans 8:28 *"and we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose."*

I was one of those people that could not get excited about expanding the church building. I had a hard time seeing the need for what it would cost in dollars and time.

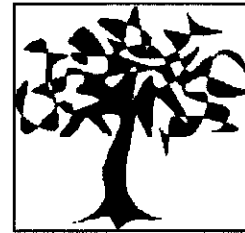
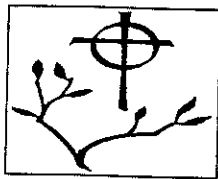
One Tuesday morning this month, I walked into the church and noticed a sign for events that took place on Monday night. Five different events at the same time for five different groups, each with their own space. Thank the Lord, we had that kind of space to serve those five different groups. *"...in all things God works for the good of those who love Him."* Thank the Lord for people in our church with vision to fill the needs.

I heard a discussion last week of Matthew 22:21, *"...then Jesus said to them, 'Give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and give to God what is God's.'"* Yes, we do need to pay taxes and our debts. Much of the money and the gifts that we have been given go in many directions. Do we only give back what is left over of our money and talents to God? Should we choose only a part of ourselves to give back to God?

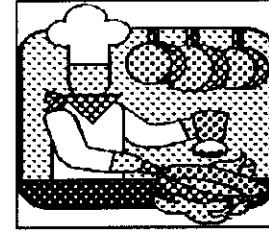
In Genesis 1:26, we learn that *"God said, 'Let us make man in our image, in our likeness.'"* I need to look at myself and consider if I am giving back to God what is His in all ways. Will you join me?

Yours in Christ,

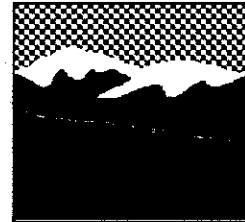
Walt Taylor
Elder



Parent Support Meeting
Friday, November 5, 1999
6:00-8:00 PM
Begin with a potluck
Special time for kids
Special topic for parents



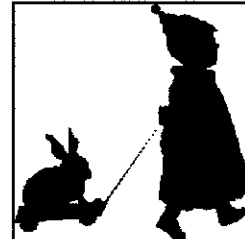
Men's Breakfast
Saturday
November 13, 1999
7 - 8:30 AM
Invite A Friend!



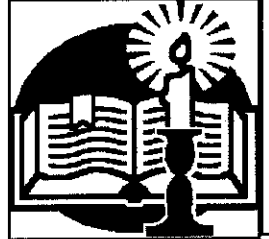
Discovery Bible Study
Wednesdays - 7:00 PM
at the Church
(Childcare Provided)



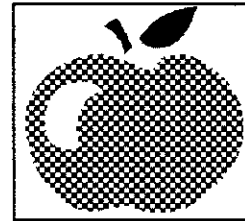
Tuesday Morning
Bible Study
at the Church
6:30 - 7:30 AM
Bring a Friend!



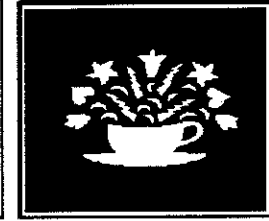
Monday Mom's Playgroup
1:00 to 3:00 PM
(new time!)
Meet at the church
(childcare provided)



Thursday Morning
Women's Bible Study
9:00 AM at the church
library
(Childcare Provided)



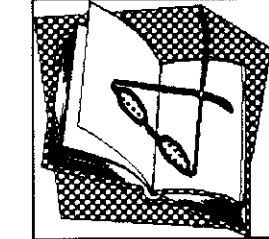
Recovery Study
Thursdays 7:00 PM
at the Church
Invite a Friend!



November LWML
Wednesday, November 10th
7:00 pm
at Jean Smith's home,
40519 Steamboat Drive



PARENTS OF TEENS
Sunday, November 14th
5:30 - Meal
6:00 to 7:00 - Meeting
in the chapel
"How Parents & Teens Are
Alike"



BOOK CLUB
will meet at the home of
Sher Scheiwe
1771 Brome Drive
on Monday,
November 1, 1999

We welcome all those who are interested in lifting their voices in praise and adoration. "Oh, come, let us worship Him and glorify God through music."

Bells: practice every week, Thursdays, 7:00 to 8:30 PM, Director: Rebecca Duryea (play one Sunday a month)

Choir: practice every week, Thursdays, 6:00 to 7:00 PM, Director: Ann Matlage (sing two Sundays a month)

Journey: practice one Saturday a month, 10:00 to Noon, Director Jody Wojtowicz, sing one Sunday a month)

WE'D LOVE TO HAVE YOU JOIN US!!!



Tuesday Bible Study: Meet and study the Word of God prior to work. This study begins at 6:30 am and is done promptly at 7:30 am. 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!



November

1999

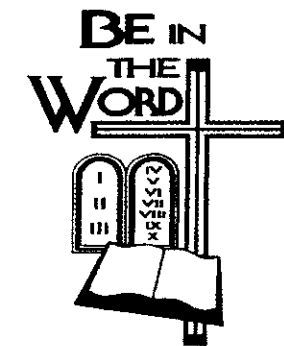


Friday Parent Support Group (Usually the first Friday of each month from 6-8 PM.) Concordia Lutheran has a support group for Parents with young children 2nd grade to newborn. If you have older siblings they are welcome to come. This will provide a time for parents to make friendships within the church 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.

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!"

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.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Playgroup - 1:00 PM Womens AA - 7 PM Crafts - 7 PM Outreach/Assim-7:30 PM Book Club-7 PM at Sher Scheiwe's	2 Bible Study - 6:30 AM Elders Mtg - 7 PM ELECTIONS- 6 am-8pm	3 Discovery - 7 PM	4 Womens Study - 9 AM Choir - 6 PM Bells - 7 PM Recovery - 7 PM	5 Parent-Support Group 6 to 8 PM 7:00 pm-Stephen's Ministry Retreat—3:00 pm	6 "Lake Wobegon" Potluck-6 to 8 pm
7 Worship 8/10:30 AM Educ Hr - 9:15 AM Confirmation 9:15 AM New Member-9:15 AM	8 Playgroup - 1:00 PM Womens AA - 7 PM Crafts - 7 PM Youth Board - 7 PM	9 Bible Study - 6:30 AM Church Council - 7:30 pm	10 Discovery - 7 PM LWML- 7 PM at Jean Smith's	11 Womens Study - 9 AM Choir - 6 PM Bells - 7 PM Recovery - 7 PM	12	13 Men's Breakfast - 7 AM Journey - 10 AM
14 Worship 8/10:30 AM Educ Hr - 9:15 AM New Member-9:15 AM Confirmation 4:30 PM Youth Group 5:30 PM Parent-of-Teen - 5:30 PM	15 Playgroup - 1:00 PM Womens AA - 7 PM Crafts - 7 PM	16 Bible Study - 6:30 AM	17 Discovery - 7 PM	18 Womens Study - 9 AM Choir - 6 PM Bells - 7 PM Recovery - 7 PM	19	20 "Christmas Cupboard" Bazaar - 9 to noon
21 Worship 8/10:30 AM Educ Hr - 9:15 AM Youth Group Event - 5:00 PM	22 Playgroup - 1:00 PM Womens AA - 7 PM	23 Bible Study - 6:30 AM	24 Thanksgiving Worship - 7:00 PM Soup Supper - 5:30 PM	25 THANKSGIVING DAY Congregational Thanksgiving Meal (possible)	26	27
28 Worship 8/10:30 AM Educ Hr - 9:15 AM ECC - 12:45 PM	29 Playgroup - 1:00 PM Womens AA - 7 PM	30 Bible Study - 6:30 AM				



KANSAS THEOLOGY

by John Petty

Like the plains, it is spacious, opening us to God's surprises.

Kansas - the word means "people of the south wind." That's exactly right. Kansas is a place where wind, sun and storm are dominant features of life.

These forces are mysterious, even fearsome. But they are also instruments of bounty. Wind, sun and storm nurture the fruits of the earth. This explains why living in Kansas orients one toward transcendence. You feel subject to mysterious powers beyond your control.

The plains are in balance with the sky. You experience this when you stand on the prairie. Everything is simple and basic, yet colossal. You feel small and large at the same time. You're small compared to the expanse of sweeping plains and sky, yet large because the plains and sky draw people out. You feel grand and open.

God made the plains to produce wheat, a crop of the sun. It's slender stalk looks frail. All manner of maladies afflict it - wind, hail, disease, drought, too much rain. Yet it is hardy, producing a harvest even in difficult years.

In midsummer, the wheat grows ripe and shares the sun's color. The beauty of massive fields of waving wheat is stunning yet

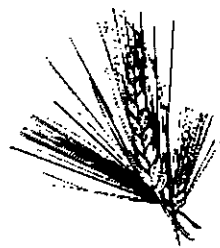
graceful. This is the bounty of heaven, raised up from earth, undulant upon the plains.

Living in Kansas orients one toward immanence as well as transcendence. Mysterious powers exist under our feet as well as in the sky. Mystery is all around us. We see it firsthand.

Kansas theology acknowledges the dark side of life. It is all-too-aware of tragedy and disaster. It knows that the instruments of bounty - sun, wind, storm, earth - can also be vehicles of devastation. The sun can wither the wheat. The wind rattles loose the grain and spills it on the ground. Storms beat down the tender stalks or shear them off.

Kansas theology is aware of the potential for disaster in everything, even things we normally consider good.

"People of the south wind" live on the boundary. It's a precarious place. The plains appear benign, even gentle. But an underside, the "shadow" side of reality, reminds us that all earthly things are equivocal, that no matter how benign they appear they carry a darkness within. People of the plains know this. They don't need to be convinced of sin's duplicitous nature.



Kansas theology understands the cross. It knows that power is deceiving. It sees God in small things such as cradles and

crosses. It recognizes that God is known in weak things such as seeds, which are hidden and small but grow with strange power.

This is why Kansas theology is about grace. It knows the darkness, but it also knows the feeling of the sun warm upon the face. It knows the shadow but also that the Spirit is deeper than the shadow and that God works mysteries in the heart of all things. Salvation is near.

The word salvation comes from a Hebrew word that means "to become large." Kansas theology knows this salvation. Like the prairies themselves, Kansas theology is spacious. It has room. It opens us. It knows a salvation that beckons us to become more than we are.

Like the sweeping wind, it points to a salvation that keeps reaching beyond, crossing all earthly boundaries. Who can say where God's spirit will move or upon whom, or how it will turn things around? Who knows what surprises God will work?

Kansas theology isn't upset by these questions. It loves them because it knows that salvation comes in the mysteries of God's grace, working in all things and places.

John Petty, who grew up in Kansas, is pastor of All Saints Lutheran Church in Aurora, CO

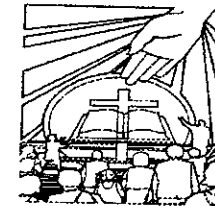
OCTOBER STATISTICS

October Average Sunday Attendance

1991.....	117
1992.....	169
1993.....	179
1994.....	209
1995.....	207
1996.....	236
1997.....	239
1998.....	244
1999.....	231

October 1999 Sunday Attendance

Week #1.....	140 (E).....	128 (L).....	268 (T)
Week #2.....	68 (E).....	86 (L).....	154 (T)
Week #3.....	129 (E).....	120 (L).....	249 (T)
Week #4.....	146 (E).....	107 (L).....	253(T)
Week #5.....	(Not available at time of printing)		



PARENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN



Parent To Parent . . .

Please join us for our monthly Parent-Support Meeting on Friday, November 5, 1999, potluck/fellowship from 6:00 to 7:00, discussion about "Traditions" and how they relate to our identity from 7:00 to 8:00. Child care will be provided.

The next meeting will be on December 3, 1999 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. We will be having a Family Fun Night! Watch your bulletins!

PARENTS OF TEENS

"The key to parenting adolescents is not using the right formulas, but achieving the right focus."

We had 25 parents meet together in the chapel in October for our first Parents of Teens forum. The best part was getting acquainted with each other and discovering enormous resources of courage, humor, commitment,, and creativity right in our midst.

As we continue to meet, we hope to encourage each other with resources and ideas, and especially with our faith that every day of parenting is a NEW beginning.

Our next meeting on November 14th begins with a meal at 5:30 pm downstairs and our meeting from 6-7 pm in the chapel. Our topic for November is "How Parents & Teens Are Alike." (based on Proverbs 19:22 - "What a person desires is unfailling love.")

What is Stephen Ministry?

Stephen Ministry is grounded in Jesus' command to love one another. Through one-to-one caring relationships, those who are hurting receive the love and care they need to support them.



- Is life more than you can handle alone right now?
- Are your health, your attitude, or your relationships suffering?
- Are you adjusting to a new job, change in marital status, a serious illness, the death of a loved one, a recent move?
- Would you like to have someone in your life who really cares?

Everyone goes through difficult times. Having someone to care, to listen, to share God's love with you can help you get through the confusion, stress, or loneliness you may be experiencing.

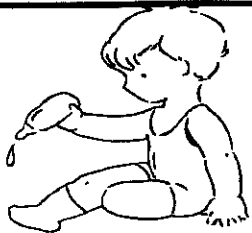
Call the church office if you would like a Stephen Minister to contact you - 879-0175.

CONCORDIA YOUTH



The National Youth Gathering will be held in New Orleans in 2001 and its theme is "On Higher Ground" Fundraising is underway. To remind us of the theme of the gathering and, at the same time, make the Youth Group visible in the community, we will gather a flock of pink flamingos to come from the sea level of New Orleans to the "higher ground" of Steamboat Springs. These fair weather birds will turn up on a member's front lawn on Friday night and remain there until Sunday. The member is asked to make a donation of any amount to the New Orleans fund and in return the Youth Group will pray for the family and also that their neighbors won't disown them. This can be a visible sign that Concordia's youth is alive and well (and has a sense of humor). It may give you an opportunity to share your faith with a neighbor and invite them to church where the rest of the flock gathers.

MONDAY MOM'S PLAYGROUP



The Monday Mom's Playgroup has changed it's meeting time to 1:00 to 3:00 PM (still on Mondays). Hope this will allow more of you to join us. We continue to discuss simplifying our lives by consuming less and working on ridding the clutter from our lives. Some interesting ideas are being shared. Check us out! Contact Ellyn Myller 871-1860.

Lake Wobegon Dinner

Saturday Night, November 6th from 6 to 8 PM

Share a meal - share some stories

Garrison Keilor, a popular storyteller from the Midwest, tells stories about growing up Lutheran in the small Minnesota town of Lake Wobegon. Being from Minnesota myself, I find these stories to be amazingly accurate about what my small town life was like. Keilor always asserts that Lake Wobegon is a place *where the women are strong, the men are good looking and the children are all above average.* This Saturday night, we will have an opportunity together for a fun evening which will include the sharing of a Midwestern potluck meal (white, bland, chock full of mushroom soup, jellos of all sorts and perhaps a very plain noodle salad) and some wonderful stories from fellow members of Concordia. Please join us for this fun evening. Sign up with the dish you would like to bring and come listen to a story. Share the faith.

LWML NEWS



The next LWML meeting will be at Jean Smith's home, 40519 Steamboat Drive, on Wednesday, November 10th at 7:00 PM.

Don't miss the annual Christmas Cupboard on Saturday, November 20th from 9:00 AM to Noon. Members of the Women's Guild have been busy all year creating wonderful Christmas crafts for sale. It's also a great way to stock up on a variety of Christmas Cookies for the holidays or pick up great Christian books for all ages at the Book Fair. (There's still an opportunity to help bake cookies for the Cookie Caper, contact Diane Weber or Sherry Kammerer) The brand new "Concordia Cooks" cookbook will make it's first appearance at the Christmas Cupboard also!

The Women's Guild will be hosting this year's annual community Thanksgiving Eve Service and Soup Supper on Wednesday, November 24, 1999. The soup supper will be served from 5:30 to 6:30 PM with worship following at 7:00 PM. This is a great opportunity to invite a friend from the community to our church!

BOOK CLUB

Women and Men of all ages - welcome to a new ministry opportunity at Concordia. The 1st Monday of each month we will be meeting to discuss a favorite book - modern or classic. We hope this gives us a new avenue to ask faith questions and to deepen our Christian fellowship through the joy of literature. The next session will be Monday, November 1st at Sher Scheiwe's home, 1771 Brome Dr. We will be discussing "The Virtuous Woman" by Kaye Gibbons.

"CONCORDIA COOKS!"

is the name of Concordia's new cookbook being published at this time. Arrival will be just in time for the "Concordia Christmas Cupboard" on Saturday, November 20, 1999. Be sure to attend this event in order to get the first copies of "Concordia Cooks" for Christmas gifts, birthdays, friends, family, secret sisters, etc. Look for the special display and taste samples of recipes from the book on this day.

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to the power that is at work within us, to him be glory in church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

Ephesians 3:16-21

