

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, Jean Smith, 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.

Saturday Worship: 5:30 PM

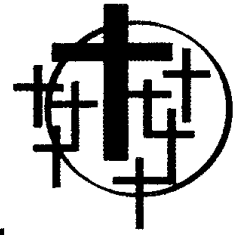
Sunday Worship: 8:00 and 10:30 AM **Education Hour:** 9:15 AM

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

CHRISTOGRAM

Concordia Lutheran Church

MARCH, 2000



A Note From the Pastor...

GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD!

To the Members and Friends of Concordia:

A famous Russian comedian had a wonderful way to keep his comedy moving along. His one line was easy to remember. Do you remember that line? Let me refresh your memory. "WHAT A COUNTRY!"

Of course, this line was used to poke fun at all the unique (often bazaar) aspects of American life. This one line was the hallmark of his career as a comedian.

Concordia's Wednesday evening "Discovery" Bible Study (open to one and all) has just completed the book of Philippians. We studied Philippians in February. One goal was to make this New Testament book as familiar as a good friend. The Apostle Paul

wrote this book in the last few years of his life. One phrase in particular caught my attention. I guess this one line could be a hallmark of Paul's life and ministry. Do you remember that line? Let me refresh your memory. "THE LORD IS NEAR!" (Phil 4:5)
 The book of Philippians

This book encourages one to find strength in the presence of God's grace.

emphasizes joy in the midst of real life. This book directs one to the need to develop humility as a real character trait. This book encourages one to find strength in the presence of God's grace. This book instructs the Christian to not lean on human legalism but rather to find strength in God's only Son. This book reminds one that "pressing and

straining" are sometimes a part of the Christian experience. This book encourages us to think on things that have great dignity and value.

Take some time to read the book of Philippians. It is easy to read. It may take you but thirty minutes to read. Pick up that Bible. Open it. Ponder the great treasures that God has placed there for you. By the way, "THE LORD IS NEAR! WHAT A GOD!"

In Christ,

Pastor Cartwright



MARCH, 2000

Concordia Lutheran Church **CHRISTOGRAM**

inside...

"A Lenten Journey"
 "Who Ya Gonna Follow?"
 "All-Church Workday"

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

Dear Brothers and Sister in Christ,

Recently our church council established a congregational theme for the year 2000 based on I Thessalonians 5:11 - "Encourage one another and build each other up" and the verse continues, "just as in fact you are doing."

Several months ago, I was faced with an illness which appeared without warning or apparent cause and left me with many unanswered questions and a somewhat uncertain future. I received encouragement in many forms; kind and caring words, "I'll be praying for you.", a gift of inspirational music, cards, meals, visits, phone calls offering help with "whatever you need", and the Lord's Supper brought to my home.

I'd like to express how helpful and meaningful all of these were and to say thank you. This is but one example and we can be encouraging in many other ways, but I've been enlightened to the value of a continued emphasis on encouragement.

In Christ,

Albert Deepe, Elder

\$471,690

This is the amount that Concordia owes the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) after we completed our expansion. LCEF is like any other lending institutions - before they can make loans they need DEPOSITS on which they pay INTEREST. They require that any borrowers members have on deposit with them 35% of the loan balance and if there is 100% coverage, they refund annually 1%. For the year 1999, Concordia received a refund of \$1,673.59, which is the last time they will refund for having less than 100% coverage. Concordia currently has 22 depositors who have \$196,659 on deposit. We need 47 more members and \$275,031 so that we can receive a refund of \$4,700 which cuts our operating costs by \$4,700.

What does an account with LCEF do for YOU?

1. You earn interest on your account at or better than bank rates.
2. You help Concordia lower its operating cost.
3. You help other Lutherans build churches, schools, seminaries, and colleges.
4. It is part of your stewardship of what the Lord has given you and being able to help others at the same time.

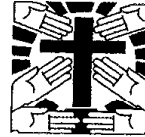
If you have questions or want more information, there are brochures in the Narthex or you can contact Clair Erickson, LCEF representative, 8794419 or 879-5867. Thank you

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CARE TEAM UPDATE . . .

This year's list of names for each Care Team is posted on the bulletin board above the coffee pot. Please take a look at this list and locate your name. If you would like to switch, have your name added or removed, please contact Sandra Hogrefe 879-4884 or Cindy in the office. Also, if you are listed on the March Care Team, please consider signing up for the Sunday duties.

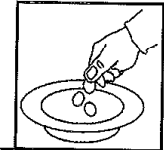
OUTREACH & ASSIMILATION



will meet on Sunday
March 12, 2000
at 4:30 PM

SPECIAL DONATIONS

It is the policy of Concordia Lutheran Church to give 10% of all bequests and special undesignated gifts (all funds received in the collection plate are assumed to be designated funds) to a worthy mission or synod need unless the donor's will makes a specific designation for its use or directs that it is to be used exclusively for Concordia's ministry. The recipient of this donation is to be determined by the Voters Assembly. This policy is to be printed each year in the March issue of the church newsletter and distributed to all new members upon joining Concordia.



LWML (Women's Guild) NEWS

The February meeting was held at Debbie Scott's home. Rebecca Wattles gave a devotion from a prayer that was asking God to help us listen and think before we speak - we all know that sometimes we speak too soon. Marlys presented us with a word about friendships and truly "present"ed us with small gift cards with heartfelt messages and encouraged us to send them to a special friend this week.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 20th. The women's guild will have a one-day retreat: "Faith is the eyes of your heart."

The annual Rummage Sale will be held on May 12th and 13th. Lynn Worrell and Joanne Boomgarden graciously volunteered to chair this event

The March monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 15th at 7:00 PM at the Lenten Bible Study at church with our meeting to follow at 8:00 PM. Come and enjoy a wonderful study led by Marlys on "PATIENCE." (Desserts provided)

From God's Little Instruction Book for Women: *Friendship improves happiness, and abates misery, by doubling our joy, and dividing our grief.*

A Friend loves at all times. Proverbs 17:17



Concordia Lutheran Church

OUTREACH NEWS

PICTURES were a large part of the agenda at the February Outreach Board meeting. Look for the pictures of our newest members on the 4-sided bulletin board in the narthex. When the next group of new member pictures are posted, the previous pictures will be added to the pictorial tree on the wall.



Persons/families whose pictures are not on the "tree" will have the chance to get pictures taken in March to complete the tree. On Sundays in March, pictures will be taken between services in the narthex area of people who do not have pictures currently, or families who have changed and want their picture updated. Please help out with this project!

In another effort to help ourselves get to know each other better (and thus easier to reach out to one another) the Outreach Board

will be facilitating the use of nametags for all worshippers once a month on the Sunday JOURNEY leads worship. This is usually the second Sunday of the month. Watch for nametags on that Sunday, and look for the names of those you don't know or can't remember!

The Outreach Board is also seeking new/additional people to visit prospective members who have demonstrated a clear interest in Concordia as a church home. If you would feel some satisfaction in extending Christian friendship to these people, please speak to David Freseman, Ron or Peggy Haas, Barb Stimson, Faith Detwiler, or Jean Smith. To make it even easier, sign up on the "communication tab" in the church pews. Helpful training will be offered before any visits are assigned.

The Outreach Board will choose **Sunday, May 7th** as Friendship Sunday, 2000. This will be a Sunday of intentional "everybody-invite-an-unchurched-guest" outreach. Watch for upcoming bulletins and verbal announcements for details! **Next Outreach Meeting is Sunday, March 12th, 4:30 PM at church.**

TRUSTEES REPORT

With the expansion of the church, the trustees have been very busy making sure everything is completed and operating properly. If you notice anything that needs repair or completion, contact one of the trustees. The trustees are looking for a volunteer to make daily or weekly inspections of the church to see that everything is operating properly, see that the front walks are shoveled in the winter and water the lawn in the summer. If there are repairs to be done, they can do them or report them to the trustees.

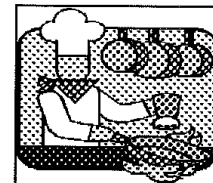
There will be a workday on March 18th (2:00 to 5:00 pm) to finish up many minor items; and also on April 15th (9:00 to noon) to give the church a good cleaning before Easter. As part of our stewardship we need to take good care of our facility.

In service to the Lord,

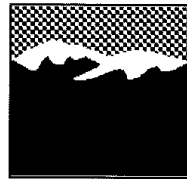
The trustees - Mike Beyer, Clair Erickson, Scott Myller,
Bert Svendsen, Loretta Hammerslag



Parent Support Group meets this month on Friday, March 3, 2000 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM in Fellowship Hall (Potluck-childcare provided)



Men's Breakfast
Saturday
March 11, 2000
7 - 8:30 AM
in Fellowship Hall
Invite A Friend!



Discovery Bible Study
Wednesdays - 7:00 PM
(3rd/4th classroom)
Prayer - 6:30 PM
in the Sanctuary
(Childcare Provided)



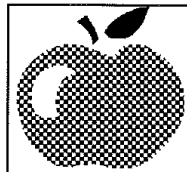
Tuesday Morning
Bible Study
at the Church (Fellowship Hall) 6:30 - 7:30 AM
All are welcome!



Monday Mom's Playgroup
1:00 to 3:00 PM
(new time!)
Meet at Eilyn Myller's
652 Ruby Square



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



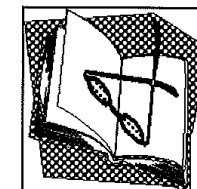
Recovery Study
Thursdays 7:00 PM
at the Church
in the Library



The next LWML gathering will be March 15, 2000 at 7:00 PM at Church for a Lenten Discovery with a meeting to follow at 8:00 PM



PARENTS OF TEENS
Sunday, March 12, 2000
Meet at 5:30 PM for dinner followed by a special topic in the chapel

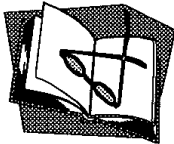


BOOK CLUB
will meet at Sher Scheiwe's,
1771 Brome Dr
Monday, March 13th., 7 PM
Book: "The Jesus I Never Knew" by Philip Yancey

UPCOMING EVENTS ...

BOOK CLUB

This month's Book Club will meet on March 13th at 7:00 PM at Church. The book is, "*The Jesus I Never Knew*" by Phillip Yancey.



YOUTH NEWS

Sunday, March 12th
Youth Group meets at 5:30 PM at Church in the Fellowship Hall for a meal followed by a meeting.

Sunday, March 26th
Youth Group will be attending several different homes on this evening beginning at 6:00 PM. They will enjoy a meal, see a video and have a devotion. Following their home visit they will return to church at 8:00 PM for a time with Pastor

Concordia's Singles Ministry
Sunday, March 19, 2000
6:30 PM at Church
(watch for upcoming announcements)

ALL CHURCH WORKDAY

Saturday, March 18th from 2:00 to 5:00 PM This is a time for everyone to help spiff up the church for the Lenten Season and Easter. Small details, cleaning, outside work, etc are on the agenda. Remember - many hands make light work!



**SPRING
CLEANUP**

A LENTEN JOURNEY



March 8th - ASH WEDNESDAY
Service - 7:00 PM
Soup Supper - 5:30 PM
Theme: **GENTLENESS**

March 15th - LENTEN BIBLE STUDY
Prayer - 6:30 PM
Bible Study - 7:00 PM
Theme: **PATIENCE**

March 22nd - LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICE
Service - 7:00 PM
Soup Supper - 5:30 PM
Theme: **FAITHFULNESS**
Adult Drama Presentation

March 29th - LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICE
Service - 7:00 PM
Soup Supper - 5:30 PM
Theme: **GOODNESS**
Tom Laskey Concert

April 5th - LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICE
Service - 7:00 PM
Soup Supper - 5:30 PM
Theme: **SELF CONTROL**

April 12th - LENTEN BIBLE STUDY
Prayer - 6:30 PM
Study - 7:00 PM
Theme: **PEACE**
Elders Lead Service

April 20th - MAUNDY THURSDAY
Service 7:00 PM
Theme: **KINDNESS**

April 21st - GOOD FRIDAY
Service - 7:00 PM
Theme: **LOVE**

April 23rd - EASTER SUNDAY
Sunrise Service - 7:00 AM
Service - 8:30 AM
Service - 10:30 AM
Pancake Breakfast - 8:00 to 10:00
Theme: **JOY**

Thoughts from the DCE - Marlys Cartwright

PEACE

There once was a King who offered a prize to the artist who would paint the best picture of peace. Many artists tried. The King looked at all the pictures, but there were only two he really liked and he had to choose between them.

One picture was of a calm lake. The lake was a perfect mirror, for peaceful towering mountains were all around it. Overhead was a blue sky with fluffy white clouds. All who saw this picture thought that it was a perfect picture of peace.

The other picture had mountains too. But these were rugged and bare. Above was an angry sky from which rain fell and in which lightening played. Down the side of the mountain tumbled a foaming waterfall. This did not look peaceful at all.

But when the King looked, he saw behind the waterfall a tiny bush growing in the crack in the rock. In the bush a mother bird had built her nest. There, in the midst of the rush of angry water, sat the mother bird on her nest . . . perfect peace.

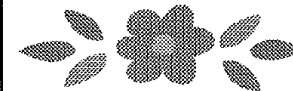
The King chose the second picture. "Because," explained the King, "peace does not mean to be in a place where there is no chaos, trouble, or hard times. Peace means to be in the midst of all those things and still know the presence of God. That is the real meaning of peace."

This is a story my father told me when I was a little girl. The picture of the bird in the nest helped me picture the part of the liturgy which says, "the Peace that passes all understanding. Keep your hearts and minds in faith through Christ Jesus our Lord."

Because there are challenges and struggles in daily life does not mean God is absent; rather it is exactly in the midst of those times that we realize who is our true peace: God Himself.

May His peace encourage your life this Lenten Season.

Marlys



Nine Myths That Hinder Grieving

- 1. When the going gets tough, the tough get going.** How can we grieve if we have to be strong all the time?
- 2. Every tub must stand on its own bottom.** When we think we must be self-sufficient, we will not ask for the help we need.
- 3. Have you ever seen a hearse with a U-Haul trailer?** Try as we might, we can't limit our attachments to things even when we know they won't last.
- 4. No use crying over spilt milk.** This idea prevents us from grieving many of the ordinary losses in life.
- 5. Time heals all wounds.** It is not time alone but the work of remembering that heals our pain.
- 6. The busier you are, the less you grieve.** We can't get rid of grief by staying busy. It only postpones the work of grieving.
- 7. If I start, I will never stop.** The unfounded fear of losing control prevents us from expressing our grief.
- 8. Big kids don't cry.** The ability to cry is a freedom not a weakness we outgrow.
- 9. Smile and the world smiles with you; cry and you cry alone.** The pain of grief is worse if we hide it. from those who care for us.

Caring Relationships within the Body of Christ a word from your Parish Administrator

"The term body of Christ describes people united by Jesus Christ into a real community. This 'family-ness' of Christianity entails both benefits and responsibilities. We are called to move beyond mere superficial relationships with others to discover what in-depth caring is all about.

We caring Christians follow the example of our Lord Jesus. He loved. He grieved. He became angry. He nurtured. All of these are elements of deep relationships. Jesus did not mince words, but went straight to the heart - getting people to think about themselves, their faith, and their relationship to him and his kingdom. The idea of family has many implications for us as we go about caring for and relating to others."

The above excerpt was taken from the book, "Christian Caregiving: A Way of Life" by Kenneth C. Haugk. It is a book Stephen Ministers read as a part of their training. To be associated with a caring community is a good thing. *"Christ created a community in our midst; he wants us to appreciate what this means. We act on our sense of community when we build deep, loving relationships with other Christians. In a family with a loving Father, a giving Brother, and an empowering Spirit, can we do otherwise?"*

Concordia Lutheran Church is a community. Do we appreciate

what this means? When people join Concordia they are placed on a 'Care Team'. The purpose is to help create a community of people who work together to serve the needs of the church for one month out of the year. Don't begrudge the invitation and opportunity to work alongside fellow members of your church, to meet new people, and to serve God by taking care of the details of a Sunday morning service. You will gain more than you give by serving in this capacity.

My Care Team has changed over the years. I became acquainted with a dear friend, Cheryl Stine, by being placed on a Care Team. I wouldn't have been blessed with her friendship if that connection was not in place for me. I worked along side of her, we cleaned together, we laughed, we enjoyed one another. Because of the relationship built through service, I was able to weep with her when I met her in a parking lot outside of the doctor's office where she had just been given the diagnosis of cancer. There were plenty of tears shared with Cheryl when she worked along side of us at Concordia. She lost her battle with cancer but gained an eternity through Jesus Christ. Every tear has been wiped from her eyes. I thank God that I had the opportunity to meet this lovely person who had a servant's heart. She left an imprint on my life as a Christian of compassion and service.

Yes, all are asked to serve this

church by sharing some of their time one month out of a year on a Care Team - but the rewards of relationships made in Christ's community are far greater than what we can give individually.

Care Teams are responsible for greeting people at the door, to say, "Welcome, we're glad to have you worship with us. Come again. I am happy to make your acquaintance. Let's do lunch." Care Teams are responsible for ushering; they make coffee and clean up the mess; they serve; they tend to the immediate needs of people worshipping that Sunday. Care Teams also provide readers for the lessons. You are invited to share the Word of God with the congregation. I am grateful to be associated with a Care Team. My month just happens to be March, and I look forward to the surprising gifts it brings my way. Gifts of irreplaceable friendship.

If you are not on a Care Team you are missing out. Please let the office know and we'll be happy to assign you a month. Jesus Christ was on a 'Care Team' twenty-four hours a day. Likewise, our caring shouldn't quit when our month is up. Because of Christ's gift of eternal life and his service to humanity, we are compelled to serve others. Serve on your Care Team. Build a relationship.

Jean

FEBRUARY STATISTICS

February Average Sunday Attendance

1991.....	125
1992.....	111
1993.....	186
1994.....	190
1995.....	205
1996.....	192
1997.....	220
1998.....	240
1999.....	225
2000.....	275

February 2000 Sunday Attendance

Week #1.....	52 (Sat).....	145 (E).....	121 (L).....	318 (T)
Week #2.....	48 (Sat).....	112 (E).....	62 (L).....	222 (T)
Week #3.....	43 (Sat).....	123 (E).....	112 (L).....	278 (T)
Week #4.....	45 (Sat).....	125 (E).....	114 (L).....	284 (T)



WHO YA GONNA FOLLOW?

Ask a pre-school Sunday school student this and they will tell you. JESUS!

As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother, Andrew, casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." At once they left their nets and followed him. Mark 1:16-18

What are the children learning in Sunday School? That is up to you to find out. Whether you have children in Sunday school or not, when the opportunity arises, or if you have to create one, ask them! What did you learn in Sunday school? What story did you hear today? Did Jesus show His love to someone in the story? How? If YOU ask them, they begin to understand that what they are learning is important. It is! It is a foundation on which the Holy Spirit can work in their lives and on which we can instill values that they may use in making choices in the future.

Please pray for the kids in Sunday school that the message of God's grace and purpose for their lives will ring clear. Pray for the teachers that they will be guided by the Holy Spirit and given wisdom.

In service of the Lord,
Ellyn Myller

PARENT TO PARENT

Parents of Young Children in Support of Each Other Next Meeting: **March 3, 2000, 6:00 to 8:00 PM**

WOW!! What a great time we had at our last event! Thanks, Mike and Sarah, for opening your home and hill for the sledding party we all enjoyed. For those of you who have not joined us for a "Parent to Parent" meeting, please think about coming in March. As usual, we will be having a family potluck at 6:00, followed at 7:00 by a question and answer period with a few of the more "experienced" parents of our congregation. **COME, GET YOUR PARENTING QUESTIONS ANSWERED!**

Child care provided. Further info, Ellyn 871-1860

Listen, my son, to your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching. They will be a garland to grace your head and a chain to adorn your neck.

Proverbs 1:8-9





MARCH 2000



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!"



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Special Evening of Discovery - Potluck - 6 to 8 PM "Loss & Transition"	2 Womens Study-9:00 AM Choir - 6:00 PM Bells - 7:00 PM Recovery - 7:00 PM	3 Parent-Support Group - 6:00 to 8:00 PM at Church	4 Worship - 5:30 PM
5 Worship 8:00/10:30 Educ Hr - 9:15 AM Confirmation-9:15 AM Stephen's II - 7 to 9 PM	6 Playgroup - 1:00 PM at Ellyn's, 652 Ruby Sq Womens AA - 7:00 PM Swedish Foreign Exchange Potluck-7 PM	7 Bible Study - 6:30 AM Staff Mtg-8:30 -9:00 AM Elders Mtg - 7:00 PM	8 ASH WEDNESDAY Soup Supper - 5:30 PM Worship - 7:00 PM "Gentleness" Confirmation - 7:00 PM Adult Drama Prac-8:00pm	9 Womens Study - 9:00 AM Choir - 6:00 PM Bells - 7:00 PM Recovery - 7:00 PM	10	11 Men's Breakfast-7:00 AM Journey - 10:00 AM Worship - 5:30 PM
12 Worship 8:00/10:30 Educ Hr - 9:15 AM Outreach - 4:30 PM Youth Group-5:30 PM Parents/Teens-5:30 PM Stephen's I - 7:30 PM	13 Playgroup - 1:00 PM at Ellyn's, 652 Ruby Sq Womens AA - 7:00 PM Book Club - 7:00 pm at Sher Scheiwe's	14 Bible Study - 6:30 AM Staff Mtg-8:30-9:00 AM Church Council - 7:30 PM	15 Prayer - 6:30 PM Lenten Bible Study- 7:00 PM "Patience" LWML - 7:00 PM at Church	16 Womens Study - 9:00 AM Choir - 6:00 PM Bells - 7:00 PM Recovery - 7:00 PM	17	18 Workday - 2-5 PM Worship - 5:30 PM
19 Worship 8:00/10:30 Educ Hr - 9:15 AM Confirmation - 4:30 PM Concordia Singles' Ministry - 6:30-8:30PM Stephen's II - 7 to 9 PM	20 Playgroup - 1:00 PM at Ellyn's, 652 Ruby Sq Womens AA - 7:00 PM	21 Bible Study - 6:30 AM Staff Mtg-8:30-9:00 AM Adult Drama Practice - 7:00 PM	22 Soup Supper - 5:30 PM Prayers - 6:30 PM Worship - 7:00 PM Adult Drama "Faithfulness"	23 Womens Study - 9:00 AM Choir - 6:00 PM Bells - 7:00 PM Recovery - 7:00 PM	24	25 Worship - 5:30 PM
26 Worship 8:00/10:30 Educ Hr - 9:15 AM ECC - 12:45 PM Confirmation -4:30 PM Stephen's I & II - TBA Youth Group - 6:00 PM	27 Playgroup - 1:00 PM at Ellyn's, 652 Ruby Sq Womens AA - 7:00 PM	28 Bible Study - 6:30 AM Staff Mtg-8:30-9:00 AM	29 Soup Supper - 5:30 PM Prayers - 6:30 PM Worship 7:00 PM Tom Laskey Concert "Goodness"	30 Womens Study - 9:00 AM Choir - 6:00 PM Bells - 7:00 PM Recovery - 7:00 PM	31	

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.