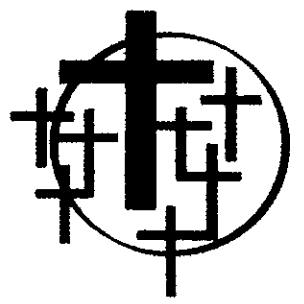


CHRISTOGRAM



Concordia Lutheran Church

JUNE, 2000

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

A Note From the Pastor...

To The Members and Friends of Concordia

Greetings in the Name of our Risen Lord!

“While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew’s house, many tax collectors and ‘sinners’ came and ate with Him and His disciples.”

Jesus eats with the broken. He dines with those who have failed. He sits at the table with those who do not have a pretty, perfect past. Does He eat at your table? Better yet, do you eat at His table?

Our worship facility, our new church building, is a fine restaurant. Jesus is the chef, the waiter, the manager. He invites all to come and

share in the banquet feast of mercy and forgiveness.

Are we willing to invite, care for and serve the meals of mercy to our community?

It is not true that because Jesus eats with sinners, He therefore condones sin. Quite the opposite! After the meal of mercy and forgiveness, He says to each one of us...”Go, and sin no more!” It remains true... Jesus came to those who are hungry and in need of a “Good News” meal.

This passage needs to be the “baseline” verse of any ministry. We are invited to be the banquet hall for

our community. We must be willing to look at our programs, services, and ministry directions and shape them for the needs of the starved in our community. The Christian’s table is not a private table. Are we willing to invite, care for and serve the meals of mercy to our community?

Remember, we all would “starve to death” without our Lord and God, Jesus Christ.

Good Dining,

Pastor Cartwright



JUNE, 2000

Concordia Lutheran Church **CHRISTOGRAM**

inside...

“Join Hands Day”
“Bonhoeffer”
“Come Dig With Us”

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

Recently, I had gone into work early and was able to get away for a breakfast with my family. I surprised Sarah and my 2 year old, Charlie, with big hugs and general celebration that I was able to come home for breakfast. My 6 month old, Will, was sitting on the floor. Will had witnessed all the hugs with Sarah and Charlie and soon started to cry and kick. Sarah asked me to say hello to Will. I thought Will just wanted a diaper change or food. I picked up Will and gave him the same hug and celebration. He immediately stopped crying and put on the biggest smile his chubby cheeks could muster. At 6 months old, Will knew he wanted more than a diaper change and food. He wanted love, he wanted to be held, he wanted to dance in the living room.

My observation of a 6 month old craving love reminds me of how much kids know and feel at an early age. I am far from a perfect parent and will not be writing any books on how to parent a child. I do know that sharing the love of Christ with my kids is important. I am convinced that Will understood the special occasion of me coming home from work unexpectedly and having a celebration. His actions, those chubby cheeks, said "Yes, Dad, I want to be included in this family celebration."

When can new life understand that Christ loves them? Is it the moment they are born? The first hour? The first month or year? The 100th year?

I have tried to share the hope of a loving God with my boys everyday. We do meal-time and bed-time prayers. I bless them with the sign of the cross and remind them of the waters of Baptism. Now believe me, I have fears of being too pushy with them. I really don't know what is right, look me up in 20 years to see how things are going.

In this nutty, fast-paced world, perhaps you can find ways to be encouraged and to encourage through the hope that Christ loves you. Maybe there is a baby or a 100 year old in your life that can be encouraged with kind words from you.



In Christ,

Mike Beurskens

YOUTH GROUP and PARENTS OF TEENS

Both groups will meet this month on June 11, 2000 at 5:30 PM in the Church basement for a meal.

Topic for discussion following the meal will be fund-raising events throughout the year.

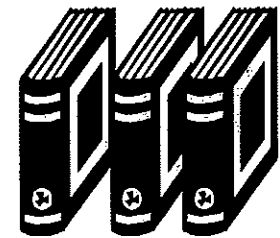
"Trust on the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding". Proverbs 3:5

BOOK CLUB

Check your boxes for book reviews on the next 2 Book Club meetings:

June 5th - Dakota at Luther & Helen Berntson's home, 30 Alpine Drive
July 3rd - The Idiot at Brian & Jerry Thornton's home, 32885 McKinnis Way

***Always at 7:00 PM, Don't miss these wonderful evenings!



LWML (Women's Guild) NEWS

One of our favorite, and definitely most delicious, events is just 2 weeks away - the annual **Salad Supper**. All women of Concordia are invited to join us on Wednesday, June 21st at Barb Gibson's home in Grouse Creek Park. We will carpool from the church at 5:30 PM. Please bring your favorite salad to share and join us for a wonderful evening of fellowship, devotions, and dinner.

New officers: A new President of LWML was voted in during our May meeting. Pam Patterson will lead our Women's Guild in this office for the next two years. Many thanks to Judy Plumb who is leaving the presidency, but not LWML - she did a wonderful job of caring for us this past year. Mary Beth Bradfield will join Ellyn Myller as co-officers in the office of Christian Growth. Lynn Worrell, Barb Gibson and Debbie Scott will continue in their respective offices for the next year.

Craft Nights: The Craft Nights are in full swing for the summer and the ladies could sure use your help! Crafting is on Monday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 PM and there's always a yummy dessert to top off the evening. The schedule for June is: (please join us)

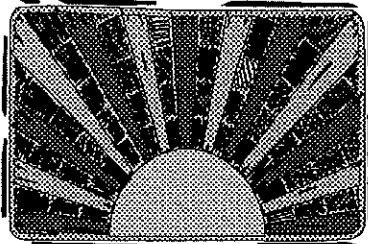
June 5th - Jeri Taylor's, 210 Caribou Lane

June 12th - Judy Plumb's Home, 365 N Steamboat Blvd

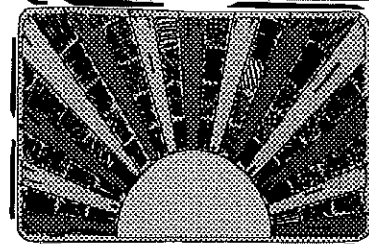
June 19th - Cindy Svendsen's home, 671 Amethyst Dr

June 26th - Cindy Svendsen's home, 671 Amethyst Dr





June



2000

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

				1 Womens Study - 9 AM Recovery - 7 PM	2 AA Group - 6:00 PM Parent To Parent - 6 to 8 PM	3 Worship - 5:30 PM
4 Worship 8/10:30 AM Adult Study 9:15 AM Child Care- Basment Outreach - 4:30 PM	5 Playgroup - 1 PM Women's AA - 7 PM Book Club - 7:00 PM at Berntson's Crafts - 7 PM at Jeri Taylor's Elder's Mtg - 6:30 PM	6 Bible Study - 6:30 AM Staff Mtg-8:30 AM Church Council - 7:30 PM	7 Prayer - 6:30 PM Discovery - 7:00 PM	8 Womens Study - 9 AM Choir - 6:00 PM Recovery - 7 PM overnight	9 AA Group - 6:00 PM District Convention	10 Men's Breakfast - 7 AM Worship - 5:30 PM
11 Worship 8/10:30 AM Adult Study-9:15 AM Child Care - Basement Stephen's (L/I)-7:30 PM Youth Group - 5:30 PM Parents of Teens - 5:30	12 Playgroup - 1 PM Womens AA - 7 PM Crafts - 7 PM at Judy Plumb's	13 Bible Study - 6:30 AM Staff Mtg - 8:30 AM	14 Prayer - 6:30 PM Discovery Bible Study - 7:00 PM	15 Womens Study - 9 AM- Bells - 7:00 PM Recovery - 7 PM	16 AA Group - 6:00 PM	17 Wedding Youth Volunteer Day Worship - 5:30 PM
18 Worship 8/10:30 AM Educ Hr - 9:15 AM	19 Playgroup - 1 PM Womens AA - 7 PM Crafts - 7 PM at Cindy Svendsen's	20 Bible Study - 6:30 AM- Staff Mtg - 8:30 AM	21 Prayer - 6:30 PM Discovery Bible Study - 7:00 PM LWML - 7 PM at Barb Gibson's	22 Womens Study - 9 AM Recovery - 7 PM	23 AA Group - 6:00 PM	24 Journey - 10 AM Worship - 5:30 PM
25 Worship 8/10:30 AM Educ Hr - 9:15 AM E.C.C. - 12:45 PM Stephen's Min-7:30 PM New Members	26 Playgroup - 1 PM Womens AA - 7 PM Crafts - 7 PM at Cindy Svendsen's	27 Bible Study - 6:30 AM Staff Mtg - 8:30 AM	28 Prayer - 6:30 PM Discovery Bible Study - 7:00 PM	29 Womens Study - 9 AM Recovery - 7 PM	30 AA Group - 6:00 PM	

ENCOURAGING THE FAITHFUL (10 suggestions)

1. Challenge "Steamboat Time" by arriving on time for worship services and ministry events.
2. Make sure you use the restroom prior to the beginning of worship services.
3. Take young children to the restroom prior to worship. Help reduce the number of trips necessary during worship hour.
4. If you smoke, please smoke outside the facility. Please take care of your "butts" after smoking.
5. Teach young children the Lord's Prayer, the Apostles' Creed, the Invocation, and the Benediction at home. When these are spoken during worship be sure to highlight them to link children with worship service. Help your child participate.
6. Use the narthex (entrance area-mailbox area) as a "buffer" zone. The narthex has always been used as a place to get ready for worship. The narthex is a place to "calm down" and transition.
7. Please be careful with coffee and juices in the sanctuary.
8. Take a moment to clean up the pew in which you sat as you leave worship.
9. Please take all "lost" or forgotten items from the coat room in the entrance area of the church.
10. When you enter the sanctuary be mindful that some individuals are taking time to pray and meditate prior to worship. Please respond accordingly.

PARENT TO PARENT

PARENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN IN SUPPORT OF EACH OTHER

Our next gathering will be on Friday, June 2nd at Bart & Nancy Kounovsky's, 55 Copper Rose Court at 6:00 PM for BBQ and get-together. Bring something to grill for your family and a side dish. For info call 879-2532.

STEPHEN'S MINISTRY

Stephen's Ministry will meet this month on June 11, 2000 at 7:30 PM. This meeting will include both groups - I & II.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

V
B
S

This year Vacation Bible School will be held from Tuesday, August 1st thru Thursday, August 3rd, 5:30 to 8:00 PM

Registration forms are included in this newsletter and may be turned in today (to office or brown box under

Advocates Against Battering and Abuse

is sponsoring a fundraiser on June 10, 2000 at 6:00 PM at Le Peep's Restaurant. Come and sample decadent desserts for \$10 (adults) and \$5 (children, 12 & under) accompanied by an adult. Funds go to help with counseling and shelter expenses. (Concordia's LWML donates to this group each year)

PROMISE KIDS

Ministering to those 3' and under.

Do you need a nursery?? Well, it is now available at the late service! Fully staffed with kind volunteers from your family of faith. Snack time, stories, coloring, playtime, cuddles, and diaper changes all available for the low price of FREE (just like God's grace.)!

TRUSTEES REPORT

The trustees wish to thank all those who turned out for the Workday in May. The sprinkler system and fence will be completed as soon as more materials arrive and sod has been ordered. Watch for announcements regarding upcoming workdays and projects that need to be completed. Our building and grounds are looking great. Anyone wishing to help on a particular project, please contact one of the trustees. Thank you.

Mike, Beyer, Clair Erickson, Frank Baird, Loretta Hammerslag, Bert Svendsen, Scott Myller



Thoughts from the DCE - Marlys Cartwright

One of my favorite family events as a child was watching the movie "The Wizard of Oz." All six of us would gather in the living room with our popcorn and Pepsi and watch the story unfold. No matter how many times we watched it, the surprises in the plot were always captivating.

Frederick Buechner, in his book, The Clown in the Belfry, talks about two of his favorite surprises in the movie. The first surprise comes, of course, when Dorothy and her three friends discover that the Great Wizard of Oz is not a wizard at all. You remember the scene. Oz, the Great and Terrible, turns out not to be in any way wither great or terrible. He is just a rather short, old, bald-headed man with wrinkles who works a machine that creates various illusions. The Scarecrow tells the Wizard he ought to be ashamed of himself for being such a humbug, and the old man makes no attempt to deny it. About at this point in the movie, I start to lose hope that any good can be done. They had pinned their hopes on the Wizard and he turns out to be a fraud, a ventriloquist, hot-air balloonist from Omaha, Nebraska.

The second surprise is that, even though the Great Wizard of Oz is not a wizard at all, he has a different kind of "magic" - he can look at the three oddballs standing in front of him (the Scarecrow, the Tin Man, and the Cowardly Lion) and see things that nobody else can see.



The Scarecrow, for instance. Everybody knows what the Scarecrow's problem is. His problem is that he doesn't have any brains. Or at least, he thinks he doesn't. Life is a scary business for anybody, let alone for people who suspect that they have nothing but straw where their brains belong. It's very scary and it's also very depressing. I've always been a scarecrow myself. I figure most people I meet have

more brains than I do. I don't win prizes, much less Yale or Harvard scholarships.

Then there are the cowardly lions of either Gender. I suppose the mark of a cowardly lion is that you think about the great world out there and worry not so much that you don't have the brains enough to handle it, as that you don't have guts enough to survive it.

And the Tin Woodsman? If you're a tin woodsman, you're convinced that you're kind of a freak. The Tin Woodsman believed he didn't have a heart like other people, and you believe you're lacking something equally basic. If you're a tin woodsman, you can be lonely even when you're surrounded by people you've known all your life. You wonder if anybody is ever going to love you the way you read about it in books. You wonder if you're ever going to find anybody you can love that way yourself. To one degree or another, we're all of us tin woodsmen, of course, just as we're all of us scarecrows and cowardly lions, as well. We all have our moments of feeling out of place and left out.

Now back to the small bald man with wrinkles again, the one behind the screen, and the magic he can work with his x-ray eyes by looking at those three strange characters standing in front of him and, beneath what they're afraid they are, to see themselves as God sees them. The Scarecrow may not have a brain just like everybody else's...who wants a brain just like everybody else's?...but he has a wonderful brain all his own as everything he's done up to this point richly demonstrates. Far from being a coward, the Lion is brave enough to act bravely even when he's scared half out of his wits, which is what true bravery is all about. And, as for the Tin Woodsman, despite all his fears, he has a heart so human and tender they have to keep using the oil can to keep him from being rusted by his own tears.

In the South, as we were driving to drop our daughter Katie at her North Carolina College, we saw a lot of billboards with thought-provoking one-liners attributed to God. One of those billboards says, "If only you could see you as I see you. Love, God" II Corinthians 5:17, 19 says, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a NEW creation, the old has gone, the new has come. God was

reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them." God not only tells us that we are new and wonderful, but He says in Ephesians 3:20 that, whether we are scarecrows, tinmen, or cowardly lions, "He will be able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us."

Jesus once looked out at his little band of followers a long time ago, just as he looks out at young and old, scarecrows, lions, tinmen and tinwomen like you and me, and says, "Be not afraid. You are the light of the world. You are the salt of the earth. Whatever you do with your life, whatever you end up achieving or not achieving, the great gift you have in you to give the world is the gift of who you alone are. Your way of seeing things, saying things, feeling about things, is like nobody else's. If so much as a single one of you were missing, there would be an empty place at the great feast of life that nobody else in all creation could fill. So live boldly, joyfully, and creatively in the security of God's Grace in Christ.

Happy Graduation to all of our Concordia 8th Graders, High School Seniors and College Seniors.

In Christ,

Marlys



“They were starving.” A word from your Parish Administrator

“Jesus said to them, “I tell you the truth, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”

“Sir, they said, “From now on give us this bread.”

“Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty.” (John 6:32-35)

After the worship service at the Extended Care Center last Sunday, I started up a conversation with a resident I had not seen there before. She talked about the music at the service, told me about her family - that her brother played the violin beautifully; that her sister was beautiful but vain; her mother was very unattractive; and that her father was a handsome man. “They were from Ireland, you know. They were starving. That’s why they came to America.”

During this succinct family history she repeated the above thought about ten times in the space of five minutes. “They were from Ireland you know. They were starving and had nothing to eat. That’s why they came to America.”

She continued with pieces of her history to say that they had found food here, a livelihood and a better life. They weren’t starving any more. In a sense they had found redemption.

As I grow older, and if my memory begins to fade - what will remain in the forefront of my thoughts? What is it that I will want to share with others? What key memory will I repeat again and again to those I come in contact with? Perhaps it will be, “I was starving, but I found a new place to live.”

Have you ever been in a place of spiritual starvation? Perhaps the home you grew up in knew nothing of a God who saves. Perhaps your faith was tested when you went off to college and encountered a vast sea of differing beliefs and opinions about who God was or is. Perhaps a move to another place left you in a state of spiritual starvation.

“Bring us the Word of God! We need the Word of God”

In our culture we often worry about what materially sustains us. Will I afford a home here? Will my kids have enough stuff to compete with other kids’ lifestyles? Do I have enough resources to survive financially in this resort community? We are so used to having our needs met we can rarely distinguish the difference between a need and a want.

Materially, I have all my needs met. Spiritually, I have been starving from time to time and I have a hunger for God’s Word which needs to be addressed. Do I spend as much time worrying about my spiritual needs as my material wants? Christ promises to feed us

with the bread of life to banish our hunger and living water to quench our thirst. Are we saying, “from now on give us this bread.”

A pastor who recently visited the Lutherans in Sudan stated, “In spite of their unimaginable material poverty, these people kept saying, “Bring us the Word of God! We need the Word of God! We don’t need materialism here in Sudan, we need the Word of God!” These people are a tremendous example of faith in the face of very hostile and unbelievable poverty. My heart is with these people who are such wonderful examples of Christian faith and love. Please remember them in your prayers regularly! Believe me, they are praying also for us! It almost seems strange to think that they want to pray for us, who have so much. Yet, perhaps, it is they who are rich and we who are poor.”

Yet, perhaps, it is they who are fed, and we who are starving for the Word of God. As I grow older, it is my hope that I will know what my needs are - to recognize the hunger, and perhaps at times, the starvation I experience. I hope that I will always know where to go and be fed. “I was starving but I came to a place where I was fed by the Word and the children of God in a community of faith.”

I hope this will be the memory and the truth which sustains me when all else fails. I need to continually ask for this bread, this Savior, Jesus Christ, who will be the nourishment I truly need to live in this world.

MAY STATISTICS

May Average Sunday Attendance

1991.....	145
1992.....	118
1993.....	198
1994.....	203
1995.....	219
1996.....	219
1997.....	253
1998.....	255
1999.....	268
2000.....	309

May 2000 Sunday Attendance

Week #1.....	22 (Sat).....	155 (E).....	212 (L).....	389 (T)
Week #2.....	20 (Sat).....	158 (E).....	194 (L).....	318 (T)
Week #3.....	29 (Sat).....	121 (E).....	112 (L).....	262 (T)
Week #4.....	20 (Sat).....	76 (E).....	99 (L).....	195 (T)



“JOIN HANDS DAY”

Sponsored by AAL and Concordia!

JUNE 17TH -A great day for volunteering together - youth, adults, and children - working on servant-events together (morning or afternoon). Don’t miss this day of FUN and CARING!

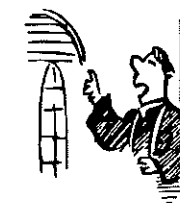


Pastor Cartwright has declined the “call” from Olympia, WA

How shall they hear without a preacher? Rom 10:14

In the year 2000, our seminaries will be sending about 135 men into the ministry. However, our Synod has been losing more than 300 pastors each year. Obviously, this is not a good trend. In the Rocky Mountain District, fourteen pastoral positions presently are vacant at this writing.

The **Debt Assistance Program** helps pastors with educational debts in order to reduce the number leaving because of financial reasons. Recently, our Church Council here at Concordia voted to send \$1200 to the Debt Assistance Program.



Come Dig with Us!

HELP YOUR CHILD GET READY FOR
THE DIG OF A LIFETIME!

Scoop from the Sup...

Dear Parents,

Your child and your child's friends are invited to join an exciting archaeological expedition! We'll dig into the past to learn about the ways God showed His great power to Joshua and the Israelites.

All the action will take place on the JOURNEY WITH JOSHUA dig expedition this summer during our Sunday school hour.

June 18, 25, July 9, 23, and each Sunday in August.

Send 'em to Summer Sunday school!

AAL and LUTHERAN BROTHERHOOD

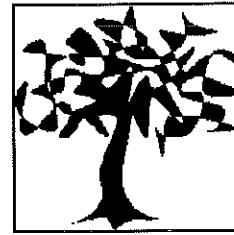
Thank you to AAL and Lutheran Brotherhood for the matching funds from the Spring Rummage Sale. The funds will go to support our youth attending the Lutheran Youth Gathering in New Orleans in July of 2001.

If there is ever a special need in ministry, or in education, or Lutheran student camps, please contact AAL, Jane Hallman or Lutheran Brotherhood, Elaine Stroncek for possible resources.

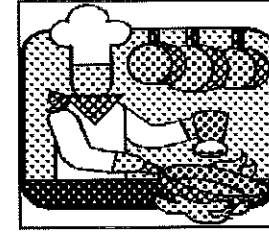
"BONHOEFFER"

Agent of Grace

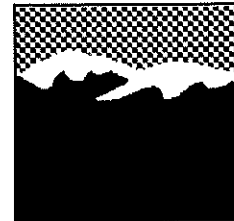
Be sure to tune into this special showing on PBS on Wednesday, June 14th at 7:30 PM for a true story of love, courage and sacrifice about a man and his resistance to Nazi Germany that made him a contemporary hero. This film was voted "best film" at the Monte Carlo Film Festival.



Parent To Parent Group
meets this month on
Friday, June 2, 2000
from 6:00 to 8:00 PM
for a BBQ at Kounovsky's,
55 Copper Rose Court



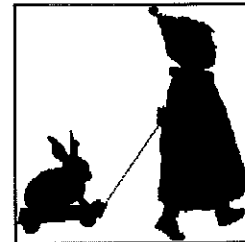
Men's Breakfast
Saturday
June 10, 2000
7:00 - 8:00AM
in Fellowship Hall
Invite A Friend!



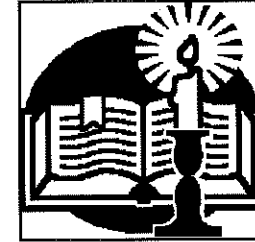
Discovery Bible Study
Wednesdays - 7:00 PM
at the Church
(3rd/4th grade classroom)
Prayers - 6:30 PM
(childcare provided)



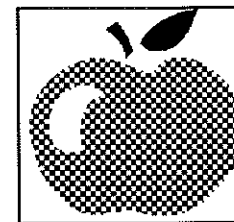
Tuesday Morning Bible Study
at the Church (Fellowship Hall) 6:30 - 7:30 AM
All are welcome!



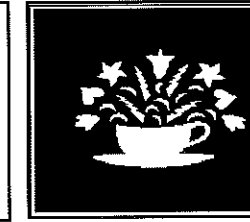
Monday Mom's Playgroup
1:00 to 3:00 PM
meet at Lil Toot's Park
(bad weather? - back at Ellyn's, 652 Ruby Sq)



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



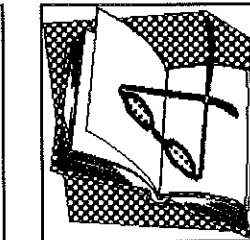
Recovery Room
Thursdays 7:00 PM
at the Church
in the Library



The next LWML gathering will be June 21, 2000 at 6:00 PM at Barb Gibson's home, carpool from church at 5:30 (Salad Potluck)



PARENTS OF TEENS
Sunday, June 11, 2000
Meet at 5:30 PM for dinner followed by a special topic in the chapel



BOOK CLUB
will meet on June 5th at 7:00 PM at Helen Berntson's home, 30 Alpine Drive
This month's book: "Dakota"